With the 2016 Federal budget and an imminent election, education funding is once again in the political spotlight. Political lines are often drawn over schools and health and the funding that each party is planning to make available for these essential services. As an Independent school, Lakeside College is a member of Independent Schools Victoria (ISV). Independent and Catholic schools nationally educate 35% of students and in Victoria, that figure is slightly higher. Contrary to the popular media spin, Independent schools represent a wide spectrum of communities with the vast majority educating students from lower socio-economic contexts. As to funding sources, Independent schools rely mostly on Commonwealth support and fees to equate to the level of funding a similar student will attract in a State school. The argument that Independent schools take money from local government schools is frankly misleading. I encourage you to be familiar with the various education policies and promises that will be made in the lead up to the election.

Who is PAM? PAM stands for Parent Access Module. This platform will be an important way to keep informed about your child’s progress and receive student reports. At the end of last term, the school mailed home a letter with personalised details to access your PAM account. If you did not receive this information, please contact the administration office.

I wish to thank staff, students and parents who attended the Pakenham RSL observance on ANZAC Day. As a College, we held a whole school service on the Friday prior and it was a credit to our students to see how seriously they take this remembrance. As the grandson of a Gallipoli veteran and former serving member myself, I am very aware of how important ANZAC Day is to our community and as a College, we believe it is important to be present and represented locally for this significant event.

This Saturday is our College Open day. Please invite friends and family who may be interested in the school to attend. Please note that we will also host a twilight open school event later in the year on a weeknight to enable working parents to attend after hours.

The College would like to invite parents with children currently not enrolled at the College to attend OPEN DAY this weekend.

Students assisting with tours at OPEN DAY must wear their winter uniform, including blazer.
Junior School News

Prep to Year 4 German

In German classes, we have started the year by introducing a guten Morgen song (or guten Tag song if our class is after 12pm) in year levels Prep to Year 4. This is a fun and familiar way to start each lesson, with actions to go along. Each term we will learn a new song to start the lesson.

Year 4 students have each been given a German name. Everyone seemed to get used to these quite quickly. Names like Ute [you-t-e] have made us laugh, and remind us that all the letters are pronounced in German – i.e. there is no silent “e”. It’s been a joy to see how students from last year have retained their German knowledge, as well as the Preps proving that they are little sponges for picking up new sounds, words and songs quickly and effortlessly. Just like an infant who is able to respond to words and instructions before being able to speak, so too do our Junior School students begin their language journey in German. We start by learning to name things, before moving on to simple short sentences. So far this year, we have covered numbers, colours, summer and autumn, and have begun on the calendar (days of the week and months of the year). Each year level adds a little more vocabulary to these topics, working on a model of building on knowledge whilst strengthening existing knowledge through repetition.

The Body is our next topic, which is always great fun and games!

Dani-Ela Kayler

Junior School News

Read More in May Challenge!

Don’t forget to record your home reading on the “Read More in May” Challenge Reading Log handed out last week. At the end of May, log on to the website at the bottom of your reading log and record your total reading minutes online.

There are 20 X $100 Scholastic vouchers to be won in each State or Territory of Australia!

If you have misplaced your Reading Log, please see Mrs Leihy-Carter for another one.

Sharon Leihy-Carter

Junior School Music News

Junior School Production this year will be held on Thursday, 11th August 7pm at the Cardinia Cultural Centre. The cast will be from students in Years 2 to 5.

Put the date aside for ‘The Little Mermaid’!

Ukulele Club started this week! (Years 2 -5) Tuesday nights after school. Bookings through Mrs Richardson.
Reminder that NAPLAN is on again next week (Tuesday - Thursday) for Years 7 and 9 in the Middle School. Students are encouraged to get plenty of rest, have a good breakfast and try their best.

What is an act of generosity that you have witnessed or received? How did this act affect you?

I think one of the most generous gifts I have ever received is a packet of peanuts. There are other extraordinary acts of generosity but this one springs to mind because the giver of the gift was one of the poorest of the poor, a Ugandan widow called Irene. I was in Uganda doing some teaching and trauma rehabilitation training with internally displaced people. Irene and I became friends, and she knew that I really loved those little red African roasted peanuts. So one day – out of the generosity of her heart and the VERY little money that she had, she bought me the gift of a packet of peanuts.

