

Connections STAWELL SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Volume 19 Number 21

23rd July, 2009

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Premier's Award: Congratulations to 2008 graduate Tim McQueen who received a Premier's Award for his achievement in VET Engineering last year. Tim is working interstate at the moment so his parents Suzie and Mick McQueen travelled to Melbourne with Assistant Principal Mr Murray Hart to receive his award at a ceremony on Tuesday. Tim was one of the top three candidates in the state for this vocational education subject and the school shares his pride in this recognition. We also congratulate engineering teacher Mr Chris Peatt for instructing and supporting Tim towards this significant achievement.

Year 11 Physics Students returned last night from Mt Baw Baw where they conducted experiments in snow and ice which provide near frictionless surfaces to allow studies of speed and acceleration. Some of these practical learning experiences were planned during classes leading up to the trip, and students learn first hand how experiments need to be developed and optimised in order to evaluate their hypotheses. Skiing and snow boarding add further practical and enjoyable experiences. Thanks to Ms Joana Sestokas, Mr John Pye and Ms Mei Jing for planning, transport, organisation and support for this creative and exciting excursion.

Rubicon Camp: Selected Year 9 and 10 students will join a group from Beaufort Secondary College next week to experience outdoor education and leadership development at Rubicon Camp, a Department of Education, Employment and Training "school" which provides specialist instruction and experiences in an challenging adventure context. We wish them all the best as they travel with Mr John Malloy and Ms Gaynor Radovic for this fantastic learning opportunity.

You're History: Rehearsals, set construction, lighting, sound and music are all coming together in the development of our school production to be performed on 14th and 15th August. See inside Connections for ticket details and plan to be there!

School Council meets this evening and will confirm proposals for our National School Pride "facelift" and celebrate the allocation of funding from the Australian Government Building the Education Revolution funds for our Language Centre for the 21st Century. We will be constructing our language centre on the basis of a template provided for similar developments around Victoria so council will review the template and consider how it can be developed for our learning and community applications. We have also received further information about access to computers for students and will be discussing the details of how computer grants can best meet the needs of our students.

Parent comments and student goals: Parents are encouraged to ensure students return comments in response to Semester 1 reports. These will be important as students develop their goals for Semester 2.

SIMPSONS

...the labour hire specialists

**A Traineeship - An Apprenticeship
Holidays - Weekends - After school
Full-time - Part-time**

Whatever work option you choose, we can help!
Call in Monday to Friday from 9 to 5.

131 Main Street, Stawell 5358 1550

Parent feedback is also important for teachers to consider in the planning and delivery of future programs so please ensure these are sent to school if you have not already done so.

Thank you.

Peter Hilbig
Principal

..... IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, 23 rd July	GRAMPS Excursion - Mr Cameron Year 10 ESL Excursion - Mrs Radovic
Friday, 24 th July	German Studies Excursion - Ms Smith VSSSA State Cross Country Championships
Monday, 27 th July	Rubicon Camp - Mr Malloy
Tuesday, 28 th July	Rubicon Camp - Mr Malloy
Wednesday, 29 th July	Rubicon Camp - Mr Malloy
Thursday, 30 th July	Rubicon Camp - Mr Malloy
Friday, 31 st July	Rubicon Camp - Mr Malloy Year 8.1 English Excursion – Mrs Kirsch Jeparit Shoot - Mr Sawyer
Tuesday, 4 th August	Year 8 & 10 English Competition - Mrs Radovic
Thursday, 6 th August	Maths Competition - Mrs Delley
Friday, 7 th August	German Poetry Excursion - Ms Smith
Tuesday, 11 th August	Wimmera Yr 7 & 8 Football & Netball - Mr Illig
Friday, 14 th August	SCHOOL PRODUCTION - Miss Lee & Miss Edwards Year 8.1 English Excursion - Mrs Kirsch
Saturday, 15 th August	SCHOOL PRODUCTION - Miss Lee & Miss Edwards
Tuesday, 18 th August	Wimmera Cycling - Mr Illig
Thursday, 20 th August	VCTA Shoot - Mr Sawyer
Friday, 21 st August	Ballarat Uni Goal Setting Session – Yr 10, 11 & VCE - Mr Dalziel

UNIFORMS FOR SALE

2 X VCE Polo Shirts	Size 20A	\$15.00 each (Good Condition)
1 x Small Supre Girls Pants Blue		\$15.00 (Good Condition)
1 x CT Lane Girls Blue School Pants	Size 12	\$10.00 (Brand New)
1 x XS Red School Sports Polo Shirt		\$5.00
1 x Size 10 Face Off Blue Girls School Pants		\$15.00 (Good Condition)
1 x Size 12 Face Off Blue Girls School Pants		\$15.00(Good Condition)
2 x Size 12 School Summer Dresses		15.00 each (Very Good Condition)
1 x Medium Junior School Jacket		\$10.00 (Good Condition)

Contact Rebecca after 4.30pm on Ph: 53590318

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

Towards the end of last term the Melbourne based Values for Life team, presented interactive anti-bullying workshops to Year 7, 8 and 9 students at the College. The program was lively and engaging with many of the students commenting positively about what they learned. Here are some students' comments about the program: "I think today was cool and it got me thinking." "I really liked today because I learned so much about bullying and how it affects people." "I learned to treat others as I would like to be treated."

