

~ PRINCIPAL ~

30 April 2009

NO 5

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

Computers

Following the Federal Government announcement of increasing student access to computers in schools, we are pleased to announce that our submission from last year to receive 148 new computers has been successful. We are now awaiting the computers into the College to increase our access for students during class time.

Yard Improvements

We have also been successful in receiving \$200,000 from the Federal Government's 'National School Pride' money to improve the school grounds. We are looking at extending the flat playing spaces for the students to use. The scope of the works is to be completed before the end the College year. This will greatly enhance and extend the active and passive spaces available for the students at the College.

Open Night – Monday 4th May

Following the extensive tours of Heathmont College over the past weeks by prospective parents and students, the culmination of the Transition Program is the College's Open Night. This becomes the main opportunity for primary students and their parents and guardians to see the College in action, visit the various class rooms as well as speak to staff and students. Alison Richards, our Transition Coordinator, has been working with the staff and the Year 7 Ambassadors in preparation for this event. I look forward to this event as we showcase the College and the students to our prospective parents and students. On behalf of the College I wish to thank Alison, the staff and the students for their involvement in the Open Night for 2009.

College Uniform

With the approach of the cooler weather, it is a timely reminder that all students are expected to be in winter College uniform. Students are reminded to be in correct and full College uniform and we also request that parents please support their child and the College with their child's uniform needs.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for Years 7 & 9 students will be held on Tuesday 12 May – Thursday 14 May. The NAPLAN tests are conducted by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) on behalf of the Ministerial Council of Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA).

The results of the tests provide diagnostic information for parents and teachers about a child's performance in Literacy and Numeracy. This information can be used to

MAY

4 Monday	College Open Night
5 Tuesday	Immunisation: Year 7
7 Thursday	VCE Parent Teacher Interviews
9 Saturday	Year 11 Presentation Ball
11 Monday	Sport: Junior Golf
12 Tuesday	NAPLAN Testing: Language Excursion: year 11/12 VC Museum
13 Wednesday	NAPLAN Testing: Reading
14 Thursday	NAPLAN Testing: Numeracy
15 Friday	Sport: Group Cross Country
19 Tuesday	Sport: Senior
20 Wednesday	Excursion: Year 9 E-H City Experience
25 Monday	Exams: Year 10&11 Commence
26 Tuesday	College Council Meeting 7.30pm
27 Wednesday	Exams: Year 10&11 Conclude Excursion: Year 9 E-H City Experience
28 Thursday	Sport: Intermediate

JUNE

3 Wednesday	Excursion: Year 9 E-H City Experience
4 Thursday	Music: VCE Assessment Evening
8 Monday	Holiday: Queen's Birthday
9 Tuesday	VCE Unit 3 Written Examinations
10 Wednesday	VCE Unit 3 Written Examinations

support teaching and learning programs and improve student achievement.

If your child has a disability which needs special consideration or has been learning English for less than **one** year, you should discuss with your child's teacher whether or not your child should undertake the test. Large Print and Braille versions are available for students with visual impairment.

Later in the year, you will receive your child's personal report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child's participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child's progress in Literacy and Numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAPLAN website at www.naplan.edu.au.

Dorothy Henwood
College Principal

JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Celebration Evening proves very popular

The Year 7 Celebration Evening was a big hit. Family members were invited into the homerooms where they could see and hear what the Year 7s were learning. Parents enjoyed the opportunity of meeting with the

Year 7 teachers and they were pleasantly surprised to see that most of the evening was presented by the students themselves. Many parents expressed their thanks for such an enjoyable and informative evening. Thanks to Ms Richards who organised the event, to the teachers for devoting another evening to their work and a special thanks to the teams of students in each class who volunteered as speakers.

Year 7 Homeroom Competition

In preparation for the Celebration Evening we ran a competition to encourage students to improve the homeroom displays. It was fabulous to witness the enthusiastic efforts of the students supported by their teachers. The homerooms all had quite a facelift with student work and class information being displayed creatively around the rooms. It was a hard choice because such a lot of effort had gone into all the rooms (including scrubbing!), however the judges decided that 7D were the winners. They had used all surfaces, including above, below and between the noticeboards. Congratulations 7D and well done all!



Digital Citizenship

Leading Teacher Suzanne Tate delivered a Digital Citizenship course to all students of Year 7 in the first week of Term 2. The course focused on enabling students to identify and avoid cyber bullying. It also covered topics relating to digital organisation, netiquette, advanced searching, copyright and plagiarism. The course took place over two lessons. Students approached the tasks with enthusiasm and reported that they learnt a great deal. Thanks to Ms Tate and the teachers who helped in the delivery.

Duncan Niven almost a karate black belt in Year 7!

