MOOROOLBARK COLLEGE

Volume 14, Issue 4

March 14, 2014

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Calendar 2014 - TERM 1
Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th March
Compass Parent Information Night

Monday 17th—Friday 21st March
Cultural Diversity Week

Tuesday 18th March
AGM College Council 7.00pm
College Council 7.30pm

Tuesday 25th March
Community Relations 4.30pm

Wednesday 26th March
Parent/Teacher Interviews 1.00pm—8.00pm
No scheduled classes, students to accompany parents/guardians to interviews.

Thursday 27th March
Yr 7 Girls/Boys, Yr9 Boys & Yr10 Girls/Boys Immunisations

Sunday 30th March—Friday 4th April
Year 9 Tassie Tour

Saturday 29th March—Thursday 10th April
Year 10 Central Australia

Tuesday 1st April
P.T.C.A. Meeting 7.00pm

Friday 4th April
Last Day Term 1—2.30pm finish

COLLEGE CAR PARK

The college staff car park off Ross Pincott Drive
Must not be used to drop off or pick up students at the start and finish of the school day.

The resulting congestion is presently a hazard to the students and also makes parking difficult.

Please drop your child off in the northern car park off Manchester Road or on the roads bordering the school and arrange to pick up in the same place.

The no standing sign on Manchester Road must be adhered to.

A reminder to parents/guardians that the speed zone around schools is 40kph.

Affirmation
‘All of us can become great people’
Les Brown

BULLYING WORKSHOPS

Mooroolbark College prides itself on having one of the best safety records in the state. One of the reasons for this is our outstanding bullying workshops we undertake with our Year 7 students is run by Mr John Nichol our Student Welfare Coordinator.

These workshops give the students the skills and knowledge about bullying, how to protect themselves and how to prevent it from happening. I highly recommend all Year 7 parents/guardians to talk to their child about the program.

VCE ART SHOWCASE

On Thursday 13th March the VCE Art Showcase was opened at the Mooroolbark Community Centre. I encourage families to take the time to visit in the next few weeks.

YEAR 7 STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Thank you to the Year 7 parents/guardians who attended the Year 7 BBQ held on the 5th March. It was a great opportunity for parents/guardians and teachers to meet and talk about the College and their son/daughter’s start to the school year. Thank you to the PTCA for their support in organising the night. I would also like to thank Adam Lorkin for his organisation of the night and the staff who attended, cooked, served and helped with the organisation.

EXPLORATION NIGHT

A reminder that our Exploration Night will be held on Thursday 8th May at 7.00pm. We invite current and new parents/guardians to come to our College and find out about the fabulous opportunities that are available to the students who attend our College. Students will be dismissed at 1.00pm

PTCA

The PTCA plays an important role in supporting the College through the coordination and organisation of key events. I urge all parents/guardians to be part of the PTCA as their support is critical to our operation of the College.

The PTCA had its Annual General Meeting on the 4th March. I would like to thank all who attended the meeting.

Congratulations to the following people who were elected to the following positions.

President: Debra Alsop
Vice President: Anne Woolley
Secretary: Mandy Hocking
Treasurer: Sharon Dymond

PTCA School Council Representative:
Linda Hill

General Committee:
Veronica Kennedy, Carol Wells, Beth Rose

Simon Reid
Principal

186 Manchester Rd, Mooroolbark, Vic 3138
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

On Friday 7th March, the school community celebrated International Women’s Day.

We were delighted to have Christine Fairy MP join us for an informal morning tea.

Christine outlined to staff the importance of recognising and supporting women across the globe. Along with our scones, jam and cream we also had a commemorative chocolate cake that was enjoyed by all.

Again we wish to thank Christine for taking the time out of her busy schedule to support our school once again.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Please note that Parent/Teacher interviews will be conducted on Wednesday 26th March commencing at 1.00pm and concludes at 8.00pm. Students are not required at the College but should accompany parents/guardians to the interviews.

Further information will be forwarded to you in regard to booking interview times with teachers.

Interim reports will be posted on Compass on Friday 21st March 2014.

LOCKERS

It is compulsory for all students to have a lock on their locker. We believe that by having a lock ensures the safety of their belongings.

We also recommend that mobile phones/iPads not be taken to PE Classes.

Thank you for supporting the College in this matter.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunisations forms have been distributed to appropriate students. Could you please sign and return as soon as possible.

Immunisations will be held on Thursday 27th March.

Lyn Godfrey
Assistant Principal

MYKI CARDS

Some of our bus drivers are reporting that there are a significant number of Mooroolbark College students failing to purchase or touch on & off their myki when travelling on buses.

