Middle Years Principal’s College Report

College Principal, Ms Trish Horner, is on a well-deserved long service leave break and will be back at the College at the start of next term. Any urgent matters should be directed to Ms Caroline van den Heuvel (Middle Years Campus Principal) until that time.

NEW COLLEGE WEBSITE
The College is proud to announce the launch of its new website. The launch has been long in the making and I would like to thank and congratulate Shawn Barnard, Colin Burke, Renee Colbey and Joanne Armarego for their efforts and contributions. Please visit [http://www.millparksc.vic.edu.au](http://www.millparksc.vic.edu.au) and browse the news and offerings!

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
The end of term is approaching rapidly and students need to ensure that all work is up to date and completed to the best of their ability.

Parent / Teacher / Student interviews will be held on Wednesday 27 March from 12:40pm until 8:20 pm. These interviews are an opportunity for you to talk briefly with your child’s subject teachers about your child’s progress, celebrate current achievements and to consider a plan to improve future learning outcomes.

The College will once again hold the interviews on the Senior Campus and will use the Parent Portal available on the school website to make the bookings. All families will receive a letter with their username and password required to make bookings. Please note that the portal is not yet ready to access. An SMS message will be sent to all families when the portal has been activated.

Parents should also use the portal to print their child’s report prior to the interviews taking place. If this is difficult please arrive at the Senior Campus early so that a copy can be printed at the General Office.

LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
Parents and carers please note that this Monday, 11 March is a public holiday. Students are not required at school and parents/carers should make alternative arrangements for their care.

REMINDER - IMMUNISATIONS 2013
Parents are reminded that the immunisation cards must be signed and returned to the school, even if your child is not having the immunisation. Thank you to the Year 7, 9 and 10 parents who have returned the cards, however, we still have quite a few [YEAR 10] students whose cards have not been returned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Immunisation Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20 March</td>
<td>Year 7 Girls &amp; Boys (HPV1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 7 Girls &amp; Boys (Chickenpox)</td>
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<td>Year 9 Boys (HPV1)</td>
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<td>Friday 25 March</td>
<td>Year 10 Girls &amp; Boys (Boostrix)</td>
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<td>Friday 24 May</td>
<td>Year 7 Girls &amp; Boys (HPV2)</td>
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<td>Year 9 Boys (HPV2)</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18 September</td>
<td>Year 7 Girls (HPV3)</td>
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<td>Year 9 Boys (HPV3)</td>
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VISITORS TO SCHOOL
A reminder to parents that while visitors are welcome to the school, we ask that all visitors report to the front office in order to ensure the safety and security of our students. Students who need to call home should do so via the front office.

ATHLETICS DAY
Our Annual College Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 22 March at the Meadowglen Athletics Track, 146 – 156 McDonald’s Rd, Epping. Students are required to make their own way to and from the track and will be dismissed at the conclusion of the event - approximately 2:30pm.

Please note that this is a whole College activity and no classes will run back at either Campus on the day. Students are encouraged to wear House colours with pride!

SAFETY FIRST
In the interest of students’ safety, the staff car parks at each Campus are FOR STAFF ONLY. Parents/carers/friends dropping off or picking up students are asked to park their car in nearby streets and not in the Staff Car Park. There have been several near misses lately with the congestion of cars and students leaving school grounds at the same time being of great concern. Your cooperation in this is appreciated.

2013 SCHOOL COUNCIL

WE STILL NEED YOU!

There is one casual vacancy left on School Council. The Council meets twice a term on Tuesdays at 6:00pm commencing with a light meal. The meetings are generally finished by 7:30pm and it is a great way to meet with staff, students and other parents and also learn about the school.

There are also various sub-committees parents can join. These committees meet at least twice a term on a Tuesday night (usually the 2nd Tuesday of the month).

These committees are: Education
Student Engagement & Well Being
Resources
Community
Finance

It is vitally important that we have parent input. If you are interested in joining School Council or one of the committees or have any questions, please contact Joanne Armarego on 9407 9700.

