

## Principal's Report and News

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Grimshaw Campus:  
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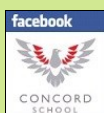
Junior Campus:  
T (03) 9432 7978  
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### Concord School Website

If you require information about Concord School at any time then please visit our comprehensive website at [www.concordsch.vic.edu.au](http://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

29th May 2014, Newsletter No. 8

As you would know, the aim of our school is to provide high quality teaching and programs so that our students can **'be the best that they can be'**. At both campuses, students are constantly engaged in a diverse range of learning activities and display the school values of **personal best, happiness, cooperation, respect and honesty**.



On Monday 19th May, we were visited by Colin Schot, Concord School's previous Principal, and 20 representatives from the Singapore Education Department and Apple Computers. Colin was Principal of Concord School for over 10 years and is now Principal of Warringa Park School at Hopper's Crossing. The visitors came to gain an understanding of how we use technology to enhance the learning of our students. We explained that we use a variety of interactive whiteboards, netbooks, notebooks, iPads and Apple Macs for particular learning purposes with students in different sections of the school. Our visitors also saw a demonstration version of a robot named 'Nao' that we have ordered to further engage our students in their learning.

Please remember that there are two days early in June when your child is not required at school. There is a public holiday on **Monday 9th June** and a school Curriculum Day on the following day, **Tuesday 10th June**.

### Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Our school is participating in the **Nationally Consistent Collection of Data** on School Students with Disability (Data Collection). This Data Collection is taking place in government, Catholic and Independent schools across Australia, and will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students. This will enable Australian and State governments to better target support and resources in schools. This in turn will help schools give students with disability the support they need.

The Data Collection is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, which describe a broad range of health and learning conditions for which schools are required to provide 'reasonable adjustments' to support students to participate on the same basis as other students. The Data Collection will take place during Terms 2 and 3. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included, however if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the Data Collection, you can opt-out by signing and returning the opt-out consent form at the end of this Newsletter by Friday 6th June. More information about the Data Collection is available on pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter or the **Department of Education and Early Childhood Development** website at: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/needs/Pages/nccd.aspx> or you could contact me if you have any further questions.

## Concord School Year 12 Presentation Ball

The 2014 Concord School Year 12 **Presentation Ball** will be held on **Friday 15th August** at **Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre** in South Morang. This year there will be 23 students participating in the ball. Our annual **Presentation Ball** is the 'Night of Nights' for our Year 12 students where, after being officially presented to Principal Jason Coningsby and Assistant Principal Kirrily Lamers their achievements will be celebrated with a night of dancing and festivities. An invitation is extended to the school community to join us for this very special event. Tickets can be purchased from the school office from **Monday 23rd June through to Friday 1st August**.

Adult: \$90 – Includes 3 course meal, beer, wine & soft drink  
13-17 yrs : \$75 – Includes 3 course meal & soft drink  
12 & under: \$45 – Includes a child's meal & soft drink

## Coming Events for 2014

Date	Event
Monday 9th June 2014	Queen's Birthday Holiday - Public Holiday, School closed
Tuesday 10th June 2014	Curriculum Day—Students not required at School
Wednesday 18th June 2014	Secondary Spectacular - 1.30pm Concord School Gymnasium
Friday 27th June 2014	End of term 2 - Students finish @ 2.30pm

### Sick Students

This is the time of the year when many of our students are sick through catching the flu or a virus. Parents/carers, **I ask that you make every effort to keep your child at home until they are well.** I know that this may cause hardship, especially if you are a working parent, but keep in mind that if your child is sick and is sent to school, then others including staff may pick up this infection/illness.

### Parking at the Front of the School

This is a reminder that **parents/carers are not to park at the front of the school, or pull up on the front driveway, between the hours of 8.30-9.15am and 2.30-3.15pm.** The school buses park on the driveway during this time and it is extremely dangerous for our students if cars are also parked on the driveway. Additional car parking is available on Gleeson Drive and at the back of the school.

### Concord School Year 7-12 Uniform

Thank you for making the effort to ensure that your child is wearing the full school uniform each day. Please note as part of the Concord School Uniform Policy, only the spray jacket and/or rugby jumper are to be worn with the 'sport uniform' over the polo shirt. The red woollen jumper, which is part of the 'formal uniform', is not to be worn as it is easily torn and leads to excessive sweating when students are participating in physical activity.

