



Brentwood Secondary College

Online Newsletter Subscription

Issue No. 3

23 February 2007

Principal
Ms Vicki Forbes
Assistant Principals
Mrs Barbara Laidlaw
Mr Leon Lilly
Mr David Shelton

Principal's Report

As you will remember from previous newsletters, our college community is very proud of the outstanding VCE results of our Year 12 Class of 2006 and each and every student is to be congratulated for their endeavour. Brentwood is not a select entry school. We take students from our neighbourhood and as many students who live further away as we can physically accommodate.

The dux of 2006 achieved an ENTER of 99.45 with 11% of the cohort achieving scores of over 95, 23% over 90, 27% over 88 and 42% of all students achieving an ENTER of 80 or higher. These are excellent results by any measure.

Another indicator of the success of our college is demonstrated by an analysis of the destination data for the Class of 2006. Students receive a great deal of assistance in planning for this phase of the transition from secondary school to adult life. The round of offers for tertiary places for our Year 12 Class of 2006 is now complete with 96% of students receiving an offer and 50% of the students receiving their first choice.

Destinations of Students

University	111	66%
TAFE	49	29%
Private College	6	3%
Apprenticeship	3	1%
Traineeship	1	0.4%

The most popular university is Monash (44) with equal numbers of students applying for Melbourne (20) and Deakin (20) universities. The most popular TAFE is Holmesglen (29) followed by RMIT (5).

During last year six of our year 12 students undertook university Enhancement subjects and their results count towards their ENTER. Our students each achieved excellent results with Credits, Distinctions

and High Distinctions. One student excelled.

Sahanika Ratnayake achieved the top mark for the history unit Jewish Civilisation. She was presented with a certificate and a cheque for \$500 by Professor Richard Larkins, Vice Chancellor of Monash University, at a ceremony held recently. Sahanika was popular and highly regarded by students and teachers alike during her time at Brentwood. This award is well deserved and the college community extends Sahanika our warmest congratulations.

Sahanika and Professor Richard Larkins, Vice
Chancellor of Monash University

Barbara Laidlaw, Assistant Principal

Watsons Road
Glen Waverley 3150
Victoria
Australia

Telephone 03 8545 0300
Facsimile 03 8545 0355
Email
bsc@brentwood.vic.edu.au
Internet
www.brentwood.vic.edu.au

Dates to Remember

26 February	Year 7 Camp 1 Begins 7A,B,C,D & E Monday – Wednesday District Swimming Sports Environment Sub Committee Meeting 5.00pm Education Sub Committee Meeting 6.00pm School Council Meeting 7.00pm
28 February	Year 7 Camp 2 Begins 7F,G,H,I&J Wednesday – Friday
1 March	Year 9 AIM Test
2 March	Year 9 AIM Test
6 March	Year 7 Chicken Pox and Hepatitis B -1 st Dose & Year 10 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis Immunisations
7 March	District Sport – Year 9 & 10
12 March	Labour Day – Public Holiday
13 March	District Sport – Year 8
15 March	Athletics Sports – Whole School

Early Leavers

Parents are requested to remind their children to submit 'early leavers' notes to their Year Level Coordinators before the school day begins. Students will be given an early leaver's pass which will then need to be presented to the general office before the student is permitted to leave the school. If there is an emergency and you need to collect your child please ring the general office staff who will then endeavour to have your child waiting for you when you arrive at the school. Please be aware that students are unable to be called during the day on the public address system except at recess and at certain times during the lunch break.

Leon Lilly, Assistant Principal

A Reminder to VET Students

All students and their parents must have paid the \$250 deposit for TAFE courses by next Friday 2 March. Late payment will prevent you completing the course. We appreciate your cooperation on this matter. The TAFE colleges will bill the school later in the term and you will then be informed of the total cost of the enrolment.

Margaret Stanley, Careers & Pathways Manager

World Challenge - Vietnam

Standing at Hanoi airport having our last team debrief and reflecting on how quickly the past month had just past us by, a strong feeling of fulfilment came over us all. It seemed like such a short time since April 2006 when eight students from Brentwood and seven students from Bayswater all met up for a weekend away at Kinglake for a training camp. Now we were standing at the airport facing the fact that this may be the last time that we would all be together again. We formed such strong friendships and many, many brilliant memories.

On 22 November we arrived in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam's south to start our expedition. Within the first two days we had visited the Floating Markets in the Mekong Delta, the Cu Chi tunnels and a war museum. The Cu Chi tunnels were absolutely amazing and were an overwhelming sight. This feeling stayed with us through the day as we visited the war museum. A seven hour bus trip then landed us in Dalat where we would undertake our Acclimatization Phase trek. Nervous and excited we set off to hike through the highlands of Dalat. Our physical challenge climb took us to the top of the 1700 meter Elephant Mountain. As we all shouted "*Aussie, Aussie, Aussie*" at the summit, a massive sense of accomplishment came over us all. We spent the night in tents and got up early for an elephant ride. Arriving safely back in Dalat we all rushed to have a shower.

