



MENTONE GIRLS' SECONDARY COLLEGE

Cnr. Balcombe & Charman Rds., Mentone. 3194

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NEWSLETTER

No. 17

30th October, 2008

Dear Parents,

This year our Year 12 students celebrated the end of their secondary education in a number of ways. There were assemblies, breakfast, dressing up and having fun, as well as the Valedictory Dinner on Friday night where families joined staff and students to recognise the class of 2008.

The girls behaved impeccably all week, showing that you can have fun without any of the pranks seen in the past.

Their exams begin on Friday, and I'm sure everyone would join with me in wishing them good luck for their futures.

For everyone else, school goes on as normal. With the warmer weather could I remind students that they are still to wear their blazer as the outer garment both to and from school, unless it is exceptionally hot. Too many girls are just wearing their jumper instead of taking it off and putting on the blazer. Please help us keep our students looking smart.

Congratulations to the Intermediate Soccer Team, who won the All Schools Soccer last week. Congratulations also to their coach, Mr Bill Murray. The girls played some of the top private schools in the state and added to our reputation in this sport.

On Thursday October 23rd at 11.30am students from our school participated in the music, Count Us In event. All over Australia students sang and played a song called "Sing" which was written by some Victorian students. Year 7B and 7D sang, and 8F Band was joined by some of the Symphonic Wind students in playing the song. Next year we will include more students in this event, which serves to highlight the importance of music in the development of students' confidence, self expression, team work and

social skills. There are established links between learning music and academic achievement, including the development of children's literacy and numeracy skills.

Friday October 31st is World Teachers' Day which we will celebrate with a morning tea. We are truly fortunate to have a dedicated and professional staff who deserve our thanks not only on this day but right through the year.

Deborah M Lehner
Principal

MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Now taking enrolments for
LITTLE AID workshop, which specializes
in First Aid for children and babies.
Is designed for parents and carers in the event
of an emergency.

Participants will receive a
CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH.

12.30PM – 3.00PM

Cost: \$45.00

Childcare available; Bookings essential.
Please phone for further information / bookings
9587 4534

College Council

Another school year is drawing to a close and our Year 12 students are preparing for their end of year exams. The College Council wish all our Year 12's every success in your choice of pursuits or further study in the years to come.

The College has built an enviable reputation for developing girls who go on to become influencers and high achievers in their chosen field. Best of luck with your exams and we look forward to hearing about your successes in the years ahead.

The College continues to strive to provide the best facilities and learning environment for your daughter's education within the limited resources we have available.

College Council is currently ratifying the financial budget for 2009.

While we appreciate the bulk of the funding for the College is derived from the Government, College Council believes the level of funding is insufficient to provide for the high level of educational outcomes expected by the College community.

To cover this shortfall we have traditionally needed to request additional payments that help fund the various camps, excursions and other curricular activities. The Essential Education Consumable Materials and Services Payment goes directly towards additional consumables, services and resources required throughout the year.

The College Council is very pleased to announce that in these times of escalating costs we have been able to ensure there will be no increase in the Essential Education Consumable Material and Service Charges for 2009. We seek your support by early payment of these essential funds.

During 2009 The College will continue to improve the facilities it provides. This year saw the completion of a new Performing Arts Centre and many other projects. Currently underway include plans to further reduce the Colleges environmental footprint and upgrades to our information technology equipment.

Our major building works for 2009 will be an all new Media Studies Centre as part of the Visual Arts area. This project is due to commence shortly and being self-funded is as a direct outcome to your contributions to our Building Fund. Contributions to our Building Fund are tax deductible and again College Council thank you in advance for your valuable support.

There are numerous ways in which parents can become actively involved in the life of the College.

We take this opportunity to thank the many Parents and Friends and SCR representatives for the hours of hard work and dedication through the various working bees, fundraising and student welfare activities carried out throughout the year. Your valued support contributes greatly to the life of the College.

Peter Langworthy

Captain's Corner



The thought of the end of high school still seems so surreal, yet it's only a few days away. I can't believe that this is my last newsletter article, when it doesn't seem that long ago since I wrote my first!

So much has happened since the start of the year, it's hard to pinpoint in particular what has made 2008 so amazing. It has been filled with one memorable moment after the other. The VCE formal, Year 7 and 12 Fancy Dress, study camp... but not just the big events, each day has played some sort of significance. And it's probably these little daily occurrences that I will miss the most.

