

# Kurunjang Secondary College

## Parent Newsletter



Website: [www.kurunjangsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.kurunjangsc.vic.edu.au)

October 21, 2008

Leaders in a Learning Community

### PRINCIPAL TEAM

This week we farewell our Year 12 students as they enter the final stage of their secondary education – VCE examinations. Senior students have worked throughout this year towards this final *assault* to achieving their goals. On behalf of the Principal Class, I would like to wish the Year 12 students well in their examinations, and urge every student to *put the final touches* on their study. Remember, before you sit an exam/test, you must be prepared.

- Know the format
- Know how much time is available
- Have your subject material summarised efficiently
- Test your knowledge and understanding with friends and family, and
- Be systematic in your approach to the examination

When sitting examinations / tests,

- Read the question carefully
- Begin with the ones that you can do immediately, this will give you confidence
- Divide the number of marks into the time so that you know how long to spend on each question
- Always be positive with a can do attitude – it will stimulate your memory.

### Literacy Program comes to Kurunjang – causing a change to Curriculum Day.

In our recent school self – evaluation, the leadership team of the college identified literacy as one of the foci for the next four years. After much research, the College has decided work with Dr. Carol Christensen to develop and implement a literacy program. Dr. Christensen has been working with schools across Australia to improve literacy standards through her Whole School Literacy programs with dramatic results. In order to facilitate this program, Dr. Christensen will be training all staff at the College on Thursday 6 November and Friday 7 November. This means that the previously scheduled curriculum day to be held on Monday 3 November will now be a normal school day. I wish to apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause, however, given the wide range of educational institutions across Australia that Dr. Christensen is currently working with, this could not be avoided. Please note, also, that the **Canteen will be CLOSED** during the Cup week, Monday 3 November – Friday 7 November.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Year 9 City Project Presentation Evening, 7:00 PM
Wednesday 22 Oct	Leap Grade 6's students
Thursday 23 Oct	Window of the West at Highpoint Shopping Centre. The Choir will be performing
Monday 27 Oct	Out of Uniform Day
Monday 27 Oct	Start of Art Week
Friday 31 Oct	Year 12 Exams
Monday 3-7 Nov	CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED
Monday 3 Nov	School as normal
Tuesday 4 Nov	Cup Day – SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED
Wednesday 5	School as normal
<b>Thursday 6 &amp; 7 Nov</b>	<b>Curriculum Day. STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
Thursday 20 Nov	Year 11 Exams Begin

### Four as in Term Four

Kurunjang wants to give all students the best chance of success at school and in life after school. All students are expected to satisfy the requirements of our 4As policy to show success and readiness for the challenges of future years.

- Attendance
- Aptitude
- Attitude
- Achievement

The vast majority of students satisfy these requirements and readily progress to higher challenges. Some students do not progress at the same rate or at the same time as others and the college needs to accommodate such students. Some students can satisfy the 4 As requirements by completing catch up classes or catch up work, repeating a subject or year level, or in some other way negotiated to suit their individual situation.

Over the next few weeks we will be continuing our work with students who have not satisfied the requirements of the 4 As policy and furthering our discussions with them and their parents to ensure that they have the greatest chance of success in the future.

## Student Leadership

Four Kurunjang students attended an international student leadership conference over the Spring break. The conference was organized by the Australian Centre for Educational Leadership. Jemma Black, Lauren Ould, Jacinta Rosewarne and Peter Rosewarne spent three days in the role of critical monitors, listening in to the discussions of adults, and actively challenging their assumptions and processes. They had an opportunity to hear and meet representatives of government, industry and finance. The reports from the conference leaders were glowing in their praise for the work of our students, such that they have been invited to participate in next year's conference in Darwin.

Not only are our student leaders working to make Kurunjang a better place, they are having a chance to make the world a better place.

## Uniform Update

**College Council has recently accepted a change to the College uniform for 2009, the introduction of a tartan skirt to replace the navy skirt for girls.** In line with Department guidelines the change to uniform will be phased in. At the beginning of the year, all new students to the college wishing to wear a skirt will be required to purchase the tartan skirt, whilst current students, may continue to wear their navy skirt throughout 2009.

It is timely, also to remind parents, that the change to shoe policy has been phased in throughout this year. It should be noted that as at the beginning of 2009, all students will be required to wear only black leather lace-up school shoes or black leather t-bars, no other colour will be acceptable.

## ART WEEK

### Arts Week 27 October - 31 October

**Monday-** Opening of Arts Week- Arts Exhibition at 4.00pm. The school public is welcome. Artworks will be displayed in Foyer, main & art staffrooms, library, and co-coordinators' offices.

**Tuesday-** Lunchtime Dance Off

**Wednesday-** Visiting Artist Group (Chalk Circle) will work with selected art students on a pavement artwork during course of half or one full day

The Artsports (G3 NG/ MBA)

**Thursday-** Theatresports (G3 NG/ MBA)

**Friday-** Visiting Performer / Music Concert

## COMMUNITY SERVICE NOTICES

### Community Contributions Improve Grounds.

Over 2008 students and visitors have noticed a number of changes to the school grounds. Some of those changes were possible through the generosity of community members. Plants have recently been

donated by Bunnings Plant Nursery and the rocks used in the landscaping were provided by Mr Rod Thynne, a teacher at Kurunjang. We are always grateful for such contributions. We are aware that Bunnings have supported Kurunjang with plants. Kurunjang Drive car park has been extended and beautified. The entrance to the college for gymnasium patrons has been landscaped, creating safer and more attractive active and passive recreation areas. The donated plants have been planted near the gate and if they thrive they will supply much needed shade in coming years.

We welcome calls from the parents and members of the school community who can help us beautify the school and improve the day to day experience of our students. Several students and staff are keen to work on planting and landscaping projects.

If you are able to donate large landscape rocks or can put us in contact with others who can, or if you are able to donate plants, especially native and indigenous plants or can advise us of contacts within the community who can help, please call Mr Gordon Harvey or Ms Jeanette Chambers at the College.

## Out of Uniform Day 27 October

Proceeds are going towards the National Breast Cancer Foundation. **Gold coin donation** is required. Dress in pink and the homegroup with the most in pink will receive an award.

Also there are wrist bands, nail files and pins are available from the office and will be sold on the day

## REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

If you know that your child will be absent for the day please notify the College by ringing the Attendance Officer on **9747 5198** If the phone is unattended, please leave a message on the voicemail. Please state the name of the student, their homegroup and the reason for the absence in a clear voice.

## 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](mailto:newsletter-request@kurunjangsc.vic.edu.au) The body of the message need only contain the word **subscribe**

## UNIFORM SHOP

### NEW TIMES

Dobson's Uniform Shop 9746 0062

Trading Hours as at 12/6/2008

Tuesday: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Thursday: 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm