“The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan.”

Mk 1:12

The desert on the road from the Sea of Galilee to Jerusalem is indeed a wilderness and very inhospitable. There certainly is not much around to distract a person if you want to go there to reflect. Jesus spent time there reflecting upon His mission, preparing himself for the hard work that lay ahead, including his ministry and suffering.

Like Jesus we can be tempted by many things that distract us from our mission, to live justly and to love tenderly in unison with our God. Like Him we can take time to reflect, especially during Lent, upon what is really important. Perhaps we can find a little more time for prayer and time to help others in some way.

Prayer

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

Amen

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, Staff and Friends

Thank you to the parents/guardians who attended the Information Night for the different Year Levels. Your support is very much appreciated.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY MERCY EDUCATION LIMITED BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Attached to the Newsletter is a letter signed by Sister Kathleen Tierney rsm and Mr John Shannon, Board Chair of Mercy Education Limited relating to my retirement as Principal of Mount Lilydale Mercy College, effective from 18 January 2013. The Board is in the process of seeking and appointing the next Principal of Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

I thank Sister Kath and the Board for their kind words and consider myself most privileged for the opportunity given me to work with such a wonderful community.

ADVISORY COUNCIL:

The Advisory Council met on Thursday February 16 with Mrs Marianne Birtchnell as Chair and Mr Andrew Sherman as Deputy Chair. Mr Kevin Dwyer and Mrs Jacinta Cheers have retired from the Council after years of outstanding service.

The Council members for 2012 are: Mrs Marianne Birtchnell, John Brick (Mercy Education Limited Nominee), Bernard Dobson, Victor Miles, Laura Nation, Paula Pearce, Andrew Sherman, Angela Soldani, Paul Tyndall and Ged Wright.

The Business Manager Dean De Munk attends as an advisor and Kathy Broadbent records the Minutes.

YEAR 12 RETREATS:

Year 12 Retreats which commence tomorrow and continue until 2 March will provide Year 12 students with an excellent opportunity to focus on the spiritual, social and emotional components of their journey this year. Please pray for the success of the Retreats.

COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL:

Next Monday, March 5, is the date of the College Swimming Carnival. I encourage students to be involved in the carnival, even if you are not an excellent swimmer. Parents are encouraged to attend the Croydon Pool to support their children. The programme commences at 5 p.m. and should be completed by 9 p.m.
**Catholic Education Week and Special Persons’ Day:**
Catholic Education Week, a time when we celebrate Catholic Education, is scheduled for the week beginning March 12. There will be two special events during this week. The first is Special Persons’ Day on March 13 and the second is our Athletics Carnival on March 16. Each student is encouraged to invite a special person, grandparent/s, aunts & uncles or other person who is very significant in their lives, to join them on Special Persons’ Day on March 13 and all students are required to attend the Athletics Carnival. In addition, we will be represented at the Catholic Education Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral on Thursday March 15th. The week will conclude with the Catholic Education Week Art Exhibition on Sunday March 18 where several of our students’ art will be exhibited.

**Gonski Review of Education Funding:**
The final report of the Gonski review was released on 20 February. It contains detailed proposals on how schools could be funded in Australia. The report has recommended a new model for schools. At this time the implications in Victoria for Catholic school funding and parent fees are unclear.

We will keep you fully informed of any changes that are likely to affect our school.

The review called for the injection of an additional $5 billion in school funding. The Australian Government has responded cautiously to this proposal.

Prime Minister Gillard has stated that ‘indexation will be an element of any new arrangement’. We will wait to see whether this meets the Catholic education position that funding be indexed to keep pace with government school costs.

The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) will work with schools to ensure they are well represented in any government consultations.

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**Fair Funding for Victorian Catholic Schools**

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**Bernard G Dobson**
Principal

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**GRADUATES SHINE IN COMMUNITY EXHIBITION**

On Thursday 16 February the Opening of the VCE Creative Showcase Visual Art Exhibition was held at Red Earth Gallery in Mooroolbark.

Mount Lilydale Mercy College was thrilled to have four students from the graduating class of 2011 selected to take part in the exhibition. ALYCE SEAMER, HEATH NUNN, ELLIE-MARIE HERBERT AND JAMES MURFETT exhibited to the wider community of the Shire of Yarra Ranges showcasing work they completed as part of their Studio Arts folio for 2011. The work was of an extremely high standard and to be selected is something that we as a faculty are celebrating.

