Principal’s Welcome

What a wonderful start we have had to 2015. Everyone has really settled down quickly and all are working extremely hard. Many thanks to the Deputy Principals, Head of Learning Areas and all teaching, administrative and support staff for ensuring such a great start to Term One.

This year promises to be another exciting year for the school with lots of planned activities. I encourage all students and families to take advantage of all that the school has to offer.

Parent Teacher Meetings

The parent/teacher meetings for the year will be held on:

Thursday March 26th  Years 7, 8, 9
Tuesday March 31st   Years 10, 11, 12

Appointments can be made with teachers between 2pm and 6pm on this day/evening. Parents can access the booking system via the school’s website now to make an appointment. Please contact Tania Martyn on 9722 2400 if you require further assistance.

Family Holidays

Families are requested not to plan holidays or time away from school during the school term or in examination periods. Such absences seriously impact on the students’ chance of success and these absences are not considered a valid reason for non-completion or non-submission of assessment tasks.

School Contact

If you need to contact the school, these are some key people you can contact:

Deputy Principals
  Ms Melissa Walker (Yr 7, 9, 11)
  Mrs Kylie Cattaway (Yr 8, 10, 12)

Year 7—9 Coordinator
  Ms Tonia Gelmi
  Mrs Donelle McInerney

Year 10—12 Coordinator
  Ms Kristy Harper

Student Services Manager
  Ms Pippa Herbert

Attendance Officer
  Mrs Peta Parsons

Computer Use and On-Line Services

We would like to remind all parents to read the Computer Use and On-Line Services document and return the attached ICT Acceptable Use Agreement for Students sent to families in the mail earlier this term. Additional copies can be collected from outside the Deputy Principal offices in the Administration Centre. Completion of this agreement enables students to have full access and connect a personal device (BYOD) to our network.

Year 11/12 students are encouraged to bring a personal device (BYOD) to school or apply for a “take home” laptop. Year 11/12 students are expected to bring a device (BYOD or “take home” computer) to school EVERY day.
NAPLAN

The assessment of literacy and numeracy has gained increasing importance over the last few years and our learning programs reflect a strong focus on acquiring strong skills in these areas. Our Year 7s and 9s will complete NAPLAN in May. Parents will have received an information brochure about NAPLAN outlining its importance. There was also information about seeking exemption. Soon students will do Practice NAPLAN tests in their English and Mathematics classes to increase their familiarity with the style of test.

Interschool Swimming Carnival

Our interschool swimming carnival will be held on Tuesday 24th March 2015 at the Hay Park Community Pool. Students are required to have their permission slips returned to participate in this event. We look forward to a terrific day. We wish all of our competitors good luck and may the best school win! Go the Moore!

Student Services

Attendance

Unfortunately there are some students who are regularly late to school. These students will lose their Good Standing after being late to school more than three times in a term without a valid reason. All students who are late to school must report to Student Services upon arrival at school and present a note from their parent or guardian.

If your child misses one day per week it equals to:

- Missing two weeks of school per term.
- Missing eight weeks of school per year which is nearly one term.
- Missing one year of school over the time they are at high school.

The latest report from the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research has found that even missing one day of education affects the academic achievement of your child.

Chaplain’s Corner

I have had a fantastic start at Newton Moore Senior High School. Last year I worked at the school part time in Term Four but also worked at West Busselton Primary School. This term we have run Mindfulness exercises in the PAC on Mondays and Wednesdays at recess. These sessions are open to all students and teachers. Mindfulness allows you to cope with difficult and painful thoughts, feelings and sensations. It is a great way to slow the mind down and to bring your thoughts into the here and now. We have been using the Smiling Mind app, which the students have been able to download onto their own devices for free to use it whenever they feel the need. The Smiling Mind app can be found in the Play Store or iTunes store, depending on your device, or by going to smilingmind.com.au. These sessions will continue throughout the year and students can attend whenever they feel the need.

Electronic Device Policy

The school’s electronic device policy states that if a student uses their electronic device during class time without permission they will have it confiscated and a parent or guardian will need to collect it. This can impact on the family and therefore it is important to talk with your child about being responsible with their electronic devices at school.

Upper School

Each month we will provide a useful tip to our Senior School students. This months tip is: Be Organised

- **Use time saving tools**—a diary, term planners, “to do” lists, file folders, etc.
- **Have an organized work space.** Don’t waste time constantly looking for your work.
- **Use your diary or term planner to schedule everything, including listing study time.**
- **Use “to do” lists for both long and short term planning.**

Language Other Than English (LOTE) Bonus

From 2014 University Admissions to Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and the University of Western Australia will apply a LOTE bonus for the purpose of determining a student’s Tertiary Entrance Aggregate (TEA) and hence Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

A four course/subject TEA is calculated by adding a student’s best four scaled scores plus 10% of the best LOTE scaled score.
2015 Second Assistance Scheme

Eligible Parents/Guardians holding a current:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card,
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans’ Affairs Pensioner Concession Card

are invited to submit their Secondary Assistance Scheme application. The application form must be completed at the school during Term One. The allowance consists of two components:

- $235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.
- $155 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the school or the parent/guardian.

If you intend having the $115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to you, please bring along your bank BSB and account number details. Please see the school’s Finance Officer, Michele Scanlan, in the Administration Office to make your application.

Closing: 4:00pm Thursday, 2nd April 2015

Please note: Late applications will only be accepted by the Department of Education in extenuating circumstances and must be accompanied by a written explanation.

2015 Charges and Contributions

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who have paid their child’s Charges and Voluntary Contributions account. We would like to remind those who have not yet paid, that payment can be made at the Main Administration Office on weekdays between 8:00am and 4:00pm using cash, cheque, credit card, EFTPOS. Payments can also be made online to the school’s bank account. Details are as follows:

Name: Newton Moore Senior High School
Bank: Westpac
BSB: 036134
Account number: 197827

Please include your child’s full name, Form class and a brief description e.g. Jones Tom Year 12 C&Cs. Should you have any queries regarding your account or if you would like to discuss time payment options, please contact the school’s Finance Officer, Michele Scanlan on 9722 2419.

How students can apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) from 1st January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office, in partnership with Australia Post, is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN. Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post Office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TRN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au

P & C

The P & C is a group of parents, family and friends who volunteer their time to support the school. Their aim is to build a closer relationship between the school and home for the benefit of the children attending the school.

Volunteering at the school is a great way to show your child that school is an important part of your family’s life. Parent/Caregiver involvement can help enhance school programs, support teachers and boost the school’s reputation.

The payback is enormous. You will get to know your fellow parents, learn what is happening at the school and have a hand in making it a stronger and more exciting place to learn.

P&C meetings are held each month on a Tuesday commencing at 7:00pm in the Staffroom. So make a difference to your child’s school and come along. It is a wonderful opportunity. For further information contact the P&C President Kim Wallis at blurts@bigpond.com

Community News

Bunbury Show
Visit: www.bunburyshow.com.au
Top Marks Learning Centre
Study Skill seminars during school holidays
Visit www.topmarks1.com
SWAS—Telstra Fun Run Relay, 7th June
Contact: programcoordinator@swaswa.com.au