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Term 3 Kicks Off

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Homework Club

Tuesday next week we will get the Homework Club up and running for the term, from 3:30 – 4:30pm in the Library. If the need arises, the time can be extended later in the term. Students who have work to complete will be welcomed in for a hot drink and a biscuit.

Education Maintenance Allowance

If your circumstances have changed since the beginning of the year, parents and guardians may be eligible for the second instalment of EMA if they have a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card on the eligibility date - 15 July 2013. Applications close on 2 August 2013.
Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be completed by teachers during next week; these reports will give a snapshot of where the student is up to now that five weeks of the semester is complete. The Progress Reports will be mailed out, and there is no formal parent teacher interviews scheduled, however if parents and carers have questions about their child’s progress, feel free to contact the teacher concerned.

NAIDOC Week

Last Thursday we celebrated NAIDOC Week with a BBQ at lunchtime and a number of important visitors from the local Koorie Community. Students enjoyed the BBQ and were then able to watch our Koorie Dancers, Dedlee Kultya, perform some traditional dances, led as always by Sam Solomon.

Resilience

One of my theme songs at the moment is about resilience, or our ability to bounce back when things don’t go well. I have received some information from Parentingideas.com.au that give us as adults some ideas to help young people in our care to build their resilience.

1. Don’t fight all their battles for them. There is nothing wrong with going in to bat when kids struggle or meet with difficulty in or out of school, but make sure this is the last resort, not the first one. Give them the opportunity to develop their own problem solving skills.

2. Don’t make their problem, your problem.

3. Sometimes we as adults can take on too much responsibility for issues that are really up to the young person to work out for themselves. Make their problem, their problem.

4. Don’t put unrealistic or relentless pressure on kids to perform. Expectations about success and achievement are important, but if they are too high, kids will give up, or experience anxiety.
Year 7 News

Students should now be settling into Term 3 and working hard at the new semester’s classes. Some students have had class changes or new teachers. Please ensure that your child is adequately prepared for school with sufficient pens and workbooks, and proper school uniform. If any of these are a concern, I encourage you to contact me at the school on 5165 0600 or via email at swallow.daniel.d@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Students in Year 7 are soon to be learning more about goal setting. You can help them think about this by talking with them about their goals and helping them set short and long term goals to guide their progress in school, sport or other endeavours. Students should start to talk about the steps towards their goals and recognising if their goals are achieved.

Most Year 7 students are now doing swimming as part of their physical education program. Please ensure that your child has returned their permission form and is bringing the appropriate swimming gear to their Physical Education class. This program is free and a great benefit to each student. We also have the College Athletics Day coming up.

Please ensure that the permission form has been returned for that also.

Kids Teaching Kids

Year 7 Team are preparing for the Kids Teaching Kids event to be held on Monday the 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
Year 8 News

Technology talents

Last semester Nic Smith came up with an idea to do a planter box for his patio at home.

It was rather large and he designed it and built it with very little help from me.

Nic did ask a couple of his friends to help which were Tanner and Brandon. The Technology Department encourages this kind of forward thinking and Nic has shown his ability to make changes to his design as problems came up. This project shows all 4 pillars.

He mostly used old scrap wood but as you can see from the photo it looks awesome!

Mark Johnston
Technology Teacher

Year 8 Swimming

The Year 8 swimming program began this week. We will gain swimming skills, learn survival techniques and have a good time whilst learning. These classes are taking place in the Morwell and Churchill Leisure Centres, with fully skilled/trained swimming instructors on standby. The lessons are aimed at the appropriate level for each student. So far, the swimming classes have been enjoyable and worthwhile.

By Rachael Peter, Katie Foster, Tayla Ryan and Tiara Vajler.

Kurnai College Four Pillars

Engagement: We actively participate in our own learning
Excellence: We do the best that we can do
Work Ethic: We are committed to working hard
Relationships: We value and respect each other
Year 9 News

Dear Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. For the remainder of the year I will be the contact person for matters concerning Year 9 students. Please feel free to phone or email me with any questions or concerns.

