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# OURS

The weekly newsletter of Melbourne High School

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## Principal's Report

Volume 22, Number 14  
Friday 22 May 2009

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### Centenary Fund Appeal

This week, all families and past students will receive an invitation to contribute to the MHS Centenary Fund annual appeal. Few parents realize that MHS is heavily reliant upon the financial support of our community to ensure that our students have access to the decent facilities they deserve.

As a state school, over 80% of monies provided by government are spent on the employment of staff, leaving little left over to provide adequate classroom materials and facilities for our students. Whilst MHS offers the most extensive co-curricula program in the state, the School receives no additional funding to support these programs, which are so central to the MHS experience.

Unlike private schools, we do not recover these costs through school fees. Currently, annual school fees at comparable private schools are in excess of \$20,000 and are increasing by 10% each year. The School must become more autonomous in order to maintain the quality of our programs and classrooms into the future. As the first step in this direction, the Centenary Fund was established in 2005 to ensure that MHS would continue to have the facilities required to provide a decent education for current and future generations.

To date, the Fund has enabled the

School to broker over three million dollars in additional government funding to match donations to the Centenary Fund from our own community. Without this support, our new Art Studies Centre would not have been built and our students would not now have access to these state of the art facilities.

Community donations to the Centenary Fund last year were utilized to undertake an urgent



upgrade of the Memorial Hall stage to required safety standards. These community donations were matched by the Parents and Friends, as well as the generous donation by Year 11 student Mitchell Connelly of his Bell Shakespeare 'Make a Scene' competition prize. Without these essential renovations our musical *Beauty and the Beast* would not have proceeded this year.

Our next priority is an upgrade of our chemistry laboratories where the lack of facilities is restricting the program, resulting in students having to undertake their laboratory work outside of the normal timetable. We would like to undertake this upgrade before the

end of this year. Every contribution by our community to the Centenary Fund will speed the pace of this upgrade program and ensure that current students will experience the benefit of these improvements.

It is an unusual year when we must disavow a popular belief that our governments have been very generous in their support of schools. You may be aware that schools are to receive funding for new facilities as part of the Commonwealth economic stimulus package. Whilst any additional support is greatly appreciated, it is not commonly known that over 90% of this funding has been directed to primary schools and that funding to secondary schools will be shared between state and private schools. Unfortunately, Melbourne High School will not receive any new facilities under this scheme.

As a state school with limited financial resources, we are asking all members of the MHS community to consider a contribution no matter how small. As all contributions to the Centenary Fund are tax deductible, you may wish to consider a donation prior to the end of the financial year. Your support will ensure that the opportunities made available to the current generation of MHS students can be

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Emergency Pager:	9625 2099
Web:	<a href="http://www.mhs.vic.edu.au">www.mhs.vic.edu.au</a>

## Beauty and the Beast

Last week our whole community was treated to a stunning performance and production of *Beauty and the Beast*, our annual joint musical production with Mac.Robertsons' GHS. It takes a very special school production to literally bring an audience to its feet during the show or to illicit the following unsolicited praise from Old Boys:

'I really think that in *Beauty and the Beast* all previous standards have been surpassed ... I marveled at the quality of the acting, dancing and singing. The entire production, beginning with the costumes, sets, scene changes, lighting, sound and orchestra was marvelous.'

'I was spellbound at the quality of all aspects of the performance. Much as I hate to say it, it was significantly better than the shows I did in the Memorial Hall in my time.'

On behalf of the whole community I wish to thank the cast, orchestra and crew for the months of rehearsal and toil they undertook to deliver to us such an extraordinary performance. Further, none of this would have been possible without the sweat and tears of an exceptional team of staff, each of whom deserve to be acknowledged publicly. They are:

George Maroutos	Co-director, production manager, program and props coordinator
Kylene Cook	Co-director, choreographer, costumes and MacRob stage crew
Trevor Jones	Music director and conductor
Curtis Bayliss	Vocal director
Rami Stiglec	Assistant production manager
Amy Porter	Make-up
Joan Morgan	Stage Crew
John Rice	Mechanical designs, special effects, prosthetics and wigs
Judy Leech	Scenic artist and properties
Dawn Cook	Assistant costumes
Marian Haddrick	Assistant wardrobe
Jan Devlin	Front of house
Mihaela Brysha	Foyer display
Greg James	Photography
MHSOBA	Ticketing

