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DATES TO REMEMBER

Primary School Information Evening (7.00pm Primary Classrooms)	15th Feb
Year 7 Parent Welcome Evening (7.00pm PAC)	21 Feb
Top 5 Awards Assembly	22 Feb
Secondary House Swimming (Noble Park Aquatic Centre)	24th Feb
Year 3/6 Athletics Casey Fields	27 Feb
VCE Information Evening (7.00pm PAC)	28th Feb

24 HR ABSENTEE LINE

Please ring 5991 0801 (not the school's main number) to alert the school of a child's absence

From the Principal



May I extend a very warm welcome to our school community to our new students and their families. We welcome our fifty new Foundation students and new students through the various year levels in the school.

We also welcome a number of new staff – three of our new teachers have taught here previously and have returned. We welcome Mrs Jessica Burns (Primary ICT), Miss Tegan West (English, Humanities), Ms Cathy Marchmont (Humanities and Humanities Coordinator), Mrs Helen Lacey (Maths, IT), Mr Peter Tutera (Maths, Science) and Mrs Nadine Muresan (Visual Arts, PE). Miss Katherine Minne returns from a year's leave of absence and we also welcome Mrs Jennifer Casey who will be working as a Learning Assistant in the secondary school.

We are thrilled to have a Chaplain again at Casey Grammar this year. Mrs Monique Riviere-Pendle joins us, and has already begun her important role in our school community. She will be teaching RE as well her chaplaincy role, and she is available to parents and their families when they need support.

This week we have the Primary parent information evening. It is vital that the communication between parents and the school is always open, and that the expectations of our students are understood and supported by the students and their parents. We also commission our student leaders in both the primary and secondary schools this week.

The school is rolling out a new Learning Management System for students, teachers and parents. Our LMS is called SEQTA and for Years 5 and 6 and all secondary students roll marking, course documentation, ongoing student assessment, homework and end of semester reporting will be via SEQTA.

I would like to congratulate our Dux of the school for 2016 – Tiana Zimmermann achieved an ATAR of 97.55, a reward for her hard work during not only the course of Year 12 but also the foundations laid by hard work throughout her years of schooling. I trust all of our students in 2017 will work hard to achieve the best they possibly can, that they will learn many new things and above all enjoy their school year.

Margaret Buttigieg - Principal

SEQTA - Casey Grammar School's new learning management system.



Engage

Casey Grammar School will be rolling out a new Learning Management System for the parents of Grades 5 and 6 and Secondary School students on Tuesday 21 February 2017.

To access your new parent portal, click on the SEQTA Engage icon found at the bottom of the school's website homepage or from the school's intranet homepage. Alternatively you may click the following link.

<https://engage.caseygrammar.vic.edu.au> or type it directly into your browser.

Please note that some features found on the parent portal may not be supported by older versions of Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Your username and password will be the same as the credentials used to access the school's other portals and online resources. Please contact the IT department if you have any problems logging on or if you have forgotten your username and password.

School Fees

Term 1 Fees - Now due

Annual Fees - Now due

Monthly Fees - Due the 28th of each month from January to November.



Contacting the School

If parents have a concern about their child's learning or for any pastoral matters, the school has processes and people in place to address your concerns.

For primary students, the classroom teacher is of course your main contact. If the concern is more serious, the teacher may involve the Coordinator.

The primary Coordinators for 2017 are:

- Mrs. Leanne Evans** Prep-Year 2
- Mr. Shane Bell** Years 3-4
- Mr. Greg Newham** Years 5-6

For any concerns you may wish to discuss further, Mrs Melissa Robertson is the Head of the Primary School and you are very welcome to make an appointment to see her.

In the Secondary School your student's Pastoral Care mentor is the person to contact in the first instance. They may then involve subject teachers or Year Level Coordinators depending on the issue.

The Secondary Year Level Coordinators for 2017 are:

- Mrs. Kate Morgan** (Year 7)
- Mrs. Beatriz Christensen** (Year 8)
- Mr. Aaron Bushell** (Year 9)
- Mrs. Anita Rinkel** (Year 10)
- Mrs. Rachael Gilbert** (Year 11)
- Mrs. Deborah Taylor** (Year 12)

Ms. Mary Dourios is the Head of Pastoral Care and will become involved if there are more serious social or behavioural issues.

