A Sustainable School

### IMPORTANT DATES TERM 2 & 3 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd August</td>
<td>P.D Arvo 1.40pm Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th August</td>
<td>Senior Formal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th – 11th August</td>
<td>Year 7 Music Camp</td>
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<td>9th – 12th August</td>
<td>Year 8 Music Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th – 19th August</td>
<td>Thornbury Idol</td>
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<td>16th August</td>
<td>Yr 10-11 Info Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th August</td>
<td>P.D Arvo 1.40pm Dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd – 26th August</td>
<td>Book Week</td>
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<td>25th August</td>
<td>Yr 8 – 9 Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st August</td>
<td>P.D Arvo 1.40pm Dismissal</td>
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</tbody>
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### REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Christine Farmakis</td>
<td>9458 6141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mary Anagnostopoulos</td>
<td>9458 6138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Jan Wason</td>
<td>9458 6125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jan Wason</td>
<td>9458 6125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Alan Williams [8A-D]</td>
<td>9458 6150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ryan Miller [8E-H]</td>
<td>9458 6150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Grant Wason</td>
<td>9458 6168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Helen Herouvim</td>
<td>9458 6170</td>
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</tbody>
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### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### OUTSTANDING SCHOOL REVIEW OUTCOME

The school review addressed performance on each of the three student outcomes areas (student learning, student engagement and wellbeing, and student pathways and transitions) through consideration of the five key questions identified under the School Accountability and Framework (desired outcomes, actual outcomes, contributing factors, resourcing and future actions).

Mike Rowland was our independent reviewer who analysed the school data including Naplan, VCE and survey results. During three days of field work, Mike met with myself on several occasions; the Regional Network Leader; the Assistant Principals; Leading Teachers; Level Coordinators; Year Managers; MIPs Coordinator; the School Council President; and focus groups of ESS staff; Expert Teachers; Graduate Teachers; Parents; and multiple student groups.

### SOME QUOTES FROM THE REVIEW DOCUMENT

The school’s current profile is as a school of choice with a doubling of the student population, a 200%+ increase in annual Year 7 enrolments, a vibrant school community with a strong sense of purpose, and where the student is genuinely the central focus of the abundant energy applied to planning and resource application.

Enrolments have significantly increased in Year 7 over the past 4 years which will imminently see much larger numbers flowing through to the Senior School. The demographic context has changed in a comparatively short time from what might be described as a small to medium sized metropolitan secondary school to being a large school with all that goes with this. On the one hand the larger numbers will bring increased diversity in both students and staffing, and opportunities for wider provision; on the other hand the general expansion will have implications for ensuring that policies, procedures, practice and resources align with the changing demographics.

The Parent Opinion Survey data is very positive in its assessment of the school climate. In fact, it was very positive across the entire survey where all variables were well above the benchmarks in 2010 as they have been for the previous two years. Parents see the whole school environment as one of quality which is very supportive of learning and providing good experiences for students. Parents typically see their children as engaged, connected to the school and to their peers, and to be motivated and safe.

*Peter Egeberg promotes Book Week 22nd – 26 August*
The indication of the parent focus group was that if there are concerns they tend to be related to the fact that the school is growing so quickly and transforming from the comparatively small school profile with its associated attributes they all value and support, to one which is much larger and perhaps more complex and less personable. The concern is about the impact this growth might have on the relationships between staff and students, students with their peers, and staff with their colleagues. It is, of course, a legitimate concern, and not theirs alone.

Parents see a need for consideration about the most effective communication media to be used as the school develops and grows, including the increased use of information technology. They are looking for expanded opportunities for parents to be involved with the school.

The complete review document is available on the web site go to the reports, plans and surveys on the front page.

**CURRICULUM DAY REPORT AND WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY SPEECH**

Last Monday, the teachers and staff were involved in a curriculum day. Many of the ideas discussed will have a significant impact on students at Thornbury High School in the coming years.

