

PRINCIPLES UPDATE: March 17, 2023

Dear all,

Hope you are enjoying the warmer days. We are so fortunate at school that the P&C a few years ago funded air-conditioning in every classroom in the school. This means that even on the hottest days our students are able to concentrate on their learning in the classrooms.

Over the summer vacation we also had installed CO2 detectors. While they don't give readings they do indicate if CO2 levels become high in a classroom (all that heavy breathing) and the teacher switches on a fan system in the windows that circulates outside air into the classroom and removes the CO2 rich air. Only D block had this installed and of course on very hot days it is a balance between keeping classrooms cool or reducing CO2. In the new build the CO2 monitors are integrated with the air-conditioning and teachers won't have to switch on fans while also focusing on their teaching.

This week has been a very busy week of assessments with Year 12 having a StuVac week for their second HSC school assessment. This year group are incredibly diligent and working hard to ensure each assessment milestone is completed well. Then Years 7 and 9 are participating in NAPLAN which basically lasts for almost two weeks. Also this week we have had Special Program week where Year 6 students from our local primary schools can audition of drama, music, visual art or academic extension. Also they can audition for our newest Special Program of dance. My teachers have told me they are thrilled with the students auditioning for these programs.

Thank you to all the parents who took part in the Year 12 Parent Teacher night. This coming Tuesday 21 March, we will be holding the Year 7 Parent Teacher night. Again, this will be via mobile phone while we are waiting for our school hall to be completed. The invitations have been sent to Year 7 parents to make bookings and just so you know, bookings close on Monday afternoon.

Our first concert for the year will be Akoosticum and will be held in Scots Kirk. Auditions are happening in the next two weeks and will be announced through the daily bulletin. If you have a student who plays an instrument or sings they should definitely try out for the concert. There is also a music tour to the south coast happening in the last week of term 2. If your student is interested they can find out more information from their music teacher.

Thank you to all those parents who have paid school contributions. These cover all the materials that students use in electives and subjects as well as online licence agreements for texts and more. Just a reminder that if you are unable to pay contributions, you can send a confidential email or letter to me and we have a funding allocation to support your child with these costs.

Finally the build update! It is wonderful to see the scaffolding coming down and the brick facade being exposed. Standing on the eastern side of Military Road opposite the school the brickwork is clearly visible. Within the build all rooms are having the walls and ceilings installed and all bathrooms have had the tiling completed. The landscaping near A and E block is progressing and the school hall and stage are having the internal panelling installed. The outdoor tennis and basketball court on the roof is constructed and the stainless steel netting is now in place as are the covered walkway balustrades. The one hundred seat stand alone theatre is also being constructed with the tiers and roof in place. It is very exciting to see the building coming together.

Hope you have a lovely weekend
Susan