

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - AUGUST 2015



I welcome you all back to the business end of the year, particularly for our Year 12 students. I trust that all students returned rested and revitalised for the semester ahead.

At our first week assembly I talked about the importance of feedback as it has two purposes; summative performance and also suggestions for improving performance. Last semester every student received a formal written summative report. This complements the feedback that students received throughout the term through the variety of learning and assessment activities as well as performance in the exams. Seeking and giving feedback also improves the performance of both teacher and student. Parent, teacher and student feedback along with performance data for the college collected over the past 4 years has now been analysed by an external panel as part of the review and validation process. The college validation report will be published before the end of term 3 and will contain a series of commendations and recommendations which will inform our planning for the next 4 years. I thank the students, staff and parents who contributed to the panels deliberations.

In the next few weeks student, teachers and parents will be asked to complete the annual online school satisfaction survey. This is an important guide for us in our planning for whole college improvement. Please make the time complete this survey as we value your input and suggestions.

Our staff and students continue to excel in a variety of areas. I acknowledge and congratulate;

Jim Phillips who has won a promotion to Executive Teacher Science and PE at Lake Tuggeranong College. Jim takes up that role in week 3 and will be replaced by Angela Hurman for the remainder of the year.

Andrew G and Daniel L have spent the last 4 weeks in London after being selected to represent Australia at the International Youth Science Forum.

Morgan K and Notaras K have qualified to represent the ACT and NSW regional schools at the National Youth Science Forum to be held in January 2016. This continues a long line of success of Canberra College students qualifying for this honour.

Sally P Morgan Mc were 2 of the 5 representatives from the ACT at the UBS Finance Academy in Sydney over the last school holidays.

Boys Rugby League team, as ACT champions, completed valiantly at the NSW regional championships.

The Australian Scaling Tests (AST) occur in week 7 of this term. I am confident that our Year 12's sitting for this test have been well prepared for the key part of their assessment. I wish them all every success. Peter Clayden will take over the reigns as acting Principal for the remainder of term 3 while I take some leave. I look forward to returning in term 4 to celebrate the achievements of our Year 12 cohort.

George Palavestra Principal



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SPORTS NEWS

Evelyn P yr 11 is attending the under 16's National Hockey Championships in Western Australia in early August.

Bella A yr 12 has won an ACTAS scholarship for Hockey.

Liam B yr 11 and Larni R yr 11 are competing at the School Sport Australia Cross Country National Championships in Melbourne in late August. Liam has also been training for the Youth Olympic Games qualifying races at the NSW snowfields as well as competing.

Greta W is currently competing in Snowboarding at Interschools and in the Scot's Cup.

Richard T yr 12 and Moala A yr 12 were selected in the squad for ACT Schoolboys Rugby Union team.

Kiara M-B yr 12 was part of the winning team that competed at the College Girls Brumbies 10's tournament in June. She has also been selected for the ACT/ Southern Inland Schoolgirls Rugby Team to play against NSW Country and Sydney teams. She also plays in the ACT Women's Open Rugby Union team which recently came 2nd at the National Championships held in Sydney.

The Canberra College Rugby League Team competed at the Southern Country Cup Championships in



Cootamundra on Thursday 23rd July. While the results didn't necessarily go in our favour, the team got a lot of experience out of playing the best that Southern NSW had to offer. We played

teams from Forbes (Red Bend Catholic College), Victoria (Victorian University Secondary College) and Albury (Holy Spirit College). It was great to see our students mixing it with the schools that have dedicated rugby programs and coming close in all 3 games, including a 2 point loss in the final stages to the eventual winners Red Bend Catholic College despite being reduced to 16 players during the first game of the day. Congratulations to all players involved and to the coach Rob Smethills for such a successful season.

The Canberra College Rugby Union Team also took on the best the ACT and Wagga had to offer in the Stephen Larkham Shield at Phillip Enclosed Oval in June. We had a successful day, overcoming Gunghalin, Dickson and Mary MacKillop to move through to the Shield Final against Erindale. Due to some injuries, we were left with no bench and only 15 players to take on our fierce rivals. These guys played with heart but were unfortunately beaten by a well drilled Erindale outfit. We qualified for the Waratah Cup but due to impending exams and injuries we declined the offer to progress further. Well done to all those involved.

Thursday afternoon Intercol Sport for term 3 has just started and the results from Round 1 are – Boys Volleyball team were beaten by Lake G, the Girls Volleyball team beat Lake G, and the Boys Oztag team were beaten by Gungahlin.

