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No. 12 15th May 2009

Newsletter email address: mscnewsletter@maffrasc.vic.edu.au

May

Mon 11th - Wed 13 - Yr 8 Camp

" " - Yr 11 O/Ed Camp

Tues 19th - School Athletics

Wed 20th - East Gippsland Football

- Music concert

Mon 25 - Tues 26 - YR 10 GO hike

Wed 27th - Thurs 28th - Sale Eisteddfod

Thurs 28th - Fri 29th - Yr 12 O/Ed trip

Parents' Club future meeting dates

- June 16th
- July 22nd
- Aug 4th
- Sept 1st
- Oct 6th
- Nov 3rd

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

OPEN DAY

We invite all community members to visit our College on Friday the 22nd of May to see how a large College operates in the 21st century. Visitors are welcome from 10 am to 12.30 pm and are asked to sign in at the front of our Middle Years Precinct at the bottom of Short Street, where they will be welcomed by current students. Visitors can either wander at their leisure, or join on of the student lead tours. I have asked teachers to make sure doors are open during these lessons, so feel free to enter classes and chat to teachers and students. We will not be doing anything out of the ordinary on the day, but instead will aim to give visitors a glimpse of what our College looks like from the inside on a day to day basis. Morning tea and a good cuppa will be available at the end of your visit. We are especially keen to get a visit from ex-students, especially those that attended our school decades ago.



NAPLAN

Year 7 and 9 students completed the Naplan tests this week, which have been done by students of a similar age all around Australia. When available results will be supplied to parents, and also used by teachers to assist with improving the outcomes of all students.

YEAR 8 CAMP

Over one hundred Year 8 students tripped off to Phillip Island this week for a three day camp. From all accounts the students were worthy representatives of our College and behaved in a manner we have come to expect from our students. New friendships were formed, and most students had fun whilst stretching their personal boundaries. A big thanks to all staff who were on the camp, as these opportunities would not be available without staff members working beyond the call of normal duty.

Building update

Work is progressing very rapidly on the preparation of the site for our Music/Multi Media Precinct. The site has been quickly cleared and foundations and footings are starting to appear. Once again a big thanks to all staff and students who have been working in difficult conditions. I am sure the inconvenience will be worth it. A further reminder that parking around the College is at a premium at present. Visitors to the College are advised to park in Alfred Street (outside bus hours) and walk down Short Street to the College office.

Andrew McIntosh
Principal

CATCH UP IMMUNISATIONS SESSIONS

If your Year 7 or Year 10 child missed out on the immunisations that were conducted at school last Friday, please check the following catch up times being offered by Wellington Shire, or contact your local doctor.

SALE: Wednesday 13 May 2009 & Wednesday 27 May 2009

10.30am - 11.30am Central Gippsland Health Services Conference Room, Cnr Palmerston and Cunninghame Streets Sale.

SALE :

(Evening session): Wednesday 13 May 2009

5pm - 6.30pm Wellington Room, Wellington Council Offices Foster Street Sale

HEYFIELD: Tuesday 12 May 2009

11am - 11.45am Heyfield Hub, 40 MacFarlane Street Heyfield

MAFFRA: Tuesday 12 May 2009

2pm - 2.45pm Maffra Memorial Hall. Foster Street Maffra

Contact **Samantha King** (Environmental Health Coordinator) for more information @!
Wellington Shire Council

Telephone: (03) 5142 3420 or 0407 534 849

AN INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS - UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEENAGER

An invitation is open *to all parents* in our school community to attend an information session aimed at learning how to better understand your teenager. Come along on Monday, June 15th at 6.30pm to learn how:

- To connect with your adolescent
- To understand the difference across the generations
- Emotions can affect relationships
- To learn about the vital link between teens and technology

This information session is being run by Kilmany Uniting Care in conjunction with ParentZone.

It is being held in the new Middle Years Building at Maffra Secondary College on Monday, June 15th at 6.30pm. See the attached flyer for more information. Refreshments will be provided.

This is a fantastic opportunity being offered to our parents and we hope to see you all there. Please contact Karen Milner on 51 47 1790 for more details.

HOW TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF OUR COLLEGE PLANNERS/DIARIES *STUDY FOCUSES*

Each week in the Middle and Later Year planners a "Study Focus" is introduced on the left hand side of the planner page.

