Calendar

Please go to the McGuire College Website to view all Term 1, 2017 calendar dates.
http://www.mcguireco.vic.edu.au

Upcoming Events:

- **February**
  - Swimming Sports: Friday 17th
  - Year 7 BBQ: Tuesday 21st – 6.00pm

- **March**
  - Year 7 Billabong Camp: 1st – 3rd
  - Senior Summer Sports: Thursday 2nd & 9th
  - School Photos: Tuesday 7th
  - Labour Day Holiday: Monday 13th
  - Harmony Day: Tuesday 21st
  - Year 7 Immunisations: Tuesday 29th

McGuire College School Council 2017
If you would you like an opportunity to have a say in your child’s education why not join our school council. There are currently 3 parent member vacancies. Further information and nomination forms are attached to this newsletter.

Sunsmart
Students are reminded that they must wear a broad brimmed hat at all times when outside at recess and lunchtime during Term 1 and Term 4. Thank you to the vast majority of students who ‘do the right thing’ are sensible and ‘Sunsmart’ by wearing their hat at all times when outdoors.

College photos 2017
College photos will be taken on Tuesday 7th March. Students must be in full and correct school uniform to be eligible to have their photo taken.
Welcome students, families and community members. We are pleased to have had an extremely positive start to the year, with students happy, smiling and refreshed from the holiday break. Thank you to all our families who have worked hard to ensure students are ready and prepared for the new school year, from books, uniforms through to having a positive mindset, it all makes a big difference. In particular, a big welcome to our new Year 7 students and their families. We encourage all families to become involved in our school and your child’s learning.

Our students have made an incredibly positive start to the school year and this has been highlighted by our Year 7 & Year 12 cohorts. Ninety Year 7 students joined us in this first week of school, our largest cohort in some time and it is great to report that not only have they settled in but they are very comfortable in their new environment, cooperating positively with their peers and demonstrating respect towards their teachers. Our Year 12 students are embarking on their final year with us and initial impressions would suggest that they are serious about their studies and making the best use possible of their time and learning in 2017 to ensure their chosen pathways for 2018 and beyond.

At our first assembly this year we took the opportunity to raise three commitments with our students. These three commitments are the things that we want our students to demonstrate each and every day of the term. Our 3 student commitments are:

1. I will be on time and prepared to learn
2. I will demonstrate respect to all other students and our staff
3. I will follow our PED Policy – this means using our electronic devices for a genuine learning related purpose and only when instructed to by the teacher.

School Council Elections
Election of Parent members for School Council will commence with the release of this newsletter. If you would like to be involved as a councillor, look out for the information contained in this newsletter.

Stay up to date
In an effort to keep our College Community better informed we have set up two social media platforms to share student life and events at the College. These are two of the most well-known and used platforms, being Facebook and Twitter. You can find us on:

- Facebook at www.facebook.com/Mcguirecollege/
- Twitter at www.twitter.com/McGuire_College/

New Uniform – don’t our students look fantastic!!
Congratulations to all of our students who have started the year in full College Uniform – you look fantastic. The new Blue and Burgundy Polo tops have taken our uniform up a step and seeing the vast majority of students in uniform at our recent assembly demonstrated the high level of school pride that exists. Don’t forget to have a look at our Year 12 student’s customised uniform for their last year with us.

As the term progresses, we urge students and families to keep up the great work and continue to wear full College uniform on a daily basis.

Year Level Leaders
2017 has bought with it a change to our support structures for students. Students are now meeting regularly as Year Level groups under the leadership of our Year Level Leaders. Already the feedback from students has been extremely positive and I would like to thank our Year Level Leaders – Kristen Pritchett (7), Sam Owen (8), Jamason Lopez (9), Nicole Craighead (10), Paige Martin (11) and Carly Hooper (12) for their leadership and hard work to ensure such a smooth start for our students. Parents are encouraged to contact our Year Level Leaders as a first port of call for any student related matters.

Looking forward to a fantastic 2017, full of learning and celebration for our students and community.
Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to school

Parents and Guardians are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to look into their preferred options in this regard. The Department cannot provide advice to parents or guardians on the purchase of individual student accident policy or ambulance cover.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property, students and staff should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Kind regards

Brad Moyle
Principal

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welcome To New Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jack Collins</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Megan Kay</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brendan Kenna</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Matthew Koutroubas</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sam Sharpe</strong></td>
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My first two weeks at McGuire College have come to a close and I have been very impressed and inspired by our entire school community. Staff and students alike have been very welcoming and the support I have received has been second to none. I consider myself lucky to be part of this wonderful community – thank you McGuire College.

The Year 7-9 team have been extremely busy over the past two weeks and the dust is beginning to settle. Mrs Kerwin mentioned the students have been very prompt to class, have established sound routines and been wearing their school uniform with pride and respect. Keep up the continued efforts because it has already been noticed – congratulations.

