

From the Principal

I hope that you are well in the face of the current crisis. It would appear that online learning is going to remain a feature of the Victorian landscape until at least the end of Term 3 with, we think some prospects of it continuing after that for sections of the school.

I would again like to thank parents, students and staff for their efforts over the past few months. Initially there was a need for all of us to adopt quickly to the “new norm”. We are now in a period, which some have started to describe as the “marathon phase”. It is just plain hard and to be frank monotonous, with many of the things that provide joy in our lives not available to us at present. We think it important that we remain focused on an end point, which may not be life as we know it last year, but something close to it. That is not really that far away.

Our feedback so far, is that the majority of students are working well at home; however, there has been a decline in both motivation and attentiveness during this second lockdown. I know a number of parents are concerned that the rate of learning has not been as great as it would have been physically at school. The simple answer to that is they are correct. Online learning is not as effective as physical classes. It is, however, much better than no instruction and I have every confidence that we will be able to get students back on track over the next few months.

There is also a general fatigue that is setting in, this is certainly not something specific to the school. As well as the general issues we think students are, on the whole, missing the social contact and the variety that a day at school brings. Tiredness and inattention are the two big enemies of effective teaching and we are considering ways (particularly for younger students) in which we can break the week up to bring better outcomes for students. These will be discussed and rolled out in the coming weeks. Please remember, however, you are the expert on your child. If you feel they need a break from the screen – give them one. It is not going to have any lasting impact on their education.

On the longer-term economic front, the impact of the second lockdown has certainly caused an array of difficulties for families. The School is cognisant of this and is looking to do what it can to help. I remind families that the School has established a substantial hardship fund for those families who are experiencing financial difficulties. Details of the fund and the application process can be obtained by emailing the Finance Department on: accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au.

The School Board has also agreed to the following variation on Fees and Charges for Term 3:

- i) A full credit for bus charges for students in Prep to Year 8.
- ii) A credit of seven weeks of the bus charges for students in Years 9 to 12.
- iii) A 10% reduction on Tuition Fees for all students in Prep to Year 12 for Term 3.
- iv) A 10% reduction in the Building Levy for all students in Prep to Year 12 for Term 3.

Bacchus Marsh Grammar seeks when setting fees to have a small surplus, which it applies to capital expenditure, primarily for the development of infrastructure. We feel that for this term that small surplus (and some more) is best directed back to parents. I do, however, wish to stress that arrangements like this are not sustainable in the long-term. The School is very mindful of the economic impacts of the current crisis. Adjustments will be applied to debtor’s accounts at the earliest opportunity. If you have any queries about your account please contact the Finance Department via email on: accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au.

I understand that the longer the crisis continues the deeper the impact particularly on wellbeing. We are endeavouring to do everything we can to ensure that the next few weeks go smoothly, and that recovery is swift and successful.

Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal

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. 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 where they have an opportunity to engage with the author/illustrator and ask questions. Our Year 4 students will be involved in a writing workshop. Please find the timetable below for your information.

Online Author/Illustrator Talks

Day	Campus	Time		
		9:00am - 10:50am	11:15am - 12:45pm	1:30pm - 3:00pm
Monday 31/08/2020	Maddingley	4A - 100 Story Building	1A - Chrissie Perry	1C - Chrissie Perry
			1B - Chrissie Perry	1D - Chrissie Perry
			5A - Louise Park	5C - Louise Park
			5B - Louise Park	5D - Louise Park
	Woodlea	4B - 100 Story Building	4D - 100 Story Building	7A, 7B, 7C and 7D - Oliver Phommavanh
Tuesday 01/09/2020	Maddingley	8A, 8B and 8C - Mark Smith	8D, 8E and 8F - Mark Smith	8G and 8H - Mark Smith
		4C - 100 Story Building	4D - 100 Story Building	7E, 7F, 7G and 7H - Oliver Phommavanh
	Woodlea	1WA - Chrissie Perry	1WC - Chrissie Perry	
		1WB - Chrissie Perry	1WD - Chrissie Perry	
		4WC - 100 Story Building		
Wednesday 02/09/2020	Maddingley	2A - Chrissie Perry	2C - Chrissie Perry	6A, 6B, 6C and 6D - Morris Gleitzman
		2B - Chrissie Perry	2D - Chrissie Perry	7I - Oliver Phommavanh
	Woodlea	PWA - Lucinda Gifford	PWC - Lucinda Gifford	6WA, 6WB and 6WC - Morris Gleitzman
		PWB - Lucinda Gifford	PWD - Lucinda Gifford	7WA and 7WB - Oliver Phommavanh
Thursday 03/09/2020	Maddingley	PA - Lucinda Gifford	PC - Lucinda Gifford	
		PB - Lucinda Gifford	PD - Lucinda Gifford	
			PE - Lucinda Gifford	
	Woodlea	2WA - Chrissie Perry	5WA - Louise Park	5WC - Louise Park
		2WB - Chrissie Perry	5WB - Louise Park	
		2WC - Chrissie Perry		
		3WA, 3WB and 3WC - Mark Wilson		
Friday 04/09/2020	Maddingley	3A and 3B - Mark Wilson	3C and 3D - Mark Wilson	
	Woodlea			

