

16th May 2008

Issue Number 14. School Council President - Mrs Jenny De Witte

DATES TO REMEMBER

Frid 16th May Yarra Group Cross Country
Mon 19th May Yr 8B Medieval excursion
Mon 19th May Yr 9/10 YD sport
Mon 19th May Yr 12 GAT/exam prep.

Wed 21st May Yr 12 Prep. Reserve session after school
Thur 22nd May Yr 12 Prep. Reserve session after school
Thur 22nd May Grade 6 primary school visit
(Badger Creek, St Brigid's and Toolangi)

An open letter to parents, guardians and the Healesville community.

The School Council of Healesville High School has recently been made aware of some community concerns that the council members and staff are accepting, without a fight, the failure of the state government to fund the continued rebuild of our school. **Nothing could be further from the truth.**

We have been extremely active, with the support of the Regional Office of the Education Department (DEECD), in lobbying government for urgently needed funds, for the benefit of our students.

Since June 2007, when it became apparent the program to replace ageing buildings was not to continue, our school council and staff have encouraged many influential individuals and organisations to visit our school site to assist our fight.

The list of those to visit and add their support includes

- Mary Bluett, Australian Education Union (AEU) president
- Meredith Peace, AEU vice president
- Ben Hardman, State Member for Seymour (twice)
- Dr. Jim Watterston, Regional Director, Eastern Metropolitan Region, DEECD (twice)
- Fran Bailey, Federal Member for McEwen.

In all cases the visitors have acknowledged the need for greater financial support from the government. Dr. Watterston and his facilities branch are particularly supportive.

Funding is not yet forthcoming and school council have chosen to make our fight more public. Hence, articles have appeared, and will continue to appear in the local newspapers and we will continue to lobby as strongly as possible for the funding our community, school and students deserve.

I would like you to be assured that our educational programs will continue to be innovative and engaging. We have an excellent, small community school. Our students are friendly and resilient, hard working and caring, and we should be proud of them. Our teachers and support staff are professional and diligent, and we have an exciting blend of experience and youth. We enjoy an extremely high computer to student ratio, thanks to our membership of the Yarra Valley eLearning Community, and we are renowned in the district for sporting successes against far larger schools. The school's VCE results are of a consistently high standard, especially study scores of 40+. We regularly outperform our neighbouring high schools in this area.

We have recently reintroduced a vibrant instrumental music program, and the annual School Production involves more than one hundred students and is a magnificent yearly highlight, giving both participants and audiences lifetime memories.

The only thing we lack is government approval to reinstate the rebuilding program, and we will continue to agitate for the benefit of our students.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you are able to offer any assistance with the campaign.

Thank you in anticipation of your continuing support.

Allan Rennick

Assistant Principal

On behalf of School Council

Uniform News Parents and students are reminded that the *only* jacket allowed at school is the black polar fleece item sold in the uniform shop. Plain black or green scarves are also allowed to help keep students warm.

A reminder that black canvas shoes are not permitted and students who keep wearing these will be given alternative shoes to wear if they fail to follow the policy.

UNIFORMS!! If you have any 2nd hand uniforms to donate to the school, please drop off at the General Office. Any donations would be much appreciated.

Senior Football

Last Tuesday Mrs Plunkett (with some help from her better half) took the Year 11 and 12 boys to Wesburn to play some footy. And footy they played! The boys were awesome winning 3 for 3 ready to play off Lilydale High. This year was going to be different...well it wasn't they beat us! Anyway the boys played their hardest and team Plunkett were extremely proud to have been a part of it.

Voted MVP by their team members were Chris Tones who hit the ball running all day and James Shambrook, "The Rock" there was no passing him that day. Some special mentions must go to; Ethan Scanlon our very own umpire, Ryan Veitch our boundary runner, Jemma Iacono the drinks lady and Mr Beazley for goal umpiring all day. Other special moments included Joel Alderice, Luke Gardner and Daniel Johnson (super star) starring in their first ever games of footy – great effort boys! Also thanks to Jake Chandler who came for a bludge day off school and ended up playing all day (2 years above his age group!). And Joe why aren't you playing footy?

P.S. Thanks Jack Owen great effort all day! And thanks to the whole team who showed great sportsmanship all day, Mrs P is proud!

Special work awards –A special mention to the entire Year 12 accounting class who have been working extremely well all week, keep up the good work team!

Healesville High School Presents.....

Our inaugural **W.I.P. CONCERT**
TUESDAY 3rd June
7.30 PM



Core Building

- Rookie Band
- VCE solo performance
- Solos
- Ensembles
- Legend Band
- SUPPER



Year 10 students are reminded that work experience forms need to be submitted to Ms Tacey or Mrs Edwards by May 30th. All Year 10 students are completing work experience from June 23 to June 27. If you require forms please come to the Careers Room (Room 9) during recess.

REACH PARENTS PROGRAM

A three part workshop series facilitated by Jim Stynes.

Sometimes feel like teenagers are from Mars and parents are from Venus? Tuesday 20th May 6:30pm—8:30pm
 152-156 Wellington Road, Collingwood.

Careers/MIPS

Experience La Trobe, Tuesday 1st July 2008: La Trobe University is inviting all Year 10, 11 and 12 students to visit the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus and explore the courses on offer and day to day life at University. You are able to attend talks on careers and pathways, attend workshops, talk to University staff and tour the campus. For more information please contact Ms Tacey or Mrs Edwards or register online at www.latrobe.edu.au/register

Experience Melbourne University

Thursday 10th – Friday 11th July, 2008: This is an opportunity for Year 11 students to attend workshops covering student support services, accommodation options, scholarships, study skills and exam tips. Guided campus tours will also be provided. For more information contact Ms Tacey or Mrs Edwards or contact Kerryn Skinner (Melbourne University School Programs Officer) on 1800 801 662.



Breakfast organized by Sarah, Mahie, Laura, Amberle, Emily and Stacey from advance community leadership class with the assistance of Graham from the Salvation Army was a resounding success. Students were given toasted cheese sandwiches, a cup of milo and fruit. We will serve breakfast again next Wednesday. Thanks to Toscano's and AJ's for donating some food.



The School has recently purchased a new set of student lockers for a year level, and we now have 20 banks of used lockers for sale. The units (pictured) have four individual lockers and they measure 1800mm x 760mm x 490mm. They are for sale at \$40–\$50 depending on condition. Please contact Allan Rennick on 5962 4088 for further details.



Healesville Hornets basketball fundraiser Trivia Night

Saturday 5th July 2008—Healesville football club rooms. Don Road Complex 7pm—11:30pm. \$10 per person, Great Prizes—Phone Debbie 5962 5277 or book through basketball stadium office Mon/Wed 4.30- 7.30pm.



The BANG Productions Team is having a photo competition until 28th May 2008. People of all ages can enter. If you want to participate, you can get an entry form from the General Office, Healesville Jewellers, Healesville Library or Maroondah Garden

Centre. Submit your photos to the General Office together with your entry form. Photographs must be of something related to the Yarra Valley. The best photographs that are selected for the calendar will receive prizes. If you have any questions please see Talise Fradley or Amie Watson in 10A. Good luck to all!