The focuses are designed to initiate discussion, both at school and at home, on the issues contained and promote a **Team** approach.

The key elements to a successful study program are not only "**doing the right thing**" but also "**doing the thing right**". At times, students have the best of intentions and are prepared to commit themselves, but unfortunately are let down by poor and unproductive study habits.

To gain an understanding of areas covered by the focuses, the "**Breakup of Focuses**" on page 4 of all planners will assist you.

These focuses are categorized under the following headings:

Middle Years - Years 7, 8 & 9

- * Study Techniques/Approaches
- * Relationships
- * Research and Operational Skills
- * Personal Health
- * Career and Time Management
- * Useful Information

Later Years - Years 10, 11 & 12

- * Study Techniques/Approaches
- * Relationships
- * Research and Operational Skills
- * Career and Time Management
- * Personal Health
- * Examination Skills

Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your son/daughter's progress please do not hesitate to contact his/her Year Level Co-ordinator/Advisor.

"We first make our habits and then our habits make us" John Dryden

ATTENDANCE: IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY!

At the moment, our College Attendance Policy is under review.

Regular school attendance enables students to maximise their full educational potential and to actively participate in their learning. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age. Students who are regularly absent from school are at risk of missing fundamental aspects of their educational and social development.

Our aim is to maximise student learning opportunities and performance by ensuring that children required to attend school do so regularly, and without unnecessary absences.

All parents will soon be advised of changes to our policy, which will include introducing an 80% minimum attendance in all subjects in for students in Years 7 - 12. The College places high value on attendance at all classes and agree that students with a high number of unexplained absences are putting their education and potential for future career pathways at risk.

When students miss a class lesson they lose the thread of the subject material. The result is that their ability to logically think through issues and processes is seriously impaired. Could you imagine leaving out a chapter here and there; how much sense would the book make?

To fill in these gaps, both the teacher and student have to set aside time outside class to work together. Unfortunately, despite the best of intentions, this does not always happen and your child's learning is affected. So when there is an opportunity to shop or baby sit younger brothers or sisters, say **NO** to your son/daughter. The **CONTINUITY** of his/her education **class by class** is all too important.

When you receive your son/daughter's report and there are areas highlighted in need of improvement, please reflect on how much condoned absences contributed to the situation.

Let's all work together to make a difference to your child's future. Say **NO** to absence.

Be on time. Be at school. That's the rule!

*Karen Milner
Assistant Principal*

MIDDLE YEARS

YEAR 7 STUDENTS TO VISIT THEIR OLD PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Ms Dowling has been inundated with many of our Year 7 students wishing to visit their old primary schools. Thank you to all students who applied. The selection process has been finalised and those successful students have been given permission forms which need to be signed and returned to Ms Dowling or Ms Clancy so that they can accompany teachers to the schools.

NAPLAN TESTING

Over three days this week, Year 7 and Year 9 students have completed the nation wide assessment program in English and Mathematics. These tests will be marked, analysed and results will be available to parents later in the year. Staff will also receive results in the form of data. This data will assist teachers to improve student outcomes. Thank you to all students and teachers involved in the smooth running and completion of the NAPLAN testing

YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL

Congratulations to the Year 7 boys football team who played so well last Thursday – 7th May at the Morrison Street ovals, but unfortunately they were defeated by a stronger Bairnsdale so they do not progress to the next stage.

The score for the first match was Maffra 4. 14 (38) defeated Sale 0.0.(0)

Goal Kickers were - Jake Blakely, Lachly Schilg, Matt Rodaughan, Josh Onley who all kicked 1 goal each

The score for the final match between Maffra was Bairnsdale 12.6 (78) defeated Maffra 6.4 (40)

Goal kickers were - Matt Rodaughan 2 goals, Nick Marshall 2 goals, Jordan Stubbe 1 goal, Ian Melrose 1 goal

A big thank you to Kaine Allan and Ted Allman for giving up several lunchtimes to select and train the team, Tom Wheeler for acting as umpire on the day and Ms Telling for managing the boys

YEAR 8 CAMP AT PHILIP ISLAND from 11/5 till the 13/5/09.

