



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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SEYMOUR TECHNICAL HIGH



Junior School Team



Middle School Team



Senior School Team



Sophie Baker—Junior School

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 28 th November	Last day for Year 10
Friday 5 th December	Last day of classes for Year 9
Monday 8 th December	Report Writing Day—Pupil Free
Monday 8 th December	Book Swap—5:30 pm
Tuesday 9 th December	Year 6 Orientation Day—Pupil Free Booklists for 2009 due in
Tuesday 9 th December	VCAL interviews for 2009 students begin
Thursday 11 th December	Last day of classes for Years 7 & 8
Friday 12 th December to Wednesday 17 th December	End of Year Activities Program
Thursday 18 th December	Awards Day Ceremony & Report Issue

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**RACV Energy Breakthrough Thanks**

Once again a huge contingent of parents, students and staff attended the extraordinary RACV Energy Breakthrough. At least 20,000 people were in bleak Maryborough for the four days of the program.

We attended with three vehicles—the Junior vehicle was fully human powered and raced from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Saturday along with the Middle School vehicle, powered by petrol and human power and a Senior vehicle that is powered by solar batteries and human power. The last two vehicles raced for 24 hours throughout the night.

The students who compete go through a rigorous selection process and then a long period of training and preparation, including a presentation on energy conservation. Our students on the race track were great to watch as a team and very supportive and committed to the challenges of the competition.

The race started with threatening skies and three minutes into it the hail came down and conditions were cold and often wet most of the weekend. The kitchen staff had a constant stream of parents helping with the food and keeping the team in top condition. Thank you to all who helped.

I need to thank Mr Fuhrmeister who has worked for months at getting this weekend off the ground. We also thank Tim Marke who again built and modified the vehicles and worked in the pits supported by Mr Mills, who would not miss this event for the world. I need to thank so many staff who again went across. Thanks again to all parents, staff and students for another magical year at Maryborough.

2009 Planning

If parents haven't confirmed their intentions for next year it would be appreciated if we could receive any information to assist our enrolment process.

Year 10 and 11 Exams

The Year 11 and 10 students are sitting their exams and we congratulate them on their year. The Year 10 exams are a first this year and we need to get students to understand exam technique and efficient preparation for exams.

Awards Day and Report Collection

Parents are advised that the school's annual Awards Day ceremony will this year be held on Thursday 18th December, beginning at 10:30 am. Parents of students whose achievements will be recognized on that day will be contacted individually with an invitation to attend.

All students are to attend school on that day. At form meetings after the assembly, students will be issued with their final 2008 reports and the annual 'Spirit' magazine. Year 12 students will be issued with their VCAA VCE certificates. After that, town students are permitted to leave the school. An activity will be scheduled for bus travellers who may need to remain at school until 3:20 pm.

Tim McCartin - Principal

**LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR**

Carly Burgess and Cory Barnard, both Year 10 students, were Seymour Technical High School's representatives at the Seymour Lions Club and Seymour Goulburn Lions Club Youth of the Year Competition held on Monday, 24th November.

As part of this National Competition conducted by Lions Clubs, Carly and Cory were required to be interviewed by a panel, speak for two minutes on two questions without notice, and address an audience with a five minute prepared speech on a topic of their own choice.

Both students conducted themselves very well with Carly being the overall winner. Carly will be attending the Regional Competition to be held early next year. Congratulations and good luck, Carly.

Well done, Cory, for your public speaking award at this competition.

Margaret Tuckwell - Year 10 Coordinator

TEXTBOOK SWAP 2008

Please note that our annual textbook swap evening will this year be on **MONDAY 8th DECEMBER**, at 5:30 pm in the School Hall.

This has been changed from Thursday 11th December, so that parents can buy and sell used textbooks before 2009 booklists are due in at school.

On this evening, parents who wish to sell used texts are able to bring them in and negotiate with other parents; parents who wish to buy second-hand texts are able to come in and browse what's available.

With this newsletter, please note that there is a list of which texts can be exchanged. **ONLY** those texts listed will be in use during 2009.

Jurgen Frank - Assistant Principal

COMPLETING SCHOOL

Last week a study was published that suggests that students who complete a university degree on average earn \$1.5 million more over their life times than someone who doesn't. It reinforces the world-wide push to encourage students to finish school and go on to further education.



Aaron Townsend—Middle School



Hannah Hockley—Senior School

RACV REPORT

There were over 330 teams from over 130 schools competing on the weekend at the RACV Energy Breakthrough (see website for more details).

Each team was made up of 8 riders (4 female, 4 male) and 4 pit crew.

