

The Podium

Developing Character through Education

Last week I had the privilege, along with Miss Fitzgerald and the Pre-VCE Germany in the Twentieth Century class, of attending the Jewish Holocaust Museum in Elsternwick. The museum is dedicated to the memory of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators between 1933 and 1945. The program allowed students to learn about the Holocaust through individual perspectives and connect with Melbourne-based survivors through their testimonies and through interacting with the newly opened museum. The students were also fortunate to hear from holocaust survivor, 100-year-old Abram Goldberg OAM. Abram inspired the students with stories of hope and strength and reminded our students that,

“Not every day will be a sunny day, but after an overcast day, the sun will shine again.”

The program additionally brought to light the character strengths displayed by holocaust survivors as researched by Melbourne University. As our school continues to develop and research its own Character Education Program, I think it most poignant to reflect on these character strengths, learn the lessons that history holds and ask ourselves the question - how can these character strengths influence the choices we make each day?



Bravery – Being courageous and facing challenges.



Kindness – Showing care to others



Fairness – Treating all people justly



Hope – Having a sense of optimism and perseverance in creating positive outcomes



Judgement – Making considered decisions



Perspective – being able to see the bigger picture

Mr Andrew Perks – Assistant Principal: Culture and Character Education

No School for Years 7-11 on Friday 22 November: See Edsmart for further details

Year 12 Leaders 2025

The full list of the Year 12 Leadership team for 2025 can be found here on Schoolbox.

School Captains



Roshyna
Attwal



Emma
Stewart



Samuel
Lillie



Keisha
Tau

Vice Captains



Lucas
Harper



Joanne
Joseph



Madelyn
Hunter



Awande
Masuku

Remembrance Day

ELC

The children of the ELC have taken time out of their day over the past week to spend some time learning about and acknowledging Remembrance Day.

The children have read stories about the significance of this day and, in particular, the meaning of the poppy as a symbol of acknowledging the people who have helped protect our country.

This knowledge was then transferred into the creation of a display in our gallery that the children helped to produce.

On Monday morning, the children also gathered in our gallery space to take part in the whole school assembly that encouraged the children to reflect and acknowledge this occasion.



Ms Geraldine O'Connor – Kindergarten Teacher

Maddingley

Remembrance Day commemorates the contribution and loss of Australian servicemen and women in world wars and conflicts. On the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour, an armistice was signed between the Germans and the Allies, ending World War 1.

Bacchus Marsh Grammar paid its respects at the Bacchus Marsh RSL War Memorial, to those who gave their lives and fought for our freedoms. The school was represented by our Senior and Middle School captains, with the ceremony urging reflection on the cost of war and the importance of peace. Lest we forget.



Roshyna & Keisha – 2025 School Captains



Woodlea

On November 3, five students from our School had the privilege of representing the community at the annual Remembrance Day service held at Aintree Town Centre. This solemn event, observed in honour of those who sacrificed their lives in military service, offered an opportunity for both young and old to reflect on the courage and commitment of our servicemen and women.

The service, attended by community members, veterans and local leaders, provided a poignant moment for reflection on the significance of peace, sacrifice and resilience. Each of our students played an essential role in commemorating the fallen. As a symbol of respect and remembrance, they laid wreaths at the memorial, joining others in paying tribute to those who have served and those who continue to serve our country. Additionally, two of our students shared a carefully chosen reading, capturing the emotional weight and gratitude felt by the entire community.

Their involvement in the service demonstrated, not only the respect they hold for our veterans, but also their understanding of the values we honour on this day. Each student's presence and participation was a reminder of the power of remembrance, instilling hope that future generations will continue to uphold these traditions and values.



Mrs Sarah Hunter – Deputy Principal: Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus

VCE Visual Art and Technology Showcase

The opening night of the BMG VCE Visual Art and Technology Showcase was held on Wednesday 16 October in the Lou Callow Gallery at the Maddingley campus.

The VCE Showcase is an annual exhibition of student work representing VCE Art Making and Exhibiting, Art Creative Practice, Media, Visual Communication Design, Applied Computing, Product Design and Technology (Wood and Textiles) and Systems Engineering.

Thank you to the many parents, grandparents and friends who came along to view and take in all our students' work on show. Many conversations were had with parents about their child's journey through school and into their final weeks. Younger students also came along to see what these subjects offered and what they could do in the future.

Thank you to all the staff who visited our exhibition. It was great watching students discussing their work with past and present teachers and seeing their faces light up because you were there.

The exhibition was all about creativity and effort. Looking through folios and seeing final artworks, prototypes, films and designs where you can clearly see that this is where their passions lie.

