Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of our Assumption community,

At our school assembly on Thursday, May 1 we paused as a college community to remember those Australian and New Zealanders who died in war. We also honour our veterans and are justly proud of their courage, patriotism and mateship. The challenge today is for young Australians to remember the brave men and women who lost their lives defending our nation. It is through their efforts that we live in such a free and wonderful country.

Parent-teacher-student interviews
It was pleasing to see so many parents and students attend these recent interviews. This again confirms to me that our parents see the interviews as a priority in their children’s education. I trust you found them worthwhile and informative.

Year 7 enrolments, 2015
Year 7 enrolment offers for next year were recently mailed. Families intending to take up our offer are asked to return their completed acceptance form by Monday, May 12 as we have some anxious students on our waiting list.

NAPLAN tests
Our year 7 and 9 students will be sitting NAPLAN tests from May 13-15. These national tests provide a measurement of a person’s ability, however, the results are just one of several pieces of information that give us an understanding of how a student is performing in terms of literacy and numeracy.

AGSV / APS sport
Our winter sporting competition began last week for all our girls and boys teams. The sporting competition is an integral part of college life and I encourage parents to come along and cheer on our teams.

Study routines
Study routines should by now be developed and the coming weeks should be a time for quality and focused study. This will be vital for students in years 9-11 preparing for upcoming mid-year exams. However, students at all year levels should have established a regular study pattern otherwise they will fall behind.

Teenage parties
There has been considerable comment in the media about excessive alcohol consumption by teenagers. The danger of alcohol abuse for the development of young brains is well documented. Why then are we seeing children as young as 11 and 12 binge drinking? The legal drinking age of 18 was determined by law for a reason: why then is it almost universally ignored?

Because the stakes are so high, it is imperative that we as parents “muscule up” here. We have more authority to determine our children’s behaviour than we perhaps realise. Here are some examples of how we can do this:

- It should be “normal” for parents to expect that social functions for their young teenage children are well supervised and alcohol-free. If other parents don’t support this then we need to decide if it is the right friendship group.
- The phone call to the friends’ parents to check on supervision and whether a party is alcohol-free may be an embarrassment for young people, but if it becomes accepted practice within their social group it would be an embarrassment shared.
- Social and sporting clubs are a good source of interaction for parents and young people. Is the culture of the club positive? If not, there are other clubs.
- We can communicate openly with our children about these things before they are drawn into a drinking culture.
- We can model appropriate social behaviour ourselves. Young people are keen observers and fast learners.

There are no guarantees that this approach will work, but it is certainly a better option than to allow others to set our expectations for us.

Staff professional development
On Thursday, April 24 our staff were involved in a professional development day facilitated by Marist Brothers Neville Soloman and Herbert Williams. The theme of the presentation centered on teaching in Marist schools being about “service”. Staff feedback has been very positive. I was touched by a line from Br Neville who said: “In our Marist schools our students enter to learn and leave to serve”.

Kind regards,

Michael Kenny
Important Dates

May 8-10  Music Camp
May 12  Boys and girls summer sports awards night
May 13-15  NAPLAN testing, years 7 and 9
June 2-5  Years 9-11 end-of-semester exams
June 5  Immunisations for year 7 boys and girls and year 9 boys only
June 9  Queen’s Birthday public holiday
June 11-13  Senior Musical Hairspray at Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre, South Morang
June 17  Years 10 and 11 Careers Expo
June 20  Classes end for Term 2

July 14  Classes begin at 8.45am

Term 3

Things you need to know

Absenteeism: The College must be notified when your child is absent. Simply phone the Absentee Line: 5783 0806 and leave a detailed message or email absenteeism@assumption.vic.edu.au.

Change of contact details: Please ensure the College is kept up to date with any change of contact details including email and residential addresses and mobile numbers. Simply logon to PAM, go to School Links/PAM support and update your details.

Need to make a payment? For payments to the College for items such as excursions, uniform items or study tours, simply click here.

C & J Kerris Menswear: (Ph: 5792 4333) On campus every Friday lunchtime between 1.30 - 2.15pm, (opposite the Gonzales Centre, next to the theatrette) for all your uniform needs.

