

# BMG NEWS

20 March 2020

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 07



Doctrina Vitae  
Bacchus Marsh  
Grammar



## From the Principal

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

An information sheet was distributed by email on how we plan to operate a “Remote School” if the School is closed at any point over the next few months. This sheet has been designed for staff, however, I think it gives parents a good overview of how we see a distant class operating. Detailed instructions on how to login to the Learning Management System will be communicated to parents in a separate email.

About two years ago the school began the roll-out of the Learning Management System (LMS) SchoolBox. The plan for SchoolBox was to gradually build a capacity to augment traditional learning with the convenience and helpful components a comprehensive LMS can provide.

The roll-out has been going well and staff and students from Years 5 to 12 have had access to the system for some time. It had been our intention to move to Prep to Year 4 and parent access later this year.

Given the situation we are faced with it has been decided to use SchoolBox as the main vehicle for the delivery of our remote school for Years 5 to 12 if we are required to move into lockdown. The system is known by staff and students and provides a “one stop shop” for delivery of all forms of material. Prep to Year 4 classes would receive paper-based material as they do not have the same experience with SchoolBox. They will also be given access to SchoolBox which they can gradually become familiar with as an added resource and which will shortly have the capacity for video conference style interaction from the beginning of Term 2.

The roll-out of the system to parents and Prep to Year 4 has been accelerated and these are now ready for use. It is important to understand that some aspects of the system are still not at their full potential given the early roll out. Staff will continue to work on this in the short to medium term at a faster rate than we had expected. I think it is important to recognise the work of staff at present, who are both keeping instruction going and preparing for a potential close down as quickly as possible.

### How We Envisage That it Will Work

School is not only about instruction. The best learning occurs in a social context where there is engagement between all members of the group, hence our belief that face to face learning remains the best way to teach and the method we will employ for as long as possible.

## From the Principal continued...

If we are forced to close, then we will ask staff from Years 5 to 12 to share material online and if possible, run online lessons/tutorials at the time that classes would normally occur. SchoolBox has had Microsoft Teams and Zoom embedded in it so that it has the capacity for video conferencing and the recording of classes in a lecture style.

It is our belief that if students are at home giving them as structured a day as possible, is going to be important and that social contact (even at a distance), is better than self-directed learning. For Years Prep to 4 lessons will be in printed form but we will be asking teachers to run sessions which are “class-like” where they can give instruction and where students can have some form of interaction with their peers. As these year levels do not have Chromebooks, this function will require the use of home equipment.

If synchronous learning is not possible either due to staff illness or technical difficulties, the school will move to recorded lessons and continue to place material online for access at home by students and parents. Our final position would be the static presentation of material for distance home learning if all other methods are no longer viable.

As I have said in my previous correspondence, this system is not perfect and it is not going to be an exact replica of the classroom experience, however, difficult times call for the best option in the circumstances. What we have put in place will enable instruction to continue if the school is closed. As ever, I thank you for your continued trust and support. Further information will be rolled out in the next few days and closer to any close down. I restate that the school has this system in place but is determined to remain open for as long as it is safe.

Mr Andrew A. Neal – Principal

### End Of Term Dismissal

The finish time for both Woodlea and Maddingley campus for end of Term 1 on Friday 27 March 2020 will be 2:05pm / 2:10pm.

## International Week

### Maddingley – 2 March to 6 March

It was great to see so many students and teachers participate in International Week this year at Maddingley campus.

Hilton House became the inaugural Year 12 Dragon Boat Races champions, defeating the other houses and teachers in an exciting new addition to International Week @ BMG.

On Monday, many students had the opportunity to try Taiko drumming through Japanese classes and percussion lessons. On Tuesday, Japanese activities continued, with a great turn out to the calligraphy session with our Language Assistant and Japanese teaching staff.

On Wednesday, the French activities were again a huge success with students partaking in bowls and waiter races.

On Thursday, Indonesian activities were enjoyed by many students with the Pencak Silat Martial Arts demonstrations being a highlight.

As International Week came to an end, the annual International Dress Up day saw many students get involved in representing the diverse, multicultural community we are proud to celebrate here at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. The delicious Flying Wok meals were also enjoyed by everyone.



