

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 17

6 June 2008

macrob

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Girls' High School**  
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## Principal News

As our two selective schools plan the entrance examination for the 2009 intake on Saturday, 14 June at the Royal Exhibition Buildings, it is clear that this will be the last exam planned for and managed by the schools themselves. The entrance examination for the 2010 intake of students will include the two new selective schools at Berwick and Wyndham Vale as well as Mac.Rob and Melbourne High School.

The Steering Group chaired by Departmental Secretary, Professor Peter Dawkins, is looking to place the selection process into the hands of an independent body, yet to be selected, which will oversee the selection of students into the four schools through a preference system in which students will be able to rank their choices of three of the schools. It will be the end of an era at the Exhibition buildings which will no longer accommodate all applicants, necessitating multiple venues for the examination in future.

Last Friday we received a visit from the recently elected member for Port Phillip, the Hon. Martin Foley. Mr Foley is very interested in the educational provision in the area and has taken an active part in the planning for the new secondary school in Albert Park. He expressed his strong support for our school which he saw as providing unique educational opportunities for students and was delighted to be invited to address the political interest group.

### Jane Garvey

### Albert Park M.P visits S.L.A.P at Mac.Rob



On Tuesday 3 June, Martin Foley MP, Member for Albert Park, spoke to students in S.L.A.P (Students Learning About Politics) about the formation of public policy on a local, state, and federal level, as well as the Labor Party's values and insights for the future. His speech gave rise to a wide-ranging discussion covering issues of equality facing contemporary Australian society. The students enjoyed hearing a first hand depiction of the inner workings of the political process, giving them valuable insights for their own studies of the political system

### Noor Kennedy 12E

## FILM FESTIVALS

### Little Big Shots Film Festival

Little Big Shots returned for its fourth year at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) at Federation Square this June. The festival screens the world's best films for kids, about kids and some even by kids. Little Big Shots ran a schools program from Wednesday, 4 June until Friday, 6 June followed by a program for kids and families across the Queen's Birthday long weekend (Saturday 7 June until Monday 9 June).

Congratulations to **Shannon Davidson** of 9B, whose film **I Can Still Dream** will screen once on the Queen's Birthday long weekend, as part of package of films made by Aussie kids, at 12.45.p.m. on Saturday 7 June, 2008. All tickets are only \$6 per student, per session (teachers attend free!). For more details visit the website at: [www.littlebigshots.com.au](http://www.littlebigshots.com.au)

### Under the Radar

This new category in the St Kilda Film Festival provides an opportunity for young film makers to show their work in an internationally recognised film festival. This opportunity encourages young film makers to pursue their craft further and potentially produce future stars of cinema both in front of and behind the screen. While filmmaking might be supported by media teachers, the films must be youth projects including artistic direction, script, production and music. Congratulations to **Shannon Davidson** (9B), **Bebe D'Souza** and **Rishada Cassim** (both of 11D) whose films were screened in this festival last month.

### Armed and Dangerous

This is a separate component of the St Kilda Film Festival held at The George Cinema. Bebe and Rishada showed their film **Life with It** which is an edited version of their very successful 10D film from last year. The event was packed and their film was really well received. Bebe and Rishada spoke with real warmth and clarity in front of the 350 guests and it ended the 2 hour event on a really high note.

**Ms Bronwyn Moline**  
Head of Middle School

**mac.rob**



**Bebe D'Souza and Rishada Cassim. 11D**

### Write4fun Short Story and Poetry Competition

Congratulations to **Cassandra Petkovski** of 9H who was selected as a finalist in this competition. Only 15 finalists were chosen out of 10,000 entries. Her short story titled, **Sanctuary** will be published in the book "Bee Cre8tive" later this year. She has also won some money and a prize.

**Ms Bronwyn Moline**  
Head of Middle School



### Student Absence Hotline

A reminder to parents/guardians that the direct telephone number for student absences is, **9864 7759**. An answering machine will take your call before 8.30am. **Paula Glover** in the Sick Bay will answer your call after 8.30 a.m.

**Please remember to leave the following details:**

- Your daughter's name.
- Year level /Form group.
- Your full name. Please spell your surname as this would be very helpful.
- Contact number.
- A reason for the absence and expected day of return to school is also required.

Thank you

## S.R.C HEALTH WEEK

With the theme of “**Mental Health and Well Being,**” Health Week was roaring to go weeks before it occurred. All year levels knuckled down and chose activities in the hope of making the school an even happier and calmer (stress-free!) environment for a whole week. With the challenge there, the optimism was amazing from the SRC and ideas flowed rapidly. What was even more amazing was how the week went, better than expected! There wasn't a person in the school who wasn't smiling or laughing!

