



Geelong High School Parent Bulletin



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We Should All Be Proud of Our Students

All Australians will have been shocked and moved by the devastating fires of two weeks ago. Bushfires are an expected part of the Australian way, but the scale of these fires is beyond comprehension for many. The bush fires have been a very challenging time for the communities involved, and will continue to be so for a long time. The human spirit is a wonderful thing, and the willingness of strangers to gather and support others who are in need, is a great Australian quality. Our school community embodies this spirit. Our student leaders have risen to this occasion, and have raised \$5761 towards the bushfire appeal. This money has been donated to the Salvation Army appeal through Myer Geelong, who will match the donation dollar for dollar as part of their appeal. As a small community the efforts of our students need to be recognised. As parents you should be immensely proud of your children for what they have done. Our students have organised and run the whole appeal and the support they have received from the student body is immensely pleasing. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank all of our students, staff and families who have given so generously to those in need.



Geelong High School School leaders Georgina Sutton, Ash Crabtree-Morton and KielanMcAlinden presenting the Geelong High School cheque to Linda McCartan, Store Manager, Myer Geelong.

School Council Election results

At the closing of the ballot on Thursday 12th February I had received three parent nominations for the three vacancies. As a consequence of this there will be no need to conduct an election. The three successful nominees are Mr Ross McKinlay, Mr Chris Morrissy and Mr Russell Phemister. All three have been re-elected unopposed. The two staff vacancies have been filed by Mr Ken Stewart and Mr Paul Batters. Again I would like to thank retiring members Mr. Paul Aldridge (Parent) and Ms Megan Crawford (Staff) for their contribution while on council. The first School Council meeting for 2009 will be held on Thursday 5th March from

6:00pm. This meeting will incorporate the Annual General Meeting starting at 6.30 p.m. for Cheese and Wine, and the A.G.M. at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting will be held in the dining room of the food technology building. Sub-committees will be formed at this meeting.

Year 7 BBQ and Camp

The year 7 parents introductory BBQ was held last week. This was again well attended, and provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet with their child's Home Group Teacher. I take this opportunity to remind parents that it is important that they keep contact with their child's Home Group Teacher and/or House Leader. The development of this relationship between the school and parent is seen as a very important. The year 7 camps are to be held in the week of 23rd March. Information regarding the camps will be sent out shortly. If there are difficulties associated with this please contact the school.

Winstanley Building update

School Council representatives and I met with Local member Mr Ian Trezise to again raise our concerns with regards to the condition of the Winstanley Building. This follows a previous meeting with Mr Trezise and Ms. Lisa Neville late last year. The condition of this facility has been of great concern for some time and is in major need of redevelopment. At the moment Geelong High School is not in line for any major capital upgrades. The view of myself and School Council is that this should not be the case. Our students and staff are being disadvantaged by the poor condition of this building. Discussions will continue with our local members but I don't hold great hope at the moment. The school is however being proactive by commissioning the development of an Educational Brief, which will then lead to the development of concept drawings. Staff will be visiting various sites to look at other similar buildings to start this process.

Bus Travellers in the East Geelong, Whittington area.

We are currently trying to gauge the demand for a student bus service from Townsend Rd along St Albans Rd to Geelong High School in the morning and reverse at night. If you believe that you could or would like your child to access this bus could you please contact the school on 52292221 or email geelong.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au . Once the demand has been determined we will again approach the local bus company in an attempt to improve the service for our students.

Parents and Friends will meet next on Monday 16th March. Starting at 7pm in the conference room with wine and cheese served before hand at 6:30pm. This meeting will also incorporate the Annual General Meeting. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting. If you would like to attend please RSVP through the office on 5229 2221.

David Whelan
Principal

Term 1 Diary	
Thurs 26 Feb	Inter-school Swimming Sports
Mon 9 March	Labour Day
Tues 17 March	School Leaders Investiture Assembly
Mon 23— Friday 27 March	Year 7 Camps
Tues 24 March	Pancake Tuesday (beginning of Easter)
Tues 31 March	House Athletics
Thurs 2 April	Parent/Teacher Interviews 2.00—7.00 p.m. Students dismissed at 12.55 p.m.
Fri 3 April	Parent Teacher Interviews 9.00—12.00 midday

EMA

To be eligible for EMA assistance for students up to the age of 16, a parent or guardian must be an eligible beneficiary at 28 January, 2009 of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent, and submit their application to the school by FRIDAY, 27 February 2009, together with a photocopy of your Centrelink card.