**THE EXHIBITION IS OPEN UNTIL 15TH OF MARCH**

We highly recommend you attend and see a wide range of talent not only from our students but also students from across the entire shire.

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Amy Muratore
Visual Arts Staff Member

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**Rachael Bentley - Class of 2010**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO RACHAEL BENTLEY—APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR IN FLORISTRY AT BOX HILL TAFE.**

At the recent gala event held at Box Hill TAFE Rachael Bentley was presented with the award of APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR (1ST YEAR). This annual event provides students from across all areas of study the opportunity to showcase their expertise and skills.

Rachael is currently in her second year apprenticeship at Blooms on Brice, Mooroolbark and hopes to either own her own business or do corporate functions once qualified.
Dear Parents/Caregivers and Students

There will be many occasions throughout the course of the year when I will work directly with our Prefects and other student leaders. I am blessed in my role, that I can provide the opportunities for students to express themselves in many other ways, namely through numerous social justice and outreach initiatives. I have been extremely impressed with the enthusiasm and great attitude they have displayed already and we are only in week 3.

They show great leadership skills and it is wonderful to have enthusiastic students who genuinely want to make a difference. I have said to students in the past however, that having a formal position as a Prefect does not mean that leadership is entrusted to them only. Leadership can be embraced by all, particularly, when you focus on our College theme for this year – “Be a light, share the journey, animate others”. So what is leadership in this context and how can all students be good leaders?

The most precious and intangible quality of leadership is trust - the confidence that the one who leads will act in the best interest of those who follow and the assurance that he or she will serve the group without sacrificing the rights of the individual.

Leadership’s imperative is a ‘sense of rightness’- knowing when to advance and when to pause, when to criticize and when to praise, how to encourage others to excel. From the leader’s reserves of energy and optimism, one’s followers draw strength. In the leader’s determination and self-confidence, they find inspiration.

Leadership can also be about integrity. This command by conscience asserts itself more by commitment and example than by directive. Integrity recognizes external obligations, but it heeds the quiet voice within, rather than the clamour without. Teamwork is also important. For example, team goals: making sure everyone knows what the group is trying to accomplish and exactly how each member (for example, students in a class or Home Room group) is expected to contribute.

To also emphasize cooperation: point out specifically how people can help one another. Let them know that how well they cooperate is an important measure of their participation. Share credit for group success is also important: Let everyone who contributes know you appreciate his or her effort.

A good leader must be able to take criticism. No person in a position of authority will be immune from it. One must learn to sort out the constructive, from which one can learn, and the malicious which one must ignore.

A leader must learn to stand adversity. Things will not always go well. Failures will happen. A good leader will bounce back. A leader must be able to delegate authority. He or she must be able to give up power, to trust those under them. We certainly see evidence of this at school all the time.

Of course leaders must make decisions. The person who cannot take a stand will probably falter and lose the support of others. Most importantly, a leader must learn to praise others, to share the credit, and to give credit where it is due. If he or she tries to take credit for everything, they will not lead, they will only frustrate those under them. A good student leader will grow and learn.

These qualities of leadership can be achieved by all and I encourage all students to become engaged in the whole life of the College and enjoy your year as a ‘leader’.

With best wishes

David Finch
Deputy Principal – Director of Mission

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - DIRECTOR OF MISSION - David Finch

Year 8 Jade – Class Mass
The students of Year 8 Jade had the honour of preparing and participating in our first class Mass of the year – pictured here with Father Bob and parents.

During Term 1, all Year 8 RE classes will prepare their own Mass and students will invite parents and grandparents to join them in our Eucharistic celebration together.
A Student Opportunity for Year 11

The Pilgrimage to Indigenous Communities of Northern Australia

The Pilgrimage Vision: Mission and Immersion

A Pilgrimage is a significant journey:

A JOURNEY OF MISSION – where we provide service to those in need and giving of one’s self to others.

A JOURNEY OF IMMERSION – where we immerse ourselves in the vibrant and diverse culture of the indigenous communities of Northern Australia.

A JOURNEY OF SELF DISCOVERY – where we, as individuals and a group discover strengths, limitations and goodwill.

WHY IS IT CALLED A “PILGRIMAGE” AND NOT A TRIP?

We use the term “Pilgrimage” because this journey is more than just a trip. It is a journey with a sacred purpose. Our Pilgrimage vision tries to capture the spirit of MISSION and IMMERSION.

