



# Brentwood Secondary College

## Online Newsletter Subscription

Issue No. 11

15 May 2009

Acting Principal  
Mrs Barbara Laidlaw  
Assistant Principals  
Mr Gordon Claney  
Mr Leon Lilly  
Mr David Shelton

### Principal's Report

This week, students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in over 9000 government, Catholic and independent schools across Australia completed the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The five tests covered Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and two maths tests. The testing program has been conducted so as to cause the least disruption to the school's learning program. The results of the NAPLAN testing program will be provided to parents in individual reports for each of their children. The results must also be used by government schools in the annual reporting process to their school community, with school aggregate comparisons against national standards.

All personal information collected is used in accordance with the *Privacy Act 2000*. The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) collects information on students undertaking the tests in order to report to the Commonwealth and State governments on student performance. No individual student is identified in these reports. The individual reports to parents will be distributed later in the year and as a guideline, in 2008 parents received the individual reports in September following the testing program in May.

Last week, over 90 students spent Friday and Saturday at a performing arts camp in Gippsland, planning, workshopping and rehearsing for the Rock Eisteddfod. Planning has also commenced for the production for 2010. The additional voluntary time put into Brentwood's co-curricular programs by a significant number staff provides extraordinary opportunities for our students, giving them the chance to succeed within a broad range of activities and encouragement to succeed in their academic studies. This is a significant commitment by the school and the staff involved to provide these

opportunities and on behalf of the school community, I thank the staff for their commitment.

Finally, I seek your assistance. When your son or daughter is ill, please do not send them to school. Schools are, by their nature, places where people are in close proximity to one another and the chance of spreading disease is high. A sick child sent to school because the parent is working, puts everyone else at risk. The sick bay at the school is not large and its operation is dependent on parents being able to pick up their sick child and take them home. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

*David Shelton, Assistant Principal*

### Dates and Deadlines

18 May	Year 9 & 10 Sport
19 May	Year 12 Theatre Studies
20 May	Year 12 Theatre Studies
21 May	Year 12 Theatre Studies
22 May	Year 12 Theatre Studies
25 May	School Council 7.00pm
27 May	Year Level Assemblies
28 May	Year 11 Study Day
20 May	Year 7 Badminton
	Unit 1 Exams commence
2 June	Year 8 Sport
4 June	Year 8 Badminton
5 June	Unit 1 Exams finish
	Year 10 Exams commence
8 June	Queens Birthday Public Holiday
9 June	Unit 3 Exams commence
	Education Committee 6.00pm
	Resources Committee 7.10pm
10 June	Science Competition
11 June	GAT Test – All Unit 3 & 4 students
12 June	Report Writing Day

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## Privacy Awareness Week

As part of Privacy Awareness week (3-9 May). Privacy Victoria launched an online animated video for young people to alert them to the dangers of the naïve use of social media. Brentwood was chosen to be the launch school for this video and on Wednesday 6 May we hosted the Victorian Privacy Commissioner, Helen Versey, members of her staff and a leading cyber safety expert, Robyn Treyvaud.

The year 9 students, who were the audience for the launch, listened to presentations explaining the importance of privacy protection and all took away with them the important message from the campaign, "Think before you upload.....once it's out there, it's everywhere" In addition to the speeches given by Helen Versey and Robyn Treyvaud, we were all very proud of Amira Slim, one of the year 9 students who confidently presented to the audience her thoughts on "the Importance of Privacy".

Thank you to the parents who attended the launch. Well done to Amira and congratulations to all the year 9 students who were involved, for your exemplary behaviour.

*Suzanne Plant, Head of Junior School*

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## School Uniform

Last week's newsletter alerted parents to our new uniform supplier;

**PSW Quality Apparel**  
**314 Stephenson Road**  
**Mount Waverley**  
**Phone 9809 5477**

Now that all items of school uniform are readily available, parents are reminded that the following items are not consistent with college uniform policy:

- 'Hoodies', (a school jumper can be worn with a school jacket)
- Leggings
- Nail polish and make up
- Black Tights with the summer dress

In addition,

- Socks need to be worn above ankle length, and
- Girls kilts should be at knee length
- T bar shoes need to have buckles that work and need to be done up.

Your cooperation and assistance in this area is greatly appreciated.