‘A mother understands what a child does not say’.

Happy Mother’s Day
Sunday, May 11
What’s Happening in Maths

Open Day

It was great to see so many families (current and prospective) coming through the maths display. It was also encouraging to see so many students participating in the activities and competitions. The winners of the lolly jar competitions on the day were: Ella Marr (jar A) and Jordan Salathiel (jar B).

The “Why is maths so great?” competition winner was Jaimie Ryan with her response: “Maths is used in real life and life is great, so maths is great. There is so much maths everywhere.”

We look forward to seeing such enthusiasm and interest again next year.

Exam preparation

All students should be well and truly involved in home-based study and revision for upcoming maths exams. Completing chapter reviews, preparing “reference sheets” for exam day and attending tutorials for extra support are all activities that can make a difference to the exam result.

At year 9, with students approaching their first maths exam, we have prepared a booklet to support their revision program. This document is available electronically via General Documents on Simon. If you would like this document emailed to you, please contact your child’s maths teacher.

Our dedicated mathematics teachers are keen to help all students to achieve their best. Should you have any concerns about your child’s preparation for exams or any other aspect of their course in maths we would like to hear from you. Please contact your child’s maths teacher or learning area coordinators Laila Sarraf – senior maths (years 10-12) or Narelle Collins – middle years maths (year 7-9).

In the meantime, please consider the following resources that are available to support your child’s learning in maths:

- Year 9 and 10 students have a subscription to MathsOnline and it is also available on an individual user-pays 12 months subscription basis to students in years 11 and 12.
- If you would like your child to have access to the MathsOnline software, it can be bought through TryBooking for $20.

  This tutorial-based, example-driven software covers a vast range of topics from the years 11 and 12 mathematics curriculum. It is a handy backup to have if a class has been missed or confusion has set in over how to complete a certain problem. The beauty of the software is you can stop and rewind the explanations! The problem-solving activities provide worked solutions with critical feedback for students who have made an error.

  Please phone or email Narelle Collins (narelle.collins@assumption.vic.edu.au) if you have any queries, concerns or feedback about either of the software packages.

  Can’t remember the web address? No worries! Links to the Mathletics and MathsOnline websites are listed under School Links on SIMON and PAM.

Maths Scienceworks excursion

Last term’s year 8 maths excursion to Scienceworks was exciting. There were students and teachers that had never been there and some who were visiting for the second or third time. Scienceworks has recently opened new exhibitions and we were lucky to be one of the first schools to experience them.

  The Problem Solving Energy Lab was a great example of unsolvable puzzles (well, at least we thought they were unsolvable). Students participated in activities that were outside their comfort zone but at the same time enjoyable.

  The sports science area was the favourite with most students. You could race against Australian gold Olympian Cathy Freeman, or have a wheelchair race with a friend. There was also a temporary exhibition, Mathamazing, a maths centre that challenges your mind to tricky puzzles as well as interesting experiments.

  Many of us wished we could’ve stayed longer to find out more about Scienceworks but there just wasn’t enough time.

  By Julian Costa
Winter Coughs and Colds

Coughs, colds and the flu are one of the most common triggers of asthma. The common cold is caused by an upper-respiratory tract infection and is a common illness for children and adults. As we approach the colder months, it is important we try to reduce the spread of coughs, colds and the flu.

If your child is not feeling well, it is recommended that he or she stays home and rests, to reduce the spread of infections and to speed up the recovery process.

For more information and tips please refer to the medical information section on PAM or visit www.asthma.org.au

