Principal’s Report for FOSSIKER 2012

2012 has been a year of significant change at Koonung with the introduction of a 2 sub-school structure and relocation of the senior study centre. These changes were necessary in response to the growth in student numbers currently sitting at 1150. In addition a new year 10 curriculum was launched which enabled students to select additional elective based subjects and greater access to VCE studies.

The Koonung notebook program KCreate at year 7 and Senior Shift at Years 10 and 11 were also implemented providing all students in Years 7, 10 and 11 with a personal notebook.

These initiatives required careful planning and a positive attitude to allow them to be implemented. I am pleased to say that students, staff and parents embraced the changes and worked together to achieve this.

Marquee events form an important part of the Koonung culture and they are embraced by the whole school community. ‘Koonung Day’ was a great success in its second year, the school Drama Production ‘You Can’t Take It With You’ and the musical ‘Footloose’ were outstanding and the Athletics and Swimming carnivals highlighted the tremendous house spirit at the school.

Co-curricular activities provide opportunities for students and staff to work together to enhance educational outcomes and to challenge students in the areas of physical, psychological and social development. Throughout 2012 in addition to the marquee events already mentioned students participated in:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Music concerts</th>
<th>debating</th>
<th>lunchtime activities and clubs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultural exchanges to China, France and Japan</td>
<td>Theatre sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interschool sport</td>
<td>Great Victorian Bike Ride</td>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coaching</td>
<td>Surf Camps at Year 9</td>
<td>Ski Camp</td>
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<td>Wollangarra Camp at Year 8</td>
<td>Year 9 camp</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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World Challenge and much more

Congratulations to all students for your willingness to be involved and thankyou to the wonderful teaching staff and parents who contributed to the planning and supervision of these co-curricular activities.

The contribution of the student leadership team including the SRC is highly valued and the opportunity to access leadership positions was expanded this year to include environmental captain and art captain.

Many thanks to Ryland Sack and Caitlin Harris (School Captains) Nick McIndoe and Bettina Grieve (School Vice Captains) and Lauren Boucher (SRC President) for your leadership of the Koonung
community. You have been marvellous ambassadors for the school and exemplary role models for the student body.

In closing I wish to comment on the culture of Koonung. It is a school with a strong sense of community as evidenced by the partnerships we share with groups such as Koonung Comets Junior Basketball Club, XJS Chinese School, Rotary (MASH), Camberwell Boys Grammar, Camberwell Hockey Club and Nunawading Junior Soccer Club.

The Year 9 ‘LiveLife’ program allows students to contribute to the local community through their volunteer work. Staff and students easily engage with one another and mutual respect is evident. Pride in the school grows stronger each year and the willingness of staff, parents and students to be involved in all the school has to offer is testament to this.

Best wishes to all and congratulations to the Year 12 class of 2012, I wish you all the best for the future.

Peter Wright
Principal