



KAMBRYA COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 06

May 1st 2009

Important Dates For Term 2 - 2009

MAY		
Tuesday	5th of May	Parent Information Evening—Year 7 2010 7PM
Wednesday	6th of May	Senior Athletics Carnival
Thursday	7th of May	Junior Athletics Carnival
Monday—Friday	11th—15th of May	Year 10 Work Experience
Tuesday—Thursday	12th—14th of May	Naplan Testing Years 7—9
Wednesday	20th of May	College Council Meeting
Friday	22nd of May	Year 7 and 10 Immunisations
JUNE		
Monday	8th of June	Queens Birthday—No Students Required at School
Tuesday—Thursday	9th—11th June	VCE Mid Year Exams
Friday	12th of June	Professional Development Day—No Students required at school
Wednesday	17th of June	College Council Meeting
Friday	26th of June	Last Day of Term 2

Principals Message

"It's Not Okay To Be Away"

Dear Parents,

In 2008 the level of student absence from Kambrya College was significantly higher than it was for most other schools across Victoria. This is disturbing for many reasons; highest among them is that regular full attendance at school is one of the fundamental requirements for achieving success at school.

Students, who miss days at school, break the continuity of their learning. Gaps develop in their understanding resulting in loss of confidence in a student's ability to master essential skills and areas of knowledge.

It needs to be emphasised that attendance at school, whether it be the first day, the last day or any day in between, is **compulsory** for all students. Indeed students sixteen years of age or younger are required by law to attend school each day. VCAL and VCE students must achieve a minimum attendance of 80% in order to be eligible for their respective certificates.

In the event of sickness or 'pressing personal necessity', students will miss some time at school. However, these absences should be kept to a minimum and a note of explanation should be provided by parents/guardians to the homegroup teacher.

I urge all parents to provide the College with their unequivocal support in this extremely important matter. To me, it is all about student learning and developing the right attitude towards school.

Educational attainment and achievement has never been more important for our young people as they prepare for a highly competitive world.

Michael Muscat
Principal

Warin Community News

We're into our second term already!!! A fun-filled Cross Country Run and a delicious barbeque at Cardinia Reserve for all the students in the various sub schools brought the first term to a wonderful close. One of the goals during term one for the teachers and the students in Warin Sub School was to ensure that teaching and learning became the central focus for our presence at school. The members of Warin Sub School will work hard to ensure that this attitude and behaviour continues into the second term and extends throughout the rest of the year as well. During the first week of the second term all students will be receiving their first progress reports. This will give parents some idea of how their child has been travelling during the course of the term. Please make contact with the school if you have not received a copy of your child's progress report.

Term two introduces our students to their winter uniforms. As with the first term, we expect that all students in Warin Sub School will be appropriately attired in their proper school uniforms for the duration of the winter months. The new unit of work for the year 7's is called the STAND UP REACH OUT. This unit relates to community issues and students write and present their own opinions on their communities. The year 8 unit of work is called HEALTHY, WEALTHY AND WHYS. This unit revolves around teenage development and investigates the various issues of adolescence, peer group pressure, typical teenage behaviour and emotional and physical changes. The year 9 JOURNEY programmes continue as usual. With all the exciting work planned for this term we are convinced that all our students will enjoy their journey through term 2 and pick up and learn valuable life skills.

We hope that term 2 will be just as rewarding for us all as was term one. Please feel free to keep in touch with us during the course of the term.

Mirrim Community News

Welcome back to Term 2! We have had a very successful start to the term! All students should have received their interim reports. Feel free to contact your child teachers if you have any questions regarding their reports. Please contact the school if you have not yet received a copy of your child's report.

Please note with the arrival of this chilly weather, term two also introduces the wearing of the winter uniform. As with the first term, we expect that all students in Mirrim Sub School will be appropriately attired in their proper school uniforms for the duration of the winter months.

Bulen Bulen Community News

Welcome back to term 2! Students should be wearing their full winter uniforms. All students are expected to be properly attired in their uniform - including a tie. Students have also recently received their interim reports; please feel free to contact teachers if you wish to further discuss your child's progress.

STAND UP REACH OUT is the new unit of work for Year 7. This unit of work focuses on community issues. Year 8's will be studying a unit called HEALTHY, WEALTHY and WHYS? During this unit they investigate issues associated with adolescence.

On the last day of Term 1 students participated in the cross-country day at Crystal Brook Park. Students in Bulen house participated well on the day and enjoyed a BBQ before a torrential downpour.

The Cross Country bought to the end a busy and energy filled Term 1. A great day was had by all even when the rain came down and we headed back to school early!

One of the goals during Term 1 for the teachers and the students in Gwonawa Sub School was to ensure that teaching and learning became the central focus for our presence at school. Members of the team will work hard to ensure that this attitude and behaviour continues into the second term and extends throughout the rest of the year. During the first week of the second term all students will be receiving their first interim reports. This will give parents a clear picture of how their child has been travelling during the course of the term. Please make contact with the school if you have not received a copy of your child's progress report.

Camps are also a focus of term 2. Students in Year 7 will again be attending Woorabinda School Camp in Yallorn North. Deposits for the camp were due this week, but a last call for interested students can be taken up until Friday this week. Students in Year 8 will have just received the initial information relating the Tasmania Camp. Deposits and expressions of interest can be returned to the front office. A total of 150 students are able to attend the camp. The Tasmania camp is a wonderful opportunity for students to develop relationships with staff and students as well as travelling interstate and seeing a new part of Australia. For information on either of the camps, please contact your child's sub school leader.

Term 2 brings with it the cold weather and Kambrya winter uniforms. As with the first term, we expect that all students in will be appropriately attired in their proper school uniforms for the duration of the winter months. The new unit of work for the Year 7's is called the STAND UP REACH OUT. This unit relates to community issues and students write and present their own opinions on their communities. The Year 8 unit of work is called HEALTHY, WEALTHY AND WHYS. This unit revolves around teenage development and investigates the various issues of adolescence, peer group pressure, typical teenage behaviour and emotional and physical changes.

With all the exciting work planned for this term we are convinced that all our students will enjoy their journey through Term two and pick up and learn valuable life skills.

English - Short Story Anthology

Thank-you to those students and parents who have purchased the short story anthology for Term 2 Year 10 English. Students have all been reminded that the anthology is a vital resource that they need in order to satisfactorily complete their English studies. Those students who have not yet purchased a copy are encouraged to do so as soon as possible from the Year 10 office. Copies are available for \$6. All students were recently provided with letters to inform parents of this anthology. If you have any concerns about this process, please contact Keith Perry at the college.

Work Experience - 11th - 15th MAY

Students will soon be going out on work experience placements. Those students who are on placements will receive a visit or a phone call from a Kambrya staff member during the week. This is to check their progress and welfare during the placement.

Over the next two weeks, students will be receiving advice from their humanities teachers on how to prepare effectively for the work experience placement, and how to gain the most from the opportunity. Parents are encouraged to actively discuss the learning experience with their child. **All students who have not organised a placement will be expected to attend school to participate in an alternative learning program.**

Central Australia Trip

The 2009 Central Australia Trip will take place in the final week of Term 3 and the first week of the September school holidays. Expression of interest forms were distributed to all students on Monday 20th April. Spare forms are available from the Year 10 Staffroom. Places **WILL NOT** be deemed to be secured unless a non-refundable deposit of \$100 is made with the submission of the expression of interest form. The total cost will be \$750, and this may be made in instalments.

Please note that due to a lower than expected number of students expressing interest, we will be capping the amount of places available to 80. We will continue to take names on a waiting list, and the decision to take a third bus may be made pending enough students to make it financially viable.

Please direct any queries that you have about the camp to Mr Keith Perry or Ms Kylie Williams at the college.

Year 10 Examinations

Year 10 will soon be attempting their first formal examinations. Semester One examinations are scheduled to take place in Week 7 (1-5 June). Students are encouraged to ensure that they are conducting regular review of their Term 1 studies, as the examination will encompass curriculum from the entire semester. Students will be provided with an examination timeline in the coming weeks, and will be reminded that the examinations are conducted under strict conditions. Further information about the examination period will be provided soon.

Course Counselling and Managed Individual Pathways

An integral component of the Year 10 journey is the commencement of a Managed Individual Pathway. This program is designed to provide a personal planning service for each individual student. Students are supported by the Careers Coordinators and their Humanities teachers, and are provided with the information and strategies they need in order to make informed and suitable decisions about their pathway beyond Year 10. To consolidate this program, students will also undergo **Course Counselling**, and parents will be invited to attend a **Later Years Information Evening**. This was originally scheduled to take place during the final weeks of Term 2, however the college has since rescheduled it to occur in the first weeks of TERM 3. Further information on this program will be provided in the near future.

SUBJECT CHANGES

All students have been advised that at the end of Semester Two, many students will experience a change of class and teacher for Humanities and/or Science. This is necessary in order to accommodate the allocation of as many first preferences for elective subjects as possible. I ask that parents please be understanding of this arrangement. English and Mathematics classes will NOT be affected.

