



Looking Forward

- Monday 26 January
Australia Day Holiday
Yr 12 Induction Camp commences, 4pm
- Tuesday 27 January
Staff Conference Day
Yr 12 Induction Camp concludes, 3pm
- Wednesday 28 January
Orientation Day for new students
- Thursday 29 January
Term 1 commences
Yr 9 Bushwalking - Arthurs Seat Park, 9am - 3.30pm
- Friday 30 January
ID photographs, Middle & Senior
- Saturday 31 January
Leading Teams Workshop, 9am - 3pm, Pavilion
- Sunday 1 February
Chapel Service, 10am,
Chapel of the Resurrection
- Monday 2 February
Clothing Pool, 1pm
- Tuesday 3 February
Senior School Information Evening, 7pm, Ansett Hall
- Wednesday 4 February
Reach - Yr 12 Forum, 1.50 - 3.30pm
Pavilion
- Friday 6 February
AGSV Swimming Trials
- Saturday 7 February
AGS Summer Sport Round 5
- Sunday 8 February
Chapel Service, 10am,
Chapel of the Resurrection
- Tuesday 10 February
Middle School Yrs 7&8 Information Evening, 6pm, Ansett Hall
Prefects Investiture, 10.10am, Ansett Hall
Brainstorm Productions - Yr 9 incursion, 2.15pm, Pavilion
- Wednesday 11 February
School Surf Lifesaving League, 10am
Yr 9 Information Evening, 7pm - 8pm, Lecture Theatre
- Friday 13 February
Middle School Parents Social Evening, Pavilion
AGSV Swimming Trials
- Saturday 14 February
AGS Summer Sport Round 6
- Sunday 15 February
Chapel Service, 10am,
Chapel of the Resurrection
- Monday 16 February
Yr 7 Outdoor Ed Camp commences
8A Mt Baw Baw departs, 9am
- Wednesday 18 February
'Keys Please', 7.00pm, Lecture Theatre
8A Mt Baw Baw returns, 5pm
8B Mt Baw Baw departs, 9am
- Friday 20 February
8B Mt Baw Baw returns, 5pm
AGSV Swimming Trials
Yr 7 Outdoor Ed Camp returns, 3.30pm
- Saturday 21 February
AGS Summer Sport Round 7
- Sunday 22 February
Chapel Service, 10am,
Chapel of the Resurrection

Consistently High Achievement



Peninsula School students continue to rank amongst the high achieving Victorian VCE students.

Lukas Wittern combined university enhancement studies, the study of Latin, Specialist Maths and Chemistry to earn an ENTER score of 99.9, confirming his title as Dux for 2008.

As a Prefect and committed environmental activist, Lukas led his peers on a journey encouraging the vigilant

protection of our environment. His has been a strong influence. Lukas luxuriated in the wonder and study of science as well as challenging himself and his peers to make a difference. It is not surprising that this proud young man has been awarded a place at Cambridge University to study Earth Science.

Amanda Hammond and Ben Bambery also joined the prestigious '99 plus club'. Their diligence, fascination with learning and above all their quiet humility has led them to remarkable academic success. Amanda pursued university study in Chemistry while undertaking her VCE. We applaud her achievements in receiving an ENTER of 99.55. Ben's study of Specialist Maths and French contributed to his impressive result of 99.25.

The passion with which these young people pursued the academic challenges of VCE was certainly crucial to their success, but their ability to combine study with their sporting commitments and caring for others ensured a balanced and considered approach to Year 12.

Kirsty Osborne and Amanda Hammond's success in Literature and English respectively were unparalleled. Their talent was rewarded with perfect scores of 50.

The Class of 2008 earned impressive results with each student striving to achieve their personal best. Whilst applauding our young people it is timely to remember that success is measured

beyond high marks. Those students who have worked diligently and to the best of their ability should also be justifiably proud of their efforts. Simply completing the VCE takes motivation and determination and for this reason The Peninsula School congratulates the 144 students who achieved their VCE in 2008. Thirteen students (9%) received ENTERs of 95 or higher, placing them in the top five per cent of the State. This figure is slightly below last year, when 9.4 per cent of students achieved this level.

