From the Principal Class Team.....

**Dear Parents and Guardians**

On behalf of all the staff, welcome to St Albans Secondary College for the 2015 school year. A very special welcome to our Year 7 students and their families, and to the many new students in other year levels who are joining our community for the first time this year. We wish you an enjoyable and rewarding time at the school.

We are also pleased to welcome a number of new staff this year. Ms Avril Good is teaching English and English as an Additional Language; Ms Felicity Hausler, joins the PE/Health Department; Mr Matthew Harris and Mr Jason Whittle are teaching Mathematics; Mr Simon Moore is teaching Art and Woodwork; Ms Michelle Veith returns to the English Department; Mr Nick Lovell is teaching Humanities & English, and Ms Susan White joins the Individual Needs Department as a Teacher Assistant. Ms Melissa MacDonald is replacing Ms D’Amico for Term 1 in the Science Department. We hope each of you enjoys your time here at St Albans.

Congratulations to all our students on the very positive way they have started the year, and thank you to you as parents for your support with this. They have approached their classes enthusiastically, have been well prepared for work, and have been wonderful in welcoming new students and staff to the school.

**College Dux**

Very special congratulations to Tina Cheng on being awarded the College Academic Excellence Award for 2014. Tina achieved an ATAR score of 99.50 for her studies in Accounting, English, Mathematical Methods (CAS), Specialist Mathematics, Further

She has accepted a place in Commerce at the University of Melbourne.

Since Year 7, Tina has been an extremely diligent, disciplined and well organised learner. Her perseverance and willingness to question and seek help with her work were also important qualities in terms of her success. Tina was a wonderful team member, and always supportive of her peers, both academically and socially.

We wish Tina well for the commencement of her university studies next week, and thank her for being an inspiring speaker to the Year 10 students at the start of this year.

Last year, 20 students achieved an ATAR score above 80 placing them in the top 20% of the state. Congratulations to each of these students whose names, courses and where they will study appear on page 5.

**College Captains 2015**

At last week’s school assembly, it was a pleasure to introduce the 2015 College Captains and Vice Captains to the school community.

Congratulations to Celine Magri and Eagano Singehebhuye, our Captains, and to Emma Kiernan and Patrick Tran, the Vice Captains, on being elected by their peers to head the student body and to act as ambassadors for the College. It is a well deserved honour for them to be recognised in this way.

Their first official duty as captains was to welcome the new Year 7 students to the school, which they did beautifully.

Congratulations, also, to our Student Leaders who were nominated and voted by their class this year. Their names are on page 6 of the newsletter.
What’s been happening at SASC...Principal Class Report

Beacon Ambassadors
We are pleased to introduce the Year 10 Beacon Ambassadors for 2015. They are Ricki Tran, Minh Truong, Jessica Vo and Linda Nguyen.

The Beacon Ambassadors lead our Beacon program at Year 10. The program supports our goal that all students leave the College to a positive pathway.

Events scheduled include a Business and Community Breakfast, Beacon Bonanza Day, including Speed Careering and Work Readiness, and the annual Pledge signing.

We look forward to working closely with our impressive Beacon Ambassadors this year.

New Arrival
Congratulations to Natalina Li and partner, Nathan Grenfell, on the birth of their beautiful daughter Amelia Frances born 1 February weighing 3.4kg.

Both mum and daughter are doing well, and we wish them every happiness.

Year 7 Expo, Tuesday 3 March at 5.30pm
The Year 7 Expo is an important event in our annual transition program to support students as they begin secondary school.

Parents and families of Year 7 students are invited to join the Junior School Coordinators and your child’s teachers for a BBQ and an opportunity to hear about and see the work they have been doing in each of their subjects. It is also a great chance to meet your child’s new school friends and other St Albans Secondary College families.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3 March.

School Council - call for nominations
As you will be aware from the letter posted home to all families this week, nominations are now being called for for parent and staff members on our School Council.

There are 4 vacancies for parent representatives, and 1 vacancy for a staff representative. If you are interested in becoming a School Councillor, please complete a nomination form and return it to the General Office by Monday 23 February. Please don’t hesitate to give me a call if you would like more information about being a member of School Council.

Professional Learning
On the afternoon of Wednesday 11th February, all teaching staff had the opportunity to work with renowned U.S. educator Jane Pollock. Staff looked at strategies to incorporate high level thinking into classes to help students learn and understand content material.

While Jane was at the College, she also worked with our new staff, as well as our Digital Learning Coaches. These coaches will support staff in the use of the devices that your children are bringing to school.

We have enjoyed working closely with Jane for the past 4 years. She will return to the College in May.

Parent Portal

Thanks to those parents who were able to attend our Portal information session on Tuesday 17th February.

You should all have received another copy of your log in details recently. If you did not receive this information, or you have encountered difficulties logging in, please contact the school.


On the website and in the News section of the portal, you can find instructions on how to log in and access the different types of information available.

It is important that you are able to log in to the portal, as you can view your child’s attendance details, assessment grades, and work that needs to be completed. As of this year, reports will not be mailed out. You will only be able to access your child’s reports through the portal.

Please call the College on 9366 2555 if you have any questions about log in details or how to use aspects of the portal.

