



**PARENT BULLETIN**

**20<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

**COMING EVENTS**

Tuesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April.....	Yr 7 & 9 Volleyball
Wednesday, 25 <sup>th</sup> April.....	Anzac Day ( <b>Public Holiday</b> )
Thursday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> May.....	College Athletics Sports
Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June.....	Queen's Birthday ( <b>Public Holiday</b> )
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> June.....	Last Day Term 2

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:	8.00 am – 4.00 pm
SCHOOL HOURS:	8.25 am – 2.50 pm students are supervised between 8.10 am and 3.00 pm

**CAMPUS PRINCIPAL'S NEWS**



Hello Everyone,  
Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all had a good break and did not over indulge on Easter eggs and hot cross buns. I was still working in China when Easter was on and didn't see an egg, bun or rabbit the whole time I was there.

Permission forms have been sent out for the **Athletics Sports Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**. If your child attended the swimming sports you will have heard what a great day it was. We expect the Athletics Sports will be the same. We think it is important that as many students as possible attend these days. Please make sure that you have signed the permission form and that it is returned to school by **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**.

Anzac Day, next Wednesday, is not a day when students are expected to be at school. However for a number of students it will not be a holiday as many of our students will be attending and participating in Anzac Day ceremonies in both Morwell and Yinnar. I think it is important that we recognise our students' involvement in these events and thank them for helping to commemorate this significant day each year.

As part of the school's Positive Behaviour Support program students and staff will be concentrating on Work Ethic this term. Could you please encourage your child in all areas of their work at the school but particularly on really working hard during Term 2. For those of you who think that your child would benefit from a little extra help Homework Club will be operating from Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 3:15 – 5:15pm. If your child, or you, would like to be involved with the Homework Club please contact Wayne Bass, Leanne Baxter or Geoff Block.

**Geoff Block**  
**CAMPUS PRINCIPAL**

**YEAR 8**

**Year 8 University Awareness Day 22nd May - Students Access Monash**

Students from Kurnai Morwell have been invited to visit Monash Uni Gippsland Campus and participate in a range of activities to introduce the concept of university to students. Activities will be run for the entire cohort with students to rotate through two to three activities over a half day. This will be a 3-hour activity.

**Uniform**

Congratulations to the majority of students who have presented this week in the correct school uniform. There are however some students who are wearing incorrect uniforms. If this is your child, could you please send them with a note stating the reason for being out of uniform and the date that you expect them to be back in the correct uniform. If for any reason you are having difficulties in providing your child with a uniform please let their home group teacher, the Team Leader or Assistant Team Leader know.

**ATTENDANCE: IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY**

Are you aware that if a child misses nine days per term from Prep to Grade 6 then they have missed one complete school year? By Year 12 this equals two complete years.

By avoiding school, students are taking the first steps in isolating themselves from the community in which they live. Being reliable in attendance is a valuable habit for life and builds a connectedness between the students, their teachers and fellow students.

Regular attendance is also one of the major factors contributing to a student's wellbeing and successful transition from a child to an adult. If a student is avoiding school, particularly if parent-condoned, then they are putting their future at risk.

Whichever way we look at it, schools offer opportunities for positive experiences for students. Remember that persistent and unexplained absence will also affect a student's Youth Allowance. Let's all work together to make a difference to your child's future.



Rockpooling ...

Annie Pepper showing them how it is done. Like this boys!



Ryan Mayo being buried in the sand

Yeah nice one girls!



Annie Pepper from Traralgon won Bronze in 1:05.56 in the recent 2012 Australian Age Swimming Championships in the girl's 100m backstroke. Furthermore, Annie was part of the winning team in the relay and the team brought home Gold.

**YOU GO GIRL!**

**Year 8 think you ROCK!**

Didn't we have a lovely day the day we went to ...  
Inverloch  
The sun was out,  
It was a beautiful day,  
And no Year 8 was sick on the way.  
Oh didn't we have a lovely day the day we went to ...  
Inverloch  
The waves were high,  
The boarders were hot,  
And we found a beaut little picnic spot.

