



Friday 20th February, 2009

Issue No. 04

Beyond Partnership...to Nurture

I think I am onto something ...

I constantly seek improvements that will benefit our students. And as I said, I may be onto something here. Let me explain further...

The mind-set of the 'Industrial Age' has left us all comfortably assuming that it is the Principal's task to develop his teaching team. As parents, we happily accept that our role is to sit back uninvolved, while Vernon Clark and the campus leaders develop their staff. Surely that is their job; to nurture teachers.

I want to suggest it is parents' task to nurture their children's teachers towards consummate professionalism. This is the next step beyond partnership.

Does that seem odd? It did to me at first. Let me clarify how changing technologies are shaping our sprinting society.

The Industrial Age is now over. We live in the 'Communication Age'. Our professional relationships centre around knowledge-sharing. The hierarchy-based, Industrial-Age paradigm that created the boss-to-worker, supplier-to-customer relationships is being utterly overrun by current communication technologies. The data technologies are the new tools, and the tools continue to change. People are still people, but changes to roles and relationships race along with changing technologies.

The implication for our school is that communication, collaboration and commitment, are the only way forward. It is not a question of preference; we actually have no choice. If we don't adapt, we will be left behind by the Communication Age.

This is not new. Years ago, when Mitsubishi marketed under the slogan;

"Please consider..." they were confessing their immediate need for partnership with their customers.

Society's changes mean it is no longer productive to distantly and coldly scrutinise teachers' work. It is no longer acceptable to have a quiet whinge in the car-park. Now in fact, even non-engagé is no option.

Many parents are already working to make our school a great school. They are those parents who are helping our teachers become great teachers. The way they do that is they not only partner with teachers, but they nurture teachers. They encourage teachers' successes and support them when they fail. That's what nurturing does. Nurturing helps, develops, encourages, supports and protects. Nurturing cares, cherishes, watches out for, reinforces and sustains.

I'm a teacher, a team-leader and a Maranatha parent. In each of these roles I can contribute to the pre-eminence of our school by actively nurturing our children's teachers as professional partners. Let's commit to stepping beyond partnership, and thus invest powerfully in our children's lives.

D. Gleeson
Head of Officer Campus

Prayer Points

- Please continue to pray for the bush-fire victims and their families across Victoria. Also pray for those mourning the loss of loved ones.
- Praise the Lord for the generosity of our staff, students and parents who have raised money for donations.

E/Hills Events...

- ─ **Mon 23 Feb**
Year 12 Elevate Education Seminar
- ─ **Wed 25 Feb**
Meet the VCE Staff Evening 7.30pm
- ─ **Thurs 26 Feb**
Years 7-10 Immunisations
- ─ Year 12 Geography Excursion
- ─ **Friday 27 Feb**
Year 7 Art Excursion

Doveton Events...

- ─ **Mon 23 Feb**
District Interschool Swimming Sports (selected students) at Noble Park Swimming pool. Team members to meet at E/Hills 8.45am
- ─ **Tues 24 Feb**
Classroom Helpers Course Doveton Campus Library at 2.00pm. Call Emma Dam on 9709 7350 to book a place.
- ─ After School Sport
- ─ **Thurs 26 Feb**
Subway orders in by 4pm
- ─ **Fri 27 Feb**
3.30pm - 4.30pm Lacrosse for selected students.

Officer Events...

- ─ **Mon 23 Feb**
Parent Helpers' Training Course Session 2
- ─ **Tues 24 Feb**
Swimming Carnival Yr 3-10
- ─ **Wed 25 Feb**
No preps
- ─ Primary Senate Students Leaders conference
- ─ Golf training
- ─ **Thurs 26 Feb**
Parents Partnership meetings
- ─ Free Dress Day - Gold coin donation.
- ─ Fundraising for Plenty Valley Christian School (suffered loss through bushfires)
- ─ **Fri 27 Feb**
SIS Sport Yr 9 & 10
Boys Cricket at Woodleigh
Girls Volley Ball at St Leonard's College

Maranatha is a Christian learning community in partnership with home and church where students are inspired to discover and develop their God-given gifts, abilities and character for a life of service to the Lord in contemporary society

Assembly

This Monday 23rd February – Grade3B

Open Door Access

Please feel free to come in to chat to Joe Belousoff every Tuesday from 9.00am – 10.00am, share your insights, unload burdens, present novel ideas or just come in to say hello. No appointments required.

