

Issue 9  
Friday 26th  
June 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](http://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

Acting Principals Report June 25<sup>th</sup> edition.  
As you would no doubt be aware, the Principal, Gary Fletcher, is currently in the United States on a study tour as part of his participation in the High Performing Principals program. Both Lynn Emmerson and I have been in contact with him by telephone and email and the tour is proving to be very successful. Gary is looking forward to returning and sharing his new found knowledge with us and embedding new practice into Teaching and Learning at Mooroopna Secondary College.

### REGIONAL DIRECTORS VISIT

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Stephen Brown the Regional Director of Hume Region visited a number of schools throughout the Region. The theme for the tour was 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. His final stop for the day was at MSC where he attended Adrian Camm's Physics class and the E Café (Ongoing Professional Development focusing on Web 2.0 tools and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning) created by Leonie Dyason. Adrian's class was streamed live across the Internet and incorporated the use of the Virtual Learning Community that Adrian has created. The VLC links Physics students and teachers across the world. Stephen then participated in the E Café.

### LAST DAY OF TERM

The last day of Term 2 is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Finishing time is 2.30pm. Normal classes will operate all day except for session 3 which will be cut short by 50 minutes.

### COLES SECURITY

The school has recently been contacted by a representative of Coles Supermarket in Mooroopna. Information was passed on with regard to preventative measures against shoplifting that have been taken at all Coles stores. CC TV (Security Cameras) have been installed and all stores have been instructed to prosecute anyone who is found shoplifting. As a number of students at MSC frequent Coles regularly, they felt that students should be aware of the measures that have been taken and the consequences that will result if anyone is detected shoplifting.

### FAREWELL

It is with regret that I announce that Chris Dwyer is leaving us to take up a position with another DEECD division namely Children and Youth Services. She will be working as a Program and Service Advisor. Their gain is our loss.

Chris started at MSC 8 years ago as an Integration Aide and quickly became an important member of that team. She quickly adapted to her new role and began to undertake a lot of the administrative work for the team. In 2006 she moved into the administration team and in 2007 took up the role as Personal Assistant to the Principal. Chris has been a fabulous contributor at MSC and will be sadly missed by all. Thanks Chris. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours .

### VCE CAMP

The Pathways camp is running July 15, 16 and 17. These will be student free days for those Yr 11 students not attending the camp. All other year levels are expected at school as normal.

*Continued.....*

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday July 15th**

- Senior School Melb. Camp (departs)

**Monday July 27th**

- Yr 9 snow camp

**Friday July 17th**

- Senior School Melb. Camp (returns)

**Friday July 31st**

- Plant Ark Tree Plan

## REPORTS

Student Reports will be distributed on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July (First Friday of Term 3)

The process of preparing, writing, collating, proofreading and distribution of Reports is a monumental task. Thanks to all staff who completed their reports, some with the added pressure of exams and other pressing demands. Special thanks are due to Lynn Emmerson for her leadership in ensuring that everything went smoothly throughout the process. Thanks must also go to Chris Dwyer for her maintenance of the database used to produce the reports. A great effort on everybody's behalf.

## STAFF CHANGES SEMESTER 2

Thanks must go to Karyn Fletcher for the excellent work that she has put in over the past year. The smooth running of the library is testament to how well she has fitted into the Library team. Karyn will be having a well earned rest at home and may return to work later in the year.

Rachel Fiddock will be returning from Maternity Leave on a part time basis. We welcome her back.

## END OF SEMESTER

As the first half of the 2009 school year rapidly comes to a close, it would be remiss of me not to recognise the contributions of all at MSC. On looking at the School Calendar, I was staggered by the variety of activities experienced by students, teachers, administration and support staff. There are too many to mention and as I do not wish to offend anyone by missing them I will just thank all for the wonderful contributions that they have made so far this year. There are a number of high profile events, but like an iceberg where two thirds of it lies hidden underneath the water, there are twice as many equally valuable low profile events that contribute to making Mooroopna Secondary College the vibrant and exciting place to learn that it is.

**Mr Stephen Bolton**  
(on behalf of the Principal Class Team)

## Careers

Year 11-12 Parents and Students.

SDCA- Shepparton & District Careers Association will run an Accommodation Expo. This is on 27th July 2009 at Mercy Centennial Stadium Notre Dame College Shepparton at 7:00pm – 8.45pm.

