

## IMPORTANT DATES TERM 4 2008

12-14 <sup>th</sup> November	Outdoor Education Camp
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Staff Development [ <b>1.40pm dismissal</b> ]
17 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> November	Year 11 Exams
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Information Evening Year 7's 2009
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Quest Evening Staff Development [ <b>1.40pm dismissal</b> ]
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov - 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Year 10 Exams
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Correction Day [No School] VCE/VCAL 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand books 12.30-4.30pm
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Orientation Day Year 7s 2009 GPI Uniform sales 12pm-4pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December	ALL YEAR LEVELS 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand books 12.30pm-4.30pm

12 <sup>th</sup> December	ALL YEAR LEVELS 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand books 8.30am-12.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day years 7-9/[ <b>1.09 dismissal</b> ] Reports distributed
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Awards Evening

### REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES:

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

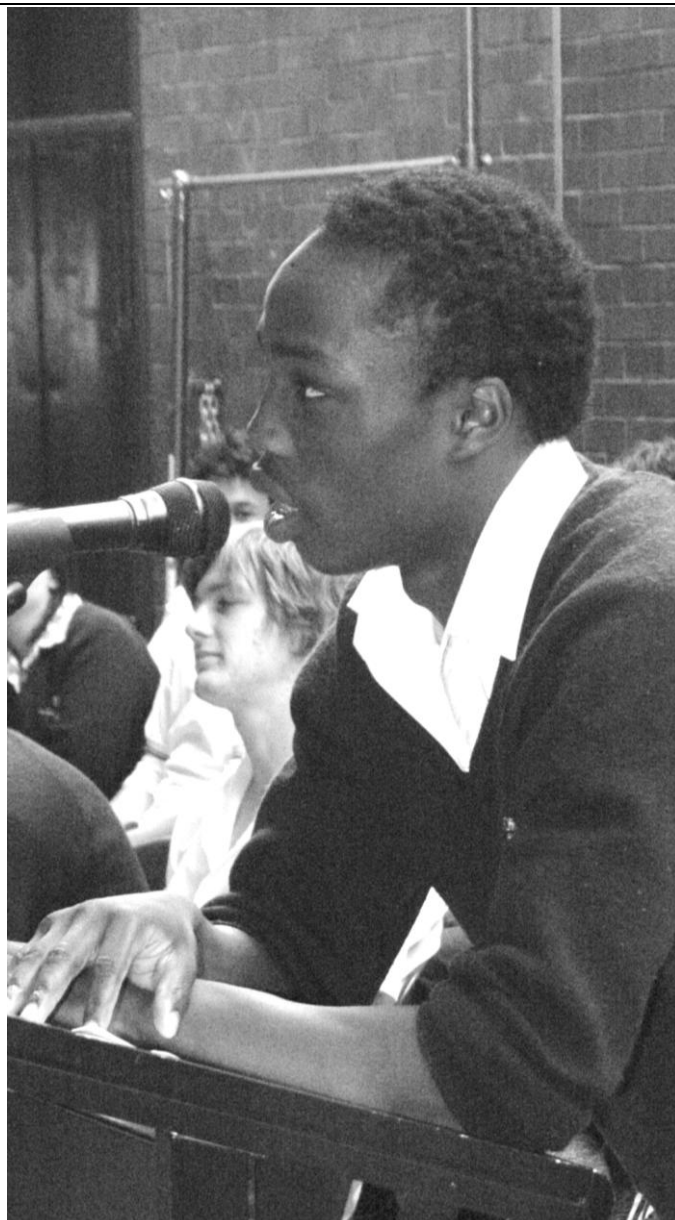
<i>Year 12</i>	<i>Christine Farmakis</i>	<i>9458 6141</i>
<i>Year 11</i>	<i>Mary Anagnostopoulos</i>	<i>9458 6138</i>
<i>Year 10</i>	<i>Lyndal Roper</i>	<i>9458 6113</i>
<i>Year 9</i>	<i>Caroline McLachlan</i>	<i>9458 6167</i>
<i>Year 8</i>	<i>Robert Basso</i>	<i>9458 6170</i>
<i>Year 7</i>	<i>Anne Herschell</i>	<i>9458 6168</i>

## FAREWELL FROM THE CLASS OF 2008

My name is Daniel and I'm here on behalf of the year 12 Class of 08 to say thank you and goodbye to all those who have been a part of our experience here at Thornbury High. I'm addressing both staff and students and would like to sincerely say thank you for all that you have contributed to help make Thornbury High the great school it is. What we have obtained from this school is something that can never be replaced and we have gained memories that can never be forgotten.