Bread

Every Wednesday morning day-old Bakers Delight bread is available for collection from the Doveton Campus office. First in - first served and the amount and type of bread varies from week to week.

AFL Hysteria

AFL hysteria came to Doveton last week when our Grade 3/4 students were visited by players from the Melbourne Football Club. These visits are run as part of the AFL's Football Camp Program and allows many schools throughout Australia to access a wide variety of clubs and players. Melbourne's recent relocation to Casey Fields in Cranbourne means they are our AFL affiliated club and no doubt we can expect more interaction with them in the future.

The students were given the opportunity to ask questions about the sacrifices players need to make in order to reach the highest levels of their sport. Our players, Russell Robertson, Matthew Whealin and Sam Blease answered the children's questions in detail and when it came time to ask questions of the students, gave out some great prizes to those good listeners.

A final comment to the classes from Russell Robertson has left a lasting impression in my mind that the students we have here at our school are wonderful students. He said thank you to the students for sitting and listening well. That at times it is difficult to get their message across but that our students were sensational. Congratulations Grade 3 and 4, you continue to do your Utmost For His Glory.

Canteen

Days over 30° the canteen will be open for Zooper Doopers and Sunnyboys. If you are able and willing to help out with the Canteen for a half hour on these days or Mondays for 4 hours please contact the office on 9709 7350.

Canteen Roster:

Monday 23rd February

Mary Cimpean & Monica Dragan

Monday 2nd March

Florina Sidea & Estera Pop

Library

The Library is looking for volunteers to help in the library. Time spent on these jobs will go towards your P.I.P. Points. We require people to cover books at home. (A lesson in covering will need to be undertaken at school first.) We also need help with stocktaking. Please ring Lynne Mitchell on 9709 7354 if you can help.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

The Secondhand Uniform shop at Doveton Campus will be open on Mondays between 9:00am & 10:00am. We are looking for parent volunteers to go on the roster to man the shop. Please contact Emma Dam on 9709 7350 if you are able to help out. P.I.P's apply. Any uniform items in good condition would be gladly accepted and can be left at the office.

OFFICER NEWS

No Preps

Preps will not be attending school for the first 6 Wednesday's of term 1 2009.

Parent partnership Meeting

Parent Partnership meetings on Thursday 2th February parents will have an opportunity to

update class-teachers on their children's strengths, needs, interests and passions. Interview times are available between 3:30pm and 6:00pm and 6:45pm – 8:00 pm and can be booked through Officer reception on 9709 7310.

Assemblies

Students in Prep to Year 10 will attend an assembly on Monday 23rd February 2:40 pm – 3:10pm. The next primary assembly is Monday 2nd March. Students in Grade 2 will be presenting an item at this assembly. Parents are welcome to attend.

Parent Helpers' Training Course:

Parent Helpers' Training Course: Please note the altered dates for our Parent Helpers' Training Course. The second and final session of this training course will be run on Monday 23rd February 2:40pm – 3:10pm in the library.

Toy Auction Fundraisers

Plenty Valley Christian College is our sister CEN school. Many families there suffered loss through the fires. We are raising funds through a Free Dress Day on Thursday 26/2/09. Gold coin donation.

The primary teachers will hold a Toy Auction Fundraiser. Students are invited to donate an unwanted toy or game over the next 2 weeks. An auction day (TBA) will be held within the different grade levels. All money raised from children purchasing donated toys will go towards supporting families associated with Plenty Valley Christian College.

Instrumental music at Officer Campus

We are very proud of our classroom music programs at Officer Campus and are pleased to announce that in addition to our excellent classroom music program, we have a number of instrumental music teachers available to teach a range of musical instruments at school. This offers you the convenience of your children's lessons being held during school time. These lessons are privately charged, directly to you the parents. Lesson times are rotated so that students will not be missing the same class every week.

Your child is able to learn one of the following instruments at Officer Campus: guitar, drums, flute, clarinet, saxophone, violin, voice, keyboard, trumpet or trombone.

Certain instruments are also available to be hired from the school, providing that the student is taking music lessons here at school. These instruments are flute, clarinet and trumpet. If you would like to enquire, please obtain an expression of interest form from the office or Mrs Powys. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs Powys on 9709 7320.



Berwick Show - Art Display - Year 7 2008 Students

Some of our Officer 2008 Year 7 students have art displayed at the Berwick Show. Come and see their work on Saturday 28th February & Sunday 1st March 2009 Location - Akoonah Park, Berwick (Melways 111, H10).

