Dear Parents,

This week our assembly focussed on ‘Wellbeing’. It highlighted how important it is to care for ourselves, not just physically and mentally but also emotionally and socially. Our College Chaplain, Sarah Pollitt made the important observation that if we put other people’s welfare before our own what a difference it would make to our community, to the town and to the world.

Peter Bourke our College Counsellor, recalled his time at high school and his interactions with bullies. He asked the audience to stand up, he then instructed people to sit down if they had never witnessed any form of bullying – hauntingly, no one, (teachers nor students,) sat down.

Peter shared with us his memories of these bullies and how research has shown that people who bully in high school are at greater risk of getting into trouble with the law in adult life. We also met our new Youth Engagement Police Officer, Constable Alphonsus Shields

As a school we also acknowledged Rona Glynn-McDonald and Zac Barton for their efforts in taking responsibility for their learning and community service – congratulations to them both.

As our focus is on Wellbeing this week, I will finish by informing you that the College will be making an announcement in the next few weeks about an exciting new community event we will be staging in 2013. As the kids would say... stay tuned.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Tudor AM
Headmaster

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**P&FA - AGM**

**Wednesday 27 February**

This year’s P&FA AGM will be held on Wednesday 27th February at 7.30pm in the Fred McKay Education Centre.

All are welcome to attend

If you wish to nominate for a position, please contact Franca Frederiksen

franca.frederiksen@stphilips.nt.edu.au

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**Message from the College Nurse to Year 7, 8 & 9 families**

Dear Parents,

Please note that the message in last week’s newsletter, should have said that the vaccinations are for ALL Year 7 & 8 students, and Year 9 boys.

If you did not receive a vaccination pack, please contact College nurse, Jo Isgro immediately on 8950 4567.

Could those families please return the signed forms as soon as possible regardless of whether your son or daughter is requiring the vaccinations or not.

Jo Isgro
College Nurse

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**Back to School Vouchers 2013**

A reminder to parents that the Back to School Voucher must be used by the end of Term 1.

For your child to use their Back to School Voucher for uniforms, please write them a separate note, (do not use the diary), giving them permission to use the voucher.

For more information, please contact Lyn Tieck 8950 4560.

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**Joke of the Week**

Q: What’s green and goes up and down?

A: An avocado in an elevator
Activities started early last weekend when a bus full of girl boarders went to visit the residents of Old Timers on Valentine’s Day. We were very happy to be joined by Kemy, the College Captain, who started her career at St Philip’s as a boarder many years ago.

Bearing gifts of chocolates and red roses, they chatted to the residents before providing entertainment. Many thanks to Helena, Margo, Martha and Kemy who all sang beautifully on the evening and well done to all the girls who chose to go and bring some happiness to others.

On Friday afternoon the weekend got off to an active start with a number of girls going for fitness training with Allen in the gym. This is an activity they all enjoy and it’s good to see some of them taking their health and fitness seriously and putting in the effort to get results.

On Friday evening we had the youth group from CCC visit us. We played games of dodge ball, volleyball, soccer and capture the flag in the stadium before heading over to the college quad for a BBQ. Many thanks to the group of senior girl boarders who did the cooking.

On Saturday, while most boarders were still in bed, Helena, Hanna, Margo and Carolin rose early and went down to the town pool to take their Bronze Medallion. It was a long day but at 5pm they all arrived home having successfully completed the course. Well done to them for their commitment, and many thanks to Allen, who helps us with our fitness programs and who came to coach Carolin before school on three mornings last week. It made all the difference!

On Saturday evening we all went to Beach Volleyball with the boys. After a round robin between the six teams, we ended the evening with junior boys versus junior girls and senior girls versus senior boys. While the senior boys came out decisive victors 82 to 31, the junior girls did well to hold the boys to a 47 all draw.

All in all it was a busy and enjoyable weekend.

Marg Stevenson
Head of Girls’ Boarding

Chaplain’s Message

UNIQUELY BEAUTIFUL

My mother sat me down and said, “you are beautiful to me but must know that you are beautiful for yourself. You should also be aware that true beauty is in the eye of the beholder, which means that how beautiful you are to other people is always going to be subjective to who is looking at you at that time, and since you will always be looking at yourself first, you should find your own beauty and feel good about who you are.”

She went on to tell me that I needed to take the time to identify those things that I found to be beautiful about myself but also celebrate what I thought was weird or unusual because those were the special things that God had given to me that made me different from everybody else. I learned how to appreciate, embrace, and enhance those special things so that they would shine rather than be hidden...We learned to love and identify with what made us uniquely beautiful.

From Values.Com – Foundation for a better life
It has been a very busy couple of weeks for all the boys in boarding. From watching AFL, competing in beach volleyball, participating in a games night, plus all the various individual and team sports activities the boys are involved in, it has been all action.

