

Farewell and Good Luck



Our New Courtyard



"The courtyard makes the school look really professional and makes me proud that it's my school" – **Ainsley**

"When I stand at the library and look out over the new courtyard I think it looks just beautiful" – **Caitlin**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It has been one of the best starts to a term that I can remember. Our new courtyard has been an absolute highlight and has clearly made an impression on all members of the college community – particularly our students. It is a delight to see numerous groups of students sitting on our new grass during recess and lunch, chatting quietly to friends and enjoying their surroundings. At assembly last week we invited John Zeal and Andrew McNarama from Lara Landscapes to thank them for their outstanding work in transforming our courtyard in just two short weeks. John and his team worked seven days a week from dawn to dusk to ensure that we could provide our students with a new environment for the beginning of term. I spoke at length at assembly about our focus for term four - "RESPECT" - and I'm delighted to say that despite their being no barriers on the new garden beds, all plants are surviving well and the yard is the cleanest I have ever seen in. Our focus on respect goes beyond the physical environment and I'm confident that everyone will continue to remember to always use good manners and show mutual respect.

Thank you to all families who completed the parent/student survey in the last week of Term Three. We are currently collating the information gained from your input and will report all findings to you in the next edition of the College Times.

We are continually working to support all students to do their best and it was excellent to see Unit 4 classes (Year 12 VCE) in over the holidays – an extra commitment from students and teachers. For those unable to make that consistent effort we will soon be making contact with parents of students who are at risk of not achieving to satisfactory standards in their current year level. Students are constantly reminded that progression to the next year level is not automatic, that sufficient effort and work must be completed, and that attendance must be 90% or above for sufficient learning to take place.

At this time of year all schools are working on setting up their programs for 2010 and we're certainly well on the way with this process. Our program for our Middle Years students in the new building is taking an enormous amount of time and energy and I thank Kacey Ambrus, Bree Porter and Sarah Foley for their leadership, initiative and hard work in leading this development. The building is now at 85% completion with carpet laid and interior painting almost finished. It is a truly amazing space and I look forward to inviting parents and community members to tour the building in early December. You will have noticed further construction at the front of the school with an extension to our car park and to the gym. We have change rooms being added and an addition of a weights room. It certainly is an exciting place to be!

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to farewell our Year 12 students and wish them good luck for their exams and their lives beyond secondary school. It's hard to believe that our second group of year 12 students have all but finished their year. I joined the group for Pathways on Thursday at the coffee van and chatted to a number of students who spoke confidently about their planned pathway after Year 12. I wish all our special Year 12's the very best for the years ahead and look forward to their final assembly on Wednesday 21st.

Lyn Boyle - Principal
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"I like how they have used different colour concrete in patterns"
- Ari

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS REPORT

Welcome back everyone to what promises to be a busy and exciting term. We would like to welcome the following new students to our school Sam into 9 Green, Jack into 9 Red, Stuart into 8 Green, Taylah into 8 Orange.

This term sees the emergence of summer uniform as the weather become warmer and with it a timely reminder to all students that they wear either full summer uniform or full winter uniform but not a combination of both. School shoes should be of polishable leather and be either, laced, zipped or buckled up. Ballet style shoes do not meet the LSC uniform policy or OHS requirements and are not allowed. Girls who are wearing electrical ties to do up their shoes must also arrange to have their shoes repaired as soon as possible.

We have some very genuine concerns about students leaving the school grounds without permission during both recesses and lunchtimes. Our policy is that NO student leaves the school ground at recess unless it is to attend an appointment and the school has been formally notified by parents.

Year 12 students only, may leave the school at lunchtimes but no other student may do so unless they have a school produced lunch pass that allows them to go home only for lunch. This does not allow them to visit another student's home or the shops. APCO has very kindly offered to support our attendance policy by not serving any student between the hours of 11 and 1.

Congratulations to Luke and Lachlan of year 10 who presented to a large group of employers and educators at The Mecure Hotel as part of the Geelong regional Vocational Education Council Inc (GRVEC). They have written about their experiences elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations also to Meaghan, Luke, Tom and Mitch who represented the school, along with Ibu Butler, at the Education Department Student Summit on "Leading Responsibility in a Digital World".

Parents will be receiving letters soon to indicate your child's attendance in term 3 and how that will impact on their learning. Parents of students with rates below 90% will be contacted to look at how this situation can be improved. As Lyn has mentioned, letters will also be sent out in the coming weeks in regard to students deemed at risk of unsuccessful completion of the current year level.

We'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our Year 12's on completing their secondary education and we wish them every success in their final exams and assessments.

