

October 2017 Edition 9

# College Connect

## **NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Welcome to our Term 4 edition of Fremantle College Connect. We are now in the final stages of preparation for our opening in 2018 with the enrolment of over 200 Year 7 students. The response to our Specialist Programs has been overwhelming, with the addition of new classes and staff to the college, and it promises to be a fantastic start to the college's first year.

As a parent I know the transition to secondary education, whilst very exciting, can be a bit overwhelming for first time parents. Moving from primary school where most parents know every student, teacher and parent in a year group, parents are often looking for ways to be involved in their child's education whilst their child is also moving to a more independent stage of life. To best support our incoming students in Year 7, college staff have been visiting our local intake primary schools and gathering information for each student. This is assisting us to develop curriculum plans, support structures and provide learning experiences that are relevant to our students and will provide them with the greatest chance for success. We do acknowledge the support of the primary schools and Year 6 teachers with this process. Further to this, our Year 7 Orientation Day will be held in November and all fully enrolled students who are entering Year 7 in 2018 have been invited to attend. If you have not completed your child's enrolment for next year I encourage you to contact our Administration office as soon as possible.

As the year comes to a close I would like to thank the members of the Fremantle College Advisory Group for their contribution to the establishment of the college. We will be calling for nominations for the Fremantle College Board at the start of next year and also the Fremantle College P&C Committee. Parents can make a real difference to the college through membership of these groups and support the college to be the best it can be. *(continued on next page)* 

Also in this edition...

- College Motto
- Primary School Transition and Orientation
- Year 6 Barking Gecko Workshop
- School Tours
- Uniform Fittings
- Gifted & Talented Selective Academic Program





Myles Draper, Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES

<u>2018 Term Dates</u>

Term 1 Wed 31 Jan — Fri 13 Apr Break Sat 14 Apr — Sun 29 Apr Term 2 Tue 1 May — Fri 29 Jun Break Sat 30 Jun — Sun 15 Jul Term 3 Tue 17 Jul — Fri 21 Sep Break Sat 22 Sep — Sun 7 Oct Term 4 Mon 8 Oct — Thu 13 Dec

School Development Days (students not in attendance) Term 1 | Mon 29 Jan, Tue 30 Jan, Fri 9 Mar Term 2 | Mon 30 April Term 3 | Mon 16 Jul Term 4 | Fri 14 Dec

School Ball | Fri 9 March Year 12 Presentation Night | Mon 22 Oct

## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont.

Often many of our parents have backgrounds in education, business and local government and are able to bring unique insights and perspective to the operations and direction of the college.

It is important that teachers have the best resources to make your child's education a fantastic experience. Many students are enrolled in Specialist Programs which provide amazing opportunities for your child. Parents should be aware that additional charges are associated with these courses that must be paid before the start of the school year. Information on Contributions and Charges will be forwarded to parents in the next few weeks. We work very hard to minimise the costs of course delivery whilst still maintaining a balance of excellence in curriculum delivery for your child. I look forward to the support of all of our parents.

One of the most important aspects of the college is the quality of education delivered in classrooms. This term our teachers are working on developing and refining the curriculum for all of the courses we offer. Teachers have been working with a variety of high performing schools across the state to ensure that the curriculum delivered at Fremantle College is second to none. It is always important that teachers are continually up skilling themselves and ensuring that their curriculum is contemporary and relevant. We also ensure that curriculum delivery is constantly monitored and quality assured through our embedded school process and Excellence in Teaching and Learning Framework, which guides teachers through how the key content is taught, the instructional techniques used and the assessment and feedback that is to be provided to students.

Sustainability is an important part of any educational program for students and part of the WA Curriculum. As part of our STEM focus it is a great opportunity to look at the science and innovation behind many of the sustainability initiatives. Whether it be securing our water and energy supplies in WA or minimising the environmental impact of transportation, the students of today will be the innovators of tomorrow who will be solving these issues and many others for years to come. It is a fantastic opportunity for students to engage in real world science and apply their knowledge. The Sustainability Committee has been working on three fronts: Understating the environmental footprint of the college, developing the curriculum, and establishing guidelines for community involvement. Whilst sustainability is important to the community, any college initiative must be student led and supported. I look forward to our Student Leadership group developing this initiative in 2018.

Finally, I would like to thank the many parents and students who have been providing us with feedback along the way this year. It has been a pleasure to see the college grow from week to week and I look forward to delivering our final *College Connect* for the year in only a few short weeks.

