



IMPORTANT DATES TERM 4 2007/ TERM 1 '08

10 th -14 th Dec	Year 8-10 Transition
12 th Dec	Luna Park years 7-9
13 th Dec	Year 7-10 secondhand books sales 12.30-4.30pm
14 th Dec	Year 11-12 secondhand book sales 12.30-4.30pm
17 th Dec	Final day years 7-9 [dismissal 1.09pm]
19 th Dec	Awards Evening [Ivanhoe Centre]
25 th January	Uniform sales/new book pick up/2ndhand books
30 th January	First day of school [Year 7 & 8]
31 st January	First day of school [Year 9-12]

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

THORNBURY HIGH NAMED AS ONE OF TEN SECONDARY SCHOOLS THAT HAS ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS.

Darrell Fraser, Deputy Secretary of Education, recently contacted the school to invite us to be part of a project which will attempt to identify how schools can make significant improvements in performance. We are one of ten secondary schools identified as having made significant improvements in VCE results, attendance, retention, literacy and in opinion surveys of parents, students and staff.

Linda McCloskey (School Council President), Meredith Stephenson (Assistant Principal) and Theresa Daly (Business Manager) and I met with the department last week to discuss the marked improvements which have occurred at the school. The department representatives were glowing in their praise of the school and, in fact, one of the representatives said, "This is a tremendous and unique recognition by the Education Department of the outstanding work in improving student outcomes that the leadership team, teachers and staff at Thornbury High have done over the past four years."

WHOLE SCHOOL AWARDS EVENING/ YEAR 12 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Year 7-12 Awards Evening/Year 12 Graduation will be held at the Ivanhoe Centre [275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe] on December 19th at 7pm. Students are expected to attend in full school uniform including black leather lace up shoes.

A professional photographer from Cha Cha Photography will be available on the night to take photos of award recipients and graduating students. Students are under no obligation to purchase photos. Photos will be available to be viewed on the internet and further details will be available on the night.

Students who need to attend will be notified directly but all students and their parents are welcome.



Lily Zhuang-Griffin discovered there was more to the Year 8 Music Camp at Phillip Island than just making music [See page 4].

HIGH PERFORMING PRINCIPAL PROGRAM

Over the next two years I will be participating in the Development Program for High Performing Principals. This program is designed to provide principals with the opportunity to become 'system leaders' willing to collaborate, build their own capacity and the capacity of others and promote continuous learning.

The program aims to:

- assist Principals to undertake their own individual professional learning to address areas of need or interest that they have identified.
- develop Principals' sharing and collaborative skills and their capacity as system leaders.

To facilitate their contribution to system development and the implementation of participants' individual professional learning over the two year period, participants will have access to funding for travel and research. My research project will be on numeracy.

Peter Egeberg

THORNBURY HIGH INVITED TO BE A PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Melbourne University Education Faculty has invited Thornbury High School to be a partnership school for their innovative Masters of Teaching program. Rick Manning, a teacher at Thornbury High, will become a part time teaching fellow at Melbourne University and will coordinate the student teacher placement at Thornbury High and two other associated schools, Northcote High and Santa Maria College.

Thornbury High is very excited about this new development as the new approach to teacher education will allow a significant number of student teachers to work for longer periods on key projects in the school, such as the year 9 Quest program and the year 7 same gender classes.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

END-OF-YEAR RESULTS

Unit 3/4 results will be available to students from VCAA on Monday 17th December.

Students have the opportunity to discuss the implications of their results with school staff. Year 12 co-ordinator, Miss Farmakis, 94586141, Mr Smith, MIPS co-ordinator, 94586103 or the Careers co-ordinator, Mr Barlow, 94586136.

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

SCHOLARSHIPS

The school has received information regarding Secondary Scholarships advertised by the Department

of Education and Early Childhood Development. There are a large number of scholarships available. More information can be obtained from the website at <https://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships>.

