

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to students, staff and parents, especially to the new members of the McKinnon Secondary College Community.

I hope the year ahead will be one that is successful for all.

VCE CLASS OF 2008

Congratulations to our class of 2008 for outstanding results. Once again McKinnon was one of the top co-educational, non selective schools for the state.

100% of our students were successful in attaining their VCE

Our dux (**Nathan Ramanlal**) achieved an ENTER of **99.8**

26% of our students were ranked in the top 10% of the state

48% were in the top 20% of the state

207 students applied for a VTAC course

195 students have received an offer

80% were University courses

20% were TAFE courses

I congratulate all students, staff and parents for this wonderful achievement. This strong partnership ensures the very best educational outcomes can be achieved.

Our Tradition of Excellence continues!

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

We have some changes to the roles and responsibilities for some of our staff this year.

Andrew Newton, Assistant Principal, is now responsible for daily operations, discipline and welfare for all year levels.

Andrew Chisholm, Assistant Principal, is continuing in his role as Head of Teaching and Learning at our college.

Peter Thompson – Head of Senior School

Les McLeod – Head of Junior School

Two newly appointed Learning Area Managers are:

Mr Lachlan Noble (Humanities)

Ms Vanessa Gallery (Science)

Mrs Leonie Perry returns as the Resource Centre Manager and **Ms Liz Pentland** shares the Student Welfare position with **Mrs Viv Bacon**.

I wish all of these individuals every success this year and welcome them to our leadership team.

We also welcome **10** other new staff members:

Ms Angela Arena

Ms Lauren Brown

Ms Emily Duncan

Mrs Barbara Fischer

Ms Georgi Long

Mrs Jill Newton

Ms Brigid O'Dwyer

Mr Owen Shepherd

Mr Jeremy Sinclair

Our new AFL trainee is **Ms Coby Lovell**

Again I wish them all a most rewarding year ahead.

VALUES

Our school community articulated our vision and values last year and I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that our core values at McKinnon are **respect, success, integrity, resilience, community and creativity**.

We fundamentally believe these core values will enable our students to reach their potential both at school and beyond.

I am again extremely grateful, privileged and honoured to serve this Community as Principal and I look forward to another wonderful year ahead.

Pitsa Binnion

Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

A reminder to any parent who has chosen to pay by Term instalments, the second instalment is due on **2 March**. Parents are requested not to leave 2009 contributions until the end of the year. Please phone me for assistance if you are experiencing financial difficulties.

DETENTION 2009

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

After School Detention (3.15-4pm)

Teachers must issue students with a detention slip 24 hours before a detention. It is the student's responsibility to present this to parents for signing. Detention must be done **ON THE DAY shown on this slip**, unless parents provide a note for students to present to the Student Manager on detention duty to change to the next day.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

Friday, 13

Year 8 Inter-school Sport

Monday, 16

Senior Sport Round Robin

Tuesday, 17

School Photos

School Council

Wednesday, 18

Swimming Carnival - all students

Thursday, 19

Year 12 Parents'

Wine & Cheese Night

Friday, 20

Year 8 Inter-school Sport

Tuesday, 24

Year 11 Information Evening

Wednesday, 25

Year 10 Information Evening

Friday, 27

Year 8 Inter-school Sport

**Final Payment for
Central Australia
Thursday
19th February 2009**

**Last day for EMA
Applications
Friday
27th February 2009**

TERM DATES 2009

Term 1

2 February - 3 April

Term 2

20 April - 26 June

Term 3

13 July - 18 September

Term 4

5 October - 18 December

Saturday Detention (9-11am)

Students must wear full school uniform. This detention is only given

- i. when students miss normal after school detention
- ii. for serious breaches of school rules

Failure to attend Saturday detention normally results in an automatic two day formal suspension.

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Parents should suggest to students that they keep to a **minimum** the valuable personal items they bring to school. The school (or DEECD) does not hold insurance that covers private property brought to school by students, teachers or parents. While we provide a large locker for each student, it is the student's responsibility to provide a quality lock and look after their property.

STUDENT INJURY AS A RESULT OF ACCIDENTS

Parents are reminded that they are responsible for the cost of medical treatment (including ambulance costs) if a student is injured at school, unless the injury results from teacher negligence. Low cost student accident insurance is available from private insurance companies if parents want to be covered.

