Welcome to the final newsletter for the year. It has been a successful year with growth in student numbers, further improvements to facilities and the continuation of our educational programs. 2014 will be an exciting year with another expansion to around the 1170 enrolment figure.

Politics again
After a quiet period education has once again hit the media with two issues emerging: Better Schools Funding and PISA results. In terms of Better Schools Funding (previously Gonski) we have as yet received no money and our budgets for next year are similar to what we achieved this year, allowing for the increase in student numbers. I was disappointed with the Federal Government’s turn around on the funding model and am pleased that it has reviewed that decision. The issue for the school is that we don’t yet know if we will get extra financial resources and if so, how much. We have been unable to plan but we will certainly put any money into teaching and learning.

The PISA results were recently published. These results are worldwide and rank student performance in English, Maths and Science globally. These results are driving Governments in the push to improve our student outcomes. I have not seen the data yet but indications are that there has been a slight drop in Australia’s ranking. This is a challenge that all school communities need to address.

Staffing
The transition in staffing from this year to next will be reasonably smooth with minimal movement. Our aim is for stability at the beginning of the year. We have appointed our Year Level coordinators:

- **Year 7:** Mr Stubbings will continue in this role.
- **Year 8:** Mr Hosking. Mr Hosking has been at the school for a year now. He has had experience as a Coordinator before in another school and is keen to assume such a role at this school.
- **Year 9:** Mr Martens. Mr Martens was the Year 8 Coordinator this year and will be moving up with the students as he knows them very well.
- **Year 10:** Ms Vossos. Like Mr Martens, Ms Vossos will be moving up with the students.
- **Year 11:** Ms Bowles.
- **Year 12:** Mr Thompson. Mr Thompson is continuing in the Year 12 role.
These Coordinators will be supported by a group of Assistant Coordinators:

**Senior School:**  Mr Houghton and Ms Mortellaro  
**Junior School:**  Ms Ellis, Ms Jago, and Ms Benson

Ms Russell will continue as Head of the Junior School and Mr Phelan will continue as head of the Senior School.

I will be publishing further information at the start of 2014. We are still finalising the teacher details and will have at least five new staff beginning and a small number leaving.

**Upcoming events**

There are two major upcoming events. The first will be the release of the VCE results on 16th December. School Administrators have access to these results before students so we will have a good idea of how our students have gone by Sunday evening. The last event of the calendar is the Awards Evening to be held on 18th December. This is a highlight of the year as we celebrate the achievements of our students and hand over to the new School Captains. We are trying out a new system of awards this year with the best student in each Year 12 subject being presented as well as a new ‘Best Always’ award at each level.

To finish I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am looking forward to 2014. It will be a busy year beginning with a full self-evaluation and the development of a new strategic plan.

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**Junior School Report**

This week has been incredibly busy as students are completing their end of year exams and revision classes. We are very pleased that students have taken their exams seriously and have worked hard on preparing to do their best. Hopefully they will achieve the results they hope for and deserve.

Next week students will be spending class time reviewing their exams and completing their courses. We will also be welcoming our 2014 Year 7 students to Rosehill. Thank you to all the Year 7 students who have offered their services on the day to help guide Year 6 students during the day.

On Monday the 16th of January, Students will attend their whole year level excursion day. Just a reminder all Year 7-9 students will be going to ‘Funfields’ in Whittlesea. There are a number of places left for the excursion which offers a range of activities for students. The cost is $50 for the week long activities and should be paid to the office by Tuesday 10th December. Key Learning Area staff teams are preparing fun activities during the final week for Year 7-9. Sign up day is on Monday 9th December in A Wing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Junior School families for their support this year and to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2014.

Ann Russell  
Head of Junior School

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**Christmas Tree sale**

5th Keilor Scout Group is once again selling Christmas Trees as a fund raiser.

Trees will be sold over the next 2 weekends. So if you’re a fan of the ‘real’ Christmas tree why not support a local community group in the process.

Trees range in price from $45 through to $80 depending on size. We are selling the trees from the hall car park at AJ Davis Reserve, Fullarton Rd, Airport West.

Tree sales are from 9am – 3pm on the following dates:  
Saturday 7th December  
Sunday 8th December  
Saturday 14th December  
Sunday 15th December

Merry Christmas

Grant Martens

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**Humanities Textbook Buy Back**

The Humanities department is interested in buying back copies of the Year 7 Humanities Alive textbook (2nd edition) in good condition. There is no set text at Year 7 next year for Humanities so if you would like to sell your copy back to the school, please ask you child to see me in the staffroom with their textbook. We are also interested in a couple more Year 8 and 9 Humanities textbooks (‘Humanities Alive for the National Curriculum’). Buy back price is $25 which will be credited to your school account or sent as a cheque if you prefer.