The application process is three pronged:

1. register
2. apply online
3. principal verification

IMPORTANT DATES 2007-2008

Tuesday 4th December [Orientation Day]
GPI Uniform shop will be open from 9am-11am

Wednesday 5th December
GPI Uniform shop 12.30pm -2pm

Thursday 13th December
Years 7 - 10 Secondhand Book Sales
12.30pm – 4.30pm [Room 44]

Friday 14th December
Years 11 & 12 Secondhand Book Sales
12.30pm - 4.30pm [Room 44]

Final day for booklists to be returned to Thornbury High School for pick up at school on Friday 25th January

Friday 25th January 2008
GPI Uniform Shop open 9am - 1pm
New Book pick up 9.30am - 2pm
Secondhand Book Sales [Years 7-12] 8.30am-12pm

Wednesday 30th January
First day of school [Years 7 & 8]
GPI Uniform Shop open 12.30pm-2pm

Thursday 31st January
First day of school [Years 9 to 12]

*Please note: Uniform is also available for purchase from GPI Wearhouse at 218 Settlement Road Thomastown, ph. 9464 7555 [9am–5pm weekdays, 9am-2pm Saturdays].

UNIFORM 2008

As we go about our Christmas shopping and prepare for the holidays, the last thing you want to think about is uniform for 2008. So read this and then stick it on the fridge until mid January.

Shoes – the only acceptable shoes for 2008 are black, leather lace ups.

Socks - All socks worn with dresses and skirts need to be white knee highs

Stockings – black

T shirts under polo shirts – must be white WITHOUT any writing

Hats – school hats available, however any hat is acceptable and needs to be worn when students are outside.

Meredith Stephenson Assistant Principal

PEER SUPPORT LEADERS FOR 2008

On Monday 12th November interested Year 9 students remained after school to train as Peer Support Leaders. Through various activities, discussions, role plays and games we looked at issues such as conflict resolution, communication, confidentiality and team building.

Congratulations are extended to the following students who are our Peers Support Leaders for 2008:

Bryanna Allen	Mathew Batich
Tara DeGraft Hayford	Cristy Tourtsakis
Billy Vasilopoulos	Jye Colacino
Courtney Burgess	Emilia Pertama
Phillipa Young	Jacque Ryan
Sarah Salgram	Martha Arkalis
Rachael Mountney	Walid Abdo
Jayden Cornish	Vireak Chhoeung
Leah Theodosiadis	Emma Watson
Georgia Constantinidis	Pravena Beeskow
Sam Del Mastro	

Our thanks to Geraldine (our school nurse), Jo A (our youth worker) and Mona Wannous, Andy Brewis, Areti Louzis and Alex Kynigopoulos [some of our current Peer Support Leaders] for their support in the planning and the running of the evening.

Well done to all.

Meredith Stephenson

YEAR 7 ORIENTATION DAY

On Tuesday December 4th Thornbury welcomed the new year 7's for 2008. Their orientation day was jam-packed full of activities! The new students participated in Multimedia, music and PE classes and, in their form classes, navigated their way around the school and answered questions in their orientation booklets.

The BBQ lunch was also a highlight – thanks go to Greg Parker and his year 8 student helpers. Special thank yous also to all Peer Support leaders, teachers and Ms Herschell who all made the day run smoothly.



EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

There are still a few EMA 2007 cheques at the General Office that need to be picked up. 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.

SCIENCE NEWS

EXCURSION TO THE JET ENGINE FACILITY

The visit to Melbourne Airport was quite exciting for the year 11 physics class. The Test Cell is a state of the art facility that is at the cutting edge of technology and one of the largest in the southern hemisphere.



The facility is used to monitor the performance of jet propulsion engines for both commercial and military aircraft. Our students gained an insight into the

relationship between concepts learnt in the classroom and these ideas incorporated into the design and testing of the engines.

Special Thanks to The Chief Engineer Max Corseletti and J.Parry Lab Coordinator.

M.Foster Physics Teacher.

SUCCESS AT ALPINE SCHOOL, SNOWY RIVER

While most Thornbury High school students have worked hard at school this term, six year 9 students have spent the last 9 weeks at the Alpine School, Snowy River.

This unique residential learning environment provides year 9 students with a challenging alternative educational experience. It is rich with outdoor activities, leadership and enterprise challenges and provides them with the opportunity to meet and live with other year 9 students from around the state.

