



Brentwood Secondary College

Online Newsletter Subscription

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Principal's Report

There have been a significant number of changes taking place within education and at Brentwood in particular over the past six years. As we strive to better understand the process of learning and tailor our teaching and learning programs to produce better learners, change is one of the few constants in our lives. One of the key elements to improving is learning from one another – the identification of best practice and adopting those elements that will add value to our school and our students. To that end the Principal, Vicki Forbes, is currently on a study tour of the OECD in Paris and a number of schools in the UK. I am acting Principal in her absence.

With one week to go before the end of semester, change is the subject of this column.

On behalf of our College community, I would like to congratulate Steve Cook on his appointment as Principal of Box Hill Senior Secondary College. Steve took up the position of Assistant Principal at Brentwood in 2001. He has significant experience in the Principal class having previously been Assistant Principal at Warrandyte Secondary College. Steve has been instrumental in developing cooperative learning relationships between Assistant Principals in the Monash group of secondary schools, fostering improved communication between these schools. At Brentwood, he has led the student management team – the Year Level Coordinators and staff involved in managing student well being – and has overseen the development of the sub schools and significant changes in our approach to student discipline. Steve has also been Treasurer of School Council throughout his term at Brentwood, working with the Heads of Faculty and many different members of the school community. Steve has maintained his role

as a classroom teacher during his time at Brentwood, teaching VCE Legal Studies students and producing significant results among the student cohort. He has also found time to coach various football and cricket teams to success at a variety of levels in the interschool competition. The Brentwood school community's loss is Box Hill Senior Secondary's gain and we wish him the best for his new role leading the Box Hill Senior SC community from the commencement of Term 3.

I would also like to congratulate Peter Rhodes, the Head of Senior School at Brentwood, on his appointment to the new international school in the United Arab Emirate state of Sharjah. This new school's curriculum and school-building design has been based on the Victorian government school model and is being largely staffed by Victorian teachers. Over 700 teachers from Victorian government, catholic and independent schools applied to teach in the new school and Peter has been asked to help develop the senior program. Peter has previously taught at an international school in Dubai and will take up his appointment in Term 3 for a period of three years. As we shiver in the shroud of winter, we wish Peter and his family well for their new adventure on the edge of the desert.

The end of Term 2 will mark the end of an era for one of our much admired science staff, Fanny Soans, as she retires from the Teaching Service. Fanny started her teaching career over 40 years ago and in 2006 she received a certificate from the Department of Education, recognizing her 40 year contribution to teaching in Victoria. She has taught mathematics and science at Brentwood for the past 14 years, developing caring learning relationships with students from all levels. Her dedication to, and care for, her students is quite legendary with many past students

fondly remembering her classes. We wish her well in her new, but very busy, life.

One thought to end this column, we have just experienced the turning point in 2007 with the passing of the longest (and one of the coldest) nights - the days are getting longer.

David Shelton, Acting Principal

Last Day of Term Bus Arrangements

Would students and parents please note that due to recent changes in the Ventura bus lines policy, they will no longer send buses to accommodate the 2:15pm finish on the last day of term.

Students must make alternative arrangements for the early finish or wait until 3:05pm for their normal bus.

Steve Cook, Assistant Principal

Dates and Deadlines

25 June	Year 11 Central/Kakadu Camp departs World Challenge Expedition to Borneo Information Night 7.00pm School Council 7.00pm
27 June	Year 12 English Excursion District Sport – Junior
28 June	Year 10 VCE Intro
29 June	Last day of term, Reports distributed at 2.15pm.

Junior School

Year 8 Camp

I am pleased to say that we have had a great student response to this camp and the camp will go ahead on Sunday 2 – Thursday 6 December. Some places still exist for students wanting to attend this camp. Please see Mr Watts for another notice.

Year 7 & 8 School Bags

I would like to remind you that Brentwood school bags are compulsory for year 7 & 8 students and can be obtained from the uniform shop on Wednesday afternoons. These bags will be used throughout the student's time at Brentwood and are part of the school uniform code. Students who are unable to provide the Brentwood bag should bring in a note to the Coordinators to obtain a uniform pass.

