

The Podium

Optimal Academic Performance and the GAT

In education circles there are many acronyms that are used to explain daily events, procedures and “happenings.” This week our VCE students were involved in the GAT at the Maddingley campus. But what is the GAT? The General Achievement Test (GAT) is a pen-and-paper test of general knowledge and skills taken by students in the course of completing their senior secondary VCE studies.

The GAT plays an important role in the quality assurance of VCE assessments and also provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate that they meet the Victorian Literacy and Numeracy Standards expected at a senior secondary level.

No special study is required. However, it is important that the students are aware of the format, past standards and presentation of the GAT so that they are well prepared on the day of the actual GAT. Past study of subjects like English, Mathematics, Science and History prepares students for the GAT by building their general knowledge and skills in writing, numeracy and reasoning.

As well as providing students with an opportunity to demonstrate that they meet the Victorian Literacy and Numeracy Standards, the GAT plays an important role in the quality assurance of VCE assessments. At the completion of the GAT, a Statement of Results is mailed to each student.

I congratulate all students who took part in the GAT this week and acknowledge the professional way that students prepared and “tackled” this task. I wish all a safe and restful break as we head into our mid-year school holidays.

Mr Andrew Perks – Deputy Principal: Culture and Character Education

Maddingley Campus School Photos

Sibling and Catch-up School Photos – Friday 19 July

A BMG Sibling photo date has been confirmed for the Maddingley Campus. Information relating to BMG Sibling and catch-up School photos was sent to families via Edsmart.

Families must register via the Arthur Reed Photos booking link: [BOOKINGS FOR MADDINGLEY CAMPUS SIBLING PHOTOS](#). Failing to register may result in your children not being photographed.

Students who were absent during the scheduled School Photo days may also attend to have their photos taken at the scheduled dates and times below. *Catch-up photos do not require a booking.*

Please note School photos are exempt from the “Exclusion from Multimedia”. If you have any concerns, please contact Jess Thorpe or Cathy Perconte on 5366 4800.

If you have any other queries in relation to school photographs, please contact Cathy Perconte.

Mrs Cathy Perconte - Community Development Coordinator

Administration News

Update to Edsmart Slips and Consent

Parents/Guardians are familiar with the school communication platform EdSmart which is used to relay school information and seek digital consent for class excursions, camps, sporting events via a notification slip.

This platform also allows for the school to 'cc' communication slips to students so that they can receive, via email, the necessary information about upcoming activities and due dates. The difference between the format for parents/guardians and students is that the consent section is not accessible to students. They do, however, receive a notification when parents have consented to an activity.

The school will be activating this feature in EdSmart for students to receive the communication slips for all excursions, camps and events for Years 5 to 12 where consent is required. This will enable students to have clear details of the event/activity date, materials they are required to bring, uniform expectations and transport.

This may also assist in the student's ability to prompt parent/guardian consent if deadlines are not met.

EdSmart Consent

Please note that EdSmart will be the only acceptable form of providing consent for your child to attend school activities/sport/camps or similar. Notes in diaries and/or emails to Heads of Sub-Schools, Heads of Year and/or teachers will not be accepted moving forward. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact administration@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Term Break - Office Hours and Start of Term 3

All BMG students commence Term 3 on Tuesday 16 July.

Maddingley Campus Office Hours

Please be advised of the following office hours over the term break:

Monday 24 June to Friday 28 June – 9.30am to 3.30pm

Monday 1 July to Friday 5 July – Maddingley Campus is closed.

Monday 8 July to Friday 12 July – 9.30am to 3.30pm.

Normal office hours resume on Monday 15 July.

Woodlea Campus Office Closure

The Woodlea Administration Office will be closed for the entire term break and will reopen on Monday 15 July, with students returning on Tuesday 16 July.

Maddingley Campus Uniform Shop

Our campus uniform shop will be closed for the entire duration of the School Holidays.



Mrs Casey Ryder – Executive Assistant: Maddingley

Annual Report

Following the School Board's Annual General Meeting, the 2023 Annual Report will be published on the School's Website on Friday 28 June.

Ms Michelle Graham - Director of Administration

School Reports

We are endeavouring to have all Semester One Reports published prior to the commencement of Term Three. Parents will be able to access an electronic copy of their child's report by going to the SchoolBox link, selecting their child, and then 'Academic Reports'. Should any unforeseen technical issues prevent this, further communication will be made.

