PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SENIOR NEWS

SPECIAL EDITION

Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, links were found over the weekend between 1kg bags of Nanna's frozen mixed berries and at least five cases of Hepatitis A, including three in Victoria.

As a precaution and on advice from Dr Rosemary Lester, Victoria's Chief Health Officer, the company has recalled this product on 14 February and subsequently further products on 15 February due to concerns about potential for contamination with hepatitis A virus. The products recalled as at 9am 16/02/15 include:

Nanna's Mixed Berries 1kg; All batches up to and including Best Before Date 22/11/16 Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries 300g; All batches up to and including Best Before Date 10/12/17 Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries 500g; All batches up to and including Best Before Date 06/10/17

Consumers are advised to discard any of these products and to be aware of the symptoms of hepatitis A infection in the 15-50 days after consuming the berries.

We are writing to you because your child may have either used the berry products in Food Technology classes before the recall was issued last week, and may have consumed the product, or a student from a foods class may have shared food cooked in that class with your child.

Dr Lester's office has confirmed that the risk of exposure is very low but cannot be excluded. As for all people who have consumed the affected products, Dr Lester has advised parents and careers to look for symptoms 15 to 50 days after consumption.

Symptoms include fever, nausea, abdominal discomfort, dark urine and yellow skin and eyes (jaundice). Symptoms may last for several weeks but full recovery usually occurs. Please consult the Health Department's <u>Better Health</u> <u>Channel</u> for more information. Any person who is confirmed to have hepatitis A will be followed up closely and will be provided with further advice through the Department of Health and Human Services. If your child develops any of these symptoms, please seek medical advice from your local GP or Nurse on Call on 1300 60 60 24 and advise the school on 02 6043 7500. Please be aware that this illness is also contagious from personal contact, so hygiene procedures such as hand washing should be observed.

Our student wellbeing team will ensure support is always available for any student who may need it. If your child wishes to speak with a wellbeing coordinator, they should arrange to do so through their Year Level Coordinators or Assistant Principal.

If you have any immediate questions, please call 02 6043 7500 to arrange a meeting with me.

ISSUE NO: 4

Wednesday 18th February 2015

CALENDAR

Thursday 19th February House Swimming Sports

Monday 9th March Labour Day Holiday

Thursday 12th March Multicultural Day

Wednesday 18th March College Athletic Sports

TERM DATES

Term 1 - 2015 29th January - 27 th March

Term 2 13th April—26th June

Term 3 13th July—18th September

Term 4 - 5th October - 18th December

YEAR LEVEL COORDINATORS

Year 10 Coordinators Tim Lamb Brydie Hind Tim Bridgeman

Year 11 Coordinators Chris North Simon Webb

Year 12 Coordinators Matt Moylan Paul McMullen

Vern Hilditch

Principal

WODONGA SENIOR SECONDARY COLLEGE