On Friday 31st July our Mixed Hockey



team tried valiantly to defend their title from winning the cup last year but were unsuccessful after some close losses in the round games. All students played with excellent team work and even subbed in for some other college teams that were short on numbers which shows their great sportsmanship.



CLASS NEWS

The ACT Constitutional Convention

The ACT Constitutional Convention was held over two days on Thursday, July 30th and Friday, July 31st at the National Archives, Old Parliament House and the ACT Legislative Assembly. Six students from the College participated, along with about 46 students from other Government and non-Government schools. The students participating were: Kate Z, Maddie E, Eggy C, Jonah L, Dylan M and Hesham A.

In the morning on Thursday at the National Archives of Australia, the students listened to an introduction to the Australian Constitution by Professor Kim Rubenstein from the ANU who gave a very informative and realistic view of our founding document. Probably one of the highlights of the day, was political satire by well-known national and international artists Shortis and Simpson – they put to song various parts of the Constitution, relating the different sections to a number of important events in Australia’s political history – this was a very entertaining activity, with many laughs by the students evident. In the afternoon, the students went over to Old Parliament House and the Museum of Australia Democracy to participate in various activities regarding the history of Australia and the importance of the Constitution. As well, they were very actively involved in a re-enactment of the political debate on the proposed damming of the Franklin River in Tasmania in the 1980’s, following the debate in both Houses of Federal Parliament. Kate Z was the Speaker in the House of Representatives, with Maddie E her clerk and Hesham A also taking on the role of one of the Ministers of the time – they were very convincing in their respective roles, so well done to all!

On Friday, the students were at the

ACT Legislative Assembly, where they were divided into representatives of the States and Territories, and in these roles, participated in group activities in discussing whether the Australian Constitution should be amended to give the Federal Government the power to make laws on the environment. Students listened to keynote speakers introducing the issue, with Shane Rattenbury, MLA arguing the case for the amendment and Andrew Wall, MLA arguing the case against. The group discussions were convened by law students from the ANU, as well as year 12 student leaders, one of whom was Tom C from Canberra College, as he had participated in this event in 2014, as well as being chosen to attend the National Constitutional Convention in March, 2015. Towards the end of the day, there was a constitutional referendum held, and all delegates to the Convention voted for the States and Territories to decide whether the Constitution should be changed. At the final count, it was decided that the referendum would not pass – there was a majority of voters (30 to 15), but not a majority of the States (2 to 4) – so the environment power is to stay with the States.

Well done to the students participating in this activity as they have gained a real insight into how our Constitution plays such an important part in our system of Government as well as our everyday lives.

Kevin Howard- Executive Teacher



TOURISM NEWS

Tourism students

Big congratulations to all the students who held events across the college during Term 2 and a big thank you to all the College who came along and made the events a fun time.

Some students got behind this as a fundraising opportunity and their activities helped to raise much needed funds for the Cancer Council, Nepal Disaster relief fund and the “Give me 5 for kids”.

The many events included a Movie Night, Pancake Day, Smoothie and Book Trading, Art competition, Spelling Bee Competition, Karaoke Lunch hour, Trivia Night, Art exhibition and fundraising for the Tara Costigan Foundation, and School Tour.

Elena Kemezys



SCIENCE NEWS

Environmental Biology Excursion

The environmental biology class recently completed a tour of the Woodlawn Bioreactor in Tarago and Capital Wind Farm in NSW. The Bioreactor is utilising the void left by the closure in 1998 of the open cut copper lead and zinc mine. Approximately 60 shipping containers of waste are transported in each day from Sydney and placed into the open cut site. This has built up to a depth of over 60 metres of waste. Gas pipes are immersed in the compacted rubbish and capture the methane gas that is generated as the waste decomposes. The gas is then used to generate electricity, which is fed back into the national grid and is a source of green energy. This site currently produces enough electricity to support 20,000 houses annually. Our visit concluded with a tour of the massive wind turbines which are on site. We parked within 100 metres of them and couldn't hear them until we opened the bus door. We expected a lot more noise than we heard. It was a great site to start our study of renewable energy sources and our class discussions on climate change.

Peter Clayden and Angela Hurman
Biology Teachers



OTHER NEWS

Students from The **Futures Program** preparing and presenting food to the Principal- Kylie Croke for Malkara's fund raising day on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd August. Students made Chocolate Caramel slice, Rocky Road, Apricot and Coconut slice, Mars Bar Slice and Strawberry Slice in their Food For Life class.