It is important that students always touch on and off on every trip, even if they are using the pre-paid myki pass (weekly, monthly, quarterly, half yearly or yearly) as this information is used by Bus Lines in conjunction with Public Transport Victoria (PTV) to determine bus service levels.

Travelling without a valid myki is fare evasion & could result in the issuance of an infringement notice by Revenue protection officers.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE/AMBULANCE COVER

This is a reminder to parents/guardians that the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development does not provide accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. The cost of any medical attention or ambulance for a student will be borne by the parent/guardian. Parents are liable for all medical expenses incurred because of student injury, including transport costs such as ambulance or air ambulance costs.

FROM THE ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

Does your student have a Laptop or an iPad?

A reminder to parents you must pay a $30.00 connectivity charge in order for your student to gain access to the College WiFi.

Internet can still be accessed via the use of College laptops and desktop computers, but to have internet access on their own device this charge must be paid.

Payment can be made to the Student Administration office in an envelope (student name, home group and “WIFI Payment”) marked clearly on the outside, or to the General Office over the phone.

BPAY

If you are making a BPAY payment for specific charges such as camps, excursions, iPad programs etc. it is essential that you notify the College for each transaction to ensure that your payment is allocated to the correct charges on your account.

This can be done by either:
email – mooroolbark.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
Phone – 9727 8100
Fax – 9727 8188

By not notifying the College BPAY payments will automatically go towards the oldest outstanding invoice on your account. Please address all communication to Accounts Receivable at the College.

Ann Stratford
Assistant Principal

College Uniform Policy

Tattoos cannot be visible and must be covered at all times. In Victoria the legal age for a Tattoo is 18.

(Dept of Health; Regulations of tattooing and body piercing: Legal restrictions on tattooing in Australia.)
INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING

Mooroolbark College competed in the Yarra District Swimming Championships on Friday 7th March at Croydon Pool, coming a respectable 3rd overall out of the eight competing schools.

On the day our swimmers were wonderfully supportive of each other, especially in the Relays, where they won many Ribbons, which was a delight to all.

As the organizer I would like to thank the many individuals who offered to swim outside their specialty events to take the place of the VCE students who were unavailable on the day.

I would also like to thank Mr Lucas Unland who completed the duties of Starter for the day and Ms Laura Bevan who had the job of messenger and who provided support for the day.

Mooroolbark College had the excitement of having two of our competitors named as Age Champions in their age group.

They were Jennifer Ringer in the 17 Girls and Amy Learmont in the 20 Girls events.

Congratulations to Jennifer and Amy who will now compete at the Eastern Zone Finals on Monday 31 March at MSAC in Albert Park along with our other winners Kimberley Barkwith, Jorja-Shae Baker, Skye Godfrey and Paige Hiney.

INTERSCHOOL BADMINTON I

The Intermediate Badminton teams journeyed to Kilsyth to participate in the annual Round Robin event for Yarra District teams. Our teams enjoyed the matches on the day in both singles and doubles.

One of the teams had the excitement of making the Grand Final and finished a credible second on the day. The team consisted of: Daniel McCall, Daniel Miller, Braedon Dobie and Cooper Stevens.

All our teams were fine representatives, displaying determination with sportsmanship and developed new tactics through meeting such a variety of opposition players.

Keith Clapp
Sports Coordinator

MOOROOLBARK COLLEGE RUNNING GROUP

Are you ready to get fit and healthy for 2014?? Well you can, because the Running Group is back on for 2014, commencing at 7.30am on Tuesdays and Thursdays from the ECA Centre.

All participants, old and new must collect a new permission slip for 2014 from your House Office or home group teacher. Remember, that breakfast is provided every morning and it’s a great way to feel great and meet some new people across all year levels. All fitness levels are being encouraged to attend.

Any questions, please come and speak to Ms. Bateman in the Yellow House Office in X block. We look forward to seeing you there.

Katrina Bateman
PE/Health Education

FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

In the Arts we have an exhibition of work in the Ron Smith Gallery on an ever changing basis. Please feel free to visit and see the display of talented students who exhibit their works in varied media and materials.

We have a large number of very talented students in the area of Arts and we like to encourage them all to keep drawing and practicing their observational skills using different types of media on different materials. The more you do, the more you see.

Resources needed in the Art Department

As we move into the Digital Age, we in the Arts are still in need of the old fashioned resources and like to recycle goods. If you no longer require newspapers, magazines and clean margarine/ice-cream containers, please donate your goods to the Art department in DB Block. We would greatly appreciate the items as we use them for our classes on a regular basis.

