



From the Principal

It was wonderful to see students back onsite at Maddingley today. It is my hope that Woodlea will not be that far behind. Online learning has worked well, but I think I speak for most of us when I say that it is not a substitute for face-to-face teaching particularly over a lengthy period.

In assessing the situation, we continue to monitor the health situation daily and obviously are also being guided by the information we are provided by the Government.

At this stage we have made the following decisions in relation to activities other than classroom teaching:

- i) All incursions and excursions have been cancelled until further notice.
- ii) Access to the site will again be limited to staff, students, and limited contractors. Parents who need to speak with staff should endeavour to do so through Zoom. If this is not possible, they will need to check in through Reception or the Gatehouse (Maddingley). We are currently limiting parent helpers onsite; this will vary as soon as we are able to.
- iii) Camps will proceed with some modification to programs to meet Government guidelines.

We will continue to keep the community abreast of changes as we move over the next week or so. I again thank the community for their patience over the last ten days. The situation is enormously frustrating and disruptive, it is, however, made easier to deal with when the community is so understanding and supportive.

Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal

Prep 2023 Enrolments – closing 30 June 2021



Please be aware that Prep 2023 enrolments for both Maddingley and Woodlea campuses will be closing on **30 June 2021**.

If any **current families** have a child they have not registered for Prep 2023, please visit the [school website](#) to complete an online application.

Mrs Shona Hiscock - School Registrar

Financial Arrangements

The school recognises that a number of our families have been financially impacted by the current Circuit Breaker Lockdown and some families may need greater flexibility to be applied to payment plan arrangements for School Fees in the coming weeks.

We invite any family who is experiencing financial hardship at this time to get in touch and arrange a confidential discussion to explore what alternative arrangements may be possible. The Accounts Receivable team can be contacted by calling the office, or alternatively, email enquiries to accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Government Support

The Victorian Government has launched the *Circuit Breaker Business Support Package* to assist small to medium businesses and sole traders, under the Circuit Breaker restrictions announced on 27 May 2021.

<https://business.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/circuit-breaker-business-support-package>

This may also be of assistance to families suffering financial hardship under present circumstances.

Mrs Kylie Cooper – School Accountant

Student Wellbeing

Woodlea Campus - Supporting Your Child's Learning at Home

While Woodlea campus operates via online learning, there are a number of ways you can support your children while they are learning from home. It is important for children to have, or maintain, a routine and for you as parents to set clear expectations for them. Make sure that your child has a space in which to work comfortably for the day and ensure you provide a level of supervision that is suitable for your child's age, stage of development and individual needs. Monitoring communication from teachers and the school is also important so you know what is happening in the life of the school. Check in with your child daily, in the morning and the afternoon, to help them manage their work and also monitor how much time they are spending online outside of their school day. Encourage your child to take time away from their screens with regular exercise breaks and promote healthy eating habits. You know your child better than anyone so if you notice that they are struggling or if they have additional learning needs, communicate with your child's teacher for helpful ways to support your child's learning at home. Understanding ways in which you can assist your child during this period of online learning will allow them to feel safe and supported.

For more helpful information on how to support your child's learning, please visit the [Coronavirus website](#).

Student Wellbeing Team

The Podium - Optimal Academic Performance

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance

In his internationally acclaimed book, "Legacy", James Kerr delves deeply into the soul of the world's most successful sporting team, the New Zealand All Blacks Rugby Union Team. His book reveals to the reader fifteen powerful and practical lessons regarding leadership and success. In the run up to the examination period, I think it is extremely timely to speak to one of these key areas to help our sons and daughters prepare for their assessments.

Prepare with PURPOSE

Prior to the examinations, ask your children why? Why are they preparing in a particular way? Why are they sacrificing their time and energy for their examination study? What is their goal? What do they hope to achieve from their exams? What is the higher purpose for doing well and achieving their optimal level of academic performance? We need to make sure that our students and children recognise a mutual responsibility for their education. That we, as teachers and parents, are helping them to find purpose in their endeavours and prepare them with purpose is a wonderful starting point in the dialogue between all involved and, ultimately, where we all come together for the sake of our children's success.