The new Year 7s have commenced their secondary educational journey in an exemplary manner and it is a credit to the comprehensive transition program that commenced last year. At McGuire, we encourage everyone to be leaders and the Year 7 students have already demonstrated signs of leadership. Some have already volunteered to assist with the publication of a monthly newsletter and this is available to any student in Year 7-9. Let’s get some good representation from each year level. It has been great to see students taking part in the activities (board games, cards, Rubik cubes to name a few) in E wing at recess and lunchtime. They have all followed the rules and treated this beautiful space in a respectful manner.

Student of the week awards will also be celebrated for students who have demonstrated our REAL values within their English and Maths classes. Good luck everyone.

Finally, a Buddy System has been established with the Year 7 and 9 students to work together during REAL time. The focus over the past 2 weeks has been on team building activities. It is also another forum for the Year 9 students to demonstrate excellent community focused leadership skills.

Year 7 Report:
- All Year 7 students attended Aquamoves on Friday 3rd of February. A great afternoon was had by all and a special thanks to Mr Frizzell who coordinated the event.
- The Year 7 camp to Billabong Ranch from 1st to 3rd of March is fast approaching so please ensure the permission forms are returned as soon as possible.
- Year 7 immunisation forms need to be returned to the office by Wednesday 15th of March at the latest. The forms still need to be returned if families do not wish for their child to be immunised.
- Year 7 BBQ will be held at school on February 21st, commencing at 6pm. More information to follow.

Year 8 Report:
- Students have settled very well and have been instrumental assisting the Year 7 students find their way around the school.
- Mr Owen was really impressed in the manner the students participated in their first year level assembly and some students have already demonstrated their leadership potential.

Year 9 Report:
- As outlined above, the Year 9 students have established Buddies with the Year 7 students and Miss Lopez has been very impressed in the manner that they have built relationships with new students.
- Student representatives have been elected and we welcome Sarah Miller, Summer Keane, Benji Jenkin and Bashir Mohssini to the leadership group.
- Our leadership students are currently participating in an 8 week camp with 45 other students from rural and city areas. The program is being conducted at The School for Student Leadership, Gnurad Gundidj Campus. We wish the students all the best and can’t wait to see their growth upon their return.

Thanks for reading and for your continued contribution in your child’s education.

Brendan Kenna
Assistant Principal
Senior School News

Our Year 12s are off to a great start for the year with a group discussion on being senior representatives and role models for the wider school community. We also covered general things like private study and looking after the senior school centre. Our Year 12s for 2017 are going to really focus on their attendance. When a day is missed without a valid reason students often feel stressed and pressured to catch up. By committing to attend classes every day students put themselves in the best possible position to be successful in 2017.

Carly Hooper  
Year 12 Leader

Year 11 students have started the year off in fantastic spirit. Students were bright and bubbly ready to take on the school year as a senior in either their VCE or VCAL studies. This year, all Year 11 students will be focusing on the PED policy and respect. Beginning VCE and VCAL marks the beginning of student’s final years at Secondary College and all students need to ensure that they avoid using their personal devices in class and focus on their classwork. All Year 11 students will pay close attention to McGuire College’s REAL value of respect. Students will show respect to their peers by supporting each other, motivating each other in class, encourage each other throughout the school year.

Paige Martin  
Year 11 Leader

The Year 10s started the year well with a discussion about stepping up into the senior school and taking on the responsibility of being a senior. We outlined the expectations for students including showing respect and being organised and prepared for classes. This year the Year 10s will have a specific focus on following the PED policy. It is important for students to make the most of their learning time in class to achieve their best. This can only be done if students engage in the learning at hand. Keeping phones out of hands and off tables, students will be able to focus easier on the classwork and thereby give themselves a greater opportunity to succeed.

Nicole Craighead  
Year 10 Leader

Grease The Musical

This week we had about 20 students auditioning for the named roles in Grease in front of Director Laura Coonerty and Vocals Coach Trish Sargant. Well done to all those students on some great performances and good luck!!

NEXT WEEK - WEDNESDAY - Dance auditions in the Music Room from 2 - 3 p.m.  
Anyone is welcome - sign in at the Music Foyer or see Ms Ryan or Ms Craighead

The following week is ensemble week - more information to come!!

GREASE IS THE WORD!

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

NEXT WEEK is the week for YEAR 7S to come and try the musical instruments they can learn here at McGuire College. Lunchtime is for tryouts or to put your name down to enrol in lessons.

More information from Ms Ryan
What can you do at home? The most significant thing you can do is encourage your child to read. We know that students who read more will be more likely to succeed at school.

How you can help:

- Listen to your child read
- Ask questions about what they are reading; eg. Ask them to predict what will happen next?
- Model reading to them
- Encourage them to borrow from the school library
- Visit the local library
- Share your favourite books with your child

We would love to hear other ideas you have for promoting ideas at home. Please contact Stacie Lundberg or Jamason Lopez.

