

BMG NEWS



Doctrina Vitae

Bacchus Marsh
Grammar

5 February 2021

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 01



From the Principal

I would like to welcome students and families to the 2021 academic year, particularly new students and families.

Last year was a year that we will all remember. I would like to congratulate our 2020 Year 12 students for the way in which they handled the year. Our VCE results were good and I would like to particularly congratulate our Dux, Liam Anthian with an ATAR of 98.75. Congratulations also go to Elana Penny who received a Perfect Score in Legal Studies. It was pleasing to see so many students offered places in courses of their choice.

I would like to thank everyone for the smooth start to the year. As always, it is great to see students back in school and ready for a new year. I had thought that I was going to be able to announce in this newsletter a range of relaxations of COVID restrictions, unfortunately the circumstances we find ourselves in don't allow that at this stage.

One of the minor holiday works at the Maddingley campus was the completion of a 'kiss and go' zone at the corner of the school where you turn from South Maddingley Road into the main car park entrance.



The new facility is designed for parents to drop students and go. I would ask that people obey the signs in the area and not use the facility for longer term parking.

This area adds to the dedicated zones designated for quick drop off or pick up in the car park which remain. Please note that the special arrangements remain in place from last year for Prep to Year 2 pick up.

I wish everyone a successful (and hopefully soon) a more relaxed year than last.

Mr Andrew A. Neal – Principal

Valentine's Day

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

Woodlea Campus News

It is with great excitement that we welcome back all Woodlea families for the 2021 school year. A very special welcome to all new students and their families - we are thrilled to have you join the Bacchus Marsh Grammar community.

We have many new staff joining our Woodlea team in 2021 and they are looking forward to working with you and your children throughout the year. We would like to introduce: Tania Godfrey, Alanna Kappler, Emma Kennedy, Carmina Espino, Lisa Bragiola, Angela Price, Dean Taravillo, Ben Northcott, Jed Millard, Ruo Chen Li, Susie Hines, Audrey Gagnon, Haley De La Hunty, Kelsey Chandler and Sally Savic.

When communicating with the school, please use your child's diary. General issues and questions can be directed to your child's class/ tutor teacher. Issues of significance can be addressed directly to your child's Year Level Coordinator:

Year Level Coordinators

Prep: Ms Courtney Williams- williamsc@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 1: Mrs Aimee La Franchi- lafranchia@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 2: Miss Hollie Thomas- thomash@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 3: Ms Ashlee Taylor- taylora@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 4: Miss Angela Price- pricea@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 5: Mr Michael Abramovic- abramovicm@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 6: Mr Nicholas Panczel- panczeln@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 7 & 8: Mr Thomas Monaghan- monaghant@bmg.vic.edu.au

Please keep up-to-date with school news and events via the school website and weekly newsletter.

We look forward to another wonderful year at Woodlea.

Mr Luke Symes, Mrs Danielle Copeman (Co-Heads of Campus) and Mrs Sarah Hunter (Deputy Head of Campus)

Maddingley Middle School News

Welcome back to the Middle School for the 2021 school year! It has been a pleasure to meet and greet everyone back to the school over the last few days, something just a year ago we all took for granted.

I welcome all of those who are new students to our school community and congratulate all of them on their efforts over recent days to make a positive start in the Middle School. I would also like to warmly welcome our new families, most of whom have Year 7 students, to the school. The staff team looks forward to fostering and nurturing the growth of your children.

Naturally, the return of the school year brings with it higher levels of routine for school families following the more casual summer months. It does take a week for students to get back into routine. I cannot understate the value of plenty of sleep, a healthy diet and exercise to fuel good learning and assist your student/s in establishing sound routines from the start of the year. If there have been any concerns over the initial days of your student's schooling, please talk with their Tutor Teacher, and they will support you to find solutions.

For any other queries about your child's education or welfare, you can also contact their Year Level Coordinators who are:

Year 5 - Mr Trevor Hilton – hiltont@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 6 – Mr Wes McLaughlin – mclaughlinw@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 7 – Mrs Lisa Degnen – deggenl@bmg.vic.edu.au

Year 8 – Mrs Cindy Daniel – danielc@bmg.vic.edu.au

I look forward to an engaging and fulfilling term for all of our Middle School students.

Mr Dean Peplinkhouse - Head of Middle School

Prep News

What a busy and fabulous start for the Prep students of Bacchus Marsh Grammar; so many smiles, nervous faces (mostly parents) and shiny new shoes. Our school readiness meetings proved to be a great success and were a fabulous opportunity to finally meet our students and parents face to face. As we have begun our transition days, it is pleasing to see the students settling in nicely, friendships starting to develop and the learning journey up and running across our groups.