Karen Ellis
Arts KLA Head

HEAD LICE

Head lice appears as an issue from time to time in all schools. Checking for head lice is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. I would appreciate it if you could undertake a periodic check of your child’s hair in order to contain any potential problem.

For further information go to the website: www.dermatology.svhm.org.au.

STUDENT CORNER

As soon as I walked into the school I knew it was going to be a very busy day. All I could see were people painted green, blue red and yellow. My eyes were a buzz. I enjoyed every moment of the swimming carnival. Green House finished 2nd by that much! We will get revenge next year.

Blake Spooner
Student 7E
2014 YEAR 7 STUDENTS
Feedback from Year 7 classes has been very good. Teachers are reporting a cohesive atmosphere and I have heard numerous reports of students supporting one another in many areas, including the use of compass, iPads and importantly embracing our inclusive culture.
We have emphasised the importance of some basic steps that are building blocks to academic success, one being the need to be organised and ensure appropriate equipment is taken to every class.
Compulsory equipment:
- A fully equipped pencil case,
- Paper/workbook
- Planner
- Text book where appropriate

When I visited Year 7 classes to check how they had settled in and to monitor compliance with bringing the appropriate material, I was thrilled with how organised, positive and pleasant our Year 7s were. I was particularly impressed with 7E, where every single student had every piece of required material. Closely followed by 7G which had just one student missing a single piece of equipment. So overall, excellent signs that our new group of Year 7s are keen to maintain our ongoing status as the top achieving public school in the Yarra Valley.
It was also extremely pleasing to see the incredibly high number of students nominate for the SRC elections. There were over 15 students who gave speeches to their house group promoting the positive contribution they would like to make to our College. Furthermore, the standard of the speeches that I witnessed were outstanding! Wonderful signs that the newest members to our College already want to be part of our community. Couldn’t think of a better place to teach!

Adam Lorkin
Transition Coordinator

How Can I Help My Child Do Better At Maths? Part One
Mathematics is a skill that needs constant practice in order to be proficient. Some might advocate that you can “learn maths on the job” or “they can use their calculator”. But if I was an employer, who would I chose? The person who can give change correctly and accurately to the customer, or the one who has to use a calculator, or, heaven forbid, their fingers to count? If I was in charge of a landscaping business, who would I choose? The apprentice who can accurately gauge the cost per square metre of lawn turf, or the one who has to say “Ummm…. I dunno?”. Sure, not all students are going to need to calculate a sine wave amplitude, but to be employable in this global economy, they need to be competent at the fundamentals.

The first sure fire to improve your child’s mathematical ability is to have positive conversations about maths. How often do I hear the phrase “Oh, I was never good at Maths….”? I never really tried in woodwork or metalwork when I was at school because my Dad used to say “Oh I was never good at building things”. Now I have to pay a fortune for someone to build a cabinet! What we say as adults influences our children. Change the attitude – get your child involved in the everyday mathematics. How much would a 10% discount cost? How will you rearrange your furniture in the house so none of the chairs block an entrance? If you add half a cup of flour and a quarter of a cup of sugar, how many cups is that in total? If you’re unsure, why not say “I wish I was better at Maths” or “I would love to know how …”.

Next Time: Part Two: Drilling the Basics

David Innes
Head of Mathematics

LIBRARY NEWS
Australian authors Alice Pung and Sue Lawson will be visiting the College on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March, respectively.

Alice Pung is a writer, lawyer and teacher. Born in Footscray, she is the author of Her Father’s Daughter and Unpolished Gem and the editor of Growing up Asian in Australia. Alice has received enormous critical acclaim for her writing with Unpolished Gem winning the 2007 Australian Newcomer of the Year Award in the Australian Book Industry Awards. Alice will give presentations to all Year 7 students and the Year 9 Writing for Writers class.

Sue Lawson on the other hand is an award-winning author of our Year 9 English text, Pan’s Whisper. Sue’s books have sold throughout Australia and overseas with students from schools Victoria and interstate discovering the joy and thrill of storytelling through her vibrant and energetic workshops. With almost 20 books to her name, Sue will be conducting these workshops with a select 90 students from the College.

Matthew Neil
Library Coordinator

186 Manchester Rd, Mooroolbark, Vic 3138
PARENT “HANDS ON” IPAD/COMPASS

Mooroolbark College is conducting iPad & Compass “Hands On” Sessions for parents and guardians of Year 7 and 10 students at the College over the next few weeks.

