The past week has brought two very welcome pieces of news. The notification that we have been accepted into Phase 3 of the Building Futures program is very exciting. We greatly look forward to commencing the Master Planning process for our Senior Learning Centre and enhanced performing arts spaces. I will keep you up to date as we receive further information regarding the project’s timeline and scope.

We are also very pleased with the mid-year VCE exam results. Student performance is on a par with 2009 performance, noting that direct comparison is not possible until the end of the year when the Victorian Assessment Authority provides numerical scores in addition to grades. Student achievement in the higher grades showed improvement. In 2009, 16.2% of students who sat for exams obtained A grades and 9.5% obtained A+. In 2010, there are 5.3% at A and 16% at A+. While the results are rewarding, it is the individual student story behind the data that is the most satisfying. Most of our Year 12 students have been with us since Year 7. Even then, there were some students whose ability and work ethic was very strong and we felt confident they would do well all through school. What is most pleasing about the mid year 2010 results, is the number of students who have shown the commitment to achieving their absolute best and who have been supported by their teachers to obtain very strong results. While we celebrate the outstanding results, we also celebrate the achievement of every student who did their best. Congratulations Year 12.

With the completion of the balcony and stairwell project, the last of our National School Pride money has now been spent. We are very grateful to one of our parents for acting as project manager for the balcony, investing many hours of his own time in seeing the project through from planning to fruition. In doing so, this very dedicated parent has saved the school considerable money and remedied one of the most unattractive parts of our school environment. The $200,000 we received through the National School Pride money has enabled valuable improvement to school facilities including the installation of data projectors in all rooms without whiteboards, replacement of blinds in most rooms of the school, carpeting and refurbishment of B Block and the stairwell and balcony project.
Parents are reminded that there are a number of important information evenings over the remainder of the term. The Year 11 into 12 Information Evening has already occurred and the on line subject selection process has also commenced. In 2011, we are introducing VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Education) for the first time, following the introduction of Pre-VCAL this year. Questions about VCAL should be directed to the Pathways Coordinator, Cathie Cowcher or Alison Sanza, the Curriculum Coordinator. Questions about VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) should be directed to the Careers Counsellor, Catherine Jones. We wish families well in making these important subject and career choices, and encourage you to talk to Career and teaching staff to ensure that these decisions are well informed in relation to what is on offer and the interests and strengths of the individual student.

Vivienne Tellefson, Principal

Year 7 Performances

At the end of term two, the year 7 drama (Ms Apted), circus (Mr Hall), and dance (Ms Smith) elective classes performed for each other. Annie (7K) has written a report:

"We’re painting the roses red, we’re painting the roses red. Don’t tell the Queen what you have seen or say that’s what we said. What? We’re painting the roses red." Said the year 7 drama class.

The year 7 drama, circus and dance showed off what they had done for two terms. It started with the drama performance of Alice in Wonderland. I was the Red Queen which was very hard because you always had to be angry. There were three Alices: Ashleigh, Rita, and Harleigh-Rose. There was the Mad Hatter (Georgia), the Cheshire Cat (Greta), and many other of the beloved Alice in Wonderland Characters. We did a fantastic job! Then there was the circus class. They were very skilled. Spinning plates, card tricks, unicycles and much more were included in their performance. Then there was the dance class. Not all of the dance class performed, but the people who did dance were really good. Not one of them had two left feet. I think all the performing arts elective classes did really well!

Annie 7K

Palm Oil Project

As part of their study of rainforests in term 2, 7S has researched the impact of palm oil on the environment. Students could choose the form their assessment would take and there was a great variety of projects including writing letters to food manufacturers, producing leaflets and making short films palm oil to inform the community about palm oil. These films have been shown at Year 7 and 8 extended pastoral as well as at some primary schools.

The Year 7S students are also having a cake stall at school to raise money to send a donation to an organisation that helps orangutans in Malaysia and Indonesia.

Below is a letter that Yi Jie wrote to inform the students and school community about palm oil.

To the students of Brunswick Secondary College and the school community,

I am writing this to inform you about something that is very widespread in your food and cosmetics called palm oil. Do you know that Australians consume an average of 10 kilograms of palm oil per person each year? You are probably unaware that you are consuming and using palm oil and therefore contributing to massive deforestation which is endangering orang-utans.

