# BMG NEWS



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# The Power of Positive Thinking!

Positive thinking generally helps us feel happier and more relaxed. Having a positive attitude and outlook helps us to approach life's challenges with more confidence. Showing your children how to turn a negative attitude around can help teach them some important coping skills that will serve them well throughout life. When you can think positively, you can make better decisions.

- Positive thinking can help you feel happier.
- Positive thinking is focusing on things that have gone well and how you've made this happen.
- Regular positive thinking exercises can get you into the habit of thinking more positively.

#### RE POSITIVE

It is easy to spend a lot of time thinking about things that have gone wrong. Although we can all learn from mistakes, it is not helpful to spend a lot time thinking about negative things. This can lead to worry and stress. This is where positive thinking comes in.

### **POSITIVE THINKING EXERCISE**

Try this exercise to get you and your family into the habit of thinking more positively about things that have gone well and why.

- 1. Each day for the next week, as a family, spend 10 minutes before you go to sleep to write down **three** things that went well and why. This could be something simple like having time to play a board game or it might be a major event, for example getting a new puppy.
- 2. Underneath each thing that went well, write what you did to make it happen.
- 3. It might feel odd to do this at first, but it gets easier with practice. Try to give it a go for a week. Check your notes at the end of the week.
- 4. As a family, talk about it and even share your positive thinking with friends!

People who do this positive thinking exercise say they **feel happier**, **less worried and less sad**, so try to do it as often as you can!

Source: raisingchildren.net.au

**Student Wellbeing Team** 

### **Junior School News**

#### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

During these unprecedented times, it was great to see the high number of parents participating in the scheduled parent teacher interviews via Zoom last week. We would like to thank all the Junior School staff for their ongoing commitment to their students and, based on the feedback received from parents, they appreciate everything you do. We invite any feedback, suggestions and/or questions from parents by contacting the relevant Head of School.

### **Interim Reports**

Staff members are completing Interim Reports for all students in Prep to Year 4. These will be posted out early next week. An Interim report is designed to provide parents/guardians with a snapshot of how their child has been approaching their studies throughout the term. This provides parents with an opportunity to discuss with their child their approach to their learning and, if required, support them to make improvements prior to the end of term. If you have any questions about the feedback provided on the report, please contact your child's classroom teacher in the first instance.

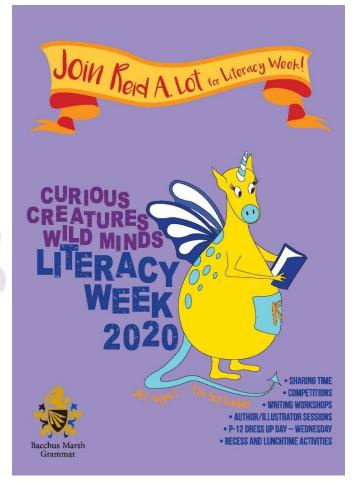
### **Literacy Week**

We welcome all students and parents to join us in celebrating this year's National Book Week, organised by the Children's Book Council of Australia (https://www.cbca.org.au/cbca-book-week).

Whilst the national date has been postponed until later in Term 4, we have decided to go ahead with our very own Literacy Week from Monday 31 August until Friday 4 September as originally planned. With the many changes to excursions and incursions this year, we feel that it is important to continue to celebrate books and Australian children's authors and illustrators. The theme of this year is "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds".

Throughout the week, during online classes, recess and lunch times, there will be many activities and competitions for students. All students from Prep to Year 8 will attend an online visiting author/illustrator talk during which they will have an opportunity to engage with the author/illustrator and ask questions. Our Year 4 students will be involved in a writing workshop. More information about specific events will be shared with families soon.

Students and teachers from Prep to Year 12 are invited to dress up as their favourite literary character during their remote learning day on Wednesday 2 September. In the past, gold coin donations for our dress up day have been donated to support the work of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, a not-for-profit charity that is focused on improving literacy levels in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Indigenous Literacy Foundation runs core programs including the donation of thousands of free books to remote indigenous communities, organises literacy projects and hosts other fundraising campaigns. This vital work is instrumental in helping to bridge the literacy gap. More information about the Indigenous Literacy Foundation can be found at: https://www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au/



We are all very excited about Literacy Week in this online format and are looking forward to students getting involved in the many activities on offer. If you have any questions regarding Literacy Week, please contact one of our Literacy Week Coordinators: Mrs Feona West, Mrs Danielle Copeman, Mrs Nici Deller, Mrs Kelly Dilges or Mrs Sarah Hunter.

