Principal's Report

NAPLAN
NAPLAN testing takes place this week for 400 of our students - all our Year 7s and S2 and Year 9 students. Although NAPLAN testing does provide some useful data, it is a huge logistical task for the school to organize without any additional resourcing or funding to support its implementation. Mr Neil Davis, our Assistant Principal, is required to spend many hours organizing the event, and then he is needed to follow up and supervise the students if they happen to be away on the test day. Our teachers are required to supervise, in addition to their normal duties, instead of teaching their classes; the hall is out of action for drama rehearsals and PE classes, and extra people need to be hired to move the furniture and set the hall up for testing. If the Federal Government requires us to do this, I think it is disappointing that supporting resources are not given to our under-funded state secondary schools.

German Film Competition Winners!
I am very pleased to be able to bring you more good news - our German students have won the German Film competition award in the category “Best Production” for their film “Alle Wege führen nach Rom”. This is a great achievement and is the second year that our students have won this award. Schools from five States participated in the competition and the judges said that it was a difficult task for their competent jury to determine the winners.

Congratulations, it is a very professional film and you can view it on Youtube at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyYNige88IQ

With such a wonderful result I would like to encourage students to take again part in the Goethe-Institut school film festival. The topic for 2012 is “Märchenhaft”. Since the deadline is still some months away, I know some of our students will love to be creative with their German language skills and explore the topic.

Information and entry forms are available online at http://www.goethe.de/schoolfilmfest.

Movie Night
Last week I really enjoyed attending the film night that was organized by our Business Management students. Congratulations to Mr Fielding and his students - you provided superb hospitality and organized a very enjoyable evening raising money for a worthwhile charity. I would like to see a film night, run by the Business Management students become a regular item on the Box Hill High school calendar!

Ms Kate Mitchell, Principal

Sports Results

District Cross Country
Our school competed in the district cross country with some fantastic results. It was a rough day as it was wet and cold but the students battled through the conditions. A total of 24 students will go through to the regional finals including our boys 14 year old team. Good work everyone!

Year 7 Baseball
Our year 7 boys baseball team won the district competition last Thursday with a convincing win 14 - 3. The
final was played at our school against East Doncaster. Well done boys!

Mr Mark Whitehead, Sports Coordinator

SEAL Parents Support Group Meeting

The next meeting of the SEAL Parents Support Group Meeting will be held on Thursday 24 May at 7:30pm in the SATERN building, enter via gate next to outdoor basketball court, it will be signposted from the car park next to the oval.

RSVP: by 22 May to jellinek.martin.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Tea, coffee, snacks and stimulating conversation provided. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

>> For further details about this meeting and information about the next meeting in August see our website

Mr Martin Jellinek, Coordinator of Gifted Education

Cyber Safety and Cyber Bullying

Year 8 students will be participating in a Cyber Safety and Cyber Bullying session on Tuesday 15 May (Mainstream classes) and Thursday 17 May (SEAL classes). The aim of the session is to provide information about safe use of the internet, social networking sites, and examples/consequences of cyber bullying and digital footprints. This is a great opportunity for parents to have a discussion with their child about the risks associated with internet use and strategies to keep safe.
Community Announcements

Parents Victoria Online Conference

Parents and other interested participants are warmly invited to take part in the sixth annual online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet during Education Week, commencing at 6.00 a.m. on Sunday 20 May, with discussion topics including:

- Celebrating Public Education
- Travel to School
- Multiculturalism
- Curriculum
- Bullying
- Mental Health
- School Payments and Funding

There is also the opportunity to comment on other Education issues that may concern you. No special software is needed just an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions are very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate are provided. There are prizes for schools for participation. The conference is proudly sponsored by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Register at: http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv/
For further information, email: office@parents.victoria.asn.au
Telephone (03) 9380 2158 or visit: www.parents.victoria.asn.au