

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PARENT / TEACHER / STUDENT CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will be held on **Thursday 17 September**. There will be two sessions held;

- **Session 1** 3.15pm-5pm
- **Session 2** 6.15pm-8.00pm

Notices were distributed to students last Friday, September 4. Students in Years 7-10 will need to make a booking with their Learning Goals teacher. A list of these teachers was provided with the handout. **Please note:** Year 11 and 12 students do not have a Learning Goals teacher.

Please send your appointment sheet back to school via your CHILDREN. Students will then approach their class teacher and organize a meeting time. (Teachers will set aside some time for the making of appointments in class).

If you cannot attend on September 17, but you wish to meet with a particular class teacher, please inform that teacher in writing.

Please note; the office staff do not have access to teacher appointment sheets. Appointments must be made with the individual teacher before September 17. You **will not** be able to make appointments with teachers on the day.

2010 – 2012 NOTEBOOK PROGRAM

A reminder, there are two options for parents of students wishing to be involved in the 2010-2012 Notebook Program;

| | | |
|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| Option A | Apple Macbook | \$470 per year |
| Option B | ACER Aspire One | \$240 per year |

Parents/Guardians wishing to participate in the Notebook Program must complete the payment sheet sent home or download a copy from the school website and forward it together with payment to the office by **Friday 18th September 2009**.

For more information regarding this Program, please go to the school website and click on the link for 2010 – 2012 Student Notebook Program.

END OF TERM 3 FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2.30PM FINISH

Bus Departures

Martyrs, McKenzies and Invicta Buses will commence departure from the school from **2.30pm** onwards, with the **exception of public buses**, which will follow their normal timetable.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

The Uniform Shop located in Room 53 is open during the following times;

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Tuesdays | 12.30pm to 5.00pm |
| Saturdays | 9.00am to 11.30am |

Commencing Term 4, there will be a price increase for school uniform items. An updated price list will be available on the school website in Term 4.

For enquires please ring the Blackburn store (Campus Choice) on 9877 8388 or 9877 9188.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 3

Friday 11 September

Model Train Exhibition in Hall
 Drum and Percussion Master Class
 Excel Darkzone Excursion 11.40 - 3.50pm
 Year 10 Formal
 Year 9 English Excursion

Monday 14 September

VCE Drama Monologue Rehearsal 3pm - 4.30pm
 Year 7 Zoo Excursion 7.41, 7.46, 7.50, 7.55, 7.57

Tuesday 15 September

English Excursion Vampire Academy

Wednesday 16 September

Year 7 Zoo Excursion 7.48, 7.49, 7.51, 7.53

Thursday 17 September

Three Way Conferences
 Duke of Ed Yarra River sledding
 Year 7/10 Immunisations
 Year 9/10 Table tennis

Friday 18 September

End of Term 3

TERM 4

Monday 5 October

Start of Term 4

Drama Solo Performances Lunchtime in P1
 Duke of Ed Wabonga Plateau/King River
 VCE Drama Monologue Rehearsal 3pm - 4.30 pm

Tuesday 6 October

Drama Solo Performances Lunchtime in P1
 Duke of Ed Wabonga Plateau/King River
 Music Performance, Eastland 9am - 12 pm
 Year 12 English Practice Exam Periods 1-4
 Year 7 History IMAX Excursion

Wednesday 7 October

Drama Solo Performances Lunchtime in P1
 Duke of Ed Wabonga Plateau/King River
 Year 7 English Specky Magee Excursion

Thursday 8 October

October Arts Festival
 Drama Solo Performances Lunchtime in P1
 Duke of Ed Wabonga Plateau/King River
 SEALP Year 7 & 8 IMAX/Aquarium
 VCE Drama Solo Rehearsal 3pm-5pm

CURRICULUM NEWS

Three Way Conferences - Thursday 17 September

- For parents/guardians of Year 7-10 students

The Three Way Conference is a student led initiative. It will be the students' role to guide both parents/guardians and the Learning Goals Teacher through their learning goals, strategies by which those goals were strived towards and indeed the evidence which demonstrates the exciting progress made towards those goals. Hope to see you there!

Pisa Data

Recently a random sample of Year 9 and 10 students participated in the international PISA testing. Australia is one of 60 participating countries and Lilydale High School is one of 200 participating Australian schools. This data will contribute towards ranking Australian literacy and numeracy levels internationally. Each participant will receive their own results later in the year.

Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program

Congratulations are extended to Rachele Pernet who is in the Level 3 SEALP class. Rachele won the Victorian comic writing short story competition organised by the Victorian Association for Gifted and Talented Children (VAGTC). Her award winning entry has been published in the September edition of 'Horizons,' VAGTC's monthly magazine.

Joe Caruana, Head of Curriculum and the SEALP

ENGLISH

Year 12 students

The Year 12 year is almost over, hence these vitally important reminders:

This year's practice English exam will take place at 9am on Friday 25th September, the middle week of the term break and will replicate the actual exam in all aspects; indeed, it will be conducted under VCAA examination conditions. These exams will be marked and valuable feedback supplied by a VCAA examination assessor and students are reminded that the fee of \$10 to cover these costs is now due. Money should be placed in an envelope with the student's name, marked 'practice exam' and handed to the general office by next Monday 14th September. All students are expected to take advantage of this invaluable opportunity.

VATE (Victorian Association for the Teachers of English) review sessions will again be offered on the 10th October for English and 11th October for English Literature. Past students have found these sessions most helpful with their review of the year's work; we would encourage all students to attend these most worthwhile lectures. Return completed forms and payment by Monday 14th September to secure a place.

Ross Huggard, Assistant Chief Examiner, was here on Tuesday 8th September to give students timely tips for the English exam. This was an invaluable opportunity for students to gain important tips and study suggestions for the upcoming exam...and they all enjoyed the afternoon tea.

Students are reminded that after school classes will continue in earnest as the year concludes. Keep an eye on the bulletin and an ear to the ground to ensure you don't miss out.

We encourage all students to take advantage of all that is offered to make certain they achieve their very best in English.

Junior School

To celebrate Literacy and Numeracy week the English and Maths departments joined forces to take part in a fun day of 'Scrabblemania.' There were prizes for all as they competed using their arithmetical skills to add up the scores of their impressively erudite vocabulary. Fun was certainly had by all.

Attention Footy Fans

The English department is thrilled to offer Year 7 students the opportunity to join Garry Lyon and Felice Arena for the launch of their new book 'Specky Magee and the Battle of the Young Guns.'

When Wednesday 7th October, 2009

Where The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Cost \$10

Don't miss out. Book now, places are strictly limited.

All Year Levels

Would you like to join the Vampire Academy?

Calling all Vampire fans: the 'Vampire Academy Expose' is coming. Join Richelle Mead author of the thrilling series set in a world of privilege, intrigue...and vampires as she regales readers with her fascinating tales of the vampire world.

When Tuesday 15th September, 2009

Where Federation Square, Melbourne

See Ms Sayers in Staffroom 1 or Ms Schneider in the Library for further details. The excursion form can also be downloaded from the LHS website. Places are limited – book now to avoid disappointment.

Janine Sayers, Head of English

MATHS

Year 7 students

Scrabblemania

All Year 7 students were given the opportunity to celebrated Numeracy and Literacy Week last week by participating in a collaborative "Scrabblemania Day". Great fun was had by both staff and students alike. Many thanks to everyone involved for their assistance.

Melbourne Zoo Excursions

Year 7 classes are in the midst of attending an excursion to Melbourne Zoo. The first group of classes went on Friday 4th September and had a wonderful day completing a 'Maths Trail' activity during their time at the Zoo as well as having a 'close encounter' with several of the Zoo's reptile inhabitants. Students were given the opportunity to hold lizards and several of the 'tamer' snakes. The final two groups will attend on Monday 14th September and Wednesday 16th September. We are looking forward to these trips.

Year 12

Lunch time exam revision classes for 'Further Maths' students are progressing well. The last one for this Term will be Monday 14th September in Room V3. Please encourage your student to attend this valuable class.

The final exams are quickly approaching. Students will need to use the upcoming holidays for revision. Students will receive printed copies of revision exams in the last week of term to complete over the holidays to further assist them with their exam preparation and revision.

Calculators 2010

All Year 7 to 9 students are required to have a scientific calculator for use in class. We recommend the TI-XB 30 MultiView and this is available from the General Office for \$20.00.

For parents of students in Years 10 to 12, in preparation for the changes to the VCE Study Design for 2011, all students will require a TI-Nspire CAS calculator. These will sell for \$195 from the General Office and orders will be taken at the beginning of next term.