Maths Tutorials

AIMS Program

Our extra-curricular tutorial program continues with the Wednesday night tutorial being held in the library as part of the AIMS (Academics in Maths & Science) program. For further information about this please phone or email Laila Sarraf (laila.sarraf@assumption.vic.edu.au). Other tutorials are as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Teacher</th>
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| Various teachers | AIMS program  
Wednesday after school in the library |
| Mrs Barbara Radford | Year 7s  
On Tuesdays at 7.45am in the LEC  
Year 8s  
On Wednesdays at 7.45am in the LEC  
Year 9s  
On Thursdays at 7.45am in the LEC |
| Mrs Sue Kift | Junior maths  
Tuesdays at lunchtime in Room 330 |
| Mrs Narelle Collins & Miss Shona Maskelyne | Junior maths  
Wednesdays at lunchtime in Room 330 |
| Mrs Cristina Vergara | Physics and maths  
After school in the library  
Day 4 (Thursdays week 1) and Day 8 (Wednesdays week 2) or by appointment |
| Mr Michael Egan | After school on Wednesdays in Room 211 |
| Mr Vincenzo Rovetto | By appointment |

All are welcome to attend any of these tutorials. If you are concerned or have any queries about your child’s progress in mathematics, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

Mrs Narelle Collins  
Learning Area Coordinator  
Middle Years Maths (7-9)  
narelle.collins@assumption.vic.edu.au

Mrs Barbara Radford  
Year 7s  
On Tuesdays at 7.45am in the LEC  
Year 8s  
On Wednesdays at 7.45am in the LEC  
Year 9s  
On Thursdays at 7.45am in the LEC

Mrs Sue Kilt  
Junior maths  
Tuesdays at lunchtime in Room 330

Mrs Narelle Collins & Miss Shona Maskelyne  
Junior maths  
Wednesdays at lunchtime in Room 330

Mrs Cristina Vergara  
Physics and maths  
After school in the library  
Day 4 (Thursdays week 1) and Day 8 (Wednesdays week 2) or by appointment

Mr Michael Egan  
After school on Wednesdays in Room 211

Mr Vincenzo Rovetto  
By appointment

Winter Coughs and Colds

A reminder that all year 10 immunisation cards must be returned. If you have lost your card please contact the council and a new one will be posted out.
May is a busy month for the Career Office with excursions, lunchtime seminars and parent workshops being offered. Students need to keep a close eye on their emails and read the daily notices on Simon to keep up to date with what is on offer.

Tertiary information session – year 12 excursion
Year 12 students can attend a tertiary information session at La Trobe University on Wednesday, May 21. This excursion is not compulsory and those who do not go on it must attend normal classes. Students who complete external VET courses or work on a Wednesday must also follow their normal routine. Those who cannot attend the information session will have a chance to hear this information in third term. A letter about this excursion will be emailed to year 12 parents and students. A confirmation booking must be made using TryBooking by Friday May 16.

Parents as career supporters (PACTS) workshop – For parents of year 9s & 10s
Carol Fisher and I will be running a two-night workshop for parents of students in years 9 and 10 about how to help your child transition from year 10 into one of the senior certificates – VCE or VCAL as well as supporting them after year 12. Topics covered will include:

- How students make career decisions.
- Current trends in the employment market.
- What we do at ACK to help students think about options after years 9 and 10.
- Selecting the best option when it comes to the senior certificates offered at ACK.
- The subjects we offer and the subject selection process.
- Using “interest-based” tests.
- Discussing with your child about career choices.

Parents would need to commit to the two nights. The dates for this workshop are Tuesday, May 27 and Wednesday, May 28 from 7-9pm each night. Booking must be made on TryBooking by Monday, May 26 and, unfortunately, group sizes will be limited so bookings are essential.

Scholarship for rural students
The Macpherson Smith Rural Foundation offers scholarships to year 12 students from rural/regional Victoria to enable them to study at a tertiary level. The scholarships provide $15,000 per annum for three years and participation in mentoring and leadership development programs.

Students need to first apply to ACK to be considered, as Mr Kenny can only recommend two students for the scholarship. Contact me for the criteria that need to be addressed in the application. Stage one of this application closes on June 1.

Free music workshop at JMC Academy
To celebrate its entry into the Berklee College of Music international partnership, JMC Academy and Berklee College are running a free music workshop for students in years 9-12. You will work as an ensemble with other students and receive direct instruction and feedback from tutors and movement coaches. The workshop will be held on Monday, May 19 at the Melbourne campus. Click here to register.

