WELCOME

Welcome to the 2014 academic year. I hope that you and your families had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year brings a great sense of promise and optimism. This year marks the start of a very exciting period for Heathmont College. Our excellent reputation is spreading and the academic results from last year continue to be a source of pride. I would like to welcome all the families who are new to Heathmont College. You join us at an exciting time for the College and we look forward to a fruitful partnership with you over your child’s journey at Heathmont. Welcome also to the following new or returning staff: Susan Bollard – VCAL and Humanities; Leah Bright – Art and Design; Conor Sheehan – Business Management and Legal Studies.

CONGRATULATIONS

BEN NEVE
2013 Dux of the College and a recipient of the Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarship to Monash University.

CLASS OF 2013

We are very proud of the achievements of the class of 2013. Ninety-nine percent of those students who applied to do further studies were given an offer, with the vast majority attaining their first preference. The outcomes were a credit to the students and their teachers both in Year 12 and in previous years. The fields of study included the following areas: Archaeology, Law, Biomedical Science, Commerce, Criminology, Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Fashion and Textiles, Aviation Management, Nursing, Marketing … to name a few!

2014 BEGINS

The Learning Group Conferences, held on day one of the year, provided the opportunity for students and parents to reflect on last year and focus on setting personal goals for 2014. Thank you to all of the parents and guardians who made time to attend, your support is greatly appreciated.

Heathmont College has been invited by the University of Melbourne - School of Law to be involved in its mentoring program. This is one of the most prestigious courses in Australia and it is a great honour for the college to have been approached to participate. It involves one on one mentoring with a current law student at the University and provides the opportunity to participate in various activities at Melbourne. It will be very interesting to see how this relationship develops between the College and the University.

A great deal of work has been completed around the College over the holidays and the grounds are looking immaculate for the start of the school year. Year 7 and 10 students and Student Leaders enjoyed a most successful camp at the Adventure Resort, Phillip Island. The weather was beautiful and the students were exceptionally behaved. My thanks go to all the staff who attended and supported the Camp, especially to Miss Christoudolou, Transition Coordinator, for all of her organisation.

Johanna Walker
Principal
Welcome to the students, families and staff of Middle School for 2014. The students have begun the year enthusiastically and seriously, arriving at class with their books and equipment, in correct uniform and ready to learn. The staff have commented on how willing the students are to answer questions and work to a high standard. Students who are still sorting out folders and textbooks need to have this organised as quickly as possible and ask their Learning Group teacher if they need support.

Introducing the Middle School team for 2014:

Head of Middle School        Ms Alison Richards
Year 7 Coordinator           Ms Sabrina Luciano
Year 8 Coordinator           Ms Sabrina Luciano
Year 9 Coordinator           Ms Susan Bollard
Transition Coordinator        Ms Haroula Christodoulou
Student Leadership / Pathways  Mrs Ellen Holland
Integration / Learning Support Mrs Rebecca Campbell

Please contact the relevant coordinators if you have concerns. Emails can be sent to the relevant Learning Group teacher, subject teacher or coordinator using Compass or staff can be contacted by phone. We look forward to an enjoyable and successful year working together.

Alison Richards
Head of Middle School

YEAR 7 PHILLIP ISLAND RESORT CAMP.

A very big WELCOME to our Year 7 students and parents/guardians. What a brilliant start to the year! Well done on getting through your first few weeks at Heathmont College. The camp at Phillip Island Resort was fantastic and it was great to see students get involved in all the different fun activities.

I would like to thank you, the parents and guardians, for all the preparation and excellent participation of your child. It was a pleasure being on camp because of the positive “can do” attitude of the students. All students gave their best whether it was trying the twin flying fox or the giant swing. Thanks also to the outstanding Student Leaders, who demonstrated that our future adults, who have attended Heathmont College, will be successful in any career they choose. The leaders lead by example by being organized, enthusiastic and great role models. They are all a credit to their parents/guardians and our school community.

A special thank you to Miss Chritodoulou and Ms Richards who worked hard to make sure the camp was fun and well organized for students.

Finally I would like to invite you to the Year 7 Camp Celebration Night on Thursday Feb 20 at 7pm in the Learning Centre. It is an opportunity for you to listen and see some highlights of the camp. You can also meet me, Ms Luciano Year 7 and 8 Co ordinator, and have a chance to chat to some of your children’s teachers. I hope you can be there to share this night with your child.

