

Respect Honesty Pride Success

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MARCH

Fri 7	Year 1 Responsible Pet Handling Incursion
Mon 10	Public Holiday
Tues 18 & Wed 19	Student Lead Conference
Thurs 20	Open morning—2015 Prep Please note—change of date.
Thurs 27	Year 1 Community Helpers Day Parent Helper Workshop

APRIL

Wed 2	Year 5 excursion to CERES
FRI 4	EARLY FINISH 2.30PM LAST DAY OF TERM 1
TUES 22	TERM 2 commences.

MESSAGE FROM BARB.

Last week we had one of the most amazing three days of learning when our grade 6 students attended the onsite year 6 leadership conference. Last year was the inaugural year for a conference of this type and this year surpassed all expectations!

The title of the conference was “Be Relentless!” The purpose of the conference was to equip our senior students with strategies to promote resilience and inspire them to believe they have the capacity to achieve and determine their future.

A quote by Abraham Lincoln underpinned the three days of learning.

“The best way to predict your future is to create it.”

Guest speakers included: Hugh van Cuylenberg from The Resilience Project. Hugh spoke of his experience in the slums of northern India and how the people, especially the children found peace with their situation and found happiness and pleasure in the smallest things in life. Hugh was a charming and engaging storyteller and captivated his audience across the morning of day one.

The Pharrell Williams song “Happy” was played randomly throughout the conference and the students stepped up to the challenge of stepping out of their comfort zone to respond through dance and movement to the song. We have some wonderful dancers....including staff who left inhibitions behind to dance as if no one was watching!!! Fortunately for us, we did have a professional photographer capturing the learning, delight, happiness and fortitude across the three days.

The conference was a springboard for future work across this year. Community projects across the year will include work on the Environment, Health and Well Being, the Arts and Social Action and Values.

I would like to issue a huge thank you to all staff that supported our students across the three days and attended the conference dinner. We must make special mention to Liz Eastwood who designed the entire conference from a single idea. The grade 6 team prepared their students so well for the three days of learning. Thanks to Seb Naselli who managed the logistical side and to our ES staff for their support and assistance throughout the three days. An extra special thank you to past students, Taylah Grambau, Maddison Maric and Alex Liber who spoke to our students about their aspirations when they were younger and what strategies they put in place to reach their goals.

It was wonderful to witness the leadership growth in the students over the three days. We know it is just the beginning of their leadership journey. The flow on effect to the rest of the school is already becoming evident.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Earlier this month we had the last meeting of the 2013 School Council. This was an opportunity to thank members of the council whose tenure is complete and to thank those who have given up their time to improve in assisting the Roxburgh Homestead community. A very big thank you to Houda Baghadi, Scott Rosika and Belinda Howson for their participation on School Council and wish them well. We would like to welcome Ozlem Coskun, Ahmed Helou and Dr. Fida Sanjakdar to the Roxburgh Homestead School Council. They will join Warren Grambau, Mark Goodrich and Derya Kucukali as the successful nominees for the 2014/2015 school council. We look forward to working together this year.



Book School Interviews Online

Student Led Conferences 1 - 6 will be held

TUESDAY 18th March 2014
3:30pm to 6:00pm

And

WEDNESDAY 19th March 2014
3:30PM to 8:00pm

You can now book interviews for the times that suit **YOUR FAMILY**.

Go to www.roxhomesteadps.vic.edu.au the click on the 'ONLINE BOOKING' tab

Go to www.roxhomesteadps.vic.edu.au click on the 'ONLINE BOOKING' tab and enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

School
event
code

HWQSE

Go



1 Enter your details



2 Choose teachers



3 Choose times



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.roxhomesteadps.vic.edu.au at any time, and change your interviews.

2014 CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Thankyou so much to all the parents and students who have sold chocolates, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

There are still some boxes that need to be returned, can you please do this immediately if you haven't already.

Prizes will be distributed to students at the last assembly of the term.

We still have some whole boxes left over, if anyone is interested in selling additional boxes, please come and see us.

The canteen is going GREEN for St Patrick's Day.

During the week starting 17th March, the canteen will be offering a range of your favourite treats in green to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

If you place a lunch order during this week you get the chance go win a \$5 canteen voucher. The lucky Leprechaun will be hiding in someone's lunch bag daily so remember to check your lunch order to see if you win!

Some of the green food on offer will be muffins, jelly, apples, green coloured hot dogs, yum yum balls and cookies.

Come into the canteen to see all our St Patrick Day specials.

THE GRADE 6 CONFERENCE

Waiting for Hugh Van Cuylenberg to come on stage, I was thinking what this young man have to share with all the Grade 6 students at our conference.

Hugh stands on stage and the first thing he says to all is “You don’t need money or sports cars to be happy”. On one of the screens was a young child with no family or home yet he was the happiest child ever.

In 2009 a massive flood tore through northern India and destroyed homes, shops and businesses leaving many families homeless and poor. The homeless and poor people have no money to provide for themselves and their children.

When Hugh was speaking I had a shiver go down my spine and I had a thought “Why I am not more grateful for the life I lead?” I’ve made a promise to start being grateful for all that I have.

Hugh’s inspiring story about children in India made me realise what I have provided for me and I am so grateful for my wonderful life.

Alexander Mowbray (6 Matt)

THE YEAR 6 CONFERENCE

When I stepped into the new gym I was really excited. I had never seen a real basketball player right in front of my eyes. I kept on wondering what he was going to talk about.

First of all he told us to take a seat on chairs that were all around him. I saw a poster, it had 5 sections. I realised it was about his whole life. Later on I realised it was going to be an inspirational story.

Suddenly he told us to stand up on the white line. He talked about setting a goal and achieving it. So in this case all of our goals were doing circles with our arms 100 times! It sounds easy... but it wasn’t. It was painful! We did 10 very difficult push ups that hurt my stomach and legs.

We sat back down and he told us another inspiring story. He told us he had a poor family and he had holes in his shoes. He had a coach he disliked because the training was so hard. He was so close to quitting but his friend encouraged him to stay in the team.

Now look at him! He can drive nice cars and wear nice shoes. He did not give up. The whole idea was never giving up!

Onur Erciyas (6 Matt)