2015 School Satisfaction Surveys

The 2015 School Satisfaction Surveys will be conducted later this term. Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 to 12) will be asked to participate in these important surveys. The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation and best practice in ACT public schools. Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won't take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing a good job and areas for further development. A letter or email about the parent survey will be sent to you in August. The key ACT results from the 2014 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published on the Education and Training Directorate website (www.det.act.gov.au) and a summary of our school results is provided in our 2014 School Board Report.

Year 12 AST Training

There is AST training on Monday afternoon from 3.15-4.15pm for August 17th. If you are unsure about where to go please see the notices on the window in Student Services. This training will help you prepare for the tests in Week 7: 1st and 2nd September, which are compulsory for all Year 12 Tertiary students. If you have any queries please contact Hiria Reppion 6142 3329 – hiria.reppion@ed.act.edu.au – A116.

Year 12: And a reminder that the testing is in Week 7 for Year 12. Please ensure you read your pink booklet thoroughly to understand all requirements. See Hiria in A116 if you have not yet collected and signed for your pink book.

Year 11: You will have practise testing on Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 7.

Please listen to igroup notices for further details.



CAREERS NEWS

STUDENT SERVICES

Careers and Transitions

This term is particularly important for our year 12 students who should have made plans (and back-up plans) for next year either in terms of study or work.

To help facilitate this we are organising a series of excursions and events for all students. This has started this term with a compulsory trip to the CareerXpo. We are continuing this with our own Canberra College Careers Expo with a number of local organizations coming in on Monday 10th August to help our students make career plans. We also have selected services for students this term with guests coming in to speak about more specific career paths and opportunities:

ICT Apprenticeship Program talk

occurred on the 22nd July.

Melbourne UNI and UTS came to speak to those interested on Tuesday 28th July.

One on one interviews are occurring with those students specifically wishing to talk to a representative from UC, ANU, ACU and also CIT. Students can place their name on timetables in the careers office.

Courses running this term (as long as enough students enroll) include Responsible Service of Alcohol (27th August) and White Card (10th September).

Career interviews:

Students are reminded that they can book interviews with our career advisors here at Canberra College. Don't hesitate to contact the careers office (details above) and parents are welcome.

University Enrolment

Students wishing to enroll into university this year need to apply online. Universities in NSW and ACT enroll via the UAC website (www.uac.edu.au). Applications opened 5th August and close 30th September although university course

preferences can change right through to December. Those interested in Victorian universities enroll via VTAC and Queensland (QTAC). More detailed information will be provided to students at the UAC meeting and specific details for parents and students will be both emailed and handed to tertiary students when they receive their updated ATAR prediction from student services.

University Open Day.

For any student wishing to go to CIT or university it is advisable to attend open day which is coming up for ACT universities and CIT on 29th August 2015. This is a great chance to speak with students, lectures, advisors, look at the facilities and investigate the courses offered.

WEX Program:

During semester one, we had approximately 210 students attend Work Experience in various work places; these ranging from the Australian Ballet in Melbourne, ANU Astrophysics to the Canberra Hospital and many more exciting places. We encourage all college students to participate in this program to gain insight into the many exciting career pathways available. The next WEX week shall be the 30/11/15 – 7/12/15 (week 18)

Careers Team

Sonya Bell – WEX / ASBA Co-ordinator / Careers Advisor Ph.: 6142- 3330

Richard Johnston – Careers Advisor and Transitions Ph.: 6142 – 3317 or 6142- 3295

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It's the beginning of another busy term up in Student Services and we would love to welcome a new member of the team: Kim Thomas who will be joining us as the advisor responsible for surnames A – G. She will be taking over from Jaafar Tabandeh, who has left the college to take up an opportunity to teach overseas. Kim comes to us from Hawker College via a short stint as the school's TaCO.

One of the other things we are doing this term is conducting one-on-one ATAR interviews with our Year 12 students. This is an excellent opportunity to get some personalised advice from a member of the team; it's not just about the number! We also want to make sure that you know all about applying for post-college study and that you can make the most of your remaining time at college, so please book in if you haven't already!

If you are not intending to sit the AST, Student Services would still love to catch up and make sure that your package is under control, so please make sure that you respond to any SMS or email messages sent to you.

You may have read in the news that the topic of cyberbullying is being addressed from a Federal level. While we have a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of school IT, we are aware that this can still be an issue outside school hours. If you are concerned about any interactions, please visit the newly created website www.esafety.gov.au

As ever, please don't hesitate to contact Student Services. Or you could just pop in for a chat – we like that, too.

Kate on behalf of the team:

Anna – Admin Extraordinaire

Kim – A- G

Jo – H-O

Jason – P-Z

David – School Psych

ARTY BITS

Many of our Performing and Visual Arts students are representing Canberra College for Step into the Limelight.

