



MENTONE GIRLS' SECONDARY COLLEGE

Cnr. Balcombe & Charman Rds., Mentone. 3194

P.O. Box 52 Mentone. 3194 Telephone: 9581 5200 Fax: 9585 1012

NEWSLETTER

No. 11
24th July, 2008

Dear Parents,

On Friday July 18th teaching staff spent the day at a workshop on Restorative Practice, which will become our whole school approach to discipline. It is derived from the model developed in the court system, where the emphasis is not on punitive consequences for breaches of law, but rather on reflecting on the situation, taking personal responsibility for one's actions and redressing the situation.

In our efforts to develop personal responsibility for learning, we are very focussed on reflection and goal setting. The Restorative Practice process fits in well with our aims to make strong, independent young women who contribute positively to society.

Further professional development will be undertaken by staff, and our student Code of Conduct and staff Code of Conduct will be rewritten to incorporate Restorative Practice.

During the vacation, I was fortunate to attend a Global Connections Seminar in Changmai, Thailand with about 60 principals from around the world. The theme was East meets West, and the presentations and workshops assisted us to understand some of the Eastern approaches to personal and professional growth. Some of the principals indicated that there were possibilities for our students to undertake a GAP placement at their schools. Anyone who is interested should see me as soon as possible – one placement is available for next year in Jordan if we can arrange it soon.

We are anxiously awaiting some new administration computers, and have had some difficulties across the College with our technology. The DEECD plans to introduce the Ultranet in 2010, which should assist us in having a flexible system that includes links from

home to the College for students and parents. In the interim we are moving from our CMS system to Studywiz, which will allow teachers to place curriculum documents etc in the system. Like all schools, we cannot seem to ever have enough technical support, but we are conscious of the need to increase our current technicians.

Deborah M Lehner
Principal

Education Maintenance Allowance

We would like to remind all parents who are eligible for The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) that applications for the second payment are to be submitted to the College by **1st August 2008**.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who have been paid the first instalment of 2008 through this College will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment.

Application forms are available from the College office and should be returned along with your pension or Health Care Card.

Any queries please ring Carole Hackwill Student Welfare Coordinator on 95815200.

Captain's Corner

While most people consider holidays a time to relax, or jet-set to exotic countries, and to get away from school, the mid-semester holidays basically meant two things for me.

Firstly, the VCE formal – ‘The Event of the Year’ was held at Caulfield Racecourse on the second Thursday of the holidays. Choices of transportation varied from train, to stretch limo, but no matter how you got there, it was a sensational night and everybody looked very glamorous! It was a fabulous chance to ‘let our hair down’ (or spend \$50 for an updo), and socialize with both students and teachers in a non-classroom environment. Thank you to the VCE Committee, Mrs Selir and Mrs Christopoulos for all their hard work.

Secondly, it's halfway through the year! On one hand, it's exciting, as we begin to plan our Last Day Celebrations, and consider the future. On the other hand, it's sad to think that the Year 12's only have a few months left of school. In the corridors I'm hearing more and more comments regarding how sad it is to already be in the 3rd term of secondary school. So considering how quickly the clock is ticking, I'm really taking advantage of any time I have at the moment. There's hardly a spare minute left in the day for your average Year 12 student - juggling home work, studying for SAC's, attending 18ths, part time jobs, and spending quality time with family and friends. (I'm sure the other year levels are just as busy with their various activities.) Just remember to keep your priorities straight, and stay healthy!

Lauren Geschke
College Captain

College Matters

It's NOT OK to be AWAY!

Having recently received the semester reports, now is the perfect time to reflect on your year to date and set some goals for semester two. One of these should be to attend school every day unless you are very unwell. Students have responsibilities to themselves to ensure that they attend classes regularly and that they are punctual to school each day. Aim to make all of your appointments outside school hours and make sure you catch up on any work missed due to absence. Seek additional help if you are struggling to catch up. Parents should inform the College if their daughter is absent on any day. Remember it is **NOT OK to be AWAY!**

Uniform

A reminder that now the weather is cool, the blazer must to be worn each day to and from school. The College sport jacket is only to be worn for PE classes or sport.

Scarves must be navy or maroon. No other colour is acceptable. Tights are also to be NAVY only, not black.

Hosting Jasmine



Thank you to The Bashfield family for hosting Jasmine for Term

2. Thanks also to the Suckling family who are the current host family. Jasmine was fortunate to visit Tasmania with the Suckling family during the holiday break. If you are planning a weekend outing to any of Victoria's tourist destinations, please contact me on 9581 5200 if you would like to take Jasmine along.