Please contact Deb Whiteway in the school office on 94673972 if you require the spray jacket and/or rugby jumper. Parents/carers whose circumstances may make it difficult to obtain a school uniform are asked to contact Colin Simpson (Assistant Principal) for assistance.

### Principal's Award

The Principal's Award goes to Steven from MTI.

Steven is a helpful and supportive member of the class and a wonderful representative of the Middle Section. Steven was class captain in term 1 and represented MTI with enthusiasm and he always has a positive attitude. Steven's favourite subjects are Maths and PE and he is an excellent runner! The responsibility Steven has taken on this year as a graduating student in MTI has been evident with his younger classmates and this is a credit to him. His thoughtfulness and perseverance do not go unnoticed.

Well done Steven, you certainly deserve this award!

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

Jason Coningsby  
Principal

### President's Message

A School Council meeting was held on Monday 19th May.

The agenda items that were discussed at the meeting were:

- Revised Masterplan
- Autism Hub School
- Performance and Development Process
- Bus Purchase
- Volunteers List
- Request for Use of Gym – Emotion 21 and Bundoora Cricket Club



*"Working together for our children"*

Mark Lancaster  
School Council President

## Assistant Principals' Report

Last week was **Education Week** and Concord School celebrated in style. The theme was '**scientists do amazing things**' and our **Discovery Centre** was put to great use as students explored the different environments that scientists investigate. Students also put some scientific theory into practice with a range of scientific experiments taking place in all sections of the school.



We also had two extremely successful open mornings where parents were invited to spend a morning in their child's classroom and join in with our learning fun. Many of the **Concord School Values** were displayed during these mornings, particularly **cooperation** and **personal best**. These celebration events are a great way for us to showcase the wonderful learning experiences that are provided at Concord School.

The visit from Colin Schot and twenty educational staff from Singapore last Monday was also an extremely proud moment for our school. We have received much positive feedback in terms of the learning with particular mentions of how engaged our students were within their learning programs. Students were able to interact with the visitors and describe what they were learning about. All of these learning achievements are a credit to the teachers who have developed engaging and focussed learning activities for their students.

Further celebrations of our learning will take place next term during '**Literacy and Numeracy Week**'. More information will be distributed early next term.

Kirily Lamers, Colin Simpson and Kath Moore  
Assistant Principals

### Family and Friends Association

The main fundraiser for Term 2 is **Billy G's Cookie Dough**. Orders are due back Friday 6th June. Delivery is due before the end of this term.

**Entertainment Books** are still available. The cost of the **Entertainment Book** is \$65 each with \$13 going to Concord School.

**Concord School Family and Friends Association** are running a '**second hand uniform**' sale. We have a limited supply of **second hand uniforms** available. You can purchase an item of uniform for just \$5. Items are available for both Primary and Secondary (very limited) sections.

The '**second hand uniform**' sales will be held at the Grimshaw Campus on: **Monday 16th June 9.00am until 10.30am and also Thursday 26th June 2.00pm until 3.15pm**

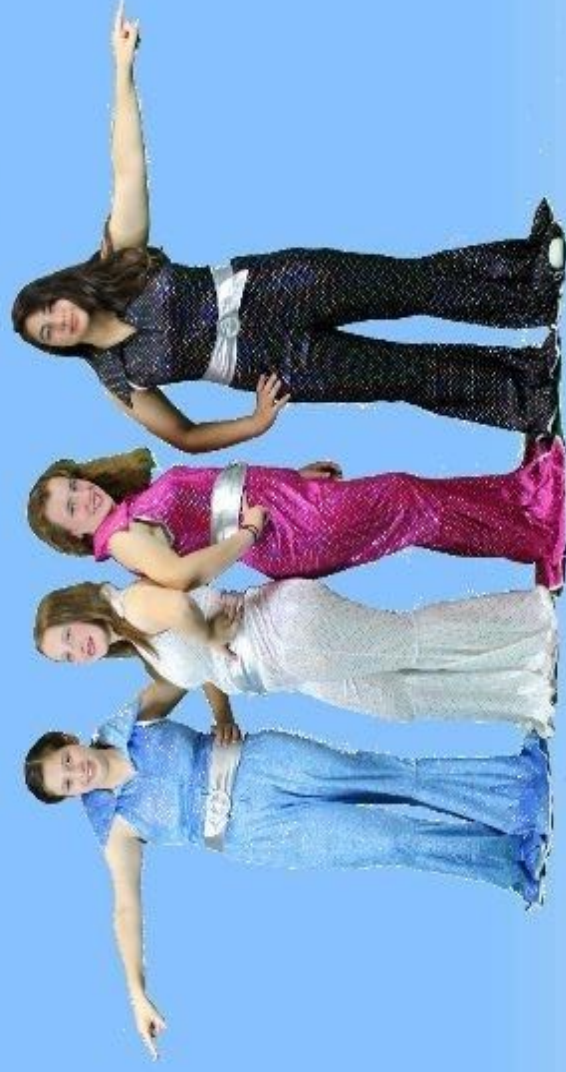
Our next meeting will be held on **Monday 2nd June at 1.30pm** at the Grimshaw Campus.