Year 12 Pathways
The class of 2014 maintained our excellent record of students achieving high quality pathways when they exit the College. The vast majority of our students go on to further education or training. Over 60% of them have enrolled into University courses, with most of the remainder going to TAFE. Small numbers are commencing apprenticeships or full time employment. RMIT University remains the most popular tertiary institution for our students, with increasing numbers going to the University of Melbourne. Courses that students have enrolled in include Health, Education, Business and Science.

Thanks to our Managed Individual Pathways team, Jon Kortuem, Cathy Armstrong and Colleen Lynch, for their hard work and support of our students. If you have questions about our MIPs processes or career advice, please don’t hesitate to call the College and ask for the MIPs team.
What’s been happening at SASC...Principal Class Report

Whole School Assembly
As has become tradition at St Albans Secondary College, we held our ‘Welcome to our Year 7 students’ Whole School Assembly on Friday the 6th of February. All students from Years 8 to 12 and our staff were seated in the gymnasium ready to welcome the newest members of our school community – our Year 7 students of 2015. As they entered they were greeted with enthusiastic applause and we have no doubt it was a special moment for them all. The singing of the National Anthem by the Glee Club set the scene for a wonderful morning.

The Year 7’s were officially welcomed and then addressed by Ms Maima Massaquoi, a Year 12 student from 2014 who has just been named the Brimbank Junior Citizen of the Year. She reflected fondly on her memories of the school spoke to the students about taking advantage of the enormous opportunities that the school offers through the efforts of their excellent staff and varied student programs.

Ms Hocking announced the School Captains & vice Captains for 2015 who added their special welcome to the Year 7 students. In their response the Year 7 representatives handed over their time capsule for safe keeping until they graduate in 2020.

Ms Hocking also presented the Year 7 Class Captains for 2015 to the assembly and we look forward to the development of their leadership skills over the years to come.

Mr Vo continued the leadership theme by revealing which students had been selected as House Captains for the year. All of the houses, Irwin, Rosewall, Buttrose & Freeman will participate in a variety of activities throughout the year and we are excited to see how these leaders will promote the wonderful characteristics of the Australians that their house is named after.

Ms Woods, Senior Sub School Leader gave us the good news about our Year 12 results from 2014 and this has challenged our current Year 12 students to improve on those results in 2015.

Throughout the assembly, we were treated to some excellent musical performances from The Year 11 VET Class, The Year12 VET Class, The Glee Club & Ms Anne Rivera.

Thank you to all the staff and students involved in making the assembly a great success. A special thank you to our honoured guests Mr Gatt, School Council President, Ms Maima Massaquoi, Brimbank Junior Citizen of the Year and Primary School Principals Ms Federico, Ms Killman, Mr Parker and Mr Patter.

Our New Library nears Completion - It’s Fantastic!
The dream of a modern new library is nearly a reality as we enter the final stages of re-design and refurbishment. Over the term break the new VCE Study Centre was completed and the main library area has been renovated with carpeting. Still to come is new book shelving, furniture, interactive TVs and special touch screen book search screens.

Students are already using the VCE Study Centre and have participated in identifying the furniture colour and chair types that will be used in this area. The new library has been designed to meet the learning needs of students in the 21st Century and the feedback from them has been excellent.

With the development of the garden areas directly outside the library, the whole area is a fantastic improvement to the facilities that our students are able to enjoy.

New Library
New VCE Study Centre

Education Department - New Signs
As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s Health and Safety Management Plan, new labelling will be installed at our school.

The labels remind people to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up-to-date information from the school’s asbestos register.

Asbestos, which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned, is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition.

The new labels form a part of a comprehensive program to ensure Victorian government schools remain safe.

Children’s safety is our number one priority. That is why we are taking this extra step as a precaution.
What's been happening at SASC...Principal Class Report

Year 12 Study Camp
Year 12 students attended the highly anticipated Year 12 Study Camp on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th February at the University of Melbourne.

The objectives of the camp were to prepare the students for the demands and expectations of Year 12, promote and broaden their experiences in a range of study habits designed to support them to achieve their best, and for students to gain some insight into university life. Students had the opportunity to listen to a motivational presentation by best-selling Australian author Archie Fusillo, participate in a range of workshops specifically targeted to VCE or VCAL courses, tour the campus, as well as use the recreational facilities for team building activities.

The camp is a fun and engaging way for students to get into the mindset of Year 12 whilst developing the skills and confidence to deal with the pressures of the final year of secondary school. Our students approached the meticulously organised program with enthusiasm and commitment, both important qualities which will help them to achieve their goals this year.

Our sincere thanks to all supervising staff, the Senior Sub School team for their organisation of the camp, as well as to our own expert teachers who presented informative workshops on a range of topics including Pathways, Sexual Health and Wellbeing, Careers, Effective Study Skills and Year 12 English.

Bring Your Own Device
As parents will be aware, St Albans Secondary College introduced a Bring Your Own Device Program this year so that we could give students learning opportunities that are greatly enhanced through the use of a digital device.

Our expectation is that all students will have their own personal computer (Laptop/IPAD) to use in class within the next 2-3 weeks. As we enter our 5th week of Term, we are excited to announce that the school’s tech staff have currently connected and distributed over 406 devices with more being processed each day. This has been an enormous task and we can assure parents/students who have submitted a device for connection that we are doing the work as quickly as is possible. The school has put on extra staff to speed up that process in the last 2 weeks. If you haven’t organised to buy a new device or bring a suitable device from home, please note that you need to do so now.

Teachers have started delivering lessons using the devices, so it is important that students are prepared for class.

If you have any questions regarding the program or suitable devices you can email the school on: byod_query@stalbanssc.vic.edu.au or contact Mr Crocker on 9366-2555.

College Expectations – Attendance, Uniform, Punctuality
We greatly appreciate the support we receive from parents to make sure that your child attends school regularly & punctually, is in full uniform, and is well prepared for all classes with books and equipment.

Some important expectations are outlined below:

Being prepared for classes
It is expected that students have the required books & equipment for each subject, as well as a student diary to record homework & assignments.

If you need any assistance with ordering books, please contact the General Office.

Attendance
Students must have a minimum of 90% attendance in all classes at each year level.

Uniform
Full uniform must be worn to and from school, at school and on all school excursions, including interschool sports.

Please note:
• Only the 3 approved styles of school shoes are to be worn
• PE / Sports shoes must be lace up runners with non-marking soles
• Facial piercings are not to be worn at school
• Make-up is to be kept to a minimum.

Principal: Ms Kerrie Dowsley
Assistant Principals: Mr Craig Jennings, Ms Losh Pillay and Mr Ian Crocker

Year 12 Students at Study Camp
### Top Achievers for 2015

**Atar Scores of 80 & over**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SURNAME</th>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>COURSENAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHENG</td>
<td>TINA</td>
<td>COMMERCE</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
<td>99.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>HUYNH</td>
<td>QUEENIE</td>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
<td>96.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUIU</td>
<td>MAGGIE</td>
<td>BIOMEDICINE</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
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<td>AHSAN</td>
<td>SYED</td>
<td>BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGUYEN</td>
<td>THU HOANG KIM</td>
<td>ORAL HEALTH</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
<td>93.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>VO</td>
<td>MICHELL</td>
<td>COMMERCE</td>
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<td>MATURI</td>
<td>TANYA</td>
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<td>TRAN</td>
<td>DEMI</td>
<td>APPLIED SCIENCE/ SPEECH PATHOLOGY</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>JULIE</td>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
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<tr>
<td>LE</td>
<td>HONG NGOC</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGUYEN</td>
<td>AN HA TRUONG</td>
<td>ACCOUNTING</td>
<td>SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY</td>
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<td>ANH</td>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
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<tr>
<td>DING</td>
<td>XIN WEI</td>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
<td>85.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>HA</td>
<td>JUSTIN</td>
<td>INFORMATION SYSTEMS</td>
<td>RMIT</td>
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<td>DANG</td>
<td>PHUONG</td>
<td>MANAGEMENT/ MARKETING</td>
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<td>82.75</td>
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<td>HA</td>
<td>BRANDON</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAC</td>
<td>ORLENA</td>
<td>FILM &amp; TELEVISION (ANIMATION)</td>
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<td>81.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HO</td>
<td>MINH NHAT</td>
<td>NURSING</td>
<td>ACU</td>
<td>81.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGUYEN</td>
<td>TAI</td>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGUYEN</td>
<td>KEVIN</td>
<td>MARKETING (APPLIED)</td>
<td>RMIT</td>
<td>81.15</td>
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</tbody>
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**Families wanting to learn more about St Albans Secondary College are warmly invited to our 2015 Parent Information Evening**

**TUESDAY 17TH MARCH**

6:00pm in Nindethana
## Our School Leaders...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eangano Singehebhuye</td>
<td>School Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cylene Magri</td>
<td>School Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patrick Tran</td>
<td>School Vice-Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emma Kiernan</td>
<td>School Vice-Captain</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Renae Maniapoto</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa Cao</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Caroline Vo</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christopher Mabiala</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dalena Y-Nhi Phan</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Rivera</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elliott Lai</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Debra Gaye</td>
<td>SRC Representative</td>
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### Year 10 Beacon Ambassadors

- Ricki Tran  
- Minh Truong  
- Jessica Vo  
- Linda Nguyen

### House Colours Captains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House Colour / Name</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Myers Nguyen</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyanna Le</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devangana Sharma</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giuliano Hammal</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuquyen Nguyen</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigette Thomas</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivy Ha</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My - Phung Dang</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allian Binuya</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Levina Dinh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hanna Nguyen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celine Lay-Chung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoa Nguyen</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Pham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tracey Le</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Tregillis</td>
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### Year Level Captains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Vice-Captain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9A</td>
<td>Thomas Lam</td>
<td>Ted Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td>Michelle Pham</td>
<td>Eseta Marsh</td>
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<tr>
<td>9C</td>
<td>Tammie Nguyen</td>
<td>Huy Ly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9D</td>
<td>Phillip Hoang / Laseto Vello (co-captains)</td>
<td>Jason Do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9E</td>
<td>Kellie Phan</td>
<td>Daniel Makohon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9F</td>
<td>Nathneal (Nate) Amare</td>
<td>Wendy Truong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9G</td>
<td>Kelly Ha</td>
<td>Jimmy Vo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9H</td>
<td>Uyen Tran</td>
<td>Kian Villar</td>
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<tr>
<td>9I</td>
<td>Delaware Mahu-Tahana</td>
<td>Samson Hollands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Andy Tran</td>
<td>Chi Vien Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Marta Admassu</td>
<td>Delina Duong</td>
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<tr>
<td>8C</td>
<td>Sarah Mercieca</td>
<td>Jordan Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>8D</td>
<td>Trevor Nhat Doan</td>
<td>Kevin Lam</td>
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<tr>
<td>8E</td>
<td>Chelsea Tran</td>
<td>Oli Hakai Lovea</td>
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<tr>
<td>8F</td>
<td>Jaderick Calimlim</td>
<td>Jacob Anastasi</td>
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<tr>
<td>8G</td>
<td>Mahdi Zarghar</td>
<td>Dat Vo</td>
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<td>8H</td>
<td>Natalie Truong</td>
<td>Nam Tran</td>
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<td>8I</td>
<td>Mike Pham</td>
<td>Holly Zeissler</td>
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<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>Phyllis Stanislaw</td>
<td>David Lazaro</td>
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<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Dat Nguyen</td>
<td>James Mangali</td>
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<tr>
<td>7C</td>
<td>Kyle Chamberlain</td>
<td>Stakilii (Jack) Timo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7D</td>
<td>Darren Tang</td>
<td>Janet Le</td>
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<tr>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Madaesya Palavi - Lyons</td>
<td>Connor Buckley</td>
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<tr>
<td>7F</td>
<td>Mark Ian Alcantara</td>
<td>Mathilda Van Keulen</td>
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<tr>
<td>7G</td>
<td>Cindy Nguyen</td>
<td>Zoe Pavlides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7H</td>
<td>Mark O'Brien</td>
<td>Eric Lu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7I</td>
<td>Jay Del Rosario</td>
<td>Alisha Chhem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Year level captains for 2015
Three big changes to the vaccine program

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

1. The Brimbank Council’s immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccine program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact Ms Carmel Castoriina on 9366 2555 by 28 February 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Brimbank Council.

2. In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.

3. The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form/s coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination go to immunehero.health.vic.gov.au
What’s happening at SASC...

Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 17 March 2015

Commencing 6:00pm, ‘Nindethana’ Learning Centre
Main Road East, St Albans

Attendance at St Albans Secondary College’s Information Evening is highly recommended for parents of prospective Year 7 students. The evening provides families with the opportunity to...

- Meet the College Principal and Leadership Team
- Enjoy student and School Captain presentations
- Discover the comprehensive Year 7 Transition Program
- Learn about curriculum, our SEAL and Scholarship Programs
- Discuss your child’s educational needs
- Participate in a guided tour of the College
- Explore exhibitions of the students’ work
- Appreciate our students’ medical and artistic talents

2016 SEAL Program
Select Entry Accelerated Learning Entry at Year 7 in 2016

If your child is a high achiever, gifted learner or talented academic, the St Albans Secondary College SEAL Program will maximise their learning potential across all curriculum areas from Year 7 through to Year 9.

The SEAL Program recognises outstanding students by providing them with opportunities to:

- Accelerate and enrich their academic studies
- Develop their leadership skills and creative talents

To register your application for the SEAL Program, contact the Program Coordinator, Ms Amy Lee at amy.lee@edumail.vic.gov.au or visit our College website at www.stalbanssc.vic.edu.au

Applications close Friday 10th April 2015

High Expectations -- Outstanding Results
What’s been happening at SASC...

Brimbank City Council Magazine

Students from St Albans Secondary College have been working hard to perfect their performance in several fields.

"Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last, you create what you will." - George Bernard Shaw

“Exploring Creativity”

Creativity is defined as the ability to transcend traditional ideas, rules, patterns or relationships to create meaningful new ideas, methods and innovations.

Brimbank is a highly creative municipality, where people and business demonstrate empathy, pro-activeness and imagination, the perfect creative qualities to help others succeed.

In this series of articles, we explore people, businesses and other organisations in Brimbank who have imagined, designed and gone on to achieve amazing outcomes.
What’s been happening at SASC

New Teachers & Staff at St Albans Secondary College

Ms Felicity Hausler
Last year I completed the Master of Teaching (Secondary) at The University of Melbourne. I worked at St Albans Secondary College for the past six months and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I am pleased to be joining St Albans Secondary College again this year and taking on new classes. I am teaching Physical Education from Year 7 to Year 10. I am passionate about all sports and have been involved in swimming, athletics and hockey.

Mr Simon Moore
Hi, I work in Art and Technology (wood) and in my 10 years as a teacher I've worked all over the country, including the remote North West of WA. I grew up in Western Australia and moved to Melbourne in 2010 to follow my passion for art, completing my Masters in Printmaking at RMIT. I have had a few exhibitions since then, my most recent being at Trocadéro in Footscray last year. I have been living in Yarraville for the last few years with my wife (we got married last year!) and a 10 month old puppy, she keeps us very busy.

Before I became a teacher I was a picture framer, a labourer, a waiter, Santa Claus and the Paddle Pop Lion. All True!

Mr Matthew Harris
I'm teaching Maths in Years 7, 10 and 11, and previously taught at the Grange P-12 College in Hoppers Crossing. Prior to teaching I worked as an economic adviser, and I have a real interest in climate change policy. I'm qualified to teach economics and would love to teach it someday.

Outside of teaching I play the cornet in the Ballarat Brass Band. I like riding my bike, and I'm trying to learn to speak Italian so I can speak to my wife's parents! I barrack for Richmond, and, for those who have been asking, I'm just over 200cm tall.

