

## ~ PRINCIPAL ~

17 September 2009

ICT at Heathmont College

No. 14

## ~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

### The Students

Over the past two newsletters I have briefly outlined how the staff and parents use ICT and online communication at Heathmont College. In an effort to save resources – paper and printing costs etc we have slowly introduced the practice of ‘online communication’ throughout the College. Reducing our carbon footprint will continue to be our aim.

For our students, the use of digital technology for communication, gathering information and storing information has become more common place over recent times. The College has a commitment to ensure each student has a thorough understanding and skilful use of ICT – we must ensure that they have ‘embedded’ these modern day practices in their daily lives. As our students leave the College at the end of Year 12 and move on to the next stage of their young adult lives, they will increasingly find the use of ICT in the workplace or in the universities and TAFEs and we must successfully prepare them for this.

Students have been ‘connected’ for quite a while and the use of mobile technology is second nature to them. As well as using the mobile phone for direct communication it is interesting to see the use of the phone as a calculator, as a watch, storage of work, photos for assignments; the list increases with each new upgrade. The original ‘humble’ mobile phone has changed its use considerably.

### Internet and Intranet

The use of the College intranet (the College’s internal communication system) is fast becoming the main method of communication of information for the students. Staff post work on it for their students in their class to download, they use it to inform their classes of changes or extra requirements. General announcements are increasingly being posted on the College intranet. It is an expectation that students access the College intranet on a daily basis. This year all students have an internal College email address.

### Desk tops, Notebooks and Netbooks

Each year in our classrooms we are continually increasing our ratio of computers to students. As we do not have a 1:1 program as such, we are continually striving to provide access to ICT in all our classrooms. The large cumbersome desk top still has a place and use, while the portable notebooks and the smaller netbooks allow for the concept of ‘anywhere anytime learning’ to occur. Our students must be proficient,

### OCTOBER

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 5 Monday     | First day of Term 4   |
| 7 Wednesday  | Excursion: Yr 7 Selected students Mentor Mentee Program         |
| 9 Friday     | German Tour Returns   |
| 12 Monday    | Camp: Year 10 Advanced Youth Commences                          |
| 13 Tuesday   | VCAL 2010 Orientation   |
| 14 Wednesday | VCAL 2010 Orientation   |
| 15 Thursday  | VCAL 2010 Orientation   |
| 16 Friday    | Camp: Year 10 Advanced Youth Concludes                          |
| 19 Monday    | Year 8 Medieval Day<br>Excursion: Year 10 Holocaust Museum      |
| 20 Tuesday   | Year 8 Medieval Day<br>Valedictory Dinner                       |
| 22 Thursday  | Excursion: Year 11 Outdoor Education                            |
| 23 Friday    | Year 8 Health Day<br>Final Year 12 Assembly<br>Year 12 Luncheon |
| 26 Monday    | Camp: Year 9 Advanced Youth departs                             |
| 27 Tuesday   | <b>College Council Meeting 7.30pm</b>                           |
| 28 Wednesday | Camp: Year 9 Advanced Youth returns                             |

### NEWSLETTER EMAIL

If you are not currently receiving the newsletter via email please contact the College on 9871 4888. The College Newsletter is always available via our website: [www.heathmont.vic.edu.au](http://www.heathmont.vic.edu.au)

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

Parents are requested to ring the College Absence Line before 9:00am if their student is to be **LATE** or **AWAY** due to illness or for any other reason. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in this matter.

skilful and knowledgeable with the use of these educational tools that assist their learning.

Next year will see perhaps the greatest change to our educational environment with the implementation of the Ultranet in schools. Whilst this DEECD project has been in the planning stages for a number of years, 2010 will see the first roll out to schools. I have provided the website address on the DEECD’s school website to follow up further information as well as a brief outline of the Ultranet project.

**Continued Page 2 ...**

## **The Ultranet** - <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/ultranet/default.htm>

### **What is the Ultranet?**

The Ultranet is an online learning environment which will support high quality learning and teaching, and connect students, parents, teachers and school administrators, anywhere, anytime.

### **What is the focus of the Ultranet?**

The Ultranet focuses on the key priorities of teaching and learning and a parent portal.