Step into the Limelight, the Territory's creative and performing arts showcase event for public schools began in 2007 and has grown to become the largest youth Arts event in the ACT.

Some of our wonderful vocalists, musicians, dancers, choreographers, Film Makers, Artists and photographers are part of the Public Education extravaganza and showcase.

<http://www.det.act.gov.au/limelight> FOR TICKETING INFORMATION

ANU School of Art Gallery

Featuring Canberra College Artists and photographers

The exhibition runs until Saturday August 8. On display are over 400 artworks from 31 different school settings.

Canberra College is very well represented with 11 students art work selected to be included in the exhibition. The works, by students from pre-school to Year 12, present a variety of media including photography, sculpture, collage, painting, textiles, lino print and mixed media.

Film Festival

Palace Electric

The Media faculty would like to congratulate and invite all our community to support our two filmmakers in the Limelight festival at the Palace Cinema.

Date – Tuesday 19 August (evening)

Gala Showcase

Featuring Canberra college dancers, choreographers and vocalists

Location – AIS Arena, Bruce

Gala Showcase performances

Thursday 27 August – Show 7.00pm – 9.30pm

Friday 28 August – Show 7.00pm – 9.30pm

Canberra College Performing Arts Centre New Rig

Last month at CCPAC, our beloved state of the art centre got an upgrade. Three much needed Revpro lighting bars were installed above the stage by Reveal Productions from Victoria. The new lighting bars each have 24 plugs and a 300kg capacity to play with. We thank the Principal for this wonderful opportunity to bring our productions to a new level.



This is a quick note to explain your payment options.

1. Cash or EFTPOS transactions at the Front Office
2. Payment by credit card (Visa or Mastercard)
 - at the Front Office
 - over the phone, 61423288
3. On-line payments into the College bank account (BSB 032777 Account 001105)
 - please use the student's family key and what you are paying for, eg "SMITHQ Vol Cons" or "SMITHQ Psych excurs". An email to CanberraC.payments@ed.act.edu.au would be appreciated, especially if you need to provide more details about the payment.
4. Quickweb – a secure payment page hosted by Westpac where you can pay using Visa, Mastercard or a debit card. The payment page is accessed through the school's website as shown below.

For this method of payment you will need to know your unique "Student key" and "Family key". You may also need to know the fee code or ledger number of what you are paying for.

For any enquiries regarding payments please contact the Acting Finance Officer, Cheryl Gillett on 61423294.



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Transfer to Westpac's Quickweb payment system

You are now leaving the School website and being transferred to Westpac's Quickweb payment system to make a payment. Information you provide to Westpac will be used for the purposes of making a payment. All information other than card details will be provided back to the School in order to reconcile the payment against your account. All information you provide in this system will be subject to Westpac's privacy policy which you will find a link to on the Quickweb page. Click this link [Westpac's Quickweb payment system](#)

Canberra College's aim is to have a 100% electronic communication with parents. If you provide your email address to the front office staff we can assure that you will receive information through our newsletter and updates on other college events.

ATTENTION PARENT/CARER OF STUDENTS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

It is essential that the college maintains accurate and up to date information on all student medical conditions. If at any time the health care needs of your child change, please contact the front office on 6142 3288.

FRIDGE DOOR FOR PARENTS

Weeks 3-5	AST Predictor Interviews
Week 5 - 17 August	Year 12 tertiary AST Practice 3:15-4:15pm
Week 6 - 26 August	Student extended iGroup meetings
Week 6 - 27 August	RSA Course
Week 7 - 1&2 September	AST Test Sessions
Week 8 - 8 September	Information Evening for prospective parents 7-8pm
Week 8 - 10 September	White card training
Weeks 8-9 11-15 September	Test days
Week 10 - 22 September	Parent teacher interviews 6-8pm

Mathematics tutorials are available at Canberra College on Thursdays 12.50–2 pm. For more information please call the front office.

Student Injury: Insurance and Ambulance Transport

The ACT Education and Training Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

Regards

George Palavestra



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For further information about news and events please go to the [Canberra College website](http://www.canberra.edu.au)





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51 Fremantle Drive Stirling ACT 2611 P **6205 9194** F **6205 9239**

Email: ieu@act.gov.au <http://www.def.act.gov.au> | Telephone (612) **6205 9176** Facsimile (612) **6205 9239**

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Thursday, 5:00-7:00pm - Yr12 English Essentials
- Yr11 Math/Chemistry tutorial

Contact Michelle:
W: 6295 1113
MB: 0404 036 223
Email: canberrajac@home.com.au

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