

## IMPORTANT DATES TERM 3 2007

7 <sup>th</sup> September	South Street Competitions
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Interim Reports posted
19 <sup>th</sup> September	School Council
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Years 7-10 Parent/Teacher Interviews
	No classes [all year levels]
21 <sup>st</sup> September	End of Term 3 [ <b>Dismissal 1.09pm</b> ]
8 <sup>th</sup> October	Term 4 Commences

## 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	David Hysen	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 for A Day:** John Denton, Chief Executive Officer of a national law firm, pictured here with Hugh Christie 12A and Bashir Mohamed 12C was our Principal for a Day earlier this week [see page 2].

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FOR 2008

Thornbury High School scholarships are available to responsible young people prepared to strive for their personal best at secondary school and who have become a credit to their families and their primary school. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of an interview involving the applicant and parent held at the school, together with additional information provided by the student's current primary school.

#### Academic Excellence Scholarship

This scholarship is available to students with an exemplary academic record and who have demonstrated outstanding application, aptitude and achievement in Mathematics and English, together with a strong performance in general studies.

The 2008 recipients are: Abdulaziz Abukaker [Haig Street Primary], Nathan Hawkeswood [Heidelberg Primary], Courtney Kane [Penders Grove Primary], James O'Connor [Wales Street Primary] and Alan Tat [St Pius Primary].

#### Leadership Scholarship

This scholarship is available to students with a solid academic record who have demonstrated leadership skills and potential in a variety of settings that include participation in school and community activities.

The 2008 recipients are: Stuart Hackett [Preston East Primary], Dean Iovenitti [Bellfield Primary] and Krystal Reynolds [Preston North East Primary].

### Arts Scholarship

This scholarship is available to students who have demonstrated ability and a strong interest in music, drama, fine arts or multi-media, together with a sound performance in general studies.

The 2008 recipients are: Hannah Garganis [Wales Street Primary], James Arnott-Virth [Wales Street] and Lisa Nguyen [Penders Grove].

### Sports Scholarship

This scholarship is available to students who have demonstrated ability in sport, together with a strong performance in general studies.

The 2008 recipients are: Damien Delle Vergini [Preston Primary] and Quinn Dang-Lynch [Thornbury Primary].

### PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY

John Denton, the Chief Executive Officer of the national law firm Corrs, Chambers and Westgarth, was our Principal for a Day on September 3rd.

This program assists in building relationships between government schools and leadership in other parts of the community, including the corporate world. John Denton participated in a variety of activities including speaking to the legal studies classes, observing year 9 students presenting their city school projects, being interviewed by ClassTV and meeting many students and teachers.

The students were very surprised when John revealed that he was the partner of Jane Turner of 'Kath and Kim'.

### INTERIM REPORTS & PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS [YEARS 7-10]

Reports will be posted home on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**. With the reports we will also include a parent/teacher appointment sheet. Upon receiving your child's report we ask that you read it carefully, identify staff you wish to see and return the sheet with your child who will see the appropriate teachers to book appointment times. **Parent/teacher interviews will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September between 10am-1pm, 3pm-5pm and 6pm-8pm.** Classes will not be running on interview day. Students are expected to attend the interviews with their parents.  
**Meredith Stephenson Assistant Principal**

### THORNBURY HIGH CITIZENSHIP AWARD 2007

Each year one student will be awarded the Thornbury High Citizenship Award worth \$1500. The award will be decided by a panel consisting of the Principal, a Teacher, a Parent and a Student. The award will be presented annually at the School Awards evening in December.

Students can be a positive role-model for citizenship at Thornbury High by doing the following:

1. Showing concern for the success and safety of others.
2. Contributing to the wider school program as well as in the local community.
3. Doing the right thing, especially when it is difficult and even when no one is looking
4. Taking responsibility for your own actions and reflect on how your actions affect the welfare of others.

Nominations forms are available from the general office. Nominations close on October 29<sup>th</sup> and must be submitted to the Principal.

**EMA CHEQUES CAN NOW BE PICKED UP FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE. PLEASE CALL VICKI ON 94804066 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ALLOCATE EMA OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES.**



### 3 LIVES

The year 12 VCAL girls are currently working on a project in personal development, donating blood for the Australian Red Cross. On Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August we had a speaker who came down from the Australian Red Cross and it was a hit!! We have so far 45 students who have chosen to give blood. In the weeks to come students will be able to give blood and save THREE lives. We will keep you up dated in the weeks to come.

