Dear Parents,

A number of weeks have now passed since the final curtain came down on our wonderful production of Guys & Dolls. Nevertheless, I am sure that the catchy songs and brilliant dance routines are still vivid in the minds of those who contributed to the show and those who were lucky enough to see it.

My congratulations go to the members of the cast and crew who worked tirelessly to ensure that the season was such a memorable one. Well done, also, to our student musicians who played alongside a troupe of professionals in the orchestra pit – what a wonderful learning opportunity for these students.

Director, Mel Slade, certainly deserved the huge accolades with which she was showered following the closing night; she certainly treated us to something very special!

Those of you who travel along the School’s Nepean Highway boundary will no doubt have noticed the speed with which our new Senior Centre is taking shape. Weather-permitting, a November hand-over from the builders is looking very likely.

Information regarding this year’s Annual Giving appeal is on its way to all members of our community. This Appeal offers a tax deductible way in which you are able to further support the building of new facilities on our campus. The funds from our 2013 Appeal will be directed towards providing quality furniture and fittings in the new 250 seat cafeteria. Your generosity is much appreciated!

Families will now be aware of our VCAT exemption from the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 which allows us to advertise specifically for, and allocate places to, female students. For your information, we will soon be advertising General Excellence Scholarships for girls who are not currently enrolled at Peninsula. Our aim is to improve the current gender ratio of the student population from 42% girls. This new initiative complements our normal, Years 5 & 7 scholarship program which attracts internal and external applicants of both genders. You may care to encourage your friends to take advantage of this new opportunity and let them know of our upcoming Open Day on 31 July. More information will soon be available on our website.

As usual, Term 2 has been a busy time for staff and students and it seems that the holidays have come at a good time for most. I am sure that our Year 12 students, in particular, will welcome the opportunity to refresh over the break and to build up some reserves for the very important run up to their final exams.

My best wishes for the holidays,

Stuart Johnston
Principal

Reminder: Open Day 9-11am on 31 July
The Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery has been awarded the prestigious Archibald Prize portrait exhibition which will be on display from June 8 to July 7, 2013. In conjunction with this exhibition, the Friends of the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery announced a student art prize which was open to all school students across the Mornington Peninsula. 600 entries were received from students ranging in age from Prep through to Year 12.

Zephyr Leonard from Year 8 has been named as a finalist in the Years 7 to 10 category. His acrylic painting, “Hugh Jackman as Jean Valjean”, was completed in his art class under the guidance of Mrs Lisa Smith. It is one of three entries in this category which will be displayed in the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery for the duration of the Archibald Prize. Winners of first, second and third place in each category will be announced and prizes will be awarded by Karen Vickery, Manager Access and Learning, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra at an official ceremony at the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery on Monday 17th June.

We congratulate Zephyr for this outstanding achievement and wish him well at the awards ceremony.

Every student entry will be displayed at retail outlets and venues across the Peninsula for the duration of the Archibald Prize at the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery.  More than 900 young artists from prep to year 12 entered the inaugural Portrait Art Prize, organised by the Friends of MPRG. The winning students and schools will be announced at the Gallery on Monday 17 June.

The twelve winning works of the Portrait Art Prize from schools across the Mornington Peninsula will be displayed at the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery (MPRG) during the 2013 Archibald Prize. More than 300 young artists from prep to year 12 entered the inaugural Portrait Art Prize, organised by the Friends of MPRG. The winning students and schools will be announced at the Gallery on Monday 17 June.

The Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery is proud to be the only venue in Victoria to be presenting the Archibald Prize in 2013 and 2014. The Archibald Prize was established at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in 1921 to foster portraiture and perpetuate the memory of great Australians. The winner of this year’s Archibald Prize is Del Kathryn Barton for her portrait of Hugo Weaving. Other faces you may recognise in this year’s exhibition include Offspring actress Asher Keddie by her artist partner Vincent Fantauzzo, Naomi Watts by Abbey McCulloch, Toni Collette by Alexander McKenzie and Anthony Mundine by Abdul Abdullah.

