



Brentwood Secondary College

Online Newsletter Subscription

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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
Internet
www.brentwood.vic.edu.au

Principal's Report

Over the past two years teacher professional learning at Brentwood has focused on VELs, the explicit teaching of 'Thinking' and the variety of ways that teachers can assess students' thinking skills. The staff have been encouraged to adapt the strategies developed by the teachers in the year 7 TLC to teaching and learning higher up the school thus giving students the opportunity to build on their skills. Darryn Kruse has led three professional development sessions with staff over the past 12 months. The aim of these sessions has been to make thinking visible for our students with teachers encouraging the use of simple tools and techniques which then become routine for students.

The Curriculum Day last Friday was facilitated by Karen Green, a curriculum consultant who has been a classroom teacher, a special education teacher and a lecturer in teacher education. Karen built on the work that the staff had been doing with Darryn. She made links between the use of thinking tools in the classroom and the many ways in which teachers can specifically develop students' non-fiction writing skills.

She approached the day from the senior end of the school and guided faculties through activities which highlighted the wide variety of writing tasks that students need to be skilled at to successfully complete their VCE. Teachers started by comparing the 2007 year 12 examiners' reports in each subject which are written independently by the Chief Examiners of each Discipline. There were a surprising number of common mistakes that students make which, if rectified, could readily improve their marks in the exams. Karen then worked with faculties on the ways that teaching non-fiction writing in VELs links with writing tasks in VCE. Faculties were encouraged to identify the

language and terms that are specific to their subject. Karen suggested methods that teachers can employ to encourage students to develop their use of this terminology. The feedback from staff was very positive as Karen is both a stimulating presenter and has a practical approach to strategies that can be readily used to improve students' written work.

Parents and students would be aware from previous newsletters that the college is currently undertaking a Negotiated Review. Having worked with our staff for the past year, Darryn Kruse has agreed to be the critical friend for the Student Learning section of the review. Last week he presented his reflections on the school accountability data to school council and he spent a day in the school visiting classrooms and speaking with teachers and student focus groups. He will return to the college in late October to present his observations to the college leadership team. Earlier this year Roger Dingle, a psychologist and consultant in Organisational Health, spoke with the staff regarding Brentwood's accountability data. He has also agreed to act as a critical friend for the school review and will reflect on leadership and staff development. Both of these people are accomplished in their fields of expertise. The insights they bring to our Negotiated Review will be very valuable as we develop the Strategic Plan for the college which will chart our direction for the next four years.

Barbara Laidlaw, Assistant Principal

Student Scholarships

Student Scholarships are advertised by the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development but administered by individual trustees.

All scholarships can now be viewed on the scholarships website at www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships and online scholarship applications will be accepted commencing in late November 2008.

A list of these scholarships can be collected from the general office. Students need to apply directly to the trustees for these scholarships.

Injections

The final session of injections for the year will be held this Thursday morning 16 October. It is imperative that students complete the sequence of injections to maximise their immunity. The year levels involved are:

- Year 7 boys & girls: Hepatitis B
- Year 7, 9 & 10 girls: Gardasil

If a student is absent parents are asked to contact the Monash City Council Health Services on 9518 3539 or 9518 3540. The immunisation schedule is also available at:

<http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/services/immunisation-timetable.htm>

Barbara Laidlaw, Assistant Principal

Second Hand Books

I am sorry to inform you that due to the increasing size and complexity of the school, it is no longer possible for us to facilitate a second hand book sale as we have done in the past. In recent years, the sale has been managed by Jan Smith from our Office staff and Gordon Claney our ICT manager, with a host of student and parent workers and volunteers. It has been a mammoth undertaking and its sheer size is the major reason we can no longer maintain this service. I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff members Jan Smith and Gordon Claney in particular as well as the parent volunteers and student workers for their efforts in providing this service.

Our book supplier, Endeavour Books, offer a second-hand book trade-in service during December for books purchased from Endeavour.

Details are available from their website www.endeavourbooks.com.au and click on "School Services Secondary".

