



Bill Cane Court
MAFFRA 3860

51471790

www.maffrasc.vic.edu.au

email: maffra.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

No. 3

20th February 2009

Dates to remember

February

23rd -27th - Yr 9 Camp postponed due to fires.

24th - Year 10 Darwin-Kakadu trip information evening

25th - Junior Cricket

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Swimming sports

Congratulations to Mr Scholes and all staff involved in running the swimming sports. Enthusiastic and very colourful students were the order of the day with high levels of competition and team support seen wherever I went. Congratulations also to all house Leaders who did a great job in motivating their troops. Congratulations to all age champions who were named at the end of the carnival. Medallions will be awarded at the next College assembly. Congratulations also to all competitors, especially to the victors in Avon house who richly deserved to be successful.

The swimming sports is only one of two whole school activity days, and every year I get disappointed by a small number of parents who allow students to stay home on these days. As attendance is expected for all students, parents will need to provide a note for those students who were not there.

Yr 7 BBQ and Senior School Information evenings

Thank you to the staff and families of year 7 students who attended the Information night this week. The main aim of the evening was to be able to place names and this was certainly achieved. Thank you also to the senior team that presented two very comprehensive information sessions for year 11 and year 12 students.

Hats

Reminder to all students that a hat is required for all outdoor activities during term 1 and 4. The hat does not have to be a school hat but must be school blue and should have a broad brim on it. This applies to all classes 7-12.

Building

The Middle Years building is progressing very well, and is expected to be completed by the end of term 1. Middle Years staff got to have a guided tour this week, and were very excited by the size and layout of the building. At this stage we will be putting A2&3 and H6 through to H10 out of commission in the last week of term to get ready for shifting

and refitting over the term break. These rooms will be placed in a horse shoe pattern at the north end of the Middle Years building. At the commencement of term 2 Administration will move to C wing while the Arts precinct is built and the Admin block is refurbished. Certainly very exciting times.

Andrew McIntosh
Principal

CONGRATULATIONS

I would like to congratulate Brad Peatling of Year 8 on his success in being appointed to the Wellington Youth Council as a Representative of Maffra Secondary College. Brad, together with Jasmine Lina and Michael Knight put themselves forward to be part of the Youth Council and were interviewed late in 2008 by a Shire Council Selection Panel. Brad will be mentored by Dean Hardistay who is the Mayor of the Youth Council. They shall both be mentored by the Mayor of Wellington Shire, Darren McCubbin. We wish Brad every success with this venture and we also congratulate Jasmine and Michael for taking a stand to represent their College. Although not successful in making to the Youth Council we are very proud of their efforts in supporting their fellow students and we certainly hope that they renominate in August for the next intake of Youth Councillors.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

As you are now aware we have Peter Ribolli undertaking the role of Maintenance Manager. As Peter moves around the school doing his work he is also disposing of litter that the students have dropped.

This is certainly not Peter's role but he, unlike a number of our students, takes pride in our environment. We have, on many occasions, spoken with the student body about the environment and what is expected of them, but still we have some students dropping rubbish where they stand. I have arranged for an additional 20 Bins which are strategically placed around the School yard in an effort to alleviate this problem. I am now appealing to parents and guardians to speak with your child about the importance of looking after our environment and impressing upon children the importance of placing litter in the bins. This must be a whole school responsibility if it is to be effective. I thank you in anticipation of your efforts in this matter.

Susanne Wilson/Assistant Principal

LATER YEARS (Years 10, 11 and 12)

Thank you to the parents and coordinators, who attended the Year 11 and 12 Parent Information Session on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. It is vital to keep open the lines of information and communication as this will enable better monitoring of individual student progress. Our aim is to assist your student in achieving their best during this year. We encourage our families to ring or make an appointment to visit us whenever issues arise. With parents, teachers and students working together as a team, outcomes for students can be optimised.