To kick start the week, a guest speaker from Good Shepherd, Sarah Rose was invited to the school and spoke with such emotion and truthfulness that we were all inspired by and it was only Monday! With newly learnt lessons from her speech such as: love yourself, ask yourself what you want and don't follow the “should” in your life, all girls were anticipating what was to come.

On Monday at lunchtime, the Year 12s held a relaxation session in the theatre. This helped all the stressed and frazzled Mac.Rob students to ‘chill out’ and have a break from their everyday busy lives, along with free herbal tea giveaways.



On Tuesday, the Year 10s brought a smile to everyone's face by giving out free hugs and holding a laugh-a-lot competition which turned out to be a major success. A visit from Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse helped them to keep laughing.



On Wednesday, no one brought their recess snack to school as the S.R.C provided a free fruit give away session. The Year 9s held an animal balloon making session and Thursday was a blowing bubbles to everyone day. Finally on Friday the Year 11s made stress balls for students wanting to release their tension, as well as experiencing more relaxation in the 'chill out' room. This was enjoyed by all at lunchtime.

All in all, **Health Week 2008** was a memorable one. Thanks to S.R.C, Ms. Cook and Ms.Romeril and all Mac.Rob students who participated and enjoyed the vibe of mental health. It was a great way to get involved and to support the works of the S.R.C. Well done to everyone who participated in any way and had heaps of fun!

**By: Kayla Milana 9H S.R.C Rep  
Vaidehi Naganur Year 10 SRC Exec**

### **School Tours for Prospective Students & Parents**

- Tuesday, 10 June
- 11am—12 noon

**Bookings are essential for all School Tours.**

**Contact Registrar's Office on 9864 7755**

### **Entrance Examination for Year 9, 2009**

**Saturday, 14 June. 2.30pm—4pm  
Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton.**

## ATHLETICS

A team of about 40 girls travelled to the Duncan McKinnon Athletics Track for the District Athletics Championships on 5 May. We were represented in most events and experienced excellent competition from Melbourne Girls' College and University High.

The following week saw us return to the Meadow Glen Athletics Track with a team comprising of the first and second place finalists from the previous week, for the Northern Zone Metro Athletics Final. Although not represented in every event, we managed some very good places.

In the Under 15, **Rosie Donegan** won the 1500m with a very strong performance. In the Under 16, **Rachel McNaughton** won the 90m Hurdles and **Saskia Solopotias** came second in a very exciting finish. The Under 17 event saw **Rita Chandra** win the Triple Jump and 100m Hurdles, with **Olivia Rogg** coming second in the 1500m. **Melissa Makarewitsch, Linda Ho, Greta Leropoulos** and **Olivia Rogg** all ran a very well balanced race to win the Relay.

The Under 21 team captain, **Stephanie Dearaugo** won the Under 21 800m and 400m and came second in the 1500m, with an outstanding personal and team effort. All girls will represent the school at the VSSSA State Championships in October.

All the girls who participated in these competitions, conducted themselves in an exemplary manner and are to be congratulated for ensuring that MacRob maintains its high level of achievement at these meetings.

Special thanks to the following teachers for their support during the championships. Ms Lambert, Mr. Richards and to Mr Mannix, whose expertise with middle and long distance runners is invaluable. All schools are given particular responsibilities at these events and I would also like to thank Gabrielle Biviano for returning to support our staff at the Zone competition and to Georgia Kirton, for her support and for being the fourth runner in the Under 21 Relay.

## CROSS COUNTRY

The Northern Zone Cross Country Championships will be conducted in Bendigo on Thursday 19 June. The school will be represented by the Under 16 and the Under 21 team, each comprising five runners. Selection trials began this week.

**Mr De Losa**  
**Athletics Coach**

## BADMINTON TEAM VICTORY

**Mac.Rob Intermediate Badminton Team wins Yarra District Competition.**

Mac.Rob entered three badminton, two netball and two soccer teams in the Yarra District Competitions, which were held on Friday 30 May, 2008.

The "**A**" badminton team defeated Melbourne Girls' College, 4-2 in the final. They will now represent Yarra District in the Northern Zone Competitions in term three.

