



KAMBRYA COLLEGE

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www.kambryacollege.com

Newsletter No. 02

Friday, February 12th 2010

Important Dates for Term 1 2010

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| February | | |
| Thursday | 11th February | Warin and Mirrim Parent Meet and Greet Evening Years 7 - 10 |
| Tuesday | 16th February | Bulen Bulen and Gwonana Parent Meet and Greet Evening Years 7 - 10 |
| Thursday | 18th February | Year 11 and 12 Parent Meet and Greet Evening |
| Monday | 22nd February | Interschool swimming years 7 - 10 Doveton |
| March | | |
| Monday | 15th March | Year 7 Immunisations |
| Friday | 26th March | Cross Country Run years 7 - 10 |

Principals Message

Dear Parents,

Last week as the students returned to commence the school year, it was extremely pleasing to participate in a most productive and positive beginning with students and staff across the College. Students were in uniform, receptive and ready to start work. Our teachers and staff have never been better prepared in terms of consistent expectations of students and in readiness to meet the organisational and teaching requirements for a robust start.

MEET AND GREET PARENT EVENINGS

Over the next couple of weeks, all parents will be invited to attend 'meet and greet evenings'. These meetings are held to welcome parents to the new school year, inform parents about new developments at our College, encourage active parent participation in their children's learning and provide parents with the opportunity to meet and talk with their child's key teachers for 2010. The meet and greet events begin at 6:00pm and finish at about 7:00pm and the sausage sizzle provided will help calm rumbling tummies! I urge all parents to come along!

Warin and Mirrim sub-schools (years 7 - 10) Thursday 11th February

Bulen Bulen and Gwonawa sub-schools (years 7 - 10) Tuesday 16th February

Later years sub-schools (years 11 - 12) Thursday 18th February

Michael Muscat
Principal

A Special Event For Parents

On 17th March, **Dr. Michael Carr Gregg** will come to Kambrya College to give a presentation on adolescent mental health issues and cyber bullying. Michael Carr Gregg is a well known authority in the areas of deep concern to all parents; he is frequently seen on television and regularly quoted in the press.

I will send out a reminder as the date gets closer for this 'not to be missed' opportunity.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS / GUARDIANS

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) provides assistance to eligible families by helping with the costs associated with the education of their children.

In 2010 the EMA payment for parents/guardians is as stated above. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school and is paid in two instalments as per the schedule of payments set out in the table below.

Schedule of payments in 2010

Instalment Portion payable to Primary school rate* Secondary school rate*

One (70% of EMA) Parent \$ 78.75 \$ 157.50

School \$ 78.75 \$ 157.50

Two (30% of EMA) Parent \$ 33.75 \$ 67.50

School \$ 33.75 \$ 67.50

Total for 2010 \$ 225.00 \$ 450.00

*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) forms the basis for calculating the amount payable. Students turning sixteen during the year will be paid on a pro rata basis up to and including the month they reach the age of sixteen.

The first instalment will comprise 70 per cent of the EMA and will be paid from March 2010. The second instalment will comprise the remaining 30 per cent and will be paid from August 2010.

This payment schedule recognises that families incur the highest educational costs at the start of the school year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive the EMA, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; **and**
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent; and submit your application to the school by the due date.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of 1st Term (**27 January 2010** which is the first day for teaching staff) for the first instalment and the first day of 3rd Term (**12 July 2010**) for the second instalment. Any applications based on Centrelink payments that are not income tested (e.g. Carer Allowance, formerly Child Disability Allowance, Mobility Allowance and Remote Area Allowance) are not eligible unless the claimant, in their own name, complies with the second dot point above.

The EMA is payable up until the age of 16 years. Once a student turns 16, they should apply for Youth Allowance through Centrelink. For further information visit www.centrelink.gov.au

Application forms

Application forms are available from your child's school. A separate application is required for each school if you have children attending different schools.