Please note that any subject change requests will not be considered without a completed application form available for students from the Year 10 leadership office. Students must complete the form with their parents and then return it to Mr Perry. No further subject changes are guaranteed. Please be aware that subject changes disrupt timetables and are not made without prior consultation between teachers and parents.

YEAR TEN STUDENTS ATTEMPTING A VCE UNIT

Please be reminded of the following expectations:
~ ALL students must meet a minimum of 80% attendance.
~ In order to avoid falling below the minimum attendance rate, any student who is absent for a valid medical reason must provide a copy of the certificate to Mr Perry who will provide them with a stamp indicating an approved absence.
~ All students must abide by the VCAA rules and regulations. These are available for perusal in the handbooks provided to students at the end of 2007, and at <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

ABSENCES

Absences from school should be avoided wherever possible. All absences **MUST** be explained with a signed and dated note which is handed to the homegroup teacher at the next available occasion.

Any extended absences **MUST** be discussed with the child's homegroup teacher, community leader or sub-school leader. Please note that it is not in your child's best interests to miss extended periods of school, and the planning of holidays or other extended trips during the academic year must be discussed with the sub-school leader.

What do students need to get the year 10 pass?

Students have all been advised that in order to acquire their **Year 10 Certificate of Competence** at the completion of 2009, they must meet a strict set of requirements. These include:

- Satisfactory submission of all Common Assessment Tasks and requirements for each subject. A minimum attendance of 80%.
- Satisfactory completion of the IB MYP Personal Project.
- Demonstrated development in the college values of Respect, Integrity, Compassion and Achievement.

Students are all aware that promotion to VCE or VCAL in 2010 is NOT guaranteed and that they must EARN it!

VCE Revision Lectures at Monash:

Monash Berwick is offering revision lectures for Biology, Physics, Psychology, Accounting and Chemistry on Sunday 24th May. Sessions cost \$20 and are excellent preparation for mid-year exams.

To register, visit <http://ecommerce.students.monash.edu.au> before May 13th or see Ms Dollman for further details.

Student progress:

With mid-year exams fast approaching, it is important that parents are aware of your child's progress in both VCE and VCAL subjects. If you were unable to attend Round Table Conference, it is recommended that you contact class teachers directly by phone.

Forthcoming exams:

Year 11 (Unit 1) exams are scheduled for the first week in June. Please encourage students to begin revising regularly, attend extra help classes offered by teachers and to seek help personally from teachers if required.

Year 12 (Unit 3) mid-year exams are scheduled for Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th of June. These exams are administered externally, and cannot be rescheduled if a student is absent. Should you have any questions regarding the examination period, feel free to contact Anna Dollman in the Later Years office.

GAT:

The GAT (General Achievement Test) is an externally administered examination which must be completed by all students undertaking a Unit 3 (year 12) subject, including students who are currently in year 11. GAT scores are used by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority to obtain a derived score if a student is ill, or otherwise unable to attend an exam for any given year 12 subject. This year, the GAT takes place on Thursday 11th June. Preparations begin at school next week, however should you have any questions, please contact the Later Years office.

Winter Uniform:

Just a reminder to Senior students and parents that winter uniform must be worn in terms 2 & 3, including a long-sleeved white shirt and tie. Senior polo shirts may only be worn in terms 1 & 4. Students are also reminded that metal facial

jewellery must not be worn at school, with the exception of one small stud or sleeper in each ear. Students who wear metal facial jewellery to school may have items confiscated until the end of term.

Anna Dollman Later Years Sub-school Leader

Lauren Sach Year 12 Coordinator

Melanie Reynolds VCAL Coordinator

Hannah Lewis and Pip Edwards Year 11 Coordinators

KEYS PLEASE

THE FIRST STEP INTO THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Good drivers aren't born. They are made. And the best way to become a good driver is to get plenty of driving experience.

But sometimes, learning how to change gears, or even how to change lanes can seem a breeze compared with the challenge of getting your parents/guardians to hand over the car keys.

Keys Please can change that.

Keys Please is the first step into the driver's seat. It's an informative and interactive forum for you and your parents/guardians that introduces you to the different skills you will need when learning to drive, including some valuable tips to help you get that all-important licence.

And if you can convince your parents/guardians to come along, they'll hear how important it is for you to practice driving as often as possible, because getting your licence is all about getting enough practice, and you can't do that unless they hand over those car keys.