What is palm oil?
Palm oil is the world’s second largest oil crop and is made from the fruit of oil palm trees. The trees are grown in large plantations and Malaysia and Indonesia are the main producers of palm oil. Palm is used in a large variety of products that you buy everyday such as bread, biscuits, chocolate, chips, sandwich spreads, ice cream, shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, detergents, soap and cosmetics. The WWF estimates that "Palm oil is used in about 50% of all packaged food products in supermarkets today". Manufacturers label palm oil in food as vegetable oil and under a number of different names in cosmetics including Elaeis Guineensis.

So, what is the issue with palm oil?

High biodiversity tropical rainforests are continuing to be cleared for palm oil plantations at alarming rate - In Indonesia an area of forest the size of six football ovals cut down every minute! It is estimated that 80-100% of the rainforests’ birds, mammals and reptiles cannot survive in oil palm plantations. At least 50 orangutans die each week as a result of the palm oil industry.

Rainforest destruction to cultivate palm oil is also a major contributor to global warming.

If that is not enough to concern you, palm oil is not even good for you as it is high in saturated fat and low in polyunsaturated fat.

What can you do?

As a consumer you can make a difference and reduce deforestation and help the survival of orangutans. You can avoid buying palm oil - when buying food look at the label to see if it lists vegetable oil. Then look at the amount of saturated fat. If only vegetable oil (no animal fat listed) is used and there is saturated fat in the product - you are buying palm kernel oil, palm oil or coconut oil, most probably palm.

You can also write to food companies and demand that...
they label their use of palm oil, write to supermarkets and other manufacturers and tell them to stop using palm oil from non sustainable sources, write to the ambassadors of Malaysia and Indonesia and ask them to stop clearing primary rainforest in their countries.

I hope you that the above information interests and encourages you to make a difference – every person can! Further information can be found at the websites of Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (including a list of products not containing palm oil), Australian Orangutan Project, Melbourne Zoo, WWF.

Yi Jie Xu  
Year 7

Year 10 Silver Duke Of Ed Students.

Each Tuesday afternoon 20 Yr 10 students head out to participate in a community service of their choice. They started at the beginning of term 2 and will continue through to Term 4. Here are some snapshot reports of their experiences.

My community service is at Blyth Street Early Learning Centre. I go into the Nursery One room that has babies aged between 16 weeks and 18 months. The nursery gets very busy, the children get hungry and tired and the ladies struggle. I help my community by helping relieve stress and lending a helping hand, cleaning, doing art and helping with other activities. I enjoy doing my community service as the staff are appreciate of my help and the children enjoy my company. I sometimes stay back extra time because time flies when you’re having fun.

Phoebe Mulder

I do my community service at the Seeing Eye Dogs Australia every Tuesday afternoon for two hours. This helps my community because I am helping the company do things that are less important like washing, so they can provide aid with their dogs, to people with seeing disabilities. I do things like filing, laundry, washing and grooming dogs and anything else they may need me to do. The people who work there are really nice and really appreciate me giving them a hand.

Taylor Ryan

Every Tuesday I attend community service where I do a range of tasks that help both the community and the staff at Urban Seed. I help the community by washing up and cleaning the kitchen area after the lunch. I help the staff by doing the tasks that they could do, but their time is better spent on doing other things. Everyone is really friendly and they seem to accept me as part of the team.

Jesse Beckham

Community service at Salvo's in Fawkner has so far been a new, interesting experience for me. All the people are really nice. We have to sort, clean and organise the store. Sometimes we work in the front and make sure all the shelves and racks look pretty. When we work in the back we need to sort through bags of DVD's, videos and tapes. I am enjoying my community service and I am learning new skills.

Sebastian Kainey

Science and Engineering Challenge

On the 21st July 10W participated in the Science and Engineering Challenge (SEC) at Victoria University competing against 7 other schools. The Challenge is a set of fun and competitive activities involving principles of science, engineering and technology.

Bianca McKechnie

I really enjoyed the challenge because we got to compete against other schools and communicate with other school students.

Mitchell Wood

My time at the SEC was a really fun and challenging experience. I got the opportunity to see the kind of work scientists and engineers do.

Tony Plazanic

The science excursion was such a fun experience. I worked really hard with my group on every activity. I thought it was going to be boring but it turned out to be a great day. I am glad I came.

Valentina Beccaris

My group was to build a hovercraft in the space of a few hours and then run it through 3 obstacle courses. We successfully got our craft to float and after much effort we got it to move. However it was very difficult to control and the propellers gave up after a while. It was loads of fun; I had a great time. It exceeded my expectations of a school excursion.

