

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SOCIAL NETWORKING

The 21st century has seen the advent of a totally new and innovative form of social networking amongst students. The new way of communicating for our young 'IT natives' is through texting, emailing, chat rooms and networking websites. Social networking websites make up at least six of the top 15 websites worldwide - examples of these are You Tube, Facebook and MySpace.

Schools are scrambling to come up with ways to reduce their impact especially in terms of their capacity to be an anonymous method of bullying and harassment.

It is essential for parents at home to be very vigilant about what their children are doing 'online' and they should also have a real awareness that there are undesirable people who anonymously trawl these sites masquerading as 'young teenagers'.

In most cases these social networking sites are fun for our children, but there are things we can do to both safeguard and protect them. There is a Government website that is a wonderful resource for parents, regarding these matters: <http://www.netalert.gov.au>

I encourage parents to remain vigilant and ensure all children treat others with whom they are communicating respectfully at all times.

HALL REFURBISHMENT - National Schools Pride

Our hall refurbishment project begins this week. Able Developments are the successful company. They will complete their project by the start of Term 4. I apologise for any inconvenience this construction may cause to our school community.

YEAR 9 CAMP

Congratulations to all Year 9 staff and students who participated in our Year 9 camp to Waratah Bay. I hope all returned with positive experiences and funny stories to be remembered fondly.

In particular, I would like to thank the Year 9 Student Managers, Mr Brett Howe and Mrs Barb Roney, for their tremendous organisation.

VTAC EVENING

I look forward to seeing Year 12 parents at the VTAC evening tonight in the Lecture Theatre from 7pm.

This is definitely a most exciting time for all Year 12 students where decisions are to be made about career pathways and options for courses in 2010 and beyond.

Pitsa Binnion
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WORKING BEE

Saturday August 22nd 9am - 11am

We need your help to improve the school gardens. Even if you can only come for an hour you will improve the environment for your child and save the school money. Year 7 and 8 parents are especially invited to attend (you may bring your student if you desire). This year we will be replanting gardens near the staffroom and the Art quadrangle. See the promotion in this newsletter.

ROAD SAFETY

Having two building projects starting up this term (New 'A' block and Extension of Assembly Hall) adds extra road safety risks along McKinnon Road.

Please note the following school safety policies:

- I. Drive very slowly (maximum 40) along the front of the school.
- II. Encourage students to cross only at the pedestrian crossing.
- III. Drop students off in designated areas only and never do a "U" turn.
- IV. Bike riders must wear a helmet.
- V. Do not use, or turn into, the staff car park from 8am - 4pm.

Thank you for your co-operation to keep our students safe.

SCHOOL ATHLETICS SPORTS WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5TH

This is a school wide event. I would request that parents ensure their children attend and not provide excuses/notes that allow students to miss the day. Participation in these events is important to a student's full involvement and commitment to our college.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

A reminder to any parent who had chosen to pay by term instalments, the fourth and final instalment is due on August 24th. We request that parents do not leave 2009 contributions until the end of the year. Please telephone me for assistance if you are experiencing financial difficulties so that you can finalise your payments well before the end of the year.

Andrew Newton
Daily Operations & Finance

TERM 3 30 July 2009 Issue No. 2

DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY

Thursday, 30
VTAC Evening, 7pm

AUGUST

Tuesday, 4
Australian English
Competition

Finance Meeting 6.50pm

School Council Meeting
7.30pm

Wednesday, 5
School Athletics Carnival

Thursday, 6
Australian Maths Comp

Intermediate Round Robin
Sports

Friday, 7
EMA Closing date

Monday, 10
Year 10 Outdoor Education
camp

Tuesday, 11
Education Committee
Meeting 7.30pm

Thursday, 20
VCE Information Night

Saturday, 22
Working Bee 9am - 11am

ADVANCE NOTICE

Thursday, 27
Winter Concert 7.30pm

Saturday, 29
ELMS Test (AM)

TERM DATES 2009

Term 3
13 July - 18 September

Term 4
5 October - 18 December

JUNIOR SCHOOL REPORT

Term 3 is now in full swing and we hope that all students will have a productive and rewarding semester.

PERSONAL LEARNING GOALS

All students will have recently completed their 'Personal Learning Goals' for semester 2. Their goals should reflect the comments and advice given by teachers in their semester 1 reports. The Personal Learning Goals should provide a focus and assist students in improving their performance and achievements. You may like to ask your son or daughter about their 'Learning Goals' and encourage them to remain focused on their goals as the semester progresses.

