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#### **May**

Mon 25 - Tues 26 - YR 10 GO hike

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> - Sale Eisteddfod

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

#### **June**

#### **Parents' Club future meeting dates**

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

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **ATHLETICS SPORTS**

Congratulations to all involved in the Athletics sports last week. The weather certainly made it a great day for everyone who attended. The students need to be commended for their behaviour during the day. Once again students from Maffra Secondary College have shown they can be trusted in an environment outside the school. One thing I am very keen on is students striving to be their best. The number of students who go in a lot of events without any chance of winning pleases me immensely. Mr Scholes needs a special mention for a job well done at organising the Athletics competition.

### **YEAR 7 INFORMATION NIGHT**

Congratulations to Ms Clancy, Ms Dowling and Mrs Milner for providing new and prospective parents with an informative session this week. Families certainly left with all questions answered, and were impressed by the job done by the year 7 and 9 students who assisted with the presentation. Thank you to Jane Miller, Sammi Zabaneh and Maddi Shingles for giving up your free time and speaking so well in front of an audience.

### **ARRIVING ON TIME FOR SCHOOL**

I was a bit dismayed as I walked the school at 9am earlier this week with the number of students who were arriving to school at 9 o'clock or later. The most common excuse was that the student had slept in. The warning bell sounds at 8.53am, allowing seven minutes to collect all books and get to class by 9am, relaxed and well prepared to face the challenges

ahead. Students arriving consistently late are not giving themselves the best possible chance to succeed. If you are unsure of your child's punctuality to school because of early work commitments contact your student's Links teacher, who will be able to give you up to date information on attendance and punctuality.

### **JAPANESE TOUR CANCELLED**

Unfortunately the Japanese student tour from Yae Nishi high School has been cancelled in 2009 due to the outbreak of Swine Flu. This is a major disappointment as the tour has been such a success over the past 2 years. All going well we will certainly recommence in 2010.

Thanks to the families that have indicated they would be host families this year.

*Andrew McIntosh*

*Principal*

## **MIDDLE YEARS NEWS**

### **YEAR 7 INFORMATION NIGHT THANK YOU**

Thank you to the following students who assisted with the presentation of our Year 7 Information Night on Monday night. Year 9 students Sammi Zabaneh and Jane Miller hosted the night and spoke about their experiences at Maffra Secondary College then Year 7 student Maddison Shingles talked about Year 7 classes and the Licola Camp.

All students conducted themselves in a mature and responsible manner and were fantastic ambassadors for the College.

### **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Congratulations to all the Middle Years students who attended the Inter-House Athletics Carnival at the Little Ath's Track in Sale on Tuesday. It was a fantastic day weatherwise and students participated in true competitive spirit. It was disappointing however to see that some of our students do not appreciate the house and community spirit that we are attempting to foster by holding such events. Parents are reminded that these days are compulsory and 'it is not OK to be away'

### **STEP TO THE FUTURE CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE**

50 students from years 7, 8 and 9 have been selected by their coordinators to attend the annual Step to the Future Conference in Melbourne on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Early next week all students will receive an information letter with a permission form attached. If you would like more information about this student conference, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **PROJECT WHITE WATER**

Seven boys, who are participating in Project White Water, walked from Wombat Crossing to The Channels last Thursday. They enjoyed the day but all found the hills challenging! Thank you to Mr McDonough who assisted with the walk. The boys are

presently preparing for a three day hike in Week 9 and next Thursday they will spend the day rock climbing at Lanigan's Rock



### **PERSONAL BEST - Melbourne Trip**

Good luck to all of the students in both Personal Best classes who are spending a week in Melbourne week 7 to research their city-based projects. Mr Jedorow, Ms Telling, Ms Couling, and Ms Kobi Robinson will be accompanying the students for the week. Some of the projects that the students will be researching are: the history of the AFL football, Fashion Precincts, Cheap Eats in the City. The students will also be experiencing many of Melbourne's tourist attractions: Victoria Market, the Aquatic Centre, and going on a night tour of the Old Melbourne Goal.

We look forward to their presentations at the end of term.

*Sue Clancy, Middle Years Sub-School Leader*

## **LATER YEARS**

### **REVISION REMINDER**

The first round of Exams and the GAT are fast approaching. Students are reminded that they should be including revision time into their weekly homework routine. It is vital that students revisit topics they have covered and work with the information in a meaningful way. (eg: Concept Maps, Anagrams, Repetition, use of colour coding, Cue card Production.) This ongoing use of the knowledge they have built will enable students to develop higher order thinking around these areas of study and to absorb the key information into their long term memories.

