



From the Principal

With the events of the last fortnight in Canberra occurring one matter has played a significant role, that of school funding.

One of the most important things for the good running of any organisation is certainly and I think it is a reasonable statement to say that schools have been in a state of flux since the release of the first Gonski Report which is a period now of over five years. The lack of an ability to bed down a funding model is reaching a point where it is impacting on attention being paid to the more critical issues of ensuring that students are able to flourish academically and socially in well-resourced facilities. Government's (no matter what their flavour) have a responsibility to see that the principle cogs of civilised society work. I can think of only a few "costs" as significant as education.

I am most concerned with the most recent proposals that are currently emanating from the Government as they review a proposal from the National School Resourcing Board. This model proposes to change the way that the SES is calculated (the basis on which we receive Government funding) so that it draws information on the supposed wealth of schools from Parents Income Tax Returns. This is done through a process of "data matching", that it is claimed; maintains the privacy of your tax return but enables the essential data in it to be attached to a school, so that a measure of the wealth of a school's population can be calculated.

This is seductive in its simplicity, however, as with most issues the devil is in the detail. Questions such as:

Is tax information an accurate measure of wealth?

How is the tax information that is available to be used in a way that is fair?

Plus numerous others come into play.

So far there has been virtually no modelling or discussion of the detail of the new model which is able to be conducted publically. This is somewhat ironic given that one of the catch phrases of those pushing this model is its transparency. What discussion that we have had behind confidentiality agreements and other limits to open discussion are very disturbing. You can, however, be assured that this school is actively fighting for what is best for our parent body in a variety of forms.

One issue that I think needs to be addressed is the simplistic language that is currently surrounding the debate. One of the more annoying of these is "no more special deals", currently directed at Catholic schools but in the not so distant past directed at Independent Schools. Education funding in a nation that occupies a continent is a difficult and complex matter. Attempting to make that funding fair across the continent and various jurisdictions is an unenviable task. It is not something that can be done "simply". Equally, the most "fair" arrangements in such circumstances often have to be different and that is not the same as a "special deal". If we are to get an arrangement that works then the discussion needs to be an adult one, not something that we would rightly pull some of junior students up for.

From the Principal - Continued

I will keep families aware of the funding situation as it develops and inform them further of things they may wish to do to assist the school. At present rest assured that we are actively involved in a way designed to protect this school's interests.

Mr Andrew A Neal – Principal

Junior School Reflection Reading Journals

Reflection Reading Journals have been designed to support our students' learning to read as part of the take home reader program.

The purpose of the reading journals include:

- Allow students to develop positive reading habits.
- Develop deeper levels of connection and thinking relating to texts.
- Improve metacognitive processing; enables synthesis of information they have read.
- Practice reflective writing; enables representation of thinking.

We are well into the second semester of the **Reflection Reading Journals** and teachers have been very impressed with the thoughtful reflections students have been including.

It would be greatly appreciated if parents can encourage and assist their children within the younger year levels to reflect on their nightly reading to continue to develop their comprehension skills.

Below are a number reading reflection examples from students across P-4. Keep reading and reflecting.

Alison Cummins - Director of Reading Enhancement

Title: <i>My sloppy tiger</i>
Sam has a very sloppy tiger he spills hrs milk.

Title: <i>Families</i>
Marmat was very interested to know about all families and their living places.

Date: <i>20/08/18</i>
Title: <i>Alex Rider</i>
Student Reflection: <i>Whats the title of the first chapter? Funeral voices. What does funeral voices mean? sad voices, sorry sounding voices.</i>
Pages read: <i>3</i>

Date: <i>8th August</i>
Title: <i>ice garden</i>
Student Reflection: <i>what do you think it would be like being allergic to the sun? I would feel really left out and so lonely and not able to be a normal kid.</i>
Pages read: <i>3 chapters</i>

Date: <i>20/08/18</i>
Title: <i>Rites and the bra</i>
Student Reflection: <i>The word I picked today was abominable I couldn't find the meaning using the clues in the book so I used the dictionary it means hateful or disgusting.</i>
Pages read: <i>51</i>

Date: <i>9th August</i>
Title: <i>My Sister the vampire</i>
Student Reflection: <i>Really pale skin, Pointed fingers, Blue Long hair, Lips, Bra, hair.</i>
Pages read: <i>5</i>

2018 Junior Instrumental Concert Series

A huge thank you to all of those involved in making this year's Junior Instrumental Concert Series a success. It was inspiring to see so many of our talented students brave the stage each afternoon to perform to an appreciative audience.

