BMG NEWS



20 August 2021

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 23



From the Principal

It has been in many respects a fairly ordinary week. I know that a number of families and students are struggling with the latest round of lockdown.

I want to concentrate today on the work of the Teacher Assistants and Interns at school. Currently study hall arrangements are in place to allow children of essential workers and those who cannot learn at home the opportunity to access their online schoolwork.

These rooms are staffed with teachers on roster, however, there are Teacher Assistants and Interns each day to assist students. They have worked extremely hard over the last 18 months helping and assisting students who have to be onsite.

The role they play has been vital, just as it is in a "normal' classroom. The dedication to their students and the achievement of the best outcomes for students is to be applauded. On your behalf, I would like to thank them.

Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal

Student Wellbeing

Supporting children during the pandemic

Given our current circumstances, it is normal that children and adults may feel overwhelmed, stressed or anxious. As we have highlighted in previous newsletters, there are many resources that parents can access to assist in supporting their children and young people.

<u>Emerging Minds</u> is an organisation dedicated to advancing the mental health and emotional wellbeing of Australian infants, children, adolescents and their families. It has developed a range of short videos, fact sheets and podcasts covering topics such as how to support your child during the COVID-19 pandemic, manage routines and talk about worries. These resources can be found via its <u>Supporting Children During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic</u> page.

The Australian Parenting Website, <u>raisingchildren.net.au</u>, also offers a range of resources for parents around <u>supporting</u> <u>children during the pandemic</u>. They invite you to join a free, live webinar with a child and family psychologist on 24th August. This webinar will focus on helping parents learn skills and strategies to manage, not only their own anxiety, but also that of the whole family.

Student Wellbeing Team

The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance

We all have heroes. Most recently, many of us would have been excited to watch our sporting heroes perform at the Tokyo Olympics. They brought us much joy and excitement in a time when many of us are struggling with the day-to-day "grind" of living in a pandemic. However, with Literacy Week nearly upon us, I would like to take the opportunity in this edition of The Podium to write about one of my heroes. Yes, like many of you, I have sporting heroes - Mick Fanning, Sifan Hussan and Wout van Aert, however, my particular hero is a literary giant; someone who through his writing and absolute command of the English language was able to make a change and create a safer world for those living through a tumultuous time.

Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill was born into British aristocracy in 1874 and later attended boarding school where his behaviour and academic results were poor. He barely passed the entrance exams to Harrow School and then, on his third attempt, was admitted to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He developed a love of the "classics" and reading and writing became not only his love, but his strength. He loved words; the way they told a story when they were carefully and often painstakingly penned to illustrate even the most basic point. Churchill volunteered as a war correspondent during the Boer War and this shaped much of his future life. He published 6.1 million words in thirty seven books (more than Shakespeare and Dickens combined) and delivered five million public speeches. Research shows us that throughout his life he accrued a vocabulary of over 3 million words. He wrote a novel, two biographies, three volumes of memoirs, several histories and numerous press articles but it was his speeches during World War Two when he was Prime Minister that formed his greatest legacy. Of being made Prime Minister by the King he wrote, "I believe I am walking with destiny and my whole life has been but preparation for this time".

Famously, in an argument in a heated War Cabinet meeting, Lord Halifax, the then Foreign Secretary said, "What is to stop Hitler, words, words, words alone?" To a man which words meant everything that is exactly what he would use to stop Hitler. There is no doubt that the brave sacrifice by so many in battle and on the home front ultimately prevailed over the tyrant of the time, Churchill's words and brilliant command of the English language galvanised a nation, as millions stood and sat in front of their wirelesses to listen to Winston inspire and give hope through his speeches.

Winston Churchill, like many of us, made mistakes. These included the India Policy, the Norway debacle, the gold standard, Gallipoli and his support of the King's brother, however, his brilliant writing, inspiring words, his exploration and extensive reading led to the important and life changing decisions of his time and created a literary giant who is my hero. I challenge you all as Literacy Week approaches to think about who your literary hero is.