To be selected to attend Alpine School, the team of students must devise a Community Learning Project [CLP]. Our students decided to produce an informative video about the Alpine School Program that could be used for presentation to prospective Alpine School students & their parents. The project is developed during their stay and at the end of the nine weeks, presented to local community members and principals and dignitaries from the attending schools.

This special CLP presentation night was last Saturday.

I received an email from the staff at Snowy River the next morning, which I think sums up the quality of the students we have at Thornbury High School.

“As you are aware we had CLP night last night. I am extremely pleased to report that the Thornbury students were extremely successful with their presentations, and it is probably fair to say that it was

the most entertaining, popular and informative of the presentations given. The students have put in a great deal of effort over the last few weeks and I believe that they feel a great sense of achievement and self efficacy as a resultI am sure you will be amused upon viewing their CLP video- it is quite impressive!!!

Jordan Smith, Teacher, Alpine School, Snowy River
Well done to our team! [Chloe Michael, Stephen Fox, Stella Foster, Emily Miles, Thomas Tzallas, Kalimna Andy]

Current Year 8 students will soon have the opportunity to apply for a position on the 2008 Thornbury High School team, which, if successful with their application, will be heading away to Snowy River, term 4 next year.

If the constant positive reflection of the experience and confidence these young people display on return is any indication to the value of this experience, then I would urge all year 8 students to consider applying when the opportunity presents itself.. And that will be soon!

You can speak with our term one team members (Emilia Pertama, Miles Elliot, Nathan Sinnott, Amber Murray and Rachael Mountney) about what it is like and what it involves. They will love to talk with you about their experiences! Or you can catch up with the latest group next week when they return.

If you interested in finding out more visit www.alpineschool.vic.edu.au

Lyndal Roper Year 9 coordinator
Liason staff for Alpine School

MUSIC NEWS

YEAR 8 MUSIC CAMP

The year eight band has returned from a successful and fun time at Philip Island. Here are some comments from happy students:

“Our trip to Philip Island was amazing: we all achieved things we were astonished by. Most students went surfing, which was great fun.the high ropes course was extremely hard for me....we ended up playing music for the penguins, lots of people stopped to watch us!...” **Jayde**



“....we went on the Giant Swing- it was so scary and so fun....When we went to the penguin parade we were shocked by this woman who swore at some Asian tourists. My friend Gabby wanted to steal one... (a penguin that is).....” **Katerina F**

“...the year 8 camp was probably the best camp I’ve ever been on....my favourite activity was the surfing....The best experience was when me, Lucas, Felix, Nick and Sean ran down to the beach and went swimming at 6.30 in the morning!....”**Anthony**

“....the Giant Swing was awesome....I went to the very top!.....at Gumbuyah park we saw some peacocks which put their feathers up and Natasha got scared!.....” **Gabby**

“...we performed at a primary school....the performance went well....we performed for some tourists who came to see the penguins....at Gumbuya Park we tried to teach a parrot to swear.....” **Arie**

“The year 8 camp was a lot of fun- the best thing was the penguins. Gabby wanted to steal one....I encourage all the year 7’s to go on the camp....”
Natasha

‘SUSTAINABLE SOUNDS’

With considerable help and input from Mr. Greg Parker and his team we are building a recording studio made from renewable resources, such as plantation timber and straw bales. It will be an amazing resource for instrumental and technical students alike. The plan is for it to be complete and ready for action at the end of term one 2008. Once complete, the studio will be used as a teaching space and area for students to learn how to make and record their own CD’s!

Kent McPherson

Dates 19 Dec Senior Stage at Awards Night

LIBRARY NEWS

The library team have spent this year upgrading facilities and making the learning space more user-friendly.



- Almost half of our old shelving has been renovated, greatly improving presentation. Refurbishment was done by Rowland Ryan and the team at Raglan Powdercoating, and we’re very pleased with the results. (Rowland’s son Ryan was a student at the school a few years ago).
- We now have a dedicated search PC, with another on the way. These help kids find the book they want quickly and independently. (Thanks to David Hysen)

- Library displays: The Year 9 Quest Program has re-invented the library as a multi-faceted learning space. We're building on this with displays that reflect the curriculum focus of a range of learning areas.

We'd particularly like to acknowledge the support of Joshua Bryan, Sue, Jan & Anne who often come in to help. NB: All books must be returned by December 12 for stocktaking.