David Shelton, Assistant Principal

Enhancement Studies Monash University

Year 11 students completing a year 12 subject this year and interested in studying a subject at University level are reminded to attend the Information Evening on Wednesday 15 October at Monash University. Four new subjects have been added for 2009. These are Behavioural Science (Psychology Prerequisite) Biology, Criminal Justice (Legal Studies Prerequisite) and Geography.

See Mrs Stanley for further details.

Margaret Stanley, Careers

Middle School News

Welcome to term four to all parents and students. The year 10 students have a busy term ahead of them as they prepare for the second semester exams. To assist students with their exam preparation we have invited a guest speaker, Declan Fay, to the college. Year 10 work experience is scheduled for week 8 and it is hoped that by next week all students will have finalised their placements. If any student has not picked up their Work Experience forms they need to be collected from the Careers/Pathways Coordinators, Mrs Stanley and Mrs Oliver - ASAP.

Families are asked to take note of the following dates:

- 14 October: guest speaker Declan Fay for year 9 and year 10
- 17 – 19 November: year 10 exams
- 20 – 21 November: year 10 return to normal classes
- 24 – 28 November: year 10 Work Experience
- 1 – 3 December: year 11 2009 course confirmation interviews
- 3 December: year 10 Dinner Dance
- 4 – 5 December: year 11 2009 orientation classes
- 7 December: year 9 camp departs

Year 10 students are required to attend a 2009 course confirmation session and year 11 orientation classes.

Year 10 students have been invited to the annual Dinner Dance to be held on Wednesday 3 December to celebrate their graduation from Middle School.

A reminder to year 9 students that camp payments should be finalised this term as camp departs Sunday 7 December.

If any student is not returning in 2009 could you please notify your coordinator as soon as possible as planning for 2009 classes is well under way.

Middle School Team

Subject Selections – Year 10 2009

In the first week of this term current year 9 students were given information regarding the selection of subjects for year 10, 2009.

This week, students will be entering their subject preferences for 2009 onto the College Intranet.

A copy of the 2009 year 10 Curriculum Handbook has been placed on the College website.

Student preferences are an important factor in determining which subjects are offered to Year 10 students next year. It is hoped that students and parents have discussed the subjects on offer and read the given information carefully.

Students will find out later on this term which subjects they have been enrolled into for next year.

If you have any queries regarding the Sign Up process, please contact Mr Mark Oudshoorn on 8545 0354 or oud@brentwood.vic.edu.au

Mark Oudshoorn, Sign-Up Coordinator

Year 10 PEP Day

On Friday 24 October all year 10 students will participate in a Personal Enrichment Program at school.

This is a whole day set aside where students will be involved in workshops based upon issues of physical, emotional and social well-being. It is anticipated that the day will provide a strong, optimistic message about healthy choices and resilient living to our students. It will feature a play “Love Drunk” that addresses issues relevant to young people.

A charge of \$2.00 per student is necessary to offset the costs of play performance. This is to be

paid to the Homegroup Teacher by Monday 20 October.

The only thing students need to bring on the day will be a pen.

Leigh Wright, Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Author Presentations

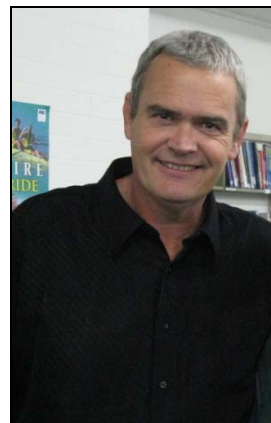
Our third Author visit took place on Tuesday August 19 with Barry Jonsberg giving a presentation to the year 10 students. When Barry asked for a volunteer, Calvin Chan of 10B was chosen. Barry gave Calvin a tea towel and a stocking and left a fry pan sitting on a table. The reason for these props became clear when Barry did a reading from his book ‘*It’s Not All About You, Calma*’. Calvin’s segment was a highlight of the presentation.



Barry Jonsberg with a student

Barry talked about foreign publications of his book ‘*The Whole Business With Kiffo And The Pitbull*’. He was amazed when one of his audience said that she had read the French translation.

Roxane Kreuter of 10E [our Swiss exchange student] gave the following feedback.