So come along to the Keys Please forum on Wednesday, 13 May at 7.00pm. at The Brentwood Park Community Centre, 21a Bemersyde Drive, Berwick. RSVP's are due in to Amanda Eames at the Brentwood Park Community Centre Tel. 8790 4749 Email. bpnh@westnet.com.au by 06 May 2009

Studio Arts News

On Monday April 20 VCE Studio Arts students went to visit the Top Arts exhibition at the National Gallery. This is an annual exhibition featuring the top students from all over the state for both Art and Studio Art subjects. Pictured are the students donning protective gloves prior to viewing the folios that accompany the finished works of art.



Studio Arts Unit 3 School Assessed task is due Thursday May 21 by recess. This includes the workbrief and folio of the design process that produces a range of potential solutions to the aims and ideas that were set out in the work brief.

Sports News

Congratulations to those students who participated in the school cross country! Unfortunately the weather cut the day short but it was great to see so many participants running for their house. Congratulations to those who won their age group! The top 15 runners from each age group will go on to compete for Kambrya at the District event to be held in two weeks. Good luck to those students!

Berwick Family Relationship Centre

Berwick Family Relationship Centre is a federally funded organisation which provides **family dispute resolution** at 1-2/38 Clyde Rd, Berwick. The centre helps separating or separated parents achieve workable, child-focused parenting arrangements. The service is free (up to 3 hours over two sessions). Enquiries and bookings can be made by calling **8678 4111**.

Before going through the dispute resolution process, people attend one of our information sessions, which occur approximately weekly. Family Dispute Resolution can also help resolve disputes with grandparents and other extended family members regarding the parenting of children. By ringing the above number, you can also be put in touch with a range of counseling and parenting programs.

We want our students to tell us what they think

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School survey is an annual student survey for Year 5 to Year 12 students offered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

This is the sixth year that the survey has been offered. Students from Year 7 to 12 at our school will participate in the survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday 27 April to Friday 8 May. The survey only takes 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time.

The survey results will be reported back to the school at the end of July. Last year we used the survey results to plan for whole school improvement initiatives.

Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like more information.

Music News

Voice lessons begin in term 2 on Thursdays with Nina Benvenuti. There are still many places available for lessons in voice so anyone interested should see Miss Bishop. You could also mention that there are more positions available for other instruments too.

Junior Band begins the first Friday back at 8am. Concert Band is after school on Mondays. All fees are due now, if payment is not made, then students may be forced to leave the program.

Deb Ball Update

**Presentation Ball Dance - 6pm to 8pm
Brentwood Park Primary School Gym**

Wednesday, 22 April

Tuesday, 28 April

Tuesday, 5 May

Tuesday, 12 May - Size & fitting for gentleman.
6.30pm to 7.30pm.

Tuesday, 19 May

Tuesday, 26 May

Tuesday, 2 June

Monday, 8 June at The Grand International

Tuesday, 9 June - (Suits delivered . 6.30pm to 7.30pm.)

The College has installed a new phone system and you will be able to contact or leave messages on direct lines for the following people:

Middle School Administration – Mrs Vanessa Chiswell	9707 7626
Senior School Administration – Mrs Leanne Wilson	9707 7625
Student Records – Ms Bec Hewat	9707 7628
Sick Bay – Mrs Trish Jagusch	9707 7613
Careers – Mr Alan Feher	9707 7621
Chaplain – Mr John Mac	9707 7671
Student Welfare – Mrs Sue Kirkham	9707 7643
Business Manager – Mrs Barbara Douglass	9707 7605
Accounts – Student Payments –	9707 7607

For all calls to Mr Michael Muscat (Principal), Mr John Shaw, Mrs Nalini Naidu and Ms Joanne Wastle (Assistant Principals) please call Principal Team Assistant – Mrs Michele Fleming 9707 7606

Mirrim Kangaroo

Sub School Leader – Mr Ben Forbes 9707 7661

Bulen Bulen Lyre Bird

Sub School Leader – Mrs Fiona Foreman 9707 7646

Gwonawa Swan

Sub School Leader – Ms Kylie Williams 9707 7662

Warin Wombat

Sub School Leader – Mr Vishnu Naidoo 9707 7663

Year 10

Year 10 Sub School Leader – Mr Keith Perry 9707 7666

Year 11

Year 11 Sub School Leaders – Mr Pip Edwards 9707 7679
Ms Hannah Lewis 9707 7679

Year 12

Later Years Co-ordinator – Ms Anna Dollman 9707 7660
Year 12 Sub School Leader – Ms Lauren Sach 9707 7680