

IMPORTANT DATES TERM 4 2007

26 th October	Final day year 12's - Year 12 Picnic
30 th October	End of year music concert – Fogular Furlan
2 nd November	Year 12 exams commence
5 th November	Pupil Free Day
6 th November	Melbourne Cup Day [no school]
12-14 th Nov	Year 8 Music Camp
19 th November	Year 11 Exams commence
20 th November	Year 9 Party Safe Day
27 th November	Year 10 Exams Commence
	Final day year 11's
	Grade 4 & 5 Girls' Night Out
28 th November	Quest Information Evening Year 8 into 9
29 th November	Year 6 Information Evening
30 th November	Final day year 10's
4 th December	Year 6 Orientation Day/Uniform Sales
7 th December	Report Writing Day [Student free]

10 th -14 th Dec	Year 8-10 Transition
12 th December	Luna Park years 7-9
13 th December	Year 7-10 secondhand books sales
14 th December	Year 11-12 secondhand book sales
17 th December	Final day years 7-9 [dismissal 1.09pm]
19 th December	Awards Evening [Ivanhoe Centre]

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES:

Please notify the relevant coordinator as soon as possible if your child is absent:

Year 12	Christine Farmakis	9458 6141
Year 11	Mary Anagnostopoulos	9458 6138
VCAL	Christine Bartsh	9458 6137
Year 10	Mark Gillies	9458 6112
Year 9	Lyndal Roper	9458 6113
Year 8	Caroline McLachlan	9458 6171
Year 7	Robert Basso	9458 6170

TRIP OF A LIFETIME

Hi, my name is Joshua Kapuranovski. I'm thirteen years old and I'm currently in year 8. During the third term school holidays I was lucky enough to go to the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Florida, USA along with fourteen other kids and three coaches.

Whilst at the academy I had to train 6 hours a day. The training was pretty intense. They worked us all very hard. For the next seven days I was living a tennis life.

My schedule was:

6:15-7:30am: Breakfast

9:00-1:00pm: Drills

1:00-2:30pm: Lunch

3:00-4:00pm: Mental Conditioning

4:00-6:00pm: Match Play against other kids

6:00-7:30pm: Dinner

7:30-10:00pm: Free time (Most days tennis)

10:30pm: Room check and lights out

We met Nick Bollettieri, one of the greatest tennis coaches in the world. He has trained many tennis stars such as Maria Sharapova, Andre Agassi, Jim Courier, etc. As we were training we were fortunate enough to see Maria Sharapova and Nicole Vaidisova training.

After hitting tennis balls for seven days the Super



Series tournament was on. It was held over three days. Unfortunately, none of us made it to the next round.

After this we headed off to L.A for four days. We were going to Disneyland, Universal Studios and Beverly Hills. I found Disneyland a bit boring but I really enjoyed Universal Studios. Disneyland is more rides than anything else. Universal studios was cool because you got to see behind the scenes of movies. Beverly Hills was good as well. There were a lot of shops. On our last day in L.A we went to Venice Beach. We had a swim and played footy on the sand. We stayed at the beach for about four hours.

After the great experience it was time to say goodbye to the USA and head off to Australia. You don't realise how much you miss your family until you've left them behind!

By Joshua Kapuranovski 8D

YEAR 12 INTERVIEWS 2007

During the last couple of weeks of Term 3, I met with most year 12 students in small groups and asked them to reflect on their time at Thornbury. Students were asked to identify significant events and indicate what is working well.

What is one experience/event that you will always remember about Thornbury High?

Most students' significant events focused on whole school activities where students demonstrated their compassion for others, their ability to work with others and their cooperative and competitive spirit. Students highlighted:

- Year 11 camp and year 8 camp
- Sustainability group
- Year 12 formal
- Student activities such as House Athletics, Soccer competition
- Friends/being accepted
- Nak
- Particular teachers

What is working well at the school?

