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Principal News

Singapore International Mathematics Challenge

Very early on Monday morning, the team of Anna Dai, Keshinie Rasaratnam and Lakshmi Sammohinivis with Ms Glenda Romeril and I arrived back in Melbourne from participating in the International Mathematics Challenge at the National University of Singapore (NUS) High School of Math and Science in Singapore. 26 schools from as far away as Moscow, Israel, UK, America as well as China, South Korea, Thailand and a raft of Singaporean schools competed first in a pre site challenge involving a challenge to cut large sheets of glass with as little wastage as possible and then in the on site challenge which involved deriving an optimum berthing plan for ships approaching the docks. There were a number of awards made in both tasks but the overall winner was the Raffles Institution who gave their impressive presentation involving the use of algorithms to give an optimum solution. Our students enjoyed the challenge and meeting the other maths students from around the world very much and we were all impressed by how hospitable our hosts were.



I gave two presentations about our school to the teachers and to the principals attending and Ms Romeril gave a presentation to the maths teachers. This was a really challenging competition and a marvellous opportunity to experience such a dynamic setting where the emphasis on Maths and Science is so strong. What also impressed us was the universal understanding by both students and teachers of how essential it is for Singapore to develop its human resources and the part they are playing in this. We have been invited to set up an exchange program with the NUS High School next year and their principal is visiting Melbourne later this year.



International Science Olympiad

Congratulations to Keshinie also on being selected for the Biology Team to represent Australia in the Science Olympiad to be held in July in Mumbai. What a distinction! The message here seems to be study science and maths and travel the world.

Jane Garwey

Minister Launches New Program at Mac.Rob



As part of Responsible Gambling Awareness Week, the Minister for Gaming and Consumer Affairs, Tony Robinson, launched a new consumer education kit at Mac.Rob. This is a component of the *Consumer Education in Schools* program that aims to teach young people about responsible gambling. Former champion swimmer, Nicole Livingstone, who is the ambassador for Responsible Gambling Awareness Week, and two committee members, Brad House from the Salvation Army and Bill Hallman, from Crown Casino accompanied the Minister. Year 11 Legal Studies students formed the audience and listened with interest to the talks by Tony Robinson and Nicole Livingstone. Thanks to our Legal Studies and Accounting teachers—Mr Genovese and Mr Economo for their assistance with the organisation of this event.

Rebecca Vosper
Assistant Principal

News from the Learning Resource Centre (LRC)

This article will bring you up to date with the new resources available from the LRC.

This year we have been developing our Sound Book, DVD and CD collections. Presently, our Sound Book collection consists of plays, poetry, some classic novels, and the novels students are studying in English. We will be adding to this collection throughout the year.

Our music collection is now more extensive and includes a range of classical, jazz, pop and world music.

mac.rob

We also have some DVDs which students can borrow. These include health and fitness programs such as workouts using Pilates, Hollywood and ballroom dancing and gym ball.

For a more detailed list check the LRC catalogue <http://catalogue.macrob.vic.edu.au:8181/> (You will need to allow popups).

Many other videos and DVD's can be accessed via ClickView. To open ClickView at school go to: Programs / Library/ ClickView.

ClickView provides:

- Access to hundreds of videos on all subject areas;
- Access to programs recorded from TV;
- Access to videos of school events such as the chorals;
- Access to podcasts; and
- Access to lessons sheets based on the videos

Instruction on how these videos can be viewed from home is available on the LRC website under the heading Clickview.

<https://library.macrob.vic.edu.au/clickview.html>

One of the features of the LRC which I believe is rich in information but underutilized is the LRC website.

<https://library.macrob.vic.edu.au/index.html>

This LRC website is password protected. To access this site your daughter needs to enter her username and password.

User name = student\ followed by her student code, for example, student\stp0001

Password = the same as she uses at school.

This site includes a range of databases which have been specifically selected to enhance the teaching and learning at Mac.Rob. The databases provide reliable, current and balanced information which can be used in all subject areas and at all year levels. Please encourage your daughter to use these databases. For more information concerning the databases please see the attached flyer.

The LRC is a communal facility and we encourage your family to use our resources.

Lisa Fitzgerald
LRC Manager

Sports News

Senior Football

The Senior Football team played its district level matches on Tuesday, 20 May at Royal Park.



The team performed admirably under the captaincy of Claire McDermott. Mac.Rob defeated Princes Hill Secondary College 3.4.22 to 1.2.8, and Melbourne Girls' Secondary College 9.1.55 to 0.3.3. In the final Mac.Rob was defeated by University High School. We congratulate all team members for the spirited and enthusiastic manner in which they played every game and encourage them to maintain their passion and involvement in Australian Rules Football.