The exhibition runs from 8 June – 7 July at the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Civic Reserve, Dunns Rd, Mornington. The exhibition runs from 8 June – 7 July at the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Civic Reserve, Dunns Rd, Mornington. $10 for adults, $8 concession, $5 for children 5–12 years old. Pre-book tickets online at www.visitmorningtonpeninsula.org/archibald

Archibald Prize 2013
Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery
8 June - 7 July

With aplomb!

On Wednesday the 22nd of May, with Mrs North, Sophie Stuart and I attended the ‘Junior Public Speaking Competition’ at Mentone Girls’ Grammar, run by the Debating Association of Victoria. There were a number of topics, all of which were quite interesting. I was the one who competed in the ‘Animal Rights’, From there we could talk about whatever we perceived from the topic as long as we spoke for 4-5 minutes. The impromptu speeches were 2-3 minutes in length and we got 5 minutes of isolated planning time before presenting. My two impromptu speeches were on the topics “What I would do if I was a million dollars...” and “What makes a good teacher?”. I’m proud to say I was one of the top 5 scorers at the competition and will be attending the semi-finals next term. I am very thankful to have been chosen to represent the school and will cherish the knowledge I obtained during the day to better my own performance. I’d like to say a congratulations to everyone who competed in the competition, it was a great success!

Rebecca Lewis
Year 9

Flying High…

a magnificent young man

Our congratulations go to Year 11 student, James Kosenko, who has recently achieved his long held ambition of obtaining his Private Pilot Licence. This is the first time in the School’s history that this qualification has been achieved by a student during their secondary school years.

James’ passion for flying was obvious from an early age when he spent many hours on the flight simulator which he downloaded onto his computer. Visits to the Avalon Air Shows and hours spent volunteering at the local Tyaib air fields have certainly served to fuel his passion.

Commencing his journey towards achieving his licence in Year 8, when flying became an offering in the Middle School Activities program, James has now accrued more than 100 hours of flying time. On top of this practical experience, he has also completed more than 70 hours of theory.

James flies a Cessna 172, owned by the Peninsula Aero Club which flies out of Tyabb Airfield. A number of his friends have joined James for scenic flights and he has also treated his family to flights over Victoria.

James will have a number of options facing him when he finishes at Peninsula, including joining the Air Force or Army as a pilot and, perhaps, ultimately gaining a position with a commercial airline. As it stands at the moment, the attraction of flying the new F35 jet fighter is certainly attracting his attention.

James encourages other budding pilots to follow their dreams, just as he has done. He has drawn on his strength of optimism when faced with the hard slog, the many hours of theory and the difficulties encountered along the way.

Phil Doll
Deputy Principal
Community Relations & Positive Psychology

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Guys and Dolls... sheer enjoyment

Guys & Dolls amazed audiences at the Frankston Arts Centre on May 23rd, 24th & 25th 2013. It has been hailed as one of, if not the best, Senior School Musicals produced by the school. The musical was developed from short stories written by Damon Runyon in the 1920s and 1930s which concerned events which took place in the secret alleys of New York. Ever since the musical made its Broadway debut in 1950 it has been a hit with audiences & critics worldwide. Guys & Dolls is a classic. Broadway musical and our students definitely did justice to a show with such a long and celebrated history.

With such a strong group of Seniors in the lead and supporting roles, the younger members of the ensemble cast could have easily been overshadowed. However, the energy, enthusiasm, and fantastic character development they displayed has ensured the future of musical productions at The Peninsula School is very bright indeed. It was wonderful to see the senior students so actively displaying great leadership and advice to their younger cast counterparts; creating an environment where everyone felt supported and able to explore creatively without fear of judgement.

Guerrin Roth (Yr. 12), Peninsula’s Head Boy, played high roller Sky Masterson. He has the look, the “not so bad as he’d like to appear” demeanour, and an incredible voice. “Luck Be a Lady” was a true show stopper as Guerrin sang it flawlessly, and the male performers danced with gusto. Madeleine Cortel (Yr. 11), with her lovely soprano voice and earnest performance, brought to life ‘mission doll’, Sarah Brown in such an honest way. Matthew Saccuzzo (Yr. 12) played a completely believable Nathan Detroit, the lovable bumbling never-do-well who does, in fact, do well. Saccuzzo was perfectly paired with Sam Crowe (Yr. 10), as Nathan Detroit’s fiancée Miss Adelaide. The comedic duo bounced off each other with quick fire delivery of lines and brilliant timing, particularly evident in their second act duet, “Sue Me”. Sam dazzled with her exceptional talent and the mature approach she brought to creating such an iconic role.

