

Issue 5

Thursday 2nd
April 2009

Mooroopna Secondary College



Our Vision

To create and sustain a stimulating and harmonious learning environment in which all students can experience success.

We are committed to:

- Maximising student performance. Expanding the range of programs and pathways.
- Enhancing student engagement, connectedness and leadership opportunities.

Principal:

Mr. Gary Fletcher

Assistant Principals:

Mrs. Lynn Emmerson
Mr. Stephen Bolton

Address:

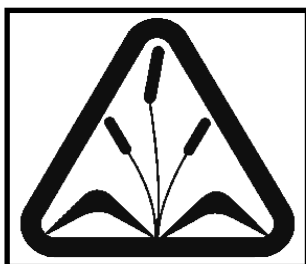
Echuca Road
Mooroopna 3629

Web Site:

www.mooroopnasc.vic.edu.au

Phone: 58252344

Fax: 58253747



Absent from school?
Please ring 5825 1498

This service is an
answering machine and
is available 24 hours per
day—7 days per week.

If your student will be
absent from school
please ring and leave
your name, your
student's name and the
time and dates of the
absence.

**Absence
Line
5825 1498**

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

FAREWELL

On behalf of the College Community I would like to farewell Ray Jaques who is retiring with more than 20 years of service in education. Ray is an outstanding teacher and Educational leader who has impacted the lives of students, staff and parents. We wish him well in retirement. Good luck and thank you Ray.



END OF TERM

Friday sees the end of Term One and I would like to take this opportunity to thank students, parents and staff for their work. Significant achievements have been reached by students in their studies and I look forward to working with everyone in Term Two. I wish everyone a relaxing, safe and enjoyable holiday break. School begins again on Monday, 20th April. Term One will finish on Friday 3rd April at 2.30pm.

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Attached to the newsletter is a copy of a letter explaining some necessary changes we have had to make our Parent/Teacher information sessions in Week 1 & 2 of Term 2. Please read the letter carefully and if you have any concerns please have no hesitation in contacting either myself or Lynn Emmerson.

INTERIM REPORTS

These will be mailed out to parents on Monday 20th April. Please read these carefully with your student and I encourage parents to contact the school to discuss any questions they may have with teachers, coordinators or any member of the Principal team.

TEACHERS LEADING THE WAY

It is important that we continue to recognise the outstanding team of teachers we have at MSC and the work they do. Leonie Dyason (Team leader), Adrian Camm, Kirsten Gass, Katie Bradley and Deanne Saunders for example, who represent a group of teachers in our school who are at the leading edge of teaching practice at an international level! They are involved in the Powerful Learning Practice for Leadership in Schools - International Cohort. This International group of schools along with leading educational experts has teamed to create a comprehensive, systemic one-year professional development program that engages teachers from participating schools in transformational conversations about 21st Century Learning. We look forward to further developments in the coming 12 months.

GRADE 6 INFORMATION NIGHT & OPEN DAYS

On Tuesday 12th May at 7.00pm in Westside is our Grade 6 Information Night for prospective 2010 parents and students. Open Days will also be held on Wednesday 13th May and Friday 15th May starting at 9.15am. No appointment is necessary on these two days. If you wish to visit at another time, please ring the office to make an appointment. We are working very closely together to ensure that the Transition Program this year meets the needs of students and their families. We realise that the step between primary school and secondary school is a big one and we wish to do everything possible to make the process as easy and informative as possible. If you have any questions about the information Night or transition in general, please have no hesitation in contacting Mrs. Ruth O'Bree, Mr. Craig Parker or myself.

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 2

Thursday 23rd April

-1st, Parent /Teacher interviews 3.45 -5.45pm

Tuesday 28th April

- 2nd Parent/Teacher interviews 3.45 - 4.45pm

Tuesday 5th May

- MSC Cross Country (1 -3 pm)

Thursday 7th May

-Yr OED Camp

Friday 8th May

- Yr OED Camp

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

At our Council Meeting on Wednesday, our 2008 Annual Report to the Community was formally accepted. This report outlines the progress of our College over the last 12 months as well as outlining our plans for 2009. Parents can access and view a copy of the report on our College website or parents can collect a copy from our College office during business hours.

ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Also at our Council Meeting on Wednesday, I presented our 2009 Annual Implementation Plan, which is now available on the College website. This plan outlines in detail how the College intends to improve our college goals in regard to:

- Student Learning
- Student Engagement & Wellbeing
- Student Pathways and Transitions

READY 2 DRIVE

Mooroopna Secondary College Year 10-12 students will again be participating in the Shepparton schools' Ready 2 Drive Driver Education Program throughout Term Two & Three. This program is a partnership between MSC, VACC, TAC, RoadSafe Victoria, DECCA, Victoria Police, GO TAFE, VicRoads and all secondary school providers. We believe the program is a vital part of students' learning as they prepare to take to our roads. All students will be participating in this cost free activity. Shortly we will send via the newsletter information in regards to the specific activities to be undertaken.

Mr Gary Fletcher

MALAYSIAN SCHOOL EXCURSION

The Mooroopna Secondary College will offer its students the opportunity to travel to Malaysia in September 2009. This trip is conducted for studying Indonesian but will be open to any students at the school. Most Malaysians speak some level of English but the official language is Malaysian, which is very similar to Indonesian. Malaysia is also culturally similar to Indonesia, but is currently a safer option. This will be a fantastic experience for students.

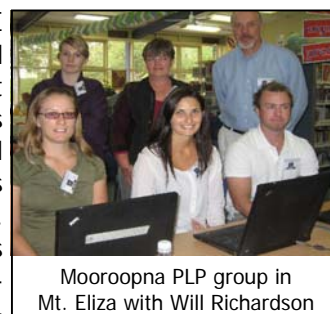
There are students at school that can testify what a great experience the Malaysian trip was in 2007. The itinerary will be a mixture of adventure and educational and fun activities. We shall visit a school, ride elephants at a reservation, Sunway lagoon theme park, do a canopy walk in the rainforest, ride in a becak, go to the Petronas Towers and bargain at the China Town night market among many other activities.

Interested students have met this term and a final itinerary and cost is expected to be published by the end of term 1 or at latest by the very beginning of term two. Once this occurs students will be able to ensure they are part of the tour by paying a deposit. Consequently, it is not too late for students to think about joining us. The trip will take place at the end of term 3 from 10th September to the 21st September. See Grant Findlay or Deanne Saunders for details as soon as possible.

Leadership in Schools - International cohort

What is PLP and why is Mooroopna Secondary College involved? This International group of schools along with leading educational experts has teamed to create a comprehensive, systemic one-year professional development program that engages teachers from participating schools in transformational conversations about 21st Century Learning. Powerful Learning Practice (PLP) uses a blend of face to face and online curriculum to connect small teams from 20-forward thinking schools from around the globe to establish a powerful, ongoing learning community. In addition, it prepares schools to move forward in systemic ways after the one-year commitment ends by laying the groundwork in sustainable projects. The Mooroopna team includes Leonie Dyason (Team leader), Adrian Camm, Kirsten Gass, Katie Bradley and Deanne Saunders. Schools and College's from New South Wales, New Zealand and the United States are also participating. As a result of this program Leonie and Adrian were invited to present at the School Library Association of Victoria Perspectives on Learning conference in March held at Etihad Stadium.

Adrian presented his VCE Physics Unit 3&4 Virtual Learning Community that links students from across the state to experienced educators, scientific experts and textbook authors. Adrian showed participants at the conference the learning potentials and possibilities of social networking tools.



Mooroopna PLP group in Mt. Eliza with Will Richardson

Leonie presented her two blogs – one for readers (staff and students) which contains reviews and tips to find better reading, and one for teachers based on her current Professional Learning Program (an eLearning Café) which runs in the College.

