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DATES TO REMEMBER

July

- 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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WELCOME BACK TO TERM 3

I hope all students and staff have had a good break and have returned ready for the new term. In particular I welcome the new students and their families who have joined the college this term. Starting at a new school can be a challenging experience especially in the middle of the year and I hope all our new members find the college a welcoming and stimulating college.

Term 3 is the term where students are asked to start considering subject selections for next year via a number of Information nights. The careers expo next week for year 9 and year 10 students is of vital importance, and I urge all parents to attend with their student so that choices made are informed choices. The difficulty in today's world is to make sense of the huge number of options available to students. There are many pathways to get to a desired outcome, so make sure you hear the presentations from our Later Years staff, who will present a clear summary of what awaits your student in the upcoming years.

STAFFING

We welcome Phillip Neville to the College for the Semester to teach English and SOSE. Jenny Schulz has also joined us to work in the Food Technology department, and Hugh Berryman has started the term with us to cover Mr Zomer's absence. I would also like to thank Tracey Nicholas, Veronica Hudson and Carol

Caffrey, who have all agreed to extend their hours of work to cover for staff on Long Service Leave.

REPORTS

Hopefully you have had a chance to thoroughly read your students report. A section has been included for parent comments. Please feel free to comment on the report and the progress of your child this semester. The parent comment can be returned to the Main Office, or given to the Links teacher by your student. If you have any questions about the report please contact the relevant Year Level Coordinator.

Some reports that we mailed at the end of Term 2 have still not reached their destination through no fault of our own. If you are still expecting a report in the mail please contact the Main Office and we will arrange for another to be sent home at our expense.

Andrew McIntosh

Principal

IMMUNISATIONS FOR YEAR 7 GIRLS

The Wellington Shire Immunisation team will once again be attending the school on Friday 24th July to continue the state government funded School Immunisations Program. This program will be conducted with the Year 7 girls and provides the second dose of HPV vaccine. A further visit will also occur during October of this year.

Students who have missed any immunisation from earlier in the year will also be contacted to determine if catch up immunisation is still required.

PARENTS

Are you unsure about your child's use of technology and the risks they face in cyber space?

We are running an information session for parents next Tuesday 21st July at 7.00pm in the Middle Years Building.

Our presenter will be Jo Lomas who works with Community Police.

Come along and see what your child has access to and the precautions needed to be a responsible cyber citizen.

Any queries Ring Loueen Smith on 51471790.

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.

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.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh is an internationally recognised scheme that encourages self development, participation and personal growth. 29 Year 9 and 10 students have commenced their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh at the school this year, with many students almost completing some of their award sections. While completing the Community Service requirement of their award, we currently have students volunteering at an op shop, with sporting clubs and at Stretton Park. To complete their Skills section, some of the students are singing, playing a musical instrument or improving their cooking skills. Students are cycling, dancing, swimming and playing hockey or football to complete the requirements for the Physical Recreation section. A bushwalk will be held later this term for the practice Expedition, with the assessment hike being conducted during 4th term.

New students can enrol to complete their Duke of Edinburgh at the school anytime, as long as they are 14 years old. The cost is \$75, which includes the Bronze Award booklet, an internationally recognised certificate upon completion and insurance.

If you have any queries about the Duke of Edinburgh at Maffra Secondary College, please contact Jo O'Doherty or Vicki McClelland at the school.

CAREER NEWS

EXPO IS NEXT WEEK!! 6pm until 9.00pm on Wednesday 22nd July 2009.

All students and families from years 9 to 12 are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity for you to talk to teachers about subject offerings in years 10-12, as well as community organisations, universities and TAFE's. Please note:

Presentation for current Year 9 families in the Library starting 6.30pm sharp

Presentation for current Year 10 families in the Library starting 7.00pm sharp

Students can attend the EXPO in the Gym between 6pm and 9pm - gather information about subjects for next year, TAFE courses, University courses, apprenticeships, volunteering in your community and lots of other stuff!!

