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No. 16 19th June, 2009

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

June

- 18th – 26th – Yr 10 Darwin trip
- 19th – Yr 7 “Sticks and Stones” Bullying presentation (\$2)
- 23rd – Gr 6 Mini-Transition Day
- 26th – Last day of Term 2 – Reports distributed 2:15pm

July

- 13th – Term 3 Resumes
- 17th – Winter Sports
- 18th – Rodney Vincent comedy night
- 21st – Cyber Safety – Parent Info night MSC – 7:30pm
- 22nd – Later Years Expo – 6pm – 9pm
- 24th – Yr 7 Girls immunisations
- 27th – 29th – Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Ski Trip
- 28th – School Council – MSC – 7:30pm
- 31st – Art and Craft Show

August

- 2nd – Art and Craft Show

Parents’ Club future meeting dates

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

SLICE DRIVE



Items ordered will be delivered to the school on Tuesday 23rd June. Please make sure someone is able to collect the items no later than 2:30pm on Friday 26th June.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Congratulations to Jenny Harris and the Parents Club for successfully applying for sponsorship from Heyfield & District Community Bank for \$13254 to buy furniture for the Middle Years building and some outdoor seating. A big thank you to Kerry Flett who suggested we apply to the Bendigo Bank for this sponsorship. The money will be well spent making the College a better place for all students.

On Friday evening I was lucky enough to be invited to the launch of the Teenagers in Emergencies Booklet at Duart by the four students who attended the Alpine School in 2008. The booklet is very well presented and contains a lot of useful information in plain speak.

Tim Liddell, Amy Foster, Jess Bedggood and Sam Montague and their families are to be congratulated on this magnificent achievement. A link to the booklet will be put on various websites, including DSE, CFA and SES.

Unfortunately Mr Scholes couldn’t maintain his perfect record of arranging great weather for a sports day. The Cross Country started in the rain, students ran in the rain, and of course when the event was finished the rain stopped. Thank you to staff and students who put up with the miserable weather. Results will be produced shortly.

REPORTS

Student reports are being written in the coming weeks. Students in Year 7 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 till 3.15pm.

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.

The teaching staff need to be congratulated for their efforts in completing the student reports. They have worked very hard to write and compile quality reports for each student within a tight timeline. Parents are reminded that students working at the expected level receive a grade of C. Please take the time to have a discussion with your child around working to the best of their ability. Once you have read the report carefully, please contact the relevant Year Level Coordinator if you have any questions. Unavoidably Mr Zomer has been unable to write reports this semester due to ill health. Thank you to Hugh Berryman Brook for stepping in at late notice to take the Year 8 and Year 10 classes.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

I received an email from VASSP, the Victorian Association of Secondary School Principals, advising that Danielle Payne has been selected for the 2009 Finance Academy Program. We sincerely congratulate Danielle on this achievement. I am advised that the standard was very impressive and with only twenty-two places available and over 100 applicants, Danielle's achievement is of great significance. Well done Danielle and we wish you continued success.

Susanne Wilson - Assistant Principal

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEENAGER

Thank you to all those parents who attended last Monday's Understanding your Teenager Parent Information session. The night was organised by Kilmany Family Care and was hosted by Ray Lees from Parentzone who ran a very informative evening that consisted of group activities and discussions. The focus for the night was on understanding the differences between teenagers of today and teenagers of "our" generation. All participants were lucky enough to receive a "showbag" of lots of useful information and tips for parents. Parents who attended were surveyed and the responses were overwhelmingly positive, with everyone walking away with something new they had learned.

Kilmany Family Care are planning to run another session in term three and again in term four and will focus on such issues as developing positive family relationships and communicating with your teenager.

We encourage all parents to attend the next sessions. Stay in touch with the Newsletter to here more details of dates and times.

THE FIRST DAY OF TERM THREE FOR ALL STUDENTS IN YEARS 7 - 12.

Students have been notified that the first day of next term will start on Day 6 - usually the first day of week 2. This will ensure that students have equal access to all of the classes they would normally have over the two-week period. Therefore, the first week of next term will start with day 6 and the following week will start with day 1 and so on.

IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisations for this term are as follows:

Term	Date	Year level	Gender
Three	Friday July 24 th	Year 7	Females

Vaccines recommended:

Year 7 Females:

Hepatitis B - 2 doses 4-6 months apart
Chickenpox - 1 dose
HPV vaccine - 3 doses over 4-6 months

If you have any questions regarding the Wellington Shire Council Schools Immunisation Program, please contact them on 5142 3420.

MOBILE PHONE AND MP3 PLAYER POLICY

Last week, School Council ratified this policy. Students and parents are asked to take notice of the following information - an excerpt taken from the policy. For a copy of the entire policy, please contact the Main Office.

- The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile phones or MP3 players.
- Mobile phones and MP3 players owned by students are brought to school at their own risk.
- Student's mobile phones and MP3 players may **only** be brought to classes, assemblies or similar organised activities, if the Teacher in Charge has requested students to bring them for use in a specific learning activity.
- Mobile phones must be kept in lockers AT ALL TIMES, unless they are being explicitly used for a learning activity in class.
- MP3 players must be kept in lockers during class time, unless they are being explicitly used for a learning activity in class.
- MP3 players may be used before school and during recess and lunchtimes.
- Students are not to keep a personal mobile phone in their personal possession unless permission from the principal has been successfully sought by parents who have outlined the health, safety or personal reasons that justify the student being in possession of a mobile phone.
- Students misusing personal mobile phones (cyber-bullying or causing a nuisance) will be brought to the attention of the Year Level Coordinator and the Assistant Principal.
- The school reserves the right to prohibit students from bringing mobile phones into certain spaces or during certain activities e.g. science rooms, exam rooms, technology rooms, P.E. classes, change rooms etc.

Confiscations and returns:

Students found in possession of a phone or MP3 player at a time that is deemed unacceptable can expect:

First offence: Instant confiscation and handed to an AP. It can be collected by the student at the end of the day.

Subsequent offences: Instant confiscation and handed to an AP. Can be collected at the end of the week by a parent or guardian. (Parent meeting - at the discretion of the YLC).

UNIFORM POLICY REMINDER

A reminder to all parents that students ARE NOT allowed to wear non-uniform jumpers, hoodies or jackets to school. The only jumper that is permitted is the school uniform woollen jumper or polar fleece jumper. The only jacket permitted to be worn is the new school council approved College jacket. The

school jacket MAY be worn in place of the school jumper and may be worn in class. Any student who is found to be wearing a non-uniform school jumper or jacket will be asked to remove the item and the item may be confiscated. Any confiscated items can be collected at the end of the day. Both sub-schools have supplies of spare school jumpers. Students who do not have a jumper can borrow a school jumper for the day from their Year Level Coordinator.

ATTENDANCE - IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY

Are you aware that if a child misses nine days per term from Prep to Grade 6 then they have missed one complete school year? By Year 12 this equals two complete years.

By avoiding school, students are taking the first steps in isolating themselves from the community in which they live. Being reliable in attendance is a valuable habit for life and builds a connectedness between the students, their teachers and fellow students.

Regular attendance is also one of the major factors contributing to a student's wellbeing and successful transition from a child to an adult. If a student is avoiding school, particularly if parent condoned, then they are putting their future at risk.

Whichever way we look at it, schools offer opportunities for positive experiences for students.

If your child is seeking to not attend school, don't reward their avoidance behaviour by giving into them—say **NO**. Also, persistent and unexplained absence will affect student Youth Allowance.

Should you require assistance in saying NO to your child in regard to any absences other than genuine illness, please contact his/her Year Level Coordinator.

Let's all work together to make a difference to your child's future.

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

Karen Milner, Assistant Principal

CENTREPAY

Maffra Secondary College has been approved by Centrelink to accept payments by Centrepay.