Anne Harvey - Acting Assistant Principal

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Faye Smith - Assistant Principal

Calendar

-October-

- Tues 20th** - Red Frogs schoolies safety program
- 9:00 am - 2:30pm :
Transport & Warehousing excursion
- Weds 21st** - Whole school Assembly-farewell yr 12
11:30 – 12:15
- **Last Day of Classes for Year 12's**
- Year 8 Sport: Baseball, softball, Tennis, boys & girls Cricket
- Thurs 22nd** - VCAL & conservation volunteers activity
- Year 10: Norlane Swimming Pool
9.15am – 11.15am
- Fri 23rd** - Intermediate Cricket Finals
- Fundraiser for National Schools Basketball Tournament – Sausage Sizzle at Lunchtime with
Basketball Competitions
- Hoffmans Walk maintenance: 8P
- Mon 26th** - Connections: Urban Camp A
(9G, 9O, 9R, 9W)
- Year 7 Sport: Baseball, softball, tennis, cricket
- Tues 27th** - 9am-1pm Transport & Warehousing excursion
- Wed 28th** - Yr 8 Girls Table Tennis
- Year 8 Curriculum / Netbook 2010 Information night
- Thurs 29th** - Year 10 'WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?'
Health Day Incursion
- Curriculum / Netbook Info night 2010: Year 7
- 9Y Literacy Excursion –
Corio Library 2-3pm
- Friday 30th** - Year 12 exams start
- Year 7 and 8 Cricket Finals
- Hoffmans Walk – maintenance: 8P
- Tues 3rd November** - MELBOURNE CUP
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Amendment to the arrangement for the Year 12's last week at school

The following amendments need to be made to the details in the letter that has been mailed to the families of Year 12 students. Students maybe dismissed after the formal assembly at 12:15 and are not required to attend classes as stated in the letter.

Wednesday October 21st

9 – 11 Classes as normal

Final Formal General Assembly in the gym 11:30 – 12:15pm in full school uniform for the last time

VET students leave to attend VET classes as per usual

Year 12 VCE/VCAL students clean out lockers and go home

Celebration Day is Thursday 22nd not Thursday 24th of October

A whole school **Year 12 photo** for \$30 or the **Year 12 Yearbook** for \$12 are also available to order from the office until Oct. 21.

Apologies for any confusion that may have occurred.

Congratulations Sarah of Year 12

The College would like to extend congratulations to Sarah a year 12 VCAL student who has been selected to compete in an International Horse Riding Event -The Malaysian Pony Club Invitational Challenge. Sarah is part of a team of 4 chosen to represent Glenormiston College (South West TAFE) in this event which will be held in the Northern State of Terengganu, the home of Malaysia's King, who will also be attending the event. Sarah is currently completing her VCAL studies and is undertaking a School Based Apprenticeship in Equine studies as part of her associated VET program. Her selection for this event is testament to her hard work and passion for horses. Well done and Good Luck Sarah!

Schools and Business Merger Forum

On Tuesday the 13th of October, we, Luke and Lachlan attended a forum discussing the importance of businesses getting more involved in schools, with Ms. Nash, Mrs. Harvey and Nell Wilson. This forum was held from 7:15 to 10:30 am Tuesday morning, at the Mercure hotel. We have been involved in a research project with Lyondellbasell, a polypropylene manufacturer, and were invited to speak about our experiences. The forum discussed the need for more mergers like this one to be made between business and schools, and how there needed to be action from both parties to create these mergers. We also discussed the need of a system to list all willing participants, where matches between schools and businesses could easily be made. The forum was a great success and we hope to see several more business mergers with our own school and businesses from around the Lara/Geelong region.



Lara Secondary College welcomes parents, guardians, friends and family to:

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Exhibition, drama and music performance extravaganza

A night celebrating the creative achievements of students in subjects including Art, Studio Art, Performing Arts, Music, Visual Communication and Design, Fabrics, Foods, Media Studies, Material and Design Technology.

FREE EVENT

When: Thursday, 5th November 2009

Where: Lara Secondary College Library and Drama Room

Time: 6:00 – 8:30pm

NOTE: This year for the first time ever, selected student artworks will be for sale from \$10-\$100 to interested persons. Payment must be finalised on the night of the event either by cash, card of cheque. Come along and show the students of Lara S.C your support. Don't forget to bring along some money.



