



PRINCIPAL NEWS

School Council Reporting Meeting

The March School Council meeting was the last regular meeting of the 2008/9 Council which will hold its Annual Reporting Meeting to present the Annual Report to the school community on Tuesday 31 March 31st, next Tuesday. Everyone in the community is invited to attend this meeting at 7.30 in the Theatre. Speakers will include the outgoing School President, Dr Helen Marshall, the School Treasurer Mrs. Fay Wong and myself. This meeting will be preceded by the first meeting of the new School Council which will elect the office bearers for the next twelve months.

Student Achievement

Congratulations to **Ishara Fernando** on being selected for the UBS Young Women's Leadership Academy program which will be held at Sydney University for five days next month. The program is a mix of the practical and theory with industry exposure, field visits and syndicate work which are aimed at developing leadership skills. Places are keenly sought and there were a record number of applications this year.



International Dinner

Last Saturday night the Parents Association held their first International Dinner in the Mezzanine of the gymnasium building. Over 120 parents, students and staff attended and enjoyed a wonderful meal and some exotic singing and dancing.

The evening was clearly enjoyed by all who attended and the variety of international food provided was amazing as well as delicious and much appreciated by the diners. My congratulations to all the parents who contributed so much work in cooking, carrying furniture, decorating and serving such a feast to make the night such a great success, in particular **Ganga and Athula Fernando** who were the organising force behind the event along with Parents Association immediate past president, **Jeremy Hunt**, who declared the night a financial success as well. He indicated that the money will go to support student and teacher projects. It is intended that this will be the first of many such annual dinners.

Ms Jane Garvey

PARENT VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

To supervise Mac.Rob students in the Pied Pipers Good Friday Appeal for the Royal Children's Hospital.

Each year up to 170 of our students volunteer to collect money for this very worthwhile cause. However for the event to run, one adult supervisor is required per 4 students. At the moment we are very short of adult supervisors. If you could help, especially if your daughter is taking part, could you please let us know by email on office@macrob.vic.edu.au or phone Mrs Vosper on 9820 0788 by early next week.

Students will collect house to house in reasonable proximity to the school between 9.00 am and 1 pm on Good Friday, 10th April. Parent volunteers would need to report to the Pied Pipers organisers outside the school's Gym Building at 8.45 am.

The French Exchange 2008/9

Over the summer holidays, we were fortunate enough to have an opportunity to undertake an exchange with our sister school in Bordeaux.

We spent the first week in Paris sight seeing together with Ms Trenchard-Smith. We visited the Eiffel Tower, Le Louvre, Sacré-Coeur Basilica, Notre Dame, Versailles and many other museums and famous sights. One of the highlights was visiting the Champs-Élysées after dinner one night. It was absolutely amazing; it was just before Christmas and there were Christmas stalls and lights everywhere. We walked the length of the famous boulevard, standing under the floodlit Arc de Triomphe to watch the Eiffel Tower 'sparkling'. It was magical!

Our next five weeks were spent with our host families in Bordeaux, a city we all found absolutely beautiful. We went to school every day in a gorgeous old building in the city centre.

During our five weeks in Bordeaux we attended school for two weeks before the two weeks of holidays for Christmas. During these holidays our host families showed us around Bordeaux and nearby regions and we were able to experience the French culture first hand. We experienced festivities such as Christmas and New Year's Eve and observed the different traditions, which proved to be a fascinating experience.

After the holidays we returned to school for a final week before we sadly had to return to Australia. On the final day with our classes we realised just how many amazing people we had met and it was very difficult to say goodbye.

The most difficult goodbye was farewelling our host families the next morning, who over the past five weeks had become a second family to us. We had only a few short minutes before our train departed for Paris to say our tearful goodbyes.

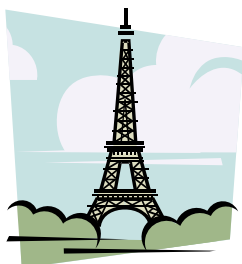
The exchange proved to be a truly amazing learning experience and we will never forget the wonderful people we met.

Alexandra Marks 11E

Madeleine Salinger 11E

Rachel Litwin 11E

Rose Albiston 11E



ANZAC Commemorative Ceremony for Year 10 Students at the Shrine of Remembrance – 23 April 2009.

This is an important event in the MacRob school calendar and this year will occur in **Week 1 of Term 2**. It is conducted by **Legacy** to honour the memory of those who gave their lives in armed conflicts so that we can enjoy the freedom Australia experiences today. Over 3000 students from government and non-government schools are expected to attend.

Year 10 students from MacRob and Melbourne High School play a leading role in this ceremony as they are invited to sing a number of songs as part of the program. The captains of both schools also recite poems at the service. Rehearsals of the singing, are already underway and a full rehearsal will be conducted at Melbourne High on the afternoon of Tuesday 21 April.

As Year 10 students are representing the school at this major public event, they are requested to pay careful attention to their appearance and ensure that they are in full winter uniform.

