



The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance

Over the past weeks, many of our students have been in the process of selecting their subjects at the Year 9 and 10 levels. For many, this is a difficult choice. Often, as teachers, we will hear parents and students comment that they do not yet know what they want to do in the future, therefore subject selection is nearly impossible, or conversely, that they only want to pick certain subjects as they already know what they want to be in the future.

Both these conversations have made me reflect upon the debate, most often associated with High Performance Sport, although now common amongst academics; which is better for the individual, specialising early on or taking a more generalist approach? It wasn't that long ago in published works like, "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell and "Bounce" by Matthew Syed, that the argument about performing 10,000 hours of dedicated, deliberate practice was at the forefront of what is deemed to be successful. However, research now indicates that eventually, elite performers devote less time on deliberate practice in the activity they will eventually become experts in. Instead, the most successful athletes, musicians, artists and academics undergo what is deemed a "sampling period" and partake of a variety of experiences, skills and activities early on in their careers that they can draw upon and only later do they become hyper focused and increase technical "practice" in one area.

This notion is brilliantly described and explained in David Epstein's, "Sunday Times" bestselling book, "Range." In allowing our students to select subjects we are encouraging them to explore interests, gain skills and explore possibilities. They can then draw upon this to make more focused decisions. We want our students to immerse themselves in all aspects of school academics, music, sport, arts, technology, leadership etc. Who knows where this will take them? Possibly, like Duke Ellington who shunned music lessons to focus on drawing and baseball only to become arguably the most significant jazz composer of all time or Maryam Mirzakhani who dreamed of becoming a novelist as a child and instead became the first woman in history to win Mathematics' most prestigious prize "The Fields Medal." Let us help develop our students "Range" so they can achieve their optimal performance.

"No one tool is omnicompetent.

There is no such thing as a master-key that will unlock all doors"

Arnold Taynbee. A Study of History

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal: Optimal Performance Learning

Disney Beauty and the Beast Jr - Tickets on Sale Now

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is excited to present the Maddingley Middle School Production of *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*

Visit the link - <https://clocktowercentre.com.au/bacchus-marsh-grammar-presents-beauty-the-beast-jr/>

- **Performance Venue:** The Clocktower Centre Moonee Ponds
- **Performance Dates:** Sunday 11 September @1pm and @5pm

Miss Elyse Zahra

Literacy Week - Monday 29 August to Friday 2 September



Literacy Week is fast approaching and we are positively bursting to celebrate reading and literacy in all its glory here at Bacchus Marsh Grammar! Literacy is, of course, a strong focus for us all year round, but it will be fabulous to spend the week shining an extra special spotlight on the many wonderful ways in which reading can enhance the lives of our students.

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 across the sub-schools – some individual, some in teams, but all engaging and fun.

Literacy Dress Up Day will take place during this week also; Woodlea Campus on Tuesday 30 August and Maddingley Campus on Thursday 1 September. The theme this year is “Dreaming With Eyes Open”, 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. Remember, there is absolutely no need to spend money on a costume – ask children to get creative with what they have at home.

Mrs Dilges, Mrs Copeman, Mrs Hunter, Mrs Savic, & Mrs West

Father’s Day Stall - Maddingley & Woodlea: Tuesday 30 August

BMG is hosting a Father’s Day stall for students in Prep Reception to Year 6. There will be a range of gifts for the students to choose from, with all gifts priced at \$5.00 each.

Gifts are required to be paid for online through the Qkr! App, no later than 5pm on Friday 26 August 2022.

Students in Prep Reception to Year 4 will visit the stall at allocated times during the school day. Those in Year 5 and 6 will have an opportunity to visit the stall at recess or lunchtime.

Please don’t forget to send along a bag with your child to ensure the gifts make it home safely.

For any questions regarding the Father’s Day stall, please email slatterym@bmg.vic.edu.au or whiteways@bmg.vic.edu.au for Maddingley queries or call 03 5366 4900 for Woodlea queries.



Snow Australia Interschools Victorian Championships

We wish Bacchus Marsh Grammar's Snowsports team luck as they head to Mt Buller for the Victorian Interschool Snowsports Championships next week. Our students will be competing in a range of events, including Alpine Giant Slalom, Moguls and Ski Cross.