Please submit your application to your child's school by **26 February 2010** for the first instalment of the EMA and by **6 August 2010** for the second instalment of the EMA unless your child remains enrolled at the same school and you were paid the first EMA instalment.

Immunisations

IMPORTANT School Immunisation Information for Parents

City of Casey's Environmental Health Team will be conducting immunisations at the school throughout 2010. Students in Years 7 and 10 will be immunised against a range of preventable diseases including:-

- Year 7
Hepatitis B, Chicken Pox, Girls in Year 7 will also receive vaccination against Cervical Cancer (Gardasil).
- Year 10
Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough (BOOSTRIX)

Should parents like more information they can obtain Specific vaccine information and information in other languages from the Department of Health at:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/fact-sheets/factsheets>

Alternatively parents can contact City of Casey's Environmental Health team on 9705 5200.

Information for Parents – How can I help my child be successful in mathematics?

Teachers certainly understand that it is often difficult for parents to help their children with their mathematics homework – there are many parents did not feel comfortable with maths when they were at school, or the methods that we teach students to use are different to what parents learnt at school themselves. It can be an extremely stressful time for parents and children when they get locked in a homework discussion that goes around in circles!

Below is some information and tips for you and your child to feel more successful in their mathematics learning!

One of the strongest predictors of senior secondary success (after success in English) is success in mathematics. If success in mathematics is valued and supported at home, students will be more likely to value it themselves. Try to avoid making negative statements about how you feel about maths, and encourage your students in making positive statements about their successes in mathematics.

Research has shown that the junior secondary years are the most crucial for students in forming an opinion about how capable they are at mathematics, independently of whether they are capable or not. Particularly for girls, it is essential that students *believe* that they are capable of success in mathematics for them to actually become successful.

Encourage students to use their skills in real-life, so that they have the opportunity to see the application to everyday life. Encourage them to come shopping with you and discuss nutrition labels, pricing labels, perhaps ask them to keep a count of how much you have spent and compare it to the final price. Discuss your household bills with them, particularly for things like mobile phones and utilities. Show them your house plans and discuss the scale and orientation of the plans. Ask them to help you plan driving routes before you head off on a long drive. Encourage them to keep a budget of all the money they might earn (like pocket money or a part-time job) and all the money that they spend, and discuss the options they have for keeping money in the bank. All of these extremely important life skills will certainly help develop their numerical understandings.

When students are doing homework, look for the following things:

That their work is set out neatly and logically, according to the student workbook guidelines.

Students will struggle to go back and refer to their earlier notes for revision if they are not well set out.

Encourage them, especially with worded questions, to highlight all of the key information in the question before they begin answering it.

Once students have done so, encourage them to write it out again under two headings: information that I have, and information that I need to find. Students can often answer a seemingly difficult question once they understand what is being asked of them.

Encourage students to draw diagrams to represent the scenarios that they are working on to gain a visual picture of what they need to find.

Some students may need to use physical manipulatives, like counters, to assist them. Encourage them to make and keep a set.

Once they have finished their homework, ask them to briefly explain a couple of the tasks they have completed, or even better, to teach you how to do it. The ability to communicate information orally is a strong indicator that the child has been successful in their learning.

Some students study better in the company of others. If this applies to your child, perhaps organise a time with another family for your children to study together once a week.

Ask your teacher for their email address so that they can keep you posted about what is going on that week and how you can help.

Maths Problem of the Week!

As part of promoting Numeracy within the Kambrya Community, each week we will be running a maths problem for you to try at home. Answers will be available the following week alongside the new problem.

Outside the Numeracy Centre (B25) the Maths Problem of the Week will also appear.

Answers for the problem are to be put into a box in the library and the first 3 correct answers will win a prize!

So get involved and have a go!
Mrs Michalik
www.kambryanumeracy.com



Problem 1:

Divide 110 into two parts so that one will be 150 percent of the other. What are the 2 numbers?