**Jeremy Ludowyke**  
Principal

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## REQUEST TO PARENTS DRIVING SONS TO SCHOOL

Could all parents who drive their sons to School please observe our requests to drop them outside the School grounds. If all parents drove in to the School's driveways, it would quickly become unmanageable. As well, having less cars in the driveways each day makes it much safer for the vast majority of boys who arrive on foot.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**David Smyth**  
Assistant Principal

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT ADVICE FOR YEARS 9 AND 10

The last due date for homework Assessment Tasks in any subject is **Monday 25th May**. The intention of this deadline is to ensure students are free to dedicate their home study time to exam preparation in the days leading-up to the examination period, which begins on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June**.

All students will receive, as appropriate to each subject, some exam preparation material well before the exam period.

Students are strongly encouraged to make the best use of these arrangements. Parents are also encouraged to monitor their son's home study over the next few weeks, to help ensure that all Assessment Task deadlines are met and that appropriate exam preparation is undertaken.

**Nick Fairlie**

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday 30 May	Parents & Friends Trivia Night
Monday 8 June	Queen's Birthday
Friday 22 June	Junior Social
Sunday 24 June	Millgrove working bee

## INTERNET SITE OF THE WEEK

### Notable People from the British Isles

The site Britain Unlimited ([www.britainunlimited.com](http://www.britainunlimited.com)) gives brief biographies of 250 English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish "high achievers" in various fields. Links are provided to major museums, such as the Tate and the Fitzwilliam, organisations, such as the National Trust and Historic Houses Association, and to genealogical societies to assist in researching family history. A chronology of British history and travel and accommodation advice are also included.

**Richard Wakeham**  
Library

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## RISING GENERATIONS 7<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CAMP

**Term 3: July 23-26**

Rising Generations is the leadership group that ran the very successful SRC Training Day at MHS on February 27. It runs the National Leadership Camp (NLC), which is a premier leadership training program for young Australians. Each year it brings together up to 200 students (14-18 years) from across the nation.

NLC is officially endorsed by the Australian Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. It receives no government funding and is maintained through the generous support of businesses and individuals who desire to invest in Australia's next generation of leaders.

Rising Generations is again hosting NLC this year at the beautiful Collaroy Conference Centre, Collaroy Beach, NSW (approximately 45 minutes north of Sydney) from 23-26 July, 2009. Supervised transport will be provided to and from the facility for both interstate and local delegates who require transport from Central Railway Station and Sydney Domestic Airport.

Melbourne High School students have attended this camp for the last three years. Some have been invited back as leaders for following camps.

The camp will cost \$430. This covers accommodation, meals, venue hire, bus transportation from Sydney, resource material and all activities during the camp. **Return travel costs to Sydney are extra.**

Please obtain further information and registration materials from Mr Smyth. Students can register for NLC by **completing the registration forms with payment** and returning the completed forms to Mr Smyth. Registrations close June 26.

**David Smyth**  
Assistant Principal

## VICTORIAN ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY RELAYS

Last Saturday, MHS Cross Country team competed in the All Schools Cross Country Relays at Jells Park in bright and clear conditions. This is the first time in a long time MHS has fielded a team in this event and we were the only government school running. Each competitor ran a 2X2km lap. Only one age group team (U20) was represented and the following individuals did run for MHS:

**Under 20** - Nick Hiruma, Ben Aw-Yeong, Filip Cosic and Sean Whipp

The team came 9<sup>th</sup> out of 15 teams, with Sean Whipp's time of 14.57 being the best.

Well done to all competitors. Better luck with the All school Road Relays on 13<sup>th</sup> June.

