Welcome Back To Another Exciting Year!
I hope that all College families were able to spend some quality time together over the holiday period and that Christmas and the New Year were great for all! Our students and staff have ‘hit the ground running’ after a great Step-Up Week at the end of 2017 and we look forward with enthusiasm to what should be a terrific year.

‘New’ College Staff
I am very excited to introduce our new College staff to the wider College community. From left to right we have Mr Rod McKinnon, Mr Tom Ferguson, Miss Tamika Colville, Mrs Sally Fleming and Mr James Rippingale. All new staff have made a tremendous impression and we very much look forward to what they will be able to offer the College and its students.

New Students
A huge welcome is extended to all new students who have started at East Loddon in 2018. Our Prep class consisting of Jimmy A, Penny B, Matilda E, Ruby G, Shania H, Jack H, Jake H, Charlotte L, Baxter L, Joseph M, Lylah R, Talia S, Neko S, Henry V, Ava W and Harvey W, have thoroughly impressed us with their start to the year. We are also very excited to welcome Aaron N into Year 2, Tyler R into Year 5 and both Brad A and Jye R into Year 7. In approx. 2 weeks’ time, the College will also welcome our German Exchange student Anna-Ilena A, who will join us for the remainder of Term 1.

Welcome back Jess!
As many of our College community members would remember, we farewelled two senior school students towards the end of 2017, who were both going on BJR German Exchanges. Chelsea H and Jessica D spent Christmas and the New Year in Germany with Jessica returning last week and Chelsea set to return within the next fortnight. I caught up with Jessica quickly this morning to ask her about the exchange and she spoke very highly of the experience. Jessica mentioned that she was so happy that she had participated in the exchange because she had now done something that she never thought that she would have the confidence to do. Being immersed in another family and culture was eye-opening and a tremendous learning experience. The greatest part of the exchange for Jessica was the week spent in Switzerland skiing with her exchange family.
Respect - Resilience - Responsibility - Relationships

Australia Day Award Recipients
There are far too many to mention by name, however I would like to congratulate the large contingent of College students and community members who received awards at recent Australia Day celebrations. This is a tremendous honour of which they all should be very proud of.

I hope you have a great week!
Steven Leed
College Principal

Assistant Principal’s News
Welcome back to what promises to be another action packed year at East Loddon. If you missed what went on in the holidays, Jess D and Chelsea H have both been in Germany on exchange, Katie B and Emily A also spent our summer in winter, travelling to the USA and Canada and 2017 Year 12 student Maddie W, was announced junior citizen of the year for the Loddon Shire. It’s been a big 12 months for that family!

I hope that everyone has recharged their batteries over the break. I must admit, I felt a bit uneasy about getting in the car on the first day. My aerial still has Christmas decorations, I can’t let go. In a week or so I will be back in the swing of things. Please don’t bring me any problems until then though. In fact, if you have any concerns, please pass them straight to Mr Leed.

Like clockwork, as soon as we returned to school the weather turned cooler. Such is the magic and mystery of the great swimming pool gods, who know that when you don’t have access to a pool it should be 47° and when it’s swimming program time, it should be freezing. Our swimming program begins next week and the good news is ‘the pool at Mitiamo is now Solar heated’. Now I’m not sure if that means a ‘high tech solar set up’ to heat water that pumps in to the pool or just; if the sun is out, the pool is hot? We will wait and see. Thanks so much to our wonderful parents who have volunteered to help at the pool. If you are still available to help, but yet to return your form, we could probably do with some more helpers in sessions 1 and 2. This is with Year 2 and 4 or Years 6 and 3. Just let us know tomorrow!

The swim program culminates with our P-12 carnival on the 16th of Feb. Lock that day in, the more the merrier.

Scott Wilkinson.
Assistant Principal
**LOCAL FARMERS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT OUR AGRICULTURE STUDENTS!**

The good news is, we’ve had an influx of students at East Loddon College interested in **Agricultural studies** and are looking for a Work Placement on a local farm once a week for a term. This is a great sign for our local community that we have young people passionate about agriculture, however, we are searching for people working on farms who might be willing to help out!

Students studying the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) are strongly encouraged to undertake a Structured Work Placement (SWP) at a different business each term or semester over the course of a year. This means, for each student, we’re seeking up to FOUR different farms where they can gain valuable work skills.

If you are in a position to assist our students with this, or if you would simply like more information, please get in touch with me directly at the College.

Any help in supporting our budding agricultural workers is extremely valued and appreciated!

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Sarah Pilkington
Careers Co-Ordinator
pilkington.sarah.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
5436 8300

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**Guitar or Vocal Lessons in 2018**

Parents/guardians of students who wish to enrol for guitar or vocal lessons in 2018 are asked to complete the permission slip and enclose $25 for the tuition for the year. This cost covers essential materials such as instrument servicing and instructional materials. Participating students will attend instrumental lessons in small groups on a rotational timetable to ensure that they do not miss the same class each week. Limited spaces available. Current students (provided they return their permission form before the end of the year) will have preference over new students. For more information, please email harrington.chelsea.l@edumail.vic.gov.au or contact the school.