## **YEAR 9**

During Term 1, Year 9 students were fortunate to have the Migrant Resource Centre attend Team Time classes. The presenters, Lisa and Abraham, helped to improve our understanding of the difficulties faced by migrants when they arrive in a foreign country. Our students experienced first-hand what it would be like to complete forms in another language. Abraham also shared his personal experience as a Lost Boy. We hope the sessions were beneficial to our students and helped raise awareness about the migrant's experience. Many thanks go to Lisa and Abraham for giving up their time.

The Year 9 Melbourne Discovery Camp will be during the week 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October. Information regarding the camp will be coming home in a few weeks. The camp will cost approximately \$400 which includes breakfast and dinner.

### **Cleo Lazaris -Year 9 Team Leader**

## **HPV**

Kurnai students recently competed in the Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) Grand Prix at Wonthaggi on the 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> March. The students spent many weeks preparing for their activity by working on their vehicle and practicing their skills. The HPV Grand Prix aims to develop fitness, skills and helps the students reflect on good environmental outcomes. It is a great way to involve the students with the wider community. The students had a fabulous time and learnt a lot about organization and commitment as the event goes for 24 hours straight. Several community employers generously sponsored the event including Central Gippsland Mowers, S&J Cycles and Yallourn Power Station. Teachers supporting it commented on the terrific contribution of the students and included Brett Gay, Melissa Ross and Wayne Bass.

## **YEAR 10**

### **Work Experience**

Congratulations to all Year 10 students for their successful Work Experience placements. We had very positive reports from all of the employers that were contacted or visited over the two week program.

### **Copy Capp Program**

Students interested in working in Community Services and Health fields have been invited to apply for the Copy Capp Program. The Copy Capp Program runs over two days and involves industry speakers and field visits. Students will meet professionals from Allied Health (Physio, Podiatry), Community Care, Aged and Disability Services and other areas from within. They will also experience firsthand the daily tasks and work environment of the industry, through participation in the field visits. The program will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Exams**

Year 10 students will be undertaking exams on their Year 11 subject, English, Maths, Science and Humanities subjects from the 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June.

## **COLLEGE MUSIC**

### **Fundraising**

**Drink cans** – being collected. Bag of cans can be dropped off at Morwell campus on Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

### **Only Instrument classes available are:**

Trombone x 3; Trumpet x 2; French Horn x 1; Saxophone/Clarinet x 3.

Get an Expression of Interest Form from the office if interested, can commence classes on the above instruments ASAP.

### **Public Performances**

Generations In Jazz Festival @ Mt Gambier, South Australia

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May till Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

College Big Band performing

### **Performance Review**

Kurnai College Music recently participated in the Multicultural Festival schools concert at Kernot Hall. This year, the College Big Band presented an early-mid 1900s top-tapping tune "One O'Clock Jump" written by the Afro-American Count Bassie. The performance featured soloists and improvisations from Luke Cassidy on Trombone, Vanessa Gillett on Trumpet, Daniel Gill on Alto Sax and Hayden May on Electric Guitar.



## **IMMUNISATION WEEK 23RD– 29TH APRIL 2012**

### **Notes from the Nurse, Wendy Ruddell**

#### **Secondary school immunisations - Information for parents**

Secondary school students in Victoria are eligible to receive free immunisations to ensure their continued protection against preventable diseases. Immunisations are provided by Immunisation Nurses at the local councils in cooperation with secondary schools.



#### **Why are immunisations needed?**

The protection from some immunisations given to children gradually disappears over time therefore needs to be boosted. The government funds some vaccines especially for adolescents because they are at an age when the vaccine will be most effective. Immunisation is a proven and safe way to be protected against diseases which cause serious illness and sometimes death. Immunisation not only protects the person having the vaccine, but can protect other people around them who cannot be immunised due to illness or age.

