

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

CLASS OF 2009

Our Year 12 students ended their year in a very appropriate manner. I thank them and their parents who joined staff in a most enjoyable and memorable Valedictory Dinner. Five hundred and fifty people came together to celebrate a wonderful achievement. Our Year 12s have definitely been very respectful, dedicated individuals. They begin their examinations on Friday and I wish them every success.

UNIFORM

From next week students are expected to be in full summer uniform. I thank the students and parents for their strong support of our uniform policy. Our students look impressive and are definitely wonderful ambassadors for our college.

THISTLELONIANS REUNION

Congratulations to the Thistlelonians for a very successful reunion held on Saturday 17th October. It was very well attended and there was much sharing of fond memories and laughter.

The first class of graduates were introduced and congratulated for their '50' year reunion.

This ex-students association is a wonderful gift to McKinnon. It is a special way to celebrate success and continue our tradition of excellence. I would like to thank and acknowledge Geoff Woolnough, Pam Dickfos and Andrew Newton for their work with this association.

SPORTS AWARDS

We have had a number of students who were nominated for a Southern Metropolitan Region 2009 Sports Award. I am pleased to announce that the following students were successful:

Linford Bennett - Volleyball
Jordana Csoti - Netball
Anna Guan - Badminton
Chris Holland - Hockey
Rick Middag - Squash
Su Hyun Oh - Golf
Luke Parker - Cyclist
Orrin Shaw - Tennis

They will receive their award at the Regional Awards Ceremony to be held Sunday 15th November at the Frankston Arts Centre. We are very proud of their dedication and success.

INTERVIEWS

Senior School course selection interviews begin this week and it is an exciting time to discuss course direction, aspirations and of course, identify perceived challenges.

Parents are welcome to attend and are invited to contact the Student Managers for details.

Pitsa Binnion
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

THE PARENTS' GUIDE TO EXAMS

Exam time can be stressful for you as well as your children. Here are a few tips to surviving exams.

Your child's teachers will have given them a number of strategies and tips for exam revision. Your job is to support and encourage your child. The most important thing to remember is not to pester or nag them. Let them know that as long as they try their best, that's all you can ask. Pressuring them will just add to their stress and make them more likely to give up completely. Forcing your child to revise rarely works. They need to want to do it for themselves and however frustrating it might be for you - all you can do is try to encourage them and reach some sort of compromise. In the end, the majority of teens will knuckle down and take it upon themselves to revise when they need to - you just need to trust them a bit and give them the chance.

Exam stress can often lead to poor sleep - especially the night before when they need it the most. Try to discourage them from late night cramming as much as possible. It doesn't work and the sleep will be so much more valuable to them than that extra hour staring at their text book.

Regular breaks are important to give their brain a rest, otherwise the ability to learn and remember things rapidly decreases. It can also help to get them out the house. Even if they complain about it, drag them to the park or the shops with you just for a change of scenery.

I wish all students (and parents) well during this upcoming exam period!

Scott Evans
Acting Assistant Principal (Teaching and Learning)

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DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER

Friday 30

Year 12 exams begin

NOVEMBER

Monday 2

Normal classes

Tuesday 3

Public Holiday

Thursday 5

Art Show Opening Night
7.30pm

Friday 6

Art Show (Day 1)
Year 11 Study Day at home

Monday 9

Art Show (Last Day)
Year 11 Exams begin
2.30pm Early finish

Wednesday 11

Year 10 Music Performance
Night, 7pm

Thursday 12

Years 9/10 Drama Night

Friday 13

Year 10 Study Day at home

ADVANCE NOTICE

NOVEMBER

Monday 16

Year 8 Camp (3 days)
Year 10 Exams begin

Thursday 19

Year 12 exams finish
Junior Music Concert, 7pm

TERM DATES 2009

Term 4

5 October - 18 December

TERM DATES 2010

Term 1

1 February - 26 March

SENIOR SCHOOL REPORT

That time again; exams, interviews and final assessments.

