## DATE | EVENT
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Friday 17th February | Year 12 Instrumental Analysis excursion to Monash Churchill
Monday 20th—Tuesday 21st February | Year 12 Outdoor Ed Surf Camp @ Wilson’s Prom
Tuesday 21st February | Year 11 Students attend the Summit @ Delhuntie Park
 | Deposit for Mt Hotham Ski Camp deadline
Wednesday 23rd February | Year 11 Theatre Studies excursion to ‘Let the Sunshine’ @ West Gippsland Art Centre
Thursday 23rd February | Kurnai College Swim Sports @ Moe Swimming Pool—all students to attend
Thursday 1st March—Friday 2nd March | Year 11 Surf Camp @ Phillip Island

“Whether you think you can or think you can’t, you’re right.” — Henry Ford

### PERMISSION FORMS REMINDER
All students are reminded to return their permission forms for the College Swimming Sports which are on next Thursday 23rd February.

Year 11 students are reminded to also return their permission forms for ‘The Summit’ which is on Tuesday 21st February.

### SIGNING OUT
Students are reminded to use the sign out book at the general office when leaving the campus for any period of time during the school day. This is important when a student needs to be located.

### STUDENT SERVICES
Any students with questions about any aspect of operations at the GEP are encouraged to visit the Student Services office. The Student Services office houses the Advocates, the Student Managers, VCE, VCAL, VET Managers, Student Attendance, as well as the sick bay. Advocates can be accessed via the glass doors opposite the Food Technology department and all other services can be accessed from the Courtyard through the green side door.

### PATHWAYS AND CAREERS
Studying at the senior end of secondary school requires a high level of effort and commitment on behalf of students. This can be even more of a challenge when there is not a clear direction or pathway beyond school. Students tend to be more focused and improve their efforts when they are working toward a goal and purpose. By visiting the Pathways and Careers office students will be able to access resources and assistance from the staff to identify opportunities that await them in the future and develop a pathway to achieve success. Students are welcome to drop in anytime to ask questions or research career options, or to make an appointment for career counseling.
YEAR 11 VISIT THE SUMMIT
The Advocates are in the process of finalising plans for all students in Year 11 to visit ‘The Summit’ on the 21st February. This day is significant in that it will provide strategies for taking on challenges in a successful way, and then allow the students to put the strategies into practice in activities that are a mix of fun, fear and adventure. The day is a key part of developing the supportive relationships between students as well as with staff that is critical to achieving success together throughout the year. The day will be heavily subsidised and will only cost students $10 which includes transport, all activities and a BBQ lunch. Payment can be made before the day or alternatively it will be added to the invoice sent by the College for materials charges and can be paid at a later date.

NEWSLETTERS
In a few weeks we will begin distributing the Campus Newsletter electronically and in preparation we ask all families to ensure they have supplied the school with a current email address. We have many addresses from the enrolment forms however it is not a complete list at this stage. There will still be some hardcopies of the newsletter available from the General Office for students to collect if emailing is not convenient.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE
Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. These costs may be recoverable where an injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of the Department, a school council or their employees or volunteers.

Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

2011 SEMESTER 2 YEAR 10 & YEAR 11 REPORTS
If your student has not received their Semester 2 Report from 2011, please ask your student to come to the General Office to collect it. We have reports from Morwell and Churchill Junior Campus as well the GEP.

LOST PROPERTY
All lost property is stored in the Student Services. There is an extensive range of lost property there at the moment. Please see Lisa in Student Services for all lost property.

DRIVING CONCERNS
The Campus has been notified that there have been concerns reported about the behaviour of drivers dropping off and collecting students. As we have a number of learner drivers at the campus we are concerned at the poor example these practices are providing and of the safety issues they raise for pedestrians and other vehicles in the area.

The concerns raised include;
- Drivers parking in the bay at the front steps but facing in the wrong direction, which means they enter and leave by crossing over the double lines and the oncoming lane
- Drivers doing U-turns across the double lines
- Drivers parking on the road, which is not permitted due to the double lines and obstruction to other traffic

Another timely reminder is that the front of the campus is also a school speed zone and 40km is the speed limit between 8 – 9.30am and 2.30–4pm on school days.
School Council Elections

School Council notice of Election and call for Nominations will begin on Monday 20th February. 4 Parent member positions (3 positions of 2 years and 1 position of 1 year), and 2 DEECD employee member positions will be vacant. Nomination forms can be obtained from the office of each campus and must be lodged back at the school by 4.00pm on Monday 27th February. If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school. Further reading and timeline dates are available within this newsletter.

Information for Parents

School Council Elections 2012

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:
• A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
• A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
• An optional Community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider
• standing for election as a member of the school council
• encouraging another person to stand for election.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember
• Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
• Consider standing for election to council this year
• Be sure to vote in the elections.
Contact the principal for further information

**Do I need special experience to be on school council?**
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

**What do you need to do to stand for election?**
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

### 2012 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE

| a) Notice of election and call for nominations | Monday, 20th February 2012 |
| b) Closing date for nominations | Monday, 27th February 2012 |
| c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted | Wednesday, 29th February 2012 |
| d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed | On or before Monday, 5th March 2012 |
| e) Close of ballot | Tuesday, 13 March 2012 |
| f) Vote count | Thursday, 15th March 2012 |
| g) Declaration of poll | Thursday, 15th March 2012 |
| h) Special council meeting to coopt Community members (the principal will preside) | Tuesday, 20th March 2012 |
| i) First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside) | Tuesday, 20th March 2012 |
SUPPLYING ALCOHOL TO TEENAGERS COULD NOW COST YOU A $7,000 FINE

It is illegal to supply alcohol to anyone under 18 in your home, unless you have their parents' permission. Anyone breaking the law could be fined more than $7,000.

Visit the website for:
- Get more information about the law, how to comply with it, and how it will be enforced.
- Find out how many young people drink, why and how much.
- Learn more about how to talk to your children about underage drinking.
- See what influence you have on what, when and how much your child drinks.
- Get more information and support.


Jeeralang North Hall Committee
FUNDRAISER

community
Garage Sale

Saturday 3rd March 2012
8.00am - 3.00pm
Jeeralang North Hall
Jeeralang Nth Rd Hazelwood Nth
11km from Hazelwood Rd - follow signs

- Car Boot $10
- Outside Space $15
- Inside Hall $20
- Marquee (9m²) $15*
  (18m²) $30*

Sausage Sizzle
Tea, Coffee & Soft Drinks
Children’s Playground

BOOKINGS, ENQUIRIES OR DONATION OF GOODS
Robyn 51661306
Judy 51661682

*Limited space, book early