The first aspect of the Pilgrimage is one of MISSION – where we work in the Schools with children from primary & secondary years, learning about their education and language. The second half of the Pilgrimage is devoted to IMMERSION – immersing ourselves in the culture and society of communities. We will gain understanding of this vibrant region and develop an appreciation of its history, geography, people and lifestyle.

This Immersion will be a joint venture with students from Gleeson College in Adelaide – and will include an orientation day in Adelaide with all students and staff before we fly to Darwin.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Any student in Year 11 at Mount Lilydale Mercy College in 2012 is eligible to apply. It must be noted that individuals who apply need to have maintained and demonstrated a responsible and appropriate approach to their learning and a commitment to the life of the College. Recognising a balance between study commitments and time away from school is also essential.

It must be emphasised that during this experience, individuals will be confronted with sights, sounds, smells and experiences that will be challenging and confronting. These challenges will occur some 3000 kilometres from home and students must have the capacity to confront these challenges and successfully negotiate them individually and within a group situation. In saying this – there will be some ‘tourist’ time where we will engage in sightseeing activities and lots of fun all round!

WHEN IS IT TAKING PLACE?

The experience will take place in Term 2. We will leave Melbourne on Friday 1st June, flying to Adelaide for orientation, fly to Darwin on Friday night and return to Melbourne on Sunday 10th June. All relevant details will be confirmed shortly – however the initial itinerary will include:

- Home base at O’Louglin College in Darwin
- Three days on Bathurst Island – visiting schools and communities
- Three days in Katherine and staying at St Joseph’s College (Year Prep -10) visiting the Beswick Indigenous community and sightseeing, including the Katherine Gorge.
- Sightseeing in the Darwin region, including “Crocosaurus Park” and other areas.

If you are interested please collect a letter from Student Reception and return your response by Monday 12th March.

All details will be included in this letter. For clarification, please contact David Finch at the College on 9237 1373 or email: dfinch@mlmcilidayle.catholic.edu.au
TWILIGHT CINEMA ON THE COLLEGE GREEN

THURSDAY 22ND MARCH

A fun family evening. An alcohol and smoke free event

Massive outdoor screen and current release movie to be announced next week

Snack Bar and seating opens at 7.30pm. BYO picnic blanket or deck chair. Movie screening commences at 8.00pm

DISCOUNTED PRE TICKET SALES AVAILABLE FROM

5TH MARCH

ADULTS $10.00
SECONDARY STUDENTS $7.00
CHILDREN $5.00
FAMILY PASS (2 ADULTS & 3 CHILDREN) $25.00

Senior VCAL Students are hosting this event. They are currently looking for businesses interested in purchasing a pre screening advertisement. This will be via a $100.00 sponsorship arrangement. If you would like your business exposed on the big screen at this unique community event, please contact either Mr Steve Tarulli or Mr Brian Hawthorne at the College on 9735 4022

VCAL NEWS

HEALTH IS WEALTH EXCURSION

As part of the Senior VCAL theme ‘Health is Wealth’, students are required to plan and organise an activity that promotes the health of their classmates. To provide inspiration and a model to students, the class was taken on excursion to the Wild Oak Cooking School in Olinda and the Trees Adventure Park in Belgrave. At the Wild Oak, students prepared a three course meal, which included making pasta from scratch with a professional chef. While at the Trees Adventure Park, students tested their courage and endurance on a demanding ropes course. Many soared through the forest on flying foxes and took on a series of thrilling challenges while 15 meters in the air and between enormous 150 year-old Algerian Oak trees.

Now that students have had the opportunity to experience this challenging program it is up to them to design a program of their own. After researching their chosen activity and considering logistics, communication and OH&S issues, they will be in a position to deliver the necessary information and provide practical demonstrations before leading the class.

Steve Tarulli
Applied Learning Coordinator
2012 FEES & LEVIES

If the School Fee Payment Option Form was not returned or quarterly fees paid by the 16th of February then your account is now overdue and follow up action will occur. If you still wish to pay school fees and levies via one of our previously offered direct debit or credit card plans, please return your completed signed form or contact the Finance Department as soon as possible.

I remind parents and guardians that the College is able to make arrangements to meet with any family who experiences genuine difficulty in meeting the deadline for payment of fees and charges, enabling an appropriate repayment system to be established that suits both the family and the College.

Dean de Munk
Business Manager

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE INFORMATION FOR 2012

Application Forms for the Education Maintenance Allowance are available from the Finance Department The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:
- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (1 February 2012) which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (16 July 2012).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 29 February 2012 for the first instalment and 3 August 2012 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $470 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments.