We've come a long way since year 7. A few students chose to leave while others from different schools, locations and backgrounds decided to join us here. Despite all the changes over the years, we still have plenty of amazing students here in year 12. To name some: Peter Hazelager who grew 30 centimetres like a giraffe over half a year, Trion Paleologou who may have more hair than a gorilla, Anna Patrikakos who possesses a voice that could wake the dead and, of course, Ben Warren, the half-cast who without that hair we would think was just white.

I'm just playing guys. But it is true; we are an amazing bunch of kids. As we, the class of 08, all go into the world and continue with whatever we have planned, our lives may become more and more different. There are those who are choosing to go on to Uni to do medicine, engineering, teaching etc; we have our tradespeople endeavouring to become electricians, plumbers, carpenters and bricklayers. Also some of us chose to go to TAFE and engage in the studies of interior design, PE and hairdressing to name but a few. With all these possible changes and potential differences something that will never change is that we are always going to be students from Thornbury High and, more especially,



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### PARENT OPINION SURVEY 2008

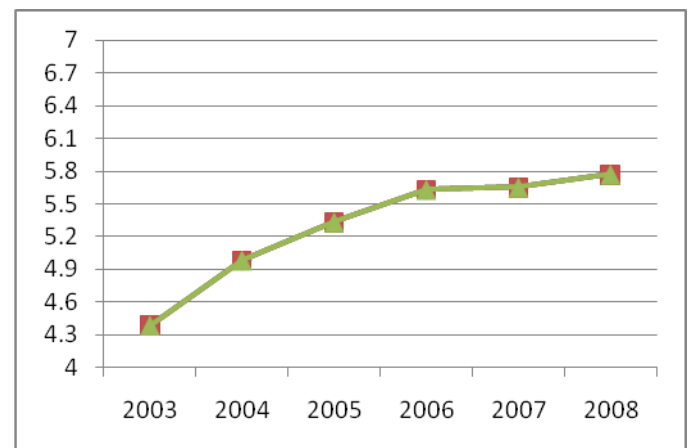
The latest parent survey results are excellent with Thornbury in at least the top 25% of the State (compared to all other secondary schools) for all categories. In particular the school is in

- the top 2% for school improvement
- the top 5% for approachability, behaviour management, reporting, transitions, classroom behaviour
- the top 10% for teacher morale, parent input, simulating learning, learning focus and homework

The school has also received one of the best response rates in the state at 87% which makes the survey a more accurate measure of parent opinion.

Parent comments included:

- I am very pleased with how my child is going
- I have been very happy with the school over the years
- My experience with the school is that there is a high standard of organisation and planning
- Overall the school is performing excellently under strong leadership
- Teachers have been extremely supportive of my daughter during a rocky patch in her life  
The school has been very helpful when I have had to approach the school



Parent Survey – General Satisfaction

### ENROLMENT CEILINGS – SIZE DOES MATTER

Last week the School Council invited the Assistant Regional Director Krys Hendrickson to address the issue of an enrolment ceiling for Thornbury High School.

We were told that under current education department guidelines our school has the facilities to house 1100 students and the grounds space to have any number of

we will always be the class of 2008.

Though most of our time here has been comfortable. getting here, at times has been quite rough. These last two been more difficult than all the others put together. But thankfully the wise Peter Egeberg assigned Mr Stoicov, Miss Anagnostopoulos and Miss Farmakis to help us get through it all. I believe it would be quite difficult to assemble a better team than the three of them. Thank you Miss A for everything, especially the cuddles. Mr Stoicov: Sir, you're an incredible teacher and I bet you'd make a great friend. Miss Farmakis, thank you Miss for the soft but firm hand you've guided us with.

There is one more person I would like to directly thank on behalf of the class of 08: Peter Egeberg. Mr Egeberg, you were the man who sparked the transformation of a potentially good school into a great school. We resented you so much in the beginning, thinking of you as a tyrant from the Cold War trying to command his troops. But by the following year we loved you as if you were our own father. You truly are a great man. Without Mr Egeberg, I don't believe we would all be sitting here in front of you today.