I'd also like to acknowledge the efforts of Ella Closter and Shea Cain-Wherret who did an amazing job as our emcees and to the BMG Music Staff for their efforts in preparing and supporting our students throughout the concert series.

Lastly, a big thank you to all of the parents, friends, family members and staff who attended each afternoon to support the students by watching them perform. I look forward to seeing you all next year for the 2019 Junior Instrumental Concert Series.

Mr Troy Westgarth - Coordinator: Music P-6

Year 12 Valedictory Dinner Tuesday 23 October 2018 - Tickets now on sale

The 2018 Year 12 Valedictory Dinner will be held on Tuesday 23 October 2018 at Etihad Stadium, Bourke Street, Docklands. Ticket sales for this event have opened via the [School website](#)

Families have until [Friday 21 September](#) to finalise their purchase. Additional tickets may be requested by emailing Cathy Perconte.

2018 Middle School Production – Peter Pan

You are warmly invited to attend the Middle School Musical production of Disney Peter Pan JR.

The performances will take place at the Wyndham Cultural Centre on Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th September. Performances will begin at 6:30pm and conclude at approximately 8pm.

All ticket sales are coordinated by the [Wyndham Cultural Centre](#). Please note all online bookings will incur an additional charge of \$1.95 per ticket.

Instrumental Music Program 2019

All students currently enrolled in the Instrumental Music Program in 2018 will be required to re-enrol for 2019 if they wish to continue lessons.

Re-enrolment forms for the Instrumental Music Program for 2019 will be sent home to existing students throughout next week. These must be completed even if you are wishing to cancel out of the program. This form MUST be returned to administration by 12th October 2018 to secure your child's place in the 2019 Instrumental Music Program or to cancel from the program. If no notice has been received by this date, students may lose their current place in the program and will be added to the waiting list until further notice.

Students wishing to enrol into the 2019 instrumental program who are not currently part of the program, need to fill out an expression of interest form which can be found at the following link on the school website, [2019 Instrumental Music](#).

Formal letters of offer will be sent to parents the week beginning 12th November next term.

Please note that allocated teachers may change from year to year due to a number of factors. Every effort is made for students to retain their existing teachers, but this is not always possible.

In the instance that a student is enrolled in a shared lesson format and a suitable partner to share with is not available, students will continue to be enrolled in a shared lesson format but will receive a reduced private lesson of 20 minutes.

Parents are encouraged to contact the Director of Music, Dean Thomas, if they have any queries about enrolment, lesson format, instrument purchase/hire or any other general music enquiries.

Mr Dean Thomas - Director of Music

Years 7-12 Sports News

Bacchus Marsh Grammar Elite Athlete win BFNL Best and Fairest

Bacchus Marsh Grammar Elite Sport athlete Jamiee Smith brilliantly took out the U/17 Ballarat Football and Netball Leagues Best and Fairest Awards at the Robert Allan Medal night in Ballarat last week. This wonderful achievement comes on the back of her winning the U/15 medal in 2017. Jaimee proudly represents the Darley Football and Netball club and is heavily involved in the Elite Sports Program at Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

ICCES Summer Competition

The Summer ICCES Competition is a round robin tournament held between Bacchus Marsh Grammar, Braemar College and Goulburn Valley Grammar School in Ballarat on Friday 12 October. Mustang competitors have been busy with training and selection for their respective teams that will include; Girls Softball, Boys Cricket, Boys and Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Tennis and Boys/ Girls Golf. The competition will start at 9.00am and conclude in Ballarat at 4.00pm. There will be more information to follow.

Elite Sport Applications Year 9 and 10

Currently application forms are available for students wishing to apply for The Year 9 and 10 Elite Sports Elective. All applications need to be accompanied by a coaching reference. Application forms are available from the administration office and are due in by Friday 7 September.

Elite Sport Testing

This week the Elite Sports classes at both Year 9 and 10 have been carrying out 3RM max testing at Royale Fitness in Bacchus Marsh. The Royale Fitness Gymnasium is run by one of Bacchus Marsh Grammars past students Matthew Prince and provides outstanding coaching in Strength and Conditioning. Students have been tested in 3RM Backsquat, Deadlift and Benchpress and are using these results to ascertain their strength improvements from current programs as well as areas that need further improvement.

A huge thankyou to Charlton Butt (*also a previous student*) for both his and Matt's assistance with our testing protocols.

