

PATTERSON RIVER NEWS

Term 1 2009

Friday 13th February

House Swimming
Carnival, Pines Pool

Tuesday 17th February

Year 7 Parent
Information Evening &
BBQ

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th
February

Sharepoint Information
Sessions

Wed 25th, Thurs 26th & Fri 27th
February

Year 7 Camp

Friday 6th March

Student Photos

Monday 9th March

Labour Day Holiday
NO STUDENTS

Tuesday 17th March

Gardasil Yr 7 girls, Hep
B Boys and Girls

Mon 30th, Tues 31st March &
Wed 1st April

VCAL Camp Torquay

Wed 1st, Thurs 2nd & Frid 3rd
April

Year 11 Outdoor Camp
Wilson's Prom

Wednesday 1st April

Parent Teacher
Interviews



Principal's Report

Welcome Back To 2009

I hope everyone has had a great holiday and has been surviving the heat in the last few days.

We will start the new year fully staffed and ready to begin lessons day one. I would like to welcome back from leave Miss Kanakaridis and Ms Kloas and also new teachers to the College Ms Allan, Ms Kaur and Miss Jensen. We will also have a teaching and learning coach with us for the year Mr Von Vliet and also a VET Building & Construction staff member on Wednesday afternoons. Learning Support has also increased with two new staff members Ms Otto and Ms Hoadley.

Our student numbers at this stage are 1123 which is an increase on last year.



Welcome To All New Students And Parents

I would especially like to welcome all of our Year 7 students and parents and guardians to our community. The Year 7 numbers have also increased now at 242 giving us ten Year 7 forms. We also have had many enrolments at other year levels and I also welcome these students and their parents. We believe Patterson River is an excellent school where the staff work very hard to provide the best possible education for our students.

Tips For Helping Your Child Start Secondary School

- Get to know your child's teachers
- Work with College on enforcing its expectations and policies
- Let the staff know about your child's personality and any special needs or issues that they may have
- Always speak positively about going to school and don't allow your child to stay home unless they are ill
- Read the College Newsletter as all coming events are listed such as Parent/Teacher nights, information nights, etc. (**Newsletters are sent out every fortnight with one a month being mailed home and the other given to students**)
- Most importantly if you have any concerns contact the College so that it can be addressed. At Year 7 the first point of call is the Yr 7 co-ordinators or their pastoral care teacher.

Year 7 Parent Barbeque

On Tuesday 17th February we will be holding our annual Year 7 parent Barbeque at 6pm at the College. This barbeque is a social get together where students can introduce their teachers to their parents and also for parents to meet other Year 7 parents. It is always a great night. Year 7 parents will receive more information shortly

College Rules and Policies

I would like to take this opportunity early in the year to mention the importance of supporting our rules and understanding our policies. They have all been developed by discussions with the staff, College Council and student representatives and form the basis of providing a well ordered and stable environment.

It is vitally important that parents support these policies to ensure the good order of the College and our reputation within the community is maintained.

Students and parents who fight us concerning discipline matters or issues such as hair colour, styles and facial piercings undermine our authority and the good order of the College programs.

The College Council has the legal right to set rules which are then enforced by the teaching staff.

In joining our community you agree to abide by these rules!

Please ensure you are fully aware of our discipline and uniform policies so that we can work together to provide the very best education for your child.

2009 STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents are reminded that the Department (College) does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs, unless the injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of a Department or school council employee or volunteer.

Student accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare.

COLLEGE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

I am calling for nominations for parents who would like to be on the College Council and who feel that they may have the expertise and enthusiasm to contribute to policy making within the College.

Council and sub committees meet once a month on the third Monday starting at 6.00 pm and usually finishing before 9pm therefore it is not a large time commitment. It would be really great to see some

new faces especially from among our new Year 7 intake.

If you decide to stand for election, you will need to arrange for someone to nominate and second you.

There are 3 parent vacancies available –

PARENTS WHO WILL FINISH AT THE NEXT ELECTION

Adrian Dunstan

Neville Fisher

Susan Dickson

PARENTS WHO WILL CONTINUE

Geoff Crombie

Wendy Baker

Brigitte Collins

STAFF MEMBERS WHO WILL FINISH AT THE NEXT ELECTION

Carol Darma

Lisa Cavey

STAFF MEMBERS WHO WILL CONTINUE

Janet Mitchell

Michael Devine

Leigh O'Brien

Timeline:

Friday 11th February- Call for nominations.

Wednesday 18th February – Nominations close.