Lunch Ordering



Casey Grammar School's canteen supplier, Basil's Mobile Catering Service, has introduced an online ordering system for school lunch orders through Flexischools.

Please note that written lunch orders

are no longer being accepted.

To set up an online ordering account please follow the steps in the link to our website below.

<http://www.caseygrammar.vic.edu.au/?q=flexischools>

Health News from the Nurse



Please advise the school nurse of any health concerns you have for your child.

The start of year is a perfect time to see your doctor to discuss your Asthma requirements and update your plan.

You can obtain a new plan [from our website](#).

All medications, to be given at school, require a signed form. You can obtain this from our website.

You may fill out a form if you think your child will require Panadol or Nurofen.

The Year 7 Vaccination dates are as follows :

- February 20th HPV 1st dose
- April 28th HPV 2nd dose and Boostrix
- August 25th HPV 3rd dose and Chicken Pox

You can contact Kerrin (School nurse) on Ph. 59910818 should you have any concerns.

Kerrin Laws - School Nurse

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF)



Dear Parents,

CSEF is a new state Government initiative to assist eligible families to help 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. The allowance will be paid directly 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 will be: \$125 for primary school students or \$225 for secondary school students.

Eligible families will need to apply through the school by completing the [CSEF Application form on the school website](#) and returning the form, together with a copy of a valid concession card, to the school by 30th April 2017.

Further information is provided at

www.education.vic.gov.au/csef.





From the school captains - Welcome to 2017 at Casey



We hope that everyone's holiday break was relaxing but adventurous, and that these first couple of weeks of school have been enjoyable, kicking off a great start to the school year.

Firstly, to introduce ourselves, we are Amber and Brad, Casey's 2017 School Captains. Apart from being somewhat nervous about our new roles we are extremely excited to push ourselves in leadership this year. We both hope to be supporting and involved in many activities at school and helping to encourage our peers throughout their personal endeavours.

As Captains we are also keen to implement our ideas and the ideas of other students that will provide a fun and productive environment for all at Casey Grammar.

To our new Year 7's as they venture into high school we would like to offer a warm welcome and wish them the best in the next stage of their schooling journey. We hope that you find Casey Grammar to be a supportive environment where you can achieve your best, in whatever way you choose. We would also like to extend this welcome to all the new students and staff joining our school community.

Our fellow classmates, the Year 12's of 2017, are beginning their final year of schooling at Casey. This will be a very exciting year for us, full of many hours of studying and memorable moments such as the Formal and Valedictory Dinner. We wish everyone the best in their studies and hope that we can all work to encourage one another throughout the year.

As part of our leadership role we are also looking forward to working with:



Karla B
Sports Captain



Brittany P
Music Captain



Katherine M
Drama Captain



Gemma K
Art Captain



Jordyn W
Year 12 Leader



Harmony T
Year 12 Leader



Bailey M
Year 12 Leader



Daniel F
Year 12 Leader



Maddy G
Year 11 Leader



Jack M
Year 11 Leader



Rowan D
Year 11 Leader



Isabella T
Year 11 Leader

We hope this year proves to be one full of friendships, achievement, and fun. Enjoy the new year at Casey Grammar !

Amber O & Brad H - School Captains



The Student Leadership Team for 2017 WANTS YOU !

Student Leadership nominations are now being sought for Years 7 -10

Please collect a nomination form from either Ms. Dourios in the Year 7 Centre or Ms. Harris upstairs in the VCE Centre.

Be part of the dynamic team of students at CGS and help make our school the best place to be. Forms must be handed in ASAP.

School Production 2017 - Annie



In 2017 Casey Grammar will be staging the school musical 'Annie'. Auditions for the show will take

place next week Monday 13th – Wednesday 15th. Students from Year 6 – 12 are invited to take part.

An information meeting was held last week, however, if any student missed out they still have time to sign up!

Should students wish to audition for a role, sign-up sheets are located outside the Drama room on the noticeboard. They should collect relevant show and character material and prepare for their audition. If students wish to be a part of the chorus, they should sign up on the chorus sheet also located outside the Drama room.

Rehearsals take place on a Wednesday afternoon after school and the show will be staged in June. Students should visit one of the performing arts teachers for further information.

