

# BMG NEWS



Doctrina Vitae

Bacchus Marsh  
Grammar

7 February 2020

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 01



## From the Principal

I would like to welcome all students, staff and families to the 2020 academic year.

Over the break, work has been completed on the new Senior School Centre at Maddingley. The new senior school facilities are a vast improvement on what was previously available. The building is already in use and the reaction of students to their new surroundings has been pleasing. Landscaping of what is now a large central quadrangle for the Senior School will begin in the near future.

I have had a significant number of members of the school community and broader community telephoning me with concerns about reports that contaminated soil is to be relocated to Bacchus Marsh. It is our understanding that a decision on this matter is yet to be made. The reports, if true, are part of a worrying trend for Governments of all levels to see this town, and the west in general, through a lens of waste disposal and centres for that green-washed phrase 'resource recovery'.

We have made our concerns on these matters known and will continue to argue for a land-use decision which is fair for the School and place urban amenity at the forefront of considerations.

I would ask that any individual or family who has travelled to China, Hong Kong or Taiwan in the last two weeks to contact the school to discuss their situation. Equally, if someone who is staying with you has been in these areas, or if you have come in contact with someone suffering from Novel Coronavirus directly or indirectly, please make contact with the school to discuss their circumstances.

**Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal**



### Valentine's Day

Please note that the school will not be accepting any gifts, flowers or cards for students on Valentine's Day. If a delivery arrives for a student, it will be refused.

## Music News

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### Congratulations to Lauren Walmsley

I am very proud to announce that 2019 graduating student, Lauren Walmsley received an offer to study at the prestigious Victorian College of the Arts in 2020. She was also awarded the University of Melbourne's Principals' Scholarship of an outstanding \$5000. This is an amazing accomplishment.

Congratulations to Lauren and congratulations to her teachers for their work in shaping a personable, conscientious and hard-working young lady.

### Ensemble and Choir sign up

Ensemble and choir sign ups occurred this week. Any students still wishing to join bands or choir, please see Mr Bell at your earliest convenience.

**Mr Steven Bell – Director of Music**

## Sport Updates

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### Maddingley Junior School House Swimming Carnival

Monday (10 February) sees the Annual Junior School (Years 3 & 4) House Swimming Carnival to be held at Werribee Outdoor Pool. Program details are available on the [Events Calendar](#).

We are looking forward to a fun, exciting and competitive day. Good luck to all competitors.

Woodlea's Swimming Carnival for Year 3 to 6 is on Wednesday 12 February.

For all details please refer to information sent home to families or access letters and notes under 'Documents' via the Parent Portal.

### South Australian Swimming Championships

Congratulations to students from BMG who competed at the South Australian State Championships in January.

They all swam extremely well with some great results. Students achieved Personal Best times, Top 10 finishes and Finals. Tihema Holman won a Bronze medal in the 200m Breaststroke.

Competing students were Imogen Lidgett-Egan, Aisha Lidgett-Egan, Abbey Smith, Thomas Smith, Tihema Holman and Freya Lidgett-Egan.

**Mr Nick Sher – Sport Years 3-6**

## Maddingley Middle School Information

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### Parent Teacher Interviews

The Middle School Parent/Teacher Interviews for all students from Year 5 to 8 will be conducted on **Wednesday 19 February** and **Tuesday 3 March 2020**.

Interviews with your child's class teachers are to be booked online via the [myBMG](#) – Parent Portal available on the school website, [www.bmg.vic.edu.au](http://www.bmg.vic.edu.au). Parents have already been provided with log in details. If you have misplaced your log in details you can either request notification online or by phoning the school office on 5366 4800.

Booking an appointment with your child's teachers:

Online bookings **will open on Tuesday 11 February at 6:00pm** and close **1 day prior to each interview day**. Once a booking has been made it is confirmed unless contact is made by the relevant staff member or school administration.

Interviews will be conducted in the new VCE Building (L Block).

For full details please refer to information sent home to families or access the letter under 'Documents' via the Parent Portal.

## Maddingley Year 7 students – Getting to know each other

As part of the Year 7 program, all students will spend a day at Bacchus Marsh Grammar's Staughton Vale Campus to experience a range of 'get to know you' and school culture based activities. This experience will assist each student to form bonds with their fellow class members and Tutor Group teachers in a unique setting.

Date of experience:

The following Tutor Groups will attend on the dates outlined below.

