

BMG NEWS

11 March 2022

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The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance

Following on from our VCE Mentor Program for High Performance Learning, this week in the “Podium” I would like to highlight a fantastic new program aimed at maximising our academic results in VCE English.

The Bacchus Marsh Grammar **40+ Club** is an extension English group for students of VCE English Units Three and Four run by Ms Leigh Radbourne, an experienced VCE English teacher and assessor. The group provides students with higher-level resources and support as they strive for excellence in their final year of English. This week, the group investigated some of the feminist perspectives associated with the set text ‘Station Eleven.’ Other topics covered this term will include a deep dive into the links between Shakespeare and ‘Station Eleven,’ higher level essay-writing skills and using Socratic circles to develop sophisticated interpretations.

The specialist resources developed for the 40+ Club are available to all Year 12 English students via their English teacher so, if your VCE child has high aspirations but did not receive an invite in the initial round, they can still complete the work being done in the Club.

If you have any questions about the Bacchus Marsh Grammar 40+ Club, please direct your enquiries to Ms Leigh Radbourne via radbournel@bmg.vic.edu.au. Congratulations to all as we as a school continue to strive for Excellence!

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal: Optimal Performance Learning

School Photos 2022

Formal School Photos will take place in Term 2 on the following dates:

Maddingley Campus – 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 May 2022

Woodlea Campus – 16, 17 & 18 May

Please note - Timetables are yet to be confirmed. General School Photo information will be sent to families toward the end of Term1.

Mrs Cathy Perconte – Events and Community Development Coordinator

School Captain Introductions

Patrick Binks



I'm honoured to have been chosen to be one of the 2022 School Captains as it has been something I've strived for since beginning at the school in Year 7.

During my time here at the school I have participated in all sorts of extra-curricular activities such as sports, bands as well as productions and volunteering in the local community. These experiences outside of the classroom, alongside the friends made along the way, are crucial in making the most out of the time spent at school and really being able to enjoy it. These opportunities helped me to involve parts of my own personality and life in what I was able to do at school. This also allowed me and many other people to express themselves to their peers and teachers.

During the last five years, I have been greatly involved in the world of music, having completed the Year 12 music program last year and having been a part of multiple bands both inside and outside of school. I believe that music is an important part of everyone's life, not only as entertainment, but as a way to relax, a way to cope and a way to bond with people. That's why I want to help the school bounce back after COVID and get everyone involved in music again. The absence of House Music, BMG In Concert, and frequent assembly performances is something that I and I'm sure everyone else has missed over the last few years and is why I want to work hard to bring them back better than ever.

I aim to represent my fellow classmates and make sure that their voices and opinions are heard. I want to ensure everyone is able to thrive this year and inspire them to want to be involved in school life. Overall, I am excited to see what the next year will bring and I'm ready to take this opportunity to make a significant positive impact on life here at the school.

Eloise Driver



It was an honour to find out that I would be representing Bacchus Marsh Grammar as one of the 2022 School Captains and I am extremely grateful for this opportunity.

I have attended Bacchus Marsh Grammar since Year 1, and during this time, I have been an active member of the school life. Participating in clubs and extracurricular activities has formed some of my fondest experiences during my time here and allowing me to make lifelong friendships and unforgettable memories. Whether it's chess, debating, tennis or choir, Bacchus Marsh Grammar has something for everyone and I strongly encourage every student to get involved.

I believe that a good Captain is one who leads by example with integrity, resilience, motivation and positivity. These qualities are ones that I strive to incorporate into my everyday life, enabling me to become the best leader I can be.

This year, one of my main aims is to help the wider school community reconnect after the past two years. I feel as though it is very important to establish a relationship between not only junior, middle and senior students but also parents and teachers. I aim to achieve this through implementing new and engaging extra-curricular activities across the school, giving all students an opportunity to thrive in their areas of interest.

I am looking forward to an exciting and busy school year ahead.

School Captain Introductions continued.....

Olivia Ogston



I am truly grateful to be chosen to be one of Bacchus Marsh Grammar's School Captains for 2022. I have been a student here since Year 7 and I am excited about my opportunity to give back to the school and help make 2022 as enjoyable as possible for all the students, especially after the last two years.

