Principal Successful Schools Conference
Last Thursday and Friday, I attended the Principals Successful Schools Conference in Melbourne, the keynote speakers were Phil Warrick and Tammy Heflebower from the Marzano Research Institute in America.
Part of the two days was very much centred on the key characteristics of a highly reliable school. The five fundamentals are:
1. A Safe and Collaborative Culture,
2. Effective Teaching in Every Classroom
3. Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum
4. Standards Referencing Reporting
5. Competency Based Education.
I had the chance to work collegiately with other Principals, including those in our region. The conference reaffirmed for us the importance of the above five attributes in leading successful schools.

Events
I hope that you are enjoying the return of the calendar to the newsletter. You will notice that there are many events on over the next few weeks, including this week as we celebrate Education Week and acknowledge the great work of all staff and students in the college.

Education Week 2015
May 17-23
Education Week will be held from May 17-23 when hundreds of schools and early learning programs throughout Victoria will welcome the community through open days, student exhibitions, performances and other special events that showcase the programs and learning opportunities they offer. Local families are invited to join in our Education Week celebrations at Balmoral K-12 College
TIMETABLE OF EVENTS:
OPEN DAY: Wednesday 20th May, 2015 (all day).
ARTS PERFORMANCE: “Jack Flash & the Jumping Beans”. P-8 in the Hall, 2:00 pm Wednesday 20th.
BOOK FAIR: Wednesday 20th May (all week in the Library).
PHYSICAL MATHS CHALLENGE (Handball, Basketball, Hockey and Skittles) in the New Gym: Thursday 21st May: at various times (Timetable forthcoming).
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Wendy Hobbs or Graham Lewis
AUSKICK

Week 5 Award Winners were Clancy Sambell, Leslie Grey and Max Hindhaugh.
We are over half way through now and Coach James Hindhaugh is doing a great job coming up with fresh ideas to keep the children keen. They really appreciate your time and effort James. Well done!

Deakin University Childhood Study
Please return forms if you do not wish for your child to participate in the Deakin University Childhood Obesity Study tomorrow Tuesday 19th May.

We would like if families could help out and donate some knitting wool. Donations from families or from the community will be greatly appreciated by the Year 7/8 students for their upcoming Art project.

SPORT
Congratulations and good luck to all the primary and secondary students who are participating in the Little Desert Cross Country at Kaniva tomorrow. Thank you to parents and Mr Lloyd Jones for supervising and transporting these students.

Good luck to our senior boys who are combining with Good Shepherd College to play football in the Herald Sun Cup in Hamilton today. Thank you to Mrs Kirby for supervising and transporting the students to this event.

Net Set Go!
This year we have 25 very enthusiastic girls participating in Net Set Go. Lots of first timers, who are learning very quickly. We have been very lucky with the lovely rainy weather, and have only had to use the big gym once. At the end of week 5, the girls can now do shoulder passes, catch with ‘W’ fingers, shoot with very tall arms, be big trees and squash frogs! (If you are wondering what this is, ask a net set go girl!) We have been playing a game at the end of each session, which is a highlight. A huge thanks to Dana, Paris and Tahalia for their help each week, to the school for the use of the courts and the Balmoral Shop for the fruit and bread.

A REMINDER THAT NET SET GO FINISHES AT 4.30. PROMPT COLLECTION OF YOUR CHILD WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. THANK YOU :)

School Uniform Donations
Now that the weather has changed there might be uniforms that no longer fit...so they could be donated to the 2nd hand shop in Balmoral. While you are there dropping yours off you may find some uniforms donated by someone else that fit your child!! Uniforms at the second hand shop are free.
It has been a great way to recycle school uniforms - really everyone is a winner!!

Change of dates for Kinder
- Kinder on Monday 25th of May
- No Kinder on Friday the 29th May
- No kinder Wednesday 17th June
- Kinder day on Thursday 18th June (Incursion with the Halls Gap Zoo)

These dates have been changed so we can go to the medical van and zoo days and we have switched the other days so we don’t miss out on kinder hours for the year. Thank you.

Royal Flying Doctors Service Victoria is bringing its Mobile Dental Care Program to the West Wimmera. The dental team will visit on 25th May to provide free dental check ups and education about healthy teeth and gums. The dental team will send home information about your child’s check-up to let you know if you need any dental treatment and provide contact details for public dental clinics in the area. Any information collected about your child will be treated confidentially.

Well done!

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Nude Food Day
Don’t forget this Tuesday, 19th May, is the day.
Students are all invited to bring their most healthy, creative and ‘nude’ lunchbox that they can. A great Family activity- packing a healthy lunch together.
The year 9/10 Home economics class will be judging the lunch boxes during period one with great prizes being awarded at recess for the best lunch boxes.
Remember: Include foods from the 5 main food groups, lots of colours, creative presentation, different foods, yummy foods and nude foods (no wrappers).