Numeracy News

I am sure many of you have heard about the upcoming Numeracy Programme. Thanks to the support of many teachers we have launched the programme with great success. This week we have taken the opportunity to meet with students and their teachers. Each year 7 and year 8 class has been scheduled to visit the room once a week for an intensive numeracy lesson that will build on their number skills.

We hope the work done at the college will be supported at home. To help you with this, we have set up an online Kambrya Numeracy website. Please take the opportunity to visit us at www.kambryanumeracy.com the site serves many purposes. It is a place that parents and students can access numeracy help. The site includes sections on how to help improve your child's numeracy skills at home. You can visit some websites with your child or they can visit them on their own. These websites help students with numeracy. In addition, each week a video tutorial will be uploaded that will go through how to complete the homework task provided to students.

As part of the programme we will be setting up a numeracy intervention program. The numeracy intervention program has been established to provide assistance to students that may be experiencing difficulties in the area of numeracy. The program offers strategies to help students with basic numeracy, build confidence in their problem solving skills and encourage a favourable attitude to mathematics.

I look forward to meeting you all and discussing all the ways we are supporting your child's numeracy needs at the upcoming meet and greet nights.

Geethanjali Michalik – Numeracy Coordinator

VET News

VET Fashion Design

Certificate II and III in Applied Fashion Design and Technology has begun at Kambrya College. In Certificate II, students are learning to create patterns that fit their own personal measurements for a basic bodice, whilst Certificate III students are planning their year prior to commence learning to make their own fashion drawings of original ideas which will then be made into garments.

We would really appreciate any magazines that would be suitable for students to use in their studies.

Science News

Welcome back to 2009, I hope that you all had a restful break. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new science staff members Ms Meera Venkataraman and Ms Mui Ridoutt, as well as Ms Eleonora Van Graas and Ms Sarah Treadwell who are returning to the college. The Science team would like to also welcome our new Lab Technician Andre Oliver.

There have been a few changes to the Science Domain, such as the introduction of Science Dimensions textbooks at each year level and the addition of the year 10 science electives.

This is an exciting year for the College in terms of the realm of Science. The college has signed up for the Scientist in Schools Program organised by the CSIRO. As part of the program we have been allocated Dr Mark Symmons, a Senior Lecturer at Monash University. This is a partnership that will help promote and develop science at the college. We will keep you updated as the programme progresses.

As part of the Middle Years Science Programme we are focusing on Science Laboratory Safety in the coming weeks. Your child would have received a Science Laboratory Safety Contract, which outlines the expectations of students in the science rooms. We ask that you read this with your child, sign the contract together and return it to their science teacher. It is important that students have a full understanding of the safety aspects of science before their first practical experiment.

We look forward to an exciting year in science with you!

English News

Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

Kambrya College is giving students from Years 7 to 10 the opportunity to participate in the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge. The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to promote a love of reading. It is not a competition, but a challenge to each student. Students are set the challenge of reading 15 books by the 31st of August. If students complete the challenge, they receive a certificate and may choose to have their name published in the Premier's Reading Challenge Achievers Honour Roll in *The Age*. Students interested in participating in the challenge need to see Mrs Reeves in the library for a consent form.

Sports News

Welcome to 2010! The HPE department has been busy planning a number of exciting events which are fast approaching. The Annual Swimming Carnival will be held at Doveton pool in the Park on Monday the 22nd of February. All students from year 7-10 are required to attend this day. Classes will run as per normal for VCE students. Students in VCE wishing to compete can do so however they will be required to return back to school after the senior events. Students are encouraged to dress in their house colours to show their school spirit and to participate in as many events as possible to earn house points. Parents are also welcome to come to support their children. May the best house win!

Inter-school sport

The inter-school sports on offer during term 1 are Cricket, Volleyball, tennis, baseball and softball. Teams for these sports will be commencing training shortly so please check the sports notice board in the gym for more information.

LOTE News

Unlike previous years, students now choose which language (Japanese or German) they would like to study at the time of enrolment. The study of LOTE is still compulsory from Year 7 until Year 9, becoming an elective subject in Year 10. Students are to continue with the same language for these three years.

