



# THE BIG PICTURE SCHOOL

Connect Innovate Educate



## Students' pride in new type of school

STUDENTS of Montrose Bay High School's Big Picture campus moved into their purpose-built school on August 9. The building was designed in collaboration with students from the former Rosetta and Claremont high schools which have merged to form Montrose Bay High.

Teachers' views were also taken into account and the result is friendly, innovative and flexible learning areas. A kitchen and relaxation area doubles as a place for group discussions and guest speakers. The ICT equipment is state-of-the-art. For Julie Leitch, head of

the Big Picture campus, one of the most exciting things is how proud the students are to be identified with a Big Picture School. The school — which shares a prominent Brook Highway site with Timsbury School and Goodwood Primary — is a new concept.

Students from all three schools are looking forward to working together in the future. "I would like to thank Goodwood Primary and Timsbury School for allowing us this opportunity to work with the younger students," Big Picture student Sarah Davis said.

"The experience of being with the different age groups gives the public a different perspective of the three schools." Big Picture campus advisory teacher James Clark was full of praise for the new school. "I like it, it's new, it's clean, it's functional and it fits our needs," Mr Clark said.

## Leading the way

THE first Big Picture Education Australia Conference, "the start of something big" was held in Glenorchy from May 19-21.

At the conference, the first Australian Big Picture and Big Picture-Inspired Schools, Bridgewater High, Montrose Bay High and Yule Brook College (WA), showcased their stories.

Staff and students listened to guest speakers on a range of issues relating to educational planning.

These included Elliot Washor, co-founder and co-director of Big Picture Learning, and Steve Binger, who served as a special consultant to the Office of the Secretary of the US Department of Education.

Workshops were held to share classroom ideas and strategies.

A highlight was the making of films with local expert, David Edwards, and Big Picture film maker, Peter Flynn. This was a chance for students to showcase their concept of Big Picture education and display their creative skills.

The National Conference was an opportunity for teachers and students to share their educational experiences.

# THE BIG PICTURE

MONTROSE Bay High School has developed the first "Big Picture School" in Australia.

The new campus is located on the northern end of the Goodwood Primary School site and is attended by about 110 Grade 9 and 10 students.

Big Picture Schools embrace the philosophy of educating one student at a time, capitalising on their interests and passions.

"Big Picture learning is the right pathway for students' learning," Montrose Bay principal Mandy Reynolds-Smith said.

"Personalised learning is the way of the future. It's the first part of the journey," she said.

Mrs Reynolds-Smith said the purpose-built school provided flexible learning spaces which enable flexible learning options.

The most important element of the education at a Big Picture School is that students learn in the real world.

The main component of every student's education is the Learning Through Internship (LTI), where students spend two full days each



**SCHOOL PRIDE:** Students Brodie Foster, Zac Shaw and Elizabeth Adams at the Big Picture campus.

week alongside an expert mentor in the field of the student's interest.

LTI can vary from working in a bookshop or a construction site, to a wildlife park or visiting a different institute of learning.

For example, Mikayla Webber is completing an LTI at the Brighton Racecourse while Nicole Hall is enrolled at Clarence Polytechnic for a course in media and graphic design.

Raine Paul's mentor is photographer Lucia Rossi, and Kirsty Whitbread had worked at the popular Cutie Cups shop.

Matthew Roussow shadowed filmmaker Andy Wilson for two days of pre-production and two days of shooting a music video featuring Paris Wells.

Students negotiate their individual learning plan with their advisory teacher, who investigates opportunities at

worksites that match the students' learning goals.

Advisory teachers also coach students across the learning areas and in their preparation for assessment exhibitions each term. These are an important part of the assessment process, promoting student growth and encouraging students to go deeper with their learning by requiring them to create and present evidence of their work.

## School talk

### What's great about the Big Picture School?



**Hayden Clarke:** Big Picture is great because you can study the things that are going to help you in the future and you can do internships.



**Leah Wood:** The Big Picture School gives you the chance to follow your passions while linking it to the curriculum.



**Jak Hirst:** The Big Picture School is good because you can study the things you are interested in and that are relevant to you.



**Xanath Newbold, office manager:** I like the great rapport between the students and myself in the office.



**Alex Oldham:** You have the opportunity to participate in learning experiences such as completing the First Aid course and Responsible Serving of Alcohol.

## Big thanks

THE following Montrose Bay High School Big Picture campus students contributed to the production of this Mercury School page: Kerralee Orr, Nicole Hall, Zac Shaw, Woody Matkovich, Mikayla Webber, Jessica Mitchelmore, Elizabeth Adams, Teshia Kelly and Alec Mansfield. The students wish to specially thank Lucia Rossi for her professional photographic advice, and all our generous sponsors.

**nie** **SCHOOL PAGE PROGRAM** Ph: 6230 0736 www.mercurynie.com.au

**Scott Bacon MP**  
Labor Denison

Supporting the  
Montrose Bay High  
Big Picture School

353 MAIN ROAD GLENORCHY PH: 6233 8874  
Scott.Bacon@parliament.tas.gov.au

**LITTLE SCHOOL BIG ON EDUCATION**

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING ENROLMENTS FOR 2011

We offer a personalised education program for all students from Kinder to Gr 6

Specialist subjects include:  
**PE, Music, Art, German, Library and IT**

We are a Launching into Learning and an Asthma Friendly School

For all enquiries please contact us on 6272 9100

Goodwood Primary

**Timsbury School**  
A SPECIAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Timsbury School is a small learning community committed to developing social and life skills that enable young people to perform and thrive to the best of the ability within our greater community

Timsbury School

**Newspapers in Education**

For enquiries about The Mercury's School Page please contact the following

**Editorial:** Damian Bester  
Ph 6230 0736  
Email: besterd@dbl.newsltd.com.au

**Advertising:** Peter Carey  
Ph 6230 0546  
Email: careyp@dbl.newsltd.com.au

**Claremont College**  
Parent Information Night

7pm, Wednesday  
October 6

An information evening for all parents of students enrolling in 2011

Department of Education  
Claremont College

**Wayston Building Services Pty Ltd**

Proud Supporters of  
Montrose Bay High Big Picture School

Unit 2/481 Main Road Glenorchy  
PO Box 636 Glenorchy, TAS 7010  
Office: (03) 6273 7912  
Fax: (03) 62737914  
Email: admin@wayston.com.au

Architects for Australia's first custom designed Big Picture School

morrison & breytenbach architects