Welcome to the 2016 school year and a special welcome to all students and families new to the College, particularly our two classes of Prep. New shoes are something I always notice when students begin a new school year. Those new shoes, polished and shiny are symbols of all the learning and growing that will take place over the next 12 months. New shoes are often a bit firm and not as comfy as last year’s. But as the year unfolds, the routines and rhythms of school will become well-worn and comfortable as those shoes. We look forward to walking this journey with you.

We welcome the following new staff to the College in 2016: Mr Sanjeev Meston (Maths), Ms Rebecca Austin (Science), Mr Greg Taylor (Science), Mrs Lisa Benn (Art), Ms Deb Hall (Learning Enrichment), Mrs Alison Barclay (Year 1), Mrs Claudia Cox (Year 5), Ms Gail Waldron (Careers). We also welcome back Joerg Todzy (German) from a period of leave. We are richly blessed to have these staff and thank them for joining our team.

A number of building works have been underway since the end of last year and are nearing completion. These include repurposed Year 4 and Year 6 classrooms, a new computer lab in Middle School and the extension to the Junior School foyer. Thank you to parents, students and staff who have patiently managed the inconvenience - we know the end results are worth it!

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2015 and their excellent VCE results. University offers have now been made and all of our students have gained places in a variety of courses and institutions including: Science/Biomedical Science (Monash University), Law/Psychological Science (La Trobe University), Food and Nutrition Sciences (Deakin University), Games Design and Development (Deakin University), Teaching/Arts (Visual Arts) (Australian Catholic University), Fashion Design (Honours) (RMIT University), Animal and Veterinary Biosciences (La Trobe University) to name a few.

This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the College and invite you all to attend the Thanksgiving Service on Friday 4th 9am in the Cultural Centre and the Twilight Festival from 5:00pm on Saturday 5th March.
Welcome to 2016

It is always exciting to see students return for the start of another school year. It is especially exciting to welcome our new Prep students and other new students to our school community. So much learning already takes place in these first days and weeks of the year as students get to know their new teachers, reconnect friendships or perhaps begin new ones, learn new routines and look forward to new opportunities to grow.

We are thrilled to welcome two new Junior School teachers to our teaching team, Mrs Alison Barclay in Year 1 and Mrs Claudia Cox in Year 5. Both ladies bring a wealth of experience and expertise to enrich the learning of our students. Our students will also have the opportunity to work with our new Art teacher, Mrs Lisa Benn whose talents will complement the high standard of our Visual Arts program.

Thank you

Thank you to all our parents for the part you play in ensuring our commencement to the new year has been so positive. We thank you especially for your patience and understanding with the continued building works to extend the Junior School foyer to accommodate our chapel and assembly. The students have coped and adapted wonderfully. We anticipate these works to be completed by the end of February. Students have been using the Prep room entrance for all access to the Junior School classrooms. We thank parents for their cooperation and support in waiting outside the Junior School building until the school day has concluded to minimise congestion and disruption to our Prep class.

Up and Running

Already, we have been busy screening our Junior School students to ensure we meet their individual learning needs. This information gives us valuable data to inform our teaching programs. All students from Prep to Year 2 are individually interviewed to accurately determine the learning profile of each student in key areas of Numeracy. In addition to the routine school entry screening for Prep students, in the next weeks our Preps will also be individually assessed to give us a clear understanding their phonological awareness. Phonological awareness is the ability to identify and manipulate speech sounds. This includes being aware of rhyme, syllables, words and sentences and attending to and manipulating the units of sound within words. Phonological awareness plays a key role in a child’s readiness for reading and all aspects of literacy. It is highly related to later success in reading and spelling and has, therefore been the focus of much research. We run an intensive Phonological Awareness program to support students in this important area.

We have some exciting new programs happening across the Junior School, including Vertical Enrichment programs running across the College from Years 3-7 in Mathematics, Science and Literacy. We encourage you to come along to the Information Sessions for your child’s class outlined below.

I am once again delighted to be teaching the Junior School German (Deutsch) program at Lakeside College this year.

The focus of the Deutsch program for Prep-4 is on enjoyment — songs, rhymes, games, activities and fun. Introducing the LOTE (Language Other Than English) through mimic, gesture, movement and play are strong pathways of learning. Just as they do their mother tongue – children learn contextually and will learn their LOTE intuitively.
At this early stage of their language learning, students will begin to respond in English. This is normal. Students are never pressured to speak in Deutsch and will therefore not necessarily be able to demonstrate their learning skills outside of the language classroom. Instead the Deutsch classroom aims to create freedom for students to participate in and engage with different activities and modalities, not only to promote German speaking and listening skills, but also basic cultural awareness and knowledge of traditions. The year began with our Preps each receiving a Schultüte (school-to-te), a school-cone to mark the first day of school. A German tradition filled with stickers, rubbers, pencils and some gummi bears to sweeten the day.