The EMA allowance for 2009 is \$443 and is paid in two instalments, 70 per cent is paid in the first instalment during Semester One and the remaining 30 per cent is paid in Semester Two.

Year 10 Tasmania Camp 2009.

On Tuesday the 24th of February all year 10 students will be given the opportunity to register their interest to attend this year's camp to Tasmania. The camp will depart on Wednesday the 26th of August and return by 10.00am on Saturday the 29th of August this year.

The students will travel by coach to Melbourne Airport for their scheduled flight to Hobart. On arrival in Tasmania the students will travel on a 5 star luxury toilet-equipped coach, with an experienced coach captain, and stay two nights in accommodation at Hobart and Port Arthur. Students will then return via The Spirit of Tasmania arriving Saturday morning and be coached back to Geelong High School.

The cost of the trip will be **\$697.50 per student** and includes all entry fees as on the itinerary. This must be paid to the Business Manager at school in instalments with a deposit of \$147.50 being paid by **Friday, 6th of March, 2009**. The instalment deadline dates are as follows (payments can be made earlier than the deadlines);

Deposit	Friday 6 th March	\$147.50
2 nd payment	Monday 21 st April	\$185.00
3 rd payment	Monday 26 th May	\$185.00
Final payment	Monday 20 th July	\$180.00

The camp is offered to a minimum of 25 and a maximum of 40 places and priority will be given to students whose Expression of Interest slip below is returned to Mrs Neal, and the deposit of \$147.50 paid at the Administration Office, by Friday, 6th of March 2009. It is hoped that Year 10 students will take advantage of this wonderful and exciting opportunity.

PLEASE NOTE: In accordance with School Council Policy, no student may attend the camp if school fees are not paid prior to 6th of June, 2009.

Year 8 Warrnambool Camp:

Year 8 Students will again be offered the opportunity to attend a three day camp to Warrnambool. This camp will depart on Monday the 7th of December, 2009 and return on Wednesday the 9th of December 2009. Students will receive information about this camp on Tuesday 26th of Feb.

YEAR 9 Sydney Camp

Year 9 students will again have the opportunity to attend a five day camp to Sydney. This camp will depart Monday 7th of December to Friday 11th of December. Year 9 students will receive information about this camp early next term also.

I am currently in the process of finalising the details for the Year 8 and 9 camps and will provide information about both camps as soon as possible, stay tuned.

If parents have any question regarding these activities they may contact Nicole Neal at the school on 5229 2221

Nicole Neal
Camps Co-ordinator.

Geelong Schools' Blood Challenge

A total of 18 schools entered the Geelong Challenge in 2008 with 807 donations made throughout the year. Every donation can save the lives of up to three people therefore the lives of 2421 people were saved in 2008.

The winner for 2008 was St Joseph's with 212 donations. Second place was Oberon High with 134 donations, third was Western Heights with 109 and Geelong High School fourth, with 99 donations.

The majority of our 2008 donations were taken over a two-day period early in October when the portable Red Cross Blood Service came to us and parked at the rear of the C A Love Hall. This proved to be a resounding success with all sessions booked out. The Blood Service staff members were so impressed with our donors and program organisation that it was agreed upon to bring the Donor-mobile for a three-day period from March 23 – 25. With the additional time slots available I am opening bookings to the wider GHS community. Parents, friends, staff and students 16 years and over are invited to register their interest and availability ASAP.

The Blood Service has strongly emphasized the necessity of strong ongoing blood donations to provide long term support for the burns victims of the recent devastating bushfires. *Remember, your one donation has the potential to save three lives!* Please give generously and new donors are welcome!

In 2009, the Geelong High School community will challenge St Joseph's for the most donations.