END OF TERM
The last day of term is Thursday 28 March, as Friday is a public holiday for Good Friday. Term two will commence on Monday 15 April.
On Tuesday 12 February Mill Park Secondary College ran yet another highly successful swimming carnival. Students were fantastic in their attendance at the event, with the majority of Middle Years students attending and a number of Senior Campus students participating on the day. Students participated in swimming events such as freestyle, backstroke, breast stroke and butterfly, as well as novelty events. The results of the house competition were as follows:

1st: Eaglet 703 pts
2nd: Whernside 674 pts
3rd: Studley 663 pts
4th: Redleap 615 pts

A special thanks must go out to the senior VET: Sport and Recreation students for their help and organisation of the carnival. The College wishes students representing Mill Park at the upcoming Northern Metropolitan Region Swimming the best of luck!

Darren Patterson
Physical Education MYC
House Leader MYC

The Year 9 boys acquitted themselves very well on Friday 1 March at Darebin Sport Centre. It should be noted that these boys were playing against teams filled with Year 10 students.

The day started particularly well, taking the first set against Lalor North, who were a well drilled team. Sadly the dig-set-spike/block routine, combined with a run of missed serves resulted in a 2 sets to one loss. The boys rallied to win 2 sets to one against Thomastown and then really got their teamwork going to manage a 2 set to one win against a very tall and skilled Epping team. Captain Michael Sega strategically rested a few players (be assured it’s not a rotation policy) during a comfortable straight sets win over The Lakes.

Our last round clash against Lalor was an opportunity to sneak into the next round, as we had only lost to Lalor North. Lalor North had only lost to Lalor, so a win would see us all tied on one loss. The first set was a tight affair which we narrowly won. We were close in the second, but always a couple of points down. Lalor took the lead in the 3rd and outplayed us to deserve their progression to the next round.

This set of boys have the making of a competitive team at state level, so keep your eyes open for these names in the volleyball future of MPSC:

- Michael Sega (Captain Courageous);
- Osama Al Saadi;
- Ali Hamoud;
- Riley Hopkins;
- Aaron Lazaric;
- Stuart Lee;
- Stefan Markovski;
- Jeighmar Nayve;
- Adrian Sabic;
- Alec Smith.

WELL DONE!

Simon McRae
MYC Student Manager

The Middle Years Campus School Representative Council met for its first official ceremony on Monday 4 March. In recognition for their dedication to improving the school and giving their best, the Principal team laid out a wonderful morning tea for the SRC members. At the morning tea, each elected member of the SRC was presented with their official badge – a reminder that they have taken on the responsibility to be a role model and leader for the student body. Also present were the unelected yet very dedicated SRC members who also give of their time and energy to make the SRC great.

The SRC meets Friday lunchtimes to plan events and develop their leadership skills. An upcoming event is the ‘Crazy Hair Friday’ on 15 March to raise funds and awareness for the Leukaemia Foundation.
INSIDE THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP
Congratulations to our newly elected Senior Campus Student Leadership Team. We look forward to working with you this year.

Back Row: from left to right
James Tsividis, Stephanie McDonald, Krishna Batmesswaran, Wiaan Venter, Ramtin Resai-Kashkooli, Jarrad Conron, Alexandra Toutzoglou, Adele Munoz

Middle: from left to right
Liam Gallagher, Rebecca Elder, Emily Stambanis, Michael Brennan, Sandali Wijekoon, Sarah Davies, Natalie Pejoski

Front: from left to right
Cherie Hallett, Celine Tsatsalmas, Karisma Takah, Bushra Mumin, Cam Lu, Joanna Anagnostou, Paloma Kostur

In the next couple of weeks we will be publishing personal profiles of the student leaders on our Campus. This will allow you to gain insight into their goals and what they wish to achieve while they are in their leadership position.

SENIOR BOYS CRICKET
Congratulations to our Senior Boys Cricket team; Jordan Ballerini, Jai Burston, Jordyn Eldrett, Stephen Fitzpatrick, Liam Gray, Luke Hough, Brodie Jenkins, Max McKenzie-Smith, Anthony McMaster, Lochlan Moran, David Phan, Brad Riley, Matthew Romano, Aj Stefanile & Bailey Taglieri-Sclocchi, who are on a winning streak. They have made their way to the Northern Metropolitan Regional finals which will be held on Wednesday March 20. Good luck to this fantastic team.

