

THE PHOENIX

Term 1,
1st Semester,
2015



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BERGARRA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER—2015

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Newsletter Term 1, 2015

Finally!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It's taken 39 years but I can finally report that as of last Tuesday Berengarra has a permanent home. After months of negotiations with the Catholic Diocese of Melbourne the School Council agreed to purchase the Harrison Street site for \$2.5 million, thereby achieving a long held goal of a secure future. Since opening its doors in 1976, Berengarra has had to relocate on three occasions, first from a small church hall in Kew to a bigger hall on the corner of Canterbury and Elgar Roads, then to the old Burwood Boys Homes in Glen Waverley and finally to Harrison Street in 2009. Many of the staff can remember the uncertainty around the last move, with the school pushed to near closure, so this news brings to the school a sense of relief and well a time for celebration. It has been a remarkable five years for the school to now be in this position, and so I must publicly thank the many people that have contributed during this time.

To the staff, both past and present, who stuck by the school and/or helped to rebuild it - thank you.

To the members of the School Council who guided the school through some very difficult decisions- thank you.

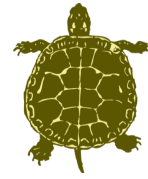
To the students and their families, who are the motivation for what we do - thank you.

To the people at the Independent Schools of Victoria who's advice was always objective and constructive - thank you.

Other News

First term has gone remarkably smoothly. At Box Hill we welcomed nine new students to the school and at Pathways we did the same for seven students. Six students moved across the campuses, and I can report that all but one has successfully completed the term. Our new English and elective teacher, Gwen de Lacy has settled in with remarkable ease, and she was the motivating force behind the very successful pet day. Mia Thiedeman, the new youth worker at Pathways, has already established some strong connections with the students, and Jabby Stewart has shown boundless energy in his role as a teaching assistant in the Box Hill sports and outdoor education program.

Principal's report continued



At Pathways the highlight has been the end of term camps. At the time of writing the boys were enjoying a surfing and adventure camp at Ocean Grove and the girls a personal development and challenge camp on the Mornington Peninsula.

Next term we hope to be successful in registering the school as a training organisation (RTO) as this will enable us to have more control over our VCAL program. We will be able to design the curriculum to better suit the learning needs of our students, rather than rely on a "bought in" program. A big thank you to Daniel Handler and Angela Karkanis for all their work in preparing the application.

Well, it's time for a break stay safe
Pete



TERM DATES

2015

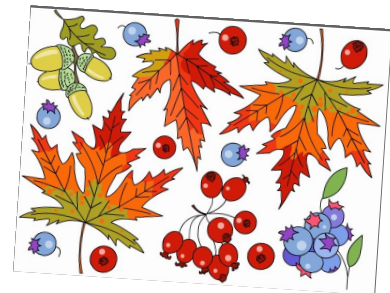
2015 - 2ND TERM DATES

Staff return—Monday 13th April

Students - Tuesday 14th April

Students finish— Friday 19th June at 12.30—3 week

Staff conference—July 6th—10th July inclusive



break

2015 - 3RD TERM DATES

Staff return - July 13th

Parent Teacher meetings - July 14th (staff will be in touch)

Students return - 15th July

End of term 3 - 18th September—12.30p.m.

2015 CALENDAR			
WEEK STARTS FROM SUNDAY			
January	February	March	April
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May	June	July	August
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September	October	November	December
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****Please ensure the above dates are put into your diary****

