From The Principal's Desk

STAFFING
The principal vacancy at our school has just recently been advertised through the Department of Education South-Western Weekly Schools Bulletin. It will be a fixed term Acting Principal position from April 11, 2016 to December 20, 2016.

I will continue in the Acting Principal role until April 10th, 2016. Due to other commitments, I have decided to continue in my Assistant Principal role as from Term 2 (April 11th) and look forward to supporting the new incoming Acting Principal.

CONGRATULATIONS
Mrs Ghin & her husband welcomed their darling new boy, Cooper Anthony on January 30th, weighing 6lb 2oz.

STUDENT LEADERS 2016
Last Friday, at a special assembly, our 2016 Student Leaders were announced and presented with their badges. Congratulations to the following students who were voted in by their peers and staff.

(Please note: we will have pictures of the leadership group when they return from Gr 5/6 camp)

It was fantastic to see a large number of grade 5-6 students displaying leadership skills by addressing their peers with speeches they had written specifically for this occasion. One of the privileges of educating young people is to work with our students helping them to develop skills which will enable them to participate in many ways both in school and later as citizens in the wider community. As always, we expect all of our grade 5-6 students to be leaders for our younger students, not just the elected leadership group.

The process of selecting our student leaders is fair and equitable. All students in grade 5 and 6 and teachers are able to vote on whom they feel to be the best candidates for school captain and house captain. The criteria for selections are based around the following:
- Has shown the ability to make decisions for themselves (without peer pressure)
- Demonstrates exemplary behaviour - acts with integrity, honesty and respect.
- Has shown a willingness to be involved in extracurricular activities
- Displays initiative
- Works well as a team member
- Possesses strong communication skills (written/verbal & reflective listening)
- Tries their best in all curriculum areas

The manner in which we conduct the election process ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to be elected. Votes are cast anonymously. The candidates with the most votes are elected. The students are aware that irrespective of gender they all have a fair go.

Our Junior School representatives for Semester 1 were also presented with badges. Congratulations to the following students who will represent their grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Junior Councillors for Semester 1 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Sam R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2W</td>
<td>Brannan C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Gus D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4C</td>
<td>Sofia BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4O</td>
<td>Darcy S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4L</td>
<td>Zackery S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Erin MK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Madison O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>Juanita G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Principal's report continued on the next page.
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION TIMELINE
Thursday 11th February 2016
Vacancies declared and nominations called for.

Thursday 25th February 2016
Nominations close at 4pm (completed forms to the front office.

Thursday 10th March 2015
Close of ballot (if required and declaration of 2016 School Council membership.)

Tuesday 13th March 2016
Annual General Meeting

GRADE 5/6 DOXA CAMP
As our first Doxa Camp draws to a close, students who are attending the second camp are counting down the days.
A reminder that students at camp this week need to be picked up at 3:02pm at North Geelong Station Friday 19th February.

Students attending Doxa Camp 2 next week should meet teachers at the North Geelong Station on Monday 22nd February no later than 9:05am. Pick up time for Doxa Camp 2 is Friday 26th February 3:02pm at North Geelong Train Station.

2016 SCHOOL FEES
School fees are now due. Parents are asked to pay these promptly as the school relies heavily on these funds to run all the programs as well as supply all student requisites throughout the year.

Any parent who produces a current Health Care Card at the office will be entitled to claim $120.00 off the total bill of $200 per child. In addition the remaining $80 (excursion levy) will be covered by the CSEF (Camps, Sport, Excursion Fund). Forms for the 2016 school year need to be completed ASAP.

GRADE 3/4 ECOLINC EXCURSION
Our grade 3/4 travelled to Bacchus Marsh to visit Ecolinc which is a specialist Science Centre focusing on the development and delivery of innovative educational programs that address environmental sustainability.

Thank you to Mr Callaghan, Mrs O’Connor and Miss Lang for organising this successful learning experience.

JUST BRASS PROGRAM
The ‘Just Brass’ Program has commenced its second year at Herne Hill. The students are very fortunate to be apart of this extra curricula program.

Each student has an individual or group lesson each Thursday with instructor Wendy Steele and attend band practise each Monday afternoon at The Salvation Army, Northside.

There first performance for 2016 will be at the Pako Festival held on Saturday 27th February.

Band members need to return their permission forms for this event as soon as possible.

Just Brass Members:
Chelsea E
Eliza F
John H
Grace R
Kirrineet K
Mia S
Emily L
Elisha S
Emily F
Hannah D
Naeve D
Liena A
Ayya L
Kieran E
Zachery H
Caleb S
Braden W
Jaxon L