Thirty five students received ENTERs of 90 or better, making the top 10 per cent in the State. This was 24 per cent of students, one percentage point higher than 2007.

Sixty two students received ENTERs of 80 or higher and made the top 20 per cent in the State. This equates to 43 per cent of students, four percentage points below 2007.

One hundred students, or 69 per cent, received an ENTER of 70 or better, making the top 30 per cent in Victoria. This is five percentage points up on 2007.

Meanwhile, Darcy Staubli's academic achievements in Year Six were recognised when he was named Dux of the Junior School for 2008. Darcy enters Year Seven this year and clearly has a most promising academic future ahead of him.

Margaret Hopkins
Head of Senior School

The pleasure of the written word...

Congratulations to budding author Amy Warnock, who is the Grade 4 winner of the My Melbourne: City of Literature Junior Writers' Competition. Amy wrote her story, which is reproduced below, as part of the Peninsula Enrichment Program, in which she worked with Junior School teacher Jenny Kimpton.

Amy was one of 2286 students from across Victoria who entered the competition to write a story about Melbourne in 300 words or less.

She has won a \$100 Readings gift card and a \$100 Australia Post stamp collection.

The Victorian Government ran the competition for Grade 3 to Year 10 students to celebrate Melbourne's status as a UNESCO City of Literature.

Nicola Holland
Director of Marketing

A Diary of Melbourne
(Glimpses through the eyes of three girls who saw the city in different centuries)

31st of March 1808

Dear Diary,
I just got back from Melbourne with Father; we

went to collect some supplies and it took us three days. Each night we slept in the cart. It was my first time going to town. Father drove the horse and cart from St. Kilda to Melbourne - it was very bumpy! Suddenly we came to halt and I could see the Yarra River and trees but nothing else. As father slowly kept going on up the track, the trees cleared and I saw rows and rows of tents pitched as far as I could see into the distance. There were also a lot of people - I have never seen so many in one place before! As I clutched father's hand, I became more and more excited and scared at the amazing sight before me.

Harriet
31st March 1908

Dear diary,
It was Mummy's birthday today and we went to Melbourne for the day. We caught a tram drawn by horses from Elsternwick into town. We watched 'The Pirates of Penzance' at the Princess Theatre, then dined at the Windsor Hotel which was very grand. We saw the Prime Minister crossing Spring Street on his way to Parliament. He looked very distinguished.

Elizabeth

31/03/2008

Dear Diary,
I spent the day in Melbourne today. Mum drove the car in, and we parked at Crown. We caught the City Circle tram to the Museum, and then around to Federation Square where we ate lunch. Then we went up the Eureka Tower and out on 'The Edge'. It was terrifying, but so beautiful! I love going to the city.

Chloe

What will be the entry in 2108?



REMINDER
The Peninsula School
is a
SMOKE FREE ZONE

Your children's safety is our concern - Is it yours?

Remember the School Zone speed limits:

60kph - Nepean Highway, 40kph - Wooralla Drive & 10kph at all times within the School grounds. This is walking speed. Do not double park or park in inappropriate areas as it creates blind spots for other drivers and greatly increases the risk to the children.

Headline



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. A particular welcome to those students and their families who are new to our community this year, especially those who have travelled from overseas to come to Peninsula. Schools always have a real buzz about them as the new year is getting into gear; staff are recharged and students have a fresh energy about them. This year is no different; the air of excitement and expectancy around the campus is palpable. I am pleased to report that the School is in particularly good shape for 2009. Our grounds and maintenance staff and our cleaners have done a great job in making ready the buildings and the playing fields. A number of renovation tasks have been completed and our eagerly awaited Performing Arts Centre is on schedule. Most importantly, our school enrolment figures are excellent despite the economic downturn. A more detailed list of staffing changes will be featured in a few weeks. Very late in 2008 we received the news that our Director of Performing Arts, Louise Daly, would not be returning this year. We wish her well in her Head of Department role at Mentone Grammar School. Melinda Slade has been appointed to replace Louise. Also late in the year, our Director of Music, Craig Fullerton, accepted a similar position at the Friends School in Hobart. A replacement for Craig is still to be made. Finally, there was much to rejoice about when the results for the Class of 2008 were published. Along with many high scores, a good number of 'personal bests' were achieved. Special congratulations go to Dux of School Lukas Wittern who scored a remarkable ENTER of 99.9, which saw him receive many first class offers from universities, both locally and internationally – a great result! More details appear in our front page article.