Nicoley-Nicole Johnson, played by Matthew Kazacos (Yr. 12), brought true honour to the flagship song “Sit Down You’re Rocking the Boat.” His comic timing and enduring characterization had the audience wrapped around his finger. Lachlan Owns (Yr. 12) as Benny Southstreet and Ben Carr (Yr. 11) as Rusty Charlie perfectly captured the over the top caricatures and humour which are essential to maintain the original spirit of the show. Holy Langdon (Yr. 11) brought such playful mischief and sensitivity to her role of Sarah’s best friend Adrine Abernathy, and enchanted audiences with her solo “More I Can Cannot Wish You”.

With the idea of increasing the acknowledgement of our young dynamic performers by the broader theatre community, this year we joined the theatre community, this year we joined the Music Theatre Guild of Victoria. Several Judges attended our performances and there is the possibility our production may be nominated for the 2013 Guild Awards in the junior division. Stay tuned for further announcements from the Guild, and please join us in congratulating all the students involved in every aspect of the production (Cast, Crew, Orchestra) on their outstanding achievements.

Melinda Slade
Director/Producer/Choreographer
Sporting Achievement

All Schools Road Relay Championships

Approximately 1100 students, representing schools from all over Victoria, traveled to Albert Park to compete in the All Schools Road Relay Championships.

Competition was fierce and The Peninsula School C/C squad competed with courage and great team spirit. We were only just pipped by Haileybury for the overall Co-Ed Schools Premiership.

Outstanding performances from every member of our team produced these fantastic results.

Medal winning teams:
U14 girls Silver, Piper Harrison, Annabel Hayes, Lauren Colm, Georgia Torey
U14 boys Silver, Jasper Hayes, Daniel D’Alberto, Ned Buxton, Sam Torey.
U18 girls Gold, Kaya Cheasely, Kelise Walton, Imogen Hoyle, Riley Cridland.
U18 boys Bronze, Yoann Colm, Justin Walsey, Jessie Dunsmore, Shaun Walton.

Special bravery award has to go to 13 year old Jessie Dunsmore due to other commitments. I am sure that my excited sigh of relief was audible to those nearby when I heard my name read out! I was selected as the number 3 player in the Victorian State Schools team to play in Adelaide during the week on Monday 6th - Sunday 12th May.

Congratulations to the following students who were medalists in the U/18 girls section.

U11 Girls
Xuara McFarlane
Lily Van Petegem
U12 Boys
Fraser King
Max Mounsey
U12 Girls
Madison Howe
Piper Harrison
U13 Boys
Jai Taylor
James Paton
U14 Boys
Dylan Burrows
Josh Howlett
U14 Girls
Annie Buntrine
Imogen Hoyle
Samantha Howe
Claudia Whittore

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected for the team and felt extremely proud when I was made up of competitors from all States. I was thrilled to have been selected for the team and felt extremely proud when I was named as the number 3 player in the Victorian Schools State Team. I was nervous during the selection period as I had to miss one trial due to other commitments. I was nervous as I had to miss one trial during the selection period due to other commitments. I was nervous as I had to miss one trial during the selection period due to other commitments. I was nervous as I had to miss one trial during the selection period due to other commitments.

The tour lasts for 21 days and the players are based in Durham. They play games against Junior League and County representative sides and also travel to other areas in England where they play games in Yorkshire and Nottingham and visit London. They attend at least one first class game. In 2012 they met the Australian Cricket team after one of their matches had been washed out.

The following Peninsula School boys have been selected in this exciting cricket tour.

2013 – James La Brooy, Luke Gandy, Oscar Craig and Tom Freeman
2014 – Lachlan Curtis, Joshua Gouge, Sam Sturt and Michael West

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