Sirocha Bruckard  
Humanities Leader
Thinking Through A Haiku

The STEP students in 7E have been studying the novel ‘The Silver Donkey’. When exploring the last two chapters of the novel, the students were asked to use one of the observation/thinking strategies that they had learned about when re-reading the last two chapters. They then had identify at least one idea that was suggested by the chapters. The final task was to communicate one of these ideas as a Haiku (senryu).

Haiku is a poetic form that originated in Japan hundreds of years ago and continues today. Haiku combines form, content and language in a meaningful, yet compact form. In order to be true Haiku, a poem must consist of seventeen syllables and contain a Kigo. A kigo is a word that hints in what season the poem takes place. If the poem contains no kigo, it is more properly called a senryu (this could even be a seventeen syllable poem about Spam or the lunch lady).

Many Haiku themes include nature, feelings or experiences. Usually they use simple words and grammar. The most common form for Haiku is three short lines. The first line usually contains five (5) syllables, the second line seven (7) syllables, and the third line contains five (5) syllables. Haiku doesn’t rhyme. A Haiku must “paint” a mental image in the readers mind.

Below are some of the students’ ideas and Haikus.

**Elena’s ideas and thinking:**
- War experience can scar for life.
- People will move on but will never forget.
- It is hard to move on.
- The littlest of people can make a big difference.
- Events may come and go, but memories are forever.
- The good deeds done by one cannot always be repaid by the other.

**The small**
**By Elena 7E**
- The brave still need help
- The most helpful however are
- The small and the meek.

**Children**
**By Ryan, 7E**
- Looks can deceive us,
- And the smallest of people,
- Can give the most help.

**Perception**
**By Julia 7E**
- Shame is perceiving,
- The man sees himself as strong.
- He’s no longer weak.

**The Truth**
**By Natalie, 7E**
- Silence and whispers,
- Lies can benefit others,
- The truth has to hide.

**Lies**
**by Natalie, 7E**
- A lie hides the truth,
- Lying can be justified,
- Shielding other’s lives.

**A Hero**
**By Irene, 7E**
- Compassion and forgiveness.
- Who is the hero?

**Damien Toussaint**
**STEP Coordinator**

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**EMA – 2014**

EMA (Educational Maintenance Assistance) forms are now available at the General Office and on the College Website (link on the Home Page).

Health Care Card must be valid 29th January 2014

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**Lost Property**

There are large amounts of lost property. Items include reading glasses, keys, text books, school uniform, and school novels.

Lost Property – All Items must be collected by Friday 16th December or they will be donated to Charity or sold as 2nd Hand Uniform.

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**Home Doctor Service**

Home Doctor Service provides doctors for home visits when clinics are closed. The call centre is open:

Weekdays from 4pm
Saturdays from 10am
Sundays and public holidays – all day and night

Bulk Billing generally available
Conditions Apply: Telephone 137425

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**Canteen**

Please be advised that the Canteen will be offering a limited menu in the last week of school.

**Canteen Management**
**Bocca Foods**
Season's Greetings from Japan

Year 8 students studying Japanese this semester have received Christmas cards from our sister school Kogakkan High School in Japan. The Christmas cards our students wrote in both Japanese and English will also be arriving in Japan very soon.

Takanori Hayakawa
Languages Leader

Merry Christmas

DEECD STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS 2013-2014

Students in Years 4–12 are invited to apply for student scholarships administered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD).

The scholarships open on Monday 18th November 2013 and range in value from $350 to $2000.

Scholarships are also offered to VCE students who intend to enter a teacher training course after completing their VCE.

Applicants will be required to submit their 2013 end-of-year results, which must be verified by their principals.

Many of the scholarships identify financial need as an eligibility criterion. Parents/ guardians receiving the Education Maintenance Allowance or families receiving Centrelink payments meet this criterion.

Critical Dates
Applications open on 18th November 2013.
Students must lodge online applications by 31st January 2014.

Additional Information
Further information on the student scholarships is available on the website at: www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships.

Kimono Session

Year 10 students studying Japanese have learnt about the kimono this term. They have learnt about the types of kimono that are worn, how to make the material, how to sew kimono, how much each item costs and how to put them on. Some students have tried to dress themselves in them. I’d like to thank Ms Carol Brewster for her support.

BROOKE SUTTON – FUNDRAISER SUCCESS

Congratulations to Brooke Sutton for fundraising $266 towards the Alopecia Foundation. She bravely cut her hair, which will be used to create wigs for Alopecia sufferers.
The annual Rosehill Secondary College Awards Evening will be held on Tuesday 17th December at St Bernard’s College Auditorium.

