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DATES TO REMEMBER

August

16th - 18th VCAL camp - CANCELLED

20th - Grade 6 TransAction Afternoon

September

2nd - Yr 9 eXeL Information night

Parents' Club future meeting dates

- Sept 1st
- Oct 6th
- Nov 3rd

Next School council meeting:

For your information the following are the remainder dates for School Council Meetings:

- 25th August (not the 18th August as stated on the Minutes)
- 20th October
- 17th November

School Council Dinner date to be notified at a later date.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thank you to the students for their donations on the casual day. We raised \$1074 for the Davison family. Also a big thanks to the families who have donated much needed items. The following items can still be left at the Middle Years office before school starts any day next week and given to Angi Thomas. Linen and towels, cooking utensils and clothes are items that will still be gratefully accepted. To give you some idea of sizes, there are 4 children in the Davidson family, a 10 year old boy, and three girls aged 12, 16 and 17.

YEAR 12 PARENT TEACHER SESSIONS

The year 12 Parent Teacher session held on a wet and wintry Wednesday evening was well attended. Please contact the College if you could not attend and would like some feedback from year 12 teachers. Thank you to all year 12 teachers who gave up their spare time for such a valuable session.

CURRICULUM

On Wednesday after school the College curriculum committee met to discuss some curriculum issues for 2010 and beyond. The first discussion was about the study of Languages. It was decided to narrow our focus to one Language in 2010, to allow a greater chance of getting enough students being interested in studying this language right up to the VCE level. It was decided to survey our current and future families

to see what interest there is in certain languages, and what resources we can discover in the local area. Next week's newsletter will be mailed out, including a LOTE survey. It would be greatly appreciated if you could complete this survey and return it to your child's links teacher.

The second thing discussed was the range of exciting Year 9 options for next year. Teachers were given a brief of creating more hands on activity based pursuits, and also to provide some academic rigour for students who want to excel in Year 12. I found the range of pursuits to be offered very exciting and look forward to the information evening for our current year 8 students at a later date.

STUDENTS OUT OF SCHOOL

The college is responsible for the safety and welfare of students during school hours and we therefore have rules to cover students leaving school grounds. To clarify these:

- Students with a medical or dental appointment need to be signed out at the office.
- Students leaving to go home must be signed out at the office.
- **NO** student in 7-10 has permission to go down the street to get lunch. Even a note from home does not change this. The canteen can provide lunch.
- VCE students have street privileges if they complete an agreement. This pass is only for the lunch break not during the day.
- A Gold pass can be obtained by a student who goes home for lunch as long as a parent is at home. It does not allow students to go to other homes or down the street.

I ask all parents to support us in these measures as they are necessary to maintain the safety of our students.

Andrew McIntosh
Principal

MIDDLE YEARS

YEAR 9 eXeL INFORMATION NIGHT - WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd

Shortly, Year 8 students will be given details of the eXeL Information Night on Wednesday 2nd September - in particular information relating to the various pursuits offered in eXeL. Letters will soon be sent home and all Year 8 students are expected to attend with their parents. Handbooks will be given out on the night. Students will be required to make decisions about which Pursuits they want to choose for 2010.

GRADE 6 TransAction AFTERNOON

On Thursday August 20th, our prospective grade 6 students will be bussed to Morrison Street, to participate in a TransAction afternoon. The aim of this activity is enable students from the various feeder schools to socialize in a structured setting. They will participate in several initiative tasks and tabloid

sports. It is expected that students wear suitable sports attire and bring their lunch and a drink.

GIPPSLAND BADMINTON

Our Year 7 boys, as well as the Year 8 girls, travelled to Morwell on Tuesday, to participate in the Gippsland finals. All students have attended regular lunchtime training sessions and performed creditably during their matches. Well done everyone! Congratulations to the Year 7 boys – Nic Ridding, Eddie Dunn, Danny Keane, Nick Marshall and Kyle Johns who are Gippsland Champions and now progress to the State finals in Melbourne on Wednesday 16th September.

Sue Clancy, Middle Years Sub-School Leader

CAREER NEWS

➤ **EVENTS AND OPEN DAYS: -**

- Sat 15 Aug - **Holmesglen TAFE**
- Sun 16 Aug - **Aust Catholic Uni** (Melbourne); **Deakin Uni** (Warrnambool); **La Trobe Uni** (Bendigo) **Swinburne Uni/TAFE**; **Melbourne Uni**, **Sunraysia TAFE** (Swan Hill)
- Sun 23 Aug - **Box Hill TAFE**; **Deakin Uni** (Melb); **La Trobe Uni** (Albury/Wodonga)
- Sun 30 Aug - **Australian Catholic Uni** (Ballarat); **Ballarat Uni**; **La Trobe Uni** (Bundoora)
- **Advertising seminar** at RMIT - 22 August; www.rmit.edu.au/bus/events/careers/ad
- **Public relations seminar** at RMIT - 5 Sept; www.rmit.edu.au/bus/events/careers/pr

THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF OPEN DAYS TO ATTEND. YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THE TIME TO GO AND EXPLORE UNIVERSITY OPPORTUNITIES!!!