Mrs M McAlpine & Miss L Harvey

Music News

Boroondara Eisteddfod

Congratulations to Christine Li and Erin Soon (Year 9) who were awarded third prize in the Piano Duet Section 14 Years and under.

Inaugural Senior Music Soiree a Success!

Indeed it was a success, gauged by all of the following:

- The variety of the ensemble items presented;
- The number of girls performing;
- The large number of audience attending;
- The high standard of the performances;
- The fun of the Friends of Music Raffle;
- The refreshments provided by Friends of Music; and
- The slick organisation of the staging (which meant that the Soiree finished two minutes before the advertised time of 9.00 p.m.).

A BIG round of applause to all the music students and music staff!

Congratulations are well deserved. Thank you!

Jane Elton-Brown
Music Director

Music Scarves for Winter Concert

As all music performers (including Concert Choir members) require the new Music Scarf, Friends of Music have decided to extend the Early Bird offer of \$17 per scarf for a further week. Scarf orders forms, available outside the Music Office, together with \$17 (cash or cheque) may now be handed in to the music office until Friday, 9 June.

A Concerto of Cakes

A CAKE STALL is to be held at recess on Wednesday, 4 June by *Friends of Music @ Mac.rob*.

Music students, please bring cakes and slices. Customers, please come and enjoy them.

Careers

Lunchtime Speakers

On Tuesday, 27 May speakers from the accounting firm KPMG, spoke to Year 12 students about the cadetships on offer. Domenica Patela, a Year 12 student in 2007 obtained a cadetship with KPMG and encouraged current students to apply.

Irene Sexpless
Careers Advisor

School Tours for Prospective Students & Parents

- Tuesday, 10 June 11am – 12 noon

(Bookings are essential for all School Tours—contact Registrar's office 9864 7755)

Entrance Examination for Year 9, 2009

- Saturday, 14 June 12.30-4pm
at Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton

Entrance Examination for Years 10-12, 2009

- Friday, 6 June (times to be determined)
at Mac.Robertson Girls' High School



PORT PHILLIP

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY

The school has been asked to make the following request of parents:

Parents dropping off their daughter in the Albert Road Service Lane are requested not to block access to:

- other vehicles wishing to drive into or out of the parking bays
- the 2 way through traffic in this lane



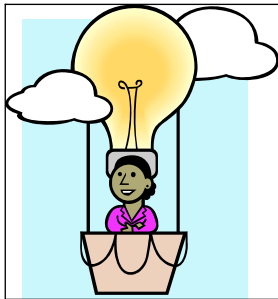
Forthcoming Events

Thursday, 5 June	Writing Competition—Yr 11 & 12 Students
Monday, 9 June	Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)
Tuesday, 10 June	* VCE Study Day * Year 9 Red Day—9A to 9E * Year 9 Excursion to IMAX—9F to 9I
Wednesday, 11 June to Friday, 13 June	Year 12 Exams & GAT
Thursday, 12 June	Writing Competition—Year 9 & 10 Students
Friday, 13 June	Report Writing day—students NOT required at School
Monday, 16 June to Friday, 20 June	Environment Week
Tuesday, 17 June	* Alliance Francaise Competition—Year 9 & 10 Students * Year 12 Focus Day
Friday, 20 June	* Year 9 Red Day—9F to 9I * Year 9 Excursion to IMAX—9A to 9E

Small Grants 2008 – A Parents’ Association Initiative (Ends Friday, 13 June 2008)

Dear brilliant Mac.Robians (Yes, students AND teachers) !!!

Did you want to organise on a Mac.Rob Activity? Can you think of one?



- Debating
- Arts
- Music
- Sports
- Community building
- Cultural
- (Insert your ideas here!!!)



Here is your chance to create and lead your own opportunity and take others with you on the journey!!!

Parents@Macrob Small Grants support, through financial assistance, projects which –

1. Bring new experiences of learning – something you would like to do but isn’t available yet.
2. Involve additional exploration of knowledge – e.g. through attending external events and conferences
3. Extend participation by students, teachers and parents
4. Will not become operational without this assistance
5. Would benefit from up to \$200 financial support.

Please contact the General Office in term 2 for application forms and detailed criteria.

When you have completed your application:

1. Make a photocopy for your record
2. Lodge the original at the General Office
3. Make a note of the name and person who dates and signs your form.

