

NEWSLETTER

Issue 18

13 June 2008



Principal News

Term 2, Week 10

On Wednesday, the first of the VCE mid year examinations began and an unnatural quietness descended on the Kings Way building. The science and mathematics subjects are those mostly involved in this session and we wish all students, in particular those taking their first Unit 3 and 4 subjects, all the best in achieving their personal best performance.

This Saturday is the last entrance examination run by Mac.Rob and Melbourne High school before the two new selective schools at Berwick and Wyndham Vale become part of the process next year. Nearly four thousand prospective students will be examined for three hours at the Royal Exhibition Buildings. Thank you to our Registrar Ms Marina McAlpine and Assistant Registrar Ms Kellie Robinson for all their work in organising this huge event and to the staff who volunteered to assist them on the day.

On Friday 13 June I am travelling with Mr Jeremy Ludowyke, Principal of Melbourne High School and Mr Colin Simpson, Principal of the Victorian College of the Arts, Secondary to visit some of the nine government selective schools of New York. The trip is part of a two year professional development program offered to principals by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to enable them to visit other education systems and observe a variety of programs with the idea of enriching our community of understanding about best practice in Victorian schools. We are fortunate that we will have an opportunity to talk with the statutory authority responsible for the selection examination for these schools which is very relevant to the work Mr Ludowyke and I are currently part of in setting up the four selective schools that will operate in Victoria in 2010, including a new selection process for the student cohorts. Mr Simpson and I are also visiting America's oldest school, Boston Latin as part of the tour. I look forward to reporting on our findings when we return.

Ms Rebecca Vosper will be taking my place as Acting Principal for the last two weeks of Term.

Jane Garvey

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Girls' High School**
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parents @mac.rob

Thank you so much to the Parents Association
for the magnificent morning tea they provided
for staff on Tuesday 10 June.

Everyone felt very much appreciated.





RAIN IS FORECAST

It's time to purchase your very own

MAC.ROB UMBRELLA

\$30

Red or dark green

Good quality and sturdy

Available at the General Office.



FUNDRAISING CONCERT

A night of Jazz, Funk, Close Harmony Singing and alternative Rock!

Nick Merange is organising a fundraising concert at Melbourne High to support his volunteer work in India. Below is his description of his project as well as the concert:

In terms of my volunteer work, the project I plan to implement is to teach youth in a developing area how to take control over their own lives, through the cooperation and partnership of local, national, and international volunteers.

This involves the use of young people aged 18-28 years old, engaging with people of a similar age group about issues surrounding HIV/AIDS, sustainable development, and self-empowerment. This will involve the use of non-formal education, such as the creation of interest clubs in the community for local youth. Here, they may establish new friendships and leadership skills while working in a cooperative environment, and ask us (the volunteers), as fellow youths, to answer questions about issues they may be facing.

This project will be based at Vellore, India, with work being undertaken in surrounding villages, and will start in early October/late September and finish in February, going for a total of 5 months.

This will be a unique experience for me to encounter the lives of others from a different culture and tradition, while making a difference that will potentially have long term benefits in the community. The fact that this project requires cooperation on a local, national and international scale is appealing to me, as it will deal with people from vastly different backgrounds, working together despite their differences.

Students Partnership is a non-profit, non-government organisation and as such, I am attempting to raise \$10,000 to cover program costs (\$6000) (including In-country training, food, and placement support), flights (\$3000), insurance (\$400), and volunteer support (\$800) (including pre-departure training, debrief, health screening and volunteer processing).

As for the concert, it will occur on Friday the 20th of June, and go from 8 to 11 pm. It will involve 3 Melbourne High School Group Performance 3/4 bands, including a group called 'The Overtones'. It will also involve a group from Camberwell High School called 'The Rhetorics'. Entry is \$10, and it is strictly a drug and alcohol-free event.

Prebook tickets at: nmerange2hotmail.com

Payment at the door.

mac.rob

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 MacRobertson
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

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

Name/s _____

Organisation _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Rosemary Cathcart Melbourne Workshops:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday 17th July | \$20.00* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book: <i>They're Not Bringing My Brain Out</i>
(Including Postage & Handling) before 18/6/08 | \$39.99* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book: <i>They're Not Bringing My Brain Out</i>
(Including Postage & Handling) after 18/6/08 | \$44.99* |

*GST Free Total: _____

Method of Payment Cheque enclosed

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: TERM 2

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 9 I 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) Shortened day—classes finish at 1.10pm
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.

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

