SOME KEY DATES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 3 – 4</td>
<td>May 5 – 6</td>
<td>May 10 – 14</td>
<td>Wilderness Activity Day</td>
<td>May 17 – 18</td>
<td>7.30pm School Association</td>
<td>UNSW Computer Competition</td>
<td>May 20 – 21</td>
<td>7.30pm School Association</td>
<td>End of Term One for students</td>
<td>Moderation Day – All State Schools – no classes for students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 7 Camp 1 7C &amp; 7E</td>
<td>Grade 7 Camp 2 7D &amp; 7G</td>
<td>National Testing – TO BE CONFIRMED</td>
<td>All parents welcome</td>
<td>Grade 7 Camp 3 7A &amp; 7F</td>
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<td>Grade 7 Camp 4 7B</td>
<td>Try a Trade – Grade 9 Derwent Entertainment Centre</td>
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Other important dates:

- Term 2 Commences – Tuesday, June 15
- End of Term 2 – Friday, September 3
- Term 3 Commences – Monday, September 20
- Show Day – October 21
- End of Term 3 (Grades 7 – 10) – Thursday, December 16

The School Association has also approved two professional learning days for this year. These are: Monday, July 19 and Friday, October 22.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Vale Mr Barry Graham

Members of the staff were saddened by the sudden death of Mr Barry Graham. Barry has been a member of the school’s ancillary staff since 2007. A kind, quiet and unassuming man, Barry took great pride in his work and worked tirelessly to ensure the school buildings were kept in good shape and always impeccably clean.

He was friend to his work colleagues, who had the highest regard for him.

On behalf of the school community, I would like to pass on our sincere condolences to Barry’s family. He will be sadly missed.

Inter-High Swimming

I would like to thank all members of the Inter-High Swimming Team for their excellent efforts in the pool at the Hobart Aquatic Centre on Wednesday of this week.
Mrs Kay and Mrs Wakefield were extremely pleased with the team’s efforts and their excellent support for each other as they competed for the school. 3rd overall was an excellent result. Well done!

Congratulations to Josh McDermott who broke longstanding records in the 100m Freestyle and the 50m Freestyle.

Band Camp
Forty four members of the school’s Concert Band travelled to Orford for this year’s annual band camp. The band spent three days running through a range of music which will be performed during this year.

The band camp provided many new members with an outstanding opportunity to learn how the band operates in rehearsal, to get to know other band members and to spend dedicated time concentrating on just their music.

Many thanks to Ms Dawes, Mr Hunt, Mr Lawler and Ms Dwyer for looking after the band and providing this excellent learning opportunity.

National Testing
As I indicated in our previous newsletter, NAPLAN testing for 2010 may be subject to industrial action. This is now the case, with members of the Australian Education Union voting to place a national moratorium on the delivery of this series of literacy and numeracy tests.

I have included a copy of a letter to parents prepared by the AEU which outlines the reasons they have identified to warrant this strong action.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
I would like to thank all those parents and guardians who took the opportunity to come into school this Thursday to meet with members of the teaching staff.

This is the first of two parent/teacher evenings for the year.

The next report will be provided to you on July 26/27 with a second parent/teacher evening on Wednesday, August 4.

Mid-year reports will include assessments using the Tasmanian Curriculum Standards for virtually all subjects, accompanied by teacher comments, including suggestions for areas of future focus. This report will cover learning since the commencement of the year.

In the period between this first Progress Report and the end of July, should you have any concerns about your child’s progress, please don’t hesitate to contact your subject teacher or class teacher.

Finally, I would remind all parents and guardians that school reports and school newsletters can be provided by post. The newsletter can also be distributed to you by email. In recent days, I have become aware that there continues to be a very small minority of students who do not take the newsletter home to their parents and in some cases have not passed on their Progress Report. Please contact the school office to change how you receive this important school information.

Stephen Mannering
Principal

Stars of Sport
Congratulations to:
Former students, Selina Bryan and Andrew Topfer on their inclusion on the Faculty of Arts Dean’s Roll of Excellence for their outstanding results in 2009.

Grade 7
• Georgia Jacobson-Home (7B) who participated in the 12/13 age group at the National Diving Championships in Brisbane over the Easter break.
• Jack Petrie 7D competed in the Victorian State Trampoline Championships over Easter.
• Fergus Doherty 7E has been competing in the State Skateboarding Championships – this involves a number of competitions around the various state venues. Fergus has been placed second in 2 events but over Easter he won the U15 section at the round which was held at Dover.

Grade 8
• Megan Shadbolt (8G) who also went to Brisbane to compete in the U14 Water Polo National Club Championships.
• Bianca Burnett 8C has been selected in the Southern U14 netball team to play the North and Northwest.

• Klaire Carrick 8C was named the Junior Referee of the Season for 2009/10 by Southern Touch Tasmania.

Grade 9
• Kate Lindsay 9B participated in the National Junior Vicki Cardwell Squash Classic in Adelaide and won the Girls 15 Years title. A huge effort as Kate was unseeded and knocked out the top seed on the way to the final and defeated the no.3 seed in the final. Kate was the only non-seeded player to win a title.

Grade 10
• Errol McDougall 10B placed 4th in the State Sabre Sailing Championships

The Science Experience Opportunity for Year 9 and 10 students
A three day hands on practical science program will be conducted again in 36 Australian Universities and Tertiary Institutions throughout 2010-2011. The programs are non-selective and open to all students in Years 9 and 10. Each program includes a wide variety of practical activities, excursions, career information together with interesting presentations by leading Australian scientists and engineers.

This is a Rotary Youth Services Project, supported by the Australian Science Teachers Association and The Young Scientists of Australia. The total cost of the three day program is $110.00 [includes GST]. Local Rotary clubs are often willing to sponsor students to attend, so please contact your local Rotary club for details.

Further information and application forms are available from your school [contact Mr Dickenson], local Rotary club, The Science Experience office on 03 8288 1001 or www.scienceexperience.com.au - early application is advised.

BRING HOME A BROTHER OR A SISTER
In June-July 2010, students, aged 15 – 18 years, from over 15 countries will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 3, 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis.

Host families help provide our students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To learn more about this opportunity, call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit our website: www.studentexchange.org.au

Kip McGrath
Kerry Cox  BSc DipEd TTC
Professional Tutoring in:
• Reading
• Spelling
• English
• Mathematics
from Prep to College
For a free, no obligation assessment phone 6245 1888
YOU COULD LEARN A LOT FROM AN INTERNATIONAL BROTHER OR SISTER.


And what fun teaching him or her about Australian culture!

Capture the spirit of family and friendship by hosting an international exchange student from Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July 2010 for 5 months from Europe and Scandinavia. They will attend a local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money.

If your family would like to have the opportunity to have a brother or sister from overseas for a semester, please call us now.

CONTACT: 1800 500 501
email: scceaust@scce.com.au
www.scce.com.au

Tasmanian Associated for the Gifted
In conjunction with The School of Engineering at the University of Tasmania Presents: A Hands-on Discover Engineering Experience - Planetastic

- Build and fly your own kites, parachutes and aircraft, learn about aerodynamics and the forces present in flight.

Suits grades 4+

On 29 April or 13 May 2010, 3:45-5:45pm

Electric Powered Cars

- Design and build your own electric car!
- Race your car against those built by others.
- Learn about engineering design process

Suits Grades 5 – 8

6 May or 20 May 2010, 3:45-5:15pm

For registration form email tasgifted@gmail.com

FAIRY FLOSS MACHINE WANTED!
Anyone who is willing to lend a fairy floss machine to the school for Open Night please contact Mrs Cash.

Hawthorn Football Club’s Super Saturday
This Free family event is being held at Aurora Stadium Saturday 24 April, beginning at 3.00pm. This is your chance to meet the Hawthorn players, grab an autograph and take part in our family activities.

Have a kick on the ground before the players commence training, free face painting, Handball competitions, Giveaways, and our loveable mascot Hawka will be there too.

Sausages and drinks available to purchase, Merchandise for sale, and ask the Hawthorn football club about securing your seat to the games played at Aurora Stadium.

All children who attend will receive a Hawks Gift pack!

For more information call 6334 8111. We hope to see you there!

Parenting Boys For Success At School Seminar
Joseph Driessen is a leading International Educator in boys’ education, with over 25 years of experience in senior school management. Joseph is a regular speaker at National and International boys’ education conferences, and gives worldwide workshops and seminars to teachers, parents and boards of trustees about the education of boys.

Research shows that parents can markedly improve boys’ school achievement

Hobart
Thursday 20 May
New Town High School
Midwood Street
New Town

Launceston
Tuesday 18 May
[venue to be announced]
Time: 7:30-9:30pm
Entry price $15 per person [Door sales only]
To reserve a seat please email eaparents@xtra.co.nz [please write name of city in subject line]
April is Autism Month across Australia

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological condition that occurs on a continuum. This means that symptoms can occur in many varieties and with varying degrees of intensity. Some people might have a diagnosis of Autistic Disorder; others might have a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome or High Functioning Autism; still others may have a diagnosis of Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD) or otherwise referred to as atypical autism.

While each individual person with an ASD is unique, they each share 3 core clinical characteristics – people on the autism spectrum have difficulties in social interaction; with communication; and lack of flexibility in thinking and behaviour. These difficulties arise from the way that the information from their senses is processed, stored and retrieved by the brain. It creates confusion, frustration and anxiety with everyday activities and often accounts for the behaviours that occur.

ASD is not caused by bad parenting. While great strides have been made in ASD research, a cause is yet to be found. With 2005/06 data, the estimated prevalence of ASD in Australia was one child in every 160. Subsequent research puts this closer to 1 child in every 100. It is no longer considered a low incidence condition. On these estimates, every 20 minutes in Australia a person is diagnosed with an ASD.

This condition is lifelong and can have a significant impact on the life of a family. Parents often face enormous challenges understanding, supporting, and raising a child with an ASD. This job is often made all the more complex by a lack of community understanding an awareness of the condition, with parents regularly enduring critical comments or unfair assumptions about their child’s behavior or their parenting. There are students in your school community who have an ASD and this information is provided to increase your understanding of the condition with the view to enabling you to help and support those children and families living with this complex condition.

During April you will find more information in your school newsletter about ASD as an invitation to be Autism Aware. For more information call 1300 288 476.

Please be Autism Aware.