So I guess like this year my speech is coming to an end. I know so many of us want to get out of here and be done with high school for good...but think about all the things that make school so much easier and more pleasant. Think about Athletics days with Kerry Glennon and Glenn Dawson painting themselves and wearing nothing but shorts in the freezing cold and still they won't put on anything else just so they can support their house; or Mr Gillies saying something stupid whenever he would make an announcement on the PA system, or seeing all of us year 12s ... dressed up in our ridiculous costumes. But whether you're a wolf, a princess, a naughty nurse, a ninja, or forget and come in uniform, you are still forced to go to class, regardless. And what about that feeling you get on a Friday when the bells ring and you know you have two days break ahead of you? These are the things that unfortunately you have to surrender when your time here is up, and when I think about these things, they're what make me miss school.

So that's it, 6 years of our lives summed up into a couple of minutes. Pretty good ey? On behalf of the class of 2008, I would like to again thank everyone who has been a part of Thornbury High over the past years and hope that like us you all have the opportunity to be sitting up here yourselves. I know for certain with the superb staff and management at this school anyone who wants to achieve their potential can do it here at Thornbury High. I speak for all of us when I say our time here will never be forgotten. From all the year 12s of 2008, goodbye to you all and all the best for the future!

**Daniel Wepukulu 12A**

portables. This could mean an enrolment of over 1500 students.

Much school consolidation has been based on the beliefs that larger schools are less expensive to operate and have higher-quality curricula than small schools. Research has demonstrated, however, that neither of these assertions is necessarily true.

As Principal I will work towards an enrolment of not more than 850 students for the reasons outlined below. I have done some initial research into school size and the findings are overwhelming in favour of the medium size school.

I am convinced of the superiority of medium schools but our next challenge is the task of communicating our findings to those who have the power to influence decisions about the size of our school.

Peter Egeberg

*The research base on the relative effects of large and small schools is large and quite consistent.*

- Academic achievement in small schools is at least equal—and often superior—to that of large schools.
- Student social behaviour—as measured by truancy, discipline problems, violence, theft, substance abuse, and gang participation—is more positive in small schools.
- Levels of extracurricular participation are much higher and more varied in small schools than large ones.
- Student attendance is better in small schools than in large ones.
- A smaller percentage of students drop out of small schools than large ones.
- Students have a greater sense of belonging in small schools than in large ones.
- Interpersonal relations between and among students, teachers, and the Principal class are more positive in small schools than in large ones.
- Teacher attitudes toward their work and their Principal class are more positive in small schools than in large ones.
- Grouping and instructional strategies associated with higher student performance are more often implemented in small schools—team teaching, integrated curriculum etc

For more information go to [www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/10/c020.html](http://www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/10/c020.html)

**Ian Ternes**, Principal of Thornbury High from 1972 to 1980, recently passed away.

Ian came from Footscray High in 1972 and built up Thornbury from almost nothing to be the largest school in the State with a strong emphasis on academic standards. He established the various

influential parents' committees and, under his leadership, the school came to be characterised by ethnic diversity, but lead by a very strong Greek community.

Our sincere condolences to his wife Shirley and family.

**Peter Egeberg** Principal



*Dylan [11A] performed a few Bob Dylan tracks at the General Assembly last week*

#### **LENGTH OF SKIRTS/DRESSES FOR 2009**

Due to the excessive shortness of the dresses and skirts of a small number of girls we have decided to implement an acceptable level/length for 2009.

After consultation with students, staff and parents we have decided that 5 centimetres above the top of the knee is to be the shortest acceptable length. For most students this just means rolling down the skirt that they have hitched up on the way to school. However, for a small minority it means letting the hem down.

We ask that parents look at this near the end of the school holidays as it is amazing how many of the girls have a growth spurt over this time.

Thank you for your support with this issue.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.

**Meredith Stephenson** Assistant Principal

**BIKE HELMETS** are sadly missing from many our student's heads as they ride to and from school. It is the LAW for students to wear helmets and enough

warnings have been given. Detentions will now be issued to students who fail to wear a helmet and, if they continue to refuse, I will ask Police to come and issue tickets. This is our students' safety at risk and I ask that we all work together on this issue.