The Phillip Island Adventure Resort provided such excellent facilities and staff that it was only up to us to work well together to achieve a very successful camp. The students did cooperate exceptionally well together as they rotated through the six main activities, those being canoeing, giant swing, twin flying fox, archery, high ropes and a challenging initiative course that highlighted the lateral thinkers and leaders. The students and their parents should be proud of how well the whole group conducted themselves. A special thank needs to go to the staff who gave up their time to support the program – Kylie Dover, Carol Caffrey, Kerri Smith, Ainsley Telling, Maureen Kelly, Chen Pearson, Kate Helford, Belinda Tricker, Michael Sonka and Michael McDonough. They were superb!

Sample comments made by students are:

“The flying fox was 300m of fun.”

“The twin flying fox was fun because you got to go down with a mate”.

“The resort staff at the camp were nice.”

“The giant swing was really fun”

On the first night we had a disco and karaoke.

“Everybody loved the disco (it was great fun).”

The singers were Emily Sprague, Amy Coleman, Amy Lipman, Abbey Gray, Bec Cumming, Jess Stevenson, Chloe VanDoorn, April Barry, Caliope Peters, Andrew Tilburg and the standouts were Pat Gordon and Miss Halford.

“A Maze ‘n Things was a great place to go because there were such a variety of things to do”.

“We would really like to thank all the teachers who came along and the staff at Phillip Island Adventure Resort for such a good time” – 8G, but no doubt they speak for all the students on camp. *Gayle Biddenback, Year 8 Coordinator*

LATER YEARS

CONGRATULATIONS to

- All students who have been working hard, showing leadership, helping others etc over the last week and have been rewarded with a Posi-slip.

REVISION LECTURES FOR YEAR UNIT 3 EXAMS

Don't forget to see Ms Burgess get information about attending the revision lectures which will be held between now and the end of May 28th. These lectures are reasonably priced and they provide students with another source of information to assist them in getting reaching their potential. We really encourage students to take up these offers as it is a way in which they can give themselves the best possible preparation for their exams.

All students completing Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Accounting or Psychology should be attempting to get to these lectures.

A bus may be arranged for the day if there are enough students who show interest in attending.

SOME DATES

All classwork assessments for Units 1 and 3 are due by May 29th at the latest, and really should be completed before this date. The following week June 1st until June 4th is revision week.

All year 11s will have their English exam on Friday June 5th and year 12 classes will be held as normal.

NOTE: June 8th is the Queens Birthday Public Holiday.

Year 12 exams will be held in the Maffra Memorial Hall on June 9th, 10th and the GAT (for all year 12 students and any year 11 student completing a year 12 subject or the second year of a scored VET subject) is on Wednesday June 11th.

Year 11 exams will all be held in the gym from June 5th to June 10th.

A REMINDER that on Thursdays after school there will be Cheese Toasties and Milo provided for those who wish to work at school from 3.30 pm until 5.30

pm. Some teachers will also be available for assistance. We highly recommend students forming study groups as in the past this has proven very effective for many of our year 12s.

Katie Hodge, Later Years Sub-school Manager

DARWIN TRIP

Parents of year 10 students taking part in the Darwin trip are encouraged to begin talking to their children about equipment and establishing what they may need to borrow from the school. The Tents must be light weight as kids will need to carry them in their luggage on the plain. Sleeping mats need to be as small as possible as they will not be able to carry the likes of a swag due to luggage restrictions.

Final Payment is due on the 05th June.

NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

The National Youth Science Forum will be held in Canberra and Perth in January 2010 for 12 days and is open to all students who are currently studying Year 11 and plan to study science, technology or engineering at university. It gives the students an opportunity to live on campus as a university student and meet other students from around Australia and overseas who have a passion for science. Participants get to pick up valuable skills and visit a large variety of engineering and science sites. The forum is supported by Rotary International and applicants are endorsed by Rotary Clubs.

Further details and the application form are available at www.nysf.edu.au or by phoning Canberra on 02 6125 2777. MSC Science teachers can also supply more information.