### **Why have an Ultranet?**

The Government understands that to prepare students for the innovation and knowledge economy of the 21st century, schools must provide students with access to ICT environments that increase their participation, engagement and achievement in education. The education system faces irrelevance unless it recognises and minimises the gap between how students live and learn in the digital and multi-media world. Progressive and effective integration of ICT into education planning and delivery is needed. Schools will be supported to achieve this goal through the implementation of the Ultranet. The Ultranet is designed to:

- Enable parents to become full partners in their child's education, giving them online access to their child's homework, attendance, assessment, and curriculum and teacher feedback at any time.
- Ensure that every child will have a complete record of achievement across all years of schooling.
- Give students their own online workspaces, personally tailored education programs, direct feedback from teachers and better access to curriculum.
- Enable students in remote schools to access specialised curriculum and podcast classes from schools that excel in various subject areas.
- Allow students to learn in an environment that will ensure that they have the cutting edge ICT skills they will need to in the 21st century workforce.
- Reduce the administrative burden for teachers and schools by using the Ultranet for recording attendance, school reports, timetabling and school events, to pool schools' resources and give teachers access to a vast central database of classroom resources.

### **Will the Ultranet operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?**

The Ultranet will be available online anywhere, anytime. The Ultranet will be available during and outside regular school hours, on weekends and school holidays. Within this, there will be reasonable allowances for downtime to manage maintenance and other outages. We look forward to this exciting innovation as it will further assist us in educating our students as we prepare them for the future.

### **End of Term**

As this is the last newsletter for Term 3, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the students and the staff for their work and involvement in the College over the past term. I wish all connected to the College a safe and relaxing two week break and look forward to Term 4, one of our busiest times in the College calendar.

**Dorothy Henwood**  
College Principal

## **Middle School**

### **HIPE@9**

Our first group has come to the end of their second rotation in the program and it has been a most challenging one. The theme of TOLERANCE AND DIVERSITY saw the group learning about many unusual and thought provoking topics from workplace discrimination to child

labour exploitation. The students in the program have benefited from being able to select their units to complete, work within a small group situation and present their findings to a wider community audience. Many of these new experiences have been a challenge for some students but for most they have enabled them to learn many valuable "LIFE LESSONS" and to experience a learning opportunity that will provide them with skills for the future. My thanks to the team of dedicated staff who have spent many long hours preparing the program. Mr Wright is taking a well earned break next term for 6 weeks and Mr Chris Jackson will be taking his place.

### **Reports**

All Year 9 students will receive a full semester report for EITHER their HIPE@9 component or their MAINSTREAM subjects as well as an interim report for their elective program. Included in this report is a half year VELS progression summary. This will provide you with a general overview of your child's progress during the first half of the year and is compared with where they were at 12 months ago.

After the holiday break the NAPLAN results will be posted to you and this will further indicate your child's progress over the past 2 years.

### **Books and Stationery**

All year 9 students are expected to have a full set of requirements when returning to school in term 4. This includes the necessary texts for Maths and English (novel Deadly Unna). Please ensure that they are properly equipped to enter class and learn.

### **Uniform**

As the warm weather approaches **PLEASE** ensure that uniform is available to wear and that dresses are an appropriate length. Many students have lost parts of their uniform and it will be necessary to replace them. Correct school shoes are to be worn – not white runners or canvas shoes.

**Mandy Rienits**  
Head of Middle School

# JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Smartboard Coaches

Many Junior School classes are enjoying the benefit of the new Smartboards. Not only are they high quality projectors and speakers, they also have the ability for students and teachers to manipulate learning material directly from the screen, making learning more dynamic and interactive. A core group of junior students was selected to

train as Smartboard coaches. These students will undertake extra duties assisting peers and teachers in the use of new technologies in the classroom. Students should look out for further opportunities to volunteer for leadership positions.