We looked at the student discipline policy which was written in 2004. No current students and at least a third of the teachers where not at the school at this time. We all felt that the current policy works well with a couple of exceptions. These exceptions include; whole class punishments*, managing plagiarism, rewarding students and a staff code of conduct. These concerns/issues will be followed up by the sub school coordinators and Ms Stephenson with input from the SRC.

During term 2, Mike Rowland from the Education Department carried out a review of how the school is travelling in terms of student learning, student well being, student transition. During this time he met with teachers, staff, parents and students. He also examined school performance data such as VCE results and student surveys. He identified the following positive aspects:

- Work done by level coordinators(welfare, attendance and behaviour)
- VCE results
- Bullying survey and follow up
- Transition especially into year 7 and after year 12
- Retaining students at school
- The community view that this is a very good school

There is clear evidence that the most important person in making a difference to student achievement is the teacher. The school review recommends that the school reaches a common understanding of what a good teacher looks like at Thornbury High. Over the next year or two teachers will be involved in a number of innovations which will help support and improve teaching and learning.

Teachers will be observing other teachers’ classes as a way of learning from each other. I have taught at six schools and while the quality of teaching at THS is the best, too often as teachers we do not get the opportunity to observe this quality teaching.

The school has recently received $250,000 to buy new computers and we are all aware of the significant impact computers can have on learning. Students through Simon Townley will have the opportunity to have some input into the types of computers the school will buy as well as how and where the computers will be housed.

The school has a set of guidelines for teachers to use when they are managing student behaviour. We are now looking at a format to follow for the development of engaging lessons. A group of year 9 students were recently part of a video which looked at ways to break up a 72 minute period to cater for all students with clear learning goals and success criteria.

Most students have seen the draft plans for our new school. Teachers have been involved in how we can better use teaching spaces in these new buildings. The new school will have tradition classrooms with each year level having breakout spaces where students can access resources or work in small groups.

Over the past 7 years there have been two mantras which I have used to emphasise what we should value as a school community:

- Students have the right to learn and teachers the right to teach
- Achievement and excellence

A third and new mantra is about how we learn both as teachers and students

*Teachers need to see learning through the eyes of their students and students need to see themselves as their own teachers.*

Peter Egeberg

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**FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS**

**UNIFORM**

Thank you to all who supported our request for winter uniform this term. A reminder that school-only jackets are to be worn to and from school, shoes are to be leather SCHOOL shoes only and scarves are to be one colour only – navy, black or white.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTACT A STAFF MEMBER BY EMAIL?
This is easily done. Just head to our website: - www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au
Find the box on the page that says – “contact our staff” and you will be emailing in no time

SCHOOL CARDIGANS
As requested by the students and Peter Egeberg, cardigans are now in the uniform shop both at the school and Thomastown.

IPODS AND PHONES
Last week we had a phone and ipod stolen from the change room in the gym. Whilst (amazingly) they were both recovered – thanks to some excellent detective work by Ms Maharaj – it sends us a timely reminder that students need to leave their valuables at home or in their locker. Ipods and phones are banned in the classroom and can only be used at recess and lunchtime. Please talk to your child about this issue as many times we are not so lucky in recovering the missing items

LOST PROPERTY
It is amazing how many articles of clothing, text books, stationery items and electronic equipment, such as mobile phones, are misplaced or lost by our students. Those that are named are returned to the student but, unfortunately, most are not named. Sometimes we find that, by mistake, students have picked up other jumpers, etc that are named but not theirs. So I ask that parents do two things:
1. Name all articles of your child’s uniform, books etc.
2. Check your child’s uniform for other student’s names and return to their coordinator.
Thank you all for your support

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP OF STUDENTS
With the increase of student numbers, the dropping off and picking up of students continues to be an issue. Here are some tips for making the area safer for our children:
- Use Matisi Street car park. Enter via ENTRY ONLY gate opposite Fogular Club – the area is newly paved and clearly marked – follow signs and arrows. Exit via EXIT ONLY gate at bottom of car park. There is plenty of parking
- Do not park in no standing areas at front of school, this includes just stopping to drop off students or pick them up
- Do not enter the side road to the left of the front gates. This is a major walk way for students.
- Have your child walk to Jones Street
- Pick up your child in Matisi Street

Meredith Stephenson, Assistant Principal

HOMEWORK
This term the curriculum team is closely monitoring homework. As a school we recognise that homework helps students establish good study habits outside of lessons. It has also been shown that working outside of normal school time helps embed what they have learnt in the lesson.