Entries close 29th May 2009

CAREER NEWS

REMINDERS>>>>>COMING SOON

- 'At Monash' Seminars: 18 May: **Psychology**; 19 May: **Drama/Theatre Studies**; 20 May: **Business & Economics**; 21 May: **Engineering**; 2 June: **I.T.**; 3 June: **Law**; 10 June: **Nursing/midwifery/paramedics**; 16 June: **Design**; 17 June: **Medicine/biomedical science/nutrition/dietetics**; 24 June: **Fine Art**; 15 July: **Multimedia & digital art**. Booking/info: Ph 9903 4758 or Valerie.foster@adm.monash.edu.au www.monash.edu.au/study/events.
- Sports Medicine seminars - 22 May and 24 May
- 'Focus on Melbourne' series: 27 May: **Commerce**; 4 June: **Engineering**; 9 June: **Arts**; 10 June: **Music, visual/performing Arts**; 23 June: **Science**; 22 July: **Biomedicine**; 29 July: **Environments**. Info/booking: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/focusonmelbourne.
- Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test: Register by 5 June; Test: 29 July.

ATTENTION ALL YEAR 10 PARENTS:

All students have now received their 'Job Guide'. This guide is one of the first tools that students can use in beginning to plan their lifelong career journey. Students can explore career options and gather information about subjects/prerequisites to consider. We are now heading towards that time of year where subject selections for Years 11 & 12 are being made, and students & parents need to begin preparing to make some decisions.

There is a tear-out Parent Information Booklet within the guide that we have instructed students to hand to you - please check that you received this.

Many students also find the 'bullseye' documents helpful when trying to link subjects they enjoy with a future career. These documents are available via our school Careers Intranet site or at www.deewr.gov.au/bullseye - check them out!

UMAT NEWS - The UMAT 2009 Information booklet is NOW available at <http://umatweb.acer.edu.au>. The Faculty of Health Sciences at La Trobe University has confirmed that the UMAT will **only be a requirement for NON Year 12 applicants** applying for **Dentistry and Oral Health Science** in 2010 and NOT current Year 12 applicants (see page 3 of the 2009 Information Booklet). NOTE: Selection for Monash Uni physiotherapy requires an **interview** in addition to the UMAT and ENTER.

ARE YOU WORTH MORE THAN YOUR YEAR 12 RESULTS? The Early Achievers Program at Australian Catholic Uni recognises that you have more to offer than your ENTER. The Program is open to all applicants and considers the **contribution you have made** to your community through your school or workplace, local community organisations, culture, sport and/or religious group. **Apply for this program** and you could be accepted into ACU National by December. See www.acu.edu.au/earlyachievers for information and how to apply. On-line applications open in July and close 9 October.

INTERESTED IN MARINE SCIENCE?

- **Marine Science Careers Days** - Discover how to get a job in marine science from guest experts, tour Melbourne Aquarium, and receive information about how to achieve a Marine Science career. **When:** 22 June, 17 Sept and 30 Nov; **Where:** Melbourne Aquarium; **Cost:** \$35; **Book:** Education Liaison Officer, ph 9923 5911.
- **Aquarist for a Day** - Experience life as one of Melbourne Aquarium's Aquarists. **When:** School holidays; **Cost:** \$70 per day; **Book:** 9923 5911.

WHAT HAPPENS IN A MEDICAL LABORATORY? Have you wondered what happens after you have a blood test? Where the blood goes, how it is examined and how a diagnosis is made? A behind-

the-scenes tour will show you. RMIT's Laboratory Medicine together with medical diagnostic and research laboratories are giving Year 10-12 students, interested in a career as a medical scientist, the chance to go behind the scenes and find out first-hand what happens. **When:** Mon 6-Fri 10 July; **Register:** by 12 June at www.rmit.edu.au/medical-sciences/lab-visits; **Info:** Merilyn Lennox, 9925 7075.

INTERESTED IN NEW TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY? In celebration of World Environment Day, RMIT Uni invites you to explore the Sustainability Energy Park. Meet RMIT staff and students to gain information on programs incorporating sustainable engineering in the School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering. Learn about current research, education and careers in sustainable engineering and how it is developing sustainable energy technologies, solve water supply problems through solar desalination and designing green cars that use solar electricity and hydrogen. **Visit** the Sustainability Energy Park at RMIT Bundoora campus east, Cnr McKimmies Lane and Plenty Rd, Bundoora; **Intro. Talk:** Commences 10am and **Guided Tours** start at 11 am, Sat 6 June; **Book:** www.rmit.edu.au/aero-mech/energy-care

NEED HELP WITH YOUR FOLIO? RMIT offers intensive folio preparation short courses in school holidays. They allow you to build skills and knowledge and gain an insight into future study options. Courses include: fashion drawing and design, 3D Product design, visual/fine art, photography, multimedia; Contact: 9925 8111, enquiries@rmit.edu.au, www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au.

