



IMPORTANT DATES TERM 1 2007

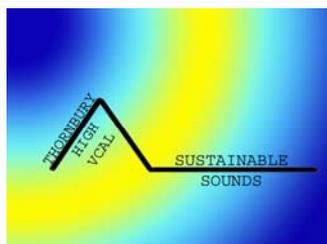
1 st March	Year 12 Information Night [Part 1]
7 th March	School Photos
9 th March	Curriculum Day
12 th March	Labour Day
13 th March	Outdoor Rock Concert [Lunchtime]
14 th March	Keys Please [Year 10 students]
20 th March	Term 1 Music Concert
21 st March	School Council
21 st – 23 rd March	Year 9 Camp Coorong

22 nd March	Year 6 Information Evening
29 th March	Interim Reports/ Parent Teacher Interviews
30 th March	Last day of term 1 [Early Dismissal 1.09pm]
16 th April	First day of term 2

TERM DATES 2007

Second Term	16 th April – 29 th June
Third Term	16 th July – 21 st September
Fourth Term	8 th October – 21 st December

A HOUSE OF STRAW: SUSTAINABLE SOUNDS



Trial logo

Senior VCAL students have received a grant from the Commonwealth government to construct a recording studio out of straw bales. The grant was in addition to money already received under the Commonwealth Funding Initiative 'Investing in Our Schools Programme'.

We are currently in the process of designing the building with Luke Middleton, from the Ecologically Motivated Environments (EME) group, and the music department.

Marcus Lamble, a member of the class, said, "The design work is challenging, but now that we have the money and know the project is really going to happen the tasks are more enjoyable. I am really looking forward to start the actual building".

Nick Dean, Head of the Music department, said "We are all very excited in the music department at the thought of being able to record the great sounds of Thornbury High School. It's not every school that has the opportunity to have a professional recording studio for their students to work and learn in".

The name of the project we have come up with is 'Sustainable Sounds'. It was chosen because it reflects everything about the building including the sustainable materials we intend to use in the construction of the building. The construction will be finished by the end of the year.

We are planning for the next 20 years. It is our legacy to Thornbury High School.

Stay tuned for further updates from **SUSTAINABLE SOUNDS**.

Tara Harvey & Layla Leota 12V



Sustainable Sounds: [from left] Layla Leota, Marcus Lamble, Tara Harvey and Jason Shill are members of the senior VCAL group who will work together with the music department to construct a straw recording studio.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

THORNBURY HIGH STUDENTS AT THE ALPINE SCHOOL

'Rural Learning Centres' are a Victorian Department of Education and Training initiative offering a unique residential education experience for year nine students. The curriculum focuses on personal development and team learning projects. There are three campuses: the Alpine School is located at Dinner Plain in the Victorian Alps; the Snowy River Campus is near the mouth of the Snowy River at Marlo in east Gippsland; the third site will be at Glenormiston near Camperdown in Victoria's Western District. The Thornbury students are at the Snowy river campus. Those students are Emilia Pertama, Amber Murray, Miles Elliott, Rachael Mountney and Nathan Sinnott.

All together there are 40 students who come from Flinders Peak (Geelong), Nhill, Bright, Kurnai (Morwell), Carrum Downs, Thornbury, Debney Park (Flemington) & Croydon and represent eight of the nine Department of Education and Training regions across Victoria.

From the Principal Mark Reeves -

'All arrived safely on a very hot day last Sunday, and have been active in the program.

The staff team has been fantastic and it feels like they have been doing this for years!

The building withstood housing and feeding over 100 people on that hot arrival day in admirable fashion. The passive and active solar cooling and design features of the facility work superbly.

Today, the students are receiving their laptop computers so will soon be emailing home, friends and schools, as well as having a swim in the Snowy River after this lengthy IT process.

Already, many new friends have been made and we celebrate the cultural and geographical diversity of this pioneering team of students.

I congratulate and thank the many individuals, teams and schools involved either over such a long period or more recently for their support, outstanding and enduring work.

PICKING UP STUDENTS AT THE END OF THE DAY

There is a significant problem with parents parking in Collins Street, the Collins Street teacher car park and at the entrance to the School at the end of the day. All parents must be aware of the congestion and the possibility of accidents if we are not sensible about this issue.

The only solution is for all parents picking up students

is to use the carpark entrance from Matisi Street as there is plenty of room to turn around and park if necessary.

I urge all parents to make the effort to follow these simple rules for everyone's benefit.



