



# DA VINCI DECATHLON

## An academic gala day for Year 7

Methodist Ladies' College and Camberwell Grammar School are proud to announce the 2012 da Vinci Decathlon. Our "decathlon with a difference" is an academic interschool gala day run in the spirit of an Olympic Decathlon, with events of an academic nature. Schools enter a team of eight Year 7 students who will participate in activities in the following disciplines:

- **Mathematics** – emphasis on problem solving, number patterns and logic puzzles
- **English** – word origins, definitions, spelling, grammar, and writing
- **Science** – students will be provided with higher level scientific concepts and be challenged to apply them
- **Code Breaking** – in the spirit of World War II, students will aim to decipher several codes
- **Engineering Challenge** – a building task designed to test creativity and ingenuity
- **Philosophy** – dealing with logic, observations and evidence
- **Creative Producers** – a sub-group from the team will have ten minutes to develop and present a 30-second performance on a given topic.
- **Art and Poetry** – the team will develop a poem plus a complementary work of art on a given theme
- **Games of Strategy** – including 3Dimensional Connect 4 and other games
- **General Knowledge** – current affairs, issues, history, science, entertainment, sport and world facts.

The tasks will be exciting and challenging with a particular emphasis placed on higher order thinking skills. Schools should aim to select students who are able to complement each other in the various disciplines. Only one response per group will be submitted. Sample tasks will be available following registration and payment.

### Why da Vinci?

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) was one of the world's greatest thinkers and scholars. His career spanned an enormous range of disciplines: art, architecture, poetry, academics, anatomy, optics, hydrodynamics, mechanical and military engineering, mathematics and astronomy. He demonstrated a superior ability to perceive the interconnected nature of knowledge and embraced learning with a lifelong passion and determination to uncover what was hitherto unknown by his society. His bold and imaginative intellectual legacy is a permanent challenge for the leaders and thinkers of the twenty-first century.

| Country Venues                 | Date               | City Venues                           | Date               |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Gippsland Grammar School, Sale | Monday, 18 June    | Camberwell Grammar School             | Tuesday, 19 June   |
|                                |                    | Overnewton Anglican Community College | Monday, 25 June    |
| Ballarat Grammar, Ballarat     | Wednesday, 20 June | Methodist Ladies' College             | Tuesday, 26 June   |
|                                |                    | St Leonard's College                  | Wednesday, 27 June |

**Time:** 8:30am to 3:15pm

**Entry Fee:** \$160 / team incl GST (*Morning tea will be provided for all participants*)

**Prizes:** Trophies and/ or certificates will be awarded to the top three teams at each venue. All participants will receive a Participation Certificate. The winning team from each venue (and runners-up at large venues) will be invited to participate in the State Final held at MLC, Kew on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2012. The overall winning team will be invited to participate in the National da Vinci Decathlon in Sydney in September.

**Entry:** Entries will be limited due to size constraints, hence we recommend you register your interest as soon as possible; places will be allocated on a "first come first served basis". Entries can be faxed on the accompanying **Entry Form** or alternatively you may email details to Kathy Harrison [harriskd@mlc.vic.edu.au](mailto:harriskd@mlc.vic.edu.au)

**Enquiries:** Kathy Harrison [harriskd@mlc.vic.edu.au](mailto:harriskd@mlc.vic.edu.au) or Paul Double [pkd@cgs.vic.edu.au](mailto:pkd@cgs.vic.edu.au)  
**Closing date: Friday 1 June 2012 if not filled before (see above).**



# DA VINCI DECATHLON

*An academic gala day for Year 7*

## Entry Form

School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Fee:** \$160 / team. Schools will be issued with an invoice confirming entry – please do not forward payments until you receive same. (Discount: fee of \$140 for a second team)

Upon entry you will receive additional information about the event, including preparation advice for competitors and sample activities.

**Note:** **Please indicate your preferred venue. If there is only one you can attend only tick that box. Otherwise, indicate your first, second etc preferences.**

| Venue                                 | Date               | Preference |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Gippsland Grammar School, Sale        | Monday, 18 June    |            |
| Ballarat Grammar, Ballarat            | Wednesday, 20 June |            |
| Camberwell Grammar School, Canterbury | Tuesday, 19 June   |            |
| Overnewton Anglican Community College | Monday, 25 June    |            |
| Methodist Ladies' College, Kew        | Tuesday, 26 June   |            |
| St Leonard's College, Brighton        | Wednesday, 27 June |            |

Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to go on a waiting list if registrations are full? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to register a second team if a place is available? \_\_\_\_\_ Note: Preference will be given to larger schools, then in order of receipt of application

Fax this sheet to:  
 Kathy Harrison  
 Methodist Ladies' College  
 Fax: 9819 2345

**Alternatively you may email the details to [harriskd@mlc.vic.edu.au](mailto:harriskd@mlc.vic.edu.au)**

Due to size constraints entries are limited. These positions are expected to fill quickly and it is recommended that you register your interest as soon as possible as places will be allocated on a "first come first served basis".

**Closing date: Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012 if not filled before (see above).**