Semesterly reports provide an excellent opportunity to support your child to reflect on their academic progress. We encourage a particular focus on existing strengths and the next steps for improvement. Parents seeking further feedback regarding their child's academic achievement and progress in Semester One are welcome to contact relevant teachers next term.

A reminder also, that as a result of community feedback, we now provide reports in digital format only. If parents still wish to receive a paper copy, they may request this by emailing: reports@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Mrs Emma Kannar – Deputy Principal: Teaching & Learning

Junior School News

As we bring Term 2 to a close, we would like to extend our appreciation to all members of our community for their invaluable support in making this term a success for our Junior School students. The term has been enriched by a diverse range of activities including visits to Staughton Vale, engaging sporting events, meaningful Anzac Day commemorations, creative Mother's Day craft activities, and inspiring assemblies. These experiences have greatly contributed to the growth and learning of our students.

We commend our students for embodying our school values and demonstrating their commitment to personal excellence. Their dedication to academic and personal achievements, as well as fostering positive relationships with teachers and peers is commendable.

Thank you to our parents for their support and collaboration in helping us achieve our shared goals. Your partnership has been instrumental in creating an environment in which our students can thrive.

As the holiday break approaches, we encourage all students to continue their engagement in learning by utilising the holiday reading pack. This will help reinforce the skills and strategies they have acquired throughout the term. Reading together with your child during this time can provide valuable experiences for all involved.

We eagerly anticipate the commencement of Term 3 and the opportunity to collaborate with you once again.

Mrs Sally Savic – Head of Junior School: Woodlea and Mrs Lisa Foster – Head of Junior School: Maddingley

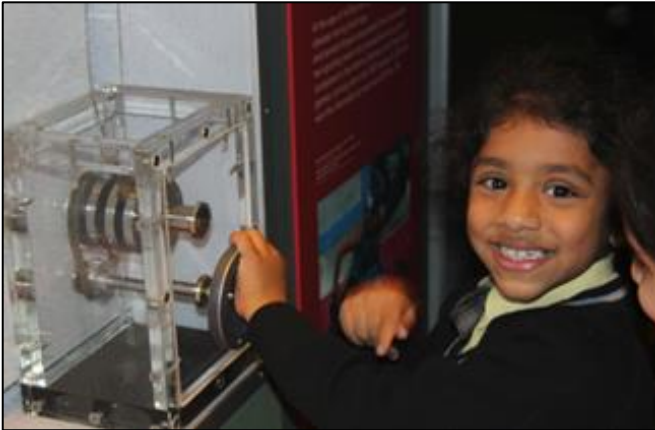
Maddingley

Year 1

Our Year 1 students had a wonderful day at Science Works where they delved into the fascinating world of physics through hands-on experiences. The highlight of the excursion was the "Toys and Forces" show where children learned about the principles of push, pull and gravity in a fun and engaging way. They saw these concepts in action through various interactive toys and demonstrations. Additionally, the "Air Investigation" session allowed them to explore the wonders of air pressure, sparking their curiosity and excitement. The day was filled with exploration and discovery, providing our young scientists with a memorable and educational experience that brought the magic of science to life.



Students delved into the fascinating world of ancient Mesopotamian farming, discovering how early civilizations cultivated their land and sustained their communities. They have also explored the significance of rocks in history and geography, learning how these natural formations have shaped our understanding of the Earth's past.

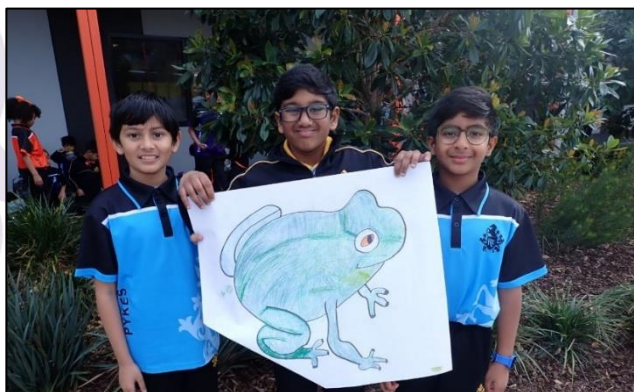


Woodlea

Our recent House Day was a delightful success, bringing together juniors in cross-age groups to explore the flora and fauna emblems of each House. This event provided a wonderful opportunity for students to learn vital skills such as collaboration and respect, all while fostering a strong sense of belonging.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a variety of outdoor games and craft activities, each designed to enhance their understanding of the natural world and their connection to their House communities. These hands-on experiences not only enriched their knowledge but also solidified the bonds between peers of different ages.

