**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER**
- Yr 10 Activity Day
- Yr 9 OHS Training + final day of official classes.

**MONDAY 4 DECEMBER**
- Last day to leave uniforms at General Office for Second-hand Uniform Sale
- National Schools Basketball Tournament
- VSC Intermediate Boys and Girls
- Yr 9 Work Experience commences

**TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER**
- Yr 11 Reports distributed
- Orientation Day (Yr 7 2007)
- National Schools Basketball Tournament
- VSC Intermediate Boys and Girls
- Yr 9 Work Experience commences

**WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER**
- Yr 8 Boys State Cricket Semi-finals
- National Schools Basketball Tournament
- VSC Intermediate Boys and Girls
- Yr 9 Work Experience commences

**THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER**
- Yr 10 Reports distributed
- National Schools Basketball Tournament
- VSC Intermediate Boys and Girls
- Yr 9 Work Experience commences

**FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER**
- Yr 8 Boys State Cricket Final
- Second-hand book sellers to check in books 8am – 11am Gym
- National Schools Basketball Tournament
- VSC Intermediate Boys and Girls
- Yr 9 Work Experience commences

**SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER**
- Second-hand Book & Uniform Sale Gym Foyer 10am – 1pm

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**DIARY DATES**

**December**
- 4 – 15 - Yr 9 Work Experience
- 8 - Second-hand book sellers to check in books 8:00 – 11:00am Gym
- 12 - Finance Ctte. Mtg.
- 14 - Student Services Mtg.
- 17 - Collection of cheques and unsold books from Second-hand Book Sale
- 20 - Yr 7, 8 & 9 Presentation Assemblies
- 21 - End of Term 4

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**YEAR 6 - 7 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

It was a tremendous pleasure to warmly welcome our Year 7 students for 2007 and their families to the college last Wednesday evening, November 29th.

The Information Evening was extremely well attended and reflected the enthusiasm and keen interest of parents in Vermont Secondary College. The program, hosted by our Year 7 Co-ordinators Mr Jon Shores and Ms Sarah May, featured a range of speakers on various aspects of our college academic, co-curricular and transition programs. This was also a great opportunity for new Year 7 students to meet their future classmates.

Parents who were unable to attend or who have further queries are invited to contact our Year 7 Co-ordinators for assistance.

Our Year 7 Orientation Day is on December 5th, 2006 and I am looking forward to meeting our Year 7 students as they experience our transition program.

**YEAR 8 BALLARAT - DISCOVERY EXHIBITION EVENING**

Families of Year 8 students and many parents attending the Year 7 Information evening visited the fabulous exhibitions presented by our Year 8 students last Wednesday evening. The theme was Ballarat Discovery – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

Students investigated key issues in relation to Ballarat and presented their discoveries with enthusiasm, energy, creativity and imagination at a special evening. I was tremendously impressed by their efforts and the thoughtfulness and skill they had demonstrated in their exhibitions. The quality of work was widely commented upon by visitors. Well done Year 8.

I would like to thank the many staff involved in the organisation and support of this year’s Year 8 Camps and the exhibition. In particular, Mrs Bate and Mr Trippett, Mrs Douglas and Mrs Gindidis, Mr Ruff and teachers who attended the camps.

**RACV ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH**

Congratulations to our Human Powered Vehicle team which competed in the 24 hour endurance trial at Maryborough last weekend. Our team performed magnificently in this exhausting test of stamina, fitness, teamwork, courage, tactics and engineering. This year our HPV Team had two entries - ‘Mesmeriser’ and ‘Green Machine’.

I would like to commend our students for all their hard work in preparing the vehicles and ourselves for this incredibly challenging competition. Many months of training, practising and organising have gone into preparing for the competition.

The skilful and experienced leadership and coaching of Mr Darren Trippett, (HPV Co-ordinator) the wonderful guidance and support of Mrs Maree Presser combined with the dedication, energy and enthusiasm of our parent support team were enormous factors in our success.

We had a terrific team of parents who came up to Maryborough, set up camp, prepared meals, motivated and encouraged students. Thank you to all our parents for their efforts.

‘Mesmeriser’ team members were: Rhys Davey, Maddy Blyth, Rob Gyarmathy, Michael Paino, Brendan Travers, Jorja Hemmings, Talhia Gibson and Rachel Osborn

‘Green Machine’ team members were: Adam Powell, Jessica Touhy, Danielle Russell, Erika Sirel, Maddie Meates, Ivy Ye

Pit Crew members were: Cameron Ansell, Matt Le, James Papadopolous

Parents involved were: John Selton (Team manager), John Papadopolous, Brian Tuohy, Peter Davey, Liz Osborne, Jenny Paino

Staff members involved were: Darren Trippett, Maree Presser

Finally, a big thank you to our sponsors without which the HPV project would not have been possible.