A few things to note: please have a good read of the Prep Information Handbook. The handbook has been sent to parents via email and is also available on the myBMG Parent Portal under 'Whole School/Prep Orientation'. Please refer to the uniform photos. These will guide you to the correct items that are worn for each uniform, for example, the correct white socks for the girl's summer uniform. More uniform information can be found on pages 10 and 11 of the school diary.

Thank you to the parents who have sent along all booklist items, labelled. If you are yet to do so, can you please send them in ASAP as classroom learning has started. This includes the library bag (blue), reader bag (black), school pencil case and school hat.

There is also a lot of other important information for you within the handbook.

The teachers have an official bus list; however, we would appreciate it if you could record bus information in your child's diary as well. Also, please specify specific days if your child is not on the bus every day. We ask parents to communicate any changes to their child's daily going home routine via the school diary.



Information specific to Maddingley Prep Families

Preps attending Pentland Child Care or YMCA will remain at school to be collected by each of these services.



The remainder of the Preps will be walked to the Gatehouse (main car park) each day to be collected at **2:50pm**. Students who have an older sibling at school can nominate for their Prep child to be collected by this sibling at their later time and the siblings can walk up together (**Year 1: 2:55pm, Year 2: 3:00pm, Year 3 and 4: 3:05pm**). Please also communicate this to your classroom teacher via the diary.

It is very much appreciated by teachers if parents sign the diary daily and record any changes to normal going home arrangements. Teachers check and sign diaries daily and use this as their primary communication method with parents.

From next week, students will walk down from the Gatehouse without parents. Please be assured, that there will be plenty of staff to direct and support the Prep students with this. For bus travellers, students will also be supported as they alight from their buses each morning.

As we come to the end of Transition Week, I want to extend a huge thank you to you all for your patience and understanding throughout this process. I feel it has been a positive and smooth one. You will receive confirmation of your child's class teacher and room number by the end of week. Subsequently, you will also receive information related to your child's timetable, specialist teachers and general classroom information.

Mrs Kylie McKerrow – Maddingley Prep Coordinator

Student Wellbeing

Starting the New School Year

Starting the new school year can bring lots of emotions to the fore for both students and parents. Whether you are returning to school, new to the school or if you and your family are just beginning the school journey, it can be a time that raises a range of feelings. It is important to remember that it is okay to feel nervous about what the school year might bring. It may take a few weeks to find a routine and feel comfortable. It is important to take care of yourself by getting a good amount of sleep, exercise and healthy eating. Approach your day with an open mind, be prepared to try new things and talk to classmates who you do not know....yet! Make time to set a routine that includes time for homework and study which will help you feel more prepared and organised for the next day. If you would like further information, please go to the [Victorian Education and Training website](#) which has some great tips for parents to support their children when starting or returning school.

[Kidshelpline](#) is also a great resource with lots of helpful information for students and parents.

Student Wellbeing Team

Careers News

Year 12 Careers News

Year 12s will be commencing their individual Career Counselling meetings from Monday 8 February. This is an opportune time for students to reflect, prepare and plan their future goals. With the support of teachers, family, friends and peers, this meeting will form the basis of further discussion so that students can remain on track. Year 12 students will need to follow all booking procedures outlined by their Tutor Teachers.

Work Experience Years 10 to 12

Whilst Year 10s have traditionally embarked upon a Work Experience program, placements are becoming increasingly hard to secure given the COVID-climate. Work Experience is not mandatory for Year 10 students; however, if a student were to secure a placement, the School will review the placement request. The same applies to students in Years 11 to 12. Please direct any work experience enquiries to Mrs Wu-Tollis at the Careers Office or to Tutor Teachers.

Mrs Alice Wu-Tollis - Careers & Course Counselling: Practitioner

Sports Uniform – Maddingley Year 5 to 12

In adhering to government advice in relation to COVID-19 practice in schools, the school has made the decision to allow students to wear sports uniforms to school on days when they have practical PE & Sport classes. This will limit the use of change rooms around the school. Students in Years 9 to 12 PE classes and PE electives will have a day nominated by their subject teacher as the day they are to wear their sports uniforms. Some students have multiple PE electives; however, they should not be wearing their sports uniform to school all week.

Mr Bryce Durham - Director of Sport Education/Head of P.E., Health and Outdoor

School Administration Information

How the school communicates to parents – important for new families

Urgent notifications – SMS/Email from Principal

Please note that any urgent reminders or notifications are sent via SMS. Emails can also be sent via the Principal's Executive Assistant – Michelle Graham (grahamm@bmg.vic.edu.au).