Junior School Team - Maddingley and Woodlea

### Junior School News continued....Spotlight on Prep

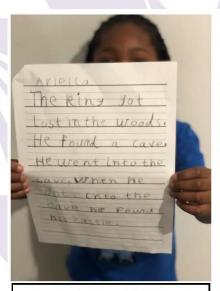


Nearly 5 weeks into our Remote Learning Season 2 and our little Preps (and their parents) continue to amaze us! The one thing that hasn't changed from Season 1 to Season 2 is how much we miss them! We are so proud that despite all this, they all continue to try their best.

Over the last 5 weeks we have continued to build our sentence writing and have extended into writing our own narratives based on familiar picture story books we have read. We started

reading groups online and have loved working in smaller groups to read our guided readers for part of the day. In Maths, we have lots of fun doing exercise counting, making addition drawings and number sentences and practising our numbers.

In the afternoons, we have continued our Afternoon Challenges and specialist subjects. Afternoon challenges have included craft challenges based on our word of the week, thank you pictures to our wonderful doctors and nurses, and just this week we have started to focus on our emotional wellbeing with Mindful Monday tasks.



Narrative Writing - Ariella, Prep D



Car Challenge -Olive, Prep E



'Thank you' picture - Michael, Prep C



'Thank you' picture - Hamza, Prep B



'Mindful Monday' - Elizabeth, Prep C

### Spotlight on Prep continued....

Some of our funniest moments have come from our pets popping in to say hello or younger siblings deciding to sit in on lessons when the Prep child has run off to the bathroom. The Preps' antics continue to make us laugh with some of their observations of the world online or from inside their homes. Although, at the end of all this we think their technology skills will have surpassed their teachers'. One of our Prep students used Siri the other day to make sure she got the spelling right on a picture she was making for staff at Werribee Hospital. Prep teachers have certainly got some memories and tales that will stay with them forever!

We have lots to look forward to in the coming weeks. Friday 21 August is our celebration for 100 Days of Prep! In the coming weeks we also have Literacy Week to look forward to.

**Prep Team - Maddingley** 

# Year 6 Guest Speaker: Associate Professor Wayne Quilliam



On Friday 7 August, all Year 6 students and teachers from both Maddingley and Woodlea campuses were given the amazing opportunity to hear from Associate Professor Wayne Quilliam. This was a fabulous experience for all of us, and thanks to the wonders of technology, participants were able to come together in the comfort of their own homes or offices via Zoom – certainly a first for us as classroom teachers!

Aboriginal photographer, artist, film maker, drone pilot, Associate Professor Wayne Quilliam continues to expand his cultural practice as one of Australia's leading creative minds. His award-winning career includes the coveted NAIDOC Aboriginal Artist of the Year, Human Rights Media Award, Walkley Award for photojournalism and a nomination for a Master of Photography by National Geographic.

He has created and curated over 300 exhibitions throughout the world and been published in more than 1000 magazines, books, and newspapers. He is the first photographer to hold four individual exhibitions at the U.N in New York and Geneva for his work on Indigenous Women's Rights, and represents his people at international conferences and forums on Indigenous affairs.

He has documented events across the globe for more than 30 years, including: the Apology, 1967 Referendum anniversary, Garma, Laura, Burunga, Dreaming and Yeperenye festivals, as well as thousands of community events throughout the country. Wayne works with Indigenous groups in Cuba, Mexico, Bolivia, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia and Guam developing intercultural art and cultural exchanges.

In 2020, Wayne will release his first book entitled 'Culture is Life' and he has been commissioned to create a series of work to be projected onto the Sydney Harbour Bridge during Vivid Festival. Wayne's art will feature on the Mt Yengo wine labels and his 3D creations will open at the World Expo on Dubai.