INTERESTED IN CIRCUS ARTS? Swinburne's National Institute of Circus Arts is holding an intensive workshop for students wishing to audition for the Bachelor of Circus Arts in 2010/2011. Students will spend a week drawing on the expertise of NICA's international trainers in the world's major traditional and contemporary circus styles. Auditions to be held in Sept/Oct. **When:** 29 June-3 July; **Where:** NICA, 41 Green St, Prahran; **Cost:** \$300; **Apply:** Ph 9214 6975 or www.nica.com.au. Applic's close 22 May.

ADF CHANGES – PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the enormous popularity of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Gap Year, the application process has changed and improved from previous years. The process is designed to provide a fairer selection by considering a complete pool of applicants and the abilities they can bring to the experience.

Key Points:

- Apply online for the ADF Gap Year
- Applications open 1st May till 3rd September, 2009
- A fairer application process has been developed

What has changed?

Instead of calling 13 19 01 to apply, the only way to apply for the ADF Gap Year is to complete an **online application**. During this application we will ask you a range of questions to determine your eligibility, suitability and to determine what sort of Gap Year roles may suit you.

When can you apply?

Applications open from 1st May and close 3rd September, 2009. This year, the application process will move away from the previous model of 'first in - first served', to assessing all candidates for suitability. Defence Force Recruiting (DFR) will compile a list of candidates to move to the next stage of the recruitment process. We still encourage all candidates to apply early and not wait until the last minute to apply.

What if I already have a Gap Year application?

If you have already been recommended for Gap Year (this would be prior to February 2009) you should contact your local Defence Force Recruiting Centre or ring 13 19 02 for further information. If you didn't attend an assessment day, or were not recommended, you will need to reapply using the Gap Year **online application**.

Karen Burgess

burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au

HELP WANTED URGENTLY

The College Canteen relies on help from parents/guardians/friends to function from day to day. This is a vital service to the students at the College and is very well patronised. Without your support the Canteen cannot continue to operate. Volunteers are rostered and those who do volunteer find the experience both fun and rewarding. PLEASE consider giving some time to support this very beneficial College resource. Please contact Lucy Graham at the College on 5147 1790 if you are able to assist.

Susanne Wilson/Assistant Principal

MUSIC NOTES

Hello everyone! Our first concert for the year is on this Wednesday!!! A notice went home to all students involved this week outlining all the details. Students performing in the concert need to be at the Maffra Memorial Hall by 7.00pm to get themselves organised. Entry is by gold coin donation with the concert beginning at 7.30pm. Programs and instructions for students will be posted up around the foyer so students can see when they are on and be organised. Instruments should be placed in the supper room on arrival and all students are responsible for making sure their instrument gets to and from the hall. School uniform (winter or summer) is the dress code for the evening. Any help that can be offered in helping us take equipment back to school after the concert would be most appreciated. The students have worked very hard towards this concert so it should be a good one. See you there!

The following week is the Sale Eisteddfod in which the Concert Band and the Swing Band take part. A notice will go home next week with the students that are taking part in the eisteddfod. Once again, many students have worked hard for this event and I'm looking forward to hearing and seeing them perform.

Enjoy your weekend!

Caroline Monck, Music Coordinator

PARENTS' CLUB

Parents' Club will be sending out in the mail shortly, a variety of events and fundraisers we have got planned for this year. These fundraisers will go towards the \$200,000 that we have volunteered to help raise for the school. This is the amount we need to help complete the new building project. With your help, the new State of the Art Middle Years, Art/Music, Multimedia and Administration areas will be a fantastic place for our children to learn and grow. So please help support these fundraisers by inviting family and friends to the events and showing them the special offers we will have available.

- Cookbook
- Bricks
- Slice Drive
- Rodney Vincent
- Raffle
- Sportsman Night

SCHOOL HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL.

Tuesday the 19th of May is the School House Athletics Carnival.

Reminder for all students to wear their house colours and bring along their team spirit to the day. Parents are welcomed to come along and help cheer on their students

There will be a canteen available for the day provided by the Sale Little Aths Club prices are as follows, and we ask if students want to buy their food can they support the Sale Aths Club and not have food brought to them.