Students identified significant changes in the school in their time at Thornbury and they strongly felt far more connected to their school, proud of our achievements and grateful for the support of their teachers. One student in particular felt the school had a clear 'focus on continuous improvement'. Most groups mentioned the following as working well:

- 4 period day
- Students' attitude to work/ VCE results
- Uniform
- Student leadership/voice/ Student activities
- Safe learning environment
- Reputation of the school
- Particular subjects such as Multimedia, Art
- Behaviour of students (consistent approach)
- Teacher/student relationships, accessibility and coordinators
- Whole school activities (soccer, athletics, sustainability)
- Common room for VCE
- School size, space and appearance
- Facilities (new library, Music, computers)
- Enrolling 'good' students
- Getting regular feedback from students

The class of 2007 are a very positive and confident group of students who have made a significant contribution to the school. They have been outstanding role models as well as motivated in their VCE and VCAL studies. I am very proud to have known them over the past four years and also thank their parents, teachers and staff for their hard work and support especially in years 11&12.

Peter Egeberg

STUDENT TEACHERS AT THS

Thornbury High School has continued its ongoing commitment to the provision of teacher education during 2007. Student teachers and interns have been accepted in to the school in all teaching areas from a wide range of tertiary institutions including the University of Melbourne, Monash University, La Trobe University, the Australian Catholic University, Deakin University and the Victorian University of Technology.

In all, over forty teacher trainees have been accommodated at THS during the year. This places our school amongst the leading providers of student teacher education in the State of Victoria.

The benefits of this programme flow both ways as student teachers bring energy, youth and vigour to our school community while our highly experienced teaching staff provides guidance and invaluable assistance to young men and women about to embark upon their teaching career.

Rick Manning Staff Manager



STUDENT TEACHER IMPRESSIONS OF THS

The School's staff and students have all been very welcoming

The school is very supportive of its students

Thornbury High has created an open atmosphere where students are comfortable approaching teachers. Great support is available for all members of the school community.

Thornbury High provides a friendly, encouraging environment for students to learn.

Outstanding! Thornbury High is fantastic and the entire staff is fun, encouraging, welcoming and organised.

The students are varied and interesting and great once you get to know them and earn their trust.

I am amazed at the relationships between the students and the teachers. There is such care for the students' wellbeing. Also, I find it incredible as to how many roles some of the teachers juggle and are still able to maintain a coherent curriculum.

SOME STUDENTS' THOUGHTS ABOUT STUDENT TEACHERS

At the beginning the idea of having a student teacher wasn't too good but she made every lesson different and made it fun to have her as a teacher. Frank 10A

Being taught by a student teacher was a wonderful experience...[they] have different methods of teaching which are fun and exciting. Tass 10A

...Our student teacher Vanessa was fun she made every session exciting and different. Sara 10A

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION WEEK [MONDAY 15TH– FRIDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2007]

Students and staff celebrated National Health and Physical Education week at Thornbury High School from Monday 15th October to Friday 19th October. Students undertook a daily sports quiz as well as various lunchtime activities which included Tennis, Volleyball, Soccer, Touch Football, Aerobics and a Footy Kicking Competition. An early morning Yoga session was also held for students and staff and this was followed by a delicious healthy breakfast. Students received prizes for their efforts and seemed to really get into the spirit of the week. Well done to everyone who participated in the week's activities!

Vivian Sipsas PE Teacher

INDOOR SOCCER TOURNAMENT

The indoor soccer tournament finally come down to the two most outstanding teams of the competition. *Joga Bonito* and *Cabbage Zoops* battled it out for the Thornbury High indoor soccer champion title. *Joga Bonito* who have come runners up 3 years running went in as the favourites but got defeated by the new 2007 champions *Cabbage Zoops*. The score was 2-0 with Zackie and Emaniel with 1 a piece. Over all, the 3 major awards went to Zacki for best player, Chris Fakos for top goal scorer and Saran Toun for best keeper. A big thankyou to Mark Gillies for all his help and congratulations to all participants.



Soccer Tournament Winners: Cabbage Zoops

STATE RUGBY FINALS

To finish third in the State's Victorian Ten's Competition was a significant achievement for Thornbury High's Under 16 team. Most of the boys were new to rugby this year and the coach was very happy when the Thornbury team beat Hampton Park in the last match of the day to finish third out of 8 finalists. Hampton Park's side was made up from two of the strongest club teams, in contrast Thornbury only had two club players, so well done Thornbury!