Students competing are Summer Wray, Kaylee Wray and Montana Green. Unfortunately, Tayla Wray is recovering from a serious knee injury, so we look forward to her dominating the slopes again next year.

Watch this space in the coming weeks for results.



Mr Nick Sher - Snowsports Co-ordinator

PE & Sport Update

ICCES AFL

Junior Boys

The 7/8 Boys' AFL Team had a very successful trip to the ICCES AFL carnival winning all four games and bringing home the shield. They displayed wonderful effort, skill and demonstrated the BMG values to a high standard. All members of the team contributed to the success. The standout players on the day included - Finn Coghlan, Riley Dilges, Zachary Dalli, Gus O'Donnell and Kayden Hopkins. A special mention must go to Lucas Saad and Rylan Fragapane for volunteering their time and helping on the day. Well done boys, you should be very proud of your efforts.

Mr Huynh and Mr Velden

Junior Boys	Years 7/8
1 st	Bacchus Marsh Grammar
2 nd	Goulburn Valley Grammar School
3 rd	Girton Grammar
4 th	Braemar College
5 th	Highview College



Intermediate Boys

The Year 9 and 10 Boys' Football team had a successful day at Bendigo on Tuesday 9 August, sweeping through the tournament undefeated, to take out the Intermediate Boys' title. The boys showed tremendous resilience on their way to victory, and it was equally as impressive to see the team execute some key focus areas, that we had worked on at training, come out throughout our matches on the day. Ultimately, these factors led to them being a force to be reckoned with on the field and assisted them in representing Bacchus Marsh Grammar with great distinction. Whilst every player contributed strongly across the day, the performances of Archie Greenshields, Zack Burston, Noah Karcoushkas, Jett Walker-Collins and Noah McMahon were particularly noticeable.

Mr McMahon

Intermediate Boys	Years 9/10
1 st	Bacchus Marsh Grammar
2 nd	Girton Grammar
3 rd	Highview College
4 th	Braemar College
5 th	Goulburn Valley Grammar School



Junior Girls

The Junior Girls' Football team made up of students from Years 7-9 had a fantastic day at Bendigo, remaining undefeated in all three games. The girls were challenged in early contests against GVGS and Girton, but despite losing three players to injury/illness, held Braemar scoreless in their final outing of the day. Special thanks to Maddie Scott and Emma Stewart for their assistant coaching roles, and honourable mentions to captain Jessica Fisher, Isabella Te Paa, Emily Kennedy and Addison Wright for their performances on the day. We would like to congratulate the team again and thank them for their efforts both on and off the field!!

Mrs Pino and Mrs Grinter

Junior Girls	Years 7-9
1 st	Bacchus Marsh Grammar
2 nd	Girton Grammar
3 rd	Goulburn Valley Grammar School
4 th	Braemar College



Senior Girls

Well done to our Senior Girls' team who were undefeated on the day. They have now qualified for the Herald Sun Shield Division 2 Competition to be held Thursday 1 September at Highgate Recreation Reserve in Craigieburn. This is an exciting opportunity for the school to be invited to this competition and we wish the team all the best!

Mr Durham

Senior Girls	Years 10-12
1 st	Bacchus Marsh Grammar
2 nd	Girton Grammar
3 rd	Goulburn Valley Grammar School
4 th	Braemar College
5 th	Highview College



Senior Boys

BMG 10.4.64 def by Ballarat Grammar 23.8.146

A superb effort from the BMG BOYS VCE Mustangs, with enthusiasm and enjoyment of the day clear to see. Their endeavour throughout the whole game never ceased and credit to every player who represented the school, they can hold their heads up high. Against a quality opposition, our pressure was applied throughout the majority of the game with our opposition not having it all their own way. Some fantastic patches of play really buoyed our enthusiasm at the contest and whenever a goal was scored, celebrations ensued! A quality group of young men who represented the school with pride and ability. A credit to them!

Goal Kickers: Adam Williamson 5, Ravnoor Singh 2, Connor Buttigieg 1, Sahib Singh 1, Hayden Whiteway 1.

Best Players: Isaac Nixon, Adam Williamson, Devin Currie, Jackson Dellar, Andrew Erhardt, Hayden Whiteway.

