FROM THE PRINCIPAL  Kaye Mathwin-Cox

It was wonderful seeing the College a buzz with students, staff and families as they arrived for their first day, during our staggered start last week. A special welcome to our new staff (see photos below), students and families to Navigator. We begin this year with 80 new students to Navigator College, which includes our very first Early Learning Students, which is very exciting. Yet another milestone for the College!

Tonight we are holding the Middle and Senior Parent information night and tomorrow night the Junior School Parent Information night. I look forward to seeing many new faces and encourage our families to share in welcoming these new families.

At our 2015 End of Year Service we presented awards to a number of students and community members and those Recipients were printed in the closing Newsletter for 2015. If you missed these announcements, please refer to the College Blog for the list of recipients. On behalf of the College I would like to congratulate the recipients of these awards.

I wish you all every blessing for the start of the Term.

PLEASE NOTE: We have printed this ‘Welcome Newsletter’ for the convenience of our new families who may not be aware that Newsletter is normally only available in electronic copy by either subscribing to the College Blog or downloading the College App, and referring to the blog post.

FROM THE HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL  Jamie Fewster

Hello and welcome to a brand new school year! 2016 promises to be an amazing year for the Senior School with our largest ever cohort of Year 12’s, dedicated and professional staff and facilities that are second to none. The Yr. 12 retreat on the Monday and Tuesday of Week 1 was a great time of learning and reflection. It was exciting when the Yr. 11’s joined them on the Wednesday at school, followed by the 10’s on the Thursday. There is an amazing atmosphere around the Senior School at the moment! I pray that your 2016 is a blessing to you; full of excitement and learning, as we remember the words of Paul in his letter to the Philippians: ‘I can do all this through Him who gives me strength’ (Phil. 4:13). God bless you all.

FROM THE HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL  Andrew Jericho

A warm welcome back to school for those students in the Middle School Years 6 – 9 and particularly those who are new to our College. It is wonderful to see the enthusiasm our students have upon return, in particular the way the relate as a community and connect with staff. The Middle School welcomes new staff in Taylar Cox, and Keiko Miyabe, as well as the return of Rhiannon Perkins. As is tradition our year begins with our ‘Learning to Learn’ week, a focus on developing skills in collaboration, thinking, technology, organisation and social interactions designed to build camaraderie and set our students up for success across all subject areas. I also welcome Leanna Santostefano and Mitchell Jude, our College Captains for 2016, and look forward to building the student leadership team around them.

FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL  Stephen Jude

I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the beginning of another school year at Navigator College. We especially welcome our new students and their families, including those starting in our Early Learning Centre. We trust that you feel a special connection to our Inclusive Compassionate Community, and that you settle in quickly. 2016 has many exciting adventures ahead and we look forward to learning together. The students eagerly await the next chapter in their PYP journey as they take further steps towards developing their international mindedness through various inquiries. We also welcome a number of new staff members to our midst and wish them God’s Blessing as they serve our community as staff.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS FOR 2016

Jamie Fewster  Chris Jankte  Taylar Cox  Diana Smith  Angela Schubert  Alex Haynes  Emma Miegel  Keiko Miabe  Roxanne Calverly  Kirstyn Whait
In November 2015 Navigator College had an intensive three day visit from the International Baccalaureate (IB) team to evaluate the college for verification as an IB World School for the Middle Years Programme (Yr 6-10).

Having achieved authorisation in the Primary Years four years ago, Navigator College recently received notification that on an IB world scale the college has now also achieved IB accreditation for the Middle Years Program!

The International Baccalaureate Organisation report from Singapore Head Office gave the following commendation to Navigator College:

“There is a strong commitment throughout the entire school community to the holistic development of students with a particular emphasis on the shared responsibility to actively help to create a better world. Members of the school community regularly and consistently help students to engage in providing service to those in need thus putting the IB philosophy into action.”

NEW PRINCIPAL APPOINTED TO START TERM 2, 2016

Navigator College are very pleased to announce the appointment of our Second Principal for Navigator College, Mr Neville Grieger.

The Board was most impressed with the quality of candidates who applied for the Interim Principal position, however the Principal position was awarded to Neville, based on his breadth of experience, significant skills and exceptional expertise. Neville is currently the Assistant Director, Lutheran Education Vic, NSW & TAS. Prior to this Neville was Spiritual Development Facilitator with Lutheran Schools Association SA, NT, WA and was Principal of Unity College in Murray Bridge, where he grew enrolments from 500 to over 1000 students. Neville holds a Bachelor of Education, Master of Education, is a Lutheran Education Australia Accredited Leader, Fully trained and Nationally Accredited Mediator, and an Accredited Pathways Facilitator, amongst other qualifications, experiences and capabilities. He will make an exceptional Principal for Navigator College.

We look forward to welcoming Neville and his wife Jenny to our College community next term.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT – MIDDLE/SENIOR SCHOOL

We will be hosting the Parent Information Night for all parents of Middle and Senior School students tonight, Monday the 8th of February. We encourage you to join the teachers for tea / coffee upstairs in the Senior School at 6.30pm, prior to the start of the sessions at 7.00pm. (the Middle School session will be held in Classroom Cluster 4).

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT – JUNIOR SCHOOL

On the evening of Tuesday, the 9th of February we will be conducting our Reception to Year 5 Parent Information Night. This will take a slightly different format this year. Please come along to this evening at 7 p.m. ready to get a taste for what 21st century learning is like at Navigator College.

CONGRATULATIONS MAYAKLA FOR YOUR STATE SELECTION IN NETBALL

In September Makayla Siegert played in the Regional Academy Carnival in Adelaide, where she represented the Eyre region. From there Makayla was encouraged to trial for the u/17 state team in October. She made it through to the next stage which required her to attend trials in Adelaide on Sunday’s for six weeks. This then led to Makaylas selection in the final team as a Goal Defence and/or Goal Keeper position.

Training has started and she is required to travel to Adelaide every Sunday for training until Nationals, which is in early April. The Nationals are held in Perth and lasts for 5 days, where the team will compete against other states. Makayla said “I am extremely grateful to Variety SA for their grant and our local business EP Livestock & Real Estate, Cropsmart, Quality Wool, Stotty’s Building, MGA Insurance Cummins, Ramsey Bros Cummins and George Pedler Ag for their generous donations to help with the financial cost of travel.”

We wish her all the best in the lead up to the Nationals.