Grant Wason Team Coach

SCIENCE NEWS

Good luck to all year 12 Biology, Chemistry, Psychology and Physics students for the up and coming end of year VCE exams.

Remember, you need to see your teachers regularly (right up to the exam if possible) to maximise your result.

Science Team

SURVEY OF YEAR 7 PARENTS

At the parent/teacher interviews in late term 3, 43 year 7 parents completed a survey. The results are summarised below.

Do you believe that the school has provided a safe learning environment for your daughter/son?

Yes – 43 No - 0

Is the level of communication between you (home) and the school satisfactory?

Yes- 39 No - 4

Are you satisfied with the overall standard of education at the school?

Yes- 42 No - 1

Is the homework timetable working for you and your child?

Yes- 26 Sometimes- 6 No - 11

Has your child been able to develop skills in an area of interest such as music, sport, debating, leadership, art, media etc?

Yes- 38 No - 5

Overall are you happy with your daughter's/son's first year at Thornbury High school?

Yes- 42 No – 1

Please make a brief comment about any aspect of the school

- My son is very happy at THS and the teachers are interested in both his wellbeing and education
- Homework seemed to be too much in semester 1 but has settled down to a manageable amount
- I am satisfied that issues we had have been dealt with asap
- We are very impressed that the teachers have inspired my daughter

- It has been a really good year particularly as we have moved from interstate
- *The transition was very smooth and positive*
- The teachers are always willing to discuss any issues
- *Communication via the planner is very helpful*
- Homework seems overwhelming at time but otherwise a fantastic school
- *If the planner doesn't come home it is hard to know about homework or how we communicate with teachers*
- *Possible extra afternoon for the homework club*

These results are a ringing endorsement of the school's coordinators, teaching staff, curriculum program, learning environment and extra curricular activities. The issue of homework requires some further work.

Peter Egeberg

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Second instalment EMA cheques can now be picked up from the General Office. Could parents/guardians receiving EMA please contact the school to allocate any unused portion of their EMA so that it can be finalised for the year. Also, a reminder to all parents/guardians that they will need to reapply for EMA for 2008.

WESTPAC MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

On July 25th, 70 students participated in the Westpac Mathematics Competition. All students are to be commended for their involvement and, as in previous years, the results were outstanding. All students will receive a certificate recognising their participation and detailing their performance in the competition. Congratulations to all participants!

Year 7 Credit Jonathan Crocaris, Sing-Kik Li, Thomas Benetti-Baker, Allene Heins, Joshua Gibson, Luke Jufri, Bridget Ryan, Nikola Vujinovic, Joshua Hill.

Year 8 Distinction Rebekan Dibenedetto, Aaron Tsamasiros, Jack Dalla Via,

Year 8 Credit Morgan Christie, Dylan Dalla Via, Saransh Kamboj, Billy Tachtsis, Katerina Faulks, Linh Tran.

Year 10 High Distinction Dylan Elliot

Year 10 Distinction Yue Yang

Year 10 Credit Phen Pucciarelli, Suchira Gunathilake

Year 11 Credit Shelby Cree, Michael Huynh, Murray Gillin

Year 12 Distinction Ben Finnegan

Year 12 Credit Kagiso Manaka

A special mention to Morgan Christie for achieving the Prudence Award. Morgan has achieved the school's highest number of consecutive correct answers.

Thank you to the Maths staff for their assistance in preparing the students for the competition. I look forward to even greater numbers participating next year.

Sue Lee Mathematics teacher



BRITISH DIGITAL SISTER SCHOOL

Thornbury High recently launched *Classnet* a website that will function as an Educational Youtube for all schools. Part of the initiative will see an international collaboration with schools producing digital content in USA, Canada and Britain. Whilst on long service last term I went to England and set up our first sister school relationship.

