

Principal's Report and News

concord.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.concordsch.vic.edu.au

411 Grimshaw Street, Bundoora
3083
PO Box No. 90 Bundoora 3083

Grimshaw Campus:
T (03) 9467 3972
F (03) 9467 8018

Junior Campus:
T (03) 9432 7978
F (03) 9432 4593

Concord School Website

If you require information about Concord School at any time then please visit our comprehensive website at www.concordsch.vic.edu.au. To view 'special events' you will need a user name and password. Please contact the office for this information.

Official School Facebook Page

To be kept directly informed of student learning and school news, please LIKE us on facebook through the link [facebook.com/concordschoolvictoria](https://www.facebook.com/concordschoolvictoria) or electronically by clicking on the link below.



Principal's Report

7th August 2014, Newsletter No. 12

The students of our school are to be congratulated for continually striving to '**be the best that they can be**'. Visitors to our school frequently comment on the calm and structured learning environment that is provided. The students integrate the school values of **personal best, cooperation, respect, honesty and happiness** into everything that they do each day.

The Student Opinion Survey results for 2014 have recently been released. The Year 5-6 results are very high as always and the Year 7-12 results were pleasing with only one variable scoring below 78%. The average scores were higher than the average scores of other state schools by 18% for Years 5-6 and 13% for Years 7-12. Congratulations to our teachers and students for working together to provide a safe and productive school.



Student Support Group (SSG) Meetings

SSG meetings were held across the school last Wednesday. This was an important opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher to discuss your child's Student Learning Plan (SLP). We acknowledge that it is not always easy for you to attend these meetings; however we know that the teachers and students were enthusiastic about showing samples of their work and discussing their progress with you. We hope you were pleased with the positive developments that they have made and could celebrate these with your children after the meetings. (PCI SSG meetings will be conducted Monday 18th August, bookings are now open)

Fair Go Night

On Wednesday, 23rd July the Transition Section held their '**Fair Go Evening**'. The evening is a culmination of the work the students have been doing in regard to Fair Trade and developing an understanding of how goods are produced and sold in Third World countries. The Transition Centre was filled to capacity for a speech by a very special guest speaker, **Tim Costello**, the **CEO of World Vision**. There were stalls selling food, drink and hand made goods and the evening concluded with a fashion parade from the students as they modelled clothes purchased from the **Watsonia Salvation Army** store and borrowed from **Greensborough Savers**.



Centrelink Officer

Meeting Families/Carers At Centrelink Greensborough

Centrelink will meet with Families/Carers of Concord School Students **at their Office**, 16-20 Grimshaw Street Greensborough on Tuesday **26th August 2014** between the hours of **11.00am - 12.00pm**.

Centrelink staff will help with any queries/forms or any questions needing to be answered.

Need to let the school know your child won't be on the bus today?

Changes to daily travel arrangements can now be text directly to Carmel on 0409 509 390

- Carmel will reply to acknowledge the text has been received, please phone the school if you don't get a reply within an hour
- You still need to tell the bus supervisor directly and write a short note in the communication book

Coming Events for 2014

Date	Event
Friday 15th August 2014	Presentation Ball
Friday 29th August 2014	Whole School Assembly in Gymnasium @ 9.15am for National Literacy and Numeracy Week

The Discovery Centre

The **Discovery Centre** was opened for student use approximately one year ago. A visit to the **Discovery Centre** at any time will see the students engaged in a wide range of inspirational activities sharing their learning in the central space, performing a science experiment in the wet area, producing a TV show in the film studio, podcasting a program in the radio station....and so on. This space has transformed the possibilities of student learning. Thank you to Helen Edmonds our teaching and learning coach and Pam Wright our eLearning coach, who along with Jesse Donaldson support students and staff in using this innovative space.



Asbestos Labelling in School

As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Health and Safety Management Plan, new labelling advising contractors to the presence of asbestos will be installed at our school.

The labels remind contractors to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up-to-date information from the school's asbestos register.



Asbestos which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition. There is no need to be concerned in regard to the health of your children as all asbestos in our school is safe.

Official Concord School Facebook Page

'LIKE' Concord School on facebook.

Concord School established an official facebook page, which currently has 447 LIKES, in order to communicate more effectively with the school community. The purpose of this page is for students, families (and ex-students and families) and those with an interest in the school to be provided with immediate access to information through text, photos and video.