We have a commitment to provide homework to students in Years 7 to 9 and a new schedule for this is attached to this newsletter. Part of our policy states that students must record homework tasks in their planners along with due dates. Can I ask parents to help us by checking their child’s planner routinely and supporting them with their homework, including providing them with a quiet area to work at an agreed time.

If parents have any questions regarding a particular homework task, please contact the individual teacher, otherwise I would be happy to discuss more general homework issues.

ICT GRANT
This term we have received our federal grant for computers and IT equipment of $250,000 – a substantial amount of money which must be spent this year. With this money we are obliged to purchase at least 213 computers for student use, with the rest spent on servers and technical support.

The practicality of having 213 extra computers means that most of these will be laptops as we simply don’t have the room for traditional ICT suites. We have been trialling using laptops in class (we currently have 2 class sets of 25 in Science and in the Year 8 area) and, after ironing out the technical issues, staff have begun to value their use. We are currently asking staff and students (via the SRC) for their views on how to best spend the money and I would be interested in hearing any views of parents.

Simon Townley, Assistant Principal
FROM THE CURRICULUM TEAM

CATS @ THS
The CATs are common tasks which have been developed by the teachers of each year level (7 to 10). Each CAT has consistent assessment criteria across the subject and year level.
- These tasks were developed to assess student progress, to ensure acceptable work standards and to help students manage their time and meet deadlines.
- Many of the CATs will be completed in class, but some parts of the work will have to be completed outside the class room. Students will need, in some cases, to complete a number of classroom tasks as preparation for the CATs.
- Students at years 7 – 10 must work towards completing all CATs to an acceptable standard. Integration students may have modified tasks.
- The CATs may consist of tests, assignments, work folios, oral presentations or homework tasks. A list of Semester 2 CATs for years 7 to 10, along with the process for submission of CATs is being mailed home with this newsletter and is also now available on the school website: www.thornburyhs.vic.edu.au

Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding the CATs.

EARLY DISMISSALS FOR ALL STUDENTS, TERM 3
The Professional Development afternoons will continue in term 3, 2011. The purpose of these afternoons is to further develop the teaching and learning practices of staff. All students will be dismissed at 1.40pm on these days. Recess and class times will be adjusted on these days and students will not miss out on any lessons in any curriculum areas.
Please note there will be FOUR Professional Development afternoons in Term 3: Wednesday 3rd August, Wednesday 17th August, Wednesday 31st August and Wednesday 14th September.
Curriculum Team

MEDIA/Drama NEWS
“Beauty and the Beast” rehearsals are up and running! We have had some fantastically enthusiastic cast members, who have dragged themselves out of bed early on a Sunday morning in the name of show biz!
The bright-eyed ‘Village cast’ have wowed us with their singing and dancing, and we are looking forward to seeing the gorgeous ‘Castle cast’ next weekend.
Don’t forget, “Beauty and the Beast” will open on the 13th of October, with shows on Thursday 13th, Friday 14th and Saturday 15th October at the Darebin Arts Centre, Preston.

