

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Mon 11th-15th Feb** Yr 9 Bogong Camp  
**Tues 12th Feb** Yr 7 Parent night

**Tues 19th Feb** Yr 7 camps start  
**Tues 26th Feb** Swimming Carnival

Term One is traditionally a very busy time with camps and excursions, sporting competitions, information nights, student photographs and a range of many other exciting activities. On Tuesday this week our Year 12 students attended their VCE/Study Skills Program at Swinburne University. The program was a great success with students gaining valuable information and skills to enable them to cope with the demands of their studies. I would like to acknowledge and thank Mr Cleaveley, Mr Dywer, Mr Rennick and Mrs Scotchmoor for their involvement on the day.

Next week we will be holding a Year 7 Parent Information Evening. This will be fantastic opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and to receive information about some of our programs and enrichment activities. A BBQ will be provided on the evening. I encourage all our Year 7 parents / guardians to attend.

The term has commenced very smoothly. I have been impressed with students' application and attitude to their studies as well as their general behavior and manners around the school grounds.

In order for effective communication to occur between school and home teachers rely on students using their school diary on a daily basis. We expect that students take their diaries with them to all classes. The primary purpose of the diary is to allow students to efficiently plan for the homework, assignments and other class-work requirements as well as to note the dates of various school events. The diary also has the very important functions of providing a means of communication between the school and home as well as the many useful tips and advice for students.

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the diary is used for its intended purposes and remains free of graffiti. We therefore ask parents to regularly check diaries for entries from teachers and student coordinators and to use the diary as a vehicle to communicate with their child's teachers. Teachers and coordinators will use the diary to communicate not only any significant instances of misbehavior (and the appropriate consequences) but also to regularly write positive comments concerning student achievements and accomplishments.

The diary also contains valuable information about particular school rules and a wide range of other issues that parents/guardians would benefit from being aware of throughout the year.

Many parents also rely on our weekly newsletter for information and important notices. Our website also contains important and interesting information about programs, student achievements and events. Over the coming weeks we will be evaluating the effectiveness and structure of these communication tools. We want to ensure that the content, style and frequency are relevant and easy to read. In the near future we will be asking for feedback on the newsletter and school web-site. We will also be inviting comment on the possibility of emailing newsletters to parents.

**Tom Bege—Principal**

**2008 SWIMMING SPORTS –  
26<sup>th</sup> February 2008**



**Hawaiian Beach Theme**

**Come and join the fun at our annual swimming carnival.**

**Come dressed in your house colours and/or Hawaiian beach theme.**

**Parents welcome, races start at 10.00am. At the Healesville outdoor pool**

**Maroondah—Blue**

**Dennis—Red**

**Yarra—Yellow**

**Riddell—Green**

**GOOD WORK CERTIFICATES**

**Yr 8 SOSE**

Tyler Black

Jesse Stone

Katelyn Meier

Nathan Dawson



**Yr 7 Science**

Joe Gibson

William Bird



**Yr 8 Science**

Eliza Owen

## MUSIC NEWS



A great start for all. It was fabulous to meet some of the students who were learning an instrument last year. We had our first Band rehearsal on Tuesday night and the students certainly made great progress. We are learning two new pieces, 'Bunjip Blues' and the very popular 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. We would love to have more students join our 2008 Tuesday Night Band, so feel free to contact me at school for further information or just drop in to the Music Department on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Lessons have begun for all students, so please check the timetable.

RECRUITMENT NIGHT for new students is on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm.

Liz Bennett  
Instrumental Music Co-ordinator

### EMA 2007

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is paid to eligible parents of students under 16 years of age who attend a state or a Registered School in Victoria. EMA will be paid in two instalments and to be eligible you must, on the first day of Term 1 (**29 January 2008**) for the 1st instalment and on the first day of 3rd Term (**14 July 2008**) for the second instalment be:

- (a) an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004:  
**OR**
- (b) a Veteran Affairs Pensioner (TPI), **OR**
- (c) a foster parent.

