



Brentwood Secondary College

Online Newsletter Subscription

Issue No. 5

6 March 2009

Acting Principal
Mrs Barbara Laidlaw
Assistant Principals
Mr Gordon Claney
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

It was with great pride that I presented both the Senior and Intermediate Shields to the respective Brentwood Captains at the Waverley District swimming sports. After many years of presenting the shields to Glen Waverley Secondary College it was indeed a memorable moment to announce Brentwood Secondary College as the winners. Unfortunately Brentwood fell just short of being the all-round winners for the meet.

Having the opportunity to observe Brentwood's athletes is a great pleasure. Not only are they skilled in their techniques, they are all wonderful ambassadors for the school and their families. The team spirit demonstrated was at all times positive and supportive, again a Brentwood tradition. Thank you to all teachers associated with the event and a huge thank you to our Sports Coordinator, Ms Kim Nash, who has been the driving force behind this team's success.

Best of luck to our 23 swimmers who will now compete at the Eastern Zone finals at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatics Centre on 23 March.

A reminder to parents of year 7 students that there will be a 'Success at year 7' evening in the TLC on 12 March commencing at 7.00pm. This is an important evening for our new parents as it is a chance to meet the year 7 Student Managers and gain helpful hints that will ensure a successful year for your children. Please do not hesitate to contact the year 7 Student Managers, Mr Hunt and Mrs Ardley if you have any enquiries.

Last year Brentwood Secondary College applied for a federal government grant to run a health program. The application process was rigorous so it was very pleasing that the submission was successful. The grant is funding the 'Fit-

4-Life' program for 2009. Fit-4-Life aims to encourage students to develop a healthy level of fitness through regular participation in a variety of low to moderate intensity fitness activities. Fit-4-Life provides a fresh alternative to traditional Physical Education classes, which focus on group sports and the development of motor skills. Instead of learning how to kick a football or set up a zone defence in basketball, students are taught to lift weights, balance their diets and build cardiovascular endurance through a wide variety of activities. Fit-4-Life aims to give students the necessary tools, skills and experience to lead physically active lives, now, and for the rest of their lives.

Brentwood's PE staff and Glen Waverley South Primary School's staff coordinate and run this government initiative. Well done to all PE staff on the implementation of this important program.

On 17 March our school will be holding the annual Athletics Day. We are looking forward to a full day of events and the traditional fight for House victory. The success of a school sporting event is dependent upon participation of all students and I am sure that Brentwood students will support this wonderful day. Best of luck to all athletes.

Many students travel to school by bus. Would parents please reinforce with their children the importance of being safe around buses, particularly when boarding and alighting from a bus. Ventura Bus Lines have made many complaints regarding students acting in an unsafe manner. Such behaviour can so easily lead to a tragic outcome.

Leon Lilly, Assistant Principal

Dates and Deadlines

9 Mar	Labour Day
10 Mar	Year 9 & 10 Tennis Ono Tour Information Night 7.00pm Education Sub-committee 6.00pm Resources Sub-committee 7.10pm
11 Mar	Year 9 & 10 Sport Year 12 English SAC
12 Mar	Succeeding at Year 7 TLC 7.00pm
16 Mar	Year 8 Sport
17 Mar	Athletics Sports
19 Mar	Year 7 Injections
23 Mar	Year 8 Study Skills (Periods 2 & 3) School Council Annual Reporting Manual
24 Mar	Active Life Challenge 6.30pm
26 Mar	Year 12 English – Guest Speaker VCE Afternoon
27 Mar	Year 7 Sport
2 April	State Swimming Parent/Teacher Interviews 4.30- 7.30pm Families A-L
3 April	School Ends 2.30pm

Senior School News

As the first term rolls smoothly forward, students in the Senior School are getting involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. There are many students participating in sporting teams, including cricket, tennis, softball, golf and volleyball. The girl's softball, boy's volleyball and both cricket teams have progressed through to the Eastern Zone competition. Year 11 students involved in the Debutant ball continue to train each week under the inspirational direction of Miss Narelle Wood and Ms Danielle Binaisse.

Students are very excited about the upcoming camps in Senior School at the end of Term 2. For those students involved in the year 11 camp to Central Australia each year, this trip proves to be a highlight of their six years at Brentwood. On this camp the students will face many new challenges and will bring home many memorable experiences of Australia's heartland. Year 10 students are also gearing up for the Gold Coast Camp in the final week of Term 2. More information regarding both of these camps will be distributed to students in the following couple of weeks.

We would like to remind students in the Senior School of the importance of having a lock on

their lockers. Sounds simple? We have been astounded at the number of lockers that are left open with no form of security! Please check with

your child that he or she has a lock and preferably one with a spare key that can be safeguarded in the Senior School Office in case they leave their key at home. It is important here to remind students' and parents that the college does not have insurance which covers students belongings that are lost or stolen.