#### **What immunisations are offered to adolescents?**

##### Year 7 (about 12 to 13 years old)

##### **Hepatitis B vaccine**

This vaccine is given if your child has never had a course of hepatitis B vaccine or has not finished a course previously. A course consists of two doses with four to six months between each dose.

##### **Chickenpox (Varicella) vaccine**

This vaccine is given if your child has never had the disease chickenpox or you are not sure if they had chickenpox in the past. It consists of a single injection.

##### **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**

A three dose course is given to girls only with two months between the first and second dose and four months between the second and third dose.

##### Year 10 (about 15 to 16 years old)

##### **Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine**

This vaccine protects against the three diseases in a single injection.

[www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/resources/adol](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/resources/adol)

#### **What do I need to do?**

- Look out for the immunisation information and consent form that your child should bring home from school.
- Read the information, complete the consent form and return it to school as quickly as possible.
- If you consent for your child to be immunised, explain to them that immunisation is important and everyone must have these vaccines when they are adolescents for protection against disease.
- Encourage your child to eat breakfast on the day the immunisation session is scheduled.

#### **What if my child misses their immunisation at school?**

You can take your child to a local council immunisation service by contacting your council at: [www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/resources/local-councils.htm](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/resources/local-councils.htm)

You can also attend your doctor to catch-up missed vaccine. It is important for your child to follow up with the missed vaccine as soon as practicable so they will be eligible to receive the vaccine for free.

#### **What if I prefer for my child to have their immunisation at the doctor?**

It is important to return the consent card declining the immunisation at the school. Inform the medical centre that you are attending for the scheduled school immunisation. The vaccines are free but your doctor may charge you for the consultation.

The HPV vaccine for Year 7 school girls will need to be ordered each time in advance for your daughter, so allow time for the medical centre to do this when you arrange your appointment. Remember to take your child to the doctor in the year they are eligible for free vaccines.

#### **Where can I go for more information?**

[www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/resources/local-councils.htm](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/resources/local-councils.htm), [www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation). Your doctor. For information that has been translated into many languages visit: [www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/factsheets/language.htm](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/factsheets/language.htm)

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PARENT TO PARENT GIPPSLAND**

#### **Strengthening Parent Support Program**

#### **Parent Support Groups and Contact Parents in Gippsland**

For queries please phone the contact parents listed with each group, or contact Yvonne @ p2pg on 1800 010 453, or 5135 3131. If you need child care to attend a parent support group meeting, please contact Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre on 1800 242 696. If you're attending for the first time, or if it has been some time since you last attended, please contact Yvonne or the Contact Parent to confirm, as details may change.

### **Latrobe City**

#### **Support Groups:**

##### **\*Dyspraxia Support Group**

For more information contact Tracey D on 51 924 116 or call or text on 0409 200 872, or Yvonne on 51 353 131 or [yvonne.waite@noahsarkinc.org.au](mailto:yvonne.waite@noahsarkinc.org.au)

##### **\*SuppAUT**

For families who have children with autism and live in the Latrobe region. Meetings are from 10am - 12noon and are held at Noah's Ark regional office in Chestnut Avenue Morwell. Dates: April 26<sup>th</sup>, May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup>, July 26<sup>th</sup>, August 30<sup>th</sup>, October 25<sup>th</sup> and November 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact Lou 51 750 877.

##### **\*Gippsland Carers Association**

Gippsland Carers Association new monthly peer **Support Group** is open to all unpaid family carers in Gippsland. It's a great opportunity for carers to take some time-out from caring and meet with others who really understand what it's like to be a carer. Dates: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 27<sup>th</sup> June, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 24<sup>th</sup> October and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 Time: 10am-12pm Venue: Gippsland Carers Association, Carers Place, 185 Commercial Rd, Morwell Contact **Kate Buxton on 0439 377 001 or [gippscarer.kate@gmail.com](mailto:gippscarer.kate@gmail.com)**

#### **Contact Parents:**

##### **Hearing Impaired Support Contact Parent**

For more information contact Roz on 5122 2645

##### **Latrobe & District Down syndrome Contact Parent**

For more information contact Leanne on 5122 2390 or [annie@wideband.net.au](mailto:annie@wideband.net.au).