Posted content may include

- student, class and section performances
- class excursions
- important school news including photos of the buildings and grounds

To LIKE the page, go to facebook.com/concordschoolvictoria or if you are reading this newsletter electronically, click on the facebook badge on the front page of this newsletter. The school has processes in place to ensure this is a safe online environment. Only school 'administrators' are able to post content and the page is constantly monitored for inappropriate posts which are immediately removed. Any person who posts inappropriate content will be 'banned permanently' from the page. If they are a current student at the school, they will undergo a cybersafety program and will be dealt with through the schools disciplinary procedures.

Only photos of students who have the appropriate permissions will be uploaded onto the page. The school will use the parental permission relating to the 'School Website' on the school enrolment form. That is, if you said you didn't want your child to be on the school website, then they will not be on the facebook page. Please contact Julie in the school office and advise her if you gave permission for your child to be on the school website but you do not want them to be on the official facebook page.

Principal's Award

The Principal's Award goes to Faik.

Faik has matured and grown into a respectful and courteous young man who always participates in class and works to the best of his ability. He is willing to assist both in the classroom and across the school by independently taking on responsibilities or helping others. Faik always takes the time to talk to the staff and takes on the role of a supportive friend when needed.

Well done on your fantastic work Faik!

"Students striving to be the best they can be!"

Jason Coningsby
Principal

President's Message

A School Council meeting was held on Monday 21st July.

The agenda items that were discussed at the meeting were:

- Middle Section Refurbishment
- Bus Purchase
- Rating Scale for SLP's
- Concord School Powerful Learning Strategy
- Improving Connections for Koorie Students
- Concord School Policies
- Use of Junior Multi-Purpose Hall



"Working together for our children"

Mark Lancaster
School Council President

Assistant Principals' Report

Last week parent opinion surveys were sent out to random parents across the school. Concord School uses the information gathered from these surveys to reflect on our current practice and ensure that all students are getting the very best education possible. If you received a survey and are yet to send it back please fill it in and send it back to school with your child by Friday. All surveys are sent to the Department of Education unopened and the information inside is completely anonymous.

The Middle Section of the school set out on a camp on Monday morning. They braved the cold and set off first thing to Phillip Island. Our camping program provides opportunities for students to achieve in settings and environments that they would not usually have an opportunity to work in. The experience of two nights away from home is an invaluable one for our students and we are always extremely proud of their achievements when they return to school. Don't forget to check our website for upcoming camp dates.

Over the next few weeks of the term the students will be very busy with special events. The three that really stand out are Pathways on Show, The Presentation Ball and Literacy and Numeracy Week. Pathways on Show is the culmination of our students hard work. Parents and friends gathered on Wednesday 6th August to look at everything that has been going on in Pathways and students' work was acknowledged. These evenings are not possible without the support of staff, students and families and we were very grateful for all who played their part.

The Presentation Ball will be held on Friday 15th August. This is a celebration of students' entire time at Concord School. It is always a wonderful evening where the skills that students have been taught during their schooling shine through. At the moment there are many students coming down to the office and counting down to the evening as this event is certainly a favourite on the Concord calendar.

Literacy and Numeracy week starts on Monday 25th August. This year the whole school will be working through specific activities to celebrate the week. Don't forget the assembly on Friday 29th August. Every Section will show something to reflect the week that they had. We look forward to a big turnout.

Kirrily Lamers, Colin Simpson and Kath Moore
Assistant Principals

Family and Friends Association

Fathers' Day Raffle – donations of new items are gratefully being sought for the **Fathers' Day Raffle**. Raffle Tickets will be sent home soon.

Second Hand Uniform – FFA are seeking donations of second hand uniform that is still in good wearable condition. Uniform can be sent to Junior and Grimshaw Campuses.

Snax Fundraiser – Term 3 fundraiser will be **Snax**. Brochures have been sent home. Orders are due back on 12th August with deliveries due late August.

Staff Morning Tea – The date for the morning tea provided by FFA has changed to 1st September.

Helpers – FFA always need helpers, even if you don't want to be on the Committee. Helpers are needed for Hotdog days and other activities. Please let us know if you are able to help.

Next meeting is being held on **Monday 1st September at 1.30pm** at the Grimshaw Campus.