Students and Teachers from Prep to Year 12 are invited to **dress up as their favourite literary character on Wednesday 2 September** during their remote learning day. 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 upon improving literacy levels in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Indigenous Literacy Foundation run core programs including the donation of thousands of free books to remote indigenous communities, organising literacy projects and hosting 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. We would like to encourage our families to take pictures of their child/ren during this week and to submit them to newsletter@bmg.vic.edu.au for inclusion in future publications like the Yearbook, Grammarian and Newsletter. 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 and/or Mrs Sarah Hunter.

Literacy Week Team

Junior School News

Spotlight on Year 2

Six weeks into the Term Three remote learning journey and the Year Two students continue to do an amazing job. The students consistently demonstrate an enthusiastic and conscientious approach to their learning. It is their positive engagement, along with the overwhelming support of parents, which has made our job as teachers so much more rewarding and enjoyable during this very challenging time.

This term, the students have begun new units in both Literacy and Numeracy. They are enjoying Integrated Studies in which they have been focussing on 'Past and Present', looking at how technology has changed over time and the impact this has had on people's lives. Students also look forward to their weekly specialist classes and enjoy sharing what they have been doing in Art, Music, Science and Physical Education.

A major focus in Year Two has been the pastoral care program which focusses on the social and emotional wellbeing of the students. One part of this program has been the introduction of Wonderful Wednesday, Fun Friday or Freaky Friday when one afternoon per week, students select open-ended, project type tasks from a choice board. One of the highlights for the Woodlea students has been a special project called 'Mini Miss', where the students had an avatar of their classroom teacher and designed a vehicle for her. The students' talents shone through in the amazing designs and creations they produced. Another part of the pastoral care program has been the introduction of a special theme. So far, the students have enjoyed Backwards Day, crazy hair, crazy hats, Pet Parade, Pyjama Day, silly socks, make your own accessories and Tell a Joke Day. Many Maddingley students were excited about the return of the television show, 'The Masked Singer' which led to the creation of a new event called 'The Masked Student'. Students took photos of themselves wearing a mask or face covering. The photos were added to a PowerPoint presentation and students then had to guess who was behind each mask. This proved to be an extremely successful and enjoyable team building exercise. The Year Two pastoral care events give the students something to look forward to each week and we are looking forward to enjoying similar events over the remaining weeks of this term.

Year 2 Team – Maddingley and Woodlea



Krish Brahmhatt 2A
Lego Warrior
'The Masked Student'



Evey Butler-Nguyen 2D
'Crazy Hair'



Hayley Evers 2D
'The Masked Student'



Annika McMillan 2A
'Bring a Pet' (or 6!)



Rayan Singh 2WA
'Backwards Day'



Ethan Mendoza 2WA
'Hat Creation'



Joel Kandelaars 2D with Max
'Bring a Pet'



Roman Deagan 2C
'Measuring Perimeter'

Maddingley Parent Teacher Interviews – Middle and Senior School

A reminder that 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. The dates include:

- Tuesday 25 August: 3.30pm – 8.30pm
- Monday 31 August: 3.30pm – 5.30pm
- Wednesday 9 September: 3.30pm – 8.30pm

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 booking details were emailed via the 'EdSmart' notification system. In preparation, we ask that parents download the Zoom app to their device.

Mr Dean Peplinkhouse – Head of Middle School & Mrs Debra Ogston – Head of Senior School

An update from Mr Castrignano – Year 9 Coordinator

Year 9, being the first year of 'Senior School', has allowed our students more freedom with their subjects than ever before. Students have been working hard across a range of subjects such as Flight Technology, Australia and the World Wars, Personal Finance and Forensic Science, just to name a few. Despite learning this content online, Year 9s are showing a remarkable resilience in this situation, choosing to focus on the many opportunities that they do have, rather than the ones they do not. Students are also currently choosing subjects for next year, with many looking to 'accelerate' into a VCE subject. This is an exciting time for students as they will begin their final component of secondary education.