Mr Long

Elite Sport Applications for Years 9 and 10

Thank you to all students/athletes who applied for the Elite Sporting Program for Years 9 and 10 in 2023. Information regarding successful candidates will be released over the coming weeks after the review process has been completed by our panel of staff. This panel consists of former Commonwealth Games, national level and high performance coaches and an independent review by the WestVic Academy of Sport Executive Officer and team.

Unfortunately, we cannot offer a place to all candidates. However, we encourage all athletes to continue to train hard and strive for success. As in previous years, we will review all applications and grade each one on the following criteria:

1. Level of competition at which the athlete has consistently been competing.
2. Quality of the athlete's coach's reference.
3. Performance of the athlete at the testing afternoons and their meeting of benchmarks.
4. Commitment to representing the school in events (e.g. ICCES) within their athletic capabilities.
5. Approach to studies, attitude and results within Physical Education and Sport classes.
6. Behaviour and approach to studies within their academic subjects.
7. Meeting subject selection criteria as per the requirements of the Year 9/10 elective program.

The standard of applicants was extremely high once again, with a large number of athletes achieving either National or State representation within their chosen sport.

Individual Sporting Success

Congratulations to **Jai Copland** who was nominated for the WestVic Athlete of the Year award. Jai has had an incredible year within the sport of BMX. His most recent performance was finishing in 29th place in the UCI World BMX Championship 15-16 year old category held in France.

Mr Bryce Durham - Head of Faculty: Physical Education and Health



National Karate Championships

Recently, **Emilia Feketa (Year 4)**, **Peyton Maier (Year 7)**, **Justin Robins (Year 8)**, **Jamasyn Maier (Year 9)** and **Emilee Attard (Year 11)** represented Victoria at the National Karate Championships in Rockhampton. They all did really well, with Emilia winning Gold (pictured left), Emilee winning Silver and Gold, Justin (pictured centre) winning Silver and two Bronze, and Peyton (pictured right) winning Bronze. Justin has been selected to represent Australia at the Junior World Championships in Turkey in October. This event is one for which only the single top athlete in the country is selected for each division and is the highest level the Junior Karate athletes can achieve. Congratulations!



Year 5 MAV Maths Game Day

The Year 5 MAV Maths Game Day team consisted of Calvin Badhan, Jack Coy, Arjun Kallapalle, Sartaj Malhotra, Vivaan Ogale, Adrian Paul, Aanya Prasad, Stefania Robu and Gunnika Singh.

The team participated in three rounds of competition to decide a winner. The team did well during round one where teamwork and problem-solving came to the fore. In the individual section, **Stefania Robu** won her section with a brilliant performance over several rounds of individual competition. She became the only prize winner from BMG on the day. Finally, in the last round, a stroke of bad luck meant one team was eliminated early and ended their competition quicker than expected.

Overall, the students enjoyed the day, participated well in competition and solved many difficult mathematical problems. The Competitor of the Day would have to have been Stefania with her excellent round two win. Well done, Stefania!

Mr Cameron McGregor

ICAS Assessments - Reminder



For students who are registered to complete ICAS Assessments on upcoming dates (20 and 27 August), information was emailed to parents/guardians via EdSmart on Monday 8 August to nominate campus and time their child will complete the assessment.

Please refer back to this communication for information on what your child is required to bring and site access to the nominated campus. Students do not need to wear their school uniform.

Contact Casey Ryder via email ryderc@bmg.vic.edu.au with any queries.

Woodlea - Global Studies News



This term, the Year 6 students are learning about the Australian Government, in particular, about government and democracy, laws, citizens and citizenship, diversity and identity. On Thursday 11 August, the Mayor of Melton, Cr Goran Kesic, visited the students to present information about Australia's government.

Cr Goran Kesic, accompanied by council officers, spoke to the children about the three levels of government in Australia with a particular focus on the local. They discussed their roles and responsibilities, council members and plans for the

Shire of Melton in the coming years.

Students had an opportunity to ask questions that consolidated their learning from class, but also questions that were relevant to the discussions during the event.

It was a fabulous morning for all involved.

Ms Simone Kyle

Junior School News

SPEAK UP!