Pies/Pasties	3.00
Sausage Roll	2.00
Egg & Bacon Roll	2.50
Sausage in bread	1.50
Plain Hamburger in bread	2.00
Plain Hamburger in Roll	2.50
Hamburger with the lot	4.00
Hot dog in roll with or without cheese	2.50
Plain Hot Dog in bread	2.00
Extra's Bacon, Egg, Cheese, Coleslaw	0.50 each
Onion – no charge	
Sauce – no charge	
Tea/Coffee/Milo	1.00
Primas	1.00
Bottled water	1.50
Can of drink	2.00
Sports drink	2.80
Fresh fruit apples, oranges, banana's	0.70

Choc bars	1.80
Potato Chips	1.50
Assorted confectionary at various prices	

PARENTS VICTORIA - ONLINE CONFERENCE

Parents of Primary and Secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18th May to midnight Sunday 24th May. No special software is needed, other than an internet connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part. Join in for all the days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

Register online at no cost, first at <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm>

Then go to <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv109/> from 6am on Monday 18th May.

Each day will focus on a topic that is currently of concern to parents. The conference will feature seven 'Live' daily online discussions, each of them hosted by a member of Parents Victoria or expert staff from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or the VSCA. An online 'recourse bundle' of recent online newspapers items related to the day's topic will also be provided as an optional extra to give you a kick-start on each day's discussion.

MAFFRA SECONDARY COLLEGE

"OPEN DAY"

CELEBRATING EDUCATION WEEK & THE NEW MIDDLE YEARS PRECINCT

Maffra Secondary College Open Day is on Friday 22nd of May from 10am - 12.30pm. All members of the Community are invited to come and have a look at our College in operation, including the new building. This will give the community the opportunity to watch the teachers and students in action as we will be operating open classrooms on the day. Guided tours will be conducted by students through the whole College.

Morning tea will be provided. The meeting area will be at the front gate of the Middle Years building which is situated at the bottom of Short St. Parking is available in Alfred Street. We would love to see as many families, community members and a special invitation also to ex-students to visit the College.

JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS



Last year our school and 12 families hosted exchange students from Yaei Nishi High School in Japan for one week. This was such a wonderful opportunity for our students that we have organised the exchange to take place again this year.

The experience for all families involved was extremely positive and rewarding. We anticipate the demand for a Japanese exchange student to be high, so make sure you get in early.

This year we will be hosting 14 girls from Yaei High School. It would be preferable if host families had a female student in years 7-10.

The students do not arrive until early third term, however we are looking for families to match them with early enough to start communication before they leave Japan. If your family is interested in hosting one of these students would you kindly complete the form below and return it to the main office as soon as possible. Further to this if you have any queries please contact Loueen Smith.

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JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Yes! We are interested in hosting a Japanese exchange student

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

Students at M.S.C.: _____

Signature: _____

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community Expo - Celebrating National Families Week

Sunday 17th May 2009 10am-2pm at the Port of Sale. Defence Community Organisation & Wellington Shire Council are hosting a Community Expo - Celebrating National Families Week. Community groups will have demonstrations and displays, the Air Force Jazz Ensemble will be performing, and there will be a free sausage sizzle and kids activities, including a rock climbing wall, jumping castles and face painting. The Roulettes will be performing at 11am and the Port of Sale Boat Club will be travelling down the river with the Swing Bridge being opened from 11.30am-12pm.

VICTORIAN REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENT & COMMUNITY AWARDS

The awards highlight, acknowledge and reward the valuable contribution that business, individual and community groups are making towards building a stronger and better local community to live in. I am sure Maffra Secondary College has many achievers, environmental projects and community initiatives worthy of nomination. We would like to invite you to nominate a staff member, student or someone you work with in the local community. Nominations close Friday 17th July 2009. For more information or a nomination form please ring Karen Polkinghorne on 9870 0622.

LOCAL SPORTING CHAMPIONS

This program has been established by the Australian Government to assist young sports people across Gippsland to achieve their sporting goals. Successful applicants will receive \$500 and team applicants will receive \$3000 to contribute towards the cost of travel, accommodation, uniforms or equipment when competing in a nominated sporting competition. Details about the program can be accessed at www.ausport.gov.au/participating/schools_juniors/juniors/get_involved/local_sporting_champions