



# Brentwood Secondary College

## Online Newsletter Subscription

Issue No. 13

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

Watsons Road  
Glen Waverley 3150  
Victoria  
Australia

Telephone 03 8545 0300  
Facsimile 03 8545 0355  
Email

[bsc@brentwood.vic.edu.au](mailto:bsc@brentwood.vic.edu.au)  
Internet  
[www.brentwood.vic.edu.au](http://www.brentwood.vic.edu.au)

### Principal's Report

#### Premier's VCE Awards 2008

The annual Premier's VCE Awards recognise students who have displayed exceptional achievement. Awards are made to students within a range of categories.

- The Top All-Round VCE High Achievers are students who have achieved study scores of 46 or higher in at least five VCE studies in the current year and the year immediately prior. In 2007 there were 32 students in Victoria identified as Top All-Round VCE High Achievers.
- The second category is the Three Best International Students studying VCE in Victoria on a student visa.
- The Best Ten Students in English are identified from students who have achieved a score of 50 and who are then ranked in order of merit according to their Individual English Graded Assessment.
- To be eligible for the award as one of The Best Ten Students in Mathematics, students must have results in both Specialist Mathematics and Mathematical Methods in the same calendar year, or to have undertaken one of these mathematics studies and university extension mathematics in the same year. The study scores are aggregated and the top students are determined.
- In LOTE, as there are so many languages taught in Victoria, the top ten students across all LOTEs are identified with only one award from any one LOTE Study.
- The final category is the Best Five Students in Other VCE Studies. To determine the recipients of a Premier's Award within a VCE Study, students with a study score of 50 are identified and the order of merit is determined by using the Individual Graded Assessment scores.

In 2007 one of our Brentwood students, Shahmani Avadiar, won a Premier's VCE Award for Geography. This is a particularly fine achievement as Shahmani was in year 11 last year and undertook Geography as an advanced placement. The awards ceremony took place on 22 May at the Palladium at Crown. Shahmani was accompanied by her family and her very proud Geography teacher Mr Cameron Baulch, who is Head of the Humanities faculty at Brentwood. The college community extends our warmest congratulations to Shahmani on so clearly achieving her personal best with this outstanding success. We also wish to acknowledge the contribution of her teacher, Cameron Baulch, to Shahmani's results, as it takes a teacher with expert skill and knowledge of a subject area, to be able to guide a student to achieve at such a level of excellence.

*Barbara Laidlaw, Assistant Principal*

## Semester 1 Reports

The second half of term two is always a time of peak activity in a secondary school. Students and teachers are busily working towards completing the many and varied assessment tasks that contribute to the students' reports which are distributed at the end of first semester. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of a sample report which explains to parents the sections the reports for students in years 7 – 10. A reminder to families that 13 June is Report Writing Day and students are not required at school on this day.

### Host Families Needed

We will be hosting a visit from our sister school in Japan, Ono Senior High School, from 1 – 12 August. This is a fabulous opportunity for Brentwood families to begin a friendship with a Japanese student and their family, to learn about their culture and share our culture with them. We try to match student's age and gender, and students can share a bedroom. Next year it will be our turn to travel to Japan and our hospitality will be reciprocated by families from Ono. If your family would like to host a student or you would like to discuss the Japan exchange program, please contact Mrs Lakshmi Weeraratne on the college number.

*Barbara Laidlaw, Assistant Principal*

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## Dates and Deadlines

02 June	Unit 1 Exams Commence Building Cooperative AGM 7.00pm
03 June	Year 9 Semester 2 Sign-up Year 10 VCE Parent Information 7.00pm
<b>09 June</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</b>
10 June	Unit 1 Exams Finish Year 10 Exams Commence Year 8 Semester 2 Sign-up Education Sub-committee 6.00pm Resources Sub-committee 7.10pm
11 June	Unit 3 Exams Commence
12 June	District Sport – Year 9
13 June	Year 12 GAT Report Writing Day
16 June	Year 10 Camp
17 June	District Sport – Year 7
23 June	Year 11 Central Trip School Council Meeting 7.00pm
25 June	Year 10 VCE Information Session Periods 1 & 2 District Sport – Junior
27 June	End of Term 2 Reports distributed, School ends 2.15pm

## Senior School Report

### Year 12 Theatre Studies

Congratulations to all the students who were part of the production of 'The Beach' on their performances last week. The show was a great success and all the students involved did an amazing job.