I am one of those students who has always enjoyed being involved in the school community such as in sporting teams and school camps where I have had many experiences, memories and friendships which will help me to move forward in my life.

In my final year of school, I am looking forward to all the challenges that will come my way as well as making the most of it. I have been pushed by my teachers to achieve my very best which I will be especially grateful for in this final year. Leaving high school and entering the real world is not only daunting, but very exciting. I am looking forward to every step I will take this year, some of which will be backwards, but as they say it is not about the destination, but the journey, and Year 12 will definitely be one amazing journey.

As School Captain of 2022, I am really excited to see all the ways in which I and the other leaders can provide support to the school community this year.

Ilesha Spiteri



I am sincerely grateful to have received such a prestigious role and am honoured to be one of Bacchus Marsh Grammar's School Captains for the 2022 school year.

Since my first days here at BMG, starting in Year 7, I knew school involvement would be a path I would regularly take. Through countless opportunities such as sporting events, school musicals, Melbourne Show cookery and many more, I have learnt new skills and created memories I will take with me throughout my whole life. It is rewarding to look back on these times with great fondness and I hope others may embark on this journey during their time at Bacchus Marsh Grammar as well.

I spend a lot of my spare time diving into the world of books where I am regularly exposed to exceptional leaders. Ralph Waldo Emerson, a popular philosopher, once said, "Do not follow where the path may lead but go instead where there is no path and where you leave a trail"; this is a statement I try to reflect in my everyday life and one that reflects the type of leader I strive to be.

As my time at this school comes to a conclusion, my biggest aspiration is to work in the medical field and to take the lessons I have learnt to create a successful career for myself. Although I don't know where exactly I may end up, I know I want to pursue this career because of my calling to help others and will do as much as I can to achieve this.

I wish not to fast forward this year quite yet and can't wait for the many more unforgettable memories I am still to create. I look forward to working with staff, students and my fellow leadership team to continually make this school a great environment to be in.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability. A notice regarding the collection of data can be viewed via the [school website](#).

Mrs Michelle Graham – Executive Assistant to the Principal

Music Department – Student Success

It was pleasing to note many students continued with music examinations last year, despite disruptions and the move to video submissions in place of face-to-face assessments. Congratulations to the following students:

Student Name	Examination	Result
Gian Abriam	Piano For Leisure Grade 2	A Honours
Edward Conroy	Rockschool Bass Grade 4	Merit
Kate Farnacio	Units 3&4 VCE/VET Music Industry (accelerated)	Raw score of 43
Zoe McDowell	Piano for Leisure Grade 2	B
Murphy O'Connor	Rockschool Bass Grade 3	Distinction
Lachlan Pantazis	Rockschool Voice Grade 5	Merit
Jake Pawar	Piano Grade 8	A Honours
Mannan Rajpal	Rockschool Bass Grade 3	Merit
Alessia Riepsamen	Musical Theatre Comprehensive Examination Grade 4	B+ Credit
Stefania Robu	AMEB Theory Grade 4	A Honours
Alexis Sharp	Rockschool Grade 2 Piano Examination	High Distinction

Students who participate in instrument/voice lessons outside of the Bacchus Marsh Grammar program are also encouraged to forward any examination or competition results for acknowledgement in future newsletters: music@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mr Steven Bell - Director of Music

Student Wellbeing

Talking to children about difficult topics in the news.

Children of all ages will at some stage hear and see TV, radio, social media and other media coverage of natural disasters and distressing news, which includes coverage of bushfires, floods, earthquakes, terrorism, wars, accidents, violent crime and more. They will also hear adult conversations about the news and children won't always understand what is happening. Children might feel frightened by what they see or hear, or become upset by the distress that adults around them are feeling. They may worry that their family and friends might get hurt, or they may feel overwhelmed by the constant coverage and think the event is recurring. Children cannot always express how they feel and as a result you may see a change in their behaviour. Common reactions include becoming more clingy, having trouble sleeping, becoming more irritable, having outbursts or tantrums.