And in regards to this pandemic, what do I think he would write? At present, I think he would reinvent his famous speech of 1942 at the Lord Mayor's dinner at the Mansion House after he received news of the British Armies first victory in Northern Africa;

"Now this is not the end, It is not even, the beginning of the end, But it is perhaps, The end of the beginning".

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal: Optimal Performance Learning

The Podium – Health and Human Development (HHD)

In undoubtedly difficult times, our HHD students have shown fantastic resilience in continuing their studies online and they are now very close to completing all content required for the year. In this area of study, students have learnt about the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and how they can impact health and wellbeing in both high income and low income countries. Students have discovered the types of aid that Australia provides to less-fortunate countries and how they can take social action to both educate people about global issues and help those in need. We have also explored the work of the World Health Organisation in improving human development and managing health emergencies, something which, ironically, has become important to us all!

The Podium - HHD continued......

The following students scored exceptionally high in their previous SAC related to health and wellbeing issues in a global context:

Alannah Burston	Elsa Saultry
Madeline Clark	Harsahib Singh
Isabella Di Mieri	Micah Toms
Aaliya Fish-Sharman	Alexia Azzopardi
Ella Frost	Brayden Edwards
Antonio Karady	Emma Heaphy
Paris Marsland-Kelsey	Prue Soley-Howlett
Kyah Marum	Jaylan Altay
Christian Meguerditchian	Liam Richardson

We encourage all our students to keep engaged in their learning despite the difficult times ahead. Work completed now creates a great foundation for excellence in the end of year examination.

VCE HHD Teachers: Mr Tony Castrignano and Mrs Ainslee Grinter

The Podium – Music Faculty

VCE/VET Music Industry – Units 3 & 4 students

Commitment, courage, teamwork, resilience, self-discipline and gratitude - these are some of the many important character traits nurtured whilst preparing for any major performance.

For our Units 3 & 4 VCE/VET Music Industry students, external performance examinations are fast approaching. With these assessments scheduled for the first two days of Term Four, our wonderful young musicians are currently putting the finishing touches to their 25-30 min programmes of repertoire.

Recently, I had the pleasure of running workshops for each of these soloists and groups. It was clear to me, that despite some significant challenges again this year as a result of the pandemic (some groups have not been able to rehearse for the past 10 weeks!), our students are extremely well-prepared and looking forward to showcasing their talents and hard work.

Goal setting, remaining focused and determined for extended periods of time, overcoming periods of uncertainty and/or lack of motivation, these are the moments that identify us as Bacchus Marsh Grammar and separate us from the pack.

I commend the VCE/VET Music Industry class of 2021, wish them well for their examinations and extend my sincere thanks to classroom teacher Mr Westgarth, as well as the many wonderful instrumental teachers and accompanists who all provide a truly exceptional level of support and guidance for our young performers.

Mr Steven Bell - Director of Music

From the Health Centre

This September the school is enrolled as a 'Body Kind School' with the focus on being "body kind" to your body and others.

There are two free parent webinars via Zoom for which you can register for to help you understand and support positive body image in the home.

- 1 September: Let's talk "Body Confident Children and Teens"
- 9 September: Let's talk "Body Image in Boys"

Details on how to book in are on the flyer attached at the end of newsletter. For any further information regarding Body Kind, there are great resources available via the Butterfly Foundation web page, <u>www.butterfly.org.au</u>.

It's a good time to remind ourselves to take care and be "body kind" to ourselves and others.

Health Centre Team

Literacy Week 30th August – 3rd September, 2021.

Literacy Week is fast approaching and we are positively bursting to celebrate reading and literacy in all its glory here at Bacchus Marsh Grammar!



This year has again been challenging, but it will be fabulous to shine a light on the wonderful ways in which reading can enhance the lives of our students and, indeed, ourselves.

We have some amazing guest speakers joining us to inspire the students to embrace literacy and follow their dreams. These speakers are always well-received and highly anticipated by our students.