Library [Mary, Glenn & William]

THORNBURY HIGH WINS 'YOUTHINK'



On Wednesday 14th November five students from Year 9 participated in a program sponsored by The City of Melbourne, the Education Foundation, Eltham College of Education and City Cite. This program has involved students developing a proposal to make Melbourne an even better city. Our proposal is for 'The creation of a Youth Arts space in the city called **Electric Pyramid**. On Monday, 3rd December students met with Lord Mayor John So and representatives from Melbourne City Council to discuss their proposal to engage youth in the artistic and creative culture of Melbourne.

The students involved in this project were: Angus Hackett, Cristy Tourtsakis, Leah Theodosiadis, Gloria Glennon, Sarah Salgram and Emily Miles.



The QUEST teachers and students are extremely proud of these students for their hard work and commitment to the program. Our students delivered an impressive visual and oral presentation persuading the judges that our proposal was worthy of implementation.

Judy Stafford

SPORTS REPORT

Last Tuesday 27th November, THS entered two teams in the district Indoor Soccer Championship at Reservoir. Students practised hard in the weeks

leading up to the competition. Coaches Peter Grapsas and Billy Vasilopoulos decided with the players on the makeup of the teams. To be fair to all team members the students elected to enter two even teams.

Many players played well on the day with some outstanding passes, goal keeping and goal scoring. At the end of the qualifying groups both teams finished second and so played in the finals against Northcote and Reservoir who were playing with their strongest teams. One team was able to beat Northcote 6-1 ensuring a place in the Zone Finals while the other team lost 4-2 to Reservoir.

The team members were as follows:

Team A - Jack Dalla Via, Dylan Dalla Via, Morgan Christie, Billy Tachtsis, Seraphim Kyprianou and Abdul Mohamed.

Team B - Lucas Johns, Felix Punua, Oliver Matthews, Simeon Christou, Emanuel Plesiotis and Chris Mitrevski.

Congratulations to all players – great sportsmanship, great skills and great result! Special congratulations to coaches Peter Grapsas and Billy Vasilopoulos.

Alan Williams PE/Sport Faculty

THS UNIFORM SALES

Warm weather is fast approaching!! We still have stock of girls school shorts at bargain prices **\$15** a pair or 2 pairs for **\$25** [girls sizes 8, 10, 12, 14 & 16] as well as limited sizes of long school pants **\$20** a pair or 2 pairs for **\$35**. [Boys large sizes only; girls sizes 6-20]. Yellow sports polos also available sizes 12, 14 and youth, small & medium for \$5.

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.

Exchange Students and Host Families

We are still looking to place many exchange students from Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, France, Holland, Japan, Brazil, Columbia and Norway. They are very much hoping before Christmas to hear who their host family will be, so if you would enjoy sharing your lifestyle and having a new experience as of next February by adding a 15-18 year old girl or boy to your family for a half, one or two semesters, please ring Klaus Schumann on (03) 97584279. Your call will be very welcome. You are asked to provide for one extra at mealtimes and a share-room or own room.

Klaus Schumann Community Co-ordinator

DANCE PLUS

Jazz, Classical Ballet, Contemporary, Funk, Hip Hop, Tap, Line Dancing, Musical Theatre [Dance, Drama Singing], Latin, Ballroom, VCE Dance

909 High St Thornbury 9431 1933

www.danceplus.com Email: danceplus@bigpond.com

Proud Sponsor of Year 7 Scholarship Recipients:
Grocon (03) 9631 8833

Girls Night Out 27th November



Year 8 Camp



Primary Debating



Orientation Day December 4 '07



Peer Support Leaders had the following comments about orientation day:

'The group I had was 7C...I could tell that they were very comfortable already, making new friends within the class and getting to know some of the teacher's a bit better.' Leah

'Orientation day was a fun and scary day for not only the new year 7's but the peer support leaders themselves...' Rachael, Sam, Sarah

And from the new year 7's:

'Really happy with the school' Taylor

'I enjoyed sport the most today, because it was fun' Harley

'I made new friends', '7A rocks because it is good and different'

'The things we enjoyed most today were sport and multimedia' Kial and Jamie

