Dear Parent and Student

Welcome to the fifth newsletter for the year.

The person who created the saying “The only constant is change” was obviously talking about education in 2009. You may have heard the Premier and Minister for Education announce last week one of the most significant changes in public school education in recent years, the establishment of independent public schools.

Independent public schools (IPS) will remain as part of the public education system and retain the associated benefits, but will be released from a number of policies and procedures that come with being part of a bureaucracy. The flexibility for schools to manage their budgets and more direct involvement in running the school by the College Board are two examples that come immediately to mind.

I have examined at length the independent public schools concept with other principals, staff and the College Board and believe that there are significant advantages to Manea Senior College being involved. There will only be benefits to our students from becoming an independent public school. With student achievement and outcomes as the driving force, and in accordance with the decision of the College Board, Manea Senior College will be applying for independent school status. This will be an extremely competitive process, with only 20-30 schools being selected for the start of the program in 2010. If we miss out on the first round, we will have at least done the work required to apply again during 2010.


If you have any comments or would like to endorse the IPS application for Manea Senior College please email me at paul.mathews@det.wa.edu.au

I would like to congratulate the following students who achieved outstanding Semester One results in their studies. These students have combined hard work with their undoubted ability and should be very proud of their achievements.

Paul Mathews with some of the recipients for either the Academic Excellence or Academic Distinction Awards.

‘Academic Excellence Award’- An ‘A’ grade in all course units
Emma Broome
Holly Giancono
Crystal Ivey
‘Academic Distinction Award’
An ‘A’ grade in 50%+ of course units, the rest ‘B’ grade.

Lauren Bluett
Samantha Baxter
Michelle Franklin
Aimee Harris
Jennifer Murdock
Cynthia Sugianto
Madeleine Veliz Quinde
Harley Radovan

‘Highest achievement in Course Unit’
Madeleine Veliz Quinde
Holly Giancono
Elyce Managlio
Michelle Franklin
Samantha Baxter
Kiara Dawson
Crystal Ivey
Aimee Harris
Courtney Barton
Lauren Bluett
Jade Pratt
Fraser Millar
Jennifer Murdock
Cynthia Sugianto
Benjamin Symons
Emma Broome
Elii Durham

I would also like to acknowledge that nearly half of our students are attending at 93% or above, which is significantly higher that the state average (88%) for senior school students. Nearly 70% of our students are attending at or above the state average, which is pleasing. The connection between regular attendance and achievement is obvious and I urge all students and parents to make the effort to monitor attendance.

I continue to receive positive feedback about the positive relationships and academic progress the College is delivering. Manea SC hosts a number of meetings for local businesses and the latest feedback received was “how mature our students are and the College is more like a university than a school.”

Manea Senior College would also like to congratulate Aimee Harris and Courtney Barton who have made the State Hockey team and Shanelle Cam for making the State Football team.

Enrolment enquiries for Year 11 and Year 12 for 2010 are building in numbers and our current Year 11s will soon be making decisions regarding their courses for 2010. Keep spreading the positive word about Manea Senior College and encourage friends, relatives and work colleagues to consider making the change to Manea for 2010.

The courses on offer are included at the end of this newsletter.

I would like to remind students and parents about the standard of our uniform and the requirement for all students to wear the approved uniform items only.

Manea Senior College recognises that parents/care givers are a crucial part of the team that supports our students as they strive for success. I value your opinion and involvement in the College and look forward to feedback, positive and otherwise, to ensure the College continues to progress and establishes itself as the leading Senior College in the state.

Regards
Paul Mathews
Principal

JEANS FOR GENES DAY

Thank you for all donations for ‘Jeans for Genes’ Day, the total raised was $154.05. Well done!
THE VALUE OF REGULAR ATTENDANCE

There are a number of factors which affect student achievement. Regular attendance, and hence keeping up to date with all work, is one of the important factors.

To highlight this point I have analysed the Semester One attendance rates and school grades of all students at Manea Senior College. A summary of this analysis is as follows:

- Students attending College above the target of 93% attendance achieved a grade average between a B and a C grade (closer to a B).
- Students attending less than the 93% target are only just managing to achieve a C- grade average.
- Students attending less than 80% of the time (ie only 4 days a week) had a grade average between a D-grade and a C (ie these people may be in jeopardy of not meeting the WACE requirements for graduation in year 12).