All students in Year 7 – 9 should be reading each night and recording this in their diaries. Students may read whatever they choose provided it is suitable for their reading age/ability and their interest.

See below for photographs of our Year 8 students doing Independent Reading in the classroom.
**Weekly REAL Awards**

**RESPECT**  **ENVIRONMENT**  **ACCOUNTABILITY**  **LEARNING**

**Year 7**
- English - Jason Furness-Hodkinson (7A), Katrina Charlton (7B), Olivia Minney (7C) and Chloe Johnson (7D)
- Maths - Angelina Mason (7D), Kade Hardy (7C), Roy Whitlock (7B) and Shannon Hogg (7A) (absent)

**Year 8**
- English - Sara Abdullah (8A), Mohammed Salem (8B), Kelsey Wesley-Harvey (8C) & Madylin Gamble (8D)
- Maths - Ali Hussain (8A), Zoe Daldy (8B), Haidar Alderawy (8C), Madylin Gamble (8D)

**Year 9**
- English - Nimet Savran (9A), Tahlia Charles (9B), Ahmed Aletabi (9C) & Fadul Alsaber (9D)
- Maths - Nimet Savran (9A), Oscar Moore (9B), Bashir Haidari (9C) & Ashley Hall (9D)
We congratulate our elected Term 1 representatives for Class Captains. We are proud that you all were prepared to take on a leadership role and are confident you will demonstrate the REAL values within our school community. We congratulate the students who applied for the position but were unsuccessful this term. It was impressive to see so many potential leaders within our Year 7-9 team.

**Year 7 - Term 1 Class Captains**

7B - Hannah Martin-Varty  
7C - Kade Hardy  
7A - Emma McManus  
7D - Austin McNair

Year Level Leader—Ms Kristen Pritchett

**Year 8 - Term 1 Class Captains**

8B - Zoe Daldy  
8A - Gypsy Dawe  
8D – Chloe-Jay Taylor  
8C - Blake Torney

Year Level Leader—Mr Sam Owen

**YEAR 9 - Term 1 Class Captains**

9B- Claire Hardy  
9C- Mitch Baker  
9A- Roy Tulimafono  
9D- Fadul Alsaber

Year Level Leader—Miss Jamason Lopez
Important Notice to Parents

House Swimming Sports

Friday 17th February, 2017
9.00am to 2.30pm

All students are expected to attend and either compete OR cheer on their competitors.

“Get in and swim” or “Barrack for your team”.
There will be lots of activities for students to participate in.

The following information is provided for your convenience for this day:

TRANSPORT

• Students will be bussed from school to Aquamoves at 9.15am and back to school by 3.00pm.
• Students will attend house meetings before catching buses to Aquamoves.
• Students will be returned to school to be dismissed.
• Students who do not return permission slips will be walking to and from the pool accompanied by staff.

LUNCH

• A kiosk will operate and students are welcome to buy their lunch and snacks from there. However, students are more than welcome to bring their own lunch. Remember to drink plenty of bottled water!
• No Passouts will be given to buy lunches elsewhere and any students having McDonalds or KFC brought to Aquamoves will have it confiscated.

SUNSCREEN

• Bring plenty of sunscreen even if it is a cloudy day! Sunscreen must be reapplied several times (eg. every hour), especially after being in the water
• Some shade is provided for each House. Students need to stay in their house groups and sit under the shade when not competing in the swimming events.

CLOTHING

• Students and competitors should dress in house colours and in appropriate sportswear. Don’t forget your towel and bathers!
• HATS – NO CAPS are allowed. Bring a broad–brimmed hat.
• NO SINGLET TOPS, bare-midriff or halter tops. Students must wear an appropriate Sunsmart shirt/top for the duration of the day – except when competing.
• No footballs, soccer balls, etc. will be permitted at the pool. These items will be confiscated!

May the best team win!
Better Together Alliance
Community Forum

Date: Tuesday 14th March 2017
Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Venue: Shepparton High School
Cost: Free
Door Prize: iPad

Growing up Online:
An informative & entertaining session for Parents and carers is delivered with Susan’s famous ‘no nonsense’ approach & will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as what parents need to be aware of:-

- What are kids doing online – The popular social networking sites and apps such as KiK, Musical.ly and Instagram. What they are, what are the legal ages to use them & why these rules should be obeyed. The difference between an ‘online friend’ and a ‘stranger’.
- Online Grooming – What is it and when/how does it occur? What are the warning signs & what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child.
- Cyberbullying - What it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent and what to do if it occurs. Also the legal consequences and the possible criminal charges.
- ‘Sexting’ – the taking and sending of explicit images...what are the REAL consequences. (Primary school kids to).
- Potential dangers and safety tips – how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online via parental controls and restriction passcodes.