Students are also reminded that they must sign out of school in the Senior Learning Centre (SLC) if they are attending TAFE or if they have a study period 6 (Year 11/12 students only).

Senior School Team

The Sustainable Living Festival Excursion

On the 20 February our year 10 science class attended 'The Sustainable Living Festival'. We were greeted by the Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, who talked about Melbourne's future and what it means to live in a sustainable way. The opening ceremony included guest speakers with accompanying music by Paul Kelly.

The first guest speaker was Ernie Dingo. He presented a speech about the Aboriginal community and the life of Queenie McKenzie. His speech was very moving and he made us realise the problems we are facing with regards to the Earth's future.

As we toured the festival we went to interactive workshops, which taught us about climate change and choosing sustainable products. Throughout the day we received many 'freebies', such as Fare Trade chocolate, No Sweat shoes and recycled toilet paper.

A highlight of the day was hearing from Aaron Woods, who inspired all the students to make small changes in their life to create a sustainable future.

We would like to thank Miss Nicholas and Miss Murray for taking us on this excursion, which in turn has helped open our eyes to the effects of global warming and what we can do to help.

*Christine Koutsimanis and Christopher
Renwick, Year 10*

Library News

The school year is now underway with lots of activity in the Library. With 600 students (all year 7 & 8, some year 9 & 10) entered in the Premier's Reading Challenge this year, it is not surprising that the Library loaned 4000 books during the month of February. This averages to three books per enrolled student! The Challenge is to read 15 books between February and August, and it would seem that many students are well on the way. Parents can support students by encouraging a regular reading session at home and signing their Record Sheet when books have been read.

This week year 10 students experienced a presentation, called 'Lest we Forget' by storyteller/musician Jan Wositzky. Jan performed a shortened version of the presentation he has performed at Gallipoli on Anzac Day. Jan used storytelling, songs, music and a few props to engage students in Australia's involvement in World War I. The roles of Rose, Ginger Mick, the Translator, Johnnie and Mehmet were played by Brittney Costello, Kristy Dimas, Jess Edens, Jennifer Elphinstone and Jacqui Feinberg in Session 1 and by Jess Robinson, Jessica Blake, Renee Cleaver, Chris Mardiryan and Ryan Chan in Session 2. Thanks to these students for their involvement and making a valuable contribution to the presentation. Special thanks to teacher librarian, Margaret Brudenell for the event planning, the College for financial support and all other staff who supported it.

The Library runs a monitor program, currently involving 25 students. We highly value their service to the school community, with most contributing two rostered sessions a week. Students operate the Loans Desk, shelve books and perform a myriad of other tasks. Recently after-school sessions were held to train monitors in the use of the new Library software and to start general training with new monitors. We would like to congratulate Aishwarya Kirubansankar on gaining the position of 2009 Library Captain. and we look forward to working with her and the team of 2009 monitors.

A great way for parents/grandparents to be involved with students' secondary education is to volunteer assistance in the Library on an occasional or regular basis. Tasks we need help with include data entry, book covering and shelving. If you would like to find out more, please contact Robyn Clark on 8545 0330.

Barbara Smith, Head of Library

2009 Maths Competition

The Australian Mathematics Competition will be held on Thursday 6 August. Students entering this year's Mathematics Competition must pay a \$5.00 entry fee at the main office before the end of March.

Students in the following maths groups are required to enter:

Ma201A, Ma201E, Ma201I

Ma303A, Ma303E

Ma405A, Ma405F

Denis Chinnock, Head of Mathematics

Education Tax Refund – Get 50% Back

Under the new Education Tax Refund, parents and others who are eligible can now claim 50% of their eligible education expenses up to \$750 for primary students and \$1500 for secondary students.

This means you could receive a refund each year of up to \$375 for each primary and \$750 for each secondary school student in your care.

Are you eligible?

To be eligible you must have received Family Tax Benefit Part A for each child whose education expenses you wish to claim. You can also claim the Education Tax Refund if you were stopped from receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A because your child received any of the following:

- Youth Allowance (student) aged 18
- Disability Support Pension
- ABSTUDY
- The Veterans' Children Education Scheme
- The Student Financial Supplement Scheme
- A scheme under s258 of the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*
- An Australian Postgraduate Award

Independent students are also eligible to claim.

What can you claim?

You can claim the purchase, lease, hire or hire-purchase costs, repairs and running costs of:

- laptops, home computers and associated costs – for example, internet and paper
- educational software, printers, USB flash drives, disability aids to assist in the use of

computer equipment for students with special needs

- stationery and art supplies
- school textbooks and associated learning materials
- trade tools and safety equipment for secondary school trade courses.