Duncan Niven of 7F first started karate in Grade 4, aged 9. He trains at Ultimate Marshal Arts three times a week. His head instructor is his idol. In three years Duncan has achieved a brown belt with one black stripe. Duncan says the belt order in karate is white, yellow, blue, red, green, green with one, then two, brown stripes, brown, brown with one, then two black stripes, then black. There are also 11 levels of black. Duncan wants to achieve the highest level. He enjoys karate because it's fun and because learning harder moves is challenging. Jab punches are the first move he learnt, but the hip throw is Duncan's favourite move.



It's great to hear of Heathmont College students being high achievers both in and out of school. If you know of someone who should be profiled, please let me know.

Ilze Svarcs
Head of Junior School

KEYS PLEASE

THE FIRST STEP INTO THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Good drivers aren't born. They are made. And the best way to become a good driver is to get plenty of driving experience. But sometimes, learning how to change gears, or even how to change lanes can seem a breeze compared with the challenge of getting your parents/guardians to hand over the car keys. Keys Please can change that.

Keys Please is the first step into the driver's seat. It's an informative and interactive forum for you and your parents/guardians that introduces you to the different skills you will need when learning to drive, including some valuable tips to help you get that all-important licence.

And if you can convince your parents/guardians to come along, they'll hear how important it is for you to practice driving as often as possible, because getting your licence is all about getting enough practice, and you can't do that unless they hand over those car keys. So come along to the Keys Please forum on Wednesday, 13th May at 7:00pm. RSVP's are due in to Miss Hargraves or Mr Ferrier by 6th May.

Gavin Ferrier & Tanya Hargreaves
Year 10 Coordinators

Student ID Cards

Any Students who have not received their ID Cards are reminded to collect theirs from the retrospective offices.

Year 7 – 9 ... Junior School Office Year 10 – 12 ... Senior School Office

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open ...
Tuesday 2.30 – 5.00
Thursday 12.00 – 2.00

ANZAC DAY

On Friday the 24th April the Year 8 students at Heathmont College participated in an ANZAC memorial service for their classes, to honour the memory of those who have served our country and to show their respect to those who are presently serving.

Three World War 1 veterans from Ringwood RSL, Mr Fred Bottrell, Mr David Wilcox and Mr Pat Dunlevie, attended the service to speak to the students and to receive a wreath for the Dawn Service at the Ringwood Clocktower on Anzac Day. They were adorned with their medals, and were welcomed and respected by the students. They enjoyed their visit to Heathmont College, and were happy to share their experiences with our students.



Jamie Knight and Ben Nanninga from Year 10 were the MC's, and did a fantastic job, and had a long talk with the veterans afterwards at morning tea. Thank you to Jamie and Ben.

Year 8 student representatives from each class presented information on Australia's military history to the other students, and also did an excellent job. Thank you very much to those involved.

A special thanks also to Sam Goodall from Year 12 for playing the Last Post and The Rouse on the trumpet. Well done Sam!!

Kaylene Gillard
Year 8 English Teacher

MIDDLE SCHOOL

As you can see from the calendar of events NAPLAN testing will take place during Week 4. Our College Principal has written an article with further details, please read this for more information.

Parent teacher Interviews. Year 9

It was very pleasing to see so many parents at the evening in our new LEARNING CENTRE. It is important for parents to realise that regular contact with teachers through the student diary or by phone, is desirable when issues arise. If your child is currently in the HIPE@9 program you should make direct contact with your child's pastoral teacher. If your child is in 9A-D then contact with teachers should either go through the co-ordinators Mr Hewitt or Mr Andrew Wright and they will refer the issue to the relevant teacher.

Group 5 – Mrs Barton /Mr Hewitt
Group 6 – Ms Rienits
Group 7 – Ms Tate
Group 8 – Ms Sellers/Ms Austen
Group 9 – Mr Marc Wright

Homework

All students in Year 9 have homework on a regular basis...Most should be doing a minimum of 1 hour per night for at least 4 days per week. Students in the HIPE@9 program have a PASSPORT for homework that involves a weekly task that must be completed at home. Students are instructed re the homework task on Monday and must submit it for assessment by Friday of the same week. Lunchtime detentions will take place for those students who choose not to completed this aspect of their learning. **The Learning Centre is open most lunchtimes for students to receive help with homework and unfinished class work.....**

Uniform

- Hooded jackets are **NOT** part of the uniform
- Students should wear layers under their uniform that match the colours of the uniform and be the same sleeve length
- Scarves are to be only plain white, burgundy or blue
- Uniform passes must be obtained before period one begins or at recess at the very latest
- Parents are asked to ensure that students have the correct uniform and if difficulties arise in supplying the uniform they should contact the College and speak to Mrs Croft [Welfare]

Sports uniform includes the College track pants - not any other type/brand

Mandy Rienits
Head of Middle School

VCAL

Students and parents please note you have the opportunity to make appointment times to see me on May 7th. for parent teacher interviews. I encourage all VCAL students to organise an interview time with me either during class time or having parents ring me directly on tel. 98714848

Spiro Onisiforou
VCAL Coordinator

CAREERS

Year 10 Work experience: There are still a few students who are yet to organise their work experience placements. I urge all students to ensure that they have placements as soon as possible.

