

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

30th October 2014, Newsletter No. 17

Enjoy Melbourne Cup Day on Tuesday and I hope that you are lucky enough to have a bet on the winner.

Please note that **school is operating as normal on Monday 3rd November** and we will still be teaching our full range of quality learning programs. This day is also Concord School's Annual Walkathon Day. Students at the Grimshaw Campus will walk around the perimeter of the school between 11:00am -12:15pm and are encouraged to wear appropriate footwear, a hat and bring a drink bottle.



Students are requested to make a gold coin donation on this day. The proceeds will be going to the RSPCA, which was the charity nominated by our Student Representative Council.

Another upcoming date to remember is the Pupil Free Day on **Monday 17th November**.

School Structure

From 2015, the structures within our school will be re-named to align with those in mainstream schools. These changes have been carefully considered by our School Council and Leadership team and we believe that they are important for a number of reasons.

Please see the tables on page 2. The top table shows the current structure and the bottom table shows the structure from 2015.

Updating Your Child's Information

It is vital that we have the current information on your child especially in the case of an emergency.

A printout of your child's information that we have on our system, will be sent home to you shortly. It will be in an envelope addressed to the parent/carer and will be brought home with your child. Please read through this information carefully and make any necessary changes. **When you have done this please sign and date the front page and return it to the school a.s.a.p.** Thank you.

Carmel Hunter
Education Support Officer

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
Monday 3rd November 2014	Annual Walkathon Day
Tuesday 4th November 2014	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday - School closed
Monday 17th November 2014	Pupil Free Day - Students not required at school
Wednesday 19th November 2014	Volunteers morning Tea @ 10.30am Grimshaw Campus

CURRENT

CONCORD SCHOOL				
JUNIOR CAMPUS	GRIMSHAW CAMPUS			
JUNIOR SECTION	MIDDLE SECTION	SECONDARY SECTION	PATHWAYS SECTION	TRANSITION SECTION

2015 ONWARDS

CONCORD SCHOOL				
WATSONIA CAMPUS	BUNDOORA CAMPUS			
PRIMARY SCHOOL		SECONDARY SCHOOL		
LOWER PRIMARY	UPPER PRIMARY	SECONDARY 7-8	SECONDARY 9-10	SECONDARY 11-12

The following changes have been made.

- The campuses have been re-named Watsonia Campus and Bundoora Campus.
- The Year Prep-6 classes will now be in the Primary School and the Year 7-12 classes will be in the Secondary School. Year 11-12 will also be known as Senior Secondary.
- The Primary School will incorporate the learning areas of Lower Primary and Upper Primary. The Secondary School will incorporate the learning areas of Secondary 7-8, Secondary 9-10 and Secondary 11-12 (Senior Secondary).

The reasons for these changes are that this terminology

- is simpler and provides an accurate description of where the campuses are and the age of the students within each learning area.
- makes it easier for current parents and students when discussing their schooling with others familiar with mainstream terminology.

For example, a student in Pathways can say that they are in Year 9 as opposed to saying they are in Pathways and then having to explain they are in a Special School and what that means. Prospective parents and students are also more easily able to identify with enrolment in our school.

- This terminology emphasises that we are one P-12 school working together for all students. We now teach through the mainstream AusVELS and VCAL curriculums and use consistent assessment tools to collect data and track student progress. Our curriculum programs are now carefully planned to consider the 'learning journey' of students from Prep-12 with 'learning areas' differentiating through offering content and teaching strategies that are both age and developmentally appropriate.

In case you were wondering, year levels cannot be used within the Primary School as has been done in the Secondary School as each year the number of students who move from the Lower Primary to the Upper Primary across the Year 3-4 levels varies based on the number of available classrooms at the Bundoora Campus. Therefore, there is not a fixed year level at which a student moves from one Campus to another.

Junior Section Production – Movie Magic

Last Friday night, Kirrily, Colin and I (with my 8 year old son Bailey) had the privilege of attending the Junior Production of 'Movie Magic'. The student performances, costuming and lighting made it an incredibly entertaining evening. What struck me was the enthusiasm and joy our students had in performing in front of their friends and family. Each student participated in five separate performances which is quite an achievement. Well done to Rebecca Campbell and the entire Junior team for their organisation and support of this event.

Photos from this performance have now been uploaded to the school's official facebook page.



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 Primary School are expected to wear hats while outside during terms 1 and 4. Staff and students in the Secondary School 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.

Principal's Award

This term's Principal Award goes to Jake.

Jake receives the Principal's Award for being the most polite boy in the world, working his hardest in class and showing great improvement in Maths, as seen in his Maths Online results.

Well done Jake!

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

Jason Coningsby
Principal



President's Report

The School Council met again last Monday evening 20th October.

The agenda included

- Terminology for School Structure
- Primary Wing Refurbishment (including Student Placement)
- Parent Payments 2015
- Christmas Concert
- Loyola Oval Redevelopment
- Parent Opinion Survey
- Termites
- Requests for Use of Gym and Oval

The next School Council meeting is on Monday 17th November.

"Working together for our children"

Mark Lancaster
President



Assistant Principals' Report

This maybe the answer for parents who want their child to have a

Family and Friends Association

Term 4 Fundraiser is Heather Brae - orders are now closed, 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.

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

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



Annual Christmas Concert

This year the Annual Christmas Concert will be held on the evening of **Monday 1st December** on the Loyola Oval which is at the rear of our Bundoora Campus in Gleeson Drive, Bundoora. It is important that all students attend on this evening as the classes have spent considerable time rehearsing their items and they require all students to be present. As well as class performances and the BBQ, selected students will be presented with awards and there will be a visit from a special man who has a beard and wears a red suit.