These sessions have been designed to be interactive and practical.

Each group will be limited to 15 participants to allow parents to thoroughly explore the iPad and the College’s new Learning Management System, Compass.

What will be covered?

Each session will start with “Compass” and parents can choose to stay for the iPad session if they wish.

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<th>Compass</th>
<th>iPad</th>
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<td>Checking the browsing history on an iPad</td>
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<td>Checking student attendance</td>
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<td>Loading and finding your child’s text books</td>
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<td>Finding work set by your child’s teachers</td>
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Dates and Session Times:

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<td>Monday 17th March 2014</td>
<td>6.30 pm – 7.30 pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 18th March 2014</td>
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To book go to ONE of the following links or via the Mooroolbark College website:


Bookings are essential and close at 9.00am on the day of each session.

What do you need to bring to your session?

1. Your child’s iPad with all login details.
   Or
2. iPads and computers will be available for our use.

Please note, if there is less than 5 participants booked for a session, parents/guardians will be contacted and asked to reschedule.
National Ride2School Day

Wednesday 19 March 2014 marks the eighth National Ride2School Day, where over 250,000 Australian children, just like yours, will ride and walk to school. It is a day about celebrating riding and walking and encouraging everyone to give it a go!

Not only is riding and walking a fun way to get to school, but it also contributes to your children’s daily physical activity needs.

Although some of you live far away, or have conflicting commitments that makes it difficult to ride and walk every day, even going by bike or foot for part of the way, or on some of the days is still great!

Be part of the fun and pop National Ride to School Day in your calendar now.

For more information visit ride2school.com.au

More people cycling more often

Level 4, 246 Bourke Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia PO Box 24013, Melbourne, Victoria 3001
p. (03) 8376 8888 f. (03) 8376 8800 freecall: 1800 639 634 (country callers) bicyclenetwork.com.au
Bicycle Victoria Incorporated ABN 41 026 835 903 ARBN 054 009 871 Reg No A0008607J
**THE MAD HATTERS TEA PARTY**

**Friday 21 March**
Talent Quest - 7.30pm

**Saturday 22 March**
Street Parade & Festival 9.30am-4pm

Red Earth Park & Mooroolbark Community Centre

For full details see [celebratemooroolbark.com](http://celebratemooroolbark.com)

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**RUGBY LEAGUE**

2014 Season Online Registration Now Open:
www.easternraptors.com.au

Boys & Girls: Ages from 5-16 years old
Born in years 2009 - 1998

Also seeking applications from Trainers, Team Managers and general volunteers

2014 Registration Day & Preseason Training:
23rd March - 12pm - 2pm
Colchester Reserve, Boronia

For More Information: 0421 154 776
Email: secretary@easternraptors.com.au
Visit: www.easternraptors.com.au
Visit: www.facebook.com/eastern.raptorsRLC

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186 Manchester Rd, Mooroolbark, Vic 3138
Wonga Park Wizards
JUNIOR FOOTBALL (SOCCER) CLUB
Registration Day 16th March

A New Season is Starting at the WIZARDS!!!!
• New players encouraged to join in the excitement!
• Competition places available - under 9 though to under 14
• Inter and intra club match play on Sunday mornings.
• Clinics and training for each age group.
• Clinic for the younger Wizards (under 7's) will be on Sunday mornings.
• Fun and exciting environment!
• Please visit our Website: www.wongaparkwizards.com for updated info.

When: Sunday 16th March 10.00am – 12 noon
Where: Wonga Park Cricket Club Launder's Ave, Wonga Park VIC 3115
Who: Boys and Girls aged 5 – 14 (Turning 14 in 2014)
Season Dates: Clinic and Home & Away: April to September 2014
Pre-season training commences March 2014

Enquiries: Robert Felicissimo: 0418 345 779

KILSYTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
GO COUGARS!!
NEW PLAYERS WANTED
SEASON 2014

Positions available in all teams
Under 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s & 15s
First Year Players to the Club receive
FREE registration

President: Danny Lamb 0419 348 669
Registrar: Bonnie Isbester 0411 406 443

Download our free APP now or check us out on facebook
kilsyth junior football club

Mooroolbark Junior Football Club
New Players Wanted
Positions available in U8, U10, U12, U13 & U14 age groups
Enquiries Call Craig 0411 868 435

Heathmont Jets Junior Football Club
2014 Player’s Required
Under 13 and Under 15 spots available
Register now.
For more information or to register now contact
John on 0422 417 229 or
Andrew on 0407 530 363

186 Manchester Rd, Mooroolbark, Vic 3138