YEAR 9 CAMP

This week sees the Year 9s away on camp to Waratah Bay. Many thanks to Mr Howe and Mrs Roney for all their hard work in organizing the camp – let's hope the weather is favourable. We will provide a report on the camp in the next 'Junior School Report'.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

CHARITY CASUAL DRESS DAY YEARS 7 - 12 MONDAY 3rd AUGUST 2009

Our Council Representatives have worked diligently in planning our annual 'Charity Casual Dress Day'. Following much discussion and a vote of students in every class, the following charities have been chosen to benefit from our fundraising this year:

World Vision
Guide Dogs of Victoria
SIDS and Kids
State Schools' Relief Committee

We strongly encourage our students to support those in the community facing hardship or disadvantage. A sense of 'Community' is one of our 5 school values and 'Service' is part of our School ethos.

We are asking students to (where possible) bring a minimum of \$4 to be divided amongst our four charities. Next Monday is the big day and we would request parents to encourage their children to support our worthy charities.

Les McLeod
Head of Junior School

MUSIC

STRING QUARTET

Congratulations to our String Quartet for an outstanding performance at the Glen Eira City Council for a Mayoral function.

ORCHESTRA AND SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

Thank you to all the teachers and students involved with the Orchestra and Symphonic Wind Ensemble Performance at The Alan Lawrence Theatre last Thursday. They performed their repertoire twice through for two different audiences from McKinnon Primary School. It was a fantastic learning experience for both our students and McKinnon Primary School.

WINTER CONCERT

As you may know, our annual Winter Concert is on the 27th of August this year. Tickets will be on sale from Monday August 3 (\$17 adults \$12 concession). Be sure to get in quick to buy your tickets. Strictly no reservations, purchase only from the Library.

Glen Nelson
Head of Music

SINGING AND CHOIR NEWS

MANNINGHAM EISTEDDFOD

Sharon Mattatia of Year 12 recently participated in the Manningham Eisteddfod, singing in two sections, gaining an Honourable Mention. Congratulations Sharon!

VOX SYNERGY

Benny Dimas of Year 12 auditioned for Kathryn Sadler's top choral group, "Vox Synergy" and was successful. Currently Benny is in her younger group, "Vox Major". Congratulations Benny.

HONOUR CHOIR

During the last school holidays **Max West** and **Benny Dimas** attended four days of rehearsal with the Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) Honour Choir. This group consists of students from various Victorian schools who have a love of choral singing and are recommended by their music teachers. This year the Australian composer and choral conductor, Harley Mead, was flown from Queensland to take the choir. Activities culminated in a concert on the final Saturday at Richmond Uniting Church. Songs included compositions by the ever energetic Harley Mead.

Blanka West
Vocal Instrumental Teacher

HELP NEEDED

I need help sewing and constructing 80 new Choir uniforms. If you can help out please contact the school to speak to me or leave your details and I will be in touch shortly. Any offers much appreciated.

Megan Papworth
Choir Director

SPORT

JUNIOR SPORT REPORT

We have had great success at Year 7 Sport recently.

Congratulations to Mr Reynolds, Mr Stubbs and the Year 7 Football team who soundly beat Kambrya in the Southern Zone Quarter Final last Monday.

McKinnon 24.13 (157) def Kambrya 5.4 (34). This fabulous team now go onto play Kooweerup in the Semi Final next Friday at 11am on McKinnon Reserve. Supporters welcome. Good luck boys.

Congratulations to both Year 7 Boys' and Girls' Soccer teams who have both made the Southern Zone Finals.

The boys played their quarter final yesterday against Carwatha and won 2 -1, coached by Mr Bustin and Mr Hudd.

The Year 7 Girls' Soccer team will play in a round robin against the four best Metropolitan Southern Zone teams on Friday 7th August at Bentleigh Greens. The team have been training hard and will be coached on the day by Mr Hoskins. Supporters are very welcome. Good luck girls.

Go McKinnon!!

Carole Hooper
Junior School Sport Coordinator

ROGAINE REPORT

The Victorian Rogaining Schools' Championship was held on Sunday 21st June. This year 36 students from McKinnon competed in the five hour event, competing against over 300 students in 100 teams. The event involved map reading and navigating using a compass in order to find a series of checkpoints. This year's event was held in a bush setting at Linton near Ballarat.

Our students had been practicing with map work and navigation in the weeks prior and produced some great results on the day.

McKinnon regained the Sheahan Trophy presented to the best two results by mixed teams.