**Mr Shaun Kemp**

## THE VICTORIAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS MEDICAL RESEARCH QUIZ 2009

The **Medical Research Quiz** is an online, 20 question, multiple choice quiz that will test your knowledge, exercise your mind and inspire your imagination. The quiz questions are designed to complement the current VCE biology curriculum. Practice by using past quizzes (with answers and web-links).

**Students** can do the quiz in the classroom, library, at home or anywhere there is internet access.

**Enter Online at:**

<http://www.beamedicalresearcher.org>

Entries open May 1st, and close June 30th 2009.

**Prizes**

Prizes: The winner and runner up in each category (Year 7-9 and Year 10-12) will receive a prize (iPods and Book Vouchers up for grabs!).

Winners and top ranking entries in each category will also receive a certificate of merit.

RESULTS in 2008

In Victoria, top score of 17/20 in the year 10-12 category was awarded to a year 10 student at **Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar**.

In the year 7-9 category, a year 7 student at **Ballarat Grammar** finished top with a score of 14/20.

**Mark Goodey**  
Science Teacher

## 415 SQUADRON WINS AWARD AS MOST EFFICIENT SQUADRON IN VICTORIA AIR FORCE CADETS DRILL COMPETITION & PARADE

On Sunday morning the 17<sup>th</sup> May, the elite of Melbourne High's Air Force Cadets competed against the best of 25 other Squadrons from across Victoria in the Annual 4 Wing drill competition.

After a month of intense training under the keen eye of the CUOs, WOFFs and NCOs, the squad completed a series of movements under the direction of Sergeant Marc Howarth. With one of the younger squads in the competition, and including cadets from years 9, 415 Squadron put in a strong performance. However, they did not make it to the final. 412 Squadron won the competition.

Cadets were entertained by a performance by the RAAF aerobatics team, the Roulettes.

In the afternoon, all cadets and staff of the AAFC in Victoria – nearly one thousand two hundred in total – took part in the 4 Wing Annual parade on the Parade Ground at RAAF Williams, Pt Cook. The event was without doubt an impressive spectacle for all who saw it, and the Reviewing Officer was generous in his praise for the cadets, many of whom have only been in uniform for a few months.

415 Squadron received one award. CUO Kogan won the trophy for Most Proficient cadet in Aerial Activities. 402 Squadron ended 415 Squadron's reign as 'Squadron of the Year'.

With this period of intense drill training behind us, the Squadron is now looking forward to a month of fieldcraft and survival training, leading the Annual Bivouac at the end of term.

**FLTLT (AAFC) Shaun Kemp**  
CO 415SQN

## MUSIC

### SUCCESS OF OUR STUDENTS

The Vocal Quartet (Jamal Blakkarly, Andrew Bird, Christopher Johnson and Tom Lew) was awarded the Melbourne Harmonies Chorus Award and won the A Cappella Choir – 18 Years & Under section at Boroondara Eisteddfod this year.

Felix Fung won first prize in the Piano – 18 Years & Under section at Boroondara Eisteddfod.

The school's piano trio (Philip Wu – Violin, E.J Khoo – Cello, Francis Lai – Piano) took out the Glen Prior Memorial Prize for Chamber Music Groups 25 Years & Under for the second consecutive year at the Dandenong Eisteddfod.

Congratulations to all these young gentlemen for these achievements.

### BEAUTY & THE BEAST

The staff of the music department would like to express their appreciation to the performers and all the staff who put this amazing show together. We particularly acknowledge the work of Trevor Jones and Curtis Bayliss for their excellent work with our musicians who provided the orchestra and choral items.



A very special thank you to Anne Ferrie, president of the Friends of Music, and all the 'Friends' who turned up night after night to sell refreshments at interval. The funds generated from this will greatly assist in purchasing new instruments for the music department.

### SINGERS

Another thank you to Curtis Bayliss and the MHS Singers who provided such delightful entertainment at the Mother's Day Lunch.

**Dr Anne Lierse**  
**Director of Music**

## PARENTS & FRIENDS

We are working hard on Trivia Night to be held Saturday 30 May and really hope you will book in. It is a great chance to meet other parents and we will seat you with parents with your year level or class.