It's encouraging that students are developing an awareness of how to treat others with respect and the harm that bullying can have on others. All of us who have concern for young people can assist them in developing this awareness whether we are teachers, parents or members of the community.

Here are some tips that will help parents reinforce and complement what the school is already doing to prevent bullying and the continuing development of the values of respect and the acceptance of others:

- ☺ Encourage your son/daughter to treat others with courtesy, kindness and respect.
- ☺ Encourage them to listen to others with mutual respect.
- ☺ Assist them in developing responsibility for their own actions.
- ☺ Teach them how to value others for their individual differences.
- ☺ Praise your son/daughter when they are behaving well.
- ☺ Show an active interest in what they are doing.

It is also important to remember that our young people learn from their observations of adults' behaviour and how adults interact with each other. We may not always be aware of the impact and influence that we as adults have on young people and what they learn from us as they travel on their own journey to adulthood.

Mary Rillstone
Chaplain

YOU'RE HISTORY!

Stawell Secondary College

Students of Stawell Secondary College will present their musical *You're History* on the 14th and 15th of August. Students, teachers and parents alike have been busy learning lines, making sets, tickets and numerous other jobs associated with a production of this kind. Directors Miss Lee and Miss Edwards say the task has been huge but the rewards for the students involved and the wider community will be immense. 'Stawell Secondary College has not had a musical for a few years and the effort from everyone involved has been amazing to date', Miss Edwards said. All the students and teachers want now is for the wider community to make the effort to support the students and possible "stars" of the future.

You're History draws parallels between hierarchical history and the modern schoolyard. When a nerdy teenager turns a portable classroom into a time machine, a mischievous detention class is sent hurtling back through history. The time warped team discover vicious Vikings, pilates practicing Pirates, disco happy Gladiators, a rapping Romeo and Juliet and the infamous Oedipus on Jerry Springer.

Miss Edwards says there are no individual stars of the show but encourages everyone to come along and judge for themselves. *You're History* promises to be a wonderful production filled with thought provoking themes, sensational songs and plenty of laughs. Tickets are available from the Stawell Secondary College library at a cost of **\$8 per adult, \$6 for children and \$20 per family (2 adults and three children).**



7PM

You're History!

**Friday 14th and Saturday 15th August
Stawell Secondary College Hall**

Tickets: \$6 Concession - \$8 Adult - \$20 Family (2 Adults, 3 Children)

YEAR 9 & 10 NETBALL

On Tuesday the 21st of July a team of 8 girls from Years 9 and 10 went to Horsham to compete in the Intermediate Girl's Netball against other teams around the Wimmera. The team consisted of Maddi Jelly, Lauren Armstrong, Elly and Leah Homden, Kristy McEvoy, Meg Newton, Lisa Fleming and Grace Jensz.

Our first game was against Warracknabeal which we defeated 9 to 5. We had the bye second round, and then in round 3 we played St Brigids who we lost to by 1. Round 4 we played Marian college which we won easily 15 to 2. Round 5 we played Nhill which we also won comfortably 11 to there 1. Round 6 we played Edenhope College which we also won 11 to 6. Last game we came up against Horsham College who defeated us 17 to 7.

We missed out on the finals due to the 1 goal loss to St Brigids. Once again SSC was the best side not to make the finals!

We enjoyed the day, played some very good netball and had a good time.

We would like to thank Wes Illig who coached us and drove us down, Cheryl Armstrong who drove also, and to Jess Parry for umpiring.

Education Maintenance Allowance

Instalment Two

The second instalment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payment is due from mid August onwards.

Parents and guardians who lodged an EMA application at the beginning of the year **do not need to lodge another EMA application** to receive the second instalment EMA payment.

Any parent / guardian wishing to apply for the second instalment needs to complete an application form available from the school office by **7th August, 2009**. Applications close on **7th August, 2009**.

To be eligible for the EMA:

- Your child must be under the age of sixteen; **and**
- Your child must be enrolled at a primary or secondary Government or registered school in Victoria on **27th February, 2009** for the first instalment and **7th August, 2009** for the second instalment; **and**

You must on **28th January, 2009** for the first instalment and **13th July, 2009** for the second instalment:

- be a parent or legal guardian or the student; **and**
- be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*, that is, a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible HealthCare Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder **or**
- be a foster parent

Further information can be obtained from www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/ema/default.htm

Contact: School Office for an application form and further information

Key Dates:	Eligibility Day	13th July, 2009
	Parent applications close	7th August, 2009
	Census Day	7th August, 2009
	EFT Payments	Mid August 2009 onwards
	Cheque Payments	Late August / Early September 2009



Parents have your say!!

What makes a successful Youth Party!!

We need your experiences to help other parents hold fun and safe parties for young people.

Come and discuss:

- Your experiences of hosting parties or your children attending parties (positive and negative).
- Your thoughts on how parents can be better supported to host Youth parties.
- Information that is needed for both parents and young people holding or going to parties.

Information will be used to develop resources and improve supports for parents who are hosting youth parties.

When: Thursday 30th July

Where: Grampians Community Health

Time: 6pm to 7pm
(snacks provided)

Contact: Rachel Whittaker
53587400

Ideas developed so far

- Information developed could be distributed via school newsletters and suitable school events and activities.
- The school Chaplin may be a contact for parents to discuss issues regarding youth parties.
- Information will compliment the Police Party Safe Program.