Welcome students and parents to semester 2. Many students have started new units and have new teachers for these units. The start of semester two should be viewed by students as an excellent opportunity to build on the successes of semester 1 and work to improve their weaknesses. We are all looking forward to a successful term 3 and a successful semester.

SEMESTER REPORTS AND GOAL SETTING
You have received your child’s report with this newsletter. I encourage all parents to sit down and go through these results with your child. Students will be asked to reflect on their results and then set new goals for semester 2 during their Learning Group sessions early this term. We hope all parents also discuss the goals students are setting themselves in semester 2. Each Learning Team will be contacting parents of students who have underperformed in semester 1. It is important that we all work together to get these students back on track. In week 4 of this term we shall also have a celebration assembly to recognise the top performers in semester 1. I will publish the award winners in the next parent newsletter.

COLLEGE UNIFORM
In the colder months of the year some students wear non uniform items over or instead of the current uniform. It is the College Council’s belief that there are sufficient layers in the uniform to keep students warm. Students and parent please understand the following uniform aspects.

- Track suit pants are not school uniform and pants must be tailored navy pants for girls and grey for boys.
- Non uniform jackets and hoodies are not allowed to be worn over the College uniform while on the school grounds even with a parent note.
- T bar shoes or non black shoes are not part of the College uniform
- White T shirts not coloured T shirts should be under the uniform shirts.

It is the student’s responsibility to bring a note signed by their parent or guardian if they are out of uniform.

2012 COURSE SELECTION PREPARATION
The preparation for the student courses in 2011 begins this term. Given the College’s pathways structure the choice for students from year 8 to 12 can be complex. It is important students and parents get fully involved in this process so students get the best course tailored for their needs. Again this year all students from years 8 to 11 will have a student and parent interview with a course advisor as part of the process. The College will also run one year 8 to 12 course selection evening rather that a range of nights. More information regard this process will be published to parents in the first half of this term.

YEAR 11 INTERSTATE TRIP
A group of year 11 students successfully completed a 10 day trip to the red centre. The feedback from staff and students about the trip has been very positive. Thank you to the staff led by Mr York, who accompanied the students and gave up half their holidays.
IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday 25th July  GREASE Rehearsal—All day to 5.30pm
Tuesday 26th July  College Council Meeting—7.30pm
Wednesday 27th July  GREASE Rehearsal—3.45-5.30pm

Thursday 28th July  Romeo & Juliet—All Yr 10 students
Friday 29th July  Monash Gippsland Visit—All Year 11 students excursion to Churchill.

Monday 1st August  Monash Gippsland Seminar—All Year 10 students (at DSC)
Wednesday 3rd August  GREASE Rehearsal—3.45-5.30pm
Friday 5th August  VTAC Information night

Saturday 6th August  8H Urban Knights Excursion
Sunday 7th August  GREASE Performance matinee —2:00pm
Monday 8th August  GREASE Performance for Primary Schools 11:00am
Tuesday 9th August  Celebration Assembly
Thursday 11th August  GREASE Performance—7:00pm
Friday 12th August  GREASE Performance—7:00pm
Saturday 13th August  GREASE Performance—7:00pm
Tuesday 16th August  Parents and Friends Meeting —7:30pm
Thursday 18th August  Course Selection Information Evening

Thursday 18th October  7 Boys (2nd Hepatitis B) & Girls (2nd Hepatitis B & 3rd HPV) Year 9 Catch-up Boys & Girls Boostrix

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE - 2011

During the final week of last term 156 students from level 10 were out in the workforce. This year we have had students working in the local area, other parts of Gippsland and also in the Melbourne Metropolitan area and beyond.

The placements were in varied occupations across both the professions and the trades within the public and private sectors.


We know that our students would have gained great benefit from this opportunity and we are extremely appreciative of all the employers who participated in the program.

Well done to all of the students who participated.

Now is the time for current year 9 students to start thinking about what they would like to do for their work experience in 2012. It might seem like a ridiculously long time away, but some employers, (such as Victoria Police, Museum Victoria, Monash Medical Centre, Phillip Island Conservation Park and Melbourne Zoo), require a special application process closing in October/November. If you are interested in any of these areas then you must act early. Information is available from the Careers Centre.
Year 10 Work Experience Week

27th June-1st July
GREASE IS THE WORD…

- DSC Musical Production
- All singing/dancing/live music/great costumes
- The students are talented and amazing
- You've seen the movie now see live show!!
- Audiences are encouraged to 'sing along'
- Support us by being there so we can continue to give the students great shows like this to perform in the future

Dates and Prices
Friday 5th August 2011 @ 7pm - $20 per adult, $15 pension/concession, $60 per family
Saturday 6th August 2011 @ 7pm - $20 per adult, $15 pension/concession, $60 per family
Sunday 7th August @ 2pm - $17 per adult, $12 pension/concession, $50 per family
Thursday 11th August @ 7pm - $17 per adult, $12 pension/concession, $50 per family
Friday 12th August @ 7pm - $20 per adult, $15 pension/concession, $60 per family
Saturday 13th August @ 7pm - $20 per adult, $15 pension/concession, $60 per family

For further information please contact the producers Casey Kamphuis or Lynda Goldsmith at Drouin Secondary College on 03) 56251002. Payment can be made at the College’s General Office.