Centrepay is a direct bill-paying service offered free to customers receiving payments from Centrelink. Through Centrepay customers can choose to pay bills by having an amount regularly deducted from their Centrelink payment and paid directly to Maffra Secondary College on their behalf.

The College has set a minimum payment of \$20 per fortnight due to the fact that the College will be charged a processing fee for each payment.

If you are interested in paying your College account using your Centrelink payment, we have application forms at the front office of the College.

EMA - SEMESTER 2

EMA Applications for Semester 2 close on 7th August. Forms are available at the school office. If you received EMA for Semester 1 you do not need to apply for Semester 2. You must hold a Health Care Card current for the start of Term 3 (13th July) to be eligible. New Families who are eligible to receive EMA please fill in a new application form available from the Main Office.

TEENAGERS IN EMERGENCIES:

On Friday, 12th June, Mr McIntosh and I had the privilege of attending the launch of 'Teenagers in Emergencies' - a Booklet produced by Tim Liddell, Sam Montague, Amy Foster and Jessica Bedggood, following their time at the Alpine School in 2008. These students were successful in being selected to undertake a nine week placement at the Alpine School and were required to undertake a Community Project. Having personally experienced Bushfires and Floods in our own Community, the students set about the production of this Booklet to assist other Teenagers to cope in similar emergency situations. They have worked consistently over the past twelve months to produce their Booklet which, I am confident, will be a fantastic resource for youth, not only in our own Community, but for all teenagers in general. I sincerely congratulate Tim, Sam, Amy and Jess for the wonderful work they have undertaken over the past two years and certainly for the manner in which they presented themselves at the Launch of their Booklet. The College is very proud of each of them and I am confident that the future is looking wonderful with such fine young people in our College and Community.

A Copy of the Booklet will be distributed to each student at the College via their Mid Year Report Folders.

Susanne Wilson, Assistant Principal.

MIDDLE YEARS NEWS

MIDDLE YEARS ASSEMBLY Friday June 26th - An invitation to parents

Twice each term, we hold a Middle Years Assembly for all students in Year 7, 8 and 9. The assemblies are hosted by the Middle Years Leadership Team and during these assemblies, student achievements are recognised. We often hear musical items, reports from students who have participated in camps, excursions and inter-school sport, and from students who would like to talk to their peers about fund raising or social issues.

We would like to invite all parents of our Middle Years students to attend this assembly and to join in celebrating the achievement of our students.

STEP TO THE FUTURE CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE

Fifty students from Years 7, 8 and 9 have been selected by their co-ordinators to attend the annual Step to the Future Conference in Melbourne on Monday, July 27th. All students have received an information letter with a permission form attached. Students are reminded that permission forms and money were to be returned to the office by June 12th. If these forms have not been returned by Monday 22nd I will assume that students are not interested and other students will be offered an opportunity to attend.

MINI-TRANSITION DAY

On Tuesday, June 23rd, we will be welcoming Grade 6 students to our school to attend a Mini-Transition Day. These Grade 6 students will be attending Maffra Secondary College next year as Year 7s and this is a great opportunity for the students to start to get to know their way around the school, make friends with Grade 6 students from other schools and for them to meet some of the Year 7 teachers.

Students will arrive at recess, attend period 3 and 4 classes and stay on for lunch before heading back to their schools.

YEAR 8 CROSS-AGE TUTORING

A reminder to Year 8 students in the Cross Age Tutoring program that they are required to hand in their booklets to Ms Clancy by the end of term, before they will be able to receive their certificate. Most students seem to have really enjoyed working with the junior classes at both Maffra and St Mary's Primary Schools in Maffra. I will hold a meeting in the first week of next term, to ask students if they would be interested in continuing the program in Term Three.

BRAINSTORM PRODUCTIONS

As part of our school Bullying Policy, Years 7 students watched a performance by Brainstorm Productions on Friday 19th June. This performance is subsidised by the school but students were asked to contribute \$2 towards the cost. If you have not already done so could students please pay the money to their links teacher? The performance 'Sticks and Stones' is a worthwhile inclusion into our school calendar especially when it supplements our Restorative Justice Policy so well.