Judy Lielnors
Acting Assistant Principal

Senior School

Congratulations to the VCE Committee, Ms Selir and Ms Christopoulos for running such a fabulous VCE Ball on the 10th July. The girls all looked splendid and everyone had a wonderful time. Thank you too, to over thirty staff who attended and helped supervise the evening. Without your support we know these functions cannot be held.

The Year 12 girls have reached another milestone with the arrival of the hoodies. The hoodies highlight to the girls they are sharing a significant experience together. We hope they will symbolize to the girls far into the future that this was a wonderful year in which every opportunity was taken. Thank you to Mr Warden for organizing the design selection and the printing, ordering and distribution of 150 plus garments!

On Monday 11th August the VCE Information Evening will be held. This is an occasion for the Year 10 and 11 girls to talk with subject teachers and representatives of tertiary institutions as they prepare to make the all important decisions of subject choices for next year. The girls will enter their subject choices on-line as well as filling out the Course Selection forms with the appropriate verifications and recommendations from staff. Please encourage your daughter to start thinking about the subjects she would like to select for next year.

This term we welcome back Mr Bartlett from Long Service Leave and would like to thank Mr

Warden for his wonderful support of our Year 12s during Term 2.

Term 3 is a term of hard work, as most students aim to complete the syllabus and the SACs before term 3 holidays. It is important the girls work consistently for at least 3 hours every night on homework and revision. It is important your daughter is not distracted by TV, phone calls or computer contacts in the time set aside for study. They should set short term goals which ensure they keep up with the work program in each subject. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have concerns about your daughter's application to her work or how she is coping at this point.

Senior School Team

**PRELIMINARY NOTICE:
VCE INFORMATION
EVENING**

**All Year 10 parents are advised
to attend**



**NINA CARR HALL
Monday 11th August 7:30 pm
Followed by an opportunity to discuss VCE
subjects with teaching staff.
Representatives of Universities and TAFE
Colleges will be available to provide
information on courses they offer
Pop it in your diary**

Middle School

**Middle School
Information Evenings for 2009**

Year 9 (into Yr 10) Information Evening
Wednesday 6th August

9ABCD – 6:30pm
9EFGH – 8:00pm

Year 8 (into Yr 9) Information Evening
Wednesday 13th August

8ABCD – 6:30pm
8EFGH – 8:00pm

Due to limited seating in Lecture Theatre we ask that each student attends their Information Night with one parent.

If this is a concern please contact the Middle School Office during school hours on 9581 5208

Welcome back

We hope you have all had a relaxing holiday, as term 3 is a particularly busy one in the Middle School. All Middle School students will be selecting their subjects for 2009, under the guidance of allocated course counsellors. The Year 10 students undertake their week of work experience next week and we wish them all the

best as they venture out into life beyond Mentone Girls' Secondary College for a taste of a particular career. The Year 10 students can also look forward to their Social on Friday 15th August and finally, the Year 10's are also involved in the TEENS program in September. Details for these events will be provided in following newsletters. Please write them into your calendars.

Reports

All students will have received their Semester 1 reports. Hopefully, these reports have been read through by the students and their parents in order to take advantage of the advice given by their teachers. It is vital that students reflect on their work habits and consequent progress in order to move forward in Semester 2. Again, details regarding parent/teacher interviews will be given a little closer to the date.



Uniform

We would like to remind students about uniform requirements for this term. Full winter uniform is compulsory and does not include sports tops, sports jackets or socks over tights. Only navy blue tights and Mentone Girls' Secondary College trousers are acceptable. If, for some unforeseen reason, your daughter is out of uniform, a note is expected explaining the reason. Students are NOT to wear P.E. gear to school just because they have a timetabled class that day. They may wear their P.E gear home if they have that class for period 4, otherwise they are expected to wear full school uniform to and from school with their P.E gear in their bag. We are very proud of our uniform and expect every student to wear it with pride.

SRC

Year 10 Social

This year's Year 10 Social will be held on Friday 15th August, from 7.30 to 10.30pm, once again in the Nina Carr Hall at our College. Permission forms have gone out to all Year 10 students this week and ticket sales will be held on Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th August.

The ticket design competition will be closing Friday 25th. Please email entries to Mrs Liakos at liakos.leah.l@edumail.vic.gov.au



Junior Mayor of The City Of Kingston

My name is Victoria Hermitage, I am in Year 7 at Mentone Girls' Secondary College and an SRC member.

