



veritas



■ Artist's impression of the Junior School Library/Resource centre.

Capital campaign launch

The School is planning two major projects over the next two years, the construction of a new Junior School Library and Resource Centre and redevelopment of the Senior School Science wing.

A Capital Campaign Committee working under the auspices of the Foundation has been formed to oversee an appeal that will help raise some \$500,000 to support the new facilities.

The Foundation will host a special launch, to which all members of the School community are invited, on Friday 28 March from 6pm until 8pm.

Guest speaker will be former Melbourne footballer and Brownlow Medallist Jim Stynes, now a respected figure working with youth. A qualified teacher and co-founder of the 'Reach Youth' organisation, Jim is an entertaining and thought provoking speaker. Reach Youth is responsible for innovative programs that involve more than 25,000 young people each year, many with significant personal and family issues.

Both the Junior School Library/Resource Centre and the Science wing redevelopment will add significantly to the facilities provided by the School.

Students' fees largely fund the day to day running of the School, with the Commonwealth and State governments contributing about 39% of the recurrent costs.

That means that we need to call on the School family to support extra capital works.

Any assistance you can provide would be much appreciated and if you feel in a position to make a donation, please contact the Development Office, telephone 5143 6388, for Capital Campaign details

■ Artist's impression of the Science wing redevelopment.





Gippsland Grammar's aim is to ensure that students have every encouragement to pursue their talents and to provide an education of quality. Such quality is measured in terms of success at the VCE and subsequent acceptance into the tertiary institution or employment area of their choice.

I am therefore thrilled that the VCE results for 2002 are even better than those of 2001, which I enthused about last year. Our students have fulfilled their potential in the academic sphere and they have given themselves strong options for the future.

However it is important to note that so many of the academic "high flyers" were heavily involved in all other aspects of school life and indeed they have been prominent in their pursuits.

Success is a relative measure for an individual and has its frame of reference in the unique combination that describes each individual.

Each year I witness success for almost all of our students as they take the opportunities provided to develop and flourish in areas of particular interest.

I am pleased that our students make the most of their privileged position. I say privileged because it is true that not all schools are able to offer such a diverse program.

However being in such an environment is only part of the "equation" and one must seize the opportunities provided. It is clear to me that all our students do "seize the day".

I offer my congratulations to the Class of 2002. You have all done splendidly and we, the staff of the School, are proud of your achievements in the VCE. As I have said before to other groups, we thank you for enriching our lives.

Tony Horsley
Tony Horsley

Intranet system in place

This year will see the further implementation of an innovative Intranet system at the School, as a way to better deliver curriculum and communicate with students and families.

The Intranet will soon be accessible from every machine in the School network and available to all families through the Gippsland Grammar website.

It will contain teaching programs and course information as well as homework assignments and resources with web links to enable the students to gather information to complete tasks.

All school information delivered to families via newsletters and letters, including timetables, daily bulletins,

the weekly "Grammar News" and even excursion permission forms will also be posted on the Intranet.

The system has been trialled for the past 12 months and is now ready to go on-line.

One of the reasons for its introduction is that it is a much less expensive alternative than a compulsory laptop program, and more accessible as nearly 100 percent of School families already have a computer at home connected to the Internet.

Initially Years 7 and 8 will utilise the program but it is expected that the use of the Intranet will quickly filter through to all other year groups, including the Junior School.

2003 Prefects appointed



The School has appointed its Prefects for 2003. The group is pictured with Principal Tony Horsley and Head of Senior School Martin Oates.

From left in the back row are: Tony Horsley, Terri-Lea Joyce of Fulham, School Captain Lucy Vardy (Swifts Creek) Vice Captain Briannon Avery (Seaspray) and Martin Oates.

Middle row from left: Claire Francis (Longford) Stephanie Gray (Sale) Natalie O'Connell (Omeo) Rosalie Richards (Maffra.)

Front row from left: Rohan Lay (Sale) Dean Huffer (Newry) Clare Ferguson (Newry) Vice Captain Ryan Crawford (Maffra) School Captain Nic Marton (Traralgon) Kirsty Irving (Darriman) Gregory Johnston (Bungulaguah) and Nick Fairweather (Bairnsdale).

Missing from the photograph is Anna Melville.

Top Class performers

Two of our 2002 students have proved themselves top of the class in the performing arts.

Dancer Felicity Howden, who is undertaking Year 12 this year, and theatre performer Peter Reisinger, who has just completed VCE, have been asked to audition for the annual performance program Top Class, a program that displays the talents of the best student performers from across the State.



Felicity Howden

Peter and Felicity were selected to audition on the strength of their VCE assessment pieces, for which they achieved A+ and A respectively. Peter performed a monologue from 'Accidental Deaths and Anarchists' and Felicity a contemporary dance piece.



Peter Reisinger

The auditions for Top Class take place in February at the Victorian College of the Arts School of Dance, with those selected performing in the Top Class concert at the National Theatre in Melbourne on 29 March.

Some of the students who perform in Top Class will be invited to perform again in Top Acts, in the Melbourne Concert Hall on Friday 16 May.

For Peter and Felicity, just to be asked to audition is an enormous honour.

Peter said: "It just came out of the blue. I thought I did well in my assessment for the monologue, but couldn't believe it was anything near this. To get an A+, I was stoked with that and now to get a chance to try out for Top Class is excellent."