All the best for the year ahead.

Ray Hille, Principal

TO ALL SCHOOL BUS TRAVELLERS

When students cease travelling on our buses, would parents please inform Mrs Jenny Matheson in the Bookroom by email, phone or letter immediately, otherwise refunds cannot be ensured, as accounts are updated on a monthly basis.

Jenny Matheson
Bookroom
97887887
jmatheson@tps.vic.edu.au

“Focus! Now give me more!”

“Focus! Now give me more!” This was a familiar call coming from the Drama room every lesson, every rehearsal. It was a benign demand made by Louise Daly, this simultaneously commanding and nurturing presence; and either because they want to lift their standard or simply just to gain that praise which she gives from her heart, the students always give more. Louise Daly joined the Drama department of The Peninsula School in 1995 for a long service leave position and returned in 1996 on a part-time basis. In 1997 this unique and motivated teacher was responsible for the success of *Evita*. She returned to the school in 1999 as Head of Drama after maternity leave and directed *Man of La Mancha*. At that point she took up a position at her Alma Mater, Kilbreda. But she was back in 2001 and was the force behind moving the senior productions into the Frankston Arts Centre. Since then we've been enthralled year after year by *Sweeney Todd*, *Chicago*, *Annie*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Fame*, *Guys 'n' Dolls*, *Cabaret*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Grease*, *Aladdin* and *Jekyll and Hyde*. Her inspirational direction lifted the production at both junior and senior level to heights that no-one thought possible for a school. However, to sum up Louise Daly by a list of musicals would be a travesty. Her work in the classroom was equally excellent, whether she was drawing a nervous year 7 student out of their comfort zone to discover something inside them that not even they knew existed, or inspiring her VCE drama students to write, design, produce and run their own production and solo

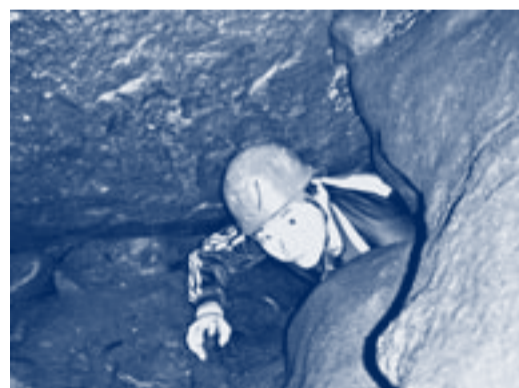
performance. To her credit many were asked to audition for and perform in the Top Acts program. She was even able to lift the performance of one of her students and produce and direct it right into the Fringe Festival! As Head of Performing Arts Louise was able to coordinate events such as Performing Arts Nights, incorporating the Art, Music and Drama departments. These events were acclaimed by the students as amongst the best memories many of them will take with them of their time at school. And certainly any event which was coordinated, established or indeed touched in any way by Louise's distinctive style was acclaimed by the whole school community. Staff who have the privilege of working side by side with her are always motivated by her ability to cut past the obstacles to find solutions, her ability to take something simple and make it speak volumes and her unapologetic pursuit of excellence. To say the students adore Louise is somewhere short of the truth. Their sense of respect and admiration for her as a teacher is only surpassed by their regard for her as a friend. Louise always makes herself available to them, whether or not they are in her class, for advice, assistance or simply just to listen to their 'dramas'. Students flock to her for inspiration, knowing they will be received by an open mind and a patient and caring spirit. The word “impossible” simply does not enter into Louise's vocabulary. She is the hardest working, most consummate teacher I have ever met. She has achieved all these



things while confronting her own personal concerns and stresses and always with grace, serenity and an infectious humour. (The image of a heavily pregnant Louise, wearing the ubiquitous high heels, running yet another Sunday rehearsal in the Ansett Hall springs to mind!) We will all be poorer for her absence but have been left better for the experience. Never one to rest on her laurels, she moves on to her next challenge: to build her empire and a brand new program at Mentone Grammar. There would be no more appropriate finale at this point than that there would be a standing ovation as the audience erupts with cries of “Brava!” Take your bows Louise. Exit stage left... Curtain!