**Photo caption:** Ms Tate, the College eLearning and Innovations Coordinator with our first Smartboard Coaches.

## Student Coaches:

**7A** – Campbell Mayne & Alex Healey

**7B** – Katherine Knapman, Takara Haggard-Pollard & Laura Palicka

**7E** – Tayla Tate & Eden Manuel-Farmer

**7F** – Danielle Wright & Scott Lewis

## Reports

Congratulations to the many students who are working well and achieving excellent results as indicated by the included reports. Good homework habits are often closely related to excellent results. Students should not only be completing set tasks at home, but they should be setting aside time for study, i.e. rereading novels and textbooks and making summary notes, exploring related issues or working ahead so that students can respond confidently in class. Students who set aside regular homework/study time at home in junior school often reap major benefits as senior students.

## Working with our community

Senior Constable Stuart Sorrell visited Heathmont College to speak with all Year 7s about safety in the community and what students can do to enhance their safety. He spoke about a variety of strategies, including safe use of public transport. A major focus of his presentation related to internet safety. The dangers of posting private information on the internet and trusting unknown people met in cyberspace were highlighted.



Internet safety is obviously a world-wide concern. At last week's address to students, American President Obama said "It is imperative that parents be aware of not only what their kids are doing online and who they are talking to, but also how they are representing themselves in the digital community". One simple step for parents is to ensure that students do not access their computers or phones late at night.

Year 7 students will soon be receiving the 2008 - 2010 Maroondah Youth Information Card. We have been asked to distribute this by the Maroondah City Council. The primary aim of the card is to provide young people with access to council support service numbers. It also offers a range of discounts at local businesses and recreational services.

Year 8 students will have a range of community speakers, including the police at the upcoming Health Day Friday 23 October.

## Canberra Tour

Planning is continuing for this tour scheduled for November 10 – 13. Students will receive notices and packing lists early next term.

Here's wishing everyone a safe and relaxing holiday.

**Ilze Svarcs**  
Head of Junior School

## Invicta Bus Changes to Bus Route Invicta 1 (Bayswater) & 5 (Canterbury)

Due to a complaint from the Department of Transport and the city of Maroondah Council regarding students crossing the intersection of Colchester Road and Jennings Road North Bayswater, the following changes will occur:

As of Monday 5 October 2009 the AM School route will travel via Colchester road, Chandra Avenue, Chamberlain Drive, Collier Road, Colchester Road, Allambanan Drive then Sherman Drive.

Pickup and drop off points will be Colchester Road at Grant Drive, Chamberlain Drive and Sheridan Close, Chamberlain Drive at the reserve, all Department of Transport stops on Allambanan Drive, and at the Corner of Sherman Drive and Jennings Road.

Invicta Bus Services apologizes for any inconvenience but this is an important safety issue. For further information please contact Invicta Bus Services on 9737 2000.

## MATHS HELP

"Maths Help" for Years 7 and 8 will continue to be made available every Wednesday during lunch in term 4. Students seeking help with Maths homework and difficulties must inform Mr. D'Silva in advance of their intention to attend.

## CAREERS

### Years 10, 11 & 12

All students need to remember to check the Careers Noticeboard for information relating to opportunities that become available during the year.

**Year 10 Students** – A number of students have seen me with regard to VET Courses for 2010, Students who are still interested need to see me as soon as possible with a note from their parents. Application forms will be issued in the near future. For examples of the courses on offer please refer to the last newsletter.

**Year 12 Students** – I urge all Year 12 students to log onto VTAC ([www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)) to place course selections for next year. A large number of students are yet to do this. Don't be tempted to leave it until the last minute – the system could well be overloaded and you could miss out. Timely **applications close on 30 September at 5.00 pm**. I strongly recommend that students have selected at least a few courses by the end of Term. That way you can still have access to change selections without incurring a higher application fee.

There are still a few VTAC Guides available from the General Office at a cost of \$15.00, these are essential reading for all Year 12 students please purchase these and bring them to school with you.

Remember that new courses can be accredited after the VTAC Guide is printed. Also, others are cancelled. To check see: [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au), go to Courses (left of screen), to new and cancelled courses. See below for information from Deakin.

Remember about the RMIT Folio Courses In Holidays – these intensive courses allowing you to expand skills and knowledge to apply to your folio and gain insights into future study options (fashion, 3D product design, visual/fine art, photography, multimedia). Enquiries: 9925 8111, [enquiries@rmit.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@rmit.edu.au); [www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au](http://www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au).