STUDENTS LEAVING EARLY
We understand that sometimes it is difficult to make medical/dental appointments for students after school. If a student does need to leave school before 3:02pm, the correct procedure to follow is;

1. Parent/carer MUST provide a written note which clearly states;
   a) The student’s name & Homegroup
   b) The date for which they need to leave early
   c) The reason why they need to leave early
   d) The time they physically need to leave school grounds
   e) The parent/carer must sign the note

2. If the student is in class at the time they need to leave, they must show the parent note to the classroom teacher to be excused from class.

3. The student should then go to their locker to collect any belongings they need to take if they are not returning from their appointment afterwards.

4. The student MUST then make their way to the General Office and present the note. Students will be issued with an ‘Early Leavers Pass’ which they should carry on them. Students are NOT permitted to leave school grounds without first obtaining an Early Leavers Pass.

   If parents are collecting their students to take them to the appointment, the above steps must still be followed.

Parents/carers are asked NOT to arrive at school expecting that we will make PA announcements during class time to get their child out of class. PA announcements are only made during recess, lunchtime and after school. Parents may be asked to wait until these times before their child is notified. This may make you late for your appointments. The best and easiest way to ensure the student arrives at the office on time to be collected is to provide them with a written note as outlined above.

Parents/carers are also asked NOT to SMS their child in class requesting they come to the office. Students are not permitted to use their phone in class. Staff will only allow students to leave if they are provided with a parent written note with the details outlined above on it.

RESPECT ACHIEVEMENT RESPONSIBILITY ENJOYMENT
Together, we engage, educate and celebrate excellence, developing students who are respectful and responsible.
SENIOR SCHOOL ENGLISH

In Week 8 all Year 12 students will be completing their first English SAC which requires students to develop, in writing, a critical interpretation of Louis Nowra’s Australian play Cosi.

Since the beginning of this area of study (which was commenced during Step Up last year) English teachers have been working diligently with their classes to explore this text and oversee the drafting of practice writing pieces. The following are some tips compiled by our staff, which we hope will assist parents and their children completing Year 12 English in understanding how to prepare for this important first assessment.

SAC writing and preparation tips:

✓ Have an excellent understanding of the text. Show the assessor that you do by referring to specific parts of the play.
  E.g. In the play’s final scene when Roy and Lewis discuss...

✓ When using quotes make sure you not only explain the part of the play this quote comes from but ALSO what this reveals.
  E.g. In the play’s final scene when Roy and Lewis discuss doing Don Giovanni for next year’s show, it is apparent the two men – for the first time- have reached a common understanding.

✓ Demonstrate an understanding of the social, historical and cultural context of the film and the highly political or moral messages its author was trying to convey at that time.
  E.g. Nowra’s play is set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War and the emerging feminist movement of the early 1970s. [Then explain how this comes through in the play]

✓ You can’t only discuss the characters and themes. You have to comment on the use of setting, stage direction, language style or sounds, and suggest how/why these techniques have been used to position the audience to see the characters/narrative in a certain way.
  E.g. Doug’s crude Australian slang exists in complete contrast to the highly lyrical language of Cosi fan tutte. Nowra does this to highlight...

✓ You need to be sophisticated – consider your vocabulary choices and aim for an interpretation that shows depth of thought. Use a thesaurus to extend your vocabulary.

✓ Write a killer introduction and conclusion. Put the rest of your ideas in a logical and purposeful order, building a strong case. Ensure you make sense.

✓ Draft several practice SACs at home. Share your essay with friends/family and ask for honest, critical feedback. Even if they haven’t read the play, parents can give great advice on the logical order of your ideas/paragraphs and they can see if your argument makes sense!

✓ Use your teacher. Email him/her drafts and get feedback to improve your writing. Stay for homework club. Make it your mission to put 110% effort into this task so that you can honestly say ‘I’m doing the very best I can’.

✓ Have faith in your ability. You are clever, you have insightful ideas and there are lots of people here to help you if you need it.

Felicity Williams
Head of English
PHYSICS EXCUSION—LUNA PARK

On Tuesday 5 March, 26 Year 12 Physics students set out from South Morang Station and headed to Luna Park for a physics excursion. We arrived at 10am, and were greeted by 600 other students, and an aerobatic display by a RAAF Roulette plane above St Kilda beach. The students then ventured into Luna Park to discover for themselves how Physics can keep you in your seat while you are being swung in a vertical circle! We spent the day riding the various rides, while having discussions on how they all worked, and calculating forces, accelerations and measuring g-forces. It was a great day had by all, although some students had a little difficulty with the 3.5 g-force on some of the rides...