There will be opportunities to participate in fun activities – some individual, some in teams, but all engaging and fun. There are also writing and poetry competition for students to enter if they are keen to tap into their creative side!

Literacy Dress Up Day will take place on Thursday 2nd September. The theme this year is "Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds", which pretty much means the options are endless. We can't wait to see the students all dressed up and enjoy the excitement of the day either remotely or onsite. Remember, there is absolutely no need to spend money on a costume – ask children to get creative with what they have at home.



Don't forget the Reading Decathlon Challenge, which is open to all students from Prep to 12, schoolwide. We would love to see lots of entries for this challenge – perhaps you could do the Family Photo event together or just enjoy some family reading time over the coming days.

We can't wait to share this week with our wonderful students.

Literacy Committee: Mrs Kelly Dilges, Mrs Danielle Copeman, Mrs Sarah Hunter, Mrs Sally Savic, Mrs Jennie Clark & Mrs Feona West

BMG Father's Day Stall - Cancelled

We are disappointed to advise that this year's Father's Day stall has had to be cancelled due to the extension of COVID-19 restrictions.

For those parents who have purchased vouchers via the QKR App, you will receive a refund within a week. Please contact the school should you have any queries on 03 5366 4800.

Junior School Spotlights

Spotlight on Year 2 - Maddingley

The Year 2 students have certainly demonstrated resilience, flexibility and adaptability during the quick changeovers from onsite learning to remote learning.

We have learned to make the most of the time spent school, at incorporating group work and hands-on activities into lessons whenever possible. During Maths, students enjoyed working together to measure the area of various spaces within the classroom. They also had fun with their Robson Robot creations. Each student designed a robot from centimetre square



grid paper. They then added a pattern design and calculated the area and perimeter of each body part.

While online learning has it challenges, the students certainly shine when they are given opportunities to explore new concepts and exercise their creativity. As part of National Science Week, students enjoyed designing their own sandwiches or snack foods. Some students even went on to make the sandwich they designed. Other students, while at home, conducted science experiments such as making raisins dance! In Art, students have displayed their creative flair through colourful, patterned crazy hair designs. They have also enjoyed learning about the artist Alexander Calder. Inspired by Calder's abstract work, students produced some amazing art.

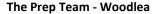
Year 2 Team – Maddingley

Spotlight on Prep - Woodlea

The Woodlea Prep students have been engaging in fun-filled online learning experiences over the last week. We celebrated each day with a theme to inject some fun into our days. Some of the themes so far have included: Bright Socks Day, Comfy Clothes Day, Wear One Colour Day and Bring a Toy Day.

The students have continued to work on their phonic knowledge through the Soundwaves program and, with growing confidence, are writing their sentences of the week. As this is also Science Week, we have given students daily experiments to conduct at home. One of the favourites was making fireworks in a jar.

As always, we cannot be more proud of our wonderful cohort of young learners.





Spotlight on Prep - Maddingley

100 Days of Prep Celebration 2021

Last Tuesday, the wonderful Preps of 2021 celebrated 100 days of being at school. What an exciting day we had! It might have been the one day at school between lockdowns, but we managed to make the most of it. The students had a fabulous day talking and writing about their experiences in Prep so far. We reflected on all of the wonderful things we have learnt and the fun activities we have all been a part of so far this year. In Numeracy, students focussed on all things 100. We counted by ones and tens, made posters and, at the end of the day, proudly wore our beautifully created 100 Days of Prep crowns all the way home.

The Prep Team - Maddingley



Bus Information

2022 Country Bus Travel

Application forms to travel on the Country Bus services in 2022 will be emailed via Edsmart to parents next week. New BMG families who will require this service next year need to register their child by completing the relevant form. Existing families are required to re-register annually. These forms determine seat availability for travel in 2022 and are due back on **Friday 3 September**.