The Junior School students have been exploring the text 'Speak Up!' by Miranda Paul throughout their pastoral care sessions. They have been learning how important it is to have a voice, to stand up for our values and beliefs and demonstrate confidence when communicating their thoughts. The Year 4 students and their Prep buddies participated in rich discussions about these concepts and developed some megaphones to share their thinking with one another.

The Junior School has developed some actions to help us remember to Speak Up! and we invite parents to ask their child to share this with you at home. Remember to be brave and SPEAK UP!

Ms Courtney Williams – Deputy Head of Junior School: Woodlea

Spotlight on Maddingley Junior School Science

Prep

In Science, the Preps are having lots of fun investigating forces and motions. They are exploring how objects, including toys we play with, move using push and pull. We are currently investigating how we use force in our everyday lives and how it affects the behaviour of the objects. The students are engaging in lots of experiments to help them investigate objects and search for answers to their questions - fundamental skill in science!

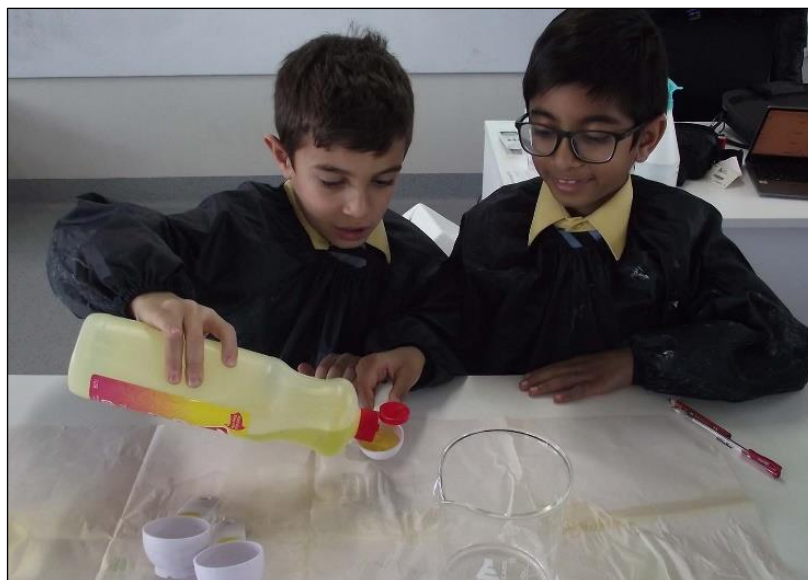


Year 1

In Term 3, the Year 1s have been exploring push and pull forces that effect an object's shape, motion or direction. They observed and manipulated everyday objects such as playground equipment to identify forces and how they move. Students created simple scientific drawings and were able to label and draw arrows demonstrating the force being used. The Year 1 students began to investigate gravity by conducting an experiment to determine how gravity pulls objects down. They also tested different objects to determine how weight or size was impacted by gravity.

Year 2

This term, students have been studying Chemical Science as they begin to explore how materials can be changed. Students conducted various experiments to determine how materials can physically change without changing the material composition. As part of this unit, the Year 2 students posed questions before testing their predictions by using various methods such as mixing, scrunching or blending. They were able to create annotated drawings of their observations and compare responses.



Year 3

This term, the students have been studying Chemistry, with a unit focus on 'Melting Moments'. The students have discussed their prior knowledge of what Chemistry is and what this area of Science entails. As part of this unit, the Year 3 students have learnt about the three changing States of Matter - Solids, Liquids and Gases. They have learnt about the excitable energy of the atoms in gases that try to fill the space that they are in; however, solids and liquids have a consistent size. Even though a liquid can change shape and flow to fill the container that it is in, and solids like to stay the same shape, they also discovered that not all substances can be classified as one of those three states. Oobleck, for



example, acts as a liquid unless squeezed or poked and it retains its shape. We discussed that if a force or energy is applied, for example, heat, there can be a change in the state of matter and investigated this transformation by melting chocolate, butter, ice, etc. to observe the change. We are all looking forward to experimenting and learning more about the changing states of matter throughout the remainder of Term 3.