Matthew McGovern

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

All Year 10 students are required to participate in the Work Experience Program running in the last week of Term 2 (24-28 June). This is a valuable experience and is designed to assist students to explore possible career options & pathways post school. Students are placed with employers primarily to observe and learn. Students can also gain knowledge about a field of interest, a reference and some part time work. Students are required to organise their own placement and the clock is ticking so if you haven’t yet organised your placement, please move quickly. For students who are intending to work in the Building & Construction industry, there may be a requirement for additional occupational health & safety training (White Card) which will incur a cost (if not already doing VET Building & Construction). All enquiries regarding work experience should be directed to Belinda Mahony, Work Experience Coordinator in the Careers Centre (Wednesday – Friday).

Work experience arrangement forms are due back on Monday 15 April (first day of Term 2).

Below is a testimonial from a student who participated in last year’s program.

During Work Experience I was situated at the Austin Hospital in the University of Melbourne Research Laboratory. For the majority of the week, I assisted the staff in ongoing research, although I was lucky enough to spend some time in the animal house, as well as receive a tour of the Emergency Department.

I was able to prepare some of the rats and mice for studies regarding obesity and tumours, while helping out with everyday tasks, like changing the bedding and food. While in the Research Lab I worked with DNA, namely sequencing and cutting it, later finding that it would be used in an attempt to find a cure for Hepatitis C, for which there is currently no vaccination.

Work experience was an incredible opportunity, allowing me to see what was involved in a career in medical research. The staff were friendly and more than willing to help me experience as many things as possible, encouraging me to enjoy the once in a lifetime experience.

Selina Matthews
1. OPEN DAYS — Universities and TAFE Institutes hold annual Open Days for the public. They are an opportunity to visit, talk to staff and students, collect information and see facilities. As such, they are a great way to assist in deciding where you wish to study once you finish school. They are generally held in term 3, but many of the dates are supplied here so you can get them in your diary and make your visits a priority. Year 10 or 11 is a great time to start your visits; Year 12 is not too late....

OPEN DAY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
(10am – 4pm)
- Sat 3 Aug – Monash Uni (Berwick, Gippsland, Parkville, Peninsula campuses)
- Sun 4 Aug – Deakin Uni (Warrnambool); Monash Uni (Caulfield, Clayton); Swinburne (Hawthorn)
- Sun 11 Aug – Australian Catholic Uni (Melbourne); Deakin (Geelong); RMIT
- Sun 18 Aug – La Trobe Uni (Bendigo); Melbourne Uni (Parkville & Southbank - VCA);
- Sun 25 Aug – ACU (Ballarat); Ballarat Uni; Box Hill Institute: Deakin (Burwood); La Trobe (Bundoora); Victoria Uni; William Angliss Inst.
- Sun 1 Sept – La Trobe (Albury/Wodonga)
Note: Holmesglen has as Open Day every third Wednesday of the month; visit on your way home from school or during the day; see www.holmesglen.edu.au/showcase/events/open_wednesdays

2. OPEN DAY FOR VETERINARY SCIENCE The University of Melbourne’s Veterinary Science and Hospital has its’ annual Open Day from 10am to 3pm, Sunday 17 March; Where: 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee; Info: www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday. Step behind the scenes at the veterinary hospital and tour the facilities; discover a range of animals, attend lectures and see displays; speak to staff and students. Course and career advice will be available throughout the day. Prospective students and parents will learn about the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine graduate program. Veterinary and community groups will provide information on pet care and other special interests.

4. EXPLORE COURSES AND CAREERS AT RMIT – Back by popular demand in 2013, is a range of ‘Experience Day’ holiday programs for Year 10-12 students. Get a hands-on and interactive experience of courses on offer at RMIT, and find out about careers in accounting, engineering, fashion, justice, medical sciences, media, advertising, environment, IT, and art and design. To register interest and to be notified when events are on go to: www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays.