Tony Watts, Junior School Manager

Year 10 News

Next Thursday 28 June all year 10 students will be required to attend a meeting either during period 1 or 2 in C Block. At this meeting the VCE structure for 2008 will be outlined and students will be given a CD with all relevant information. During the meeting students will also need to sign in to one of three course counselling sessions taking place early in Term 3. Students will need to pay careful attention to the student bulletin over the next week where further information will be given.

On Wednesday 18 July at 6.30pm-7.30pm the VCE team will conduct a parent information evening in the Hall. Extra information about VCE subjects will be given to parents and students. Parents and students will have the opportunity to ask questions of Faculty Coordinators, the Careers and Pathways Coordinator and the VCE Coordinators.

Camp

There are 3 places available for the year 10 Camp to the Gold Coast. Students wishing to come on this exciting adventure please see either Mr Exton or Ms Katz.

Bill Exton and Katrina Katz, Year 10 Coordinators

Computer Club for Girls

Female students in year 7 and 9 are invited to become members of a new computer club for girls (CC4G). This is an award winning out of school club designed especially for girls, to help develop their ICT skills and better equip them for their future working lives. CC4G has been developed in consultation with schools in the UK, and has been specifically developed for girls to learn in a safe, secure and supportive environment.

CC4G will commence in the second week of Term 3. Tuesday lunchtimes 12.40 to 1.16pm. Open to the first 25 applicants. Please email Mrs Crow if interested or to find our more – cro@brentwood.vic.edu.au.

Anna Crow, Teacher

Library News – The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

Victorian Premier, Steve Bracks says: "I am pleased to once again challenge Victorian students to read as a way of relaxing, and as a way of learning about people, places and ideas. No matter your age or reading skills, there is always something more to be discovered by reading."

The 2007 Challenge for year 7, 8 and 9 students is to have read 15 books by 31 August. 10 or more of the books must be from the recommended booklist. Steve Bracks will send a signed certificate to all students who meet this challenge.

The aim of the Challenge is to encourage students to read more and to read more widely.

To take part in the Challenge, make sure you see Ms Brudenell in the Library before 29 June.

The web address for The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge is:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/>

Ms Brudenell, Teacher/Librarian

World Challenge Expedition to Borneo 2008

Brentwood Secondary College is launching a very exciting School program for students to plan and then lead their own World Challenge expedition to Borneo in the summer of 2008. This expedition program will be presented to students Wednesday 20 June 2007 during period 4 and to parents and interested students on **Monday 25 June 2007 at 7.00pm.**

Brentwood Secondary College values this program having seen the development of students who attended the successful expedition to Vietnam in 2006. Students who participated in the program demonstrated improved communication skills, greater abilities at working with others and a better awareness of their own talents.

The program is offered to current year 9, 10 and 11 students and gives team members a unique opportunity to learn and develop team work, communication and leadership skills in a challenging and fascinating environment.

The presentation will be both informative, interesting and comprehensive, covering all aspects of the expedition such as its aims, safety, training and funding. I do hope that you will be able to attend. Please return the reply slip below to indicate your attendance. I look forward to meeting you there.

Cherie Dickenson, World Challenge Expedition Leader

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To: Cherie Dickenson
Brentwood Secondary College

I will be able to attend the World Challenge Parents' Presentation Monday 25 June 2007 at 7.00pm in C block.

Your Name: _____

Name of Student: _____

Number attending: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

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Congratulations

Hayley Kurz just recently competed at the Victorian Gymnastics Championships and placed 3rd overall. After the first day of competition Hayley was placed 1st, but due to falling off the uneven bars and completing the last apparatus with concussion she slipped a few places to 3rd. An extremely determined effort! Well done Hayley!

Kim Nash, Sport Coordinator

Canteen News

Mon: H Paterson, G Thompson, L Creighton,
I Yan
Tues: S Du Bois, S Barber
Wed: S Tighello, V Bourdakis
Thur: C Williams, L Bult, C Prossar
Fri: D Cragg, M Hayes

Thank you everyone.

Shirley & Carol