**Meredith Stephenson Assistant Principal**

**WORK SAFE VICTORIA - STUDENT SAFETY**

Work safe Victoria has put out a new publication – A handbook for student safety – Information for parents. If you are interested and wish to view a copy of this publication you can download by going to the website: - [www.workcover.vic.gov.au](http://www.workcover.vic.gov.au) then forms/publications or contact the school

**OH&S Committee**

**SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS**

**FAREWELL TO THE CLASS OF 2008 FINAL ASSEMBLY**

The Year 12's were introduced to the whole school by Ms Farmakis and proudly were seated at the front of the assembly. In her speech to the year 12's, Ms Farmakis stated that she had known most of the students since year 7 and that they had developed into a terrific group of young adults, each with their own special qualities. She acknowledged that it was a pleasure to be their coordinator.

Mr Egeberg wished the year 12's good luck and thanked them for being a very positive and confident group who have made significant contributions to the school.



**FUN DAY**

The year 12's celebrated their last official school day on Thursday 23th October, with a Dress Up Day. The parade at recess saw a fantastic array of costumes that

were most certainly creative and original. Characters ranged from B1B2, nurses, firemen, little devils, wrestlers, movie characters and many more.

The Senior School Team would like to thank and congratulate the year 12's for the outstanding manner in which they celebrated their last day at the school. We were proud of their efforts and the maturity they showed in their last day celebrations.

**BBQ**

On Friday 24th October, the year 12 students and their teachers celebrated their last day with a BBQ at The Catani Gardens. As tradition states, the morning was overcast and it looked like rain. However, as the day progressed, the sun shone and not a drop of rain fell. The students and some of the teachers were involved in cricket, football and soccer games. The day was deemed a great success by both staff and students.



**SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2009**

Congratulations to the students listed below who have been selected as School Captains for 2009 by a process involving the submission of written applications and an interview before a panel consisting of staff, current school captains and the school principal.

- Areti Louzis [Co-Head Captain] Year 11 SRC
- Stella Foster [Co-Head Captain] Publicity
- Dylan Elliott Special Events
- Lilly Tran Junior School 7/8 SRC
- Shazin Shafeer Junior School 7/8 SRC
- Mia Chau Middle School 9/10 SRC
- Stephanie Coulston Special Events
- Georgia Lawrasia International & new students
- Senior School Team (Mary Anagnostopoulos, Christine Farmakis and James Stoicov )**

**PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE**

Wow! What a fantastic achievement. The Premier, Mr John Brumby, challenged Victoria's school students to read a great number of books from a list of exciting

and valuable titles and the following students from Thornbury High School took up the challenge.

Congratulations to: Damien Bryan, Hannah Garganis, Stuart Hackett, Simardeep Kohli, Dean Iovenitti, Apostolina Liouzas, Aidon Nund, Levi Rattray-Wood, Krystal Reynolds, Alan Tat and Josh Taylor.

The development of a love of reading is essential for the development of literacy skills for life so I would like to extend my thanks, with the Premier's, to the parents, English teachers and librarians of these students for giving them encouragement to continue on this path of committed self-development.

Next year will be the Fifth Premier's Reading Challenge. I hope you will help make it even more successful.

**Helen Walsh English Coordinator**

## MUSIC NEWS

### YEAR 7 MUSIC CAMP.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> October our Year 7 Music students went on a camp to Camp Manyung in Mornington.

After we got settled in we had our first rehearsal for the end of year Concert, which took hours of great playing and a bit of complaining here and there.

On Thursday we had an early morning rehearsal which only took just over an hour and a half.

We then had a break and did some of the camp's activities. There was the giant swing, Vertical Challenge and the team building initiative challenges. Personally I liked the giant swing because I've never been on one before and the adrenalin rush was awesome!

On Thursday night we played a concert for another school that were at the camp as well. We played for Diamond Creek East Primary School who loved our performances and made us play two encore pieces.

We played all of the songs we've learnt throughout the year and played them very well. The crowd favourite was "Power Rock" which sounded better than at the start of the year.

After packing away the music instruments we went back to the camp and celebrated two students' birthdays. We had fun and then played Singstar, which was so much fun.

On Friday morning we packed up our cabins and headed for a quick run through rehearsal. We then packed up all of the music stuff and headed for a little play on the beach which was nearby.

After we got back to the camp we had lunch and headed home.

Thanks to the music teachers (Sean Nihill, Nick Dean, Diana Norton and Craig Harrison) and other staff (Mark Gillies and Carla Ruhe) who took us on a great camp. I can't wait till next year's camp.