Mr Andrew Perks - Director of Sport, PE & Health

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to Koby Harris

Congratulations to Koby Harris who was nominated in the top 5, for the Western Regional Football League, Junior Best and Fairest 2018 Season. Koby placed Equal 2nd, in the U12 Division 1 Category.

The awards night was held at Encore Events Centre on Wednesday 29 August with a large crowd in attendance. Well done Koby.

Rachel McMahon - Head of Junior School Phys. Ed, Camps and After School Programs

Wray Family representing BMG in Perisher

The Bacchus Marsh Grammar Snow Sports Team were at Perisher for the Australian National Championships this week.

Congratulations to Tayla, Summer and Kaylee Wray!

Results:

Division 5 : Alpine GS - Tayla 10th, Ski cross - Tayla 13th, Moguls - Tayla 29th
Division 4 : Alpine GS - Summer 20th, Ski cross - BMG team 9th, Summer 22nd,
Kaylee 29th, Moguls - BMG team 7th, Summer 17th & Kaylee 21st.

Summer Wray will now move onto racing at SSA races in Thredbo next week.



Reminder: Monday 10 September :

Literacy Parade – Prep to Year 4 & Book Day for Year 5 to 8.

Important Enrolment Information 2019

Please note registrations of interest for Prep and Year 7, 2019 have been confirmed and now closed. Applications for 2019 for the Woodlea Campus in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be placed on a waiting list.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Book Fair Backorders

We are now down to a few items yet to arrive from Book Fair. The most recent stock delivery is being distributed this week. As our library staff are extremely busy distribution has been slow. We appreciate your patience.

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who have recently completed the Challenge; **Lake Harrison 3B, Tina Ma 3B, Jacob Ragusa 3C, Gurshaan Singh Mangar 3F, Ayaan Ahmed 3G, Gabrielle Cuthbertson 4B, Daniel Schukin 4C Ori Daniel 4D, Tanisha Quilliam 4F, Ella Bradbury 6C and Jessica Berry 6B.**

Please note – The Challenge has finished.

Middle School Musical - Peter Pan Jr

Term 3 Rehearsal Schedule Wednesdays until 4:30pm

Show Week – Week 9 - Wyndham Cultural Centre:

Technical Rehearsal for selected students - Monday 10 September.

Rehearsal and Performance – All cast and crew - Tuesday 11 September.

Rehearsal and Performance – All cast and crew - Wednesday 12 September.

Senior School Indonesian Study Tour 2019

There will be an information session for all students interested in participating in the Indonesian study Tour in June 2019 on 18 September at 6:30pm. The information session will be held in the Lecture theatre adjacent to the senior school library. All are welcome. Deposit payments for the trip portal for deposits for the Indonesia trip is open and must be made through the [myBMG Parent Portal](#).

Senior School New Caledonia Study Tour 2019

The New Caledonia study tour is planned to occur in June next year. Deposit payments for this tour are also to be made through the [myBMG Parent Portal](#) and will close Monday 17 September.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students learning French to practise their language, whilst enjoying a week away from the Victorian Winter. Please contact Mrs Fiona Erhardt for further information.

Mrs Fiona Erhardt - Learning Area Coordinator: LOTE

BMG COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – YMCA Ballarat

YMCA Ballarat now operate the Out of School Hours Care at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. The relevant handbook and enrolment form are available via the [School website](#).

For more information regarding the OSHC programs offered by YMCA Ballarat please contact:

Mobile: 0438 154 842 or Email: bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au

Regular Contacts & Information

Absentee Line - 5366 4888 or

Absentee Email - student_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au

Health Centre direct number - 5366 4873

Senior School After School Classes

Tuesdays – English (N Block) and Science (Room 01)

Thursdays – Mathematics (M Block)

Visit the [BMG Events Calendar](#) for the latest upcoming events.

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Bacchus Marsh
Grammar

Celebrating 30 Years



Bacchus Marsh Grammar
Middle School

Production of

Disney
**Peter
Pan JR**



at the

Wyndham Cultural & Events Centre
177 Watton Street,
Werribee Vic 3030

Tuesday
September 11th at 6.30pm

Wednesday
September 12th at 6.30pm

Tickets Adults - \$8 Children under 12 - \$4
Wyndham Cultural Centre Box Office: 03 8734 6000
Online: bmg.vic.edu.au > News & Events > Buy Tickets
(\$1.95 booking fee for online bookings)