Over the past year, some parents have inquired about overloading their child’s learning and development with a LOTE. Research has shown that the earlier a child learns a second language the better – their learning will not be overwhelmed, because children are naturally curious beings and desire to communicate. There is also much evidence that demonstrates the positive outcomes of learning a LOTE. The Victorian education website’s language learning report is a great place to start reading (www.edu.vic.gov.au).

Dani-Ela Kayler
German Teacher

Welcome to the 2016 school year at Lakeside College! We hope it is an affirming and rewarding year for each member of our College community. There is always something refreshing about a new year, whether it’s the fresh start, the sunshine or the excitement of being that little bit closer to graduating. 2016 hopefully has been a great new beginning for all and I trust that all of our Middle School students are feeling a part of the fabric here at Lakeside College. A warm welcome to our new families and I hope that they find their association with the College a happy and enjoyable one. We welcome a number of new staff to the Middle School this year:

Mr Sanjeev Meston in Maths
Mr Greg Taylor in Maths and Science
Mrs Lisa Benn in Art
Mrs Claudia Cox in Year 6 ICT
Mr Joerg Todzy returns from a year leave to Germany

I would like to congratulate the students on their positive start to the 2016 school year and I would like to remind you about a number of important notices that you son/daughter has been made aware of over the past couple of weeks.

Mr Sanjeev Meston in Maths
Mr Greg Taylor in Maths and Science
Mrs Lisa Benn in Art
Mrs Claudia Cox in Year 6 ICT
Mr Joerg Todzy returns from a year leave to Germany

I would like to congratulate the students on their positive start to the 2016 school year and I would like to remind you about a number of important notices that you son/daughter has been made aware of over the past couple of weeks.

Vanessa Murfet
Head of Middle School

It has been a busy start to the Year in the Senior School. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate students on their positive start to the year. A lot of work has been done to ensure students are enrolled in the best selection of subjects to suit their abilities and post-schooling needs. Many thanks to our new Careers Practitioner, Gail Waldron for her diligence and expertise.

At time of printing the Year 12s are at Phillip Island for a retreat to examine spiritual and study habits. We pray this will be a time of bonding and discovery for them. Thanks to Pastor Nathan and Chaplain Kathy for all their hard work in preparing and planning the retreat.

The Year 10 Chromebooks will be rolled out this week and we look forward to enriched learning programs for the students. Please put this date in your diary - the Senior School Information Night will be held on Thursday 18th February for all student, parents and guardians. Please ensure you attend this night to hear about the many changes in Senior School this year and to speak to your child’s VCE teachers about the coming year.

Paul Wilson
Head of Senior School
Welfare at Lakeside

Welfare and pastoral care have always been a major focus at Lakeside. The spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing of our staff and students is of tremendous importance to all our community. Last year the Welfare Team was formed to create a school-wide pastoral protocol to provide ongoing care to students.

Under this protocol, the home room teachers are the first port of call for pastoral issues. They know their students and their situations well and are able to provide daily support and assistance to students when they need it.

Should the situation need more intervention than the Homeroom teacher can provide, he or she will consult the Head of School, being Ms Wiebusch for Junior, Ms Murfet for Middle and Mr Wilson for Senior School. The Heads of School will assist the Homeroom teacher to provide the level of care needed by the student and family.

If the Head of School requires additional input, or the student or family needs ongoing pastoral care, a referral will be made to Pastor Nathan or Chaplain Kathy who will provide additional pastoral support and/or provide referral to appropriate external providers.

Any students who had an ongoing pastoral relationship with Ms Cannon will be referred to Pastor Nathan or Chaplain Kathy in consultation with the Heads of School, so that ongoing support is readily available to meet their needs.

Families are welcome to contact Pastor Nathan or Chaplain Kathy direct for spiritual or personal pastoral support.

Blessings
Chaplain Kathy and Pastor Nathan.

Reminders

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 5th March 2016
10 Year Anniversary
Twilight Carnival with movie and fireworks

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

MUSIC DEPARTMENT
REHEARSAL TIMETABLE
YEARS 6-12

MONDAY RECESS: Stomp! all welcome (percussive dance)

MONDAY LUNCH: Drama Club all welcome

TUESDAY RECESS: Saxophone Ensemble saxophone students

TUESDAY LUNCH: Chapel Band all welcome

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

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

MUSIC DEPARTMENT
REHEARSAL TIMETABLE
YEARS 6-12

MONDAY RECESS: Stomp! all welcome (percussive dance)

MONDAY LUNCH: Drama Club all welcome

TUESDAY RECESS: Saxophone Ensemble saxophone students

TUESDAY LUNCH: Chapel Band all welcome

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

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.