I know it is going to be fabulous year!

Ms Sabrina Luciano
Year 7 and 8 Co ordinator
STUDENT COMMENTS—Phillip Island

Alana Webb
I felt nervous, excited and worried as I sat near a friend on the bus. I was sharing a room with some really nice friends they are understanding and make me laugh. Today we went for a walk on the beach. We built a sand cake and went to the rock pools. I loved making the cake and getting my feet wet.

Irina Metlenko
This morning I woke up with so much excitement, happiness, tiredness, thrill and confidence. I sat next to a friend next to the bus. I share my room with some fun and nice people. I went on the flying fox and into Cowes and did some shopping. I got a glow in the dark face paint. I really enjoyed camp.

Tom Oakley
I felt confident and excited. I felt like I was going to have fun. I felt like I was going to make friends. I loved the surfing and felt energized on the beach walk. I made some great friends and enjoyed camp.

Milayla Alberico
I felt nervous and happy because I would be away from home for a while, but I was happy to be with friends. I was excited to know that I would be going to Cowes to shop. I did the flying fox and the giant swing and loved it.

Braden Thick
When I got to camp I was excited to try everything.

Kayla Morrow
I felt excited and happy to be going to camp. I went beach walking and I loved walking on the rocks and making sand sculptures. I made some good friends on camp who are funny and bubbly.

Cassie Pauer
I felt pumped to go on the flying fox and giant swing. I made some awesome friends and loved the beach walk.

Will Stephens
I made lots of friends and shared a room with some very clean mates who used deodorant like a room spray. So our room smelt nice not smelly. The boys are friendly, caring and one is tall. I went for a walk on the beach and it was really fun.

Shane Arnold
I felt a bit worried going on camp but it turned out to be lots of fun. We went rock walking at the beach and I did the twin flying fox it was cool and fast.
FUN in the SUN at PHILLIP ISLAND
Instrumental music lessons are commencing for the year and the Heathmont College Music Department would like to welcome all Year 7 students and any new students from middle and senior school. We invite you to take part in the Music Program and the many opportunities to perform and participate in a fun part of Heathmont College.

Although spots have been filling quickly, we do have some places available for instrumental music lessons (availability depending on the instrument), with first preference given to Year 7 students.

Instrumental lessons on offer:

- Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, French Horn)
- Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone)
- Percussion (Drum kit)
- Guitar/Bass (limited places)
- Voice (limited places)

Students receive an instrumental/voice lesson rotating through periods on the same day that their instrumental music teacher is available each week.

It is important to note that band/choir participation is compulsory for all students learning an instrument at the College. This includes weekly rehearsals and participation at performance events. This is a great opportunity for students to develop performance skills and form lasting friendships outside of their normal classes and year levels.

This year ensembles and soloists will be working toward performing at school concerts, community events, primary school tours, participating in competitions and attending workshop days which are held at venues outside the College. Being part of a music program can be a wonderful experience and teaches self-confidence, integrity, perseverance, creativity and a sense of pride and accomplishment.

To find out how to become part of the Heathmont College Music Program please contact Emma Avery (Music Coordinator) on 9871 4888 or students can see Ms Avery in the C Block office.

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**HEATHMONT COLLEGE TOURS**

Parent tours are conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:15 am. This is an opportunity to meet the principal Johanna Walker and view the College facilities. Please contact 9871 4888 to make a booking.
The Eastern Courtyard wall of the Library is now home to a ‘parliament’ of OWLS. Across 8 months the (2013) Year 8 students each created a ceramic owl. The students looked at the characteristics of owls, and responded to an artist design brief. The students created individual, textural, colourful and ‘quirky’ creatures. Some of the owl persona include: scared owl, basketball owl, graduate owl, sleepy owl, baby owl, ‘camo’ owl, ‘Morgan Free-Owl’ and patterned owl.

During the end of year ‘Headstart’ program many students across the year levels helped to design and paint a tree on the exterior library wall. The gorgeous glazed owls were then adhered to the tree. The students enjoyed the process of the project and the art installation looks wonderful. The 2014 Year 7’s are creating a ‘leaf’ and in time when these have been glazed and fired, the leaves will be placed in situ to ‘add the final touches’. Well done to all those who participated in this project.
As part of their study for “Introduction to Science” the year 7s have been conducting simple, but fascinating, experiments. Students are encouraged to Predict/Observe/Explain some of the many wonders of science.