Thursday 19th February – Display list of candidates with nominator and seconder.

Wednesday 25th February – Distribute ballot papers.

Friday 6th March – Close of ballot.

Tuesday 10th March – Count votes and declare poll.

Monday 16th March – Annual General Meeting and new council meet.

Please find a College Council Nomination form at the back of this newsletter and information on College Council Election.

Parent Involvement 2009

We are aware that schools are a three way partnership between staff, students and parents. I have included a list of the main events during the year that parents can be involved at the College. Parents can of course contact the College at anytime to talk to myself or one of the staff. In this three way partnership it is important that everyone treats each other with respect.

Below is a list of activities parents are able to be involved in –

Term 1

College Council

Parent Barbeque

Sharepoint Introduction

Leadership Assemblies
Parent/Teacher Interview Night
Term 2
College Council
Production
Term 3
Principal's Commendations
College Council
Soiree
Parent Opinion Survey
Parent/Teacher Interview Night
Term 4
College Council
Dance Evening
2nd Hand Book Sale
Principal's Commendations
Presentation Night

Sharepoint Introduction for Parents

Want to know more about what your child is learning school? Want to have immediate access to the school calendar? Want to check if your child has any homework they're not telling you about? Come and attend one of the following Sharepoint Introduction sessions at the College; Monday 23rd 4pm, Tuesday 24th 6pm. Children welcome.

Medications

The College has a supply of paracetamol that may be given to students for minor pain with the written consent of parents/guardians.

Prescribed medication, which also includes hay fever and allergy medication, must be stored in the sickbay and a form completed by a parent/guardian before a staff member is able to administer the required dosage. Small amounts of the medication may be left in sickbay. Prescribed Medication forms are available from the office.

Personal Goods Brought to School at Owner's Own Risk

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY

Regular school attendance is a prerequisite for improved participation and educational outcomes and is the responsibility of everyone in the school and wider community. We know that students with

irregular and poor attendance often struggle at school and the value they receive from their education is greatly diminished as a result.

What is the responsibility of a parent/caregiver?

- Ensure your student attends school on ALL school days
- Ensure your student is on time every day

Make sure you:

- provide the school with an explanation if your child is away
- contact the school if your child does not want to go to school
- arrange doctor and dentist appointments out of school hours where possible
- arrange personal shopping trips with your son/daughter or birthday celebrations out of school hours
- do not allow your child to stay home for minor reasons eg **A HOT DAY**

Is regular attendance at school important? YES, from the first day.

- If your child misses the basic skills they can experience difficulties with their learning
- Regular attendance is essential to make sure learning is not interrupted and provides building blocks for the future
- Regular attendance helps build teamwork, communication skills and self-esteem

IT HAS BEEN PROVEN THAT THERE IS A DIRECT CORRELATION BETWEEN ATTENDANCE AND ACHIEVEMENT.

What can I expect from the school?

- Monitoring of student attendance on a daily basis
- Strategies to help you as a parent encourage your child to go to school

Must I send my child to school everyday? YES, unless:

- Your child is too sick or injured to go to school
- Your child has an infectious disease
- The Principal is provided with any other genuine and acceptable reason for absence

REMEMBER - Student absence fits into the following categories:

- ➔ Illness/injury
- ➔ Truancy - Your child is absent from school without your knowledge
- ➔ School refusal – Your child does not want to school, even though you have tried
- ➔ School withdrawal - Suspension
- ➔ Your child does not attend school with your permission instead stays at home to baby sit,

at home help in the family business or help at home or go on family holiday

YOU AS PARENTS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD TO BE SAFE AND MAKE INFORMED CHOICES. PLAY YOUR PART AND SEE THAT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS EVERY DAY.

SAVER PLUS MATCHED SAVINGS PROGRAM –

BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE

HELPING VICTORIANS SAVE

Saver Plus is a nationally-recognised program that pays people \$1 for every \$1 you save (up to \$1000) to help pay for education. By joining Saver Plus you could receive \$1000 to help pay for school items like computers, community activities, books and uniforms.

The program is Australia's first matched savings program, designed to help families achieve a savings goal, establish a long term saving habit and pay for education. It has been recognised by the government and received a Prime Minister's award.

To be eligible you must have:


- A child attending school in 2009 or 2010, or be intending to attend vocational training yourself in 2009-2010.
- A current health care card or pension card.
- Regular form of paid employment (yourself or partner).