Amanda Legg, Head of Mathematics

ARTS

Drama

VCE Theatre and Drama students are well in the throes of rehearsing for their Monologue and Solo performances. Thank you to Ms Louis who has scheduled many rehearsal sessions for our students. We look forward to their final performances in Term 4.

Media

Rob Webb has organized an excursion for Unit 2 Media students to ABC studios at Southbank and a radio workshop at SYN FM on Thursday October 22nd. Places are limited to 15 students so please see Mr Webb or Mrs Hemmings as soon as possible.

A reminder to VCE media students about the opportunity to attend a comprehensive Media exam revision seminar taken by experienced examination assessors. The three hour lecture will cover Narrative, Social Values, Media Influence and general examination advice. The exams are running in the September school holidays. Please visit the ATOM website to book, or see Mr Crowley for more details.

Music

Mr Pointon has arranged for a Drum and Percussion master class on Friday September 11th. An exciting workshop opportunity for our budding musicians.

Photography

Last week Year 10 Art students enjoyed an excursion to the National Gallery to view the *Liquid Desire* exhibition. The exhibition looks at the life and works of the famous Surrealist artist Salvador Dali. Thank you to Mr Carlyle for organising this very worthwhile excursion for our students.

Looking ahead to Term 4

The Arts department has some very exciting events for you to mark in your planners;

Thursday October 8th marks the official opening of the October Arts Prize. Entries are now open for artwork from any subject area: Arts, Ceramics, Photography, Media, Graphics, Textiles etc. Please see your Art teacher to submit your work.

Wednesday October 14th is the annual Variety Night combined with the Instrumental Evening. Students have been auditioning and rehearsing for this extravaganza evening. More details to follow in Term 4.

Thursday October 22nd will be an evening of VCE Music Performances with work showcased from Media, Photography and VCE Art. There will also be highlights from the Portsea Arts Camp held earlier this year.

On behalf of the Arts department I would like to wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable holiday break.

Jane Hemmings, Head of Arts

HUMANITIES

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and students of the following excursions and the due date for payments.

IMAX and Museum

The Year 7 IMAX and Museum excursion will be held on **Tuesday October 6th**. Students will have the opportunity to view the “**Mysteries of Egypt**” and “**Greece: Secrets of the Past**” at the IMAX theatre and then explore the Museum as part of their study of Ancient History this semester. At the museum students will visit the “**Day in Pompeii**” exhibition, the “**Dinosaur Walk**” as well as the rest of the exhibitions which are available. This is a great opportunity for our students to take part in this plethora of activities. The students will be transported by bus to and from the city. The cost of the excursion is \$30.00 which will need to be paid by **Friday 28th August**.

The Year 7 and 8 ALP IMAX and Aquarium excursion will be held on **Monday October 12th**. Students will have the opportunity to view “**Shackleton’s Antarctic Adventure**” at the IMAX theatre and then explore the **Melbourne Aquarium** as part of their studies this semester. At the **Melbourne Aquarium** students will be given a guided tour of the “**penguins**” as well as the rest of the exhibitions which are available. Students will be transported by bus to and from the city. The cost of the excursion is \$27.00 which will need to be paid by **Friday 2nd October**.

For this excursion students are required to take their lunch, snacks and a drink as they will not be able to purchase food. Students will also be required to be in full school uniform.

Mr Blaxland’s Year 10 VCE legal studies class are visiting VCAT, County, Supreme and Magistrates courts to oversee civil cases on Tuesday 13th October. Students will be catching the train and will need \$5.60 for their train tickets.

VCE Business Management Market Day

The VCE Business Management Market Day, which was held on Wednesday 27th August, provided the students of our school with the opportunity to buy a whole range of delicious products. A lot of fun was had by the Business Management students and all the consumers of the school. I am very pleased to say that the day was a great success! I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the VCE Business Management teachers for all the hard work they put in to help make the day such a great learning opportunity for their students.

Year 8 Geography students

The Year 8 Geography students visited the IMAX Theatre and the Aquarium on Tuesday 8th September. Despite the poor weather, a great day was had by all involved. Students discovered a lot about Antarctica which of course enhances their learning. Again I would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers who took their classes on this valuable excursion.

Henri Mouratidis, Head of Humanities

LOTE

History / French Student Exchange

A joint History/French VCE student exchange is planned for 2010. French students will be coming to school in February and will need host families for three weeks.

In return, students hosting, who are studying French or History in VCE, will have the opportunity to visit France in the September/October school holidays 2010.

