

Wanganui Park Secondary College

Newslink



No. 2

26th February, 2009

P.O. Box 4010
SHEPPARTON
3632

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Assistant Principals:
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(Thanks to Richard Dickson for the photograph)

Year 7 Family BBQ - Tuesday February 17th

The Principal Team Report – February 25th, 2009

Support for those affected by bushfires

Recently we held an out-of-uniform day to raise money for this cause, and we were proud of the response from our students and their families. We raised \$5302.00, and students and staff have been involved in discussions about the best way to allocate this money. Already we have formed a link with Yea Primary School, and we have received many cards and thank you notes from students thanking our school community for our support to date. We plan to take a group of our students to the school at some stage in the future, and we anticipate that this link brought about by tragic circumstances is one that will become a positive and ongoing one.

Recent Events

It has been a busy fortnight with many successful school events held. Our College Captains were formally inducted in a full school assembly on February 17, and guest speaker Adam Thomson delivered in his usual passionate and inspiring manner. We are fortunate to have the quality of student leadership that we enjoy, and we look forward to working with this group throughout the year. On the same day, over 140 families attended the Year 7 BBQ, which was held in the front courtyard of the school, as usual looking a picture thanks to the work of Peter Cantlin and Jake Johnson. On Tuesday our swimming carnival was once again a very successful event, and we appreciate the work of Graeme Waight, our Sport Co-ordinator, and all staff and students who helped make the day a colourful and entertaining one.

School Photos

We expect that the school photos will be back to us by mid-March, and these will be distributed at school as soon as they arrive.

Parent Teacher Interviews

You may have noticed on our calendar that the final day of term is no longer set aside for parent teacher interviews. All state schools have been directed to run normal classes through until the end of term, and this will clearly have an impact on the interview structure that has worked successfully here for many years. We are currently working through our options, and we will include confirmed details in the next edition of Newslink.

Voice For Harmony

In recent weeks the community spirit of so many people has been amazing. We bring to your attention an event to celebrate Australia's diversity, and it would be terrific to see our local community support this worthy event on March 21st. Further details are found later in this edition.

Students leaving school

One of the most important objectives of our school is to create a safe and healthy environment for our students. Therefore it is imperative that we know where any student is at any time of the day. To this end, when a student needs to leave the school during the day, we must have some control over this.

We ask that you read the following points which need to be addressed for students leaving the school:

1. A student must report to the main office whenever they are leaving the school (apart from Year 11/12 students who leave for classes elsewhere).
2. Parental permission is required for a student to be allowed to leave the school during the day. A permission slip will be given on these occasions.
3. If a parent is collecting a student and there is no prior permission, the parent is asked to sign out the student at the main office.
4. If a student is being collected from sick bay, they must be signed out at the main office by a parent or guardian.

We trust you understand the importance of the above process being followed carefully.

Keith Gray
Principal

Ken Murray
Assistant Principal

Xavier Tanner
Assistant Principal

CANTEEN ROSTER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<i>2nd March</i> Di Giddens Vicki Jorgensen Kara Beggs	<i>3rd March</i> Jayne Moule Sharon Rigbye Karon McAuliffe	<i>4th March</i> Liz O'Callaghan Kerry Hajro Michelle Curnow	<i>5th March</i> Catherine Jennings Therese Nicholson Kerryn Fairless	<i>6th March</i> Kyleigh Devine Julie Freestone Kylie Hutchings
<i>9th March</i> Labour Day	<i>10th March</i> Debbie Hosie Virgina Stedman Donna Aykin	<i>11th March</i> Susan Mc Lean Jenny Perona Michelle Limosani	<i>12th March</i> Julieanne Gee Toni Marie Arnold Karen Parker	<i>13th March</i> Monica Darveniza Bronwyn Fisher Tracy Opie

CALENDAR	
March	
6	SDSSSA Swimming Carnival
9	Labour Day Public Holiday
27	Presentation Ball

WHAT IS THE SSEAB?

The Shepparton Secondary Education Advisory Board was formed in 1992 after the closure of North Shepparton Secondary College (formerly Shepparton Technical College) and exists to promote co-operation and innovative programs in the four member schools : Wanganui Park SC, Mooroopna SC, Shepparton HS and McGuire College.