Your child will manage better if they have accurate, age-appropriate information about disasters and other distressing events in the news. They will also need plenty of opportunities to ask questions and talk about their feelings. Make time to talk, acknowledge what has happened and find out what your child knows. Explain what has happened, keep making time to talk and encourage open conversations. Consider encouraging children with positive news topics through resources such as [Squiz Kids](#) which is an Australian news podcast for 8 – 12 year olds. In a few minutes, squiz kids gives a rundown on news events delivered free of opinion, with positivity and humour. Designed to slip easily into families' morning routines, it drops at 7am each weekday. The ABC's [Behind the News](#) is another great resource for age-appropriate news stories.

For more information please visit the [Raising Children Network](#) and [Beyond Blue – Healthy Families](#).

Student Wellbeing Team

Year 12 Information Evening

For those parents unable to attend the recent Information Evening, please access the presentation via the myBMG Parent Portal / Documents / Senior School / VCE folder.

Mr Tony Castrignano – Year Level Coordinator: Year 12

Junior School News

Targeted Learning Support Opportunities

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we are proud of our culture of achievement and are committed to supporting students in realising their personal best. This semester the Junior School is excited to provide the following support and enrichment opportunities for students:

Tutor Learning Initiative

The Tutor Learning Initiative provides Bacchus Marsh Grammar with the opportunity to engage tutors to work with small groups of students in their classrooms to support their learning. This additional assistance is available through the Victorian Government's investment in the Tutor Learning Initiative which helps schools address disruptions to the students' learning as a result of COVID-19. Students have been selected based on achievement data which suggests that, with additional tutoring support, they can demonstrate extra growth. Each Tutor Learning Initiative cycle will run for a semester.

Tutors will work closely with the students' teachers to enhance quality differentiation and maximise their engagement. This may also include pre-teaching and reteaching concepts being taught in class. The students' growth, engagement and curiosity for learning will be monitored throughout each semester. Their progress will be assessed through a variety of assessments completed during the year. At the beginning of Semester Two, at each year level, some changes may be made to the list of students selected to participate in this program. Parents whose children are selected for the Tutor Learning Initiative have been notified via an EdSmart email notification.

Growth Groups: (Maddingley Campus)

Growth Groups provide students with an opportunity to work in small groups with a qualified teacher once a week over a six to ten week block. Growth Groups provide explicit instruction focusing on a specific goal or skill set. Students have been selected based on achievement data which suggests that these students could benefit from small group explicit support and/or enriched problem-solving tasks to improve metacognition.

Junior School Teams - Maddingley & Woodlea

Spotlight on Physical Education

It has been a fantastic start to 2022 in Physical Education.

Students have settled quickly and have been enjoying a variety of introduction/listening games.

For the remainder of the term, Prep to Year 2 students will be developing their fundamental movement skills. In particular, they will be focussing on the skill components required to successfully catch and throw a variety of balls and objects.



Students in Years 3 and 4 are off to a busy start with the return of sporting carnivals. So far, students have participated in the Swimming Carnival which was held at the Werribee Outdoor Pool and are currently working on a variety of track and field events in preparation for the Athletics Carnival. This year, the Carnival will take place at Masons Lane Reserve in Bacchus Marsh on Friday 18 March. Later in the term, the Years 3 and 4 students will participate in the Cross Country Carnival which will take place at our Staughton Vale Campus.

This year will also see an introduction of health components into the Physical Education curriculum for Prep to Year 4 students. The focus for Term One will be

'Sun Safety'. Students will be learning about the effects the sun has on our skin and the importance of staying safe in the sun. So, remember to Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide and check the UV rating at www.myuv.com.au

Junior School Physical Education Team

Visual Arts Department News

The BMG Visual Arts Department welcomes students back to the art room. Our students are enjoying a wide variety of hands-on activities including ceramics, venturing outside to draw the views of Bacchus Marsh from the Terrace Building lawns and creating sculptures.

This term, our Year 9 / 10 Studio Art students have been inspired by the Pacific Ocean and the environmental issues occurring along the Great Barrier Reef. They are focussing on the effects of global warming on the Reef and have created white coral sculptures that replicate the bleached appearance of many of the areas that have been affected. The sculptures are delicate and beautiful but also a haunting reminder of the devastation that has already occurred. The Artworks are currently on exhibition in the Lou Callow Gallery and the online Gallery on Schoolbox.

