

Principal's Report and News

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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)



Principal's Report

16th October 2014, Newsletter No. 16

I trust that all our students had a fantastic holiday break and have come back refreshed and ready for Term 4.

This is an extremely busy time of the year at Concord School. As well as organising staffing and enrolments for 2015, we are preparing for the end of year activities and celebrations. One such celebration is the annual Christmas Concert which will be held on Monday 1st December. The concert will once again be held at the rear of the school on the Loyola Oval. If the weather forces us to postpone the concert, it will be held the next morning in the school gym with performances only.



Another upcoming date to remember is the **Pupil Free Day on Monday, 17th November**. Please note that school is open on **Monday 3rd November**, the day before the **Melbourne Cup Day** holiday.

School Structure for 2015

Our student enrolment continues to remain steady with 387 students currently enrolled in the school.

As students in receipt of PSD funding must finish their schooling in the year that they turn 18, they must enter Year 7 in the year that they turn 13. The number of students between Years 7-12 is therefore fixed based on student age. This then influences how many students are in the Middle Section of the school as it is determined by the number of available classrooms at the Grimshaw Campus. The remaining students are accommodated in the Junior Campus at Watsonia. This means that each year, across the Year 3 - 4 levels, varying numbers of students move from the Junior to the Middle Section. The decision is made based on a number of factors including student age and maturity levels.

Due to the high numbers of students in the Secondary and Pathways Sections next year, there will be significant change to the numbers of classes in some sections of the school. The Middle Section will have three classes less (6 in total), the Secondary Section will have two classes more (8 in total), two Secondary classes will be located in the Middle Section and the Pathways Section (8 in total) will have one class more. The Junior (9 in total) and Transition (6 in total) Sections will remain the same.

Parents/carers of students in Junior, Middle, Secondary and Pathways in 2015 will have received a note earlier this week regarding 'Requests for Class Groups 2015'. This note is due back to your section Team Leader tomorrow Friday 17th October.

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 Wednesday **26th November 2014** at 11.00am.

Please contact Concord School on 9467 3972 to make an appointment.

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

Coming Events for 2014

Date	Event
Friday 24th October 2014	Junior Section 'Movie Magic Production' - Grimshaw Campus Gym @ 6.00pm
Wednesday 29th October 2014	Secondary Section Travel Expo - Grimshaw Campus Gym @ 6.00pm
Monday 3rd November 2014	Walkathon
Tuesday 4th November 2014	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday - School closed

Middle Building Refurbishment and Student Placement

A note was posted home in early September to the families of all students who will be in the Transition Section in 2015 and I am now making all parents aware of this information.

In summary, due to the reconstruction of the Middle Building during Term 1 of 2015:

- the Middle (6 classes) and Secondary Section (2 classes only) who will be in the Middle Building will be relocated to the Transition Building
- The Transition 'VCAL' students will be relocated to Bundoora Secondary
- The Transition 'Applied Learning' students will remain at the Grimshaw Campus (not in the Transition Building)

As you would be aware from reading the school Newsletter, during term 1 of 2015 the Middle Building (at the front of the school) at the Grimshaw Campus is being internally rebuilt. The students aged 8 to 13 from within the building are required to relocate during this time and the challenge is that we have limited additional classroom space available within the school.

The School Council believe that the Transition VCAL students will gain the most benefit from a move outside of the school for this ten week period. These students have greater independence and are generally more academically, socially and behaviourally capable than those from the Middle Section. They also spend up to two days per week out of the school at TAFE, work experience and other programs.

During term 1 of 2015, the **Transition VCAL students will be based at Bundoora Secondary College (BSC)** which is a drive of less than five minutes from our school. The leadership of BSC have enthusiastically invited us to use their school and have provided two large classrooms as well as additional workspaces and specialist rooms throughout the week.

The **Transition Applied Learning students will remain at the Grimshaw Campus** and the students who will be relocated from the Middle Building will use the Transition Centre.

Students may travel independently to BSC or may choose to travel to Concord School on the school bus. Those students who travel on the bus to our school will then be transferred to and from BSC in an additional bus.

Towards the end of November, when the classes for 2015 are finalised, families of Transition students will be advised what program their child will be in and whether they will be situated at BSC during term 1. All required information will also be provided to VCAL students and their families at this time. We will ensure that your children are safe and believe that they will benefit from the experience within a mainstream school. Please contact Warren Gaff (Transition Team Leader) or myself if you have any questions.

