



Term Two news

As term two draws to an end, students and staff alike find themselves working harder than ever while awaiting the much-deserved school holidays. On Wednesday morning, many parents attended the last school assembly for the term where dozens of students were acknowledged for their participation in various activities. Students received awards for enrichment programmes in journalism and mathematics, while others were presented with certificates recognising their many achievements in sporting fields.

Highlights of the assembly included a skit about the Breakfast Bar, run every Tuesday and Thursday morning by school chaplain Marianne McEwen, as well as an address by former FHC teacher and OAM recipient, Paul Jenes.

Local member of parliament, Kirstie Marshall, attended the assembly in order to present an award to the school and to Basketball Marathon organiser, Anne Reily, for our outstanding achievements in fundraising. Ms. Marshall acknowledged the school, Ms. Reily and the senior students in an address to parliament and presented a copy of the official speech to Ms. Reily and the school at the assembly. It will be on display in the main office, as well as on public record in the Hansard!

Raffle Winners!

Winners of the Basketball Marathon raffle were drawn at the assembly. Congratulations to those who won prizes! Thank-you to ComputerCorp and Mortgage Choice for donating prizes, as well as everyone who bought a ticket - you helped us to raise over \$800 for the Basketball Marathon charities.

1st prize: The Fleer family

2nd prize: Ms. Lesley Knudsen

3rd prize: Sharon Carroll

News from IMPACT

Don't forget that IMPACT is holding a "Sports Dress-up Day" on Friday! Dress in your favourite sports uniform and bring a gold coin to home group. All funds raised will go towards the Australian Paralympic Committee.

BREAKING NEWS: The College is proud to announce that one of our 2008 graduates has been honoured with a Premier's Award for VCE!

Week 7 Term 2

Year 10 & 11 Exams

All year 10 & 11 students are participating in College exams this week - good luck!

Year 10D Magistrates' Court

10D visited the Magistrates' Court and Parliament of Victoria on Monday 1 June. Students were able to observe first-hand many interesting cases which included committal hearings, drug charges, assault charges and theft. Students completed a mini-assignment and were



privileged to have some of their questions answered by one of the Chief Magistrates, who kindly gave of his time to address the students on the workings of the Magistrates' Court.

At Parliament House, students were given a tour of the Parliament and were able to take a seat in both the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly for a day. The tour also included an insight into the beautiful Parliament Library which is normally closed to the public. The students found the tour guide very entertaining and informative.

Year 9 Cityscape

Over the past two weeks, all Year 9 students have had the opportunity to experience one week of Cityscape, a fully-integrated curriculum initiative, enabling students to prove or disprove a hypothesis. Students participated in core programs of 'Fitness: The Big Issue', 'Urban Seed' and 'The Amazing Race'. Students enjoyed this new learning experience and were keen to stay in the city for another week of learning by discovery.

Winter Music Soirée

On Thursday 4 June, music students participated in our first major concert for 2009. Keeping last-minute concert nerves in check, students showcased how diligently they have been working in past months with musical performances ranging in styles from classical through to jazz, folk and popular. Musical groups featured on the evening were the Junior Band, Junior String Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, 7A Tuned Percussion Class Ensemble, Choir, Senior String Ensemble, College Orchestra and VCE Jazz Trio. Also featured on the evening were piano and saxophone solos, an acoustic guitar duet, and a viola duet. A high standard of performance was demonstrated by all involved and the evening proved to be a wonderful feast of musical entertainment! We now look forward to performances in coming months which include the Ballarat South Street Competitions and the Spring Concert.

Water Conservation Innovations at FHC

In January 2007, our school was notified we had been successful in our application for a Federal Community Water Grant of nearly \$50,000 for our proposed School Water Efficiency Project, aimed at making all of our indoor water-use appliances more efficient.

In order to qualify for the Community Water Grant, Forest Hill College had to develop an innovative water efficiency project that would provide positive and long-term benefits to the school and the local community.

The project started with a Water Efficiency Audit of our school, which identified and quantified the water saving opportunities. The Audit recommended installing constant flow control valves to eighty-five taps in vanity basins, sinks and troughs. In addition, all inefficient toilets were replaced with dual flush toilets, which entailed fitting new suites and tiling the surrounds. The high-use urinal in the sports stadium was replaced with a no flush bio-enzyme system which is timed to flush automatically over a 24-hour cycle.

We expect to reduce our potable water usage by at least twenty-seven per cent or 1,012,000 litres per year with our project.

Sport Results 2009

The recent Tribe Athletics Carnival was an outstanding success. The student participation and the quality of the athletes in events was excellent. Most impressive, however, was the manner



in which the entire College Community has embraced the tribe system, successfully introduced by our College Student Leaders in 2008.

District Diving Results.

Congratulations to the FHC Diving Team! They have achieved some great individual honours, and in the process finished second overall.

