It was a pleasure to attend the End of Year Music Concert last Tuesday evening in the Performing Arts Centre. The ensembles, choirs, and bands entertained the audience with high quality music, and the finale was fantastic. I have always promoted the virtues and benefits of music – the skills, knowledge and enjoyment of performing and listening to music are well researched and documented. I would like to thank the Music Department for their work throughout 2015, and also to thank the parents who support their children in allowing them to have music lessons and participate in a variety of performance opportunities.

During these past few weeks the students from Prep to Year 8 have been participating in swimming programs. This is of course another important skill for everyone in our Australian climate and society, and a good way to exercise. I would like to thank the primary class teachers and the PE staff who have organised and managed these programs, and the parents who have volunteered to help.

I would like to inform the school community that Mr Travis Hopgood will be leaving Casey Grammar at the end of the year. Travis has given very committed service to the school for the past seventeen years, for many years as a teacher of Outdoor Education and PE, as well as of junior Science and Maths, and in recent years as the Head of Pastoral Care. I know that Travis has worked closely and effectively with many students and their families, and we will miss him. I will miss him as a member of the Academic Management Team. Travis will be taking up a position at Brighton Grammar, and we wish him well with his ongoing career development.

Margaret Buttigieg

END OF YEAR CONCERT - Simon Chiodo & Bronwyn Kine

On Tuesday evening the Music Department held our End Of Year Concert. It was a wonderful evening of entertainment with over 120 students from Years 3 to 12 performing. The Program showcased pieces from Casey Grammar School’s Training Band, Concert Band, Rock Band, Guitar and Clarinet Ensembles, Vocal Ensembles, Year 3 / 4 Instrumental Ensemble as well as selected solo performances. With the Performing Arts Centre nearly full to capacity with so many supportive parents, teachers, family and friends, the evening concluded with our highly anticipated Finale item ‘Uptown Funk’. All the students involved did such an outstanding job and should be very proud of their performances.
**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**

Uniform Shop hours are:
Mondays 3.00 pm to 5.30pm
Thursdays 8.30 am to 10.30am

**SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE**

Casey Grammar is helping the Salvation Army to create hampers for people in need this Christmas. To do this however, we need help from you! All you need to do is bring along a donation, in the form of food or a gift.

Food items need to be non-perishable foods such as:
- Christmas cakes and puddings
- Canned foods
- Instant coffee
- Sauce, chutney and relish
- Dry foods like rice, spaghetti etc.

You may also wish to bring in non-food items such as:
- Bonbons, serviettes, decorations
- Toys and other gifts

Each class will have a basket for donations, which will be collected on Wednesday 2 December. These donations will go towards making someone else’s Christmas even more special. An award will be given to the primary class with the most donations.

Thank you for joining in on the ‘Christmas Spirit’!

Year 6 Student Leadership Team

**YEAR 12 STUDENTS’ FINAL WEEKS**

I would like to commend the Year 12 students for the way they have conducted themselves in the last few weeks. From the final official days of school through to the exams the students have epitomised the values Casey Grammar School stands for.

The celebration day was excellent for all students and staff members involved. The Year 12 students were on-the-go from early in the morning until late at night. They took part in the final Year 12 assembly, go-karting and paintball and finally the wonderful Valedictory dinner. I would like to thank everyone who assisted in making this day the success it was.

Students have nearly finished exams, (last one on Tuesday), and I hope they get much needed rest and relaxation. I wish the students the best of luck for their future and hope they achieve the ATAR score they desire and deserve.

Ian Van Schie
VCE Coordinator

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

On 29 and 30 October the Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh class participated in their first camp.

The first day we hiked the Bass Coast Rail Trail where my group managed to hike 40km. We started in Anderson, went to Wonthaggi, back to Anderson and lastly back to Kilcunda where we stayed the night at the caravan park.

Day two we hiked the George Bass Coastal walk; this was 8km of hills, sand and different types of terrain and was very picturesque.

We were very lucky over the 2 days as the weather was amazing; the sun was shining and there was hardly any wind which made great conditions for hiking.

The thing that I found challenging over the camp was having to mentally push through the pain barrier and thinking to myself that I can finish this walk to the end.

What I enjoyed the most was being in my group, having conversations and a laugh along the walk.

We have all grown closer together from this walk and become stronger friends as we now know a lot more about each other.

Thanks to Miss Garby, Mr Brown and Kate for giving us this opportunity. We can’t wait for the next camp.

Sam H

**PRIMARY REGION SPORTS**

On Tuesday 10 November the primary girls volleyball team went to Springers Leisure Centre to participate in Region Volleyball. The team played two games against Beaconsfield Primary School and Ripponlea Primary School. Full of nerves and excitement the girls tried their hardest but unfortunately did not win a game. In the game against Ripponlea, they had won a set each and the game came down to only a point in the final set.