YEAR 12 PARENTS AND STUDENTS!!

APPLYING FOR COURSES FOR 2010 - VTAC Guide 2010, giving details of courses and how to apply, has now been distributed to students who purchased their own copy. Newsagents will also have guides for sale. Applications have now opened and we have begun working through this process with students. On time applications will close on **Wed 30 September**. The processing fee is \$23 if you pay by credit card or \$31 if you have an invoice sent. You can apply after 30 Sept but it will cost \$82. You can apply for up to 12 courses, placed in order of most preferred to least preferred. Be sure to read the Selection Mode and Extra Requirements for any course for which you apply. Students will be able to change their preferences during the year and following the release of their ENTER.

SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME - Our students will all apply for the Special Entry Access

Scheme (**SEAS**) administered by VTAC under the category of rural students. Some students may be eligible to apply under other categories (mature age, non-English speaking background, indigenous Australian, family circumstances, socio-economic background, under-represented schools, women/men in under-represented disciplines, disability or medical condition, refugee).

SCHOLARSHIPS - VTAC publishes **A Guide to University Scholarships** (copies in careers room). There are institutional Access and Equity Scholarships, Commonwealth Scholarships and Merit Scholarships. Applications for scholarships via VTAC close on 30 October 2009.

COURSE COUNSELLING UPDATE!!! *Course counselling for students in Years 9, 10 and 11 has now been completed.* Once your student has made subject selections for 2010, they will bring home a sheet to have signed by their parent or guardian. *We need these signed sheets returned as soon as possible to start allocating subjects.* Please contact the college if you have any enquiries about your child's selection for next year. Please take the time to discuss your child's plans for 2010 and beyond.

ELITE STUDENT ATHLETE & PERFORMERS SUPPORT PROGRAMS -

- **Monash Sport** offers a program supporting **student athletes**, helping them under-take higher education while continuing to train and participate in sport at an elite level. **Offers:** course advice, faculty support, access sporting facilities and sometimes financial help (www.sport.monash.edu.au/sportsprograms/athlete-support.html).
- **Australian Catholic University (ACU)** caters for students who are also pursuing **athletic goals** during their formal academic studies. The university will consider admitting a limited number of students who have **outstanding sporting or appropriate recreational or vocational performance** but do not meet the usual entry criteria (see: www.acu.edu.au/eliteathletes).
- **Melbourne University** is committed to working with students who are **elite athletes or performers** to facilitate progress in their studies concurrently with their participation in sporting or other activities
www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/elite.html

EXPERIENCE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE - Add to your studies by attending a public lecture and find out about research impacts. **Topic/time/venue: 1. Towards two billion cars: transforming cars, fuel and mobility**, 6-7pm, Thurs 20 Aug, State Library; **2. The American Drug Court movement: A personal journey**, 6-7.30pm, Mon 24 Aug, Monash Uni Law Chambers, Melbourne; **3. Forecasting our Future: Climate change and air quality**, 6.15-7.15pm, Thurs 27 Aug, State Library; **4. Intelligent life is common in the**

universe, 6-7pm, Thurs 27 Aug, Monash University, Clayton.

Info/register:

www.monash.edu/researchmatters.

SWINBURNE PARENT AND STUDENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Transition to tertiary education is a big step for students and parents. These sessions will give a **parent's perspective** on the transition from school to tertiary study, a **student's perspective** on going to further study, information about **entry, fees, scholarships, pathways**, and a chance to ask **questions**. **Where/when** (all 6.30-7.30pm): **Wed 2 Sept**, Swinburne Hawthorn (TD building, room 121); **Wed 16 Sept**, Swinburne Lilydale (Council Room, LA building) (also sessions at Shepparton and Sale). **Info/reg'n:**

www.swinburne.edu.au/openday/parents-information-evening.

MUSIC INFORMATION EVENING AT MONASH

The Monash University School of Music will hold an information evening for prospective students and teachers. **Topics include:** the range of degrees, entry criteria, selection procedures and audition requirements. Lecturers from specialist areas will attend. **Info/Bookings:** 9905 3231 or music@arts.monash.edu.au.

COURSE SEARCH AT MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY

The university has developed **Course Search**, a site where you can search career/course options. Check it out at: <http://coursesearch.unimelb.edu.au>.

WANT TO HEAR KEVIN SHEEDY?