If your child attends the Health Centre, a SMS will be sent to parents advising your child has received medical attention. If urgent, parents will be telephoned immediately.

School Administration continued.....

Keeping your details up to date via the myBMG Parent Portal

It is very important that families keep their contact details up to date via the myBMG Parent Portal. Please ensure that medical details are also accurate. Log in details have been sent to new families. Please call the Maddingley Administration office to speak to ICT should you not have access. 03 5366 4800.

The myBMG Parent Portal User Guide can be accessed via the [school website](#).

Edsmart – notifications for excursions/key school communication

All families are sent notifications and permission forms for completion via the Edsmart email notification system. Look for 'Edsmart' in your inbox. Always check your 'junk mail' just in case a notification is missing.

Prep Reception and Prep 2022 Enrolments

Please be aware that Prep Reception and Prep 2022 enrolments closed on the 31 January.

If any **current families**, have a child they have not registered for either Prep Reception or Prep 2022, please contact the School Registrar – registrar@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mrs Shona Hiscock - School Registrar

Multimedia Consent for 2021

Annually, the School seeks consent for use of multimedia containing students. This consent is active for a full school year. Next week, parents/guardians will receive an email notification via **Edsmart** to complete their annual consent to multimedia.

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

Note: this consent process excludes operational/administrative photography requirements such as Health Centre alerts and ID photos, as well as the annual school photography.

Photography and videography can occur on school premises or off-site at school events, activities, camps and excursions. Multimedia will be collected, used and stored in accordance with the School's [Privacy Policy](#).

This year, the school has expanded the categories of consent to:

- **Classroom Activities**

Including but not limited to: BMG staff taking photos and displaying student images within the classroom. Photography or videography taken for the purposes of student assessment or educational purposes.

- **School Publications and School Website**

Including but not limited to: Weekly BMG Newsletter (online PDF), weblog articles on the school website, the Grammarians (online and print format), School Yearbook (print format only) and Handbooks (online and print format). Note: the School Yearbook does feature all school class photos.

- **Advertising/Promotion, Social Media (Facebook) and External Media**

Including but not limited to: Advertising, School Facebook posts or posts of those connected to a school activity, school videos, external media (newspapers or similar).

- **School Production/Musical/Performance or Instrumental Music**

Including but not limited to: Photography and videography for promotion and recording of school musicals, productions, theatre or performance.

We request that parents/guardians complete the consent process by **Friday 19 February**. If not completed by the date, students will be marked as DO NOT CONSENT to all categories for 2021.

If you have any questions, please make contact with the school via [email](#) or call the Maddingley Administration Office on 03 5366 4800.

Mrs Casey Ryder – Marketing and Social Media Coordinator

Scholarships 2022

Bacchus Marsh Grammar offers inclusive Scholarship opportunities to new and current students. On offer in 2022 will be Scholarships available for Academic Excellence at Years 7 and 9. Further to these opportunities are the Callow Access Scholarships for students from Years 7 to 12. These enable students who would otherwise not attend Bacchus Marsh Grammar to attend on a Full Scholarship. Parents of students must be in receipt of a current Health Care Card to qualify for a Callow Access Scholarship and need to provide a copy of the relevant card.

The school is also proud to offer an Indigenous Scholarship, open to current and new students from Years 7 to 12. Indigenous Scholarship applicants must provide a copy of the applicant's Confirmation of Aboriginality document.

The Callow Access and Indigenous Scholarships do not require students to sit an entrance examination. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by the Principal, Mr Neal.

Applications for Academic Excellence scholarships close on 15 February. Visit the [school website](#) for more information.

ICT Support

Please be advised that both parents and students are able to log ICT issues via the school website.

On the website go to 'Quick Links' and choose ICT Service Desk and sign in with your ID number and password.

Mr Rowan Grönlund – Director of ICT Services

Events Calendar

Listed on the school website are key upcoming events and excursions – view these events under the [News/Events](#) tab. Full details for excursions and camps are provided via the email notifications from Edsmart and also added to the myBMG Parent Portal under Documents.

2021 Handbooks

A reminder that parents can access the School Handbooks via the website. Links to sub-schools are provided below:

Junior School Handbooks (Prep to Year 4) Maddingley and Woodlea –<https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/learning-teaching/junior-school-prep-to-grade-4/>

Middle School Handbooks (Year 5 to Year 8) Maddingley and Woodlea –<https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/learning-teaching/middle-school-years-5-to-8/>

Senior School Handbook (Year 9 & 10) <https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/learning-teaching/senior-school-years-9-10/>

VCE Handbook <https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/learning-teaching/vce/>

Canteen

Canteen - QKR – Update your child's class for 2021

Parents must update their child's Tutor Group classes on their QKR app profile. Woodlea students must have a W in front of the class selection.

