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

The horrific bushfires that have raged across Victoria over the past week have distressed us all. It is very difficult to come to terms with the widespread suffering that is so apparent. At this stage we are uncertain as to how many Assumption families the fires have impacted upon.

It is likely that some of our students may struggle with the impact of this disaster and there will be resources available to assist any students who may be feeling particularly sad or distressed. Please do not hesitate to contact the College if you feel they need additional support at this time. We can make the appropriate arrangements whether it be to talk to a particular member of staff or be referred to one of the College counsellors.

We draw upon the strength and solidarity of community prayer and we pray for all our families who have been affected by the recent fires. We hold all those who are suffering in our prayers and ask God—who is with us in good times and bad—to comfort and protect us all. At our Opening School Mass we will pray for the families who have been affected by the bushfires.

One of the greatest paradoxes of the human condition is that so often out of deep suffering comes great strength. I know that you will join with me over the many weeks and months that follow, as we remember and pray for all those who are suffering.

Commencement Eucharist – February 21

We had to cancel the Commencement Eucharist scheduled for tomorrow 14th February because of the fires. The new date for this most significant College event is next Friday, 21st February. The Gonzales Centre will be our venue and we plan to begin our celebration at 9.00am. Our student leaders will be inducted at the Mass and our high academic achievers of 2013 will be recognized for their outstanding performance. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Year 7, 2015 enrolment interviews – February 22

The second day of interviews for Year 7, 2015 will take place on Saturday week, February 22. We have received far more applications than positions available which will make offers of a Year 7 enrolment very difficult. First round offers will be posted home early in Term 2.

Interhouse Swimming Carnival

The annual swimming carnival at the Seymour War Memorial Pool which was to be held next Tuesday, 17th February has been postponed. We made this decision in the best interests of our students and the Teaching and Learning program. I will be in contact once we have confirmed the new date.

Welcome to our Year 7s

Last Thursday, our Year 7 students attended a liturgy at St Patrick’s Church as our way of welcoming them into Assumption College and the wider Marist community. Each student received a Marist lapel pin, which we plan to do from now on for our Year 7s.

The readings and the music were uplifting and I thank our Director of Mission Mr Terry Cooney for organising this welcoming liturgy. Thank you also to Fr Grant O’Neill and the Year 12 leaders for their involvement.

Term 1 holidays

In September of last year, I wrote about the Term 1 holidays in 2014. I want to reminder our parents that Term 2 officially begins on Tuesday, April 22 with Anzac Day falling on the Friday, April 25.

Previously the College has begun second term with two staff professional development days combined with parent-teacher-student interviews. We thought it would be less disruptive to the teaching and learning program if we had the three days of the first week back of term as staff professional development days. Therefore, students will return to school on Monday, April 28. Parent-teacher-student interviews will take place on the Wednesday and Thursday before Anzac Day. There will be no change to the total number of teaching days in the school year.
From the Deputy Principal

Mr Maurice Di Muzio
Deputy Principal
maurice.dimuzio@assumption.vic.edu.au

The Digital Revolution @ ACK continues with BYOD for senior students and a new Assumption newsletter

Portable mobile devices
This year sees the continued “rollout” of another 450 laptops for Year 7 and 10 students and 190 iPads for Year 9s. This is in addition to 200+ personal mobile devices (PMDs) distributed last year. The plan for 2015 will be to continue with the Year 7 and 10 rollouts, with Year 12 students being able to bring their own devices or borrow an existing iPad which will no longer be used by Year 9s after 2014.

Start your new classes (SYNC) trial
During SYNC week last year we permitted senior students to bring their own devices to the College. There were a number of reasons for the trial period to test the College network/infrastructure capabilities, enhance multiple areas of communication between teachers and students, enhance delivery of teaching materials and information to students and expand the scope of the materials that students could access.

We made it clear that there was no obligation to obtain a PMD, and that no student would be disadvantaged if they did not BYOD during this period. Considering the 500+ desktops that all students have access to, and the availability of hard copies, the College ICT Team were reasonably confident that we had covered all potential problems to ensure a successful trial.

After reviewing the information gathered, the ICT team, in discussion with the Senior Leadership Team, have decided to offer all senior students the opportunity to use their own devices during classes and study, once they have applied for this privilege. Students can access this application form through their House Co-ordinators. This is a similar process to senior students applying for Home Study Leave. I would encourage senior students to take up this offer.