Ms Avril Good
Hello! This year I'm teaching English and English as an Additional Language. Last year I taught at Lyndhurst Secondary College, and I'm looking forward to working with Years 7, 8, and 9 at St Albans this year. I love travelling, reading, and Harry Potter. I'm trying really hard not to kill any of my pot plants this year, and I'm easily bribed by a good cup of coffee. I'm really excited to be a part of this community and getting to know you all.

Ms Melissa MacDonald
I was born in London, and spent many years travelling, before settling in East Africa. There I worked for many years on wildlife conservation, studying lizards and little birds that eat ticks! I was also blessed with the opportunity to live in Southern Sudan, helping local farmers to manage their natural resources. Migrating to Australia in 2008, I was finally able to fulfill my long-held dream of becoming a science teacher. Being able to share my enthusiasm for science with the students of SASC is a pleasure and a privilege that I look forward to every day.

Ms Susan White
Prior to working at St Albans Secondary College within the Individual Needs Team, I worked at Maribyrnong Secondary College. I was born in The Year of The Rabbit. I love time with my family and friends, Will Ferrell movies, Geelong Football Club, theatre and travel. I also love dancing to a good piece of music. I am excited about being part of the SASC Community.

Mr Jason Whittle
For the past two years I was teaching in a small rural school; Camperdown College. Each year level had about 20 kids. It was great to live in an area void of traffic and so close to many beautiful views, but I’m very glad to be where I am now. So far I’m very impressed with St Albans.

Outside of school I love to surf and play futsal. If I’m not doing those things, I’m likely to be learning about Science or technology. I did a mechanical engineering degree and worked as a design engineer before switching to teaching so I have a keen interest in design and tech, and I do my best to pass on my enthusiasm to my students.

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Ms Michelle Veith
“Why fit in when you were born to stand out” - Dr Seuss.
Hi, My name is Michelle Veith and I very excited to be returning to teach Year 8, Year 11 and Year 12 English at St Albans Secondary College this year. I have been teaching for over twenty-five years. Over the course of my career have taught at all year levels in secondary school with a concentrated focus on Senior School English. I began teaching in Geelong at Belmont high school, where I taught Art, Psychology, Media Studies and English. I then moved to St Albans Secondary College where I taught for 17 years, before taking extended leave. I have also worked for 4 years teaching VCE English at Isk (now Sirius) Secondary College. I am an assessor of the year 12 English Examination and have been marking Exams for approximately 15 years. I also assess the NAPLAN and the Year 12 GAT. Teaching English is my passion and it is an absolute pleasure to be teaching at a school where both the staff and students are so helpful and welcoming.

Mr Nick Lovell
My name is Nick Lovell. I graduated from La Trobe University in 2013 and teach Humanities and English at St Albans Secondary College. In a previous life I taught music at Kensington High School and otherwise focused my energies on writing, recording and performing music with various bands and as a singer/songwriter. I am also the lucky father of two beautiful daughters, who keep me busy and entertained. I am very grateful to be teaching at St Albans Secondary College and can already see what a wonderful school this is.
What’s been happening at SASC

Going "batty" over the environment

Receiving a scholarship from the Earthwatch Institution to go on a Bat expedition was probably one of the best experiences I have encountered so far. Although it had only lasted a week, this phenomenal camp brought great memories and knowledge that I will cherish forever. With students from all around Australia and amazingly talented supervisors, I have made lasting friendships, developed and improved great teamwork skills and also sought a wide interest and knowledge in the study of bats. The seven day experience consisted of a variety of fieldwork where traps were set up to capture and process the different species of bats, using detectors to identify bat calls as well as a day in Bendigo to observe the Flying Foxes. This remarkable opportunity has assisted me with questions about what I’d like to pursue as a career and my aspirations for the future; I encourage all students who have an interest in biology, animals or the environment to apply for an Earthwatch scholarship. I’d also like to thank Ms. Mortimer for encouraging me to apply for the scholarship.

By Soraya Nusevic of 12C

Yr. 9 & 10 Boys Cricket

On Friday the 6th of February the St Albans Intermediate boys cricket team descended on Fairbairn Park Maribyrnong, for the Keilor division competition. It was a sizzling hot day with the mercury hitting 35 degrees, however the boys enthusiasm did not waver. St Albans faced Copperfield/Sydnam in their first game and were beaten fairly narrowly. St Albans batted first scoring 58 in the 40 minutes allowed, which was commendable. However the boys bowled and fielded rather poorly, allowing the opposition to surpass our total. After some serious discussions by coach Lynch and players alike, we re-structured our team to play the fancied Taylors Lakes, who annihilated Copperfield/Sydnam in the second game. St Albans batted first totalling 68 in a reduced batting time of 25 minutes. Sid Bindroo and Shashanka Saurav put on a partnership of attacking, confident cricket that lasted 42 runs. It certainly was a captain’s knock from Sid. A few more batters added to the substantial total. At this point the boys could sense a victory, they boys bowled magnificently, shaking up the top order, taking a few early wickets. They fielded tight and encouraged each other all along. Victory was looking imminent for St Albans as Taylors Lakes needed 9 off the last over. The second ball was hit for a 6 over the boundary line and Taylors Lakes passed the total with 2 balls to play. It was an admirable effort from the boys who nearly won their second game to the eventual winners of the day. Well done boys.

Mr Simon Lynch
What’s been happening at SASC

**Doxa Universities Pathways Program**

During the holidays, on the 12th-14th of January, 8 lucky students (Tracey Le, Linda Nguyen, Julie Ho, Timon Ho, Emily Said, Jenny Khuu, Amy Huynh and Aimee Tran) were selected to attend the Doxa Universities Pathways Program! This was a three day, two night city camp based on Elizabeth Street.