- 7 ABCDE      Monday 17 February
- 7 FGHI        Monday 24 February

For full details, please refer to information sent home to families or access the letter under 'Documents' via the Parent Portal.

Mr Dean Peplinkhouse – Head of Middle School

## Student Wellbeing

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Bushfire events over the holidays have been confronting for the whole community. For some children this may be the first time they have been exposed to a disaster on this scale. There are several resources for parents wishing to assist their children to process recent events and to reassure them about the future. The following steps are recommended by plan.org as an approach to dealing with commonly expressed concerns by children in times of crisis.

1. **Let them know that whatever they are feeling is okay**
2. **Reassure your children**
3. **Help your children know they, and others, won't be alone**
4. **Discuss what if this happens to us?**
5. **Keep up to date with weather and warnings**
6. **Make sure your children know vital information**
7. **Help them find ways to help**

Helping others empowers all of us, including children, to gain control over our response to difficult events. In addition, limiting exposure to media coverage is an important measure to take when media saturation can heighten anxiety and feelings of vulnerability. The websites below offer further information, resources and ideas for parents.

**Australian Red Cross:** [www.redcross.org.au/getmedia/60d44951-875d-43c7-8415-1fee678ce1a1/helping-children-and-young-people-cope.pdf.aspx](http://www.redcross.org.au/getmedia/60d44951-875d-43c7-8415-1fee678ce1a1/helping-children-and-young-people-cope.pdf.aspx)

**Talking to children about climate change:** [www.plan.org.au/learn/who-we-are/blog/2018/06/04/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-climate-change](http://www.plan.org.au/learn/who-we-are/blog/2018/06/04/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-climate-change)

Adapted from: <https://www.plan.org.au/learn/who-we-are/blog/2020/01/09/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-out-of-control-bushfires>

Student Wellbeing Team

## Host families needed

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We have a group of students going to France at the end of Term 1, and 20 students from France visiting us in July. Our relationship with Sainte-Marie la Verpillière, near Lyon, started about 16 years ago and it is because of the kindness and generosity of host families that we can keep this exchange going. We only need 5 more host families, so if you are (preferably) in Senior school and are able like to host a French student for 3 weeks in July, please contact me at: [erhardt@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:erhardt@bmg.vic.edu.au).

Mrs Fiona Erhardt - Learning Area Coordinator: LOTE

## Current Family Enrolment Procedure for Year 7 2021

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Families of current Year 6 students, attending both the Maddingley and Woodlea Campus in 2020, will be asked to confirm their child/s commitment for a Year 7 2021 position. Correspondence will be emailed to current families by the end of this week.

The process of confirming your child's Year 7 2021 enrolment is necessary due to the high demand for Year 7 entry at Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

Current families, whose children currently attend another primary school and who have not as yet placed a Registration of Interest for Year 7 2021, are urgently reminded to complete a Registration of Interest for Year 7 2021 by 15 February 2020.

This enrolment process can be completed via the [school website](#).

Please contact the School Registrar on 5366 4800 if you require any further assistance.

**Mrs Shona Hiscock - School Registrar**

## School Information

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### Exclusion from Multimedia

The School is active in photography and videography within the school grounds and when recording key assemblies, activities, camps and excursions throughout the year. These forms of multimedia\* are utilised to communicate to our School Community main achievements, notable news and events, via our weekly newsletter, website blogs, Yearbook and minimally via social media and advertising.

\*Multimedia is defined as photography, video, audio or any other form of electronic recording.

It is important that the School is aware of any students who are not permitted to have their photograph or any video footage feature in these forms of communication.

The School has developed a key exclusion from multimedia listing for 2020 based on parents' response to relevant sections of the Acknowledgment of Business Notice and policies sent by the Principal in November 2019.

If parents would like to register their child/ren on the 'Exclusion from Multimedia' listing for 2020, it is important that you do so by Friday 14 February by completing the [relevant form](#) and returning it to the Main Administration office or scanning and emailing it to [school@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:school@bmg.vic.edu.au).

Should you miss this cut-off date (Friday 14 February), or have any questions, please contact the Marketing and Social Media Coordinator on 03 5366 4800.

**Mrs Casey Ryder – Marketing and Social Media Coordinator**

## Important Private Bus Information

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### CCTV on Buses

Effective 2020, CCTV is fitted on all private BMG school bus services and will be operational. They will record from stop 1 to school in the AM and school to the last stop in the PM. The footage will be kept for seven days, after seven days the footage will be deleted. The footage will be sent on request to BMG. The footage is time sequenced and record the rear saloon of the bus and drivers cabin area. Should you require any further information on this further safety procedure please feel free to email the bus co-ordinator.