#### **AND**

- (d) submit your application to the school by the date/s listed below.

You must fill in a **2008 EMA application form** which is available from the general office. The application form must be lodged at the school office by 29th February for the 1st instalment and 1st August for the 2nd instalment.

A separate application is required for each school if you have children attending different schools.

**NEW FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN EACH YEAR  
LATE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED**



### Thursday Maths Club

A teacher will be available every Thursday lunchtime (from the half-time bell onwards) to assist students who need help with maths. This could involve assistance with class work, homework, projects, preparation for maths competitions or even extension work for those who would like to get ahead.

### Wednesday After School Maths Help

Weekly maths help sessions are available after school to any student who wishes to receive additional assistance. Two maths teachers are available to help you every Wednesday at 3.25pm in Room 5B, for a maximum of 1 hour.



### Debutante Ball



The Rotary Club of Healesville is again hosting a Debutante Ball to be held on Thursday 26th June 2008 (end of Term 2) at the Lilydale International. Places are being offered to girls currently in Year 11, or the equivalent

if no longer at school.

Practice will commence on FRIDAY 2nd May at the Healesville SCOUT HALL and then every Friday evening through all of second term.

An important INFORMATION SESSION will be held at the SCOUT HALL at 7pm on Friday 22nd February to which all interested students, partners AND parents are encouraged to attend. Please be there to reserve your place. For more information contact: Cheryl Chippindall on (AH) 5962 4319 or (MOB) 0419 302 490.

### A Voyage on the Young Endeavour in 2008.



An opportunity exists to expand your horizons by sharing in the adventure of a lifetime. A voyage on the tall ship, *Young Endeavour*, as a member of a

youth crew is a unique challenge. It inspires teamwork, communication, leadership and a sense of community responsibility.

Over 20 voyages exploring the Australian coastline are conducted each year by the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, a not-for-profit organization, in partnership with the Royal Australian Navy. On board, young people participate in a dynamic development programme that can be a life-changing experience.

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 who are 16 or older can apply now for a berth. Youth crew are selected through a ballot held twice a year. You can find out more by visiting the website [www.youngendeavour.gov.au](http://www.youngendeavour.gov.au) or see Mrs. Jackson next week.



### The Kokoda Youth Leadership Challenge.

The Kokoda Youth Leadership Challenge is an annual peer group leadership programme sponsored by the RSL. It combines a significant physical challenge with a blend of historical, cultural and environmental learning experiences. During their trek along the trail, students will receive a practical leadership experience based on the achievements and sacrifices of Australian soldiers involved in the Kokoda in Papua New Guinea during World War Two. Our school has the opportunity to nominate several senior students for the programme. See Mrs. Jackson if you would like more information.

### HHS Youth Clinic

Yarra Valley Community Health and our School Nurse are again running a youth clinic at the school this year. After a well attended 2007 we will again provide two nurses – Karin Stanzel, who is qualified as a Women’s Health Nurse and a practicing midwife, and Richard Flanagan our School Nurse who has a wide range of experience and qualifications and also assists in teaching health at the school – and also a doctor from Yarra Valley Community Medical Service (next to the hospital).

**Where and When:** The Youth Clinic is located in the Nurse’s office and health classroom (opposite the old stadium, between room 2 and the drama room). It runs on Tuesday between the start of recess (when Richard takes appointments) and finishes around the end of lunchtime depending on how many students come. The doctor is available from the beginning of lunchtime.