Sue Gibb
Secretary
Email: sue.g@internode.on.net



Five simple ways to prevent the spread of Flu:

1. Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough

(The flu virus can travel through the air when a person coughs or sneezes)
When you cough or sneeze you should:

- Turn away from other people
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve
- Use disposable tissues rather than a handkerchief (which could store the virus)
- Put used tissues into the nearest bin, rather than a pocket or handbag
- Wash your hands, or use an alcohol hand rub, as soon as possible afterwards.

2. Wash your hands

Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, - even when they aren't visibly dirty. This is the single most effective way of killing the flu virus. Always wash your hands:

- after you've been to the toilet
- after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- after being in contact with someone who has a cold or flu
- before touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- before preparing food and eating.

To wash your hands properly



1 Wet your hands, then apply soap



2 Lather vigorously for 15-20 seconds



3 Rinse with water



4 Dry your hands afterwards with a clean towel

3. Don't share personal items

The flu virus can spread when someone touches an object with the virus on it and then touches their eyes, nose or mouth.

- keep personal items, such as towels, bedding and toothbrushes separate
- do not share eating and drinking utensils, food or drinks.

4. Clean surfaces

Flu viruses can live on surfaces for several hours. If a member of your household has the flu, you should regularly clean surfaces such as tables, benches, fridge doors and door knobs with soap and water or detergent.

5. Avoid close contact with others if you are unwell with flu

While you are unwell you should remain at home and avoid going out in public.

If your child is unwell they should not go to school or attend other public or crowded places. Do not visit people who have the flu unless it is absolutely necessary.

Community News

Tackling bullying in our community

You are invited to attend a solution and strategy based forum for parents, young people and those working with young people

Banyule Youth Services presents Evelyn M. Field; practicing Psychologist and bestselling author of "Bully Blocking". Evelyn is a member of the professional advisory board of the National Centre against Bullying and is a respected media spokesperson.

Evelyn will offer practical hands-on strategies on recognising bullying, helping students build their emotional and social resilience, bully blocking skills for children and young people and supporting your children if they are being bullied.



Evelyn's presentation will be followed by a panel of experts which will allow those attending to ask questions and discuss local responses.

When: 6.30pm Wed, August 27 2014

**Where: Council Chambers,
The Centre Ivanhoe,
275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe.**

Cost: FREE, but bookings essential!