Year 4

In Term 3, the Year 4 students have studied the properties of materials in our Chemistry unit focus of 'Material Matters'. They have focussed on the properties of commonly used Natural Resources and Processed Materials to create items such as gloves, bags and clothing

that we use in every day life. The Year 4 students have tested the Absorbency of materials to find out if they leak, soak or repel water and described them as porous and hydrophilic. We also tested the Tensile Strength of materials when stretched to see if they tear, snap or stretch and how these qualities may make them more suitable for different purposes. The Year 4s competed in a Dress-Up Relay Race in which they had to wear various items of oversized clothing and run a relay race around a cone at varying distances against other teams with fewer or more students in them, to learn about what a Fair Test is. They also learnt about what Variables are and how they're involved in investigations and experiments to ensure that the results are accurate and consistent. We are all excited to commence our team projects in the remainder of our Term 3 Chemistry unit.

Junior School Science Team - Maddingley

Spotlight on Teaching and Learning in the Junior School (Maddingley)

The importance of vocabulary for language comprehension.

Vocabulary, the words we need to know and use to communicate, is important for the daily comprehension of what others are saying, what we are reading, and even what we want others to understand.

Speaking vocabularies are usually larger than listening, reading or writing vocabularies, as we passively pick up a great deal of our vocabulary from engaging and talking with others. But while speaking vocabularies are important, our goal when it comes to teaching students is to improve their reading, writing, listening, and speaking vocabularies.

Adults, specifically parents and caregivers, play a significant role in the development of a child's vocabulary. To support this development, it helps to understand the different types of vocabulary:

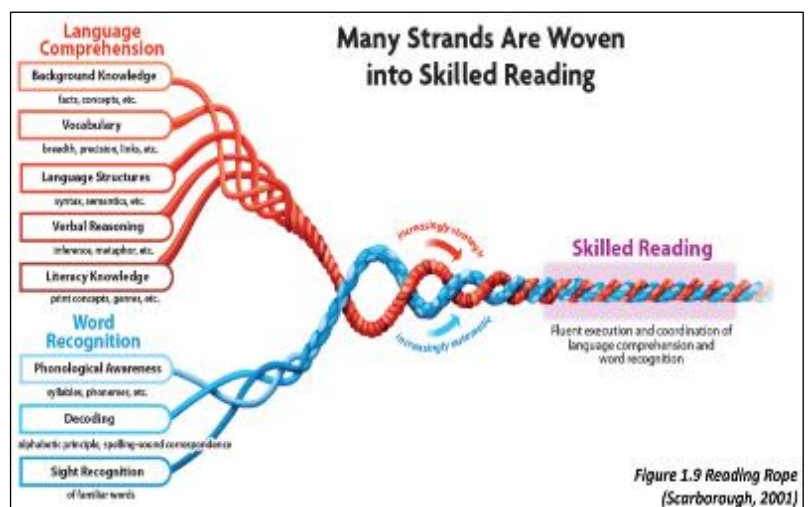
- **Speaking vocabulary:** the words we use proficiently when we speak.
- **Listening vocabulary:** the words we need to know to understand what we hear when others are speaking.
- **Reading vocabulary:** the words we can decode and understand to help us comprehend what we read.
- **Writing vocabulary:** the words we can write, spell, and understand in our writing.

Vocabulary is the most powerful predictor of reading comprehension. Scarborough's Reading Rope (pictured) also highlights the importance of vocabulary development for skilled reading. Beginning readers must use the words they hear orally to make sense of the words they see in print. Knowing what words mean is essential if your child is to understand what they have read. When it comes to vocabulary acquisition, the early years are critical. Children who hear more words spoken at home learn more words and enter school with better vocabularies. There is evidence that improving vocabulary before age six is very highly associated with literacy success in late primary school and even into mid secondary school.

Through everyday conversation, parents and caregivers can introduce a variety of new words. When introducing new words it is useful to follow these specific steps:

- Provide a simple, child-friendly definition for the new word: 'Enormous means that something is really, really big.'
- Then provide a simple, child-friendly example that makes sense within their daily life, 'Remember that really big watermelon we got at the fruit shop? That was an enormous watermelon!'
- Next, encourage your child to give their own example: 'What enormous thing can you think of? Can you think of something really big that you saw today? That's right! The bulldozer near the park was enormous! Those tyre were huge.'
- Lastly, keep your new words active within your house. Over the following days and weeks, use each new vocabulary word in conversation.

