Dear Parents/Guardians

Undoubtedly you have been hearing on the news about a number of schools receiving hoax calls of a threatening nature.

These hoax calls cause great inconvenience for schools, parents, students and the police.

Any such calls are of concern to the staff and to that extent:

- All staff have been briefed on our emergency evacuation procedures.
- The whole school participated in a practice evacuation drill last week.
- In the event of an emergency situation the school will contact parents via our Tiqbiz app and email.
- It is not practical to telephone every family in the school so I would encourage you to make sure you have access to the Tiqbiz app if you have not already done so. Instructions of how to do this is contained in this newsletter on the next page.

The continued safety of our students is our primary concern and will not be compromised in any way.

Please contact 8551 6650 if you have any further concerns.

We have had a great start to 2016. The beginning of the year is always an exciting time. There was a real ‘buzz’ around the school for our first days of school for our primary and secondary students. It is pleasing to see how quickly the students settled back in to the school routine. Like previous years, we have a number of new students this year at HCC. It is so gratifying to observe students who have been here longer going out of their way to make our new students feel welcome. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Parent Information Evening next Wednesday.

“If we are growing, we are always going to be out of our comfort zone.” (John Maxwell)

Peter Cliffe
Principal
Tiqbiz – A NEW WAY FORWARD IN COMMUNICATION

HCC uses an advanced communication app called Tiqbiz to communicate with our parent community. The college uses the app to send out general updates, reminders, events and weekly classroom updates from your child’s teacher(s).

Please be aware that you will still receive emails from the college for items including but not limited to, excursion notices and the College Connection newsletter.

The app is available on iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and Windows phone devices. If you don’t have a mobile device, there is also an app available for computer, both Mac and PC.

We kindly ask that if you have not already done so, please download tiqbiz to one of these devices, register a free account then find and tick the school.

When you are ticking the school boxes, please make sure you tick on ‘Whole School’ and the specific grades/years that apply to your family. You will be required to enter a password for each grade/year inbox.

Primary passwords

The password is simply your child’s teacher’s surname all in lowercase.

Secondary passwords (all in lowercase)

Year 7-9 - gupta
Year 10-12 - hung

You’ll receive all the information from tiqbiz via a push notification – much like a text message directly to your device. For any last minute changes or reminders, we’ll be able to reach you to keep you completely informed and up-to-date.

The app has some great features that allow the college to get information through easily and quickly. You’ll be reminded about important calendar dates 24 hours before and everything we post can be translated into one of 81 languages!

You will also be able to submit student absence via the app, authorised by your signature, electronically signed straight onto the screen with your finger!

Should you require further assistance or information regarding tiqbiz, please contact the college office on 8551 6650 or via email to office@hcc.vic.edu.au. We hope that you will enjoy using this great communication tool!

TASTEPONT

This year the PFA (Parents and Friends Association) is joining with Tastepoint to raise funds for the college. Some of the benefits will be as follows:

- improvements and maintenance of the college grounds and buildings (e.g. oval)
- providing teaching aids and college equipment
- providing sporting and playground equipment
- engaging in any other activities in the interest of the college and the welfare of the children

Tastepoint, in partnership with Meat and Livestock Australia, is conducting Australian beef and lamb tasting sessions throughout Victoria. The research participants (HCC parents and friends) are asked to taste and evaluate samples during a one-hour session and with the required surveys completed (120), the school will receive $2000.

So who can be involved? Anyone between the ages of 18 and 70 years old, who eats red meat at least once a fortnight. It can be you, your
The Academy of Creative Arts offers private 20 and 30 minute lessons in guitar, drums, violin, piano, cello, flute and singing. We are taking enrolments now!

For more information, please contact Rose Parker at the Church office on 8551 6600 or at academy@kingstoncitychurch.com.au.

CHINESE CLASS AT HCC

Ni Hao!

Parents, the Chinese class started last week and there is a beginner class (for students who have not done any Chinese before). There are still vacancies and it is not too late to enrol your children.

The beginner class is every Wednesday 3.45 pm to 5.45 pm.

Please contact Olga on 0421 709 414 or by email at moni@accschinese.com for more information. Thank you.
CLASS OF 2015

We caught up with some students from our class of 2015 to find out what their plans are for 2016. Here are their stories:

Our College Dux, Marcus John, who scored an ATAR of 95.8, will be studying Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University. Hannah Stone, who scored an ATAR of 92, will also be studying Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University.

Courtney Guy will be studying a Bachelor of Business Administration at Monash University. Joseph Holtam will be studying a Bachelor of Arts and Commerce at Deakin University. Ben Johnson is currently volunteering in Emergency Resources and he is a youth leader at KCC. Ben is planning on starting a Diploma of Theology at Harvest Bible College. Jeremy Johnson will be studying a Bachelor of IT and Commerce at Deakin University. Leigh Patten will be studying a Bachelor of Commerce and Arts at Deakin University. All the best for your future studies!

Upcoming Events

Sunday 07 Feb  HCC Staff Induction Service at Kingston City Church (10.00 am)
Wed 10 Feb   Y7/8 Sport
            Combined Parent Information Evening for primary and secondary (7.30 pm, Auditorium)
Thu 11 Feb   G1-4 Hockey
Mon 15 Feb   Y9A WASP Camp (departure time: 8.30 am, Gippsland Region)
Tue 16 Feb   Y9A WASP Camp
Wed 17 Feb   Y9A WASP Camp
            Secondary House Swimming
            Y9/10 Sport
Thu 18 Feb   Y9A WASP Camp
Fri 19 Feb   Y9A WASP Camp (pick up time: 3.25 pm)
Sat 20 Feb   Working Bee for Surnames A-K (9.30 am-midday)
Mon 22 Feb   Y9B WASP CAMP (departure time: 8.30 am, Gippsland Region)
            Term 1 College Open Day (9.00 am-midday)
            TastePoint
Tue 23 Feb   Y9B WASP Camp
            TastePoint
Wed 24 Feb   Y9B WASP Camp
            Y7/8 Sport
Thu 25 Feb   Y9B WASP Camp

TERM DATES 2016

Term 1: Thursday 28 January (Primary), Friday 29 January (Secondary) to Wednesday 23 March
Term 2: Monday 11 April to Friday 24 June
Term 3: Wednesday 13 July to Friday 16 September
Term 4: Monday 3 October to Thursday 8 December

WORKING BEES  2016

Saturday 20 February: A-K Families
Saturday 30 April: L-Z Families
Saturday 30 July: A-K Families
Saturday 22 October: L-Z Families

PHEW

The smelliness of a teenager's bedroom plays an important role in their sleep deprivation, which also hits their exam results.

Professor of sleep medicine Colin Espie at Oxford University said young people who never open their windows, of have their rooms poorly ventilated, are at risk.

They need to be taught to open bedroom windows and turn heating down to improve their sleep. The smelly bedroom is a by-product of the fact that the room is full of rebreathed air, which is low in oxygen and high in nitrogen. If you keep on rebreathing the same air in a small bedroom that is hot and not ventilated you will wake up with a headache after a poor night's sleep.

Young people should remove smartphones and iPads from their bedrooms at night, as they emit light that suppresses the normal night-time release of melatonin - a crucial hormone in the body's clock and make their bedrooms as dark as possible and make sure rooms are tidy and not smelly.

CURRICULUM DAYS

Thursday 24 March
Friday 13 May
Monday 15 August

COLLEGE OPEN DAYS

Monday 22 February
Monday 2 May
Monday 1 August
Monday 24 October