From April 2007-2008 I was the Junior Mayor of The City Of Kingston. My school entered the Junior Mayor program and I was chosen by my classmates to represent our school. At the Junior Mayor elections, all the schools participating, voted for who they wanted to be their Junior Mayor. Amazingly I was elected to represent the youth of Kingston.

During my role I had to accompany the Mayor, Cr. Topsy Petchey, to many official functions and events. I was by her side at council meetings, citizenship ceremonies, a bookmark competition, Topsy's appreciation dinner and a water saving forum that I organised myself.

Later in the year the role of the Mayor changed and Cr. Bill Nixon was elected for the job. It was hard getting used to someone new at first but we soon got along well. The main events I attended with the new Mayor were the Carols by the Bay, where I stood on the stage and the Australia Day breakfast.

Being Junior Mayor was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I met some brilliant people who I will never forget and have learnt so much. I had a wonderful time.

Victoria Hermitage

Step To The Future

All Year 7 to 9 SRC members will be attending the 'Step to the Future Forum' on Monday 28th July at the Melbourne Convention Centre. Students are asked to meet Mrs Liakos at Mentone Station at 8 am.

Year 11 and 12 students will be attending the senior forum on Tuesday 29th July. They are to make their own way to the Convention Centre unescorted.

All students are to report back on the forum at the next SRC meeting.

Mrs Leah Liakos
Student Leadership Coordinator

*Leadership is any action that makes the world I touch
a better place*

SPORT

Year 8, Netball

On Friday 20th of June, the Year 8 netball teams competed in a Beachside final.

The girls in the 'A' team competed against McKinnon Secondary College. The final score was 23-13 in our favour.



Congratulations to all the players. The team comprised: Shannon Bailey, Shannen Brown, Kellie Anderson, Georgia Feben, Jaclyn Ferguson, Kyra Green, Genevieve Gabron, Darcey Rogers and Holly Treverton.

The girls would like to extend their appreciation to the coaches Ms Aimee Taylor and Alannah and would also like to thank Megan for umpiring.

On the same day the year 8 'B' team played Parkdale Secondary College and defeated them by six goals – 21-15.

The team members who played on the day were:

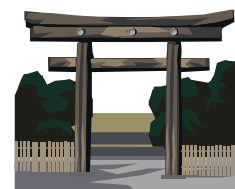
Tara Siemering, Naomi Porter, Taslyn Govender, Brodie Zealand, Sarah Parkinson, Rose Duddy, Meg Riley, Marley Gabb, Elaine Anderson, and Jessica Ivanoff.

Thanks to Mrs Sue Dreher who helped organise training and managed the team well on the day.

Judy Lielnors

LOTE

中村 !



EXCHANGE VISIT

10 students (all girls) and two teachers from
Nakamura High School
Nagoya, Japan
will be at MGSC
27th July – 17th August

Many thanks to all those who so generously offered to host a member of the group. We hope you enjoy the experience.

CAREERS

Important Information For Year 10 Students and Parents

A. Tertiary Information Guide

On Tuesday July 22, the Age and Herald Sun newspapers published a Tertiary Information Guide for Year 10 students. It included all of the prerequisite VCE studies for tertiary entry in 2011. This is extremely important information and valuable when considering VCE subjects for next year. If you do not have a copy to refer to, I would urge you to contact your local newsagent for a copy.

B. Year 10 Information Night – Monday August 11

Your daughter will shortly be receiving a letter about this essential night.

C. Year 10 Counselling Day – Friday August 15

All Year 10 students and their parents will have an appointment on this day to discuss VCE subject choices. Actual appointment times will be allocated

shortly. If the time is unsuitable, there will be an opportunity to request a different time on this day.

