July 2016 Newsletter

Farewell Rosa
Our original Assistant Principal Rosa has been appointed substantive Principal at Creekside College. This is a great achievement for Rosa but a sad loss for our school community. She was an integral part of our development and TSC owes her a great deal of thanks for her amazing work establishing our school community & culture. Rosa completed an initial 6 month Acting placement at Creekside and was successful in being appointed to the ongoing role at the end of Term 2.

Bye Rosa!

Farewell Leanne Mortellaro
One of our inaugural staff members; Leanne Mortellaro, finished working with us this week. Leanne has taken on a 6-month role at Rosehill Secondary College. Leanne was a valuable member of our original team; as Welfare Coordinator she supported many students and families and was integral in developing our culture of support whilst focusing on getting kids back into class and learning. We wish her well at Rosehill.

Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews
Student/Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 23 August 2016 from Midday to 7.00pm here at the college.
Your active support and involvement in these discussions is critical and we encourage all parents to meet with teachers this term.
You can book your time using our new Compass Parent Portal. Login details were sent in the end of semester report and in a letter last week. If you would like new login details, please contact the office. You can ask your child to show you the login process.

On the night you will also have the opportunity to be guided through setting up your parent login for our compass portal and ask any questions related to our new student management tool. This will be held in Building B Computer Lab as you walk in.

For Year 12 students this is the final opportunity to discuss, in a one to one session with each teacher, what your child needs to do in the lead up to their final exams and how you can help them achieve their best results. All year 12 students are expected to attend an interview.

For Year 11 students this is an opportunity to discuss the progress your child is making in each of their subjects, to help them to focus on their results this year and to plan their programs for the year ahead. All Year 11 students should take this opportunity to focus for next year.

For Year 10 students the meeting will give you an understanding of where your child is at right now as we consider VCE or VCAL subject/course selections for 2017. All Year 10s will benefit from this discussion and goal setting.
Parents can book online through our Compass program. Contact Karrie at our General Office if you require assistance logging on to Compass.

Parking on Begonia Rd
Please park your car on the **school side of Begonia Rd** if visiting the college for a meeting. Our neighbours are having their driveways blocked too often. Students with cars have been asked to make sure they park on ‘our’ side of the street each day to prevent our neighbour’s driveways being blocked.

All families were emailed a letter from me requesting consideration for our neighbours recently but a small number of cars are still blocking driveways each day. Wyndham Council has been asked to allocate parking officers to our neighbourhood around school drop off and pick up times to ensure cars are parking correctly.

Please use the service road on Leakes Rd for drop off & pick up.

**Year 12 – Time to knuckle down**
Term 3 is ‘hammer time’ for Year 12 students. They must be studying hard every night and working hard at school every day. There should be no absences during Term 3 and our Year 12s must be using their time at home effectively. As parents your role is super important – supporting your child but also making sure they are working hard at home. Any student who tells a parent they ‘have no homework’ at this time of Year 12 – is wrong.

**2017 Enrolments**
Enrolments for the 2017 school year will open from Thursday 13 August. It is anticipated we will have approximately 550 students at TSC in 2017 meaning spaces will be limited. Families considering enrolment at TSC for 2017 need to act fast. Priority is given to families for whom TSC is the closest school to home.

We ask existing families with friends or neighbours planning on enrolling to urge them to contact the college as soon as possible to avoid potential disappointment. Early enrolment ensures students can select from a wide range of subjects on offer; late enrolment may limit a student’s subject choices.

**French language assistant 2017**
We have been successful in again obtaining a French Language Assistant to work with our kids in 2017. This intensive language support will accelerate our student learning in French and is a great benefit to our students and the college community.

**Arriving late to school = detention**
Arriving late to school is symptomatic of a student being disorganised. These students struggle to cope with the demands of senior schooling and fall behind as they miss regular starts of classes. If your child is a regular ‘sleeper-in’; we ask that you support us by encouraging them to get up and get to school on time.

Late students who do not have a valid reason for their lateness receive lunchtime detentions. No one likes detention! – It can be avoided by arriving on time each day.
**Information Evenings**
Information Evenings will be held on Thursday 11 August for Year 10 to VCE/VCAL and for 2016 Year 10 students. These sessions are designed to give parents and students a clear idea about life at our college and are highly recommended for families.

**Course Counselling**
Choosing courses for year 11 and 12 can be a daunting prospect for many students and their families. To assist in selecting their subjects all students will be involved in our course counselling day soon. Classes will run as usual with each student having a specific course counselling appointment time. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend this session.

**Stage 2 Building Update**
We are at the 'architect interview' point in our Stage 2 building program. These interviews will be completed in early August. Once appointed; our architects will immediately begin detailed work on our college build.

**Smoking – A health hazard**
The college has received a report of a small number of students smoking on the way to and from school. Smoking is illegal on government grounds and it is also illegal for those under the age of eighteen to purchase cigarettes. We ask that parents be aware of their children's smoking habits and support them, as we do, in realising smoking only leads to bad health outcomes.

**Curriculum - Google Sites**
Many parents are aware that we are a 'Google Apps' school. Teachers spend a significant time planning and are always looking for resources and ways that will help to reinforce what your children are learning in class. We live in an age where learning no longer needs to be confined to a text book. Students can develop a greater depth of understanding exploring the wealth of multimedia resources offered today. To support your child in their learning teachers are moving their curriculum online, creating individual subject websites using Google Sites where these can be accessed. Help ensure your child remains up to date in class by checking that they are bringing their computer to school for every lesson. You can also ask your child to show you what they are learning in class and use that as an opportunity to discuss their progress.

**Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability ‘Collection Notice’**
All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, have recently participated in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

**The Data Collection** is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving support to participate in education on the same basis as other students. All schools are required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. No student’s identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training, just the number of students at TSC who receive support funding to complete their education.

Michael Fawcett Suzie Gerada & Martin Mielimaka
Principal Team