Topics included will be:

Centrelink - What allowances are offered for students.

Banks—will be available on the night to discuss student loans etc.

Real Estate - What you need to know to apply for rented accommodation.

TEC/TAFE Tasters 2009 Agriculture Start Date: Thursday July 16th 2009 (Week 1 term 3) Certificate II in Agriculture. The focus of this Taster course will be on safe riding of Quad Bikes. See the Careers Co-ordinator for further detail

**Mrs Irene Lia-Oster -Careers Co-ordinator**

## Keys Please

**Attention Parents/Guardians of Year 10 Students**  
**Is your teenager's life worth 90 minutes of your time?**

Good drivers aren't born. They are made. The best way to become a good driver is to get plenty of driving experience.

But sometimes, learning how to change gears, or even how to change lanes, can seem a breeze compared with the challenge of getting your parents/guardians to hand over the car keys.

**Keys Please** can change that.

Keys Please is the first step into the driver's seat. It's an informative and interactive forum for you and your parents/guardians, that introduces you to the different skills you will need when learning to drive, including some valuable tips to help you get that all-important licence.

And if you can convince your parents/guardians to come along, they'll hear how important it is for you to practice driving as often as possible, because getting your licence is all about getting enough practice and you can't do that unless they hand over those car keys.

***So come along to the Keys Please forum on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 1.40pm.***

***Venue: Westside, Mooroopna***

***Or if you are unable to attend the daytime session Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm.***

***McGuire College Science and Tech room***

## Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

Reminder for parents/guardians who have not yet applied for this payment for 2009.

Parents who have an eligible Healthcare card, Pension card or are a foster parent are able to apply for the EMA payment. Claim forms are available at the main office. Claims must be submitted before 7 Aug 2009.

**IF YOU HAVE ALREADY CLAIMED FOR THIS PAYMENT THIS YEAR THERE IS NO NEED TO CLAIM AGAIN. HOWEVER IF YOUR HEALTHCARE OR PENSION CARD EXPIRES BEFORE 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY WE WILL REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR NEW HEALTHCARE OR PENSION CARD IN ORDER TO PROCESS THE SEMESTER TWO APPLICATION.**

***Parents are only able to claim for students up til the month the student turns sixteen.***

***No Late Claims Will Be Accepted By The Department***

## Community News

Shepparton Netball Association -Midweek Netball.

Thursday morning midweek netball competition will be commencing term 3. Registration is on Thursday June 25th at 10am at the club rooms in Brauman Street. Competition commences Thursday 16th of July and runs for 10 weeks. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Kim Pettie on 58311085 or 0412568377

## Staff Profiles

*Name:* Julie Jenkins

*Background:* I was born in Mooroopna and went to Mooroopna Primary and then Shepparton Girls High. Married to Allan and have two daughters, Kristie and Kelly. Kristie is a research scientist at the Centre for Functional Genomic and Human Disease, Monash Institute of Medical Research and Kelly is a social worker with the Salvation Army. They both live in Geelong. I have worked at both Clyde Young shoes and McArthurs Shoes.

*Year started at MSC:* 1994

*Faculty:* Started in Integration where I worked for two years and then transferred to the library.

*Interest /Hobbies:* I have two dogs, Joe and Brodie and a beautiful Birman cat, Hully. I enjoy reading when I have the time. I am studying for a Diploma in Library and Information Studies which takes up a lot of my time at home.



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*Name :* Marcus Armstrong

*Background:* Grew up in Eltham (outer suburb of Melbourne) where I spent the first 22 years of my life. I would spend a weekend in the city, then weekends away. Made my way through high school and really took to Science and Arts. Survived VCE, but should have worked harder. I got in to my subject of choice and ended up studying Biological Science at La Trobe University Bundoora. La Trobe stopped teaching Education, so I got to continue studying at Melbourne University. I moved up to Mooroopna, and to MSC, in 2003. I knew where Shepparton was, but had only been to Mooroopna once before and wasn't sure where it was. Since then I have taught at MSC.

*Year started at MSC:*

2003 and been here since. Of the 7 teachers who started at the same time as me only one other is left. Although there are still a lot of staff who have been here for longer!

*Faculty:*

Science and Mathematics, but we're all one big happy family (every family has a few eccentrics).

*Subjects taught:*

So far... all the Science Subjects up to year 10, Biology, Chemistry, Agriculture & Horticulture, Philosophy (when needed) and Connect 9. Who knows what the future will bring? I'll give (almost) anything a go.