### VCE Change of Course Request – Year 11

Forms are now available for students in year 11 who may wish to change their course for Unit 2.

These forms are available from the Senior School Office and must be returned by June 11. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Mrs Fiona Erwich or Ms Narelle Wood for more details.

### Examination Period – Year 11

Unit One exams commence on Monday 2 June. Students are required to attend Unit 3 year 12 classes if they do not have an exam scheduled. Classes recommence Tuesday June 10.

### Examination Period – Year 12

June examinations are just around the corner. Students studying Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and/or Psychology should be summarising notes, revising topics and effectively preparing for these examinations. These exams are held on June 11 and 12. No classes will be running for year 12 students on these two days.

### GAT

All students completing a Unit 3 and 4 subjects are required to sit the GAT (General Achievement Test) on June 13. This is on the Report Writing Day and students MUST attend in FULL school uniform and must bring photo ID.

### Congratulations

The Senior School Team would like to congratulate past students Amelia Aslanides and Teresa La who were recognised as 'Stars of Science' on Wednesday 28 May at a function held at Monash University.

*Senior School Team*

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## Year 10 – 11 Parent Information Session

All parents are invited to attend the VCE 2009 Information Session to be held on Tuesday June 3 in the TLC Building. The evening will commence at 7.00pm and will cover VCAA (Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority) and VCE Administration requirements and subject information. This is an important information

session and Faculty Heads and VCE Coordinators will be in attendance to answer any questions you may have.

### *Senior School Team*

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## **Middle School Report**

We're gearing up for a busy time of year, especially for our year 10 students. The exams are almost underway - a reminder to students to check the location and time of your exams and ensure you arrive with plenty of time to spare.

### **Exam Timetable**

	<b>9-10.30am</b>	<b>11-12.30pm</b>
Tuesday 10 June	BLOCK B	ENGLISH
Wednesday 11 June	MATHS	BLOCK A
Thursday 12 June	BLOCK C	BLOCK D

Our Gold Coast camp leaves in just ten days time - we are as excited as the students! As there are only 80 students attending the camp, classes will be running as normal for the rest of the year 10 cohort. Any student who is absent during this time must bring a signed note to school on the following day, as usual.

The Alternative Pathways Evening was held this Wednesday. For students who were not able to attend or are interested in future options other than VCE, Mrs Stanley has a range of opportunities available. Students can visit her in the Careers room for further details on this or to help you plan your Work Experience (24-28 November). There are also places left for the TAFE-taster courses in Semester 2. These are a great opportunity for students to experience a range of TAFE courses before they commit to study a course. Please see Mrs Stanley for more information.

Our year 9 students have received their Semester 2 signup information this week. This process involves each student stating their preferred courses for next semester. Each student should have a booklet of course descriptions, a signup form and an explanation handout. These were due in today (Friday, 30 May), and must be submitted on Monday for the student's preferences to be taken into account.

The year 9 camp to Tasmania is booked for 7-12 December. We currently have 88 students attending, and the planning is well underway! Students will receive parent consent forms, medical forms and payment information next week. We urge parents to return these forms ASAP, as without them we unfortunately cannot

take your child with us on camp. As with our year 10's, most of the cohort are not attending camp, and as such are expected to be here for this week.

### *Middle School Team*

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## **Bullybusters Year 7**

This week, all year 7 students, in their TLC classes, participated in a workshop called *Bullybusters*. In these sessions, students discussed the various forms of bullying, explored why it happens, and became familiar with the action they can take if they are being bullied.

Students should feel confident to approach any teacher, especially their homeroom teacher, year level coordinator or member of the Wellbeing team to report any incident of bullying.

The students were exceptionally responsive, contributing intelligently and sensitively to the important issue of ensuring the well being of all school members.

In the next few weeks, students will complete a confidential survey asking them a variety of questions about their personal experiences at Brentwood, in order for us to continue to ensure that all students feel safe and are treated with courtesy and respect.

At the back of this newsletter, you will find a copy of "Our approach to dealing with bullying within the school community". Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the policy and procedures.

If you have any concerns that you would like to discuss, please contact me on the school number.