Please contact Sandra Scott at Brotherhood of St Laurence on 87815937 or email sscott@bsl.org.au

Year 9-10 woodwork projects from 2008 – Final Notice

All middle-school woodwork projects are available to pick up now. If your son or daughter did woodwork last year and has not brought home a piece of quality furniture, chances are that it is still in our storeroom gathering dust and taking up valuable room. If it is not collected by the end of week 2 (Friday 13 February), it will be recycled for other projects. Please make the effort to collect your piece from Mr Dawes as soon as possible.

Library News



Victorian Premier's reading challenge

DON'T MISS OUT !!!
Participate in the program for 2009
See Mrs Bernardo or Mrs Mitchell (in the Library) to collect a consent form or return your consent form.

'PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE 2009'



'The Challenge's aim is to promote a love of reading. It is not a competition, but a challenge for each student.'

Participants in the Reading Challenge program experience an enthusiasm generated by the power of the 'imagination'. Additionally, it brings together students from various year levels and allows them to explore the colossal pool of literature available.

Students will be pleased with their success in meeting the reading challenge criteria.

Reading Challenge consent forms located in this newsletter can be filled out and returned to the Library by March 16th 2009 .

Take up the Challenge!

Patricia Bernardo, Carmel Huggard and Janet Mitchell

2009 Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

Don't miss out!!!

Students need to enrol online on <http://sofweb.vic.edu.au/vicprc>. (either at home or school) and complete the form below and return it to the Library or their English teacher by March 10

**Return to Mrs Huggard, Mrs Bernardo
(Library) or your English teacher.**

For Parents:

I give permission for my child:

.....**Form.....**
to participate in the 2009 Premier's Reading Challenge. I am willing to authenticate my child's reading and to verify each book completed. On completion of the Challenge, I consent for his/her name to be published in the Reading Challenge supplement of 'The Age'.

Signed:

Date:

VCE STUDENTS (and their parents!!)

If you want to keep abreast of current affairs VCE educational topics why not subscribe to the AGE. For 15 dollars for the year you can collect your paper from the library office, receive exclusive access to the AGE VCE ARCHIVE which is great for assignments and research. Logins will be received by e-mail. You also gain FREE ENTRY to The AGE VCE&CAREERS EXPO 2009 in April at Caulfield Racecourse. See the library staff for further details.

Units 3 and 4 students....
ARE YOU AWARE.....of some of the extra resources available to assist you in your studies. Go to www.warringalpublications.com.au to check out titles that could be of use in your selected subjects - Don't leave it to the last minute!!

Another fantastic resource is the Leading Edge Study Guides - www.hi.com.au/theleadingedge. These books contain tips for exams, revision notes, yearly planners, study techniques, practice exams and answers etc...The time to start is NOW!

'STATIONERY FOR SALE'

The Library also has a range of stationery available for purchase:

<i>Binder books</i>	<i>\$1.00 each</i>
<i>Display folders</i>	<i>\$1.00 each</i>
<i>Biros (blue/red)</i>	<i>50c each</i>
<i>Pencils (lead)</i>	<i>50c each</i>
<i>Rulers</i>	<i>50c each</i>
<i>Erasers</i>	<i>50c each</i>
<i>Exercise books</i>	<i>30c each</i>

Janet Mitchell, Teacher Librarian

MATHLETICS

This year all students from years 7 – 12 will be using the Mathletics computer program to improve their mathematics skills. Students will increase their mental arithmetic skills by competing against students around the world. Students will also complete practice tests in class and for homework so that they and their teachers can receive rapid feedback about their progress. Mathematical steps are also explained online. If you would like to find out more about this excellent resource go to <http://www.mathletics.com.au/> or speak to your child's mathematics teacher.

If you don't have the internet at home your child can complete mathletics homework in B4 at lunchtime on request or from 3 – 3:50 pm on Mondays.

Jenny Warren, Blaise Northey and Kathryn McDonald

Guide Dogs Victoria Sunday 1st MARCH 10am - 4pm

Open Day

Meet Wags the Dog and loads of our adorable puppies for Guide Dogs Victoria's annual Open Day. Sunday 1st March 10AM - 4PM

Located on Chandler Hwy, Kew (Melway 45B1)

Free Parking off site with shuttle bus service.

Meet Wags the Dog and loads of our adorable puppies for Guide Dogs Victoria's annual Open Day.

With Guide Dog demonstrations, live entertainment, giveaways, show bags, competitions and loads of fun activities for the kids, Open Day is a fantastic family day out.

Entry via gold coin donation

Visit www.guidedogsvictoria.com.au for full details and parking information or phone **9854 4444**

Sorry no pets allowed.