Year 7 Activities: Barbeque Evening 21st February

CARE FOR STUDENTS

Thornbury High School is well respected for the way it looks after its students, for the expectations it sets and implements and for the outcomes achieved by its students. The increasing enrolment of students in Year 7 is a reflection of the community's recognition of this.

As a school we will continue to build on this to ensure that your children have access to the best education and support that we can provide. As parents you play an important role in helping this through:

- supporting our School and the expectations we set;
- helping establish appropriate work habits at home;
- showing your son/daughter that you have an interest in what is happening at school
- showing a willingness to contact us when you have any concerns about their progress or have information that we should know about so we can better support them.

These are all important to ensuring that your child gets the most out of their time at school. We need to work together to ensure the best for our children. This is a focus for us at Thornbury and we believe that this is a strength that supports and improves the outcomes achieved by our students.

STUDENT ABSENCES - MAKING EXCUSES [THE AGE, 22ND MAY 2006]

'Many parents are unaware of the profound effect that school absenteeism can have on their child. Zita Pinda, a former secondary teacher and school leader at an all-girls' Catholic school, who has researched student absenteeism for the past three years, says,

“Even being ten minutes late for school each day can have a huge effect on a child’s ability to socialise with their peers and engage with the school. This is a time when record books are seen and signed, notices are distributed and announcements tend to be made.” Days off here and there are an even greater concern. As Ms Pinda points out, missing a day of school every fortnight during the years from Prep to Year 10 is equivalent to missing more than a year of school.

While schools can put place structures and processes to reduce student absenteeism, “... in many cases the solutions to school absenteeism [are] quite simple”, Ms Pinda says. “I think a lot of parents kept their kids away from school because they thought they were unwell, when in actual fact they were simply exhausted from staying up too late.”

Given the impact of absenteeism on the students’ achievement and their connection with the school and their peers, we ask that parents support their children’s education by ensuring that they arrive at school punctually and that, as far as possible, appointments or family events are scheduled at times that do not interfere with their child’s learning opportunities. Addressing issues such as children staying up or working too late on a regular basis will also assist us in ensuring that students are able to achieve their educational potential.

At Thornbury High parents are expected to notify the Level Coordinator on the day their child is absent. All students have been set a target of a maximum of 4 days absent during the year. Coordinators can be contacted directly on the following lines:

Year 12	Christine Farmakis	9458 6141
Year 11	Mary Anagnostopoulos	9458 6138
Year 10	Mark Gillies	9458 6112
Year 9	Lyndal Roper	9458 6113
Year 8	Caroline McLachlan	9458 6171
Year 7	Robert Basso	9458 6170

Peter Egeberg

SCHOOL COUNCIL

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students. Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Amanda Croatto has had to step down as President as she currently has a teaching position but will continue on council as a community member

The new School Council will meet for the first time on

Wednesday March 21st at 7pm. At this meeting office bearers will be chosen.

The new Council is:

Parents Lydia Christie, Susan Canning Geoff Matthews, Neil Huybregts, Linda McCloskey and Debra Munro.

Teachers Meredith Stephenson, David Hysen, Mark Gillies, Steven Barlow.

Community members are Murray Gillin, Pat Wood, Amanda Croatto, Letisha Watson and Biljana Celeski

There are three subcommittees of Council (any parent can be a member of these subcommittees): Community and Promotion, Finance Buildings and Grounds and Policy. Any parents/guardians interested in attending or participating in School Council subcommittees are encouraged to contact the school for meeting dates.

INFORMATION EVENING – THURSDAY MARCH 22nd AT 7PM

The school information evening for prospective parents and students is being held earlier this year.

Guests are invited to arrive through the school’s front entrance so that they can view student art displays on their way to the Kaye Coghlan Centre where our School Captain will commence formal activities by introducing student and parent speakers, followed by the Principal Peter Egeberg.

The audience will then break into small groups to listen to a number of teacher and student presentations in the humanities, performing arts and science areas.

Tea, coffee and cake will be served in the staff room at about 8.30pm with ample opportunity for informal discussion with teachers, coordinators and the Principal.

If you are unable to make this evening please ring the school to arrange a tour with the Principal.

HATS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

As part of Thornbury High’s Sun Smart Policy, students are required to bring a hat/cap to school to wear during Physical Education sessions. A Thornbury High School cap is available for purchase from the uniform shop or, alternatively, students may bring a suitable hat from home.

All students must bring a hat to Physical Education classes as of Monday 19th February 2007. Students are also reminded that they must bring full school sport uniform to all classes (school sport top, school sport shorts, runners and socks).