**Owen Jones 7**



*When we got there we had heaps of free time, but after that we had to go and practise our instruments. I play the tenor saxophone and enjoy it. There are heaps of other instruments as well. We practised for a bit then we went to have dinner. It was yummy, we had chicken schnitzel.*

*When it was time to go to bed, we all went to our rooms and ...that night one of the girls in my cabin told a really scary ghost story, I nearly cried it was so scary.*

*The vertical challenge ...was fun but hard. I think it was about 18m high. I cried when I got close to the top because it was so high but my partner talked me into going to the top. The last activity my group did was the giant swing. I was the third person to have a turn and, yes, I went to the top. When I pulled the string to make me swing I said a weird word, everyone thought I swore but I didn't!*

*I had a really great time and made some more friends and got closer to the friends I had already. I would like to give a really big thanks to the Music teachers for organising the Music camp... .*

**Samantha Torre 7E**



### END OF YEAR CONCERT

The last Tuesday in October has long been the highlight of the Music Department calendar and this year's was no exception. The Furlan Club was again the venue for the night which always provides a great

relaxed atmosphere, with families bringing picnic dinners or helping themselves to the fish and chips or pizza available at the club. This year we stayed with the one stage and allowed people to talk and get drinks from the bar in between items. This worked really well as everyone was then quiet and attentive during the many high quality performances during the night.

These included performances by our Junior Stage Band, the newly formed Greek Band, the Year 8 Band, our very promising Year 7 Band, VCE soloists - Murray Gillin (Tenor Saxophone), Jason Townsend (Guitar), Ben Warren (Trumpet) and Trion Paleologou (Drum Kit), the Senior Bands (Concert and Stage) and concluded with a massed band item with every student in the Music Department on stage performing "Low Rider" together on stage.



During the night there was a lucky draw of a slab of our local brewery's finest - Three Ravens Blonde which went to the De Zoete Family. Before the final massed item we had the much anticipated raffle draw. Third prize of a dozen mixed wines generously donated by Nick's Wine Merchants was won by Mary Anagnostopoulos, second prize was a Nintendo DS which was won by Morgana Jones, sister of Owen our Year 7 Baritone Saxophonist, and first prize was a Nintendo Wii which was won by Morgan Jones' Grandma who will be a very popular grandma indeed! Many thanks to Three Ravens Brewery and Nick's Wine Merchants for their generous donations.

During the night we also made presentations to our six Year 12 Music students who are still playing in our bands. Our Music captain Murray Gillin, Ben Warren, Trion Paleologou, Jason Townsend, Helen Croatto and Glenn Dawson. The Music Department is very grateful for their contributions to our program over six years which has seen them play in two Gold shield winning bands and lots of great times on tours and

countless performances. Thank you so much guys and all the best in you future pursuits.

This year's concert was also the end of an era for me as the Music Coordinator. Many kind words were said on the night and I would like to thank everyone for their support over the years. I will be writing a final thank you in the next newsletter.

Thanks to the small but very successful Music Parents Group who helped put the raffle tickets together and attended the door on the night. We raised over \$1000 again this year which will help our program immensely.

**Nick Dean Music Coordinator**

### **CHIPS 'N' LEMONADE POETRY READING BY 7F**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, the year 7F girls had an oral presentation on poetry. We read some awesome poems that some girls chose from the Internet and a few girls chose to write poems themselves. For a job well done Ms Liapis & Ms Mclachlan decided to have a classroom party called "Chips & Lemonade" after we all read out our poems. Ms Hershell & Mr Egeberg decided to come and enjoy the party while listening to a few poems the students presented.

Bianca found a funny poem with a twist at the end that we all thought suited Mr Egeberg and we read the poem to him.

This is the poem:

#### **Get out of bed**

"Get out of bed, you silly fool  
Get up right now, its time for school  
If you don't dress without a fuss  
I'll throw you naked on the bus"

"Oh mum don't make me go today  
I'm feeling worse than yesterday  
You don't know what I am going through  
I've got a strange, rare case of flu."

"My body aches my throat is sore  
I'm sure I'm knocking on deaths door  
You can't send me to school...ACHOO!  
Cause everyone could get it too."