Sponsors were: Simplicity Imports, Candlebark Farm, Optimo Imaging, Document and Data Storage Management, Q4 Interiors, Cycle Science – Mitcham, Brennan & Hemmings Constructions

Well done to the HPV team on another very successful year.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND FAREWELL**

Mrs Christine Powell, our Canteen Manager since 1989, has decided to call it a day after 17 years of outstanding service to the College.

Mrs Powell has been a friendly, hard working, conscientious and efficient manageress who has provided a high quality service to students and staff. The VSC canteen has been consistently awarded a 5 star rating for food handling, preparation and service quality by the City Of Whitehorse – a great credit to Mrs Powell and her team.

On behalf of our college community we wish Chris well in her retirement and thank her for her excellent contribution to our college. Thank you and farewell Chris.

Rod Williamson - Principal
Last weekend, Vermont Secondary College’s HPV Team competed in the “Maryborough-RACV Energy Breakthrough”. This event represents the culmination of a great deal of preparation, both technical and physical, which began this time last year. Following extensive planning and designing during 2006, the HPV Team assisted in the building of two human powered vehicles, three wheeled recumbent cycles, capable of racing over a 24hr duration event. There are two main events during the calendar year, with the “Wonthaggi Human Powered Grand Prix” being the earliest in Feb/March each year, and the “RACV Energy Breakthrough” in November the final and largest event for the year. This year’s event had 84 teams participating including many school teams of different combinations and categories, from Year 7’s through to full Year 11/12 male teams. This year for the first time Vermont entered two teams, “Mesmeriser” and “Green Machine”, both ridden and crewed by mostly new team members.

RIDERS:
(Mesmeriser)  RHYS DAVEY, MADI BLYTH, ROB GYARMATHY, MICHAEL PAINO, BRENDAN TRAVERS, JORJA HEMMINGS, TAHLIA GIBSON, RACHEL OSBORN,
(Green Machine) ADAM POWELL, JESSICA TUOHY, DANIELLE RUSSELL, ERIKA SIREL, MADIE MEATES, IVY YE

PIT CREW:  CAMERON ANSELL, MATT LEO, JAMES PAPADOPOULOS

The event is the largest educational competition in Australia, and comprises several thousand team members, pit crew and supporters. Assessment for the competition involves each vehicle being scrutinised to see it complies with technical specifications, following this the team undergoes a design and construction assessment, explaining these developments to a race official. Next is a presentation to a panel of judges, outlining such facets as planning, design, construction, training, sponsorship etc. The final assessment is completing the 24hr race itself! Each of the three criteria are independently marked and this contributes to the final assessment for the event.

All day Friday was spent going through the first two assessment stages, with both teams still making last minute adjustments until Friday afternoon, when we finally got the ‘all clear’. Friday night was the ‘night practice’ session, again test running the vehicles prior to Saturday’s event. Each vehicle is fitted with an electronic transponder to give instantaneous lap timing, and each team’s best practice lap is recorded to assign starting grid positions.

Finally the grid assembled for the rolling start, and then racing started frenetically at 1:30pm, with vehicles dodging and weaving around the 1.4 km circuit. Soon the race settled into a rhythm, with vehicles circulating rapidly around the course, and teams racing into the Pits for quick changeovers of drivers and mechanical repairs.
As the race progressed the competition was fierce, with team positions alternating minute by minute. To complete the 24hrs each of the riders had to complete six-eight 30 minute riding stints, one every 3-4hrs, with 2-3 hrs to recover, rest, eat and sleep, as indicated on their riding schedule, all through the night. Our mostly novice teams worked magnificently, making it through the 24hrs despite three roll-overs, two gearing rebuilds, two re-wirings, four battery changes and other obstacles. Over the duration of the event, the Vermont teams completed over 100 pit changeovers and rode a total of over 1000 kms, with the Mesmeriser team finishing 27th in it’s class with 364 laps of the 1.4km circuit, and the Green Machine finishing 38th in it’s class with 286 laps. An excellent effort from all involved!!

Congratulations should go to all team members, both riders and pit crew, on a fantastic performance in a very high standard competition. Special thank you’s to the parents who were able to assist with everything from transport to meals and campsite setup: John Selton (Team Manager), Liz Osborn & Jenny Paino (Catering/mums), John Papadopolous(Pit Manager 12 – 2:00am!), Brian Tuohy (Campsite &Pit Manager 2 - 4:00am!), Peter Davey (Pit Manager 4-6:00am!) and Mrs Presser (Campsite Supervisor), as well as the many others who were able to support us or donate equipment to assist us over the weekend, thank you all very much.