If you are interested in hosting, and/or travelling to France, and you were not at the meeting on last Tuesday evening, please see Mrs Hastie as soon as possible for more information.

Year 12 students in 2010, who studied French or History up to Year 10, may also be eligible, but preference will be given to those studying History or French in Year 11 and 12 in 2010.

LOTE French

The Study Day for VCE students in Year 12 is September 29th, from 9am to 2.30pm in Room 27. Students will be doing a practice exam and studying for their orals.

Frances Hastie, Head of LOTE

YARRA GROUP ATHLETICS

On Wednesday 9th September, around 65 students from Year 7 through to Year 12 went along to Knox Athletics track to compete in the Yarra Group Athletics Carnival.

On an overcast and rainy day, the students were able to produce a number of great performances to easily win the overall competition aggregate. We had a number of students place 1st on the day in their events, which would see them progress on to the Eastern Zone carnival which will be held the first Friday of Term 4.

We also had a number of age group champions which was a fantastic result.

| | | | |
|----------|----------------|----------|------------------|
| 13 Boys | Lucas Taylor | 13 Girls | Stephanie Butler |
| 14 Boys | Zac Patterson | 16 Boys | Joshua Patterson |
| 16 Girls | Georgia Brock | 17 Boys | Mark Bennett |
| 20 Girls | Kendal Doughty | | |

Alister Stuart, Sports Coordinator

IMPORTANT PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

CONTACTING LILYDALE HIGH SCHOOL

You will find when contacting Lilydale High School by telephone that until 12.00pm each day you have **three options** from which to choose.

We have administrative assistants located in each of our Sub Schools until this time to give clerical assistance to our coordinators and answer queries from parents.

The **first option** allows you to **report an absence** directly to our voicemail message system.

The **second option** is to make **contact with coordinators** and for queries relating to students in various year levels. The types of queries that are answered by the assistants relate to attendance, early leavers and late passes, phone messages for students, excursion/camp enquiries, and all general enquiries relating to the particular year levels.

The **third option** is to **contact the General Office**. The office can help you with information regarding payment of charges, phone calls for Principals and staff (other than Year Level Coordinators), and calls of a general nature.

STUDENTS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

Parents/Guardians are asked to ring either the Junior, Middle or Senior School **Absence Line** between **8.30am** and **9.30am** when a student is absent from school and advise the student name, form group and reason for absence (illness, holiday, family reasons etc).

The school should also be advised if a student is expected to be absent for **more than two days**.

LATE ARRIVALS

Students are expected to be punctual for the start of school (form assembly 8.40am) and each lesson. A student who is late for school must sign the latecomer's book in the Junior, Middle or Senior School Office and provide a satisfactory written note of explanation.

A **lunchtime detention** will be given if such a note is not provided.

EARLY LEAVER PASSES

If it is necessary to leave before the end of a school day, a signed note written by a parent or guardian must be given to the Junior, Middle or Senior Office Assistants before the start of school and a pass will be issued.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

With the cold weather at present, students would be expected to wear appropriate jackets to keep warm. Please be aware that jackets, if worn, need to be **plain black** or the **LHS waterproof jacket**. Logos, stripes and hoods with fur fall outside School Council guidelines.

A reminder that the only **acceptable shoes** are plain black, polishable hard leather lace up school shoes for boys/girls or leather T-bar school shoes for girls.

CONTACT DETAILS

Would all parents/guardians please ensure that **ALL** address and telephone contact details including Home/Work/Mobile and Emergency contacts are up to date. Thank you.

SICK BAY PROCEDURES

If a **student is feeling unwell** or has **been injured** in any way they **MUST** report to the **SCHOOL'S SICK BAY**.

Students are **NOT PERMITTED** to **RING** their parents/guardians (via a mobile telephone) themselves **OR** leave the school **without permission**.

If the student feels they are too unwell to remain in class, the First Aid staff will contact their Parents or Guardians to collect them from school. To this end it is **vital** that student contact details are up to date.

There are times when a student will need a Panadol tablet or other medication. These must be supplied to Sick Bay by parents/guardians and will be named and stored in a locked cupboard. This medication can then be given and monitored by Sick Bay staff when needed.

If your child has another medical condition needing medication please supply Sick Bay as soon as possible. Students with Asthma and Allergies are required to have a management plan.