"Besides the kids despise me there  
They always tease and always stare  
And all the teachers know my name  
When something wrong it's me they blame"

"You faked a headache yesterday  
Don't pull that stuff on me today  
Stop acting like a silly fool  
The principal can not skip school!"

The poem is by Diane Zuhone Shore  
Everyone had lots of fun and we all thank Ms.Liapis and Ms Mclachlan for arranging this day for us.

**By 7f**

## SPORT'S REPORT

### STATE CHAMPION

Well done to Daniel Wepukhulu who blitzed the field in the U21, 100m event at the recent VSSSA State Track and Field Finals. Daniel took first place with an amazing time of 11.46 seconds. Jake Bridson of yr 7 also competed in U13 Shot Put. Jake managed 7<sup>th</sup> place with a distance of 11.26m. Well Done.

### YR 8 GIRLS SQUASH

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, four year 8 girls played a game of squash against Northcote High School. The Thornbury High School team [Gemma Zerna, Tiarne McCarthy, Pap Beeskow and Kristina Tachtsis] won and made it to the Zone Finals. The Zone Final was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October. The team were all pumped and headed off to Epping to compete. But sadly Pap Beeskow had dislocated her thumb a week before and wasn't able to continue to play, but she went along to support. Lucky for the team they had found a replacement in Sarlina Madafferi, who filled in for Pap, did a great job and played well. The girls came 2<sup>nd</sup> out of three high ranking schools, but they all had fun and tried their best. Big thanks to Miss Ruhe, Seraphim Kyprianou and Jack Dalla Via for cheering and supporting us on the day.

Well Done and Congratulations girls.

**Pap Beeskow 8D**

### YR 7 BOYS SQUASH

The Thornbury High School yr 7 boys Squash team had played well in the district competition and made it through to the Zone Finals which were played on 30<sup>th</sup> Oct at Epping Squash Centre. Owen Jones, Timmy Commerford, Wassam Saleh, Simar Konli and Evan Tsitsivos took on University High narrowly losing by just 1 game. The second game was against Viewbank Secondary College who proved too strong and were the eventual winners of the day. A great effort was put in by all team members.

### QUEST WALK FOR WATER

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October QUEST students participated in a walkathon along the Darebin Creek to raise money to provide water, sanitation and hygiene education to some of the poorest people in Africa, Asia and the Pacific region. The response of students was overwhelming and we raised over \$500. A special mention must go to Merinda Slater who raised \$50, Britney Reed and Nu Tran who each collected over \$25. The QUEST teachers were proud of the manner in which students conducted themselves and their enthusiasm in embracing this cause.

**Judy Stafford and the QUEST Team**

## ITALY TRIP

**23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER - 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

The time for departure for Italy is getting closer and everyone is very excited. The information pack has been given out to students and our sister school is organizing for the homestays in San Marco in Lamis and San Giovanni Rotondo. The students in Italy and their families are really excited about hosting a student from Australia. All the families have had their son or daughter visit Thornbury High School either earlier this year or in 2006 and they have very fond memories of both our school, our students and of Melbourne. They are looking forward to connecting again to Aussie culture! Some of the activities which the students will do in Italy are: visiting Pompeii, Naples and Rome. They will also visit Parliament House and be special guests of the Mayor of the San Marco City Council at a special dinner organized by them.

A second meeting and information pack will be given to students next week.

**E. D'Amore**

## REMINDER TO NEW YEAR 7'S 2009

Parents/guardians of students commencing year 7 in 2009 are encouraged to submit enrolment and associated forms **as soon as possible**. If you have misplaced these forms, please contact the office on 9480 4066.

## EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

There are still a number of EMA cheques that have not yet been collected from the General Office. Please contact the school on 9480 4066 to allocate any unused portion of your EMA and to see if you have a cheque to collect so that it can be finalised for the year. *Also, parents/guardians are reminded they will need to reapply for EMA for 2009.*

### FC Melbourne City Central - Gialloblu Inaugural Season Champions - Soccer

Looking to Establish in '09

Boys Under 14 Squad (born on or after Jan '95)

Boys Under 15 Squad (born on or after Jan '94)

Boys/Girls Under 16 Squad (born on or after Jan '93)

Boys Under 18 Squad (born on or after Jan '93)

Please contact George for further information:

T: 0433 102 847

E: [gialloblu@bigpond.com](mailto:gialloblu@bigpond.com)

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GROCON**