

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews Mid Semester 2, 2009

Parents are advised of the following dates for parent interviews to discuss student progress to date for Semester 2, 2009.

Years 10 - 12: Wednesday 16 September between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm.

Years 7 - 9: Thursday 8 October - times will be published in the final newsletter of this Term.

Online Booking System

We will be asking parents to book for interviews using an on-line booking system. This system will be used for the first occasion in the forthcoming interviews.

Interviews are of five minutes duration and a booking must be made in order for an interview to take place under this system. In order for the system to work we rely on your cooperation (and also patience as we work through this new system together).

Bookings for Years 10 - 12 interview sessions open on 9 September and close at 4.00 pm on Wednesday 16 September.

How to use the online booking system (A Summary):

- ◆ **Go to www.ashwood.vic.edu.au**
You will clearly see the link to parent interviews booking system. Click on this link.
- ◆ You then need to log into the parent interview booking system by putting in the student ID. (Every student has a unique ID they use to log

into the School’s network for computer use. It consists of the first 3 letters of the surname followed by 4 digits—it also appears on the student ID card issued to all students). You need to put in the student password. Press return.

- ◆ You are now at the main menu for the Parent Interview Booking System.
- ◆ Select a teacher - click on the link “Book here for Student” to select a teacher who you wish to have an interview with.
- ◆ Select a time - after a teacher is selected, this teacher’s booking sheet is displayed. You can then make a booking by clicking “book now” from the teacher’s available time.
- ◆ Provide your information - you are guided to select if you need an interpreter or not - the usual answer is ‘no’. You then input the class and year level required and also the parent’s name.
- ◆ Submit - click on “Submit” to complete the booking.
- ◆ To make another teacher booking - just click “book here for student” again and go through the same process.
- ◆ Printing your bookings - the main menu allows you to print your bookings.

A complete instruction sheet will be brought home by your child once bookings open.

Tony Kuc - Assistant Principle

Diary Dates:			
Friday	4	September	Year 12 Inheritance Play Excursion/ Psychology Excursion
Saturday	5	September	Ashwood College Trivia Night
Sunday	6	September	Year 11 Outdoor Ed River Trip Departs
Tuesday	8	September	Year 8 Camp Departs - Returning Friday 11th September
Wednesday	16	September	New Caledonia Trip Departs

Australian Children's Book Week

Over the past week, Ashwood College students and staff celebrated Australian Children's Book Week. Selected English classes were shown the short list books and extracts from the stories were read aloud to the enjoyment of the classes. A competition was held to guess which of the six short list books would be the winner in each of the four categories. The winners were:

Fiction for Older Readers: Courtney Gardner 7A

Fiction for Junior Readers: Tim Gebert 7E

Picture Story Book: Rachel McGuigan 7E

Information Book: Jordan Fakhoury 7C

Each day the students and staff were challenged to answer a question about a children's book. The last question was - Who was the character of J.K. Rowlings books? Do you know the answer? The winners each day received a small take home bag of lollies.

Vivienne Dugdale - Librarian

Year 9 Report

It has been a very busy few weeks for Year 9, with some exciting events and activities. Students have been working hard preparing for, and attending the *Go Melbourne* excursions; the last of which was held this week. From all reports, the groups have been having a fantastic time and learning a lot about many elements of the city. The colourful display of posters now adorning the walls along the library corridor give a 'hands-on' account of the laneways, sporting venues, and street art the students have found along the way.

Back at school, students and parents have been through the process of selecting subjects for next year. I would like to commend the students for the maturity they have displayed whilst undertaking this task. It is by no means an easy question for a year 9 student to consider their future occupation; but students have worked hard to ensure that their choices reflect the direction they wish to take, and the pathway they will follow to get there.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask parents and students to be aware of the expectations of the College in regard to uniform and make up; and request that students wear the uniform completely and with pride when travelling to and from school.

