

Kurunjang Secondary College

Parent Newsletter



Website: www.kurunjangsc.vic.edu.au

8 February 2008

GOALS FOR 2008

It is with great pleasure I warmly welcome our students, their families and staff back to school. I hope you all had a restful break and together we look upon 2008 as bringing opportunity and success for all.

The College will be undertaking a major review of its programs this year. This will be done with the view to writing a new four year Strategic Plan. We will be analysing our data and performance over the past four years and will be developing a road map to a successful future. We will be asking parents, community, students and staff to have input into the review and together we will be putting the spotlight on the things we need to do to make a difference and provide maximum opportunities for our kids.

I look forward to the completion of building works on our new Learning Centre and toilets and the commencement of works on our Grounds Improvement Plan.

The College will keep its focus on learning and its attempts to ensure all of our students have a successful pathway in life.

We have recruited some wonderful new teachers and other staff this year. I would like to introduce you to:

Ms Gorman;	Art
Ms Dempster;	PE
Ms Curtain;	Music
Ms Chalker;	Technology Textiles
Mr Bykersma;	PE
Michael Monahan;	Technology
Ms Mazurkiewicz;	Maths Science Educator and Coach
Mr Knight;	Science
Ms Fiedler;	Nurse In Schools Program
Ms Turner;	AFL Traineeship; and
Ms Ellis	Pathways Counsellor

Welcome Back from leave Ms Chalmers and Mr Dallimore

Again, welcome back to everyone and have a fabulous 2008.

Timetable Change

Next Monday there will be some slight adjustments to the College Timetable. Some students may have a change of teacher and a slight change to their schedule of classes. This minor adjustment is being made to

Dates to remember:

February:	
12 th	Year 7 Parents BBQ 6pm
18 th to 26 th	Year 7 Camps – various dates
21 st	College Council 7pm
28 th	Senior School Parent BBQ
March:	
6 th	Parent Teacher Interviews

ensure a greater number of students have access to the course selections they desire and that our capable year ten students are able to undertake VCE subjects.

Peter Blunden
Principal

SETTING HIGH STANDARDS

Welcome to the start of a new school year in 2008. It is important at the commencement of any school year to ensure that good work habits are established. During 2007 the College implemented the “4 A’s Policy”, which emphasised the importance of regular Attendance, students Achieving at the appropriate level, demonstration of appropriate work habits, (Attitude) and selecting subjects for which students have a strength, (Aptitude).

How can you support your child in ensuring that the 4 A’s are maintained?

- o Ensure that your child attends regularly, (students must maintain a 90% attendance rate across all subjects.) Please contact the college if your child is going to be absent from school.
- o Check your child’s diary for homework. Students should be completing homework / study every night.
 - o Year 7 and 8 students should be completing, on average, 1 hour per day
 - o Year 9 students should be completing, on average, 1½ hours per day
 - o Year 10 students should be completing, on average, 2 hours per day
 - o Year 11 students should be completing, on average, 3 hours per day
 - o Year 12 students should be completing, on average, 4 hours per day
- o Assist your child to bring the appropriate equipment to class each session. Each student has a copy of their individual timetables.
- o Encourage your child to ask for assistance if they need help. If you feel that they are struggling, or finding it hard to get assistance, please contact the College and speak either with the class teacher, Year Level Co-ordinator, Sub-school Leader or Assistant Principal.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to look through the student planner that every student has received. It contains a number of key dates for the year, as well as a wide range of advice regarding study habits, and school in general.

Sue Binger
Assistant Principal

LEADERS OF TOMORROW – MAKING KURUNJANG A BETTER PLACE

Kurunjang students will be given a lifetime opportunity to develop leadership skills and show that leadership in the College and the community. We are working with Victoria University to provide leadership training for students, and creating opportunities within the College and community for students to use what they learn: to become the leaders of tomorrow.