The teachers have been wonderful over the past few weeks (and years); they are so committed to seeing us do well. On behalf of the year 12's I'd like to thank all the teachers for their continuous help and encouragement. The amount of work they do for us is astounding. It is really appreciated.

2008 has more than lived up to its expectations. New friendships have formed, old ones have strengthened, 18ths have been celebrated, sleep has been lost. A massive amount of work has been done. And now leading up to the business end of the year, it's time to really put ourselves into gear, as we prepare ourselves for our final exams.

So my advice is this; just do your best. We all have our strong points, we know what we are capable of achieving. Work hard now, so you are 100% prepared for your exams later. There's nothing worse than walking into an exam thinking, 'I should have studied this more'. There's no time for second efforts, or regrets. This is it.

You will be satisfied when you walk out of the exam, knowing that you did everything you could have possibly done.

My aunty bought me a 'quote of the day calendar' at the start of the year, and a few days ago I came across this: "If school results were the key to power, girls would be running the world"- Sarah Boseley, British journalist. At first I thought this was quite offensive, but I now understand what

she was saying. We girls will always have to work harder to get where we want.. it's a fact of life that's slowly evolving, but it's still true. So that's why I'd like to point out that your ENTER score is just a number, it does not predict what your life will be. It sometimes gets you into university but it's up to you where you go from there.

I apologise for the dominating year 12 theme of this article, but the other year levels might use my advice in years to come. The earlier you start realising your potential the better.

I wish everyone in the MGSC community the very best for the future. Goodbye and goodluck!

Lauren Geschke
School Captain

Senior School

Last week was full of emotion as we farewelled our Year 12 class of 2008. The final College Assembly began with the girls being applauded into the gym just as they were welcomed in Year 7. Our College leaders all showed maturity and perceptiveness in their last messages to the student body. These 3 students, Lauren, Olivia and Jessie, are to be congratulated on the outstanding contributions they have made this year.

Our week continued with the Celebration Day on Thursday. The day started early with a barbecue breakfast followed by a very entertaining and clever "assembly" conducted by the Year 12s in the gymnasium. The girls looked fantastic in their 'Childhood Memories' costumes. The staff demonstrated skills beyond the class room with a very glamorous Australia's Next Top Model winner announced: Mr Greg Feben. Our 'So You Think You Can Dance' duets were superb with Mr Bartlett and Ms Begleiter featuring in the Paso Doble, Ms Steinfort and Ms Christopoulos doing Disco and Ms Chan and Ms Watson a medley of contemporary and traditional dance moves. The Year 12's then headed off to Sandringham Football Club for lunch, games and karaoke.

To see the transformation on Friday night was amazing as the Year 12's and their parents arrived at the Caulfield Racecourse for the Valedictory Dinner. This is a night of fun, dancing, reminiscing and emotion, and a chance to thank the committed staff.

We take this opportunity to wish all our Year 12's the very best of luck for their exams which begin Friday 31st October. Please ensure you check exam details and give yourselves plenty of time to get to school. If for some unforeseen reason, you are running late or there is a problem, make sure you contact the College

immediately on 95815231. Look after yourselves girls.

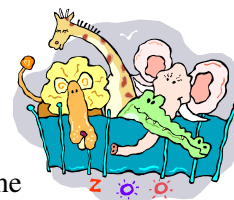
Year 11's last day of classes is Thursday 13th November and exams begin the next day, Friday 14th. Good luck to all the Year 11's, many of whom are also sitting a Year 12 exam.

After the exams, Year 11s are required at school for orientation for 2009 Year 12 classes which will be from Monday 24th November to Thursday 26th.

Senior School Team

Junior School

Zoo excursion and Healesville Sanctuary excursion



On Friday 31st October, Year 7's are travelling to the

Melbourne Zoo and Year 8's are

visiting Healesville Sanctuary for the day. Just a reminder that all girls must be in full summer school uniform with blazers. They should bring a packed lunch and water bottle. They should also bring a hat and sunscreen. The girls will be dismissed from MGSC on their return to school at approximately 3pm.

Plastic Bags

We are very short of plastic bags in the Junior school office, so it would be very much appreciated if you could send some supermarket bags along with your daughter.

Makeup

Could you please make sure that your daughter is not wearing makeup when she leaves for school and that any facial jewellery is covered.

