

TERM 2 22 - 25 APRIL

Sat 25 April

ANZAC Day - No Public Holiday associated with ANZAC Day

26 APRIL - 2 MAY

Mon 27 April

School Photos

Tues 28 April

JP Connect Morning Tea

Thurs 30 April

PS Tribal Cross Country 9am Lilydale Lake
(P&F Sausage Sizzle on this day)
MS/SS Tribal Cross Country 1pm

Fri 1 May

P&F Meeting 9am Community Room

3 - 9 MAY

Thurs 7 May

P&F Mothers Day Stall

Fri 8 May

P&F Mothers Day Stall (Lunchtime only)

10 - 16 MAY

Tues 12 - Thurs 14 May

Yr 3, 5, 7, 9 NAPLAN Tests

Thurs 14 May

Association AGM 7.30pm

Fri 15 May

(Reps) Interschool Secondary Cross Country

17 - 23 MAY

Mon 18 - Tues 19 May

Cycle C Farm Camp

Mon 18 - Fri 22 May

Middle School Special Week

Thurs 21 May

Cycle C Local Farm Visits

Sat 23 May

Working Bee 12.30-5pm Family Tea



**LIGHT FM LIVE TOMORROW
Fri 24 from 7-9am @ Pump Room**

Come Along from 7am and see Light FM broadcasting live from MECS!

SCHOOL PHOTOS 27 APRIL

The school photos will be completed on Monday 27th April.

Class photos and a whole school photo will be taken as well any extra family groups that missed out last time. If parents want a family portrait they can pick up a new form from the office. It needs to be returned before photo day.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

11am Tuesday on published week. Email articles (images attach as jpg) to Heather using the newsletter email address

School Notes...



**Martin
MECS Principal**

Welcome Back

It's great to be back at school for Term 2. It's a 10 week term with an unusual start on a Wednesday. This was because of the Victorian Christian Schools Teachers' Training Intensive that occurred on Monday and Tuesday. More on that later.

This week's newsletter is a short one due to the short week and because there are changes in the Newsletter Editor position. Kayleen who has been doing a wonderful job on the newsletter and website moves onto a new chapter of getting married and Heather steps into the Newsletter, Graphic Artist and Website manager role. Welcome Heather.

Changes to staff and Welcomes

The end of Term 1 & start of Term 2 is unusual with lots of changes including the timing of pregnancies and moves to the big NT. At the end of Term 1 we farewelled and thanked Colin and Merran, Rachel and Jodi. Now to take their places, we welcome Olivia to Middle Primary; Ross to Senior Primary; and Allie to the SS drama and English position (Ross and Allie are married). You'll hear more about these new staff within the staff profiles coming up this term.

Centre Trip Returns

Last Wednesday night our Year 10 Centre Trip travellers returned home, weary but elated. What a fantastic trip they had. No tents, with 16 nights straight under the stars. The first and last nights they were housed within accommodation facilities. We will hear more about the trip in next week's newsletter and at the special presentation night for Year 10 parents and families.

We changed the pick-up point to the Kiss and Drop in response to our Hawkins Road consultation (see note below). Thanks to parents for their patience. We obviously need to improve lighting in that area.

The Gymnasium

Whilst it is a very generous offer that the Federal Gov't has made regarding paying for the construction of our proposed Gymnasium, it comes with strings attached, one of which is a very prompt start. We have been working many late hours to meet these deadlines, but planning approval is not in our hands. Neighbourhood consultation, whilst a healthy component of community life, can also cause significant delay, particularly when there are objectors. We have been actively consulting with our neighbours about their concerns.

Hawkins Road considerations

The main concerns expressed by our neighbours relate to traffic frequency and speed and noise from the facility. There are a number of things we can do, particularly at the present time (the more we show we are listening and that we are good neighbours the less likely that neighbours will lodge objections).

- Only use Hawkins Road when necessary and drive with care. Speed limit 40kmph
- Drop off on Hawkins or at the lower car park should not occur. Please use the Kiss and Drop. The exercise is good for your child, in spite of their complaints of walking up the hill.
- Students are not to walk up or down Hawkins Road. They are to use the school pathways.

We'd appreciate your assistance in this regard.

Victorian Teachers Intensive

I will give a fuller account of this marvellous event next week. We gathered for the first two days of five (the next 3 are in the July workbreak) at Maranatha Christian School with around 500 teachers. Half of our teachers undertook post graduate studies in Christian education through NICE (National Institute for Christian Education) and the other half were involved in a workshop where they were looking at Biblical Perspectives for Curriculum. This is 'cutting edge' of what Christian education is all about.