LATE TO SCHOOL

Students who arrive late to period 1 (8.50am start) will miss the period 1 class and receive school detention for the next day, unless they have a note from parents with a reasonable excuse (e.g. Doctor, Dentist etc.). Period 1 sets the "tone" for learning and we do not tolerate lateness.

EXTREME HEAT POLICY

Lunchtime will be shortened (and school will finish at 2.55pm as a result) if the temperature is over 30° by lunchtime and the forecast is for 38° or more.

Sport and Physical Education staff have their own extreme heat policies to suit the particular activity being undertaken.

CANTEEN

From the start of Term 1 no confectionery is available from our school Canteen.

EXCITING YEAR AHEAD

With our major building program ahead this year, it will be an exciting time for our school. I wish all students an enjoyable and successful year participating in many of our challenging extra-curricular activities and camps.

Andrew Newton

Daily Operations & Finance

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to the 2009 School year. I would particularly like to welcome all our new students and parents and I hope your experiences here are most rewarding.

OUTSTANDING BOOKS

Endeavour Books were here today delivering many of the outstanding books that were ordered over the holiday. Could parents please check with their students to see whether there are any books still to be received.

YEAR 7 INDUCTION

This year we have implemented a new induction program for all our new Year 7 students. This has involved a range of new activities including a scavenger hunt, personal time line, cyber safety session and a introduction to multiple intelligences and thinking skills. Students have also reacquainted themselves with their peer support leaders who will have weekly sessions with students over this term.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Our strategic plan for 2009-2013 has been finalised and this document provides a framework for our teaching and learning directions over the next four years.

Emphasis has been placed on improving teacher pedagogies in the classroom and ensuring that our students are able to maximise their performance by improved access to quality teaching, better facilities, extra curricular activities and ICT innovations whilst they are at our college.

Andrew Chisholm

Teaching & Learning

MUSIC

WINTER CONCERT DVD'S

We finally have the 2008 Winter concert DVD's. You may pick them up from the music office from Friday onwards. Apologies for the delay.

ENSEMBLE CODE OF CONDUCT

All music students that are in an ensemble will receive an 'Ensemble Code of Conduct' form to take home to sign. Parents and students are to read it carefully and sign

ENSEMBLES REHEARSALS

All ensemble rehearsals will begin week two. Please make sure students bring instruments on the appropriate day.

ORCHESTRA CAMP

The orchestra camp will continue again this year from 23rd to 26th of March. Orchestra students will receive information shortly.

Glen Nelson

Head of Music

MCKINNON UNIFORM SHOP

Normal Shop Trading Hours During Term

New Phone/Fax No: 9578 2151

Hours:

Tuesdays 8.15am to 12 noon
Fridays 12.30pm to 4.00pm

Special Opening Times

Saturday 7 February & Saturday 28 February
9.30am to 12 noon

Cheques **must** be made payable to
Fashion Clubwear.



SUCCESS STORIES

Congratulations to..

Denae Lekakis (Year 12, 2008) who was presented with the **Glen Eira Young Citizen of the Year Award** at the Australia Day Breakfast held at the Town Hall. Denae is an active volunteer and the award is an acknowledgement of her strong interest and commitment to the local community.

Patrick Schiller (Year 12 VCE Enhancement, 2008) whose digital photography art work has been selected for exhibition in **Top Arts**. Held at the National Gallery of Victoria (Federation Square) Top Arts showcases the folio work of Victoria's top VCE students.

Nathan Ramanlal (Dux of 2008) whose academic excellence has been rewarded with a scholarship attached to this Science/Law degree at Monash University.

James Frecheville (Year 12) who has scored a leading role in the **feature Australian film 'Animal Kingdom'**. James joins cast members Guy Pearce, Joel Edgerton, Jacki Weaver and Ben Mendelsohn.

Luke Parker (Year 10) on his selection in the **Victorian State Track Cycling Team** competing at the National titles at Adelaide in March. Luke is a member of the AIS National Talent ID Sprint Programme and this is the first time he will wear the 'Big V'.

Michael Castelluccia (Year 8) who represented Victoria at the **National Youth Archery Championships** in January. With most place getters in the Under 16s being two years older than Michael his 8th place was a fantastic result!

Arabella Hooper and James Knee (both Year 9) whose **Victorian Indoor Hockey Teams** were both runners up to New South Wales in the National competition finals held in Gosford in January.