In London I met with Richard Jones and colleagues from the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT), an organisation that, although not part of the Education department, has been set up to broker support from complementary industries to financially support Specialist Schools. Through Richard I was put into contact with a number of schools including Parkside Community College Cambridge where I ran a workshop re ClassTV and our new website.

I chose Parkside Community College from the schools they offered because they have a dynamic media department and already contribute to local radio and cable television. They have also won an award for a short film made with Cambridge Community Police. Parkside is a public school with a lot in common with the average suburban school in Melbourne, except that Cambridge is not all that multicultural. They are excited at the prospect of collaborating on themes like 'Gun Control' and 'Global Warming' and issues that are global with not only Australian Schools but with American and Canadian schools as I intend to use the Teacher of the Year money I received to extend the network. The idea is that the website can offer schools a truly global perspective as students create digital current affairs style short films.

Paul Van Eeden

STUDENTS GIVE BLOOD!

On Thursday 13th of September, 11 students went down to La Trobe Uni to donate blood. They all enjoyed the free feed after donating and a big thank you for all those people that donated blood.

VCAL Girls



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 12 CAPTAINS FOR 2008

Expressions of interest have been sought from the year 11's. Mr Egeberg, Ms Anagnostopoulos and a current school captain will be interviewing over the coming week. The Captains for 2008 will be announced at the School Assembly on Wednesday 24th October.

OPERATION ZERO

On Tuesday 16th October, members of the Epping Police came and spoke to our Year 12 students regarding Operation Zero. This operation has proven successful in the past in reducing the damage and other crimes committed during the weeks of the students 'break-up' period. It is a pro-active policing program aimed at reducing crime, but more importantly will assist year 12 students celebrate safely.

YEAR 12 – LAST WEEKS

A detailed notice has gone home to all year 12 students. Could parents/guardians please discuss the information in this notice with their child?

Part of the notice reads:-

“It is important that a focused atmosphere is maintained throughout the remaining days of formal classes so that students can optimise their opportunities to revise and complete their examination preparation. To achieve this, students are to attend all timetabled classes and continue with their studies as they have been doing throughout 2007. Years 7-11 students are still engaged in normal classes and must not be interrupted by year 12 students. The School policy relating to the defacing of uniforms will be enforced vigorously again this year. Students who deface their uniforms will be sent home to change into the correct uniform.”.....”*Any disruption to the good order of the School during the next few weeks will not be accepted. The consequences of students behaving in*

an inappropriate manner may involve suspension and students required to sit their end-of-year exams at an alternative venue. Students are reminded that any form of ‘mucking-up’ involving water, shaving cream, flour etc. will not be tolerated.”

The School wishes students well in their preparations for their examinations. We are all looking forward to some excellent results in December.



YEAR 11 GREAT KEPPEL / QUEENSLAND CAMP

On Saturday 15th October, 40 excited year 11 students with their equally excited teachers flew out of Tullamarine destined for the Sunshine Coast. Our time in Queensland was spent swimming the waters of Great Keppel Island and visiting the theme parks.

Some comments from the students:

Keppel was awesome. Loved everything about the place. I would go back 100 times. – Belinda Mitrevska

The Boomnetting, Biscuit rides and snorkelling were the best things about Keppel. – Phillip Hiah.

Fun, thrilling and exciting. – Tim Spencer.

Good friends, good times, great weather, great theme parks. Would do it again. – David Ferretto/ Trion Paleologou

YEAR 11 HOMEWORK CHALLENGE – 2007

At the beginning of term 3, all year 11 students were invited to participate in the first Thornbury High School Homework Challenge. The challenge was to complete a minimum of 2 hours homework on average each night from Monday to Friday and a minimum of four hours each weekend for term 3. The reward was a cash prize of \$500, kindly donated by an anonymous parent. At the conclusion of the term, 3 students were still in the running and the three decided to split the money equally. Congratulations to Murray Gillin, Shelby Cree and Tina Wannous.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday 16th October

Operation Zero talk by Epping police followed by VCE practice exam for English and Literature

Wednesday 24th October Full school assembly
– ‘Farewell to Class of 2007’

Thursday 25th October Out of uniform day (Fancy Dress) for Year 12 students only. Classes as normal.