When placing orders, please ensure the correct campus is selected.

Orders must be entered by 9.30am.

Canteen Services

Bus Information

Roll Call App

On 22 January, parents were sent a 'Welcome' email from Roll Call for log in activation. Roll Call is for parents whose children travel on private buses. It enables parents to track the bus in real time and receive notification of when their child/ren tap on/off the bus. Roll Call is also for parents whose children do not travel on a bus service, but utilised when students board a bus for school camp, excursion etc. It is advised that ALL parents download the Roll Call App.

If parents require their child to change their AM or PM stop permanently, please contact the School Bus Services Administrator so this can be updated on Roll Call. For the safety of students and drivers, it is very important that stops are up to date on Roll Call. If students are to disembark at a different stop as a one off on their designated route, parents are to update this on Roll Call prior to 1.30pm on the day of travel.

ID Cards

Students will have their photos taken over the next week; once photos are taken students will be issued with their Student ID cards. These ID cards will be used to tap on/off buses. Student ID cards are compulsory for the boarding of a private bus and must be carried at all times. Students who board a bus repeatedly without their Student ID card will receive a detention.

Parent Parking

It is recommend that parents pull off the road into a service road or designated car park whilst dropping off and picking up their child/ren. Parents need to be mindful not to park in the way of a bus and to ensure that the bus has enough space to safely drive in and pull out of the stopping area. Also, as there are bus stops in residential areas, it is important parents not park across residential driveways.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

Conveyance Allowance

Applications for the Term 1 claim are due by Friday 12 February

Parents who had a claim in 2020 should receive their application forms in the mail this week. These are due back at the school by Friday 12 February.

Parents who did not submit an application in 2020 can access the application forms from either the main office, Gatehouse or from the my BMG Parent Portal under 'Documents/Whole School'.

Conveyance Allowance Information

Families in rural and regional Victoria can get help with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest school or campus. This is known as the Conveyance Allowance.

The Conveyance Allowance is available to students travelling by:

- public transport
- private car
- private bus

whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus.

The Conveyance Allowance is a contribution towards transport costs and is not intended to cover the full cost of transporting children to and from school.

Conveyance Allowance continued.....

Eligibility

The conveyance allowance is available to families who meet certain criteria.

Students attending a school must:

- attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible;
- be enrolled at a school/campus outside Melbourne's metropolitan conveyance boundary for 3 or more days per week;
- reside 4.8 km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended; and
- be of school age at the time of application and reside in Victoria.

Please note that a Private Bus or Private Car conveyance allowance is not available if the journey could have been made using a free school bus or public transport service.

Following a recent decision by the Student Transport Unit of the Education Department, it appears that there may be some movement in the way the Department makes a judgement on what is the nearest appropriate school.

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 celebration, 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 2021. Application forms are available from the main office and from the Parent Portal. The application should be accompanied by a simple letter stating that 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 celebration of any particular faith.

Please contact Kerryn Browne if you have any questions.

Ms Kerryn Browne - Risk, Compliance and Policy Manager

BMG Community Contacts

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.

Enrolments are completed online. For full information please visit the [school website](#).

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

Maddingley:

bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au

0438 154 842

Located: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au

0490 490 362

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

Regular Contacts

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

Community News

Notification from Western Water

Western Water advise that Parwan Road, between East Maddingley Road and South Maddingley Road, will have a single lane open to traffic due to sewer and water pipeline works in the area.

The single lane will be in operation weekdays, from Monday 8 February until Wednesday 17 February. Traffic management will be in place during this time and priority will be given to school buses in the morning and afternoon.

Thank-you for your patience while we undertake work on this important project.

For more information: <https://www.westernwater.com.au/Network-Upgrades/Bacchus-Marsh-and-surrounds/Maddingley-Sewer-and-Water-Project>



Bacchus Marsh SES

Annual fundraising appeal

The annual fundraiser appeal:

Month of February



"Thank you for your support"

*Bill Robson
Unit Controller*

Launch on first Saturday of February at the Bacchus Marsh SES Unit, Gisborne Road and Satellite Shed, Wittick Street.



We ask you to please give generously

Donating options



Postal:

P.O. Box 69
Bacchus Marsh, VIC 3340



In person:

Arbee Real Estate
140 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh



Scan the QR code with your phone camera or use the link below.

Online:

www.givenow.com.au/bacchusmarshses



Events volunteers attend:



Flood



Storm



Road crash
rescue



Trees down



Assisting other
agencies