



Bill Cane Court
MAFFRA 3860
51471790

www.maffrasc.vic.edu

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

No. 15 5th June, 2009

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

June

- 12th - State-wide Reporting Day - pupil free day
- 26th - Last day of Term 2 - Reports distributed 2:15pm

July

- 13th - Term 3 Resumes
- 22nd - Later Years Expo - 6pm - 9pm

Parents' Club future meeting dates

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

STATE WIDE REPORTING DAY

Schools across Victoria will be closed on Friday June the 12th for the state wide reporting day. Teachers will be busy at school finalising the reports for all students. No students are to be at school on this day, so please make alternative arrangements. Buses will not be running. There will be no newsletter next week because of the 3 day week.

REPORTS

Student reports are being written in the coming weeks. Students in year 7 and students new to the school this year will be given a large folder along with their report. These folders are an ideal place to keep a record of all school achievements, including semester reports, Student of the Month awards and the like over a student's Secondary College career.

The reports will be handed out in Links groups on Friday the 26th at 2.15pm. Students will need to be attending school all day to be able to collect their reports.

No reports will be given out earlier than this time.

Parents can pick up their child's report from the school library from 2.45pm.

Year 10 students on Work Experience will have their report mailed home at the end of the day on Friday. If these reports are required earlier they can be picked up from the library by a parent or sibling from 2.45pm.

Families that cannot collect the reports at the above times can opt to have the report mailed to an address

of their choice. Simply pay \$2 at the Main Office, and fill in the address on the envelope you will be provided with.

EMA CHEQUES UNCOLLECTED

Education Maintenance Cheques that are not collected from the office by the 25th June will be credited to the families account on the 26th June. This is so the cheques are not left on the property for the school holidays. Please contact the office if you would like to use this credit for charges on your account.

LATER YEARS EXAMS

Over the next few weeks our year 10, 11 and 12 students will be sitting exams. This is an important skill for our year 10 and 11 students to acquire, so please make sure your child is taking this opportunity seriously. An excellent guide to VCE success has been included with this newsletter by the Later Years team. I would strongly suggest you read the article with your son/daughter.

HEALTH NOTICE- SWINE FLU

1. Victoria is now in a modified 'Sustain' phase of its plan to manage the impact of H1N1 Influenza in our community.
2. The virus has so far been mild and can be compared to our normal winter flu.
3. There is no longer a need to quarantine everyone who has been in contact with a confirmed case of H1N1 Influenza.
4. Only confirmed cases will need to be quarantined for three days and will all continue to be given the most appropriate treatment. Household members may continue to be provided with Tamiflu, but will not be quarantined.
5. Classes will no longer be quarantined and schools will no longer be partially or fully closed when cases are confirmed. Settings such as special development schools and child care centres will be managed on a case-by-case basis.
6. The DEECD will no longer be providing schools with information on individual confirmed cases of the virus. Schools will also no longer be required to notify the DEECD of confirmed cases within their school community.
7. Health officials are continuing to request that parents of children returning from USA, Canada, Japan, Mexico and Panama voluntarily keep their children home for seven days from arrival back in Australia.

These precautionary measures apply to all newly arrived international students and those travelling to and returning from the USA, Canada, Japan, Mexico and Panama.

The measures do not apply to teachers, who will

continue with normal duties. This decision is based on information available so far about how the virus spreads.

SCHOOL HYGIENE AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT

8. As per general health practices, students and staff who have flu-like symptoms should remain at home.
9. Schools must contact the parent of a student who is unwell and make arrangements for the child to be collected from school. This particularly applies to students that may have respiratory conditions or low immunity to illness.
10. Children becoming ill at school are to be removed from their class and cared for separately until they are collected by their parents. Staff should utilise appropriate hygiene practices when attending to these children. This includes hand washing, distancing and tissues for coughing and sneezing.

SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

11. VCE exams and the GAT will proceed, as planned.
12. VCE students who have been confirmed as having H1N1 Influenza or who are unwell with flu-like symptoms can apply for Special Provision from the VCAA. Contact the VCAA Special Provision Unit on 1800 205 455.