Students have been staying socially connected to each other through Tutor Group activities focussed on building personal skills such as Emotional Literacy, Problem Solving and Stress Management. These topics have never been more relevant for the youth of today as they deal with this unprecedented situation. Students will also shortly begin working on a resume and cover letter in preparation for entering the work-force, as well as continuing to work towards their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Thank you again to all Year 9 students for staying positive, working hard and helping each other out. Thank you also to the Year 9 Tutor Teachers for continuing to do an amazing job in supporting our students.

Mr Tony Castrignano – Year 9 Coordinator

Year 9 (2021) Information Night

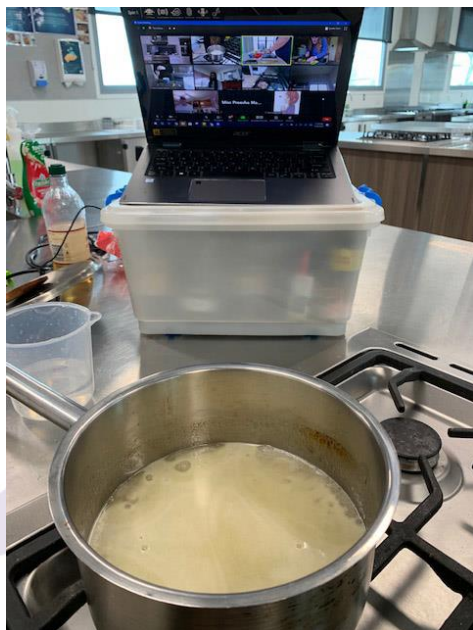
On Monday 17 August an information session was held for Year 9 2021 parents regarding subject selection and how the Year 9 and 10 program runs. I would like to thank all of the parents for attending and wish them well on future discussions and decisions they have with their own children matching their passions and skills with the subjects on offer. A copy of the presentation is available on Schoolbox > Careers > Subjects & Programs for you to access. You can access the Year 9/10 Handbook at the same location.

Web preferences subject selection for Year 9 2021 also opened on Monday 17 August. An email with information about the process has been sent to all Year 8 students. Submissions of subject choices 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.

Mr Dean Peplinkhouse – Head of Middle School & Mrs Debra Ogston – Head of Senior School

Year 12 Online Cooking

Practical engagement through remote learning - Food & Hospitality



These challenging times have required many teachers to rethink their traditional lesson plans and look for ways of engaging students through remote learning; this has been even more important during this second round of remote learning. Subject areas in which practical demonstration and assessment are the main components of the classwork have the advantage of providing students with a break from their screens and allowing them to engage in learning environments with which they are familiar. Over the last couple of weeks, in the Food & Hospitality senior classes, we have held group cooking classes and set practical design projects to get the students back into the kitchen and enjoying what made them choose these subjects in the first place. However, getting into the kitchen shouldn't be confined just to those students studying these subject areas - we hope you are all spending some quality family time cooking.

Middle and Senior school students are also encouraged to check out the Online Cake Decorating videos under the BMG Community Co-curricular tile on the Schoolbox homepage. We hope to see some of your creativity there.

Stay safe and happy cooking.

Mrs Jacqueline Huxtable



Felicity McMahon – 10G



James Taliambes – 10A

DAV Online - Round 4

In this round of DAV Debating, the A Grade Team, consisting of Arshnoor Singh, Khadija Ahmed, and Mia White, debated against the Melbourne High School team in a secret topic debate. We were given an hour to prepare 6-8 minute speeches after the release of the topic which was "That indigenous Australians should be paid a salary for life as a form of reparations." With our stance being assigned as negative, we aimed to develop an alternative form of reparation through financials being directed into different avenues. Through the delivery of our speeches, we proved to be victorious, defeating the Melbourne High School team.

Overall, the topic is crucial because we should be encouraging further discussion of Indigenous matters and the reparations that can be made. This made it a very interesting debate for us and, paired with the nuances of an online Zoom Debate, it proved to be an important learning experience for all of us. Congratulations to Mia receiving the Best Speaker Award. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Murphy and Ms. Coyne for their continual efforts in ensuring that we are prepared for the debates in every possible way.