Mrs Jane Todd - Learning Area Coordinator: The Arts Years 9 to 12



Middle School Musicals - Rehearsals

Maddingley - Beauty and the Beast

Years 5 to 8 students will be rehearsing Wednesdays from **3:30pm to 4:30pm**.

If students require the Late Bus, they must sign up at Reception before lunchtime every Wednesday. The cost of the late bus is \$15 per trip. Please be aware that this service travels a different route to the regular bus services. Timetables are on the [school website](#).

Any questions regarding rehearsals, please contact Ms Elyse Zahra zahrae@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Ms Elyse Zahra

Woodlea - Lion King

Years 5 to 8 students have commenced rehearsals on Tuesdays from **3:30pm to 4:20pm**.

If students require the Late Bus, they must sign up at Reception (front office) before lunchtime every Tuesday. The cost of the late bus is \$15 per trip. Please be aware that this service travels a different route to the regular bus services. Timetables are on the [school website](#).

Any questions regarding rehearsals, please contact Ms Amanda Middleditch middleditcha@bmg.vic.edu.au

Ms Amanda Middleditch

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) – Applications for 2022

Information has been emailed to families relating to the CSEF. This is applicable to families who hold a valid Centrelink pensioner concession or Health care card number (CRN). The CSEF application form can be downloaded from the School's website: <https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/community/camps-sports-excursions-fund-csef/>.

To encourage people to make an application, the School will provide a rebate equivalent to the Building Levy for those families who submit applications which are approved by The Department of Education and Training.

The form which outlines eligibility requirements needs to be returned to the School by 17th June 2022 (last day of Term 2). Parents must meet the eligibility requirements by:

1. Eligibility Date: 31 January 2022
2. 2nd CRN validation date (for failed CRNs only): 26 April 2022

Parents who received the CSEF at Bacchus Marsh Grammar in 2021 do not need to complete an application form in 2022, providing there has been no change to their family circumstances.

Enquiries should be directed to Sharon de Vries at accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au.

COVID-19 Update – Testing and Reporting

Reporting a Positive Case

In the event that your child is required to isolate, either as a confirmed COVID-19 positive or as a household contact, we request that you notify the school via school@bmg.vic.edu.au with the following information:

Student Full Name	
Date of Birth	
Form/Class	
Campus	
Last Date of Attendance	
Symptoms eg. None, Symptomatic, Asymptomatic, Unknown	
Test Date:	
Test Type eg. PCR or RAT	
Symptoms Onset Date:	
Exposed/Infected Outside of School	

If your child is absent from school due to COVID, their teachers will provide lesson materials via Schoolbox in the event that they are well enough to complete some learning at home. Your child's tutor group teacher will also be in contact to check-in and to see if any other support is required.

Rapid Antigen Testing After a COVID-19 infection

Students who return to school after their seven day isolation with a COVID-19 infection do not need to do Rapid Antigen Testing for a 30 day period.

Mrs Michelle Graham – Executive Assistant to the Principal

School Administration News

Notifications for change of pick-up arrangements or appointments during the school day

Please ensure that any changes to your child's pick-up arrangements or notifications for collection to attend appointments during the school day are communicated through the school diary. It is important that for Maddingley campus collection, parents specify either the 'Main Office' or 'Gatehouse' as the collection point. A reminder to parents that the Main Office is on South Maddingley Road and the Gatehouse is within the Main Car Park entered via Gate 1.

For last minute or urgent changes to pick-up arrangements please notify the relevant campus prior to 2.15pm.

Maddingley: 03 5366 4800 or Woodlea: 03 5366 4900

Bus Information

Late Buses

Maddingley Campus

As of Monday 21 March, the Maddingley late bus will operate Monday afternoons, which is additional to the services already underway on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. The late bus departs at 4.40pm. There are two buses allocated: **Late Bus 1** covers Melton, Caroline Springs and Tarneit. **Late Bus 2** covers Manor Lakes, Werribee and Hoppers Crossing. Please refer to the [school website](#) to access the timetables. The late bus is available for students in Year 4 to Year 12 only. **Students are required to write their name on the sign-up sheet at Reception for their relevant Late Bus (1 or 2), under the stop they will disembark. This must be done before the end of lunch on the day of travel.** Students must be involved in an afterschool class or activity to travel on the late bus. The cost of the late bus is \$15 per trip.

