



Much was achieved in term one that would normally have been completed in a 10 week term to the staff and students credit I was very impressed with the endeavour shown in that concentrated period, particularly by our VCE students. We have received excellent feedback from a range of sources on how our student's behaviour and uniform has improved. Such a positive impression augurs well for our college image in the community.

Camps

Both the Year 12 and Year 7 Orientation Camps were extremely well run and very successful educational opportunities. I was fortunate enough to attend both camps for a day and I was impressed with the quality of the activities and the enthusiasm shown by both groups of students.

Swimming Sports

The Phys Ed Team led by Mrs Hall ran a highly successful swimming carnival enjoyed by the students and staff alike. The winners of each event were then chosen to represent the college at the District Swimming Carnival. Our students performed admirably at this carnival ending up in fourth position.

Parent's and Friends Association

Western Port Secondary College is will be forming a Parents and Friends Association and will hold an initial meeting for all interested people on Wednesday April 19th at 7:00pm. This is a terrific opportunity for you to make a contribution to the school and be involved in this association at its inception. Wine and cheese will be available. Please contact Ms Tanya Blanch for further information or Mrs Sue Iles, (59791577) to register your attendance

Parent Teacher Night

Following discussions with the College Leadership Team we have trialled parent teacher interviews with their parents and students between 1.00 and 8.00pm. The purpose of the whole day was to build the educational conversation around improving student achievement. This process is used in a large number of government secondary colleges. I would appreciate your feedback about the day so we can evaluate the success of this initiative.

Briars Environment Week Activities

A large number of our students from a range of year levels have been involved in the annual Briars environment activities. We have received a number of very favourable comments about our students in their work with the primary schools and members of the public. The positive work of our students in the public helps enrich our reputation in the community.

Student and Parent Surveys

Student and Parent surveys are conducted annually. The information that we gather is crucial to inform us of your opinion and perceptions of the college. We value all feedback and use it with the teaching staff to evaluate our programs. All surveys are confidential and I seeking your cooperation to complete a survey if you are randomly selected.

Major Building Program

This program is progressing well with the slabs poured, framing commenced and many issues solved regarding plumbing and cabling. The builders have commented on how cooperative the students have been allowing work to progress smoothly.

Commonwealth Games and Induction of Local Sporting Heroes.

Our College hosted a Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony in the Arts Centre on Wednesday March 15th in conjunction with the Mornington Peninsula Shire. Part of the evening was the induction of local sporting heroes. Two of our students Kim Boyce and Dan Wise were both inducted into the local sporting heroes Hall of Fame. Kim then acted as a volunteer at the Commonwealth Games and was a track side marshal for Craig Mottram prior to his epic 5000m final. This was a wonderful opportunity that I am sure Kim will remember for a long time. Congratulations to both students. Bu Thuy, our Head Of Indonesian, also featured prominently in the closing ceremony with her photo beamed to 1.5 billion viewers across the globe.



Pictured;
Dan Wise,
Rohan
Robinson
(Athens
Olympian) and
Kim Boyce

AIM Testing

Our Year 9 students recently undertook AIM testing here at school. The testing is conducted state wide for year 7 and 9 students to bench mark student performance. Year 7 testing will occur later in the term and both results will be conveyed to parents as soon as they are released. Many thanks to Mrs Miller who has looked after the testing.

Dandenong Stingrays

Congratulations to ??? (Year 12) and ??? (Year 12) who have both been selected to play for the Dandenong Stingrays in the TAC competition this year. Being selected in the squad is a major achievement for both students. In addition ??? has been chosen to represent Australia to play against Ireland in an international rules game at Telstra Dome.

Hillview Quarries

A special thank you to Hillview Quarries for donating 90 tonnes of crushed rock to the Integration Department for the car park and the Serpent Pathway around the Kitchen Garden.