*Fiona Erwich, Head of Senior School & Suzanne Plant, Head of Junior School*

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## Junior School - Year 9

Welcome back to term 2. Miss Gallucci and I hope this term is a productive one for all our students. Term 2 gives students the opportunity to consolidate learning whilst exploring new content and concepts. It was extremely pleasing to receive such positive feedback from teachers indicating that most students had used their term break effectively enabling a smooth start to the term.

As we prepare to report on students' progress, it is timely for all students to reflect upon their learning thus far and ponder the following question.

- How do we know when we have learnt something?
- Is it enough to be able to remember facts or can we say we have learnt something, once we can use our knowledge and skills?
- Do we all learn in the same way or do we have a preferred way of processing and understanding new knowledge and skills?

It is suggested that people generally remember:

10% of what they read  
20% of what they hear  
30% of what they see  
50% of what they hear and see  
80-90% of what they do.

While this might be a general observation, there is some benefit in trying to develop different ways of learning. As students prepare for final assessment tasks, they are encouraged to think about how to effectively prepare themselves.

- Revision for tests and exams should include not just reading over notes, but also talking about topics and trying to do something with them. For example, creating revision flash cards, mind maps, visual or flow charts might be useful.
- Teaching the topic to someone at home so that they understand it is also another good way of reinforcing your knowledge.
- Completing revision in a group where you can talk about topics also helps to better understand ideas and skills.

Finally, students are encouraged to become active in their learning by becoming involved in class discussions, asking questions and regularly contributing.

As we progress through term two, please remember to consistently strive for excellence in all that you do and seek assistance from your teachers if you are experiencing any difficulties. Parents are reminded to contact class teachers or YLC if they have any concerns with respect to their child's progress.

***Judy Anderson, Assistant Head of Junior School***

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## **Year 11 Central Australia Tour**

Money for the 'hoodies' can now be paid to the front office so the clothing company can be paid in order to start making the hoodies to be ready for the camp.

Reminder that final payments for any other outstanding camp money needs to be paid by the end of May. Please make sure all medical, behaviour and activity forms are returned to Mr Watts in P10.

***Tony Watts, Year 11 Student Manager***

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## **Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion To Parliament**

During period 4 on Thursday 7 May, the Year 12 Legal Studies class, accompanied by our teacher, Mrs Oliver and Year 12 Student Manager Mr Batalha, left Brentwood for Parliament House to attend Question Time.

After a lunch stop in the Treasury Gardens, we headed up to Parliament House. Our tour guide, Richard, took us on a tour into the Legislative Council, the former-Premier's gallery and past the old Parliament library. The tour was very informative, reinforcing content we had learned in class. On a lighter note, Richard kept us amused with his many out-of-date jokes at the expense of many former Politicians!

At 2:00pm we headed up to the Public Gallery in the Legislative Assembly to observe the hour of question time. (The Legislative Assembly is where The Premier John Brumby and his Labor Government sit). It was a very emotionally charged Question Time to say the least! Lots of shouting and debate accompanied both the questions and the answers from many of the Ministers who spoke. We even saw the Speaker

eject four Ministers from Parliament! We found it really fascinating.

After question time, we were escorted up to the Minister's function and meal area, where we were the guests of Ms Maxine Morand for afternoon tea. Ms. Morand is the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development and Women's Affairs/Member for Mount Waverley and former Brentwood Secondary College student. She gave us an insight into her career and explained how she became an MP. She also spoke about the important legislative changes she has been involved in since she was elected into Parliament, such as the recent Abortion Law Reform Act 2008. She also helped us understand what was being debated during question time!

After our afternoon tea, we boarded the bus back to Brentwood with a better understanding of how the parliamentary process works, and perhaps more vividly, how party politics works.

We would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Ms Morand for inviting us to afternoon tea and for making the time to come and chat to us during a very busy Budget-week. We'd also like to thank Mrs Oliver for organising our excursion and Mr Batalha for helping out on the day!

***Stamatia Koutsimanis and Rebecca Hazeltine, Year 12 Legal Studies students***

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## **Commerce Reflections**

As part of our studies in Small Business Management (Co419s) and the Financial Literacy's Units (Co305s), the students were given the opportunity to undertake a Multicultural Foodies Tour of the Queen Victoria Market and observe small business practice. Below is a student reflection of their observations on the day.

***Jim Davatzis, CO419S Teacher***

## **Queen Victoria Market Excursion**

On Friday 1 May, 75 year 9 and 10 students studying the commerce subject Co419S (Small Business Management) and Co305s (Financial Literacy), four staff members and one student teacher participated in an excursion to the Queen Victoria Market's "Multicultural Foodies Tour".

