



# Plympton International College

普林顿国际学校

*Centre of excellence for R-12 learners*

学前班 - 12年级学生的卓越教育中心

## Newsletter

March 2017

## Diary Dates

### March

17/3 Yr 11 SAPOL visit

21/3 Sports Day

23/3 AGM 6.30pm

24/3 Yr 12 SAPOL visit

28/3 Open Day

### April

6/4 Yr 10 RAA Street Smart Excursion

11/4 Immunisations Yr 8,10,11,12

11/4 Parent Interviews and report collection Yr 7-12 Resource Centre

13/4 Assembly and early dismissal 2.05pm

14/4 Good Friday

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### From the Principal

#### Student Achievement & Leadership

Last Thursday we had a very special assembly to acknowledge student achievements and leadership. Congratulations to the 2016 Dux award winners who achieved the highest academic results in their year levels:

Year 7 - Nadirah Mohamed and Shail Shah  
Year 8 - Mehriza Khokhar  
Year 9 - Donisia Skoumbros  
Year 10 - Saiyuri Pillay  
Year 11 - Lily Kennedy and Ramsha Memon



Yr 12 Dux

Dux of the School 2016—Zoe Skoumbros

We would also like to congratulate Jamie Carrico and Lily Kennedy who have been elected as the new College Captains. The Student Voice Committee leaders who will be representing their peers and involved in decision making. Well done to:

Rec/1	Leila Sim and Ashton Milka
Yr 1/2	Lucas Poynter and Samyrah Pannu
Yr 3	Sahana Kulbaba and Qi Qi Lo
Yr 4/5	Stephanie Serrona and Alan Hernandez-Sanchez
Yr 5/6	Aiden Christie and Lizzy Probyn-Shingles
Yr 7A	Kevin Lo
Yr 7B	Seth Hagan
Yr 8A	Jack Cvitan
Yr 8B	Maryam Hamoshi
Yr 9A	Kyron Zechmeister
Yr 9B	Teagan Staples and Bayley Smith
Yr 10A	Adrianna Manalansan
Yr 10B	Sam Haskell and Matt Zhylikhovskyy
Yr 11A	Jordan Mavros
Yr 11B	Tessa Wallace
Yr 12A	Ramsha Memon
Yr 12B	Simran Bachhal



Jamie Carrico  
College Captains



Lily Kennedy

Linda Richardson  
PRINCIPAL



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

### Tiffany Boyer Pastoral Care Worker



Hi everyone, and a big welcome to all of you, especially those new to the school. I am the school's Pastoral Care Worker. My job is to serve the mums, dads, carers, students, and staff at the college, by providing care and support. For some that may mean a sympathetic ear, sharing good news or finding a way to assist those doing it tough. Catch me at school Wednesday or Thursday, telephone: 8297 0488,

Em: [tiffany.boyer640@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:tiffany.boyer640@schools.sa.edu.au)

Some highlights for me so far in term 1:

#### Year 12 Orientation Days



I got to spend a day with many of our wonderful Year 12's, during a special workshop day I helped organise and run, aimed at equipping our students with tools to better handle Year 12. There were fun activities to help build team spirit, plenty of food, a panel of Year 12's from last year to pass on some sound advice, and much more.

I especially enjoyed 2 "Life Matters" seminars that were presented, one called "Balance Big Year", designed especially for Year 12's. It was an interesting exploration into the life of students and outlined positive behaviours, time management tips and ways for students to maintain health and wellbeing physically, socially and emotionally. The other seminar, "Image Obsessed", really resonated with students. This seminar addressed the messages culture sends us about body image and its effects on young minds. It encouraged students to think about another way to view themselves and others, based on valuing acceptance, love and kindness and to see how their worth rests on so much more than their image. In short, their value to the world is so much bigger than their appearance. As the Acting Assistant Principal Jason Dohse said, "The connection students had with this seminar was wonderful; very appropriate and positive".

Both seminars were generously paid for by the South West Inter Church Council the body of local churches that support my role here at the school.

I spoke to students about the day in general and the feedback was very positive, with comments like, "It was really good, it helped me understand myself better and alerted me to things to watch out for", "It has improved my motivation", "I learnt a lot!", "I would recommend it to all year 11's next year" and of course the most important comment, "Bring Tim Tams!".

I have been busy providing activities for the primary school students at recess. It has been pure fun helping the kids to dress up, use stilts, skipping ropes and more.



#### Lunch Time Art Club:

I continue to run this on Thursdays at lunchtime, with primary school students. So far we have made flowers, faces, posters and more. I love watching the kids as they become more creative, help each other, learn to share better and make friends. I enjoy getting to know students and families, so if you do have time, introduce yourself to me. My office is located near the bridge in the senior school; my door has a smiley face on it.



#### Email Correction

Georgy Pannu's correct email is

[Sukhanbir.Pannu141@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Sukhanbir.Pannu141@schools.sa.edu.au)

**Mr Koutsogiorgos**  
**Year 7 English Class**

'I stepped through the door'  
 Narrative Supervised Writing assignment 15/2/17

I stepped through the door. Closing the heavy metal knob behind me, I stepped forward into what seemed to be a forest. I stared at the vast greenery in front of my very eyes. My eyes shifted upwards to a pink Sakura tree. Its branches swayed in the soft breeze, cherry pink blossoms floating down to fall onto my white locks. Sakura, that's my name. I woke up here, no memories, quite possibly not past. All that I know of, is that I stepped through a metal door, arriving under a Sakura tree.