Simon Hamilton

IMPORTANT DATES	APRIL	
	12	Parent Teacher Night 1pm - 8pm
	14	Good Friday
	17	Easter Monday
	18	School Council
	19	Parents and Friends Inaugural Meeting
	25	Anzac Day
	28	House Athletics - All students to attend
	MAY	
	10	Open night (See what our college has to offer)
	17	Beacon Breakfast



Assistant Principals' Notes



A sure-fire way of inviting problems into your relationship with your teenager is by sending mixed or unclear messages. Clear communication is an absolute must if you want to have a bonding relationship with your teenager. It helps build a foundation of trust, fosters a healthy self-esteem, encourages positive behaviour, and helps tone down frustration and stress in the family. While many parents feel it is close to impossible to have a conversation with their teenager, there are ways. Your child really isn't becoming a new special breed of alien. They're just growing up and they still do want to connect with you. Try these tips to get, and keep, the conversation rolling in your home:

1. Use your active listening skills and watch out for those door slammers.
2. Talk often with your teen to bring out positive opinions, ideas, and behaviours by using an affirmative tone and body language.
3. Treat your teenager with the same respect you would have them treat you. Say 'hi', 'I love you', 'how was your day', etc.
4. Your tone of voice is extremely important. Yelling simply doesn't work. The loud noise will shut down the listener (your teen) and you will not get through. If you feel the need to yell, 'time out' of the conversation until you have better control.
5. Be precise and detailed about what you expect. Write it down and use an Action Plan if you feel there is a need.
6. If you're giving your teenager instructions, write them down. It's a fail-safe for teens and adults. This way they will remember what they are expected to do and you can feel sure that you 'told' them correctly. Remember, to-do lists will keep you stress free.
7. Do things together one-on-one and with the whole family. Good times often bring about great conversations, and wonderful memories.
8. 'Do as I say, not as I do' doesn't work. Modelling is the best way of learning. You are your teenager's model and they will emulate your behaviours.
9. Never shut your teen out to show that you disapprove of their behaviour. If you need time before you can talk to them about something that has upset you, tell them that you need time. Don't walk away silent.
10. "Because I said so" actually works when you are being pulled into a power struggle in discipline situations. You are the parent, and because of this, you do have the final say. Teenagers know this and trust you because of it. But do try to explain your reasoning whenever possible.

Kym Bridgford



I strongly recommend the following evening to parents and community members. Sue Dengate is highly regarded on the international circuit and it should be an interesting night. Please contact Mornington Secondary College if you have any further queries or see the posters in our college foyer.

Hannah Lewis

School Focused Youth Service & Mornington Peninsula Network of Schools

Invites you to an evening with international guest speaker

"Sue Dengate"

author of the popular 'Fed Up' series of books

Fed Up with Children's Behaviour?

Learn how different foods can affect behaviour

ADHD? Sleep disturbances?
Chronic health issues?
Allergies? Learning difficulties?
Irritability? Restlessness?
Food intolerance? Migraines?
Irritable bowel?

7-9 pm

Monday 1st May
Tuesday 2nd May
Wednesday 3rd May
Thursday 4th May

Mornington Secondary College
Mt Erin Secondary Somerville Campus
Hastings West Park Primary School
Rosebud Secondary College

Phone: Mornington Secondary College
5975 6955 to make a reservation.

Further information is available at www.fedupwithfoodadditives.info

Contact: Sue Dengate: sdengate@ozemail.com.au
Local contacts: Valerie Coles 0419 302 428
coles.valerie.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
John Gray 0419500371 grayjl@mornpen.vic.gov.au



During the early years of a child, during Primary School, adults make most of the decisions. Children have very little independence and no responsibilities. As they grow into adolescence things change. Children in Secondary School are searching for more independence to make their own decisions but with increased independence comes increased responsibilities!

It is difficult for many parents to accept their teenager's growing independence. It's hard to feel unneeded! And yet it's a fact that human beings normally seek to become independent as they mature. They want to be more able to make decisions for themselves. It's a sign of mental health that children want to decide who their friends will be, how they'll spend their time, what they'll wear, what they'll eat and drink, and when they'll turn out the light at bedtime. They're learning how to make decisions and run their lives.

It is a lively balancing act that continues for several years. If parents and their children develop mutual trust, parents can allow their children to begin to make their own decisions. Parents can provide guidance by clearly expressing their own opinions and values. Children can make their own decisions, within limits, as long as they're willing to accept the consequences - including financial, emotional, academic, physical and social ones. A 13 year old may want to close the bedroom door and stop parents from supervising homework, but that student must be ready to accept the consequences of failing to hand in assignments.

