PRINCIPAL’S UPDATE

We have a busy and most entertaining calendar of events for our last 2 weeks of school. Please check the dates in the Newsletter and do feel welcome to join us when you can. I am delighted to see our students working with their teachers to plan these events.

Master Chef is a culinary delight.
What a wonderful evening it was. With very near to 80 guests our fours teams planned and brought to the tables the most delicious and quite nutritious meals. It was explained to the guest that they would decide on completing the meals how much they believed each was worth. The team with the greatest accumulation of funds would be the winner. Bonus money would also be provided according to how many ingredients were sourced locally.

First course included a selection of hand made pastas, all beautifully prepared with a great variation of sauces. For dessert there were the tastiest array of sweets one could wish for. The layout of each was striking.

The evening brought students, teachers, parents and community members together. It was a combined effort showing just how naturally our community interacts. There was also a great breadth of ages from our youngest baby, Finn to a great representation of grandparents. It was a pleasure to also see our older students looked out for the youngest children.

After the final notes and coins found there way into the money tins that amounts were totalled and Blue Team declared the winner. It was a very close result though and an amazing $800+ was raised by the combined teams.

**Thursday 11th of December: Curriculum Planning Day at the College.**

To enable staff to review what we have learnt in 2014 and to plan for 2015, a Professional Learning Day has been planned.

**This is a Pupil Free Day.**

**Thursday December 18 : Special luncheon for community volunteers, 11.30am**

A morning tea is planned to thank all of our wiling volunteers and community members who have helped out over the year. Without your presence and support the College would not be the warm, friendly and supportive place it is.

Do come along to the morning tea and then stay for Student Market and then our Awards Ceremony

**Thursday 18th of December. Arrive 1.00pm for a 1.30 start**

**End of Year Awards Presentation and Celebration**
Our Awards Presentation is fast approaching and is an important event as we acknowledge the achievements of our College student leaders and the students who have shown great dedication and have excelled in their studies.

Pre-school News

We have been busy getting ready for Christmas. We went and collected branches so that we could make our Christmas tree. Then we had lots of fun decorating it.

SRC focus also on … Master Chef

So, the “Master Chef’ competition has come and gone – What a highlight! Such a lot of work, with some great leadership from our four captains: Skye Martin, Grace Martin, Tom Gilbert and Mark Felici. Teams of students worked with parents and one or two teachers through two workshops leading to the grand final evening where over 80 odd visitors (and some not so odd!) from the community came into the College to be served delicious pasta and dessert.

Following is a response from one of the captains, Grace Martin…
All in all, 2014 has been a great year for the SRC and the students can be justifiably proud of their achievements. Following is one captains response to this enterprise...

Yesterday we cooked for Master Chef my team was green team and in my team there was: Sam, Brody, Miss Potter, Mrs O and Heidi. We cooked pasta for main with tomato sauce that had garlic, onions, herbs and ham. For dessert we cooked baked lemon cheesecake with grated chocolate, whipped cream and lemon jelly. We made nine cheesecakes!

For every local ingredient we get donated, we get $5.00. We had three local ingredients so we got $15.00 In the competition we came 2nd with about $212.00 Blue team won with about $242.00 The winners will get lunch at the “Shoppe.”

We had about 73 people come to eat. Everyone would try a bit of all 4 team’s dishes and then pay what they think the meal was worth. The team captains were Skye in the blue team, Mark in the orange, Tomin the red team and me in green team. I had a great time.

Before we actually cooked on the night we did 2 workshops one to cook pasta and the other to test our dessert recipes. We also make short movie trailers and filmed people cooking and preparing. The night was fantastic everyone was involved and everyone worked together to get the job done. We had our own station were everyone walks past and gets their food.

**Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition, 2014**

5 weeks in the heart of Andalucia

Miss Sarah Marriner

Here I am in the heart of Andalucía in the Las Alpujarras which is part of the Sierra Nevada Mountain range. Here I am undertaking a working holiday at Caballo Blanco (White Horse) Horse Riding and Trekking Centre. I am currently on my third week with two weeks to follow.

Taking a leap of faith I have left my homeland to go out and experience something completely different. Before flying here I had never flown before, let alone seen an airport. I have stepped right out of my comfort zone and aimed towards my high expectations of myself.

The first few days were a challenge as I suffered from altitude sickness and being Jet-lagged. However, I overcame it and have settled in really well.

Normally we tend to stick to what we know and what we are comfortable with. Here I haven't been able to do that. So, it has strengthened me as an individual and I feel I've
grown in my understanding of equines and life in general. It has been a rewarding experience to present.