Are you interested in sports medicine?
The Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre (OPSMC) is running an information night about careers in sports medicine on Wednesday, May 28 from 6.30-9pm at the AAMI Park Stadium and the Geelong campus. Practitioners of sports medicine, nutrition, podiatry, psychology, massage therapy, physiotherapy, and exercise physiology will give short talks and be available to answer questions about their occupations. To register online, simply click here. Registrations close on May 26. A more detailed careers newsletter is on PAM.
**Boys Sport**

The first round of AGSV winter sport was completed last Saturday. Although the day started out wet and cold, the weather improved as the day went on. We had some fantastic results.

The First XVIII played against arch rival PEGS in a showcase match on the Friday. Many ACK alumni and PEGS representatives attended a luncheon beforehand. PEGS got off to a flyer and kicked 6 goals straight to 2.4 in the first quarter. At half-time the score was PEGS 9.0 to ACK 2.4. ACK came out hard in the third quarter and scored 4 goals to 1. However, once the rain came the last quarter was an arm wrestle with one goal apiece. PEGS went on to win 11.4 to 8.5.

In soccer, our First XI had the best possible start by kicking a goal in the first five seconds of the match. The PEGS goalkeeper was outside the 16 yard box and the ACK boys at kick-off realised this. As soon as the kick-off was taken ACK kicked the ball over the head of the goalkeeper to score the easiest of goals. Unfortunately PEGS ended up winning 2-1, scoring a goal in the final few minutes to snatch victory.

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**Equestrian**

Assumption’s equestrian team members had their jumping boots on in April for the Victorian Equestrian Interschools Series second showjumping qualifier at Elcho Park in Geelong.

Siobhan Laffan took two horses to the event and dominated the Encourage section on the speedy Deejay Aramis, coming first in the 2-Phase and Grand Prix events and being named Champion.

Siobhan also competed in the same section on Drom Erin Risky Business, and came 7th overall (5th GP and 12th 2-Phase). Well done, Siobhan, on your great results!

Madeleine Manton also took the ever-reliable Nattai Silverado to the same event and came 8th overall in the Improvers height (max. 85cm), coming 7th in both her rounds and having only one rail down for the competition.

Overall, ACK, with a team of three, ended up as the 8th best performing school out of 30, which was a great effort.

The ACK team is now gearing up for the next dressage qualifier for the series at Ayr Hill and Assumption’s own qualifying showjumping event at Lancefield Equestrian Reserve on Saturday, May 31. Entries are now open and close on May 21.
Our Seconds hockey team had a great win against Camberwell Grammar winning 3-0. Zac Gration scored 2 goals while Daniel Kilkenny scored the other. The boys played a team game, and year 7 student, Jackson Baxter, held his own against much bigger and older opponents.

The rest of the results are posted on the school website at Sports Fixtures.

**First XVIII Football – Cup Matches**
The First XVIII played their annual cup games against St Bernard’s on the last day of first term and the Xavier match on Saturday, April 26. Both matches have been an annual fixture for many years - as much as 60 years against Xavier College. The winning team takes home the Perpetual Cup.

V St Bernard’s – ACK had to fight all day but were able to keep their noses in front for most of the match, going on to win by 20 points.

**ACK 10.7.67 def St Bernard’s 6.11.47**
*Best players:* Nick Pupillo, Jack Murphy, Xavier Dimasi, James Wooster, Nathan Malone, Mitchell Trait, Mitchell Lewis

V Xavier – Although Xavier were missing their four best players to TAC Cup duties, ACK clearly outplayed Xavier at Xavier in greasy conditions. Assumption’s small men ran amok as they extended their lead at each break to win by 51 points to retain the Fr Paul Keenan Cup for the second year in a row.

**ACK 12.14.86 def Xavier College 5.5.35**
*Best players:* Jake OBrien, Xavier Dimasi, Nick Pupillo, Sam Peet, Nathan Malone, Rowan Stott
*Goals* Sam Peet 3, Nathan Malone 2, Xavier Dimasi 2

**Congratulations**
Andrew Rice (year 10) competed in the 2014 Australian Age Championships in Sydney over the Easter break. Andrew swam brilliantly with a 4.79s PB in his 200m backstroke, placing him 12th (2nd reserve) in a final. In the 50m freestyle he set a PB with a 24.85s time that placed him 1st reserve in a final. Finally, Andrew swam a great race in the 100m backstroke to place him 5th seed heading into his first final at nationals, then went on to swim a 1:00.18 to make him the 8th fastest 15-year-old in Australia for the 100m backstroke.