On this camp, we visited Universities and got the opportunity to talk to a wide range of people in university and the workforce. They discussed their journey and the impediments they faced to accomplish their success. We also learnt about networking, which will be very useful for the future.

Although we had to process an inordinate amount of information in such a short amount of time, the camp was so fun! We got the chance to eat at various restaurants, went to the Melbourne Star, contributed to fun games and trivia competitions.

This camp was such an incredible experience where we met new people and created new and lasting friendships. We learnt many new life skills, boosted our confidence levels and also developed a further understanding for learning. We are excited to attend the next University camp! A big thanks to Mr. Ryan for organising this opportunity for us.!!!!

**VCAL -2015**

The year has begun well with students eager to start their new VET courses and work placements.

We have a range of areas being explored this year with students involved in a range of VET placements from Hospitality, Building and construction, Fashion, Sport and Recreation, Small Business Management and Music to name a few.

Congratulations to all of our 2014 Yr 12 VCAL students who successfully completed the year and are now pursuing further study or work options. Some examples of student successes are:

- Milica Obradovic – Diploma of Nursing
- Natalie Markovic - working in Travel Agency
- Daniel Kovacic – Diploma Professional Writing
- Ronny Le - Certificate IV Justice
- James Huynh - Apprentice Chef

Year 12 students delighted the school community with a Valentine’s Day lunchtime activity on Monday 9th February. Students worked extremely hard over a short time frame to entertain and feed students with a BBQ, Pancake stall, Ice-creams, Cookies and chocolate baskets, fresh and chocolate roses were also available. Students performed and sang as the school enjoyed the sunshine and the activities. Well done to the group and we look forward to the next event.

Selected Year 11 and 12 students will be involved in a Smith Family online mentoring program that will match them up with a mentor who will chat about career options and pathways. Two face to face meetings will also take place over the year.

Ms Laura Gough  
VCAL Coordinator
What’s been happening at SASC

Whole School Assembly
Congratulations and Welcome to all the new students, all Year 7 students and returning Year 8 students. We are off to a flying start in the Junior School this year. All students have been issued with lockers and have locks for these. Just a reminder that a spare key for your lock must be given to your Integrated Studies Teacher. Each student's Integrated Studies (IS) teacher is also that student's Learning Manager.

The first day for Year 7 saw Students enjoying meeting their Integrated Studies Teacher and Coordinators and enjoying a BBQ with sausages and watermelon at lunchtime. After lunch they participated with great enthusiasm in their class groups in a sports afternoon in the Gymnasium. The Year 7 students have also completed a first day impression to go in a time capsule which will be opened in 2021. Students are learning how to greet in their various LOTE’s and are starting an identity unit in Integrated Studies. In PE, students are doing fitness testing. They are enjoying woodwork art and food technology also.

Year 8 students settled quickly and enthusiastically back into their classes, meeting new teachers and having an enjoyable first day. They are enjoying their start to the new year and are engaging well in their subjects. In Integrated Studies, students are learning about Medieval History and in Science, safety and experimentation and observation is the start of their course.

Thank you to Joel Piscopo and Thao Nhi Tran who spoke very well at the Whole School Assembly held on Friday 6th Feb which welcomed the Year 7 students to St Albans Secondary College.

It is very pleasing to see the students in the Junior School in full school uniform. Most students have all their books and diaries which make for a very smooth beginning to the year. If you have any difficulties in getting any books please contact the Junior School. Could parents also advise the front office of any change of address and phone numbers as soon as possible. If your child is absent, a note or medical certificate needs to be brought to the coordinator upon the student's return to school. Coordinators are interviewing to students individually and getting to know each other.

Year 7 classes are starting to venture to the school camp at Strathbogie. It is a brilliant 3 days away where students cook, explore, canoe and hike amongst other things. It is a chance for students to bond and get to know their classmates and teacher well. All students are encouraged to attend.

The Swimming Sports are on Tuesday 24th February and it is compulsory for all students to attend. If your child is ill on this day they must have a Medical Certificate. Please remember to have Sunscreen, hats and water bottles on this day. We look forward to all students participating in events. Year 7’s Immunisations will take place on Wednesday 2 March.

The Junior School coordinators look forward to meeting parents and assisting them with any concerns they may have about their child.

The Junior School Team is looking forward to working with students and their families in 2015.

**Junior School Team**

Lauren Honeycombe
Junior Sub School Leader
News from our Sub Schools....

Introducing Rocky and Rickina-
Junior Schools adopted Orangutangs

This year the Junior school has begun a social awareness program with the adoption of twin Orangutangs. Our ‘babies’ Rocky and Rickina are being cared for at the Orangutang Emergency Centre Ketapang West Kalimantan Indonesia. Students will, throughout the year, learn about the decreasing Orangutang population and how they can help to reduce their plight. Fund raising activities will be carried out during the year to assist in the upkeep of the twins and others in the orphanage. Updates and information will be provided in assemblies and newsletters.
Welcome back to everyone. In particular I would like to welcome all our new students and their families to the middle school. We hope that by the time you read this, you will have received a letter introducing the coordinators in the middle school. Please contact us if you have any concerns about your child or you would like to discuss something with us.