Teams comprised:

Paul Busby, Ogi Jovanovic, Anna Bernasochi, Annie Harwood and Igor Jovanovic of Year 12
Rick Middag, Andrew Geschke, Marika McKinlay and Gail Humphreys also from Year 12.

Other great results were first in the Junior Boys and Girls divisions. Teams comprised:

Junior Boys: **Kenny Speak, Kane Victorio and Jordan Czelen** of Year 8

Junior Girls: **Grace Ewers, Mary Kreiger, Stephanie Chen and Elizabeth Baeva** of Year 8

Congratulations to all participants who had a great day and put in a solid effort. Special thanks to Marg Bourke, Melinda Jones and John Levin for their assistance.

Stuart Baker
Event Organiser

SUCCESS STORIES

Congratulations to the following students on their recent successes:

Claudine Catipon (Year 10) has been selected to attend an intensive holiday course to study German culture and language at the Goethe-Institut in Melbourne. She is one of only four award recipients in the state wide competition run by the German Teachers of Victoria and the Goethe-Institut. Claudine was officially presented with her award at the German Day Out at Federation Square on July 24th. In particular the LOTE faculty congratulates Claudine on her enthusiasm and achievements.

Alexandra Samulenok (Year 7) has successfully auditioned for the Joining the Chorus 2009 circus musical 'Barnum'. Joining the Chorus is the premier performing arts unit of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and showcases talented government school students. 'Barnum' will be performed at the Comedy Theatre from September 11th to 19th.

Anya Bonan (Year 8) has achieved first place in the Senior Division of the 2009 Round 5 Spellmasters Australia Competition. Anya won the Macquarie Dictionary first place prize, \$50 cash, and will compete in the Senior Grand Final at the end of the year.

James Knee and **Emma Cole** (both Year 9) have been selected to represent Victoria at the Australian Hockey Championships in their respective Under 15 Mens' and Womens' teams. The titles are to be held during the next school holidays in Adelaide and Brisbane; best of luck to both of them.

Three Year 11 boys will be competing in the Bayside Battle of the Bands on 31st July. The four man band, Common Ground, includes **Josh Baldacchino** (lead guitar), **Jordan Stout** (bass guitar) and **Oliver Bannister** (vocals). They will perform three originals and one cover.

Aimee Liu and **Peter Karabatsos** (both Year 11) were selected by McKinnon Science staff to enter this year's National Youth Science Forum which is aimed at inspiring and challenging students to consider working in different scientific fields. Aimee has been shortlisted for the next interview round. If successful in gaining one of the 70 places available, Aimee will have the unique opportunity to talk to dozens of practicing scientists and engineers at and about their work. We wish her every success at the next stage of the competition.

Jenny Jones
College Publicity

EMA SECOND SEMESTER

Applications for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for the second semester close on **Friday 7th August**. EMA is proved to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. Newly eligible parents are required to complete an application form (obtainable from the office) and return it by the due date.

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.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 3 (13th July, 2009).

If you received EMA in Semester 1 you do not need to apply again. However, if your benefit card has been renewed we do require a copy for our records.

COMMUNITY NEWS

GLEN EIRA MOORABBIN SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Are you interested in learning how to play softball or want to further develop your softball skills? Come along to our FREE pre-season training sessions conducted on Saturdays throughout Term 3. Enquiries: 95701412 or www.gleneira.softball.org.au

ADVERTISEMENTS

OFFICE STAFF REQUIRED

A position has become available within a local small business (12 staff). Duties include bookkeeping, accounting and general administration.

This is a permanent part time position, approximately 30 hours per week. Hours are negotiable, starting from between 8:30-9:15am and working through to between 3:15-4.40pm, 4 -5 days per week.

Experience in a similar role is required, as well as sound computer knowledge. References are required.

Please telephone Ken on 9557 3244 or email ken@finechoice.com.au for more information.

A special invitation to all parents, especially to Year 7 parents to attend the

ANNUAL SPRING WORKING BEE

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Date: Saturday, 22nd August

Time: 9.00am - 11:00am

Meet: In front of the Assembly Hall

Tools: Please **bring** some tools e.g. wheelbarrows, secateurs, pruning saws, shovels, spades, weeding tools, gloves and rakes.

PROJECTS

**To improve the school gardens and grounds.
Please come to help improve the environment for your child.**

There is only one working bee each year - at the start of Spring.

Andrew Newton
Assistant Principal & Building and Grounds Convenor

Colin Barry
Facilities Manager