Specific concerns from parents about Influenza H1N1 (Human Swine Flu) can be referred to any of the following:

- **The Swine Influenza Hotline Tel. 180 2007**
- **Nurse-on-Call Tel. 1300 606 024** – for expert health information and advice (24 hours, 7 days)

Andrew McIntosh

Principal

LATER YEARS

AGE Article Tips for VCE SUCCESS:

"In Search of Top Marks"

Attached to the back of the newsletter is an article about applying yourself to your VCE studies and how to achieve top marks. The article starts out quite slowly however it does progress on some quite valuable information about both support of students and students empowering themselves and becoming self directed learners. I hope it makes for a useful read for both parents and VCE students, and can be stuck on the fridge or in your study to provide strategies to assist with motivation and focus during some of the difficult times.

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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 9th and Wednesday June 10th - Year 12 exams in the Maffra Memorial Hall

- Year 11

exams in gym - wear warm clothing

Thursday June 11th - GAT in Maffra Memorial Hall - for all year 12 students and any year 11 student completing a year 12 subject or the **second year of a scored VET subject.**

No year 11 or year 12 classes will be held on Tuesday Wednesday or Thursday (June 5, 6 or 7th)

Friday June 12th June - Report Writing Day will be a well earned rest for Senior school students

Monday 15th of Semester 2 classes start for all year 11 and 12 subjects, including VCAL. All students are expected to be in class, and the week of classes before the holidays count towards the 80% attendance.

JUNE EXAMS

- Year 10 exams will be held on Wednesday 3rd June (English) and Tuesday 9th 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, bring a blanket.
- Year 11 & 12 students may wear casual clothes when they have exams so that they are as comfortable as possible.
- All students should have received a VCAA exam timetable if studying one or more year 12 subjects, and a Maffra Secondary College exam timetable if studying year 11 subjects.

- It is the student's responsibility to follow all exam guidelines, bring the correct equipment and to be waiting outside the exam room at least 10 mins before the exam starts (for safety)
- Students may bring a clear water bottle (no labels) into the exam but NOT a mobile phone, white-out or extra paper.

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.

Challenging Week 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.

DARWIN CAMP:

We would like to request the presence of all students and a parent to a final meeting to discuss the plans and arrangements for the Darwin trip on the Wednesday June 10th at 7:00pm. We will be going over the arrangements for all aspects of the camp. Things you need to discuss prior to the evening and bring along with you are the following:

- Do you want to provide an envelope with your child's name on it and money for a meal on the last day of camp?
- Did you want to borrow a school tent?
- Does your child have any severe, chronic or new medical condition that may need some supporting documents from your GP in case of an emergency?
- Any questions or queries you may have?

Due to an error in the budgeting considerations which saw the cost of the bus transport to and from the airport left out of the calculations, there will be a further charge of \$50 added to the camp to cover the bus transport costs from Maffra to the airport and then from the airport back to Maffra.

I sincerely apologise for the inconvenience of this final charge and please come and speak to me if you have any further enquiries.

Thank you

Katie Hodge, Later Years Sub-school Manager

CAREER NEWS

EXPO DATE HAS BEEN SET!! The school has begun planning for our expo night, which will be held in the GYM from **6pm until 9.30pm on Wednesday 22nd July 2009.** ***All students and families from years 9 to 12 should pop this date in the diary.*** This is an opportunity for you to talk to teachers about subject offerings in years 10-12, as well as community

organisations, universities and TAFEs. Formal presentations will be held in the library and theatre for current year 9 and 10 students. There is something there for everyone! Further information will be provided in upcoming newsletters, so please keep an eye out over the coming weeks.