Lara Community Partnership

Matt and Olivia performing at the
50th Anniversary of
St Laurence Park celebration

**Lara you've got talent!**

Congratulations and thank you to, Olivia, Matt, Caitlin, Jennifer, Julie, Dylan, Michael, Christian, Jarrod, for performing as the musical entertainment during the 50th Anniversary of St Laurence Park celebration last Friday.

The positive feedback that your performances received by the invited guests and residents of the Park was sensational and Ms Boyle, Ms Lomas and myself were so very proud of both your talent as entertainers and the maturity that you showed in being representatives of Lara Secondary College.

The dedication and enthusiasm of Lara Secondary College's music department coordinator Melinda Martinek, Julie Lomas and Mark Bennet ensured that the students were well organized and confident to perform at their very best for the audience.

Below is a copy of a letter of appreciation that was written to the students from the St Laurence, Chief Executive Officer, Mr P. Toby O'Connor.

Dear Students,

I want to thank you on behalf of St Laurence Community Services for the very accomplished performance you gave at the 50th Anniversary of St Laurence Park celebration last Friday.

The residents and guests very much appreciated your talents and the time you gave to being part of this community event.

I was occupied doing "CEO stuff" so I very much regret not having taken the chance on the day to thank each of you personally for such a great

performance.

We are of the opinion that you will go far with your music in the future and look forward to following your careers.

With many thanks for all you did to make the day special for us.

Warm regards

Mr P. Toby O'Connor

Chief Executive Officer

I would personally encourage all parents to discuss with their children the positive aspects of being involved in the Lara Secondary College music department as well as any other extra curricula activities on offer.

Clive Allen-Paisley

Community Liaison Coordinator

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NAPLAN results for students in Years 7 & 9

Students in Australian schools in years 7 & 9 sat NAPLAN (National Assessment Program) tests in the areas of Literacy & Numeracy in May this year. Every child receives a report showing his or her results along with common national key information about his or her performance. National test results provide information on how students are progressing and support improvements in teaching and learning. These test results with an accompanying explanatory brochure and letter were mailed to Year 7 & 9 students this week.

Parents must remember that NAPLAN is one of several forms of assessment that teachers use to support students in their academic development.

Parents can access the NAPLAN website at http://www.naplan.edu.au/home_page.html for further information or contact the relevant teachers.

Faye Smith

LIBRARY NEWS

The Greater Geelong Mobile Library visits Lara at the Centreway, Waverly Road on Thursdays 2.00-6.00 pm and Saturdays 9.30-11.30am.

Recommended Reading

Fantastic beasts & where to find them by J.K. Rowling

This book is a glossary and a story at the same time. It shows all animals in the Harry Potter books and gives information on them. It has an introduction at the start from Albus Dumbledore who is a character from Harry Potter and it is a replica of Harry Potter's school book. I liked this book because it shows all the dragons from Harry Potter 4, Hippogriff from Harry Potter 3 and Basilisk from Harry Potter 2 and more.

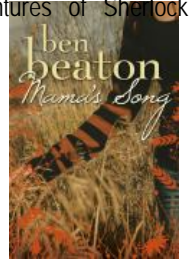
Ryan 8B

New Arrivals

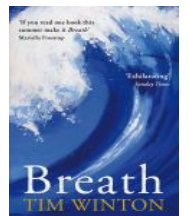
Many more new books have arrived. Popular Penguin classic titles: Dracula/Bram Stoker; Persuasion/Jane Austen; Casino Royale/Ian Fleming; The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes/Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; What is history?

Mama's song/Ben Beaton

Georgina - a teenager, alone and pregnant - is estranged from her mother and father. When she seeks refuge in a country town, she discovers her grandmother has passed away, leaving her more alone than ever. It is here, in a small country hospital, that she must come to terms with the enormity of what she faces and the new life she is now responsible for.

**Breath/Tim Winton**

On the lonely coast of Western Australia, two thrill seeking boys fall into the enigmatic thrall of veteran big-wave surfer Sando. The grown man initiates the boys into surfing, where they test themselves in storm swells on remote and shark-infested reefs, pushing each other to the edges of endurance, courage, and sanity. Venturing beyond all limits - in relationships, in physical challenge, and in sexual behaviour - there is a point where oblivion is the only outcome.

**2009 Inky Awards**

VOTE NOW! LSC Library has all of the nominated

titles. There is no other award in Australia that reflects what teenagers want to read. The Inky Awards are international awards for teenage literature, voted for online by the readers of insideadog.com.au.

There are three awards: the Golden Inky for an Australian book, the Silver Inky for an international book, and the Creative Reading Prize, won by a young person for a creative response to a book they love, in any format they choose.

Entries and voting closes on November 20.



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