Wayne shared with us a variety of his photographs, as well as many stories. The students had the chance to ask lots of questions and were very appreciative of the wealth of knowledge and experience with which Wayne was able to answer them. The talk greatly enhanced our study of Indigenous culture and the Stolen Generations, particularly being able to hear the perspectives of a proud, gracious and incredibly successful Indigenous man.

We sincerely thank Wayne and his daughter, Tanisha from 6A, for this incredible experience. To read student reflections, please visit the school website.

Links to some of Wayne's work: www.aboriginal.photography and www.aboriginalart.art

Mrs Kelly Dilges - Deputy Head of Middle School

# Middle School News - Positive reflections on Remote Learning 2.0

It has been so pleasing to see so many students and staff doing their best to navigate Remote Learning 2.0. All involved have risen to the challenge and I thought, during these times, it is important to reflect on the positive learning experiences that a range of students have encountered. To achieve this task, I asked a number of students to critically reflect on what they feel are the positive aspects of remote learning associated with their favourite subjects. Here are some of their responses.

Mr Dean Pepplinkhouse - Head of Middle School

### Student Reflections:

### Riya Khandhar - Year 8

The introduction of online learning saw emotions of ambiguity and uncertainty with an unknown atmosphere and a new concept of learning. However, without surprise, every individual at BMG achieved nothing short of amazing outcomes with the support of our marvellous teachers and their limitless generosity.

During Maths with Miss Pino, I was able to develop a sense of independence and trust with my teacher. Miss Pino never made us feel we were not capable of achieving whatever our goals were and modelled a myriad of ways to learn new, daunting concepts. As an example, playing Kahoot as a form of revision encouraged friendly competition with our peers and a sense of enjoyment during our Maths lessons. Miss Pino is always willing to help, no matter what her circumstances may be and encourages each and every one of her students to challenge themselves.

Aside from learning Pythagoras Theorem or how to work out the surface area of a composite shape, Miss Pino teaches us life skills such as how critical it is to apply yourself and strive to achieve your best because if you don't, no one will see what you have to offer, and we all offer so much. I'm not exceptional at Maths, I make mistakes and often have to spend extra time to understand certain concepts, but because of Miss Pino, I know that I'm not stuck. I know that I can improve, that I can extend myself and that we can extend ourselves. But most importantly, I know that the teachers at BMG are by our side whether we are sitting in the classroom with them, or in front of a screen, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Online learning has taken us out of our comfort zones, but that did not hinder our ability to do remarkably well because we have pushed through the tough times, and found pleasure in the process. Congratulations to all students. We have all put in our best efforts and challenged ourselves throughout the course of online learning, and thank you to all the teachers for all you have done to enable us to achieve our best.

#### Justin Robins - Year 6

English is my favourite subject online, because it has a perfect balance between entertainment and learning. Our teacher, Mrs Dilges, makes it engaging by putting up fun little introductions on screen to the reading and writing times using characters from movies and books, such as Darth Vader. I also like the way she links the tasks to books that students in the class enjoy. It has been particularly interesting to learn about the Stolen Generation recently and to listen to Wayne Quilliam speak about Aboriginal culture.

### Ishnoor Gill - Year 8

Online school has been difficult, however, our teachers have tried to make our lessons as engaging as possible. Some subjects I have enjoyed during this time are PE and Drama. My PE teacher, Ms McMahon, makes our class participate in different fitness tests which helps keep me active. We keep track of our results which enables me to push myself and further improve my stamina. Ms Davey, my Drama teacher keeps our lessons interesting by making Kahoots based on things we learn in class. We also act out different characters and dress up in costumes. This aids in boosting my confidence and is also a great way to have fun. Overall, my teachers have tried their very best to make online learning fun and exciting.

### Olivia Dilges - Year 7

My Favourite Subject online has to be PE, the two periods we have is very engaging and has workouts that are quite easy but very high intensity. We have all made a set of goals that we want to achieve through this term of PE. There was one thing in this class which I really enjoyed and that was plyometric training and stretches. Overall, this class is one of my favourite classes. Thanks so much for the time that you put into our classes Mrs Daniel.