### AM Drop off

Parents and students are advised to be at their designated pick up stop a minimum of 5 minutes prior to their departure time listed on their route timetable.

### PM Pick up

Our drivers are instructed not to allow primary aged students to exit buses unless there is a parent or guardian to receive them at the bus door.

## Permission Tags

Parents of Year 5 and 6 students may provide written permission for their child to exit the bus without a parent/guardian to collect them and for them to take responsibility for their younger siblings. Students in Prep to Year 4 must have a Parent/Guardian at the stop for collection. If a parent is not there to collect their child, the driver will call our Operations Team who will contact the School. The School will then contact the parents regarding a pick up location. If a parent is uncontactable, the child will remain in the driver's care and will be taken back to the bus depot to await collection. Parents of students in Prep to Year 4 may nominate an additional person to collect their child from the bus by completing a Junior School Permission form and emailing to [bus@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:bus@bmg.vic.edu.au) located on the [Parent Portal](#). This, in turn, will have a green permission tag placed on the student's bag advising the driver who has permission to collect the child/ren from the bus.

2019 Permission tags will be removed from the students' bags on 21 February 2020. If you require your child to disembark to be met by someone other than the parent/guardian an updated permission tag must be completed for 2020.

## Parking

It is recommended that parents pull off the road into a service road or designated car park (where possible) whilst dropping off and picking up their children. Parents need to be mindful not to park their cars in the way of a bus and ensure that the bus has enough space to safely drive into and pull out of the stopping area. Also, as there are bus stops in residential areas, it is important that parents do not park in, or across, residential driveways and always respect residents' property.

## Roll Call

By now, all parents would have received a 'Welcome' email from Roll Call. We advise parents to activate their account so they have live tracking of the bus and notification that their child has taped on/off the bus.

## Woodlea Late Bus

The Woodlea Late Bus is available on Tuesday afternoons, but only for students who are participating in the Middle School Production or attending after school curriculum classes. Students are to sign up on the late bus register prior to 1.30pm in the Main Administration office. Please note that the [Late Bus](#) is a limited stop service.

### A reminder that parents should:

- Drop off or wait for their child on the same side of the road as the bus stop.
- Park away from the designated bus stop area.
- Not approach students, other parents or the bus driver.
- Under no circumstances board the bus.

**Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator**

## Conveyance Allowance

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Following a recent decision by the Student Transport Unit of the Education Department, it appears that there may be some movement on the way the Department makes a judgement on what is the nearest appropriate school. This comes after considerable work by the School on your behalf.

If your decision to send your children to Bacchus Marsh Grammar was because you felt that it was the nearest appropriate school that respected ecumenical values but did not require your child to participate in religious instruction or religious celebrations, then you may (subject to other Conveyance Allowance rules) be eligible for the Conveyance Allowance.

If this statement applies to you, whilst I can make no guarantees, I believe it is in your interests to submit a Conveyance Allowance Application for 2020. The application should be accompanied by a simple letter stating the reasons why you believe Bacchus Marsh Grammar is the nearest appropriate school because of its values and its lack of a requirement to participate in religious instruction or religious celebrations of any particular faith.

Please ensure that you complete the form that applies to your child's travel. Forms are available from the main office at both the Woodlea and Maddingley campus. Please be aware that no allowance is payable if the journey to and from school can be made using a free bus service.

Please contact Kerryn Browne if you have any queries.

**Ms Kerryn Browne - Risk, Compliance and Policy Manager**

## BMG Community Contacts

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### Bacchus Marsh Grammar On Campus Uniform Shop

#### Phone Orders – 5367 4072

Both Maddingley and Woodlea parents are welcome to make phone orders and pay with a credit card. Orders will then be delivered at Maddingley through the pigeon hole system, to classes or Tutor Groups, and to the Woodlea Campus Reception on Wednesday afternoons.

Uniform information and shop business hours are listed on the [school website](#).

### Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – YMCA Ballarat

YMCA Ballarat operate the Out of School Hours Care at Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

Enrolment is now completed online. For full information please visit the [school website](#).

#### Vacation Care Payment Options

Feedback from our families has been heard and we are SO excited to announce the introduction of Direct Debit payment being available for all vacation care programs.