WINTER SPORT

Our annual winter sports competitions will be held on Friday 17th July. These sports include netball, soccer, badminton and VCE basketball. Responsibility slips will be distributed early next term.

CAREERS EXPO EXCURSION



Congratulations to all the eXeL students who attended the Careers Expo at Catholic College Sale. Teachers and students alike agreed that the Expo was well worth attending. Students gained an insight into the great range of opportunities afforded

to them and have been given some contacts which they can follow up later on in the year. Well done to all those involved!

Sue Clancy, Middle Years Sub-School Leader

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.

LIKE TO 'ACCESS' MONASH BUT WORRIED ABOUT YOUR ENTER?

'Access Monash' is a program of alternative entry pathways, special admissions schemes, scholarships and bursaries that can help gain entry to a degree. The program helps people of Australian **indigenous descent, rural or isolated** areas, having **socio-economic difficulties**, a **disability or long-term medical condition**, from **non-English speaking** backgrounds and those with **long-term family** difficulties. If studying at Monash is limited by financial, geographical, cultural or personal hardship you may qualify for a scholarship, bursary or alternate entry pathway. For info: www.monash.edu/access; applications, later in the year, through VTAC (www.vtac.edu.au). The **Diploma of Tertiary Studies** (at Gippsland/Berwick) is a one year program alternative for university study. It combines elective units from your chosen discipline with core units on learning, studying and communications skills. It allows you to complete units from your degree of interest including art and design, arts, business, education, IT, nursing and science. On successful completion you can apply for a related Monash course and get credit.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE UPDATE: The University of Melbourne has indicated that the **Bachelor of Oral Health** is a **continuing** degree. It is **not** having it's last intake in 2010

INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY?

Photography can be studied at university, TAFE or at independent colleges. For example, RMIT University has a Bachelor of Arts (Photography), Deakin Uni offers photography in their Arts and Media & Communications degrees and Swinburne Uni in the Communication Design degree. RMIT TAFE and NMIT also offer photography courses. Independent colleges such as Photographic Studies College

(Southbank), International College of Creative Arts (South Melbourne) and the Photographic Imaging College (Hawthorn) offer diplomas in photography. Check out their websites at www.psc.edu.au, www.icpp.net and www.pic.org.au.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY NEWS

- The federal government is providing \$123.7m. to La Trobe and it has received \$97.9m for the La Trobe Institute for Molecular Sciences (LIMS) which will include 200 research positions and \$88.9m for La Trobe Rural Health School at Bendigo.
- La Trobe Uni is **top in Victoria for student satisfaction**. Students enjoy their experience, feel a sense of belonging and lecturers are friendly and approachable.
- In 2010 the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering is introducing new double degrees: **Bachelor of Information Systems/Master of Health Information Management** and a **Bachelor of Science/Master of Nanotechnology**.
- \$230m **Biosciences Research Centre**: due for completion 2011; honours/postgrad-uate students will be able to train in one of the world's best biosciences facilities.
- The Faculty of Health Sciences is offering a new course in 2010: **Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Paramedic Practice** at Bendigo; Albury-Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton campuses will also offer the first year of this course, with students completing the final three years at Bendigo. The **B. Health Sciences/Master of Podiatric Practice** and the **B. Health Sciences/Master of Speech Pathology** will be offered at Bendigo campus in 2010. Several other Health Science courses will be offered at Albury-Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton.
- **French** will be offered as a major at beginner and advanced levels in 2010.

SOME COURSES AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY:

- **Why an ARTS DEGREE?** Arts degrees provide students with broad options in the humanities area, allowing them to **follow their own interest** while working out what they really want to do; Arts teaches transferable skills (critical thinking, evaluation, interpreting, research, time management, teamwork, verbal and written). **Possible careers:** teaching, management & administration, communication industry, publishing, media, public relations, tourism, public service and social welfare, promotions, liaison, human resources. Careers depend on subjects studied eg **cinema studies major:** film & TV production, film and media policy, film and sound archives, media analysis, writing/publishing; **language major:** translating/interpreting, government, hospitality & tourism, community-based organisation and international business.