Five Purposeful Discussion Points to have with our children in the lead up to examinations:

- Prioritise – Has your child made a list of the things they need to do in preparation for examinations? Start with the most important at the top. Help them organise their study. Staff will also be helping our students with exam revision so ask your children what they have learnt to help them prepare.
- Set deadlines and be supportive – Students need to set deadlines; it is the easiest way to stay on track. As a parent or guardian, help your child by checking in on them and asking them how they are doing.
- Be realistic – Students need to set achievable goals and realistic time frames. Ask your child "what is your goal for a particular subject? How much study time do you intend to commit to this subject?"
- Ditch the distractions - Internet, mobile phones, magazines; any non-study related material that may tempt them away from their work. Switch off the TV and get them to turn their phone to flight mode.
- Emphasise quality sleep and physical exercise – As discussed in the first issue of the "Podium", quality sleep is as vital to academic success as physical exercise. Research shows that physical exercise improves concentration levels and cognitive performance as well as having numerous general health benefits. Make sure your children are getting outside during their exam preparation to ensure they have a quality balance in their day.

Let us encourage our students to Prepare with Purpose and achieve Optimal Academic Success.

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal: Optimal Performance Learning

The Podium - Humanities Achievements

The move back into lockdown was obviously a shock to everyone but staff and students went about the transition to remote-learning with their usual positive attitude. Zoom has been dusted down, cameras readied and online lessons delivered with aplomb. Although the best thing about online learning is always seeing how appreciative students are when we return to the classroom, the resilience of staff and students at Bacchus Marsh Grammar reminds us of just what we are capable of when faced with the most difficult of circumstances.

Before all of this, Year 7 was really leading the way with some exceptional work in both History and Geography. A steady stream of Egyptian artefacts showcasing the talent and imagination of our students arrived at the History office each morning. Anubis masks, amulets, crook and flails, canopic jars and models of the pyramids themselves were delivered – we half expected Indiana Jones to turn up, such was the quality on show!



Humanities Achievements continued....



Not to be out shone, the Year 7 geographers have been designing their own parks as part of their Place and Liveability curriculum. Students have studied how public spaces are designed with different sections of the community in mind. They studied Melbourne's parks, looked at their own local spaces and always posed the question 'where is the geography in this?' The results of this research were a series of stunningly designed parks which met the brief of catering for different communities and groups. Our pupils were not only able to design the open spaces but, most importantly, speak confidently about why each element was in their design and who it catered for.

These are obviously trying times but the study of Humanities gives us the knowledge and skills to better navigate them. The work of our students and teachers before, during and after remote-learning is testimony to that.

Mr Richard Murgatroyd - Assistant Head of Humanities

BMG Mushroom Garden

During Orientation at the start of this year, three Year 7 Tutor Groups made mushrooms in their Art class. Since then, the ceramic mushroom tops and mushroom stems have been fired in the school kiln. Students who have been attending the Middle School Community Art Co-Curricular program have been slowly working towards painting the mushrooms with vibrant colours and adding dots to each of them. It is pleasing to see the creations of Middle School students brightening up our BMG gardens.

Mrs Nicole Heywood – Head of Art : Prep to Year 8



Literacy Week 2021

Are you ready for an amazing reading adventure? Explore 'Old Worlds, New Worlds and Other Worlds' during Literacy Week, 2021!

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is busily preparing to celebrate Literacy Week in Term Three from Monday 30 August to Friday 3 September, 2021.

This year, in line with The Children's Book Council of Australia, our theme is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds', with a whole week of fantastic activities happening on both campuses.



A much-loved fixture on the Bacchus Marsh Grammar Calendar, Literacy Week celebrates literacy and reading in all its forms; encouraging both staff and students to grab a book and get involved!

Staff are in the process of arranging a week jam-packed with activities including talks from special guest authors, workshops, activities, competitions and, of course, the ever-popular **Literacy Dress-Up Day**.

Be sure to keep an eye on the BMG eNews and the Schoolbox Bulletin for important dates and more details in the coming weeks, particularly with regard to upcoming competitions.

Literacy Week Competitions

The Literacy Week Committee and Language and Literacy Student Leaders are excited to announce this year's annual Story Writing Competition AND new Poetry Writing Competition!

The **Story Writing Competition** is open to BMG students from **Year 2 to Year 8**. This year's theme is 'A surprise in the cupboard under the stairs'. More information can be found on the attached flyer at the end of the newsletter (designed by Arnesh 8WB).

The **Poetry Competition** is open to BMG students from **Year 5 to Year 12**. The theme of the competition is: **Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds**. Please consider what this means to you and others. The poem can be composed in any style and can be handwritten or typed. There is only one poem per entrant allowed. Please submit your entries to the box labelled Poetry Competition in the front office. Please ensure your entry is clearly labelled with your name and Tutor Group. Entries are due by Thursday 12 August. There are great prizes to be won and these will be awarded for Years 5 to 8 and Years 9 to 12.