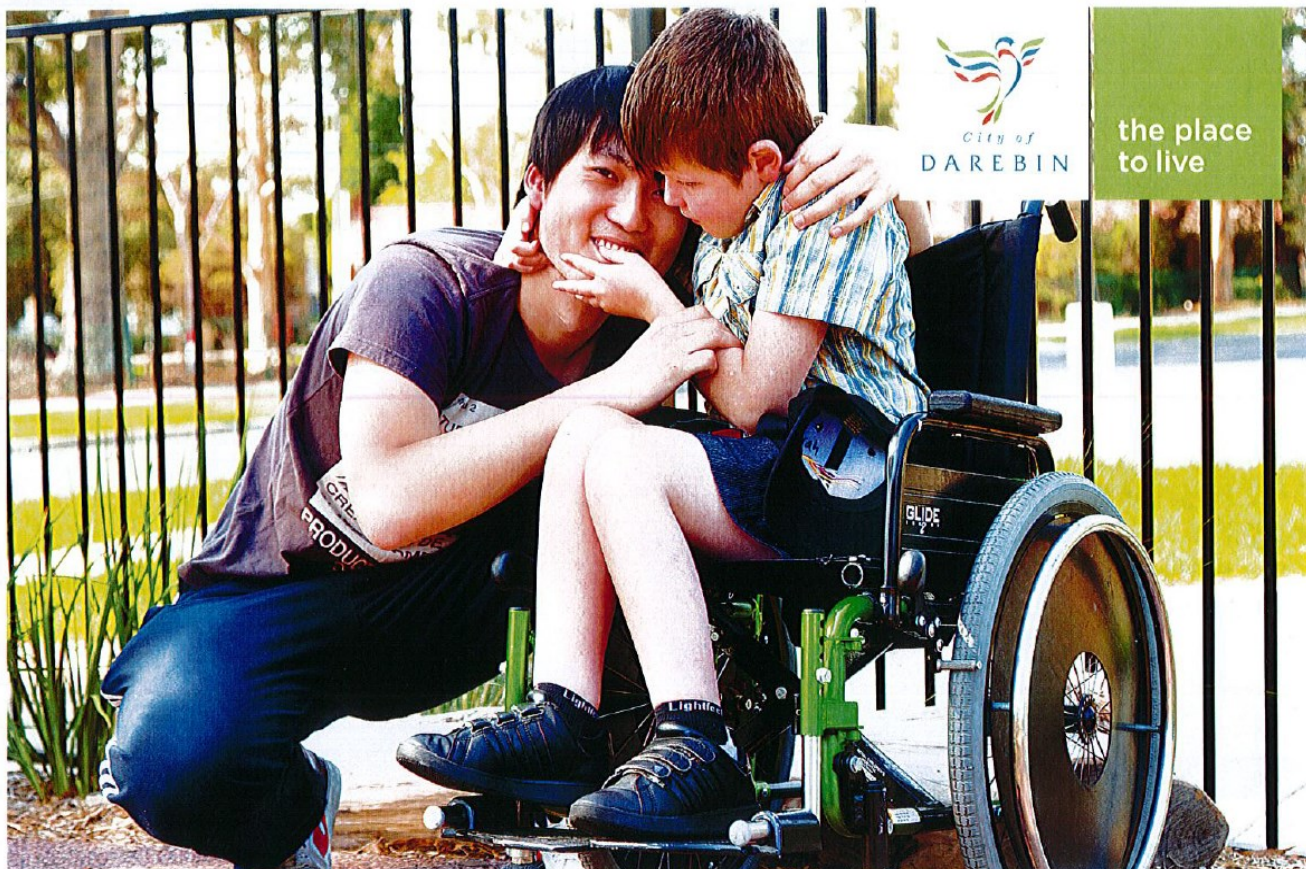
Light refreshments and snacks provided

Places limited! Book now!

<http://www.trybooking.com/FJRH>

For more information visit:

www.banyuleyouth.com or call us on 9457 9855



DO YOU CARE FOR A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY?

Darebin Council invites you to attend a series of FREE parent information sessions presented by the Association of Children with a Disability.

Support to attend:

If you require any support to attend any of the information sessions, including transport, attendant care, and/or respite support, language, or Auslan interpreters, please contact Christine.

Contact Christine Mulholland,
Metro Access Officer
on 8470 8368, or at
christine.mulholland@darebin.vic.gov.au

TTY dial 133 677 or
Speak & Listen
1300 555 727
or www.iprelay.com.au
then enter 8470 8368

Transition to Primary school

This session is for parents of children with a disability transitioning to primary school. Topics covered include school readiness, building a team, preparing for transition, introduction to Student Support Groups, communication and relationship building, support and self-care.

When: Thursday 14 August

Time: 6.15pm arrival, 6.30pm start - 8pm

Where: Reservoir Neighbourhood House, 2b Cuthbert Road Reservoir

RSVP: Monday 11th August

Positive Education Planning

For parents of children with a disability aged 6-12 years old. This session aims to build knowledge, skills and confidence in planning and advocating for your child in primary school and working with education professionals, to provide the best possible school experience for your child.

When: Thursday 28 August

Time: 6.15pm arrival, 6.30pm start - 8.30pm

Where: Reservoir Neighbourhood House, 2b Cuthbert Road Reservoir

RSVP: Monday 25th August

Advocating for your child

An interactive session for parents of a child with a disability, aged 0-18 yrs old, aimed at building knowledge, skills and confidence in advocating for your child.

When: Thursday 11 September

Time: 6.15pm arrival, 6.30pm start - 8pm

Where: Reservoir Neighbourhood House, 2b Cuthbert Road Reservoir

RSVP: Monday 8th September

Spaces are limited and RSVP is required for each session.
You are welcome to attend all or any of the sessions.
A light dinner will be provided at each session.

DADS CAN!

MARK HOGAN

*is a published author, consultant and speaker of **Autistic Spectrum Disorder** whose knowledge of autism and can only be described as profound. Soon after learning of his son's autism, Mark was diagnosed with Aspergers syndrome at the age of 31.*

Fathers are invited to attend a special Dads Can Pizza Night where Mark will share his insights of being:

- a father of a child with ASD
- an adult with ASD

"Mark is a natural storyteller who guides the audience on a journey through his often painful life experiences both pre and post diagnosis. He gives the audience a unique perspective on how he experiences life and his relationships with others."

