

News

Week 9 of 10, Term 2

Thursday 18th June, 2009

Diary: 2009

June

Monday 22 nd	Junior Hooptime
Wednesday 24 th	House Athletic Sports Yr 4-6
Friday 26 th	End Term 2, 2.30pm dismissal
Saturday 27 th	Working Bee 2 pm

July

Monday 13 th	Term 3 starts
Tuesday 14 th	CSIRO display Level 4
Thursday 23 rd	Year 4 incursion
Monday 27 th	Indoor Assembly

August

Monday 17 th	Wakakirri Dress Rehearsal
Monday 24 th	Year 6 Camp begins
Friday 28 th	Year 6 Camp returns
Monday 31 st	Year 4 Production

September

Wednesday 2 nd	Year 4 Production
Saturday 5 th	CHAPS Trivia Night

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We have had the pleasure of seeing our students perform in-house at the **Stage Struck** concerts during this week. Seeing performance of groups and individuals getting up in front of an audience is terrific. It is not easy to perform and can be a stepping stone to great things and building that all important confidence and self belief. Thanks to Elmar Lumpreiks and the staff who assisted on the nights and provided this opportunity for our students.

Enrolments

Can we ask our current families or anyone you know who is considering enrolling at a wonderful school to do so as soon as possible. It assists our planning greatly to know by the end of this term.

Internet

I am pleased to say that we have a new look website for the public web presence. This is a site built with a commercial company who has many schools on board. This site will provide our public face and will also have the Newsletter each week. We will be strongly encouraging parents to access the newsletter online particularly next term when we get into full swing. The new site has an advertising strip down the right hand side which displays companies that I approve. This is done as a fund raiser and depending on the number of hits we will receive a cheque each term. This could raise significant funds for our school. Please go and have a look. It has only just gone live and it will take us a few weeks to update and refresh all information on the site but some parts are already done and the newsletters are available.

Our Community website with the shared login will be completed for the start of next term and that will open up exciting opportunities for sharing information about school events and student work in a secure manner. More about that at the start of Term 3.

Swine Flu

I can let the community know that we have a least one confirmed case of Swine Flu for a student in the school. This is not surprising or even alarming now. There may be more because they are not even testing for it any longer so new cases are not likely to be identified other than in special cases. The Education Departments latest information for schools states:

Victoria is now in a modified 'Sustain' phase of its plan to manage the impact of this strain of influenza in our community. The virus has so far been mild and can be compared to our normal winter flu.

FREE DRESS DAY
FRIDAY 26TH JUNE
FOR FAIR
GOLD COIN DONATION

There is no longer a need to quarantine everyone who has been in contact with a confirmed case of H1N1 Influenza. Only confirmed cases will need to be quarantined for three days and will all continue to be given the most appropriate treatment. Household members may continue to be provided with Tamiflu, but will not be quarantined.

Need to find out more?

- Visit www.health.vic.gov.au
- Call the Swine Influenza hotline on 180 2007
- Call Nurse-on-Call on 1300 60 60 24 for expert health information (24 hours, 7 days)

Please ensure that if students are unwell that they are kept at home, otherwise they should be at school enjoying the last weeks of term 2, looking forward to longer daylight hours ahead.

Parking

I am sure many of you are sick of this topic, but not as much as I am. We have continued issues with parents parking on the school property at pick-up time in particular. THIS IS NOT ALLOWED in any carpark inside the school fences. We also have many parent DOUBLE PARKING ILLEGALLY and expecting their children to be unsafe and squeeze between cars and even not use the crossing sometimes. This is clearly not acceptable in any circumstances.

I am pleased to be able to report that the Maroondah Council Parking Officer has been taking photos and that those parking illegally could expect to be fined. Please make sure that other family & friends who might collect on occasions know how to collect children safely and according to our guidelines. Keep in mind that like it or not we are always role models for our children. If you model breaking the road rule laws and acting in ways that are expedient but unsafe then our children will think that is acceptable.

I feel sorry that I need to keep repeating these messages as I know the vast majority of parents who do the right thing on all occasions.

Graeme Caudry

NEWS FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL – JUNE 2009

Last year the CHPS 4-year Strategic Plan placed considerable emphasis on the Three R's and already there have been some significant activities during terms 1 and 2. With the financial support of CHAPS, the Internet-based Mathletics program was purchased and has been a huge success with the students in Years 1-6. The Mathletics program is being used in various ways at different levels, including at home! I cannot believe that our kids are actively participating in maths-based activities, at home, and outside of school hours. What a great outcome.

On top of that we have had the "Premier's Reading Challenge". A record number of 237 Students from CHPS have signed up this year, which is over half the

children at the school. From all reports the reading is going well and between them they have completed 2047 books so far!! Isn't that fantastic. The book fair has also just ended, with over \$5,000 worth of books sold to the school community. This too has been a big success and means that students have access to good quality reading material. Thanks to Sue Offer and Ruth Every for organising this important activity.

The Anti-Bullying policy has recently been revised by the Education Subcommittee and ratified by the school council. This is a very important document for the school and was completed in consultation with the school community at large. The Anti-bullying policy, which includes Cyber bullying, contains strategies and guidance for school staff, students and parents on how to prevent and resolve bullying episodes. This document can soon be accessed on the CHPS community website to be launched next term. . The Education subcommittee reviews school policy on a regular basis and members of the school community are welcome to attend our meetings – your input would be welcome.

The school council has been actively involved in some of the discussions, planning and prioritisation of facilities and equipment to invest in using the two federal handouts of cash for our school. With the first grant of \$200,000.00 the school has purchased equipment to improve the teaching aides in each classroom (interactive whiteboards) and some money will also be invested in installing additional shaded areas over playgrounds as well as an upgrade of the Prep/Grade 1 area. Significantly some money will also be spent on some discrete but important fencing around the school to increase the security of our valuable facility.

As announced recently by Graeme, we are expecting to be able to build a full-size gymnasium on our school grounds. After significant lobbying by Graeme and fellow colleagues within the Maroondah region we plan to build a facility to the value of around \$2.4 million and anticipate that we will have access to a further \$350,000.00 to re-invest in our school. We are waiting on the formal Federal announcement in mid July and the detailed planning will commence. As was the intention of the federal initiative we aim to build a facility that is not only well suited to the needs of the children attending CHPS but that it is also a valuable asset to the Croydon Hills community. Consultation with the project architects is currently underway and we hope that the project will begin sometime in Term 4 of this year.

The school council would like to thank all the sub-committees for the work thus far this year. Significantly the School Fair subcommittee is in full swing with Rachelle Robertson and her colleagues for our November Fair. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who contribute to the many varied activities that revolve around our school and which adds so much to the learning environment for our kids.

Brendan Rodoni, President, CHPS School Council

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Education Maintenance Allowance will be automatic in the second half of the year for those who have already applied this year and **have a current pension/health care card** for the second half of the year. If you have received a **new card** since the beginning of the year, we will need a **copy of it at the office**. If you have just received a card you may now be eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance so you must come to the office to complete a form to apply.

VACATION CARE

Booking forms are now available from the school office and After School Care room.

Activities include mini golf, Myuna Farm, Melbourne Aquarium, Imax Theatre, Rock Climbing and The Movies – Ice Age 3.

Please return your completed form ASAP and we will then process it and notify you the cost. The program is open to the wider community with only 45 places available each day so the program fills up fast. If you haven't already applied for reduced fees you can call The Family Assistance Office on 136150 and register. Please quote our provider number 555 008 476K. Families who have linked to the service are eligible for 50% of our out of pocket expenses. Payment is due in by **TUESDAY 23RD JUNE**. Thank you.

Mandy 9724 4514

SPORTS NEWS

Interschool Sport

2 weeks ago we played Kalinda in the second last round for the term. Most teams were successful. Netball A and Netball C were not so lucky, and the Soccer team had a draw. Thanks again to all the parents who have been supporting the teams by assisting the teachers, coaches or by just being there to support the kids. Tomorrow we play against Good Shepherd in the final round. Hopefully the weather will be good to us as the 3 Netball teams and Soccer are walking there.

School Football Report

With one more match to go the Croydon Hills P.S. football squad has done a fantastic job. Playing against Ringwood Nth P.S. they never allowed them to get into match and was well led by our Captain for the day Halen Jones.
Final Scores Croydon Hills P.S. 170 to Ringwood Nth P.S. 9

Our biggest test was the following game against Kalinda P.S. Kalinda were the only other team in our group who had not lost a game. Led by our Captain for the day David Adams our boys played attacking, skilful football and again never allowed Kalinda to get into the game. Unfortunately Kalinda only had 16 players. But to our boys credit with the amount of players I had to rotate, the players continued to concentrate on playing team football and ran out comfortable winners.

Final Scores Croydon Hills P.S. 96 to Kalinda P.S. 18

Congratulations to Frank Anderson for his fantastic effort for reaching the level that he did in the Victorian Primary School try outs reaching the final 40 players.

Fergie (Coach)

House Athletics Sports

Next Wednesday 24th June, we will be holding our House Athletics Sports at Croydon Athletics Track, Nortons Road.. All grades 4/5/6 children are expected to attend the day to represent their house and give the races a go. There will be hurdles, 100M, 200M and 800M races with heats and finals. Children can choose to go in as many races as they like. From these results we will be looking at putting together the running teams for next terms District Athletics.

If your child has not returned their permission forms, please make sure they do by Friday. We also need as many hands on deck as possible during the day for recording, place judges etc and setting up the hurdles first thing in the morning. If you are available for the day, please send the slip at the bottom of the information sheet back to me asap.

Noreen McMenaman, Sport/PE

CANTEEN NEWS

SPECIAL LUNCHES - \$3.00

Please note due to the House Athletics (Year 4-6) on Wednesday 24th June, the special lunch will be split over two days.

Wednesday 24th June – Prep – Year 3 - Wedges with sour cream or tomato sauce.

Thursday 25th June – Year 4 – 6 - Wedges with sour cream or tomato sauce.

TERM.3.

Wednesday 15th July – Chicken Schnitzel Roll with lettuce & mayo.

Wednesday 22nd July - Wedges with sour cream or tomato sauce.

Wednesday 29th July – Chicken Burger with tomato, lettuce and mayo.

ROSTER

Friday 19th June – Carole Byron, Angela Dodkins, Joanne Duo, Carolyn Kelly.

Monday 22nd June – CLOSED

Tuesday 23rd June – Sally Anderson, Sharon Hackett, Jenny Vickering.

Wednesday 24th June – Rhonda Wheeler, Paula Catt, Penny MacDonald, Fiona Quayle, Kerryn Low.

Thursday 25th June – Kim Maggs, Kellie Mortlock, Lee Smart, Elizabeth Woods.

Friday 26th June – Carolyn Sharpe, Lorraine Dennis, Tricia Sparkes, Jo Wolff-Short.

TRIVIA NIGHT

I hope you have organised your tables with a maximum of ten per table. The booking form will be coming out next Wednesday, so fill it in with the people on your table and their money and put it in an envelope. First in best dressed. Thanks

Adelle Simpson, Trivia Night Co-ordinator

HELP WANTED

Each year our Fair Money booklets were guillotined and collated by a generous family from our school who runs a printing company. Unfortunately this family has left the school and I am now putting out an SOS to any families within our school community who may now be able to help. This is a huge job to have these books ready for the fair and I would **REALLY** appreciate anyone's help if you either run or work for a printing company who would be able to assist. All pages will be copied and ready for guillotining and collating. By way of thanks and acknowledgement, we would include your company's name in a list of sponsors to be published in our school newsletter each week leading up to the Fair, together with a copy of your business card if you would like to provide this. If you are to help please contact me via the office or email at rogalisa@optusnet.com.au

Alisa Wills, Fair Money & Ride Passes

WORKING BEE

Just a reminder about the next working bee on Saturday 27 June commencing at 2pm.

Further details regarding the tasks to be undertaken will be included in next week's newsletter.

So come along and help improve these fantastic grounds we have, so all the school community can enjoy.