Natalie Burns - Drama Coordinator

PFC News

The PFC will be having our first meeting on Monday 13th February 2017 at 6:30pm. We will be discussing our events for 2017. If you are interested in joining, please call Bharti Green on 0419184245.

For second hand uniforms please refer to the sustainable schools website. Information can be found on the school's website at :

<http://www.caseygrammar.vic.edu.au/?q=sustainable-school-shop>

Please note there is no longer an actual Second Hand Uniform Shop. All sales are by arrangement only.

Pam Foley



From the School Chaplain

The year has already brought a range of new beginnings both locally and internationally, from a new President, to the launch of the AFLW. On a personal level, for many of our students (and indeed staff), 2017 has brought both exciting and challenging changes to their lives. This was particularly so last Wednesday as students arrived for their first day of the academic year.

Commencing at a new school is always a little daunting, regardless of who we are. A week in and what was unfamiliar is slowly becoming familiar, names and faces beginning to join together more permanently and the initial nerves are easing. In that time, I have realized how fortunate I am to start a new chapter of my life in this school. It has proven to be a kind and welcoming place, for which I am very grateful. Both staff and students have been friendly, introducing themselves and allowing me to start to find my place within the school life.

The position of Chaplain is not one I take lightly and I treasure the opportunity to be a part of this community. Many of your children, particularly those in the Primary School, have introduced themselves as I have walked through the playground, something that has already been a highlight.

Over the coming weeks, many of you will attend Information Evenings. Please introduce yourself to me, and know that I am here to walk alongside the students of Casey Grammar regardless of their faith, tradition or beliefs. Should you wish to contact me, my email address is

M.Riviere-Pendle@caseygrammar.vic.edu.au.

Monique Riviere - Pendle

Motivating Children

At the start of the year children are often "hungover" from the late nights, sleep-ins and passive activity during the vacation. Motivating children to be organised in their schooling, fit and active, early to bed and so on is really important.

You're the best role model your child can have. Start early -- kids start to mimic their parents while they're still babies. Resist the urge to bribe your child to cooperate -- that teaches unhealthy habits.

Instead of bribing your child with video game time or a movie (or anything where they are sedentary), make active time together a reward. Go mini-golfing. Take a bike ride together. Or let your child plan the whole day. Children crave your attention -- especially if they have to share time with siblings. Never underestimate how much one-on-one attention means to your kids -- even your teen.

Making sweets or junk food a prize teaches your kids to use food to fix their feelings. Learning to use food for comfort can set them up for an unhealthy relationship with food. According to one study, adults who were rewarded and punished with food as kids were more likely to binge eat and diet.

Withholding treats because of misbehaviour -- "No, ice cream for you!" -- isn't good either. The forbidden food becomes more attractive.

Children need praise. If you want to motivate them, focus on their *effort* more than the end result. When your child shows you a picture he made, don't just say it's great. Praise your child for how hard he worked on it. Note specific details.

When you're telling your child to do something, or disciplining him, stay calm. This is a chance to role model healthy emotional management. Kids can learn how to manage their emotions by watching you. Be concise and clear.

- Tell him what he has to do.
- Tell her by when she needs to do it.
- Explain the consequences for not following through.
- Stick to your agreement and don't allow negotiation.

No matter what habit you're trying to instil, children look up to other people. Use that to your advantage when you're trying to get them to move more. On another matter I commend the ABC Channel 2 program, "Ice Wars" being shown on Tuesday nights at 8.30. The first episode from 7 February can be found online. Episode 2 is Tuesday 14 February. I think it is vital for all parents and children to be aware of this scourge.

Alan Clarke - School Psychologist

Library News



Welcome back to the new school year. The library will be open every day at lunch, as well as before and after school for students to read, borrow and complete homework.

Students can ask Mrs Horton, Miss Birch and Ms Mueller if they need help to access their Borrow Box account for audio and e-books.

This term we are celebrating books that have been adapted to film. Look for the display in the main corridor. In the secondary library Miss Birch has been compiling a list of books that have been banned in the past.

The list includes Captain Underpants and Diary of a Wimpy Kid! You will need to borrow and read them to know what all the fuss is about! Look for the display near the secondary door.

The first Scholastic Book Club has gone home to primary classes. Please return your completed order form by 15 February. Look out for a great offer on Roald Dahl books from the Herald Sun this month; 14 titles are available.

Mandy Horton—Library Manager