**Karen Connolly**  
**[kaconn2000@yahoo.com.au](mailto:kaconn2000@yahoo.com.au)**

## SPORT

Congratulations to the following boys for receiving school colour certificate awards.

<b>Cricket:</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>Half</b>	<b>Merit</b>
	H Nurse	P Jeffs	S Hesham
	T Ward	A Krishnamoorthy	S Singh
	F Ryder	K Grenda	S Kumar
			S Heselev
			J Wood
			M Chowdhury

<b>Lawn Bowls: Full</b>	<b>Half</b>	<b>Merit</b>	
	G Chuah	Y Lee	A Dunn
	L Yong	T Adolf	P Murdoch
			J Hill
		R Boyar	
		J Lew	

<b>Rowing:</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>Half</b>	<b>Merit</b>
	A Hislop	W Gort	G Biss
	R Cranney	J Saunders	S Norman
	A Curnow		N Ampt
	J Cahill		N Harrington-Johnson
			D Maydelman
			F Minto

<b>Swimming:</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>Half</b>	<b>Merit</b>
	M Chandler	L Cuthbert	T Chalk-Hatton
	J McCarthy	J Cunningham	D Ta
	D Joncevski		L Draper
	B Nuwayhid		D Egan
			C Markey
		C Allinson	
		V Uzungil	
		H Pearce	
		C Brennan	
		S Hall	
		S Kim	

<b>Diving:</b>	<b>Merit</b>
	S Lim

**Ross Pritchard**  
**Director of Sport**



# STUDENT SERVICES

## **Seminar - Generation Next - Saturday 13 June**

**A public seminar aimed at understanding the unique health and wellbeing challenges facing generations Y & Z – and how these challenges can be met.**

Topics covered include: drug & alcohol; internet & cyber safety; sex, the media and teenagers; positive parenting and mental health.

Presenters include: Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (adolescent psychologist), Susan Mclean (cider safety expert) and Paul Dillon (drug and alcohol research and training Australia).

For more information call 1300 797 794 or visit [www.gennextseminars.com](http://www.gennextseminars.com)

## **HINTS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH ADOLESCENTS**

**Remember that we DO need to listen-** it's one of the most common complaints about parents. "They never listen to me ... they interrupt and start telling me off." Nodding and listening and asking questions (and saving any telling off messages for later) breeds good communication and kids who WILL talk to you when they have a problem.

**Timing is everything** - there are better and worse times to say things. Try to communicate less when they are angry or giving you attitude. Just a look and a shrug (as if to say- well that's the way you see things, I have a different view) can calm things down. Smart retorts will often escalate the situation. Notice when they are hungry, tired or emotional and say less then. It can also help if you try to tell them after a conflict what they did well.

**So when to speak?** - When the TV is off and they are really listening is the time to tell them things - keep it to point form and be as positive as you can. If they try to manipulate or cause a fight just smile vaguely and wander off - often it's our reactions that egg them on to a conflict - it takes two to argue and you can become an expert at refusing to do that. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RETORT.** Another good time to tell them things is when they want you to do something for them. It's a great opportunity to say – "Yes I'll think about that ... can we just have a chat about how you spoke to me last night first?"

**Don't use that tone with me!** - Most children want to see just how much they can get away with at home. Have a calm talk about how important it is for everyone to speak to each other with respect. Tell them you won't be talking to them if they are being rude. If they are rude hold up your hand immediately and say something like "I don't listen when you speak to me like that" in a pleasant voice and leave the room - they will get frustrated eventually and force themselves to speak in a nicer tone so you will listen. Be careful that you are not modeling smart remarks back and forward yourself as they will model themselves on that communication style. Chat during dinner – let them set the agenda and take an interest in what they say. Promise yourself you will refrain from criticising or advising or telling them off during dinner. When they are in bed it's great to stop past and have a chat - this is when they tend to revert back to being a bit younger and may even give you a hug and kiss. No matter how cool they are, all kids like being told they are loved before they go to sleep. Make it a habit.