If you park near the school please follow the parking restriction signs. These are designed to improve safety for everyone, especially our children.

REMINDER:
Parents & Friends bookstore is open every Wednesday 10am-2pm
VTAC Info Evening Wednesday 3rd August, 7.00pm at DSC for Parents of Year 12 Students

If your son or daughter is applying for universities and/or TAFEs next year they will do so via VTAC – the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre. As part of this process students need to consider whether they are eligible for SEAS.

About SEAS
Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) is the umbrella program run by most institutions for applicants who have experienced educational disadvantage. SEAS plays a very specific function in selection.

The role SEAS plays in selection
SEAS allows selection officers to grant extra consideration for course entry to applicants, but it is not used as a replacement for course entry requirements. Consideration of SEAS may relax some aspects of the specific requirements but not exempt them.

If you do not complete the Extra requirements for a course, then having a SEAS application will not help you. You need to attend all interviews, sit any required tests, submit all required folios, and fill in all required forms regardless of your SEAS application.

Specific questions about how SEAS is used in selection for specific courses should be directed to the institution. Remember that all applicants are selected in a competitive environment. Fulfilment of all course eligibility requirements (with or without SEAS) does not guarantee an offer.

How does SEAS affect my results
SEAS does not change your educational results or qualifications. It enables course selection officers to recognise that your results may have been affected by educational disadvantage, and to consider the effect of that disadvantage.

Categories
There are ten categories within SEAS:
- Mature Age
- Rural or remote area (documentation not required)
- Non-English speaking background
- Recognition as an Indigenous Australian
- Difficult family circumstances
- Disadvantaged socio-economic background
- Disability or Long term medical condition
- Refugee Status
- Under-represented schools
- Women or men in under-represented disciplines

If a student fits into one of the above categories (you can check with a Careers Adviser), he/she needs to ensure they have collected and submitted the appropriate documentation before the SEAS application is due on VTAC (11th October, 5.00 pm). We have learnt from past experience that it can be quite a lengthy process getting the appropriate statement/s of support, so students and parents need to plan ahead.

"Responsible persons" who can provide statements of support are:
doctor or health care professional; lawyer; certified accountant; social worker; registered counsellor; religious or community leader; school principal or senior member of school staff (eg Learning leader, Careers Adviser, SWC).

The statement of support explains how the circumstances in your SEAS application have adversely affected your educational performance. The statement of support should include a statement about the nature of the medical problem and include detailed descriptions of the injuries and the physical and mental effects, and particularly how the condition affected academic performance throughout the year, eg

Statement of medical issue
Direct impact
The number of absences
Day to day effects: self management movement, pain, psychological trauma, sleeping troubles, etc.
Impact of problem during the year – SACs, SATs, concentration, motivation, fatigue
Likely effect on end of year exams

Phone: 56251002  Fax: 56251297
**Notice to all Parents and Students**

**Country Bus Travel**

Country buses (this does not include in town bus services) are provided as a free service to eligible students for the sole purpose of providing transport between home and school. While transport to and from other locations may have been allowed in the past, this situation has become unmanageable and unsafe. The rules governing School Buses are clear in this regard.

**Transport such as:**
- to the home of another student,
- to after school employment,
- to sporting and other social events, or
- to another person’s home for the purpose of child minding

are all regarded as private in nature and therefore the responsibility of the parents and students concerned.

Casual travel in the past has caused overcrowding on some buses which creates serious concerns with respect to the safety. This year most buses are already running to their capacity so seating is not available.

As a result of these issues, and in accord with Department of Education and Training and Department of Infrastructure guidelines, no bus passes will be issued for any reason other than to facilitate short term emergency housing.

**PLEASE NOTE:** No bus pass will be issued for any other purpose.

We deeply regret the inconvenience this may cause but we need to follow the guidelines set out by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development closely as possible, which are created in the best interests of safety for all students.

*Maureen Hickman*
* Transport Coordinator
* Drouin Secondary College*