Remember that one of the best ways to develop a successful career pathway is to build your skills and knowledge through learning and experiences. Visiting the EXPO might be the first step you take in growing your career!!

WORK EXPERIENCE: Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Work Experience program in the final week of Term Two and over the school holidays. Reports from employers have been very positive, and it is wonderful to hear such positive feedback about our students. A huge thank you to our local employers, who were willing to offer students such a terrific opportunity. Without the support of the community we are unable to offer these types of programs. Any employer who is interested in participating in the program later in the year is encouraged to contact Karen Burgess at the college.

MELBOURNE CAREER EXPO - The Herald Sun Melbourne Career Expo is an education, training & employment exhibition, showcasing tertiary institutions, training colleges, employers and government initiatives. Aimed at: school leavers, students, parents, graduates, job seekers, any looking at career change. When: 10am-3pm, Fri 24 July; 10am-4pm, Sat 25 & Sun 26 July; Where: Melb Exhibition Centre, Clarendon St, Southbank; Cost: \$6 (cons), \$12 (general), free (u/13); Info: www.careerexpo.com.au

BIOTECHNOLOGY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Biotechnology is a new industry but human manipulation of organisms has been around a long time (eg brewing beer, creating vaccines, breeding plant species). It is an innovative field, giving students the chance to address society's challenges. This year research company IBISWorld developed a list of Australian jobs that would best weather the financial crisis in 2009. Jobs in biotechnology were at the top. The chance of medical breakthroughs and improved agricultural outcomes make it resilient. Where to

study? For example: B. Science (Biotechnology) at Swinburne (Hawthorn)

www.swinburne.edu.au/biotechnology

WHY BECOME A DOCTOR? Good reasons given at a recent career counsellors' conference at Melbourne Uni were: you are interested in people, you have a commitment to life-long learning, you are interested in biological sciences, and you desire a career that is more than just a job. Poor reasons given were: you love Dr House and ER, you want to be rich, or your parents or grandparents want you to be a doctor. The only university in Victoria now offering a school-leaver medical degree is Monash (Clayton). Melbourne, Deakin and Monash (Gippsland) universities offer post-graduate courses. Entry requirements vary – some are quite prescriptive; eg Melbourne requires prior knowledge of anatomy, physiology and biochemistry (gained, for example, in the Bachelor of Science or Biomedicine or another degree where breadth subjects could cover pre-requisites). Selection to Melbourne is based on undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA), test results (GAMSAT) and a multi-mini interview (www.medicine.unimelb.edu.au). Deakin will consider applicants from a variety of undergraduate backgrounds, also using the GPA, GAMSAT and interview. Many medicine applicants apply interstate to increase their chance of obtaining a place.

Karen Burgess, Careers Coordinator

burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au

MUSIC NOTES

Hello and welcome back to semester two. Hope you all had a great break. All students should by now have copies of their instrumental timetable. If not, grab one from the Music classroom. If for any reason a student cannot make it to their designated lesson time, it is up to the student to rearrange that lesson with their instrumental teacher. Simply not showing up is not the correct procedure.

With regards to rehearsals, Concert Band is now being taken by Megan McDonald and a reminder that rehearsals begin at 7:30am each Friday. To those members of the Concert Band please try to be punctual so that rehearsals can actually begin at this time. It might mean getting there at 7:20am!

A quick note regarding practice. It is imperative that home practice is done on a regular basis (20 to 30 minutes each night is preferable) as this will not only strengthen the individual student but also make our group performances far more musical. I encourage parents to support their children in making time to practice a priority.

We look forward to a great semester's music making.

Paul Van Eekelen – Music Coordinator

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 per person**

Coffee and Tea supplied.

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

REMINDER

Street Stall Friday 24th July – paper plates will be sent home with students next week.

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 4pm Tuesday 21st July.



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.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Cook Up Your Learning – East Gippsland TAFE Heyfield Outreach – find your inner MasterChef – commences July 21. Contact Anne on 51482208 for more information.

