Message from Campus Principal - Michelle

Compass

Parents would by now have received a letter about logging on to Compass, which is our student management system.

Parents can check their student’s schedule and attendance, and will be able to book appointments for parent teacher conversations that will be coming up at the end of the term.

We are running an information session on Compass and BYOD (see below) next Thursday 29th August where we will be able to help parents log on if they are experiencing difficulties, and show people how to book appointments etc. Please see the flyer later in this newsletter.
Message from Campus Principal - Michelle continued...

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

As government funding for the student netbook program offered in Years 9 – 12 has now ceased, we have investigated a new approach for students to access learning materials on line. This is going to be through students providing their own device, probably an inexpensive tablet, and being connected to the school network. Again, please refer to the flyer below as the information session below will provide some further information, particularly in regard to the most appropriate device for your student to use.

Parent Teacher Conversations

Please note some changes to our Term 3 Parent Teacher Conversations arrangements:

Teachers will be available from 3:30pm – 8:00pm on Thursday 19th September.
There will be an additional time of 10:00am – 12:00 noon on Friday 20th September.
Students will not be required at school on the Friday unless they are attending with their parents.
Parents will need to log in to Compass to book timeslots – please refer to the letter you have received, or come to the information session next Thursday.

District Commander Superintendent Jock Menzel

Recently Morwell Campus had the pleasure of hosting Jock Menzel, the Commander of Division 5, Victoria Police.
Jock was participating in the Principal for a Day program, where leaders in industry, business and government spend a day shadowing a principal to gain an understanding of the role.
Jock was impressed with our school in terms of the quiet atmosphere and friendly nature of our students – he did yard duty with me and spoke to a number of our students; one notable conversation with one of our Year 7s involved the student asking Jock if he could have his fairly impressive looking ID shield!
He also came out to bus duty with me and was very surprised at the large number of speeding motorists in the School Zone where the speed limit is 40 km/h from 8:00 – 9:30 am, and 2:30 – 4:00 pm. We can expect unmarked camera cars and the highway patrol to be in the area at odd times in the future, so please make sure you are doing the right thing in your vehicle, and let your friends and neighbours know.
At the end of the day, Jock and I came to the conclusion that we face similar challenges in our daily roles, particularly in stepping in to many different and varied roles, from meeting with parents and community members, planning, mentoring and whatever else needs to be done.
GPA AllStars

When Progress Reports are produced, the program calculates a score out of 40 that gives an indication of how well the student is travelling with respect to progress, attitude, work ethic, conduct and work completion.

When a student scores 32/40 or higher, they are awarded GPA Allstar status – effectively this means that the student has an average of “Very Good” or above in all categories on the Progress Report.

GPA Allstars were given out at this week’s assembly. Recipients were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bianca</td>
<td>Jasmin</td>
<td>Rachael</td>
<td>Stacey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew</td>
<td>Caiden</td>
<td>Chelsea</td>
<td>Nathan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorja</td>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Katrina Lea</td>
<td>Jazmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Joanna</td>
<td>Erin</td>
<td>Mia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiowa</td>
<td>Bradley</td>
<td>Tiara</td>
<td>Zac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley</td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>Katie</td>
<td>Rishika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Gemma</td>
<td>Niamh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Katie</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
<td>Isabelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>Zackary</td>
<td>Katie</td>
<td>Casey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea</td>
<td>Rachael</td>
<td>Ellie</td>
<td>Cheyane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>Taria</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiara</td>
<td>Zack</td>
<td>Jamie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gabriel
Amy
Riley
Khalid
Year 7 News

It has been really pleasing this fortnight to see such a list of students achieving high GPAs on their last reports. The GPA is a score derived from the results given in each area of the students’ progress reports. We use this to track improvements and follow up with students who need support to improve their learning. I would like to congratulate Nathan Britt, Zac Brown, Jazmine Cowell, Cheyane D’Alia, Isabelle Kennedy, Mia Oddy, Niamh O’Hara, Rishika Prasad, Stacey Rogers, Casey Schorr and Ryan Schopp, who all achieved high GPAs in their August progress report.

Kids Teaching Kids

Year 7 Team are preparing for the Kids Teaching Kids event to be held on Monday 9th September.