Mike Brinkman

Family BBQ

Let the good times roll, was certainly a fitting theme for the Year 7 BBQ on Thursday 23rd Feb. It was great to see so many parents and their families attend this event, particularly on such a hot evening.

The general feeling amongst the parents was the overwhelming and positive response to the school's new Footprints program. As many new parents join our growing community, they are extremely comforted with the system of having the Footprints teacher as their main point of contact within the school. Many positively commented on being contacted at the beginning of the school year and were made to feel that their students weren't just another number. The nurturing feel of Primary School is flowing through into the Footprints program.

The success of the evening was mainly due to the many people that helped and joined in on the night. I would particularly like to thank ???? of Year 7C for being the MC, ???? and ???? of 8D for speaking about the Year 7 camp, the school's guitar band, ??? and ???? who spoke on behalf of the Peer Support students, and of course all of the Peer Support students who helped to cook the BBQ and run games for the children on the night. Well done to all of those people mentioned.

The college is looking forward to many more community events over the course of the year, but without the support of our parents and friends, these events are not possible.

Miss Blanch

DEBATING

Congratulations to the students who have taken up the challenge of competitive debating. Competition is fierce and students work hard to attain the required standards. We wish them all the best for Round One.

In Year 10; ???? , ??? and ???? are competing against The Peninsula School on the subject 'That we should greatly increase our public transport system instead of building new freeways'

??? Yr 8, ??? Yr 9, and ??? Yr 7, with the help of their team organiser ???? Yr 8, will be debating against Dromana Secondary College on the topic 'That burning the Australian flag should not be illegal.'

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Students are encouraged to enter the following Public Speaking competitions. Entry forms are available from Ms Couttie.

ROSTRUM VOICE OF YOUTH COMPETITION

Peninsula heats will be held on Sunday 30th April 12 - 4pm at Toorak College, Old Mornington Road, Mt Eliza. Under 15 and Under 18

LEGACY JUNIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING AWARD

Entry forms to be submitted by April 15th 5 min prepared speech, 2 minute impromptu speech. Students must be 12, 13 or 14 years of age on Jan 1st 2006

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Special Deal \$40 students \$70 parents for 3 Thursday night concerts: See Ms Couttie before Easter if you are interested.

Ms Couttie

Interschool Equestrian

On Saturday the 4th of March I represented the school in an interschool equestrian event at the Balnarring race course. I had to do 2 dressage tests and 1 showjumping round, dressage is where you follow a test in a arena trying to keep your horse as accurate and as calm as possible. You get marked out of ten for every move you do which is normally on accuracy or having even paces. Showjumping is where you get given a set course of jumps to go over under a set amount of time and you have to go through the course without knocking any rails down or your horse running out at a jump. the result for first dressage test I did was for the dressage score only which I didn't get placed in. The result of the second dressage test I did combined the dressage score with the show jumping score and that's how they decided on the placing's, I got 3rd in this section which I was really pleased with because it was my first ever horse competition.



On Friday the 10th of March I did another interschool comp. This one was a bit farther away Beaconsfield. The way this one worked was you had to pick four out of six classes, I picked: best presented it is judged on the neatest combination, You, your horse, your cloths and your tack (saddle, bridle) had to be spotless I got 4th in this class. I also picked best rider which is judged on your position/the way you sit on the horse, how much you give with your hands and how well you make your horse work, I got 8th in this. Next was handy mount which is where you go through an obstacle course which you get marked on each different obstacle on how clearly and calmly you do it, you also need to be under time. I got 6th in this Then there was pleasure mount; which is when you need to make your horse look very calm. It needs to be able to jump and gallop then come back to being calm again with out too much fuss. I didn't get placed in this class.

I had a great day and was very pleased with my results. It would be great to see more people out representing our school equestrian team. There will be notices on the bulletin about meetings to organise a team with Miss Hodgins. So if you are interested keep an eye out.

By Steph Comfort

COMMUNITY NEWS

BITTERN SUNDAY MARKET

Every Sunday 8am - 1pm Bittern Railway Car park

WOMEN'S SELF CONFIDENCE COURSE

Peninsula Community Health Service 19/4 - 16/6 Friday weekly. 9.30am - 11.30am Contact: Sue Phillips 5979 2895 or Sally Keegan 5975 8266 for information. Child card available.