Gemma Teese

The science and engineering challenge was a great experience for me. I got the opportunity to work with university students and design fun things such as connecting electricity wires and making balloon vehicles. I also got to meet different schools, which was great fun!

Brandon Huyny

The day out was really fun. I enjoyed the challenges because they made us use our knowledge of science and engineering to do different activities.

Chris Dimitropoulos
Wine and Cheese Tasting

All parents and friends are encouraged to put the date for the annual Wine and Cheese tasting into your diaries now. It will be held in the library 4:30 to 6:30 pm on Friday 27th August at a cost of $5.00 per head, tickets can be pre-purchased from the front office. Money raised will be put toward new seating in the yard and the purchase of new netball uniforms for our girls. There will be a Parent Project Team meeting to plan the Wine and Cheese Tasting at 4:30 Thursday 12 August in Vivienne’s office. We would love to see both ‘old’ and new faces at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to assist in other ways, please contact Patrick at the office on 9387 6133. Details about the BSC wines on sale will be published in the next newsletter.

Maree Guppy, School Council President

Year 7 Circus

Bright lights, dizzying heights and the thunderous roar of applause! This is what the year 7 Circus elective is all about. So far students have been developing a range of manipulation skills including diabolo, poi and plate balancing skills. They’ve even made their own set of juggling balls using just rice and balloons. Throughout this semester they will work on handstands, acrobatics and a whole assortment of other skills that they will utilise in a short performance at the end of term. Watch out Brunswick, the circus has come to town!

Patrick Denison
Assistant Circus Coach

WEST COBURG CRICKET CLUB

Junior registration day for season 2010/11 with West Coburg Cricket Club will be held Wednesday night 18th November at the Shore Reserve clubrooms, Cnr Melville Rd and Reynard St, Pascoe Vale South 6 pm to 8 pm. We field 2 teams in Under 10s, Under 12s, Under 14s and one Under 16 team. Our teams play in the North West Cricket Association. ALL WELCOME. We will have a BBQ on the evening some come along and say hello.

Boys and girls are encouraged to join.

Milo Have A Go will commence Friday nights at Shore Reserve in October.

For further information contact the Junior Coordinator, Luke Cattlin on 0428 608 726 or email at thecattlins@bigpond.com.au.

Parents Victoria Annual Conference
7–8 September 2010

Parents Victoria will hold its annual two-day conference on Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 September 2010 at the Downtowner on Lygon, Carlton.

The theme for this year’s conference is Celebrating Relationships.

Day 1 will include a range of presentations on building strong relationships within families, and between families and schools.

Information on the Ultranet and its role in supporting partnerships between parents, teachers and students will be a feature on Day 2, along with a presentation by the CEO of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.

For further information, please refer to the attached brochure or visit the Parents Victoria website at http://www.parentsvictoria.asn.au/.

Poi-ists, diaboloists and plate spinner-ists... Having a great time out in the sun!
MUSIC NEWS

Junior Soiree
Monday 16th August
An opportunity for our junior music students to gain experience in developing their performance skills in an informal setting.
7.30-8.30pm
Performing Arts Room, Brunswick Secondary College
Admission free

Clocktower Music Concert
Tuesday 31st August
An evening to showcase the musical talents of our students.
7.30pm
Clocktower Centre
750 Mt. Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds
Tickets for this concert open TODAY and are available from the Clocktower Centre Box Office:
  in person
  by phone with credit card on 9243 9191
  online at www.clocktowercentre.com.au

B.C.C. - BRUNSWICK CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season is nearly upon us and BCC is looking for girls and boys to play in its Under 10, 12, 14, 16 teams and Milo squad (ages 5-8).
Training gets underway for the new season at A.G. Gillon Oval, Pearson St, Brunswick. (Mel. 29 E6) on the following dates:
  • U10s and 12s: 4.30 pm, Wed 25 August
  • U16s: 4.30 pm, Tues 24 August
  • U14s: 4.30 pm, Thurs 26 August
  • Milo in2CRICKET (starting date Sat 16 October)

Brunswick CC is an historic club of over 100 years standing in the Brunswick community, but it has a young and vibrant junior section, dedicated to the principles of participation, enjoyment and development. While playing for Brunswick, you’ll get a go, have fun and improve your cricket.