Each student who is at risk of anaphylaxis is required to have a management plan that has been developed in consultation with the parents/guardians and medical practitioner. Prevention strategies for each student at risk of anaphylaxis must be developed for both in school and out of school settings.

FIRST AID SUPPLIES

First aid medical supplies are only issued for injuries/incidents that occur at school.

A reminder, that band aids **ARE NOT ISSUED** to students to cover facial jewellery. Students wearing such jewellery must keep a supply of band aids in their locker/bag for this.

Any student requiring strapping tape etc must also provide their own supplies.

Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

SUBSCHOOL NEWS

Friday 11 September

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Parent / Teacher / Student / Interviews – Thursday 17 September

All students have received an appointment sheet which they are to use to organize interviews with their class teachers. Students should approach their class teacher at the end of the lesson and ensure that they write the time in the correct space.

Junior School Inter-School Sport

Congratulations to the following sporting teams who were successful at Yarra Group level: Year 7 Girls Basketball, Year 7 Boys and Girls Hockey, Year 8 Boys and Girls Basketball, and will compete at Eastern Zone Level next term. Good luck!

Year 7 Leadership Camp 2

For the first time since the Leadership Camp has run, we have involved the Year 9 “Learning to Lead” students. This was a most successful and rewarding venture, as the older students had an opportunity to mentor our Year 7’s in a positive and constructive environment. Mr Bishop also made a visit on Friday morning to discuss “leadership qualities” with the students. We undertook a variety of initiative activities and students had the opportunity to attempt the low ropes course and the flying fox. Some of the topics covered were: communication, assertiveness, conflict resolution, teamwork, values and passion.

A special “thank you” goes out to Mr Hobday who organised the program this year and put many hours into preparation for this very successful event. Many students developed and gained leadership skills which will be most useful for their future and a fantastic time was had by all.

Up-Coming Events

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Year 7 Science Zoo Excursion | 4 th , 14 th , 16 th September |
| Year 7 Immunisations | 17 th September |
| Parent /Teacher/Student /Interviews | 17 th September |
| Last Day of Term 3 | 18 th September |
| First day of Term 4 | 5 th October |

Finally, please don’t hesitate to call us or your child’s form teacher, with any questions or queries in relation to our program this term.

Junior School Coordinators

MIDDLE SCHOOL

IMPORTANT DATES

Year 10 Last Day of Classes

- Tuesday 17th November

Year 10 Semester 2 Exams

- Wednesday 18th November
- Thursday 19th November
- Friday 20th November
- Monday 23rd November
- Tuesday 24th November

Year 10 Peer Support Camp

- Wednesday 25th November
- Thursday 26th November
- Friday 27th November

Year 9 Exams

- English** - Wednesday 25th November, Periods 1 and 2
- Maths** - Thursday 26th November, Periods 1 and 2

Year 10 Awards Assembly and Report Distribution

- Wednesday 2nd December, Periods 1 and 2

Year 9 Awards Assembly and Report Distribution

- Wednesday 9th December, Periods 1 and 2

2010 Year 9 and 10 Course Selection Choices

Students are reminded to please return their printed Elective choices signed by a parent to the Middle School Coordinators Office by 3pm **TODAY, Friday 11th September.**

Attendance – Year 9 and 10 students

Students are expected to be punctual for the start of school (**form assembly 8.40am**) and each lesson. A student who is late for school must sign the latecomer’s book which is kept in the Middle School Office and **provide a satisfactory written note of explanation. A lunchtime detention will be given if such a note is not provided.**

Middle School Coordinators

SENIOR SCHOOL

IMPORTANT VCE DATES

Three Way Conferences

Thursday 17th September

Last Day of Term 3

Friday 18th September

Year 12 English Practice Exam

Friday 25th September

First Day of Term 4

Monday 5th October

Last Day of Year 12 Classes

Tuesday 20th October

Festivities Day

Wednesday 21st October

VCAA Examination Period Begins

Friday 30th October

Last Day of Year 11 Classes

Friday 30th October

Year 12 Valedictory Dinner

Tuesday 15th December

VCAA Examination Period

With only **FIVE** school weeks until the VCAA exams commence, students need to be utilising their study time wisely. This includes study periods here at school and study time at home. Students should not only be completing current coursework for their subjects, they should also be beginning to revise for their upcoming exams.