RACV Energy Breakthrough 2009

Students are already in training and preparing the vehicles for yet another effort in the RACV Energy Breakthrough. It must be said that our technology area within the College is the envy of most. Where else can you see students designing energy efficient vehicles on state of the art computers, and then constructing the vehicle out of materials in the workshops using tools that most tech schools of old would only dream of having? This section of our College is unique. It is a great opportunity for students to experience hands-on design and construction.

Week 6 Term 2

District Cross-Country

Forty-two of our students competed in the District Cross Country at Ruffey Lake Park on 27 May 2009. We competed against Vermont, Blackburn and Mullauna. Thirty-two students will be going on to represent Forest Hill College in Zone Competition on 17 June 2009.

Congratulations to the following students who finished in the top ten 3km cross country.

Under 13: Alicia, Maddy & Bridget.

Under 14: Tess, Chelsea, Emily, Ben & Max.

Under 15: Kate, Alex, Troy & Taisei.

Under 16: Sharn & Katrina.

The following students finished in the top ten 5 km cross country.

Under 16: Tom, Jordan & Nick.

Under 21: Rachael & Daniel.

Debating Round Three

Our college debating teams participate in the Glen Waverley region of Debating Victoria's schools competition. Round three saw a convincing win to our D-Grade team debating the negative case of 'Parents should be able to design their babies'. Our C-Grade team had a narrow loss on the first of their secret (advised) topics. Well done and good luck to all debaters for the future debates

Year 12 English Speaker

John Schwartz, a film lecturer, visited the College as part of the English faculty's performance program. John delivered a lecture to our Year 12 students about the film text 'Look Both Ways'. He told students about the importance of using film language when writing about films. He passed on many useful tips from exam assessors and his own personal expertise in this area. Students took a multitude of notes and staff followed up with passionate discussions about his views. This has been excellent preparation for the students' upcoming assessment task on the film.

Week 5 Term 2



A big week at FHC!

Education Week: 18 - 22 May 2009

Forest Hill College Student Leaders in Parliament

Local MP, Kirstie Marshall, was so inspired by the efforts of the Student Leaders at FHC, that she mentioned their efforts in Parliament last week. Recorded in Hansard are her glowing tributes to the students, whom she found out about through a recent article in the Leader Newspaper featuring the Basketball Marathon, which again raised in excess of eight thousand dollars. Much of this is donated to the Cancer Council, as well as other charities nominated by the students. Kirstie hopes to be able to make a presentation at the next College Assembly on Wednesday June 24, to the students. The leadership program at the College continues to grow. The relevance of the students' actions and the difference they make to their community is a direct consequence of the learning that takes place under the inspired leadership of the staff in charge of the program, Linda McGloin and Naomi Carson.

Forest Hill College Makes Education International!

This week, we have been recognised as a school of best practice for international students. We have been asked to model our program, so that one of Victoria's largest exports – education – can be better implemented for international students in other Victorian Schools. This is a real feather in the cap for Jacki Hood and her team who run such an outstanding program. The VCE outcomes and tertiary pathways available make for a great experience for the students.

Screamfest

Many of us went along and to see the students and staff together, put on a top performance including drama, dance, singing, music, comedy and much much more. We should never be surprised by the talent within our College. It is always so pleasing to watch our fabulous students strut their stuff up on stage. Thanks to the many parents who attended and to the talents of Linda McGloin who oversaw the spectacular shows.

Congratulations, Malual!

Congratulations, Malual, on receiving an Opportunity Scholarship in Art Design from the Foundation for Young Australia. Over one hundred students applied for this scholarship, and by all accounts the standard was very high. It was actually described as the best received in recent years. If anyone has seen his work, they will understand why his application stood out as the best.

Schwerkolt Cottage

Over the past few weeks, all the Year 7 students have been looking at early pioneer life in a number of subjects. The students visited Schwerkolt Cottage to have a look at how people lived in the 1800s in our local area. Students were broken up into various groups such as mothers, fathers, children & infants and devised their own questions, for which they then had to find answers during the excursion.

At the cottage, students were able to look at the smoke-house, shed, machinery room, wine cellar, the museum and the quarry, thus enabling them to have a better understanding of what life was like at this time. Students also participated in old-fashioned sporting activities such as sack races, the three legged race, the hula hoop race and lawn bowls. After lunch, they proceeded onto the Box Hill Cemetery where they visited the Schwerkolt Family graves and



others graves of interest such as Sidney Myer & C. J. Dennis. They also took some rubbings of various epitaphs.

College Cross Country

All Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & pre-VCE students, along with a select group of Year 11 & 12 students, participated in the three kilometre College Cross Country. Congratulations to Under 13s Alicia & Jake, Under 14s Ellen & Sam, Under 15s Kate & Alex, Under 16s Katrina & Peter and Under 21s Rachael & Tim. All students who came in the top eight will progress through to the District Competition on Wednesday 27 May 2009. All students who participated in this event received Tribe Points.

Senior Sport Round Robin

Congratulations to the Senior Girls Badminton team for finishing first place with the Senior Boys Badminton & Senior Girls Netball coming in as runners-up.