Lidia Mancini
Vocal Director

A Whole New Experience



the activity. After caving, everyone was dirty, soaking wet, hungry and tired. We changed into our clean shirts and headed to Warburton by the Yarra River to have lunch. During lunch, we fed the ducks near us with muffins and breads. Lastly,

after lunch we headed back to school, exhausted!

Teoh Khye Shyang (Khye)
Year 9 ELC



On Monday, the first of December, we went for an excursion to Wesburn Caves. The caves we went to were situated in a gully in the Upper Yarra region. We went to the caves with Mr Cook, Mr Hewitson, Ms Angela Kastanis and the ELC students. Before we started caving, some of us were very excited but nervous as well. In the beginning, we were very scared that the rocks would collapse on us. After some time of caving, everyone got used to it. It was a very good experience because we had to crawl through small gaps and help each other. I especially liked the sound of water lapping and the sound of nature. We crawled through the caves for about an hour! Most importantly, the majority of us liked

Junior HPV 2008

- a wonderful team effort!

A group of very enthusiastic Year Six girls and boys took part in the annual RACV Energy Breakthrough challenge at Maryborough late last year. The challenge gives students, teachers and parents an opportunity to demonstrate a variety of technology-based projects that represent a practical use of sustainable energy. The 2008 challenge was the second time primary students from The Peninsula School had entered the Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) event. (Secondary teams from the School participated strongly for some years to 2004.)

This second attempt by the Junior School effectively got underway in July with expressions of interest from 22 Year Six girls and boys.

The challenge assesses each team on three distinct elements: understanding the concepts involved in the design and construction of their vehicle, an oral presentation on the development and theme of the team entry, and a 14-hour endurance trial. Accordingly, the Junior School's two teams had a regular training regime of fitness and stamina using circuits and exercise bikes, studied diet and hydration and rehearsed original drama presentations promoting sustainable energy concepts. They also developed familiarity with the components and mechanical operation of the vehicles, learning about safety flags and track etiquette in order to gain a 'licence' to ride in the event. The students spent as much time as possible riding the HPVs and bicycles at the Casey Fields criterium track or suitable restricted driveways and car parks.

The 'weapons of choice' for the campaign were *Mistral* and *Sirocco II*, two relatively unconventional front-wheel drive and rear-wheel steer recumbent tricycles designed by Greenspeed in Melbourne. These trikes have a lower centre of gravity, low drag and are much lighter than conventional vehicles. But their 'fork-lift steering' can make them difficult to control. They are also prone to 'fishtail' in a straight line and, in extreme circumstances, to rolling!

The second vehicle, delivered as a basic rolling unit less than a week before the challenge, required significant fitting-out to comply with RACV specifications and to make it suitable for students to race. But not to be deterred, 45 students, staff, parents and grandparents headed to Maryborough in late November. The lead up to the race was busy and sometimes frustrating, with team registration, vehicle scrutineering, modifications, a successful appeal (thank you, David and James!) against a significant and time-consuming vehicle modification, design and construction evaluation and assessment, drama presentations and judging.

The practice session, with more than 70 vehicles on track, was an invaluable experience for all riders. Despite a rollover or two and some damage to both vehicles it taught the team a lot in a short time.

The 14-hour trial is a relay over two days. The Peninsula School's two teams each comprised four girls and four boys who generally pedalled for between 20 and 35 minutes at a time, though some managed close to an hour on occasion.

The trial was just that, with initially humid, then cool, cold, windy and eventually very wet weather. The teams and the support crew celebrated wonderful individual performances, commiserated with those who had incidents, either of their own making or precipitated by other competitors, patched holes in windscreens, taped flapping canopies and semi-detached body panels, mended punctures, and reassured riders who, at times, must have been close to hypothermia.



Once the rain came the biggest problem was for riders to see where they were going! *Mistral* and *Sirocco II* probably suffered more than most because they were so low to the road and copped a lot of spray from other competitors. Both vehicles regularly lost time in the pits for 'de-fogging' of windscreens, and eventually most riders resorted to sticking their head out to judge bends and overtaking manoeuvres. It was an excellent example of the determination and team spirit displayed by our students.