Susan Mclean is Australia’s foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people. She is a mother of three and was the first Victorian Police Officer appointed to a position involving Cybersafety and young people. She took her first report of cyberbullying in 1994 and since then she has conducted extensive research and has completed advanced training in this area in both the USA and UK and is a sought after presenter and advisor to Schools, elite sporting bodies such as the AFL, GP’s, and both State and Federal Governments. She is a member of the National Centre Against Bullying (NCAB) Cybersafety Committee and is afforded ‘expert’ status on the Safer Internet Programme Data Base. She is also a member of the Australian Government's Cybersafety working group and a published author. Her book 'Sext's Texts & Selfies', is the definitive parents' guide to helping their children stay safe online.

What Susan doesn’t know about Cybersafety is not worth knowing! She is absolutely brilliant and her presentations are dynamic and entertaining. She has the unique ability to connect with each audience from young people to adults. 

(Dr Michael Carr-Gregg Adolescent Psychologist)
Make this the year that you will remember for the rest of your life as the time you really set yourself on the pathway to success. There are several sure-fire ways to make this the best year so far.

1. **Make friends with everyone you know**
   Parents, teachers, friends, everyone! One of the ways of reducing your stress levels is to set out to have as many positive friendships this year as you can.

2. **Acknowledge your inner genius**
   You are much, much smarter than you know. If you practice doing your best in life you will succeed because very few people ever practice doing their best.
   To do your best you have to get out of the habit of predicting that things won’t go well for you. If you look for what’s going to go wrong, you will always find it. If you look for what works, life just gets a lot easier.
   Aim to develop at least one positive aspect of yourself this year. The easiest way to start this is to appreciate the quality you want to develop in yourself.

3. **Know that geniuses make mistakes**
   People who achieve a lot know that you have to make mistakes to learn. In fact, learning often involves making a mistake and then figuring out what went wrong. If you get too scared to make a mistake, you will not do anything different or new in your life and that would be, well, a mistake!

4. **Prepare yourself for learning**
   Thinking positively isn't enough for successfully achieving goals. You have to focus and do things differently. Concentration is hard to achieve and very easy to lose. Find ways to reduce distractions, at least while studying.
   Not everyone in your life will be a well-wisher in your self-improvement and learning plans. They may discourage you from your goal. Surround yourself with people who encourage you. Take time to be an encourager of other people rather than being a critic.

5. **Liven up your life and get enough sleep**
   Sleep helps you to manage stress, stay happy and also increases your marks. The best way to protect yourself from being stressed or depressed is to get enough sleep. You need at least 8 hours and sometimes as much as 9 and quarter hours a night. If we don't get enough sleep we often become tired, moody, bored and boring.

6. **Be healthy - eat breakfast**
   Some people skip breakfast, but you often learn best at school in the morning and it helps to have some protein in you to feed your brain. A lack of protein can actually cause headaches, concentration problems and low energy.

7. **Do the most important things first**
   Get into the habit of being effective. Write a to-do list each week. Ask yourself the question “What is the one thing I could do”? 

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**Andrew Fuller**

‘Set yourself up for a great year’
Schedule 4       Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of McGuire College
Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by

4.00 pm on Monday 27th February 2017

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Friday 10th March, 2017

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019</td>
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If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Brad Moyle
Principal

School Council Elections 2017 – Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

- **A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- **An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.
Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.
Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.
In view of this, you might seriously consider

• standing for election as a member of the school council
• encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.
DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.
Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.
If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

• Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
• Consider standing for election to council this year
• Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.
School Council Elections

Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the

.......................................................................................................................... school council.

Name:

__________________________________________________________________________

Residential address:

__________________________________________________________________________

Home telephone:  Business telephone:

__________________________________________________________________________

Email:

__________________________________________________________________________

I am the parent/guardian of ........................................................., who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  Yes / No   (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate  Date  /  /  

__________________________________________________________________________

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on ..........................

You may choose not to give some or all of the information requested; however, your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
School Council Elections

Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate:

.................................................................................................................. for an elected
position as a parent/guardian representative on the

.................................................................................................................. school council.

Name:

..................................................................................................................

Residential address:

..................................................................................................................

Home telephone: Business telephone:

..................................................................................................................

Email:

..................................................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of ................................................................., who is/are currently enrolled
at this school.

The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of .................................................................
who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Yes / No (please circle)

Signature of Nominator Date / /

.................................................................

CANDIDATE TO COMPLETE:

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby
declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate Date / /

.................................................................

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information
may be used to determine the eligibility of a candidate and nominator. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of
inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll. Your name will be
included in a list of school council candidates and nominators posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a
ballot paper (where applicable).

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on __________________________

You may choose not to give some or all of the information requested; however, your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any
queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.