Arshnoor Singh - Year 12

Woodlea Aquarium

“Creativity is contagious, pass it on.” - Albert Einstein

As part of the onsite supervision, our Woodlea students and staff created an aquarium highlighting their individual creativity. Students produced outstanding work that made the room fill with positive energy.

Chandani 1WC: “The Woodlea Aquarium makes me feel happy seeing all the beautiful colours”

Vivaan PWD: “I really liked making my octopus to add to the Aquarium’.



Mrs Eliza Allen

Music Department - Maddingley and Woodlea

AMEB & Rockscool Examinations

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

Unfortunately, Bacchus Marsh Grammar is unable to facilitate the AMEB & Rockscool examination processes 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 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 Rockscool examinations this year.

Mr Steven Bell - Director of Music

Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following student who recently completed the Challenge:

Riley Peldys – 6WC

Mrs Feona West - Coordinator: Library P-6

Middle School News – More positive reflections on Remote Learning 2.0

Further to last week's positive reflections, here are more responses from Middle School students.

Student Reflections:

Kavya De Silva – Year 8

The period of online learning for these few months have been quite unusual. This term is much easier since we know what to do and the teachers and I are a bit more knowledgeable about video meetings. A subject that I have enjoyed the most during online learning is English and Tutor group. The staff member who teaches English is Mrs Askeland. My tutor group teachers, Mrs Creed and Mrs Davidson run an am and pm tutor group. My favourite activity so far in English has been the power unit that we have been doing. Mrs Askeland finds different ways to try and teach the lesson so that we are engaged. Mrs Askeland also puts us into breakout rooms so that we can work and discuss with our peers like in a normal classroom. We learnt many interesting concepts including the different forms of power. My teacher actually lets us talk with our friends while we are doing the work just like in our normal classroom.

Oliver Zaccaria – Year 8

Remote Learning has been a challenging time for everyone. We have been learning in a completely different world. We have been cut off from family, friends and our normal lives. It has been difficult but we will get through it. We need to stick to the positives to get through the negatives. Through remote learning, classes have changed, school has changed. I personally would like to thank some of my teachers for their work.

Mr Ludewig for Food Technology; how difficult it must have been to change a whole term filled with cooking into a remote learning experience, and Miss Zhang for Maths, for helping everyone struggling in her class during these hard times. Lastly, to my Tutor Group teacher Mrs Beazley, for helping keep us connected and social. I have enjoyed all of these subjects and more. It is great that we can separate ourselves into smaller groups with our friends and socialise. They are my favourite lessons.

The teachers make the work engaging for us by setting up separate groups, Kahoots (quizzes) and fun activities. We made connections with friends and teachers and we were engaged in our work and other activities. We have learnt about measurement in Maths, and mental health in Tutor Group. The teachers involved us in the work and explained things we didn't understand. They made notes, asked questions and did Kahoots to help us remember things. These are hard times and we need to remember the people helping us every day - nurses, scientists and police who are on the front lines helping us and the teachers who are helping us towards the future. These may be challenging times but we will get through this together.

Chloe Vo – Year 6

Online learning has been very interesting for me. A subject that I have enjoyed is Art. My art teacher's name is Ms Heywood. She is a very lovely and nice person. My favourite lesson so far was my second lesson this term. I liked that lesson because we got to go outside and have some fresh air. We were learning about photography and so we got to go outside and take pictures of anything. I really enjoyed it. Ms Heywood always gives us time to take our eyes off the screen and get some fresh air.

James Murphy – Year 8

Some of the subjects that I have enjoyed during home learning have been French, taught by Ms Bourkel, Mathematics, taught by Mr Love, English, taught by Mrs Clark and Coding, taught by Ms Copeland

Some of my favourite lessons I have been involved in have been In French. These lessons have been very interactive, fun and great to participate in. Our teacher set up some different games in relation to what we learned that day, such as memory games, quiz shows, roulette wheels with questions and much more. Another aspect to these games is that they are competitive, showing high scores for others that have tried that game. This makes the games more enjoyable when we try and beat everyone's scores and times. This makes the games more interactive and gives you more incentive to do the work.

Mr Dean Peplinkhouse – Head of Middle School

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](#).

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – YMCA Ballarat

YMCA Ballarat continue to operate Out of School Hours Care. See details via the [school website](#).

Enrolments are now completed online.

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

Maddingley:

bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au or 0438 154 842

Location: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au or 0490 490 362

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: school@bmg.vic.edu.au

School Website: www.bmg.vic.edu.au