MUSIC NEWS

The music program has commenced another busy year with many ensembles up and running and rehearsals starting. The schedule so far is as follows:

Senior Stage Monday after school [Sean Nihill]
Year 8 Band Tuesday after school [Diana Norton/Kent Fisk]
Senior Concert Band Wednesday after school [Craig Harrison]

Year 7 students have chosen their instruments and lessons began last week. There are over 50 students involved and we warmly welcome them and their parents to the music program.

Students must complete and return Band Contract and Instrumental hire forms prior to taking their instruments home.

CONGRATULATIONS

The music dept. is justifiably proud of former students **Sean West (alto)** and **Nadia Croatto (trumpet)** who completed year 12 last year and are now enrolled to study music at NMIT. Both are excellent musicians who performed enthusiastically for the school and now have a great opportunity to further their skills and career. We hope they enjoy studying music as much as we all did!

Year 12

This year we have 6 students undertaking Year 12 music: Tuyen (flute) Martin (alto sax) Hugh (contemporary guitar) , Rhys (bass guitar), Ben (trumpet) and Lachlan (Drumkit) You will see them out and about performing this year and we encourage them to strive for the highest level in their efforts.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

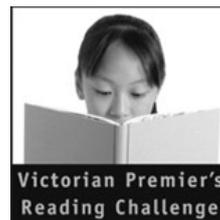
Now is the time of the year when the musician child in your family needs to wipe the 'summer holiday' dust from their instrument and re-commence their daily practice. If you have not 'enjoyed' their sounds lately you could try asking them how they are going, maybe have a listen to what they are learning. Studies indicate that parental interest and involvement greatly enhances a student's success in music. Try to provide them with a suitable time and space for practice, away from noise and distraction and encourage them to play their instrument for about 30 minutes daily.

DATES

Term 1 Concert	20th March
VCE Group evening concert	27th March
SCB PR tour	28th March
Yr 8 Band PS tour	24th April
Mid Year Concert	19th June
End of Year concert	30th Oct

THE VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

is for all Victorian students in Prep to Year 9. The aim of the Challenge is to promote a love of reading. Students must read 15 books during this period, including ten or more from the Challenge Booklist. The Challenge begins at the start of the 2007 school year and officially ends on 31 August 2007.



Parent permission is required for students to participate. We will provide consent forms, and register students in the Challenge as soon as this year's booklist is published.

Helen Walsh (English), Mary Anagnostopoulos & Glenn Bason (Library)

SCIENCE NEWS

To all year 10 students: The Science Department is looking for two keen year 10 students wishing to participate in a one day program 'A day if the life of a Scientist'. For those students interested please see Michael Foster in the Science department as soon as possible for further details.

Attention to all science students from years 7 to 10. The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition is about to start again. We need all you active and inquisitive thinkers to have a go at this National Competition. See your Science teacher for more information.

VCE science student's wishing to participate in the National Qualifying Exams for Biology, Chemistry and Physics should approach Ian Westwood, Christine Farmakis or Michael Foster respectively for further information. All eligible students are encouraged to apply.

M. Foster Science Coordinator

SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH

- The theme for this year is "Antarctic Science". Students can make posters or a video, take science photos, or complete their own experiment. Students must be registered by **March 5** – so see Mr. Foster or Mr. Bason for details ASAP.
- The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition will be held at the school on **Thursday 17 May 2007**. We're keen to have more students enter this year – especially those in High Achiever's classes.

VET SPORT & RECREATION CERTIFICATE II in COMMUNITY RECREATION

The VET Certificate II in Community Recreation being run at Thornbury High is well underway. Students from various schools including Thornbury

High, Northcote High, Santa Maria College, Samaritan College, LaTrobe Secondary College and Preston Girls are undertaking this course for the first time at Thornbury High School this year.

The course involves various theory and practical units based at providing students with the skills and knowledge to pursue a career in the Sport and Recreation industry.



Students participated in an excursion to the Northcote YMCA last week where they were involved in a comprehensive information session provided by the Centre Manager, Mr Ashley Bartholomew. The session covered specific information which highlighted the operational aspects of Community Recreation and how industry knowledge and information is used on a day to day basis by Recreation Centres. Students also participated in a “spin” class whilst at the centre which certainly tested their Cardiovascular Endurance on what was a very hot and humid day.

In coming weeks, students will undertake an investigation on Occupational Health and Safety and will begin their Level 2 First Aid Course.

LIONS CLUB DEBATE “WIN”

On the 21st February year 12 Thornbury students debated students from Our Lady’s College Heidelberg. The topic was that Rail Transport was more viable than road Transport, our defence of roads ended in a one point victory. We now progress to take on Santa Maria on the 7th march, fingers crossed. The team consisted of Ben McCloskey, Ben Finnegan and Andrew Braddock.