We hope that parents will encourage their children to show positive leadership in all aspects of school life, including sports, performing arts, and community service. We ask that you support your child's growing participation in the life of the College and community.

Firstly students and teachers will be selecting Home Group Representatives. These representatives will meet regularly with Subscool Leaders, Year Level Coordinators and Assistant Principals to communicate student concerns and issues.

A select team of teachers from the College will attend Victoria University to complete training in developing "Leaders of Tomorrow".

Early in Term Two a number of the Home Group Representatives will undertake a week of training and development at Victoria University, learning leadership skills and developing plans for developing what we are calling "Student Voice". They will assist the College in developing and leading activities and organisational structures for students to improve the life of the College.

Kurunjang has a long tradition of student representation, most notably through the Student Representative Council. We continue to strive to improve, and believe that with the help of our students we can continue to make Kurunjang a better place.

Uniform Donations, please

We are grateful to the many families who have donated uniform when they are outgrown. It has assisted the College in supporting the policy of full school uniform. Some students are loaned uniform in emergencies, some loans are more long-term. Every article donated helps. Donations can be left at the General Office Reception.

Shoes and Safety

All shoes at school must be sufficiently strong to protect students' feet. The Uniform Policy clearly states that they must be "Closed toe, leather or suede". Some

girls are wearing ballet flats, which offer minimal protection. We ask that parents be especially careful when purchasing shoes that they are safe in a school environment. We require standard school shoes, leather sports shoes or T-Bars.

Gordon Harvey
Assistant Principal

SUBSCRIBE TO THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

If you prefer to receive your Newsletter by email, simply send an email to this address, newsletter-request@kurunjangsc.vic.edu.au The body of the message need only contain the word subscribe.

VET COURSES FOR 2008

Final payment for VET courses in 2008 is now due. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact Leonie Gray, Business Manager to make alternative arrangements.

EMA

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of 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.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (29 January 2008 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (14 July 2008).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by **29 February 2008** for the first instalment and **1 August 2008** for the second instalment

The EMA provides an annual amount of **\$215** for primary students and **\$430** for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Schools receive the school portion electronically twice a year and parents/guardians receive their portion via two cheques. Students turning 16 years in 2008, will be paid on a pro rata basis and not on the 70/30% basis.

Instalment	Portion	Primary School	Secondary School
One	Parent	\$75.25	\$150.50
	School	\$75.25	\$150.50
Two	Parent	\$32.25	\$64.50
	School	\$32.25	\$64.50
Total		\$215.00	\$430.00

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2008 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 29 February 2008 and prior to or on 1 August 2008, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Healthcare and Pension card holders can now apply for 2008 EMA payments at the General Office. Cards must be valid to start of school (30 January, 2008).

YEAR 11 OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The dates of excursions and camps for Semester 1, 2008 are as follows:

- March 12-14 Bogong High Plains, alpine bushwalking
- April 18 Queenscliff, scuba diving
- May 2 Torquay, surfing
- May 22-23 Grampians, bushwalking

SICK BAY

Welcome back to all our students, I wish everyone a healthy and happy year ahead.

The 2008 Immunisation program

Through out the year:

Yr7 male and female students will be offered one dose of the Chicken pox immunisation and two doses of the Hepatitis B immunization.

Yr7 female students will be offered three doses of the Cervical Cancer Human Papillomavirus immunisation.

Yr9 female students will be offered three doses of the Cervical Cancer Human Papillomavirus immunisation.

Yr10 male and female students will be offered one dose of Boostrix, which is their last dose of Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis.

Yr10 female students will be offered three doses of the Cervical Cancer Human Papillomavirus immunization.

The first round of immunisations will be held Friday 14th March 2008.

The second round will be held Monday 12th May 2008.

The third round will be held Friday 19th September 2008.

Asthma

We are an Asthma friendly school and have trained staff, who act quickly if a student is having an asthma attack. Students with asthma should carry their Ventolin puffer with them at all times.

