



PRINCIPAL NEWS

NEWSLETTER

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week the Year 9 students have been sitting the **NAPLAN** tests in language convention, writing, reading and numeracy, with and without a calculator. This is the second year of the NAPLAN which last year was the first national testing of student achievement at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia in history. Education is managed by the states under the constitution and this was the first time that they agreed to national testing. As I reported last year, Victoria was at the top in the results and our Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, the Hon. Bronwyn Pike, wrote to congratulate the state's teachers on this achievement and there is a great deal of interest in what the results will show this year. The data from the NAPLAN testing is now being incorporated into the improvement strategies designed to lift student achievement in numeracy and literacy being adopted by schools in Victoria.

We have been working for some time on the development of a number of new, curriculum focused **Leading Teacher Positions** for an expanded leadership team commencing in 2010 and the job descriptions for these positions have now been given to the staff for consultation and feedback. These positions will support the thrust of our Strategic Plan with its focus on transforming learning and teaching, with the further incorporation of technology to enhance pedagogy and support our students to be independent learners who can realise their full potential. We are embracing a team approach to teacher professional development and curriculum innovation, and I am very excited about the opportunities that this initiative will create for Mac.Rob teachers and the role they will play in taking our already excellent learning environment to a new level.

Thursday night was the 'official' night for the joint musical with Melbourne High School when we recognised the outstanding work of the cast and crew along with the directors and musical directors at a special supper.

"**Beauty and the Beast**" is a stunningly entertaining evening with a beautifully balanced cast who provided exceptional acting, singing and dancing performances. The level of professionalism achieved by the students was astounding and a tribute to the skill of the directors, **Ms Kylene Cook** and **Mr George Marotous**, and the vocal and musical direction of **Mr Curtis Baylis** and **Mr Trevor Jones**. The audience members I spoke with were at one in acclaiming this as "of Broadway standard"! Thank you and well done.

Ms Jane Garvey

parents@macrob Meeting



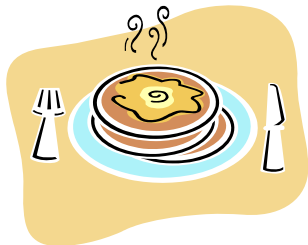
The **parents@macrob** meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 May in the school function room—gym building at 7.30 pm.

Items to be discussed:

- Regional Gatherings—social committee
- International Night—dinner report and thanks
- PA Website—new one online
<http://parents.macrob.vic.edu.au>
- Small Grants Report
- Morning Tea with Teachers



Year Level Breakfast



This term, the Year 9 and Year 10 Form Captains organised **Year Level breakfasts** for their peers. Both mornings were a great success and the girls demonstrated great organisation and preparation, as well as some fabulous culinary skills! **Zoe Chan** of Year 10, explains how the **Year 10 breakfast** took shape.

Wednesday 6 May was a day that was fast approaching for the Year 10 Form Captains. When Jennifer Tang and Bebe D'Souza our School Captains, first mentioned the breakfast, it took the nine of us a considerable amount of time to figure out what we were going to do to feed 225 hungry girls at 8.30am on a chilly autumn morning. We planned for weeks, tossing the same questions around. "Are we going to have fruit?" and "What about Milo?" are just a couple we couldn't decide on.

We ended up sticking to pancakes, hash browns and fruit juice. Our next problem was, how to make 450 pancakes and 225 hash browns! We decided to go with some good old pancake shake and frozen hash browns, and after that, it was a simple case of assigning jobs to each Form Captain.

On the morning of the breakfast, nine of us, Jen and some helpful Year 12s, came bright and early, ready for some serious pancake flipping. Tension began to build as the hungry girls started to arrive, but thankfully we were well prepared. Overall it was a great morning and everyone enjoyed the food the Form Captains had worked to so hard to make.



I would like to give a big **thank you** to **Miss Stout, Ms Contessa** and **Ms Cheong** for arriving early to supervise, and to **Bebe D'Souza** and **Jennifer Tang** for helping us to stay on track. Most importantly, thank you to the **Year 10s** who contributed to our breakfast fund. We couldn't have done it without you!

Zoe Chan 10 A

Mother's Day

Classic Fun Run 2009



A spectacular day greeted the competitors for this years **Mothers Day Classic Fun Run** at the Botanical Gardens. The annual event raises money for breast cancer research and attracts over 10,000 runners and walkers from around the state.

A small group of dedicated young students from Mac.Rob braved the early morning start to take part in the 4km race and represent the school amongst a number of other school groups. The majority of the team form part of our distance running squad who train every Tuesday and Thursday morning before school. Therefore we were hoping for a strong run, as the fitness and strength of the girls has been ever increasing since the start of the year.

As the gun sounded, thousands of runners took off, with all of our girls having a brilliant start. The race was run around the Botanical gardens and by the end of the run, our girls had all finished amongst the top 100 runners. It was a great result, and all the girls had a great time. They then were able to relax and cheer on a few of their Mothers who had also come along to compete.

Hopefully we can build on the numbers for next years great run.

Mr Ryan Mannix

Mac.Rob Sports News



The Senior Girls Soccer team participated in an interschool competition against Melbourne Girls College and University High on Thursday 30 April.

It was a great day for soccer, and many players from all three schools displayed exceptional skills, agility and endurance.

Special mentions go to **Miranda Hornung** for keeping a strong defence, **Elizabeth Gatens** and **Emma Lippmann** for scoring the goals and **Areeb Hassan** for being an excellent goalie.

We maintain the title of being undefeated seeing as we won against MGC (1-0) and drew against Uni High (1-1).

Although we did not qualify to the next round, **special thanks** go to **Mr. Clarke** (Coach) and **Mr. Delosa** (Assistant Coach) for the training sessions and supporting us on the day.

Belinda Hua

Senior Soccer Captain

Education Maintenance Allowance



Cheques are now available for collection from

Mrs Baldock in the Student Welfare Office.



Last week, a pack of brave adventurers set out for a **2-day camp to Daylesford**. Accompanied by Ms Tinney, Mr Mannix, Ms Emerton and Ms Stout, the sixty **Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students** left Melbourne in two groups. The first group left on Tuesday to arrive back on Wednesday, and camp 2 was Thursday to Friday.

After lots of preparation – researching the area, deciding what food to cook and learning about the best materials to bring – we were all extremely excited and pumped for our trip.

When we got to Daylesford, the first thing we did was put on our heavy packs (which included our tents, food, clothes and sleeping bag) and hiked along a cliff face to a natural mineral water spring. The water tasted extremely metallic and not many people liked it, however it was definitely an experience and good to try something new!

Continuing on our hike, we learnt some great skills for walking with heavy packs, how to rest and how to check on the back of the pack, or 'Bob'. When we got back to camp, which definitely didn't feel like 4 hours later, we all felt a sense of achievement and accomplishment.

We unpacked our packs and set up our tents, making sure they weren't under any overhanging trees and hopefully not on too much of a slant. By that time, the sun was starting to set, so we pulled out our Trangias and food and attempted to cook the meal we had planned. We made sure that it was nutritionally balanced and had lots of veggies. No two-minute noodles allowed!

Cooking was definitely one of the most enjoyable parts of the camp. Not only was it a great opportunity to sit back and chat after our long day, but we also got to test our own cooking ideas. Although not all meals were terribly successful, we all helped each other out and we

learnt that a lot of things we wouldn't dream of eating at home, tasted really good on camp!

When the sun went down, we all found it got very cold and most of us put on more layers, beanies and gloves. Mr Mannix brought out marshmallows, bananas and chocolate, and after a lot of laughter, stories, jokes and melted chocolate, it was time to turn into bed.

I think a lot of people on that camp would say that the sleep was the worst part of the camp. It got freezing cold and while most ended up sleeping in ski jackets and multiple layers of thermals, some combined tents just to share body warmth! The wombat that was snuffling around outside the tents in the early hours of the morning didn't help matters.

The next day, after swapping stories of a terrible night's sleep, breakfast and cups of Milo, we set off on a nice walk around a large lake close to the campsite. We then got back to camp, packed up our tents and cleaned up our campsite.

Sadly, our trip was over, so we piled into the bus and after a nice hour in the town of Daylesford, we enjoyed singing along to the radio on our trip back to school.

We all found the trip highly rewarding and entertaining, and enjoyed exploring a bit more of Victoria. Getting away from the city and into the fresh air and bush was really good – if only it could have lasted longer! We would like to thank all the teachers who came with us on the camps and all the teachers back at school that made it possible. Now we are all just looking forward to our camp to Anglesea at the end of the year!

Mieke Foster 10 A



Dear Parents/Guardians

There has been a transition period of 4 weeks of the wearing of both summer and winter uniforms. This period has now concluded and effective from **Monday 18 May**, all students in Year 9, 10, and 11 are to wear the full winter uniform until the end of term 3.

Below is a description of the **Winter Uniform Policy** as outlined in the school diary page (x).