We’d love to see you down at training, so why not come and take a look? Bring some friends and we’ll make sure you get to play in the same team together.

For more information contact Ian Syson. Ph: 0413 351 681 or email ian.syson@vu.edu.au
Information Evenings - Subject selection (for 2011)
3 August 2010 – Yr 12 (2011) Information Evening: 7 – 8 pm Auditorium
17 August 2010 – Yr 11+ VET (2011) EXPO : 3.30 – 4.30 Performing Arts Room
17 August 2010 – Yr 11+ VET (2011) Information Evening: 7 – 8 pm Auditorium
23 August 2010 – Yr 11 VCAL + VET Information Evening: 7 – 8 pm Library
30 August 2010 – Yr 10 (2011) + Early Start Information Evening: 7 – 8 pm Auditorium
2 September 2010 – Yr 10 Pre-VCAL Information Evening: 7 – 8 pm Library

Education Maintenance Allowance
The EMA cheques are now available to collect from the front office for those parents who applied for Semester one payment.

Student Medical Conditions
Could parents of students who have anaphylaxis or other serious medical conditions please hand in a completed action plan for your child to the front office. If your child has a medical condition that the school needs to be aware of, please contact the level coordinator or Jeremy (school nurse).

BSC Office hours are between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Phone calls and office enquiries outside these hours will be recorded by the answering machine.

NB: If you are contacting the school to let us know your child is going to be absent, you can also e-mail the school on Brunswick.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

EMERGENCY CONTACTS !!
Could all parents ensure we have accurate contact numbers both for themselves and for other available emergency contacts persons (other than themselves). We have had several students needing medical attention recently and have not been able to contact either a parent or emergency contact.

Brunswick Secondary College
47 Dawson Street Brunswick 3056
Telephone 9387 6133
Facsimile 9387 0061
Email Brunswick.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Web www.brunswick.vic.edu.au
NURSE-ON-CALL, a Victorian Government health initiative, is a new phone service that provides immediate, expert health advice from a registered nurse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call 1300 60 60 24 for the cost of a local call from anywhere in Victoria.*

NURSE-ON-CALL provides access to interpreting services for callers not confident with English.

Access is also available to those who are hearing or speech impaired by contacting the National Relay Service.

For more information about NURSE-ON-CALL, visit www.health.vic.gov.au/nurseoncall

Authorised by Peter Allen, Department of Human Services

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000

Over the phone health information 24 hours a day
Julie - Registered nurse
WE’RE THERE WHEN YOU NEED US

NURSE-ON-CALL puts you directly in touch with a registered nurse for caring, professional health advice around the clock. For emergencies you should always call 000 but at other times NURSE-ON-CALL may be your best choice for health advice. For example, you could call when:

- You or someone you’re caring for is feeling unwell
- It’s the middle of the night and you are not sure if you should seek medical help
- You’re away from home or situated a long way from medical help
- You simply want advice or information about health services in your area.

Feel free to call NURSE-ON-CALL to discuss any health related issue. Simply call 1300 60 60 24 from anywhere in Victoria, for the cost of a local call:

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I CALL FOR HEALTH ADVICE?

Step 1 – A registered nurse will answer your call and collect some basic details.

Step 2 – The nurse will then ask you a series of questions about your symptoms and other issues relating to your health.

Step 3 – At the end of the call the nurse may suggest ways you can care for yourself, advise you to contact a GP or, in the event that your condition is very serious, transfer the call to 000. Note that the nurses do not provide a full diagnosis of your symptoms.

The nurses use the most up-to-date health information available, giving you the highest quality advice for the subject you are calling about.

Of course, all information you provide remains confidential and records are fully secure.

HEALTH ADVICE, AND MORE

NURSE-ON-CALL can also provide you with other health related information, such as details of health services in your area or the numbers of other phone help lines.

NURSE-ON-CALL gives all Victorians the peace of mind of knowing that professional health advice is only a phone call away, any time of the day or night.

NURSE-ON-CALL 1300 60 60 24

Based in Victoria for you, 60 seconds of every minute, 60 minutes of every hour, 24 hours a day.

*Calls from mobile phones may be charged at a higher rate
Please park legally to provide a safer environment for all.

Double parking restricts the view of drivers, forces students onto the road and obstructs the flow of traffic.

Parking within 20 metres before a school crossing or 10 metres after restricts the view of students and drivers approaching the crossing. This practice is also illegal (unless parking signs state otherwise).