Adrian has recently been invited to present at the DEECD 2009 Innovation Showcase held at Crown Palladium later this year. Over 40 educators who are pioneering new and innovative practices which are impacting positively on student outcomes have been selected to present at the event. The Innovation Showcase attracts local, national and international educators, leaders, and representatives from partner organisations. It proves that Mooroopna Secondary College is a leader in the field when it comes to providing students opportunities to use emerging technologies.

Leonie Dyason
eLearning Coordinator

Breakfast Program

The College is seeking volunteers for the breakfast program which will commence on the 28th April. The program runs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Please contact the college if you can help.

Senior School News

Year 11 and 12 Careers Expo - There has not been a strong response to this excursion, therefore the excursion has been cancelled. Money will be refunded to families who have paid.

Year 11 and 12 Melbourne Pathways Camp: Organisation for this camp is continuing. We have had all places filled for the camp and deposits are no longer being taken. We have booked tours of Monash, Latrobe, Victoria, Swinburne, NMIT and RMIT Universities/TAFE's. In addition we will have a meal at Queen's College, which provides accommodation for three inner city universities. Tours are also arranged for the MCG, Telstra Dome, Eureka Tower, Zoo, Aquarium and Old Melb Goal. Evening activities will be centered around attending IMAX and an ice skating session. Students will use public transport for all travel. We believe this camp broadens students city experiences and provides value for all students pathways, not just those looking at Uni courses. Meetings will be held next term to update students and handout the next stage of the required paper work.

Year 12 - Students have completed their first term and a very busy one at that. In addition to the whole school sport days, Year 12's have run their own Year Level assembly, had three out of uniform days and established a Fund Raising/Social Committee and the Valedictory Dinner Committee. Next term we have another two groups to establish, one to organise the Final Yr 12 assembly and also end of year celebrations. Year 12 is a full on year, with many pressures. Students need to enjoy their year but also stay focused on their final goals. During third term those students wanting to go on to university will need to complete their selections. Now is the time to do some investigation of courses and universities and draft a list of possible choice. Think about Open Days that will occur in August and plan universities that you may wish to visit. For those students planning on working next year holidays are an ideal time to do work experience and get a foot in the door. If parents/guardians have questions please contact the Senior School team.

Peter Mills
Year 12 Coordinator

Sports Report

MSC Athletics Carnival Our school athletics carnival was held on Tuesday 24th April at the Shepparton Athletics Track. We were lucky enough to have great weather for the day with lots of sunshine. The following students were named Age Group Champs:

12-13 yrs girls- Ashlee Battiston **boys-** Jake Cormick
14 yrs girls- Laura Briggs **boys-** Dylan Babarovich
15 yrs girls- Sevim Fasal **boys-** Zac Brian
16 yrs girls- Derya Tanrikulu **boys-** Thomas Casey
17 yrs girls- Suzan Tanrikulu **boys-** Dylan Cornick
18-20 yrs girls- Gail Baumber **boys-** Zaine Allen

Throughout the day there were a large number of records set:

Tiarna Steele- 12-13 yrs High Jump 1.45 m
Laura Briggs- 14 yrs Long Jump 4.4 m (equaled existing record)
Derya Tanrikulu- 16 yrs 800m 2:55.05 mins
 16 yrs 1500m 6:10.08 mins
Thomas Casey- 16 yrs 800m 2:14.62 mins
Jake Cormick- 12-13 yrs 100m 13.43 sec
 12-13 yrs High Jump 1.57 m
Clay Brown- 17 yrs Triple Jump 12.1 m
Dylan Cornick- 17 yrs 400m 52.58 sec
 17 yrs 200m 23.27 sec
Zac Brian- 15 yrs High Jump 1.75 m (equaled existing record)
Mason Argus- 18- 20 yrs 200m 22.83 sec
Ben McConnell- 17 yrs 1500m 4:54.20 min
 17 yrs 800m 2:14.14 min

In 4th place on a total of 1,014 point was Waratah. Banksia took out 3rd place with 1, 251 points. Just beating Banksia by 20 points was Boronia. And the winners of the MSC Athletics Carnival for 2009 were Heath on a comfortable 1, 327 points. Well done to all the students who came along and had a go at Aths Sports. Also, thank you to all teachers who helped out.

