



Brentwood Secondary College

Online Newsletter Subscription

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Principal's Report

Whilst it would be nice to think that the college is slowing down as the Christmas break approaches, the opposite is really the case.

The vast majority of year 12 students will have sat their English examination this morning and the students who do Specialist Maths will have completed their first examination in that subject this afternoon. Year 11 students commence their examinations on the 12 November and year 10 students commence their examinations on the 18 November. Parents have an important role to play during the examination period. Your child will improve their chances of success by establishing regular study times, regular meal times and trying to keep their life as normal as possible.

Preparation for 2010 school year is underway in earnest. There are many people working on a wide range of tasks, such as setting of budgets, course selection, timetabling and preparing facilities for the new year.

The year 7 camp held last week at Forest Edge was a great success. The site was in magnificent condition with lovely green grass and a thriving forest. A special thank you to all of the staff and peer support leaders who were able to make the camp a memorable experience for the year 7 students at camp. The year 7 students should also be congratulated on their impeccable behaviour, willingness to help others and their enthusiasm in participating in all of the activities that the camp had to offer.

Brentwood has received a grant of \$279,000 in the first phase of the National Secondary School Computer Fund (NSSCF), which is a \$2.1 billion program in the Commonwealth Government's Digital Education Revolution (DER)

initiative. The principle objective of the NSSCF is to achieve a computer-to-student ratio of 1:1 for year 9 to 12 students by the end of 2011. The grant that Brentwood has received is required to be used to purchase 228 addition computers and additional infrastructure. Plans are currently being developed on how to best use this grant to maximise the educational benefit to the college.

Finally, there was a great performance from the year 11 Theatre Studies students in "The Academy" last week. This all singing, dancing and acting play directed and adapted by Mr Batalha allowed the theatre studies students to use all of their performance skills. The theatre studies program at Brentwood continues to gain strength.

Gordon Claney, Assistant Principal

Dates and Deadlines

3 Nov	Melbourne Cup Day
10 Nov	2010 Year 8 Information Night 6.00pm Student Media Presentation Night 6.30pm Education Sub-Committee Meeting 6.00pm Resources Sub-Committee Meeting 7.10pm
11 Nov	Year 11 Study Day
12 Nov	Year 11 Exams Commence Year 7 Music Night 7.30pm
16 Nov	Year 11 Exams
18 Nov	Year 10 Exams Commence Year 12 Formal
20 Nov	Unit 4, Year 11 & Year 10 Exams Finish

Introduction of the Victorian Student Number

Our school is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at the school.

The VSN is a student identification number that is being assigned to all students in government and non-government schools and students in Vocational Education and Training Institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identified on a student's school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to stable information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).

The introduction of the Victorian Student Number will provide the capability to accurately detect patterns of student movement through, and departure from the Victorian education and training system. It will greatly improve the collection and analysis of timely and accurate data about education in Victoria. The Department collects information to track improvements made to the education system, identify areas that require further improvement, and to analyse trends and identify future needs. The VSN will improve the accuracy, reliability and completeness of this information, providing a better basis for assessing needs and developing policies to meet them.

You will see the VSN appear on student report cards, enrolment confirmations and exit confirmations.

If you want to know more about the VSN please see: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm>.

Barbara Atkinson, Office Manager

Year 7 Students – Author Presentation

The author program concluded with Marc McBride giving a demonstration of airbrushing to the year 7 students. As Marc used an airbrush to draw a dragon for each of the groups, he talked about the use of perspective, his work as an illustrator and discussed how colour can be used to create different effects. Marc also talked about the importance of reading and imagination. Students and staff were fascinated by Marc's demonstrations.

Anna Louise thanked Marc on behalf of the students who attended one presentation and Anton thanked Michael on behalf of the students who attended the other presentation.

Marc and Anna Louise

Marc and Anton

“He is a very imaginative and creative illustrator. The creatures he draws are amazing.” Priyanka

“His characters and drawings are very extraordinary.” Ann Louise

“His illustrations looked really good because he added a lot of detail in the pictures. They really catch your attention.” Ariel

Marc left the two dragon pictures that he airbrushed and Mrs Ryan has used them as the focal point of a display in the Library. Marc has created front covers for a number of books including the Deltora Quest books by Emily Rodda, so the Deltora books are part of the display. Marc's drawing books were on display but were very quickly borrowed after his presentations.

Marc, Deltora front covers

Margaret Brudenell, Teacher/Librarian

Year 10 CO412 “You and the Law” Magistrates’ Court Excursion

On Tuesday 20 October and again on Tuesday 27 October 2009, the two year 10 CO412 “You and the Law” classes taught by Mr Jim Davatzis and Mrs Jessica Oliver went to the Ringwood Magistrates’ Court to observe court in session!