IMPORTANT PRODUCTION DATES for CAST:
Tech run/Dress Rehearsal: 12th October
Matinee Performance: 13th October
Intensive Rehearsal Period: September 5th, 6th and 7th from 10am – 5pm.
Keep an eye on the bulletin if you are interested in becoming a part of the Production team. We will be requesting assistance with Ushering, Backstage crew, etc in approximately 2 weeks time!
Emma McCulloch, Media/Drama head

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS
WELCOME TO TERM 3!
Thank you to all the parents and students who attended last week’s Parent Teacher Interviews. We appreciate your support and hope the feedback and advice provided by teachers will guide students to a successful semester two.
This term Tertiary Institutions will be holding their Open Days and we encourage both Year 11 and 12 students to take this opportunity to visit campuses and speak to selection officers.
The year 11/12 Formal is soon approaching – Friday August 5th. The formal committee with Ms. Farmakis’ guidance have been busily working on seating plans, music, and decorations. All that remains now is for all students and staff attending to organise outfits and final payment. The evening commences at 7.30pm and concludes at 12.00am. Please ensure that you have organised transportation for the evening.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS
On Tuesday August 9th, 2011 we invite all Year 12 parents and students to attend the VTAC INFORMATION NIGHT
This is an important information session for all Year 12 students who plan to continue with Tertiary Studies. A formal invitation will be mailed home soon.
with week specific details and a reply slip to be completed and returned to Catherine Mccrann, our Careers Advisor. We look forward to seeing all Year 12 parents and students on the night.

**YEAR 10 STUDENTS**

On Tuesday August 16th, we will hold our **Year 10 into 11 Parent Information Night**. This is a compulsory information evening for all Year 10 students who intend to return to Thornbury High School in 2012. Parents will be provided with an overview of how students will be counselled into appropriate courses for 2012. On **Wednesday 17th August**, (PD Arvo) Year 10 students will be requested to remain behind to speak with VCE/VCAL subject teachers. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions about the subject, outcomes and assessment tasks. **On Monday 22nd** we have our Course Counselling day. There will be no scheduled classes on this day for Year 10 students. Students will have to attend school for approximately twenty (20) minutes to discuss their 2012 courses. Interview times will be issued at the Year 10 into 11 Information Night.

**Senior School Team**

**SPORTS NEWS**

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Towards the end of term two, 14 students braved wet, cold and muddy conditions to compete at the Northern Metropolitan Region Cross Country Trials. The 14 years girls team managed to take 2nd place and THS also had 6 runners qualify for the State Cross Country Finals. Helen Bedilu, Daisy Rattray-Wood, Adam Garganis, Ahmed Abdulrahman, Hannah Garganis & Stella Radford, all made their way to Bundoora park on Tuesday 19th July to race amongst the best runners in the state. All six students ran well in their individual events, a big congratulations to Thornbury’s newest **State Champion**, Stella Radford who beat 90 other competitors to finish 1st in the girls 16 years, 3km with an outstanding time of 10min 41 sec.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS**

**SENIOR MUSIC TOUR OF CANBERRA / SYDNEY**

What a fantastic trip! On Sunday June 26 we met at the crack of dawn at school ready for an adventure. We packed the bus with the help of ‘Bags’, the bus driver, and hit the road as soon as we could. First stop, Euroa…. Until Corey realised he hadn’t gone to the toilet before he left, and his bladder was going to burst as soon as we hit the Hume. After a short stop in Euroa and lunch in Holbrook we ventured forth to Canberra where we started the tour with a quick walking descent down Mt. Ainslee. The night in Canberra was a chilly minus 4 degrees but Monday turned out to be perfectly sunny and a reasonable 17. We were treated to a tour of the Australian War Memorial, where students learnt a lot about WWI and a little about the wars since. After the War Memorial we visited Old Parliament House where we were able to re-enact a parliamentary sitting arguing for and against conscription from 1964 using the actual transcripts from that day. After Old Parliament House we moved on to Parliament House. Unfortunately, parliament sat the week previous to our tour so we did not meet Prime Minister Gillard, but we still enjoyed the tour. I would like to thank The Australian Government who fund a ‘Parliament and Civics Education Rebate’ for students who attend three or more civic institutions in Canberra. Their funding of $30 per child made the camp a lot more
affordable for all in attendance. The students also got a lot out of the activities provided. After a short shopping spree at the Canberra equivalent of Northlands, we headed back to the motel for a roast chicken dinner then a late night rehearsal. On Tuesday we headed to Calwell High School and made use of their brand new performance space, rehearsing for the morning, followed by a BBQ lunch (thank you to Calwell High School for providing this) and a concert combining both schools. After the performance it was straight on to the hustle and bustle of Sydney. That night we checked out the bright lights of Sydney, taking in views of the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge. We had a ride on the monorail before retreating back to an early night in bed. Wednesday was yet another busy day, catching the ferry to Manly, having a walk along the beach, before heading back into the city and performing at the Maritime Museum on the water. Some strong gusts of wind caught us by surprise and some percussion sheet music went flying into the Sydney Harbour water. We fished out what we could but three sheets floated away, never to be seen again. Now that’s what I call a wet piece of music. (Sorry for the bad teacher joke). We then explored Paddy’s Markets and picked up some bargains. That night we were lucky enough to rehearse with Dr. Dennis Johnson, a concert band expert and clinician for the World Projects International School Bands Festival that was happening in Sydney at the time. Nearly everyone agreed that he was the highlight of the trip. He was funny yet worked the students quite hard. Our Melbourne Bands Festival material is definitely more thoroughly prepared for and our students are a lot more confident with their ability.