There will be five schools coming to participate on the day, including Morwell Park Primary School, Tobruk Street Primary School, Commercial Road Primary School, Kurnai College’s Churchill Campus and St Vincent de Paul Primary School.

The Year 7 student presenting teams are preparing their lessons to engage the classes in a range of activities, from art making, food ideas for lunch boxes, planting, composting, Koorie dancing, the water cycle, The Lorax and more, all related to the theme of sustainability.

Please ask your student if they are one of the presenters and ask them what they will be doing on the day.

We will also have other educators spreading the sustainability message, including Latrobe City Council, Gippsland Water, and GippsTAFE with their Energy Trailer.

We are very grateful to the wonderful sponsorship provided by Target. Paul Newnham, the local Target Store Manager, is delighted to be part of the Kids Teaching Kids event and has provided the Year 7 Team with some great insights to the sustainable practices of the Target store.

See the photo above of Paul in front of the recycling cardboard skip with Dan Swallow and Barb Wiegandt. This is one of many sustainable practices that Target implements as part of their environmental management plan.

Lisa Benn
On behalf of the Year 7 Team
Year 7 News

We have two Year 7 events looming closer now. The **Winter Sleepout** is on the 31st August and has been very popular with the students. It is not expected that all students attend - particularly being a Saturday night and the weekend of Father’s Day - but it is great to have such a good response. Please direct any queries regarding this event to me.

**Kids Teaching Kids** is also on in a few weeks’ time. Lisa Benn has put a great deal of work into the organisation of this event and we are all looking forward to it. It is also great seeing the students giving up their time to prepare their team’s presentation. We are expecting several primary schools to attend here on the day, as well as external organisations and a class of the Churchill Campus students.

German— AGTV Gippsland Regional German Poetry Day

Recently seven of our Year 7 and 8 students represented our school and participated in the annual AGTV Gippsland Regional German Poetry Finals. All of our participating students worked very hard in the lead up to this competition.

The following students represented our school: Nathan Britt, Jasmine Cowell, Stacey Rogers, Brenton Wilken, Katie MacKay, Macee Francetto and Kayla Joy Taylor.

Considering that only our best four at each level are permitted to compete against each other and students from other Gippsland schools, all of our students did us proud.

At the Year 7 level Brenton Wilken was the Gippsland Shield winner and in third place was Stacey Rogers. At the Year 8 level Macee Francetto was the Gippsland shield winner followed by Kayla Joy Taylor in second place.

Congratulations/Gratuliere to all of our participants!
Year 8 News

Loy Yang

On Tuesday Year 8A and 8B had the opportunity to look through Loy Yang Power Station. This opened up our eyes to careers that are available in the industry. It was a very interesting excursion because we got to go through the power station and the mine. While in the power station we walked around a generator and travelled up to the 19th floor, which was the highest point that we could look out and see all of the open cut and the Latrobe Valley. We also travelled around the giant water cooling towers and learned that they lose around 2 million litres of water a week as it turns into steam. Driving around the open cut was very educational as our guide, Clark, provided lots of information about how they make electricity. We learned that the open cut is 4kms x 3kms and 200 metres deep. We saw how the dredgers dig coal. Each dredger is longer than the MCG and higher than the Southern Stand. They dig out about 2 MCGs full of coal every three days. Overall, the excursion was fun and very interesting. Thank you to AGL for funding the excursion and the Smith Family for making the day possible. Students in 8C and 8D will go on this excursion on Tuesday 27th August. By Ellie and Katie.

Year 8 Karoonda Park Camp

The permission forms for the Year 8 Karoonda Park camp are due back. We still have several places to fill. The camp will take place from the 7th to 11th October. It will involve a visit to both Buchan Caves and Lakes Entrance. Students will have opportunities to participate in a range of activities such as rock wall climbing, rafting on the Snowy River and horse riding.
Year 9 News

Work Experience

Next year all students will have the opportunity to complete two weeks of work experience. If you are thinking about doing your work experience at the Latrobe Regional Hospital, The Defence Forces or with the Police Force please let me know as you are unable to apply directly to these organisations and I will need to put your name forward, this year.