Shane Duggan - Year 9 Coordinator

No Ill Feeling

The College musical "No ill Feeling" played in the Performing Arts Centre from Monday 17 to Thursday 20 August to almost packed houses every night and was an instant success! The brightly coloured scrubs and real Victoria Police uniforms lit up the stage, as did the casts' smiling faces as they sang and danced their way through the comical story of the Sisters of Percy Hospital.

Getting it all up and running was a real team effort from the Performing Arts staff, but the real stars were the student leaders, who took on such jobs as Stage Manager, setting up the foyer, collating and designing the program, front of house and running the vocal and movement warm-ups each night. And of course, the magnificent cast and band who attended lunchtime and afterschool rehearsals from the end of Term 1...your hard work and efforts really paid off! You put on a fantastic show and had all members of the audience laughing, tapping their feet and walking away with a smile! Well done!

Performing Arts Staff - No Ill Feeling

Careers Information

Holmesglen is running a series of free course information sessions. These sessions provide an excellent opportunity to gain specific course information and are open to future students and parents. At the conclusion of each session, visitors will have the opportunity to ask questions and talk with course coordinators. The sessions will be held throughout September 2009. Each week will feature one of our campuses, with sessions being held on the following dates:-

Chadstone Campus - Monday 31 August – Wednesday 2 September.

Moorabbin Campus - Monday 7 September – Wednesday 9 September.

Waverley Campus - Monday 14 September – Wednesday 16 September

All sessions will begin at 6.00 pm and run for approximately one hour.

For session details, please visit:

www.holmesglen.edu.au and to book your place, email: events@holmesglen.edu.au or call 9564 2072.

Year 10 Outdoor Education Mountain Biking Excursion

Last Wednesday, the Year 10 Outdoor Education class went mountain biking for the day at Lysterfield Park. The weather was kind to us and we had a great day. The students road on different tracks from wide 4WD tracks to thin, winding and undulating tracks. Their skills improved as the day progressed. They also had a go on the Commonwealth games competition trail.

Our next excursion is kayaking on the Yarra River on Friday 11 September. A big thank you to Bryan Walsh and student teacher, Belinda, for their assistance on the day.

Melissa Worth - Outdoor Ed. Coordinator

A new shade house for Ashwood College Permaculture Food Garden!

The State Government, through Neighbourhood Renewal, ensured that Ashwood College's Permaculture Food Garden can continue to flourish well into the future with the grant of nearly \$6,000 for a great shade house. The 3 metre x 6 metre structure will double as a hothouse in Winter, and can house up to 68 of the styrofoam boxes of seedlings that the garden group have been growing over the Winter.

We have used the Winter period to advance in the battle against grass: each time the chooks converted head-high grass (it was that high for them!) to exposed grass roots we moved their domes and thickly covered their work with newspaper and mulch.

By now, we are laying out the third mandala of the garden design which will soon be displayed in the foyer. The garden is open every Saturday morning from 10.00 am 'til Noon, and often a little later. You can come and admire our new fruit trees; we have recently planted an apricot, a peach, a macadamia, a couple of almonds and a quince. They have joined the apple, fig, plum, pear and cherry trees that have been in the garden for a while. We can't wait to see it all blossoming as Spring approaches!

We need **mulch**, woodchips, peastraw, lucerne, grass clippings. If you know of some mulch that could come our way, please send it over. If it's a big load, please give me a call on 0414 588 821 and I will try to be there to take delivery.

The lunchtime Garden Club meetings are also continuing - open to all school students and teachers. Regulars, Harry, Alex and Samuel, will enjoy more company as they dig the third pond for the garden and feed and water the chickens and collect their eggs.

Keep an eye out for announcements of our next Open Day. The Spring Equinox Open Day Party will be on 19 September, so put this in your diary now! More details to follow.

Mariette Tuohey - Permaculture Garden Coordinator



Science Week - 17 August to 21 August 2009

Ashwood College celebrated Science Week with a variety of lunchtime activities and competitions and a daily quiz for students and staff.