Thursday was our final day of activities, starting with a workshop and concert with Our Lady of Rosary Primary School where our students were fantastic at peer-to-peer tuition of the youngsters. After a very successful concert with 400 kids cheering for us it was time to head back to go on a tour of the architectural marvel, the Sydney Opera House. We then walked across to the Pylon lookout on the Sydney Harbour Bridge but time was lacking so we unfortunately couldn’t complete the crossing (it was also very cold). After dinner in Chinatown and a swim in the pool it was time to say goodbye and goodnight to Sydney and wake up in Melbourne. A HUGE thank you to Diana Norton, Craig Harrison and Sean Nihill who accompanied us on the tour, and a special thanks to Marc Matthews who flew up to Sydney especially to help us out. These music tours are hard work for the staff, so your assistance is greatly appreciated by all.

The question now on everybody’s mind…. Where to next year???

MUSIC PARENTS
Our next meeting is this coming Tuesday August 2 at 7:00pm in the Music Room. New parents wanted, experienced parents welcomed also!

BUSKING
Congratulations to all students who have performed at the last two busking sessions organised by the Music Parents group. Some students earned a whopping $30 for their efforts. Keep an eye on the bulletin for further busking opportunities! Thank you to the Music Parents who have supervised and helped facilitate these performance opportunities.

YEAR 7 AND 8 MUSIC CAMP
The Year 7 & 8 Music camps are fast approaching. Year 7 is August 8-11 and Year 8 is August 9-12. Please double check you have a ‘What to bring list’ so you are thoroughly prepared for the fantastic activities and chilly weather. Don’t forget your instrument!

MUSIC UNIFORM
Thank you to Harish Vallury (Year 9) and Halie Mennen for designing the new Music Shirt logo. The shirts will be available for purchase from the Uniform shop in the next few weeks. All students should have already been fitted for one. The shirts are $29 and the school tie is $22. Both will be required for Year 7 & 8 music camps and for all further music performances. A notice will go home with further information.

NOTICES NOT ARRIVING HOME
There are a lot of students not handing notes to parents when I give them out. This wastes so much time and effort ringing parents. If your son/daughter has a habit of misplacing or leaving forms in their locker, please send me an email schutz.kyle.k@edumail.vic.gov.au and I will send forms via email as well as a hard copy. Kyle Schutz, Head of Music Department
NEWS FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

UNIVERSITY/TAFE OPEN DAYS – 2011
Students are encouraged to attend open days for potential universities. It provides the opportunity to get a taste of their future and sample uni life. These Open Day events also run information sessions on their special entry programs. Students have been advised to attend any institution they may be considering applying for through these entry programs.
For further information about the open days please see me and/or visit the university’s website.