I have had to adapt to very basic living here. I have no internet for communication, power maybe two hours or less a day, no running hot water in our kitchen, and we have a shower with a breeze to give you some idea.

Our toilet is in the open that overlooks a beautiful view so, as you're out doing your business, you can take in the gorgeous scenery and the starry nights.

I sleep in a little room which I share. Our room is basic, with no power so we rely on our torches. We are lucky to have a gas heater though as the mornings and nights here are very cold. It will soon be really cold during the day as it is winter here. I have been lucky to have had really nice days so far.

My program involves working five hours and two hours of lessons or trekking each day. I get two days off a week. Most of the other workers are a part of the program helpers so theirs is slightly different. I am lucky to work with a lovely bunch of people, in particular my dear friend Kate, who really looks out for me. Our stable manager, Emma, is really nice, and I enjoy working with her too. I haven't really go to meet the owner, Sarah, however she is apparently amazing with horses and I hope to be soon working one of the most troubled horses with her on her return.

I feel so blessed to have such an incredible opportunity to work with stunning horses in a beautiful environment. They have Andalusians, Appaloosas, Arabs, a Hungarian Warm-blood, Percheron cross Andalusian just to name a few breeds. I have been very lucky to be able to ride a vast majority of their horses, all with different personalities, and at different stages. My favorites include a 17.2 hh Appaloosa Mare, and Jalao, a five year old bay Andalusian gelding.

In my lessons so far I am working towards deepening my seat. To do this, I have been doing no stirrup work. I am re-training my legs to stretch down more so I can use my legs to create impulsion. I am also striving to ride smoother transitions from walk to trot to canter, and halt to trot and halt to canter. It has been both mentally and physically challenging. However, I am determined to develop as a rider as well as grown in my understanding.

Treking out is absolutely sensational! Taking in the gorgeous scenery of the mountains, farms, and pretty villages is breath-taking. Words can’t begin to describe the beauty of this place. We climb up and down the steep terrain with our steady, sure footed horses. They have to put a lot of trust in us, us likewise.
Here we feed three times a day, with a selection of horses being fed four. This is due to the terrain they live in. They have no access to green grass here, so it is important that they are fed small amounts regularly. They live in electric paddocks, and are tethered or stabled. The conditions may be basic, however, they are comfortable and the horses are well cared for.

On my days off, I tend to walk to town, and reconnect with my family through wifi, look at shops and explore.

The town I usually go to is Lanjaron, known as a spa town. It is famous for its water. The water is really sweet and has special qualities. On one of my days off, a fellow work mate and I went and explored a sea-side town called Salobrena. It was gorgeous! We went to the top of the town where we explored an ancient castle. We also had lunch at a restaurant on the beach before I practised my navigating skills, going a long coastal way back to the stables. It was great to see a different part of Spain and be again entranced by its beauty.

I am making the most of this amazing opportunity, and I warmly thank you for the support and helping make this journey possible. I feel as though I will be coming back to you as a confident, developed young lady.

Miss you and look forward to catching up Presentation day/graduation! You’re incredible! Thank you for everything and helping make dreams a reality!

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**Instrumental Performance**

**At**

**Lavers Hill P-12 College**

**2014**

Dear Parents,
On Friday 12th December music students from Lavers Hill College will be performing an afternoon concert for all school students, parents and families to attend.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all family and friends of Lavers Hill to come to an afternoon concert that begins at 2.00-3.15pm in the school canteen.

The performance will include 13 individual instrument solos. The Year 3 / 4 recorder group will play their most popular tunes. The Year 5/6 ‘Rock On’ students will perform their new piece ‘Que Sera’ and the school band with its 8 members will finish the concert playing their new tunes Bunyip Blues, La Bamba and Wild Thing plus some old favourites from 2013!!

This combined performance will be the conclusion to 3 terms of Instrumental tuition and a wonderful opportunity to showcase the musical talent we have within our school.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Kathryn Doherty

Parents are encouraged to receive this College Newsletter electronically by email ...

Some advantages of email include,

• guaranteed immediate prompt delivery to your home
• more sustainable with less paper waste
• photos of your children can be digitally ‘copied’ onto your home computer in full colour

A number of families already receive the Newsletter by email so if you would like to be added to that list please email directly to the College lavers.hill.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au
LOST PROPERTY
There is a large amount of items in the lost property container. If your child/ren is missing any items of school uniform please make sure you check the lost property in the coming two weeks!!

Thanks

BOOKLISTS
Your child/ren`s Booklists are currently being compiled for 2015
We now ask that your child/dren`s BOOKS be paid for prior to you collecting them.
Other fees can be paid off during the year!
We will notify you when they are ready for collection?
THANK YOU