The Principal

I have been asked to write a submission for the Legislative assembly of Victoria's inquiry into sexting, which I must confess I had not really thought about more than taking note of proposed changes to legislation around the issue, which has appeared in the media over the last year.

Sexting is the name given to the emerging practice of sending naked or semi-naked photos via the internet to one or more recipients. It would seem that this practice has become commonplace especially in the last five years. It would also appear that children as young as primary school age are now engaging in the practice. The other worrying trend is that sexting has switched from being the result of coercion to a voluntary activity produced by a desire to impress a boy, be sexy or emulate a role model from the media or entertainment industry. Young people seem incapable of understanding unless it happens to them, that anything in the digital world leaves an imprint that cannot be erased and can 'go viral' in an instant having unforeseen and often dangerous consequences.

The government is currently deliberating about whether to change the law to charge offenders even if they are minors and have them placed on the register of sexual offenders for life. Schools often have education programs around such anti social or illegal activities such as sexting, but the rapidity of technological innovation often means they lag behind the latest 'fad' prevalent amongst young people. Parents are providing young people with powerful devices which often they don’t fully understand and perhaps do not monitor, guide or supervise their use.

Society itself seems to promote the sexualisation of young people through advertising and the media and ‘raunch’ culture seems to be endemic and bent upon finding more and more boundaries to cross. The latest fashion of lingerie gridiron is one example of role modelling for young women of a questionable nature. Films, entertainment, video games and even sporting 'idols' are also often highly sexualised in content, appearance and action and these also may encourage young women to copy such behaviour. The younger the child, the more impressionable and vulnerable they may be.

The government is faced with a difficult situation. On the one hand the public expect that children will be protected from predatory behaviour, especially of a sexual nature. The law by its very nature must set boundaries and punishments that are often not highly nuanced or capable of taking into account the complexity of an offender and his or her behaviour. If sexting is being carried out by very young children as well as adults where does the offence change from ending in registration as an offender for life, and caution or education? There is anecdotal evidence from many schools that the perceived 'heavy handed' approach being mooted by the government is giving weight to school education programs around preventing sexting.

I carried out a brief survey amongst the Year 11s and 12s about the issue as preparation for the submission, given that they are representative of a group of young people who may be potentially affected and therefore have a point of view.
many braved the cold, wet conditions to get helpful information about career pathways and tertiary courses.

The evening commenced with students utilising the opportunity to speak to representatives from some of the major Victorian universities before hearing from our Keynote Speaker, Ms Sue Barrett. Sue is the Founder and Director of Barrett Consulting Group, and she provided us all with some very useful tips in how to create a successful career and life. She explained her seven key aspects of life, or as she calls them, her 'Swiss Army Knife of Life'. Furthermore, she encouraged all members of the audience to approach life with an empty cup. That is, to be aware that one can learn so much from others if we are open to the possibility of learning new things.

It was so pleasing to be able to welcome back 12 Old Fintonians; some currently completing their undergraduate studies, while others have successfully navigated fascinating lives, both professionally and personally. The four recent Fintona graduates spoke about the university course they are undertaking, its requirements and the opportunities available through their chosen course. The other eight speakers were from a wide range of occupations such as acting, law and neuropsychology. All of our speakers provided some valuable and insightful advice to those who attended their sessions. It was wonderful to hear the interchange between past and present students as they spoke about possible pathways for their future careers.

I would like to thank the following speakers for being a part of the evening: Ms Mandy Chambers, Dr Tammy Goldwasser, Ms Hannah Greenwood, Dr Cyrna Hearn, Mrs Debbie Hilton, Ms Tasha Patel, Ms Pavitra Raja, Ms Jacinta Raquel, Dr Amy Scholes, Ms Bellinda Scales, Ms Kathy Song and Ms Georgia Wilkins.

With over 200 people in attendance and a lot of positive feedback, the evening was clearly a success!

