FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

DUDLEY BUILDING PROJECT

As parents are aware we have been working on creating an undercover area for students at the Dudley Campus to use during recess and lunchtime. This includes a large roof over two of the outside courts and a synthetic grass surface underneath the covered area. Not only will this project create an area for students to use when there is adverse weather but it will also be a great venue for PE, Dance and Drama classes and provide an additional venue for assemblies and community activities.

The finishing touches are being made to the project and we hope to open the area up to students and classes in the next two days.

COLLEGE UNIFORM

The sudden change in weather has caught everyone by surprise and unfortunately that has seen some students change their behaviour towards school uniform. The colder temperatures are not a reason for students to wear non-uniform items, such as hoodies and tracksuit pants, to school. Our uniform includes items such as the school jackets that can be worn in order for students to remain warm.

DUDLEY DROP-OFFS

The change of weather has also resulted in an influx of traffic entering the Dudley Campus school grounds as students ask to be dropped off as close to the school buildings as possible. The Dudley Campus is not well set up for large volumes of traffic and this is why we ask parents to please keep their cars out of the school grounds at the busy drop-off and pick-up times. We are very mindful of student safety and this will assist in the smooth operation of the College. Thank you for your support.

BASS COAST YOUNG LEADERS AWARDS

On Friday April 27 Year 11 Student Leaders Gabby Bloch and Kirra Marlborough attended a Civic Reception at the State Coal Mine. They were presented with their Bass Coast Young Leaders Award by the Governor of Victoria The Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC.

YR 7 MATHS CHALLENGE

Winners of Mrs Harris’ family Maths challenge were from 7B Emily May and from 7I Talya Muir and Harry McInnes. Well done to these students and their families, I hope you continue to enjoy the challenge in Term 2.
As of Monday 14th May all Year 7 students will be responsible for their own locker keys. Once students have one remaining key, they will have to have a new key cut themselves. If all keys are lost, the student must purchase a new lock and set of keys from the General Office. Keys must be on a key ring or lanyard clearly labelled with the students name and home group. We suggest that students place their keys in their bag at the end of the day and that keys remain there.

**Yr 7 Lockers**

As of **Monday 14th May** all Year 7 students will be responsible for their own locker keys. Once students have one remaining key, they will have to have a new key cut themselves. If all keys are lost, the student must purchase a new lock and set of keys from the General Office. Keys must be on a key ring or lanyard clearly labelled with the students name and home group. We suggest that students place their keys in their bag at the end of the day and that keys remain there.

**Year 7’s battle it out for…… Quizmaster 2012**

Throughout this term Year 7 students have been putting their brain baskets to the test in the ultimate trivia challenge…..QUIZMASTER! This is the inaugural year for our super quiz challenge and it has been well supported by those Year 7 students who want to test their general knowledge and have a bit of fun at the same time. Presently we are running qualifying rounds to determine the top for QUIZMASTERS in each home group through three tense sets of ten questions in each round. Once the competitors have completed the qualifying rounds then they will move onto the exciting BUZZ video competition on the “big screen” in the flexible learning centre. Buzz, for the uninitiated, is the PS2 version of a game show where contestants are put through a series of trivia challenges requiring fox cunning, lightening reflexes, and of course super cerebral power. The four video contestants will use the special handheld “buzzers” to answer questions with the top two going onto the next round. It will be a battle of attrition as we whittle our way down to the final four “Quizmasters” who will slog it out for the title of ultimate Year 7 “QUIZMASTER” 2012. The winner will take home a great prize as well as the coveted Quizmaster “brain trophy” (not a real brain of course).

At the time of writing this article there had been two completed qualifying rounds with these students making it through to the BUZZ section of the tournament:
- 7A – Maddie Atley
- 7B – Zac Ray, Blake Harmon and Jared Woods
- 7C – Corey Trevena, Ethan Milkins, Jesse Kellow and Allan Babu.

Stay tuned for further reports as we buzz our way to crowning Wonthaggi Secondary College’s first ever Year 7 “QUIZMASTER”.

-Andrew McIntosh (Assistant Yr7 Coordinator)

**Important Information for Parents: English Text Books**

We are using new textbooks this year (Year 7: Successful English 1; Year 8: Successful English 2; Year 9: Successful English 3), that all students should have purchased on their booklist. We realise that some students didn’t purchase them, so they are now available through the office for students to buy as soon as possible. Students need to bring $25.95 to purchase their copy. These are required textbooks – **ALL** students must have a copy as they are used extensively each week in English classes.
CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

There were a couple of announcements in the recent State Budget that will significantly affect families eligible for EMA and School Start bonus.