This week’s display is RED/ROMANCE books—so come in and read a RED book.
**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; **uniforms**, **excursions**, **textbooks**, and **stationery**. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- **$200** for prep students
- **$150** for students in years 1 – 6.
- **$300** for year 7 students
- **$250** for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

**How to Apply:** Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

**Closing Date:** You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by **28 February 2014**.


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**School Council Elections 2014**

**Have you considered nominating for school council this year?**

Nominations are now open to all parents for Heathmont College Council and close on Monday 17 February 2014.

For more information log onto COMPASS, My News, “School Council Elections Open”.
Uniform Shop Hours

**SCHOOL TRADING HOURS**
- Tuesdays 2.30pm – 5.00pm
- Thursdays 12noon – 2.00pm

Uniforms can also be purchased directly from Klad Sports 2/9 Macro Crt. Rowville Tel: 9763 0266
- Monday – Thur: 8:30am – 5:00pm.
- Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm
- Saturdays: 9:00am – 1:00pm
- Late Night 20/11/13: 8:30am—7pm
- Saturdays 30/11/13 & 7/12/13: 9am—4pm
- **Close on 20/12/13, re-open 13/1/14**

~ Cheques are not accepted ~

**SELL YOUR SECOND HAND UNIFORM ITEMS**
KLAD sports now offers a second hand uniform service. Uniform items of good quality can be submitted for sale on consignment.

Take your freshly laundered quality uniform items to KLAD Sports at either the College uniform shop or to their Rowville store. Set a price and a sell by date. If the items are sold KLAD Sports will contact you and arrange payment. If items are unsold you will be contacted to collect your items.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**
Parents are requested to ring the College absence line before 9:00am if their student is to be late, away due to illness or for any other reason. We encourage parents to use the College’s Compass Parent Portal to register absences.

Unfortunately late arrivals cannot be registered.
Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in this matter.

Phone 9871 4888 then select 1

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**Free SunSmart app**

Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation causes wrinkles and skin and eye damage, ultimately leading to skin cancer. UV cannot be seen or felt. It is not like the sun’s light which we see, or the sun’s warmth (infrared radiation) which we feel. Our senses cannot detect UV so it can be damaging without us knowing. There is a huge variation in UV levels across Australia. The UV level is affected by a number of factors including the time of day, time of year, cloud cover, altitude, proximity to the equator, scattering and reflection.

That’s why it’s so important to check the daily sun protection times for your location each day on the SunSmart app for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app lets you know when you do and don’t need sun protection, making it easier than ever to be smart about your sun exposure all year.

Further Information available at:
Professional Development Programs

Certificate of Education Support Integration Aide/Teacher Aide

(Croydon)

A qualification that will enhance your career opportunities.

This course is designed for people wishing to work with students with additional learning needs in primary, secondary and specialist schools.

Topics

- Historical and current perspectives on educating students with additional learning needs
- The roles, responsibilities and work conditions of an Integration Aide/Teacher Aide and an understanding of the process of seeking and applying for employment in schools
- Understanding individual learning styles
- Working as part of a team with students, families and staff members
- Understanding and supporting the learning needs of students with:
  - Intellectual Disabilities
  - Learning Disabilities
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder
  - Physical Disabilities
  - Communication Difficulties
  - Sensory Impairment
  - Challenging Behaviours
- Teaching and Learning
  - Literacy
  - Numeracy
- Engaging students in learning; Stages of Learning
- Curriculum and the development of Individual Learning Plans.

Venue

Croydon Special Development School

Dates 2014

8 Monday and 6 Wednesday evenings
5.30 - 8.30 pm
March 17, 19, 24, 26, 31
April 2, 23, 28, 30
May 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26

Course Length

The course is delivered over 16 evening of 3 hours per session.

Prerequisites

There are no formal prerequisites for this course, however, it is essential that each participant possesses a satisfactory level of spoken and written English so they are able to complete the assessment tasks.

Assessment

- Journal
- Class participation
- Minimum class attendance is required (check with presenter)
- 2 written assignments

Recognition

The Certificate is recognised by the Faculty of Education to the value of 6 credit points at undergraduate level.
For more information: www.edu.monash.edu/students/prospective

Cost

$999
($919 for healthcare card holders)

Contact details

To express your interest in this course; or to find out more about short courses offered by the Faculty of Education, please contact us.

Phone 03 9905 2700
Email fdo@monash.edu
www.edu.monash.edu/shortcourses