Students should also be seeking past exam papers from their teachers in order to practice and prepare themselves fully for the Exam and GAT. Practices of past GATS are available from the Later Years and the following Web Site:

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/exams/examsassesreports.html>

**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 the 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.

### **A FEW LATER YEARS REMINDERS OF THE KEYS TO BEING SUCCESSFUL:**

Might be time to revisit the AGE article "10 Steps to VCE Success"

1. Getting Focused
2. Setting Up
3. Time Management
4. Not-Taking Strategies
5. Memorizing and Revising
6. Getting the Most From Teachers
7. Taking Care Of Yourself
8. Other Activities Away from School
9. Staying Positive
10. The Career Stuff

**NOTE:** More copies of this article are available from school should you wish to get another copy.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL STUDY SESSIONS:**

There will be an after-school study session every Thursday night where students can access teacher assistance. Staff from different Key Learning Areas are happy to attend these if you put in the request. These sessions provide an opportunity for students to maximise their potential.

**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.

**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.

### **SOME DATES**

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

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

### **NOTE: June 8<sup>th</sup> is the Queens Birthday Public Holiday.**

*Year 12 exams* will be held in the Maffra Memorial Hall on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup>.

*Year 11 exams* will all be held in the gym from June 5<sup>th</sup> to June 11<sup>th</sup>. These exams are being held over a short period of time, and we are aware that some Year 11 students will need to sit 3 exams in one day. Students should ensure that they are well prepared through revision, and also by eating well in the morning and ensuring that they exercise and look after themselves during the exam period.

*Year 10 exams* will be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June (English) and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June (Maths). Some Year 10 students will be sitting Year 11 exams if they are completing a VCE subject. *Note that Year 10 students should attend in full school uniform for their exams.* Jackets will be able to be worn if the weather is cool.

**NOTE: Friday June 12<sup>th</sup> is a Pupil free day**

### **DERIVED EXAMINATION SCORE**

If a student becomes ill, experiences a traumatic event, accident or other personal or unforeseen circumstances beyond their control in the 2 weeks leading up to the exam, or during the exam period **it is the students responsibility to apply for a “Derived Examination Score” to the Later Years Leader.** There will be application forms published by the VCAA about 3 weeks before the June Exam period. Students will have to apply to the Later Years Leader by the Friday of the exam week.

The application must be substantiated with evidence from an independent professional (eg Doctor, Social Worker, Police Officer or Solicitor). This independent professional has to state specifically how the student’s actual performance on the exam was affected by the unforeseen circumstances.

- The School will then forward the application to the VCAA who will approve it if you are eligible, otherwise it will refuse the application.

- They make the decision and there is only an appeal process if you have substantial additional evidence.
- There is no appeal against the level of the Derived Examination Score.
- The Derived Examination Score will be calculated using your moderated school assessments, your GAT scores and the Indicative Grades provided by the school.
- If your application is approved, the VCAA will derive a final result for the examination for you, use this to calculate the study score, it will be reported on your statement of results, and will be used by VTAC to calculate your ENTER.
- If you had started an examination but were unable to continue, the marks you achieved on the partly completed examination may also be used.
- If your Derived Examination Score is higher than your actual examination score, it will become your final score. Otherwise, your actual examination score will be used.

### **‘POST-SLIPS’**

Over the last two weeks teachers have been giving Later Years students who are working hard, helping others, or contributing positively to the school Posi-slips. Judging by the number of slips that are in the box when each weekly draw occurs for prizes, we have many great students at our school. Well done. Keep up the good work.

### **CHALLENGING WEEKS AHEAD: Importance of staying connected and Communicating.**

The next few weeks are a busy time for Senior School students, and some students will find it stressful. We will be talking to students about how to relieve stress, as well as study techniques over the next two weeks. This is an extremely demanding time for both students undertaking their VCE and parents supporting them at home. In the past many parents have commented on the raised stress levels and how tough it can be supporting a young person completing their VCE. MSC takes the role of supporting both students and their families very seriously and we would like to encourage parents to contact your student’s Year Level Coordinator or Ryan Evans the Later Years Student Welfare coordinator to talk through the challenges that are arising. It is very important that we all keep each other informed about any issues as they arise as we can often prevent them from becoming more damaging to the overall progress of the student later on. Please let us know at school if you have any concerns about the progress of your son/daughter or ward.

If you have any queries about any exam related matters please contact Katie Hodge.

If you have any queries about any course related matters or student welfare please contact the

appropriate year level coordinator or the VCAL coordinator.

### REVISION LECTURES FOR YEAR UNIT 3 EXAMS

Revision lectures which will be held between now and May 30<sup>th</sup>. 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.**

*Katie Hodge, Later Years Sub-school Manager*

### CAREERS NEWS

#### REMINDERS>>>>>COMING SOON

- **'At Monash' Seminars:** 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](mailto:Valerie.foster@adm.monash.edu.au) [www.monash.edu.au/study/events](http://www.monash.edu.au/study/events).
- **'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](http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/focusonmelbourne).
- **Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test:** Register by 5 June; Test: 29 July.

#### YEAR 12 TIS TOUR

Last week all Year 12 students were given the opportunity to attend the Tertiary Information Service (TIS) Tour. The session provided an opportunity for all students to find out more about what is going to happen in applying and accepting courses for 2010. All the Victorian Universities and some TAFEs were also on hand to provide information to students. It was an absolute pleasure to take this group out for the afternoon, they represented the school very well. A big thank you to Mrs Baxter and Ms Healey for their work in assisting with this trip.