Smoothies
As part of Nude Food Day there will be samples of delicious smoothies available to students in the Hall at lunchtime. There will be Purple, White, Orange and Green to choose from, they are all good for you and FREE!
So come along and tell us which is the best.

Dinner and Show Tickets
Tickets for Mr Frechette’s Show & Dinner - ‘The Race to Olympus’ and ‘A Tale of Spades’ will be on sale from Tuesday 19th in the office. Prices are $30 /adult and $25 /student. Tickets MUST be pre paid and you can choose your table when you come into get your tickets. All ticket sales must be finalised by Friday 12th June so that catering can be organised. You will need your ticket to get in the door and if you write your name on the back & place it in the lucky door prize box, you might even win!
DETAILS: Three Course meal, BYO Drinks & Glasses, Seated by 5.45 for a 6pm start. See you there!

General Achievement Test
• Is a test of general knowledge and skills built up through the school years.
• Students will already have studied English, Mathematics, Science and History.
• Students will already have built up general knowledge and skills in writing, numeracy and reasoning.
• Areas tested are written communication; mathematics, science and technology; humanities, the arts and social sciences.
• No special study is required, due to broadness of areas.
• Students can look at previous GAT papers to familiarise themselves with the structure of questions.
• The GAT is an essential part of VCE assessment.
• GAT results are a great predictor of achievement on other assessments.
• All students involved in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3 & $4 sequences must sit the GAT.
• GAT results are used to check the accuracy of school based assessment and exams, and can be used for a Derived Exam Score, if you are unable to sit an exam.
• VCAA will use students’ GAT scores as a basis for:
  Contributing to statistical moderation of school based assessment results
  Checking the accuracy of examination marking
  Calculating the Derived Examination Scores
• So… it’s in your best interest to do as well as possible in the GAT.
**Kowree Cross Country**

The Kowree Cross Country was hosted by Balmoral Community College and was held at the Balmoral Rec Reserve on Wednesday 6th May. The Cross Country event involved students in Years 3-6 from Goroke P-12 College, Apsley Primary School, St Malachy's School, Edenhope P-12 College and Balmoral Community College. Balmoral College retained the Perpetual Trophy for 2015 through the efforts of a very committed and determined cross-country team. We commend our students for their team spirit and their display of sportsmanship.

The **age champions** on the day were:
- 10 year boys-Jack Austin
- 10 year girls-Phoebe Russell
- 11 year girls-Poppy Austin
- 12 year boys-Charlie Johnston
- 12 year girls-Indeya Talay

I would like to sincerely thank those parents who volunteered to assist as checkpoint marshals on the day, without them the event would not have run so smoothly. I would also like to thank Mrs Hobbs and Ms Munro for giving their time to be timing officials for the event, their expertise was greatly appreciated.

The students who have qualified for the Little Desert Cross Country will travel to Kaniva on Tuesday 19th May. We wish them the best of luck.

Bernadette Kirby
Cross Country Coordinator.

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### Term 2 Calendar

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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| **18th-22nd May** | *EDUCATION WEEK*  
*Entries close  
ICAS(International Competitions & Ass for Schools)*  
*Book Fair*  
*Yr 11/12 Football in Hamilton* | *Little Desert Cross County (Primary & Secondary)*  
*School Captains to Edenhope*  
*Book Fair*  
*Nude Food Day*  
*11:40am Shake, Rattle & Read* | *Open Day at BCC*  
*Art Performance 'Jack Flash & Jumping Beans'*  
*Book Fair* | *Last Day Book Fair*  
*Wheelchair Basketball Yr 5-8 in Hamilton* |
| **25th-29th May** | *Kinder on today*  
*RFDS*  
*Dental Van*  
*Dress up Day – Medical Theme* | *11:40am Shake, Rattle & Read* | | *No Kinder today* |
| **1st-5th June** | *Little Desert Winter Sports (Primary)*  
*9:30-3:30 Eistedfod in Hamilton*  
*11:40am Shake, Rattle & Read* | | *Golf Clinic Yr5/6* | |
| **8th-12th June** | *QUEENS B’DAY HOLIDAY* | *Yr 9-12 Exams*  
*Yr5/6 Golf Clinics*  
*11:40am Shake, Rattle & Read* | *Yr 7 Immunisation*  
*GAT* | *REPORT WRITING DAY*  
*GW Cross Country (P&S)* |
| **15th-19th June** | *9am Whole School Assembly*  
*11:40am Shake, Rattle & Read* | | *No Kinder today*  
*Kinder Incursion Halls Gap Zoo* | |
| **22nd-26th June** | *11:40am Shake, Rattle & Read* | *9am Journey of Remembrance Performance* | | *LAST DAY TERM* |