The team would also like to gratefully acknowledge the sponsorship support of the following organisations for this event: Simplicity Imports, Candlebark Farm, Optimo Imaging, Document & Data Storage Management, Q4 Interiors, Cycle Science-Mitcham & Brennan and Hemmings Constructions.

*I would also like to take this opportunity to specially thank John Selton for his ongoing support and assistance with the HPV Team since it’s inception in 2004. John is an experienced camp leader, and has supplied much of the camping equipment and also set it up for all of our events. He has continued to do this during this year, even though his daughter is no longer directly involved with the team. I believe he will now be ‘retiring himself’ from HPV duty for a well deserved break, and he leaves very large shoes to fill in the future. Thanks again John from all current and past members of the HPV crew!

We are now looking for sponsorship to assist us to continue with this project during next year, and further develop our team and vehicles.

If there are any parents out there who believe that they may have business contacts or expertise to assist us, please contact me at school on 9873-1077.

Darren Trippett  
HPV Team Leader
Enrolments for 2007 Instrumental and Vocal Music Lessons are now open! Students from any year level can begin lessons on a musical instrument or in singing. Students who are currently taking music lessons may collect their personalised enrolment forms from the Music Office. New students may take one of the blank forms available from the table just inside the Rehearsal Room entrance or you may use the form published below.

Students participating in the Instrumental and Vocal program are asked to pay a combined Registration Fee and Music Support Group Levy of $135.00 per year. All students taking music lessons at the college are expected to sing or play in one of the college ensembles. These include the Junior Band (for beginning woodwind and brass students), Concert Band, Stage Band, String Orchestra, Flute Ensemble, Choir, Percussion Ensemble, and the Rock/Pop Workshop.

A variety of orchestral instruments may be hired from the college. The hire fee for most of these instruments is $35 per Term, or $120.00 per year if the entire hire fee is paid at the beginning of the year.

Enrolment forms should be returned by Friday 8/12/06, but please do not send any money at this time.

If you have any questions please see me (Mr. Wise) in the Music Centre, or ring me at school on 9873-1077.

MUSIC BANQUET
Our annual Music Banquet was held at the Emperor Court Chinese Restaurant on Sunday 19/11/06, and what an exciting event it was! Over a hundred music students, family members and teachers enjoyed an evening of good food, spiced with a counterpoint of musical entertainment and fun. Thank you to all involved, and particularly to Ms Barkla, Ms Cettolin, Ms Clark, Mrs Ingram, Mr Montana, Mr Shannon, Mr and Mrs Trigg, to the hard working team of roadies, and to the members of the Music Support Group who helped organise and produce the event.

SOFTWARE EXCHANGE PERFORMANCE:
The Summer Band played for the Opening Ceremony of the School Sport Australia Softball Exchange, held at the Waverley Softball Centre in Jells Park on Monday morning 20/11/06. Members of the Summer Band awoke at an early hour and braved the uncertain weather to provide ceremonial music for the start of the interstate softball tournament. The band played well, earning compliments from the organisers, School Sport Australia officials, and from Mr Mann, Assistant Regional Director, Eastern Metropolitan Region (Department of Education and Training). Congratulations and thanks to all involved, and particularly to Ms Archer (DE&T) for inviting us to participate in this event and to Mrs Ingram and Mr Tricker for their assistance with supervision and transport.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER, 2006
The Music Support Group is looking for volunteers to help sell cake, tea and coffee at the Second-hand Book and Uniform Sale on Saturday 9/12/06. We need people to work one-hour shifts from 9 am to 2 pm. Proceeds will go to the Music Support Group. Please contact Music Centre on 9873 1077 to leave your name and contact details. Many thanks.

John Wise - Director of Music
YEAR 7 BOYS HOCKEY
2nd IN STATE FINAL

On Friday 17th of November 16 enthusiastic boys went to the State Netball and Hockey Center for the Year 7 State Hockey Finals. Unsure of what to expect the boys relished playing in such a sensational stadium. They won their first game against Belmont 4-0; their second against Lowanna 2-0 and tied the third game against Diamond Valley 1-1 (this was our first goal scored against us, including district and zone) and we were into the state final - a fantastic effort by the boys considering only 1 actually plays regular competition.

We played against Cheltenham who had a very strong and skillful team. The boys played exceptionally well and at half time it was 0-0. The boys were tired and hot but they pushed hard in the second half, having several chances at goal but just failing to score. About 10 minutes in Cheltenham scored and to Vermont’s credit they continued to fight hard but another couple of minutes later Cheltenham scored again. Vermont scored in the final moments of the game to bring the final score to 2-1.

