

KURNAI COLLEGE - CHURCHILL CAMPUS



Kurnai College

PO BOX 3411
MORWELL BC 3841
Phone: 51323 700
Fax: 51323 799
Email: kurnai.co.churchill@edumail.vic.gov.au

Absence Hotline: 51323 703

NEWSLETTER No. 2

17th February 2012



COMING EVENTS 2011

Tuesday 21 st February	Parents and Friends Meeting – 7.30 pm Staff Room
Thursday 23 rd February	Swimming Sports – Moe Swimming Pool
Thursday 15 th March	Year 7 & Year 10 Immunisations
Monday 5 th to Wednesday 7 th March	Year 9 Edge Base Camp
Wednesday 14 th to Friday 16 th March	Year 10 Outdoor Education Surf Camp

Hello Everyone,

It is great to see students are settling in to the new school year and classes are full steam ahead. I would like to extend a warm welcome to any parent who would like to attend the Parents and Friends committee the first meeting is next Tuesday 21st February at 7pm here at the school. This committee is an informal one and a chance for you to ask questions, identify any issues and have input in to the school. It is informal and everyone is welcome.

Congratulations to our elected school captains, Hayden Stephens, Emma Telford, Katelin Lugton and Tom Lindsay. I and the rest of the school community look forward to a strong SRC led by our captains and mentored by Cheryl Taylor.

The School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Team have been working hard these first couple of weeks and students will have lessons at every year level on the school's expectations of our four pillars; Work Ethic, Relationships, Excellence and Engagement. We believe these four pillars are the key to a successful school and success as a student.

A reminder that students must wear the maroon polo tops (if they choose the polo option) not the P.E (navy) tops as their everyday school uniform. If they have P.E period 1 they are welcome to come to school dressed ready for class but must change. They are not to come to school in P.E uniform if their class is later in the day.

The Year 7 team led by Adam Hogan hosted a parent BBQ and information session last night for all Year 7 parents and students. If you were unable to attend and have any questions please contact the Year 7 team. Today the Year 10's have had a get together day at the Mirboo North pool and the Year 9's are headed to Gumbuya Park soon.

Have a great weekend.

Nicole Pryor
Acting Campus Principal

SWIMMING SPORTS

Swimming sports will be held at the Moe Swimming Pool on Thursday 23rd February, 2012. Permission forms were given to students this week and must be completed and returned to the office **no later than** Wednesday 22nd February, 2012. Students who do not return a permission form will not be permitted to attend and **NO FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY.**

EMA APPLICATIONS

EMA applications close on Wednesday 29th February and forms can be filled out at the General Office. A copy of the current concession card will be taken. A 2012 form **must be** filled out by all eligible parents/guardians.

NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

BUSES

Any families having trouble with their buses can contact Mrs Leonie Mackie on 51323 700.

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER'S RISK

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. These costs may be recoverable where an injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of the Department, a school council or their employees or volunteers.

Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

“IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY”

HOTLINE NUMBER TO CALL 51323703

- As our students head back to the classrooms the college is encouraging all parents to ring the absence hotline if your child is away. This hotline has been set up for the convenience of both families and the college with voicemail access 24 hours a day 7 days a week. This voicemail is checked several times a day. So please make use of this service. The number to ring is **51 323 703**.
- We have a number of fridge magnets available with the hotline number. You can call into the administration office and pick one up.
- If you are experiencing any difficulties ensuring your child attends school each day please call the college year level Team leaders to arrange a meeting. They can offer support and strategies to help keep your child on track.

Colleen Swift

Education Support – Attendance



COLLEGE MUSIC



Music on campus...

All Year 7 and 8 students partook in music workshops hosted by Mr Bonnici. Students got the opportunity to play and handle a variety of rare and popular wind instruments.

Students experienced at first hand the ease or complexities in producing a sound from the instruments, as well as experiencing the weight and the mechanics of the instruments.

Students wanting to enrol in the Music Program at Kurnai College can still do so. Vacancies still exist for the following Wind instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French horn, Trombone and Tuba.

This is a wise investment for your child's mental and physical development.

Expression of Interest forms can be attained from the General Office.

Common questions I often get are...

- Haven't got your own instrument? You can hire one from the school and take it home.
- How much are lessons? Lessons are free.
- What are the costs? Enrolment fee is \$85 for the whole year. This includes all books, folder, other texts your child requires – we get it for your child. Excursion/travel costs are taken from this as well.

Musical instruments cost several hundred, if not thousands of dollars. I encourage for all to try and use what we have available at Kurnai College before buying your own.

If you have any further enquiries, please don't hesitate to contact the school and ask for the Head of Music.

Joseph Bonnici

College Music Co-ordinator

YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7's have had a busy week this week as they worked through auto-biographies in English, learnt about statistics in Maths and discovered some research skill in the library for Science. Students particularly enjoyed testing their fitness in PE as they were put through their paces on the running track.

Students are well underway with their language studies in either Chinese or German. Chinese students have had an excellent start, learning the song "How are you" and how to greet each other in Chinese. In just a week many students could also say "I am sorry" "Thank you" and "Please" in the language. German students have also had a great start, having learnt the song 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' in German, played the game 'Simon Says' in German and completed an assignment that combined arts and craft elements with German language-learning.

We would like to thank all parents and students who attended the information session and barbeque last night. It was great to have parents involved as we work together to get the best out of our students.

