

24th July, 2013



Hallam
Senior College
Linking Learning and Life

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students

Our School –	
Contents	Important Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Year 10 Hallam student's information evening- Course Confirmation interviews- Compass- Young People in times of need- An opportunity for Parents of Teenagers- First Semester Awards Night- Open Day- Sports Academy- VTAC and SEAS	<p>VTAC and SEAS Parent Information session – Tuesday 30th July, 7.00-8.00pm in the Careers Hub.</p> <p>Hallam Year 10 Information Night for 2014: 6.30 7th August: College Theatre</p> <p>School Council – Monday 12th August</p> <p>Year 10 to Year 11 Course Confirmation Interviews: 1.00-8.00: 13th and 14th August in the Careers Hub.</p> <p>Year 11 to 12 Course Selection by the 9th August.</p> <p>Year 11 to 12 Course Confirmation occurs in November.</p> <p>Pupil Free – Staff Professional Development Day – Monday 19th August</p>

In this mail out

- Principal's Letter
- Edition 2 of Headlines and Highlights
- Important dates for Year 12
- Compass letter and instructions

Current Year 10 Hallam student's information evening: 07/08/2013 at 6.30 in the College Theatre

At this information evening students and parents will hear about their options for years 11 and 12. This introduction will assist students and parents to think through certificate, program and subject choices for 2014. Students will then go on line to make selections. These selections are confirmed through an interview process that is scheduled for the 13/08/2013.

Compass

Parents will find in this mail out instruction on how to navigate the Compass program that will enable you to be even more connected to the school. If you have difficulty logging in please make contact with the general office or your sub school office.

Young People in times of need

At our school we have two full time Social Workers – **Julia Nicholson and Tahlia Pastor**. The girls also get assistance from additional Social Work service from a couple of other sources and we are very lucky to have Cyndy Battista, a nurse, who works with teachers and students on a range of health related activities.

I sent a letter home this week explaining to parents that we had one of our part time students tragically pass away. Can I remind parents of the following contacts when help is needed: These include:

- Your doctor
- Your local Community Health Centre
- Counsellor
- Psychologist
- Australian Psychological Society Referral Service - Phone: 1800 333 497
- Lifeline - Phone: 13 11 14
- Nurse on Call - Phone: 1300 60 60 24

If parents or guardians are concerned about their young ones please keep us in the loop. Our Social Workers help students work through all sorts of things, sometimes simple and straight forward sometimes extremely complex.

An opportunity for Parents of Teenagers

A research project being conducted by the University of Melbourne, will offer 2-day training courses for free in Dandenong. The project is titled **Training for Parents of Teenagers (TPOT study)**.

In summary, this project aims to teach parents the skills to recognize and respond to mental health problems in teenagers and to help a teenager should they require first aid. Parents with a teenager aged between 12-15 years are invited to take part (one teenager and one parent per family).

The courses include:

- **14-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid** which teaches the skills to recognize the early signs of mental illness, identify potential mental health-related crises, and assist teenagers to get the help they need as early as possible (**usual cost is around \$400**)
- and
- **15-hour Apply First Aid** which teaches the skills to sustain life, reduce pain and minimise the consequences of injury and illness until professional help arrives. (**usual cost is around \$220**)

Course venue

Both courses will be held from **9.00am till 5.00pm** on:

Saturday 31 August and Saturday 7 September 2013 at St John's Regional College, 5 – 11 Caroline Street, Dandenong

There is more detailed information attached to the newsletter.

First Semester Awards Night

These awards recognised students who have achieved academic excellence over the first semester or have made significant improvement over the first semester. Whilst it was a bitterly cold evening, students and parents were very proud of the achievements of the young people.

Thank you to all those who attended, it was a lovely evening. If any parent would like one of the group photos taken at the conclusion of the evening please make contact with the general office.

Open Day

Yesterday we welcomed approximately a hundred families to our school on Open Day. As you all know, making the decision to change schools is a very important one - a decision that I hope our current families have felt was very worthwhile. I conduct tours every Wednesday morning so that students and families are able to see our school in operation. The things that our students consistently say are the reasons why they like the school are

- The breadth of programs and subject choice available
- The relationships they build and have with the teachers
- The cultural diversity

Sports Academy

Please access our website to see images of the success of our Sports academy teams.

It has been a very busy time. We are very proud of their achievements.

- A very successful **All Stars Tournament** held at the end of last term by our **Basketball Academy** – it was a great fun day for students.
- **AFL girls** won back to back finals of the Herald Shield, School Sport Victoria Competition, to once again be the State Champions of all schools, on a bitterly cold day in Ballarat last Friday.
- **AFL boys Premier League** played off in the State final for the fourth year running at the MCG last Sunday. Whilst the game was very tight and competitive our boys were defeated by their nemesis Essendon Keilor College.
- Both the **girls and boys Soccer** teams are through to the next round of their tournaments and will play off next week. The outcomes of these games determine the Southern Metropolitan Regional Champions. We wish them luck.
- **Rugby League boys** travelled to Albury the week to play a very important match – the GIO Schoolboys Championships Quarter Final. Whilst the boys were unsuccessful this time the game was very close and competitive.

VTAC and SEAS – information session in the Careers Hub at 7.00-8.00pm on 30th July.

VTAC – Victorian Tertiary Admission Commission – for any student making an application to a tertiary institution.

SEAS – Special Entry Access Scheme – this application process is for any student who meets the criteria for special consideration.

<i>Communicating with your Sub School.</i>	
<i>Arts / Humanities</i>	<i>Deb Cox 8795 1017; Melinda Dalforno 8795 1019 Michelle Theron 8795 1021; Alan Torcello 8795 1021; Damien Landini 8795 1017</i>
<i>Science /IT/ Commerce</i>	<i>Ron Jooss 8795 1027; Deb Crew 8795 1048 Rob Zreczycki 8795 1036; David Wyatt 8795 1036</i>
<i>Sport & Health Sciences</i>	<i>Jamie Fardell 8795 1041; Karen Woodruff/Jodie Bevan 8795 1015 Vashon Weaver 8795 1041; Liana Hudson 8795 1041; Julie Buzasi 8795 1041</i>
<i>Traditional Trades & Technology</i>	<i>Sue Lubbock 8795 1080; Aymee Fallon 8795 1081 Rodney Triegaardt 8795 1067; Amanda Quinn 8795 1080</i>

Study4Success

Study4Success runs every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school until 6.00pm in the library. This program was very successful last year and provided support for students in comfortable surrounds to do their homework, attend a tutorial and obtain assistance from staff, guest university students or other guests especially invited to provide help. Maggie McCann is looking after the program this year. Parents can find out more by making contact with Maggie or their student's sub school office

Student Accident Insurance

Parents and guardians are advised that DEECD does not provide personal accident insurance for students who are injured at school or when on College Council endorsed excursions and activities. Families are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers.

Anne Martin
Principal