MERRY CHRISTMAS!

As the school year comes to an end, we also farewell a number of students and teachers and wish them the best in their respective new ventures. In the High School, Paul Bongiovanni is heading overseas, with the drama teaching picked up by Simon Oats; Danni, who has been looking after Class 8 during Woody’s long service leave, will also be leaving us in that capacity; and in the High School we’ll soon welcome Patricia Zwierlein as an additional Maths and Science teacher.

In the Class Teacher period, Angela Fischer, who has been our teacher of German in the younger years, will be spending more time with her grandchildren. German in classes 1-4 will be held by Martina Kuhse (who also teaches German at Dandenong Ranges), whilst Class 5 German will be taught by Cath Curwood who looks forward to the opportunity to resume German teaching in addition to Class teaching. Classes 6-12 will continue to be held by Lea Buchel. Andrew Dowie is taking a year’s leave to complete some work he has long intended completing, his role carried in part by Woody Clark (who was originally here as one of our camps teachers) and another teacher decided upon but yet to be announced. As well, Rachel Blake will be on long service leave.

I very much look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year, and wish, on behalf of the school, each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a most delightful new year!

OFFICE HOURS OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK

Leading up to Christmas, the Office will be open 9am - 3pm Monday and Tuesday, and 9am - 12pm on Wednesday. We will open in the New Year on Monday January 16th.

FEES

Please note that accounts should now be finalised. Please pop into or phone the office to make payments. There is also the option of making a direct payment via the internet (National Australia Bank: BSB 083 125, account number 69 162 2684). Thank you for your attention to this matter.

From Calendar of the Soul by Rudolf Steiner

Verse 10
Nearer the peak of his midsummer heights
the climbing sun uprears his blazing head;
his takes along with him my human heart
into the boundlessness of space;
depth down and dimly I am made aware
that one day I shall know:
‘But now a godlike being felt you there.’
DON’T PANIC – THERE IS NO NEW CHARGE - Jim

Some people were alarmed by the changes to the fees for 2012. No, we have not introduced anything new. The Capital Levy has been a part of the fees and charges for very many years. All we have done is make it an annual charge instead of part of the fees for each term. The whole Capital Levy for the year will now be included on the first term fee notice. But, you can still pay it in four installments over the year. This is exactly what has happened this year.

Some people apparently thought this was a new charge in order to pay for the recent buildings. Nothing could be further from the truth. Yes, the Capital Levy is used to pay down loans raised for buildings. But, while the school has paid for roughly half the cost of its buildings in the past, with the other half coming through government grants, this was not the case with the Language Building or the Gymnasium. For the recent round of building, the school (and ultimately you the parents through the capital levy) is only paying one dollar for every eight dollars of capital expenditure. I’m sorry for any confusion that has been caused.

LAST FEW reKINDle DVDS - Woody

Late last term we organised a DVD of the reKINDle project and show. There are just a few left and they would make a nice Christmas present! See Barry in the office to secure a copy for $15.

CHRISTMAS PRESENT IDEAS - Barry

In the office foyer are a range of great gift ideas created by students as part of their Class projects. “Fire & Ash”, a DVD written, filmed and created by Reyjah Simpson-Roberts for his Class 12 project; “The Philosophy of Religion, Does God Exist?” a book written by Stephanie Meede for her Class 12 project; “Aryana” was written by Josh Little for his project last year; and for her Class 8 project earlier this year, Mikayla Branch-Spence wrote her novel “Fyregirl”. Class One parents have also made a 2012 Calendar featuring the artwork of students which looks simply beautiful and then there are copies of the wonderful music created at Little Yarra featuring the Little Yarra Ensemble and the reKINDle project.

Prices are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire &amp; Ash</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does God Exist</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aryana</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fyregirl</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class 1 Calendar</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Yarra Ensemble</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasons of a Journey</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reKINDle CD</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reKINDle DVD</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please visit the office foyer to purchase any of these amazing works by our Little Yarra students.

CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER - Maria

Hi everybody, please be advised that we have a different phone number. Pieter, Emma-Jelske, Rebecca-Baukje, Katinka-Sietske de Boer and Maria Brouwers can now be reached on 9736-1996. The number 9736 1606 remains the number of Healing Views Practise for Homeopathy and Reiki. Please amend your phone directories accordingly.

COMMUNITY SPACE - Corey

There will be much happening over the holidays in the space that is to become the Community Space. If you would like to become involved, please give me a call: Corey 0405 223 940. Some of the jobs include: building a fence, setting up a sandpit, putting in garden beds. Thank you and enjoy the holidays.

EXTRA CURRICULAR MUSIC PROGRAM (ECMP) CLASSES 6-9 2012 - Tim Blake

We are currently taking expressions of interest for 2012’s LYE and extra curricular music program. This is available for students from classes 6–9 in 2012. The ECMP provides opportunities for the students to experience a variety of music styles and develop ensemble skills in a supportive and enjoyable environment.

All sessions take place outside class time. Fees for 2011 were $60 per term; this may increase slightly in 2012. One of the core elements of the ECMP is regular touring opportunities for the students, we are currently investigating the possibility of a tour for 2012, if this does eventuate it will incur an additional fee, the amount will depend on the length and distance of the tour. You can pick up an expression of interest form from Julie in the music office on Tuesday or Wednesday of next week or email the music department to indicate your interest at music@lyss.vic.edu.au.

PIZZAS - emma

The wood fired pizza team would like to thank Sheila Mithen for her on going support and rolling power over the past 3 years. Sadly she will be leaving the team at the end of this year - she is leaving the school community, and we wish her and Zinnia the best for the future. We wish Zinnia luck for next year at her new school. I would also like to thank Rachel Ritchie & Amy Bliss for their wonderful help this year. Without all of these people pizza Fridays would not be able to operate.

Next year pizzas will be back, but we have a couple of places to fill, so anyone interested in joining a fun rewarding day of pizza making, please contact emma on 5967638 or email stevejacobson@netspace.net.au over the Christmas break. No skills required, just some enthusiasm to learn pizza making.
JAZZ ALBUM FROM CLASS 9 AND 10 STUDENTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESALE - Tim Blake

Angus Radley (bass) and Max Missingham (drums) have been creating a superb jazz and contemporary album under the guidance and inspiration of their teacher/mentor Hue Blanes (piano and vocals). The boys have been in the studio this week and have recorded about an hour of exceptional original material. This is the culmination of a year long project based around weekly-extended rehearsals of the jazz trio, regular performances in professional situations and now the album.

Max and Angus will be leaving us next year as they have both been accepted into the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, a great honour for any young musician. The boys have added significantly to the creative life of the school in the years they have spent here and we wish them the very best in their future musical endeavours. If you would like to support them you could purchase a presale copy of the yet to be named album. They are available for $20 by contacting David Missingham on 5966 5559. This will assist in the costs of producing the album. The finished product will be available at the start of the 2012 school year.

CLASS 5 GREEK OLYMPICS - Glenn

Class 5 students, together with Gillian, Frank, Larissa and myself attended an amazing event. The inaugural “Greek Olympics”. On Thursday the 1st of December we joined Sophia Mundi Steiner School, Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School, Dandenong Ranges Steiner School, Castlemaine Steiner School, Freshwater Creek Steiner School and Ballarat Steiner School. All up, around 120 Class 5 children! The event seemed all the more professional being at a dedicated athletics track in Clifton Hill. We dressed up, carried the flame, ate Greek fare and had a fun day.

Special thanks to Andrew ‘Hermes’ Banks who led the coordination and to Gillian, Frank, Larissa and the students. Oh and Zeus of course. Below are some photos and comments from our students.

“I loved the wrestling, using strategies, not just strength.” “I enjoyed yelling out the Ode to Zeus in the opening ceremony.” “The wooden chariot races were the best.” “I loved seeing friends who I haven’t seen in ages.” “It was great watching the champion events.” “I enjoyed cheering people on.” “The sprints and marathon were my favourite.” “One highlight was meeting other Class 5 kids from other Steiner schools and making new friends.”