Legacy has invited students to honour their relatives, who have been servicemen or women, by wearing their medals on the right –hand side of their blazer

IMPORTANT MESSAGE!



Parents dropping off their daughter in the Albert Road Service Lane

Parents/ family members are requested **not to park on the right hand side near the Kings Way entrance to the service lane** as this is an extremely dangerous place for your daughter to alight.

Cars are entering the service lane at this point and should not have to deal with cars that are parked on the wrong side, or with passengers who swing open a door and step out in front of them. Parking on this side of the service lane also blocks access to other vehicles wishing to drive into or out of the parking bays. We would appreciate your cooperation with this.

SPORTS NEWS

Mr Russell Webber

Mac.Rob Students Compete in VSSSA Rowing Championships

A team of 14 students travelled to Geelong on 19 March to compete in the VSSSA Rowing Championships. All of the students competed in the indoor rowing events and six students competed in events on the Barwon River. The senior team finished 2nd in the indoor competition and the Intermediate teams both finished 3rd. The best performed competitor in the individual events was **Danielle Brydges** who finished 3rd in the Under 17 competition. On the water, two of the Mac.Rob double scull teams competed against each other in the C level final and finished 1st and 2nd. The other crew of **Tina Trinh** and **Isiri Wickramaranchchi** finished 3rd in the Under 19 event. The school is indebted to the **YWCA Rowing Club** for enabling the students to compete in this competition. They provided the boats for competition and **Zoe Hogg** entered the students in the open water events and coached and managed them on the day.



Senior Teams to represent Yarra District in Northern Zone Competitions

The Yarra District Senior Sport Competitions took place on 16 March 2009. The school entered 2 teams in the volleyball and the 1st team defeated Melbourne Girls' College in the final. The second team finished in 4th place. The Softball team won by default and the tennis team was defeated by Melbourne Girls' College.

Swimming Team Dominant at Yarra District and Northern Zone Competitions

The Mac.Robertson Girls' High School Senior and Intermediate Swimming Teams have won pennants for the Yarra District and Northern Zone Competitions. The Yarra District Competition took place at the Brunswick Baths, and the Northern Zone Competition, at The Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. Every member of the District team won at least one event and all members qualified to compete in the Northern Zone Competitions.

In the Northern Zone Competition the challenges were greater with only winners progressing to compete in the State Finals on 2 April. Despite this, a number of students have qualified to compete in the State Finals in Individual and Team Events. The outstanding competitors were **Anna Lieschke**, who has qualified to compete in three individual and two team events, **Dorota Korab** and **Julia McGennissen**, two individual and two team events.

A special **thank you** to **Ms Smyth** for managing the teams.



Zone Cricket Champions

The senior cricket team has won through to the Zone-Country final after defeating Northcote High School and Eltham High School at the recent zone round of competition. After an initial wash out due to rain, we defeated Northcote High school easily after Ishara Fernando, 11B, opened and held the batting together with a score of 45 out of the team total of 116 runs. An even bowling display by all bowlers meant Northcote were all out for 56. Despite Eltham having a state player, once again our batting and bowling depth proved too strong as we scored 160 runs from 34 overs with **Ayanthi Weerasooriya**, 12D and **Vidhya Uddaiyar**, 12C scoring the maximum 35 runs before retirement. Our fearless fielding and even bowling display meant we were able to have every girl bowl an over and have Eltham all out for 60. Our next match will be played later in the year in Bendigo with the winner moving through to the State semi finals. We would like to **thank Mr Page** for coaching/umpiring/scoring on both days.

Amanda Jenkins, 12E Co-Cricket Captain.

Lost Property



As term one draws to a close, it is timely to take stock of Lost Property

For your information, here is the Lost Property Policy:

Student Responsibilities:

Students are responsible for the security of all personal property brought to school. Property not currently in use should be kept inside lockers and not placed on top of lockers.

Students are advised against bringing valuable items to school that are non essential.

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that they name **ALL** property brought to school. The name label must include their first name, surname and form group. Either year or student code would also be useful.

If property has been purchased from other students, the names of previous owners should be removed to avoid confusion.

Lost property Protocols:

1. What to do with Found Items:

When items of property are found they should be handed in at the appropriate place; as outlined below:

Details about where and when an item was found should be recorded if known.

Valuable items:

Valuable items should be handed directly to the **GENERAL OFFICE**.

Valuable items include things such as:

valuable jewellery (not costume jewellery), graphic calculators, mobile phones, iPods, MP3 players and cameras, etc.

Money:

- Any sum of money found around the school should be handed to the General Office.
- The office staff will record the name and form of the finder and the details of the find.
- The office staff will advertise the finding of the money on the bulletin, without mentioning its sum or the place in which it was found.
- Money that is not claimed within a month OR by the end of the school term (whichever is the longer period of time) will become the property of the person who handed the money to the General Office.