Each week, students undertake four periods of their chosen LOTE. This new system, we believe will give our students the opportunity to improve their overall second language learning skills. Through this, we anticipate allowing our students to continue and strengthen their chosen language and hopefully opt for continuing through VCE.

The teachers in the German and Japanese team are working extremely hard to improve the quality of the curriculum and to expand the opportunities the students will have to use their new second language skills. Later in the year we are hoping to organise some inter-school activities for years 7, 8 and 9. We will also be taking our year 9 students on a city treasure hunt in term 2, going to watch a German movie and participating in the German Day Out in the city during term 3, and visiting German restaurants combined with other activities in the city in term 4. For our senior students we are hoping to organise a trip to Germany later this year.

Thanks to the AEF (Asia Education Foundation) and the grant we received last year, our LOTE project is underway. We have been allocated C9 as our permanent LOTE room. It will be hosting a Smartboard, a class set of computers and the necessary resources to make the learning of Japanese a more enjoyable experience for our students. We trust the room will be available for full use at the beginning of term 2.

We are also looking forward to our sister school – Hatsushiba Ritsumeikan – visit on the 17th of March. A group of 20 students will participate in a number of in-school activities as well as visit Healesville and the Great Ocean Road. On this occasion, Kambrya College will be signing an official Sister School Agreement and the ceremony will be held on Thursday March 18th.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families who have volunteered to act as host families this year. If you are interested in hosting a Japanese student between the 17th and the 28th of March, please contact Ms Herbert at the College on 9707-7600.

There are many good reasons for learning a second language. Here are some of them: you get bonus points for entry into university; German is spoken as a first language in Europe by over 100 million people – nearly 5 times the population of Australia - so extremely useful for travel as not everyone speaks English. The population of Japan exceeds 127 million. Both Germany and Japan are major economies and are very powerful in many areas such as science, technology, sport and the environment. Many major German companies are in the Melbourne area – BMW, Siemens, Bosch, Puma, Adidas to name just a few. We are also hoping to visit some of these German companies with our year 9 students later this year. Australia imports many automobiles manufactured in Japan such as Toyota, Nissan, Honda, Mitsubishi, Mazda, Suzuki and Subaru.

So if you want a great job in the future with lots of exciting opportunities to work in many different roles and want to go places, having a good knowledge of Japanese and German will open many doors.

Ms Ursula Lindeberg (on behalf of the LOTE team)
Head of LOTE

Writers Workshop

The Boat That Rocked



"It's 1966, the greatest era for British rock and roll, but BBC radio plays less than 45 minutes of pop music per day. Fortunately, pirate radio stations anchored in the North Sea play rock and roll 24 hours a day and 25 million people, half the population of Britain, listen to the pirates every single day."

'Radio Rock' is one of these stations, listened to by millions of young people all across Britain at all hours of the day and night. Carl arrives here after being sent by his mother as punishment for being expelled from school to stay with his godfather and the ship's captain, Quentin (Bill Nighy). Here, Carl meets the strange and eccentric disc jockeys of the boat; The Count (Philip Seymour Hoffman), a slightly cocky American, the suave Dave (Nick Frost), the naive 'Simple' Simon (Chris O'Dowd), Angus 'The nut' (Rhys Darby), 'Midnight' Mark, the sexiest man alive (Tom Wisdom), 'Thick' Kevin (not just a nickname) (Tom Brooke) and the strange and the reclusive 'Smooth' Bob (Ralph Brown).

Meanwhile back on land, Minister Dormandy (Kenneth Branagh) and his assistant, known only as Twat (Jack Davenport) are assigned the tasks of taking these pirate radio stations down, by any means possible.

The story also follows side obsessions and problems of all of the other characters, including love, sex, a lack thereof and music, creating a familiarity and connection with each character.