CHECK OUT LA TROBE - by attending 'Experience La Trobe' holiday program. **When:** 30 June (Bundoora), 3 July (Albury-Wodonga), 7 July (Bendigo). Choose three hands-on workshops from over 40 sessions; take a tour; stay the night at the campus if you wish. A great way for Yr 10-12's and families to check out the University; **register attendance/obtain details at www.latrobe.edu.au/experience; enquiries:** 1300 135 045.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS - Implementation of the Melbourne Model curriculum redesign continues in 2010 with a choice of one of six new generation degrees (arts, biomedicine, commerce, environments, music and science), one of the continuing degrees (agriculture, dance, dramatic art, environmental horticulture, film and & TV, fine art, music performance, music theatre and production) or the last intake for arts (media and communication), engineering, oral health and vet science (non-school leavers only). Physiotherapy, dental science and optometry had their last intakes this year. More info: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/ugrad/. Students wanting to read news and information go to: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/school/aust.html.

WHAT IF I DON'T GET A HIGH ENOUGH ENTER? Year 12 students who miss out on a university place have a number of options. One option is to study a diploma at **Melbourne Institute of Business and Technology (MIBT)**. Upon successful completion students are eligible for a place in second year of a Deakin University degree program (conditions apply). There are courses in commerce, computing, engineering, health sciences, management, media and communication and science. MIBT is located at Deakin Melbourne campus in Burwood and Geelong at Waurin Ponds. For information: www.mibt.vic.edu.au. In addition, Monash University offers a similar option at **Monash College** with courses in art & design, arts, business, engineering and IT - see www.monash.edu.au/monashcollege; there are various **TAFE options** which can lead on to university study if desired; some **independent colleges** offers courses as well. Check these out in the careers room.

GAP YEAR UPDATE - Due to the popularity of the Australian Defence Force Gap Year (following Year 12), the application process has changed and improved. This year you apply online; applications **open 1 May** and run **till 3 Sept**, and a fairer application process has been developed. The selection model will not be 'first-in first-served', but all

candidates will be assessed for suitability. However, it is still wise to apply early. For information go to www.defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO STUDY IN QUEENSLAND? Bond, a private University (Gold Coast), is offering full-fee/part-fee scholarships to Australia's best and brightest. They are designed to reward/encourage Year 12 students who excel in academics, leadership and/or community service. To learn more attend an info. session. **When:** 7pm for 7.15pm start, Tues 16 June; **Where:** Novotel, 270 Collins St, Melbourne; **Register:** www.bond.edu.au/events; **Info:** Ph. 07 55 95 1067 scholarships@bond.edu.au.

LA TROBE LAUNCHES NEW DEGREES IN MARKETING AND HRM - These new programs will provide those considering a career in the dynamic and expanding area of **marketing or human resource management** with the competitive edge needed in today's global business economy. The degrees include international experience (an international study tour is offered with both programs) and a marketing/HRM practicum subject (to develop work-integrated learning). Career prospects (marketing): marketing communication, e-commerce and e-marketing, market research, international marketing, advertising and public relations; (HRM): management, employee relations/industrial relations, compensation and benefits, recruiting and training

Karen Burgess
burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au

CAREER PATHWAY OPPORTUNITIES

Ms Burgess and Ms Healey are constantly encouraging students to make the most of any opportunities that may add to their experience and broaden their horizons. In the last week we have had students win scholarships, an all expenses paid trip to a NSW Finance Careers Academy and a work experience opportunity in Sydney with Pacific magazines. We would also love to have a participant in these fashion awards.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN FASHION DESIGN AND BETWEEN 13-19 YEARS OLD?

You can enter the Apex Australia Teenage Fashion Awards. Go to the website click on the Vic state link and follow the instructions. www.aatfa.apex.org.au Closing date for entries 13th July. Cost per entry \$30.

ROTARY EXCHANGE REUNION

Last Saturday evening the Rotary Club of Maffra held a reunion of thirty-two outgoing Exchange Students. Thirty-two past students attended the Dinner at Duart together with some of their family members and Members of the Rotary Club. It was a very exciting

evening with lots of reminiscing and catching up on lots of wonderful experiences. This celebration marked 50 years of Exchange with some sixteen countries including Europe, Sth America and Sth Africa. The very first incoming Exchange student who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Maffra, Velu from Malaysia, was also present. Velu came to Maffra SC in 1965 and immigrated here in 1977. He is now an Australian Citizen and works in the Agricultural Economics field. On Sunday I opened the College up for a Tour. It was wonderful listening to their stories about life at the College in days gone by and noting how much the College has changed since they were students here. They very much enjoyed going through old school Magazines and the Log Books to find photographs of themselves when they were here at school. One chap began to laugh while reading a Log Book. When I asked what he was laughing at he commented that he had found an old Newspaper Article about how the College had just purchased two new Typewriters!!! Just look at how far we have come!!!