If finances are an issue for attending University remember the DOXA Cadetship Program – this provides financial assistance, work experience, a mentor, book allowance and professional and personal development. Enquiries [www.doxa.org.au](http://www.doxa.org.au) or call 9328 8046. A project of the Doxa Youth Foundation.

**Interested In An Electrical Career?** 370 Degrees Group is administering the pre-selection assessment on behalf of NECA. 370 Degrees Group is an Electrical Registered Training Organisation and Group Training Organisation. The assessment is highly regarded in the industry providing common assessment of candidates from an industry standpoint. A successful result enhances entry prospects for electrical apprenticeships. The assessment is set at about Year 10 level English comprehension and maths. See [www.neca.asn.au](http://www.neca.asn.au), click on VIC and go to Apprenticeship Pre-selection to find out more, try a sample test and register on-line.

**Keeper For A Day At Healesville Sanctuary** – This program is for students who are thinking about a career working with animals. Get a real experience with zookeeper duties and look behind the scenes at zookeeper life. Book: [http://www.zoo.org.au/Learning/Programs/Student\\_Conferences/Careers/Keepers](http://www.zoo.org.au/Learning/Programs/Student_Conferences/Careers/Keepers). Dates: 22, 23, 29, & 30 Sept; Cost: \$99. Wildlife photography with Steve Parish is a full day photographic workshop. Share the passion of world-renowned wildlife photographer. [http://www.zoo.org.au/Learning/Programs/Student\\_Conferences/Steve\\_Parish](http://www.zoo.org.au/Learning/Programs/Student_Conferences/Steve_Parish)

### End Of Year VCE Revision Lectures

- Where: Monash University, Berwick Campus (100 Clyde Rd); When: Sat 10 and Sun 11 October; Cost: \$20 per lecture; Registration close: 30 September; Info: <http://berwick.monash.edu.au/EducationForum/vce-revision-lectures.html>.
- Where: Victoria University; When: 19-24 Sept; Covers: business management, IT applications, literature, accounting, legal studies, maths methods, biology, chemistry, physics. See website for locations and bookings: [www.vu.edu.au/freelectures](http://www.vu.edu.au/freelectures).

**Deakin Wants More Top Female Students** – Australia is experiencing a skills shortage of engineering and IT graduates. Female students account for less than 25% of IT graduates. Scholarships of **\$10,000** are available for the best female entrants to the Bachelor of Information Technology (various streams) and the Bachelor of Engineering. Mentoring by older students and industry and academic staff will also be available to these students. More info: about IGNITED (Initiative for Girls' Network in Information Technology and Engineering at Deakin) on ph 9244 6699, [www.deakin.edu.au/scitech/future/scholarships/ignited](http://www.deakin.edu.au/scitech/future/scholarships/ignited).

**New I.T. Courses At Deakin** – Deakin has two courses that didn't make it to the VTAC Guide. The Bachelor of IT (Honours) is a four-year course including a research project. The Bachelor of IT (Professional Practice) is designed to recognise/nurture high achieving students (includes work experience). You must achieve an ENTER of at least 80. See [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) then go to Courses, then to New and Cancelled courses for course codes.

**Do You Want A Scholarship?** If applying for Deakin University, check the Dean's Scholars Program in Commerce, Engineering and Science & Technology (pages 188, 191 & 206 of VTAC Guide). Use the separate VTAC Codes to be eligible. If applying for a scholarship in Swinburne University Arts & Social Sciences, Business & Commerce, Design, Engineering or IT/Science see separate codes on pages 515-516 of the Guide. Some other scholarships offered are: IT at Swinburne (page 501) and Accounting at Monash (page 335). Check carefully for others. How? Examples: see the beginning of each institution's entry in the VTAC Guide, collect booklets about scholarships from the careers room and see websites like <http://mams.rmit.edu/3mwr6lgt11.pdf>.

**VTAC APPLICATIONS** – Deakin Uni has a useful site for accessing information for VTAC applications; see: [www.deakin.edu.au/timely](http://www.deakin.edu.au/timely).