The Real Game

As part of Humanities this semester, Year 9 students are studying The Real Game. The Be Real Game gives students a chance to look at real life issues that adults deal with every day such as:

- family and work responsibilities
- links between education and work opportunities
- making decisions about money and time &
- the connections between education, income and job satisfaction

Students have been writing resumes and job applications for the characters that they were given. They have been exploring a fictional role based on their career interests – and have been learning and furthering their knowledge and qualifications in order to benefit from more choices and opportunities in the future, exploring a range of work roles and career paths and recognise what aspects bring them the most satisfaction in the workplace.

Tomorrow, many students will have mock interviews. We wish them all the best!

HPV—(Human Powered Vehicle)

Kurnai College participates in the RACV Energy Breakthrough Human Powered Vehicle race, held in Maryborough, Victoria, each year.

This is one of the biggest events held for students in Australia with hundreds of schools participating, from primary schools through to senior secondary.

There are numerous events run during the four days but all have a focus on the environment and alternative energy sources.

Throughout the year students prepare and train for the event, with Maryborough being the opportunity for them to display their efforts.

Four girls and four boys make up the team, and they need to give a presentation in front of a panel of judges and explain what they have learnt during the journey.

The team also has to put their vehicle through scrutineering to prove it is road worthy and that they understand the race rules.

The final challenge is the race, pedalling a reclining (three wheel) trike bike for 24 hours around a 1.3 km circuit against 90 other teams.

The HPV program is important for students to experience because it improves their skills with people, and mechanical work.

On Friday 16 August we are holding an out of uniform day to help raise money for the HPV program.

All the money we raise will be used to pay for equipment and our travel to Maryborough. The more money we raise, the less students will have to pay to participate, and it helps us purchase helmets, gloves, glasses, tyres and other essentials.
Year 10 News

Endeavour Roadshow

Kurnai College Year 10 students were fortunate to have a presentation by the Endeavour Roadshow. The Program aims to promote the importance of engineering and its applications. The event involved a series of fun, interactive and educational activities to raise the profile of engineering amongst our students. Furthermore, the Program aims to inspire students to consider engineering as an attractive option for tertiary study with prospects of a fulfilling career.

“It was a fabulous program and it was really engaging..”

Transition

Last night the Information Evening at the Precinct was the second major event for Year 10 students in terms of their transition to Years 11 and 12.

Key dates for your diaries

- Wed 14 August: Second Step
- Fri 16 August: Herald Sun Careers Expo
- Wed 28 August: Year 11 Course Counselling

Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program

The Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars program is an academic enrichment program designed to support high-achieving Victorian and select New South Wales and South Australian border school students in realising their full potential. The program provides access to events, activities and resources to give you a head start into university. It also creates a community of students to allow you to network and make new friends.

The program was established in 2007 and is named in honour of eminent scholar, leading educationalist and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, Professor Kwong Lee Dow.

What's in store for you:

- You are selected into the program while in Year 10, with up to 700 students chosen each year on the basis of your school’s endorsement and your own academic performance and leadership skills.
- In Years 11 and 12, you will have the opportunity to engage with the University and each other through an extensive program of events and activities at Melbourne University’s Parkville campus.

For an online brochure, click here or visit http://bpointelligence.com/ebrochure/uom/2013-kld-young-scholars-program/
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.

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Year 7/8 Swimming</td>
<td>22 Jul—Dec</td>
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<td>College Athletics</td>
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<td>German Poetry Comp</td>
<td>9 Aug</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>Permission form &amp; money due by 11am 7/8/13</td>
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<td>Year 10 Career Expo</td>
<td>16 Aug</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Permission form &amp; money due by 11am 15/8/13</td>
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<td>Year 10 China Trip</td>
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<td>$2500 TBC</td>
<td>Permission form &amp; payment of $2200 due by 11am 1/8/13</td>
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