The excursion was to teach students firsthand about how small businesses are operated and managed, point out marketing strategies and techniques and take part in "Multicultural

Foodies tour” which was an education tour hosted by the Queen Victoria Market.

The idea of the tour was to teach about the market’s history, evolution, reconstruction and show off some quality meat, deli, seafood and pastries. Some stores had some unusual products such as fruit cheese, cow tongue, kangaroo and lamb head. After an interesting tour and some tasty samples (all included in the price), we were given a few hours to go shopping around the Vic Market. While the teachers grabbed a coffee, the students wandered around in search of food and cheap eye-catching items.

The students had a good time relaxing, being able to shop around the market for things they might not normally find in local shopping centres and checking out everything the market had to offer. It was a fun and an educational experience for students and teachers alike and I’m sure future commerce classes would learn and benefit from the trip.

*Zereth Yiap, Year 10J*

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## **Instrumental Music**

### **Ensembles**

We are now offering a **Guitar Ensemble** on Friday lunchtime in A14 for interested students.

The current lunchtime rehearsal schedule for Music Ensembles is as follows:

- Monday A12: *Senior String Ensemble* dir. Ms Presa
- Monday Drum Room: *Percussion Ensemble* dir. Mr Nash
- Tuesday A12: *Senior Concert Band* dir. Ms Cook and Mr Wanner
- Wednesday A12: *Junior Band* dir. Mr Wanner
- Thursday A12: *Choir* dir. Mrs Pitts
- Friday A12: *Junior String Ensemble* dir. Ms Presa
- Friday A14: *Guitar Ensemble* dir. Mr Vaughan

While it is compulsory for students learning an instrument at school to participate in an Ensemble, we welcome any students learning outside school to join us in any of the above groups. Please see Ms Presa if you play an instrument and would like to be involved.

### **Lessons**

There are still vacancies for lessons in the following: percussion, violin, viola, cello, trumpet, trombone.

There is a waiting list for voice, guitar and woodwind lessons.

Please see Ms Presa if you would like to enrol in Instrumental Music Lessons or email [pre@brentwood.vic.edu.au](mailto:pre@brentwood.vic.edu.au)

*Cathie Presa, Director of Music*

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## **Sport Round Up**

### **Intermediate Girls’ Volleyball**

On Tuesday April 28 the intermediate girls’ volleyball team went to the state volleyball centre in Dandenong to compete in the Eastern zone competition. After winning the Waverly district round robin competition in term one, nine talented volleyball players competed against Monbulk Secondary College, Fairhills High School and Doncaster Secondary College. The girl’s first game was a very competitive match against the reigning champions, Monbulk, with Brentwood losing both sets 20-10.

Our second match of the day was a thrilling win, with Fairhills going down in the first set 10-20 and the second set 9-20. The last match against Doncaster was very exciting as the Brentwood girls tried to get a hold on their evenly matched competitors. Unfortunately, Brentwood lost the first set 17-20 but managed to claw their way back in the second set with a 20-11 win. The deciding third set was lost by Brentwood 13-15, placing our girls third overall.

Congratulations to the following girls who put in a lot of time and effort

Jessica Eden	Tuba Ozak
Ghader El-Khub	Katarina Stoop
Jennifer Elphinstone	Georgia Taylor
Yi Shwen Eng	Michelle Xu
Cecilia Faalili	

*Melissa Warner, Team Coach*

### **Golf State Finals**

On Monday 11 May Crosby Kang from year 10 played in the State Final for Women’s Golf representing Brentwood Secondary College. The game was played at Sunshine Golf Club, a par 72 championship course designed by Craig Parry.

The students were playing for a place as well as a spot on the VSSSA school girls’ team who will be travelling to Canberra in August to compete against the other States.



Crosby scored 83, to finish third in the state for senior girls (year 10, 11 and 12). This was an impressive finish to what has been three rounds of fantastic golf by Crosby to reach this far. We hope to hear in the next two weeks if Crosby has been selected in the VSSSA team.

Well done to Crosby and her talented coach.

### ***Monique Le Grove, Coach***

### **Senior Girls' Badminton**

On Thursday 7 May, ten very enthusiastic year 11 and 12 girls made their way to Kilsyth Stadium to compete in the Waverly district round robin competition. Throughout the day each team member competed in both singles and doubles matches against Glen Waverly Secondary College, Mount Waverly Secondary College and Wellington Secondary College.