Junior team - KING (Year 7 and 8 students) competed in the Try-Athlon B/C event where they had to complete the following:

- 20 minute display and speech presentation detailing sponsorship, training, design and construction, environmental issues.
- Scrutineering- where the bike is fully checked before it can race.
- Design and Construction Assessment, where the students must answer questions about the safety and design of their vehicles.
- Time trial race which includes all 8 riders.
- Obstacle course race which is timed and uses all 8 riders for one lap each.
- 8 hour Endurance race around a 1.2 km track.

Middle School team - CHICK (Year 9 and 10 students) competed in the Hybrid B/C event and had to complete the following:

- Display and presentation (as above)
- Scrutineering (as above)
- Design and Construction Assessment (as above)
- 24 hour Endurance race around the 1.2 km track

Senior School team - LIGHTNING (Year 11 and 12 students) competed in the Hybrid B/C event also.

The race results are as follows:

Junior School

- Runner up in the track events.
- Third in the Display and Presentation
- Third Overall (they missed out by 0.01 of a point for the overall runner up position; very close when it is marked out of 100 points.)

Middle School

- Winner of Display and Presentation
 - Runner up in the Endurance race

- Runner up Overall

Senior School

- Runner up in Design and Construction
 - Third in the Endurance Race
 - Third Overall
- Tracie Baker & Roger Fuhrmeister
– RACV Energy Breakthrough Coordinators

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE 2009

Parents and guardians who hold a Health Care Card valid on 2nd February 2009 are eligible for an Education Maintenance Allowance. The first semester payment will be \$310.10. If the card is still valid at the commencement of Semester 2 a further \$132.90 will be paid. Half of these amounts are paid to the school and half to parent/guardian.

If a student turns 16 during 2009 a pro-rata payment will be made.

The School Council has decided to make bookstall credit available of up to \$221.50 on the cost of books at the time of collection on the Bookstall Days in January 2009. To use this credit booklists must be submitted by 9th December 2008, and arrangements made with the school on book collection days. These days are Thursday 22nd January from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm or Friday 23rd January from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Remember – Booklists must be submitted by 9th December 2008.

Keren Fletcher – Business Manager

UNIFORM CHANGE

As you are aware there will be a new uniform for all students commencing Year 7 in 2009.

A comprehensive list of the uniform requirements can be collected from the General Office or viewed at our supplier, C. & J. Kerris Menswear. Uniforms will be available in all sizes and will be phased into our school, with all students conforming by 2010.

Some items require pre-ordering (eg Navy blazer and sports navy track top with logo). All items will be available at C. & J. Kerris Menswear at Shops 1 & 2 The Mall, 76 Station Street, Seymour.

We look forward to having our students very smartly dressed in their new uniform attire.

CAREERS NEWS

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

The Apprenticeship Factory is currently seeking applications for Apprentices in Parks and Gardens (Horticulture) and Heavy Automotive. They are also seeking applications for Office Administration and Library Technician traineeships. For more information, visit The Apprenticeship Factory or phone (03) 57990338.

Attention 2008 Year 12 Graduates

While most of our Year 12s are busy celebrating the end of their secondary schooling, relatives and friends may be interested in mentioning to them that SPC Ardmona is offering a \$5000 pa scholarship for students who are commencing a Science Degree in 2009 (the degree must include specified major studies). Closing date for applications is 31st December 2008. For more information, go to www.spcardmona.com.au or phone (03) 58332298. Year 12 graduates also may need reminding that the VTAC Change of Preference period commences on Monday 1st December.

Become a Technical Officer with Airservices Australia

Did you complete Year 12 last year or this year? Are you looking for an opportunity to live and learn whilst being paid to study? Airservices Australia is offering a two year Diploma of Electrical Engineering (Electronics & Communications), with a guaranteed permanent job when you graduate. In conjunction with TAFE NSW Riverina Institute, Wagga Wagga Campus, this program is designed to prepare you for a career as a Technical Trainee which will involve maintaining, testing and fixing technological infrastructure. This includes air traffic control services, aviation telecommunication services, radar services and radio navigation services. *Applications opened on Monday 10th November 2008.* For further information and to apply please visit their website: <http://www.airservicesaustralia.com>



Jeremy Linton – Careers Coordinator



Elizabeth Fuhrmeister enjoys a break from digging up blocked septic pipes at Kinglake National Park



Tim Rudd-Schmidt mans the front desk at the Seymour Aquatic Centre



Fraser McQueen and Henry Brien at the controls of a Abrams Tank while on work experience with the ADF at Puckapunyal