Howard Storage World Rebate

To assist with the College's fundraising efforts Howard's Storage World in Frankston have a program in place where the College will receive a rebate of 10% on all purchases made by the College community. Howards Storage World has a great range of storage solutions as well as great ideas for your kitchen, bathroom and laundry.

How it works –

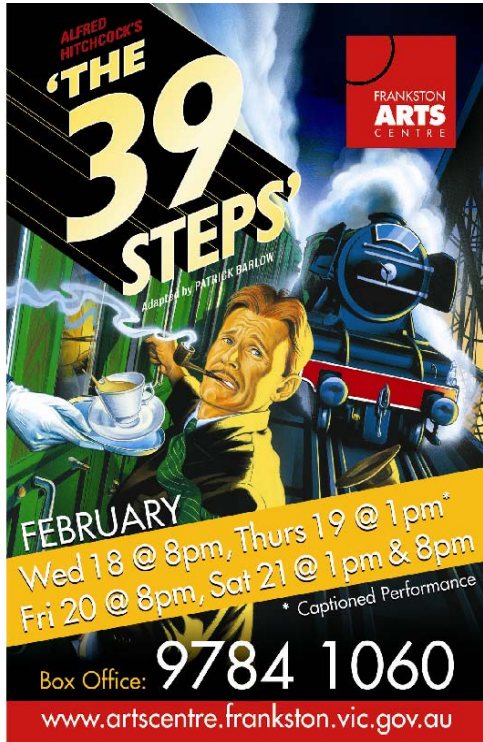
- Simply call into Howards Storage World
- Mention our College name when making a purchase

- Howard Storage World will send us a quarterly cheque for 10% of your purchases

Tell your family and friends to call in the store and mention our College when they make a purchase.

Howards Storage World is located on the ground floor at Bayside Shopping Centre Frankston, phone 97815899.

FRANKSTON ARTS CENTRE NEWS



PAID ADVERTISEMENT



New Year, New Body, New Life

First 30 people to contact Ryan at Fenix in Chelsea Heights will win a free 14 day Membership!
Increase energy, reverse the ageing process and start feeling younger TODAY!

9782 7200

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Carrum Patterson Lakes Football Club

PLAYERS WANTED

age under 9 to colts

Play for Carrum Patterson Lakes Football

Registration Days 17th and 23rd February

At Roy Dore Reserve Carrum

Information / Enquires 0413 539 323

Child Eczema Management Study

My name is Amy Mitchell, and I am from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) School of Nursing. I am conducting a study to examine parent management of childhood eczema.

Managing a child's eczema can be a difficult, frustrating, and time-consuming task for a parent or caregiver. I am seeking parents of children (aged up to 12 years) with medically diagnosed eczema to complete an online questionnaire about managing childhood eczema.

I am keen to hear from parents of children with eczema of any severity, from mild to severe. In recognition of their contribution to the study, participants will be entered in a draw to win one of five one-year subscriptions to the Eczema Association of Australasia, worth \$30 each.

Details about the study and how to participate can be found at the following website:

www.quteczemastudy.com

Alternately, please contact me on (07) 3138 3856 to request a printed information sheet and survey.

Thank-you!

Are the Bus Services in Kingston meeting your family's needs?

The State Government is presently reviewing all bus services in the Kingston/Bayside area in order to develop an improvement plan. This is a rare and important opportunity for the needs of the local community to be placed on the agenda. You are therefore invited to attend a community workshop in Chelsea or Moorabbin to ensure that your needs are raised and incorporated into the planning process:

Moorabbin Community Workshop

Monday 16th February 2009

6.30pm – 9.30pm

(venue details will be provided when you rsvp)

Chelsea Community Workshop

Thursday 19th February 2009

1pm – 4pm

(venue details will be provided when you rsvp)

Please RSVP to Sharon Rutherford on: 9221 1952 or email: sharon.rutherford@booz.com

Chelsea Community Centre

Our doors are now open and our first term has begun. We have a great program with a variety of activities including singing and dancing such as a fun Choir for all on Monday evenings, Marmont School of Dance featuring beginner Hip Hop classes for 9 to 12 year olds on Tuesday after school, Line Dancing on Wednesday afternoons, Tap Classes for Adults (tap shoes not essential) on Thursday evening and our Family Music Morning for pre-schoolers shall be recommencing Friday mornings on the 20th February. To find out more, check out our web site - www.chelseaheightscommunitycentre.com.au, visit us, ring for a copy of our brochure or enrol in our classes on 9772 3391.