### VCAL Girls

### LITERACY WEEK

Literacy week has been celebrated all this week at Thornbury. On Monday and Tuesday, students participated in rounds of Scrabble – the competition on some tables was intense.

On each day all students in Years 7-10 and all teachers have been reading in the first ten minutes of class in periods 1 and 3. Suspense, horror, issues-based short stories and Harry Potter were only some of the choices.

Wednesday was the 'Great Book Character' dress up day. See the next newsletter for photos of this competition.

**H Walsh & G Bason**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT

### YEARS 9 & 10 ELECTIVE PROGRAM 2008

All years 8 and 9 students will attend a meeting this week regarding their elective choices for 2008. Each student will be given a handbook that provides information about each of the elective choices and a selection sheet which must be returned to the school by September 17<sup>th</sup>. Selection sheets must have the parent/guardian signature.

Parents are encouraged to assist students with their subject choices. Some Year 10 students may also have the opportunity to study a VCE or VET subject as part of the Elective program. Parents need to be aware that some VET subjects, in particular, can be quite expensive and full payment must be made by the end of February, 2008.

### YEAR 10 COURSE SELECTION

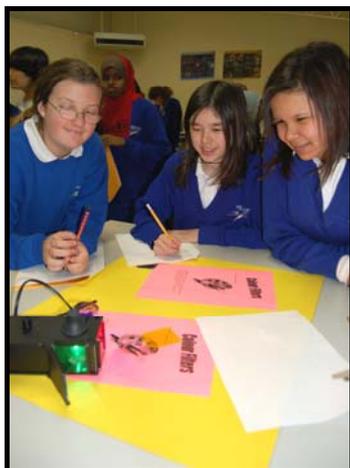
Most year 10 students have completed their course selection for VCE in 2008. For those students who have not yet met with their VCE Course Counsellor, please ring the school as soon as possible to arrange a time.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM

A reminder to all parents and students that only a plain white T shirt can be worn under the school polo or shirt. A note must be brought to the Co-ordinator if students are out of uniform on any particular day.

## SCIENCE NEWS

### NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK



Well done to all students who came along and participated in the lunch time activities celebrating National Science Week.

Major prizes will soon be awarded for the best responses at each year level.

Special thanks to Ian Westwood, Julie Parry, Sue Lee, Bill Smith,

Glen Bason, Caroline McLachlan, Max Kulesa, George Prokopis, Matthew Hunter, Maree Farquharson, Vanessa Ciavarella and Trevor Duggan.

### NATIONAL SCIENCE EXAMS

Congratulations to those students who sat the National

Chemistry, Biology and Physics exams. Results and Awards will be out soon.

**M.Foster Science Coordinator**



## SSO RECOGNITION WEEK

Vital to the operation of any school is the work done by its SSO's. School Support Officers are responsible for running and/or supporting the various components of the school, such as the office, library, science laboratories, food technology area, classroom and student support services and so on. Seldom do we get the opportunity to publicly thank these people who provide so much to our school and our students. Last week, as part of SSO Week, we held a lunch to thank all our SSO's. On behalf of the school community, I would also like to acknowledge their work in supporting the education and school life of your children.

**Peter Egeberg Principal**



## SPORT AND RECREATION

Every Friday afternoon for the last six or seven weeks, as part of our year 9/10 Sport and Recreation Elective, we [Beau, Nathan, Chris, Ahmed and Kyle] have been helping Thornbury Primary School students prepare for their upcoming district athletics. We helped them with every event. Beau and Nathan took the running, discus, shotput, long jump, triple jump as well as the shuttle and circular relay. Chris, Kyle and Ahmed taught high jump, triple jump and long jump. The kids listened to what we had to say and were improving with each week. We would like to thank Mr Williams

for taking us and the Thornbury primary teachers. Good luck to the kids on September 7. Go Thornbury!  
**Beau Dorian, Nathan Sinnott, Chris Smith, Ahmed Abikar & Kyle Schache Year 9**



## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

### VTAC COUNSELLING

A reminder to all year 12 students: please make an appointment with Mr Barlow for course selections for 2008. The process needs to be finalised by the last week of term 3. (Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September)

### YEAR 11 PASTORAL CAMP – GREAT KEPPEL ISLAND AND SURFERS PARADISE – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> TO SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>

Students have been issued with the itinerary, medical forms and what to bring list. Camp meetings will be held in these last two weeks to answer any questions.