Jennifer Hauenstein
(Blood Challenge Coordinator)

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Parents who purchased tickets for the 2009 Shell Geelong Series of concerts can collect them from the GHS Administration office.

Attention VCE Students

After school use of the VCE Study Centre

The VCE Study Centre is open every day until 5 pm for student use. This is to support students by providing a quiet area with computer access for either private individual study or as a meeting place for study groups.

Attendance and Use of Spares

All students are required to be at school by 8.50 am even if they do not have formal classes. Students who have spares (including VET Spares) are to sign in at the office by 8:40 am so that they have sufficient time to access their lockers, collect required books and materials and be set up ready to commence private study by 8:50 am, the beginning of period 1?

Students who do not sign in will be marked absent and an SMS will be sent to parents.

Year 12 students may sign out if they have spares in the afternoon, Year 11 students are not to sign out at all during the day except if they are leaving to attend a VET course at the Gordon TAFE. . The school would appreciate parental support on this matter.

The VCE Calendar

The VCE Calendar contains critical information for students including dates of SACs , oral, written and performance examinations, sporting events, excursions/incursions, special presentations, deadlines for applications and meeting course/unit outcomes, etc. This can be accessed either from the student menu on the intranet homepage or by viewing Public Information (Calendar) on the GHS website.

Special Examination Arrangements

The deadline for applications for Special Examination to meet the needs of students who have disabilities, illnesses or other circumstances that would affect their ability to access the examination. The application process is lengthy and time consuming so if you believe that you may be a candidate, please make the time to discuss this with me ASAP.

Jennifer Hauenstein
(VCE Coordinator)

MATHS Matters

Welcome back to 2009.

Geelong High School has a priority to improve numeracy levels of all students. In 2009 we will be again be using the exciting new on line program, Mathletics. (you may have seen the television commercials)

Mathletics is Australia's most used educational web-site! Used by over 3000 schools and 40000 students daily.

As an on-line Mathematics resource, it is the next generation in learning, helping students enjoy Mathematics and improve their numeracy levels. It provides students the opportunity to work through the curriculum modules at their own pace and to improve their computational skills through Mathletics "live"

All students in years 7 to 12 have their own user name and password to access Mathletics. Students will have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Take an active role in your child's numeracy progress.

- Log on together and check your child's progress
- Work through a curriculum module together

Play Mathletics "live" together

Mathletics provides a perfect link between home and school were progress can be monitored seamlessly.

If you have any concerns or questions related to using Mathletics or Numeracy please feel free to contact me on 5229 2221

Gary Burgess
Head of Mathematics

Have you heard about Youth Pathways?

Young people today often face a lot of challenges. Sometimes these challenges are beyond their control and can really throw them off track. Youth Pathways offers personalised one-on-one assistance to help participants work out what's getting in the way of succeeding in education and how to overcome it.

Youth Pathways is part of the Australian Government's Career Advice Australia initiative, which helps all young Australians access the information, training and support they need to start planning their future.

Youth Pathways is designed for 13 to 19 year-olds who are most at risk of not making a successful transition through to year 12, or have recently left school without finishing year 12. We can help them get back on track with education and training, and make the most of their potential.

If you think Youth Pathways might be the right option for someone you know – why not contact Darryl Patterson at Barwon Youth on 5224 7344 or visit www.australia.gov.au/skillsforthefuture to find out more.

GEELONG HIGH SCHOOL
SWIMMING SPORTS RESULTS 2009

SWIMMING/DIVING EVENTS

		BARWON		CORIO		LEIGH		MOORABOOL	
BOYS	Jun	204	1	116	2	77	4	108	3
	Int	142	2	125.5	3	164.5	1	81	4
	Sen	148	4	163.5	3	180.5	1	174	2
Total		494	1	405	3	422	2	363	4
GIRLS	Jun	116	2	111	3	102	4	135	1
	Int	220	1	105	2	37	4	98	3
	Sen	216	1	90	4	154	3	186	2
Total		552	1	306	3	298	4	419	2
B & G Total		1026	1	711	4	715	3	782	2