Eastern Zone Swimming The MSC swim team competed in the VSSSA Eastern Zone Country Championships in Albury on Wednesday 18th March. We had a team of 15 students, with some individual competitors as well as three relay teams.

Results of the relays are as follows:

Boys 12,14 yrs 4 x 50 m relay – 6th place
 Girls 15,16 yrs 4 x 50 m relay - 8th place
 Boys 17,20 yrs 4 x 50 m relay – 6th place

The following students managed to get a top three finish which was an impressive effort at Eastern Zone level:

Sam Mackenna 100m Butterfly – 1st place
 50m Butterfly – 2nd place
 50m Freestyle – 2nd place
Tamara Whittaker 50m Freestyle- 3rd place
 50m Backstroke – 2nd place
 400m Freestyle – 2nd place
James Milne 50m Freestyle – 2nd place

Congratulations to all students who competed on the day. Sam Mackenna will be heading to the State Swimming Carnival this Thursday 2nd April, in Melbourne so we would like to wish him all the best in his 100m Butterfly.

Eastern Zone Golf: Lachlan Thurston and Michael Jokic will be competing in the Eastern Zone golf tournament in Myrtleford early next term. We would like to wish them good luck and hope that they have an enjoyable day of golf.

Simone Nalder
Sports Trainee

Staff Profiles

Name : Gary Fletcher

Background: I grew up in Bendigo and have worked in the Army and for Boral Industries before becoming a teacher. I have taught at Wodonga HS, Robinvale HS, Traralgon HS and Maryborough Regional College before coming Mooroopna SC in Term 3, 2005.

Faculty: English

Subjects taught: Literature, English

Teaching Interests: Reading. It's great working with young people.

Interest /Hobbies: Swimming, football, cricket, gardening



Name : Ross Algje ('LG')

Background: I am married and have two daughters. We also have a dog, two goats and a cockatiel. I grew up and was educated in Melbourne. I taught English and Politics in Victoria briefly before moving to Perth where I lived for several years and where I continued with studies. (Uni of WA) I returned to Victoria and became involved in travel in China. Whilst there I helped established a dairy distribution network in Beijing and developed some import/export opportunities for a number of Australian companies.

Eventually I set up a computer business (ITC Computers) custom building PC's. I continue to run this business in my spare time. I was gradually drawn back into teaching – firstly with CAE and then with secondary colleges – by the need for IT teachers.

Year started at MSC: This is my third year at MSC

Faculty: I work in the SOSE office but I teach English and ICT, which is part of the Technology faculty.

Teaching Interests: I remain enthusiastic about teaching senior ICT and English but I become discouraged when I see so much litter around the yard and too often hear language that I feel is inappropriate.

Interest / Hobbies: Reading, gardening (not very successfully), cooking, ICT and travel are my main interests. I travel somewhere every holiday - usually Asia or Europe. I have a lovely home in Chiang Mai (Thailand) where I plan to settle when I retire.



Families Matters

The next Families Matter meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st April at 9.15am in the MSC Boardroom, which is located in the Administration building. The meetings provide another opportunity for families and schools to come together to work in partnership to support the well-being of young people. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. If you have any questions please contact Ruth O'Bree at MSC or Kim Payne (58254580).

Operation NewStart

Nathan Watson and Laurence Hearn of Mooroopna Secondary College at the graduation of the Operation NewStart Program on 24th March 2009 at the Harder Auditorium at GoTafe Shepparton. Nathan and Lawrence successfully completed Operation NewStart which is held over one term, and run in conjunction with the Department of Education, the Victoria Police and Save the Children Fund. The program involves the students participating in adventure activities, work experience, vocational orientation, personal development and community work. Activities include canoeing, rock climbing, camping, surfing, CFA training and driver education. They also attained various certificates including a First Aid Certificate. Mooroopna Secondary College is proud of the boys successful completion of the program!