**Call Drummond Street Relationship Centre for support with parenting on 9663 6733**

## **EMERGENCY AND SUPPORT CONTACTS**

Kids Help Line (24hrs)	1800 55 1800
Life Line (24hrs)	13 11 14
Griefline	95967799
Gay and Lesbian Switchboard	9827 8544
Drug and Alcohol 'Direct Line'	1800 888 236
Reach Out	<a href="http://www.reachout.com.au">www.reachout.com.au</a>
Kids Help Line 1800 551 800	<a href="http://www.kidshelp.com.au">www.kidshelp.com.au</a>



# FROM THE CAREERS ROOM

## Careers Update:

This week has been very busy event wise. Firstly, on Tuesday night, the annual MHSOBA Careers Night took place. The evening commenced with a well attended Tertiary Expo. Both Victorian and interstate universities were represented, providing students with up to date information about tertiary courses. This was followed by inspiring presentations by 39 Old Boys, which covered a broad range of career areas.

On Wednesday afternoon, all Year 12 students attended a Tertiary Information Service session at the University of Melbourne. The presentation covered a range of topics which included: how to select a course, VTAC application, SEAS and applying interstate.

## MHSOBA'S LUNCHEON SEMINARS:

### SERIES 2 SPEAKER PROGRAM

The next MHSOBA Luncheon Seminar will take place on **Tuesday 26th May**.



**TOPIC: PODIATRY**

**SPEAKER: JAMES SHORT**

All students have to do is **register in T39 by the Monday 25th May**. In doing so they **MUST** attend so check your diary for commitments before you sign up please. A minimum of 10 boys is required for a session to run.

BBQ sausages and a soft drink are generously provided.

## 2010 Cadetship Information Sessions at MHS:

During May there will be a number of lunchtime sessions informing students of business Cadetships in 2010. Cadetships offer students an opportunity to work and gain valuable experience while they complete their studies at university. On Monday 4th May the school was visited by Ernst and Young. The next two sessions will be:



*Monday 25th May*

*KPMG*



*Monday 1st June*

*Deloitte*

*All sessions will take place at lunchtime in T29*

## At Monash Seminar Series 2009

The Monash Seminar Series continues throughout Term 2. All sessions start at 6.30pm. The following seminars will take place over the next few weeks:

- *Architecture* *Monday 25th May* *Caulfield*
- *Information Technology* *Tuesday 2nd June* *Caulfield*
- *Law* *Wednesday 3rd June* *Caulfield*



For information and to book online: <http://www.monash.edu.au/study/events/atmonash>  
or phone: 9903 4758

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

### *Focus on Melbourne:*

The University of Melbourne evening seminar series for years 10-12 students and their families continues. The program enables participants to take a closer look at the study options available at the university. The following seminar will take place from 6.30pm-8pm:

**Wednesday 27 May**      **Commerce** - covering the Bachelor of Commerce and graduate study  
First floor, Medical Building, corner of Grattan Street and Royal Parade

To register or for further information go to: [www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events/vic/focusonmelbourne.html](http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events/vic/focusonmelbourne.html)



## Work Experience Term 2:

The cut off date for Work Experience in the Term 2 holidays is **Friday 5th June, 2009**. Students must have organised



# MHS TRIVIA NIGHT 2009

**SATURDAY MAY 30 @ 7pm**

**VENUE: MEMORIAL HALL**

Come & join us for a fun night of fast paced trivia with Professional host, Trivia Night Fever.

Everyone is welcome so if you have some friends interested please bring them along.

You can make up a table of approx 10 people or we can allocate one for you. BYO nibbles, drinks, glasses.

**AS THIS IS A FUNDRAISER DON'T FORGET YOUR GOLD COINS FOR GAMES.**

Tickets are \$15 each.

Contact Maggie Stevens on 97004109 or [tmrstevens@dodo.com.au](mailto:tmrstevens@dodo.com.au)

WHAT IS THE NAME OF A  
MYTHICAL CREATURE THAT HAS  
SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE AND  
DYNAMIC GOOD  
LOOKS ? HMMM

