



Gleneagles College Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

Friday 20 th February	- School Council Elections 2015, applications open at 9.30am	Thursday 19 th March	- Senior Volleyball, Tennis - Intermediate & Senior Baseball
Tuesday 24 th February	- School Photos	Monday 23 rd March	- Division Golf - SMR Lawn Bowls
Thursday 26 th February	- Year 12 Chemistry Excursion	Tuesday 24 th March	- Year 7 Volleyball, Cricket, Tennis - Year 7 & 8 Baseball
Friday 27 th February	- Swimming Sports Carnival - School Council Elections 2015, applications close at 4.00pm	Wednesday 25 th March	- Year 8 Volleyball, Cricket, Tennis - Softball – all Year levels
Mon 2 nd – Fri 6 th March	- Year 7 Camp, Flinders	Thursday 26 th March	- SMR Swimming (selected students)
Monday 9 th March	- Labour Day Holiday (no students)	Friday 27 th March	- Cross Country Carnival - Last day of Term 1, dismissal at 2.30pm
Tuesday 10 th March	- Year 10 Excursion, Docklands	Monday 13 th April	- Term 2, first day
Wednesday 11 th March	- Division Swimming (selected students)	Wednesday 15 th April	- Immunisation – Year 7, 8 & 10 students

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

COLLEGE COUNCIL ELECTIONS NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Councillors are elected to office for a two year term. This year, three parent representative positions and one DET employee representative position fall vacant (refer to the last page of newsletter). Interested parents may contact the Principal, Sue Peddlesden to discuss the opportunity. Nominations open today, Friday 20th February 2015 and close on Friday 27th February 2015 at 4.00pm. Nominations will be assessed and if an election is required, the ballot will be held between March 6th and 16th March 2015.

*Please see the Gleneagles website for more information and application forms: www.gleneagles.vic.edu.au

SCHOOL CARNIVALS 2015

The Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday, 27th February 2015. Carnival Permission forms that have not been returned to the College are now overdue.



SELECT ENTRY ACCELERATED LEARNING (SEAL) PROGRAM INFORMATION NIGHT, WEDNESDAY, 15TH APRIL 2015, 7.00PM FOR YEAR 7, 2016 STUDENTS

Applications for entry into the 2016 Year 7 SEAL Program are now being invited. The SEAL Information Night will be held on Wednesday 15th April 2015 at 7.00pm in the Shed at the College. No booking required. Applications close on Monday, 27th April at 12 noon. Testing for entry into the SEAL Program for Year 7, 2016 students is scheduled for Saturday, 9th May 2015. Please let family members or friends who may be interested in this program know that they may obtain the application form and further details through the college website.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos are being taken on Tuesday 24th February 2015. All students received the envelopes for their school photographs last week. Students should ensure they bring the photo envelopes with their order on the day. Additional spare order forms are also available from the college office. Correct money is required by the photographers as the college is not able to provide change.

The photographer will take multiple images of each student on the day. Parents can choose a Standard Package and return the order in the permanent sealed bag with the payment to the photographer on the day; or choose to wait for 24 hours and go on-line to View the images taken. The photographer will provide each student with a unique on-line log on code on photo day. On-line photos should be made within 14 days after the photo day. Orders may also be made online with the company www.schoolphoto.com.au. There is no need to return the pre-payment order envelope on the photo day if ordering on-line.

Jumpers will not be worn in the photo. All students will leave their jumpers in the classroom when they are called to the gym for their class photo. Please ensure that jumpers and all other items of school uniform are labelled with the student's name.

NAMING YOUR BELONGINGS

We remind parents that all items of clothing should be **labelled** so the items can be returned to the rightful owner if they are found. Text books and all items of uniform should also be labelled with the student's name and Home Group.

RECENT AUDITORS REPORT ON GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF SCHOOLS

There has been quite a bit written and discussed in the media recently about the cost to parents of educating students in Government schools. This arose because the Auditor General recently handed down a report on an audit that “*assessed whether the Department of Education and Training (DET) and government schools are managing parent costs economically, efficiently and in accordance with legislations and policies*”. Having read the full report, I would like to share some of Auditor Generals conclusions.

- Funding of Secondary Colleges in Victoria were 11.4% below the national average.
- DET does not know the true cost of free instruction in the standard curriculum.
- DET does not know whether school funding is sufficient for the provision of free instruction.
- DET cannot assure itself, schools or parents that funding is sufficient to provide free instruction.
- The funding allocation was insufficient to cover actual operating and maintenance cost for school infrastructure costs. On average the audited schools spent 82% more than they received on these activities.
- Schools generate almost as much income themselves \$626 million (42%) as they receive in cash payments from DET \$771 million. This is largely from parents and to a small extent other sources.
- Schools with more disadvantaged families derive less income from parent payments. Less disadvantaged schools received an average parent payment of \$610 or 6.7% of their total revenue, while more disadvantaged schools received an average parent contribution of \$315 or 2.6% of the total revenue.

Having read the whole report, I make the following observations:

- ❖ Gleneagles SC parent payment policy is substantially compliant with DET policy. There were a couple of technical matters to address e.g. our policy is required to state that we will not employ debt collectors – we never have and never would, so we had concluded it was redundant to include this in our policy.
- ❖ Secondly, Governments from both political parties talk about free education. As the report shows they simply do not know if they provide the funding to deliver on the promise they so freely make. As an experienced Principal I can state that our budgets have certainly been getting much tighter over the last few years.
- ❖ School programs and facilities would be substantially diminished if not for locally raised funds.

- ❖ This puts pressure on schools and parents, particularly those parents with limited means.

I am pleased that the current Victorian Government seems to acknowledge that our government schools are inadequately funded. I look forward to this concern being reflected in increased funding for government schools in the May State budget. Gleneagles SC will continue to strive to deliver the quality programs parents expect and students deserve. Would that it was a little easier for all concerned!

Sue Peddlesden, Principal

FROZEN BERRIES

As you may be aware, links were found over the past weekend between bags of Nanna’s frozen mixed berries and at least five cases of Hepatitis A, including three in Victoria. As a precaution and on advice from Victoria’s Chief Health Officer, Dr Rosemary Lester, the company has recalled this product on 14th February 2015 and subsequently two further products (Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries) due to concerns about possible contamination with Hepatitis A virus.

We have been advised by the Canteen Manager that the berries used in their yoghurt cups with muesli and berries prior to 14th February 2015 may have come from one of the products listed above. Please note that we have not used mixed berries in our Home Economics program this year. Students who may have purchased this product from the canteen this year, have been supplied with a letter from the school to take home to their parents. Any further queries can be directed to Ms Toth at the College.

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Personal property is sometimes brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, electronic games, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. Neither the school nor the Education Department holds insurance for personal property brought to schools and have no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. All members of the school community are reminded that they should not bring any unnecessary items to school.

HOT WEATHER DAYS

As with every summer, we are bound to face several more days of particularly hot weather this Term.

At school: -

- Students are permitted to take drink bottles (containing water only) into the classrooms.
- For protection against sunburn, students must also ensure that they apply sunscreen lotion.
- We would like to remind students to be sun smart and to take all necessary precautions to avoid dehydration, sunburn and sunstroke. Most of our classrooms are air conditioned and all other rooms have fans.



Sue Peddlesden, Adele Duffy, Kathie Toth & Paul Thorne

YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS

Please note that the Year 7 Boostrix Immunisation was not listed in last week's Newsletter. Year 7 students will receive their Boostrix on the same day as the 2nd Gardasil, Wednesday, 17th June 2015. Apologies for the oversight.

Immunisation Cards for Years 7 – 10

All completed and signed immunisation cards were to be returned to Homegroup Teachers by Friday, 20th February 2015. **Please get them back after the weekend if you have not already done so.**

Maxine Foster, Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator



This year is the Centenary of ANZAC. That's 100 years since we landed in Gallipoli during WW1. To commemorate this day, the library will be arranging a display and activities. We are looking for students who are interested in contributing to the display, or if you have family members that have a connection/items for our display. Please see Ms Moller in the library.

Lynne Moller, Library Coordinator

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

clk2sell App

Gleneagles recently announced the new way for families to buy and sell school uniform items. Has your child outgrown their uniform yet it's still in good condition? Would you like to sell it? Alternatively, are you looking to buy some items of uniform?



The clk2sell mobile App will allow parents to upload photos of school clothing they wish to sell. These items are then listed, together with the price, size and contact detail, under the school name. Buyers make contact via the service and the transactions are completed offline.

The college has listed for sale the uniform items parents have previously submitted to our second hand uniform shop. All items currently held in our store at the college are listed on the App. You can use the App to locate these items.

We are asking parents to sell their items via this App and the College is phasing out the second hand uniform shop and there is limited supply available.

clk2sell is available for Apple iPhones and for Android. Full details are on the College website.

No commissions or fees will be charged. Please note clk2sell is proudly supported by State Schools' Relief.

GERMAN LANGUAGE ASSISTANT: VANESSA BOCK

In 2015 Gleneagles Secondary College in conjunction with Fountain Gate Secondary College has again been successful in acquiring a German Language Assistant as a part of LAP (Language Assistant Program) run through the Department of Education. In previous years many students at Gleneagles have enjoyed having both German and Indonesian Language Assistants in their classrooms as they are able to build confidence, new friendships and cultural and linguistic knowledge through continual interaction with a native speaker.

This year we would like to welcome our new German Language Assistant Vanessa Bock (pictured below). Vanessa comes to Gleneagles having previously spent time studying in America, teaching English in China and is in the later part of her studies in Germany to become a teacher.

Vanessa's role during her time at Gleneagles will include working with a number of German classes and teachers across all Year levels with a particular focus on the VCE German classes. She will be helping students to develop their cultural knowledge by teaching them about different aspects of her life in Germany as well as importantly working with whole classes, small groups and individual students to provide essential support in different areas such as speaking and listening.



Ms Rooney, LOTE Domain Manager

CAREERS NEWS

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 students should now be planning their week of work experience for Monday 17th to Friday 21st August 2015. The work experience form is also on the College website on the Homepage under Quicklinks. Please organise your placement in advance as many workplaces require an application form and interview, or submission of a resume. Year 10 students that are new to the college should visit Chris Wood in the Careers office as soon as possible.

INSIGHT INTO PARAMEDICINE

Monash University's Peninsula Campus is once again offering an eight week Insight into Paramedicine program for students in Years 11-12 with an interest in Emergency Health.

The course will take place at the Peninsula Campus on Monday evenings from 4.30pm-6.30pm between 16th March and 11th May 2015. Places are strictly limited, so please register as soon as possible. Visit the following website for more information and return forms no later than 6th March 2015:-

www.med.monash.edu.au/cehnp/insight/index.html

Chris Wood, Careers Co-ordinator

Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Gleneagles Secondary College. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on 27/2/2015. The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on 16/3/2015.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017	3
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017	1

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Please see the Gleneagles website for more information and application forms:

www.gleneagles.vic.edu.au