*Year 12s and their families* should be working on plans for 2010 and beyond. This should include attending Open Days and Information sessions wherever possible. In Term 3 we will be starting counselling sessions and applying for courses through

VTAC. Everyone needs to be well prepared so that students can make informed choices about their future.

### 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](http://www.rmit.edu.au/aero-mech/energy-care)

### EXPERIENCE ENGINEERING AND GET A FREE LUNCH! RMIT's

Experience Engineering program offers Year 11 & 12 students the chance to see how engineering is changing the way we live. Students will explore and build their understanding of engineering through a series of hands-on workshops, while gaining a feel for university life. **Two programs** are on offer:

- The **electrical & computer engineering** program covers iRobots, digital film high voltage and radio bugs. **When:** 9.30am-4pm, Tues 30 June OR Wed 1 July; **Cost:** Free (with lunch); **Where:** RMIT Uni, City campus, Bld 10, Level 7, Room 27; **Reg'n:** by 15 June - [www.rmit.edu.au/sece/experience](http://www.rmit.edu.au/sece/experience); **Info:** 9925 2090.
- The **aerospace, auto, mechanical & mechatronic eng.** program will cover aerospace, mechatronics, renewable energy and auto and mech. engineering. **When:** 9.30am-4.30pm, Thurs 9 July; **Cost:** Free (with lunch); **Where:** RMIT Bundoora campus east, Cnr McKimmies Lane & Plenty Rd, Bundoora; **Info:** 9925 6022; **Reg'n:** By 15 June at [www.rmit.edu.au/aero-mech](http://www.rmit.edu.au/aero-mech).

### 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](mailto:enquiries@rmit.edu.au), [www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au](http://www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au).

### YEAR 10's LEARN ABOUT DEAKIN UNI. AND GET FREE PIZZA

- Deakin is commencing a new program for Year 10's called **Your future, your choice**. It is an event to encourage young people to start thinking about the types of university courses and careers that interest them. Speak to industry professionals and map out your own career path; hear

for former Deakin students, talk to current students, and eat pizza and receive prizes! **When:** 6.30-8.00pm, Thurs 11 June; **Where:** Burwood and Geelong Waterfront campuses; **Cost:** Free; **Register:** [www.deakin.edu.au/year10](http://www.deakin.edu.au/year10).

**HOTEL SCHOOLS CAREERS DAYS - Australian International Hotel School** (Canberra) and **Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School** have residential programs for Yr 11/12's. Explore the hotel industry, courses, meet lecturers, students, learn about programs, look behind the scenes. **When:** 13-15/20-22 July; 6-8/6-9 Oct, 24-27 Nov/30-Dec 1; **Cost:** \$325/\$425; [www.aihs.edu.au](http://www.aihs.edu.au), [www.hotelschool.com.au](http://www.hotelschool.com.au). The **International College of Hotel Management** also offers career weeks, 6-10 July, 28 Sept-2 Oct; Cost: \$595; see [www.ichm.edu.au](http://www.ichm.edu.au).  
*Karen Burgess*  
[burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## MUSIC NOTES

Well done to all students that performed in the concert on Wednesday night! All groups sounded very good and received good feedback from audience members. A great job was done by students that helped with setting up, stage management, packing up and master of ceremonies. These are all important jobs and no concert can run successfully without them being done well. A special thank you to parents and staff that helped on the evening. Again, it is dedication from people like you that make concerts run smoothly. Everyone involved should be happy with their efforts. Well done!

Next Thursday evening is the Sale Eisteddfod. Due to circumstances, Swing Band will be unable to perform. Concert Band will still be able to perform. Remember that all we can do is go, play our best and enjoy ourselves. Winning isn't a must - it is a bonus. It would be appreciated by all member of the Concert Band if we had full attendance at the Sale Eisteddfod. A notice went home during the week to all students involved. Please be at the Sale Memorial Hall by no later than 6.30pm in full school uniform with your instruments. Remember that you need to make your own way there on the evening. Hopefully it won't be a long night - there aren't that many competitors. Ring me at school if you have any questions regarding the Eisteddfod.

All students need to make an effort to attend all their lessons. Some students have missed a few. Organise a swap with your teacher before your lesson if you need to and remember it your responsibility to know when your lessons are.

Enjoy your weekend!  
*Caroline Monck, Music Coordinator*

## Changes to student information

As a school with over 500 families we realize that many of these families will change contact details during their child's stay with us. It is obviously extremely important to keep these details as up to date as possible to allow information to be mailed home and to also be able to contact parents/guardians or emergency contacts as quickly as possible. Please contact the main office via phone or in person to make the necessary updates to your contact details. Changes of legal significance, such as a change of guardianship or a change of name, will need to be confirmed in writing. Please feel free to contact me regarding this or other issues on 51471790.