Barry Jonsberg

“I was fortunate enough to be able to meet Barry Jonsberg. During his visit to Brentwood he spoke to us about his books and how his ideas came about for different stories. It was a surprise for me because I didn’t realise that I had actually read

one of his books before, 'The whole business with Kiffo and the pitbull' but in French! I really enjoyed his visit and he was a funny and entertaining speaker. I enjoyed reading "Kiffo and the pitbull" and I am now looking forward to reading more of his books, this time in English!!"

The final Author visit for 2008 was on Wednesday October 8 when Michael Pryor gave a presentation to the Year 7 students.

Here are some examples of student feedback about Michael's presentations.

From 7I

"I thought it was a very humorous presentation and learnt more about writing."

"I really felt interested about his books now, so I decided to borrow some and try them out."

"He was funny and I enjoyed his horror story."



Michael Pryor

From 7F

"I didn't know about doing so many drafts."

"Got audience involved and asked for feedback."

"Using anecdotes about yourself and others as ideas for characters of school stories."



Michael Pryor with a group of Year 7 students.

All of the author presentations were enjoyed by the students and the staff who attended.

Thanks to all of the Brentwood staff who contributed to the organisation involved in the

presentations. Special thanks to Ellena Orologas 10G and Seb Purcell 10H for thanking Barry on behalf of the year 10 students and to Jayde Viccars 7I and Anthony Verity 7D for thanking Michael on behalf of the year 7 students.

James Moloney Excursion

Students from years 8, 9 and 10 participated in the 2008 Premier's Reading Challenge. A reward for meeting one of the PRC targets was an excursion to the Glen Waverley Library to hear James Moloney speak on Wednesday 20 August.

The city of Monash has an annual Literature Festival. This year James Moloney was one of the presenters on the special Schools' Day Out, an event that celebrated Children's Book Week. The students enjoyed the presentation that James gave. Thanks to Mrs Bainbridge for encouraging her year 9 EN404S2D class to take part in 2008 Premier's Reading Challenge and for accompanying me on the excursion.

Some student feedback:

"James was an inspiring speaker." "It was interesting hearing how he writes books."



James Moloney Year 8 & 9 PRC students



James Moloney Year 8 & 9 PRC students

Margaret Brudenell, Teacher/Librarian

Monash Police Service Area

Youth Personal Safety Program

All year 9 students at Brentwood Secondary College are very fortunate to be given the opportunity to participate in a new *Monash Police Service Area - Youth Personal Safety Program* during Term 4.

This program will be conducted by Victoria Police Officers. Leading Senior Constables Debbie Day and Amanda Fahey are the Victoria Police Monash Youth Resource Officers who will be conducting four sessions in our school focusing on topics such as:

- alcohol and drugs
- laws and young people
- safe partying
- drink spiking
- skills on avoiding being a victim of crime
- acceptable public behaviour

The first three, one period sessions, will be conducted in the class room and delivered separately to each homegroup, commencing this week. The fourth concluding session will be held in the evening, where Year 9 parents will be invited to attend with their children.

The Youth Resource Officers will co-ordinate and present at this evening session, along with various other health professionals and agencies such as City of Monash Youth and Family Services, Eastern Drug and Alcohol Service, Ambulance Victoria paramedics, and Hawthorn Football Club players. This night is set down for Wednesday 5 November, at 6.30p.m, so book this important date into your diaries now.

Brentwood are piloting the *Monash Police Service Area - Youth Personal Safety Program*, and we are really happy to have formed a partnership with our local police officers and be part of this new and valuable program being presented to our students. The program has a positive shift towards targeting and supporting our students and their families to be safer within our community. It is aimed at reducing the risks associated with alcohol and drugs, and promotes healthier alternative behaviour and personal safety for young people.

Leigh Wright, Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Community Software Plan Plus

Brentwood is participating in the CSPplus (Community Software Plan Plus). This expanded version of the CSP explains the benefits of the new Federal Government 50% Education Tax Refund for your family and gives an opportunity to harness it for our school community. The new leaflet contains a wide range of educational computing resources including notebook computers, printers, accessories and great new software titles. This leaflet was given to students this week.