Author Short- Listed

2009 Somerset National Novella Writing Competition has shortlisted author Blake Collins Yr 10 from Mooroopna Secondary College for the states of Victoria and Tasmania. There were 106 entries from around Australia in the competition which closed late last year. There were 5 State winners for Australia. All competitors had to write a minimum of 10,000 words for their novella! All entries for the 2009 competition were read by three competition judges and were reviewed according to the following criteria - Artistic Merit, Originality and a Sense of Voice. The three judges for the 2009 competition are all highly regarded individuals in the publishing/literary world, and they have sent Blake some general comments to help him with his writing, and he was strongly encouraged to enter the 2010 competition. The guidelines and entry for can be found at www.somerset.qld.edu.au/cofl. Contact Ms Dyason for editing help if you wish to enter this year. Well done Blake with your first attempt at a novel!



Leonie Dyason
Teacher-Librarian



MOOROOPNA SECONDARY COLLEGE

31st March 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian

Due to a directive by the DEECD (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development) regarding student free days, the College is unable to provide our normal times for parent teacher interviews next term. This means the College can now only provide a limited number of hours for parent teacher interviews. For a number of organisational reasons the College will hold Parent Teacher sessions during Week 1 of the first week of Term 2 on Thursday 22nd April from 3.45pm – 5.45pm and the next week, Term 2 on Tuesday 27th April from 3.45pm – 4.45pm.

We consider this to be an unsatisfactory arrangement, but we are bound by DEECD directives. It is certainly not a decision the College would have made at the local level as we know how valuable our discussions are with parents. The College will continue to lobby the DEECD to have these restrictions lifted for future parent- teacher interviews. If you have any concerns or suggestions with this we encourage you to contact myself or Lynn Emmerson and we will pass on your concerns.

Due to the short time frame available for interviews, we ask that you limit your interview to 5 minutes per teacher. If you need further time, please make an appointment on the night to see the teacher at a more convenient time or contact the teacher via your student's planner. If you cannot make either Parent Teacher session, please contact the College on 58252344 and leave a message. The teacher (or the teachers) concerned will attempt to contact you at their earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Gary Fletcher
Principal

Lynn Emmerson
Assistant Principal

TERM 2 2009

PARENT CALENDAR

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
1 April	20	21 <i>DEB TRAINING</i> 4.00pm- 5.30pm	22	23 Parent / Teacher Interviews 3.45pm – 5.45pm	24	<i>DEB TRAINING</i> SUNDAY 3.30pm
2 April/ May	27	28 Parent / Teacher Interviews 3.45pm – 4.45pm <i>DEB TRAINING</i> 4.00pm- 5.30pm	29 Finance Committee	30	1	<i>DEB TRAINING</i> SUNDAY 3.30pm
3 May	4	5 Cross Country 1 -3 pm <i>DEB TRAINING</i> 4.00pm- 5.30pm	6 College Council	7 Yr 11 OED Camp	8 Yr OED Camp	<i>DEB TRAINING</i> SUNDAY 3.30pm
4 May	11 SDSSSA Cross Country	12 <i>DEB TRAINING</i> EASTBANK	13	14 <i>DEB TRAINING</i> EASTBANK	15	<i>DEB BALL</i> Sat 16 ^h May Eastbank
5 May	18	19	20	21	22	
6 May	25	26 Senior Winter Sports Day	27 Yr 7 Immunization Finance Committee	28	29	
7 June	1 Yr 12 SAC Free Week	2 Yr 12 SAC Free Week	3 Yr 12 SAC Free Week College Council	4 Yr 12 SAC Free Week	5 Yr 12 SAC Free Week	
8 June	8 Queen's Birthday Holiday	9 Unit 3 Exams	10 Unit 3 Exams	11 Unit 3/4GAT	12 State Wide Professional Devel- opment Day	
9 June	15	16	17	18	19	
10 June	22	23	24 Junior Winter Sports Day	25	26 Last Day Term 2 Finish 2.30pm	Term Break 27th June- 12th July