



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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SEYMOUR TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

VOL 6

DATE 4th May 2006

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Term 2 is moving rapidly along and in a short time our Year 12 students will sit for the half year exams and the GAT (General Achievement Test). The GAT is part of the assessment system at Year 12 and it is very important to ensure all Year 12 students take it seriously. If students need any assistance with any type of special consideration, the GAT is used to create an adjusted score. It is also used to check the validity of some of our assessments.

Conference News

Jurgen Frank, Anne Douglas and I attended the Regional Principal's Conference from Sunday to Tuesday. Darrell Fraser, the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Education and Training and Stephen Brown, the new Regional Director of Hume were major presenters at the conference organised on behalf of all Hume Region by the Seymour Cluster. The continuing work of implementing the Government Blueprint on Education was the major aim of the conference. In particular, improving outcomes for students and increasing the skills of our teachers were key themes of the conference. On 22nd May at our Curriculum Day we will be working towards these themes. The Blueprint directs schools to create a Performance and Development Culture where continuous improvement of our teaching and learning strategies takes place.

Student Absence

Could all parents please note it is not "OK to be Away?" This approach is being actively promoted by us and our primary school colleagues. It is quite simple - students can not learn if they are not in a classroom. We encourage parents to contact us if:

- a child is absent for more than one day
- a known absence is going to occur

for any reason, preferably prior to the date

- if there has been any family concerns happening at home so that we can monitor attendance.

Most of the research in this area suggests that up to one third of all student absence occurs when parents keep children home for family reasons.

Bikes / Skateboards

All parents please note that bikes and skateboards are barred from being ridden in the school grounds. This is an important safety and OHS concern.

Fees

A reminder to all parents that the Student Equipment and Facilities Levy is due. While this is a voluntary levy, these funds are critical to our purchasing of important resources to run the school. Two interactive whiteboards have just been purchased with these funds. They are magnificent teaching tools and join the two from our DET ICT grants. On Wednesday this week over 20 staff were trained in their use.

Tim McCartin - Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 1 st May to Friday 5 th May	10A & 10B Work Experience
Wednesday 10 th May	GSSSA Cross Country
Wednesday 10 th May	School Council 7:30 pm
Tuesday 16 th May	GSSSA Athletics Carnival
Monday 22 nd May	Pupil Free Day Staff PD
Wednesday 24 th May	Year 7 Information Evening 6:45 pm
Friday 26 th May	Interschool Round Robin
Monday 29 th May	Year 11 Exam Week Begins



ANZAC Day Ceremony

Our House Captains; Daniell Dorman, Eamon Mannix, Sarah Moran, Zac Jones, Kallyn Gent, Shannon O'Connor, Ashleigh Harrop and Sam Martin laid wreaths, in our school house colours, at the Cenotaph in Anzac Avenue following the ceremony.

ANZAC DAY REPORT

Our Anzac Day Ceremony was conducted on Wednesday 26th April in our school hall. We were joined by guest speaker Lieutenant Chris Sandner from 53 Battery, School of Artillery Puckapunyal, who provided an insight into the meaning of ANZAC Day. A catafalque party, lead by Guard Commander Corporal Prem de-Lawrence from Puckapunyal joined this formal ceremony. We thank them for their valuable support. Mr David Mills – Assistant Principal

SRC ELECTIONS

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected by their peers to represent their year level on the Student Representative Council.

Year 7 Kate Hanley & Jake Butcher
 Year 8 Meg Fitzgibbon & Ayden Evans
 Year 9 Yvette LeCerf & Justin Bassett
 Year 10 Hannah Anderson & Kepa Baudromo
 Year 11 Meredith Chittenden & Robert Sidebottom.
 We are looking forward to working with you all to improve our school and community.
 Hayden Irwin & Alex Hebbard
 – Year 12 SRC Captains

“THE OUTSIDERS”

Our musical production is gaining momentum with many students expressing an interest to be involved. The show will be “The Outsiders” based on the novel by S.E. Hinton. It tells the story of two groups of young people struggling to make their way in the world. It has gangs, songs, fights, love and friendship.

Auditions will be held next week for cast and crew and we expect to be in rehearsal shortly thereafter. Audition details will be posted in the student bulletins.

Ms Kerryn Heazle – Production Committee



Year 10 Work Experience

Madeline Hunter of 10B is enjoying her work experience at Seymour Veterinary Surgery with Dr Andrew Hogan.

TASMANIA TRIP

The Year 9 Tasmania trip will take place on Monday 2nd October to Friday 6th October, which is the first week of Term 4. The first week of October may seem to be a very long way into the future (I mean its even two days after the AFL Grand Final) however, a lot of things will need to be attended to before this date. As you are possibly aware, our participating students (almost two thirds of our Year 9's) have just reached the point that we can now run a 2nd trip to Tasmania. Group A will be starting at Launceston and finishing at Hobart and Group B will flip and start at Hobart and finish at Launceston. On the students' behalf, all deposits for air fares, accommodation and tours have been paid in advance and confirmed. All of the participating students have paid the first \$50.00 deposit; however a few students have not yet made the next \$100.00 payment that was due in March. It would be appreciated if this payment could be made as soon as possible.