Brentwood has purchased software from EdAlive to run the CSPPlus.

Please return your orders to school by 24/10/2008.

Gordon Claney, ICT Manager

Community Corner

Yarra Valley Tourist Railway

The Halloween Ghost Train

Friday October 31 & Saturday November 1

Trolley rides \$22 or \$18 conc. Dinner & trolley ride \$38 or \$32 conc. Dinner & ride start at Friday 8.00pm and Saturday 7.00pm & 8pm. Trolley ride only leaves 10pm & 11pm. Children U12 parent's discretion. Not recommended for U5 yo. For bookings or more information call Patricia on 0400171657.

Glen Waverley Primary School Market Night

Friday 24 October 7.00pm – 9.30pm at 774 High Street Road, Glen Waverley. Gold Coin Donation on entry.

Canteen News

Mon: S Newsom, J Smith, V Mason
Tues: N Paravitana, M Levey
Wed: S Tighello, L Bult, M Hollingworth
Thur: C Williams, C Prosser
Fri: C De Fry, R Attwood

Thanks everyone

Shirley & Carol

Brentwood Secondary College

CALENDAR TERM 4 2008			
Week	Day	Date	College Program
1	Monday	6 October	Term 4 Commences
	Tuesday	7 October	School Council – Review Meeting
	Wednesday	8 October	VCE Music Night
	Thursday	9 October	Year 12 October Tests Commence
	Friday	10 October	Whole School PD – Student Free Day
2	Tuesday	14 October	Education Subcommittee Meeting 6.00pm Resources Subcommittee Meeting 7.10pm
	Wednesday	15 October	Year 12 October Tests Finish TST2 Dress Rehearsal
	Thursday	16 October	Year 7, 9, & 10 Injections TST2 Performance
	Friday	17 October	Year 10 Course Preferences Due TST2 Performance
3	Wednesday	22 October	School Assembly - Year 12 Last Day Valedictory Dinner
	Friday	24 October	Year 10 PEP Day
4	Monday	27 October	School Council 7.00pm
	Friday	31 October	Year 12 Exams Commence
5	Monday	3 November	Curriculum Day
	Tuesday	4 November	Melbourne Cup Day
6	Tuesday	11 November	Education Subcommittee Meeting 6.00pm Resources Subcommittee Meeting 7.10pm
	Wednesday	12 November	Year 11 Study Day Junior Music Night
	Thursday	13 November	Year 11 Exams Commence
7	Monday	17 November	Year 10 Exams Commence
	Wednesday	19 November	Year 10 Exams Finish Year 12 Formal
	Thursday	20 November	Year 11 Exams Finish
	Friday	21 November	Year 12 Exams Finish
8	Monday	24 November	2009 Year 9 Sign Up Year 10 Work Experience Week Year 11 to 12 Course Confirmation School Council 7.00pm
	Tuesday	25 November	Year 11 to 12 Course Confirmation Year 8 2009 Information Night
	Wednesday	26 November	Year 9 Maths Test Periods 5/6 Year 11 to 12 Orientation
	Thursday	27 November	Year 11 to 12 Orientation Year 11 Formal
	Friday	28 November	Report Writing Day
9	Monday	1 December	Year 10 to 11 Course Confirmation
	Tuesday	2 December	Year 10 to 11 Course Confirmation
	Wednesday	3 December	Year 10 to 11 Course Confirmation 2009 Year 8 Sign Up Year 10 Graduation Dinner
	Thursday	4 December	Year 10 to 11 Orientation classes Peer Support Training
	Friday	5 December	Year 10 to 11 Orientation classes Peer Support Training
10	Monday	8 December	Year 8 & 9 Camps Year 7 2009 Information Evening
	Tuesday	9 December	Year 7 Orientation Day
	Friday	12 December	Year 7 & 8 Last Day of Classes
11	Monday	15 December	Activities Program VCE Results to Students
	Tuesday	16 December	Activities Program Presentation Night
	Wednesday	17 December	Last Day of School Finish 2.30pm Reports Handed Out
	Thursday	18 December	Environment Day
	Friday	19 December	Environment Day