Special thanks to the:

- Visual Art and Technology teachers - our students couldn't do what they do without your support and encouragement. The growth of these students is because of your dedication and passion for teaching.
- Art and Technology Technicians - Chris and Sinisha for their expertise and support.
- Hospitality staff and students for the refreshing mocktails and tasty food.
- Music faculty for the brilliant performances by such talented students.
- Maintenance staff for assisting with setting up.

All photos can be found here on Schoolbox.



Mrs Peta Griffith – Head of Visual Arts Maddingley

Congratulations Ms Lauren Majewski



Bacchus Marsh Grammar's Ms Lauren Majewski, affectionately referred to as 'Ms M', is an outstanding example to our students in Community Service as a member of the Bacchus Marsh SES Unit. Ms M joined the Unit in October 2012, became a Section Leader in 2019 and further appointed as Deputy Controller – Community Engagement this year.

Ms M received two Commendations of Service for her work in relation to VICSES responses to major accidents in the local area. From the presentation for those commendations to the team, VICSES Chief Operations Officer, Tim Wiebusch stated, "The VICSES Commendation of Service is the organisation's highest award - based on it being about exceptional response. VICSES could not be prouder of the exceptional response provided by the 11 Bacchus Marsh members which resulted in a highly valuable commitment the community and embodies the core values of VICSES, especially our VICSES Value of being focused and adaptable".

In addition to these commendations this year, Ms M also received acknowledgment by VICSES for her 10 years' service. Added to this milestone is her service to our own School and Community, which is an outstanding 25 years.

We all congratulate Ms Majewski for her dedication to service of others and hope this inspires our students and staff to look towards what service they can contribute to the community now, or in the future.

Well done Ms M.

Mr Andrew Pate - Deputy Principal: Head of Maddingley Campus

Junior School

Prep Transition 2025

We recently held our annual Prep Parent Information Evenings, at which many families gathered to learn more about Bacchus Marsh Grammar and understand how we will support students as they transition into their first year of formal schooling.

Here are some key dates to note for the 2025 Prep Transition:

- Thursday January 30 and Friday January 31, 2025 – School Readiness Meetings.

Each student will have a scheduled twenty-minute session on one of these days with a Prep teacher for basic assessments, book box collection and information gathering. During this time, one parent is welcome to visit the school to become familiar with the Prep area. Additional details will be provided to families closer to these meetings.

- Monday February 3, 2025 – Students' first day of Prep.

As you prepare over the summer holidays, you may want to consider the following:

- Familiarise your child with the school's location and discuss how they will get there.

- Arrange playdates with other families who have children starting at the same school; a familiar face can be reassuring for your child.
- Practise school readiness tasks, such as packing a bag, remembering a hat, and opening and closing a lunchbox.
- Keep a positive and enthusiastic attitude about starting school and share in your child's excitement.
- Visit your local library and read books with your child about beginning their school journey.

We look forward to welcoming our new Prep students and families to Bacchus Marsh Grammar in 2025!

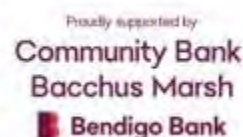
Mrs Lisa Foster – Deputy Principal: Head of Junior School Maddingley and

Mrs Sally Savic – Assistant Principal: Head of Junior School Woodlea

Maddingley

Inform and Empower

At the Maddingley Campus, Year 1 to Year 4 students had the opportunity to take part in the Inform and Empower program. Students participate in interactive and engaging recorded web incursions once a term during their Information Technology lessons.



This program enabled students to have open and honest conversations around the use of technology in their everyday lives. It assisted them to consolidate their understanding of many topics focusing on healthy and safe digital habits, cyber safety issues and using technology in a positive and responsible manner as a digital citizen.

The engaging incursions assisted students to navigate the digital world and become more aware, clever, brave and kind. The program instils strong School Values and develops upstanding citizens, as well as supporting students to seek help and assistance in online environments.

The interactive sessions covered essential cyber safety topics including digital footprint, importance of a secure password, navigating unwanted contact and Internet etiquette. Students learnt about navigating uncomfortable situations in our digital world and balancing screen time with green time.

The termly Parent Tip sheets were a valuable resource for all Year 1 to Year 4 families, enabling the conversations and topics that were introduced in the classroom to continue at home. These are available every term on Schoolbox Year level Family Engagement pages.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Inform and Empower team for providing an informative and engaging program that complemented our current Cyber Safety curriculum at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. Thanks to the Community Bank of Bacchus Marsh Bendigo Bank and Blue Light for supporting and funding this wonderful initiative.

Mrs Melanie Morton – Deputy Head of Junior School (Operations) and

Mrs Lisa Foster - Deputy Principal: Head of Junior School

Science Incursion: A Plastic vs. Paper Debate

Did you know that choosing between plastic and paper isn't always as straightforward as it seems?