The vibrant energy and enthusiasm displayed by our students underscored the importance of these events in building a cohesive and supportive school environment. We look forward to more such days that celebrate learning, teamwork and the joy of being part of our school community.



Mrs Sally Savic – Head of Junior School and Mrs Courtney Williams – Deputy Head of Junior School

Year 3



On Wednesday 12 June, the Year 3 students from Woodlea Campus attended the Melbourne Museum and participated in a variety of interactive exhibitions that supported their learning about rocks and minerals which they covered during their Science classes throughout the term.

They particularly enjoyed the IMAX experience where they had the opportunity to view a 3D interactive movie about the creation of Earth as we know it. The 3D experience offered an intriguing glimpse into the rock formations of our planet and provided our students with amazing connections to their prior learning. The movie also touched on the Aurora Borealis, which was studied in detail through our Global Studies unit. The day was both enriching and exciting for our students who thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Year 3 Teachers

Zoos Victoria Youth Leadership Program

Woodlea student, Surya Sureshkumar, has successfully completed the Zoos Victoria Youth Leadership program which is a unique program offered to students of Years 9 and 10 to develop leadership skills and conservation awareness through hands-on wildlife and environmental projects. 30 students from across Victorian schools are chosen for this program each year.

Mrs Nicole Heywood – Head of Senior School: Woodlea

Read Surya's reflection below:

Following on from my previous reflection in May regarding the Youth Leadership program, I have now completed the second part of the program and will graduate on 20 June. I look forward to the various presentations and speeches that the 30 youth leaders from across Victoria will present to over 300 guests comprising our teachers, parents and other invitees of Zoos Victoria followed by a celebratory lunch.

Our second week of the program began with a 3-day camp at Healesville where we visited the Haining Farm and met with stakeholders and the local community to discuss our proposed conservation project. This was followed by a 6 km hike at Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve where we were rewarded with sightings of the helmeted honeyeaters and sugar gliders. These are endangered species and we learnt about the efforts being made to help increase their numbers. The remainder of the week was all things leadership including self-leadership, climate and social justice and how we can make an impact in our communities. We met with many leaders from Zoos Victoria and Lucy Skelton from Canberra who shared their leadership style and journey with us.

I would like to once again thank Mr Northcott for his mentorship and support and look forward to graduating in his presence. My journey couldn't have been successful without the support of Mrs Heywood who helped organise all my assessments and exams and I am extremely thankful for her support and the support of all my other teachers who helped me in this journey. It has been an immense privilege attending this program and I have gained many valuable lessons in leadership, mentoring and conservation.



Surya Sureshkumar 9WA

ICAS Competition

Years 2 to 10

Bacchus Marsh Grammar will be participating in the world-renowned ICAS competition this year. It will be open to students in Years 2 to 10. Note that participation is optional.

This week, parents/guardians were sent information via an Edsmart notification outlining the dates, how to register and the school access code. Registrations close on 29 July.

Any queries relating to purchasing assessments via the ICAS PPS system or past papers should be directed to the ICAS website. Any other queries should be emailed to administration@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Mrs Casey Ryder – Executive Assistant: Maddingley

Physical Education, Health and Sport News

BMPSSA Girls AFL

A big “well done” to the two teams that took part in this year’s BMPSSA Girls AFL Carnival on Friday 14 June.

It was a great learning opportunity for our students and, by all accounts, they gave their all on the day and represented the school with great pride. Unfortunately, both teams didn't make it through to the next round.

Mr Matt Harris – Administrative Assistant PE and Health

STEM

Bacchus Marsh Grammar will be celebrating STEM Week this year from 11 to 15 August.

Students are invited to sign-up for a school-wide competition. They are then required to show their projects to their Science teachers during the week starting the 29th of July. Successful applicants will be chosen to present their projects at the STEM Showcase evening on 14 August from 4-7pm. Prizes will be awarded to each group of students.

Information relating to the Showcase and STEM Week can be found at the following Schoolbox page: <https://schoolbox.bmg.vic.edu.au/homepage/31716>

How to sign-up:

Students will need to complete the relevant survey below to sign-up and begin working on their projects.

