

Issue 11
Friday 7th
Aug 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**

PRINCIPALS REPORT

PARENT OPINION SURVEY

On 24th August we will be conducting our Parent Opinion Survey. The overall objective of this survey is to collect data about parent opinions across the state and for individual schools across Victoria to use this information to drive further improvements. A group of parents will be randomly selected by the Department to complete these surveys. If you are one of the parents selected, you will receive a survey package in the mail after Monday 24th August to be completed by the end of that week. Please take the time to fill out this important survey.

COLLEGE PRODUCTION

The College Production of "The Wizard of Oz" will be on September 3 – 5. I would like to recognise the hard work of the students and staff in preparing for the production. The annual school production is one of the key features on the College calendar every year. Special thanks must go to Ms Horvath (Director) and Mrs Brady (Producer) for their leadership.

Any parent who is willing to volunteer in the making of costumes is asked to contact Mrs Marilyn Porter at the College during office hours.

ROTARY SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR

Last Monday night I was lucky enough to join a packed house at the annual Rotary Schools Spectacular at Eastbank. Primary & secondary school students performed; there were choirs, gymnastics, bands and other performances.

Our Intermediate Band under the leadership of our fantastic music staff performed. It was an outstanding musical performance and everyone involved is to be congratulated.

The band will be participating in competitions in Melbourne shortly, so we wish them well.

LITERACY

This year our staff is undertaking Literacy Professional Development training with the Primary schools in our Cluster. This will look at Reading, Writing and Oral Language skills training from years Prep to Year 12. Staff are attending PD sessions after school throughout the year and the work undertaken will further add to our skills training and the improvement of learning outcomes for students.

This builds upon our numeracy work done last year with the Cluster schools. This work is also continuing in 2009 as we focus on:

Literacy

Numeracy

Differentiated Learning (here work is varied to suit the needs of individual students)

These three pillars of our teaching are making a significant difference to our core work as teachers.

SECURITY CAMERA INSTALLATION

I am pleased to announce that the College is installing a security surveillance system throughout the whole College. This will ensure greater safety and security for students, staff and facilities. If you have any queries in regards to the new system, which will be in full operation as of the end of next week, please have no hesitation in contacting me.

Principals report continued.....

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday Aug 10th

- VCAL Work Placement Block This Week
- Year 12 Drive 4 Life Session 2

Wed Aug 12th

- Sticks & Stones-Yr 7-12.30pm &Yr8-2pm

Friday Aug 14th

- Yr 10 formal

Monday Aug 17th

Outdoor Ed ski camp

BUILDING WORKS

Over the holidays several building works were completed in the College. All student toilets have now been fully upgraded at a cost of \$200,000. Part of this was from funding made available through the National Schools Pride Program. We have also had all of our shade sails in the school re installed.

REPORTS

All students have now received their Semester 1 reports. It was pleasing to read through the reports to see the level of progress made by students. We look forward to see ongoing improvement made again this semester. Parents wishing to discuss any matters in relation to their reports are welcome to contact us to make an appointment with the relevant coordinator or teacher.

NCSSF – COMPUTING FUNDING

I am pleased to announce that our school has been successful in gaining over \$160,000 under the Federal Government's National Computer Secondary School Funding Scheme. \$51K will be used to replace old computers, whilst the rest will be used to increase our computer: student ratio to 1:2. Details of the roll out of this scheme will be published shortly once the full details of the scheme are finalised.

POST COMPULSORY NEWS – 2010 COMMON CURRICULUM

Our work to develop educational and vocational pathways for post compulsory students is continuing. We are currently establishing a common timetable that will enable students to have access to course offerings across all local providers. All students should have a copy of the 2010 Course Guide which was made available to them at the beginning of Term 3. They will be asked to make final selections at the end of this term. Parents requiring any further information should contact a member of the senior school team.

INFLUENZA H1N1 (Swine Flu)

Just a reminder about members of the school community who contract the Swine Flu virus! There is no longer a need to quarantine everyone who has been in contact with a confirmed case of H1N1 Influenza. Only confirmed cases will need to be quarantined.

Students, teachers, and classes that are in quarantine, as a result of being in contact with a confirmed case of the virus, are to return to school as soon as practicable. Any person who believes they may have the virus or its symptoms should seek medical advice immediately.

Mr Gary Fletcher

Junior School News

Year 8 into Year 9

Information Night August 24th 2009. 6.30pm.

A reminder to parents and students of current Year 8 students of the Course Selection Information Night on the above date. This is an opportunity to hear about Course Selection in our Year 9 elective program and the possibility of high achievers completing a Year 10 unit in the second half of next year. The venue will be at school and we will announce the room in the next newsletter. The Year 9 2010 Handbook will be provided to Year 8 students shortly before the Information Night. Subject selection forms will be available towards the end of term.

Mid Year Reports.

