

## **Principal update 11/5/22**

### **Professional Practice Day**

Under the Departments' Industrial Agreement, recently agreed with the unions, teachers are entitled to be given a day per term to undertake professional learning and professional activities without having to take classes for the day. The types of tasks that teachers may choose to do include; assessment, reporting, planning, curriculum design, and professional learning. These activities must be a part of the school AIP. This condition existed in the previous agreement and was managed by releasing small numbers of teachers at a time and replacing them with casual relief teachers, and in the COVID lockups, on-line lessons were cancelled for a day with minimal disruption to students.

The Department of Education announced at the end of last term that to assist in managing the severe shortage of CRTs and general staff shortages of teachers across the state, that the professional practice day for term two of this year will be a whole school day. This means that on the day of the professional practice day there will be no classes at school. I have consulted with the staff representative committee, school leadership and I have recommended to School Council the professional practice day be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June. School Council approved this date in consideration of balancing parent, staff, and wider school interest.

To give the selected date a context, Monday, 13 June is a public holiday, (Queen's Birthday), Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of June has been designated, and advertised widely, as a school based curriculum day. By having the professional practice day Wednesday, 15 June, this will result in one extended long weekend, rather than multiple interruptions.

To support parents with care arrangements, the BIG Out of School Care Program will operate on the day for primary age students, and a study hall program for students in Secondary, (this will be a review, note taking, personal study time, there will be no instruction provided).

### **Diary:**

#### **Monday 13/6 – Public Holiday**

**Tuesday 14/6 – Curriculum Day:** no classes at school, but BIG Out of School Care program available for primary age students. (Teachers will be at school on this day undertaking professional learning but will not be supervising students or taking classes).

**Wednesday 15/6 – Professional Practice Day:** no classes at school, but BIG Out of School Care program available for primary age students, and study hall available for Secondary age students in Victoria exam room. (Teachers will be at school on this day undertaking professional learning but will not be supervising students or taking classes).

**Friday 24/6 – Last day of Term, 1.30pm finish.**

### **6-7 Transition Evening**

My thanks to the organisers of last night's Transition Information Evening, principally, Bec Collins and Penny Owens. I also wish to thank the significant number of staff who attended to present, take tours of the school, and assist with the evening. A hundred parents attended either in person or on-line.

### **NAPLAN**

The NAPLAN is currently underway and will take place for the remainder of this week and next week. The significant change this year is it is on an online platform which has placed some challenges in front of us to get almost a thousand students online for their sessions, (Years 3, 5, 7 and 9).

### **Mothers Day Stall**

My thanks for Bec Collins' work on the organisation of the Mother's Day Stall. A big thank you to our parent and community volunteers Jacqui, Jess, Tracy, Chloe, Bea, Jan, Neha & Liz who worked tirelessly over the 3 days. Our senior VCAL students also helped with the preparations and held their own stall. Together we raised just over \$3000 to put towards classroom resources.

### **After School Incident**

An after school incident was reported to the school yesterday afternoon involving two of our students. Due to the seriousness of the incident, the matter was referred by community members to the police who are following it up. A student received a wound that required medical attention and it is my understanding is resting and will make a full recovery. Because the incident occurred on the way home from school, it falls under school behaviour policy and the most severe consequences available to the school have been applied.

From communications and yard conversations, obviously several students and parents observed the incident or part of it. If your child has seen the incident and requires any support, please contact your child's Assistant Principal to be linked to allied health.

Steve Warner  
College Principal