All students receiving awards are required to wear full school uniform and should arrive no later than 6.10 pm at the auditorium (unless prior arrangements have been made).

Students must report to the O’Brien Hall (adjacent the main auditorium) for roll check. The Jazz Band will commence playing at 6.40pm and formal proceedings will commence at 7pm.

On behalf of the Rosehill school community, I wish to thank the following local businesses and groups who have provided invaluable financial support:

- Dr David Collins: You Psychology, 27 Ross St, Niddrie
- Coughlan Motors: 955 Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon
- Leadowne Pty Ltd
- Pennisi Real Estate: 255c Keilor Road, Essendon
- Australian Defence Force
- Caltex
- Cavalier Art Supplies, Geelong
- Insight Publications
- Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia
- School Sport Victoria
- Victoria University
- Wiltronics Research Pty Ltd

Lowes now have set Rosehill Secondary College’s uniform up “On Line” for parent and student convenience.

We have added the link to our Rosehill Website for easy access.

The ‘Uniform’ Quick Link on our Home page will take you to the College Uniform page where you will find the Lowes link to click on.

Please refer to the general information on the next page and our Rosehill Website.

There has been a fantastic positive response to this initiative for our school community, as evidenced by the following data.

Number of Rosehill Secondary College families registered on the Sustainable School Shop Website: 175

Number of ads listed: 1080

Number of items traded @ 05/12/13: 423
The College is conscious of the need to provide an efficient process for families to be able to recycle their textbooks and other student resources.

We are delighted to inform you of the school’s new initiative to provide parents with the ability to trade second-hand items via the “Sustainable School Shop”.

This initiative completely replaces the Second Hand Book Sale program that has been in place in past years at Rosehill Secondary College.

It also provides for buying and selling of College uniform and other items listed below.

Families will be assisted to list For Sale & Wanted advertisements online and the system then matches buyers with sellers.

Results from other schools have been excellent; families have enjoyed a comprehensive and convenient method of trading these second-hand items.

Our school’s trading is now up and running and ‘went live’ on Friday 15th November.

There is a Web link on the Rosehill Secondary College Website home page to click on:

Second-hand Textbooks

The Sustainable School Shop is providing complimentary Annual Subscriptions to Rosehill parents for a grace period until the end of 30th November and we would encourage parents to take full advantage of this opportunity. You will need to nominate the College when you register on the Sustainable School Shop website to receive your complimentary Annual Subscription (lasts 365 days).

The service will provide access all year round to second-hand:

- textbooks
- uniform
- calculators
- stationery
- musical equipment
- and other items.

Parents can even trade with other parents from different schools and sell items no longer in use at our College or other previously attended schools. Buckley Park College and St Bernard’s College already use the Sustainable School Shop.

You will gain the best results by following these steps:

- Register on the website
- List your items for sale
- List Wanted Ads for those items you are looking to buy
- The College’s booklists are loaded into the system to make listing ads easy
- The system matches the ads of buyers with sellers and notifies the buyer (Wanted Ad) via email
- Buyers contact sellers and arrange where and when to trade
- Most trading will occur with other parents from the school, however items can be traded with parents from other nearby schools too
- Parents are well supported via Sustainable School Shop’s telephone (1300 683 337) and email help lines
- The system is simple and easy to use - If you don’t have a computer, internet access or an email address, please call the Sustainable School Shop for assistance.
- **You can pre-arrange the transaction and then trade after the texts are not required.**

All your enquiries can be directed to the Sustainable School Shop on: 1300 683 337.

Help will also be available through ‘Contact Us’ on their website at

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

We are very excited about this new initiative being offered to parents. We hope you will make the most of the opportunity to annually recycle your student’s school items.

The 2014 Landmark Online Booklist Orders are on the College Website:


Confirmations of Subject Allocation for 2014 has been distributed to each student together with a Booklist. Please contact your child’s Year Level Coordinator with any queries.

Please contact Ms Lynden Fielding, Assistant Principal for any further information or clarification.

Judith Wright
Business Manager

Lynden Fielding
Assistant Principal
Rosehill Secondary College
Art Exhibition 2013
A collection of 7 – VCE Artworks.
Opening Night
Friday 6th December
6pm – 8pm

Monday 9th December
Tuesday 10th December
9am – 5pm

The exhibition showcases the incredible talents of our students, in particular our VCE Art and Studio Arts students. Both 2D and 3D work is on display, demonstrating the vast array of skills, techniques and processes on offer in our Visual Arts Curriculum. There is amazing work We hope to see you there!

Huyen Nguyen 11E

An eclectic display …
Awesome talent …
A MUST SEE
for our school community
The Year 12 Study Centre is transformed into a beautiful gallery space.

Heather Davies
The Visual Arts Leader