

New Principal For Toorak College

On the occasion of her 65th birthday, after seven years as Principal of Toorak College, Mrs Margaret Webb retired this year. Her Order of Australia Award for Services to Education, the promotion and development of outdoor learning initiatives and Girls Sport Victoria was a fitting send-off to a highly respected woman and educator. Mr Noel Thomas became the School's fourteenth Principal (since 1874) in July and comes to the position with over 30 years experience in the education sector, including Deputy Principal Planning and Administration of the School from 1999.

Mr Thomas carries many qualifications including Bachelor of Jurisprudence (Monash), Diploma of Education (Monash) as well as Postgraduate Studies in Educational Administration (UNE). He lives in Mt Eliza and is a committed member of the local community. He has experience, drive and a passion for education, and firmly believes in the School's Guiding Values: Excellence, Learning, Courage, Integrity and Leadership through Service.

Mr Thomas says: "So often as educators we are reflecting on what the future holds. What will the three year old boy or girl starting in our Early Learning Centre need to navigate successfully through the fifteen years of pre-school and school education prior to graduating in 2022. What will they need to know or be able to do? I know enough about both the rate and unpredictability of change to be confident in asserting that we can't hope to predict the wider world they will face with confidence. In fact, I would be highly sceptical of anyone who claimed to have the answers. However, I am very confident that if our graduates

have "vibrant and engaging personalitiesshow interest in what is happening.....actively engage with people" and "demonstrate a highly inquiring mind" they will be successful in life.

Toorak College wants these things for our students and believes that through our programs, such as the inquiry based International Baccalaureate Organisation's Primary Years Program for boys and girls in the Junior School, and our Inquiry Weeks in Years 7 and 8 we are addressing those needs. Our single-sex secondary environment frees the girls during their adolescence to explore ideas and respond naturally without deference to gender based distractions and the different rates of intellectual maturation between girls and boys during that time. We grow self-esteem in our students and it is this that gives them both the confidence and savvy to succeed.

"Rest assured, Toorak College will keep monitoring the development of every important branch of its operations but we will never take our eyes off the beauty of the tree!"



New School For The Mornington Peninsula

Balcombe Grammar, a low-fee, independent, co-educational school, is the vision of forward-thinking members of the community. This will finally be realised when classes commence at 389 Nepean Highway Mt Martha in January 2008. Initially classes will cover Year levels from Prep to Year 8 progressing to Year 12. The Principal, Mrs Evelyn Sayers says, "The school is committed to providing educational opportunities which will meet the needs of all students who become part of the life of this exciting new venture". The foundation classes have been accommodated at Casey Grammar School this year. Mrs Sayers, the Chair of the Board, Rev'd John Leaver and Head of School, Mr Matt Dodd are delighted to announce the commencement of Balcombe Grammar's building project and look forward with anticipation and excitement to observing site progress at Mt Martha.

For further details phone 5996 1372 or see www.balcombegrammar.vic.edu.au



World Class

Our Primary Years Program (International Baccalaureate Organisation) unites and excites young minds to learn, create and explore our wonderful world and all that it has to offer. Our students are: Inquirers - Thinkers - Communicators - Risk-takers - Knowledgeable - Principled - Caring - Open-minded - Balanced - Reflective.

For more information about the Primary Years Program at Toorak College contact our Registrar, Ms Donna Galloway on 9788 7234 or donnag@toorak.vic.edu.au



Old Mornington Road, Mount Eliza. www.toorak.vic.edu.au

An independent day and boarding school for girls Years 7 to 12 and co-educational Preschool to Year 6.



BALCOMBE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

BALCOMBE GRAMMAR SCHOOL comes to Mt Martha

Enrolments are
invited for
Years 1, 5, 6, 7 & 8
students for 2008

Buildings will be completed
on our stunning site at
389 Nepean Hwy Mt Martha
by January 2008

Contact 5996 1372 or visit
www.balcombegrammar.vic.edu.au
for further information and
application forms