New Members always welcome!

Sue Gibb  
Secretary  
Email: [sue.g@internode.on.net](mailto:sue.g@internode.on.net)



**Secondary Spectacular**  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June @ 1.30pm**



**MAMMIA MIA**



Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability**

Our school is participating in the Nationally Consistent Data Collection on School Students with Disability (the Data Collection) which is taking place in schools across Australia this year. This letter explains what information is being collected and what happens if you decide to opt-out of the Data Collection.

### **What is the Data Collection?**

The Data Collection will collect information about students with a disability who require support to participate in education on the same basis as other students.

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) describes a very broad range of health and learning conditions. Under the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 schools have obligations to ensure that students with these conditions are able to access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. This includes providing reasonable adjustments where needed, in consultation with the student's parents, carers or guardians.

This Data Collection aims to gather information about how many students in schools have a health or learning condition requiring adjustments be made to support their access to and participation in education. The Data Collection is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities, and will collect valuable information about supports provided to a much wider group of students than those previously included in individually targeted disability support programs such as the Program for Students with Disabilities.

### **Why is this information being collected?**

The Data Collection aims to provide more accurate and complete information about the number and distribution of Australian school students with disability as well as the adjustments provided to enable them to access education on the same basis as students without disability.

The Data Collection will inform future policy and planning for the provision of education services around the country and ensure that there is a nationally consistent approach to identifying students with disability.

### **What information is being collected?**

The Data Collection will collect:

- whether the school is metropolitan or non-metropolitan, primary or secondary
- the total number of students enrolled at the school
- the total number of students at the school receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students
- the level of adjustment provided to those students
- the students' broad type of disability.

### **How will the information be collected?**

Our school will determine the number of students with disability, adjustments that are provided and the broad category of disability for each of those students.

As school principal, I will verify there is evidence to support the inclusion of these students in the Data Collection. This may include reviewing your child's learning plans and consulting with you, your child and/or their teachers.

Once the data has been collected, our school staff will de-identify the data so that no student names are captured.

### **What will happen to the information collected?**

In August, we will record and submit numbers only to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (the Department). The Department will then provide total numbers at a State level to the Commonwealth Department of Education. This data will be transmitted securely.

The Commonwealth Department of Education will use the information collected to inform policy development in the area of Education in the future.

Both the Department and the Commonwealth Department of Education will take steps to aggregate the data sufficiently so that no student's identity could reasonably be ascertained.

### **What happens if you opt-out?**

Involvement in the Data Collection is optional and you may 'opt-out' at any time.

There are no consequences if you choose to opt-out of the Data Collection. If you want to opt-out, complete and return the attached form by Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> June or contact me on the number below. Complete one opt-out form for each child.

### **What happens if you do not opt-out?**

De-identified information about your child may be included in the 2014 Data Collection.

### **Accessing your child's information**

You can access and correct the personal and health information about your child held by the Department. If you wish to access and correct your child's personal and/or health information, please contact me.

### **Questions**

If you have any questions about the 2014 Data Collection, please do not hesitate to contact me on 94673972. Further information about the Data Collection can be found at: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/needs/Pages/nccd.aspx>

Yours sincerely

Jason Coningsby  
Principal

29/05/2014

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To opt-out please return the following completed form to Jason Coningsby at Concord School school by Friday 6th June.

I have read the letter in relation to the 2014 Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and request that information is not to be collected on:

Student's name .....

Full name of Parent/Carer/Guardian(s) .....

Parent/guardian signature: .....

Date: .....

# Community News



MONASH University



## Does your child have difficulty focusing or seem distracted?

Problems in attention often result in difficulties in learning and can result in disruptive behaviour at home and in the classroom. Monash University is working on the first project to develop a validated attention training game using android technology.

The game will run on a tablet (similar to an Ipad) and participants will be allowed to keep the tablet once their participation in the study is complete.