Two weeks ago all the boys walked to Traeger Park to watch the Richmond Tigers take on the Indigenous All Stars team in AFL. It was a thrilling encounter, with the All Stars coming out victorious. Last Friday night, boarding hosted the Christian Community Church youth group for a games night and sausage sizzle. It was great to see all the boys participating in dodgeball, volleyball and cricket. Isaac Braeden was the master of dodgeball as he jumped around like a cat on a hot tin roof! Cameron Abbott dominated the volleyball, using his size and hops to his advantage at the net. On Saturday night all the boarders went to the local indoor beach volleyball centre to play beach volleyball. The junior boys defeated the junior girls 2 sets to 1. Corby Borrett and Hayden McGregor starred for the boys. The senior boys beat the junior girls 3 sets to 0. Max Morgan and Colin Puruntatameri were the stars for the boys.

Kyle McKell starred for the Gap View U17 cricket side on Saturday, taking 4 wickets for 23 runs with his left arm fast bowling. Jake Auricht also performed well two weeks ago taking a hatrick with his bowling in Division 3. Zachary White has also performed well in the U17 cricket competition. Ethan Bowman, William Jones, Hayden McGregor and Wayde Shadforth have all been playing well for the Saints U13 blue 7-a-side soccer team. They had an excellent 4 all draw with the top team last night. Wayde scored 3 goals and Hayden scored 1. Ethan has been attracting attention from some Chelsea scouts that were out at Ross Park two weeks ago. He has impressed in goals and may be offered a trial at the Chelsea Academy. Issarah Braun has also been playing well for the U13 gold side. Issarah has also been training hard with his athletics every Wednesday. James McCarthy sat his Bronze Medallion swimming certificate last Saturday and passed all but two disciplines.

Another reminder that Exeat weekend is next Friday until Sunday afternoon.

Kris Wheeler
Head of Boys' Boarding

NAPLAN Tests

All students in Years 7 and 9 will sit for the NAPLAN tests from Tuesday 14 May to Thursday 16 May. As part of the planning for these tests, students with special needs or considerations need to be identified and the appropriate paperwork completed before Friday 15 March. Special provisions come into two main categories; Disability Adjustments, Exemptions and Withdrawals.

Disability Adjustments are provided for students who have short or long term impairments but who are otherwise capable of completing all or part of the tests. Adjustments for individuals could include, but are not restricted to, things such as providing papers with large print, allowing rest breaks or providing a scribe.

Exemptions can be granted for one or more tests for those with a complex disability or for students who have been in Australia for less than one year and with a language background other than English.

If you feel that your child falls into any of the above categories or you would like to discuss your child’s participation in the tests, please contact me on 8950 4504.

Any parent considering withdrawing their child from the NAPLAN tests will need to make an appointment with me by contacting Lisa O’Brien on 8950 6236.

Peter Wagner
Director of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum
Dear Parents,

On Thursday 28th February, there will be a screening of ‘Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea’ in the Fred McKay Education Centre. The night is an ambassador screening associated with the national tour of this new film and is being run by Rona Glynn-McDonald (Service Captain) and Chantal Ezard (Round Square Captain).

The one hour documentary is about refugees who travel by boat, an issue that has sparked growing international concern. It shows how someone becomes ‘a boat person’ through a number of personal and moving stories. The screening is open to all members of the public including but not restricted to students, parents and friends of the college community. The screening starts at 7pm. There will be guest speakers after the screening. Tickets cost $10 for adults and $5 for student/concession.

Tickets can be pre purchased at http://deepblueseaambassadoralicest课外的. eventbrite.com.au/ or at the door. All proceeds will go to spreading awareness of the difficult situation many fellow humans are in, as well as to directly supporting refugees in Australia.

Westies Football Club U/17

Training will be held Thursday afternoons at school from 4pm to 5pm.

Any old players and new players welcome.

For more information, please see Mr Davey Tudor or Mr Wegener.

13 & UNDER CHAMPIONSHIPS - SELECTION TRIALS

Students born in 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 are eligible to participate in the following selection trials for the 13 & Under Desert Storm representative team. If eventually chosen, they would compete at the School Sport Northern Territory (SSNT) Championships.

Rugby League: 22nd February
AFL: 1st March
Basketball: 8th March
Football (Soccer): 15th March
Netball: 22nd March
Track & Field: June 6th

For more information, or to collect a permission form, please see Mr Davey Tudor.

Sports Quiz

Question: Who was the MVP for this year’s NBA All Star game?

Please write your answers on a piece of paper with your name and year level and place in the box in the library by next Tuesday.

Jesse Brooks & Stefan Yamada (Sport Captains)