SCHOOL FEES 2007

Thankyou to those families who have already paid school levies for 2007. A reminder to those who have not yet paid, that fees are now due. If we are to maintain the quality facilities and programs we have at Thornbury High School, we need to have all families

contributing to our school via payments of charges and contributions.

If you have any issue with this, please do not hesitate to make a time to speak to the Business Manager/Assistant Principal/Principal.

Meredith Stephenson Assistant Manager

EXEMPTION FROM STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTIONS

Thornbury High School has gained an exemption from current water restrictions so that our gardener Joe can water at the following times: Tuesdays 8am-10am and Saturday 9am-11am.

THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES ARE PROUD SPONSORS OF YEAR 7 [2007] SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

<p>MAPS Marketing 03 9846 7983</p>
<p>Raeco International 03 9730 5333</p>
<p>Finchley Road Electrical 0419 154 523</p>
<p>Remake Automotive Repairs To All Makes & Models Excellent prices & Friendly Service Cnr Darebin Road & Station Street Fairfield 3078 Ph: 9482 4022</p>
<p>Grocon (03) 9631 8833</p>

STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION MEETING

Is your dream to see the world and to discover other ways of life? Are you looking for a truly unique experience that would enrich your education? Going on exchange might be just the experience you are looking for! It will expose you to another culture in the best and safest way possible – you will love with a volunteer host family and attend school in your chosen country.

Information evenings:

- 3rd March 3.30-5.30pm
- 5th March 7.30-9.30pm
- 28th March 7.30-9.30pm

At Victoria University, 300 Flinders Street Melbourne.
www.sts-education.com.au Call charge free 1800 263 964

THORNBURY HIGH UNIFORM SHOP

Sale at **greatly reduced prices:**

Boys’ long school pants/shorts [med-large only]
\$20.00/\$15.00

Girls’ school pants / shorts \$20.00/\$15.00

White school shirts (small sizes only) \$15.00

We also have for sale school spray jackets, both 7-10 and VCE (with the old school logo) an absolute bargain at **only \$5.00.**

Available at the General Office at any time.

Authorisation for photographic video and audio recording

I, _____ the parent/guardian of _____, acknowledge that photographic, video and audio recordings of students are used as part of normal school activities and I authorise the use or reproduction of any such recording by Thornbury High School without being entitled to remuneration compensation

I acknowledge and agree that such recordings may include:

- Video productions of school events and productions made by students
- Photographs of students displayed in school publications
- Photographs of students on our intranet, a protected site accessible only to our staff and students
- Photographs of groups of students on our school website,
- Publication of photographs by the press to publicise school events and achievements; only group photos are used and students are identified by first name and year level only. For a story about an individual achievement, the school will seek your consent before proceeding.

I understand and agree that if I wish to withdraw this authorisation, it will be my responsibility to inform the principal of Thornbury High School

Signature of parent/guardian: _____ Date: _____

***PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO THE GENERAL OFFICE**

HOMEWORK TIME TABLE FOR YEARS 7-9 TERM 1 2007

YEAR LEVEL	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7A	SOSE	Science	Mathematics	English	LOTE
7B	English	Mathematics	SOSE	Science	LOTE
7C	SOSE	Mathematics	English	Science	LOTE
7D	English	Mathematics	Science	SOSE	LOTE
7E	English	Mathematics	SOSE	Science (GOLD)	LOTE Science(BLUE)
8A	Science	Mathematics	LOTE English	SOSE	
8B	Mathematics	SOSE	LOTE	Science	English
8C	Science	SOSE	LOTE	Mathematics	English
8D	English	Mathematics	LOTE		SOSE Science
9A	Mathematics		LOTE	Science	
9B	Mathematics		Science LOTE		
9C	Mathematics		Science LOTE		

BLUE-Blue Week only GOLD- Gold Week only

The day the subject appears on the homework timetable means that this is the day the homework is set in that subject.

It is up to the teacher to decide when that homework is due.

Please note the homework on the Home work Timetable is only the minimum homework set. Teachers can set more homework when required.

Homework for Art, Technology, Music, PE will be set when required.

- Teachers should ensure all students have homework on these nights, that it is written in the planner and is checked.
- Teachers should avoid giving homework on other nights unless students are not using their class time effectively or have a test or assignment due.
- Teachers need to decide on a consequence if homework is not done (maybe note in planner and a teacher detention for a repeat offence).