*Interest /Hobbies:*

The usual ones I guess; Music (playing, listening), Cooking (and eating), Reading, Swimming, DVD's, Computers and Technology. There are others, but it's been a while since I've been able to have time for them.



## Senior School News

Yr 11 and 12 Pathways Camp - students had another meeting on Thursday 18th June. They received a copy of the program and information about their electives. Students will be on camp July 15, 16 and 17. They must be wearing school uniform as per the discussed arrangements and be at Shepparton station by 6.50 or Mooroopna station by 6.55 at the very latest. Trains will be back at 3.15 on Friday 17th. Best wishes to all staff and students and hoping the camp proves a valued experience.

*Mr Peter Mills*

## School Uniform

At Mooroopna Secondary College we are proud of the uniform our students wear. Among the many important reasons for having a uniform policy is that we believe it gives the students a sense of community and belonging which we value highly.

Our uniform is diverse, giving the students a number of options. While being recognisable as being a part of the school community, students can also express their individuality to a degree.

As we approach the end of Term 2 we would expect that all students be dressed in full winter uniform. The new rugby style jumpers have recently arrived and make an excellent addition to the available range for the senior students.

In order to maintain a strong uniform policy staff will be vigilant in ensuring adherence to uniform standards in Term 3. Students who have not followed the policy will be subject to consequences at school.

If for any reason your student is unable to wear uniform for a short period they should present a signed note to their Year Level Co-ordinator, outlining the particular issue and a pass will generally be given. For longer term issues parents and guardians should contact the school to discuss the situation. There is good quality second hand uniform available from June and July in the Sick-bay.

We thank you for your cooperation on this matter. If you have any queries please contact Lynn Emmerson or Stephen Bolton at the College.

## Music News

The Intermediate Concert Band and Junior Concert Band participated in the Shepparton Schools Network Music Spectacular on Tuesday 23rd June. Both bands played to a packed audience at Eastbank in Shepparton. We were very proud of their performances.

Later that evening we held the VCE solo music night at the Mooroopna Hub. It was a wonderful evening. Congratulations to our young VCE performers and Mrs Gibbs class.

The Intermediate Concert Band also played to students from Mooroopna Park Primary School on 3rd June. This gave them an introduction to the College's music program. The students loved watching the band perform.

*Ms Lindy Tennant*

## Junior School News

### Year 7 Preparation for Semester 2

Now is the time for Year 7's to start getting organised for the commencement of Semester 2. There is a change of subjects for all of the classes and the students will receive new timetables on the first day back of Term 3.

Over the course of first semester some students have lost pens, pencil cases, and planner, run out of lined paper and glue, exercise books and have folders that are broken. Can you please ask your son / daughter what they need replaced over the holidays to make sure they start the semester off on the right foot. Our focus over the first semester has been general organisation. It would help us greatly if you could make sure that your student has the basic equipment to be successful in class. All students are expected to take planners to class. A merit point system is included in the planner and students can earn points based on their performance in classroom. Towards the end of the semester merit points are collated and individuals are presented with certificates at a Junior School assembly. Planners are also used to record homework and up and coming events. They are also used by Year Level Co-ordinators as a method of communicating with parents. Please make sure that your student has a planner and that it is in 'working order'. Students can purchase new planners from reception. Planners are \$10 and locks are \$12.

*Thanks, Alicia Cornelius / Scoot Burton  
Year 7 Coordinators.*

## Head Lice

Last week the College had reports of students with head lice. As the holidays are approaching it would be an ideal time for all students to be checked for this condition. There are two treatment choices.

1. Chemical. Treat and comb to remove the head lice and eggs and repeat in 7 days.

2. Non-chemical. Use conditioner and fine comb to remove the head lice and eggs. Repeat every 2 days until no live lice have been found for 10 days. The following are helpful hints from a Department guideline.

1. Using the conditioner and comb method every week is the best way to detect head lice early and minimise the problem.

2. Tying back hair can prevent the spread of head lice. For more information visit [www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice).

## Families Matter

The next Families Matter meeting will be held on Monday July 13th at 9.15am in the MSC Boardroom, These meetings provide another opportunity for families and the school to work in partnership to support the well-being of young people. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. If you have any queries please contact Ruth O'Bree at MSC or Kim Payne (58254580).