Face Masks

It is compulsory for ALL students aged 12 and over to wear a fitted face mask whilst they are travelling on a school bus, (this includes to and from school, excursions and camps), unless they have a medical exemption.

2022 Private Bus Travel

As we begin to look at private bus capacities for 2022 this is a reminder to parents that should your child's travel arrangements be changing in 2022 (eg – moving house, new address, will not require private bus service), please contact the School Bus Services Administrator on 5366 4800 to discuss.

Mrs Leanne Robertson – School Bus Services Administrator

Book Club News – Catalogue for Issue 6 is out now



Visit the <u>school website</u> 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 shopping:

We will manage online and click and collect orders from the retail stores, but will leave the campus shops closed.

www.noone.com.au

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: chrissie.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 – <u>maddingley_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au</u> 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: <u>school@bmg.vic.edu.au</u> School Website: <u>www.bmg.vic.edu.au</u>

JUNIOR AND MIDDLE SCHOOL 2021 PORTRAIT COMPETITION!

The 2021 BMG Portrait Competition will be a little different this year as we are learning from home. Students are invited to create a portrait with whatever materials they have available at home. Students are encouraged to draw, paint and photograph a portrait of a person that is real... or imaginary!

Wonderful arty prizes at each Year Level!

Students - please take note of the following:

- · Portraits are not to be larger than A4 in size
- · Any medium is encouraged, just as long as it's ok with your adults!
- Portraits should be submitted at the Maddingley OR Woodlea front office by:

Friday 10th September

- If you choose to take a photograph, please make sure that you set it up and photograph it yourself
- All portraits should be completed in the next few weeks, please don't submit work you have previously completed

Please forward questions to:

MADDINGLEY heywoodn@bmg.vic.edu.au WOODLEA degiorgiol@bmg.vic.edu.au prettya@bmg.vic.edu.au

JUNIOR SCHOOL • MIDDLE SCHOOL

Community News

FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS – SUPPORT HEALTHY BODY IMAGE IN **YOUR CHILD**



OI SEPT 2021 (FREE) 7PM - 8.15PM VIA ZOOM Live - No recording available

09 SEPT 2021 (FREE) 7PM - 8.15PM VIA ZOOM

Live - No recording available

Links not working? Copy and paste into your browser: https://events.butterfy.org.au/portal

LET'S TALK BODY CONFIDENT CHILDREN AND TEENS

Delivered by Butterfly Foundation, this webinar for carers of primary and secondary age children provides practical rips to help you better understand and promote positive body image in the home and healthy eating and exercise behaviours. Learn about: the power of positive role modelling; reducing toxic body talk; developing resilience to social media pressures; and what to do if you are concerned. For a full session outline visit: <u>www.butterfly.org.au</u>

LET'S TALK BODY IMAGE IN BOYS

For parents/carers of pre-teen and adolescent boys this webinar boys. Learn about: the common concerns for boys and who is at higher risk; how stereotypes, social media and the sport and fitness industry drive appearance pressures; common signs that training, exercise and eating may be problematic; and what to do if you are concerned.

These webinars are effered as part of Butterfly's Body Kind Temi ies initiative designed to help parents support their teen's body 'mage. Register for either webinar and gein automatic access to additional Body Kind Families resources – videas, Factsheets, family activities and audio materials. For more information: www.butter?y.org.a.i/bodykindfamilies

Contact:

E: education@butterfly.org.au T:02 8456 3908 www.butterfly.org.au





Community News



MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL



Register your interest now! Dates to be confirmed!

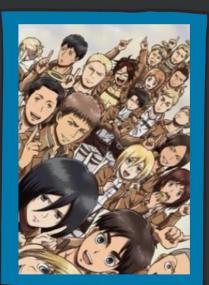
DARLEY CIVIC & COMMUNITY HUB PAVILION

Register now! www.trybooking.com/BTDBF



Instagram @mooraboolyoungpeople

For more information contact the Youth Team on 53667100 or email youthservices@moorabool.vic.gov.au





Cr:@charlotte.moerenhout