Nikita Wright, Year 12 Prefect

## Woodlea – 10 March to 13 March

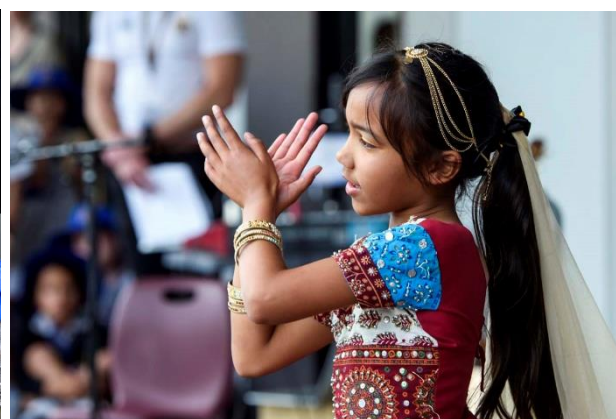
International Week at Woodlea is always met with excitement and enthusiasm by both staff and students. Many wonderful activities were held throughout the week, including art and craft and international games. The whole school was enthralled by the performances of Maddingley senior students during a special lunchtime concert. A number of very talented young people danced and sang traditional songs from their families' homelands. Students also eagerly participated in the dress-up day. There were so many bright and beautiful traditional costumes on show. It was a wonderful week. Congratulations to all staff and students on their involvement.

**Mrs Sarah Hunter – Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus**

## Music and Dance Performances at Maddingley and Woodlea Campuses for International Week

On Friday 6 and Wednesday 11 March, we were given the opportunity to perform an international dance routine for the Maddingley and Woodlea campuses during International week. For Anam and I it was really exciting to get into our international costumes and to stage a performance. We love the excitement and energy the Junior School students have while watching our performance. Seeing their faces light up with joy as they watch in contentment. It was also great to watch the other students perform a singing piece from their own cultural background. It was interesting to see their cultures and backgrounds. What we loved most at Woodlea was when the younger children would run up to us and tell us how much they liked our performance and our outfit. It felt so amazing and fulfilling to know that they enjoyed it. We are both very passionate about our culture and dancing so it was really great to get the positive responses from the students. We appreciate that the school gives us the privilege and respect to express our multicultural backgrounds. It was a really fun and enjoyable performance to participate in and we can't wait to do it again next year.

**Anchal Singla and Anam Chaggar, Year 9**



## Taiko Incursion

On Monday 2 March, my class and I went over to Wilson Hall and Toshi from Wadaiko Rindo taught us how to play たいこ (Taiko- Japanese Drum). He started with a demonstration showing us how to play たいこ. It was super loud, but sounded cool. When it was time for volunteers to have a turn there was 小さいたいこ (small taiko) and 大きいたいこ (large taiko). After all the volunteers had been gathered, the demonstrator played on a 大きいたいこ and showed us how to play and we copied what he did. The 大きいたいこ was much louder than the 小さいたいこ. It was a fun and valuable experience.

Lochie Harnden, Year 9



## Music Department - Maddingley & Woodlea Campuses

Congratulations to all students who participated in the recent Taiko drumming workshops. It was wonderful to see so much interest in and enthusiasm for this cultural experience.

Thank you and congratulations also goes to the following students who volunteered to perform at our LOTE Week lunchtime concerts. It was pleasing to note such a diverse range of languages and cultures being showcased:



- Avalee Gauci (Italian)
- Anam Chaggar & Anchal Singla (Indian dance)
- Molly Gibson (French)
- Kavya De Silva & Ohashee Wijesinghe (Sri Lankan dance)
- Narelle Collins (Fijian)
- Samarah Hussein (Indian dance)
- Chanel McKenzie (South African)
- Megan Llana (Filipino).

Mr Steven Bell – Director of Music

## Camps Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) –Applications Due

**This is applicable to families who hold a valid Centrelink pensioner concession or Health Care Card number (CRN).**

If you are yet to return your CSEF form, please make sure this is returned to the Administration Office no later than Friday 19 June 2020 to ensure ample time for your application to be processed. Further information and the CSEF application form can be downloaded from the [School's website](#).

Enquiries and soft copy forms can be emailed to Rachel Davidson at [accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au)

Ms Rachel Davidson – Finance Officer

## Prep Teddy Bear Picnic

If you went down to BMG on Friday  
you would've sure had a big surprise!  
If you went down to BMG on Friday  
you would have needed a big disguise.  
For every bear that every there was  
Gathered there for certain  
Because that's the day the  
Preps and Teddies had their picnic.