Miss Harrington
Music (guitar or Vocal )Permission

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**WELCOME**

This week we welcomed our Prep students to the P-4 Sub-school. It has been remarkable how fast they have settled in. We also welcome a new Year 2 student, Aaron, to our College. This year Miss Colville (Lara PS) and Mr Kidman joined our Teaching and Learning Team. We have already had early discussions about setting up Professional Learning Communities in Literacy and Numeracy to collect and assess student data, monitor and discuss individual and class progress, share strategies and resources, and determine progress made as a result of Team monitoring and collegial support.

We also welcome new parents and caregivers, you have an essential role to play in maximising learning outcomes for your child. We will make every endeavour to keep you informed about how best you can support your child.

To our parents of our Years 1 to 4 students, we would like to acknowledge the tremendous effort you have already put in and trust that we will continue our very successful partnership, which has proven so beneficial. Please feel free to maintain regular contact with your child’s teachers through personal visits, emails, phone calls or Class Dojo.

**You Can Do It! Awards**

Our first area of focus is Getting Along. It is essential that students develop social skills to foster positive interaction. Knowing boundaries is another important area. Students who consistently challenge rules waste valuable learning opportunities and increasingly fall behind their peers.

**Literacy Hint**

Each student is set 250 Nights of Reading as a personal learning goal. This can be easily achieved through regular reading habits. Reading every day sends a clear message to your child that the family values reading. Remember that it is also important to read to your child so that they develop vocabulary and an awareness and ability to use book language. Spending the time with your child reading when they are young will pay incredible dividends in relation to future learning and get them off to a good start in relation to the education.

**Prep Letter in Focus**

Our Preps start off with a quick introduction to letter sounds before beginning a concerted focus. This week the letters are: Bb (Bouncing Balls), KK (Crazy kites) and Dd (Ducks dive down). Please take the opportunity to practise these with your child.
**Prep Words To Fluency**

The focus words this week are: ‘I’ and ‘like’.

**Prep Entry Testing**

Our testing for Preps starts this coming Wednesday and will continue until early March. Mrs Lister is sending home appointment times for individual children. This testing is mandated by the Government and provides the Prep teacher with key information for individual goal setting and instruction.

**Swimming Program**

You are reminded that our swimming program commences this coming Monday. We have eight sessions at the pool, excluding Wednesdays. Our sports take place on Friday the 16th February. Students who attend Session 2 will have a split lunch, having half prior to leaving and the other half upon returning. Please keep this in mind when preparing lunches. We are still looking for volunteers so that we can keep groups as small as possible, please consider contributing an hour or so, on a least one day. We are appreciative of any support we can get.

**Sand Play**

We currently have a sandpit but no beach type toys to make it interesting for the children. If you have some plastic buckets, spades etc. that you no longer require, our students would be most grateful.

Peter Vernon  
P-4 Co-ordinator  
(On behalf of the P-4 Teaching and Learning Team)
Middle Years Sub-School

Middle Years Subschool Welcome—Mr Cameron

A big welcome back to school to all our Middle Years student, especially our new Year 5’s who we’ve welcomed into the sub school. From spending some time in each class it is obvious that all students have come back refreshed from their holiday and have got straight down to work in their various classes. We welcome a few new staff to East Loddon P-12, most notably Mr Tom Ferguson, our Year 5 teacher, Mrs Sally Fleming, teaching Year 7 English and Humanities and Mr McKinnon and Mr Rippingale, both of whom are teaching technology in 2018.

All students are required to have a school diary that they bring to each class. If your child does not have one yet, please purchase one from the school office.

We will again be using Bloomz to communicate regularly with parents. If you joined last year you will still be included in your child’s page. Year 5 and other new parents will have received a letter explaining Bloomz.

Please contact myself or your child’s teacher if you have any questions about your child’s education.

Bloomz Weekly Snapshot

Year 5—8 classes getting started in 2018.

Middle Years Captains Report

Welcome back, what a great first week it has been. We welcome the Year 5’s into the Middle Years sub school and wish them all the best. On Friday we have our SRC nominations and elections and next week we start swimming practice at the Mitiamo pool. Also the Year 7’s have their Rubicon camp coming up in the following weeks. Have a good weekend.

Alicia and Levi

Important Dates:
Friday 16th Feb—P-12 Swimming Sports
Mon 19th —Fri 23rd Feb —Year 7 Rubicon Camp
As your Parents Association President for this year, please feel free to contact me, on the phone no’s listed below, with regards to any issues or concerns you may have about our East Loddon P-12 College and I’ll do my best to help you. Please leave a message if I don’t answer and your call will be returned. We also have a closed group Parents Association Facebook Page, restricted to parents and primary carers of current students (currently 114 members), and if you have any questions at all; i.e. what time does a school event start, is it casual dress day, what do I need to bring etc, etc, etc, please ask. Chances are, if you don’t know, there might be others who don’t know too!! It is all about communication and inclusion and one of the best things about our school is that parents are very happy to be involved, to share information and are a very important part of our school culture. Thanks so much Everyone.

