



GILMORE COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

NEWSLETTER

Issue No 10—21 July 2009

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Welcome back everyone. I hope you had time for a break and had the opportunity to relax with your children.

Science Centre

Over the holidays we received the exciting news that Gilmore College for Girls has been successful with our application for the construction of a new Science Centre. The Science Centre is part of the Commonwealth Government's 'The Nation Building – Economic Stimulus Plan'. This will be a terrific addition to our facilities and it will be fantastic to have our girls working in such a modern facility.

School Review

The school review concluded last term with a report to staff and the College Council scheduled for Wednesday, 22 July by the reviewer Bronwyn van Amarongen. The review process was very beneficial as there has been a significant change of staff since the last review was conducted and there have been many changes within the College since then. The review outcomes were generally positive with acknowledgement of the quite special and unique nature of our College. The review highlighted particular areas for attention and these will be addressed in future planning. The recommendations from the review will be prioritised and incorporated into our new Strategic Plan which we will develop throughout this term.

Staffing

Welcome back to Ms Jarman who was on long service leave last term. We also welcome Ms Dobra, her replacement in Term 2, onto staff for the remainder of the year.

We also welcome back Ms Fotini Dimidou who has been overseas—her allotment is Mathematics and Science.

We say goodbye to Ms Cronin who has been seconded to the Central Office to work on developing programs to

support teachers in the classroom. We do have a replacement for Ms Cronin so the disruption for the students will be minimal. We wish Ms Cronin well in her new role—she has been seconded for two and a half years.

VCE Parent/Teacher Interviews

Last Thursday the VCE students were provided the opportunity to discuss their reports with their parents and teachers and to gain valuable advice to assist their learning for Semester 2.

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Spark Program

A small number of Year 7 students have been selected to participate in a Reading program. Each student will have two mentors from PwC and one mentor will come each week to listen to the student read and discuss the books being read. This program has been used in New South Wales and in primary schools. I think this is the first time the SPARK program has been conducted in a Victorian secondary school. We are looking forward to the launch.

Reports 7-9

The reports for all students in Years 7-9 were mailed home during the last week of term. I hope you have discussed your daughters' report with her. I have read all the reports and there are some students who have done exceptionally well. However, there are some students who are not working to their full potential. One disappointing aspect I noticed is the poor attendance from a small number of students—students cannot keep up to date with class work if they are not at school.

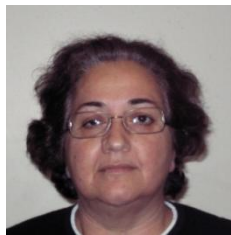
If you did not receive your daughters report can you contact the office to update your details. Also the year level coordinators will be contacting a number of families to arrange meetings but likewise if you have concerns please contact the coordinator to arrange a time to discuss the report.

Bette Prange
Principal

Date	Event
Wednesday, 22 July	Mid Year Award Ceremony
Thursday, 23 July	Year 9—Circus 'Show and Tell'
Tuesday, 28 July	10 students visit 'Newport Bridge'

Date	Event
Mon, 27 to Wed, 29 July	Year 8 Camp—Arrabri Lodge
Monday, 3 August	Year 7 excursion to 'Scienceworks'
Wednesday, 5 August	VCE Information Evening

STAFF PROFILES



Fotini Dimidou
Maths & Science Teacher

Allow me to re-introduce myself to Gilmore College for Girls. I am pleased to be back teaching after spending a long time overseas. I can say it was a very long journey considering the fact that everyday offered new surprises and challenges. I look forward to again teaching Mathematics and Science



Cheree Dobra
English Teacher

My interest in becoming an English teacher hails from my love of literature and film, so it wasn't hard to determine which areas I wanted to teach when I signed up for a Post Grad in Education. It wasn't so long ago I was undergoing said Post Grad at a West Australian university—to find myself on the other side of the country teaching at Gilmore Girls College is a scenario I wouldn't have envisaged a year ago, but here I am and I'm so very happy to be a part of it. Another area of interest for me is music; while I'm no virtuoso I've been keeping myself amused with the piano since I was seven, so I'm particularly fond of my two new Year 7 music classes. As a newcomer to the Footscray community, it's been a real treat to discover the abundance of diversity and liveliness of the area. I'm delighted that Gilmore has given me an opportunity to develop my skills and experience with such wonderful students.

****Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)****

A reminder to all parents and guardians that the second EMA instalment will be paid during the month of August.

If you did not make application at the beginning of 2009 or your daughter is new at the College you are required to lodge an application form by **Wednesday, 5 August 2009**. EMA forms are available from the General Office.

If you require further information please contact Ms Nola Keyes on 9689 4788.

TEXTILES UPDATE

Textiles is offered from Years 7 to 12 and encompasses a variety of skills and techniques and offers students a wide scope for creative expression and development. In Year 7 students use painting, drawing and embroidery skills to create a Babushka doll and are introduced to the use of the sewing machine to create a drawstring bag.

Year 8 students look at colour and surface decoration to create a fabric collage using the bohemian artists and dancers of the 'Moulin Rouge' as their inspiration and influence.

Students in Year 9 are introduced to more formal garment construction techniques to make a pair of boxer shorts. They study the 'Rococo' period and its rich and elaborate designs, and interpret them to create their own drawings and sculptural textile pieces.

Year 10 students look at fashion through the decades, fashion silhouettes, fads and classic styles in fashion.



