Dear Parents/Guardians and Students

Welcome back to the 2014 school year at Oberon High School. I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas break and managed to spend some quality time with family and friends. We have a number of families and students that are new to Oberon High School for 2014, welcome to the Oberon High School community, I am looking forward to meeting you and working with the students during their time at the school. To our current students and families, welcome back and I look forward to our continuing positive relationship during the 2014 school year.

Staffing

As I outlined in our final newsletter in 2013, there have been a number of changes to our staffing for the 2014 school year. Assistant Principal Liz Kelly will be on leave for the first six months of 2014 and Ms Michele Baxter has resigned from DEECD, consequently the Assistant Principal positions for semester one will be filled by Mr Scott McDonald and Mr Craig O'Brien.

I would like to welcome the following staff members to Oberon High School:

Mr Tony Zerafa - English /Humanities has joined us from Mount Ridley P-12 College
Mr Greg Walsh - Technology Wood has joined us from Benalla College
Mr Alvin Ang - Business Management/Humanities is a graduate teacher
Mrs Therese Italiano (Psychology) returns from long service leave in 2013
Ms Rose Povilaitis (Mathematics/Science) returns to us after retiring in 2013.

Parent concerns

If parents have issues/concerns that they wish to discuss with the school, which I encourage, your first point of contact will be with the House Leaders. In 2014 the House Leaders dealing with various year levels will be as follows:

Cameron House

Michelle Ferry (Years 7, 9 & 11)
Sean Fitzgerald (Years 8, 10 & 12)

Greeves House

Lyndie Filipovski (Years 7, 9 & 11)
Carol Champion (Years 8, 10 & 12)
Lipson House

Adam Freeman (Years 7, 9 & 11)

Peter Hubacek/Liz Mulconry (Years 8, 10 & 12)

Thomson House

Vlad Filipovski (Years 7, 9 & 11)

Peter Kleindienst (Years 8, 10 & 12)

Academic results 2013

Congratulations to our 2013 Year 12 students who achieved outstanding results in their VCE.

Oberon High School had seven students achieve ATARs in the 90’s (placing them in the top 10% of all students across the state), a further twelve students achieved ATARs in the 80’s and seventeen students achieved ATARs in the 70’s. The Dux was Darcy Rawson Currie with an ATAR of 98.1 placing her in the top 2% in the state. Our students average study score was 29.31 which places the school once again well above the state average and as the top VCE public school in Geelong. Results such as these are only achieved by hardworking students supported by dedicated staff. Well done to all involved.

As a result of the wonderful VCE results achieved by the 2013 cohort, many students were able to access their first round preferences to courses at University or TAFE. Students have accessed a wide variety of courses including: Medicine, Science, Mechatronics Engineering, Engineering- Sports Technology, Radiology, Midwifery, Biomedical Science, Zoology and Animal Science, Business, Teaching, Occupational Therapy, Exercise and Sport Science. The pleasing result is that all students that have aspired to further study have achieved this result.

Outcomes achieved by the 2013 Year 12 cohort show that anything is possible at Oberon High School if students work hard and are dedicated to their studies.

School Uniform

The school has a uniform policy and it is an expectation that all students attending Oberon High School abide by this and are in full school uniform. If parents/guardians are suffering financial hardship please contact the school so that support can be provided to ensure that your son/daughter is in full uniform. Your support in regards to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Phones/I-Pods

The school’s policy is that whilst students are encouraged not to bring these to school, they can be used outside of class time (recess and lunchtime). These devices are not to be seen or used during class time unless for educational purposes as directed by the teacher. If students are found using these devices during class time they will be removed from the student and placed in the front office to be picked up by the parent.

12 Pickett Crescent,
Belmont, Victoria 3216
Phone (03) 5243 4444 - Fax (03) 5244 2005 - Email: oberon.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au
If an urgent matter occurs and you need to contact your child at school I encourage you to phone the front office.

**Bus Travellers**

A reminder to parents of students travelling by bus to school, that your son/daughter requires a valid Myki card or student travel card to access contract buses. If you require further information regarding this contact the school office.

**DEECD Policy on Personal Items**

A reminder that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors.

Regards

Tim McMahon

Principal