Picnic time for Preps and Teddies,  
Munching little teddy bears whilst  
Measuring and making patterns,  
Having a lovely time  
Watch them, catch them unawares  
And see them picnic on the grass.

See them gaily gad about  
They loved to play and share.  
They never have any cares  
At 3 o'clock their Mummies and Daddies  
Took them home to rest  
Because they're tired little Preps and Teddies.

(adapted from the song Teddy Bear's Picnic)

**Mrs Rzanovski – Prep Teacher**



## BMG SRC Easter Raffle 2020

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Thank you for the tremendous support for the SRC Easter raffle. THANK YOU!

The raffle was drawn at both Maddingley and Woodlea Campuses. The lucky winners have been notified. Congratulations to our very excited winners.

Woodlea Campus	Maddingley Campus	
Harleen Grewal 3WB	Millie Patterson 4C	Milica 7I
Klara Kasalo Prep WA	Lisa Roberts	Teresa Ngo
Tanvi Mushini 4WB	Miah Bradbury 6D	Matt White
Niyamat Randhawa 1WA	Tracey Ducas	Rhiannon Porter
Keneisha Dubey 6WC	Megan Snell	Shiloh Fragapane 2C
Josheen Goraya 3WC	Bently Family	Hunter Mifsud
Amelia Warnick 2WB	Megan Way 8F	Nishanth
Pratika Mehrotra 4WA	Stirrat Family	Carol Balshaw
Tara Rados 2WC	Nicholas Kropman 9D	Jackson Ryder
Rhys Todevski 7WB	M Rens	Gail
Aayan Qazi 2WB	Xavier Johnston 5D	Kumayl Rizvi 2C
Anent Kaur 1WB	Chelsea Fastuca 2A	Mackenzie Kelly 12B
Chanelle Mercieca 1WD	Erin McBean	
Sekhar	Sahib Batth 1B	



## Junior/Middle School Sport Updates

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### SSV DIVISION SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to students who represented Bacchus Marsh Grammar and the BMPSSA in the School Sport Victoria Western Ranges Division Swimming Carnival last Tuesday. All students swam to the best of their ability and did themselves and our school proud. We wish the following students all the best as they progress to the WMR Region Finals in 2 weeks' time: Ethan Bloss, Alika Brown, Makenzie Copland, Zachary Dalli, Ruby Gorton, Hunter Knight, Aisha Lidgett-Egan, Imogen Lidgett-Egan, Tina Ma, Taylor Miller, Lily Normington, Gus O'Donnell, Abbey Smith and Maddison Weeks.

## SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA UPDATE

All School Sport Victoria events have been postponed/cancelled. The following statement is on the SSV website:

- Any inter-school sporting events and competitions to be run from Monday 16 March, will be postponed until further notice, where possible.
- All inter-school sporting events and competitions from Tuesday 17 March will be postponed immediately until further notice.

Team Vic events, including selection trials and training, will be cancelled. This also means that Team Vic teams will not be competing in School Sport Australia Championships.

These measures are intended to protect the health of our students and the broader community.

We will prepare for our House and District Athletics, Cross Country and Winter Sport days, but with the uncertainty they will go ahead.

**Mr Nick Sher - Junior School Sport Coordinator**

## Conveyance Allowance

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 campuses. 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**

## Bus Information

### End Of Term Dismissal

**The finish time for both Woodlea and Maddingley campus for end of Term 1 Friday 27 March 2020 will be 2:05pm / 2:10pm.**

**Private buses will coincide with the earlier finish times, departing Bacchus Marsh Grammar one hour earlier. Parents are reminded to be at their child's stop 1 hour prior for pick up on this day.**

Public and Country buses will be running 30 - 40 mins earlier than normal departure times.

- Holts Lane /Swans Road 2.45pm
- West Melton/Kurrung 2.35pm
- Eynesbury Public 3.10pm

### Student ID cards

By now ALL students at both Campuses have received their 2020 Student ID cards. Students who travel on private buses must present their Student ID cards to tap on/off the bus. Students who travel with **No Card** will be issued with an initial warning and if travel continuously with **No Card**, students will be dealt with according to School Policy, (refer to the School Bus Travel Code of Conduct). If students lose or misplace their Student ID card, they can have a new card printed by the school's ICT department.

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

## 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)