The Board consists of the 4 school Principals, the 4 school Council Presidents, the Regional Network Leader, a TAFE representative, a primary school representative and 3 community members.

In recent years the SSEAB has focused on:

- **Ready 2 Drive** which is presented to year 10, 11 and 12 students and aims at making our roads safer for all users. Notre Dame and Goulburn Valley Grammar also participate in this program.
- **VCE.** The SSEAB encourages the sharing of resources between schools and provides for the conduct of the VCE exams at St Augustines Hall.
- **Transition.** The SSEAB oversees the transition of students from primary to secondary school. The aim is for fair placement and for the smooth transition of students.
- **At Risk Students.** The SSEAB has supported the NewStart program which assists students at risk in the conventional education stream. We are currently in negotiation with the Beacon Foundation to establish further means to assist students.
- **English Language Centre.** The SSEAB has supported the establishment of a language centre to assist new arrivals into the area.

Jeff Boyle, Executive Officer, ph 58215966

Wanganui Park Soccer Club

The school will again be supporting the soccer club this year. The registration night will be held in the staff room at the school on Wednesday, 4th March commencing at 7pm. The cost for the season is \$70. There are no other costs involved during the season. We ask that all players attend this meeting with at least one parent and that the fees be paid on that night. We are hoping to field the same four age sections as last year, those being Boys Under 14, Boys Under 18 and two senior girls teams. Any boys or girls who missed the school meeting earlier this week are welcome to attend the registration night. For any further information, contact Xavier Tanner on the school number.

Community Links

Parent Club – Wine and Cheese Night – tonight 26th February at 7pm

Physical Activity and Nutritional Wellbeing Focus Group

Greater Shepparton on the Move

Twilight Stroll

Friday 13 March

Leave Aquamoves at 5.30pm and walk to SPC Ardmona Kids town

Free entertainment and activities

Shuttle bus for return trip

WORD AND MOUTH

What is Word and Mouth?

Established in 2003, Word and Mouth is a youth-focused, youth-driven organisation designed to provide opportunities for young people to be involved in their community.

Word and Mouth is funded by the Greater Shepparton City Council and other government and non-government organisations.

All Word and Mouth activities are conducted under (and in accordance with) the Greater Shepparton City Council insurance and risk management systems.

Who is Word and Mouth?

Word and Mouth is governed by a Board made up of young people aged 16 to 30 years, plus funding representatives.

The **Youth Council** and other youth committees coordinated by Word and Mouth consist of young people aged 12 to 25 years. The Youth Council and other organising committees are responsible for designing and hosting a variety of Word and Mouth activities/events.

Word and Mouth staff have Working With Children clearance and are employed by the Greater Shepparton City Council.

What does Word and Mouth do?

The **Youth Council** and other committees are responsible for participating in the planning, design and delivery of various programs, activities and events:

- Youth Council monthly meetings
- Planning and consultation meetings
- Youth Forums
- Short film productions
- SHINE Multicultural Youth Festival
- GV Voice
- Young Leaders Program and
- Youth camps
- Reports and other publications
- Web design
- Greater Shepparton FReeZA Program (youth events)
- Other live music and cultural events (battle of the bands etc)

Word and Mouth works in collaboration with other youth and community groups and organisations to provide new and exciting opportunities for young people in Greater Shepparton.

Why be involved or support Word and Mouth?

Word and Mouth provides a fantastic opportunity for young people to:

- access leadership and personal development opportunities
- work as a team to achieve goals
- design and implement projects
- plan and run music and cultural events
- work with the media
- negotiate with local businesses
- and, voice opinions in a constructive manner

If you are interested in the Youth Council and Word and Mouth please contact Mrs. Buxton in the English Office.

Bushfire Relief Appeal Donation

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has provided us with the following advice regarding the collection of donations for the Red Cross Bushfire Relief Appeal.

- Schools collecting gold coin donations from students can advise families that if the donation is less than \$10, the ATO will accept a claim as a tax deduction in the donor's personal tax return, without a receipt.
- If a family makes a donation of \$10 or more to the school for the Red Cross Bushfire Relief Appeal, we may issue a generic receipt for the Red Cross Bushfire Relief Appeal" - this will become the substantiation for the donor to claim a personal tax deduction.
- Personal donations made by school or departmental staff directly to the Red Cross Bushfire Relief Appeal bank account can also be claimed as a personal tax deduction.