### Parent Teacher Interviews - Middle and Senior School

Middle and Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews for all students from Years 5 to 12 will be conducted over three nights in Week 7, 8 and 9 of this term. This will provide parents with an opportunity to meet their child's teachers and discuss their child's progress. Given the current circumstances, all interviews will be conducted via the video conference program, Zoom. Information regarding dates and specific details will be communicated via the 'EdSmart' notification system next week. In preparation, we ask that parents download the Zoom app to their device.

Mr Dean Pepplinkhouse - Head of Middle School & Mrs Debra Ogston - Head of Senior School

# **Current Year 8 students - Subject Information Night for Year 9 2021**

A reminder that an Information Night for parents and students of Year 9 in 2021 is scheduled for Monday 17 August (Week 6 of Term 3) starting at 6.30pm via Zoom. The zoom link has been emailed to all parents and students of Year 8.

To date, the Year 8 students have been involved in Zoom meetings with all the Heads of Faculty where the staff outlined what subjects are available and possible pathways within each faculty. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain valuable information and many excellent questions were asked throughout these meetings. The 2021 9/10 Handbook is available for students and parents and can be accessed on Schoolbox>Careers>Subject & Programs and can also be found on the school website.

Mr Dean Pepplinkhouse - Head of Middle School

# **Senior School News**

On Monday 17 August there will be an information session for Year 9 2021 parents in regards to subject selection and how the Year 9 and 10 program runs. Students and parents of Year 10 2021 are able to attend an online presentation for subject selection if they feel they would like to revisit and be reminded of the requirements, however, this presentation is aimed at Year 9 2021 and students moving into the Senior School from Middle School. This presentation is similar to what was presented last year to parents and students when they were commencing in Senior School. Thus this is not compulsory for Year 10 students, it may be of interest. The Zoom link for the presentation has been emailed to parents. A copy of the presentation will be available on Schoolbox > Careers > Subjects & Programs at BMG for you to access at a later, more convenient time. You can access to the Year 9/10 Handbook at the same location.

Web preferences for Year 10 2021 subject selection opened on Monday 17 August. Submissions close on Sunday 30 August. Students and parents are asked to sign a printed copy of their subject selections and send an electronic copy to their respective Tutor Group teacher.

Mrs Debra Ogston - Head of Senior School

# An update from Mr Howell - Year 10 Coordinator

Year 10 is a pivotal year for students in the Senior School. From picking Year 11 and 12 options, to navigating their way through friendship groups, it can be a time of great confusion and anxiety. The Year 10 cohort of 2020 has embraced these challenges with both hands and has continued to amaze me with its ongoing commitment to its studies and the resilience this group has shown.

As a coordinator, it has been fantastic to see how the students in my year level have stepped up to look after their own mental health and well-being, as well as that of their friends. Zoom lunches and catch up sessions have been two of the ways by which the Year 10 cohort has remained connected.

It has also been great to see how seriously Year 10 has taken choosing their VCE or VCAL options. Working out a pathway is not an easy task and comprehensive research has helped students to make informed decisions about their future. I would like to thank in particular Mrs Thornton and Mrs Wu-Tollis, as well as all of the Year 10 Tutor Group Teachers for the support they have provided over the past few weeks.

Mr Michael Howell - Year 10 Coordinator

# **Music Department - Maddingley and Woodlea**

### **AMEB & Rockschool Examinations**

Instrumental music practice and formal performance examinations provide students with opportunities to develop their organisational, resilience and goal-setting skills.

Unfortunately, Bacchus Marsh Grammar is unable to facilitate the AMEB & Rockschool examinations this year due to the Covid-19 situation.

Students are still encouraged to pursue their examinations via either video submission (recommended) or face-to-face. Parents/guardians will be required to meet enrolment, payment and video submission deadlines and will continue to be supported by our wonderful instrumental teachers. Please take note of all relevant information via the link below:

### https://ameb.vic.edu.au/enrol/dates2020/

We hope to resume hosting examinations in 2021 and beyond.

Best wishes to all students intending to pursue AMEB or Rockschool examinations this year.