ACK newsletter changes
Assumption’s fortnightly newsletter is about to be replaced by a fortnightly bulletin which will be emailed to families. This more concise publication will include a report from the Principal and important reminders and links for upcoming events.

Student handbook improvement
Years 7-10 students will not receive the traditional hard copy student handbook this year. In its place these students will be shown how to utilise the Outlook program on their PMDs. We understand this process will take some time to embed into the learning culture of the College, and therefore staff have developed a ‘how to use Outlook’ document that students can access. Be rest assured that all relevant information e.g. Code of Conduct, Harassment, AGSV, ICT, policies can be downloaded by students as PDF documents.

I would like to thank students and parents for their support and patience during the ‘transition’ as we move towards a more digital Assumption College. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind families to access PAM and check that contact details are correct and up to date. It is your responsibility to contact the College if changes to our current records.

If you have any questions please make contact with me via the College.
Teaching and Learning

As Mr Kenny noted in the January 21 edition of the ACK newsletter, it was pleasing to see the class of 2013 achieve a median study score of 30 and to have several students achieve stand-out performances. While the number of students achieving over 90+ dropped in comparison to 2012, the percentage of students receiving tertiary places in VTAC’s first round of offers remained very high. I would take the opportunity to commend the Pathways team on their support of the Class of 2013 throughout the year and, particularly, following the release of results in January.

Reflecting its commitment to ongoing improvement, the College has called on the services of a specialist data consultant to analyse the 2013 VCE results in order to allow us to look for further opportunities to maximise the results achieved by our students. This data will be of great assistance to our newly appointed VCE Coordinator, Ms Rachel Williams, as she works intensively with both students and VCE teachers this year to support them to achieve the best possible success in VCE.

Having met with both the Year 12s and Year 11s on their first day back at the College, it was great to have the opportunity to remind them of the importance of utilising their time at school and at home effectively in order to achieve their goals. At Year 12, students should be spending a minimum of 3 hours a night (or 15 hours per week) on homework and study in order to ensure they are preparing themselves effectively throughout the year. If you have concerns about the level of homework your son or daughter is completing in Year 12 – or at any other year level - you are encouraged to contact their Pastoral Care Teacher, House Coordinator, Subject Teachers, VCE Coordinator or myself to discuss your concerns.

Developing one of the skills required in VCE – organisation – was a key reason for the implementation of the Year 7-10 Assessment Policy in 2012. In particular, the ‘Card System’ (outlined below) was implemented to ensure students in their early years of secondary schooling were gradually introduced to the accountability (albeit with a greater leniency) to submit tasks punctually. Given that this is a key requirement at VCE and late submission can mean instantly failing a subject and/or the entire VCE Certificate, we believe it is essential that students develop an expectation that due dates are final throughout their secondary schooling. However, we are mindful that the experience of beginning secondary school is replete with challenges and, for this reason, the policy does not take effect for Year 7s until Semester 2.

Submission of work – Years 7-10

Students are required to submit assessment tasks on the due date specified by the teacher.

If an assessment item (ie, a task that will be on the Semester Report and is listed in the Assessment Calendar, as published on the College Website) is NOT SUBMITTED on the due date, the following will occur:

First instance of non-submission – Green Card

The student’s parent/guardian will be contacted (by phone, email or, in the case of Day Students, via a note in the Student Handbook) and the student has 48 hours to submit the work without penalty.

Second instance of non-submission – Yellow Card

The student’s parent/guardian will be contacted and the student has 24 hours to submit the work without penalty.

Third instance of non-submission – Red Card

The student’s parent/guardian will be contacted and the student will receive a mark of ‘0’ for this task. If they fail to submit any other assessment tasks in that semester by the due date, they will also receive a mark of ‘0’ for these tasks. In most cases, students will be required to attend a detention to complete the non-submitted work.
Finally, as students in Years 9-12 begin their selected subjects, there may be students wishing to make changes to their program. Students wishing to request a change of subject can collect a form from the Curriculum Office (diagonally opposite Student reception) and return it completed by February 19. Students’ requests for changes of subject are not accepted after February 19 due to concerns about the significant amount of work they would have missed in a new subject after this time.