ENDEAVOUR HILLS NEWS

Career News on the Website

The first issue of the fortnightly extended version of Career News for 2009 is now available on the school website. Please make a point of accessing the link to a valuable resource on a range of career events and information.

Year 10 Work Experience

It is very pleasing that a number of students have successfully secured their workplace. We recognise that it may be quite a challenge in some instances, however with excellent networking all students find a suitable place.

Meet the VCE Staff Information Evening

There will be an information evening for all parents of students in year 11 and 12 on Wednesday, 25 February at 7.30pm.

This is a key opportunity for parents of students undertaking VCE subjects, to meet the staff and discuss their concerns. We will begin with a general meeting in the main auditorium of the Romanian Church (across from the school). We will then move to the church foyer, where parents can meet with their child's subject teachers. Coffee and Tea will be provided. To ensure that they speak to the appropriate staff, parents may find it handy to bring along a list of their child's teachers. The evening promises to be a fruitful sharing of ideas and information. We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Pearl Subban

Year 12 Coordinator – Ph. 97097244.

Peter Anderson –

Year 11 Coordinator – Ph. 97097257.

House Athletics Carnival

House Athletics Carnival date has been **postponed until August 24th.** - This will coincide better with the CSSN major athletics carnival that we have to pick teams for.

Bible Readings

☐ Mon	Feb 23	1 John 2:15-17 2 Tim 3: 10-15
☐ Tues	Feb 24	1 John 2: 18-20
☐ Wed	Feb 25	1 John 2: 21
☐ Thu	Feb 26	1 John 2:22-25 John 10:22-33
☐ Fri	Feb 27	1 John 2:26-27

Japanese Cultural Exchange programme

We are looking for 11 families willing to host students in our Japanese Exchange Programme from March 11th - 23rd. The Japanese students are here to learn as much of the English language as they can and assimilation into our homes is an ideal way to enhance this. The Japanese students will be involved in English activities at school during each school day and will also have some excursions (Melbourne Zoo, Lysterfield Lake and Dandenong Market) which the host students will be invited to go on. Host families will be able to show their visitor something of interest over the two weekends and we would encourage you to take them to church as well.

Maranatha families will be reimbursed in agreeing to take on an extra guest in their homes. For further information, please contact Mrs Maidment in the secondary PE office on 9709 7221.

Swimming Carnival

Endeavour Hills secondary students participated in the Annual House Swimming carnival on Monday 9 February, at Doveton Pool In the Park. Despite the colder weather, competition was strong and the support from the crowds on the bank kept everyone going, even in the butterfly events. Thanks to the parents who joined us for the day, and to the staff who assisted in running the program. Special commendations also to the House Leaders who took on the task of getting their team mates to all of their events.

Final results:

Kurrajong 1025 Waratah 936
Grevillea 850 Acacia 733

New School Records:

U15 Boys 100m Freestyle: Tyson Lawes 1:06:42 beating Ben Schmidt's record from 2003.

U15 Boys 50m Freestyle: Tyson Lawes 28:70 beating Brendan De Jong's record from 1999.



U17 Girls 50m Backstroke: Rachael Hancock 37:15 beating Ashlee Geraghty's record from 2004.

U16 Boys 50m Butterfly: 50m Tyson Lawes 32:95 beating Brendan De Jong's record from 2000.

Elevate Education Seminar

– Monday, 23 February '09 9am-10am

Our Year 12 students will have the opportunity to participate in a seminar presented by Elevate Education. This seminar examines organizational strategies that students could use as they complete Year 12. There is no cost to students for the seminar and feedback from previous years has been extremely positive. All Year 12 students are required to be at school for this seminar. Students, who normally begin the day later, on account of private study periods in the morning, must ensure that they arrive at the start of the school day to attend this valuable session.

Enquiries – Pearl Subban (97097244)

Endeavour Hills Traffic

Thank you to all those parents who are following our traffic flow guidelines enabling everyone the best opportunity to enter and exit the school grounds as quickly as possible.

As we continue to ensure that this happens there are still one or two things we need to address.

Could parents please:

- Avoid dropping and picking students up on the "wrong side" of Reema Boulevard. For their safety it is best that students do not have to cross the road at peak traffic times.
- There are still one or two parents who perform u-turns on Reema Boulevard, and within the school grounds. Please refrain from doing so.
- Remember that only left-hand turns are permissible from the single lane service road onto Reema Boulevard. To turn right please proceed down the main driveway.