Susanne Wilson – Assistant Principal & President Elect of the Rotary Club of Maffra

URGENT REQUEST FOR HOST FAMILY

The Rotary Club of Maffra is sponsoring a young man from France who will be attending Maffra Secondary College from late July. We have the second and third Host Family but are looking for a First Host Family for approximately three months. Francis will be going in to Year 11 and it would be great if someone from the College would be willing to host him when he first arrives. For more details please contact me at the College as soon as possible.

Susanne Wilson / Assistant Principal

MUSIC NOTES

Congratulations to the Concert Band on their fantastic efforts at the Sale Eisteddfod on Thursday evening. It was great to see you all there trying your best and sounding great. We picked up a third place in the Perpetual Shield and second place in the John Leslie Scholarship where we won \$150. This money should go towards new music for the Concert Band. Once again, well done for all your hard work and efforts on the night and in the rehearsals leading up to it. Thank you to families for continued support in bringing students to band rehearsals and performances.

Next Friday will be my last week for the semester. For the remainder of the term, all my students will be taken over by Megan MacDonald and a time table will be available next week for the last two weeks of term. Arrangements for next term will be organised soon. Please contact me if you have any questions.

If you have not paid instrumental music fees for the year yet, can you please do so. Students will not be able to continue having lessons next semester if they are not paid. Please let someone in the Music

department or the front office know if you are having any difficulties with fee payment or if your child is no longer doing instrumental music.

It would be really good to see all students make an effort to attend all lessons and rehearsals until the end of term.

Enjoy your weekend!

Caroline Monck, Music Coordinator

SPORTS REPORT

SENIOR GIRLS FOOTY

On the 20th of May our senior girls footy team took on teams from Bairnsdale Secondary College and Sale College. The girls displayed some great skills on the day, were hard at the footy and played with tremendous sportsmanship to come away with two convincing wins. The team will now take on winning teams from the other Gippsland zones with the ultimate aim of heading to Melbourne.

Scores for the day were as follows.

Maffra 6.5 def Sale 1.1

Goal kickers: M. Goodman 1, B. Padman 1, B. Neille 1, K. Wilkins 1, C. Beers 1, J. Gray

Maffra 13.9 def Bairnsdale 2.2

Goal kickers – B. Padman 4, M. Goodman 3, B. Neille 2, A. Allen 2, J. Lina 2.



COMMUNITY NOTICES



WELLINGTON COMMUNITY NO INTEREST LOANS SCHEME (NILS) provides no interest loans for low income consumers.

This scheme has been set up to assist people with the purchase or replacement of household appliances such as refrigerators & washing machines and also educational or medical special needs items. Small advances for any other worthwhile purpose will be considered.

Interviews are available in Sale, Maffra and Yarram.

To apply please contact:

Kilmany	- 51447777
Salvation Army	- 51446374
Kingsway	- 51445370
Cava	- 51441114
St Vincent de Paul	- 51444183
Yarram & District Health Service	- 51820222

**Do you live in Maffra or nearby?
Do you have a child or close family
member with an autism spectrum
disorder?**

If you would be interested in receiving more information for families, and getting to know other families who have a close member with ASD, then you are invited to an informal get-together!

**Where: Maffra Community House, 19 Gibney Street
Maffra**

When: Tuesday June 23rd, 2009 from 10am - 12noon

Cost: No cost

**Questions: Contact Claire, at the Community House
on 51 471 487, or Yvonne at Parent To Parent
Gippsland on 1800 101 453**

If you would be interested, but can't attend, please contact Yvonne or Claire and we will keep you in touch

Please let us know if you can make it