God is constantly wanting to give good gifts, and rejoices in such gifts. In fact, all we have is a gift – our very heartbeat, the 24 hours we have this day, our capacities and abilities, our relationships, our material blessings. When we recognise and live into this reality I believe it draws us into a life of gratitude and joy. The biblical word for God’s rich generosity is ‘grace.’ We hear of ‘the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we, through his poverty, might become rich’ (2 Corinthians 8:9). God has the heart of a gracious giver towards us. When we engage in generosity, we connect with God’s character, and are drawn into joy. The depth of generosity is not necessarily measured by the size or cost of the gift, but by the heart of the giver.

*Pastor Nathan Hedt*

The Year 7 students successfully had their vaccination updates this week. Thank you to all parents/families for returning the forms to the school, it is an important part of the school and council record-keeping.

The Year 8 STEM program is shaping up for next semester with John Krause installing new lockable doors at the back of one of the classroom to house our five 3D printers. Students (and teachers) are getting excited about the prospect of being able to design and print their own creations.

The Year 9 students successfully completed their first City Experience day in Melbourne. As groups, they went to set destinations around the city using public transport and maps. Some groups found it more challenging than others, but most students said they felt more comfortable in the city after the day out. This is good news, as they are back in the city this week on a combined MY9/Lights Camera Action excursion.

Cooper Lanting for making it through the first round of Vic State Basketball Tryouts. He came 2nd out of 60 kids from around the Pakenham region. He moves onto the next round of tryouts later this month.

*Jason Prochazka*
*Acting Head of Middle School*
Senior School News

Coming up this term, we have a range of activities going on involving our senior school students. Next week from the 9th to the 13th May, our year 10’s are off to their work experience placements. This is a great opportunity for them to learn about the world of works, and to observe different career options in their placement. We wish the best of luck to them and hope they gain some knowledge from it and have a great time. It is important to note that there will be no regular Year 10 classes running next week.

Also on Saturday we have our College Open Day starting from 10am and finishing at 2pm. If there is anyone interested in helping out with tours, please see Mr Wilson. There will be lots of yummy food and things to enjoy. Hope to see you there!

Just a reminder that all lockers are to have locks on them and to be locked, as we cannot stress enough the importance of people’s valuables being locked away.

Also coming up next week, on Wednesday, the year 11’s and 12’s have their GAT practice testing. This is only if you are currently doing a Unit 3 and 4 subject.

Sport wise, on the 19th we have our inter-house cross country. We hope everyone tries their best and supports their houses. Cross country will be held at Toomuc Reserve, so hopefully the weather is kind to us. We also have year 9 and 10 girls inter-school soccer later this term. Best of luck to them. Plus, on Tuesdays and Fridays lunch times, Volleyball training will be held by Mr Wilson at the YMCA for years 8 and 9. If you are interested, please find Mr Wilson.

We hope to see you on Open Day and enjoy your weekend!

Chelsea and Chantel- Senior School Newsletter Editors

Reminders

MUSIC DEPARTMENT REHEARSAL TIMETABLE
YEARS 6-12

MONDAY RECESS: Stomp! all welcome (percussive dance)

MONDAY LUNCH: Drama Club all welcome

MONDAY 3:30-4:15pm: Funk It Up! (Boomwhacker and junk percussion group) all welcome

TUESDAY RECESS: Saxophone Ensemble saxophone students

TUESDAY LUNCH: Chapel Band all welcome

WEDNESDAY LUNCH: Secret Men’s Business all male singers welcome

WEDNESDAY 3:30-4:30pm: Senior Students rehearsal (by prior arrangement only)

THURSDAY LUNCH: Matrix Melodies all female singers welcome

THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL: Choose Your Own Adventure. Learn what you want at your own pace

FRIDAY LUNCH: Senior Choir all welcome

For more information see Mrs Fox or any of the Music Captains.