Donors will need to keep the evidence of this donation (i.e. the online banking receipt or the deposit slip if they donate over the counter at the bank) to claim a personal tax deduction.

RENOVATED OFFICE FOR ENGLISH STAFF

The English staff has been enjoying their newly renovated office during the first few weeks of term. After moving all their many folders, books and other items out before the holidays, all staff members came back a few days early this year to help move back in. Unfortunately, this was during our run of 40+ weather, however the thought of a wonderful new office to work in kept the smile on everyone's faces and all was soon back in working order. As you can see, everyone still enjoys working and chatting around our central table- be sure to drop in and say hello if you haven't done so already this year, you're sure to be impressed!



TV Viewing and Children/ Young People

TV provides children/young people with a window to the world. They take in messages and images about lifestyles, roles and behaviour. These images about the harsh realities of the world can be overwhelming and potentially damaging to their development. The more children are exposed to frightening programs, the more they may believe the world is a frightening place.

TV can also provide very positive images of how to relate responsibly and effectively in the world. Children need to talk and play and daydream and read as well as watch TV. Young people are learning about how to become a young adult and how they can fit into adult society.

Our role as parents is to be discriminating about the sorts of images our children are being exposed to. It is important to allow their understanding of their world to evolve as they mature.

Children's reactions to TV differ and it is not possible to work out exactly how each child will respond. However your child's age and stage of development will make a big difference.

- Children under 6 years will have difficulty working out what is real and what is fantasy. They can see cartoon characters as real and are open to the appeal of advertising.
- Children from 6 – 9 years will still have some difficulty with reality and fantasy especially if it looks like real life.
- Older primary school children are likely to be disturbed by material which is based on fact as it could mean it could happen to them. They will be curious about the teenage world, sex and fashion and can be misled by the way boy-girl relationships are shown on TV.
- Children are not born with prejudices; they learn these from the world around them. The kinds of messages they get from TV and the people around them will affect how they think about others eg, race, colour and gender. Between the age of 2 and 3.5 years children begin to absorb messages about attitudes from all around them.

Children of all ages will be disturbed when they see violence to other children, animals and violence in the home – as we are. There is a real risk that we will begin to become insensitive to the level of violence happening in the world with the number of violent images we are being exposed via the media.

Different children, at different ages and stages will react in different ways to different sorts of violence.

Evidence suggests that repeated exposure to violence on TV means

- Children are more likely to use aggressive means to solve problems. Young children may learn from cartoons that violence wins even though they laugh or can tell it is fantasy. Older children will absorb the same message from violent heroes in action movies.
- Are made anxious about the 'mean and scary world' in which they live. They may feel anxious about news or drama that may occur in their own neighbourhood.
- Children become less sensitive to violence in real life.
- Children who watch over 3 hours per day, younger children, boys, children who are less secure and children from families experiencing violence are likely to be more affected by violence on TV.

Some tips for Managing TV at Home

- Make a rule that the children's jobs are done and they are dressed ready for school before TV goes on.
- Use TV classifications to work out what is suitable for differing age groups, but also continue to use your discretion – know what is likely to upset your child.
- Familiarise yourself with the programs your children want to watch, so that you are informed.
- Negotiate TV viewing time. Discuss which programs are favourites and avoid children getting into the habit of watching TV because it's on.
- If programs are important to your child, tape them so that they can be watched at a more suitable time
- For younger children, decide on a bedtime which is relevant to your child's age rather than what's on TV.
- Avoid meal time in front of TV – Switch off the TV and eat together at the table so that there is time to talk and share the happenings of the day.
- Teach your child to be discriminating from an early age.
- Talk about the programs, discuss characters and stories. Give your child a chance to ask questions, describe their feelings and make sense of what they have seen. If your child becomes distressed after a program allow them to talk about what they are feeling.
- Describe your feelings and thoughts. TV programs can provide fertile ground for discussion regarding values and behaviours, especially for older children and young people.

Children and young people need to learn skills which help them get on with others in the world. These can be best learnt and practised by doing things as a family without the TV on.

