

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 25th Feb	School Council meeting - 7pm	Thurs 28th Feb	School Photos
Tues 26th Feb	Swimming Carnival	Tues 4th March	Music recruitment evening

**Year 7 Camp**

During this week students in Year 7 have participated in a two day camp to Murrindindi. The camp provided students an invaluable opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed bush environment. The students not only gained knowledge about their environment but also were given opportunities to foster leadership skills and develop positive relationships with their peers and teachers. I would like to acknowledge and thank Mr Skewes and Mr D'Arcy for their preparation and coordination of the camp, Ms Rosie Anastasio for her tremendous assistance to the staff and to the many staff who assisted and / or participated over the two camps. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic efforts of the Year 10 students (Andrew Spain, Stacey Resson, Jayden Leather and Laura Rowe) who accompanied the camps to act as peer mentors. On behalf of all the camp participants we would also like to thank the parents who generously donated quantities of delicious cakes and other foods for the camp.

**School Council Election**

**School Council** is an important partnership between parents, the school and the local community, all working together to improve educational opportunities for students. Councillors play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the school within statewide guidelines. They provide important viewpoints which can influence policy development in the school. Major responsibilities of School Council include:

- Developing and monitoring the directions of the School's Strategic Plan
- Establishing the goals and priorities of the school and determining educational policy
- Maintaining and improving the school's buildings and grounds
- Developing the school's student code of conduct
- Developing a student dress code

We have **three** vacancies for **parent** members and **two** vacancies for DEECD employee members. The term of office for **two** of the **parent** members will be two years commencing in March 2008. The remaining parent member position will be for one year and finish in 2009. Parents who are DEECD employees are eligible to stand for election but only under the DEECD employee category. Candidates for school council elections can choose two ways for nomination – Self Nomination (**Schedule 5A & 5C**) or Nomination by an eligible person (**Schedule 5B & 5D**).

Parents who are interested in nomination for school council must contact the General Office to obtain the appropriate form (Schedule). Accompanying this newsletter is the "**Notice of Election and Call for Nominations**" documentation for the upcoming election of School Council.

Completed nomination forms must be lodged with the school by **4.00 pm Friday, 29th. February, 2008**. Should an election be required you will be notified in a newsletter and ballot papers will be distributed to all parents. If you have any enquiries about the function of school council or the role of school councillors please do not hesitate to 'phone the school. **Tom Bege—Principal**



**GOOD WORK CERTIFICATES**  
**Year 11 Foundation Maths**



Nicole Cairns, Eleanor Thomas, Amy Lawrence, Melissa Irvine,  
Danielle Chandler and Maddy Pitt



**Year 8 Science**

8A Rhys Holderness and Renee Munting  
8D Stephanie Todaro and Harley Mills



### Drop Everything And Read

Following the highly successful DEAR programme held in Literacy week 2007, we will once again begin our days with an extended homegroup devoted to silent reading during the month of March. All students are encouraged to choose appropriate reading material to bring to homegroup from the 3rd of March. This is an opportunity for all members of the school community to participate in a shared activity that has clear benefits to literacy levels and allows us all to begin our day in a calm and relaxed fashion. VCE students are encouraged to read for pleasure, but are also welcome to use the time to read their text books if they prefer.

### Model United Nations Assembly

The Rotary Club of Healesville is once again providing an opportunity for Years 10 and 11 students from our school to participate in MUNA, modelled on the United Nations Assembly and held at Parliament House over two days in May. Last year four girls, Tessa Smith, Tarryn Thom, Cassie Nugent and Maddie Pitt represented our school at this event with great success. Any student who would like to be nominated for this exciting programme should see Mrs Jackson for more information or speak to any of the girls for a first hand account!



### Debating Class

Ms Kikkert would love to start a Healesville Debate Club.

Debating is fabulous for:

- promoting confidence and effective public speaking
- encouraging logical and critical thinking
- building team work skills
- learning current affairs.

If you are interested, please see Ms Kikkert (she's the Canadian teacher here on exchange) or tell your homegroup/English teacher.

### Music News

Mrs Bennett's students will have their lesson on Monday. All other lessons are on Thursday. Our small but fabulous school band will be performing at Recruitment Night on Tuesday 4th March. Individual students will also be performing on the night.



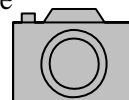
Don't forget to JOIN the Music Department for one of the best experiences you will have at school.

### Careers/Mips

The University of Melbourne is hosting their 'Access all Areas' on campus event in March and July, 2008. 'Access all Areas' offers students in Years 10-12 and their parents the opportunity to take a behind-the-scenes look at University life which matches their own interests and needs. 'Access all Areas' will be held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of March and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of July and registration for the program is now open. If you require more information you can either talk to Ms Tacey or Mrs Edwards or visit [www.furturestudents.unimelb.edu.au/about/meetstaff/vic/allareas/](http://www.furturestudents.unimelb.edu.au/about/meetstaff/vic/allareas/)

### School Photograph Day

Next Thursday (February 28<sup>th</sup>) all students will have their photo's taken during the course of the day. To be included in the class photo **students must be in full uniform**. This includes all items and shoes. Replacement items will be provided where possible. Photo' forms were posted in the mail out last week. If you have not received a photo' form please collect one from the general office.



**Uniform passes will not be accepted on this day.**

### Uniform

A reminder that thongs **cannot** be worn at school at any time. This includes out of uniform days, duty student days and sports carnivals.

### 2008 SWIMMING SPORTS

Tuesday 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**



## Swimming Carnival

A reminder that all permission forms and payment of **\$2.00** must be received before Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> to enable your child's participation in the Swimming Carnival

## ***School Council Elections 2008***

### **What is a School Council and what does it do?**

***All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.***

### **Who is on the School Council?**

***There are three possible categories of membership:***

- ***A mandated elected parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Parents who are DEECD employees can only nominate for the DEECD employee category.***
- ♦ ***A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of School Council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.***
- ♦ ***An optional community member category. Its members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be community members. The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual School Council elections.***

### **Why is parent membership so important?**

***Parents on School Councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a School Council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.***

### **How can you become involved?**

***The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in February or March each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.***

***In view of this, you might seriously consider:***

- ***standing for election as a member of the School Council***
- ♦ ***encouraging another person to stand for election.***

### **Do I need special experience to be on School Council?**

***No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.***

### **What do you need to do to stand for election?**

***Obtain a School Council Election Nomination Form – Schedule 5A and 5C (self nomination) or Schedule 5B and 5D (nomination by an eligible person) from the school's General Office. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.***

***Remember***

- ***Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.***
- ***Consider standing for election to council this year.***
- ♦ ***Be sure to vote in the elections.***

***Contact the school for further information on 5962 4088.***

**Notice of election and call for nominations**

*An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Healesville High School.*

*Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4 pm on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup>. February, 2008.*

*If a ballot is needed it will close at 4 pm on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2008.*

*Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows -*

*Membership categories: Parent member and DEECD employee member  
Term of office: From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2008 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010 for two positions in the Parent category and DEECD employee category and 2009 for one of the parent category positions.*

*Number of positions: Parent member - 3  
DEECD employee member – 2*

*If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.*

*Tom Bege  
Principal*