University and TAFE Open Days – for Years 10, 11 and 12

These are coming up and are a great way to explore tertiary study options. Year 10 is NOT too early to start visits; Year 12 is getting a bit late to start. For courses which require an interview, audition or folio presentation in Year 12, as part of the selection process, attendance is essential. Those coming up soon:

OPEN DAYS – GENERALLY 10am to 4pm	
Sat 2 Aug	Monash (Gippsland, Berwick, Parkville, Peninsula)
Sun 3 Aug	Monash (Clayton, Caulfield) La Trobe (Bendigo)
Sun 10 Aug	Deakin (Waurin Ponds & Waterfront at Geelong) Gordon TAFE (Geelong) La Trobe (Mildura, Shepparton) RMIT (City, Brunswick, Bundoora) Sunraysia TAFE (Mildura) Victoria Uni (Footscray Park) William Angliss TAFE
Sat 16 Aug	Holmesglen TAFE (Chadstone, Moorabbin, Waverley)
Sun 17 Aug	Australian Catholic Uni (Melbourne) Deakin (Warrnambool) Melbourne Uni (Parkville and St Kilda Rd - VCA) South West TAFE (Warrnambool) Sunraysia TAFE (Swan Hill) Swinburne (Hawthorn, Lilydale, Prahran)

To get the most out of attending an Open Day, preparation is the KEY. Try the following suggestions:

- Obtain an **Open Day Program** beforehand (careers room, or on-line), so you can plan your visit (www.swinburne.edu.au/studentrecruitment, www.latrobe.edu.au/openday, www.deakin.edu.au/openday, etc) or at the university on the day.
- Read the program before attending to check the times of talks and demonstrations, etc, so you attend at the best time
- Arrive early, and allow yourself a couple of hours at each campus you visit
- Write out questions you want answered and find staff to answer them (eg What ‘majors’ can you study? Are there limits on numbers in any subject?)
- Ask questions about career prospects of graduates. What are graduates doing?
- Collect brochures about courses which interest you
- Talk to current students about their course to get their perspectives
- If you are concerned about not obtaining the ENTER for the course that interests you, ask about the possibility of transfer after 1st year. What is recommended?

- Look at the facilities available and make comparisons with other universities offering the same/similar courses. Where would you prefer to be?
- Find out about clubs and societies available
- Consider transport/parking issues. Perhaps travel to Open Day the way you will travel if you enrol there. Will you will be happy with this for three or four years?
- Look at accommodation available on campus if you plan to live away from home. Find out when you need to book a place, and how much it will cost.

Greg Feben

MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 3

Some of the programs which will be running during Term 3 at the Mordialloc Neighbourhood House are:

- The Beginner's Guide to Painting
- Scintillating Stitches
- Writing for Pleasure and Publication
- German Language
- Computers from Woe to Go
- Calligraphy
- Tai Chi
- Yoga
- ESL



As well as our Playgroups, Music groups and Occasional Care Child Care.

For further details and bookings, please phone 9587 4534

***Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Parents and Friends Association***

**Invite parents to join them on Tuesday 29th July
College Library 7.30pm**

Helen Barnacle Guest Speaker followed by Wine and Cheese

Helen is a well known and experienced psychologist and counsellor who works with parents and children. She will talk about her own experiences of overcoming difficulties. She will also discuss strategies that will help children become more resilient and help parents develop greater confidence to support their children in today's challenging and changing environment.

To assist with catering could you please return the reply slip below to your daughter's Form Teacher.

**Julie Kerdel
President**

I will/will not be attending the presentation by Helen Barnacle on Tuesday 29th July at 7.30pm.

Student Form.....

Parent Name:Signature:.....

Key Dates 2008

Thursday 24 th	Southern Zone Cross Country Year 9 EFG&H Yarra Cruise Year 11 Visual Communication Excursion Year 10 OED Camp begins Winter Concert
Friday 25 th	Year 10 OED Camp Year 7 English Incursion P3- workshop for 25 students period 4 Year 11 Assembly-Guest Speaker
Saturday 26 th	Nakamura High School visit until Sunday August 17 th
Sunday 27 th	Production Rehearsal 10am-4.00pm
Monday 28 th	Year 10 Work Experience - all week Southern Zone Senior Badminton
Tuesday 29 th	ICAS Maths Competition P1 Year 12 TIS 1.30-3.00pm Kingston City Centre Southern Zone Senior Table Tennis
Wednesday 30 th	Unit 4 Biology Excursion pm Southern Zone Senior and Intermediate Netball
Thursday 31 st	State Cross Country
August - Friday 1st	Year 8 Japanese Culture Day SRC Planning Day
Monday 4 th	Year 8 Waratah Bay Camp Week 8ABC&D Mon-Wed 8EFG&H Wed-Frid
Wednesday 6 th	Year 9-10 Course Information Night
Monday 11 th	Year 10 Subject Information Session - Period 2 Year 10 VCE Course Information Night
Wednesday 13 th	Year 9 City Project - excursion day Year 8-9 Course Information Night
Friday 15 th	Year 10 Course Counselling Day Year 10 Dance