5. WANT ADVICE FROM SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OR TAFE? Appointments are now available for secondary students throughout the year. You can book a time that suits you to meet a course advisor face to face, receive course advice, ask questions and receive application assistance. Info: www.swinburne.edu.au/study-at-swinburne/events/

6. ENGINEERS CAREERS EXPO – Engineers Australia has an Expo providing interactive workshops, over 80 exhibitors, presentations and advice from leaders in the engineering profession. When: 11am-7pm, Thurs 21 Mar; Where: Etihad stadium; Info: www.engineeringexpo.org.au; OR: Sarah on 9321 1703, scooke@engineersaustralia.org.au.

7. ANOTHER CAREERS WEBSITE TO CHECK - to add to those from last newsletter: www.education.vic.gov.au/victorianskillsgateway

8. MONASH ARTS LAUNCHES FACEBOOK PAGE – This page provides VCE students with a chance to learn about studying at Monash in an environment where you feel at home. Features: current students describing experiences; staff providing insights into their study areas. ‘Liking’ the Monash page is a great way to begin to get a feel for university life and to ask questions. See: www.facebook.com/MonashArts
9. **WANT A HEAD START IN FINDING YOUR IDEAL COURSE?** Explore your options early by attending the ‘At Monash Seminars’ to hear from current students, graduates and staff. Gain an overview of the university experience, courses, and careers. **What, when and where?**

- **Arts** (Humanities/social sciences): Tues 5 Mar (Caulfield) campus, Wed 22 May (Clayton)
- **Architecture and interior architecture**: Wed 6 Mar (Caulfield)
- **Nursing, midwifery and emergency health**: Thurs 7 Mar (Peninsula)
- **Business & economics**: Wed 13 Mar (Clayton)
- **Science**: Thurs 14 Mar (Clayton)
- **Physiotherapy and occupational therapy**: Tues 19 Mar (Peninsula)
- **Information technology**: Wed 20 Mar (Caulfield)
- **Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences**: Thurs 21 Mar (Parkville)
- **Design and fine art**: Wed 17 April (Caulfield)
- **Psychology**: Thurs 18 April (Clayton)
- **Law**: Wed 1 May (Clayton)
- **Health science and social work**: Tues 7 May (Caulfield)
- **Teaching, sport and outdoor recreation**: Wed 8 May (Peninsula), Thurs 27 June (Clayton)
- **Medicine**: Mon 13 May (Clayton)
- **Education and nursing**: Tues 21 May (Berwick)
- **Biomedical science, radiography, and nutrition and dietetics**: Wed 29 May (Clayton)
- **Engineering**: Thurs 30 May (Clayton)
- **Performing arts and music**: Tues 20 Aug (Clayton)

All seminars: 6.30-8.00pm; Information/registration (essential): call 1800 MONASH or www.monash.edu/seminars. Places are limited.

10. **WHERE CAN I STUDY FASHION?** Wanting to study fashion? There are many courses to consider, with University, TAFE and private providers offering qualifications. **RMIT University** (City) offers a 4-year Bachelor of Design (Fashion). Of the 2012 Year 12 students who applied for this course, 63 were offered a place (ie very competitive). Another 41 non-Year 12s were also offered a place. **RMIT TAFE** (Brunswick) also offers the 2-year Associate Degree in Fashion Design and Technology, and courses in fashion merchandising.

Many aspiring fashion designers complete a **TAFE course first**, a great way to start your training. **Box Hill Institute**, The **Gordon** (Geelong), Holmesglen (City), Kangan (Richmond) and RMIT TAFE (Brunswick) offer various diploma courses such as Cert IV, the diploma and the advanced diploma in **Applied Fashion Design and Technology**. Holmesglen also offers the 3-year Bachelor of Fashion (Apparel Engineering and Design), and **Box Hill the Bachelor of Fashion Design**.

Private colleges: **Whitehouse Institute of Design** (City) offers a 3-year Bachelor of Design (Fashion), **Billy Blue College of Design** (City) offers the 3-year Bachelor of Applied Design (Branded Fashion), **Holmes Institute** (City) offers the Bachelor of Fashion and Business, while the **Australian Academy of Design** (Port Melb) offers the Bachelor of Design Arts (Fashion Design). Also on offer is the 1-year Diploma of Costume for Performance at **Swinburne** (wardrobe for film, TV and entertainment). Application almost invariably includes an interview and folio presentation. Therefore, it is essential that you study a VCE subject(s) to help develop a suitable folio as you must be able to demonstrate a suitable level of creativity. Make sure you attend appropriate **Open Days**. Difficult to explain at an interview why you want to study a particular course if you have never been there....