Kevin, football player and coach over five decades, will present a lecture at the **Swinburne Lilydale** campus on Open Day which will focus on his exceptional career on and off the field, while sharing life skills that have helped him achieve his goals. **When:** 1-2pm, Sun 16 Aug; **Where:** Lecture Theatre LC226 Building LC; **Register to attend** by 11 Aug: Shaun 9215 7199, shaundouglas@swin.edu.au.

LIKE A SCHOLARSHIP IN 2010?

The Institute of **Quantity Surveyors** is offering twenty \$3,000 scholarships for first year students in accredited **quantity surveying courses**. What do they do? They work as part of a team of advisers **estimating and monitoring construction costs**. After construction they may be involved with tax depreciation, replacement cost estimation for insurance purposes and, if necessary, mediation and arbitration. Information on the program and about cadetships is at www.aiqs.com.au/Publications/QuickDownloads/AIQS%20Scholarship%202009.pdf

Karen Burgess, Careers Coordinator

burgess.karen@edumail.vic.gov.au

ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH FUNDRAISING

In November, we are hoping to take two Year 9 teams to compete at the Maryborough Energy Breakthrough event. Currently, Energy Breakthrough is a Year 9 pursuit. We need to raise some funds for team uniforms, materials and transport, so we are selling eco friendly shopping bags. These bags are not like the ordinary Coles or Safeway variety - they are designer bags. They come in a range of designs and several colours. We would really appreciate your support for Energy Breakthrough so that we can take the students to Maryborough. Provided is a colour brochure. There is also a sample bag available at the main office if you wish to check them out before you make a purchase. More order forms are available from the office if you need them. Thankyou in advance for supporting the Energy Breakthrough team.

Katie Halford and Carl Johnson

SHOOTING SUCCESS

The Maffra Secondary College shooting team has recently competed in two Clay Target competitions of different disciplines, one was Simulated Field at the Longford Field and Game Range and the second was Down the Line at the Frankston Australian Clay Target Club.

At the Gippsland Schools competition at Longford, Melissa Backman came first in the Junior Girls whilst Toni Green came third in the Junior Girls. This was the Girls' first competition for the School and only their second time at the range. Luke Saunders came Second in the Senior Boys after a shoot off to separate first and second. Maffra Secondary College came third in the team event.

At South East Zone Frankston shoot Melissa Backman again came first in the Junior Girls, allowing her to compete at the State finals in Bendigo in September. This is the first time a student from this school has placed in this competition.

The students gain a great deal from these competitions, such as, firearm safety, responsibility, teamwork, and meeting other students and shooters.

The Shooting Programme has grown over the past few years. The school now fields teams of twenty, whereas a few years ago only five or six students would go. As a result we now have more students than guns. As the programme has grown we have relied on students having their own guns or borrowing them from others. This no longer is workable as we were still eight guns short at the last competition. This puts an unfair burden on other schools and their goodwill by borrowing guns from them on the day. A special thank to Catholic College Sale; Yarram Secondary College and Sale College for lending our students guns.

In future, students will need to have or borrow a shotgun if they are to compete. If anyone in the School Community has a shotgun (single or double barrel)

that they would like to donate to the programme or if you have a gun you would like to lend to the School for competition days please contact either Mr Mark Riggs (riggs.mark.a@edumail.vic.gov.au) or Ms Marg Fraser.



Melissa Backman at Frankston

Junior Tennis Hit-up dates

Sat. Aug 15th 10-12pm

Fri 21st Aug 4.30-6pm

Sun Aug 30th 10-12pm

Sat Sept 5th 10-12pm

You only need to attend two of these sessions. Names to be placed on the notice board at the club house.

Hope to see you there, inquiries to Monique 51471971



YEAR 8 DANCE

The Year 8 dance seems to have been a successful class for the students, learning how to Hip Hop and Rock n Roll and all students showing some very good dancing skills. As we have had to outsource the Year 8 Dancing program this year, there is a charge of \$5.00 to cover the instructors that have given up their time and taken the dancing classes for the students. A thank you goes out to the students you have paid their dancing fees already. However, can the students who have not paid this fee can they please do so ASAP. If you have any question please contact Daniel Scholes at the school.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Maffra Junior Tennis

Maffra Secondary College is updating its records, particularly telephone numbers, both mobile and landline, in order for us to contact you in an emergency. We are also requesting email addresses as this is a very effective way to communicate a variety of information to parents. Please complete the following where possible and return promptly to the Administration Office.

STUDENT (s) NAME	
STUDENT (s) YEAR LEVEL	
PARENT NAME 1	
PARENT NAME 2	
ADDRESS	
MAILING ADDRESS	
HOME PHONE	
MOBILE PHONE	
HOME EMAIL ADDRESS	
DAYTIME EMAIL ADDRESS	
EMERGENCY CONTACT	