Many science classes used the opportunity Science Week provided to engage in practical activities as part of the Science curriculum. Year 7 and 8 students tested the aerodynamic features of paper planes and will continue to develop and enhance these skills over the coming weeks. The middle corridor had an unpleasant fish aroma after all Year 7 classes dissected fish as part of their studies of the Living World. Year 11 Biology dissected hearts, and were delighted to receive their long awaited feathered study subjects – the ducks! Year 10 students experimented with explosive water rockets reaching heights greater than 60 metres!

Monday’s lunchtime activity was building bridges, and students were challenged to build the strongest bridge they could out of straws. After hundreds of metres of sticky tape had been used, the winners were declared to be Shauni Tonge and Lewis Hogg, whose bridge supported 10 kg.

Tuesday saw a number of students examining the stars and designing their own constellations. Congratulations to Hannah Bourke and Harry Hook for the best designs.

On Wednesday, the science lab was full of budding Forensic Scientists lifting fingerprints and analysing ink samples. A number of students and staff watched Mythbusters debunk the moon landing conspiracy theories on Thursday.

The science activities culminated in an Egg Drop on Friday. Students had to design a capsule that housed a raw egg and would safely cushion it when dropped from a height. There was a variety of innovative and creative designs, not all of these successful. The Year 7 winners (Sam Tuck and Harry Hook, Jesse Boyd and Tim Gebert) are to be congratulated on their scientific application and clear thinking.

Thanks to all the staff and students who participated in the lunchtime activities. It was great to see so many students getting involved and we are looking forward to embracing Science Week next year in the new Science Centre.

Heath Booth/Deb Gibson - Science Coordinators

Mark Wilson

Mark completed Year 12 at Ashwood College in 2003 after returning from two years in South Africa. Mark thoroughly enjoyed his time at Ashwood, in particular the formal and co-curricular drama program and the support and encouragement from



Mr. Noel Bullard. Mark was interested in theatre from a very young age and participated in both the Victorian Youth Theatre and the Young Australian Broadway Chorus.

Mark attended Monash University where he completed his Bachelor of Performing Arts in 2007 with a first class Honours Degree. Mark was a member of the Monash University Student Theatre, for whom he wrote, acted and directed. Since completing university, Mark has formed his own theatre company, Doorslam Productions, which has produced a number of plays at Theatre Works in St.Kilda.

Mark’s primary interest is in theatre from the Elizabethan era, most notably William Shakespeare. For his work in this area, Mark was awarded a 2009 Shakespeare’s Globe International Acting Fellowship. The Fellowship is at the Globe Theatre in London and will run over August and September. There are just 10 awards worldwide for the Fellowship Program which runs every two years.



**Ashburton
Willows Cricket
Club**



**Junior Registration Day
New Players Welcome**

**Saturday 5 September
10.00 am - 11.30 am**

Athletics Victoria Schools Knockout Competition

Last Friday, 26 students across all year levels represented Ashwood College at a Schools Knockout Competition run by Athletics Victoria. It was an event we haven't entered before and it was a great opportunity for students to 'warm-up' for the District Athletics on Thursday 3 September.

Competing at the Knockout Competition were competitors from independent schools, schools from the Peninsula and single gender schools. We entered a junior girls, junior boys and senior boys team. All students competed very well.

The senior boys team came second in their division, the junior boys team fifth and the junior girls team eighth. If it wasn't for our District Athletics this Thursday our senior boys would be competing for the Victorian Plate at Olympic Park.

Some outstanding individual results included Chynea Lang's personal best of 155cm in high jump, winning that event and her effort of second in the triple jump, only 7cm off first place - an excellent effort. Jake Juricic ran an excellent 100 metre sprint in his division coming second by .2 of a second and also a close second in the 200 metre hurdles. Peter Biar came overall second in the 800 metres and overall third in the 3000 metres. Paul Jin and Patrick O'Brien came second in their respective long jump events. Matthew Harrison came second in his division of the javelin. Overall, a great effort by all teams. All the best this Thursday to those competing in the District Athletics. A big thank you to Janet Wiggins, and student teachers, Belinda and Liana, for all their assistance and also the parents that came to support the teams.