CRIB POINT COMMUNITY HOUSE

Car Boot Sale Sunday 30th April, 7 Park Rd, Crib Point, 10am -2pm. \$10. per car, Bookings are being taken now. Phone 5983 9888.

SPORTS NEWS

YR 8 BOYS BASEBALL

With seven players we won our first game defeating Mt Eliza 3-0. ???? (our pitcher) did his ankle and yet we went on to defeat Dromana 8-7 in the next game. The dream run ended. We lost closely to Rosebud 3-4 and were thumped by Mornington 1-9.

Best Players:

Batting: ?????

Fielding: ???? and ???? (Catcher)

The boys were great with, their behaviour, attitude and competitiveness. Thanks to Mt Eliza for lending us two players for the last two games. ???? was a tremendous help on the day
Mr Sheridan

YR 7 GIRLS CRICKET

The girls under extreme heat played two good games. The first was against Dromana, after sixteen overs Western Port was 5/26 with some excellent bowling by Dromana. ???top scored with ???? close behind on four. Dromana beat our score in the tenth over. Best bowler ???? 2/6. The next game was against Mt Eliza, it came down to the last over with Mt Eliza having to score seven to win but with some excellent bowling and fielding Western Port won by three runs.

Top Scorers: ???? 13, ???? 6.

Best Wicket taker: ??? with 5

Well done girls. Thanks to ???? , ???? , ??? and ???? for their assistance.

Mrs Hall

YR 11/12 GIRLS CRICKET

The girls won the Peninsula Pennant and played Monterey at RE Hooper's Reserve on Monday March 6th. ??? started well bowling out their opener on the first ball. But then their batters let loose scoring many fours and singles. Unfortunately the girls lost some early wickets and failed to recover. Congratulations to the girls sportsmanship and enthusiasm. Thanks to ???? for umpiring. The team consisted of ???, ???? , ???? , ???? , ???? , ???? , ???, ??? , ???? , ???? , ???, and ???.

SWIMMING SPORTS

With the swimming sports this year themed as Television characters, it was bound to be an awesomely fun day. All attendees embraced the soothing sounds of DJ Perry, as he provided an entertaining an informed commentary.

Winners of the fashion parade this year were ??? and ???. The girls showed an extreme level of commitment to the event by painting themselves from head to toe as bubbly blue Smurfs. Well done girls.

The Year 12 sausage sizzle was a fantastic success. The senior students involved would especially like to thank Balnarring Ritchies for donating some of the sausages, sauce, bread and onions. All proceeds raised will help to fund their end of year magazine.

With regards to the swimming (of course), it was great to see many stellar performances from a whole range of competitors across the school. The final announcement of the champions and overall house winners was made at the last whole school assembly.
Miss Blanch

YR 7 BOYS BASEBALL

A beautiful sunny day that produced a fantastic result for the Yr 7 Boys Baseball Team that played at Boneo. The first game was against Mt Eliza, which Western Port won 8- 5. ???? pitched most of the first game with some fabulous results. The second game was played against Mornington and the Western Port team really worked hard together and won convincingly with a final score of 9 – 2. ??? shone brightly, taking three outs and making two runs. Our third and final game was played against undefeated Rosebud. With six National players, Rosebud were definitely competitive. But our boys rallied together and did us proud, scoring four runs. Final score 16 - 4.

The boys were enthusiastic, willing to learn and tried really hard. They showed good sportsmanship, played fairly and represented Western Port with pride. Best and fairest went to ???, with ???? and ??? also top players. A big thankyou to ??? and ??? to volunteering as assistant coach and team manager. The boys game results put then into second place overall for the day - a fantastic result.

Miss Hodgins

SENIOR GIRLS NETBALL

In ideal weather conditions the senior girls played extremely well with some very close matches by the 'A' and 'B' teams.

Congratulations to both teams coming third on the day. Excellent sportsmanship and skills displayed by all the girls and they definitely worked off the birthday cake they ate. Thanks to ??? for umpiring and to ??? and ??? for scoring.

'A' - ???????

'B' - ???????