Medical conditions

Students with medical conditions are to see me in sickbay to arrange a sickbay pass.

Medication

All student medication should be kept in sickbay for safety reasons. A sickbay pass will be issued if students need to have their medication through class time.

Sun Smart & Dehydration

With our harsh summer climate I strongly recommend to be sun smart and cover up.

Hats, 30+ sunscreen and sun glasses are the best options in protecting ourselves at times of extreme temperature. Remember prevention is the best policy.

To prevent dehydration at anytime of the year, especially summer, get into the habit of sending water in a plastic water bottle which can be filled through out the day, and enforce the rule of drinking at least 6 to 8 glasses of water a day, this will prevent many ailments caused by dehydration, and help with concentration levels.

Please Note

Because of students with serious allergies, we ask all students not to bring spray deodorant. Roll on deodorants are medically friendly and better for our school environment.

Sophie Bykersma

First aid officer

Sickbay.

PTFA

The PTFA will be having their first meeting for 2008 on Wednesday 13th February at 9am in the Conference Room. New members are most welcome to come along and have a coffee and a chat about possible fundraising activities.

SPORT

The new year offers many different sporting opportunities for students at Kurunjang, in both inter-school sport and lunchtime sport.

Inter-school sport is a fantastic way to improve skills as well as meet new friends from other schools. Term one sports include cricket, tennis, swimming, softball, baseball, golf and lawn bowls. Training sessions are beginning, with notices in the Daily Bulletin alerting students to the dates and times.

Lunchtime sport is played in the gym in a relaxed atmosphere with an emphasis on participation and fun. Wednesdays are for Juniors (Yr. 7&8), Thursdays are for Seniors (Yr. 11&12) and Fridays are for Intermediates (Yr.9&10).

There is a proud tradition of sporting excellence at Kurunjang, and the sporting culture continues to grow. With so many activities to choose from, here's hoping all students will choose to have a go and get involved.

SQUASH CORNER

The final newsletter of 2007 alerted all families to the fact that the Year 7 Girls Squash team had qualified for the State Finals in Moorabbin. We are pleased to announce that in a fiercely contested final against Wangaratta our team was victorious (4-0). Congratulations go out to each member of the team on their involvement, diligence and perseverance when training and competing. Their support of one another and the camaraderie shown, both on and off the court, was a key ingredient to their success. Well done Chelsea Forbes, Ashleigh Johnstone, Caitlyn McConnochie and Nicole Smith on bringing home the banner.



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 7 PARENT B-B-Q

Tuesday, February 12th 6.00 pm
Year 7 students and parents are cordially invited to our annual year 7 B-B-Q in our rose garden. We encourage all families to take this important opportunity to attend our informal B-B-Q and meet your child's homegroup teacher, year 7 Coordinator, Junior sub-school leader and Assistant Principal. To help us plan the evening, please return the slip to your homegroup teacher by no later than Monday 11th February.

YEAR 7 CAMP PAX HILL

HOMEGROUPS DATES

year 7A	Monday 18 -19
Year 7B	Tuesday 19 -20
Year 7C	Wednesday 20 -21
Year 7D	Thursday 21-22
Year 7 E	Monday 25 26

Cost \$115.00

Contact :

Junior School Leader
Mr. Peter Davies
Year 7 Coordinator
Ms. Janeen O'Connell

NEW STAFF

We welcome new staff to Kurunjang Secondary College and hope that they enjoy their time here. Please make them feel welcome.