Melissa Worth - Ashwood College Sports Coordinator

Year 8 Boys Basketball

With a few trainings up their sleeves and a keen attitude, the Year 8 boys took to the court against Brentwood Secondary College firing. A close game to start the tournament saw both teams going goal for goal. With Bradley Wilson's rejections and Damien Westmore's fast breaks, the boys kept Brentwood SC within one point for the entire game. With seconds to go, Bradley drew two free shots from fouls. He performed under pressure and scored from both shots, winning the game by one point.

Following such a tight game, the boys fought it out in the next four games only going down by one or two points in each game. Blake Callant, Steven Bocskor and Jude Gurusinghe were tight in defence, keeping the opposition well within reach. Unfortunately, due to our small bench, the boys started to feel it in their legs and were struggling to keep up in the second half.

In the final game against Mt Waverley Secondary College, the boys found a little bit extra within themselves to run out the game, with some great passes by Jordan Theobald and Shevin Siriwardena and three pointers from Steven and Bradley, the boys took the game by four points.

A great effort boys, well done.

Linsey Boddy - Boys Basketball Coach

ASHWOOD COLLEGE - FREE RANGE EGGS

Every Monday Free Range eggs will be available from the General Office for \$4.00 per dozen. All proceeds will go back into the Permaculture


Year 8 Girls Basketball

The day came around for the Year 8 Ashwood girls' basketball team to show the world that they were a formidable team. However, as we arrived, we quickly realised that the other school teams had the same intention. With a number of the Ashwood girls not playing basketball regularly, if at all, we found ourselves up against teams with more players, more experience and more established game plans. Despite this, spirits were kept high with some close matches early.

Morale was boosted with a well deserved win against Wellington Secondary College, albeit the only win for the day. The skills of the girls were clearly prevalent but lost out to some more established and selective teams, although they didn't give up without a fight. As the day drew on, exhaustion took its toll and the girls were glad to hear the final buzzer of the last match.

An enjoyable day was had by all and a real sense of team solidarity was developed. I hope that next year these girls further develop their skills and return, renewed and refreshed, to display the true Ashwood spirit of teamwork, community and support. Great work girls, keep it up!

Adric Gardner—Girls Basketball Coach



You can help a migrant family/ individual gain confidence in connecting with their new surroundings. Buddy families are being sought to join a structured program of engagement to assist isolated migrants in Boroondara and beyond. If you are interested, call Michelle at the Salvation

Parents & Friends

Upcoming Events/Dates for Parents & Friends

EVENT/DATE
P&F Meeting/Silent Auction Wrapping - PAC Thursday 3 September - 7.30 pm
Trivia Night, PAC Ashwood College Saturday 5 September - 7.30 pm
P&F Meeting, PAC Foyer Thursday 17 September - 7.30 pm
Bunnings BBQ, Notting Hill Bunnings Sunday 1 November - 8.00 am to 5.00 pm
Market and Music Festival, Ashwood College Saturday 7 November

Trivia/Silent Auction Night

The Trivia/Silent Auction Night is on this Saturday night in the Performing Arts Centre, Ashwood College. If you would still like to come along we can arrange a table for you, **however, we must know by Friday 4 September at 3.00 pm.** It is open to all parents, friends and family (adults) and our VCE students. We have Mr Joe Murphy (ex Drama teacher) running the evening. Remember we need your help to make this night a success so that we can purchase additional resources for your children to be used at school. If you have any questions, please call Dale Wain on 9807 1333 or email wain.dale.1@edumail.vic.gov.au

We are looking forward to a great evening!

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie and Biscuit Dough

A very big thank-you to everyone that supported the Billy G's Gourmet Cookie and Biscuit Drive. We managed to raise just over \$1000 for the students. We will let you know soon what this money will be going towards. Many thanks!

Anna-Maree Ranten and Lyn Hancock

PRIZES - There has been a delay with some of the Cookie Dough prizes, we are expecting them by the end of Term 3. Sorry for the inconvenience.