**Victorian Bush Fire appeal
Crop for a Cause
Scrapbooking & Card Making
Sunday 1st March 2009-02-18 9am - 5pm
Shepparton Sports Stadium
\$20 entry with workshops for \$20 to \$25
Lunch available or BYO
Bookings and enquiries:
Sharynne 0417 622881
Katie 0417 330344**

*Victorian School of Languages operates each Saturday of the school terms, catering for students from Years 1 - 12 in the Shepparton district, held at Shepparton High School. Classes run from 9.00 until 12.30 each Saturday. This year the languages offered will be Punjabi, Swahili, Arabic, Albanian, Filipino, Dari, Persian (VCE only), Turkish, Greek and Sudanese Arabic. Expressions of interest are currently being taken from anyone interested in having their children learn French.
For enrolments please call Kim Day on 0437 795501.*

AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS (AAFC) WANTS YOU!!!

Are you male or female and aged between 13 & 18 year of age?

Would you like to improve your leadership skills, confidence and teamwork abilities?

The Australian Air Force Cadets provides young adults with the opportunity to experience life in the Air Force, and enables members to participate in activities such as flying, bushcraft, firearms safety training and even the opportunity to go on an international Air Cadet Exchange plus much more.

We re holding a recruiting night where you can come along and find out more and see some of what we do, with no commitment

When: Friday 27th Feb, 2009

Time: 7.00pm

Where: Somme Barracks, Sobroan Street, Shepparton

If you would like to find out more information you can contact Karen Clampit on 0439770602 Georgina Wickham on 58254594

Hope to see you there!!!

SOLAR CITY CALISTHENICS CLUB

SOLAR City Calisthenics club is seeking girls aged from 13-16 for their Intermediates team. No experience necessary. Classes are held at Mooroopna Hall from 6pm - 8pm on Tuesday nights. For further information call Vicki on 58561186.



It's time to gear up for the Marjorie Cup!!
March 27, 2009 at Rumbalara Football Ground

**Dust off your footy shorts
and pull on your boots for
the match of the year between
young people with diabetes
& hospital staff**

The shooters are up, 2 games to 1, but the Bloods won the last match and won't give up their champion status that easily!



We need girls and guys of secondary school age and up to make up the teams; anyone with an interest is invited to join in the fun. And the good news - no ability required - Yahoo!

If playing the game is not for you there are all sorts of other things to do - we need help on the organising committee, children to race in the half time dash and volunteers to help with all the other stuff - runners, training, umpires, medical assistance, scorers, cheer squad, catering etc.

Entry into the event is by gold coin donation which puts you into the draw for a gate prize. Other entertainment at this catered event includes local school band, visiting GVFL football players and raffles - Proceeds go towards supporting young people with diabetes.

Contact the Diabetes Centre on ph 58 323100 or email rhonda.marino@gvhealth.org.au to register your interest and we will send more info.

See the website for more information on past Marjorie Cups at www.diabetes.humehealth.com.au



Registrations for players for the Winter Season 2009 of basketball are now being taken for girls and boys. The Winter Season competition will start in the week of 4th May 2009 and continue until near the end of Term 3 2009. (Please note that no games are played during the school holidays.) This is a great sport for boys and girls aged 8 and over to learn team skills.

Players fees are \$80-00 and are due with registration. If you would like to play and/or require more information please contact Mark Evans on 58211620 or Leanne Rae on 58215281 by 13th March 2009.

VOICE *for* HARMONY

o 1 - 2pm Clinics

o Auskick

o Junior Soccer Clinic

o 1 - 2:30pm 5-a-side Jnr Knock Out Soccer game

o 2:45 - 3:45pm Women's Soccer

o 4 - 6pm 3 coded football match (Touch-Soccer-AFL)

o 6 – 8pm Entertainment Free Dinner afterwards

o Jumping Castle

o Local Band after the match (6 pm)

o African performance

o Sausage Sizzle and Refreshments:

Throughout day all proceeds go to raising money for the UCCE bushfire appeal

Gold Coin Donations are welcome

Please come and support "OUR" community

Harmony day celebrates Australia's success as a diverse society

and embraces the notion that whilst we are all different we are

united by a common set of values and beliefs;

RESPECT,

PARTICIPATION,

SENSE OF BELONGING

Contacts: Gordon:- 0427 213 717 Erin:- 5831 6157

Richard:- 58216086

On the 21st of March 2009 will be a free event for Harmony Day

Fun for all the family

Rumbalara Sports Complex, Mercury Drive,

Shepparton