Principal’s Report 7th September 2016

Enrolments
1. Current enrolment is 311, four of which are short-term international students.
2. We have already received 36 Foundation enrolments for 2017 (yet again identical numbers to this time last year).
3. Seven students have enrolled to commence with us for 2017.

Strategic Goals and Priorities
1. Macclesfield Primary and Kalista Primary have now become partners along with Anderson’s Creek Primary, Milgate Primary and Warrandyte Primary as part of the Department of Education’s focus of establishing Communities of Practice, our focus is on best practice and instructional model.
2. Year 6 students are currently collecting data (with iPads) from parents and students on the effectiveness of our You Can Do It social/emotional wellbeing program, as outlined in our Annual Strategic Plan.
3. We completed our annual DET School Census survey.
4. As part of our introduction of a new, whole-school approach to spelling, Celene Black hosted two very successful parent information evenings, outlining our new spelling program, with a focus on word sorting.

Staffing
1. We have made a provisional appointment for soon to be vacant Business Manager position (Sept-Feb 2017). More information to follow once the appeals timeframe has passed.
2. Andrew Veal will be Acting Principal Thursday/Friday (8th & 9th September) at Glen Waverley Primary. I have 100% assurances he will return!
3. Amy Icke will be getting married over the September break, finally she can stop nagging us for Mocona coffee jars.

Community Life
1. School Production is almost here! The students and staff have done an amazing job and we can’t wait to see the polished product next week. We have had a dedicated team of parents create props, back drops and costumes, they look stunning.
2. Our year 6 students all received their placements for their secondary schools, Templestowe College being the school of choice for the majority of the cohort, followed by Doncaster Secondary College.
3. Manningham City Council visited us through their “1000 voices” initiative. The MCC want to hear from our youngest stake holder what it is they like most about living in Templestowe. The Templestowe Rotary put on a free lunch time sausage sizzle where we raised $335 for a gold coin donation, which will go towards our outdoor seating commitment.
4. Our Writer’s Festival was another rewarding, successful event on Friday. The quality of the written work was amazing, thank you to Andrew and the rest of the committee for making the hard decisions in selecting winners.
5. Trivia Night organisation is happening tomorrow so we look forward to the report. The list of auctioned items is remarkable.
6. Interschool athletics day is this Wednesday, we have 51 students representing our school.
7. Story Time has been another huge success, with the last session taking place this coming Friday (9th September). Amy and Di have been terrific in their learning tasks they have planned for the pre-schoolers. Our formal transition program for our 2017 foundation students will run through November.
8. Twin Hills preschool visited us on Thursday 1st September for Big kid for a morning. Our year 6 students supported the morning as the kinder kids participated in an Italian, art and a PE lesson. Thank you to Kate, Carole and Dina for planning these sessions.
9. We have recently formed a partnership with Templestowe Rotary, where they will be supporting the development of our community garden extension with a grant.
10. Our Art Captains have been driving an initiative supported by the MCC and Templestowe Rotary, titled Art Building Children’s Dreams. Placing a perspective of the dreams of children living in Templestowe compared to children in developing countries.

Professional Learning
1. Staff recently participated in refresher training for their First Aid Level 2 certification with ex-school council president Frank Perri. A very entertaining (and very professional) time!
2. Anna Sanos and Liz James will be attending a professional learning session on Anaphylaxis this week, as part of DET’s new roll out of Anaphylaxis Leaders, where we must have two nominated staff.
3. Carole Rigler recently held a cluster meeting for the Eastern Alliance for Sustainable Learning. The aim of the meeting was to share ideas for sustainability-targeted best practice, and support our accreditation of our Resource Smart program.

Resources

1. We have a potential opportunity to pilot a product with a company that has developed a school administration program (similar to Compass, but with more functions). More information to come.