Well done to the girls and congratulations on getting to Region level. It is a huge achievement and thank you to Ryan C and Darcy M for coaching the team.

Kate Anderson
PE Department
The most powerful messages that we send to others are not through our words but through our body language. The way we hold ourselves, our posture, our facial expressions, our voice tones and our gestures all tell others in our company more about how we are thinking and feeling than what we say.

When having a conversation it is very apparent through body language when others are not present, not interested and not listening with their hearts. While some people were fortunate to have been born with welcoming and charismatic body language, most of us have to learn and practise it. In most cases it is a learned behaviour.

As the saying goes, “children don’t always listen to adults, but they have never failed to imitate them.”

Students watch adults carefully, so we need to role model appropriate body language in order for them to learn these behaviours. They notice every time a person’s body language is sending not so positive messages. Having explicit conversations about different types of body language and then role playing them are fun and meaningful activities.

Nurturing a reflective mindfulness in students of how they can positively use their bodies to communicate with others will benefit their ability to effectively build relationships throughout their lives.

YEAR 5 & 6 CRICKET

We were all relieved when the sun came out, ensuring a great day of cricket was to come. The Year 5 and 6 students formed 10 teams to represent Casey Grammar. Many fours and sixes were seen as the action packed games played out. The Boys Team 1 and Girls Team 1 both made it through to the Grand Final. The boys won the Grand Final by 49 runs and the girls by 6 runs. Both teams will now represent the school at the Regional round.

Sandra Torcasio

HEALTH & PE WEEK - 12 TO 16 OCTOBER

The whole primary school had a busy Health and PE week, learning the importance of Physical Education and Health. Students were provided with the opportunity to join in with circus skills, boot camp, dance and cricket activities. Each morning the Year 6 Wake Up Shake Up leaders ran aerobic sessions before school. Many students attended Twilight Sports and enjoyed an evening of fun races. We ended the week with our Jump Off Day raising lots of money for the Heart Foundation. A fantastic sporting effort was made by all students.

Ali Bishop
FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Learning is what schools are about. At Casey Grammar teachers constantly reflect on the most appropriate learning models to optimise the experience of learning for every student. Learning continues outside school. We and our children are on a life long journey of learning. How and from whom we learn are critical questions.

This week I met the parents of a little girl to discuss her forthcoming baptism. Baptism is the rite of entry into the Christian church, and involves (where infants or little children are baptised) the parents and sponsors or God Parents affirming belief and undertaking to help the child grow in understanding of God and his love, until she can confirm those things herself. We discussed the beliefs to which they would assent during the Baptism service, which led to considering how they would help her grow in her understanding of the love of God and her journey of faith.

This would include reading her Bible stories, learning her prayers at bedtime, saying grace at least one meal each day, and experiencing regular worship at church. Most importantly, the example of their own practice of faith would have the greatest influence on her learning faith and understanding of God. This principle applies to so much of our children’s learning – they learn more from what they see us do, than what we instruct them; if we want them to be curious about the world, we must be curious; if to be enthusiastic readers, we must show that we read and enjoy it; and so on. The biggest influence on whether our children will have faith is the example we show them.

Robert McUtchen

REGION HOCKEY YEAR 7 & 8

On Thursday 5 November the Year 8 Girls’ Hockey team travelled to Hawthorn Hockey Centre to compete in Region Hockey. The girls have been training hard over the last few weeks and were keen to see what they were up against. The first game was played in pouring rain providing some terrible conditions. Unfortunately the girls lost after trying their best in the weather. Next they played Mt Eliza and only lost by a goal. Well done to all the girls on getting to this stage of competition, your commitment is to be commended.

On Friday 6 November, the Year 7 Hockey Girls competed in Region Hockey. They were all very keen to have a go at region level. Luckily the weather was in our favour today. The girls managed to win their first game against Brighton Secondary College and then their second against Mornington Secondary College, giving them a spot in the Grand Final against Elisabeth Murdoch College after defeating their pool. Elisabeth Murdoch outclassed the girls; losing to them 6 nil. However the girls were lucky enough to receive a spot in the State Finals on the 16 November after a team from another region withdrew.

All the best to the girls at State Finals next Monday and well done on your efforts at Region level.

Kate Anderson
PE Department

PFC NEWS

The PFC will be having a huge sale of second hand school books and second hand uniforms on Friday 4 December. At 8.30 to 9.30 am and 2.30 to 4.00 pm. Books left over from last year’s sale will be $5.00 and $10.00 and prices start at $1.00 for uniforms. Come and get a bargain. No reasonable offer will be refused.

We will not be collecting second hand books from parents to sell this year as all second hand sales can now be done on the Sustainable Schools website.

Pam Foley