Looking behind me, the door had vanished, no trace of it remained. I knew I couldn't come back the way I came. A faint glow that resembles a firefly caught my eye. I followed the floating glow, hypnotised by its illuminating light. It stopped, and I neared the glow, hand out stretched, readying to touch it. Loud static sounded around me, making me wince in pain. I fell back, falling into a dark black and white square patterned room. Seconds after that, a horrible blob of black rose up in front of me. Red glowing eyes and a blob of black nothingness suddenly charged at me, making this nightmare more unbearable. I jumped back, again falling through the walls and floor and landed into a desolated ruin site. Sweet singing, I hear from further into the ruins of darkness. I know how this ends badly, but I cannot fight the desire to come closer to the sound. Begrudgingly my feet step forward, closing in on a woman. She turns to me, a sick grin on her face as she screeches at me. I fall back yet again, plunging into dark water. I lay still, as my lifeless body floats down into the abyss. I close my eyes, awaiting my fate.

My eyes snap open. I lay there under the Sakura tree I started from. I let out a shaky breath. 1000 years have passed and I still haven't a clue of my origin. Whether I was a young human back then, or whether I was a living, breathing creature. My dreams go by faster than light, but it seems as if it were an eternity I was walking through these lonely woods. I lay here, by the tree, wishing my nightmares away, wishing I knew who I was. No matter how hard I try, the nightmares always come back to haunt me, and I am forever lost to these woods, full of nightmares. Under this Sakura tree I remain. My snow white dress and hair swaying around in this eerie weather. Like it or not, I shall stay here in this cursed forest, my only home, and my prison.

**Written by Amica Tagabuan 7A**

We are looking at other ways to involve more students in leadership. Students are invited to assist us as ICT leaders or by running board games/chess at lunch time in the Resource Centre. If you are interested please contact Sarah Bennett, Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator on-  
 Sarah.Bennett357@schools.sa.edu.au

AN INVITATION TO ALL  
 PARENTS and CAREGIVERS



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**When:** Thursday 23rd March 2017

**Time:** 6:30pm

**Where:** Resource Centre (enter via Myer Avenue car park)

**Come and hear about our achievements in 2016 and plans for 2017.**

**The Governing Council parent members will be elected on the night – nomination forms are available from the College office and are due by 3:30pm Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

**If you would like to attend, please email us on [dl.0907.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0907.info@schools.sa.edu.au) or phone 8297-0488**

**Staff Update**

Desi Pontikinas, year 5/6 teacher has decided to retire after an amazing 47 years in Education! Desi will be spending her time with her grandchildren and also enjoying some time in Greece. Please feel free to pop into the classroom on Friday to wish Desi well in retirement.



**Chinese Bilingual Program**

Nihao! The Year 3 presented at our R-12 assembly last Friday. We shared with the whole school some amazing Tai Chi moves learnt through the Chinese bilingual program. The bilingual program enables the students to learn Chinese and Chinese culture through fun and engaging ways, including morning exercise, Tai Chi practice, songs, dances and Chinese cartoons.

**Bilingual Coordinator**

Erik Ma



**Bahá'í Education  
State Schools (BESS) 2017  
Primary School**

Dear Parents,  
Once again Bahá'í education classes are going to be run at Plympton International College. All students are welcome to attend.

**The Curriculum: "Teaching Children Classes"**

The curriculum is called "Children Classes" and is based on the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh the founder of the Bahá'í faith. The teachers are trained volunteers who use "hands on" activities such as art, craft, drama and music to teach the curriculum.

**The Development of Character**

Virtues such as kindness, honesty, love, service and courtesy, which are building blocks of character, are explored in depth. Bahá'ís believe that every child is a storehouse of virtues waiting to be developed. By noticing when a child is practicing a virtue, and by calling a child to a virtue, we support the child. The development of spiritual qualities, or virtues, in individuals is the foundation of a peaceful world.

**A Peaceful World**

In addition, the students explore concepts and universal principles that lay a foundation to a peaceful world. Some of these are: we are all one human family, no matter our colour, race, education or nationality; the equality of men and women; the need for the elimination of all forms of prejudice; and that problems can be solved peacefully through consultation.

**Inner peace**

The students learn that peace in the world begins with inner peace and that prayer, meditation and service to humanity will help them along this path.

**For additional information a folder about BESS classes is available at the college office or contact Jackie Zareh on 82931397.**

The classes are going to be held in the **Primary School (Library)** starting on **Monday 27th March at 1:05 pm** (Parents are welcome to attend this session for information)

**Permission to attend Bahá'í Education classes (BESS)**

I give permission for my child  
.....

Age.....

Year level.....

To attend BESS classes.

Signature of parents or Guardian.....

Phone .....

**Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Program**

Dear parent or guardian,

Your child is invited to participate in a Junior Youth group being held at Plympton International College commencing 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 1:05-1:45 every Friday in the library. This group will take place under the guidance of one to two adults who have a recognised police clearance to work with children.

The group will take part in a range of activities including reading a series of texts designed to assist junior youth to discover their talents, positively express themselves, and to become empowered to transform their community. Other activities include art, drama, music, sport, bushwalking, memorizing prayers and poems, and organizing and carrying out community service projects.

**Details:**

Child

First and last name:

Date of birth:

Address:

Any allergies, medical conditions, or other issues to be aware of:

Any medications:

Caregiver

Name:

Home phone number:

Mobile number:

Email address:

Any ways that you would like to be of assistance (e.g. bringing other children to the class, bringing refreshments):

\_\_\_\_\_ consent to my child taking part in a junior youth group, as outlined above.

Please tick the box if you consent to the following:

I consent to photographs of my child participating in the group being distributed amongst the members of the group, as well as coordinators of the program for the purposes of record keeping.

I consent to my child arriving and leaving by his/her own means (e.g. by foot)

Date:

Signature: