

PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN

PRAY AND PERSEVERE

This Bulletin is produced fortnightly for the information of College families and is distributed to students to take home.

No. 1, Monday, 2nd February 2009

WELCOME

It is with much pleasure that I welcome all students, parents and staff to the 2009 school year. Soon I shall send a more formal welcome to families in which I shall highlight the importance of effective and honest communication on all issues.

Our College Theme for 2009 is 'Fully Alive'. Please take the time to read the context statement that is the Reflection piece for this first edition of the Principal's Bulletin in 2009.

It is expected that all students in Years 7 to 10 will have their parents sign the sheet which confirms parents' receipt of each edition of the Principal's Bulletin. This is found in the Student Planner. This sheet will be checked by Home Room Teachers and me on a regular basis.

Let us really enjoy and prosper from a great year in 2009 as we derive our inspiration from the esteemed College motto 'Pray and Persevere.'

COLLEGE THEME 2009**2009 SCHOOL YEAR**

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St Monica's College, Epping is a school with a special mission – to make each Monican alert and responsive to God, to the world and to their own inherent value as a child of God. At SMC we seek to educate the whole person. Thus the 2009 College theme is a simple but powerful two word exclamation, 'Fully Alive'.

In 2009 we shall become fully alive as we draw closer to Jesus Christ and to his Gospel messages. The Gospel is the foundation on which everything else rests. This relationship with God and Gospel will remind us of our finest Christian model, St Monica, who became fully alive through her prayers of petition and thanksgiving.

We will be urged to be fully alive in the Monican spirit. This will call us to be faithful to our past and all that has been achieved at this great College; committed to making our present an energizing and fulfilling experience that excites and inspires us; and eager for our future when all our good acts will be rewarded with collective and individual satisfaction. We shall meet many great Monicans of past decades as this year progresses.

In 2009 we shall be invited to be fully alive through positive relationships with others. This will bring forth from us genuine compassion for the other; kindness and empathy; reconciliation; and the formation of strong and lasting bonds of friendship and camaraderie. From this, a strong unity of purpose and community should form.

No one of us can be fully alive whilst there are others in need. When one Monican is lost and confused – we are all damaged. When we see injustice we are fully alive only when we confront the situation and work to bring change. Poverty, war, racism, bigotry and all types of selfishness abound in the world. The person who is fully alive is active in bringing about a world where there is respect and care for the neediest and the least powerful.

In 2009 we shall seek to be fully alive in mind, body and soul. Our classroom activities will concentrate on problem solving and clear, high order thinking. This will enrich our mind. We shall seek to adopt a healthy and active lifestyle, and we shall treasure our environment through sustainable practices.

Importantly we shall be fully alive in our soul through deepening our prayer and perseverance; committing to reconciliation and restorative practices; and knowing God in freedom and love.

Monicans will become fully alive through Jesus Christ who assures us with these Gospel words: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." *John 10:10*

**B.E. Hanley
College Principal**

PARENT CONTACTS IN 2009

DSC Director	Ms Amorina Chirico
DRC Director	Mr Fulvio Frijio
Year 7 Leader	Miss Lorraine Pratt
Year 8 Leader	Mr Joseph Registro
Year 9 Leader	Mr Frank Farchione
Year 10 Leader	Mr Christopher Callinan
Year 11 Leader	Mrs Deborah O'Malley
Year 12 Leader	Mrs Sharon Daley
DRC Liaison	Miss Hannah Quick
Transition	Mr Warren McLeod
Curriculum	Mr Stephen Baker
Counselling	Mrs Cathy O'Brien
	Mrs Anna Ricciardello
	Ms Michelle Miller
Fees	Ms Andrea Moon
Enrolments/Principal	Mrs Joanne DePetro
Principal's Bulletin	Mrs Enza Sinopoli

COLLEGE DATES

February	
16	SACCSS Golf Competition
16	Year 7 Music Information Night
17	Morning Tea with the Principal
18	Dalton Road Campus Photographs
19	Davisson Street Campus Photographs
20	College Assembly
22	College Board Mass and Meeting
23	Morning Tea with the Principal
23	CAS Golf Competition
23-25	VCAL Camp
23	Year 9 Parent Evening
24	Year 10 Premier League commences
25	Ash Wednesday
25	Junior Council Training
27	Schools' Clean Up Day
27	Morning Tea with the Principal

COLLEGE PHOTOGRAPHS

Dalton Road Campus: Wednesday February 18

Davisson Street Campus: Thursday February 19.

College photographs will be taken by Arthur Reed photographers. Class portraits and individual portraits will be taken and all students will be photographed for a new student identification/library card. All students must wear full College uniform (no Physical Education tracksuits) on the relevant day. All students are asked to pay particular attention to grooming and uniform.

Order envelopes have been distributed to all students. Envelopes should NOT be handed to the Reception or class teachers. To place an order, the envelope is taken to the photography session, detailing the order and enclosing payment.

Photographs are delivered to the College approximately three weeks after the photographs are taken.

FINANCE CORNER

Student Roll Information Forms (yellow form)

All students were given a roll information form on the first day of the school year.

Parents must check their family/child's personal information and amend where necessary **in red pen only**.

Forms must be signed by a parent/guardian and **returned with their child no later than Tuesday 10th February, 2009**.

Students **must hand the form directly to their Homeroom teacher by the due date**.

Year 7 2009 Parents only-School Start Bonus

All Year 7 parents were sent a voucher for School Start Bonus in December, 2008 for \$300.00.

Vouchers can be presented at any Post Office along with parent identification to collect your payment.

If any parent who did not receive their voucher please contact Andrea Moon on 9401 2444 at DSC campus.

Education Maintenance Allowance

1st Instalment 2009

The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to eligible parents/guardians of students under 16 years of age. The EMA is paid in two instalments, \$155.05 to both the parent and school in April, 2009 and \$66.45 to the parent and school in September, 2009 being a total of \$443.00.

To be eligible the applicant must have:

** A valid Health Care Card/Pension Card or Veterans Affairs Card.

**Be a Foster Parent and apply for the Foster child only.

**Card must be valid on 28th January, 2009 for the first instalment and 13th July, 2009 for the second instalment.

EMA forms are held at both DRC and DSC Admin receptions and need to be lodged at Davisson St Campus only no later than 27th February, 2009.

Please note: no late applications will be accepted after the 27th February, 2009 as requested by DEET.

Any queries can be directed to Andrea Moon on DSC Campus Tel 9401 2444.

COLLEGE MEDAL RECIPIENTS

On behalf of the College Board I am very pleased to announce that Mr Graham Bell has been awarded the 2008 Samaritan Medal for his services to the governance of the College.

I am also pleased to announce that Ezra Bon, (Year 12, 2008) is the recipient of the 2008 St Monica's Medal for his loyalty and commitment to the College throughout his time here as a student.

Mr Anton Jones, Faculty Coordinator of Technology, was awarded the 2008 Polding Medal for his exceptional contributions to Monican life.

HEAT AND ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

It is very inconvenient and disruptive to call students out of class so that they can be collected by parents and brought home out of the heat. Therefore the College will not do this.

Importantly, if parents consider the temperature to be too high for their child to attend school, then keep your child at home all day, contact Campus reception in the morning, and provide a note on his/her return.

FROM THE STAFFROOM

1. A list of all new staff will be provided to the College community in the first edition of The Monican. It is pleasing to report that all newcomers to the staff have settled well into their new employment.

2. Condolences are extended to Mr Paul Carney and Mr Frank Farchione on the death of their fathers in late 2008 and to Mrs Jillian Francesconi on the death of her father on January 23. We also extend our sympathy to Mr Peter Castles on the death of his mother in late 2008.

WORLD OF SPORT

Congratulations to all coaches and students on St Monica's College being the Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, and Seniors Champions in SACCSS in 2008.

2009 Federal Government Grants for students competing at an elite level

Is your son or daughter representing Victoria or their club in an international or interstate competition?

The Federal Government has just announced a new grant system which might help you meet the costs.

Check out this website for details.

http://www.ausport.gov.au/participating/schools_and_juniors/juniors/get_involved/local_sporting_champions

SPECIALIST CAPTAINS

Area	Position	Student
Music	Captains	Rosalinda Fiumara Kimberlin D'Souza
	Vice Captains	Shane Elders Nathan Soh
Performing Arts	Captains	Tania De Stratis Cassandra Ruffino
	Vice Captain	David Petrevski
Debating	Captains	Katerina Petkovska Belinda De Vincentis
	Vice Captain	Fabrice Terriere
Public Speaking	Captains	Elise Pulbrook Haynes D'Souza
	Vice Captain	Michael Camilleri
Sound and Lighting	Team	Adam Assaf Matthew Bennie Edward Rossi Matthew Song
Envirofriends	Captains	Jaqueline Kuruppu Ryan Dunn
	Vice Captains	Nick Janeski Linda Tran
Exchange Program	Captains	Laura Dempsey Kobi Bloand
Academic	Captains	Luke Larobina Christina Marazita

CAREERS CORNER

Employment Opportunities Fair

St. Monica's College is a member of the Whittlesea Youth Commitment group who provide a Youth Employment Opportunities Fair each year. This fair provides access to jobs, traineeships, apprenticeships and further study placements for students who have left school in the past three years and need assistance in these areas.

This year the fair will be held:

Date: Thursday 19th February, 2009

Venue: Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre
Ferres Boulevard
South Morang

Time: 11am-3pm

Past students from St. Monica's College who require assistance are encouraged to attend and to take advantage of this opportunity.

VETERINARY SCIENCE OPEN DAY

The annual University of Melbourne (The) veterinary Science open day will be held on Sunday 22nd March from 10am – 4pm at the Veterinary Clinic and Hospital, 250 Princes Highway Werribee, Victoria. Lectures for Year 10 and above students will be held at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm and 1.30pm. Further information can be found at www.vet-unimelb.edu.au

Trial-a-Trade in cookery, patisserie, baking, butchery, hospitality and confectionary.

This is an opportunity for young people between 14-18 to learn new skills at William Angliss Institute. The unique program gives participants a hands-on feel for working life as a chef, baker, butcher and other associated areas. The price for the day is \$35.00 and includes a lunch for parents and other family friends prepared by participants.

The date for the day is Saturday 14th March from 9.00am – 2.00pm at William Angliss, 555 La Trobe Street. A brochure is available at the Careers Centre or at www.angliss.vic.edu.au

MUSIC NOTES

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons

Music timetables are currently being prepared and will be distributed to students in due course.

Lessons will commence on Monday 9 February.

Music Support Group

All music families and interested Year 7 parents are warmly invited to the first Music Support Group meeting for 2009.

This will be held on Monday 9 February in Augustine House at DRC, at 6.00 p.m.

Year 7 Music Information Night

All Year 7 students and parents are invited to attend the Music Information Night on Monday 16 February.

The event will be held in the DRC Sports and Assembly Hall, from 7.30 p.m. Students will participate in free instrument trials and enrolment information will be available.

Please contact Mrs. C. Thomas, Director of Music, or Mrs. V. Box, Music Secretary, for further information.

STEPPING STONES AT YEAR 8



In 2009 St. Monica's College is embarking on a new initiative in Student Wellbeing. All Year 8 homerooms will be involved in a two day program called *Stepping Stones* which will help students understand their personal journey at this stage of their life and to

start to visualize the next steps in their journey.

All homerooms will attend the two day Stepping Stones Program in February and March of 2009. The students will come together for all of the activities however the girls will be accommodated at Ostia the College's Country property at Strath Creek and the boys will spend the night at the Hume and Hovell Cricket Ground accommodation down the road.

We look forward to all students enjoying their participation in this very important College program.

ASH PROGRAM, 2009

Homework can cause headaches for students, teachers and parents alike. The After School Homework program (ASH) aims to provide students with a quiet, well-resourced area in which to complete homework and to study, with access to assistance from teachers if required. Students can work independently or in a group. It is a great opportunity to meet with other students when there is a group project set by a teacher, or to help one another study when a test is coming up. A quiet atmosphere is maintained and students must have homework to do. The program runs from Monday-Thursday from 3.30 to 4.30 and students from both campuses are very welcome. All students sign in on arrival and when they leave. They may leave as soon as they have completed their work – they don't need to stay until 4.30pm.

The ASH program will commence for students at all year levels on Monday 9th of February.

If you would like to know more you can check out *Homework Program* under the heading *Student* on the College website or call ASH Manager Frances Mason at the Dalton Road Campus.

MAJOR EVENTS SINCE THE LAST

EDITION:

Academic Honors Evening; SACCSS Sports Awards; Mr Attie's and Mr Hanley's successful business trip to China re information technology hardware; holidays; Year 12 orientation activity.

SPORTS FOOTWEAR IN 2009

The College does not allow any form of canvas footwear (including Dunlop Volleys) to be worn with the Physical Education uniform. Lace-up leather/synthetic sports shoes are the only approved footwear.

MORNING TEAS with the PRINCIPAL



Tuesday 17th February
Monday 23rd February
Friday 27th February
Friday 13th March
Friday 20th March

TRAFFIC INFORMATION FROM THE WHITTLESEA COUNCIL



Parking, timed, school days only

Parking time is limited on school days only, and during the specified times. A timed parking sign will be at both ends of the timed parking zone; note the directional arrows. Depending on the length of the zone there may be an additional sign in the middle of the zone with the arrow pointing in both directions. In this example the parking time is limited to 3 minutes during the times 8am-9.15am and 2.45pm-4pm on school days



School Crossing

The School Crossing is operational when flags are in place (there may also be a School Crossing Supervisor in attendance).


This is an example of a Children's Crossing. School Crossing Supervisors can also be on duty at:

- Pedestrian lights;
- Pedestrian (zebra) crossings; and
- Intersections controlled by traffic signals.

MARVELLOUS MONICAN

This first award for the year must surely go to the Years 7 and 12 students and staff who battled through hot and harsh weather on Friday, 30th January. Truly a time to pray for rain and cooler weather and a time to persevere.

Fortnightly either an individual Monican or groups of Monicans are nominated as the Marvellous Monican. Parents and friends are invited to send us information thereby nominating their own child or a particular student for an accomplished achievement.


B.E. Hanley
College Principal

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