Mr Nuccio Gurciullo

Acting Assistant Principal



WINTER - Normally to be worn in Terms 2 and 3

- Charcoal grey blazer with school braid and badge
- Tartan skirt in school colours of dark grey, green and red (compulsory item) and **worn to knee length**
- School red or green (VCE) V-neck pullover
- Mac.Rob school tie
- Long sleeved white shirt with stiffened collar
- Black tights or knee-high socks
- Black lace-up leather school shoes, t-bar sandals may be worn but are not recommended for winter wear. **Platform shoes, slip-on shoes or black sneakers are not acceptable**
- Optional extras—Grey school pants (only those provided by Bob Stewart as part of the school uniform—other pants are not acceptable), black gloves, school maroon, dark grey or black scarf. If a coat is worn it should be charcoal grey. Grey nylon or “safety yellow” raincoats are acceptable. Duffle coats, parkas and other jackets are **not** to be worn.
- **The school blazer is always worn as the outer garment.**



Careers

This week **representatives** from all the **major faculties** at **Monash University** have visited the school.

- On Monday we heard speakers from **Engineering, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Law.**
- On Tuesday we had presentations from **Medicine, Health Sciences and Nursing** and the **Science Faculty.**
- On Thursday we heard from **Art and Design**, which includes **Architecture, Interior and Industrial Design, Visual and Fine Arts** and **Visual Communication.**
- On Friday **Arts, Business** and **Economics** were represented.



A speaker from the Medicine faculty advises a Year 12 student

Irene Serpless

Careers

Music Soiree

The Senior Music Students will be presenting a Soirée on

Tuesday 26 May

7.30 – 9pm

Hall

Parents, Students and Friends are all welcome

Admission is free

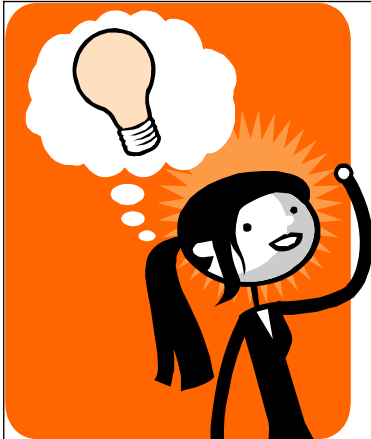
Supper is also available for a gold coin donation



**SMALL GRANTS 2009 – A Parents' Association Initiative
(Ends 26 June, 2009)**

Dear brilliant Mac.Robians — Yes, Students AND Teachers!!!

Did you miss out on a Mac.Rob Activity?
Or can you think of a new one?



For Example:

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 -
Bring new experiences of learning - something you did not get to do because of it not being available

Involve additional exploration of knowledge - e.g. through attending external events and conferences

Extend participation by students, teachers and parents

Will not become operational without this assistance

Please download application forms and detailed criteria from the Parents Association web-site.

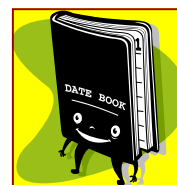
When you have completed your application:

- 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.**
- 4. Submit the application to the General Office by Friday 26th June.**

Forthcoming Events

Term 2

2009



Week 5:

Tuesday 19 May

School Council Meeting 6.30 pm
Parents Association Meeting 7.30 pm—
Function Room

Thursday 21 May

Prospective Students Information Night 7 pm—
Hall
Rio Tinto Science competition for Year 9 & 10
students—Periods 5 & 6
Visiting author Alice Pung—LRC Lunchtime

Week 6:

Monday 25—Friday 29 May

Social Services Week

Tuesday 26 May

Senior Music Students Soiree, Hall 7.30—9 pm

Wednesday 27 May

School Tour for prospective parents at
11.30 am— 12.30 pm

Week 7:

Tuesday 2 June

School Tour for prospective parents at
11 am—12 pm

Friday 5 June

Year 10—12 Entrance Exam for 2010—Hall

Week 8:

Monday 8 June

Queens Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 9—Wednesday 10 June

Year 12 Mid Year Exams

Friday 12 June

Student Free Day—No School
Semester 1 Concludes

Saturday 13 June

Year 9 Entrance Exam for 2010—Royal
Exhibition Building and Royal Melbourne
Showgrounds

Week 9: Semester 2 Commences

Monday 15—Friday 19 June

Environment Week

Tuesday 16 June

Year 12 Regeneration Day
School Council Meeting 6.30 pm
Parent Association Meeting 7.30 pm
Mezzanine