As this data shows, the value of maintaining a high attendance rate is apparent.

Simon Cox

DALYELLUP SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

The Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Club will be holding its Registration Day on Sunday, 20th September, 2009, between 9.00am and 12 noon, at the Dalyellup Community Centre. Enrolment forms available on the day.

All ages welcome. Children can join the program from as young as six years old. Come down and register.

For more information visit www.dalyellupspsc.mysouthwest.com.au or phone Peter on 9795 4937.

IMPROVING YOUR MATHS – ONLINE LEARNING

(1) www.mathsonline.com.au

You may have seen the advertisements for this on television. It is a free service that parents and students can register for. You will have access to narrated lessons and exam-style practice questions, with solutions. I have spent some time looking through the materials and there are a wide variety of lessons covering content relevant to the courses at Manea Senior College.

Students could use this site to get extra help on a topic that they are having difficulties with.

(2) www.classpad.com.au

This website has a number of tutorials to help students learn how to make use of the different applications on their Casio Classpad calculators. It is a valuable resource for students to access.

Simon Cox
Maths Teacher

STUDENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW

College staff have been busily conducting reviews over the past month with individual students about their first semester results. All students have been provided with this opportunity which involves reviewing their performance and setting goals for Semester Two. Many students have made use of this opportunity, which includes being provided with a copy of their results analysis and goals. Students who have not accessed this specialist service should see myself or Andrew Healey to make a time.

2010 Enrolments – Year 11 and 12

Manea Senior College staff have been extremely busy with enrolment interviews for Year 11 and 12 places at the College for 2010. We are receiving numerous enquiries on a daily basis, suggesting that there is great interest for students to be enrolled in the ‘only specialist senior school in the south west’. Our university pathway
numbers are growing significantly and courses are filling fast.
The first round of applications for TAFE enrolments in our Electrical, Heavy Duty Automotive, Hospitality, Laboratory Science, Horticulture, Business and Community Services courses close on Friday September 18, 2009. If you or someone you know is considering these courses, get them to contact the College as soon as possible as place are limited.

Scholarships for 2010
Applications for our 2010 Year 11 scholarships close on Friday September 18, 2009. Our scholarships cover course costs, text books, uniform requirements and include a laptop computer. You have to be in it to win it! So contact the College for further information if you have not already applied.

New Courses in 2010
In 2010 Manea Senior College will be introducing new courses including:

- Mathematics Specialist – Year 11
- Photography – Year 11 and 12
- Media Production and Analysis – Year 11
- Psychology – Year 11 and 12

In addition we are introducing the Heavy Duty Automotive course delivered by TAFE for next year.

Year 12 Courses in 2010
Our current students have recently been provided with information about their proposed courses for next year.

Where students are happy with continuing in their current courses they simply need to have the sheet signed and returned to their Mentor teacher.

If students wish to make changes to their course they will need to make a time to see either myself or Andrew Healey to discuss their options for 2010. Students considering any changes to their TAFE courses should discuss this with Kaye Scanlan.

If you have any queries about any aspect of College life, please make contact with us.

Regards
Rod Rykers
AssociatePrincipal

What we offer!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>TAFE Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Commercial Cooking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics: Specialist</td>
<td>Integrated Science</td>
<td>Horticulture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated Science</td>
<td>Human Biology Science</td>
<td>Laboratory Science</td>
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<td>Human Biology</td>
<td>Biological Science</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Business</td>
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<td>Physics</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Electrical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career &amp; Enterprise</td>
<td>Career &amp; Enterprise</td>
<td>Automotive - Heavy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Automotive - Light</td>
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<tr>
<td>Politics &amp; Law</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Health Studies</td>
<td>Health Studies</td>
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<td>Physical Education Studies</td>
<td>Physical Education Studies</td>
<td>School Apprenticeship Link (SAL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applied Information Technology</td>
<td>Applied Information Technology</td>
<td>TAFE Access Program (TAP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Management &amp; Enterprise</td>
<td>Design - Photography</td>
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<td>Business Management &amp; Enterprise</td>
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<tr>
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<td>University Access Program (UAC)</td>
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