Ethan Daws (year 11) also attended the Sydney meeting. He swam in the finals of the multi-class events finishing seventh in the 50m butterfly and breaststroke and 100m freestyle, and eighth in the 50m freestyle and 100m breaststroke.

We congratulate Andrew and Ethan on their achievements and wish them well for the rest of the year.

**Girls Sport**

**ACK has a new Director of Netball – Julia Knott**
Julia plays for the City West Falcons in the Victorian Netball League (VNL) and Newtown and Chilwell in the Geelong Football League (GFL)

Her career highlights include: winning City West Falcons’ MVP and GFL’s Best & Fairest in 2013, both in premiership seasons, as well as being selected in the VNL and GFL teams of the year, and finishing second in the Hot Shots Shooting award for the Championship Division in the VNL.

Julia began playing netball when she was six years old with her sister, Kath. At 16 she made her first state league team and at 17 made her first Victorian side, and her playing career took off from there. She represented Victoria from under-17s through to under-21s and was selected into the under-19s Australian squad. She played under-21s indoor netball and was part of the team that won Victoria’s first two under-21 premierships and was also selected into the Australian under-21 team.

Her aim with ACK is “to pass on as much knowledge as possible to coaches and players”.

“I’ve been fortunate enough to learn from some of the best netball coaches in Victoria and Australia. I hope this translates into improved performances from teams, individual players and coaches and leads to us having one of the best netball programs in the state, and becoming one of the power houses in the APS and AGSV competitions.”
Round 1 of winter sport

The AGSV/APS winter season started last Saturday. It was fantastic to see so many girls representing the College in basketball, netball, soccer and hockey. We had some fantastic results across all four sports, notable an 8-1 victory from our Seconds soccer team, and a 53-24 victory by our Firsts netball team against Mentone away. Hopefully we can keep up the high standards for the remainder of the season.

Over the school holidays three ACK students represented the state in their particular sport. Congratulations to Casey Adamson (netball) and Chloe Molloy and Grace Collett (both basketball) on this outstanding achievement. We look forward to you all representing the College in the AGSV/APS season.

Marist Basketball Carnival

Nine girls from years 8 to 11, Ms Flavell and Mr Timms, headed to Sale on March 30 with the aim to win at least one game at the 25th Marist Basketball Carnival hosted by Catholic College Sale.

We arrived safely, although we had to deal with high temperatures and no air conditioning in the mini-bus, with only two windows for ventilation.

Our draw was set with the 2nd and 3rd place from last year’s tournament up first. Unfortunately we went down in both games, although we had a good win in the third game. After this, we were placed in Plate Division for the second day. This led to a seven-game winning streak for the rest of the tournament. In the final game we faced off against Newman College, whom we’d played the night before in the play-off for 7th and 8th positions. We finished the tournament with a win and managed to get everyone on the board.

Overall, the team had a successful week with no major injuries and a lot of good memories. On behalf of the team, we thank Mr Timms for his great driving, organisational skills and continuous support and Ms Flavell for her excellent coaching and continuous encouragement during the tournament.

Prahran Assumption Football Club

The Prahran Assumption Football Club invites all past and present comrades of Assumption football (and their partners) to its ACK Day luncheon at Toorak Park.

When.   Saturday, May 17 from 11.45am to 2pm
Where.  Toorak Park, 580 Orrong Rd, Armadale
Format. $20 roast lunch with alcoholic drinks available

Then watch the Round 6 Prahran Assumption v Whitefriars Old Collegians match. The boys will be wearing the traditional ACK jumper specifically for the luncheon as it is normally worn for away games.

RSVP to Luke Giansiracusa on (B) 03 9236 7044, (M) 0400 750 093 or lgiansiracus@powercor.com.au