In the true tradition of a long distance race like Bathurst, the last half hour provided extraordinary drama. *Mistral* was rolled by another HPV, suffering damage to the steering and crashing again shortly afterwards. After hasty repairs and with a fresh rider it maintained excellent lap speed for the final 15 minutes. *Sirocco II* was doing very well until the final eight minutes of the 14-hour race, when the drive wheel shed many of its spokes and collapsed. The vehicle completed the final few laps with a new wheel, took the chequered flag and was then involved in an incident with three other HPVs that destroyed the headlight and nose cone on the parade lap!

Team riders were Jason Bradbury, Lucinda Breden, Luis Carr, Lauren Clarke, Ashley Rodgerson, Jordan Stannus, Chelsea Watkins and Hannah Watson in *Sirocco II* with Bryce McLean, Wade Barbour and Riley Sugars as pit crew. Imogen Breden, Matt Cipollone, Billy Garrett, Genevieve Greig, Maddie McDonald, Daniel Reaper, Daniel Van Zeil and Betsy Woolfall drove *Mistral*, with Drew Mitchell, Lucinda Brancatisano and James Kosenko in the pit. Over the four days the riders and pit crew selflessly

encouraged and assisted one another in a wonderful display of resolve and team spirit, and all the children gave a very creditable account of themselves.

The results – at www.racvenergybreakthrough.net/Results08.shtm – are interesting, but require careful analysis, as they don't fully reflect what we know to be true. There were standout performances in times and grittiness, but this is a true team event and I am reluctant to single out names. The children, parents and grandparents who were there know what they and their team-mates achieved, the hard-luck stories and the amazing performances of individual riders. They know how much we admire them for their efforts. They also know that it was a huge experience, long to be remembered, and that they had serious fun!

Junior School staff members who coordinated various aspects of our overall effort were Robert Ogle, Virginia Sugars, Jenny Kimpton and John Howard-Jones. Greg Sugars manned the computer for the whole 14 hours to keep us fully informed of our progress. Year 9 student Mason Sugars ably fulfilled the roles of race tactician and Team Captain, coordinating the dedicated pit crews, who performed strongly and took great pride in the welfare of their respective vehicles and team members.

The teams were well supported from the beginning in fundraising endeavours by team members and their families. But we were overwhelmed at the actual event by the wholehearted involvement of many parents who helped with setting up camp, catering, massage and TLC, officiating around the track and preparing and repairing the two HPVs over the four days. James McDonald, David Stannus and Mark Howard-Jones warrant special mention for the substantial number of hours they put into helping with fitting out and testing the vehicles, with modifications and ongoing repairs. They even considered design changes that should further improve the competitiveness of the recumbent



tricycles for 2009.

The cost of mounting such an effort is significant, and we truly appreciate the financial and/or material support we received from our generous sponsors: Barbour Prestige, Blue Gum Clothing, Racelogic VBox, Kemp & Partners CPA, Sign-A-Rama, Tully's Produce, Allied Pickfords, Dulux, OPTEON Property Group, Ti-Tree Family Doctors, Zoogles, CGB Publishing Ltd, Cambur Motors, CC Amatil, Homeworld (Vic) Pty Ltd, A & K Garrett Builders, South East Water and Repco Frankston. We thank you most sincerely. Your assistance greatly advanced the cause.

Finally, to quote a proud parent: "Wow, what can I say? What an incredible event! Drama, weather, officialdom at its worst ... Over the four days I saw a very fired-up bunch of 12 year olds working together towards a common goal ... and I don't think I can adequately explain to anyone the atmosphere and the sheer logistical nightmare. The only shame is that now the kids are trained and practised, they don't get to do it again next year".

Yes, that is a shame. But if last year's teams can convince the right people, perhaps we could have a Middle School team running the 24-hour trial this year. In any event, we of the Junior School are already planning for November.

John Howard-Jones
HPV Co-ordinator





Coffee morning dates 2009:

Just to let you know that the Pavilion will be open for coffee 8.30 - 10.30 am, 29 Jan to 6 Feb inclusive, then each Tuesday and Wednesday during term time except when exams are scheduled. We shall advise you of any changes.