University/TAFE DATE AND LOCATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>University/TAFE</th>
<th>Date and Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACU</td>
<td>14 August (Melbourne campus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box Hill Institute</td>
<td>28 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deakin</td>
<td>14 August (Warndambool campus)</td>
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<td>21 August (Geelong campus)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28 August (Melbourne campus)</td>
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<td>Kangan (Fashion)</td>
<td>14 August (Richmond campus)</td>
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<td>Latrobe Uni</td>
<td>7 August (Melbourne campus)</td>
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<td>12 August (Shepparton campus)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14 August (Mildura campus)</td>
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<td>21 August (Albury/Wodonga campus)</td>
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<td>28 August (Bendigo campus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melbourne Uni</td>
<td>21 August (Southbank &amp; Parkville campuses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monash Uni</td>
<td>6 August (Berwick, Gippsland &amp; Peninsula campuses)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 August (Caulfield, Clayton &amp; Parkville campuses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NMIT</td>
<td>7 August (La Trobe University Melbourne campus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RMIT</td>
<td>14 August (City campus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swinburne Uni</td>
<td>21 August (Hawthorn, Lilydale &amp; Prahran campuses)</td>
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YEAR 12 COURSE SELECTION
This term is a very busy time for our Year 12 students who will be planning and submitting their course preferences for 2012. An Information Evening will take place on August 9th where the process will be outlined. The 2012 VTAC GUIDE is now available online at [www.vtac.vic.gov.au](http://www.vtac.vic.gov.au) and will shortly be available for purchase from newsagents. Students will be kept informed of its release.

HERALD SUN MELBOURNE CAREERS EXPO
This expo will be located at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from Friday 29th July until Sunday 31st August. (10.00am until 4.00pm on the weekend.) Year 12 students can obtain a free entry pass from Catherine McCrann. Further information can be found at [www.careerexpo.com.au](http://www.careerexpo.com.au)
Catherine McCrann, Career Advisor

FROM THE WELLBEING TEAM

Congratulations to the following students for participating in Girls on the Go in Term 2:
Kaitlin Boddy, Caroline Alchin, Lily Watts, Daisy Rattray-Woods, Jessica Abrahams, Zoe Dritsas, Milica Petrovic, Warsan Olibea, Ruby Cacoyiannis, Murphy O’Toole, Jess Tasevski, Nathalia Ellis, Tamara Bartlett, Stephanie Fidler and Jessica Noormets.
Throughout the term, Jo Apostolopolous (Youth Worker) and Bec Grimes (School Nurse) covered a range of topics including Purpose/Goal Setting, Attitudes/Self Worth, Respect/Relationships, Beauty/Body image and Strength/Confidence. The girls participated in different activities and discussions. We had lots of laughs and in depth conversations that encouraged the girls to be themselves and to celebrate each other’s differences.

Lily Watts and Caroline Alchin 8A
**YEAR 8 BOYS GROUP, TERM 3 2011**

This year’s boys’ group promises to be the best yet-thanks to Marcel and Hayden of yr 12! The enthusiastic duo will co-facilitate this year’s 7 week program with the school’s youth worker, Jo Apostolopoulos. Weekly topics will include anger management, expressing emotions using healthy strategies, empathy and compassion as well as teaching participants valuable group work skills. There are still places available so please speak to Jo.A ASAP! There is a $30 program fee that will cover all workshop materials, excursions and transport. The Boys’ Group will commence in the 3rd week of Term 3 (payment will also be due at the end of this week). Further information will be provided upon application. Jo.A

**BREAKFAST CLUB**

Thank you again to Arienne and Susan for their ongoing hard work and commitment to our free student breakfast program. Their love and energy on a Friday morning can be tasted in the pancakes they cook for us all!

We are looking for more volunteers to help out on Monday and Wednesday mornings. If you are free from approx. 8am-8:45am then please contact the Wellbeing Team on 9458-6171.