We wish all the students who are about to tackle their Unit 3 and 4 exams all the very best. We hope all the work that they have put in over the year is rewarded and that they achieve results that reflect their personal best.

For the Year 10 and 11 students, the exams are just about to begin in a few weeks. The final weeks will be full of assessments and also revision for these exams. It is not too late to begin revising, however a well organised study timetable is essential. Each student needs to have a balance between all subjects. These exams are vital as they reflect the knowledge and understanding of each subject and give us a good indication of the student's ability and foundation in the subject. This therefore assists us when we begin the next phase of the school year, Promotion Interviews.

These interviews will reflect on first and second semester results, with the focus of what the student wishes to study. We need to be sure that the student has the foundation to tackle particular subjects and that they have the attitude to do one's best. Putting these two points together, the subjects selected should also reflect the career choice.

We wish all students every success in their forthcoming exams.

Peter Thompson
Head of Senior School

SINGING DANCING SUCCESS STORY

Henry Barratt of 10E recently won the Open Age Song And Dance section of the West Gippsland Dance Festival held in Warragul in the September school holidays. He sang "I Can Do That" from 'A Chorus Line'. As Henry is only sixteen years old, this is no mean feat to gain first prize in an open age section! Well done Henry!!

Ms Blanka West

MCKINNON UNIFORM SHOP

Phone/Fax No: 9578 2151

Normal Shop Trading Hours During Term 4:

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

EXTRA Shop Trading Hours during NOVEMBER:

WEDNESDAY 4th Nov 8.15am - 12 noon
WEDNESDAY 25th Nov 8.15am - 12 noon

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

SPORT

JUNIOR SPORT REPORT

Congratulations to **Phil Riha** (Year 8) who came third in the Victorian Singles Table Tennis State Championships held at MSAC earlier this month. He went down to the eventual champion 15 - 13 in the final set.

ALTERNATIVE SPORTS DAY

Tuesday 10th November

Year 7 and 8 students who are participating in the sports clinics run by local associations will play in an afternoon of competition against Bentleigh Secondary College and Brighton Secondary College. The competition will be played between 12 noon - 3pm. All students, except Ultimate Frisbee, will be dismissed from the venues.

Parent support is welcome and your child is sure to enjoy the afternoon. All students require a school sports sunhat, waterbottle and sunscreen for the tournament.

Super 8's cricket	Duncan MacKinnon Reserve
Handball	Duncan MacKinnon Netball Courts
Ultimate Frisbee	Bentleigh SC
Lawn Bowls	Bentleigh Bowls Club
Lacrosse	Bailey Reserve

Normal sport sessions will continue for the other sports.

SOUTHERN ZONE FINALS

We are continuing our winning streak with the Year 7 Boys and Year 8 Girls and Boys playing in the Southern Zone Finals on 10th November. These teams will also play the day before, 9th November, at MSAC in the Squash Victorian State Titles.

Intermediate Girls Hockey play on Thursday 5th November. The Year 8 and Intermediate Boys Hockey teams will play their Southern Zone Final on Friday 6th November. The Year 7 and 8 Table Tennis teams play their finals on Thursday 5th November.

Good Luck to all the teams and keep enjoying your sport. Go McKinnon!

Carole Hooper
Junior School Sport Coordinator

LITERACY SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

We are still looking for enthusiastic people who could volunteer at least one hour per week to assist in our Literacy Support Program. You will be working with the same Junior student each week, enhancing their literacy skills. No experience required! Full training provided!

If you are interested in supporting our Literacy Program, contact the school to leave your details. We will return your call and arrange a time to meet.

Melinda Jones and Georgina Tsitas
Literacy Support Team

END OF YEAR DATES TO ASSIST PARENTS

Please ensure your child attends school right up until the "final day of school" for your Year level.