- **What is ORTHOPTICS?** Orthoptists specialise in disorders of vision and eye movements. They investigate and monitor **eye disease**, diagnose and provide **non-surgical treatment** of neurological eye problems and provide **vision rehabilitation**. They investigate and treat eye disease, screen for glaucoma, photography and imaging of the eye, visual field testing, work in refractive laser clinics, prescribe glasses for a range of treatment needs, provide rehabilitation for patients with low vision so they can remain independent. Orthoptists qualifying at La Trobe can **register to work in Australia and are recognised around the world**. **Currently there is a shortage of orthoptists in Australia.**

- **What is HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT?** It underpins the healthcare system. Eg: **manage medical records and health information** (hospitals, private GP/specialist practices), **coded diagnoses and operations** (for casemix-based funding for hospitals), **coded and analysed clinical and demographic information** (population health, state/national policy, funding/planning health services), patient clinical information (for research). HIM's analyse/interpret health information. **Suits those** wanting to work in healthcare, be at the edge in health developments (eg electronic health records), are inquisitive, enjoy management and want very good options for career development and jobs. There is a **massive shortage of HIM's** across Australia

Karen Burgess

burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au

PARENTS CLUB

Presents

RODNEY VINCENT Comedian & **VICTORIAN ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR.**

The show will feature songs and comedy showcasing Rodney's reputation for being a genuine all round entertainer.

Date: Saturday 18th July

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Maffra Memorial Hall

BYO: Food and Drink

Cost: \$20 a head for pre purchased tickets by July 1st

Coffee and Tea supplied.

Tables can be booked for 8 or 10 people or single tickets can be purchased.

Book your table early by calling the Main Office at the College on 51471790

Lots of Prizes and Fun on the night! So don't miss out.

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CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Name of Card Holder.....

Number of Tickets.....for Rodney Vincent

Amount:Date.....

- Bankcard Visa MasterCard
- Cash Cheque Money Order

Card No.

.....

Expiry Date:.....

Signature:

REMINDER

ART & CRAFT SHOW -

Celebration of Art & Craft will be held in the Middle Years Precinct on Friday 31st July from 7-9pm and again on Sunday 2nd August from 12.30 - 3.30pm. Art & Craft work needs to be submitted by the end of the first week back after the school holidays. So the holidays might be a great chance for you and the children to create that piece of art you have always wanted.



Art Raffle will be drawn on the Sunday the 2nd of August and all tickets need to be returned to the main office by **Friday the 31st July**. For your chance to win an original painting by our very own talented teacher Angi Thomas, 2nd Wine & Cheese hamper and 3rd Art & Craft basket. Tickets \$1.



Bek on the Victorian Equestrian Team

On May 9th Rebekah Carrolan competed in the Ballarat Horse Trials on her mount Jitta. Through tough conditions and elite competition Bek finished an incredible 3rd, which most likely will give her a place representing Victoria in the National Equestrian Championships at Werribee on October 1st. Melissa Backman also competed in this event, riding in the preliminary on WG Barbie Girl and was placed 5th. The girls have another chance to qualify for the Interschool Nationals in horse trials at Werribee in early September. The next interschool event at Werribee in

July is also a National qualifier, Bek will ride her other mount Face Up To It and Melissa will take Barbie. Chelsea Hair is the only other school participant in this equestrian event. There are about 500 riders from all over Victoria competing at this event. Well done Girls, and Good Luck!



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Lost from Davis Street Maffra - 9week old chocolate Labrador puppy. Contact Roz on 51472129

ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS
 Fill in the area to be changed Date.....

PARENT/S NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE NUMBER/S.....

MOBILE NO.....

CHILD/RENS NAME/S

SURNAME.....

CHRISTIAN

NAME/S.....Form.....

.....Form.....

.....Form.....

EMAIL.....

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

1.....No.....

2.....No.....

3.....No.....