11. **BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE** – At Melbourne students mostly choose from one of six initial degrees: **arts, biomedicine, commerce, environments, music or science**. The B. Environments is a unique program, allowing students to shape our world through design, management, planning, advising, construction, research and social change. Major study areas to choose from: **architecture, civil systems, construction, environmental engineering systems, environmental geographies, politics and cultures, environmental science, geomatics, landscape architecture, property and urban planning and design**. The degree engages students in interdisciplinary thinking from the start, and leads to a variety of career outcomes.

Compiled by: M. Walker
**Wow Factor Holiday Program**

Inclusive holiday activities for young people aged 13 - 17 years.

**Interact Australia** provides experienced staff to support young people with a disability to get out and about in their community, make new friends and add some excitement to the school holidays.

**The Wow Factor Program**
8.30am – 5.30pm daily

**Tuesday 2 April 2013**
Go-karts, laser-tag, bowling & sumo wrestling at ‘Fun City’.

**Thursday 4 April 2013**
Sport and fitness at La Trobe Sports Centre.

**Friday 5 April 2013**
A morning of swimming at TRAC and an afternoon encounter with reptiles at EDGE Youth Services.

**IT’S A GOOD DEAL!**
The costs for activities, entrance tickets, and lunch are included in the program fees.

**The Venue**
Each day, activities begin and end at EDGE Youth Services.
Shop MM1, 415 McDonalds Rd, Mill Park.

**For More Information**
Melissa Nottle-Justice
Phone: (03) 8550 7054 Mobile: 0407 887 270
Email: mnottle-justice@interactaustralia.com.au

You can also contact us through Facebook & Twitter at
Facebook: www.facebook.com/wow.factor.ia
Twitter: www.twitter.com/wow_factor_ia

Get the WOW factor these school holidays!

**Wow Factor Holiday Program**

Who can join the Wow Factor Holiday Program?
This program is open to young people aged 13-17 years who live or go to school in the City of Whittlesea. The program specifically caters for young people with a mild to moderate disability.

**What to bring?**
- Comfortable clothing suitable for outdoor activities and appropriate footwear. For example, shorts or pants, a t-shirt and comfortable runners would be fine.
- Swimwear and a towel if wanting to use the pools at TRAC (Thornstrove Recreation and Aquatic Centre).
- Feel free to bring along your own snacks and drinks for morning and afternoon tea.
- Please note: Interact has a strict NO NUT policy so please make sure the food and drink brought into the program does not contain nuts or nut traces.
- Any medication that requires administering during the day as identified on your personal information form.
- Any changes of clothes that might be required or other personal items.

**Interact Staff**
Our staff are well trained and very experienced in working with young people with a range of physical, cognitive and sensory abilities as well as behavioural issues. The program is funded to provide a staff ratio of 1 staff member to every 4 young people and we deliver individualised support to make sure each young person gets the most out of every activity.

**How to make a booking?**
Step 1. Call or email the Program Administrator, Melissa Nottle-Justice to express your interest.
Step 2. You will be contacted by an Interact staff member within 2 working days to discuss the suitability of the program for your child or children, and any special requirements they may have. If eligible for the program you will be sent a ‘Personal Information and Booking Form’. We can provide assistance in completing the form with you if required.
Step 3. This form must be completed and returned to Interact along with your payment by Friday 22 March 2013 to secure your booking.

**Program Fees**
For individual enrolments: 1 day - $30 2 days - $50 3 days - $60
For double enrolments: 1 day - $45 2 days - $75 3 days - $90

Please note: Payments must be received by Interact on or before Friday 22 March 2013 to secure your place in the program.

**Transport to and from home**
This can be provided upon request for a small additional fee of $4 each way per day.
Please note: Hardship rates will be considered.

Wow Factor is proudly supported by the City of Whittlesea in partnership with Interact Australia.
HOTLINE: 132 468

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefited from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.