



Sapphire Street, Niddrie 3042

Phone: 9337 2488 Fax: 9331 0525

Email: rosehill.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.rosehillsc.vic.edu.au

Principal: Peter Rouse

Assistant Principals: Ms Sandra Smart, Ms Kerry McKay, Mr Arthur Soumalias

President: Mr John Walsh

Locker Update For Year 7 Parents

During this week the Junior School coordinators have begun the distribution of lockers to Year 7 students. There have been some complaints about the process so I think I need to give a little information about the history of lockers in the school and why the process must be spread out.

Lockers have only been used at Rosehill across the school since 2006. Previously, only Year 12 students had access to lockers and the rest of the school population carried bags and books around each day. The College had recognised that with the growth in the student population bags were starting to take up valuable classroom space and students were in some cases not wearing the back packs correctly. The parent body, through School Council, had also been making requests for lockers, so a decision was made to introduce them, despite expensive start up and maintenance costs. Hence the need for a locker levy.

In terms of the distribution process we need to identify those parents who have paid the locker levy as part of the school resource charge. Those students whose parents have done this or are eligible for EMA need to be allocated first, as it would be unfair to simply give them out to everyone including those who parents have not made any financial contribution. Gathering this data takes some time.

- Parents who paid the resource levy directly to the school had the first lockers allocated as this data is immediately available to us.
- Finalising which parents are entitled to receive EMA takes some time but as soon as this information is gathered then appropriate lockers are distributed.
- The last set of data to be received is that from the book supply company, Landmark, as they inform us of who has paid the levies through the book list. This data takes several weeks to come from the company and then at least another day two to three days.

If there are parents who are having difficulty paying the resource charge then please contact Judith Wright, our Business Manager, and a payment plan will be put in place to ensure that your child is not disadvantaged. Alternatively a part payment of \$100 can be made and the diary and locker will be distributed immediately. Parents can then pay the rest of the charge by term 2.

The whole process is usually completed within the first five days of the school year when students are in attendance. It has been complicated this year because students started two days earlier than they have for the last three years so the time period between Year 7's starting and the locker distribution time is actually two days longer than previous years. Our Year 7 camp is also running later and this has had an impact in that lockers were usually not given out until after the camp.

We have also been asked as to why we use combination locks. The main reason for this is that the student lockers are school property and we have the right to access them at any stage, whether a student is at school or not. Combination locks enable us to do this. Using keyed locks, even provided by us has in the past caused security issues and takes up valuable coordinators' time if students have forgotten or lost keys. We also replace combination locks at no cost to the student if it fails in some way. The lock, once purchased, is the property of the student until he/she finishes school at Rosehill.

We urge parents and students to be patient with this process. Once the distribution has taken place our locker system works well, students settle in and there are minimal locker issues for the rest of a student's school life.

Please refer any further enquiries re lockers direct to me.

Peter Rouse
Principal

School Photographs

School photographs will take place on Friday, 24th February. Students will be issued with the order envelope as soon as they are delivered to the school. Students who wish to order photographs must bring the envelope with them on the Friday morning, with the correct money in the envelope or credit card details on the envelope. Students will hand their envelope directly to the photographer as they have their individual portraits taken. Envelopes should **not** be taken to the General Office or given to the home room teachers as is sometimes the case in primary school.

Students who choose not to purchase photographs will still be photographed in the usual way. Year 7 students will be photographed first. Students are required to wear correct summer uniform.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations for Year 7 students will take place on Wednesday, March 7. Students are offered vaccinations for Hepatitis B, Varicella (Chicken Pox), and Human Papilloma Virus (Girls only). Vaccinations are not compulsory, but parents are strongly urged by the council and Department of Health to have their children vaccinated.

Vaccination cards and an information letter will be handed to students early next week, and parents are requested to complete these and have their child return them to their Home Room teacher the next day. Cards should be returned even if your child is not having one or any of the vaccinations. Please take the time to complete all necessary details on the card.

Homework Club

The College offers after school tuition in the Library each Monday afternoon, from 3.30-4.30. Teachers from a range of subject areas attend to assist students of all year levels with their work. The first session is Monday, 13th February. Students are encouraged to attend.

Getting To Know You BBQ

We plan to run a 'Getting to Know You' barbeque for Year 7 students and their families on the evening of 1st March. A formal invitation with further information will be issued to parents shortly, but parents may like to pop this date in their diaries now.

A full Parent Newsletter will be distributed to all students on Friday, February 17th. Parent Newsletters after that date will be electronic and distributed via email. Newsletters are also available on the College website. Hardcopies will be available upon request from the General Office.