Mr Steven Bell - Director of Music

# **Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to the following students who have recently completed the Challenge:

Aikam Brar - 5A	Akshar Thatipelly – 4C
Akhil Kanneganti - 5A	Millie Patterson – 4C
Lucas Schilling – 4WA	Sonya Tiyapunjanit – 4C
Marek Saahil Munir – 4WB	Rafan Parvez – 4C

Mrs Feona West - Coordinator: Library P-6

### **Student Achievement**

### Chelsea for a cause

My name is Chelsea Fastuca from 2A and I am 7 years old. I started making frames when I was 6 out of leaves and flowers then I turned it into a business to raise money for the Cancer Council through Relay for Life.

I like it because it is a fun hobby and it is good to help raise money for the Cancer Council. @chelsea.for.a.cause



# **Bus Update - Private/Public/Country**

### **Emergency Bus Service**

An emergency bus service has been established for both Maddingley and Woodlea campuses commencing on Monday 17 August.

The bus route for the emergency service has been developed based on the normal private bus routes. In some cases, parents may have to travel a little further to a stop than their usual stop.

A reminder for students who are using this service, they are required to tap on and off on Roll Call with their Student ID Card. We request that parents arrive approx. 5 minutes earlier at their stop to the timetable and monitor roll call in the PM routes, as buses may arrive a little earlier with less traffic on the roads. Buses will not depart stops in the AM until their schedule time noted on the timetable.

### **Public Bus Service**

Public bus services will run as per normal timetables.

### **Country Bus Service**

Country bus services will not be operating in the afternoon.

Students travelling via a country component of their bus travel, are required to advise Leanne Robertson the day of travel that they will be travelling in the afternoon on a country service so this service can be arranged.

Please email the Schools Bus Service Co-Ordinator for any queries at <a href="mailto:bus@bmg.vic.edu.au">bus@bmg.vic.edu.au</a>.

### Book Club News - Issue 6 available now

Issue 6 catalogue is now out and ready to accept orders until the end of Term 3. Your Scholastic order will be delivered to your home (postage & handling \$5.99). Orders can still be placed with Issue 5 catalogue but will incur another postage and handling charge.

Here is the link to the online catalogues: https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/

If you haven't ordered before, you will need to register.

- Create an account assign either to yourself or one of your children. You
  are advised to just set up one account and place your orders for all your
  children under this account. As orders incur a postage & handling fee of
  \$5.99 this will reduce your overall cost.
- Your child's designated teacher is the Year Level Coordinator as we no longer have separate class teachers listed.



### Maddingley:

**Prep:** Kylie McKerrow/ **Year 1:** Helen Saunders/ **Year 2:** Sian Rawlinson/ **Year 3:** Jodie Taniguchi-Muston/ **Year 4:** Lisa Stephens/ **Year 5:** Trevor Hilton/ **Year 6:** Wes McLaughlin.

Senior School orders can be placed under Diane Dunn as designated teacher.

#### Woodlea:

Prep – Year 7 orders nominate Feona West as designated teacher.

Your order also generates rewards used for valuable school resources. Thank you for your support

Mrs Diane Dunn (Maddingley Campus) & Mrs Feona West (Woodlea Campus) - Scholastic Book Club Coordinators

# **BMG Community Contacts**

### **Bacchus Marsh Grammar Uniform**

Updates from Noone detailing operations for both the On-Campus Shop and Rushfords are listed on the school website.

### **On Campus Shop**

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.

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

 $\label{thm:continue} \textbf{YMCA Ballarat continue to operate Out of School Hours Care. See details via the \underline{school website}.$ 

Enrolments are now completed online.

Email: chrissie.ashmore@ymca.org.au Phone: 0490 178 638 W: www.ballarat.ymca.org.au

Maddingley: Woodlea

<u>bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au</u> or 0438 154 842 <u>woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au</u> or 0490 490 362

Location: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340 Location: 111 Frontier Avenue, Aintree, Victoria. 3336.

### **Student Absentees**

### **Maddingley Campus**

Absentee Line 5366 4888 or Absentee Email – maddingley absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au

### **Woodlea Campus**

Absentee Line 5366 4988 or Absentee Email – 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: <a href="mailto:school@bmg.vic.edu.au">school Website: <a href="mailto:www.bmg.vic.edu.au">www.bmg.vic.edu.au</a>



Doctrina Vitae

Bacchus Marsh Grammar