Students turning 16 years in 2012 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

Eligible parents have the option to receive the 50% ‘parent portion’ of the EMA payment directly into the parent’s nominated bank account, or as a cheque payment. The application form includes a section for you to nominate whether you would like your EMA payment to be made to your own bank account or to receive your payment as a cheque. The banking details required will include the BSB code and the Account number.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2012 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 29 February 2012 and prior to or on 3 August 2012, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Contact: If you have any questions please contact Mrs Margaret Kirkwood on 9237 1315.

Applications for the 1st Instalment must be submitted to the school with a PHOTOCOPY of your valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card by 29 FEBRUARY 2012.

NO LATE APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

FROM THE REGISTRAR

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The first Parents and Friends meeting for the year will be held tomorrow night and we would like to issue a warm invitation to all parents and guardians. The evening will commence at 7pm with a ‘cuppa’ followed by the Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and have a say in activities planned for the year. The meeting is held in the staff dining room at the rear of the Mount Saint Joseph building.

As some students still don’t have their dress we will be holding another Deb dress sale in a few weeks time. I will confirm the date in the next newsletter.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Parents & Friends Uniform Shop will be open every Thursday in Term 1 from 12.00 noon to 1.30pm

Mary Ryan
Registrar

HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club will start again next Wednesday 29th February after school at 3.30pm until 4.30pm. If you need help with homework come along to PWR 2.24 (next to McAuley Library) on Wednesdays. You will need to inform your parents you will be staying at school until 4.30 so you can be collected at that time.
To Staff, College Council, Parents, Students and Friends of
Mount Lilydale Mercy College

On behalf of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPPNG) and the Directors of Mercy Education, we write to inform you that Mr Bernard Dobson, will be retiring from his position as Principal of Mount Lilydale Mercy College, effective from 18 January 2013.

Bernard has been an outstanding leader in Catholic Education and has served as Principal of three secondary colleges for over thirty years. He has held the position of Principal of Mount Lilydale Mercy College for three terms, spanning fourteen years since his initial appointment in 1999, and has led the College throughout that time with passion, dedication and untiring energy. His commitment to and appreciation of young people in all their diversity has been unwavering.

Bernard has overseen continual educational improvement at Mount Lilydale Mercy College and has enhanced the excellent facilities and learning opportunities for students through curriculum innovation and numerous capital development projects. These projects include: The Doyle Centre (Multi Purpose Gymnasium and Hall), The Harley Building (Science facilities), The Callaghan Building (Design and Technology, Home Economics and Hospitality and VCAL facilities), and most recently, The Mansfield Learning Centre (Year 7 Building) and Dublin House (Administration Centre). Each of these projects has been managed carefully involving extensive consultation with staff and with excellent financial management to ensure the continuing viability of the College.

Bernard is a man of deep faith and his time at Mount Lilydale Mercy College has seen him demonstrate his firm belief in Gospel teachings through his actions and words. He has espoused the Mercy values each day since he arrived at the College and especially since his visit to the Founding House of Mercy in Dublin in 2001. The community of Mount Lilydale Mercy College is fully immersed in the life of Catherine McAuley and the works of the Sisters of Mercy today. It is not surprising that the final capital project under Bernard’s principalship, and due for completion before the end of this year, is the construction of the Our Lady of Mercy Memorial Chapel.

We are most grateful for the significant contribution Bernard has made to Mount Lilydale Mercy College, to Mercy Education and to Catholic Education. The Board of Mercy Education Limited will now set in motion a process of seeking and appointing the next Principal of Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

With our prayers and continuing support.

Yours sincerely

Sister Kathleen M Tierney rsm
Transition Coordinator – Melbourne

Mr John Shannon
Board Chair, Mercy Education Limited
MONTROSE SOCCER CLUB
Wanted Girls for new under 14 team - (girls turning 15 can apply if they have not been registered with a team before)
Tuesday night come and try night between 6pm and 7pm
KEITH HUME FRASER RESERVE, MONTROSE 3765 Mel Ref 52 F5
Boys for senior squads - premier division and reserves
Preseason training on Tuesday and Thursday 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Contact - Martyn Andrews on Mobile 0419 103 117

MOUNT EVELYN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
Mount Evelyn Neighbourhood Watch in cooperation with Kidsafe will be conducting an open public meeting on child safety. This meeting will allow attendees to gain understanding regarding the new information in respect of your child, toddler and baby safety.