The "**A**" netball and "**A**" soccer teams lost their matches in the closely contested finals. The netball team was also defeated by Melbourne Girls' College

The soccer team lost 2 goals to 1 to University High School. All of the students are commended for their excellent commitment and behaviour. Thank you to the coaches, Ms Lambert, Ms Pride, Mr Liarakos and Mr Clarke for coaching and managing the teams.

**Mr Russell Webber**  
**Sports Co-ordinator**



**The Intermediate Girls Badminton team 2008**

# Rosemary Cathcart

Keynote Speaker at the Australian National Gifted Conference, Hobart, 2008

## Melbourne Workshop Presentations

OFFICIAL TAX INVOICE ABN 36 138 819 595

\*NOT REGISTERED FOR GST



PRESENTED BY  
GIFTED RESOURCES

Thursday 17th July  
7.30 – 9 pm

Venue:  
The Mac.Robertson  
Girls' High School  
350 –370 Kingsway  
Melbourne

Enquiries: 0434 217 781



Why do they put the great books out of my reach?

### Coping With School and Your Gifted Child

(and other tricky questions!)

- How do you tell the school you think your child might be gifted?
- What if you're not sure – how can you tell if they are gifted?
- How do schools cater for gifted students?
- How can you build a productive relationship and work in partnership with your child's school?
- How can you help your child at home?
- Should you be worried if your child spends lots of time alone?

This is a practical workshop for parents who know or suspect they have a gifted child. This is your chance to ask your own tricky questions! This is your chance to get clear and supportive answers from someone who has a wealth of information about gifted children and wants you to be able to help your children grow and learn.

Rosemary developed the REACH (Responding to Exceptionally Able Children) teaching model, founded New Zealand's only specialist gifted education centre, and led the drive to successfully change education policy in this field. She runs an on-line certificate course in gifted education for teachers and has presented numerous workshops, lectures and training sessions.

Rosemary's teacher's reference manual, *They're Not Bringing My Brain Out: Understanding & Working with Gifted Learners*, is available at a discounted price of \$39.99\* to workshop attendees who book before

**Wednesday 18th June.**

(Book price after 18/6/08 will be \$44.99\*)

◆ **PLACES ARE LIMITED:** To confirm your place send form with purchase order and/or payment to **Gifted Resources** ◆

### REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to:  
Gifted Resources  
PO Box 4176, Croydon Hills,  
Victoria, 3136

[www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org)

Privacy: Gifted Resources is required to handle personal information in accordance with the national privacy principles contained in legislation

Names \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Organisation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Rosemary Cathcart Melbourne Workshops:

- Thursday 17th July \$20.00\*
- Book: *They're Not Bringing My Brain Out*  
(Including Postage & Handling) before 18/6/08 \$39.99\*
- Book: *They're Not Bringing My Brain Out*  
(Including Postage & Handling) after 18/6/08 \$44.99\*

\*GST Free Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment  Cheque enclosed

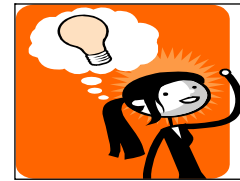
## Small Grants 2008 A Parents' Association Initiative Concludes Friday, 13 June 2008

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

Did you want to organise 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@Macro 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 during 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.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS: TERM 2**

### **Week 10:**

Monday 9 June	Queens' Birthday ( <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> )
Tuesday 10 June	V.C.E Study Day Year 9 Red Day : 9A to 9E Year 9 excursion to IMAX. 9F to 9I
Wednesday 11 June	Year 12 Exams
Thursday 12 June	Writing Competition: Year 9 and 10 students Year 12 Exams
Friday 13 June	Report writing Day. GAT
Saturday 14 June	2009 Entrance Exam

### **Week 11:**

Monday 16 June	Environment Week (Concluding, 20 June)
Tuesday 17 June	Alliance Francaise Competition for Year 9 and 10 students. Year 12 Focus Day
Friday 20 June	Year 9 Red Day: 9F to 9I Year 9 excursion to IMAX: 9A to 9E  Cadets Bivouac (Concluding, 25 June)
Sunday 22 June	Central Australia Tour departs

### **Week 12:**

Monday 23 June	Careers week (Concluding, 27 June)
Tuesday 24 June	All year 10 students to visit University of Melbourne
Wednesday 25 June	University of Melbourne Maths Fair
Friday 27 June	Last day Term 2—Students dismissed at 2.30pm.

## **REMINDER TO PARENTS**

**Next Friday, the 13 June is a report writing day.  
Students are not required at school.  
Except for V.C.E students sitting for the GAT.**