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

	BOYS	HOUSE POINTS	GIRLS	HOUSE POINTS
13 yrs	Keith Ellis	B 27	Riannon McDonald	C 23
14 yrs	Lachlan Thompson	B 30	Suzanne Matthies	M 38
15 yrs	Adam Lewis	L 30	Shana Wilson	B 40
16 yrs	Jack Perdrisat	C 30	Rebecca Sanderson	B 27
17 yrs	Beau Darragh	B 26	Zoe Smith	B 30
18-20 yrs	Rohan Campbell	C 40	Eliza Alsop	M 26
			Jessica Rodgers	B 26

ITS YOUR MOVE RESULTS

HOUSE	HANDICAP	2009 SCORE	FINAL SCORE
Barwon	0	1026	1026
Corio	200.5	711	911.5
Leigh	192	715	907
Moorabool	334.5	782	1116.5

House Swimming Carnival

Yesterday saw the house swimming carnival take place under ideal conditions at Kardinia Pool. The house spirit was very evident with students and staff dressed up in their house colours along with a variety of banners and signs. Age groups had changed this year in line with the VSSSA (state body) ruling as the new date for groupings being the 31st December of this year. The age groups changed to 13 yrs, 14 yrs, 15 yrs, 16 yrs, 17 yrs and 18 – 20 yrs.

Competition was keen and this resulted in 3 records. Shana Wilson continued to rewrite the record books as she has every year to date with this year adding the girls 15 yrs 50m backstroke with a time of 36.30 (old record was 39.30 set by S. Quick back in 1982). The Barwon girls in the 15 yrs freestyle relay recorded a time of 2.36.81 (old record was 2.39.67 set by Moorabool in 2006) and Barwon again in the open medley relay with a time of 2.47.16 (old record was 2.50.00 set by Barwon in 2007)

The individual champions listed below received a medallion on the day.

The "Its Your Move" trophy for the house showing the greatest improvement from last year went to Moorabool from Barwon. It is pleasing to see Moorabool on the way up.

The aggregates for the different sections went to Barwon in the Junior Boys, Intermediate Girls and the Senior Girls, with Leigh picking up the Intermediate and Senior Boys and Moorabool collecting the Junior Girls. When the final points were added up it was a clear victory for Barwon from Moorabool, closely followed by Leigh and Corio.

Congratulations to all competitors and spectators for a great day and it was pleasing to see a number of parents and friends attending on the day.

GSSSA Swimming

Thursday sees the Geelong High compete in the Geelong Secondary Schools Sport Association division 1 swimming carnival. Our 4th placing last year was good but we are hoping to do better this year as there are a number of talented swimmers at the school. Students will be receiving their notifications on Monday as the event is on Thursday 26th February at Kardinia Pool. Again, parents are most welcome to attend and view the next level of competition. First event is about 9.45am – look for our red banner.

Surf Life Saving League

Today Friday Ms Kinsey took a boy's team of 9 students to compete at Ocean Grove in the Surf Coast leg of the Surf Life Saving league. Last year due to a clash with our house swimming we were unable to compete. The competition involves beach events and the surf events will certainly test the swimmers after the house swimming carnival. We look forward to their results.

WZC Lawn Bowls

Monday 23rd February sees 2 teams of three competing in WZC lawn bowls competition at the Eastern Park greens. Hopefully one of the teams can repeated an earlier result by winning this level of competition. Watch this space for their progress.

Sports Co-ordinator D.Hauenstein

VCE Student Attendance

All students are required to be at school by 8.50 am even if they do not have formal classes. Students who have spares (including VET Spares) are to sign in at the office by 8:40 am so that they have sufficient time to access their lockers, collect required books and materials and be set up ready to commence private study by 8:50 am, the beginning of period 1?

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M. Baxter
Assistant Principal

Notice for Parent Bulletin Year 7 News

Last Tuesday saw the Year 7 BBQ under cooler skies after school. This was a great opportunity for parents to meet home group teachers and other members of the school community to meet as well as parents to meet the other parents of students in their son or daughters classes. If you were unable to make the BBQ please do not hesitate to contact the home group teacher by telephone or diary if you have any questions or concerns.