### Who can take part?

If you have a child aged between 4 – 10 years who has an intellectual disability then you are eligible to take part.



For more information please contact us:

**Email:** [med-delta@monash.edu](mailto:med-delta@monash.edu) **Phone:** 03 9905 0230



Australian Government  
Australian Research Council



## FREE PARENTING SUPPORT GROUPS



Parents of children with a developmental delay or a disability, aged 2 to 12 years, are eligible for free parenting support as part of the Stepping Stones Triple P Project.

Monash University is running free parenting groups in the Stepping Stones Triple P – Positive Parenting Program for parents or caregivers of children with a developmental delay or disability.

Parents will learn skills and strategies to promote child development, teaching new skills, and managing difficult behaviours.

If you are interested in participating in this project and receiving free parenting support, please contact the research team:

E: [med-steppingstones@monash.edu](mailto:med-steppingstones@monash.edu)

T: (03) 9905 0258 or (03) 9905 0154

Web: [www.triplep-steppingstones.net](http://www.triplep-steppingstones.net)



### Stepping Stones Seminar Series

Seminars tackle the most common issues for parents of children with a disability. Each seminar lasts 90 minutes and you can do one, two or all three in the series. The topics covered are Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability; Helping your Child Reach their Potential; and Changing Problem Behaviour into Positive Behaviour.

### Primary Care Stepping Stones

This is a brief, personal and tailored way to get your Stepping Stones support. You'll meet with a practitioner for about four sessions of between 15 and 30 minutes each time, tackling one or two specific behaviours or issues you're concerned about. You could target anything from your child's fears and anxiety to mealtime dramas or toilet training problems.

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### Standard Stepping Stones

This is more in-depth and is recommended for families with significant problems at home. There are 8–10 personal consultations with a trained practitioner who'll help you develop a wide range of positive parenting skills. Each session takes about an hour. When you've finished Standard Stepping Stones you should feel confident enough to tackle just about any difficult parenting issue.

### Triple P Self-Help Workbook

Between caring for your child with a disability and juggling the demands of daily life, you may be too busy or live too far away to join a group parenting session or see a practitioner one-on-one. Over about 10 sessions, a self-help workbook will show you how to teach your child new skills and manage common behavioural and developmental issues.





# Winter 2014

Monday 30th June - Friday 11th July

**Quality Care** for primary school aged children with high support needs

## Program of Events

### Monday 30th June

Swimming, Shopping, Art & Craft



### Tuesday 1st July

Excursion - Northcote Town Hall - Magic Festival



### Wednesday 2nd July

Swimming, Pyjama Day, Cooking Muffins



### Thursday 3rd July

Artist Incursion, Swimming, Ball Games



### Friday 4th July

Excursion - Disney on Ice, Music Session



### Monday 7th July

Swimming, Music, Cooking Honey Joys, Cultural Art



### Tuesday 8th July

Incursion - Crazy Hair Day Party, Swimming, & Games



### Wednesday 9th July

Sensory Play, Sh'Bam, Swimming & Books



### Thursday 10th July

Excursion - Dizzy's Castle, Parachute Games



### Friday 11th July

Swimming, Books, Obstacle Course



## Contacts

**Phone:** (03) 9404 4811

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

[www.whittlesea.ymca.org.au](http://www.whittlesea.ymca.org.au)



**City of  
Whittlesea**



Whittlesea





# Winter 2014

Monday 30th June - Friday 11th July

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

## Program of Events

### Monday 30th June

Swimming, Shopping, Art & Craft



### Tuesday 1st July

Excursion - Northcote Town Hall - Magic Festival



### Wednesday 2nd July

Swimming, Party Games, Cooking Pasta Bake



### Thursday 3rd July

Incursion - Building Billy Karts, Swimming, Outside Play



### Friday 4th July

Swimming, Cultural Art Activities



### Monday 7th July

Incursion - Crazy Hair Day Party, Swimming, Skate Park



### Tuesday 8th July

Swimming, Art & Craft, Outside Play



### Wednesday 9th July

Excursion - Glow in the Dark Mini Golf



### Thursday 10th July

Swimming, Outside Play, Cooking Coconut Balls



### Friday 11th July

Outside Play, Art & Craft, Swimming



### Contacts

**Phone:** (03) 9404 4811

**Email:** [whittlesea.disabilityservices@ymca.org.au](mailto:whittlesea.disabilityservices@ymca.org.au)

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