### **Trafalgar Skate Bowl Festival**

Young people who enjoy skating or tricks with BMX bikes or scooters are invited to a great afternoon of showcasing and competitions on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April from 2-6pm. The Trafalgar Skate Park is located in Depot Lane, behind the Baw Baw Technology Centre on the Princes Highway. Registrations will take place from 1.40pm.

This festival has been made possible by a grant from Youth Foundations - a partnership between the Trafalgar Bendigo Community Bank and the State Government. Trafalgar Community Development Association applied for the grant after the success of last year's event and is pleased to support the young people of our area.

The YMCA Skate Services (YSS) will facilitate and manage the festival and run the competitions.

The competition will include a Best Trick, Jam or Single Run sessions. There will be a great range of prizes.

### **YMCA Conditions of Entry**

1. All competitors must have a completed and signed *entry form* by a parent or guardian.
2. All competitors must be smoke, drug and alcohol-free.
3. All competitors must wear a helmet whilst competing (helmets supplied).

There will be food and drinks available to purchase, and useful information from a variety of youth organisations.

For more information check the website: [www.skatepark.ymca.org.au](http://www.skatepark.ymca.org.au) or contact TCDA president Sue Jacka 0409 757 170, or Trafalgar High School Youth Worker, David Lyons 0409 015 662.

### **Morwell East Football/Netball Club**

U16 & U18 footballers wanted.

Training changes to Monday and Thursday from 19<sup>th</sup> March. 5-6pm at Morwell East, Vary Street, Morwell.

Contact Jacob Blair (U16) 0403 640 580, Jay Crofts (U18) 0431 469 252 or Gavin Blair (President) 0408 142 095.

All past and new players welcome.

### **Morwell Netball Association**

New season commences 21<sup>st</sup> April. Ages required Under 11, 13, 16 for netball teams. Contact Deb 0402 846 411 for further information.

### Working smoke alarms save lives!

You can't smell smoke when asleep, so smoke alarms are an essential early-warning system to alert you and your family to the dangers of fire and smoke.

Daylight savings ends on 1<sup>st</sup> April this year, this is the time when CFA advises you to change your smoke alarm batteries (each smoke alarm will require a 9V battery). CFA also recommends that you vacuum around your smoke alarm to remove cobwebs and dust which may affect the smoke alarm sensor. You can ensure your smoke alarm is constantly protecting your family by pushing the test button with a broom handle after changing the battery.

### Kurnai College - 2012 China Trip

Again this year, Year 10 students will have the opportunity to travel and discover the delights of China. The school will be undertaking a study tour of China during September 2012. The three week tour will visit Kou'an (our sister school in China) where students will stay with a Chinese family and attend some classes at Kou'an Middle School. Some of the other places the tour plans to visit will include Beijing, the Great Wall, Shanghai and Hong Kong. This is an excellent opportunity for students to discover the wonders of China.

During next term we will have a family information session to update families on the details of the trip and give parents and students an opportunity to find out more information.

Later this year there will be some classes run by the Language Centre to teach students and/or families the basics of the Chinese language. Knowing some basic Chinese will be greatly useful on the tour. All students in China learn English at school, but many older people in China don't speak English.

The full cost of the tour will be around \$3,000, and there will be some financial support available for some families. Costs will be confirmed later as itineraries are set. All students will need to have a passport, so there will also be this extra expense for some families. So if you are interested in travelling, start saving now.

If you need more information or have any queries you can contact Darren Hodgson on 51323836 or on [hodgson.darren.d@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hodgson.darren.d@edumail.vic.gov.au).



If you are interested in taking part of this study tour please complete the expression of interest below:

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Student name) are expressing an interest of being involved in the Kurnai Study Tour of China in September 2012.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to your campus office by 27<sup>th</sup> April (Morwell Campus only)