By now all students should have settled into the routine of High School. Lockers, Timetables, Rooms, Teachers etc have become more familiar. Now is a timely reminder to ensure that all belongs should be named. This includes clothing and books so that if they are misplaced they will find their way back to the owner.

Year 7 Camp notices were distributed last week. Attendance at camp is important for the social development of students. The camp provides an opportunity for students to get to know each other and their teachers better in a supporting and challenging environment away from school. Permission slips and medical forms need to be returned to the home group teacher as soon as possible and payment made for the camp by March 11th. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance at the camp please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Horoch the Year 7 Transition coordinator or Mrs Gold the student Welfare coordinator at school.

On Monday Feb 23rd all Year 7 students will attend a play about bullying and harassment. The play is produced by Brainstorm Productions. The performance defines and makes it clear to students what bullying is and that certain behaviour will not be tolerated at our school. This is an entertaining way to promote discussion and give students strategies to avoid being a bully or a target. There is no cost for students attending as the cost for the performance will be taken from student levies.



2009 Premier's Reading Challenge

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

The 2009 Premier's Reading Challenge will be launched at the school assembly next week.

Students will receive a newsletter and consent forms in Homegroup.

Students interested in participating should return the consent forms signed by parents when they register at the school library during lunchtimes in the week beginning March 2nd, 2009.

Special prizes will be issued during the Challenge and each Homegroup will elect a PR Challenge leader.

The Premier's Reading Challenge will continue until August 17th, 2009 so please read the information provided and support your children and the school to promote reading.

Further information can be found on the website
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/>

Premier's Reading Challenge Co-ordinators Mrs. Sedgwick and Geelong High Schools Library Staff.

Canteen	
Fri, Feb 20	J. Stott, T. West
Mon, Feb 23	J. Clarke, K. Walker
Tues, Feb 24	A. Hunt, D. Hay
Wed, Feb 25	S. Andrews, A. Tankard (am), S. Smale (pm)
Thurs, Feb 26	B. Mott, A. Galeotti
Fri, Feb 27	K. McMahon, T. Fedley
Mon, Mar 2	B. Hayard, K. Gooley
Tues, Mar 3	C. Mengler, L. Mondin (am)
Wed, Mar 4	J. Friend
Thurs, Mar 5	J. Treble
Fri, Mar 6	J. Whitten, L. Reinert

A BIG THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the students and parents who have donated to Student Welfare, books and uniform they no longer need. This has enabled me to assist families who are in need at this time. Many of the donations have been anonymous so please accept this as my personal thanks.

Jenny Gold
Student Well-Being Co-Ordinator

Geelong High School Career News

Ms Trudy Cameron – Careers Co-ordinator

1. CAREER NEWS FOR 2009 – This career newsletter will be published **fortnightly** throughout the year, giving you news of **career events, open days, information sessions, new courses** and so on. Do yourself a **favour** and read it **regularly** to keep yourself **informed** and to assist you in your career **decision-making**.

2. WHERE WILL I STUDY AFTER YEAR 12? If you are in Year 12, no doubt you have begun to think about where you will study in 2010. Your choices include universities, Technical And Further Education (TAFE) Institutes and independent colleges.

There are several **universities** in Victoria: **Australian Catholic University, Ballarat, Charles Sturt (a NSW uni with a campus at Albury), Deakin, La Trobe, Melbourne, Monash, Swinburne, RMIT and Victoria**. They offer degrees.

TAFE's are located throughout Victoria, with most areas well served. Some TAFE's are linked with a university (eg **RMIT, Swinburne and Victoria**) while others stand alone (eg **Box Hill, Chisholm, and Kangan Batman**). They offer pre-apprenticeships, certificates, diplomas and sometimes degrees.

There are many specialist independent colleges such as **Australian College of Natural Medicine, Australian College of Sports Therapy and Photographic Imaging College**, offering certificates, diplomas and degrees.

