Principal’s Report
Welcome back
On Tuesday I talked with students about a number of expectations for them as individuals as part of our school community for 2016. The intent of this was to set all of them up for a successful year and to enable each of them to be the best they can be. The expectations are listed below and I look forward to everyone working together on these so we can all experience success.

Students wear school uniform to create a greater sense of belonging for them and their classmates. This helps to prepare them for the routines of adult life when they have to get ready for the wonderful world of work and will have to dress appropriately for their workplace.

As a school we have some areas that are part of the school environment but are out of bounds. This is intended to look after all and make sure that students do not put themselves at risk.

Diaries are a great help to be successful. Using a diary to keep organized is a skill that is useful for life and we would like all students to be developing this skill. Shortly we will, as a school, transition to electronic diaries for students. The EDiary will also enable us to further strengthen the communication between home and school.

Music is great but does not help students’ learning when they are in class; so, please save the music for outside of the classroom.

When we look after other people they tend to look after us, so if you are a student please take the opportunity to look after your teachers. This will ensure that you have an even greater array of educational opportunities.

Student learn best when they are in the class. Going to the toilet is important but is best done during recess or lunch so the learning is not disrupted. Please, students, try and organise yourself to allow for full participation in the class and the learning opportunity.

Phones are great but they can interrupt student learning. Please make sure that they are not on during learning time. If Mum and Dad need to get an urgent message to students during class time they will be able to ring the office staff who will pass it on.

If you as a student waste five minutes each lesson, so six times a day, you waste half an hour each day; over the week, this is two and a half hours. During the year this is 90 hours. This means over the thirteen years you would waste 1170 hours or 195 school days or 39 weeks. This is nearly one school year. This would put you at a distinct disadvantage when competing with other students around the state for a job or position at university etc.
One of the things students can look forward to this year is presenting the Whole School Assembly. This will have all members of our school understanding and conforming to the social norms that go with being an audience member or a presenter. These skills are important for all to learn and develop to make the most of the opportunities that being an active member of our community provide.

Building work will be undertaken in June with the removal of five existing rooms and replacement with two new portables which we will be able to subdivide. In second semester this work should be completed so as a school we can look forward to this development of our school site.

For those students and parents still working through the challenges of the BYOD program the following is some further information about the capabilities of the devices that will meet our expectations and serve the students’ needs.

Processor must at least be a latest generation Celeron processor (n2920 or greater i3, i5 or i7 is fine)
The device must have at least 4GB RAM
The HDD must be at least 128GB
The Battery must last at least 6 hours
The device must have a physical keyboard
The screen must be at least 11.6”
The device must have a carry bag
The devices must be running either Windows 7, Windows 8 Pro (NOT Windows 8 RT) or Apple OSX, Windows 10 - Professional or Enterprise

PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE HOME VERSION OF WINDOWS! *

To assist with the loading of the Edustar image which will allow students to connect with the school’s network our school technicians will be here on the following times and dates for the rest of this term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>8 FEB</td>
<td>TAMBO LIB</td>
<td>9AM-3PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>17 FEB</td>
<td>TAMBO LIB</td>
<td>9AM-3PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>22 FEB</td>
<td>TAMBO LIB</td>
<td>9AM-3PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>2 MAR</td>
<td>TAMBO LIB</td>
<td>9AM-3PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Courage, Joy and Kindness are great values that will not just be useful during your school life but will be a platform for you to lead a rich and fulfilling life.

*If you have already purchased a device with Windows Home, please note that when you bring the device in to be configured for use at school, you will also need to bring in a DVD disc or a 10GB memory stick to enable this process.

When we all work together we get the best outcomes for all, so if there are little issues or big, please get in contact so we can find solutions to the challenges.

Robert Boucher

Lunch Orders

Please note that Flagstaff lunch orders are only on Monday and Fridays and Tambo Campus every day.

If you are phoning a lunch order through to the Bakery please give the campus your child is attending. A call to school also will ensure that we collect them on the day.
Proof of concession entitlement
All students aged 17 years and over, or those requiring a half yearly or Student Pass (regardless of age), are required to obtain a 2016 Victorian Public Transport (VPT) Student Concession Card as proof of their concession entitlement. Application details and a copy of this year’s form can be obtained from:

- Metropolitan premium train stations
- PTV Hubs (Southern Cross Station, Dockland, Geelong and Bendigo)
- V/Line staffed stations and ticket agents
- PTV Call Centre by calling 1800 800 007
- Online at ptv.vic.gov.au

It is important to note that school issued student identification cards are not accepted as entitlement to concession travel on public transport.

Signing students in and out of school
Our school encourages Parents/Carers to sign children into school if arriving later than 9:00am or departing earlier than 3:15pm (Flagstaff Campus) 3:25pm (Tambo Campus).
In case of an emergency we will know whether your child is here or not.
Prep parents, when you are collecting your child at lunchtime please sign them out in the front office. The register is on the right hand side as you walk in, beside the bus list.
We thank you for your co-operation.

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FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE AND LAW TEST—INFORMATION SHEET
SWIFTS CREEK

Course Date: 16/02/2016
Time: 7:30 pm
Address: Swifts Creek School Library - Tambo Campus
6840 Great Alpine Road, Swifts Creek VIC 3896

Instructions
To apply for a firearm licence, you need to attend a compulsory firearm safety course and law test.
You have booked to attend the firearms safety course at the date and time stated on this information sheet.
The course is free.
It is important that you read and have a very good understanding of the “FIREARMS SAFETY CODE” booklet before attending this course. The booklets are available from any Police Station.
The tests will be conducted by the instructor at the end of the course.

What to bring
- A ball point pen
  You will need this to complete your firearms safety and laws test.
Pencils and felt tip pens are not acceptable. Pens will not be supplied.
- Suitable means of identification (e.g. driver's licence, etc.).
  Junior applicants are to be accompanied by a parent or guardian (both must produce suitable identification or birth certificate). Failure to present proper identification will result in your not being able to undertake the tests.

FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION ARE NOT TO BE BOUGHT TO THIS COURSE
LEARN, PRACTICE and PROMOTE FIREARMS SAFETY
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb

State

Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

- OR

Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
<th>Child’s first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and for State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant

Date / /
CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
  a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
  c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

Closing Date

Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form by 29 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold Card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.

3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.