**What and How:** As explained when we first started the clinic with the support of the school community, this is a fully functional Community Health Youth Clinic. Which means it can deal with all general health issues confidentially, including sexual health matters such as pregnancy testing and counseling, prescribing and providing contraception and STI testing and treatment. Consultations and tests are bulk billed so no payment is required and no Medicare card is required. Students are encouraged and assisted in involving their parents in their health decisions when appropriate, but this can, by law, only be done with the consent of the young person. To receive medical treatment without parental consent students must be at least 16 or judged by the doctor to be a “mature minor” which means **an under 16 year old who is believed to be mature enough to understand the implications of any treatment they receive can do so without parental consent.**

**What if I don’t want this service:** If you don’t want your student to access this service you should write a letter clearly stating this and mail it to the Principal: Mr Tom Bege c/o HHS Camerons Rd, Healesville 3777 (to ensure its arrival). The school does not control the services provided by Community Health, but it does control access to it and it can be restricted if you request it in this manner.

Any queries, please feel free to ring Richard Flanagan on 0402 031 539.

# Lost!

Blue Innotek dog collar. Lost while walking in Healesville area on Friday 8th

**Reward \$50.00**

Contact Heather on 0413 880 125

### **Footy Season is just around the corner**

It may be hot, and school has just started back but the 2008 Junior football season is only weeks away.

Yarra Glen Junior Football Club, a great family club with a long tradition in the Yarra Valley would like to invite you to come down and join us for the 2008 season. We have some of the cheapest fees in the Valley (\$70 first child, capped at \$100 for two or more kids from the same family) and give kids equal opportunity to play.

We are a family club that provides a range of fun activities for all the family including subsidised dinners, social functions, and family events in a fair, friendly and supportive environment.

Pre-season training and registration starts 5 pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2008 for all age groups up to and including U16’s.

Tell your brothers and sisters, neighbours and friends and come on down to be part of the fun in 2008

For further details contact Dean Stevenson on 0438 734 441 or Sharlene Beath on 0417 052 972



### **Score a \$5000 Top Sports Grant for Your School.**

Anyone can nominate Healesville High School when they make a purchase at a Bakers Delight Bakery. Every entry goes into the draw to score a grant.

Hurry entries close 7th March!



## Good Friday Appeal

Once again the Good Friday Appeal is in full swing. If you wish to make a contribution please return attached envelope with donation to the General Office ASAP so our total can be read out on TV.



### **WET DAYS**

When it is raining consistently during the morning, the school day **may** be shortened by 19 minutes and finish at 2:55pm. All lessons remain the same length, the lunch break is shortened. If in doubt about the school’s dismissal time on a particular wet day, contact the school’s enquiry line on 5962 4790 to hear a recorded message.

Dear Parent

Teachers at **Healesville High School** will not be at work on Thursday February 14 and it is important that you know exactly why we have reluctantly decided to take this action.

We understand that this presents difficulties for some parents. However, the fact is that when it comes to investing in education, Victoria is currently at the bottom of the class.

We have the lowest spending per student on education and our most experienced teachers are the lowest paid in Australia.

The highest pay for a classroom teacher is over \$10,000 less than in NSW and well short of the rate paid to other professionals.

Low pay rates and rising workloads are contributing directly to shortages of teachers which are now a problem for many schools across the state.

Also almost one in five teachers is employed on contract. These teachers have no security and are leaving our schools to seek more permanent employment.

We have a national teacher shortage and already Queensland, NSW and WA are recruiting our teachers offering higher pay and secure employment.

Our class sizes are still too high.

The Australian Education Union is trying to do something about these problems in our new Certified Agreement with the State Government.

Unfortunately we have been negotiating for eleven months without success.

The State Government refuses to invest the money that would allow us to recruit and retain the best teachers and reduce class sizes.

Therefore we feel that there is no alternative but to take action on Thursday February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Teachers would really appreciate your support in this campaign.

Tell your local politicians that you want Victorian teachers to be adequately paid and secure in their jobs. This is not good enough from a government that claims education as its number one priority!

If you would like more information or want to be kept up to date about the campaign please visit [www.aeuvic.asn.au/campaigns/support\\_professional\\_pay/](http://www.aeuvic.asn.au/campaigns/support_professional_pay/) You can also use this website to send a message to Premier Brumby, Treasurer Lenders and Minister for Education Pike.

Yours sincerely

AEU Sub-branch at Healesville High School