All the boys should be extremely proud of their efforts and how far they have come. They worked extremely hard as a group and thoroughly deserved to make the state final. A huge thank you to the parents that came all the way into the city to support the boys, I know the boys greatly appreciated your enthusiasm and I know that I definitely did!

Congratulations boys!

Mr. Bonney
Year 7 Hockey Coach

LIBRARY OVERDUE BOOKS

Access to library resources is very important to the entire school community. When loans are not returned by due dates, the Library staff notify the students through internal avenues. When loans are more than 6 weeks overdue, letters are sent home to parents.

There are still many overdue loans. We seek parents’ co-operation in getting loans returned. If students believe they have returned the loans or have lost the items, they must see the Library staff immediately, as lost books need to be paid for.

Please note that the end-of-year reports will not be distributed to those students who have overdue loans.

WHITEHORSE FARMERS’ MARKET

The combined Rotary Clubs of Nunawading are launching a regular Whitehorse Farmers’ Market that will provide farmers with an opportunity to sell their produce direct to local residents. The market will allow shoppers to buy quality fresh produce at keen prices direct from farmers. Produce available will include organic vegetables, cherries, eggs, cheese, fish, meat, wine and much more.

Whitehorse Farmers’ will be held on the second Sunday of every month from 8am to 1pm. The market will be held at the Whitehorse Civic Centre in Whitehorse Road, behind the Nunawading Police Station or opposite the Harvey Norman Store. For further information, contact 9539 2443 or PO Box 150 Box Hill BC 3128

SECOND-HAND BOOK & UNIFORM SALE
Saturday 9th December, 2006

Monday 4 December Last day to leave uniforms at the General office.
Friday 8 December Second-hand book sellers to check in books 8am - 11am Gym
Saturday 9 December Second-hand Book & Uniform Sale – Gym Foyer 10am - 1pm
Thursday 14 December Collection of cheques and unsold books from Second-hand Book sale. Theatre Foyer.
Morning 9am - 12 noon
Evening 7:30 - 8:30pm
Presents
Super Cricket Camps
06/07
Ages: 5 to 16
Fun, Safe environment
Coaching since 1990!
Video Analysis

Great Ratios
December 20, 21, 22 at:
Xavier College 9am – 3:30pm
January 17, 18, 19 at:
Yarra Valley 9am – 3:30pm

For a Free brochure
FREECALL 1800 35 14 15
or visit
www.cricketcoaching.com.au
for more information

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END OF YEAR ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

Thursday 14th December - 19th December

A reminder to parents to complete and return the reply slip below

Please note that the school continues its formal academic program up to Wednesday, December 13th.

Students in Years 7 to 9 will participate in Presentation Assemblies and collect reports on Wednesday, December 20th. All students are required to be in full school uniform.

Presentation Assemblies will be held in the Theatre for:
- Year 9 in Periods 1 + 2
- Year 8 “ 3 + 4
- Year 7 “ 5 + 6

Parents are welcome to attend the Presentation Assemblies but as space is limited, please contact the relevant Level Co-ordinator so that you can be accommodated.

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VERMONT SECONDARY COLLEGE

Student’s name: ………………………………………………………….. Form: ...............

My son/daughter will be ☐ will not be ☐ attending the school for the Alternative Program on December 14th to 19th.

Parent’s signature: ………………………………………………………..

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD RETURN THIS FORM TO THE GENERAL OFFICE BY FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER.

NOTE: ALL STUDENTS MUST RETURN THIS REPLY SLIP OR IT WILL BE ASSUMED THEY ARE ATTENDING THE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

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CANTEEN ROSTER

MONDAY 4 DEC – FRIDAY 8 DEC

- Monday 4 - Bernadette Reeves, Jan Forster, Pia Pagotto
- Tuesday 5 - Eileen Moran, Alex O’Reilly
- Wednesday 6 - Robyn Hunt, Lisa Pugh, Frances Keen
- Thursday 7 - Leonie Campbell, Debbie Williamson
- Friday 8 - Lyn Naismith, Jo Whyte, Karyn Dobson

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LIONS CLUB
DEBUTANTE BALL

The Lions Club of Vermont has for over sixteen years conducted an Annual Prestige Debutante Ball during years when numbers and interest is sufficient. The Club extends an invitation to all young ladies who wish to make their Debut at our next Debutante Ball. It is proposed that the Ball will be held on Saturday 5th May, 2007, at the Karralyka Centre, Ringwood.

For further information, please contact Mr Mike Milto, phone 9762 0841.

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VSC AUXILIARY
CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Café Lindos
305 Maroondah Hwy
Ringwood
(opp Ringwood Lake)
12 noon

Please RSVP Claire by
11th December on 9801 6232