A FEW LATER YEARS REMINDERS

HOMEWORK – The Later Years homework expectations are as follows:

-Year 10 – average of approx. 8 hours per week. (approximately 1 hour per subject, weekly)

- Year 11 – average of 9–12 hours per week. (approximately 2 hrs per subject, weekly)

- Year 12 – average of 15 hours per week. (5 private study lessons used productively could make up part of this time)

Generally students will not be expected to study more than this time allocation per subject per week. It is better to have a reasonable amount of homework frequently, so that a regular weekly routine can be established. Students should also be revising their work on a regular basis, reviewing the work that has been covered for each key learning area and making sure they have a thorough grasp of each concept covered. If a student does not feel completely confident with their current topics they should follow up by seeking assistance from their teacher as soon as possible.

AFTER-SCHOOL STUDY SESSIONS:

There will be an after-school study session every Thursday night where students can access teacher assistance. At this stage six staff from five Key Learning Domains attend these sessions. These sessions provide an opportunity for students to maximise their potential.

NOTE: Students should keep a balance between homework requirements, hours of employment, extra-curricular activities and leisure time. When studying students should build in break times to re-energize and maintain motivation and concentration.

Year 12 students will be asked to submit a study timetable in the next two weeks.

HOME STUDY PERMISSION – Year 12 students are permitted to study at home for any private study lessons in periods 3, 4, 5 and 6, provided that they have the “Home Study Permission” sheet signed, and sign the “Home Study Permission” book when leaving and when returning.

UNIFORM – All students should now be in full school uniform, including a school jumper, plain black shoes and no visible jewellery except earring studs. Students who have some difficulty with their uniform are required to see Mr Stephenson (Year 12), Ms Latham (Year 11), Mr Evans (Year 10) prior to the first class of the day.

ATTENDANCE – All students in Years 10, 11 and 12 should be aiming for 100% attendance. VCE students must attend at least 80% of classes to pass their subject units. Absences in VCE must be covered by a medical certificate and all students should bring notes from home to explain any absence. Illness and personal family circumstances are acceptable reasons. Days missed for shopping with parents and going for a learners permit or licence are not valid reasons for absence.

Please try to make appointments after school. It is much harder for students to catch up on a missed lesson than it is to actually attend the class. If there are any absences which you are aware of in advance please let staff the school know via the appropriate coordinator so arrangements for work may be made.

Katie Hodge, Later Years Leader

MIDDLE YEARS

Year 7 Camp- Licola

On Wednesday 4th February 110 students and 12 staff made the trek up into the hills to Licola Wilderness Village. It was a smooth trip and students went on a tour of the improved camp facilities when we arrived. Students got straight into the activities, which included the giant swing, high ropes, leap of faith, canoeing, hiking, swimming, rock climbing, Art with Bu Smith and Drama games with Mrs. Greenway. The weather was very hot and students coped very well drinking an amazing amount of cordial!

On the first night students completed the House challenge and earned points for their respective houses. The students made human mummies, a sarcophagus for their mummy and played tunnel ball. Freestone won the night by 1 point! The second night Mr. Raine hosted a Red Faces night. The acts were funny and creative! After Red Faces a disco followed and the boys rocked the house down with their awesome dance moves!

Our new Year 7 students were very well behaved and it made for a very successful camp. We are sure there were lots of tired bodies on Friday the 6th of February. A big thanks goes to the fantastic Licola staff, who have made big improvements to the camp. Another massive thankyou goes to our excellent staff: Sue Clancy, Loueen Smith, Trevor Raine, Brett Hudson, Val Greenway, Vicki McClelland, Jo O’Doherty, Vicki Miller, Julie McCullough, Tracey Wain and Bronwyn Tebb.

Kirsty Dowling, Year 7 Coordinator



YEAR 7 BBQ

A number of parents and students attended the Year 7 BBQ on Monday 16th February. It was an opportune

occasion for parents to be introduced to many teachers in an informal setting. Parents took the opportunity to chat about their concerns and the feedback was well received by teachers and parents alike.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations on the fantastic attendance of Middle Years students last Wednesday, at our annual swimming carnival. It was pleasing to see students dressed in their house colours, fabulous participation in events and the positive manner in which students conducted themselves.

I would like to remind parents that these carnivals are compulsory, regardless of student involvement in the actual events, and that students are expected to attend. Our attendance officer, Kath Shephard, will be following up on any absences.