Before court commenced at 10:00am, both classes had a presentation from a Magistrate. On 27 October, Magistrate Mr Nunzio La Rosa, who is the head Magistrate at Ringwood Magistrates’ court spoke to the students in Mrs Oliver’s class. Mr La Rosa was very generous with his time, and talked to the students about how he came into his position, the jurisdiction of his court, the role the Magistrates’ court plays in the court hierarchy, and the role a Magistrate plays in sentencing and what factors he/she takes into consideration when sentencing offenders.

After our Magistrate presentation, all students then went into the various courtrooms and

observed a variety of offences such as summary and indictable cases. We saw the Magistrate question witnesses in the witness box whilst we were there. Some students' commented it really helped them "get" how the court process works, and reinforced material we have been studying in class.

The students were able to "sit in" on real-life Victorian and Civil Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) cases. Students also had the opportunity to hear all about the VCAT process by one of the Registrars at VCAT, which was great, as it was something that we weren't expecting!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Gotz and Mrs Anderson for accompanying us on each of our excursions (Mrs Gotz on 20 October and Mrs Anderson on 27 October) and to thank the year 10 CO412 "You and the Law" students for their participation on both days. The students' behaviour was exemplary, their insights were invaluable, and overall, both of us teachers commented that it was a great day out!

Jessica Oliver, Year 10 CO412 "You and the Law" Teacher

State Athletics

Congratulations to the following students who represented Brentwood at the recent VSSSA State Championships at Olympic Park.

Ash Savanah

GOLD 110 hurdles – Ash just glided over the hurdles and won quite easily.

SILVER 100m sprint - missed the gold by 0.06

Beth Alexander

GOLD 1500m Walk - Beth is awesome at the walk!! Really impressive event to watch.

GOLD 1500m Run - to back up and win the 1500m after smashing the field in the walk was outstanding!

Chris Brunton

BRONZE 1500m walk - great walk by Chris, he seemed a little disappointed – but it was fantastic for the spectator to watch!

Stephanie Mann

12th 1500m Walk - very consistent walk and almost overtook another competitor on the home straight!

Sophie Tarabolsi

7th Shot Put - threw less than her zone efforts but loved the experience.

Brandon Fredericks

4th 1500m Walk - great walk and he really pushed himself – fantastic effort especially since he only did the walk last year as a beginner to help me out and earn points for Brentwood!!

Well done!

Kim Nash, Sport Coordinator

Sport Round Up

Year 7 Girls' Cricket

On Wednesday, the year 7 girls' cricket team had a victory in the Metropolitan Zone semi final against Doncaster East.

Sent in to bat in a 20/20 fixture the Brentwood girls' batted extremely well with Holly Johnson and Kate Richards punishing the Doncaster East bowlers early. Both girls scored heavily with a dazzling array of shots through both sides of the wicket.

With the departure of Kate Richards for 19, Holly was ably supported by Ashley Manning (6) and Tegan Binzer (3 n.o). In the end, Holly was not out on 59 and the team amassed a formidable 143 off 20 overs. A superb batting performance from the Brentwood Captain.

In reply, Doncaster was on course after 11 overs to pull off a surprise victory after the Brentwood girls bowled loosely early. Skipper Holly Johnson then made the match winning move (after consultation with the wily tactician - Coach Baulch) and introduced Kiara Somaratne into the attack. Kiara struck with the speed of a spitting cobra snapping up 5 wickets for 10 runs in 4 overs to demoralize the Doncaster East batting order. As blistering a spell of bowling that has been seen at Macleay Park in many a year. Holly also chipped in with two wickets. All girls fielded superbly and it was apparent the tough fielding drills employed by the coach in practice were worth the effort.

The girls who are generally very quiet and reserved erupted into song as emotions and excitement spilled to fever pitch. The girls now will play the metropolitan zone final on the 11 November. Good luck girls the whole of Brentwood is behind you and the sky is the limit!

Cameron Baulch, Coach

Canteen News

Mon: M Yegorian, K Adams

Tues: Cup Day

Wed: J Stebbing, P Large

Thur: L Airey, J Stebbing, H Fox-Harrison

Fri: B Seracino, N Whitfield, M Leece

Carol & Liz

ABSENCES

How many days of school has your child missed this semester?

- 0-7 *This is within normal range. A student with this attendance rate is able to take full advantage of the teaching and learning opportunities available to them.*
- 8-10 *This attendance rate is below average. A student with this attendance rate could miss over one half year of learning year 7 and year 12.*
- 11-20 *This is a poor attendance rate. A student with this attendance rate could miss one year and one term of learning between year 7 and year 12.*
- 20+ *This is a very poor attendance rate. A student with this attendance rate could miss over one and one half years of learning between year 7 and year 12.*

Being one half hour late for school each day from year 7 to year 12 is equivalent to missing one half year of learning.

Ensure that your child attends school on all designated school days.

Only allow your child to be absent from school if there is a legitimate reason such as illness.

Immediately notify the school if your child is going to be absent.

When your child returns to school send a note to the homeroom teacher which clearly outlines the reason for your child's absence.

Ensure that your child is one time for school every day.