

Parents Victoria Online Conference 2009, 18 – 24 May, 2009

Dear School Community,

Parents of primary and secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18 May to midnight Sunday 24 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part. Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

Prizes for participation

An interactive whiteboard will be won by the Parents Victoria member school that has the greatest number of individual participants over the entire conference. To be eligible, participants must be correctly registered and leave at least one comment on the discussion boards.

In addition, one of three netbooks will be won by:

1. the member school with the most correctly registered individual participants who comment on the week long question
2. the school with the most correctly registered individual participants who comment on the question re parental engagement
3. the member school with the most correctly registered individual participants who leave comments on the daily questions on either Saturday 23rd May or Sunday 24th May.

**Member schools are defined as schools whose 2009 membership payment has been received by 15 May 2009. Membership information can be obtained by phone (03) 93802158 or email office@parentsvictoria.asn.au*

Register online at no cost

The Parents Victoria Online Conference 2009 website will open from 6am on 18 May at:

www.cybertext.net.au/pv1_09/ but please register yourself online first at www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm

The conference will feature seven 'live' daily online discussions, each of them hosted, for several hours each day, by a member of Parents Victoria or expert staff from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the VSCA. Each 24-hour period will focus on a topic that is currently of concern to parents. An online 'resource bundle' of information and opinions will also be provided as an optional extra to give you a kick-start on each day's topic.

There will also be one continuous week-long online discussion on the topic: 'What support do parents need to be active participants in their children's learning and development?'

Topics

Each day, the conference will discuss one of the following questions:

- Parent/teacher meetings - how could these meetings be improved?
- School attendance - when is it okay to stay away?
- Transition - what could be done to improve transition from one level of schooling to the next, i.e. kindergarten to primary, year 6 to secondary?
- Cyber bullying - how do we keep our children safe?
- Sex education – who is responsible?
- Banning confectionery from school canteens - tell us your thoughts (this will be hosted on Thursday 21 May by Prue Cerin from the Victorian School Canteen Association)
- Parental engagement - What can be done to get more parents involved in their children's schools?

We look forward to meeting with you online soon to discuss these important issues. The more of you join in, the more successful this e-vent will be.

Please note that the above information has been posted to EVPS's website under "Parent Documents".

Regards,

Joanne – School Council President,

For and behalf of the Parents Victoria Executive Team