Term 3 got off to a smooth start, with students settling in quickly to the new semester. I encourage parents to discuss their end of Semester 1 report with their students, and to focus on the recommended areas and strategies for improvement. If parents did not attend the Parent -Teacher interviews last week, teachers are always ready to discuss any concerns you have, and to arrange a time to meet if required.

I would like to congratulate a number of students who achieved success in the recent Alliance Francaise Poetry competition. They have advanced to the finals: from Year 7 Jessica K, Eloise S and Anastasia W, and from Year 8 Emily M and Sarah P.

Last Monday a group of twenty Year 9 students participated in the OECD’s program for International Student Assessment (PISA) Main Study, which is part of Australia’s National Assessment Program (of which NAPLAN is also a part). This is the first time Casey Grammar has been selected to participate. It is a survey that measures the knowledge and skills of 15 year olds in participating education systems. Almost 510,000 students representing 28 million 15 year old students from 65 countries and economies took part in PISA 2012. PISA assesses students’ capabilities in mathematical, scientific and reading literacy. International studies provide the educational community with details of how Australian students perform in particular areas. They also provide the opportunity to compare the performance of students who are from similar, as well as diverse cultures. In addition, a sample of teachers who are currently teaching Year 10 students has been asked to complete an online Teacher Questionnaire. The school will receive a report, and in 2016 the OECD will publish the results for PISA 2015.

Margaret Buttigieg

On Tuesday 28 July, three teams of keen Year 5 and 6 Netballers participated in the Netball Victoria Schools Championship. The championship is a Victoria-wide competition with round robin days being run all round the state. The winner of each division then goes on to progress into the finals held at the State Netball and Hockey Centre. Unfortunately the Girls Team 1 narrowly missed out on the finals and finished second in their division, only losing 2 games by 1 goal. The Girls Team 2 put in a consistent and tirelessness effort throughout the day despite coming up against some tougher than expected competition. The boy's team finished middle of the field putting in an exceptional effort all day.

Thank you to the Year 9 sport coaches for your hard work training and coaching the teams and also to Leanne T and Elisha S for helping out on the day.

Thank you to Isabella T for coming along to umpire.

Ali Bishop

On 23 July the Year 5s and 6s mixed netball team participated in Divisional netball after coming out over all winners at the lighting premiership competition on 12 June. The team played two games on the day. In our first game we won against Rivergum. Unfortunately we lost our second game to Hillsmead by only 8 goals. The team all played exceptionally well.

Thank you to Miss Bishop and Kate for their continuous support and assistance.

Tyra H, Maddy G and Chelsie E
Uniform Shop hours are:
Mondays 3.00 pm to 5.30pm
Thursdays 8.30 am to 10.30am

The 2nd hand uniform shop will open on the last Friday of each month.

As the Year 6 students grow in their understanding of Australia as a Nation, our third term topic, they have spent time learning about the Prime Ministers who have served Australia since 1901. They were given the opportunity to work with clay and make a ‘bust’ of a Prime Minister similar to those found in Ballarat at the Prime Ministers Avenue. The finished products were detailed and definitely resembled their subjects.

**Sandra Torcasio**

**HAIRSPRAY JNR**

It's almost time to present the school production of ‘Hairspray Jnr’! The show will take to the stage in just over 4 weeks and the cast and crew are incredibly excited! Rehearsals have been taking place twice a week and the cast even came in for a rehearsal over the holidays! Tickets go on sale next week and students will receive a booking card with show details (ticket prices, dates, online booking procedure etc.) in their homerooms/classes on Monday 10 August. ‘Hairspray Jnr’ will be performed on Thursday 3 September, Friday 4 September and Saturday 5 September all at 7:30pm. We hope to see you all there supporting the cast and crew!

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

Benjamin Mc 9C, Mitchell Mc 5N and Thomas W 5N have all made it to the Karate Victoria State Team and will be representing Victoria at the AKF Nationals in South Australia on 7 to 9 August 2015. Congratulations and good luck boys!

On a near freezing sunny morning in Dromana, four students represented Casey Grammar in their nominated categories of the Victorian School Cycling Competition (VSCC) Eastern Region. All the riders did very well and should be proud of their placings. The results are as follows:
- Under 13 Junior Female Novice - Charlotte B 4th
- Under 15 Junior Male Racing - Oliver B 1st
- Under 15 Junior Male Novice - Mason K 10th
- Under 17 Junior Male Novice - Brad H 8th

It is worth mentioning that none of the Novice Riders had raced in any competition before and they achieved great results in a tough field. Thanks to Anthony Brown for organising their great outfits.

**Simon Beaumont**

**FÉLICITATIONS!**

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as finalists in the Berthe Mouchette Competition, 2015. They will visit the Alliance Française de Melbourne to recite their poem to a panel of judges, and we wish them ‘bonne chance’.
- Year 7: Jessica K, Eloise S, Anastasia W
- Year 8: Emily M, Sarah P (finalist for the second year running!)

**POWER OF ONE TERM 3 2015**

Each year in Term 3 the teaching staff generously forego some of their limited free time to offer a variety of activities for the Power Of One Program. Term 3 is traditionally cold and wet, and these activities provide learning opportunities for our students in warm classrooms.

Power of One Programs are displayed in the Learning Centre, the Chapel windows and in most Primary class rooms. Please talk to your children about this program and encourage them to attend some of the activities on offer.