Upcoming Excursions, Camps and Events

- September 12th – Arts Connect at the Arts Centre
- Camp Melbourne Discovery – October 14th-18th
- Relay for Life – October 19th-20th

Relay for Life

Kurnai College has entered a team into the Latrobe Valley Relay for Life Cancer Council fundraiser on Saturday 19th October to Sunday 20th October at Gaskin Park, Churchill. If you would like your child to be involved then contact Kim Woods on 5165 0600.
Year 10 News

Careers Expo

Last Friday Year 10 students travelled to Melbourne to attend the Jobs and Careers Expo. This was the next step to help students develop their career pathway. Students were able to participate in hands-on activities in such diverse activities such as painting, building and cake decorating. They collected information from universities and TAFE providers as well as information from the Armed Services. A lot of information to pack into a single day, but hopefully it will provide food for conversations between students and their parents.

Course Counselling

Wednesday 28/8/13, appointments between 2pm – 6pm

On Wednesday, ALL Year 10 students are expected to attend a course counselling session to select their subjects for next year. Staff from the Precinct and Morwell Campus will be available to assist you. The sign-up sheets are in the Common Room and need to be filled in by the end of Tuesday. Whilst we prefer that parents/guardians are in attendance, we know that this is not always possible.

In order to keep their options open, we would like students to attend a session regardless of their intentions for 2014.

If you have any questions regarding course counselling please do not hesitate to reach me by phone or email.
Upcoming Excursions / Camps

To ensure the smooth organisation and running of camps and excursions we request that permission forms and payments be returned to the school by the due date on the permission form. This enables the purchase of train tickets, food and venue tickets, etc, in a timely manner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8C &amp; 8D Loy Yang</td>
<td>27 Aug</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>By 2pm 26/8/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Ten Pin Bowling</td>
<td>9 Sept</td>
<td>cost of game at venue</td>
<td>By 2pm 6/9/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Bang, Crash, Tap</td>
<td>12 Sept</td>
<td>$8-50</td>
<td>By 2pm 5/9/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Karoonda Camp</td>
<td>7—11 Oct</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>3rd instalment of $100 by 11am 2/9/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Melbourne Discovery Camp</td>
<td>14—18 Oct</td>
<td>$370</td>
<td>Final instalment of $120 by 11am 2/9/13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Morwell & Churchill Gym Hire Available

The Morwell and Churchill Gymnasium currently has vacancies available for hire.

Morwell has Thursday & Friday nights available.

Liability Insurance proof of cover is required and Key deposit applies.

Contact Leonie Mackie on 5165 0600 for more information.

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A PLEASANT WINTER SUNDAY AFTERNOON

featuring the

_Latrobe & Francis Orchestras_

At the _UNITING CHURCH_
19 – 29 Park Lane Traralgon
2.00pm

**SUNDAY 25th AUGUST 2013**

Cost: $10.00 Single  $6.00 Concession  $25.00 Family

A light afternoon tea will be served at the conclusion of the concert

Come along and enjoy an afternoon of exceptional music

_Everyone welcome_

Contact: Ron Wall 5134 4260 [ronwall43@gmail.com](mailto:ronwall43@gmail.com)
Kurnai is pleased to introduce you to our new online service for families called “Compass”.

Each family has been mailed unique login for Compass. If you have not received this letter please contact your campus office.

Compass provides the school community with a range of facilities which will streamline communication and provide enhanced access to information. Modules will slowly be introduced over the next coming year.

When fully integrated parents will be able to use Compass to:

- **Email address and mobile number** – update your details through the portal. The details listed will be used to send emails and SMS alerts.
- **News feed** – the school will post news to parents to remind you about events and activities at the school. Your news feed will be customised, showing only the information relevant to you and your children.
- **Attendance** – view your child’s attendance online, approve absences, and indicate future absence.
- **Reports** – view your child’s current and past progress and semester reports as an electronic PDF file.
- **Newsletter** – the newsletter will be published on Compass and parents will be able to login to view it each fortnight.
- **Teacher email** – parents will be able to email their child’s teachers directly.
- **Excursions** – approve your child’s participation in excursions and other special events.
- **Parent/Student/Teacher Conversations** – make appointments with teachers.
- **Curriculum materials** – assignments and homework will be made available for parents and students to access.