While the girls were all very competitive, they faced some challenging opponents who they were unable to conquer on the day. After five tiring rounds the badminton team was placed third overall.

Congratulations to the following girls who dedicated many afterschool hours to practice and training

Joanne Borg	Teresa Liew
Ye Lang Kan	Carmen Mok
Jacqueline Koo	Annie Sim
Fiona Lac	Victoria Tang
Amanda Lee	Mary Yang

### ***Melissa Warner, Team Coach***

### **Senior Table Tennis**

Tuesday 5 May saw a group of nine boys and four girls venture to Dandenong Table Tennis Stadium to compete in the District Table Tennis.

It was a tough day for all of our competitors as they came up against some very strong opposition.

Our Boys' A team firstly opposed Wellington. Top seed Luke Chung won a close five-setter, but we lost all other rubbers as Wellington won the match 5 – 1. We lost by a similar scoreline to Mount Waverley, but it could have been a different story, as both our doubles pairings went down in five sets.

Our match against Wheelers Hill proved more successful as three of our singles players (Chen Chen Yang, David Wu and Michael Lee) won comprehensively (three sets to love), as did the doubles pairing of Chen Chen and Jun Wen Lim. Our last match of the day against Glen Waverley ended in disappointment as only Chen Chen was able to win a rubber from them. Overall we finished fourth out of five teams on the day.

The Boys' B team also struggled, failing to win a match against any of Wellington, Glen Waverley or Mount Waverley. Tim Hung was probably our best player from this team, winning his singles match against Wellington and taking a set off his opponent in his other two matches. Jeremy Cole and Douglas Ngu easily won their doubles rubber against Mount Waverley but there was little else to cheer about for the team. Overall the team finished fourth out of four teams.

The Girls' side had a more competitive day and at one stage were vying for top spot and the chance to progress to Zone. First up we faced Wellington A, and the team of Christina Leong, Rebecca Huang, Christina Maniatakis and Aymee Chen managed to pull off a great victory. Christina L and Aymee both won their singles matches, and Christina L and Rebecca won their doubles convincingly. The match was tied at three rubbers all, but as we had won more sets than Wellington, we were declared the victors. A great start!

Glen Waverley A then beat us 4 – 2 in the next match, with only Christina M winning her singles match. Glen Waverley later beat Wellington which ensured they finished top of the group, with Brentwood runners up.

The team then played Wellington B and won every rubber 3 – 0, a convincing performance. Similar results were recorded against Glen Waverley B, with five of the six rubbers culminating in a 3 – 0 scoreline in our favour.

All students performed well on the day and are to be congratulated on their efforts and great sportsmanship.

#### **Boys' A Team**

Luke Chung	Chen Chen Wang
David Wu	Michael Lee
Jun Wen Lim	

#### **Boys' B Team**

Jeremy Cole	Douglas Ngu
Tim Hung	Terence Avadiar

#### **Girls' A Team**

Christina Leong	Rebecca Huang
Christina Maniatakis	Aymee Chen

*Mark Oudshoorn, Coach*

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### **Community Corner**

#### **Donate old Textbooks to World Vision**

World Vision is sending a container in about three weeks to Kenya. They urgently require a large quantity of year 7, 8, 9 & 10 Maths and Science textbooks along with atlases for some of the schools they support. Particularly suitable are the old editions of Maths Quest, Heinemann Outcomes Mathematics, Heinemann Maths Zone CSF edition, Science Quest 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Science Links and Science World. Books for donation can be left at 13 Arcade Road (between Access Road and Dunloe Avenue), Mont Albert North before Saturday 23 May. Any questions, please phone 0421 642 362.

#### **Parents Victoria Online Conference 18-24 May**

Parents of primary and secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18 May to midnight Sunday 24 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

#### **Register online at no cost**

The Parents Victoria Online Conference 2009 website will open from 6am on 18 May at: [http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv1\\_09/](http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv1_09/). Please register yourself online first at <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm>

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### **Canteen News**

On trial on Friday – “Hawaiian Salsa Burger” \$4.00. See Canteen’s special board for the content.

Mon: S Newsom, J Smith, A Hardy  
Tues: M Levy, R Valkanis  
Wed: J Stebbing, N Paronavitana (L)  
Thur: C Kirwan, C Williamson  
Fri: J Hadaway

*Carol & Liz*

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