The office will notify the finder to collect the money at this time.

Valuable items, other than money, will be kept at the General Office until the end of each term and then passed onto lost property

Other items:

Other items include things such as text books, workbooks, pencil cases, stationery, clothing, costume jewellery, reading glasses and sunglasses.

These should be handed into lost property, located at **Door 2** of working staffroom. Details should be entered in the appropriate section of the **Found Property Book**.

This book is located in the lost property area and is clearly labelled. This book should be consulted when searching for a lost item as it should contain a listing of everything in lost property.

When claiming and collecting found property, students are asked to sign and date receipt of that item.

- Notices about found property will be written on the **Lost Property WHITEBOARD** next to Door 2 of the work area of the staff room. It will remain on the board for a period of two weeks.

Students who have lost property, are requested to check that board.

School Library Books:

If school library books are found these should be returned to the library.

Reporting and Claiming Lost property:

- Lost property should be reported to and claimed from the lost property area, Door 2 of the working staff room, at a time specified by the teacher in charge of lost property each year.
- When claiming lost property the owner should **sign the found or lost property book** to verify that they have collected their property.
- Students are **NOT** permitted to look through lost property without the supervision of a teacher.
- Details about items that have been lost and not yet found should be entered into the appropriate section of lost property book for future reference. It is important that students include their name and form in this book as well as a full description of the lost item/s and if possible when and where they may have been lost.
- To claim unnamed property from **lost property** or the **General Office** a student must be able to **clearly establish** that the property belongs to them. Unnamed property will not be given to a student if there is any doubt of ownership. Any disputes about ownership that cannot be resolved by the teacher in charge of lost property will be referred to the appropriate Year Level Coordinator and if necessary to an Assistant Principal, who will settle the dispute.
- **Valuable items** of lost property should be collected from the **General Office** during recess, lunchtime or before or after school.

Students can claim their money if they can satisfy office staff that the money is theirs.

Money that is not claimed within a month OR by the end of the school term (whichever is the longer period of time) will become the property of the person who handed the money to the General Office.

All property will be kept only until the end of each school year. At the end of the year any unclaimed property will be donated to a worthy charity or to one of the following: The Student Welfare Coordinator: to assist students in need as required, or The school's second hand book or uniform sales.

2. I encourage all students to engrave their names on their **calculators**. A number have recently been handed in to Lost Property. Those clearly labelled with their names, are quickly reunited with their owners. Those not labelled, are not so lucky. Students can arrange to use an engraver at school, to label their calculators. These are available, under supervision, either from the LRC or the Science Preparation Room.

USBs seem to be lost easily. Clearly labelling them, also ensures a speedy return to owners.

Uniform items have also started coming in, and it is surprising how many of these are also not labelled.

So, make the time to label belongings, and look after them, so hopefully, a visit to Lost Property, will not be necessary.

Mrs Irena Murphy

Careers

On lunchtime Monday 23 March. Emma Venable from Young Achievement Australia spoke to Year 11 students.

Young Achievement Australia runs a Business Skills program specifically for Year 11 students. Programs are free and run for 24 weeks from March to October. Students need to commit to 2 hours a week (usually from 4-6pm) outside of school hours. A team of 15-25 students is joined with a large company. Executives in the company help them set up their own self directed business. They create, manufacture and market a real product or service in a supportive and mentored environment. Participants have fun while developing their business knowledge and their entrepreneurial, leadership, teamwork and communication skills.

Any student who missed the talk can still register for the program at www.yaa.org.au

Ms Irene Serpless
Careers



Forthcoming Events

Term 1- 2

2009



Week 10:

Tuesday 31 March

School Council Meeting 6.30 pm
School Annual Reporting Meeting 7.30 pm
Theatre

Wednesday 1 April

House Chorals Rehearsals: 1.35 pm—4.05 pm

Thursday 2 April

Year 9 Activity Day

Friday 3 April

Last Day of Term 1—Finish at 2.30 pm

Friday 10 April (School Holidays)

Pied Piper Good Friday Appeal for the Royal Children's Hospital

TERM 2

Week 1:

Sunday 19 April

House Chorals rehearsals, Hall 9 am—2 pm

Monday 20 April

First Day Term 2

Tuesday 21 April

House Chorals Rehearsals

Wednesday 22 April

House Chorals—Hall 7 pm

Thursday 23 April

Year 10 students ANZAC Service—Shrine

Saturday 25 April

ANZAC Day

Week 2:

Monday 27 April

Parent Teacher Interviews A-L 2 pm—8 pm

Week Three:

Tuesday 5 May

Parent Teacher Interviews M-Z 2 pm—8 pm

Week 4:

Tuesday 12 May

School Tours 11 am—12 pm

Wednesday 13 May—Saturday 16 May

Mac.Rob & MHS Beauty and the Beast
Combined Play 7 30 pm—MHS Memorial Hall

Saturday 16 May

Matinee Play 2 pm—MHS Memorial Hall