The evening will start at 5.00pm with live entertainment from our school band '**Unbroken**', with the concert commencing at 6.00pm. Once again the Family and Friends and helpers are organising the barbecue which will commence serving at 5.00pm and will finish at 6.30pm. This will allow all the volunteers time to have their meal and to be ready to enjoy watching the concert.

If the concert is cancelled due to the weather, it will be held the following morning at 9.15am in the Performing Arts Centre at the Bundoora Campus featuring student performances and awards only.

We look forward to seeing many family and friends coming along to enjoy a great evening.

Commencement of 2015 School Year for Students

In 2015, school will commence for students on **Thursday 29th January** (most staff commence on Wednesday 28th January). Some of the new Junior students may commence a little later, but they will be informed of this by Kath Moore (Assistant Principal).

Homework

From time to time the issue of Homework for our students is raised by parents/carers. If parent/carers are seeking homework for their child, they should have a conversation with their child's classroom teacher. It is important that we do not create stressful situations for the child or the parent/carers as homework should consolidate on your child's learning and be able to be supported by the parent/carers. It is important for our students that they have a healthy balance in their life between school, leisure and social activities.

Canteen News

The last day for the school canteen will be
Thursday 4th December.

In 2015 there will be no school canteen until Tuesday 10th
February, due to VCAL students needing to pass
outcomes before starting their practical work.

Ann Park - Canteen Manager



Student Achievements'

This week Pathways student Maddy competed at the Special Olympic being held in Melbourne at MSAC.

Maddy has trained all year to be in top condition to represent our state. Last week Maddy attended a reception at Government House to receive an award from the Governor of Victoria.

We congratulate Maddy on her fine efforts with the final medal tally of a bronze medal for 100 metre backstroke 50 metre freestyle and two silver in the Medley Relay which she swam the backstroke leg and 100 metre freestyle.

Congratulations Maddy on a fantastic effort.



Student Achievements

Secondary student Maddison C competed in the Special Olympics in Equestrian events.

Maddison won a Gold Medal in Prix Caprilli, a silver medal in Dressage and a bronze medal in Working Trials.

Congratulation Maddison on a fantastic effort.



Maddison would like to thank her class mates, teacher Jessica Fitzsimons and Anthony Brown for their support.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

On Tuesday **21st October** a group of enthusiastic Netballers went to participate in the Netball Demonstration as part of the **10th Special Olympics National Games** at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic centre. The students had the opportunity to be coached by 2 elite players from the **Melbourne Vixens** team. This was so much fun and the students relished this chance.

The coaches from Netball Victoria, who also helped run the clinic, acknowledged the talent in the Concord team and praised the team work and energy of all our students.

We also got to see an exhibition match between special teams, AA State Team and Latrobe Valley.



Past Student's Achievements

David completed year 12 at Concord School in 2012. David has a job at Woolworths Laurimar.

David works four 4 hour shifts a week and fills in if there are any staff members away.

Such a great achievement and we are all very excited for him.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE



SUNSMART REMINDER

Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. It is estimated that more than 75% of skin cancers could be prevented by practising sun protection in early childhood and in adolescence. Students must be educated as to the need for suitable sun protection and must be protected from over exposure to the sun whilst at school.

The Concord School Sun Smart Policy states:

- Junior and Middle Section students are to wear hats whenever they are outside from October-April (terms 1 and 4) as this is when UV Index levels reach 3 and above. Junior and Middle Section students without hats will be restricted to playing in designated shaded areas.
- Secondary, Pathways and Transition students are strongly encouraged to wear hats whenever they are outside from October-April (terms 1 and 4) as this is when UV Index levels reach 3 and above. Secondary, Pathways and Transition students without hats will be encouraged to remain in shaded areas.
- Students will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Parents/carers are encouraged to apply the sunscreen at home. Sunscreen can only be applied at school by students, under the supervision of a teacher, according to the manufacturer's directions.

The school uniform shop will have broad-brimmed hats and sun-protective clothing, such as long sleeve polo shirts, available for sale.

PLEASE ENSURE, DURING TERMS 1 AND 4, YOUR CHILD HAS:

- THEIR SUN HAT AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL AT ALL TIMES
- HAS SUNSCREEN APPLIED PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL
- THEIR OWN SUNSCREEN SENT TO SCHOOL FOR RE-APPLICATION ON DAYS THAT THEY ARE OUTDOORS FOR PROLONGED PERIODS

IMMUNISATION REMINDER

On Tuesday 25th November the third and final round of Immunisations will be conducted at Concord School for 2014.

These include:

- **Year 7** - 3rd Human Papillomavirus and Chickenpox
- **Year 9 (boys only)** – 3rd Human Papillomavirus

If you have any queries about immunisation please contact the Banyule City Council, Health Services on 9457 9965.

Keep well and stay safe
Rosemary Van Aperen
School Nurse
Concord School

Community News

Sensitive Santa

Children on the Autism Spectrum can have their photo taken with Santa in a calm and sensory friendly environment.



Mill Park Library

394 Plenty Road
Mill Park

Saturday 22 November
Sunday 23 November
Saturday 29 November
Sunday 30 November

Bookings:

Sherridan Bourne

Phone: 9457 9940 Monday – Thursday 8am-3pm

Email: sherridan.bourne@banyule.vic.gov.au

National Relay service (NRS) options:

TTY users phone 133 677 then ask for 03 9490 4222

Speak & Listen (speech-to-speech) users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 03 9490 4222

"Liam who is 6 had heightened senses, struggled with change and experienced high levels of anxiety, so the quiet and stress-free atmosphere of Sensitive Santa was perfect".



DIAMOND VALLEY
SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL

LIVE - LAUGH - LEARN



City of
Whittlesea



YARRA PLENTY
REGIONAL LIBRARY