Philip Seymour Hoffman is electric, bringing real personality to the American Count, Tom Brooke

provides a brilliantly vacant Kevin and Bill Nighy is brilliant, portraying the cool and quirky Quentin. The laugh-out-loud parts of this comedy are often and good, poking fun at just about everything. Not for the young or light hearted, it pokes fun at sex, love, drugs, alcohol, politics, culture and life itself.

The music, of course, plays a large role in the movie, and high expectations were placed on the soundtrack, it doesn't disappoint. A massive 60 tracks was the final count for the movie, only 36 of which made it into the chart-topping soundtrack. The rocking tunes of the sixties including The Kinks, Jimi Hendrix, The Beach Boys and The Who boost the energy and mood, making the film almost impossible not to like.

Other than a seemingly thin plot, I have nothing bad to say about this film, which provides laughs, tears and cringes the whole way. A brilliant and strong cast goes a far way, as shown in this hit movie. So enjoy the ride with 'the Boat that Rocked'.

Recycle, buy, sell or hand-on all your second-hand school items to others within your school and across the wider school community...

- ☆ Textbooks & Books
- ☆ Electronics
- ☆ Sports Equipment
- ☆ Hobbies/Crafts
- ☆ Furniture
- ☆ Uniforms & Clothing
- ☆ DVD, Games, CD
- ☆ Musical Instruments
- ☆ Educational items
- ☆ And More...

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Music Information Night 7.30pm Wednesday 17th February 2010

Kambrya College Theatre

- Instrument demonstrations
- Concert Band performance
- Try out instruments on the night
- All students and parents will have the opportunity to speak to a specialist instrumental teacher to discuss the best instrument choice.
- If you already play an instrument, consider a second.
- Students from year 8 interested in starting a new instrument are also invited.



Places are limited, so come along and see what our music program has to offer.

DON'T MISS OUT!

For more information, contact the Music Department on 9707 7600 Mon - Fri



Casey Chiefs Junior Rugby League Club

Welcome all new members, friends and family to our Club.

Registration Day

Casey Fields, Berwick – Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne.

Saturday February 6th 2010 2pm to 4pm Melways: 134 E7

Age Groups: UNDER 7's – UNDER 18's

Girls Flag Touch: UNDER 12's – 18's

For more information regarding registration requirements please go to

http://www.sportingpulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=1-2121-24912-0-0&SID=27469

or please contact –

Chris Howard – 0407 688 709

Leanne Howard – 0407 688 719

Or via email at caseychiefsJRLC@yahoo.com.au

Casey Hockey Club Registration Day

Date: Sunday 14th February

Time: 11.30 to 2.30 BBQ Lunch

Venue: Berwick Secondary College

Address: Manuka Road, Berwick

Information:

Jeff Reidy 0407 511 206 or jefreidy@bigpond.net.au

STEPS PROGRAM

A 6 week program that increases parents understanding and ability to cope in a step family

TARGET: Both parents in a step and/or blended family

AIMS: * To help families deal with the unique issues that arise in step families

* Share and acknowledge experiences with others in a stepfamily with similar issues

* To assist families to improve relationships within their families

STARTS: Wednesday 17 February 2010

SESSIONS: 6 weeks (17 Feb to 24 March)

7.00pm—9.00pm (no childcare available)

WHERE: Windermere, 48 Webb Street Narre Warren

COST: \$10 per week per couple (total \$60) or \$50 per couple if paid in full in week 1 (no GST)

TO BOOK IN: please contact Julie Speirs 9705 3200 or at info@windermerecfs.com.au

Parents Building Solutions Talking Teens

Do you wonder why they aren't listening to you or how to deal with their anger?

Do you want to maintain a connection with them?

How do we talk so they will listen?

Take some time out for parents

This is an opportunity to call in, ask questions, meet other parents and share ideas that work!



Who: Dads, mums & carers of teenagers 12 -17 years

When: 7.00- 9.00pm – Wednesday 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th March

Where: Lang Lang Community Centre, Westernport Road, Lang Lang

Cost: Free (bookings essential)

Contact: Helena at Parentzone on 5991 2200 or mobile 0488 550 490