THURSDAY 15 MARCH AT 7.30PM
MORRISON HOUSE (ROOM C), OLD HEREFORD ROAD, MT EVELYN
Further Information phone 9736 2130 or 9736 1808

THE AUSTRALIAN CHILDHOOD VISION IMPAIRMENT REGISTER
The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register is sponsored by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, in partnership with families, teachers, health professionals and low vision agencies. Families are invited to register their children if they suffer from any eye condition diagnosed by an eye doctor (ophthalmologist) that causes vision impairment in both eyes.

Further information and the criteria is available on the website www.vifamilynetwork.org.au

TWILIGHT MARKET
Friday March 23rd
5.00 p.m. till dark...
ST. RICHARD’S PRIMARY
672 MT. BANDENONG RD, KILSYTH
Gourmet food & drink, live music, craft, toys, fashion, kid’s activities & more!
Enquiries to:
strichardsmarketnight@hotmail.com
Rose: 0419 576 667 / Bec: 0418 599 249

IVANHOE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
INTER SCHOOL DRESSAGE AND SHOWJUMPING
Affiliated with the Equestrian Federation of Australia

Friday 16 March 2012
YARRAMBAT PONY CLUB GROUNDS
YAN YEAN RD, YARRAMBAT
Entries close: Wednesday 7 March 2012
See Mrs Conway for entry form.
Consent cards for the 2012 school based immunisation program have now been distributed to all Year 7 students.

If you did not receive this information, please read the fact sheets below, print and then complete the relevant consent card indicating which vaccine your child requires. Please forward this consent form to the school immediately so your child can be included at the first visit.

If your child does not require any of the vaccines listed or you have chosen not to immunise your child, please forward a consent form indicating your decision.

To receive these vaccines free, the program must commence while the student is in year 7 and be finalized before the completion of year 8. After this time you can purchase the vaccines through your GP service.

(Estimated vaccine cost if purchased: Gardasil 3 doses = $450. Hepatitis B 3 doses = $75.00)

Page 2. Consent Form – Year 7 - Female student
Page 3. Consent Form – Year 7 - Male Student
Page 4. Fact Sheet – Hepatitis B and Human papillomavirus
Page 5. Fact Sheet - Chickenpox

If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health Unit on 1300 368 333.

More detail can be obtained from the Department of Health web site

IMMUNISATION CONSENT FORM

Year 7 Immunisation – FEMALE STUDENT

Hepatitis B, Chickenpox

Human Papillomavirus (Gardasil – girls only)

Surname_________________________ First Name ______________________

Address _____________________________________________Postcode______

Daytime Phone Number __________ Date of Birth ___ / ____ / ____

Mobile Phone Number ______________________ Female □ Male □

Is this person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin? □ Yes □ No

MEDICARE NUMBER □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ (NUMBER NEXT TO CHILD NAME)

School: _____________________________________________ Year Level 7 Homegroup _____

Hepatitis B – please read the attached information

□ YES - I have read and understood the information given to me about vaccination including risk and side effects. I understand that I am giving consent for Hepatitis B vaccine to be administered. I have been given the opportunity to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with an immunisation provider. I understand that consent can be withdrawn at any time before vaccination takes place.

□ NO After reading the information provided, I do not wish to have my child immunised with the hepatitis B vaccine at this time.

□ NO My child has already received the vaccine. Dose 1 ______/_____/______ Dose 2 ______/_____/______ Dose 3 ______/_____/______

Name of Parent / Guardian: _____________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Human Papillomavirus (Gardasil) – please read the attached information

□ YES - I have read and understood the information given to me about vaccination including risk and side effects. I understand that I am giving consent for Gardasil vaccine to be administered. I have been given the opportunity to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with an immunisation provider. I understand that consent can be withdrawn at any time before vaccination takes place.

□ NO After reading the information provided, I do not wish to have my child immunised with the Gardasil vaccine at this time.

□ NO My child has already received the vaccine. Dose 1 ______/_____/______ Dose 2 ______/_____/______ Dose 3 ______/_____/______

Name of Parent / Guardian: _____________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Chickenpox – please read the attached information

□ YES - I have read and understood the information given to me about vaccination including risk and side effects. I understand that I am giving consent for Gardasil vaccine to be administered. I have been given the opportunity to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with an immunisation provider. I understand that consent can be withdrawn at any time before vaccination takes place.

□ NO After reading the information provided, I do not wish to have my child immunised with the Gardasil vaccine at this time.