Our next stop was Hoi An, the "town of many tailors' shops" kept us all amused and became the favourite destination of the whole team. We also visited 'old Hoi An' which is one of the towns that was not affected by the war. Moving on to Hue, we made an inspirational journey to Khe Sanh which blew us all away. We thought of Cold Chisel's song '*I left my heart to the sappers round Khe Sanh*'. Then we caught the overnight train to Hanoi. Happy to be back in the city, we went for a wander down to see Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum and managed to find our way to the Australian Embassy where we talked our way inside to meet the ambassador for a chat.

The next day we travelled on yet another train which took us to Sapa, where we started our trekking adventure. We had a day to explore the town and become acquainted with the very friendly locals and a few other World Challenge teams. On 6 December we started the main trekking phase of our trip through the highland valleys of Sapa. The trek was physically demanding but so much fun. We played games with the locals and had many photo opportunities to capture the beautiful scenery. Swimming in

waterfalls and bathing in hot springs were our much loved highlights along with an amazing performance from a local traditional dance group.

Arriving back in Hanoi on 11 December we all had a day to rest up and then start our community project at an orphanage for deaf children whose ages ranged from about 5 – 17 years. We painted and decorated eight rooms for the kids. Working with these children was an inspirational and rewarding experience that we will cherish forever. We brought them many gifts and they were absolutely blown away. I think we were their Santa for Christmas.

Our last three days in Vietnam were all about relaxing as we boarded a luxurious private boat for a cruise around Halong Bay for two days. It truly was beautiful. On 18 December we boarded our plane to come home to Australia where we were so excited to see family and friends again.

This was the adventure of a lifetime and each of the eight Brentwood students who participated would like to thank our teacher, Cherie Dickenson for being absolutely amazing company and for looking after us so well.

Teagan Couper, Year 11B

Community Corner

Knox Community Fun Run/Walk

March 12 2007 (Labour Day weekend)

Be part of the fun at the Knox Community Fun Run/Walk. Grab a showbag, have a massage and be one of the first to run down the newly constructed George St on to the Jells Park Bike Track. There are trophies in all categories and spot prizes for the walkers. All proceeds go to Compassion Australia and The Southern Cross Children's Camp.

Enter on-line at: www.citylifechurch.com/funrun

Email: world.impact@citylifechurch.com

Phone: (03) 9871 8300 Fax: (03) 9801 6926

Box Hill Rugby Union Football Club Inc

“Try Rugby Union” 4 week program will be held every Saturday in March at Sparkes Reserve, Cnr Middleborough and Canterbury Roads. For further information www.boxhillrugby.com.au or ring Sonny Uili, Director of Juniors 0425 835 456, Tony Laycock, Director of Rugby 0432 769 837 or Keith De Kretser, Club President on 0401 140 411

City of Whitehorse ‘Summer Music Series’

To be held on Sunday March 4 from 6.00pm – 8.00pm at the Blackburn Lake Reserve. Enjoy 19 musicians and vocalists for free including Mr John Wanner (one of our music teachers) with his band The JW Swing Orchestra.

An Invitation to Parents of VCE Students

The study of English is compulsory for Victorian Secondary students from Years 7 to 12. In VCE, students at Brentwood can undertake their English units in:

English
English as a Second Language (conditions apply)
Foundation English (Units 1 & 2 only)
Literature

Most importantly an English sequence must be included in the calculation of the ENTER.

In order to help our parents support their children with the VCE English studies, we invite you to meet with English, ESL and Literature teachers for an informal afternoon on Wednesday 7 March in C3 and C4 at any time between 3.15pm and 6.30pm. If you have any questions about courses, texts, SACs, your child’s progress and how you can help them achieve their personal best, please feel free to drop by at this time. Refreshment will be provided and siblings are welcome.

Please return the slip below to your child’s English teacher if you are planning on joining us. If you are unable to attend the afternoon, you are more than welcome to phone the English Faculty or email your child’s English teacher.

Fern Brisbane, English and Literacy Coordinator

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I, _____,
the Parent/Guardian of

_____ will be attending the VCE English Faculty afternoon on Wednesday 7 March.

Canteen News

New rosters will be distributed in the next few days. We look forward to meeting our new volunteers in March.

Mon: H Paterson, G Thompson, L Creighton,
I Yan
Tues: D Lawless, S Du Bois
Wed: S Tighello
Thur: H Fox-Harrison, L Gardner, N Rowe (L)
Fri: L Mossenton, B Seracino, N Whitfield

Thank you everyone.

Shirley & Carol