From the Business Manager

Mr Joseph Feery
Joseph.feery@assumption.vic.edu.au

Uniform Suppliers

C & J Kerris Menswear
Shop 1 & 2 The Mall, 76 Station Street
Seymour Vic 3660
Tel: 5792 433

Academy Uniforms P/L
238 Wolseley Pl
Thomastown Vic 3074
Tel: 9460 8011

Bus Pass Checks

All bus travellers must carry their bus passes on them when travelling on the bus as random bus pass checks will be carried out over the next few weeks.

For any queries regarding the bus service please contact Mrs Dianne Fitzgerald at the College.
Year 7s settle in well

The cohort of 208 Year 7 students from 48 different schools have settled in quite well. With their brand new uniforms and new laptops, they look ready to tackle the next 6 years of their education. Can parents please remember to put a name on the case of the computer – perhaps on the opposite side of the number. Also, as homework is issued, students need to have a method of recording this – either by purchasing a diary or using the laptop.

Remember to ask your child questions about their day. Listen carefully to their answers and be aware that they will get tired as the term and hot weather progresses. If you feel your child’s behaviour/attitude is leaning towards the negative and something appears wrong, contact their Pastoral Care Teacher and have a chat. It is a big change for them from primary school and they deserve time to make the transition a successful one so that they can enjoy Assumption College and all it offers.

From the Infirmary

Immunizations

Immunizations will be done at the school by the health nurses from the Mitchell Shire. Permission cards will be sent home and MUST be returned to the school addressed to Sr Gage within 1 week of receipt. All sections of the forms must completed and returned whether or not your child is receiving the injection.

It is vital parents read and understand what injection is being given and please discuss the importance of it to your child. We encourage the students to be thoroughly informed about what vaccinations they are receiving.

All immunization records are maintained by the council. The scheduled dates are as follows:

- **Thursday April 3**: Year 7 boys and girls. Year 9 boys
- **Thursday June 5**: Year 7 Boys and Girls Year (Boys
- **Thursday July 24**: Year 10 boys and girls
- **Friday October 17**: Year 7 boys and girls Year 9 Boys

These dates are subject to change and families will be notified.

Mouthguards

A sportsguard dentist will be visiting Assumption College to take impressions for mouthguards for any student requiring one. All parents are asked to consider ordering one for any child that engages in ANY contact sport including soccer, football, hockey, netball, basketball etc. Forms will be emailed as soon as they are available.

**Date for Impressions:** Wednesday, February 26 at lunchtime in the infirmary.

**Date for Fitting:** Monday, March 24 at lunchtime in the infirmary.

These mouthguards are suitable for all children including children with braces. They are of high quality and payment may be claimable under private health extras. Payment is required on the day of impressions by cheque (addressed to Sportsguard), credit card details to be completed on the form or exact cash.
The pathway team this year consists of Mrs Carol Fisher, Mrs Carmen Fifield and myself. Each of us is responsible for different aspects of a student’s pathway as they travel through ACK and beyond. Mrs Fisher is the coordinator of VET in Schools and School Based Apprenticeships and is not in the office on a Friday this year. Mrs Fifield is supporting both myself and Mrs Fisher and is available on Mondays and Wednesdays. I am looking after the Career mentoring and subject selections for the students and I am at school every day. This year I am also taking over the coordination of VCAL as Ms Campbell is now Head of House (Girls Boarding). Students can make an appointment to see anyone of us by contacting us in our office in the student service wing (through the red door) while parents can contact us via email or by telephone.

University offers

At the time of writing we would like to congratulate the 118 students who received either a round one or two offer for tertiary courses for this year. Of these students 100 of them received either their first, second or third course preference which is very exciting and rewarding for these students. LaTrobe University is still our students’ preferred university with RMIT and ACU being the second and third preferred universities this year.

Once again it is interesting to note that 6 students received a tertiary place without an ATAR. This included 5 VCAL students who have been offered certificate or diploma courses at William Angliss Institute, RMIT, Swinburne and Victoria University. We are extremely happy in our department when students are able to get to the destination that they wish to get to whether that is a tertiary course, an apprenticeship/traineeship or full time employment.

If you have a child who has missed out on a placing or is still needing help to find a job please ask them to contact myself at the College to see if we can do anything to help. We are available to support ACK students for as long as they need our help.

Tax File Numbers (TFN)

Students can apply for a Tax File Number by collecting a form from outside the Pathway’s Office. Assumption College can only sign and send off to the ATO these forms and unfortunately some students have brought in the forms that they have collected from the Post Office and these cannot be processed by us. Once the forms are sent off it takes approximately six weeks for the information to be sent back to the students. Remember that any student who has a part-time job, an SBAT or going onto Tertiary Studies needs a TFN which means every student should get one before they finish Year 12.