□ NO My child has already had the disease and therefore does not need the vaccine.

□ YES My child has received one dose of the chickenpox vaccine previously and I give permission for them to receive the recommended booster dose. DATE OF PREVIOUS DOSE ______/_____/______

Name of Parent / Guardian: _____________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health Unit on 1300 368 333
IMMUNISATION CONSENT FORM
Year 7 Immunisation – MALE STUDENT

Hepatitis B, Chickenpox

Surname_________________________ First Name ______________________

Address _____________________________________________ Postcode_____

Daytime Phone Number __________________________ Date of Birth ____ / ____ / _____

Mobile Phone Number __________________________ Female  □   Male  □

Is this person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin? □ Yes   □ No

School: __________________________________________ Year Level 7 Homegroup ___

The information you provide on this form is for the sole purpose of monitoring immunisation programs by the State and Australian Government. The information you provide on this consent card will be kept confidential and identifying information will not be disclosed for any other purpose. You can access your information by contacting your immunisation provider.

Hepatitis B – please read the attached information

□ YES - I have read and understood the information given to me about vaccination including risk and side effects. I understand that I am giving consent for Hepatitis B vaccine to be administered. I have been given the opportunity to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with an immunisation provider. I understand that consent can be withdrawn at any time before vaccination takes place.

□ NO After reading the information provided, I do not wish to have my child immunised with the hepatitis B vaccine at this time.

□ NO My child has already received the vaccine. Dose 1 ____ / ____ / ____

□ NO My child has already had the disease and therefore does not need the vaccine.

□ YES My child has received one dose of the chickenpox vaccine previously and I give permission for them to receive the recommended booster dose. DATE OF PREVIOUS DOSE ____ / ____ / ____

Name of Parent / Guardian: __________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Chickenpox – please read the attached information

□ YES - I have read and understood the information given to me about vaccination including risk and side effects. I understand that I am giving consent for Chickenpox vaccine to be administered. I have been given the opportunity to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with an immunisation provider. I understand that consent can be withdrawn at any time before vaccination takes place.

□ NO After reading the information provided, I do not wish to have my child immunised with the Chickenpox vaccine at this time.

□ NO My child has already had the disease and therefore does not need the vaccine.

□ YES My child has received one dose of the chickenpox vaccine previously and I give permission for them to receive the recommended booster dose. DATE OF PREVIOUS DOSE ____ / ____ / ____

Name of Parent / Guardian: __________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health Unit on 1300 368 333. More detail can be obtained from the Department of Health web site www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/
Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is a virus that causes serious infection. It is carried in the blood and affects the liver and can cause fever, nausea, tiredness, dark urine and yellow skin. All children should be protected against the risk of hepatitis B disease. In extreme cases hepatitis B can destroy the liver and cause death. Other people can be infected with the virus and ‘carry’ it for a long time (even for life) without knowing. These people are in danger of developing cancer of the liver and cirrhosis (scarring) of the liver later in life. Both of these diseases can kill. People who ‘carry’ hepatitis B virus may infect other healthy people with the virus. In Australia, the rate of diagnosed hepatitis B infection has increased dramatically over the last 20 years with many thousands of people becoming chronic carriers. Rates of infection are highest in young adults. Hepatitis B virus is usually spread through the blood of an infected person or from mother to child at birth. At an older age the virus can be spread through such activities as unsafe sex, injecting drug use, tattooing or body piercing, using unsterilised equipment and contact sports, when there are cuts or grazes.

Hepatitis B vaccine

The vaccine is now offered to all children in Year 7 at school. A two dose hepatitis B vaccine has now been approved for adolescents aged 11–15 years and involves the administration of two doses given four to six months apart. If your child has already completed a course of hepatitis B vaccine (consisting of three paediatric doses), no further doses are required. Please complete the relevant sections on the consent card and return the form to school.

The vaccines used in Australia contain a genetically engineered part of the virus and a small amount of an aluminium salt.

Possible side-effects of hepatitis B vaccine.

Most side-effects are minor and quickly disappear.

