

## COMING UP...

**Monday 20 March until  
Wednesday 22 March**

Year 7 Camp - Group 1

**Wednesday 22 March until  
Friday 24 March**

Year 7 Camp - Group 2

**Monday 20 March**

Year 11 Legal Studies Excursion

**Tuesday 21 March**

Round Robin: Tennis, Volleyball,  
Softball & Baseball

**Friday 24 March**

Interview to Impress Excursion  
(Energy Australia)

**Thursday 30 March**

Year 12 Activity Day

Last Day of Term 1

Parent/Teacher Interviews  
(5pm - 8pm)

**Friday 31 March**

Parent/Teacher Interviews  
(9am - 1pm)

**Monday 17 April**

Easter Monday

**Tuesday 18 April**

First day of Term 2

## Message from the Principal

Hello and welcome to our first Lowanna Bulletin for the year. This will become a regular means of communication for parents that do not have easy access to the internet. You may have noticed that we have not published any newsletters this year but have tried to update parents and students through Compass and our Facebook page as these are our most viewed forms of communication. However, we understand that not everyone has access to Compass or Facebook, so we will provide this bulletin as an extra means of letting parents know what is happening in the College. Hard copies will be available to pick up from the office.

## School Council

The selection of the 2017 Lowanna School Council has been completed and we did not need an election, as the number of candidates did not exceed the number of positions in any category. The first meeting and AGM will be on Monday 20th March. The election of office bearers will take place on Monday and once they have been filled, they will be published through our various communication platforms. The School Council members are listed below:

DET Representatives

- Brett Windsor (Principal)
- Joel Blythman
- Caleb Rennie
- Lauren Gray
- Carolyn Teller

Parent Representatives

- Sue Charles
- Jeff Puts
- Katherine Tang
- Jude Bergman
- Kathy Sultana
- Lisa Johnson
- Tracey Kippen

Community Representatives

- Sharon Gibson
- Darren Teller
- Student Leaders

## Staffing Update

Lowanna began the year with 11 new staff and has since appointed a further three staff. We welcome to our College Community: Caleb Rennie, Matilde Wiese, Kiara Campbell, Madelaine Law, Georgia Lewis, Hazel Young, Simon Baxter, Denita McMillan, Trevor Cox, Ashley Scott, Amy Jones, Hayley Howlett and Lachlan McKenzie.

## Shave for a Cure

On Thursday 16 March, 3 of our students braved it and shaved it for the Leukemia Foundation Shave for a Cure charity. The three girls were Chantelle Rainbow, Lauren Platschinda and Valeriya Beloborodova. Well done girls.

## Seeking those interested in Catering

Lowanna Chaplaincy Support Committee would love to hear from any parents, friends or students of the school who may be able to assist in our fundraising catering for the Moe Dance Eisteddfod. It is a wonderful opportunity to support the school, whilst performing a community service. Commencing on Saturday 1st April until Friday 7th April we will be coordinating the kiosk every evening between 5pm and 8pm and also providing committee luncheons. We seek help to operate the canteen, set up and serve the luncheons and/or assist with food preparation.

Please contact Mary Nicholls if you can assist for a few hours at any time during this first week of the holidays. Phone 5127 2929 or 0432 253 836

We are always appreciative of extra volunteer helpers and cooks for the many catering services we are requested to do throughout the year. Please make contact if you are willing to be on our contactable list or perhaps even join our Chaplaincy Support Committee.

## Debutante Ball 2017

This year the Debutante Balls will be held on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th of September (the last week of term 3).

Students interested in participating should collect an information sheet and Application Form from Carolyn Teller (Room A30 - next to the Careers Room).

To be eligible to participate, one participant of each couple must be a student studying year 10 in 2017 at Lowanna. There are also minimum attendance requirements - students with attendance of less than 80% may not be eligible.

Applications are due by Thursday March 30th. Note that deposits are not required until your participation has been approved.

## Athletics Results

The results are in and the Red Devils have won the Athletics Carnival!

The final scores are:

1. Red Devils: 1956
2. Yellow Eagles: 1918
3. Blue Sharks: 1867
4. Green Crocs: 1467

## School Bus - Temporary Bus Passes

Students and parents are advised that as from Friday 17th March until the start of Term 2, there will be NO Temporary School Bus passes given.

As from Term 2 a daily temporary bus pass will only be issued to students who have a note from their parent.

Passes can be obtained from Donna Perkins, School Bus Co-Ordinator.

## GPA's

GPA's are now available online via the Compass Portal.

GPA's are an indicator of a student's work habits and serve as a useful tool to highlight areas students should work on and may help improve their performance within the classroom. Students achieve a score out of 4 for their competency in the areas of preparation, work completion, attitude, respect for others, following instructions, participation, endurance and responding positively to feedback. An average of this score is calculated for each class as well as an overall GPA for all their classes. The top students, those who score above 3.34, are celebrated for having achieved "GPA All Star" status for that GPA cycle.



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

### HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)



## Absence Hotline

If your child is going to be absent for any reason please contact the relevant mini school as soon as possible.

**Junior School**.....Tammie Percivall.....**5127 9240**

**Middle School** .....Andrea Coad.....**5127 9246**

**Senior School** .....Julie Jeffrey .....**5127 9243**

Alternatively, parents can logon to the Compass system and approve absences via the portal.