Early Notice - Excursions for senior students

Year 12 students will be invited to attend a Tertiary Information Session at LaTrobe University on Wednesday May 21. This excursion will be optional for any Yr 12 who would like to hear about how to apply to university and will get the opportunity to discuss courses and applications with representatives of many Tertiary Institutes. If students are unable to attend on this day due to other commitments then they will get the opportunity to catch up with Tertiary Representatives when they visit ACK during the year.

Year 11 students will be invited to attend the Age VCE and Career Expo at Caulfield Race Course on Friday May 9. Once again this excursion will be optional with those not attending the excursion expected at school. This excursion will involve us travelling to the Expo by train with students being asked to meet me in the city at a designated time before we travel onto Caulfield.

The advantage of travelling by train (beside the cost) is that students, with written permission from their parents, would be allowed to stay on in the afternoon to attend various lectures that cover many topics including revision information for many VCE subjects, learning about study and organisational skills and hearing from many employment organisations.

We will be sending out more information later in the term about these excursions.

Parent as Career Transition Support (PACTs) Workshop

Carol and I plan to run a 2 night workshop for interested Year 9 & 10 parents about how to help your child transition from Year 10 into one of the senior certificates – VCE or VCAL. Topics covered on these nights would be How to select the best option when it comes to the senior certificates offered at ACK? What subjects do we offer and how does the subject selection process work? How to use “Interest – based” tests? How to discuss career choices with your child and much more. Parents would need to commit to the 2 nights. The dates for this will be Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 May for 2 hours each night. More information will be sent to parents later in the term.
**Work Experience**  
Currently at Assumption we do not have a compulsory work experience program, however we do support students who would like to do work experience during their holidays. Work Experience is different from Structured Work Place learning that all VET students have to complete, as students usually don’t have any skills when they attend Work Experience and it usually is an opportunity to observe people in a career area that they may wish to follow.

To be registered as a work experience student and to be covered by the Department of Education and Training, students must complete an online Occupational Health and Safety program for their specific industry plus a general OHS test. If any student over the age of 15 wants to do any work experience during the year please contact myself with plenty of time (no later than 2 weeks before they wish to start) to complete the appropriate paper work and to make sure that the OHS program has been completed.

If you have any questions about career information or if you would like to make an appointment time you can email us on careers@assumption.vic.edu.au

---

**VCAL**

**What is VCAL?**
The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is a hands-on option for students in Years 11 and 12. The VCAL gives students practical work-related experience, as well as literacy and numeracy skills and the opportunity to build personal skills that are important for life and work. There are three possible levels for students to be enrolled in – foundation, intermediate and senior level VCAL. A certificate and a statement of results is awarded once a student has completed the course work demonstrating that they are at a VCAL standard. Most students complete a level in one school year.

**What type of student would suit VCAL?**
Students who do the VCAL are more likely to be interested in going on to training at TAFE, doing an apprenticeship, or getting a job after completing Year 12. They are usually kinesthetic learners who succeed when given practical activities to complete rather than theory based activities.

**What subjects do I do in VCAL?**
VCAL students must do Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development, Work Related Skills and at least 1 VET/ SBAT subject. This year we have 60 students completing one of two levels of VCAL. Of these students 17 are completing a School-Based Apprenticeship in 12 different industries while the rest are completing Vet certificates in 20 different certificates.

**Who teachers VCAL at ACK in 2014?**

**Year 11 VCAL Teachers**
- Literacy – Mrs Helen Perez
- Numeracy – Mr Alex Houghton
- PDS/WRS – Mr Jason Gilchrist.

**Year 12 VCAL Teachers**
- Literacy – Ms Helen Campbell and Mr Andrew Brown
- PDS – Ms Helen Campbell and Ms Jessica Flavell
- Numeracy – Ms Meg Bryer and myself.

If you are parent of a current VCAL student and you have any concerns please either contact the class teacher or email myself or if you would simply like to know more about VCAL please contact me at the College.

Mrs Jenny Pendlebury  
VCAL Coordinator  
jenny.pendlebury@assumption.vic.edu.au
Visual Arts

2014 is already looking to be an exciting year for the ACK Visual Arts Department. The Visual Arts staff have been busily working together as a team to cater to their little ‘clients’ needs to help them be excited, creative individuals whose highlight of their day is to walk into our classrooms.