YEAR 9 PERSONAL BEST

Students in Year 9 Personal Best class have been completing a community service project in the Maffra area this term. Some students have been raising funds for the Bush Fire Appeal or helping at local Primary schools and Hospitals and by doing this they gain valuable life skills. Due to the cancellation of Year 9 Wilson's Prom camp these students will be permitted to extend their number of visits to their designated community service in week 4.

Miss Telling & Mr. Jegorow Personal Best teachers

CAREER NEWS

WHAT IS CAREERNEWS? It is about keeping you informed, about encouraging you to think about what you will do after you leave school, about helping you make informed decisions. IT IS ABOUT YOU! What courses are out there? What careers suit? How do I get information? CareerNews lets you know about Open Days, courses, careers, seminars, information evenings and so on. Sure, school will keep you busy, but you need to spend time thinking about your future too.

HOW DO I CHOOSE A CAREER? Think about what you **enjoy** doing; what you are **good at**; what school **subjects** you enjoy most; what you **value** most; what **interests** you. Considering these things will give you valuable clues as to careers that will suit you. For example, do you enjoy science? art? English? business subjects? technology? Is helping others important? Do you like being indoors/outdoors? Are you good with your hands? What sort of activities did you enjoy as a younger child? Spend time using the **Job Guide** researching jobs that fit with your interests/abilities. **Remember**, you are not choosing a **job for life**. Think in terms of the next few years only. Technology is rapidly changing various aspects of the job world, and we can't anticipate what we might be doing in 10 or 15 years' time.

WHERE WILL I STUDY AFTER YEAR 12? If you are in Year 12, no doubt you have begun to think about where you will study in 2010. Your choices include

universities, Technical And Further Education (TAFE) Institutes and independent colleges.

- There are several **universities** in Victoria: **Australian Catholic University, Ballarat, Charles Sturt (a NSW uni with a campus at Albury-Wodonga), Deakin, La Trobe, Melbourne, Monash, Swinburne, RMIT and Victoria.** They offer degrees.
- **TAFE's** are located throughout Victoria, with most areas well served. Some TAFE's are linked with a university (eg **RMIT, Swinburne and Victoria**) while others stand alone (eg **Box Hill, Chisholm, and Kangan Batman**). They offer pre-apprenticeships, certificates, diplomas and sometimes degrees.
- There are many specialist independent colleges such as **Australian College of Natural Medicine, Australian College of Sports Therapy and Photographic Imaging College**, offering certificates, diplomas and degrees.

Undergraduate university degree courses are subsidised by the government with **Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP)**, except for international students who pay full fees; most TAFE places are also subsidised (fees are under review), while independent colleges require the payment of full course fees. There are government loan arrangements available for many fee-paying courses; to find out about payment for courses, and a lot of other information, see www.goingtouni.gov.au. NOTE: If you have a CSP you will be required to pay a portion of the fees; this payment, however, can be deferred until you are earning about \$40,000pa (currently) and re-paid through the tax system.

You need to **find the most suitable alternative**; you can get assistance in this process by attending **Open Days** (mainly Sundays in August), going to **seminars**, reading course **information**, talking to **friends/relatives** and by meeting with us in the **careers room!**

FOLIO PREPARATION COURSES AT RMIT - Folio preparation and career discovery courses are held at City/Brunswick campuses on weeknights, Saturdays and school holidays. Designed for Year 11/12's, they give insights into particular design industries, study options, and selection procedures. Apply for an early program as ones later in the year fill quickly. Some **folio preparation areas covered**: graphic design, digital media, multimedia, interior design, visual merchandising, 3D product design, fashion drawing, textiles and in visual/fine art. **Contact**: RMIT Training P/L on 9925 8111, www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au.

WHAT ABOUT HOSPITALITY? Trial-a-Trade is a fun and affordable opportunity for you to learn **new skills** and explore a **range of career options** in the foods and hospitality industries. It will give a feel for the working life of a chef, baker, butcher, waiter, barista, confectioner or patissier as you collaborate with others to prepare a shared luncheon. **When**: Sat 14 March; **Where**: William Angliss TAFE Institute, 555 La Trobe St, Melbourne; **Cost**: \$35 (\$25 for parents, public attending lunch only); **Bookings/Info**: 9606 2111, info@angliss.edu.au, www.angliss.edu.au.