P.A. Committee Positions for 2018

Leanne Welsh  President  03 5436 6281 or 0447 689 309  welsh600@gmail.com
Natalie Rose  Vice President & School Council Representative  0407 848 236  rose.natalie.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
Kathy Lewis  Treasurer  via school 03 5436 8300
Kaeler Grigg  Secretary  0448 632 780  kaelergrigg@hotmail.com
Hannah Tweed  Fundraising  0419 468 660  hmtweed.5@gmail.com
Rebecca Cullen  Uniform  0400 909 751  cullendr@bigpond.com

Special thanks to everyone for agreeing to continue in their roles on the Committee and a huge welcome to Rebecca Cullen as Uniform Coordinator this year, taking on the role from Tania Twigg. Thanks so much Tania, for all your hard work – you’ve done an amazing job and are a real trooper.

I’m honoured to be President again and really look forward to another great year in an amazing school, working as part of a great team.

Our next Parent’s Association Meeting will be early March at the East Loddon Community Centre. Any items for discussion, please include in the agenda beforehand, by contacting myself (as above) or Kaeler on 0448 632 780 or by email to kaeler-grigg@hotmail.com We value your input and you are very welcome to come along.

Thanks again - Leanne Welsh - President
Senior School News

Congrats to Maddy W
Former Year 12 student Maddy W has received the Loddon Shire Young Citizen of the Year award. After seeing her genuine love, care and time devoted to community clubs and events, such as Kids Friday Club, Mitiamo FNC, our College community and more, I knew she would make a suitable applicant and award winner. Congrats Maddy, I’m so proud of you! She follows in the footsteps of some of other great former students eg Lachy Twigg, Emma Leech, Crystal Shaw-Beck, and Julia Twigg.

Year 11 & 12 Handbook
During Home Group Assembly tomorrow Year 11 & 12 students will have an opportunity to review the Year 11 & 12 Handbook. There is information outlined within the booklet relating to students requirements, expectations around medical / illness and other absence and a range of Dept or VCAA student requirements. Please ensure that you discuss this booklet with your son/daughter. It is really important that they understand their responsibilities. The booklet also outlines various supports within the school and general information about VCE or VCAL. The handbook will also be available on our school website.

Year 12 VCE Edrolo access
Students in Year 12 VCE classes will have the opportunity to utilise Edrolo. It is a study resource that we trialled for free in Term 4 this year. Students and staff provided feedback and we are now looking at using the resource for 2018 for the entire year. The cost of the program for 2018 will be covered by the materials and consumables levy. All Edrolo content is designed and produced by experienced, Australian teachers. All material covers each dot point in the relevant study design. The video lessons contain interactive questions, allow students the opportunity to revise and revisit particular topics. The edrolo resource is a great tool to supplement class work and revision for students.

North Central Cluster VET program: Charlton
12 students from our College have enrolled to study VET subjects at Charlton College this year through the North Central Cluster Network. It is a really exciting opportunity which these students and myself have been planning since August last year. Our students have enrolled to study a range of subjects such as, Automotive, Beauty, Hairdressing, Allied Health and Agriculture. Today is their first day, they will travel across to Charlton each Thursday until Nov 22nd.

Year 12 t-shirts and hoodies
Tomorrow (Friday 2nd of Feb) is the last day students can confirm if they are purchasing a Year 12 t-shirt or hoodie. Please sign up in the Year 12 room.

Thanks for your time,
Sarah Byrne
Senior School Leader
Wellbeing Report

IT’S EXCITING TO BE BACK!

Welcome back to what is looking like is another fantastic year ahead. ‘Back to School’ brings with it all of the wonderful things like new books, pencils and sometimes even uniforms.

Another thing to consider is school lunches and we are always looking for ideas on how best to pack a nutritious lunch for school. This year the Heart Foundation is promoting the ‘Upack the Salt’ campaign, which encourages a closer look at how much invisible salt can found in our kids’ food. The Heart Foundation says that new research reveals that the humble ham and cheese sandwich can deliver schoolkids more than half their entire recommended daily allowance of salt! For more information and tips on how to reduce the salt in your child’s lunchbox, go to the Heart Foundation’s #upack the salt.

The Wellbeing Team consists of Student Wellbeing Support Co-ordinator Wendy Twigg, Chaplain Sue Allen and School Nurse Denise Leed.

Parents are always welcome to contact the above staff if they have any concerns or would like more information about wellbeing matters.
# Canteen News

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<td>Tuesday 13th</td>
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