Ms Tsousis

Indigenous Assistance Scheme Year 10, 11 and 12 Student's Tuition

Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition provides supplementary tuition for Indigenous students which may be provided outside normal hours of schooling or during "study" periods.

The Tuition aims to improve learning outcomes of Indigenous students and to increase retention to and completion of Year 12 by Indigenous students.

To apply for Year 10, 11 and 12 Tuition the students or parent/ caregiver of students under 16 years of age should submit an application for assistance to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST).

VCE Study Skills and Work Load

RECOMMENDED VCE STUDY LOADS

In order to do as well as possible in the VCE students will have to be prepared to complete between 18 and 25 hours of private study during each week of the school term. These estimated hours include time spent on subject related activities during study periods at school. (it is a salutary exercise to keep a detailed log for a few days to identify just how many hours in each day are being used productively and how many hours are unproductive.)

APPROPRIATE APPROACHES TO STUDY

The optimum work schedule differs from person to person. Some people find it relatively easy to concentrate for long periods, while others require frequent breaks in order to maintain interest and attention. Early in the year students will be given some suggestions for study schedules. Some students in previous years found 45 to 50 minute sessions followed by five to 10 minute breaks to be an effective pattern. The aim is to train the mind to be able to concentrate for 90 to 120 minutes the lengths of most VCE examinations. (The English examination is 180 minutes in length.)

EFFECTIVE USE OF STUDY TIME

Many books and pamphlets have been produced to assist students with effective study. Several of these are available in the school library, and it is worthwhile to browse through them. Most researchers and successful students are agreed that the key is to be an active learner, that is, not to read passively, but to be as creative and productive as possible. Students should summarise notes and handouts, give themselves lectures on difficult topics, write answers under test conditions, etc. Rehearsal of what has to be done is helpful; continual repetition assists retention enormously. Some suggestions for study techniques will be given early in the year. Students should ask teachers how best study their subjects. They should compare their own approach with those of their friends, particularly those who are achieving success.

Mr Bridgford.

Parents & Friends Association Launch

Western Port Secondary College is looking for the help and assistance of the local parents and community members of the college, to be involved in a range of activities to boost opportunities for all students and their families. We would like to invite you to come along to the inaugural P&F Association public forum to look at these future options and opportunities!

When: Wednesday 19th April

Time: 7:00pm
Where: The Arts Centre
Wine, soft drinks and nibbles will be provided

An RSVP by Tuesday 18th April to the school's office is essential to arrange catering and seating requirements.

Phone: 5979 1577

Japanese Visitors will be here

July 28th to 10th August. If you are able to host a student for this time, please see Mr Bridgford. There are fifteen students to host.



Western Port Secondary College Uniform Shop Times

Mondays 8:30am - 11:00am
Wednesdays 1:00pm - 3:30pm
Special Time: Tues May 16 6-7pm

Cash, Credit Card or EFT accepted. No Cheques
If you can't make it to the shop, orders forms can be collected from office. Completed pre-paid orders can be left at office for collection or from the uniform shop.



Get your uniform at the
uniform shop this week



Sports Dates For Term 2

Peninsula Districts Swimming Carnival

April 20 th	Thursday	Senior Girls Football Senior Boys Netball
April 20 th	Thursday	Southern Zone Swimming
April 21 st	Friday	Senior Golf
April 27 th	Thursday	VSSSA Swimming
April 28 th	Friday	House Athletics Carnival
May 19 th	Friday	Girls Football Year 7 – 9 Senior Sport
May 25 th	Thursday	District Cross Country
May 31 st	Wednesday	Year 8 sport
June 7 th	Wednesday	Intermediate Sport
June 14 th	Wednesday	Year 7 Sport

On Thursday March 9th the interschool swimming team competed at the combined swimming carnival at Pines Forest pool. Over the course of the day a number of students swam well beyond what was asked. These students deserve as much credit as our ribbon place getters. Each year the team is increasing its number of ribbon holders. All students performed to their personal bests but were outclassed by a stronger well-trained opposition. Thanks to staff, parent's and students for their support.

??? won U/14 Freestyle and Breaststroke will progress to the Southern Zone Carnival on Thursday April 13th at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

Placegetters:

SPORTS

Netball
Football
Badminton
Soccer
Seniors
Basketball
Table Tennis
Hockey