Jenny Jones
College Publicity

CABARET NIGHT FRIDAY 27TH MARCH SCHOOL HALL

This is the 3rd major fundraiser for CHINA 09! The last cabaret night was a fantastic night enjoyed by the school community!

Book a table now at the Bursar's office.

\$20 per head.

Eight per table.

CONTACTS WANTED!

We need great prizes for the silent auction. Party supplies, helium balloons for the tables and plastic circular table cloths. If you can help with any of the above please contact Robyn Pryor by phone: 8520 9000 or

email: pry@mckinnonsc.vic.edu.au

Thanks

Robyn Pryor

Fundraiser Manager China 09!

SPORT

McKinnon Secondary College Swimming Sports
Wednesday 18th February 2009

Time: 8.50 am roll call – 3.00pm approx.

Venue: Caulfield Pool, Moira Ave. Carnegie

Themes: The letter "M"

Remember to dress up and bring house banners. Fashion parade and Karaoke will be held and spot prizes given.

Attendance: Compulsory for all students at all levels.

Equipment: bathers, towel, sunscreen, hat, food and drink

Canteen: the pool canteen will operate throughout the day.

Arrangements:

Students are to make their own way to the pool and report to their form teacher at 8.50 am. After roll call students will sit in their houses on the grassed embankment. A roll will be taken after the final event and clean up at approximately 3.00pm

Emergency arrangements:

In past years unfortunate weather conditions lead to the sports being cancelled on the day, all students are reminded to have back up arrangements with their family or guardians in case this situation arises again. If the sports are cancelled the school will be notified as soon as possible from the pool and students should follow their prearranged backup procedures regarding getting home.

We invite parents and friends to come along and enjoy the colour and spectacle that is a McKinnon Sports Carnival.

Let's keep our fingers crossed for good weather!

Andy Hart
Carnival Co-ordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sports' Club Registration Days

St Paul's McKinnon Junior Football Club -

Sunday, 8 February, 11.00am - 1pm

McKinnon Reserve

Cnr McKinnon & Tucker Rds

McKinnon

WEBSITE: www.stpaulsjfc.com.au

Ormond Junior Football Club -

Friday, 20 February, 6.00pm - 7.30pm

EE Gunn Reserve

Ormond

Melway 68E7

For information on registration contact:

Alan Naylor (AH) 9557 5736

e-mail: alan.naylor@air.gov.au

WEBSITE: www.ormondfc.com

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM 2009

Glen Eira City Council will conduct the following immunisation sessions at McKinnon Secondary College:

Date & Time	Year Level & Vaccine
Friday 6th March At 9.30am	Year 7 Boys: Hepatitis B, Chickenpox Girls: Hepatitis B, Chickenpox and Gardasil Year 10 Boys: Boostrix Girls: Boostrix
Friday 1st May At 9.30am	Year 7 Girls: Gardasil
Friday 4th September At 9.30am	Years 7 Boys: Hepatitis B Girls: Hepatitis B and Gardasil
Please note: Children will not be immunised without a fully completed and signed Consent Card. Immunisations Consent cards were distributed yesterday, Wednesday, 4th February and all cards must be returned by Thursday 12th February 2009.	

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; **and** be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004* **or** be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner **or** be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (28 January 2009 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (13 July 2009).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009 for the first instalment and 7 August 2009 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of **\$221** for primary students and **\$443** for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school.

Students turning 16 years in 2009 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

New EMA payment option for 2009

Commencing in 2009, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will introduce a new payment option for the payment of the EMA to parents.

Under the new system, eligible parents will have the option to receive the 50% 'parent portion' of the EMA payment directly into the parent's nominated bank account, **or** as a cheque payment.

The 2009 EMA application form includes a section for you to nominate whether you would like your EMA payment to be made to your own bank account or to receive your payment as a cheque (which is the current arrangement). The banking details required will include the BSB code and the account number.

Payment Amounts

Installment	Portion	Primary school*	Secondary school*
One	Parent	\$ 77.35	\$ 155.05
	School	\$ 77.35	\$ 155.05
Two	Parent	\$ 33.15	\$ 66.45
	School	\$ 33.15	\$ 66.45
	Total	\$ 221	\$ 443

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of **2009** through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after **27 February 2009** and prior to or on **7 August 2009**, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

EMA application forms are available from the school office.