If the following reactions occur, it will be soon after the immunisation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common side-effects</th>
<th>Rare side-effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• low grade temperature</td>
<td>• Severe allergic reaction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• pain, redness and swelling at the injection site</td>
<td>If mild reactions do occur, the side-effects can be reduced by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• feeling unwell</td>
<td>• drinking extra fluids and not overdressing if the person has a fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• joint pain</td>
<td>• applying a cold wet cloth on the sore injection site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• five to 30 minutes after any vaccination, fainting may occur.</td>
<td>• taking paracetamol to reduce any discomfort.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chickenpox

Chickenpox is a highly contagious infection caused by the varicella zoster virus. Chickenpox is spread through coughs and sneezes and through direct contact with the fluid in the blisters of the rash. It is usually a mild disease of short duration in healthy children; sometimes chickenpox will develop into more severe illness such as bacterial skin infections resulting in scarring, pneumonia or inflammation of the brain. Adults who contract chickenpox generally experience more severe symptoms. Chickenpox may also be a risk to the unborn baby if contracted during pregnancy. Chickenpox can cause serious illness and even death in all ages. The incubation period for chickenpox is 10 to 21 days, followed by the appearance of a rash of red spots initially, then becoming blisters within hours. The spots usually appear on the trunk, face and other parts of the body. Most people infected with chickenpox have a fever and feel unwell and may experience severe itching. Anyone who has never had chickenpox before can catch it. About 75 per cent of people catch chickenpox before 12 years of age. Any person with a reliable history of chickenpox infection is considered immune and does not require the vaccine. This includes mild disease.

Chickenpox vaccine

The chickenpox vaccine contains modified live virus at a reduced strength and a small amount of the antibiotic, neomycin. Research has shown that two doses of chickenpox vaccine in children provides increased protection and reduces the risk of chickenpox occurring at a later time.

Possible side-effects of chickenpox vaccine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uncommon side-effects</th>
<th>Extremely rare side-effect</th>
<th>The side-effects can be reduced by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>About two to five chickenpox like spots may occur usually at the injection site and sometimes on other parts of the body between five and 26 days after vaccination. If this occurs the person should avoid direct contact with people with low immunity until the spots dry out.</td>
<td>• severe allergic reaction. If mild reactions do occur they may last one to two days.</td>
<td>• drinking extra fluids and not overdressing if the person has a fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• placing a cold wet cloth on the sore injection site • taking paracetamol to reduce discomfort. If reactions are severe or persistent, or if you are worried, contact your doctor or hospital.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most side-effects are minor and quickly disappear. If the following reactions occur, it will be soon after the immunisation:

- fever over 39°C
- soreness, redness and swelling at the injection site
- a temporary small lump at the injection site.
HPV is a very common virus in men and women. Most HPV infections cause no symptoms and are cleared from the body in less than a year without the person knowing they were infected. Some types of HPV can cause genital warts. Some types can cause cancer if the body cannot clear the infection over many years. The vaccine provides best protection when given before a girl becomes sexually active. It is very common to be infected with one or more types of HPV shortly after becoming sexually active. Some HPV types that infect the cervix (part of the female reproductive system) can cause abnormal cells to develop and eventually, in some women, lead to cervical cancer.

**What are the benefits in receiving the HPV vaccine?**
The HPV vaccine GARDASIL® protects against two HPV types which cause 90 per cent of genital warts and two HPV types which cause 70 per cent of cervical cancer. The HPV vaccine is nearly 100 per cent effective in preventing infection with these four HPV types. The vaccine reduces the risk of cervical cancer, genital warts and other rarer cancers caused by HPV.

**Are Pap tests still needed in the future?**
Yes, because the vaccine doesn’t prevent all types of HPV infection, Pap tests will still be essential later in life. Pap tests are recommended for all women every two years, starting at age 18 or two years after first becoming sexually active, whichever is later. Having regular Pap tests further reduces the risk of developing cervical cancer.

**How is the vaccine given?**
The HPV vaccine course of three injections is given over six months, into the upper arm.

**How long will vaccine protection last?**
Recent studies have shown good continuing protection against HPV. Studies are ongoing to determine if a booster dose will be necessary in the future.

**How safe is the HPV vaccine?**
The vaccine does not contain HPV but appears similar enough to the virus so that the body produces antibodies, which prevent HPV infection. It is safe and well tolerated. Worldwide millions of doses have been given.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Side effects</th>
<th>Uncommon side-effects:</th>
<th>Rare side-effect:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• pain, redness and swelling at the injection site</td>
<td>• rash or hives.</td>
<td>• severe allergic reaction, for example, facial swelling, difficulty breathing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• low grade fever</td>
<td>It is recommended that anyone who has a rash or hives after a vaccine should talk with their immunisation provider before having further doses of that same vaccine.</td>
<td>In the event of a severe allergic reaction, immediate medical attention will be provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• feeling unwell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• headache</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• fainting (may occur five to 30 minutes following any vaccine).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pre-Immunisation checklist**
Before your daughter is immunised, tell your doctor or nurse if any of the following apply:
- Is unwell on the day of immunisation with a fever over 38.5°C
- Has had a severe reaction to any vaccine
- Has an anaphylactic allergy to yeast
- Is pregnant

If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health Unit on 1300 368 333. More detail can be obtained from the Department of Health web site [www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/)
Consent cards for the 2012 school based immunisation program have now been distributed to all Year 10 students.