Year 8 Art Excursion

Term 1 will see the 200+ Year 8 Art Students visit the NGV Australia at Federation Square to see the exciting & hugely popular ‘Melbourne Now’ Exhibition during February 19 to March 4.

ACK Visual Arts Captain Applications

The department is calling for Applications from all senior students interested in becoming the ACK Visual Arts Captain for 2014! We are seeking a student who can be an inspirational representative of the department to their peers within the College. Applications are available from my office and are due no later than Friday, February 21.

Arts Week

The College will holding ‘Arts Week’ from 24 - 30 March with the Hermitage building being open to visitors 3.15pm till 4.30pm on Tues 24th – Fri 27th & between 12.00 to 3.00pm on Sunday 30th of March (ACK open day).

It was obvious from last year’s ACK Art & Technology exhibition that family’s and students were very excited to see the work that was on display & therefore we will also be running a Junior 7-9 Visual Arts Exhibition which will run for the week leading up to the ACK open day.

We would like to invite students to contribute to this great opportunity by submitting any artwork that they have created either at school or at home.

Arts week has been designed as a forum for our junior students to show off their creative skills and to give them a sense of self-worth and value for being recognised in this way. The arts week program will see the Hermitage Building come to life with a variety of activities at lunch time, prizes & a Principals award for the most creative individuals of each junior year level!

We are all very excited to see what the students are able to create and we look forward to seeing you at Arts Week!

‘Every child is an artist. The problem is to remain an artist once he grows up’. Pablo Picasso

Year 11 VCAL PDS Team Project

The year 11 VCAL team have hit the ground running this year with their enthusiasm to work together to transform the grass area between the old Boarding House and the Daly wing into something quite special. The students have proposed a commemorative meditative garden that will be created in memory of past deceased Assumption College students.

The students have been busy measuring up the site and have begun discussing and thinking through the design process.

What the students now need is the help & generosity of the local Assumption community to help make this brilliant student initiative a reality.

The students are asking for the assistance of local landscaping, excavation, hardware/nursery businesses who would be willing to offer their time to work alongside the students to make this happen.

It might simply be some plants, garden supplies, old tools, the use of a bobcat for a couple of hours….anything will help and be greatly appreciated. If you can help in anyway please contact me here at the college.

Mr Jason Gilchrist
Visual Arts Learning Area Coordinator
jason.gilchrist@assumption.vic.edu.au

Year 11 VCAL students measuring up the proposed site and discussing the design process! ...WATCH THIS SPACE!
We have some fantastic events coming up this year in the Cultural area. Students have the option of being involved in Music, Debating, Dance and Drama activities. We offer various Music ensembles such as Concert Bands, Chorale Groups, Rock Bands, A Capella Singing Group, Stage Band and many instrumental music lessons taught by our talented staff. Students are given a number of opportunities to perform throughout the year at school assemblies, masses and concerts. Students interested in getting involved in Music should see myself, Ms Hong or our Music Captain Whitney Comte.

The Senior Musical this year is the main focus in the Drama area. There are 60 extremely talented students that have begun rehearsals on Friday afternoons for our show ‘Hairspray’. Many students missed out on the opportunity of being involved in this show and I’d like remind the cast and band about the expectation to be at every rehearsal and how fortunate they are to be involved. The backstage crew are not required at the moment as the set design is still in progress. The show will be performed in June this year so I encourage you all to come along.

Students in Years 7-9 have the opportunity of being in the Junior Production in late Term 2. The show we have chosen is fantastic however we cannot announce the title as yet because the licensing has not been approved. Stay tuned for more details about the show if you are interested in singing, acting, dance, or backstage.

The teams for Debating have been entered this week so those students interested in being involved will need to contact me ASAP. New students are encouraged to join in this great activity as it will assist you with developing your confidence and public speaking skills. Debating meets are Wednesdays after school and roughly 6 evenings throughout the year.

Sessional dance groupings happened last week so if you missed the bulletin message and are interested in taking on classes, please email me ASAP. New students are welcome to join also. Co-curricular dance is also happening this year but not until after the musical and it will be after school on Fridays. Students are encouraged to take on sessional dance classes while waiting for co-curricular dance classes in order to maintain their technique.