### Reminders

- RMIT Mechatronics Info session: Fri 25 Sept; [www.rmit.edu.au/aero-mech](http://www.rmit.edu.au/aero-mech)
- See Monash Peninsula campus: 29 Sept; [www.monash.edu/study/events/experience](http://www.monash.edu/study/events/experience)
- See Monash Gippsland: 22, 23 or 24 Sept; Info/book: [www.gippsland.monash.edu.au/future/studentforday.html](http://www.gippsland.monash.edu.au/future/studentforday.html).
- Swinburne Design Info Sessions: 18-25 Sept; [www.swinburne.edu.au/design](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/design)
- Discover Deakin: 22 & 28 Sept; [www.deakin.edu.au/discover](http://www.deakin.edu.au/discover)
- Talk and Tour at La Trobe: 24 Sept; [www.latrobe.edu.au/study/events](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/events)

With thanks to Martin Walker

**As always, if you have any concerns about your child's program or future pathway you can contact me** by phone on 9871 4858 or, preferably, by email on [lopez.linda.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:lopez.linda.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)

### Year 10 Work Experience 2010 - Work Experience Program

In Year 10 it is compulsory for all students to complete work experience for two weeks in an industry or industries (maximum 2) of their choice. In the community our students are excellent ambassadors for the College and placements this year ranged from around the local area to the city with some students undertaking rural placements. Employers have written glowing reports about our students and have indicated that they would be pleased to accept students in future years. We would now like to offer parents and other friends of the College the opportunity to offer work experience to our students in 2010. The dates for Work Experience for 2010 are June 14 – 25. Students are permitted to undertake a single placement of two weeks or two placements of one week each. If you are able to offer suitable positions to our students, please indicate this on the slip below and return to the Careers Resource Centre.

**Linda Lopez**  
Pathways Coordinator

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### Heathmont College - Parents/Friends of the College Participation in Work Experience 2010

Employer Name.....

Employer Address: .....

Position Offered: .....

Employer Contact Name: .....

Employer Contact Telephone.....

## 2010 Booklists and Second-hand Book Sale

For the 2010 school year the College has changed book suppliers for both the supply of student text books and to manage the second-hand book sale. Attached to this newsletter (below) is information from Lamont Books our new supplier. More details will be given closer to the end of year dates. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sharyn Wilson, Business Manager, at the College.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you to Heathmont College for giving Lamont Books the opportunity to supply your textbook requirements for the coming years. Lamont Books is a family based company and has been established for 30 years with the current owners running the business for 19 years. We have been supplying textbooks to various schools for the last 15 years and it is our intention to provide both parents and students with the highest possible level of service. To this end we would appreciate you spending a few moments reading this newsletter which will explain in advance the easiest way to obtain your books with a minimum amount of time and effort.

Lamont Books offers both new and second hand textbooks and our procedures are very simple.

1. Books can be ordered by either placing your paper booklist through the school or mailing/faxing direct to Lamont Books or orders may be placed via our website [www.lamontbooks.com.au](http://www.lamontbooks.com.au). Orders placed on line will be delivered to your nominated address and cannot be collected from the school; there is no provision to obtain second hand books online all orders placed this way will be supplied with new books.
2. If you wish to purchase second hand books please indicate by placing a tick in the box on the booklist. Second hand books will be allocated on a first in first served basis until supply has run out. We number booklists according to date returned and second hand books are allocated accordingly. The earlier you send your booklist back the better chance you have of receiving second hand books. When second hand stock runs out new books will automatically be supplied.
3. Lamont Books staff will be at school on the Friday 4 December between 10am - 3pm for purchase of second hand books. (Only books in good re-saleable condition and on the 2010 booklists will be purchased from students.)
4. A duplicate copy of a credit note will be issued for the value of the second hand books purchased by Lamont Books and this amount will be deducted from your booklist total.  
E.g. If you sell Year 7 books to us the cost will be deducted from your Year 8 booklist.