We are very impressed with the way most students have started the year. The year 9 students have shown that they are both caring and respectful and we look forward to seeing them develop over the next two years. The year 10 students seem to have returned with a positive attitude and are keen to be involved in a range of activities. It is important at this time of the year to establish routines in terms of diary use and homework. It would also be helpful if parents and guardians checked diaries to see what work is being given. Student Weekly Planners are available on the school portal and students will be guided through the portal at the next assembly. Students in the middle school should be completing up to two hours homework per night. If they don’t have specific homework students should be revising class notes or reading a book. Students who would like help with homework are encouraged to join the homework club. This year it will be running on a Thursday night.

Year 9 Activities
On Tuesday 10th of February the year 9 students participated in the GAT test. The students’ behaviour during the test was exemplary and we were very pleased to see all students taking the test seriously. This is an important test and it provides a great deal of information about the student’s abilities. Year 9 students will also be participating in the swimming sports on the 24th of February. This is a compulsory event for all year 9 students and we welcome year 10 students who are also keen to participate. On the last day of term we will be taking the year 9 students to the city for a pre city experience taster day. Students will be shown meeting points and given an orientation of the city. They will also be watching the film “The Giver” at Hoyts cinemas in Melbourne Central. This is the text they are studying in English so it will be both an enjoyable and educational way to finish the term. Letters will be sent home about this excursion and it will be compulsory for all students.

Year 10 Activities
Year 10 students can look forward to upcoming events planned by our four successful Beacon Ambassadors. Congratulations to the following students who have been chosen to as our ambassadors for 2015: Linda Nguyen 10D, Minh Truong 10E, Jessica Vo10A, Ricki Tran 10E. We had several applications this year and students who have not been appointed as ambassadors have been selected in other leadership roles. Other year 10 students have also been appointed as SRC representatives and House Leaders but these students will be announced at special events.

MAC announcement
The MAC team are proud to announce that this year’s production to be performed on 21st, 22nd, 23rd July is ‘Alice@Wonderland’. This is a modern take on the popular story of Alice and all the wonderful characters she meets when she falls down the rabbit hole. Any student wishing to be involved should attend a meeting in PAC on Friday 27th February at 12.50pm (lunchtime).
I would like to take the opportunity to make a special welcome to the parents of Year 11 & 12 students who are new to the Senior School, and to say that the 2015 school year has taken off to a great start. So many students are already showing excellent promise with the timely completion of the holiday homework, set for all classes during the Orientation Program in 2014. There has been an impressive commitment from students and staff to get right down to business, setting the tone for a solid year’s work.

Our Year 12 Parent Information Evening was held on Thursday 5th February and we are proud to announce that we had approximately 300 parents and students in attendance. Thank you to all parents and students who attended a very informative evening which focused on strategies available to parents to support their students throughout Year 12.

The Year 12 Study Camp will be held on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th of February at University College on the grounds of the University of Melbourne, Parkville. VCE and VCAL students experienced a variety of presentations from some pre-eminent speakers, including the best-selling Australian author Archie Fusillo, Tania Sacco of Youth Now, and a number of our own staff presenting on a variety of topics. English staff members Rosemary Sirianni and Athan Theodorou presented a most interactive session on how to excel in Year 12 English. A session on tips for Study Skills and Memorisation was presented by our Assistant Curriculum Coordinator Scott Faulkner. Our School Nurse Nicky Collins-Smith will present an important session on sexual health and wellbeing. Our own MIPs team will present a lecture on the pathways taken by the 2013 Year 12 VCE and VCAL students, and the options for further study once students finish their secondary schooling. Information provided included an outline of the university pre-results selection options - “PPP” and “SNAP” programs - and the various scholarships for which our students can apply. Our Senior Sub School Team has also prepared a valuable session on how to prepare for and succeed in the GAT three hour examination in June.

We have a very active and committed group of students working in our SRC this year. The School Captains Cylene Magri and Eangano Singhehebuye along with Vice Captains Emma Kiernan and Patrick Tran, made a presentation to both our Year 11 and Year 12 Assemblies on January 29th and 30th. Our Year 11 Assembly focussed on Goal Setting for our students who are joining the senior school. The Year 12 Assembly also focused on goal setting, as students begin their final year of schooling.

We have a number of events planned for the year to motivate and engage the imagination of our senior students. Our “Whole New World” presentation by Sonja Carras will be on Monday 2nd March. Sonja’s thought provoking presentation, which focuses on teenagers staying safe while partying, is always received with enthusiasm by students and staff alike. Term 1 would not be complete without the “VCE/Staff Soccer Challenge” on Friday 27th March.

In Term 2 we will have an assembly to celebrate “100 days of VCE/VCAL success”, with speakers including our alumni students sharing their successes. Later in the year the Senior Sub-School Team plans to invite a motivational speaker to address to the Year 11s, while the Year 12s will have a Motivational Pizza lunch.

Additionally in 2015, Study Skills programs for both Year 11 & 12 students will be provided. The “Stretch Program” will be running again this year, and a selection of Year 11 students will be required to attend. Letters to advise of participation in this program will be sent home and parent signatures will be required. Stretch focuses on Study Skills, Time Management and Organisation. The Year 11 and 12 “High Achievers Study Groups” will also run this year. Year 12 enrichment programs have run for the last few years.