"It's fairly awesome when I think about the people who have gone before me who did not get a chance to do this."

Peter worked very hard with Gippsland Grammar Drama teacher and mentor Esther Cribbes to make the sure the piece was just right for VCE assessment and will now be back in the sun-room at home renewing rehearsals.

"I want to go for it as hard as I can and try and make the most of the chance put in front of me," he said.

Felicity was "very surprised and really pleased" when she was invited to audition. She has been dancing for seven years, mainly in classical and jazz and performed a contemporary piece for VCE.

"I've been training with Sue Bernays, a local dance teacher in Sale, with classes twice a week in both theory and practical," she said. "It's a lot of work but it's been worth it."

Felicity underwent her VCE assessment at Melbourne's Dance World 301 in October and will now pull out the dancing shoes again to prepare for the Top Class audition in mid-February.

University Prize for student

The University Enhancement Program offered by Gippsland Grammar is proving a real winner - and so are our students.

The Program provides senior students with the chance to undertake some first year University subjects during Year 12 in conjunction with Monash University.

In 2002 a highlight was the performance of Caitlin Walker, who won the Monash University subject prize for the Enhancement Study of Media and Communication. Caitlin's results earned her a special commendation and a cash prize.

The Head of English and Enhancement tutor of Media and Communication, Ms Helen Dossier, was also commended by the University for her tutelage.

Gippsland Grammar had 20 Year 12 students undertake the challenging study of a first year of a degree subject and we achieved some outstanding results.

In the second and final semester of their studies the students between them accumulated five High Distinctions, eight Distinctions and three credits. This is an excellent outcome given the demands of the assessment at this level.

Hannah our latest 'Olympiad' success

Gippsland Grammar student Hannah Shoemaker has been recognised as one of Australia's top biology students.

She attended the Rio Tinto Australian Science Olympiads Scholar Training School held in Canberra during January.

It is an intensive training school, aiming to select just four students to form the 2003 Australian team to compete at the prestigious International Biology Olympiad. If Hannah is chosen as part of the team she will travel to Belarus in July.

The 16-year-old, who is in Year 12 this year, is only the second Gippsland Grammar student to be invited to participate in such a notable experience.



The other was Peter Reisinger, who attended in 2002.

This year's offer was based on Hannah's performance in the qualifying exams sat late last year. The fortnight-long program in Canberra will feature

the academic content of a first year university science course, of which Hannah is very aware.

"I've always been really curious about why and how things behave the way they do, so I suppose that's why I find science interesting - although I am feeling somewhat daunted, but excited, about being in such an elite group of students.

"After Year 12, I would like to do a medicine/arts degree at Melbourne Uni, specialise and become a paediatrician.

"I'd love to work overseas in a third world country, or in a rural area in Australia, because there is such a need for paediatricians and doctors in general in rural areas," she said.



Encouraging Old Scholar's reunions

The School and Old Scholars' Association are again encouraging a number of year groups to hold reunions during 2003.

The Old Scholars' Association suggests that every five years is a great time to have a reunion. The School can assist with mailing and other support to help ensure reunions are a success and Old Scholars are welcome to tour the School if holding such events in Gippsland.

Based on the five year cycle, the following year groups are in line for a reunion in 2003:

1998: 5 year reunion
1993: 10 year reunion
1988: 15 year reunion
1983: 20 year reunion
1978: 25 year reunion
1973: 30 year reunion

EVENTS IN 2003

Saturday 24 May:
'Murder Mystery Night'
Saturday 13 September:
Inaugural Ball
Term 4, Family Picnic:
Details to be announced

Old Boys of Gippsland Grammar and Old Girls of St Anne's are also encouraged to consider reunions in line with the above.

And of course, any one else who wants to hold a reunion for the sake of getting together is encouraged to do so!

Anyone who would like some assistance can contact the Development Officer on email

chris.harrison@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au
or Old Scholars President Rita Eremin at
email rita.eremin@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au
The School telephone number is
03 5143 6388.

REUNION NOTE:

For the purpose of this event, year groups are based on the year that HSC/VCE was undertaken.

That means, for example, that a person who completed Year 11 in 1972 would be included as part of the 1973 year group.

VCE results keep improving

Gippsland Grammar has again proved its academic standing, after posting outstanding VCE results.

The Year 12 class of 2002 recorded the best ever results for the School. The average ENTER score was 76.93 and the median score was 81.35.

An exceptional 35% of Gippsland Grammar students achieved an ENTER placing them in the top 10% of students in the State, while a staggering 91% made the top 50%.

Median Score 81.35

Average ENTER score 76.93

35% in top 10% of State

91% in top 50% of State

26 students score 90 or more

Adam Scarlett from Glengary earned himself the title of Gippsland Grammar Dux with his score of 99.6.

The class of 74 students successfully completed the Year 12 program, an outstanding result according to Principal Tony Horsley.

Our results highlight a standard of excellence that will open many doors for our students ensuring they can pursue careers of their choice.

The School community is extremely proud of the high achievement of these young men and women.

For decades now Gippsland Grammar has been serving the needs of families within the Gippsland region and each year we think our results can't get any better - but they do.

The entire School community is proud of the outstanding results that highlight a standard of excellence at the School.

For our newest Old Scholars, good VCE results mean most will be able to pursue the career of their choice, through achieving entry to tertiary institutions.