Some Year Level Coordinators have received phone calls from parents querying mid semester results. These calls are more than welcome as it provides us with the opportunity to discuss your child's progress in light of our investment in the past term in Literacy, Numeracy, Differentiation and Individual Learning Plans. I am limited in space here to write what we are achieving in the Junior School in these areas, however I will aim to have a supplement added to the next newsletter that will detail what we are doing to improve your child's learning outcomes.

Shops

I would like to remind all Junior School students that the corner shop and Coles are out of bounds during school hours.

Bus Bay Revegetation



This Wednesday saw the culmination of two years of behind the scenes work to complete the first stage of the revegetation of the Bus Bay. Through the generosity of Anne Roberts

from the Shepparton Council we were provided with 150 native plants and grasses for the western side of our new Bus Bay. Council also provided us with mulch and watering of the plants once they were planted. The morning session was our part of the Planet Ark National Tree Planting Day. Year 8 students were selected to participate and these students were Nathan Booth, Bruce Oakley, Jarrod McKenzie, Melissa Maskell, Louisa Trazerra, Leticia Pena, Courtney Corrish, Aimee Corken, and Aaron MacAdam. We were ably assisted from Landcare by Danny Beischer and Phil from the Council. Thank you to those students for their efforts, and in addition Jim Douglass for his persistence with beautifying this area. Our aim in 2010 is to complete the eastern side of the Bus Bay with a similar range of native plants.

Craig Parker, Junior School Leader.

Staff Profiles

Name : Carly MacDonald

Background: I grew up in Mooroopna and went to MSC. I then went to live in Bendigo for 4 years while I completed a Bachelor of visual arts and Diploma of Education at La Trobe Uni. I meet my Husband in 2002 and was known as Miss Lee until we were married last year.

Year started at MSC: 2004-05ish

Faculty: Art - J block

Subjects taught: I have taught every Year 7 this year!!! Yr 7 Art, Yr 8 Art, Yr 9 Ceramics, Yr 11 Studio Arts.

Teaching interests: Art – I love it...It rocks.... I love encouraging self expression and enjoyment in Art.

Interest /Hobbies: I love all animals great and small. Armadillos are pretty cool. I think they are quirky. I love spending time with my "fur" Children Ted Winston and Raffael Woodstock (my cats) and Mindi Meg (my dog). GO SAINTS!!!! Win or loose... I like going overseas for holidays when I can afford it. Spending time with my family. Going fishing with my dad. Listening to my mum tell me how to cook. Being silly and having random conversations with my husband. Talking to my sister on the phone while we watch our favourite shows on tv. Lazing around in pyjamas drinking cuppas on my couch with my cats watching "Caesar Milan the dog whisperer". I hate summer...Love winter... Garlic Prawns is my fav dish. I love coconut ice cream. I enjoy zoning out on the internet. I love documentaries and learning about how things work. Grooving to music... There's heaps more but we would be here for days....



Name : Mrs Maureen Collins

Background I was born and grew up in Shepparton. I attended St. Brendan's Primary School and Sacred Heart College (now Notre Dame College). After Yr 12, I went to Melbourne to study at Larnook Teachers College. I graduated as a Secondary Teacher with methods in Home Economics, Health and Textiles. I have taught at Rushworth, Numurkah, Shepparton North Technical College and Mooroopna. My husband Alan and I are the very proud parents of 3 beautiful young adult children.

Year started at MSC: 1994

*Faculty:*Health and Physical Education Curriculum Program Area.

Subjects taught: Home Economics, Food Technology, Health,

Teaching interests:

Interest /Hobbies: I am a member of the Shepparton Theatre Arts Group and enjoy all types of theatre. My main love is musical theatre. I am not a performer but like to be involved, so it is often as production manager or as part of the backstage crew. I enjoy all types of music and I am in Melbourne often going to musical gigs or the theatre. Reading books is my way to relax or riding my bike in the country. Alan and I spend much of our spare time visiting and enjoying time with our children. Oh, nearly forgot, I LOVE TO COOK



Work Busters

Each Wednesday at lunch time in W3 Junior School students (Year 7,8 and 9) will be able to complete work that is due soon or who have missed handing in work by the due date and are required by their teacher to get it completed. Students may use the computers in W3. They can bring their lunch and work in a relaxed atmosphere. The session will be supervised by a teacher who will be able to help students with their work. Junior School Teachers have been asked to place students in Work Busters if an assessment task has not been completed. If a student does not hand in their late work after a Work Busters session then a yellow Late Work Notice may be sent home to keep parents/guardians informed. Grant Findlay

Senior School News

Year 12 Students Scholarships to get you started If you're interested in studying at Charles Sturt Uni, there are plenty of scholarships worth investigating. Visit <http://www.csu.edu.au/student/scholarships> for more information. The Federal Government is also offering financial assistance for all university students who receive student income support, enabling them to also receive a Student Start-up Scholarship for each year of their course. In 2010 this Start-up Scholarship will be valued at \$2254. Eligible university students receiving student income support who have to relocate to one of CSU's five regional campuses to study will receive a Relocation Scholarship of \$4000 in the first year and \$1000 in subsequent years to assist with their costs. Combined with the Student Start-Up Scholarship, this means they will get \$6254 in their first year of study and \$3254 in later years. For more information on the government scholarships visit <http://www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs>

Year 12: VTAC Guides are now available from the office for \$15.00. These guides are an essential resource for all students intending to apply for a University place next year.

VTAC Deadlines: VTAC is the organisation that processes University applications. They have a number of strict deadlines. For further information go to www.vtac.edu.au for a copy or see Mr Mills

DOXA Cadetship: this scheme links students with employers during their University years and offers a scholarship of \$6,000 per year. It is aimed at disadvantaged young people who may find it difficult to attend University. If you believe you may be eligible you should contact Mr Mills for an application form. David Burgess Foundation Awards The school is able to nominate students for this award. It aims to assist students who have faced adversity, who show a commitment to their goals and also demonstrates a commitment to the community at large. It is valued at \$3,000 per year. If you believe you may be eligible see Mr Mills

Yr 12 Students Applying to LaTrobe University: There is an early entry scheme to courses at LaTrobe called SALT. This is a great chance to take the pressure off the wait for the ENTER scores. There is a process and deadlines that have to be met. The school deadlines for applications is Sept 11th. If students intend to apply for LaTrobe they should have attended a meeting in C12, 1.00, Thursday Aug 6th. If they missed this meeting they should see Mr Mills.

Ready to Drive program. All Yr 12's will attend Eastbank during session 2 on Monday 10th August. This session is a vital link in the ongoing education process that occurs from Yr 10 to 12 that attempts to better prepare our young drivers for safe driving experiences. Students will receive an information letter to go home but do not require an indemnity form.

National Youth Science Forum

Congratulations to Josh McCarthy in Year 11. Josh has been selected to attend the National Youth Science Forum which will be held in Perth from the 11th – 23rd January 2010. This is a prestigious event for which many students apply to attend (there were over 90 applicants in our Rotary region, which extends from the Northern suburbs of Melbourne to Albury). Josh was initially accepted for the first interview stage based on an essay that he submitted to Rotary. From this first interview, 50 students were chosen to go on to the next stage of interviews and Josh one of the final 23 students offered a place in the program. Well done Josh! Kirsten Gass



*Maths/Science
Curriculum Program Leader*

Stop Press

Congratulations to Rebecca Hamilton, Yr 10, on her fantastic success at the Pixel Prize last Wednesday evening. The Pixel Prize is the premier state wide photographic competition open to all secondary students. Rebecca would like to thank the school, especially Miss Emmerston, for the encouragement and support she has received.



2009 Indigenous Swimming Program

Fridays from 7th August - 18 September 5.30pm-6.30pm. Program open to all primary & secondary indigenous children. No Cost involved. See Katrina for more info or contact Michelle @ Aquamoves on 58329400.

Eastern Zone Football

On Wednesday 22nd of July our Intermediate Boys Football Team (Year 9 & 10) travelled to Wangaratta to compete in the Eastern Zone Football Competition. The day started off really well with a win against Tallangatta Secondary College. The boys played really well in cold trying conditions running out eventual winners M.S.C 7:4:46 Defeated T.S.C 4:4:28.

Game two was against the power house team in Wangaratta Secondary College, who are a much larger school than us. The first half was committed football by our boys as we got out of the blocks early scoring the first couple of goals. However the boys were slowly over run in the second half. Final scores were W.S.C 5:5:35 Defeated M.S.C 3:1:19.

Our third and final game was against Seymour Technical High School. There was a strong belief in our boys that they wanted to make up for the disappointing loss to Wangaratta. From the first bounce the boys really worked well as a team, sharing the ball around and creating options all over the ground. Their inaccuracy in front of goal was to the delight of Seymour as the result could have been worse. Final scores in this game was M.S.C 5:11: 41 Defeated S.T.H.S 1:0:6

Better players on the day were Tom Casey, Jamaal Cross, Tom Hicks, Chris Atkinson, Zac Brian in a great team effort.

Mr. Saddler Coach

Careers

Attention Year 11 and Year 12 Students: Career Opportunity for 2010: SP AusNet is seeking Apprentice Linesmen and Technical Trainees. The skill set for each of these career paths is quite different. Linesmen need to be physically able, willing to lift and carry heavy objects and unafraid of heights. Technical trainees would spend most of their time working indoors and need to have achieved reasonable VCE results (they will be required to complete a diploma). Applications close 14th August 2009. Check newspapers for details or refer the website www.sp-ausnet.com.au

Mrs Oster Careers Co-ordinator

Family Matters

The next Families Matter meeting will be held on Monday 10th August at 9.15am in the college 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).