Roger Wills, Buildings & Grounds Committee

LOST GRADE 6 JUMPER- Size A14

Would anyone have at home a grade 6 jumper with Lucas Anderson written on the label – if so please drop it into the office. Thanks

SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, guitar here at school. Creative Music for Schools conducts an Instrumental Music Program of small group classes at school each week aiming to give children and excellent grounding in music. Children will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument. Tuition costs from \$13.40 per lesson (payable per term) and enrolments are now being accepted for Term 3. Interested parents should call Lorraine during office hours 9818 2333 for more information or

www.creativemusic.com.au

Creative Music Mid-Year School Music Concert

The school community is invited to see the Creative Music students perform

James Wed. program Wed 24 June 4.15 in music room

James Thurs. program Thurs 25 June 4.15 in music room

Janice's Wed. program Wed.24 June 4.15 in music room

WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

WYREENA COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE 13-23 HULL ROAD CROYDON 3136 PHONE 9294 5590

<http://www.artsinmaroondah.com.au/Wyreena.htm>

Wyreena is offering a fantastic selection of enjoyable activities to keep your child amused through the long cold days of winter. Activities include: mask making, pottery, cartooning, puppet making, didgeridoo playing and a wonderful interactive display of reptiles in the Australian reptile show.



The Maroondah Regeneration Project

June 2009

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you about The Maroondah Regeneration Project, a proposal for the redevelopment of government secondary schools in the Maroondah Local Government Area.

Parents of students at Croydon, Heathmont, Maroondah, Norwood, Parkwood and Ringwood Secondary Colleges and Croydon Community School have been given details of the Maroondah Regeneration Project in forums held at the Karralyka Centre in the first two weeks of June.

At each forum, the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Director, Dr Jim Watterston, the Regional Network Leader, Mr Geoff Flett, and principals of the seven secondary schools described the context for the Maroondah Regeneration Project, initial details and the steps to be taken in the next months.

The context

The context for the Maroondah Regeneration Project is as follows:

- The seven schools have been working cooperatively for a number of years and the State Budget announcement of planning support for the regeneration project provides a once in a lifetime opportunity to provide better options for secondary school students in our schools into the future.
- The percentage of school aged children in the city of Maroondah as a proportion of the total population is declining and will continue to decline over the next twenty years. This was confirmed in two reports commissioned over the past five years by the local school network. These reports were provided by Dr Joanna Wynn of Melbourne University and Mr Greg Gibbs, an educational consultant.
- The State Government has in place the Building Futures Policy. The policy anticipates support for building projects being conditional on schools meeting a number of criteria, including being able to demonstrate how outcomes for students will be profoundly enhanced by particular proposals. In circumstances like ours, the Building Futures Policy encourages schools to cooperate in preparing submissions.
- Each school believes that it could offer better targeted and more effective programs if the various schools cooperated in new ways.

Detail

In the recent budget the State Government supported further planning for the refurbishment and rebuilding of the seven schools on five sites, with an allocation of \$1 million.

Over 100 parents from the seven schools attended the three forums, mentioned at the beginning of this letter, each night. Audience members had the opportunity to raise questions and provide input into our thinking.

At each meeting, Dr Watterston expanded on the information provided to date. Five sites would be comprised of four mainstream schools, in the North, East, South and West of the City of Maroondah, complemented by an alternative setting Croydon Community School.

He described specialist advice from an expert firm of architects, Architectus, which have recommended how we could best achieve this objective:

- In the north, bring together Parkwood and Norwood Secondary Colleges on the Parkwood site in a refurbished and rebuilt school and new entity, MEC Norwood
- In the east, bring together Maroondah and Croydon Secondary Colleges on the Maroondah site in a rebuilt school and new entity, MEC Croydon.
- In the south and west, substantially redevelop Heathmont and Ringwood Secondary Colleges, MEC Heathmont and MEC Ringwood
- Redevelop Croydon Community School.

The Building Futures submission, if fully funded, anticipates an overall approximate cost of \$75 million dollars.

The project is intended to create a new way of thinking about secondary education in our area where schools share their resources to provide programs and opportunities that are far beyond the capabilities of any school acting on its own.

Dr Watterston emphasised that this proposal would only be able to proceed with community support.

Meeting with Primary School Parents

Early in Term 3, we will again conduct a public forum, this time for interested parents of primary school children in our area. It will be advertised through the primary school network

This is an exciting time for all of the families who have, or will have, children attending state secondary schools in Maroondah.

We believe that this proposal represents a once in a life time opportunity to reshape and rebuild state secondary education in Maroondah so that it best meets the needs of our young people well into the future and provide them with best possible education.

Yours sincerely,

Principals of Maroondah Education Coalition Schools