Week 4 term 2

On Monday, we conducted a special program for all students in Year 12. The main focus was on how to prepare for the GAT and upcoming mid-year exams. Our focus, as always, is on continuing the upward trend of VCE results, and these events are very beneficial for the students. The GAT results over the previous three years are very pleasing, and clearly linked to this type of preparation for our students.

VCE Dance

VCE Dance held a night of assessment performances last Tuesday in the Theatre. The standard of dancing was excellent. Students from a range of schools study dance units one to four at Forest Hill College. We are lucky to have the teachers provided by Kallista Dance Academy who do an amazing job for all of their students. The night was well attended by proud and supportive parents.

NAPLAN testing

NAPLAN testing has been conducted for Year 7 and 9 students this week. These results help us to understand our students' educational needs and to provide improved teaching and learning to individuals. We have enhancement programs in place for students in literacy and numeracy, and tests such as these assist us to identify students who would benefit further from such programs. Building skills in the younger years certainly pays dividends during VCE.

Screamfest rehearsals continue and the performance itself is taking shape. Book your ticket to ensure a seat for the best show in town. Performances begin May 21.

Unit 3 Outdoor Education students are currently riding Mountain Bikes through Mt. Stirling. Hopefully the weather stays friendly and they have a fantastic experience.

Year 10 Mock Job Interviews

Tonight all Forest Hill College, all Year 10 students are undergoing mock job interviews with members of the Rotary Club. This requires preparation of a résumé as well as learning the department skills necessary for an interview situation in class. It is a very beneficial component of the development of our students into high performing young adults. In two months' time, they will all be in a workplace undergoing work experience, which of course builds further upon the skills they are working on tonight.



Week 3 term 2

Open Night was a fantastic success with many prospective students and their families in attendance. The displays and presentations were aimed at showcasing our core business of education, clearly impressing the large contingent of people interested in our College. We are understandably proud of our teaching and learning environment and constantly maintain our view to produce very good academic outcomes.

The Unit 1 Outdoor Education class went on a hike to Lerderderg Gorge and put into practice the learning that they had experienced in the classroom. Their focus was on sustainable and environmentally responsible use of the wilderness.

Music!

Our rock band, string ensembles and stage bands continued rehearsing with great enthusiasm. Their performances at South Street later in the year are highly anticipated and we eagerly await their performances at College assemblies.

Tennis lessons for students at Burwood Heights Primary School students are continuing on Monday afternoons. Music lessons for the primary school students have already been very well received by the students and their families.

Student Opinion Survey

Our student opinion surveys were completed this week. Students' opinions are a critical part of the way we review our work. Pleasingly, they have been very favourable over the last three years. Our students are indicating very strongly they are enjoying their school, they feel very connected to the staff and the school and have great confidence in the teaching which is provided by the College.

Week 2 Term 2

Parent Teacher Night was a great success, with parents receiving valuable feedback about their child's learning. Our core business is teaching and learning and it is always rewarding to report back to parents about progress made by our students.

Mana - English Presentation

Our Year 9 and 10 students participated in a presentation for English called "Mana". The students are very lucky to have such a great theatre in which to view performances... and this was certainly an outstanding performance! Delivered by an indigenous presenter, it was captivating, entertaining and intensely thought provoking.

Debate Team

Our debaters have experienced great success, winning their round and progressing through the program. History repeats as we grow a new team from the ranks of the younger classes. This is a high-quality opportunity, led with aplomb by Nerida Longthorp, who has a significant history of producing exceptional outcomes for students, as well as confident and well-informed public speakers.

College Assembly

The college is now in full swing. Last week, we had an Assembly to present a myriad of sport awards for swimming and athletics as well as peer support badges. Our College captains



gave a report back on a youth forum they had attended and we had a wonderful musical performance.

ANZAC Day Service

We recognised ANZAC Day and paid tribute to all our diggers. Three students made a wonderful presentation, reflecting the wealth of research carried out in History class. The entire College community then stood for a minute's silence and heard a haunting rendition of the Last Post.

Thanks to the many parents who attended and then stayed for morning tea with the Principals after the event,.

Open Night 2009

All families are invited to attend our Open Night at 7.00pm on Tuesday May 5. A formal presentation will be held in the Theatre followed by an opportunity to look at the classrooms in the College. We look forward to seeing you all at the College on this night.

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a well rested break.

Monday 27 April 2009

Please note that Monday is not a Public Holiday in Victoria. It will be a normal school day, which all students are required to attend.

Tuesday 28 April 2009 - Parent/Student/Teacher interviews

We believe that educating children is a partnership, which is enhanced when you have the opportunity to speak directly to your child's teacher. Providing formal feedback on progress at this time provides opportunity for further improvements before the semester ends.

Students will be required to attend classes until 1pm on this day.

Interviews will be held from **2pm - 4pm** and **5pm - 7pm**.

REMEMBER TO BOOK YOUR INTERVIEW TIMES ONLINE!

Wednesday 29 April 2009 - College Assembly

Please join us at our College Assembly starting at 9am located at the Gym.