Undergraduate university degree courses are subsidised by the government with **Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP)**, except for international students who pay full fees; most TAFE places are also subsidised (fees are under review), while private colleges require the payment of full course fees. There are government loan arrangements available for many fee-paying courses; to find out about payment for courses, and a lot of other info, see www.goingtouni.gov.au. NOTE: If you have a CSP you will be required to pay a portion of the fees; this payment, however, can be deferred until you are earning about \$40,000pa (currently) and re-paid through the tax system.

You need to **find the most suitable alternative**; you can get assistance in this process by attending **Open Days** (mainly Sundays in August), going to **seminars**, reading course **information**, talking to **friends/relatives** and by meeting with the school **career counsellor**.

3. HOW DO I CHOOSE A CAREER? Think about what you **enjoy** doing; what you are **good at**; what school **subjects** you enjoy most; what you **value** most; what **interests** you. Considering these things will give you valuable clues as to careers that will suit you. For example, do you enjoy science? art? English? business subjects? technology? Is helping others important? Do you like being indoors/outdoors? Are you good with your hands? What sort of activities did you enjoy as a younger child? Spend time using the **Job Guide** researching jobs that fit your interests/abilities. **Remember**, you are not choosing a **job for life**. Think in terms of the next few years only. Technology is rapidly changing various aspects of the job world, and we can't anticipate what we might be doing in 10 or 15 years' time.

4. SOME ADVICE IN CHOOSING A COURSE –

Make sure that you have the **pre-requisite** subjects for the course

Don't choose a course just because it has a **high ENTER**; you need to **enjoy** and be **suited** to the course. If your ENTER is higher than necessary to get into your chosen course it will probably mean that you will achieve very well.

Don't choose a course because **someone else** thinks it's what you should do – it's **your life!**

Take **time** in making your decisions

Consider applying for a course and then **taking a year off** from study to work/volunteer/travel, particularly if you are very unsure (ie **defer** your offer of a place)

Go to **Open Days** (August) to check out the institutions you are considering

Don't assume that you will be **able to transfer** to a preferred course after first year – check what is required for this to happen

5. WANT TO STUDY FORENSIC MEDICINE? A career information session is being held for Years 10-12's by the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. It will provide insights into various **career options in forensic sciences**. **When:** 12.30-4.00pm, Mon 6 April; **Where:** VIFM Lecture Theatre, Coronial Services Centre, 57-63 Kavanagh St, Southbank; **Registration (do it soon):** complete the form available at: www.vifm.org (for the form see: Job Opportunities, then Careers Information). **Info:** 9684 4313. A second session will be held later.

6. FOLIO PREPARATION COURSES AT RMIT – Folio preparation and career discovery courses are held at City/Brunswick campuses on weeknights, Saturdays and school holidays. Designed for Year 11/12's, they give insights into particular design industries, study options, and selection procedures. Apply for an early program as ones later in the year fill quickly. Some **folio preparation areas covered:** graphic design, digital media, multimedia, interior design, visual merchandising, 3D product design, fashion drawing, textiles and in visual/fine art. **Contact:** RMIT Training P/L on 9925 8111, www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au.

7. WHAT ABOUT HOSPITALITY? Trial-a-Trade is a fun and affordable opportunity for you to learn **new skills** and explore a **range of career options** in the foods and hospitality industries. It will give a feel for the working life of a chef, baker, butcher, waiter, barista, confectioner or patissier as you collaborate with others to prepare a shared luncheon **When:** Sat 14 March; **Where:** William Angliss TAFE Institute, 555 La Trobe St, Melbourne; **Cost:** \$35 (\$25 for parents, public attending lunch only); **Bookings:** 9606 2111; **Info:** 9606 2111, info@angliss.edu.au, www.angliss.edu.au.

8. WANT TO BE A VET? If so, you may wish to attend VET-DAY, the Veterinary Science Open Day. This is a chance for future students to go behind the scenes at the Uni of Melbourne Veterinary Clinic and Hospital. Talk to staff, meet current students and tour facilities. **When:** 10am-4pm, Sun 22 March (lectures for Year 10 and above students will be held at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm); **Where:** 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee (Mel 206, G5); **Enquiries:** 8344 7357, email via <http://vet-unimelb.custhelp.com>, www.vet.unimelb.edu.au.