Friday 26th October

Picnic Day – St Kilda Beach. Buses leave school at 9:30am and students will be dismissed from the venue, unless they request transport back to school. All food and drink will be provided by the school. Final day for all year 12 students.

Friday 2nd November Year 12 written exams commence. **STUDENTS MUST BE IN SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR ALL EXAMS.**

Monday 17th December Year 12 results available

Wednesday 19th December

Awards evening and Year 12 Graduation – Ivanhoe Town Hall. Students required in strict school uniform.

VCE TEAM (Mary Anagnostopoulos, Christine Farmakis, Christine Bartsh)

VET COURSES 2008

Students who are intending to do the following VET courses in 2008 must attend the information and enrolment sessions:

- **Sport & Community Recreation** - Wednesday 24th October at 4:00pm in room 48
- **Community Services (Childcare)** - Wednesday 24th October at 4:00pm in room 305
- **Music Industry Skills** - Friday 26th October at 3:30pm in room 101

THS UNIFORM SALES

Warm weather is fast approaching!! We still have stock of both girls and boys school shorts at bargain prices **\$15** a pair or 2 pairs for **\$25**. As well as limited sizes of long school pants **\$20** a pair or 2 pairs for **\$35**. We also have 7-10 & VCE school spray jackets (old school logo) absolute bargain at **\$5.00 each**
Please contact the school office staff on 9480 4066

SECONDHAND BOOK SALES DEC 2007

Second hand books sales Thursday 13th December 12pm-4pm for Year 7-10 and Friday 14th December 12-4pm for year 11 – 12. Further information regarding the dropping off of books for sale will be contained in the next newsletter. If you have any queries, please contact Jan Wason 9458 6204

MUSIC EXAM RESULTS

Congratulations go to the following students on their Australian Music Examination Board exam results:

Zoe Smith Clarinet Grade One – A+

Billy Tachtsis Clarinet Grade One – A

Thanks go to their piano accompanist Diana Norton.

Music Department

WANTED: ADULTS SEEKING \$1,000 SAVINGS REWARD

• Do you have a child attending school in 2008 or 2009, or are you attending or returning to vocational education yourself?

AND

• Do you also have a current Centrelink Health Care Card or Pension Card? AND

• Do you or your spouse/partner have a regular income from paid employment?

If you can answer YES to all these questions you may be eligible to join Saver Plus.

The Saver Plus program matches participants' savings \$1 for \$1 (up to \$1,000), to help them pay for educational expenses such as uniforms, text books, school camps and computer equipment.

For more information contact Avsun Acar at the Brotherhood of St Laurence on 9483-2431

Free Parenting Program. The Parenting Research Centre (formerly Victorian Parenting Centre) is offering a free 6-week program for all parents of adolescents aged 10 to 14 years. The ABCD program presents ideas and strategies shown to be helpful to families during the early teen years. It aims to help parents build strong relationships with their adolescent and teaches strategies designed to prevent adolescent risk taking in the future. The program will be conducted in the Canton community for 6 consecutive weeks commencing early November. Please see <http://www.parentingrc.org.au> or call the Parenting Research Centre on 8660 3500 for more information.

Do you have a Best Buddy?

Often, young people don't get recognised for the important role they play in supporting their friends, peers and local community. Having someone who is supportive, positive and actively involved with others can have a significant impact to our health and wellbeing.

As part of the annual Good Neighbour Awards, Darebin Council and Thornbury Secondary are seeking nominations in the category of Best Buddy Award. We're looking for young people who are who are:

- always there for a friend, or reaches out to those in need
- actively involved with others and maintains good social networks
- positive, supportive and has an open attitude

If you know anyone like this, then why not nominate them! They would go into the running for cool prizes and the title of Best Buddy of the Year. Anyone can nominate by filling in the form at www.darebin.vic.gov.au/goodneighbours or emailing their name, the person they're nominating and why they're a best buddy to mscholz@darebin.vic.gov.au

Hurry, as nominations for the Best Buddy Award close 10am on Monday 22nd October.

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