School Camp

The dates for Year 7 school camp have been confirmed as Tuesday May 8th to Friday May 11th. Please place the dates in your diary. Information letters will be sent home shortly.

Uniform

Could all parents please ensure students have their name written on the tag of their uniform clothing items. We have already had a few lost items brought into the office.

Parent Email List

If you would like to receive general updates on year 7 information including weekly highlights, reminders, upcoming events and students achievements, please email me and I will add you to the Year 7 distribution list: hogan.adam.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
[The first email update was sent last week, if you didn't receive a copy please email me and I'll confirm your email details are correct.](#)

Edmodo

Edmodo is an online educational tool that is being used across a number of classes at the school. Students have the ability to access work and submit some assignments via the site. Students will have set up their account during their IT classes this week and are encouraged to use their account to engage with other students in their learning.

Diary

We encourage you to purchase a diary for your child so they can keep track of important dates.

Lockers

Please ensure that your child has a lock for their locker. Students also need to provide a second key (with their name attached) to Jenny in the library to avoid having locks cut off when keys are lost.

Rewards

During school students will be awarded raffle tickets for doing their best, helping, performing well and leading by example. During each Monday morning assembly we will draw tickets out of the box for a lucky dip prize.

18 students obtained a ticket this week which was a very positive start to the year. Prize winners this week were Rebecca Fowles, Justyce Rota and Brandon Woodbridge. Congratulations to all students who received a ticket and keep up the good work.

Immunisations

There are still a number of forms yet to be returned. Please fill in your child's form and return to front office as soon as possible. Immunisations will occur on Thursday 15th March, 2012.

Absence Hotline

A reminder to call our absence hotline **51323703 preferably before 9.00am** if your child is not going to be at school. This will ensure your child's absence is recorded correctly and you don't receive a phone call from our office.

Adam Hogan
Year 7 Team Leader

YEAR 9 NEWS

BONDING DAY:

One of the most important of our four pillars at Kurnai is 'Relationships'. Students who have positive relationships with their peers and their teachers are able to focus more of their energies on doing the best they can in their schoolwork. The annual camp is an excellent time for students to develop these relationships but that won't happen until August so we are planning to have a Bonding Day in mid-March. Students have voted to go to Gumbuya Park for the day. We are planning to keep the cost to students down to under \$20 and are very keen that every student in Year 9 is able to participate in this day.

NETBOOKS:

The netbooks for the Year 9 students have arrived. Our computer technicians are very busy getting them prepared for the rollout in the next few weeks. Students will need to return the signed netbook contract to the office before they will be given a netbook. There are spare copies of the contract in the office for those who have not received one.

E-MAILS:

Thank you to those parents who have given us their e-mail addresses. If you have not done so or your e-mail address has changed recently feel free to contact us on 51323700 and pass on those details.

Almuth Otten
Year 9 Team Leader

COMMUNITY NEWS

PARTY PLAN & MARKET DAY

Come along and help the "Thorpy Blues" Relay for Life Team raise money for Cancer Research.

WHEN: Saturday 18th February, 2012 from 10am to 3pm

WHERE: Thorpdale Public Hall

ENTRY: Gold coin

Over 30 stalls includingchocolates, jewellery, cookware, clothing, candles, Body shop, Intimo Lingerie, Lorraine Lea Linen, Nutrimetics, and many more!!

Raffle at the door & lucky door prizes every 30 minutes.

Light refreshments also available



BOOLARRA AND DISTRICT YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY

Are running weekly sessions, facilitated by Dan Clancey, artistic director

Beginning Friday 10th February, 2012, at Boolarra Memorial Hall

Structured for age group: Primary School 3.45pm – 5.00pm

Secondary School 5.00pm – 6.30pm

For more information please call Garryelle on 51 165 163.



CHURCHILL JUNIOR INDOOR NETBALL ASSOCIATION

***** Squad Team Try-Outs *****

When - To be held Saturday 17th of March & Saturday 24th of March

Where - Churchill Leisure Centre

Times - 9am - 10am for U/15 10-11am for U/13 and 11-12 for U/11

Contact - Sue Hutchinson 0428 631 270 to register/enquire or Kay Hill (Secretary) 0419 118 510 email dkhill@aanet.com.au

CHURCHILL JUNIOR INDOOR NETBALL ASSOCIATION

***** Annual General Meeting *****

When - Wednesday 22nd of February 2012

Where - Churchill Leisure Centre

Time - 7.30pm

Teams to be Entered by 15th of March

All prospective players, coaches, umpires and parents are welcome to attend.

Please contact Kay Hill (Secretary) for further details and for Team Entry/Player forms 0419 118 510 or email dkhill@aanet.com.au

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you wish to receive your Newsletter, student information/work via email, please complete and return the form below.

Please ensure you write clearly.

✂✂✂.....

.....✂✂✂

STUDENT NAME:**YEAR LEVEL**

PARENT NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

School Council Elections

School Council notice of Election and call for Nominations will begin on Monday 20th February. Four (4) Parent member positions (3 positions of 2 years and 1 position of 1 year), and 2 DEECD employee member positions will be vacant. Nomination forms can be obtained from the office of each campus and must be lodged back at the school by 4.00pm on Monday 27th February. If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school. Further reading and timeline dates are available within this newsletter.

Information for Parents

School Council Elections 2012

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information

Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations – 2012

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Kurnai College

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Monday 27th February 2012.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 13th March 2012.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014	3
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013	1
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014	2

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Anthony Rodaughan
College Principal