Databases available through the LRC website can be accessed from school or home using the following URL <https://library.macrob.vic.edu.au/index.html> Note: To use the LRC site your daughter will be prompted to supply a user name and pass word. student\ needs to go before the username ie Username: student\smv0001 Password: is the same used to get onto the internet at school

Database	Pass word	Where	What they are
Australian New Zealand Reference Centre	Student code ie SMV0001	Media Page	Periodical & Newspaper database retrieving - full text articles.
**NEW ** The Age Archive	No password required	Media Page	Archive of the Age newspapers digitally reproduced from 2006 onwards. Easy to print photo's, articles, cartoons etc.
Media Scan	Username: macrob Password: jump01	Media Page	Index of articles which can be found in The Age, The Herald Sun & The Australian.
Echo	Username: macrob Password: jump	Media Page	Index of articles which can be found in The Age, The Herald Sun & The Australian Plus "Issue Outlines" – provides outlines on various topical subjects.
Britannica online	No password required	Online Reference Page	Encyclopaedia - results include access to relevant Journals and Magazines, and Internet sites that have been reviewed by Britannica
World book	No password required	Online Reference Page	Encyclopaedia results include related articles from major newspapers and magazines, graphic and multimedia enhancements, including photographs, maps, illustrations, tables, animations, and audio/video clips, special reports, links to external web sites, and Back in Time chronicle.
Grove Art	No password required	Online Reference Page	Grove Art provides online access to the text of the 34-volume Dictionary of Art and extensive links to images from galleries and museums around the world.
Grove Music	No password required	Online Reference Page	Grove Music includes the full text of the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, the New Grove Dictionary of Opera, and the New Grove Dictionary of Jazz. It Includes 50,000 articles, Sibelius-enabled musical examples, and extensive links to musical sites on the Internet.
Oxford English Dictionary	No password required	Online Reference Page	Definitions of over 500,000 words; traces the usage of words from their first recorded occurrence to the modern period; offers etymological analysis; pronunciation guide.



MEDIA RELEASE

MAC.ROB BIOLOGY WHIZ TO TAKE ON THE WORLD'S BEST *Australia's Science Olympians Flex their Muscles on the Global Stage*

Just weeks before our elite athletes jet off to Beijing this Olympic year, Mount Waverley student Keshinie Rasaratnam will proudly don the Australian jacket with 12 of our brightest young scientists as they set out overseas to bring home gold for Australia in the 2008 International Science Olympiads.

A Year 12 student at MacRobertson Girls' High School, Keshinie will join her brilliant team-mates when they battle it out against hundreds of bright sparks from all over the world in the International Biology Olympiad in Mumbai, India, thanks to funding from the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and Merck Sharp & Dohme.

The team members were chosen to represent Australia after a gruelling series of special classes, exams, study sessions, and an intensive summer scholar school training program in Canberra run by Australian Science Innovations, the not-for-profit organisation that manages the Olympiad program.

Keshinie, who hopes to use her biology talent for a future in forensic medicine, says that she is looking forward to meeting and competing against other students with a passion for science from all over the world when she heads off to Mumbai for the Biology Olympiad.

"Being part of something so big is thrilling. I love the idea of being able to showcase the talent of my country on the international stage," said Keshinie.

"I am so honoured to be representing my country. I have always been in awe of the lucky sportspeople and diplomats that have been chosen to showcase Australia to the world, and to now be part of that elite group is amazing for me." she said.

Dr Chris Stewart, Executive Director of Australian Science Innovations said we heap praise on our sporting idols and Hollywood actors, and now, through the International Science Olympiads, we have the chance to revere our gifted young minds and cheer them on to greatness as they don the Australian jacket on the world stage.

....More

"The Olympiads are a key strategy in building our competitive edge in the global knowledge economy by identifying, training and challenging emerging young talent. Our bright young minds hold the key to the ongoing future of scientific research and development in Australia," said Dr Stewart.

"These students are the best of the best. One of them may even be the next Ian Frazer and discover a medical breakthrough that has profound benefits for people throughout the world," he said.

The Australian team members for the International Science Olympiads are:

Biology – Mumbai, India 13 - 20 July 2008

Keshinie Rasaratnam – Mac Robertson Girls High School VIC
 Ruby Kwong – James Ruse Agricultural High School NSW
 David Leitinger – The University High School VIC
 Jonathan Marwick – Manly Selective School NSW

Physics – Hanoi, Vietnam 20 – 29 July 2008

Jake Glidden – Queensland Academy for Science QLD
 John Biun - Scotch College VIC
 Rocky Yip – Brisbane Grammar School QLD
 Bonnie Zhang – James Ruse Agricultural High School NSW
 Jowa Chan – James Ruse Agricultural High School NSW

Chemistry – Budapest, Hungary 12 – 21 July 2008

Daren Tan – Christ Church Grammar School WA
 William Jackson – Fort Street High School NSW
 Mingyue Kardashinsky – Sydney Girls High NSW
 Yufeng Shi – James Ruse Agricultural High School NSW

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