Junior School Team

SRC

Last week's 'Pink' casual day raised funds for the Breast Cancer Foundation and UNICEF's 'Day for Change' program. The 'Day for Change' project is aimed at innovating and establishing education for females in Papua New Guinea. In total we raised a massive \$1004 dollars, where \$500 was sent to each charity. Lucy Macmillan, a human rights advocate, on behalf of UNICEF, accepted the cheque at the Year 12's final assembly. A big thank you to Ms. Liakos for organising the speaker from UNICEF and assisting the Year 10's in their new positions.



The last of the Year 7's are busily brainstorming ideas for their final fundraising efforts for World Vision- remember to keep your eye out for a lunchtime stall in the next couple of weeks!

Louise Mapleston
Middle School SRC Executive.

Music

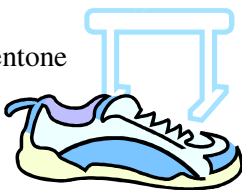
Sing ! A song that four teenagers wrote, was chosen as this year's song to help make the government realise how important music is. Years 8F, 7B and 7D participated in this activity. Some of the girls thought that we should have been able to choose the song that we wanted to sing. 7D says that it was a bit boring but it was fun when we were singing.



Monique Kruse & Maya Deen 7D

Sport

On Thursday 9th October Mentone Girls' Secondary College competed in the Southern Zone Athletics competition which is a precursor to the State Finals.



We were very successful with a lot of girls attaining excellent results and finishing with placings in their various events. Many have progressed to the State Championships stage. Thanks must be extended to Mr David Shillabeer for organising the girls and Mr Luke de Munk for rendering assistance.

Below is a list of all the girls who will represent the College at state level in athletics. Congratulations to all these girls and to any student who competed on the day.

Madeleine Lee Gow, Nicola Deacon, Tia Zakis, Ashleigh Whittaker, Teagan Dixon, Rebecca Deacon, Emma Milliken, Jett Edwards, Vivienne Law, Rhea Van Heeswyk, Alana Durham, Holly Colbert. We wish these girls luck at the State Titles. Many of those will participate in multiple events which is a highly commendable effort.

Anne Gamble

Student Welfare

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, I am Lee Vergona and I will be working at Mentone Girls as the Student Wellbeing Coordinator. I am available to talk about any issues that may concern you about your daughter/ward on my direct line 9581 5224, or contact the main office to set up an appointment. Adolescence can be a trying time for everyone. When we work together, we usually reach a positive outcome.

I look forward to meeting everyone.

Lee Vergona.

Mentone Girls' Secondary College

**Presentation
Evening
2008**

**Thursday
27th November
8.00 pm**

**Tickets are available during the
second half of lunchtime from
the VCE centre at a cost of
\$5.00 per ticket**

Key Dates 2008

October Friday 31 st	Yr 12 Exams Start Yr 7 Zoo visit Yr 8 Healesville visit Yr 9 Law Matters Excursion
November Monday 3 rd	Staff Professional Development Day Student Free Day
Tuesday 4 th	Melbourne Cup Day
Wednesday 5 th	Malcolm Awards
Thursday 6 th	Band Night
Friday 7 th	Yr 7, 8, & Interim Cricket Finals
Tuesday 11 th	College Assembly Parents & Friends final meeting
Wednesday 12 th	Beachside Alternative Sports Day
Thursday 13 th	Yr 11 Last Day
Friday 14 th	Yr 11 Exams Commence
Monday 17 th	Interm. State Cricket Semi Finals Yr 7 State Hockey
Tuesday 18 th	Interm. State Hockey
Wednesday 19 th	Interm. State Cricket Yr 8 State Hockey
Friday 21 st	Yr 12 Exams End
Monday 24 th	Yr 12 Orientation Yr 9 & 10 Exams Commence Yr 7, 8 & Interm. State Squash
Tuesday 25 th	Yr 7, 8 & Interm. State Tabletennis
Wednesday 26 th	Yr 7, 8 & Interm. State Basketball
Thursday 27 th	Yr 7 & 8 State Volleyball Presentation Night 8.00pm
Friday 28 th	Report Writing Day
December Friday 5 th	Yr 9 OED Surfing all day
Tuesday 9 th	Yr 6 Orientation Day College Council
Friday 19 th	Last Day

