Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: Middle School jumper and graduation queries

Just to re-cap, at the end of last year I reported the following in the newsletter home to all families:

**Middle School Review implementation**

We are now entering a very exciting phase in middle school reform at Reynella East College. Since finalising the recommendations of the Middle School review last term, year 8 and 9 learning team areas have been identified in the Malbeck building. We have also engaged the DECD Facilities Manager and architects to cost and manage structural modifications to create flexible shared learning spaces. Sub-school learning teams are now being selected and home-groups and mixed ability classes established earlier than in the past, so that learning teams can meet for forward planning and start to familiarise themselves with learner needs prior to the start of next year.

Two primary buildings have also been identified to accommodate year 6/7 middle years learning teams and plans are underway to offer our year 6/7 middle school students the choice of languages and rotation of experiences in the Arts and Health and Physical Education. These changes all support middle school research about effective transition by providing:

- early experiences in new routines and future learning experiences (rather than two or three transition visits)
- structures for learning that are closely aligned within familiar sub-school environments and
- opportunities to build early relationships, (particularly with other teachers in such a large school setting)

Once a decision was made to include the 6/7 as part of the new middle school, a meeting was held with all year 5/6 students and their teachers to explain some of the pending changes and to clarify questions. Many of the questions related to processes for selecting languages, uniform and graduation. From this meeting, an undertaking was made to elect a representative group of students to discuss ideas and options.

As promised, in Week 1 two representatives from each of the year 6/7 classes were elected and they have surveyed their classes. The students voted unanimously for a middle school jumper with pockets in the front. There was also discussion about whether they could have all names on the back.
Yesterday, a meeting was held with the following people to explore options:

- Barry Temme, Governing Council Chairperson / uniform sub-committee convenor
- Wendy Fry, Uniform Shop Manager
- Lynn Bissi, Senior Sales Consultant, Marino Uniforms
- Karen Church, Assistant Principal

The following recommendations have been made:

1. Further consultation is undertaken with students and families about the proposal to introduce and phase in middle school tops.

2. A commemorative jumper is designed and offered to current year 6/7 students for 2016.

3. Families are informed that this will be the last year a commemorative top will be offered to year 6/7 classes.

The cost of commemorative jumpers will be $60 (similar to previous years) and order forms are attached. If families are able to get order forms and a deposit of $25 to the Finance Office by Friday 26 February, we are hoping to have delivery at the beginning of term 2 (the same as in previous years).

Discussions about the end of year celebrations will commence shortly, and we will keep you up to date.

I’d like to take the opportunity to acknowledge all the year 6-9 teachers, newly appointed Middle School Learning Managers and the Support Staff who have worked hard to ensure that each of the Middle School Learning Communities across the College are well set-up with good quality facilities and flexible learning spaces. It was also great to see so many of you take the opportunity to visit these areas at Acquaintance Night last week.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Green
Principal

12/02/16
Year 6/7 Commemorative Jumper Order Form

Year 6/7 jumpers are now available for order. The cost per jumper is $60.
If you wish to purchase, please complete the order form below and return to the finance office by Friday 26th February to ensure delivery. A $25 deposit is required for each jumper ordered. Once the deposit is received, each student will be measured for correct sizing.

Deposits can be made by cash, card or credit. Credit card orders may be taken over the phone or by completing the details below.

(No credit card details will be held on site)

______________________________________________________________

Student Name: _____________________________________________

Class: ____________________________________________________

Teacher: ___________________________________________________

Contact Number: Mobile: _________________________________

I wish to order a jumper for $60.00

I have enclosed a deposit of $25.00 (Please Circle)   Cash   Credit   Phone Credit Card

Credit Card Number _________________________________________

Parent / Caregiver Name ____________________________________

Signature __________________________________________________