We recommend that students have regular contact with their teachers regarding revision tasks and access the VCAA website to download past exam papers. You will find all the relevant information regarding exams, including the 2009 VCAA exam timetable and past exam papers, on the VCAA website;

- <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/exams/index.html>

Mental Health Expo

Some of our Year 11 Psychology students partook in the Mental Health Expo last week. In groups, students had to prepare a stall on a specific mental illness and educated visiting students and teachers on the illness and the stigma that is often attached to people suffering from the mental illness. The Psychology students should be congratulated on their hard work, as the Expo was a huge success. All the students who attended the Expo were highly engaged and the student's knowledge on their specific mental illness was outstanding.

Valedictory Dinner

Year 12 students and their families are reminded that the Valedictory Dinner will be held on **Tuesday 15th December** at The Peninsula, Docklands. Information on the evening was sent home earlier this term, however, the information is available to download from the school's website (under 'School Notices' OR 'Senior School'), or another copy can be obtained from the VCE Office.

Payment and 'table details' are to be submitted to the General Office by **Friday 18th September** (Last day of Term 3).

Student Attendance

Lilydale High School believes that there is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement. At both Year 11 and 12 we are running monthly Attendance Competitions. At the end of each month the form with the highest attendance rate will receive a prize.

For all VCE students, **attendance at morning form assembly is compulsory**. Students receive many important messages and copious amounts of information during form assembly, making their presence essential. Students who have study periods during Periods 1 and 2 are still expected to be at school and in form assembly by 8.40am.

Study Periods

VCE students are reminded that they are not to leave the school grounds during study periods, unless their study period is during a Period 5 and 6 double study, or a Period 6 single study. Study periods are to be used productively completing work, either in the Study Hall or in the Library. Under no circumstances are students to leave the school grounds prior to their Period 5 and 6 study periods. When a student has a double study during Periods 5 and 6 they are able to leave, once they have signed out, at the beginning of lunch time. When the study is Period 6 only, students are only permitted to leave the school grounds at the beginning of Period 6 and once they have signed out. The sign out book is located outside the VCE Office. It is imperative that students sign out prior to leaving the school grounds, so the VCE team know that they have left.

VCE Coordinators

MANAGED INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS - MIPs

Parents and Guardians are welcome to contact the school and arrange an interview with a MIPs counsellor if your child is experiencing difficulties and needs assistance in succeeding at school, completing their schooling to the highest level possible (Year 10 as a minimum), and in gathering information about potential careers.

The purpose of MIPs interviews is to review the student's pathways plan and discuss their future pathways.

The MIPs counsellors for 2009 are **Kath Rudd, Sharon Wall, Kristy Mays and Leigh Callander**. To arrange an interview please contact the school on 9735 5644.

MIPs Program

In Victoria, the Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) initiative ensures that all students 15 years and over in government schools are provided with individual pathway plans with associated support as a means to continued education, training or full-time employment.

MIPs aims to help students to:

- make a smooth transition from compulsory schooling to further education, training and employment
- develop skills to manage their pathways throughout their working lives
- develop their knowledge, understanding and experience of opportunities in education, training and employment.

The program also includes follow-up of early school leavers (those who don't complete Year 12) at the time of leaving and six months later.

What are pathways?

After leaving school, our students can choose between:

- continuing further education and training through TAFE or University
- undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship
- finding employment
- taking a gap year where they may participate in employment, community or volunteer work and/or travel

As a MIPs counsellor our role is to help our students identify their educational goals, employment goals and the pathways that can travel along to achieve these goals. Information is an important tool when it comes to making choices and decisions.

How can parents help?

As a parent, you play a key role in helping your child make career choices. To provide the best possible support and guidance, you need current information on the many pathways available to your children.

You can help your child by being positive about their ideas and chances of finding a satisfying career path. Consider the suitability of different jobs and help them identify their ATTRIBUTES, INTERESTS, LIKES and EXPERIENCES. Talk about their HOPES and VISIONS for the future and where they want to work and study. Talk about the world of work, share some of your own work and life experiences and ask some questions, such as:

- Do you want to go to university/TAFE?
- How would you and your friends decide what courses to take?
- Have you thought about an apprenticeship?
- What have you learned at school about making career choices?

Helpful websites

- www.myfuture.edu.au
- www.mycareer.com.au
- www.education.vic.gov.au
- www.newapprenticeships.gov.au
- www.jobsearch.gov.au
- www.vtac.edu.au
- www.skills.vic.gov.au

Kath Rudd, MIPs Coordinator