* Some of the expenses you cannot claim include school fees or the cost of school uniforms, school excursions or travel to and from school, musical instruments or sporting equipment, clothing or footwear. For a more comprehensive list visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au.

When can you claim?

You can claim your education expenses in your 2009 tax return. If you do not have to lodge a tax return, you will be able to lodge a separate claim with the Tax Office from 1 July 2009.

* **Remember, you need to keep all receipts for expenses you claim.**

If your education expenses in one year are more than the claim limit for your children, you can add the excess to your education expenses for the following year.

For more information:

- visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au
- phone the Tax Office on 13 28 61.

Graham Harvey, Business Manager

Sports Round Up

Senior Girls' Volleyball

On Friday the 27 February two teams of dedicated senior girls, adorned with pigtailed ribbons, braved the forecasted heat to make their way to Springers Leisure Centre in Keysborough for the Senior Volleyball interschool sports. All of the girls had shown their commitment by attending afterschool training sessions in the two weeks leading up to the day. We rated ourselves a good chance to get through to the finals.

The 'A' team, with only four matches in their pool, won their first three games convincingly before coming up against the strong Mount Waverley 'A' team, who boasted a State level player. The match went to a nail biting three sets, but unfortunately not even Emily McClusky's opposition distracting "happy-dance" was enough, and the final set went to Mount Waverley with a three point victory.

The 'B' team had a larger pool, and despite an initial two game loss, the girls rallied and came back to win their next three games. Great work considering they had some formidable opposition in their group such as the Glen Waverley 'A' team.

All the players are to be congratulated for their hard work and excellent sportsmanship throughout the course of the day. They were two great teams to work with!

Brentwood 'A'

Ellie Schouten	Sarah Clay
Emily McClusky	Laura Colossimo
Elena Vukanovic	Fiona Jong
Shivangi Johari	

Brentwood 'B'

Georgia Delithodoris	Suzie Elphinstone
Karla Morton	Cassie Smith
Natascha Amend	Laura Stillitano
Kat Fonda	

Katharine Seyler, Coach

Senior Boys Cricket

Over two days, three matches and 80 overs of cricket, the senior boys cricket team has emerged as victorious winners of the District Sports and now advance to the Eastern Zone competition on Thursday 19 March.

The team ventured to the Police Paddocks in Dandenong North for the ten-over pool matches on Friday February 27. Such short matches can be difficult to judge and we decided to bowl first to allow us to pace our run chase. We managed to restrict our first opponents Wellington to 3-50 off their ten overs, and in reply chased the runs down easily, scoring 3-91 in our innings. Nic Richards, Dave Mathers and Ricky Alabaster all claimed a wicket apiece whilst Josh Warner and Dave both scored 30 before retiring.

We decided to again bowl first in our next match against Mt Waverley and this time it was Cohen Howell who turned the match in our favour with an outstanding spell of 4-8 off his three overs. Cohen's bowling and a couple of run outs helped restrict the opposition to 8-65 and we were confident of a run-a-ball victory. However, the loss of consistent wickets throughout our innings left us needing around 20 runs off the last two overs. Enter Dean Siakoulis – he and Nic Richards batted very sensibly throughout the last couple of overs before the match came down to the last ball. With Dean on strike we needed 3 to win and 2 to tie. Unfazed by the pressure, Dean

took the field on, lofting the ball over long-on for a six which took us to victory. It was a great innings and one which propelled us into the final against Glen Waverley.

The final was played at Brentwood on the afternoon of Monday 2 March. We lost the toss this time and were sent into bat. Cohen and Josh made a positive start but after Cohen was claimed by a blinding catch in the covers we were 2-15 in the 3rd over. Dean and Jake Pappon then combined for an intelligent 43 run partnership, the two mixing positive running with some deft and skilful strokeplay. Dean's departure for 14 was followed by a series of short but strong partnerships and we soon found ourselves 6-116 in the 17th over. Jake had by this stage retired, reaching 52 with 9 boundaries and a six. Whilst he had some luck, he did play extremely well in his best innings of senior school cricket so far. Anju Rajupaksha and Nic Richards batted intelligently against some tight bowling in the closing overs and we ended up with 6-142 off our 20 overs, a competitive but not necessarily winning score.

The run chase by Glen Waverley was a beauty. Neither batting side nor bowling side ever got on top, as Glen Waverley maintained a steady run rate whilst we also chipped in with regular wickets. Nic Richards got us going with 2 early wickets whilst Cohen Howell again showed his class by claiming one of their best batsmen LBW. The fielding was outstanding with many boys sprinting and sliding round the dusty boundary to save runs. Dylan Whitfield was introduced late in the innings and responded with two key wickets which again turned the match slightly our way. It came down to 9 runs required off the last over to be bowled by Nic. Finally, it came down to 4 off the last ball, another nailbiter! This time Nic stood up under the pressure, conceding only a single off the delivery and ensuring our passage through to the next round.