Pictured: Some of the Old Fintonians who spoke on the evening
Back: Debbie Hilton, Bellinda Scales, Dr Cyrna Hearn, Kathy Song, Pavitra Raja. Front: Mandy Chambers, Tasha Patel, Dr Tammy Goldwasser, Georgia Wilkins

Miss Dot Georgiou
Careers Co-ordinator

MUSIC NEWS

This term has been very busy in the Music Department. We have farewelled Mrs Trish Woodward as Music Administrative Assistant, and have welcomed Ms Karolina Wojtasik in her place. The whole department would like to thank Trish for all of her work in the Music Office. Karolina comes to us with a music degree in piano performance, a psychology degree and a Graduate Diploma in Arts Administration, and she has settled in seamlessly.

The weekend Music Camp, held at Camp Maryung, Mt Eliza, in May, was a great success and all of the girls and Staff rehearsed very intensively with great results. The following weekend a concert was held in the Reid Studio, showcasing the best of the large ensemble work from the camp. The standard of all the ensembles was really high and reflects the importance of music at Fintona.

The VCE Music Performance Units 1 and 3 Recitals were presented as an evening concert in the Reid Studio late in May. The girls presented their programs with great flair, reflecting the serious amount of work that they have put into their music performance. It was a real delight for those who attended.

Later that week we presented another Reid Studio concert. The items were primarily presented by Middle School students, again showing the wonderful level of music being made throughout the School. These concerts give students the opportunity to gain performance experience as well as giving them achievable goals for their playing.

The Fintona Chorale will present their mini-musical Hairspray tonight in the Reid Studio. Refreshments will be served at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Everyone is welcome to attend, and it should be an exciting presentation.

It is very pleasing for me to see just how many of our students are involved in regular music-making within the school, and also a pleasure for me to acknowledge the wonderful standard of performance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the music staff for their tireless efforts and generosity in giving so much of their time and energy to the School.

Concert Dates in Term 3

31 July - Solo Concert in the Reid Studio at 7.30pm
This concert will feature soloists and small groups from across the school

16 August - Fintona Annual Concert at 7.30pm
This year the concert will be held in the Margaret Cunningham Hall and will showcase ensembles from across the school, and some chamber items.

13 September - Concert (AMEB Focus)
This concert will feature students who are preparing for the next session of AMEB examinations

Ms Pip Robinson
you spend at Woolworths (excluding the purchase of tobacco, liquor and gift cards), you will receive a sticker. These stickers can then be given to your children to collect on a special sticker card. Once it is completed, they can simply bring it back here to school.

The more points we earn, the more we can redeem from a choice of over 7,000 educational resources including Mathematics and English resources, art and crafts materials and much, much more!

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, visit the Woolworths website www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Coles 2012 Sports for Schools Program

Coles has launched their 2012 Sports for Schools program and we are excited to announce that Fintona will be participating and collecting vouchers for sports equipment. Vouchers are available in all Coles stores from 13 June to 14 August and we ask that you get involved to help collect vouchers for Fintona. Last year we were able to purchase some new sports equipment which the girls really appreciated.

We are appealing to parents and guardians to collect as many vouchers as you can. By donating and encouraging friends and family to do the same, you are helping to provide a healthy and active education for our children. Please visit Coles.sportsforschools.com.au for more information about the program. Please feel free to drop the vouchers into one of the designated voucher collection boxes which are located outside Mrs Sue Peat’s office in the Junior School and Student Services in the Senior School.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Mrs Vicky Kapourelakos
Marketing Manager

Entertainment Books

Parents are advised that they can now order an Entertainment Book through Student Services – Please contact Ms Ciska Herrmann studentservices@fintona.vic.edu.au and she will provide you with an order form. $13.00 from the sale of each book goes to the Fintona Parents’ Association.

Middle School

Explorations

The Year 7 and 8 girls had a fabulous three days exploring projects of their own on the theme of ‘Dragons’. Now, we have a dragon garden in Moss House, a new flag for the Middle School playground, new picture story books for the ELC, projects completed on how to fly or breathe fire, plus many more. The girls presented to the Middle School assembly last week and everyone was in awe of the standard of work that our girls were able to produce after only three days of collaborating. Congratulations to all of the Year 7 and 8 students and many thanks to their teacher mentors.

Middle School Assembly

For our last Middle School Assembly this term, the Year 7s organised an excellent presentation about their trip to Central Australia. They showed a PowerPoint with photographs of the highlights of their trip. Many of the Year 7 girls spoke about their experiences and the valuable lessons that they had learned about the Aboriginal people, our country and themselves.