"Mark's insight into interpreting their young son with ASD's behaviour is a revelation."

When: Sunday, 17 August 2014, 7.30-9.30pm

Where: 1 Kalparrin Avenue, Greensborough

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!!!

***RSVP: Annette Magro, 9435 8311,
AnnetteMagro@kalparrin.com.au***

Research confirms that children whose fathers are more involved with their development show better outcomes. Research also tells us that parents who have a peer support network build better skills and confidence in supporting their child to thrive.



The Dads Can Project is made possible through the generous support of





Spring 2014

22nd September - 3rd October

Quality Care for primary school aged children with high support needs

Program of Events

Monday 22nd September Shopping, Swimming, Sensory Play	! 🏊 👁
Tuesday 23rd September Creating Musical Instruments, Walk to the Park, Swimming	🏊 🚶 🌳 🎨
Wednesday 24th September Excursion - Royal Melbourne Show	! 🚶 🌳
Thursday 25th September Artist Incursion, Screen Printing, Swimming	! 🏊 🎨
Friday 26th September Creating Puppets, Cooking Hot Dogs, Swimming	🏊 🍳 🎨
Monday 29th September Incursion - Footy Day, Dress up in Footy Teams, Cooking	! ⚽ 🚶 🍳
Tuesday 30th September Incursion - African Drumming, Creating Masks, Swimming	! 🏊 🎨
Wednesday 1st October Excursion - Luna Park	! 🚶 🌳
Thursday 2nd October Sensory Play, Musical Games, Swimming	🏊 👁 🎵
Friday 3rd October Puppet Show, Obstacle Course, Swimming	🚶 🏊 🎨

Contacts

Phone: (03) 9404 4811

Email: whittlesea.disabilityservices@ymca.org.au
www.whittlesea.ymca.org.au



**City of
Whittlesea**



YMCA
Whittlesea



Spring 2014

22nd September - 3rd October

Quality Care for secondary school aged young people with high support needs

Program of Events

Monday 22nd September

Swimming, Shopping, Art & Craft



Tuesday 23rd September

Excursion - Royal Melbourne Show



Wednesday 24th September

Cooking Baked Potatoes, Swimming, Party Games



Thursday 25th September

Artist Incursion, Screen Printing, Swimming



Friday 26th September

Walk to the Park, Cultural Activities, Swimming



Monday 29th September

Footy Day, Dress Up as Footy Teams, Swimming



Tuesday 30th September

Incursion - African Drumming, Swimming



Wednesday 1st October

Excursion - Luna Park



Thursday 2nd October

Cooking Wraps, Swimming, Outside Ball Games



Friday 3rd October

Disco, Swimming, Skate Park & Playground



Contacts

Phone: (03) 9404 4811

Email: whittlesea.disabilityservices@ymca.org.au

www.whittlesea.ymca.org.au



**City of
Whittlesea**



Whittlesea



Able Australia is one of Australia's leading disability support organisations, delivering high quality, person-centred services to people living with multiple disabilities including deafblindness and in community support services. From its humble beginnings as the Deafblind Association in 1967, Able Australia has grown into a diverse and dynamic organisation that supports more than 4000 people throughout Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland and the ACT.

Able Australia will be Running a School Holiday Program from 22nd September - 26th September 2014 from there Able North Day Service in Reservoir.

Our organisation has been running a very successful School Holiday Program in Tasmania since 2012 with some remarkable results so we are thrilled to be able to offer a similar service here in Victoria.

It is a FREE program for children (aged between 12 and 18) living with a disability and will feature a range of best practice activities every day. Each activity is individualised, exciting and emotionally and physically stimulating to ensure the specific needs of each individual we support are catered for. From gardening and arts and craft, through to outing to the movies or ten pin bowling, there will be something for everyone!

We have found our School Holiday Program model presents each child with an opportunity to be genuinely engaged and stimulated, while families experience some much needed respite. Respite is an important part of every caring relationship and has a number of benefits, including:

- Increased social connectivity for the child
- Improved employment opportunities for carers or parents
- Reduced stress for the family unit

If you would like to find out more about this program, please contact us on 1300 225 369 or via email info@ableaustralia.org.au. Alternatively call Belinda, Tony or Adrian at Able Lifestyle Choices North on 94 781455 or email able.north@ableaustralia.org.au. We would be happy to help with any information you may require.