As mentioned above, we have just reached the two group point, however we can accommodate up to 8 more students to reach the maximum number. So if you are interested in being a part of these great Tasmanian trips, please contact me as soon as possible as these places will be filled on a first in basis.

Mr John Simpson – Excursion Coordinator

AMBULANCE MEMBERSHIP

It is the policy of our school to enlist the aid of an Ambulance with the health and well-being of the students our priority. Parents need to be aware of the considerable costs incurred when an ambulance is required. Ambulance membership provides a relatively cheap safeguard against these expenses. All parents are urged to consider enrolling their families in Ambulance Membership. Information is available on 1300 366 141 or

www.ambulance.vic.gov.au

Mr Jurgen Frank – Assistance Principal



School Cross Country Results

All of the students competed in fantastic spirits over the undulating terrain and it is my pleasure to announce our age group champions for 2006:

U13 Boys	Jason James
U13 Girls	Bronte Story
U14 Boys	Blake Coyle
U14 Girls	Isabella Paholek
U15 Boys	Marcus Ure
U15 Girls	Yvette LeCerf
U16 Boys	Cory Meloury
U16 Girls	Hannah Hockley
U17 Boys	Chris Tingay
U17 Girls	Elyse Bain
U21 Boys	Nic O'Connor
U21 Girls	Daniell Dorman

SPORTS NEWS

School Cross Country

The Australian Light Horse Memorial Park was again the venue for the annual school cross country, held last Thursday 27th April.

The course was extended from previous years to enable students to experience the distance now being run at District and Zone levels. This year saw approximately 120 students compete in the picturesque surroundings, travelling over the panoramic Anzac Hill and through the training grounds once occupied by the Mounted Rifle Regiments and the legendary Light Horse.

The Age Champions as pictured above, have all advanced through to the district level along with the next 7 qualifiers from their age group, to be held at Broadford next Wednesday 10th May.

A big thank you to those staff and students who came out and assisted with the running of the afternoon, as well as those parents who took the time to come out and watch their children compete.

VSSSA Swimming Results

As mentioned in the last newsletter we had 4 senior students travel to Melbourne on Thursday 27th April to compete in the State Swimming Championships. Our results were as follows:

Luke Fuhrmeister 50m Freestyle 8th (1 second separated 1st and 8th place), 100m Breaststroke 8th

U21 Boys Medley Relay 6th place (Luke Fuhrmeister, Scott Kanters, Kenneth Norton & Joshua Suffredini).

These boys have trained extremely hard in the lead up to these championships and should be commended on their fantastic results. A special mention must go to Roger Fuhrmeister who made sure the boys attended training and got them to Melbourne on the day.

Ms Tracy Rivett – Sport Coordinator

CAREER NEWS

Work Experience

This week, students from 10A and 10B have been involved in work experience placements that have included farm work, metal work, building, hospital and health care, retail and many more. The support of local businesses and community groups has been significant and many have taken a genuine interest in trying to provide our students with an accurate insight into their profession. Without the support of local businesses, it would be very difficult to provide our students with a positive work experience program. Seymour Technical High School is extremely grateful to the following businesses and organisations which have provided work experience for our students:

- Bailey Electrics
- Jackal Fencing
- Tiny TAFE
- Seymour District Memorial Hospital
- Mitchell Community Health Services
- Seymour Toyota
- North Central Review
- Pam-Purred Pets
- Department of Defence
- Shire of Strathbogie
- Tenex Toll
- Pertangus
- C & J Stephens (Builder)
- Mitchell Leisure Centre
- Contech Engineering
- Seymour Motor Cycles
- W Merritt & D Marshall Builders
- CD & JM Sherwood
- Cartridge World Seymour
- Puckapunyal Primary School
- Nagambie Primary School
- St Mary's Primary School, Thornbury
- Seymour Central Vets
- Whittlesea Childcare
- Grenadier Manufacturing
- Seymour Cycles
- Seymour Autostop
- Mitchell Shire Library
- Seymour Computers
- Seymour & District Diesel Repairs
- Seymour Veterinary Surgery
- Bernard Stevens (Bricklayer)
- Broadmeadows Magistrates Court

Various members of staff have also supported the work experience program by visiting students at their placements. Their level of effort and willingness to sometimes travel considerable distances in their own vehicles have been greatly appreciated.

TIS Careers Day

On Thursday 11th May, Seymour Technical High School will be hosting the TIS (Tertiary Information Service) presentation about tertiary studies for next year. The presentation will include displays from more than 10 different tertiary institutions. Students will be able to access brochures and information about tertiary studies and what is involved in the VTAC process. All of the Year 12 students from STHS will be involved in this presentation. Further information will be distributed to all of our Year 12 students.

Mr. Jeremy Linton – Careers Coordinator



Dr Andrew Hogan
And Associates

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YOUTH PATHWAYS

▶▶▶ A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE MAKE THE
TRANSITION THROUGH SCHOOL, FROM
SCHOOL
AND ON TO FURTHER EDUCATION,
TRAINING OR EMPLOYMENT

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