Lastly I’d like to congratulate Jessica Hector-Turner on being asked to audition for Top Class Dance earlier this year. She completed Year 12 Dance last year and received an A+ for her composition solo. She was 1 of 100 students across the state to be asked to audition for the prestigious concert but unfortunately didn’t make it to the next round. She is the first student in ACK Dance history to achieve such a high result and be honoured with this privilege, so well done Jessica!

Looking forward to a great year in the Cultural area! Please see myself, Ms Hong (Music Co-ordinator), Anna Urokohara (Cultural Captain), Whitney Comte (Music Captain), Gemma Smith (Drama Captain), Jake Sanders (Debating Captain) or Lauren Callinan (Dance Captain) for more information on any of the activities mentioned.

If any parents are able to lend a hand and assist me with some sewing for the productions or dance concerts this year please email me.

Music News

Thank you to the Combined Chorales who are rehearsing over 4 lunchtimes at the beginning of the year, to support the music for the Opening School Mass. It is always a tough gig to have to prepare and perform so soon in the year.

Music Ensembles: Rehearsals and Schedules

A finalised schedule will be available in the next Bulletin.

Instrumental Music 2014

Please collect an enrolment form from the Music Office. Instrument choices include: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano (not keyboard), guitar, bass guitar, drums, violin and singing.

Attendance to Instrumental Music Lessons

Please note that there is no credit or refund of fees if lessons are missed due to forgetfulness. In the first instance, an email will be sent to students; the second instance, parents will be notified. All timetables have been emailed to individual students and a hard copy of all timetables is posted on the noticeboard in the Music Wing. If absence is due to illness, please let Reception know in your SMS or phone message, and they will pass the message to me. Please feel free to contact me at the College on 5782 1422, or by email.
Equestrian

Modern Pentathlon

Modern Pentathlon is an Olympic sport which requires competitors to perform in five challenging events - running, swimming, riding, shooting and fencing.

Pentathlon Victoria has teamed up with Assumption to provide an opportunity for students to get a 'taste' of this through the ACK Equathon Challenge on Sunday, February 23 in Kilmore and Lancefield. The Equathon is a novel and challenging event that combines three of the five Pentathlon disciplines - swim/ride/run - in a team or individual configuration.

It's hoped many of the ACK swimming and athletics team will register their interest to team up with equestrians to form teams for the Equathon. Many equestrian team members have already put their hands up to compete as individuals on the day.

Modern Pentathlon Victoria holds several development sessions if sufficient interest is shown at events such as Equathons. It is hoped if the ACK Equathon is a success, MPV will hold one of these sessions at ACK and work on some of the pentathlon disciplines - fencing, swimming, laser pistol shooting and running.

Any student interested in participating in the Equathon as an individual or as part of a team can download the entry form from the Assumption equestrian team page on the college website (http://assumption.vic.edu.au/pages/equestrian). Please contact equestrian co-ordinator Helen Perez by email helen.perez@assumption.vic.edu.au. Entries close Tuesday, February 18, and should be posted by Friday, February 15. Entries cost $33 for individuals or $13 per event for team members.

ACK is hosting a Victorian Equestrian Interschools Series (VEIS) dressage event the day before the Equathon at Lancefield Recreation Reserve. The dressage day program on Saturday, February 22, is on the college website. The equestrian team is hoping for a large number of entries which will start off the new riding year on a high note. The event also marks the beginning of an exciting new sponsorship arrangement with Mustad Lowden's Saddleworld of Kilmore.

Mustad Lowden's has generously agreed to provide prize vouchers for the ACK dressage day and prize rugs for the ACK showjumping day in June. The company is excited by the opportunity to support ACK's equestrian program and contribute to the continuation of the college's proud sporting history.

Mustad Lowden's has also generously offered the team use of its indoor arena at Kilmore so we can hold equestrian training for our members. The equestrian team committee and Mrs Perez are in the process of organising these sessions, which will begin in Term 1.

The ACK co-curricular equestrian team strives to uphold the Marist traditions of inclusion and encouragement in all aspects of its activities. The team comprises riders of varied ages and abilities, from primary students (local feeder schools just embarking on their equestrian careers), through to senior students competing at the higher levels. Any student interested in joining or seeking more information should contact Mrs Perez.