**BOOK WEEK 2011**

August 22nd to August 26th is Book Week and the Library will be celebrating with the theme Harry Potter, in honour of the last film release. We plan to send the ever popular series off in style, with week-long activities with prizes to be won. TUESDAY 23rd August will be dress-up day, and we encourage all to come as their favourite book character. We expect to see many popular novel and Manga characters, and would love for students to come dressed as their favourite Harry Potter character. Just remember, muggles dressed in ordinary clothing isn’t acceptable! The Library will be celebrating with the theme Harry Potter, in honour of the last film release. We plan to send the ever popular series off in style, with week-long activities with prizes to be won.

**BEN CALLEN**

Ben Callen is a former student of THS. He was awarded a Science student fellowship in Year 11, and was dux of the school in Year 12. When he was in Year 9 he told us that he planned to work on Monash’s new Synchrotron. He’s done that, and with only another year before he completes his PhD in physics, he’s applied for positions in France and Italy. We’d wish him success, but he has already achieved it, so we’ll wish him Bon Voyage instead.

Glenn Bason/Grant Wason

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**SRC NEWS**

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<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Year 7 Film Festival</td>
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<td>Year 8 Festival</td>
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<td>Mock U.N. Conference</td>
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<td>Thornbury’s Got Talent</td>
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<td>Peter Hewitt Care for</td>
<td>Term 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Africa Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>House Points System</td>
<td>Term 4</td>
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**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE**

A few weeks ago Marian Haliem (9A), Amal Abikar (9A), Dayle Lewis (9A) and Vini Weerakkody (9C) attended the Northern Metropolitan Region’s mock United Nations Conference titled ‘Refugees, Rights and Risk’. Each student was allocated a United Nations Member State. Throughout the course of the conference, the students were expected to walk in the shoes of their country’s ambassador, remembering at all times that they were representing their country’s stance on the issue and not their personal point of view. Our students represented Tuvalu and Thailand respectively and even managed to get an amendment to the resolution passed where they asked that the term ‘environmental refugee’ be added to the existing definition of the resolution in recognition of the effects of global warming. As a result of their participation, these Year 9 students now have the opportunity to apply for the 2011 Schools State Constitutional Convention, which will be held at Parliament House Melbourne in October.

“The most beneficial part of the conference for me was when each country’s delegate had the opportunity to talk about their country’s refugees and their rights and risks. I found this particular part of the conference very fascinating and informative.

I would recommend this to other students because it’s a great chance for them to learn about the role on the United Nations as well as build up their public speaking skills. It’s also an enjoyable and memorable experience.”

Amal Abikar 9A

**THE PETER HEWITT CARE FOR AFRICA FOUNDATION**

We have aimed high this year and have ventured out of our usual comfort zone of out-of-school-uniform day fundraisers. This year the year 10 SRC has decided that instead of having fundraisers for various charities, we choose one to focus on, The Peter Hewitt Care for Africa Foundation.

Care for Africa is an Australian foundation which focuses their work in and around the Tarime District, located in the Mara region of Tanzania, which is one
of the world’s poorest countries. The aim to improve water and sanitation, as 50% of Tanzanian people do not have access to clean drinking water; Education, only 30% of teachers are formally educated; and health care, mortality and morbidity rates from preventable illness are among the highest in the world. We as a school will help contribute to this charity’s work through raising money throughout the year by contributing goods for containers, such as school supplies. By making one charity our focus we will be able to make a substantial difference to that charity and its projects, we will also be able to see the effect our contributions are having on the Tanzanian community. The Year 10 SRC will hopefully be starting the collection of goods for containers later this term.

Diana Butler one of the founders of the organisation is visiting Thornbury High School on the 1st of September to speak to our students. We are also being mentored by Alison Bassano of The Launceston Grammar School. The school has done fundraising for Care for Africa for a number of years.

Please contact Ms. Maharaj on 945 86 120 if you are interested in assisting the Year 10 SRC and Thornbury High School getting this off the ground.

HOUSE POINTS SYSTEM
The Year 11 SRC is proposing that Thornbury High School should have a new house points system. The current house point system is only for the annual athletics day. We feel that the house points system must be changed to include other aspects of the school such as Music, Art, Media, Drama and academia (such as maths and science competitions and academic achievement). This is because, although at Thornbury we have an array of great athletes, not every student is athletic and we need to expand the points system so that even more students can use their abilities to contribute to their house.