Congratulations to the team for their fine performances thus far! All students have contributed to our victories which bodes well for Eastern Zone. Thanks to Julie White who has supported us (nervously!) so far, Tom Petronik for his sterling job as team scorer, Ms Nash who helped set up for the match on Monday, and a big thanks to all students and staff who came up to the top oval on Monday to cheer on the team – your support was much appreciated!

Team

Ricky Alabaster (Co-captain)

Jack Tyrell (Co-captain)

Jake Pappon

Shaun White

Dylan Whitfield

Nic Richards

Anju Rajupaksha

Tom Petronik (Scorer)

Josh Warner

Cohen Howell

Dean Siakoulis

Dave Mathers

Phil Murray

Mark Oudshoorn, Coach



Want to have fun, be active and spend more time with your family?

Take the Challenge: 30 minutes of activity a day for 30 days between 8 March – 19 April 2009

We all know that every little bit helps when it comes to the health of your family. And pulling the kids away from the TV or computer can be a challenge.

That's why the Victorian Government is running the second *Premier's Active Families Challenge*. It's a 'Go for your life' initiative and aims to improve the physical activity levels, health and wellbeing of families.

Families can complete the Challenge by doing at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 days between 8 March and 19 April 2009. For some parents, who have a busy schedule, this may seem quite daunting. But remember, that this is the student's *challenge*. It is not meant to be easy!

Having said this, be aware that:

- the 30 days of activity do not need to be consecutive (i.e. you do not necessarily have to exercise for 30 minute blocks, you can do two lots of 15 minutes, or three lots of ten minutes);
- you can do the activity on your own or as a family;
- the 30 minutes of activity can be made up of any sort of physical activity (mowing the lawn, putting on washing, vacuuming, etc.) or incidental activity (walking from the carpark to your place of work, getting the paper from the milk bar, etc.).

To participate, register online at goforyourlife.vic.gov.au or phone 1300 73 98 99.

As a registered participant you'll get ideas on fun things to do, tips on getting healthier and more active, events to get involved in, a chance to win prizes and a completion certificate from the Premier. You will also receive offers such as 15 free visits to YMCA and 15 per cent off at Rebel Sport.

So go on, get active and take the Challenge! For more information visit goforyourlife.vic.gov.au ; call 1300 73 98 99 or speak directly to Mr David Hose (Head of Health and Physical Education) or Ms Sarah Hately (Fit-4-Life Coordinator)

Active Life Challenge

On Tuesday 24 March there will be an "Active Life Challenge" twilight evening from 6.30pm – 7.30pm. While this event was specifically designed for students who are studying PE234: *Fit-4-Life*, we would like to extend the invitation to all Brentwood students and families.

The evening will comprise of a variety of fun activities that are suitable for people of any age or level of fitness. So come along and have some fun.

David Hose, Head of Health and Physical Education and Sarah Hately, Fit-4-Life Coordinator

Community Corner

WEP Australia

Learn all about student exchange, WEP Australia and the 2009/2010 exchange programs available at one of WEP's free information sessions in Melbourne.

10 March & 28 April

7.30 - 9.30pm
Kingston Arts Centre
979 Nepean Highway
Moorabbin 3189

31 March, 16 June

7.30 - 9.30pm
Hawthorn Library
584 Glenferrie Road
Hawthorn 3122

Students can choose from over 20 countries to live and study with the support of a host family, school and community. Explore new opportunities beyond the classroom!

WEP is now offering Early Bird Specials and Scholarships to some of its most popular destinations. Apply now. Visit wep.org.au to find out more or phone for the cost of a local call 1300 884 733.

WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments.

East Burwood Junior Football Club

New players welcome, Season 2009, Under 16's
If any boys are interested in playing football this year for East Burwood Junior Football Club (Located East Burwood Reserve, Burwood Highway), Under 16's please contact Luke Pirotta 0425 816508 for more information.

Host Families Wishing To Host An Exchange Student

Should you and your family wish to host an Exchange Student from Italy, Germany, Belgium, France, Holland, Brazil or Japan for any length of time and can afford to provide her or him with their meal and a bed, please contact their coordinator, Klaus Schumann, on (03)97584279. Look forward to speaking with you.

Canteen News

Mon: Labour Day
Tues: S Barber, D Lawless
Wed: C Huebner, D Benjamin,
M Yegorian (L)
Thur: S Remmington, I Willmott
Fri: L Smith, M Tyler, M Williams (L)

Carol & Liz