Wearing of Caps and Hats

With the weather becoming warmer, please remember that only school caps and hats may be worn. Caps (\$7) and broad brimmed hats (\$10) can be purchased from the school office.

Staff and students in the Junior and Middle sections are expected to wear hats while outside during terms 1 and 4. Staff and students in the Secondary, Pathways and Transition sections are strongly encouraged to wear hats while outside during terms 1 and 4. If it is a day in which UV levels are dangerous, students without official school caps will be directed to play only in designated shade or indoor areas.



Student Accident Insurance – Ambulance Cover Arrangements

Parents/carers are reminded that the DEECD does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Principal's Award

This term's Principal Award goes to Adelaide.

Adelaide has progressed a long way from when she first started at Concord School at the beginning of 2013. There has been a positive change in Adelaide's attitude and maturity and she is becoming a lovely young woman. Adelaide has been SKL's School Representative Council (SRC) member and has done an excellent job making announcements on behalf of the SRC. She is committed to being a great leader for her peers in the Secondary Section where she has been helpful to both staff and students. Adelaide encourages others to do their best and get involved in such things as the Secondary Spectacular, Girls Groups and our upcoming Travel Expo. We are proud of Adelaide's many accomplishments and are lucky to have her at Concord School.

Well done Adelaide!

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

Jason Coningsby
Principal

Assistant Principals' Report

Last week we received the results of the 2014 Parent Opinion Survey. In order to develop a sample size for this survey 15% of the parent community are randomly selected and a survey is mailed to their homes. We use the information generated in this survey, coupled with similar staff and student surveys and student data, to assist us to plan strategically for the future. We are delighted to inform you that our results this year were outstanding with eighteen of the twenty internal variables increasing from 2013. There were significant increases in student motivation, reporting, extracurricular, parent input and classroom behaviour. We have spent considerable time and resources working with our students, staff and parent community to improve classroom behaviour, develop extracurricular programs, engage students and report on the progress of students so these results reflect the energy and emphasis placed in these areas. We hope to continue to work with the parent community to improve what we do to ensure that our students can "be the best that they can be."



Four students recently attended the Banyule Youth Summit. This was a large gathering of school reps from across the area. The Concord School group (Zeke, Lauren, Lyndell and Dylan B) conducted themselves extremely well and made some positive contributions to youth initiatives in the Banyule area. In particular they had many good ideas around improvements to Loyola Reserve.

The SRC are currently also looking at some improvements to the school grounds and the Year 12 students are hoping to have some special T Shirts printed to mark their last year at Concord School. You may have noticed we have a new range of Concord School posters on display in the main admin area and in school sections. These

posters reflect some of the key teaching and learning areas that we believe are important to our students. Please take the time to wander down the main corridor and have a look at them.

A reminder that we have a very clear uniform code for students in year 7-12. This enables our students to look their best and dress in a way that is consistent with other secondary schools. Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct uniform each day.

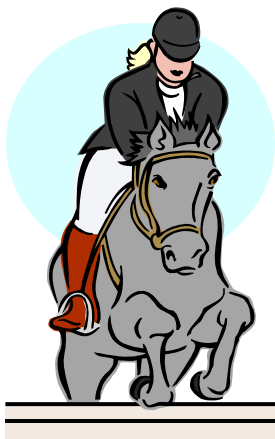


Kirrily Lamers, Colin Simpson and Kath Moore
Assistant Principals

Student Achievement

Maddison from SJF has been selected to represent Victoria in the **Special Olympics National Games** this October in Equestrian . She has competed in several qualifying events successfully being selected earlier this year. Maddison has been riding since she was 3 and has a goal to compete in Los Angeles in the 2015 World Games .

Madison was also invited by The Governor and Mrs Elizabeth Chernov to attend a morning reception at Government House (see invitation below).



Family and Friends Association

Toy Networkx Shopping Fundraiser Night - 28th October
4pm – 9pm. Tickets are free and will be available at the door.

Term 4 Fundraiser is Heather Brae - Booklets have already been sent home. Goods will arrive in November.

Christmas Raffle – donations of new items are gratefully being sought for the Christmas Raffle. Raffle Tickets will be sent home soon with your child.

Next meeting is being held on **Monday 10th November 1.30pm** at the Grimshaw Campus.

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



CONCORD SCHOOL

SHOPPING NIGHT

FUNDRAISER

DATE 28TH October

Times 4pm- 9pm

3B Newlands Rd

Reservoir 3073