*Leigh Wright, Student Wellbeing Coordinator*

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## **The Environment and Brentwood**

The Brentwood Green Team would like to encourage everyone to become environmentally friendly. With these small actions anyone can take, we can all help create a cleaner environment for everyone to enjoy.

1. Turn your unused appliances off at the power point and cut your emissions by about 5%. Leaving TV's and other electronics on "stand-by" wastes energy.
2. Save trees and water and reduce greenhouse gas emissions every time you use the toilet by buying toilet tissue made from recycled paper.
3. Dry your clothes outside on the line or inside on a clothes horse. Electric dryers generate

more than 3 kilograms of greenhouse gas for every load.

### ***Brentwood Green Team***

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## **Missing: Sport Uniforms**

With interschool sport competitions, some teams must wear sports tops with numbers and special coloured sports socks. Brentwood provides these tops and socks. However, sometimes students wear these tops/socks home instead of handing them back to the teacher in charge at the end of the day. Could all tops/socks/shorts please be returned as soon as possible so we have complete sets. Thanks for your cooperation.

***Kim Nash, Sports Coordinator***

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## **District Cross Country**

This year we had a fantastic day weather wise for the Waverley District cross country carnival at Norton's Park. Brentwood had a large number of enthusiastic runners for each event and some of our students won medals in their events -

Gold Medals	Emily Alexander, Lachlan Mann
Silver Medals	Chris Birthisel, Beth Alexander, Callan Burns
Bronze Medals	Erick Bakhaazi, Nick Richards, Sarah Vong

I am still waiting on the official results from our District Secretary, so further results will be published next week.

***Kim Nash, Sport Coordinator***

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## **Sports Round Up**

### **VSSSA State Championships**

Brentwood's star intermediate softball team competed at the VSSSA State Championships last week at Jells Park.

After a rocky start in our first match against Kambrya the girls were playing a catchup match all the way and we managed to draw 8-8. The second match against Ballarat High School was an easy win 20-4 but the girls seemed flat and unmotivated. After our scheduled lunch break and our 'crump off' (dance) with the Chaffey girls our spirits were lifted and we need to win this match to play off in the grand final.

The girls knew they had to play some of their best softball and it was an extremely close match. After the 1<sup>st</sup> innings we were 3-1 down. The 2<sup>nd</sup> innings no one scored and we were still 3-1 down.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> innings Brentwood scored 1 and were now 3-2 down. In the 4<sup>th</sup> inning Brentwood & Chaffey scored 1 run each and the score was 4-3 down. In the 5<sup>th</sup> Brentwood scored 1 run to equalise it at 4-4, but then Chaffey came in to bat their 5<sup>th</sup> innings and scored 5 lucky runs to eventually win 9-4. It was a great match to watch.

Well done girls!

### ***Team Members***

Kate Attwood	Candice Carter
Charlotte Rowe	Clare Tomlin
Gemma Matchett	Jenn Elphinstone
Kat Stoop	Micah Ropata
Natalie De Luca	Paula Mann
Rachael Thompson	Tayla Burns
Tegan Bisset	

***Kim Nash, Sport Coordinator***

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## **Community Corner**

### **Enter the Game Zone!**

Are you crazy about computer gaming? Join Jamie and Jason from Melbourne C31's Level 3 TV show while they blab on about what's happening in the industry. Find out how young people are leading the design engineering, art and production of games and how you can get involved. To be held on 18 June 2008 at Clayton Library, Cooke Street, Clayton, 7.00pm – 8.15pm. Bookings essential on 9544 0668. Free event.

### **Student Exchange Australia**

This evening gives students and families the opportunity to learn more about becoming an exchange student and the various scholarship options that are available.

When: Wednesday 11 June 2008  
Where: Radisson On Flagstaff Gardens  
380 William Street, Melbourne  
Time: 7.30pm

For more information ring 1300 135 331 or [www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au).

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## **Canteen News**

Mon: M. Yegorian, J. Hadaway  
Tues: Q. Diao  
Wed: J. Lindrea, A. Pygall, L. Mossanton (L)  
Thur: L. Airey, J. Stebbins, H. Fox Harrison  
Fri: B. Seracino, N. Whitfield, M. Kocsis

Thank you everyone.

***Shirley & Carol***

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