The Language and Literacy Captains will endeavour to come to Year 2 to 8 Tutor Groups to promote each of these competitions and answer any questions.

We look forward to being flooded with entries!

The Literacy Week Committee and Language and Literacy Student Leaders

BMG Hospitality News – Cancer Council’s Biggest Morning Tea



Last week we welcomed the return of guests to student-led hospitality events here at BMG. Tuesday saw the first of three high tea style events conducted as fundraisers for the Cancer Council’s Biggest Morning Tea initiative. These events have been planned, prepared and implemented all by students within the Hospitality Cafe program. Throughout this term, each class has been split into a number of small groups, each conducting a specific role in preparation for their class’ event. These roles included designing food options and an overall menu, developing a theme and decorative elements, coordinating musical entertainment, promoting the events within the community and managing the health and safety requirements for running an event under COVID restrictions. Our students have conducted themselves in a manner well

beyond their years, working collaboratively to successfully produce all planned elements of their events and to host our first events of the year. We congratulate our students on their efforts this term and extend our thanks to those who attended and have supported the school’s fundraising efforts. If you would still like to donate, you can do so via :

<https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/BacchusMarshGrammar/vic>

Mr Jaike Ludewig - Learning Area Coordinator: Food Technology



Woodlea – Year 1 Excursion



On Tuesday 18 May, Woodlea Year 1 students travelled to Diggers Rest Children’s Farm. They participated in a range of fun, engaging and hands-on activities. The students learnt about various animal species and got an insight into how a farm functions. They also learnt about the importance of helping to maintain the natural environment. Highlights of the day were having a ride on Snowflake, the miniature pony, riding on a tractor and feeding the cheeky alpacas.

Woodlea Year 1 Teachers



Woodlea – Year 3s at Staughton Vale

The Woodlea Year 3s had a lovely day at Staughton Vale last week. Focusing on Maths and Science, students explored compass points and mapping as well as completing some scientific drawings of the insects they found. Once we returned to school, students used all the information gathered to create an informative poster on Staughton Vale.

Woodlea Year 3 Teachers

Woodlea Prep News

Over the past few weeks, the Preps have been learning about how to write a procedure, defined as the specific way to carry out an activity or a process. This week Prep WC participated in a volcano experiment, which entailed watching a chemical reaction between vinegar and baking soda. When this reaction occurs, it creates a gas called carbon dioxide resulting in tiny bubbles trying to escape, thus causing the Volcano like eruption. As you can imagine the Preps were very excited to be writing and drawing the steps to this experiment procedure.

Woodlea Year 1 Teachers



Bus Information

Maddingley Campus

As of Monday 17 May 2021, the MELON bus route will be taken over by a new bus provider Firefly. There are NO changes to the timetable.

Masks

A reminder that ALL students aged 12 and over are required to wear a fitted face mask (unless they have a medical exemption) whilst travelling on a school bus. This includes to and from school, excursions and camps.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

Music Department - Maddingley and Woodlea Campuses

Expressions of Interest for Instrumental Music Enrolment

Limited places are available for Semester Two commencement of instrumental lessons. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the [school website](#).

Mr Steven Bell - Director of Music

Book Club News – Catalogue for Issue 4 is out now



Visit the [school website](#) for more information regarding the latest catalogue and how to order.

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

BMG Community Contacts

An update to Noone:

Uniform Purchasing, Ordering and Payments

We will no longer be taking phone orders or payments. You may shop and order and pay in person at the Werribee or On Campus stores.

We also offer online shopping at www.noone.com.au

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](#).

Please be advised that information regarding the June/July Holiday Program features at the end of the newsletter.

Email: chrisie.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.

Events Calendar

Dates for upcoming events/excursions and camps can be viewed via the events calendar on the [school website](#).

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

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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

STORY WRITING COMPETITION 2021

TOPIC MUST RELATE TO: A SURPRISE IN
THE CUPBOARD UNDER THE STAIRS

- *Competition is open to students in BMG Years 2-8*
- *Entry must be submitted by 12th August*
 - *3PM No Late Entries*
 - *No emailed entries (Only handcopies).*
 - *Stories can be printed out*
- *They must not be plagiarized and able to be read*
 - *Story must have FULL name and grade*
 - *Judges Decision will be final*
- *Entry must be placed in the Story Writing Competition box
in the office
(In Woodlea or Maddingley)*
 - *Have fun!!!*