**NO MONEY WILL BE SENT HOME AND PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY WITH STUDENTS ON SECOND HAND BOOK DAY.**

Year 12 students graduating from the College or students who are leaving will have a cheque for the value of their books mailed to the parent's home address or the amount can be credited directly to your bank account at the end of January. This provision is designed to return the full value to parents and eliminate any chance of selling other people's books. Parents are still free to swap or sell books between themselves or retain books for future use.

4. Please place TOP TWO COPIES of completed orders in the boxes provided at school office or mail direct to  
LAMONT BOOKS PTY LTD  
P.O.BOX 5133,  
HALLAM, 3803
5. Please retain the triplicate copy of your booklist for your records and bring with you when collecting your books. All stationery items are listed on the back of the booklist for you to purchase at the best prices from major department stores. E.g.: K Mart, Officeworks etc.
6. We request that orders be returned as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct supply of books on time. All orders will be pre packed for collection from the school on the following dates:  

Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December:	10.00am – 2.00pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> January:	2.00pm – 7.00pm
7. Any books, which are temporarily unavailable from publishers, will be delivered to the school.

If parents have difficulty in picking books up from the school please order on line via our website [www.lamontbooks.com.au](http://www.lamontbooks.com.au) and books will be delivered to you at home for a fee of \$9.50 for orders under \$100 or \$15.00 for orders over \$100. If you have any queries or would like further information please phone us on 8795 7272 between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Yours sincerely,  
LAMONT BOOKS PTY LTD  
Michelle De Koning.  
General Manager.

## UNIT 4 HOLIDAY EXAM REVISION CLASSES

The MEC Senior School Provision Group has organised VCE examination revision classes for our senior students during the second week of the holidays and we strongly encourage all students to attend.

There is a large range of subjects available and students should take this opportunity to consolidate and expand their subject knowledge and skills, learn from other students' questions and comments and gain additional insights into subject topics or novels through different teaching styles and perspectives.

Many coalition teachers from across the coalition have volunteered their holiday time to assist their own and other schools' students in preparing for their final examinations. We can all acknowledge their contribution at the school level by encouraging VCE students to attend the sessions relevant to their areas of study.

Year 11 students studying a Unit 4 subject are encouraged to attend.

Date / Location	Subject	Time	Teacher
<b>Tuesday 22 September Croydon SC</b>	Group Music Room TBC	11.00 – 12.30	V. Doolan (CSC)
<b>Friday 25 September Norwood SC</b>	Legal Studies Room TBC	9.00 – 10.30	D. Wilkins (RSC)
<b>Wednesday 30 September Parkwood SC</b>	Biology D3/D4	9.00 - 10.30	M. Trofimuik (CSC)
	Chemistry D3/D4	11.00 - 12.30	G. Brasier (HC)
	Food Technology D2		J. Condyllis (PSC)
	History – Revolutions Room TBC		M. Steen (HC)
	Art Studies D3/D4	1.00 - 2.30	B. Miller (PSC)
	IT Software Development D2		B. Groves (CSC)
<b>Thursday 1 October Ringwood SC</b>	<b>English Novels</b>		
	A Man for All Seasons Library	9.00 - 10.30	C. Pearson (RSC)
	Look Both Ways Library	11.00 - 12.30	M. Mossammaparast (RSC)
	Identity and Belonging Library	1.00 - 2.30	J. Ward (RSC) J. Andrews (RSC) M. Mossammaparast (RSC)
	English Literature Room 211	1.00 - 2.30	D. Anders (PSC)
	English Language Room 209		K. Hall (RSC) E. Gill (RSC)
	Language Analysis Room 211	3.00 - 4.30	D. Anders (PSC)
<b>Friday 2 October Ringwood SC</b>	Physics Room 300, 301, 302	9.00 - 10.30	T. Lahy (NSC) A. Hansen (RSC) G. Singh (PSC)
	Geography Room 212		S. Lahtinen (RSC)
	Psychology Library		S. Roediger (CSC)
	Specialist Maths Room 102	11.00 - 12.30	P. Gooley (RSC)
	Further Maths (Core only) Library		D. MacKinnon (RSC)
	Business Management Library	1.00 - 2.30	A. Pate (MSC)