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL YEAR 11 STUDENTS FOR THE LAST WEEK OF TERM (Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September)

- All year 11 teachers will be arranging class work for **all** year 11 students.
- Students attending camp will be required to complete this work during the holidays.
- All students not attending this camp will be required to attend school for periods 1 and 2 during the week of the camp, at which time they will complete the set work.
- These classes will be supervised and it is compulsory for students to attend.
- Students will be dismissed at recess time.
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> is a student free day – with parent/teacher interviews for years 7 to 10.
- A letter outlining these arrangements has been sent home with the students during this week.

### PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

The Parent/Teacher Interviews on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September are for years 7 to 10 only – the senior school had their report night on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August. However, if parents have any concerns

regarding their child's progress they are welcome to make an appointment with the teacher[s] involved. Parent interview booking sheets are available at the VCE office.

### SUBJECT SELECTIONS FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS FOR 2008

The 2008 Subject Selection Grid and a covering letter have been distributed to all year 11 students this week. Students are required to make their selections and return to the VCE office by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

### STUDENT ABSENCES

Letters stating student absences have been sent home to all year 11 or 12 students. Could parents please explain the nature of the absence, sign the form and return to VCE office?

**VCE TEAM (David Hysen, Christine Farmakis and Christine Bartsh )**

### [CHARACTER POEM] MICHAEL PASIN 7A



My name is Michael.

Most of my friends call me Mike, Pasin or just "Hey Kid!"

I am 13 years old.

I have a double bunk bed and my eyes are focused on my TV.

I hate Sea Food, but I love to cook Cheesy Risotto. I can't stand my mums' car, but it gets me to school everyday.

Love noise, but the sound of my sisters' scream really ticks me off.

I have 3 computers.

I dodge heights.

I don't believe in gods (even though I'm Catholic).

The summer heat irks me. I want Ice —Cream!

I hate bossy people.

I still think Technology will keep upgrading.

My favourite food is Lasagne when mum cooks it. (If not I'll stick with Mash).

I wish I were 10 times smarter.

South Park is my favourite TV series.

I wish cartoons were real.

I think computers should be made compulsory.

I pretend I know everything.

I think Big Speakers, Loud Music, Great Hair Do's and the Latest Fads are totally cool!

I listen to Mika more than Elvis (for now).

I can't stand people picking their nose, but I do it.

I use new Technology and my computers work now.

Spiders that are Big 'n' Black give me the Creeps.

I don't like creamy vanilla yoghurt.

I hate reading full stop, because I just do.

I don't owe anyone anything. Anyway I don't care!

I drink Coco Cola™

The following purpose and values statement is published for parent feedback. Parents are asked to respond/comment using the school's email address: [thornbury.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:thornbury.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au)

***At Thornbury High School we believe that high academic standards, a safe and secure learning environment and opportunities for students to pursue individual interests are the essential elements of an outstanding education.***

At Thornbury High **our purpose** is to prepare students for a changing, diverse and sustainable world by;

- Building knowledge and skills,
- Encouraging effort and excellence,
- Fostering resilience and integrity,
- Developing a caring and cooperative learning community.

**Core values** arise out of what we believe to be important about people, about society and about learning and knowledge. Values inform and shape how the school is organised, how people relate to each other in school, how decisions are made, as well as the content and processes of teaching and learning.

Staff, students and parents have identified the following core values;

- Integrity, responsibility and respect – all community members are responsible for their own actions, treat others as they would want to be treated and are honest with each other.
- Knowledge, skills and opportunity – all community members value knowledge, the development of new skills and make the most of opportunities.
- Resilience and wellbeing – our community supports its members to adjust to change and encourages health and happiness.
- Concern for others and community – our school welcomes community involvement and cares about the success and safety of others
- Excellence and persistence – we recognise the need to persist and put in the effort to achieve our best
- Inclusion and diversity – our community welcomes a range of cultures and their ideas.

The School's vision centres around **four main pillars** which form the essentials of an outstanding education and future success:

- Academic achievement and excellence for all students.
- Developing values and fostering positive personal attributes in each student.
- Providing a range of pathways through school and after school.
- Fostering students' unique skills in areas such as the sciences, arts, music, leadership and sport.

