In order to improve the outcomes for our students we have moved this year to eliminate the wasted time in the last two weeks of the school year. The Early Start program will commence on Monday December 7th, 2009. All students currently in Years 7 – 9 who have been recommended for promotion will be moved into their new form groups and electives in Years 8 – 10. All students and staff will be issued with a new timetable. Students will be cleaning out their existing lockers and moving to their new allocated lockers. Rolls for 2010 classes will be marked as of December 7th, 2009. Students will be engaged in the first two weeks of work in each of their new classes with their new teachers. It is extremely important that students attend during these two weeks from December 7th – December 17th inclusive. Any student not in attendance will be missing the first two weeks of the 2010 academic school year and there will be an impact upon their education program. Parents can support the school and the education of their children by ensuring that students are in attendance during this important program.

I am pleased to announce that 75 new notebook computers have arrived and will soon be in service around the school. The notebook computers have proved such a great resource that we have ordered a further 25 which will be available for use as of the beginning of 2010.

Last week was effectively the last day of classes for our current Year 10 students as nearly all of the students have begun “Jump Start” programs in their new 2010 schools. I had the privilege of attending their final assembly on Monday, November 16th, where a presentation developed by Mrs Potter was shown. The presentation contained numerous images of our current Year 10s as Year 7s in 2006 in a “not quite finished” school. No books, no computers, no phones, no specialist classrooms. The school has changed immensely since 2006 and so have the students who have grown up with the school. Many tissues were distributed to students and teachers as we farewelled the class of 2010 - the first group of students who have completed all their secondary education with us. We wished them well for the future and reminded them that we will keep in touch and that we will still support them if the need arises.

Chris Lloyd
Mrs Jacqui Jobling has kindly agreed to be our Book/Uniform Sale Convenor for this year. We are seeking parent volunteers to give Jacqui some help on the Hand In Day and the Sale Day, details hereunder:

**Hand In Day**  Monday, 7th December from 2.30 to 5.30pm

**Sale Day**  Wednesday, 9th December from 2.30 to 5.30pm

Help will be needed before and after these times but being a volunteer, you can work the hours that suit you. If you would like to offer your assistance, please call Jacqui Jobling on 5977 4927 between 4pm and 6pm weekdays.

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**School Shoe Policy**

As was suggested in the last newsletter, following consultation with the School Council, Somerville Secondary College has changed its uniform policy with regard to shoes for 2010. Students are now required to wear “black polishable leather school shoes”. It is also essential that students shoes are secured to their feet – if the shoes have laces (black is the only acceptable colour) they must be tied appropriately. If the shoes have buckles – they must be operational and buckled. With this information in mind we would like to remind parents that when buying new shoes for their son or daughter – only consider a black leather lace-up or buckle-up school shoes and ignore any suggestions from their children that anything else will be acceptable to the school. For sport or Physical Education classes students should bring suitable footwear as part of their Physical Education uniform requirement.

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**Cookie Dough Tubs for sale**

Somerville Secondary College have reserved a number of Cookie Dough Tubs from our last fundraiser and are now offering the following flavours for sale.

Ginger, Golden Light, Choc Chunk, Anza

Tubs are 1.3Kg and cost $13 per tub

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**Information Evening on Cyber Bullying and Sexual Offences and Child Abuse**

The information night on Cyber-Safety and The Victorian Police Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Unit (SOCAU) was held on the evening of the 26th (Thursday) of November and provided some very important information for parents and carers. Many questions were asked of Rosemary, the SOCAU representative from Frankston Police, and the answers were often surprising for the people who attended. For parents and carers who are not sure about what constitutes Sexual Harassment, or Sexual Assault, it would be well worth attending the next information session.

The Cyber Safety presentation was a chilling reminder to all of the devastating negative impact that cyberbullying has on young people and their families. Many solutions were offered during the session to combat cyberbullying and how to keep your personal details ‘Cyber Safe’. Our thanks to Rosemary from SOCAU and Lynn Motteram from our Student Wellbeing office. The more people who get to hear this valuable information, the better.

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**Parent Volunteers Required for 2nd Hand Book/Uniform Sale**

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SIBS is just one of the initiatives from the Association for Children with a Disability. SIBS offers support for the brothers and sisters of children with a disability or chronic illness.

For more information, visit www.sibs.org.au or email Gemma Holleran on gemmah@acd.org.au or call on 03 9818 2000 or 1800 654 013
St Andrews Church in Somerville has opened its door to a long awaited Youth Group GET CONNECTED held every Friday night for fun activities, crazy games, film nights, meet new people, eat delicious food and much, much more

St. Andrews Church     6pm-7.30pm
2 Eramosa Road West     Cost $3.00

Kerry’s Personal Training
Will be running Circuit Classes
On Tuesday & Thursdays
At 1.00 pm
Starting on the 27th October
For 8 weeks
For enquiries please call
Kerry on 0414 482 431