No longer will upfront payments be required, simply complete a [Direct Debit Form](#) and payment will be collected with the [set billing cycle](#).

Eftpos will no longer be available at the Ballarat Office or in the services. We thank the many families who took the time to respond to vacation care surveys and communicated their preference for direct debit.

**Email:** [chrisie.ashmore@ymca.org.au](mailto:chrisie.ashmore@ymca.org.au) **Phone:** 0490 178 638 **W:** [www.ballarat.ymca.org.au](http://www.ballarat.ymca.org.au)

#### Maddingley:

[bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au](mailto:bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au)

0438 154 842

Located: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

#### Woodlea:

[woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au](mailto:woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au)

0490 490 362

Located: 111 Frontier Avenue, Aintree, Victoria. 3336.

## Regular Contacts

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### Student Absentees

#### Maddingley Campus

Absentee Line 5366 4888 or Absentee Email – [maddingley\\_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:maddingley_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au)

#### Woodlea Campus

Absentee Line 5366 4988 or Absentee Email – [woodlea\\_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:woodlea_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au)

#### Maddingley Campus

South Maddingley Road  
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

P +61 3 5366 4800

F +61 3 5366 4850

#### Woodlea Campus

111 Frontier Avenue  
Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4900

F +61 3 5366 4950


#### Woodlea Early Learning Centre

5-7 Quarry Road  
Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4999

General School Email: [school@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:school@bmg.vic.edu.au)

School Website: [www.bmg.vic.edu.au](http://www.bmg.vic.edu.au)

A photograph of a male Elvis tribute artist performing on stage. He is wearing a white, double-breasted suit jacket with large buttons and a matching white shirt with a ruffled collar. He is holding a microphone in his right hand and a guitar in his left. The background is dark with some stage lights visible.

**The Plough Marquee**  
17 MAIN STREET, MYRNIONG, VIC 3341  
**Friday 6 March 2020**  
**12pm**

*Supporting  
Bacchus Marsh Grammar  
Hospitality Students &  
Darley Neighborhood  
House*

**3-course Set Menu**  
*Plus Award-winning  
Elvis tribute Artist Damian Mullin  
throughout the afternoon*

**\$55 pp**  
DRINKS AT BAR PRICES

**Bookings essential**  
visit The Plough online store

Further details & tickets:  
**[www.theplough.com.au](http://www.theplough.com.au)**



The Community Leadership Program is designed to develop and strengthen you as an emerging leader and to increase your potential to influence your community.

**Become a leader in your community**

# Community Leadership Program

Free 12-week course open to all people with a Moorabool community connection.

Wednesday nights from the 4 March to 5 June at the Darley Civic Hub Pavilion.

To be part of this amazing program submit your application through an Expression of Interest Form, due MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY.

The application form along with further details regarding participant requirements can be found at:  
[https://moorabool.smartygrants.com.au/leadership\\_program](https://moorabool.smartygrants.com.au/leadership_program)

For all enquiries please call 03 5366 7100







## JOIN THE JUNIOR PARKRUN FAMILY

**WALK, JOG, RUN, VOLUNTEER**

or simply come and watch - it's up to you!

### FAMILY-FRIENDLY 2K EVENTS

Every Sunday morning

### FOR 4-14 YEAR OLDS

Adults can join in with the kids too!

### EVERYONE WELCOME

Walk, jog, run, hop, skip or jump - it's up to you!

### FREE & EASY TO TAKE PART

No special kit needed - wear whatever you like

### HAVE FUN BEING ACTIVE

Share high fives and big smiles!

### MAKE FRIENDS

Meet lots of new people

### LEARN NEW SKILLS

Volunteer in lots of roles

### FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD

Try your best and celebrate your achievements

*"We all do it together as a family. The volunteers are really nice, it's fun and you can walk if you want to!"*



Register at [parkrun.com.au](http://parkrun.com.au)  
and head down to your local junior parkrun event!

**Coming soon to Eynesbury  
EVERY SUNDAY AT 8AM**



**WESTERN RAMS JFC**

# **JUNIORS WANTED**

**If you're looking to kick-off your football career, or have relocated to the area and you are looking for a new club, Look no further than the Western Rams JFC. Based at the Ian Cowie Reserve, Westcott Parade, Rockbank, The Rams are looking for new players for the 2020 season.**

**For further queries or to register your interest, please contact Gavin Sporle on 0450 947 109 or [gsporle@outlook.com](mailto:gsporle@outlook.com)**