

Thursday 18th June, 2009.

Dear Parents of Year 9 students,

By now you will have received the exciting news from Mr Grace that our new Year 9 Centre will be ready for us to occupy from the beginning of Term 3! After many years of planning, we will finally be able to use our specially designed learning spaces and facilities to enhance what is already an exciting Year 9 curriculum.

The following details will provide you with an overview of the range of activities and implications for Year 9 students as we manage and celebrate this transition.

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th July – For the rest of the school community these will be the first days back after the term break. However, for Year 9 students they **will not be required at school**. Essentially the reason for these two student-free days is to enable staff to set-up the new classrooms and other facilities. From the Monday through to the Wednesday, all staff at Donvale will be involved in three days of professional development with all other teachers in Christian schools around Victoria. We have been committed to these days for a considerable period of time and therefore we are not able to use these days to make the move into the new building. We appreciate your understanding of this situation. However, we will be looking for 10-12 mature and thoughtful students to help us with our unpacking and setting up on the Thursday and Friday. If your son or daughter would like to assist us in this way, please let me know.

Saturday 18th July – From 12.30-3.00pm, all Year 9 students and families are invited to ‘pop in’ to our new space, check out the facilities, put books in lockers and have a free sausage at a sausage sizzle! The idea is to have an informal opportunity to have a look through this much-anticipated building and get books in lockers before the Monday morning. We appreciate families have lots of other week-end commitments, but we hope that all Year 9 students can pop in for a short time to have a sausage, see their room and get their gear organised in their locker!

Monday 20th July – First day in the new building!! All Year 9 students are invited to join us for breakfast from 8.15am on the ‘terrace’ at the back of the building. From 9.00am we will enter the building for the first time as a year level and celebrate this occasion with our own assembly and prayer activity. From recess onwards, normal classes will commence.

We appreciate this is the same day as the Music Camp commences. We hope that all Year 9 students attending the camp will be able to join us for this special morning and then we will arrange for transportation to the camp aiming for an 11am arrival at Yarra Junction.

Saturday 15th August – The official opening! Please put this date in your diaries. More information will follow outlining the planned activities for this afternoon. We would love to see all Year 9 students and families at this special event. Many of our students will be involved in activities that show-case the building and promote our unique Year 9 curriculum.

Hopefully you are excited by the prospect of your child moving into this first-class learning facility. If you have any questions about the program outlined above, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Otherwise, we look forward to seeing many of you on Saturday the 18th July.

Regards,

Narelle Sketcher

Head of Year 9 Campus