**Robert McUtchen**

**TERM’S NOTICE**

Parents are reminded that a term’s notice in writing is to be given if a student is leaving the school in order to avoid being charged a term’s fees.
CROSS-AGE LEARNING - Simon Beaumont

This week our Year 11 Physical Education class had their first taste of what teaching might be like as a career when they taught the two Prep classes. The challenge for the Year 11s was to teach the Preps to throw and catch accurately. This task is part of their VCE study investigating coaching styles, and the students demonstrated a variety of different styles when teaching the Preps.

The learning that took place for both the young and older students was immense. I was very proud to see not only how well the Year 11 students instructed and managed the Prep students, but also how well the Preps followed instructions and listened to the Year 11 students throughout the double lesson.

A number of the Year 11 students are considering a career in the field of physical education, and it was an invaluable experience for these students, and one that inspired much discussion following the lesson.

Special thanks to our current pre-service teachers, Emily Sloan and Sarah Nolan for assisting with the students, and to the Prep teachers for giving the Year 11 students the opportunity to learn in such a practical way.

Simon Beaumont – Head of Operations.

TALKING AROUND THE KIDS - Alan Clarke, Psychologist

I recently spoke with a parent who was horrified about what their child was worried about. The child had overheard a parent conversation which caused anxiety. The matter was soon cleared up but the child had been significantly distressed.

As soon as children can talk, they're listening to what you say. Children can be upset and confused by overheard adult conversations. But they may not tell you what they heard -- and you may not even know they're worried.

The following is a short list of topics to avoid around children so that little ears cannot hear.

- Fraught topics. Be careful talking with your spouse about big issues -- like financial problems or a family crisis. Kids are magnetically drawn toward arguments and emotional discussions. Interpretations may be scarier than what's actually happening. I suggest give them the basic facts.

- Put-down talk. Examples are criticisms of teachers, other parents, ex-partners, other children. Stop! You're modelling bad behaviour for your kids. You may also say something mean about a person your children care about -- and that can be deeply unsettling for them.

- Criticism of your children. Do you tend to vent about the frustrations of parenthood on the phone or while your children are around? It can be really hurtful if your kids overhear you criticising them or talking about some mistake they made, making them feel ashamed or embarrassed. Children confuse criticism of their behaviour with criticism of them.

- Upsetting world events. For children the world is a small place. They may overhear you talking about the news and assume that burglars are going to be coming to their house, or a tsunami may hit their town. While children don't need to be shielded from all news events, help them put the news in context. Ask them what they think about the story.

- Swearing. Many adults swear in front of their kids on occasion. Try not to overreact when your kids imitate you -- that will just make the words more exciting. Children learn from modelling. What they see or hear from parents is what they'll do.
FROM THE CHAPLAIN - Robert McUtchen

Dear Friends

Giving of our selves in the service of others is an important dimension of growing up and understanding our role and place in the community and the world. The Book of Genesis tells us that humans were created to take care of the world, and we can do this by offering our time and our talents by supporting worthwhile charities and research projects. Please discuss with your children how they can join in Readathon or 40 Hour Famine and work to make a difference to the less fortunate.

During August Students will have an opportunity to volunteer to participate in the forthcoming MS Readathon and the 40 Hour Famine. MS Readathon is an ideal activity for Primary Age Children who get the chance to read lots of books and gain sponsorship for their efforts. Money raised supports research into a cure for Multiple Sclerosis, a terrible disease that leads to paralysis and finally death. Students in Years 5 – 12 are encouraged to enrol in the 40 Hour Famine. Get together with friends, give up almost anything you can think of for 40 hours, get lots of people to sponsor you, and have a ball along the way.

Last Term Secondary House Chapels followed the theme of Random Acts of Kindness. It would be interesting to see how many students are continuing the odd intentional RAOK at home now some weeks have passed. You may like to remind them!

Grace and Peace

MEANING & PURPOSE - Travis Hopgood

Character Strength – Zest

Throughout our lives there are numerous occasions on which we are expected to give speeches, including engagements, weddings, funerals, birthdays, work presentations, club functions and so on. Many people cringe at the thought because they have never been shown how to prepare for and deliver a high quality speaking presentation.

Cultivating in our students the confidence and know how to stand up and deliver well thought out speaking presentations will benefit them for life. At school students are expected to give verbal accounts of what they have learnt, investigated and concluded to different audiences, including in class, school assemblies, representing the school in public arenas etc. They need to be coached how to do this.

The key to avoiding possible stressful situations in delivering speaking presentations is to nurture in students the resilient and resourceful habits of being prepared, rehearsing voice tones, practising body language and identifying important points beforehand.

The focus this week is designed to provide explicit guidelines and empower students to feel confident in themselves to deliver a clear and competent speaking presentation.

PFC NEWS

The PFC have organised a few activities this term. We are holding, in conjunction with the School Council, a Dinner Dance on 12 September 2015 to celebrate the school's 21st Birthday. We hope you can come. On 2 September 2015 we are holding a Father's Day stall, with all items still only $5.00 each.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 18 August 2015 at 6:30pm. All are welcome. Don't forget also that the second hand uniform shop is open between 8.30am -9.30am and 2.30pm-3.30pm on the last Friday of each month in the PFC room near the Science building.

Pam Foley