Woodlea Campus

The late bus out of Woodlea campus departs at 4.40pm, operating on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Please refer to the [school website](#) to access the timetable. **Students are required to write their name on the sign-up sheet at Reception, under the stop they will disembark. This must be done before the end of lunch on the day of travel.** The late bus is available for students in Year 5 to Year 8 only. Students must be involved in an afterschool class or activity to travel on the late bus. The cost of the late bus is \$15 per trip.

Student Permission Cards

Students in Prep – Year 6 require a green permission tag on their bag if they are to disembark the bus to be picked up by someone other than their parent/guardian. Students in Year 5 and 6 can disembark the bus on their own if they have a green permission tag on their bag for the driver to check. Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notices are available on the myBMG Parent Portal. Please return Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notices to bus@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Student ID Cards

All students have now received their Student ID cards. These must be placed on or in each student school bag in order for students to tap on/off the bus each morning and afternoon as part of the Roll Call system. Students who do not have their ID card for bus travel will be reported to the Year Level Coordinator.

Mask Wearing

It is compulsory for ALL students in Year 3 to Year 12 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. It is not compulsory for students in Year 2 and under to wear a face mask on the bus, although it is highly recommended.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

Events Calendar

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

Book Club News – Catalogue for Issue 2 is out now



Issue 2 catalogue is out now!

If you wish to order, visit the [Scholastic website](#).

As your order will incur a postage & handling fee of \$5.99, we encourage you to place one order per family.

If you have not ordered before, you will need to set up an account. It is advised that you set up the account under your own name.

When you place an order, it will ask you to nominate a teacher. Please see the chart below to determine who to nominate at each campus. If you are ordering for more than one child then you only need to nominate one teacher.

Year level	Maddingley Campus	Woodlea Campus
Prep	Mrs McKerrow	Your child's class teacher
Year 1	Ms Bens	Your child's class teacher
Year 2	Ms Durham	Your child's class teacher
Year 3	Mr Al-Bazi	Your child's class teacher
Year 4	Mrs Di Mieri	Your child's class teacher
Year 5	Mr Hilton	Your child's class teacher
Year 6	Mr McLaughlin	Your child's class teacher
Middle/Senior School	Mrs Dunn (Years 7-12)	Mr Monaghan

Maddingley/Woodlea Campuses: If you have any issues or need to seek further advice then you can contact Mrs Dunn at the Maddingley Campus on 5366 4800 (ask for the Senior Library) or you can email dunnd@bmg.vic.edu.au.

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

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@yballarat.org.au Phone: 0490 178 638 W: www.ballarat.ymca.org.au

Maddingley:

maddingley.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0438 154 842

Located: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0490 490 362

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

Bacchus Marsh Grammar On Campus Uniform Shop

Phone Orders – 5367 4072

Uniform information and shop business hours are listed 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
P +61 3 5366 4900
F +61 3 5366 4950

Woodlea Early Learning Centre

111 Frontier Avenue
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

Notice: Department of Health and Human Services

Invitation to circulate the survey - parents and guardians of 5-11s

The Victorian Department of Health has launched the first state-wide survey of parent and guardian attitudes and perceptions towards COVID-19 vaccination for children aged 5-11 in Victoria.

The data gathered in this survey will enhance the pathways and resources that support parents and guardians to make decisions about COVID-19 vaccines and vaccination services for 5-11 year olds.

The link to complete the survey is available [here](#) or via https://dhhschange.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_d4ncDp5KSx8GnIA.

The survey will be open until **5pm AEDT on 17 March 2022**.

Completion of the survey is voluntary. The survey is entirely confidential, and all data will be handled in accordance with the [Department of Health Privacy Statement](#)

Thank you for your support.

Naomi Bromley

Deputy Secretary COVID-19 Vaccination, COVID-19 Response
Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000
w. www.dhhs.vic.gov.au



The Department of Health and Human Services respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays its respect to the ongoing living cultures of Aboriginal peoples.