Dear Parent/Carers

I would like to welcome Year 8 parents to the 2017 school year. We had a very easy and highly organised re-entry to school and students are immersed in their learning. They seem happy to be back. We are certainly happy to have them back, safe and sound.

Year 8 students have a diary that they must use every day. The diary is also full of very useful information for parents. We trust that parents get their child to take out the diary on a daily basis and show them any homework they have for the evening. Remember, they should be doing at least thirty to forty five minutes homework or home study four nights a week. They need to get into training for the increasing demands of home study. If students have nothing to do, then ensure they read a book. They could also go over notes made during the day, clean out their bags and so on. Their home study area should be quiet. It can be central if you want to keep an eye on their use of the laptop. Students should not have their mobile on them for home study time.

Year 8 is the end of their early adolescent phase of learning. We will expecting our Year 8 students to become more and more engaged in their learning, self-regulating and self-organised. I will be conducting a Positive Parenting Evening on Thursday 23 March. On the evening, I will ask our leading growth mindset teacher to address parents. I will also be talking about Positive Parenting and how we can work together. I look forward to seeing you all then. An email will be sent closer to the time to ask for attendees.

Parents, please keep an eye on your child’s uniform. Please note that shorts should be worn mid-thigh length and so should the girl’s dress. Please do not allow your daughter to hem up the dress. It is meant to be worn longer. Make up should be minimal, no facial piercings and no extreme hair colourings or cuts. We really value your cooperation with our dress code. In response to our recent Uniform Review, a new addition to the dress code is to be made - a blue rain jacket. It will be ready soon.


Swimming Carnival: All year 8s are required to attend this fun event that will be held on 1 March. It is a full day excursion and information and permission slips will be forwarded by the Physical Education Department next week.

Student absences at assessment times: Year 8 parents are reminded that a parent note must be provided for students who are absent on the day of a scheduled assessment or who claim medical grounds for the late submission of an assessment. Should you wish to apply for an absence approval at any time throughout the year, please complete the absence approval application which can be found on the College’s website. Allowances will not be made for students who miss assessments due to a family vacation.
Whole school Assessment Policy: The whole school assessment policy may be found on the College website and students are encouraged to ensure they are familiar with assessment expectations. Students and parents have access to results throughout the year via Connect. There is an expectation that students fully engage with the opportunity to check their progress and achievement on Connect regularly. Access to Connect for students is automatic and parents without access from their primary school are welcome to request a Log-on via the form located on the College website.

School Photos: All students will be photographed by a professional photographer in their uniform on Monday 20 February and Tuesday 21 February.

I would like to thank all the parents who have contacted me commending on the Positive Parent's Guide. It was developed with strong parent input and it is reviewed annually to ensure it is helpful and relevant. I look forward to a productive working relationship this year.

Yours sincerely

Veronika Sutton
Associate Principal Year 7 and 8

14 February 2017