You can access Compass on any web-enabled device e.g.: laptop, iPhone and Android Phone.

Parents will play an important role in this initiative. It will be essential that parents log in at least once a fortnight to access the newsletter and the news feed. It is essential that the Username and Password are kept in a safe place, and not made available to students.

**Parent, Student and Teacher Conversations**

In response to parent feedback the time allocated for Parent, Student and Teacher interviews will be increased and families will be able to book set times rather than standing in line for teachers to become available.

The end of term interviews will now run from:

- Thursday – 19th September - 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm
- Friday – 20th September – 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Please see the attached sheet for instructions on how to book your interview times through Compass.

If you require any assistance with Compass or booking your interview times please contact your campus office.
Making a Parent/Teacher/Student Conference Booking

To access PTS Conferences log into the Compass parent portal using your Username and Password. If you are unsure of your log in details please contact the school.

On the Compass homepage a list of your students will be listed. If a conference has been opened for any of your students a link to the PTS Conference will appear under their name. Click on the link.

This will display the PTS Conference Dashboard which includes a list of all the conferences for all of the students linked to your parent account. If a conference is open for bookings ‘False’ will appear in the ‘Locked’ column.

Each event in the list is specific to one of your students, therefore if you have two or more students with conferences during the same event that event will appear once for every student in the list of Available events.

To make bookings for one students’ conference click on that Event in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Locked</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term2 PT Interviews</td>
<td>False</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term2 PT Interviews</td>
<td>False</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This will display a list of all available booking times. A list of teachers linked to this student will be displayed at the bottom of the screen. To see when a teacher is available for an appointment you can click on their name in this list.

A teachers schedule for PTS Conference – this screen is read only; bookings cannot be made on this page.
Computer Sale

As part of Kurnai’s commitment to ICT, every 4 years the classroom computers across the College are upgraded.

A number of the desktop computers are available for purchase.

**Brand:** Lenovo

**Processor:** AMD Athlon X2 Dual Core 4450B 2.30GHz

**Memory:** 2GB

**Hard Drive:** 160GB (Some have 320, and very few have 500GB)

**Graphics:** NVidia 9300GE 256MB

**Monitor:** 20” Flat screen

**Mouse and Keyboard included**

This represents the minimum specs. Due to replacements and upgrades over the 4 years some computers may have higher specification than listed.

Computers do not come with a warranty but the College will exchange (subject to availability) or refund within two weeks of purchase should any item prove to be faulty.

The price has been set at $200 and can be purchased and picked up from the Morwell Campus office Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
This is a special invitation to all parents of current and prospective students to Kurnai College Morwell.

Information given at the session will cover the following:

**Introduction to Compass (Online school management system) for Parents to allow the following:**

- Log in and set up for parents
- Communication with teachers
- Attendance information
- Future Student progress and Semester reports
- Future student management
- School notices

**BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program for 2014**

- What it means for parents and students
- What is expected
- Device suggestions and restrictions
- Special limited time Microsoft Surface RT tablet offer

All parents who attend the Parent information night on Monday the 26th at Churchill and Thursday 29th at Morwell will be put into the draw to win a Microsoft Surface RT tablet valued at $500, thanks to Microsoft and Harvey Norman, Traralgon.
Smoking rates in Victoria continue to fall with just 13 per cent of Victorians now smoking regularly and young people turning their back on the habit, new figures show.
Cancer Council Victoria research to be released on Tuesday shows 13.3 per cent of Victorians were regular smokers who inhaled weekly or more often last year, down from 14.4 per cent in 2011.

We still have about 4000 Victorians every year dying from tobacco-related illnesses so we can't afford to be complacent.

The smoking rates are the lowest since the Cancer Council started collecting the data in 1998, when 21.2 per cent were regular smokers, and the 58.2 per cent of Victorians who had never smoked was the highest. More than 70 per cent of young people aged 18 to 29 had never smoked, a much higher rate than for older Victorians.
Quit Victoria executive director Fiona Sharkie said "We've seen declines across all age and socioeconomic groups in recent years but the acceleration in the decline in smoking rates among Victoria's most disadvantaged communities and young people is very encouraging."

If you want to be a quitter and win better health, visit the following sites / people for more information;
www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au or visit your local doctor or school nurse.