Thank you in advance.

Canteen news

Help is needed in the canteen on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays for 2-3 hours Please phone Julie on 9709 7233 to go on the Roster. PIP points apply - Thank you.

Education Maintenance Allowance

A reminder to families eligible for the EMA that applications **must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009 for the first Instalment.**

The Education Tax Refund – Get 50% back

Under the new Education Tax Refund, parents and others who are eligible can now claim 50% of their eligible education expenses up to \$750 for primary students and \$1500 for secondary students.

This means you could receive a refund each year of up to \$375 for each primary and \$750 for each secondary school student in your care.

Are you eligible?

To be eligible you must have received Family Tax Benefit Part A for each child whose education expenses you wish to claim. You can also claim the Education Tax Refund if you were stopped from receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A because your child received any of the following:

- Youth Allowance (student) aged 18
- Disability Support Pension
- ABSTUDY
- the Veterans' Children Education Scheme
- the Student Financial Supplement Scheme
- a scheme under s258 of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004
- an Australian Postgraduate Award.

Independent students are also eligible to claim.

What can you claim?

You can claim the purchase, lease, hire or hire-purchase costs, repairs and running costs of:

- laptops, home computers and associated costs — for example, internet and paper
- educational software, printers, USB flash drives, disability aids to assist in the use of computer equipment for students with special needs
- stationery and art supplies
- school textbooks and associated learning materials
- trade tools and safety equipment for secondary school trade courses.

Some of the expenses you cannot claim include school fees or the cost of school uniforms, school excursions or travel to and from school, musical instruments or sporting equipment, clothing or footwear. For a more comprehensive list visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au

When can you claim?

You can claim your education expenses in your 2009 tax return. If you do not have to lodge a tax return, you will be able to lodge a separate claim with the Tax Office from 1 July 2009.

Remember, you need to keep all receipts for expenses you claim.

If your education expenses in one year are more than the claim limit for your children, you can add the excess to your education expenses for the following year.

For more information: www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au or call the Tax Office 13 28 61.

Bushfires and Asthma

With the devastating bush fires that have occurred throughout Victoria and with fires still burning across the State, there is an increased risk of asthma. Parents and carers of children with asthma should remain alert and ensure the child carries their blue reliever medication with them at all times.



Tips to minimise the effects of bush fire smoke:

- Smoke and increased air pollution from fires can cause people with asthma to experience increased symptoms, such as wheezing, coughing, chest tightness or shortness of breath.
- Children are one of the first to feel the effects of smoke and particle pollution for this reason extra care needs to be taken.
- Always follow the child's written Asthma Action Plan.
- Parents and teachers need to be aware of the additional risk and be prepared.
- Ensure the child has access to blue reliever medication and continue use of preventer medication.
- When smoke is in the air, but fire is not directly threatening, keep children indoors, and close all windows and doors.
- Avoid doing physical activities outdoors.
- If a child develops symptoms, seek medical assistance immediately.
- If the child's blue reliever medication is not reducing asthma symptoms, start Asthma First Aid and seek medical attention without delay.

School Dental Program

School dental program available to all primary students. If you have a health care card services will be free, otherwise a co-payment of \$28.00 will be needed. This covers all general dental work. Please call 9792 5857 for further information.

Netball

Mrs Whitehead is running a netball program starting Friday 27th February at our Endeavour Hills Campus sports hall 4:00-5:00pm. Students in Grade 2 – Year 12 welcome.

We have a vision

Marlene Everett & Mike Derridge have been bringing aid, medical & school supplies, clothing, tools, life skills to remote islands of the Pacific focusing on the Louisiade Archipelago of Papua New Guinea. To help them with their next mission trip they would like donations of school uniforms, first aid kits, bandages, books, pens, paper and more. For further details, please contact mderridge@yahoo.com.au or go to www.wehaveavision.com

Parenting Tip:

We remember our children's birthdays and celebrate them, but often the decision to have other special, one-on-one times just gets overlooked. Here's a tip: circle your child's birth date on every month of the calendar, e.g. if his birthday is on the 17th of a particular month, circle the 17th on every month throughout the year. That will be the day each month you plan to do something with that child. Keep it small and achievable. Make up a list of simple activities you could do: a swim, a cycle, a hot chocolate, a breakfast together or a game of cards.

www.parentsinc.org.nz