As this is the last bulletin for Term 2, we send our best wishes to everyone and trust that you will have a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to working with you all again next term.

Ms Julie Goldsworthy
Head of Middle School
Culture is:

- The beliefs, values and traditions of your family.
- Your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, great-great-grandparents and each generation of your family.
- The influence of the place or country where your family lives or has lived.
- Culture influences the ways we celebrate, how we worship, the foods we eat, the songs and stories we share, the beliefs we have.
- We are all part of many cultures.

The culture of our family, our school, our community and our country can be similar and different.

Dance Classes

Please note that dance classes with Dance Fitness Victoria will resume for Term 3 on Tuesday 24 July.

Holiday Wishes

I would like to sincerely thank the girls for their endeavours throughout this term, our families for their support and the staff for their work and enthusiasm. I hope all our families have a wonderful holiday break and we look forward to Term 3, with camps for our Year 3 and 4 girls, student-led conferences, Bastille Day celebrations and so much more.

Pictured: Junior School students come from forty different cultural backgrounds

Mrs Sally Clayton
Head of Junior School

Footy Day

AFL footy day was kicktastic! On Tuesday 12 June the girls from Prep to Year 4 celebrated 'Footy Day'. When we first got to school in our team colours there was music playing over the speakers and it was playing the footy team songs.

After working hard in our classrooms during the morning we got to enjoy a footy lunch at 12.00pm which included a hot dog with sauce and a juice box.

Following lunch the girls in Years 3 and 4 were invited to play football with Chris Newman (The Captain) and Kelvin Moore from the Richmond Football Club. We learnt how to handball, mark and kick, and got to play lots of fun games.

When it was time for the footballers to leave, we got to have photos with the players and collect their autographs. At the end of the day the Prep, Year 1s and Year 2s joined in the fun and we completed several footy themed activities. Well done Junior School for collecting $372.20 for plant a seed.

Pictured: Mietta Morris, Siena O'Neill, Saffi Kiellerup, Estella Black with Kelvin Moore and Chris Newman

Giselle Luznik and Victoria Law
Community Service Captains

SSV Cross Country

On Thursday 24 May nine students from Year 4, together with twenty students from Years 5 and 6, competed in the North Balwyn District for the SSV (School Sports Victoria) Cross Country Carnival.

The event was held at Macleay Park where they ran against other students
enjoyed your time together with your child in their learning environment.

**Have a Safe and Happy Mid-year Break**

We wish all of our families a fun-filled, happy and safe holiday break and we look forward to seeing you on the first day of Term 3, Tuesday 17 July.

Pictured: Tina and Constantine Koutrouzas enjoying time together in the Ginko Room at the Student Led Conference

Ms Cara Mearns  
Head of ELC

**Who's the Boss?**

Last Thursday the K3 Jacaranda Joey's went on a big adventure across the road to visit the Middle and Senior School. This term the K3 PYP Unit of Inquiry is focussing on the children as being part of a family and part of a school community.

We began our adventure in the Art Room looking at the wonderful mosaic dragon the girls have been making. We then headed to the Tuckshop to visit Cathie and had a delicious morning tea of a gingerbread man and a juice box. Finally, we met Mrs Suzy Chandler in the sitting room, before heading up the Tourroni Tower!

As you can imagine, during the visit the children had some pressing questions for Mrs Chandler:

*Why do you work?* - Daniel  
*Are you the boss?* - Gus  
*What do you do on your computer?* - Stephanie  
*Who do you look after?* - Harrison  
*Do you play with toys?* - Hannah

On our return to the ELC the children ate their lunch and were literally falling asleep in their lunch boxes. Being part of a school community is tiring work when you’re three!

Pictured: Mrs Suzy Chandler and the K3 Jacaranda Joey's.

Mrs Jackie Dimattina  
K3 Teacher Jacaranda Room

**Community Notices**

**BAKERS DELIGHT OFFER**

Don't forget to help raise funds through the Bakers Delight Dough Raiser campaign. Mention that you are from Fintona when you make a purchase. This initiative is ongoing, so support the school as far as possible.

Bakers Delight will donate directly back to Fintona 5% of all sales attributed to the School.

If you have any enquiries, please email Ms Pamela Young pyoung@fintona.vic.edu.au