VACC AUTO APPRENTICESHIPS

The VACC has just started their recruitment process for the year. They have positions available for Motor Mechanics in 3 different areas - Cars, Holden and Heavy Vehicles, Panel Beating and Spray Painting. A minimum Year 10 Pass is required. To apply you must complete the application form, provide copies of latest school reports and references. Application forms are available from: www.autoapprenticeships.com.au or call 9829 1130. Many of our local dealers are VACC members and in the past we have had students employed locally through this process. See Ms Healey for further information.

Remember that the careers office is a resource that all students can use - pop in and visit sometime!
Karen Burgess and Leanne Healey

2 x scientific calculators for sale

There are two new scientific calculators available for purchase. One is a Sharp EL-531WHB (\$18.00) and the other is a Texas Instruments TI-30XB (\$19.50). The calculators can be bought from the main office. **CASH ONLY**

MUSIC NOTES

Band rehearsals and lessons have started quite well this year. Well done to students that have made to all lessons so far. Please make every effort to try and attend your lessons. Our instrumental teachers don't have time to fit you in if you miss one. I am still trying to get in contact with some students regarding their lessons so please keep an eye on the daily bulletin.

Fees need to be paid by Friday the 20th March. Please contact the office or myself at the school if you have any enquiries or concerns regarding fees. If paying the fees by the due date is likely to be an issue please contact me to make arrangements. Fees are currently \$180.00. If you have more than one child in the program the fee is reduced to \$100 for the second (third) child.

Enjoy your weekend!!!
Caroline Monck, Music Coordinator

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is again being run at Maffra Secondary College this year. It encourages self development, participation and personal growth and is internationally recognised. The Bronze Award involves participants completing a 3 or 6 month commitment in a physical activity, skill and community service, as well as 2 overnight journeys. Any student who has turned 14 is eligible to commence their Bronze Award. Further information can be collected from Mrs O'Doherty or Ms McClelland or they can be contacted on 51471790.

PARENTS CLUB

The next meeting for Parents Club will be the AGM, held on Tuesday 3rd of March at 7.30pm at the Maffra Community Sports Club, in the lounge. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to catching up with past members and meeting, hopefully all of new faces. It is a great way to meet people in a relaxed and friendly way, while finding out what is happening at the school.

Deb Ball

Debs and partners are reminded to fill in all forms and return as soon as possible. The Following business have kindly offer a discount to all those who are participating in the Deb.

Just remember to take the add in to receive your discount.

Maffra Showcase Jewellers - Happy to offer the Debutants a 10% discount on any purchases for the ball. They carry a wide range of diamante necklets, ear rings and bracelets, also large range of men's sterling silver jewellery eg. rings bracelets, chains and pendants. If its not jewellery, they have many gift items available.

Sumatan Maffra - Would like to offer a 15% reduction when you receive 3 or more services at Sumatan. Packages will be handed out this Sunday at training. For more information you can ring 51411592.

Hello Pretty - 336 Raymond St, Sale are offering a 10% discount off jewellery, shoes, bags etc to all Debs and partners.

RESULTS OF SWIMMING SPORTS

AVON	700.0
MACALISTER	683.5
FREESTONE	500.5
THOMSON	475.0

Age Champions

U/13	Female	Ebony Chambers
	Male	Ian Melrose
U/14	Female	Olivia Poynton
	Male	Darcy Mair
U/15	Female	Erin Liddell
	Male	Jack Woodland
U/16	Female	Lily Bailey
	Male	Ben Simon
U/17	Female	Breanna Kerton
	Male	Tim Liddell
U/21	Female	Megan Raine
	Male	Edward Carr

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Sale Netball Assoc.
Representative Players
2009

TRY - OUTS

To be conducted on the following dates.

19th, 24th, 26th Feb

13Under- 4 -5.00pm

15, 17Under- 5 -6.00pm

At SNA Courts