Myles Draper

## **COLLEGE MOTTO**

After extensive consultation with Fremantle College staff, students of South Fremantle SHS and Hamilton SHS, we are pleased to announce that we have established the college motto. The winning motto through our voting phase was:

## Strength, Respect, Success

This motto describes the focus of the college on personal achievement, respect for self and others, and our focus on character strengths through Positive Education. It will guide our actions and that of students in the future. This option was preferred by students in an overwhelming majority vote that they participated in during classes. If you voted as a community member through our website, we thank you for your contribution to the building of our new college.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL TRANSITION AND ORIENTATION

As we look forward to welcoming our first cohort of Year 7 students in 2018, planning is currently being undertaken to ensure a smooth start to the school year for all students. We have been visiting primary schools to discuss our incoming students and understand how we can best support them in secondary school. This is assisting us to develop curriculum plans, support structures and provide learning experiences that are relevant to our students and will provide them with the greatest chance for success. We would like to thank the primary schools and Year 6 teachers for their support with this process.

A Year 7 Orientation Day has been planned for November which will introduce students to Fremantle College, our staff and each other. Activity days, Big Days In, have also been planned for the first two days of 2018, which will include a number of activities to assist students with their start to high school.

## YEAR 6 BARKING GECKO WORKSHOP

A fantastic group of Year 6 students who successfully auditioned to be a part of Fremantle College's 2018 Performing Arts Academy attended a workshop on 25 October hosted by the renowned Perth theatre group Barking Gecko. It was a fun and engaging workshop that had students learning the skills of theatre based improvisation. The students were both entertained and challenged by a number of exercises and tasks that had them thinking and acting out scenarios in all sorts of spontaneous and fun ways. The students were very enthusiastic and willing participants. It was great watching them work together, problem solve and have fun with each other. There was a lot of laughter and it was encouraging to see and hear them supporting each other. They are to be congratuFremantle College is open for inspection! In responding to very high demand from our community, we have added two additional tours of our campus this term. Joining a college tour gives you the chance to see the amazing facilities your child will benefit from as well as providing an opportunity to meet and ask questions of our Executive team who personally lead the tours.

It will also give you a feel for the type of learning your child will be engaged in while attending Fremantle College. Tours have been scheduled for the following dates in Term 4 in 2017:

- Mon 6 November
- Tue 21 November
- Tue 5 December

Tours begin at 3.30pm and can be booked through the <u>Fremantle</u> <u>College website</u>.



lated on their efforts and we look forward to working with them next year in the Performing Arts Academy.

## UNIFORM FITTINGS

It is very exciting that we have a range of activities occurring in the coming weeks to assist all families to be decked out in our full college uniform for 2018. Over the next two weeks, all current students of South Fremantle SHS and Hamilton SHS will be fitted for a uniform pack for free, as part of the transition support provided to them by Fremantle College and the Department of Education. This will make it easier for students as they won't need to make their own way to the Uniform Store in Willetton.

We have also negotiated a fabulous opportunity for all of our incoming Year 7 students and new students enrolling in other year groups to purchase their uniform on Saturday 4 November at the Performing Arts Centre (South Fremantle SHS) on Lefroy Road, South Fremantle. Purchasing your child's uniform is an exciting time, and we are pleased to be able to work with Uniform Concepts to provide this fitting service at a local site for the day. Information regarding this opportunity has been sent home to parents of enrolled students. We are looking forward to

#### GIFTED & TALENTED SELECTIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Applications are now open for the Gifted & Talented Selective Academic Program, for entry in Year 7 2019. Fremantle College offers an engaging and stimulating program for students in English, HASS, Maths and Science, with access to an enriched curriculum and specialist teaching staff, as well as entry into competitions, forums and promotions. All students entering our program have the opportunity to participate in dedicated transition activities and access Fremantle College's facilities prior to the start of the 2019 school year.

All applications for the Gifted and Talented Selective Academic Program must be received by Sunday 11 February 2018 and can only be lodged online. Testing will take place on Saturday 17 March 2018. Further information regarding the program, as well as our Specialist Programs and Academies, is available by contacting Janelle Mittonette at Fremantle College or by visiting our website.

### **BUS ROUTES**

Bus routes that will service Fremantle College have been released by Transperth and will come into effect in 2018. Further information regarding times will be available from next year.

