

Geelong Baptist College Newsletter No. 2 Thursday 11th February 2010

Principal: Trudy Knol

Principal's Patch

It is wonderful to have our College grounds filled with chatter, noise, laughter and learning again. Students have been back at school for two weeks and students all seem to have adjusted to their new routines with great confidence.

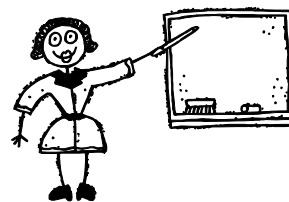
Staff have been very impressed with how the students have commenced the year, commenting on the overall positive tone of class groups and friendliness of students. New staff and students have also settled in well and have appreciated the warmth and welcoming community. What a great start to the year, well done GBC!!

Meet the Teacher Night – Tonight!!

GBC will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher Night' on Thursday February 11th at 7.00pm in the **Information Centre**. All families are invited and we would like to encourage you to attend so that you can meet your child/ren's teachers.

A light supper will be provided allowing parents to chat and mingle with teachers and other parents.

At 8.00pm, there will also be a VCE Information Session in the Information Centre led by Mrs Tattersall. Parents of all Year 10, 11 & 12 students undertaking a VCE subject are encouraged to attend and bring their Senior Years booklets.



A New Canteen Coordinator has been found !! Now Seeking Canteen Helpers!!

Mrs Kylie Peterson has kindly volunteered to be our new Canteen Coordinator which is greatly appreciated and a real blessing to our school community. Kylie is keen to start and is aiming to open the canteen for snacks by next week. However, she cannot do this alone and is seeking assistance. Please consider if you would be available to assist – even on a fortnightly basis, as without parental help and support for Kylie, the canteen will still not be able to function.

Basically the time commitment can be determined by the persons willing to assist. If any parents are interested, please come and see the Principal, Mrs Trudy Knol.



Cuppa and Chat



Whether you are a new or old parent (to the College that is!), it is always helpful to know other parents whose children attend the same school.

In an effort to support the parents in our community at GBC we are offering a purely social hour to get together and relax over a cuppa before we all pick up our children.

Date: Thursday 25th February Time: 2.15pm to 3.15pm Place: Lower M Block

Everyone is welcome and we would really love to see you.

If you have any questions please call Sarah on 52761641. PSG.

Immunisations

Once again the Barwon Health Immunisation Service along with the City of Greater Geelong will be offering all students the following vaccines. All Year 7 students will be offered Chicken Pox and Hepatitis B, and the **girls only** will also be offered the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine called Gardasil.

All Year 10 students will be offered Boostrix (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough) vaccine.

Please note, this is a service offered by Barwon Health. Each parent is responsible for making the decision which vaccines they want their child to receive. The College cannot take responsibility for this personal family choice.

However, **all** students are asked to return the forms, even if parents decide that their child will not receive any vaccinations. These forms were due back to school by Wednesday 10th February. Parents will now need to return the forms directly to Barwon Health.

The following dates have been set aside for our school:

1st visit – 16th March 2010 - Year 7 (all) Hep B, Chicken Pox and (girls only) Gardasil.

- Year 10 (all) Boostrix.

2nd visit – 27th May 2010 - Year 7 (girls only) Gardasil.

3rd visit – 7th October 2010 - Year 7 (all) Hep B, and (girls only) Gardasil.

Education Maintenance Allowance

Parents who have a current Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Veteran Affairs Card or are foster parents, may claim EMA. New claim forms for 2010 need to be filled out by every eligible family. These forms are available at the College office. Parents must have a current card in order to claim and need to present this card and the form to the office by no later than 19th February 2010.

Car Park

Thank you to all those parents who are abiding by the new lines and signs in our school car park. This is greatly appreciated. From what I have observed, the morning traffic flows fairly well. However, the afternoons are more congested and at times this creates a bit of tension. A few parents choose to park incorrectly or to create their own rules. May I please remind all drivers that the speed limit is 10km per hour and that we all need to be considerate of each other and especially the children in the car park. We all have the right to be safe in the car park.

As a means of easing the congestion during the afternoon "rush", could I please ask those parents of older children (Year 4 -12), to pick up their child/ren at 3.30pm. This consideration is greatly appreciated.

Important Dates

- Thurs 11th February: Meet the Teacher Night and VCE Info Night
- Fri 19th February: Darwin Defenders– **All Year 9/10- all day**
- Fri 19th February: GBC Family BBQ at 6:30pm
- Tue 23rd– Fri 26th February: Primary Swimming Lessons
- Tue 2nd - Fri 5th March: Primary Swimming Lessons
- Thurs 4th March: Parent Teacher Interviews
- Mon 8th March: Labour Day Holiday– **no students required at school**
- Wed 10th March: GBC Swimming Carnival
- Mon 15th March: Report Writing Day– **no students required at school**
- Thurs 18th March: Parent Camp Meetings
- Fri 19th March: School Photos
- Mon 22nd March: Year 11/12 Studio Arts Excursion
- Tue 23rd March: Interim Reports Distributed
- Wed 24th March: GBC Cross Country
- Fri 26th March: Last Day of Term One- **normal 3:20pm finish**
- Mon 12th April: First Day of Term Two for staff– **no students required at school**
- Tue 13th April: First Day of Term Two for students

TERM DATES

- Term 1** 1st February - 26th March
- Term 2** 13th April - 25th June
- Term 3** 13th July - 17th September
- Term 4** 5th October - 9th December

** More detailed information regarding the events listed above will be sent closer to their dates. **

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB – HELP NEEDED

For 2010 GBC will again utilise the Scholastic Book Club program for Prep to Year 6 students.

Each child in primary receives a 'Book Club News' catalogue, monthly, and it has been great to see the students and parents support this program. The first catalogue was distributed last week with catalogues due back yesterday, 10th of February.

We are asking for parent helpers to assist in some of the organization aspects of this program. If you feel that you would like to go on a roster please contact the office and speak with either Miss Green or Mrs Low.

SECONDARY NEWS:

Welcome back to a new year! A cooler start to the school year was welcome this year.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SPORT: On their first day of Wednesday afternoon sport, students walked the Cross Country course before completing their sport selections for the entire semester. Parents should have now sighted, signed and returned permission forms for their child's involvement in the sporting program allocated. The first block of sport began on Wednesday 11th February with the choices of: Indoor Tennis, Indoor Soccer, Table Tennis, Dance, Badminton and Swimming Lessons. Students will continue with these sports for 4 weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr Peter Lamprecht - our VCAL Coordinator. Each year the VCAL Quality Assurance Panel recommends a number of VCAL providers' templates as exemplars. Peter's unit for VCAL Foundation Reading and Writing was recognised at the end of 2009 as being one such exemplar and has been published by the VCAA (Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority). Congratulations Peter!

SECONDARY CAMPS: These are coming up in April from Wed 14th to Friday 16th April. The venues for the camps are as follows:

- Year 7/8 - Halls Gap
- Year 10 - Wilson's Prom
- Year 11/12 - City

More information will be provided by the teachers involved in each camp over the next few weeks. An important date for the diary is the Parent Camp Meeting on Thursday 18th March at 7.30pm.

Year 9's will be involved in a number of camps throughout their Year 9 program in Semester Two and for these 3 days that other classes are on camp, they will be involved in an academic program back at school.

PARENT MEETINGS: We look forward to meeting you all tonight (Thurs 11th February) at our 'Meet the Teacher evening' (7pm) and VCE/VCAL Information Evening (8pm) in the Information Centre.

COVENANT STUDENTS: We have a number of students from Covenant College joining us for our Unit 3/4 Biology and Chemistry classes. We welcome them and know they will benefit from the knowledgeable instruction of Mrs Dorothy Parkes.

We are looking forward to a great term! Sharlene Tattersall- Secondary Coordinator

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