Years 5 & 6: <https://forms.gle/ovG5PHrT13vcJk7s9>

Years 7 & 8: <https://forms.gle/ZXhBx5DvxJ6JatK89>

Senior School: <https://forms.gle/zD45KuWcuGyh4xGv8>

Junior School – the opportunity to participate in the Science Talent Search has now closed. Successful applicants will be invited to participate in the STEM Showcase Evening.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Susanna Mandic, Assistant Principal – Director of STEM at mandics@bmg.vic.edu.au

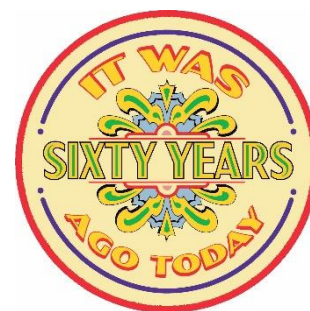
Mrs Susanna Mandic – Assistant Principal: Director of STEM

Tickets on Sale

Tickets for It Was Sixty Years Ago Today are now on sale!

[Click here to purchase tickets](#)

Come and join the Bacchus Marsh Grammar Performing Arts students at the Clocktower Centre for a spectacular celebration of the Beatles' legacy in "It Was Sixty Years Ago Today." This special event marks six decades since the Fab Four's arrival on our shores, forever changing the musical landscape. Prepare to be transported back in time with performances that capture the spirit and sound of the Beatles' iconic music.



Our talented students and staff will take to the stage to perform beloved hits that have become the soundtrack of generations. From the infectious energy of "Twist and Shout" to the melodic beauty of "Hey Jude," every song promises to evoke nostalgia and joy.

Two performances will be held on 10 August: a matinee at 2:00 pm and an evening show at 7:30 pm. Each performance is set to offer a unique and memorable experience, ensuring that every audience member can relive the magic of the Beatles' music.

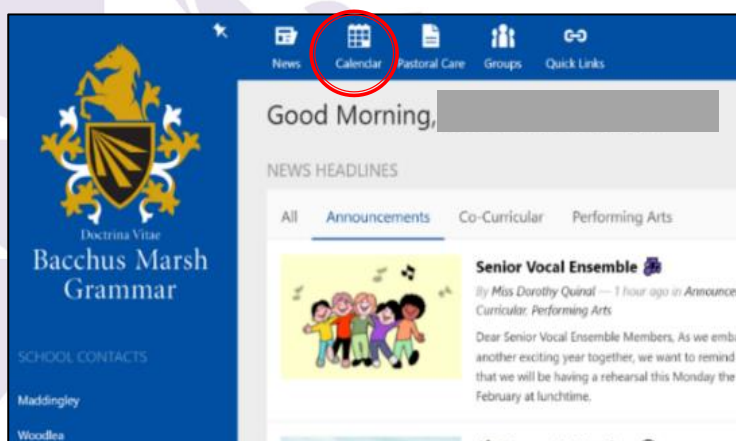
Don't miss this extraordinary event that celebrates the enduring influence of the Beatles. Come and share in the love, peace and music that defined a generation and continue to inspire. Secure your tickets now and be part of this remarkable tribute at Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

2024 & 2025 Term Dates

Both the 2024 and 2025 Term Dates are published on the [school's website](#).

Events Calendar

All upcoming events feature on the Schoolbox Calendar for both students and parents/guardians to view.



Uniform Shop

Uniform information and shop business hours for both the Maddingley Campus Onsite Shop and Rushfords in Werribee are listed on the [school's website](#). Please note that uniforms can also be purchased online via <https://www.noone.com.au/>.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – The Y Ballarat

The Y Ballarat operates the Out of School Hours Care at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. Enrolments are completed online. For full information please visit the [school's website](#).

Email: chrisie.ashmore@yballarat.org.au Phone: 0490 178 638 W: <https://yballarat.org.au/>

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General School Email: school@bmg.vic.edu.au

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





IMAGINATION MAGIC

PRESENTS

Aboriginal Infusion

*Join us for a fun filled session of music, story telling
and dancing*

**Thursday 27 June
10 - 11am**

**Mechanics Institute
143 Inglis Street
Ballan**



**Free for families
No registration required**

**MCHADMIN@MOORABOOL.VIC.GOV.AU
PH. 5366 7100 (OPTION 4)**