If you did not receive this information, please read the fact sheets below, print and then complete the consent form indicating which vaccine your child requires. Please forward this consent form to the school immediately so your child can be included in this program.

If your child does not require this vaccine or you have chosen not to immunise your child, please forward a consent form indicating your decision.

Page 2. Consent Form – Year 10
Page 3. Fact Sheet – Boosterix vaccine – Tetanus, diphtheria, Pertussis (whooping cough)

If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health Unit on 1300 368 333. More detail can be obtained from the Department of Health web site www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/
IMMUNISATION CONSENT FORM
Year 10 Immunisation
Boosterix Vaccine
Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough)

Surname______________________________________ First Name_____________________
Address______________________________________ Postcode_____________________
Phone Number__________________________ Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____
Female ☐  Male ☐
Is this person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin? ☐ Yes ☐ No
School: __________________________________________ Year Level 10 Homegroup ____

☐ NO – My child has already had the Boosterix vaccine – Date given __/__/__
Name of Parent / Guardian:_________________________________________________
Signature: __________________________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

☐ NO – After reading the information provided, I do not wish to have my child
immunised with diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough vaccine.
Name of Parent / Guardian:_________________________________________________
Signature: __________________________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

☐ YES - I have read and understood the information given to me about vaccination
including risk and side effects. I understand that I am giving consent for a dose of
diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough vaccine to be administered. I have been
given the opportunity to discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with an
immunisation provider. I understand that consent can be withdrawn at any time
before vaccination takes place.
Name of Parent / Guardian:_________________________________________________
Signature: __________________________________________ Date ____ / ____ / ____

If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the
Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health
Unit on 1300 368 333.

OFFICE USE ONLY
Yarra Ranges Council Date ____ / ____ / ____
FACT SHEET – YEAR 10 BOOSTERIX VACCINE

Diphtheria

Diphtheria is caused by bacteria found in the mouth, throat and nose. Diphtheria causes a membrane to grow around the inside of the throat. This can make it difficult to swallow, breathe and can even lead to suffocation.

The bacteria produce a poison which can spread around the body and cause serious complications such as paralysis and heart failure. Around 10 percent of people who contract diphtheria die from it.

Diphtheria can be caught through coughs and sneezes from an infected person.

Tetanus

Tetanus is caused by bacteria which are present in soils, dust and manure. The bacteria can enter the body through a wound which may be as small as a pin prick. Tetanus cannot be passed from person to person.

Tetanus is often a fatal disease which attacks the nervous system. It causes muscle spasms first felt in the neck and jaw muscles. Tetanus can lead to breathing difficulties, painful convulsions and abnormal heart rhythms.

Due to the effectiveness of the vaccine, tetanus is now rare in Australia, but does still occur in adults who have never been immunised against the disease or who have not had their booster vaccines.

Pertussis (whooping cough)

Pertussis (whooping cough) is a highly contagious disease that affects the air passages and breathing. The disease causes severe coughing spasms. Between these spasms, the child gasps for breath. Coughing spasms are often followed by vomiting and the cough can last for months.

Pertussis can lead to complications such as haemorrhage, convulsions, pneumonia, coma, inflammation of the brain, permanent brain damage and long-term lung damage. Around one in every 200 children under six months of age who catches pertussis will die.

Pertussis can be caught through coughs and sneezes from an infected person.

Protection against pertussis both from the disease and the vaccine decreases over time. Therefore a booster dose of pertussis vaccine is recommended for adolescents in Year 10 (as well as other groups in the community) to reduce the incidence of it in the community.

All Pertussis-containing vaccines were changed in 1999 to a new formula, which has reduced the incidence of local and other reactions to the vaccine.

More detail can be obtained from the Department of Health web site www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/. If you wish to discuss the risks and benefits regarding any of these vaccines please contact the Department of Health immunisation line on 1300 882 008 or the Yarra Ranges Council Public Health Unit on 1300 368 333.