Malaysian School Trip

The proposed school trip to Malaysia has been postponed till next year. Initially there was good interest in the trip from students but these numbers did not hold. Perhaps the global economic crisis and Swine Flu put some families off. Students who have paid a deposit can organise a refund from the front office. In the past we have combined with another school to ensure numbers to make the trip viable. We will approach other local schools to ensure that the trip gets off the ground next year.

Mr Grant Findlay

MSC Production

Don't miss out on the event of the year!

70 years old, still going strong and coming to Westside, the Mooroopna Secondary College Production of the

“Wizard of Oz.”

Running over three nights - September 3rd, 4th and 5th
Curtain up at 7:30 pm



Mark it on your calendar now!
Keep watching this space.

Community News

MOOROOPNA LAWN JUNIOR TENNIS CLUB

If you are interested in playing Junior tennis this season come along to

Registration Night on:

Wednesday 19th August from 4 – 5.30 pm OR

Thursday 20th August from 4 – 5.30 pm

AT Echuca Road Hardcourts Club Rooms Mooroopna

Contact Andrea: 58254994 or Maree 58255080

Season starts 10th October 2009

Internet Corner

FreeMind is free mind-mapping software and has a fairly simple interface, and is quick to use once you have mastered a few concepts and controls. What can you do with FreeMind once it has been downloaded to your computer? http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main_Page

- Brainstorm
- Create a mind map as an overview of a topic. 'I know that...'
- Structure a piece of writing or a script.
- Develop character studies
- Map a story
- Create cause and effects charts
- Keep a collection of notes. Such a collection of notes is sometimes called knowledge base.

Read more about FreeMind at

<https://netbooktrial.wikispaces.com/file/view/Freemind+and+thinking.pdf>

Inside a Dog. Great site to read and write book reviews from the State Library site 'Inside a Dog'. You can find out about great new teenage books to read, chat to authors, write reviews and win prizes. Check it out @ www.insideadog.com.au

Tux Maths @ <http://tux4kids.alioth.debian.org/tuxmath/>

Want to practise your tables - use Tux Maths! A fun interactive game with a strong mathematics focus. Perhaps you could challenge yourself to see how much fun improving your maths skills can be. Software needs to be downloaded.

Games for the brain. <http://www.gamesforthebrain.com> Need to exercise the brain? This is a great site to get 'brain fit'! Some fun educational games that include activities such as memorise an image (then answer questions), guess the flags, image quiz, word games, guess the colours and more.

Kids Know It @ <http://www.kidsknowit.com/> There is so much to do here! Take a virtual trip to the zoo with the KidsKnowIt Network. Visit the huge animal database, with hundreds of animals you have never seen before. Download free music. Watch some great animations about a range of topics.

Netbook trials. Parents wanting to checkout changing computer use in Primary Schools should check out the wiki at <http://netbooktrial.wikispaces.com/> from DEECD. It covers lots of things, including cyber safety, a brag page (school showcases), newsletters, links and more.

Leonie Dyason

Teacher-Librarian and eLearning Coordinator.

**Coming soon to MSC
"The Wizard of Oz"**

English News

Writer's Festival excursion to Melbourne.

MSC students have been offered the opportunity to attend the Melbourne Writer's Festival on Wednesday August 26. The students will attend 3 lectures by well known international and Australian authors. This opportunity is available for students from Years 7-12. We are very fortunate to be able to offer this opportunity to enhance students' understanding of and engagement with the work of professional authors. Many students have already put in an application for this excursion- other students who are interested in this exciting opportunity should check availability of spaces on this excursion with Mrs Rabl in the C block office or Ms Dyason in the Library by the end of the day on Tuesday August 11. The total cost to students is \$16 per head. Please note that the full transport cost has been subsidised by the Besen Family Foundation due to our successful application for a travel subsidy.

Mrs Jan Rabl, English Co-ordinator.

EF High School Year! Information in Shepparton on Sunday!

If you are interested in living and studying overseas, and you are between the ages of 14-18 please attend an information meeting on Sunday the 9th of August 09! Many countries are on offer, including however not limited to; USA, Japan, Canada, France and Germany. Summer, Semester and Year Programs are on offer! The meeting will start at 1:00pm and conclude at 3pm. Address is: 116 New Dookie Road Shepparton, 3630. The IK Caldwell building. For more information please visit our website: www.ef.com



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Get **50% OFF** on your child's education expenses up to **\$375** for each primary school student OR up to **\$750** for each secondary school student



If you receive FTB Part A, Youth Allowance, Abstudy, Disability Support Pension and you have primary or secondary school children then you may qualify, regardless of whether you worked in the 2009 financial year or not.

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