Left to right: Laura Newnham, Samantha Hutchinson, Haylea Wright, Madeleine Manton, Emily Bradford and Cailin Mundie.
## College Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>VCE Units 1/2 Information Meeting at 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>Opening School Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>House Welcome BBQ (Marian, McAuley, Marcellin) at 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27</td>
<td>House Welcome BBQ (Hilary, Frayne, La Valla) at 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>House Welcome BBQ (Austin, Damian) at 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5-7</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>AlcoCups Parent Information Night at 7pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## General Notices

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

### Student Absence
When a student is absent from pastoral care in the morning and parents or guardians have not advised the College of their absence, where we have a mobile phone number we will send an SMS. When you receive this message, simply reply by text and your message will be received by email for processing. No need to phone. Please ensure all absence notes, medical certificates and holiday notification letters are given to Reception. Alternatively, you can notify us via the absenteeism email address below.

absenteeism@assumption.vic.edu.au
Absentee Line: 5783 0806

### Parents and Friends Association
The next committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5 at 7.30pm in the College staffroom. All welcome.

### Uniform Shop
C & J Kerris Menswear are on campus every Friday at lunchtime (1.30 - 2.15pm), opposite the Gonzales Centre (next to the Theatrette) for all your uniform needs.
DANCERS WANTED

for Time to Shine, the inaugural Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala to be held at the Palais Theatre on 13 September 2014

Secondary students who will be in Years 7-12 in 2014 are encouraged to apply. About 400 students from Catholic secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne will be showcased.

Dancers are invited to audition for Time to Shine, the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala.

Auditions will be held on Sunday 2 March 2014 at Genazzano FCJ College, 301 Cotnham Road, Kew, at the following times:

Session 1: 9.30 am – 11.00 am
Session 2: 11.30 am – 1.00 pm
Session 3: 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm.

Please email Eliane Pinheiro <epinheiro@ceomelb.catholic.edu.au> stating your name, school, year level and preferred audition time.

Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala 2014

FURTHER INFORMATION
Visit www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/gala-auditions, speak to your performing arts/music teacher, or contact Bronwyn Egan on 9267 0228 or began@ceomelb.catholic.edu.au

*Year 11 students are advised to carefully consider their other study and personal commitments before auditioning for this event.
MALE SINGERS WANTED
for Time to Shine, the inaugural Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala to be held at the Palais Theatre on 13 September 2014

Secondary students who will be in Years 7-12 in 2014 are encouraged to apply. About 400 students from Catholic secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne will be showcased.

Male singers are invited to audition for Time to Shine, the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala.

Please upload a recording via <ceomgala.vic.catholic.edu.au/gala14> by Friday 21 February.

Successful singers will be invited to a further live audition on Sunday 2 March.

Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala 2014

FURTHER INFORMATION
Visit www.ceomlb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/gala-auditions, speak to your performing arts/music teacher, or contact Bronwyn Lagan on 9217 6223 or became@ceomlb.catholic.edu.au.

*These 12 students are advised to carefully consider their other study and personal commitments before auditioning and/or committing to the gala.
MUSICIANS WANTED

for Time to Shine, the inaugural Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala to be held at the Palais Theatre on 13 September 2014

Secondary students who will be in Years 7-12 in 2014 are encouraged to apply. About 400 students from Catholic secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne will be showcased.

Students are invited to express an interest in being part of the orchestra for Time to Shine, the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala. Please download the form from our website <www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/gala-auditions>, complete it in full and email it to Elizabeth Pinheiro <spinheiro@ceomelb.catholic.edu.au>.

Students will then be advised of the details for their live audition to be held on Sunday 30 March.

Each student will be sent two pieces of music that they will be required to read and play at their live audition.

All students wishing to be considered for the orchestra must be able to sight read music to a high standard.

Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala 2014

FURTHER INFORMATION
visit www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/gala-auditions, speak to your performing arts/music teacher, or contact Bronwyn Egan on 9267 0228 or began@ceomelb.catholic.edu.au

*Year 12 students are advised to carefully consider their other study and personal commitments before auditioning and/or committing to this gala.
Name: ____________________________________________

School/suburb: ______________________________________

Year level (as of January 2014): ________________________

Parent/guardian mobile number: _______________________

Parent/guardian email: _______________________________

Instrument/instruments: _______________________________

Preferred genres (styles) you like to play: ________________

Playing/performance experience (If any): ________________

Number of years training and current grade in music: ___________

Current (secondary school) music teacher: ________________

Current music teacher (private tuition – If any): ____________

OFFICE USE ONLY

Audition date: ________________

Audition time: __________________

Audition piece: __________________

Audition venue: __________________