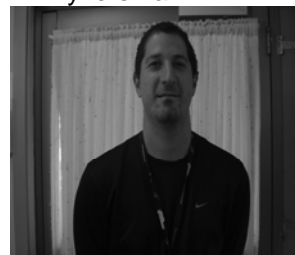
Mr Monahan



Ms Curtain



Mr Bykersma



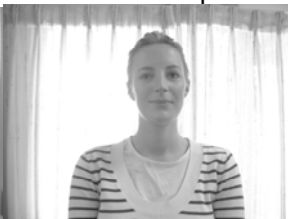
Ms Gorman



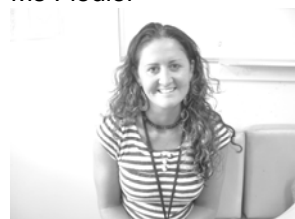
Ms Chalker



Ms Dempster



Ms Fiedler



Mr Knight



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS **COLLEGE COUNCIL ELECTIONS** **Your School Needs You!**

The Kurunjang Secondary College Council is calling for nominations for parent, Department of Education and Training Employees (DE&T) and community representatives. Nomination Forms and information about Council are available from the General Office or can be posted on request.

VACANCIES EXIST IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

3 Parent Representatives

2 Department of Education and Training Employees

Council is particularly interested in recruiting a member of our community with business, public sector, higher education or industry training experience

CANTEEN MENU

Salad plate:

Consisting of: cold meat and cheese with lettuce, cucumber, beetroot, carrot, tomato, onion, egg. Served on disposable plate with knife, fork, serviette and wrapped in Gladwrap.

Ready to eat \$6.00

Bread rolls or sandwiches

Chicken salad	\$4.50
Tuna salad	\$4.00
Ham salad	\$4.50
Cheese salad	\$4.00
Salad	\$3.50
Ham cheese tomato	\$4.00
Egg lettuce	\$4.00
Ham cheese	\$3.50
Cheese tomato	\$3.50
Chicken schnitzel, lettuce & mayo	\$5.00

Hot food

Wedges	\$3.00
Steamed Dim sim	\$0.80
Potato cake	\$0.80
Hash brown	\$0.80
Spring roll	\$2.40
Hot-dog	\$2.80
Chicken Nugget	\$0.70
Pies	\$3.20
Pasties	\$3.20
Sausage rolls	\$2.60
Chicken burgers	\$3.80
Schnitzel burgers	\$5.00
Small	\$3.00
Hamburger lot	\$5.00
Chicken wraps	\$3.50
Soup	\$3.00

Homemade

Pizza muffin	\$2.50
Fried rice	\$4.50
Pasta Bolognaise	\$4.50
Pasta Carbonara	\$4.50
Roast meat and gravy	\$4.50
Baked potato	\$3.00
Mashed potato	\$3.00

Extras

Tomato sauce	\$0.20
Soy sauce	\$0.20
Vinegar	\$0.20
Gravy	\$0.20
Sour cream	\$0.20

Cakes and buns

Muffins	\$3.50
Hedgehog	\$3.00
Lamington	\$3.00
Apple cake	\$3.00
Iced donut	\$2.50
Hot jam donut	\$1.00
Cup cakes	\$2.50
Cookies	\$3.00

Sweets

Yoghurt	\$3.00
Choc mousse	\$3.00
Jelly cup	\$2.50
Fruit salad	\$4.00
Seasonal fresh	
Fruit available prices may vary	\$1.00

Cold drinks

600ml bottles	\$3.00
390ml bottles	\$2.30
Gatorade	\$3.50
Nippy's Milk	\$2.50
Water	\$2.00
Water 1Litre	\$2.80
Daily juice	\$3.00
Assorted juices 400ml	\$3.00
Assorted juices 300ml	\$2.50
Just juice	\$1.80
Kyneton	\$3.00
Cans	\$2.00

Hot drinks

Available from machine in cafeteria

Breakfast menu

Egg and bacon muffin	\$2.80
Toast	\$2.00
Croissants	\$3.00
Toasted cheese	\$2.50
Toasted ham cheese tomato	\$3.00

Large ranges of ice creams are available, including

Zooper doopers	\$0.60
----------------	--------

NB: Prices may vary during the year. Notification will be given via student Newsletter