Giant Garage Sale



The Rotary Club of Mt Eliza is holding a weekend garage sale in the Old Gym/Tuckshop area, during the first weekend of April (start of the school holidays) 2009.

We have shipping containers ready to accept any items (other than junk) that we can sell to support our local and international programs. Teams of Rotarians are happy to collect these items from you. Please contact me and I can arrange collection of your items.

Also please let others know about this event. We are hoping to raise \$10,000 from the Gigantic Sale.

Elizabeth Bywater
Careers Department
9788 7738

Where are the sports results?

Go to www.tps.vic.edu.au
NEWS/EVENTS/Sports Results



This publication is printed on 100% re-cycled Envirocare paper, that would normally go to landfill. The paper is chlorine free and meets international standards for environmental protection.

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A Summer of Peninsula Cricket

The Peninsula School Cricket program was in full action in the first week of December with the Development Squad hosting Hutchins School and the First X1 traveling to Tasmania to play two games in Launceston and the "Boot" game against Hutchins in Hobart. Results of these games are as follows:

Development Squad

Game 1 – Peninsula vs Hutchins School
Peninsula 213 (Lachlan Whitfield 73 retired, Angus Groves 24, Jeremy Gleeson 32, Leon Newton 22 retired)
Defeated

Hutchins 115 (Luke Clancy 2/9, James Freeman 5/14)

Game 2 – Peninsula vs Brighton G.S.
Peninsula 95 (Luke Clancy 29, Jacob O'Meara Gill 12, Ben Burton 16)

Lost to Brighton G.S. 139 (Lachlan Whitfield 4/15, James Freeman 2/4, Jeremy Gleeson 2/10)
Game 3 – Peninsula vs Mentone G.S. (30 over game)

Peninsula 121 (Jeremy Gleeson 22, Angus Groves 34, Jack Stannus 17)

Defeated Mentone 71 (Tom Feldgen 2/4, James Freeman 2/3)



Hutchins 7/167 (Stefan Burnell 3/34, Callum Savio 2/39, Glenn Wood 1/40)

The week's cricket proved to be very enjoyable and beneficial for the development of our cricketers and many thanks must go to the parents of the Development Squad members who hosted Hutchins boys, parents who helped with lunches and those organized the running of both tours. Special thanks must also go to Mr Alan Wood and Mr Peter Buchanan who travelled to Tasmania with the First X1 and made sure that all went well while our boys were away.

Stephen Brennan
Director of Sport



First XI

Game 1 – Peninsula vs Launceston G.S.
Peninsula 90 (Ethan Marsters 20, Rhys Elmi 40, Jackson Egan 17)

Defeated Launceston G.S. 33 (Ernie Neville 7/3, Stefan Burnell 2/7)

Game 2 – Peninsula vs Scotch Oakburn
Peninsula 233 (Ben Tracy 23, Bryce Kellerman 34, Travis Kellerman 25, Stefan Burnell 25, Cameron Macaulay 38, Callum Savio 27)

Defeated Scotch Oakburn 226 (Callum Savio 2/33)

Game 3 The Boot Game – Peninula vs Hutchins
After losing the toss Peninsula was put in to bat and this allowed Hutchins School opening bowler and U19 State player Marcus Davies to bowl before leaving for the U19 National Championships in Sydney. This proved to be a vital move as he took 6/26 in our first innings of 100 and Hutchins passed our score to regain the boot after a number of years. Consistent rain meant that a second innings could not be played.
Peninsula 100 (Ethan Marsters 36, Jackson Egan 12, Callum Savio 12, Travis Kellerman 10)
Lost to

SATURDAY MORNING SPORT - TERM 1

The first round of Saturday morning sport for 2009 will be on Saturday 7 February. All students are expected to be available for selection on this day and details will be placed on Learning Point.

Training will recommence for all teams in Week 2 with the first training session starting on Monday 2 February. All students will be expected to attend their designated training session in this week.

Some first teams may be required to train in the first week back at school and Mr Brennan will be in touch with these particular students.

The Saturday morning buses from Portsea and Flinders will again be operating in Term 1.

Dates are as follows:
Saturday 7, 14, 21, & 28, February
Saturday 14 & 21 March.

Many thanks,
Stephen Brennan
Director of Sport

The new BMW X3 2.0 diesel.

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