Principal’s Report

I have included this interesting article about public education. You all chose to send your children to our school a government school and hopefully this article will reinforce why you did.

**Why choose a public secondary school?**

At this time of the year, families are making important decisions about choosing a secondary school for their child. There’s a common view that if you send your child to a private school, your child will get better results. But the facts show that this is wrong.

A recent review of almost 30 academic studies revealed public schools achieve similar student outcomes to Catholic and independent schools across a range of education indicators. (Cobbold, 2015)

The review showed there were no significant differences between the results of students from public, Catholic and independent schools in national and international tests and in university completion rates.

And in the first year of university, students from public schools outperform other students – they achieve higher grades in their first year of university than students from Catholic and independent schools.


As leaders in the public school system we believe it is important that families know about this information because it can help inform their decision-making.

Public schools are just as good as private schools in the area that matters most – developing your child’s potential. The review is one of many pieces of educational research showing that students from the same social background do as well in public schools as they do in Catholic or independent schools.

There are other good reasons to consider enrolling your child in a public school. They include the following:

- Public schools are great value for money compared with private schools, which charge families up to $30,000 each year in tuition fees per child. Tuition at public schools is free, with families paying for books and some essential items.

- Children in public schools learn to get on with a wide mixture of students from different backgrounds. These advanced social skills – cooperation, empathy, problem solving – are
increasingly prized in the modern workplace. They equip students for success in life and in work.

- Public schools are neighbourhood schools. Enrolling your child in a school within walking or riding distance to home makes it easier for you to know who your child’s friends are, to make friends with other local parents and to forge closer links with your school and your community.

High quality teaching is one of the biggest factors that influence student learning. That’s why public schools are intensifying their efforts to enhance the skills of their teachers through mentoring, peer and student feedback and other forms of professional development.

Public schools are the backbone of our nation’s education system and they express our Australian values. They provide opportunities for all children to succeed, no matter where they live, giving all children a fair chance to reach their potential and lead a fulfilling life.

**Music Festival**

Congratulations to the McGuire College students who represented our school at the Shepparton Rotary Schools’ Music Festival at Eastbank this morning. They performed several items – concert band, percussion band and choir. I was privileged to see the bands and I was very proud of the students. Ms Gabrielle Ryan and Mr Roger Adams have worked hard with these students to achieve the standard they delivered today and the students have worked hard to play so well.

**Blood Bank**

Last Friday morning I escorted some Year 12 students to the blood bank where they bravely rolled up their sleeves and gave blood. You may have seen the article in last weekend’s Shepparton News. Well done Year 12!

**Jan Gregory**

**Principal**
Applying for the SEAL Program in 2016

The Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) program at McGuire College is designed to meet the learning needs of students who are capable of working at a faster pace and in greater depth than students of the same age. We have a long history of academic excellence among our graduating SEAL students and many continue to make us proud with their achievements post-secondary schooling.

We are now beginning our intake process for the 2016 Year 7 SEAL program. If you are interested then please download the SEAL information brochure and application form using the following link http://www.mcguireco.vic.edu.au. Completed application forms must be forwarded to McGuire College by May 29th for your child to be eligible to sit the entry test on Saturday June 13th at 9.00am at McGuire College. For any further information please contact Ashley Robinson or Susan Kerwin at the College on 5858 9800.

Emerge Festival

Students from McGuire College participated in the Emerge Festival in Term 1. To share their rich culture with the local community, they did henna and hair-braiding. The $305.00 they raised was donated to the children’s ward at GV Health. They were proud to be able to contribute to the local community. Fawzia Abkar and Ruqia Haidari are pictured with Carmel Johnson from GV Health.
Job Info. Want an Apprenticeship?

After many years assisting students in finding themselves apprenticeships, I have come to the conclusion that the success of securing an apprenticeship has very little to do with me. It has more to do with the student’s capacity to nag—or at the very least speak up! There IS a magical formula for successfully securing yourself an apprenticeship, and this is it:

Work Experience: Yep, this is a no-brainer, I can’t BEGIN to tell you how many apprenticeships have come from doing working experience with a potential employer! HOWEVER, to save the organization the effort of consulting their crystal ball (to read your mind) you will need to…

Talk to employers about your career ambitions. Ask if they are thinking of putting on an apprentice! Got to ask to get an answer! ‘No’ is fine. ‘Yes’ is divine!

Resume—do you know under which folder or device it is hiding? Is it up to date? Can you grab it at a moment’s notice if an apprenticeship offer crops up? Tut, tut, if you flounder on this point!

Choosing a Uni

Last week we looked at choosing VCE subjects and then miraculously discovering the uni courses that FIT with these choices. If you missed the article: go forth and explore it here. go forth and explore it here.

This week I explore more practical, hands-on steps which students (and parents) can follow to help make important choices for their ‘tertiaryised’ future. And when I say ‘hands-on’ I mean a pen, sticky notes, note paper and brochures—still an old-fashioned-dark-ages-approach to sorting things out—but very therapeutic! Admittedly I wrote this article two years ago, but it is still ‘tot’s’ relevant today. To (re)read the article follow this link Steps To Find A Uni Course. Steps To Find A Uni Course.

Tertiary Information Services

The Tertiary Information Services event (fondly known as TIS) is an annual event for Year 12 students. Each year University reps hit the road and take a booth (and enough brochures to tilt a ship) to a TIS event scheduled at various locations across Victoria. TIS is the perfect opportunity to hear all the info required for your entry into Uni (or TAFE). Discover snippets including basic every day stuff like what to do about accommodation, how to apply for scholarships and so much more! Attendance at this event is organised through your home school. (Shepparton TIS—15 June). Click here for more TIS gossip.

Career Veneer (online) is FREE to subscribe to—go to http://careerjunk.edublogs.org
(Written by Fay Scadden, Numurkah Secondary College)