SCHOOL START BONUS
The $300 School Start Bonus available to eligible parents of students starting prep and Year 7 has been abolished. There will be no School Start bonus in 2013.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
From next year the EMA payment will be reduced. The fine details have not been released yet so all we can tell you at this stage is what we know.
In 2012 the EMA was $470, $235 of this was paid directly to the school and $235 was paid to the Parent.
In 2013 the school EMA payment $235 has been scrapped and the Parent payment of $235 will be increased by between $15 and $82 depending on the year level of the student. This is effectively a reduction of between $153 and $220 per student.
At this stage we have not been informed of any changes to the EMA procedures for 2013 but we expect there will be some changes. Any changes may have an impact on some of the services that the school offers such as book-selling day, EMA credit arrangements against school books & uniforms.
If EMA procedure changes do impact on any of the schools services you will be advised in future newsletters.

YEAR 7 SUPER FOOTY TIPPING

At the time of publication over 150 year seven students had completed five rounds of our own super footy tipping competition. This is a standard footy tipping competition open to all year seven students. Every week students fill in their tips and these are collated on the following Monday in home group by the home group teacher and the peer support students.
There are four special rounds during the season where there are bonus prizes awarded for any student who can pick all nine winners. The first of these is the Indigenous round starting on Friday May 18th.
After every five rounds we will endeavour to publish our year 7 students in the top 10 of our Super tipping competition. So, five rounds in here is our top 10.

1. Maddie Wilson. 7I. 39
2. Pearl Edwards. 7H. 37
3. Zac Sprie. 7C. 36
4. Brad Kent. 7D. 36
5. Ally Kershaw 7F. 35
6. Dashal Tran 7H. 35
7. Liam Sullivan 7H.35
8. Aidan Thompson 7H. 35
9. Blake Harman. 7A. 35
10. Mark Crutchfield 7B & Alec Farrell 7H.34

NAPLAN

A reminder that the Australia wide NAPLAN Literacy and Numeracy tests take place next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for most students in Years 7&9.
Students are bussed to the Workmen's Club to sit the tests and returned to school for their normal program. Some Year 7’s will sit the test at school. A good night's sleep, a nourishing breakfast and being well hydrated will assist students to do their best and maintain focus.
I'd like to thank parents for your input, support and careful consideration regarding students who will be withdrawn or exempted from the tests. I also appeal to the general parent body to instil a consistent, positive approach to the three testing days.
Please note:
Absent students are not counted as part of the cohort of assessed students.
Withdrawn students are not counted as part of the cohort of assessed students.
Exempted students are counted as assessed and counted in the 'below minimum standard' in summary data for the school.
One final word to parents; we recognize the National tests are one measure on a particular day and it is important to keep them in perspective. However, as with all activities at school, we expect students to do their best, to strive to demonstrate their true ability and enable others to do the same.
Gay Findlay
Assistant Principal
Community Announcements

Badminton players aged 8 to 15 have the chance to win $50. The first player to reach 500 points will win the $50. If two players reach 500 points a play off will take place. Points are obtained by helping set up, umpiring and winning games. A maximum of four games per week. Competition will start on Thursday 17th May and will be every Thursday 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m at the Wonthaggi Leisure Centre. Cost $4 per week.

SAVER PLUS
Would you like $500 to spend on next years back to school costs. Do you have a Health Care Card or a Pensioner Concession Card? Do you or your partner have some regular work? If you answered yes to these questions you could be eligible for the Saver Plus program, which matches your savings dollar for dollar, up to $500.
To find out more phone your local Saver Plus worker Greg Patterson on 5662 6551
Saver Plus - money for education and education about money

Earn & Learn
Simply start collecting stickers at the checkout of your local Woolworths supermarket until July 22nd and send them into either Campus at the General Office. There’ll be one sticker for every $10 spent, excluding purchases of liquor, smoking/tobacco products and gift cards. Once completed, simply drop the sticker card into a collection box, either at your school or at your local Woolworths.

Calling all young artists
If you’re a budding artist between the ages of 12 to 25 in the Bass Coast Shire area here’s your chance to enter the

2012 Youth Art Show
Wonthaggi Town Hall
25th June – 27th June

HURRY
Entries close 25th of May

For more information Ph Allison Fry 0419009994
Or email: allison.fry@ucgipps.org.au

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL:
Every Monday night (except school & public holidays) from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. St George’s Anglican Church,
Cnr McBride Ave & Hagelthorn St, Wonthaggi.
Brought to you by the Wonthaggi & Inverloch Anglican Church.
The College is currently in the process of our four yearly review. This process included information from parents regarding the College, of which the feedback was very positive. The feedback from parents also provided us with information on further improvements we could make particularly in the area of communication. We have taken this feedback on board and are looking at distributing our newsletter via email. We believe that some newsletters do not make it home on occasions leading to parents not being fully aware of what is currently happening in the college. Therefore we ask you to please fill in the form below so that we can begin this email process. We also see this as an opportunity to collect up to date details which will allow us to keep parents informed of what is happening in the school.

Please fill out the email component and any other details that may have changed and return to the General Office.

Thank-you.

Student Name........................................................................................................ Home Group..............

Email:.......................................................................................................................

Address......................................................................................................................

Postal Address.........................................................................................................

Phone........................................................................................................ Mobile Phone................................

Work Phone......................................................

Emergency contacts..............................................................................................

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