With the expansion of the school in the coming years, as well as the new building works, we need something to keep us connected. We hope to have a small trial of this system in Term 4, but we will keep you posted with developments along the way.

Brianna Date 11D

WORLD VISION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
“Last term, Thornbury high students, Josh, Brandon and I, Bridget, attended a leadership conference at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre….. and I can tell you that it was nowhere near as boring as it sounds! We gained leadership skills and confidence in our decision making and social skills which came from being forced to communicate with a room full of people, where you know absolutely no-one. Scary! We were also inspired by World Vision youth ambassadors who recently visited developing countries and motivated us to make a difference to the lives of people living in East Timor and the likes. We learnt that hunger is the biggest killer in the world.. hunger, something so preventable is killing someone every three seconds. But the good news is you can make a difference! This year is going to be Thornbury High Schools biggest 40 hour famine yet! We are hoping to raise over $2500-$3000 and we need your help! Get your teachers to check the bulletin in form assembly in the coming days for more information”

Bridget Radford of 12A

Bridget Radford, Josh Taylor and Brandon Butler attended the World Vision Leadership Conference early this term to learn how students could make a difference through dialogue. Bridget and Brandon are not members of the SRC, however Student Voice is more than the SRC and Thornbury High School encourages all students who are passionate to have their voices heard. We look forward to these three students organising World Vision’s 40 Hour Famine using the knowledge and skills learnt at the conference.

Ms. Preeti Maharaj, Student Voice Coordinator

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP
Open: Every Monday (during term), 3.00 – 4.00pm
Location: First Aid Room 1 (near Reception)
• You get 50% off the selling price. See THS website for further details.
• We still need more stock! Don’t forget to go through your wardrobes and bring in anything that’s in good or excellent condition for sale.
• Please place all uniform items in a plastic bag with your Seller’s Form and drop into front reception. Donated items are appreciated.
• We are only able to accept CASH or EMA entitlements.
Contact the school on 9480 4066 with any queries.

THS NEWS 16th June 2011
EMA CHEQUES AT SCHOOL OFFICE
There are still a few first instalment EMA cheques that can be collected from the Office. Students may pick up cheques on behalf of parents if they bring a signed note authorizing them to do so. Parents are encouraged to contact Vicki on 9480 4066 to organise payment of fees with unallocated EMA funds.

EMA 2nd INSTALMENT – DO YOU NEED APPLY?

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 3 (18th July). **The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 5 August 2011 for the second instalment.**

Parents with continuing eligibility, who were paid the first instalment of 2011 through this school, will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children from another school after 28 February 2011 and prior to or on 5 August 2011, must reapply at this school for the second instalment.

Contact: School Office for application form and further information.

GET MAD – MANAGING ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

Is the next school community forum being held in the school library on: **Wednesday 24th August, at 7.00 for a 7.30pm start.** Finger food & light refreshments will be available from 7.00pm. Write it in your diaries now so you don’t miss out. Further details about the guest speaker and program to follow soon. All welcome!

The programme we offer at the Helen O’Grady Drama Academy is one of self development for children in prep - year 12. Our main aim is to develop confidence and skill in verbal communication, through the fun and creativity of drama classes. **CLASSES CLOSEST TO YOU ARE HELD IN:**

KEW ** COBURG ** MILL PARK ** BALWYN NORTH*** ESSENDON

To find out more phone Principal Joanna Melo Howard on 90168928
### Homework Timetable for Years 7-9
#### Semester 2, 2011

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- Teachers are required to set homework on the day the subject appears on the homework timetable. (except where marked * when it will be set the day before)
- The subject teacher is to decide when that homework is due.
- Homework for Art, Technology, Music, PE will be set when required.
- Teachers should ensure all students have homework on these nights and that it is written in the planner.
- 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 (e.g. A note in planner and a teacher detention for a repeat offence).
- Please also refer to Student Planner page (iii) Homework