They also develop a folio of drawings using model drawing proportions. Students produce a bag based on a corset using a variety of sewing techniques.

VCE students study methods used by designers to plan create and make products appropriate to a set design brief. In Year 11 students are introduced to a wide variety of sewing techniques which they then apply to their own work. Year 12 students create their own folios of work building on the skills they have obtained in previous years. All textiles courses are intrinsically linked to the elements and principles of design which underpins their learning. The curriculum from Years 7 to 12 gives students the opportunity to build upon their skills, to think and learn by investigation, team work and applying practical skills to complete tasks.

Ms Kelly Delipoulos
Textiles Teacher

‘SCHOOLS ON BOARD’ PROGRAM

The Port of Melbourne is the largest and biggest container port in Australia and handles the shipment of more than 2 million containers a year of imported and exported goods.

The ‘Schools on Board’ program is run by the Port of Melbourne Corporation (PoMC) and gives secondary students the opportunity to visit the docks and go on board a container ship. The program seeks to provide students with information on the port, ships, shipping, the wider port environment, maritime careers and the role Patrick stevedores play in shipping and logistics.

The College recently received an invitation to visit the ship, ‘Newport Bridge’—a “K” Line shipping vessel, when it next arrives in Melbourne from Asia on Tuesday, 28 July. This is a fantastic opportunity as the port is usually inaccessible to the general public.



Ten students from Year 9 will take part in the excursion. The girls are looking at this ship and its journey in relation to Maths and Science and they can email questions to the captain and discuss in class aspects of the ship such as:

- how long does it take for the ship to stop and what distance is covered before it stops?; and
- what is the turning circle of the ship?

It would be interesting to see if there are any female ship captains!!!

Hopefully all Year 9 students will be able to visit the Port Education Centre later in the year and find out

more about the activities of the Port of Melbourne and its vital role in the State’s economy.

In the meantime girls can track the progress of the ship as it makes its way from Asia to Swanston Dock East.

*** Competition ***

There are prizes for five students, drawn randomly from correct entries, who can find out the length of the ship, the country/city it has come from and where it is going after Australia.

Entries on paper to Mr Walker by Monday, 27 July.

*Mr Peter Walker & Ms Maha Farag
Maths & Science Coordinators*

LET’S READ!

We encourage all students to read factual and/or fiction books, for enjoyment and interest at home. At least 20 to 30 minutes of daily reading helps students build up reading mileage. Reading practice is important in developing ability—just like any other skill.



Research shows that the more independent reading achieved, the higher the test results in all subjects!

At school we are now providing more time for students to read independently and we urge you to do the same at home.

Students need to select a ‘just right’ book to ensure successful reading. ‘Just right’ books can be read with 95 per cent accuracy and are books that students select to match their individual interests.

*Jan Curtis
Regional Literacy Coach*

ACTIVE GIRLS BREAKFAST

Sixteen girls attended the 2009 Active Girls Breakfast held at Etihad Stadium on Thursday, 16 July. The breakfast sponsored by the State Department for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs aims to encourage physical activity among young women by highlighting the range of activities available in the community. Over one thousand girls from schools all over Melbourne attended along with teachers and special guests.



The event was hosted by Tiffany Hall a Taekwondo black belt who is probably better known as Angel from the Gladiators TV show.

The girls were placed at tables with a female sporting role model. Our two tables had Ashlee Miller, a champion ballroom dancer and Jenna O’Hea a member of the Australian basketball team the Opals. The morning was packed with entertainment and inspirational speeches. We were entertained by the Bollywood dancers and a remarkable 83 year old yoga teacher whose flexibility and strength put all of us to shame.

Thanks to Ms Dempster for attending and to those parents who got themselves and their daughters to Footscray station at 6:00 a.m.

Mr Matt Clancy
Student Leadership Coordinator

SPORTS UPDATE

Gilmore’s sport teams have been very busy and enjoyed varied levels of success during Term 2.

The cross country team trained extremely hard throughout the term, ably coached by Ms Allison Dempster and this paid dividends when both Elsie Daddow and Areeba Nadeem both finished inside the top ten at District level. In other District news all of the basketball, badminton and soccer teams trained hard and all played with the Gilmore spirit, achieving moderate success. Special mention must be made to the intermediate badminton team which has reached the Western Zone. We look forward to hearing how they achieve at this level.

The students and I would also like to thank all the staff who have trained teams over the course of the term, without these people inter-district sport would not occur.

Lachlan McMish
Sports Coordinator

TERTIARY INFORMATION SESSION

On Monday, 20 July all Year 12 students attended the Western Metropolitan tertiary information session at Victoria University. This session is designed to help our most senior students with their applications to study at tertiary institutions for next year.

Students were given information on the quite complex process of applying through the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Centre (VTAC) and how to maximise their opportunities once Year 12 is over. The session further reinforced the need for students to broaden their options by doing research on different career paths. TAFE options, such as a Certificate IV provide a gateway to further study at a degree level.

Our students also received information on the cost of tertiary study. Areas that are considered to be priorities by the government such as nursing and teaching are currently subsidised heavily by the commonwealth government. Other courses can incur a hefty debt!

The information session was followed by an opportunity for students to visit stands staffed by representatives of various tertiary providers. Many girls are now considering courses at institutions at many locations around Victoria.

Norelle Irwin
Pathways Coordinator

VCE Information Evening

For: Year 11 students 2010
When: Wednesday, 5 August 2009
At: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Gilmore College for Girls Library