In the background, throughout the year, we will conduct our Case Management Initiative to ensure that the attendance, achievement and individual needs of all our students are monitored closely. Interim Reports for all Year 11 and Year 12 students will be available by Week 7. Parents will also have the opportunity to speak to teachers on Tuesday 24th March during the Parent Interviews. Practice Exams will be running for all Year 12 students during the Term 3 holidays.

I look forward to a fast-paced year in the Senior Sub-School and hope to meet many parents of our senior students as the year progresses. Please contact us on 9366, 2555 if you have any queries or concerns about the progress of your child.

Mr Robert Krysinski
Acting Senior Sub School Leader
From the General Office

General Office Hours
The general office is open from 8.15am to 4.15pm.

Uniform Shop Hours
The uniform shop is open on:
Monday 12.15pm to 1.15pm
Thursday 12.15pm to 1.15pm

Punctuality
Is expected at the start of each day & for all classes. Any student who is late more than 4 times will have a Friday detention from 3.20pm to 5.20pm.

The consequences for lateness to school are as follows:

1st Late - Coordinator Warning.
2nd Late - After School Detention: 3.15pm - 3.45pm
            Sub Schools to contact home.
3rd Late - After School Detention: 3.15pm - 3.45pm
            Sub Schools to contact home – advise that next late will be a Friday Night Detention.
4th Late - Friday Night Detention: 3.20pm - 5.20pm
           Students that complete their Friday Night Detention have their next late treated as a 3rd LATE.
           A subsequent LATE means a second Friday Night Detention & student is placed on a ‘Blue Sheet’.
5th Late - Student is on a ‘Blue Sheet’ for 2 weeks
           Coordinator meets Parent/Guardian to explain the Blue Sheet process.
6th Late - Parent interview with SSL & PCO
           Strategies discussed – possible suspension.

March Calendar

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Free English Classes for Parents in Term 2

In term 2, FREE English classes will be available for parents and family members at St Albans Secondary College. If you would like more information, please complete the section below and return it to the General Office by Friday 6 March.

Name:________________________

Name of student:__________________

Phone number:_____________________

Language spoken:_________________

Tên:_____________________________________________________

Tên học sinh:_____________________________________________

Số điện thoại:_____________________________________________

Ngôn ngữ sử dụng tại nhà:____________________________________

Vào học kỳ 2 (Term 2), quý phụ huynh và các thành viên trong gia đình có thể tham dự các lớp học tiếng Anh MIỄN PHÍ được tổ chức tại trường Trung Học St Albans. Nếu quý vị muốn biết thêm thông tin, vui lòng điền vào mẫu đơn dưới đây và gửi lại văn phòng trường, hạn chót ngày Thứ Sáu 6/03/2015.

Tên:_____________________________________________________

Tên học sinh:_____________________________________________

Số điện thoại:_____________________________________________

Ngôn ngữ sử dụng tại nhà:____________________________________

LỚP HỌC TIẾNG ANH MIỄN PHÍ TRONG HỌC KỲ 2 CHO PHỤ HUYNH

St Albans Secondary College, Main Road East, St Albans 3021
Alba News: Issue 1, February 2015
Have you ever thought how good it would be to be able to:
Learn what it's like to live in another country?
Learn a new language and experience a different culture.
If you are in years 9, 10 or 11 now
Rotary Youth Exchange can offer this and more.
Contact; Vanda Mullen, ph 0408 109 368
www.rotaryyouthexchangeaustralia.com.au

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Now Accepting Applicants for
2016 Rotary Youth Exchange!

Are you a Year 9, 10 or 11 student? You may
qualify as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student and
have the opportunity to live and study in Germany,
France Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Japan, Taiwan,
Brazil, Hungary, Norway, Spain, Poland or USA.
The Rotary Youth Exchange Program is a unique
opportunity for students to experience the culture of
a new country, to learn a new language and develop
new friendships.
Applications are now being accepted and close on
Thursday 2nd April 2015. Students must be under
the age of 18 years, as at 1st January in the year of
departure.

Further information is available from
www.rotaryyouthexchangeaustralia.com.au

Rotary Youth Exchange
A Chance of a Lifetime!
Host Families Invited Now!

Rotary Youth Exchange invites kind and caring Host
Families within the community to assist local Rotary
Clubs offer an outstanding exchange program to
young people from all over the World.

A Host Family is a vital part of this cultural and
educational exchange and typically hosts a student
on a voluntary basis for a period of between 10 to 16
weeks. In doing so, a Host family officially becomes a
Friend of Rotary International. The Host Family plays
an integral role in offering the student the experience
of a new culture and language, whilst at the same
time learning itself about a different culture from a
young leader. It is a direct window to the world for all
members of a Host family.

You not only share a young person’s hopes and
dreams, but more importantly, you make those
dreams possible. Hosting is the beginning of a
lifelong friendship and connection with a student and
family overseas. Whilst it can be challenging to help
a young person transition to a new culture and ease
into the surroundings, it is always fun and the
rewards are immeasurable.

Host Families in the Rotary Youth Exchange program
come in many shapes and sizes! Young children,
older children, and no children at all, extended
families and older generations – all have been
successful in hosting exchange students.

Please consider this amazing and rewarding
opportunity now. Enquiries are most welcome.

Further information is available at
www.rotaryyouthexchangeaustralia.com.au

Vanda Mullen
Chair: District 9800 Youth Exchange
0408 109 368
vmullen@netspace.net.au