Level	Last day of "Normal" Classes	Exams Start	Exams End	Final day of school
12	Wednesday 14th Oct	Friday 30th Oct	Thursday 19th Nov	Thursday 15th Oct
11	Thursday 5th Nov	Monday 9th Nov	Friday 20th Nov	Friday 4th Dec
10	Wednesday 25th Nov	Monday 16th Nov	Tuesday 17th Nov	Friday 4th Dec
9	Friday 27th Nov	Monday 23rd Nov	Tuesday 24th Nov	Wednesday 16th Dec
8	Wednesday 9th Dec			Wednesday 16th Dec
7	Wednesday 9th Dec			Wednesday 16th Dec

Special Dates

* Monday 30th Nov - Friday 4th Dec	VCE 2010 Orientation Week
* Monday 30th Nov - Tuesday 8th Dec	Year 9 Interviews
* Monday 7th December	Rehearsal for Presentation Night (Years 7-11)
* Wednesday 9th Dec - Friday 11th Dec	Year 9 Duke of Ed Camp (3 days)
* Thursday 10th December & Friday 11th December	Year 7 & 8 Activities Program
* Monday 14th December	Report collection (Years 7-11) from 10 -11am
* Tuesday 15th December	Rehearsals for Presentation Night (Year 12)
* Tuesday 15th December (7pm)	PRESENTATION NIGHT
* Wednesday 16th December	Voluntary school clean up day

Please Note

Years 7, 8 & 9 Reports will not be given out before Monday 14th December under any circumstances.

Peter Thompson
Acting Head of Senior School

Andrew Newton
Assistant Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS

Want to know how to help your child find a job?

The PACTS (Parents As Career Transitions Support) Workshops can help!! You will find out :

- ◆ *About jobsearch websites & jobsearch techniques*
- ◆ *How to assist with resume writing & cover letters*
- ◆ *How to assist with interview preparation*
- ◆ *Apprenticeships & lots more!*

FREE sessions coming up 17 November 2009
Daytime - 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Evening - 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Venue: Youth Connect, Gnd Floor, 261 Centre Rd, Bentleigh (corner Rose St)

If you are interested in finding our more about the free PACTS sessions or would like to book your place please contact Mary at Youth Connect.

ph 9557 6233 e: m.licciardo@youthconnect.com.au
www.youthconnect.com.au

CAULFIELD COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE

The City of Stonnington invites parents to a course about enjoying, and connecting with, your teenagers. The four-session course will cover:

- Wed 4 Nov 09: Anxiety & Stress*
- Wed 11 Nov 09: Adolescent moods or depression- warning signs and when to seek help, self harm*
- Wed 18 Nov 09: Teenage culture, keeping them safe (cybersafety, drinking, Gen Y body image)*
- Tues 1 Dec 09: Communicating with your teenager - how to argue, assertiveness*

Phoenix Park Community Centre 6.30 – 8:30pm
22 Rob Roy Road, Malvern East. Mel ref: 69 D2
With Jodie Wassner Child & Adolescent Psychologist

Course Cost \$20 (Health Care Card Concession available) Bookings are essential

Bentleigh Bayside Community Health Dental Program

The School Dental Service in this area has recently integrated with the Bentleigh Bayside Community Health. The new integrated Dental Program is now offering dental examinations and care to children attending McKinnon Secondary College. Dental therapists will provide most of the care. Dentists will perform selected procedures. Services include oral health advice, dental sealants to prevent decay, x-rays, teeth cleaning and fillings. All primary school children and children in years 7 to 12 whose parents have a pensioner or health care card are eligible for services. How much does it cost? Free for children whose parents have a pensioner or health care card. Parents without a card pay \$28 per child (maximum \$112 per family). Free for emergency care

Children treated by the SDS before: Parents of children already enrolled with the SDS will receive a recall letter reminding them to make an appointment. Children not treated by the SDS before: Parents of children not enrolled with the SDS need to contact the service to make an appointment for their child.

Contact telephone number for appointments and all enquiries: (03) 9575 5366
Bentleigh Bayside Community Health Dental Clinic, Gardeners Road Bentleigh East