Age Careers Expo: Year 11 students participated in a very successful trip to The Age VCE Careers Expo. There was a vast amount of information available for students and I was pleased to see that many students took advantage of the opportunity to gather information and ask questions about future pathway directions.

Year 10 Students: Information for VIP and GAP TAFE Taster Courses at Swinburne and Box Hill TAFE has now arrived in the school. Please see Mrs Lopez for more information. These courses can be very popular so get in early.

Accounting Cadetships: Please refer to previous newsletter for information about cadetships

UMAT: Registrations are now open – check the VCE Centre or see Mrs Lopez for more information.

REMINDERS>>>>>COMING SOON

- Medicine At Deakin – 5 & 6 May (see Item below)
- 'At Monash' Seminars: 5 May: Education, Sport & Outdoor Rec.; 7 May: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy & Health Sciences; 12 May: Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences; 13 May: Architecture; 18 May: Psychology; 19 May: Drama & Theatre Studies; 20 May: Business & Economics; 21 May: Engineering; Contact 9903 4758 or Valerie.foster@adm.monash.edu.au www.monash.edu.au/study/events for details/booking and other seminars in the series.
- Engineering Careers Expo: 1-7pm, Wed 29 April; Melbourne Town Hall (cnr Swanston & Collins St). Cost: Free. Hear about opportunities in engineering. Register at www.engcareerexpo.org.au; Inquire: 9321 1726.
- Geomatics Expo – 5.30-7.30pm, Wed 29 April; Melbourne Uni. (see 5 below)
- ADF Gap Year applications open 1 May
- Sports Medicine seminars – 22 May and 24 May (see 4 below)
- 'Focus on Melbourne' series – commencing 12 May (see 8 below)
- Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test: Register by 5 June; Test: 29 July.

Medicine At Deakin – Deakin University's Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing & Behavioural Sciences is holding medicine info. evenings for students wishing to find out about entry to their four-year, graduate-entry Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery. When/Where: 6.00pm, Tues 5 May at Geelong campus (Waurin Ponds), ka 3.406; OR 6.30pm, Wed 6 May at Melbourne campus (Burwood), lecture Theatre 13, Building HD; Info: www.deakin.edu.au/hmnbs, hmnbs-support@deakin.au; ph 9251 7777.

Interested In Media Communication? Australian Catholic Uni (ACU) is offering a Bachelor of Media Communication in 2010. Students will qualify with skills in media including video, radio and print, and areas like drama, music, literature and visual arts. You will be ethically informed in all aspects of practice and provide communication that is socially aware and considerate of a culturally diverse audience. Students will have workplace training through an internship as well as completion of a volunteer work experience unit (NOTE: ACU had a 28% growth in enrolments this year).

Interested In Graphics? – The PacPrint National Graphics Exhibition is coming up soon. It will be a five-day exchange of printing technology and graphic intelligence. When: 10am-6pm, 16-30 May; Where: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre; Cost: Free; Info: www.pacprint.com.au.

Careers In Sports Medicine – Two seminars coming up:

- Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre - sports physician, physiotherapy, soft tissue therapy, dietetics, podiatry, psychology. When: Reg'n 6.45-7.15pm, program 7.30pm, Fri 22 May; Where: Lexus Centre, Cnr Batman Ave & Swan St, Melb; Cost: \$25 per student; Reg'n: careers room or call Emma, ph 9415 8399, ethorneycroft@opsmc.com.au.
- Sports Medicine Aust. - podiatry, exercise science, physiotherapy, medicine, psychology, dietetics, osteopathy. When: 9.15am-12.40pm, Sun 24 May; Where: Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre, Champions Room, Albert Park; Cost: \$35 per student, \$25 per parent; Book: careers room or call Bree York on 9674 8707, bree@vic.sma.org.au

I urge students to read the Careers Noticeboard as well as the Pathways News posted on the College Intranet each fortnight. I continue to encourage students and parents to make contact throughout the year. I will gladly help any student or parent who is seeking advice on careers. Feel free to contact me on 9871 4858 or preferably by email on lopez.linda.a@edumail.vic.gov.au. Most newsletters throughout the year will contain information on career options around the state as well matters that are directly related to Heathmont College. I strongly urge students to keep an eye on the Careers Notice Board outside the Senior School Office and the notice boards in the VCE Centre. A more detailed Careers Newsletter is available on the college Intranet page, click on Shared Documents and then Student Pathways.

Linda Lopez
Pathways Coordinator