Reading aloud to children also improves their vocabulary. In fact, regardless of age, reading material beyond a child's reading ability but in line with their comprehension ability will help improve vocabulary. The more you read to your child, the larger vocabulary they will develop. Read stories and then talk about them. Ask, 'What was that story about?' or 'Did you like that character? Why?'. Read books that will extend your child's vocabulary and take time to talk about new words. Choose books that have some, but not too many, new words.



Young children benefit from exposure to lots of words. As children grow, they benefit from hearing a variety of sophisticated words, and having those words explained to them. New words can be introduced during many everyday activities.

- At mealtimes, talk about the food you're preparing, what you're doing to it, how it tastes and what it looks like.
- Talk about objects outside the house when on an outing – for example, the rustling of leaves, or the sounds of the birds, or traffic.
- Talk about a game your child is playing – ask them to explain what just happened.
- Talk about the recent past. Ask your child to tell you something they enjoyed doing that week.
- Tell your child stories about when you were younger, or about your family's past.
- Talk about the future. Tell your child what you're going to do on the next day or on the weekend or ask them to tell you what they need to do before they go to bed.
- Encourage children to recognise when they have encountered new words.
- Every day, choose a new 'word of the day' and attempt to use it in different contexts as many times as possible.
- Check for your child's understanding of a word's meaning by asking targeted questions.

Ms Sian Rawlinson - Junior School Teaching and Learning Coordinator: Maddingley Campus

Phonological and Phonemic Awareness

Bright Idea – Blending Sounds



Jump, skip, hop!

Create simple picture cards that you draw or cut out of magazines. Have your child identify what's in the picture, and then break that word into its individual sounds. For example, dog is d-o-g, three sounds (phonemes). Three sounds? You and your child do three jumping jacks, skips, or hops (followed by a high-five). You can also do this game outdoors without the cards; just call out simple words for your child.

Snail talk

Tell your child you're going to communicate in "snail talk" and they need to figure out what you're saying. Take a simple word and stretch it out very slowly (e.g., /ffffffllllaaaag/), then ask your child to tell you the word. Switch roles and have your child stretch out a word for you.

Bus Information

Roll Call – no need to make a change for one-off absence

If students are absent for the day/a period of time or not travelling on the bus as a once off, parents DO NOT need to remove their child from Roll Call. If a student does not travel, it will appear on Roll Call as NOT TRAVELLED. If a parent removes their child for a once off travel, it can remove the child from being allocated to the bus completely.

Private Bus Travel 2023

We are currently rolling students over from 2022 private bus travel to 2023 private bus travel.

If your child/ren's current bus travel arrangements are going to change or require to be changed (eg. Moving house, new address will no longer require a private bus) in 2023 please contact the School Bus Services Administrator on 5366 4800 or email to discuss. If your child/ren do not require a private bus service in 2023 and parents do not advise, your child/ren will be allocated to a private bus and fees will apply.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

2022 School Photos

2022 School photos, including Student, Class, Leadership Groups and BMG sibling photos are available to view and purchase from Arthur Reed Photography online. Unique student codes were sent to families via an **EdSmart email on 11 May 2022**.

Registering and ordering with Arthur Reed Photography

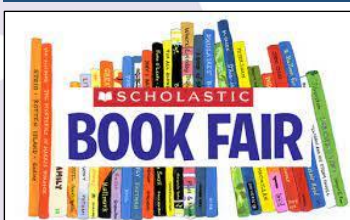
To view the images of your child and order photos, you will need to first register online with [Arthur Reed Photos](#).

- Go to <https://order.arphotos.com.au> and enter the 2022 image code for your child (*sent via email on 11 May 2022 via EdSmart*).
- Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings.
- Fill in your email and mobile details and then review all details before confirming your registration.

Please note: if you have previously registered with [Arthur Reed Photos](#), it is important that you do it again each year using your child's new unique image code to link their photos for the current year to your contact details.

Mrs Cathy Perconte – Community Development and Events Coordinator

Book Fair Update – Maddingley



The backorders from Scholastic have arrived this week and we are in the process of bagging and delivering to our students. We thank all our BMG Maddingley families for your patience in this matter.

Please contact Mrs Diane Dunn at dunnd@bmg.vic.edu.au if you have any queries about your child's outstanding order.

Mrs Diane Dunn

Events Calendar

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

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

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Woodlea Early Learning Centre

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