At Thornbury High school there are **three distinct phases in education**:

- Establishment and support (year 7&8)
- Empowerment and Independence (year 9)
- Specialisation and Pathways (year 10,11,12)

In Year 7&8 students have the choice of mainstream program, the Select Entry Accelerated Learning program or the High Achievers program

- In the mainstream program all students receive challenging but appropriate work. We tend to have smaller class sizes with additional support for students with literacy problems.
- The SEAL program provides a faster paced curriculum with greater study of abstract, complex and in-depth concepts with emphasis on investigative, problem solving and creative thinking. Students in the SEAL program complete years 7-10 in three years.
- The High Achievers program has a more challenging curriculum including some elements of SEAL however students are not accelerated as they complete year 7-10 over 4 years.

In year 9, students are involved in an authentic learning program with an emphasis on team learning, connections to the local community and the extensive use of information and communication technology. A significant part of their studies will occur in the newly renovated Knowledge Centre which is a flexible and multi-purpose learning environment.

In year 10, students will be prepared for their VCE studies but also have a range of curriculum choices. These choices include VCE studies, advanced Mathematics, Vocational and Education studies (VET) and a range of electives.

At year 11 and 12, students are able to complete a traditional academic program or an alternative 'hands-on' program called the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). The academic program includes the sciences & mathematics, arts, commerce, humanities and technology. VCAL provides a more hands on approach with an emphasis on practical studies with a component of community & work experience

## MUSIC NEWS

### YEAR EIGHT BAND TO MONASH

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August the 35 members of the Year 8 Band (which includes two year 7's) met promptly at 7am to catch their bus to Monash University. Well done to all students and their families for getting them here on time and looking so fabulous in their uniforms: shoes polished, hair glossy, white shirts sparkling and starched. The group received an 'outstanding' award for their presentation, which they justly deserved.

Arriving on time at Monash, the students were able to hear some of the other novice bands in their section perform (Canterbury Girls', Trinity and Caulfield Grammar) before being led away for their 'tutorial' on what the judges are looking for. Then it was time to descend to 'backstage' (the room below the stage) where we warmed the band up and had them focus on their music and settle quietly. Up on the huge stage, the students were clearly nervous, as the vast expanse of Robert Blackwood Hall (containing a tiny audience) hit them full in the face. Nonetheless they played their three pieces strongly and musically and received pleasing comments from the two judges, such as:

*"Great playing today." "...Excellent choice of pieces...."*

**Joshua Bryant and Amanda Stevens**, who both attended the day, wrote this report:

"The trip to Monash took an hour at least. When we arrived we had to put our instruments and bags in the foyer. The boys had to wear a tie and girls wore a little blue bow tie. Then the lady took us in to the hall where we had to sit and listen to the other school bands." **Josh**

"The first band was very good playing their pieces. Then another lady came and got us to take us upstairs to mark the next band. Then we went back downstairs to watch another band play." **Amanda**

"The second band had very interesting pieces that they played. Then we had to listen to one more band then it was us." **Josh**

"The third band before us was quite good. Now it is our turn to play on stage. We played 'Titan', 'Skin and Bones' and 'Majestica'. We all enjoyed going to Monash." **Amanda**

"After we came out and packed up everyone said 'You were really good!' The teachers let us go to McDonalds for lunch because they said we were so good. We arrived back at school at 12.30pm." **Josh**

A big thank-you to all those who helped to make the day a success, especially our bus drivers, Meredith Stephenson and Greg Parker and the staff who assisted on the day, Nick Dean and Kent Fisk.

### SENIOR STAGE GIG

THS NEWS 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Last Wednesday our Senior Stage Band performed at Northcote High School, for their annual 'Big Band Boogie'. There was a vibrant feel to the night as many people from the audience danced to tunes from a number of different bands from around the area. Our Stage Band played brilliantly; we even had everyone up and singing in 'Swing Low, Sweet Chariot'. I think it was easily our best gig yet for the year.

Special thanks to Craig for filling in for Sean, Northcote High for having us and the wonderful crowd.

**Martin Janssen**

### DATES

**Music parents meeting**

**11 Sept**

**End of year concert**

**Tue 30 October**

### Proud Sponsors Of Year 7 Scholarship Recipients:

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