Our Year 4 students recently had the privilege of hosting Kristine Slater, a talented Chemical Engineer from VIVA Energy. Kristine's engaging presentation challenged our students' thinking about the environmental impact of plastic and paper.

Through a fascinating exploration of the life cycles of both materials, students learned about:

- The Journey of Plastic: from its creation from fossil fuels to its potential to pollute our oceans and landfills. Students also discussed the complexities of plastic recycling and the importance of reducing plastic waste.

- The Life Cycle of Paper and Trees: the significance of sustainable forestry practices and the energy-intensive process of paper production.

Kristine's presentation was not only informative but also fun and interactive. Students were encouraged to ask questions and participate in discussions, sparking their curiosity and critical thinking skills. This valuable incursion aligned perfectly with our Science, History and Geography sustainability unit, providing a real-world context for our students' learning.

By understanding the complexities of these materials, our students are better equipped to make informed choices as consumers and to advocate for sustainable practices – which aren't always as obvious as they seem!



Mrs Georgia Low – Teacher

Year 4 Camp



The Year 4 students had a magnificent time on their camp at Lake Dewar in Myrning. The camp was action-packed and provided a wonderful opportunity for students to spend time with their friends. The activities were exciting, with the patient and encouraging YMCA staff inviting students to participate in a 'challenge by choice' approach. This allowed each student to push themselves to a level they felt comfortable with while feeling supported to take risks.

It was heart-warming to witness the solidarity among students when someone felt challenged, as their peers stepped in with encouragement, helping them step outside their comfort zone and succeed. Teamwork was particularly crucial during activities like the Tunnels Challenge, which tested their problem-solving and collaboration skills. By working together, the students rose to the occasion and achieved success as a group.

Despite being out of their comfort zones and away from the familiarity of home, the students displayed persistence and maturity, tackling challenges with a positive attitude and overcoming struggles. It was a level of resilience that

demonstrated readiness for Middle School, making it clear that our students are prepared to transition from Junior School with confidence.

Mrs Alicia Bermingham – Head of Year 4: Maddingley



Woodlea

Fun Run



On Wednesday 30 October, our Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students participated in the annual Junior School Fun Run. It was fantastic to see students proudly representing their Houses, cheering on and supporting one another. The beautiful weather made for a wonderful day as our students ran alongside friends and teachers.

[Click here to see all photos on Schoolbox.](#)

**Mrs Sally Savic – Assistant Principal: Head of Junior School
Woodlea**

Year 1 Day Camp

On Thursday 31 October, Woodlea Year 1 students visited the beautiful Anglesea Beach for their day camp. The day was filled with joy, teamwork and unforgettable moments.

The students participated in a rotation of exciting beach activities, including a treasure hunt, sack races, a sandcastle-building contest, comet ball, and more.

The beach activities concluded with a lively relay, with students cheering one another on as they sprinted to the finish line.

Throughout the day, our Year One students displayed exceptional sportsmanship, embodying our school values while having fun and working together as a community.

As the day drew to a close, it was evident that this camp had left a lasting impact. Not

only did the students enjoy a range of exciting activities, but they also strengthened friendships, enhanced their teamwork skills, and created cherished memories.

We extend our sincere thanks to the teachers, camp staff, the YMCA team, parents and leaders whose efforts made this day possible. Your support ensured our students had a truly extraordinary experience at Anglesea Beach.



Woodlea Year 1 Team

Middle School

Maths Olympiad

A number of students across years 5 – 8 have competed in the Maths Olympiad throughout this year. Congratulations to the following students who have received prizes:

Highest Score in team:

Robinson	Duan	5	Maddingley	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Viraat	Baddam	6	Maddingley	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Joel	Kandelaars	6	Maddingley	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Palaash	Kalkotwar	7	Maddingley	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Aaron	Regmi	8	Maddingley	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Maddie	De Vera	8	Woodlea	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Alaina	Matta	8	Woodlea	Top 10%	Highest Score: medal & pin
Ethan	Mendoza	6	Woodlea	Top 25%	Highest Score: medal & pin

Top 10% in Australia:

Anvita	Mirajkar	7	Maddingley	Top 10%	Pin
Aadi	Malhotra	7	Maddingley	Top 10%	Pin
Purva	Amin	8	Maddingley	Top 10%	Pin
Nahreen	Shahed	8	Maddingley	Top 10%	Pin
Zara	Pazeski	8	Maddingley	Top 10%	Pin
Maddie	De Vera	8	Woodlea	Top 10%	Pin
Alaina	Matta	8	Woodlea	Top 10%	Pin

Top 25% in Australia:

Reyan	Handa	5	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Avyaan	Arora	6	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Arnav	Patel	6	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Frederick	Gribbin	6	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Aanav	Maheshwari	7	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Isabella	Bao	7	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Hitesh	Mandava	7	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Shej	Somal	7	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Lewis	Blaikie	8	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Isaac	Schiavone	8	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Omkar	Mahesh	8	Maddingley	Top 25%	Patch
Aarika	Choudhary	7	Woodlea	Top 25%	Patch
Amelia	Chan	6	Woodlea	Top 25%	Patch
Ethan	Mendoza	6	Woodlea	Top 25%	Patch
Palaash	Shah	6	Woodlea	Top 25%	Patch

Dr Debra Penny – Head of Mathematics: Maddingley

Maddingley

What a great way to finish our final Middle School assembly for the year! We got to honour, not just a number of hardworking students, but also those who have gone before us as part of Remembrance Day. The students learnt about Sidney Lewis, a 12 year old who fought briefly in the Somme in 1916. We listened about how brave he had to have been and how he struggled to overcome his fear.

We also acknowledge the students listed below for their dedication and hard work throughout the school.

Colours – 50 points Award

Mukunth Karthik 6A, Iyla Robinson 6B, Celeste Peroulis 6C and Aavya Bhatia 6D

Compass Award

Level 1 Award Adi Sanders 6D

Level 2 Award Mikael Sathaar 6A

ICCES Summer Coaches Award 2024

Y7/8 Boys Cricket Harry Blanks 8B

Girls Open Cricket Gurbani Kaur Nehal 7A

Mixed Open Golf Harvey Lewin 7H

Y7/8 Girls Softball Haifia Muhammad 7F

Y7/8 Girls Volleyball Anika Tran 8C

The Middle School was also lucky enough to listen to Alessia Riepsamen and Giovanna Emmanuelle Da Silva performing 'Happy and Well' by Thee Sacred Souls. What great singers, we are indeed a lucky school to have such talented students.

Mr Scott Bayne – Head of Middle School

Year 8 Indigenous day at Staughton Vale



Year 8 students had a great couple of days at Staughton Vale recently, learning about Australian Indigenous culture by participating in a range of activities from bush medicine to bush foods, traditional textile dyeing, Indigenous games and landscape painting.

Each day commenced with an Acknowledgement of Country and Smoking Ceremony led by Aunty Janet, a proud Wurundjeri woman. Students were excited to be able to select a morning and afternoon activity that reflected their interests. Bush medicine students went on a walk to see medicinal plants on the property, learning about traditional and modern uses for these plants. Back in the science room, they saw how some medicinal preparations are made and prepared a poultice.

Bush foods was a very popular choice. Students tasted native honey, herbs and spices used in sweet and savoury cookery, explored the Indigenous kitchen garden, made Wattleseed scones adorned with honey and cream, and a lemon myrtle beverage.

Indigenous games got students active and learning about games played by Indigenous people and having a go at Marn-grook, Kai-wed & Gorri.

Textiles, also a very popular choice, saw students learn how to apply traditional bush dye techniques to colour textiles, before heading out onto the property to collect flowers and foliage for their creations. Back inside, they went through the process of setting up and dyeing their silk scarves in a natural avocado dye. The results were amazing!

Landscape painting had added meaning with Aunty Janet showing students some of her artwork and demonstrating some techniques they could try. Students explored their connection to landscape, the art of painting from a 'birds eye perspective' and were encouraged to create a landscape painting inspired by the beauty of Country and their own connection to it. Lots of new skills and fun was had by everyone.



Ms Kimone Stacey-Missen – Project Officer/Science Assistant

Woodlea

Ethics Olympiad

On November 7, ten Year 8 students from the Woodlea campus represented our School at the competitive Ethics Olympiad. This event allowed students to engage in thoughtful discussions on complex ethical cases, using the Socratic method to probe and challenge ideas. The ten students were divided into two separate teams. Each team tackled a series of thought-provoking scenarios, aiming to explore, not only their own perspectives, but also the philosophical frameworks that underpin ethical thinking.

In preparation, students studied ethical theories like utilitarianism, virtue ethics and deontology. This knowledge proved essential as they articulated their responses and defended their reasoning, all the while respecting the views of others. Each team member had the opportunity to refine their ability to think critically, communicate clearly and evaluate issues from multiple angles—skills that are valuable in both academic and real-world contexts.



Participating in the Olympiad taught students to consider the broader implications of their decisions, encouraging them to apply ethical thinking in their daily lives. The experience inspired them to approach complex issues thoughtfully, listening with empathy and thinking deeply about what it means to act ethically. This event fostered, not only academic growth, but also personal development, as students gained insight into the importance of making informed and compassionate choices.

Mrs Sarah Hunter – Deputy Principal: Head of Middle Schooling

Physical Education, Health and Sport News

Victorian All Schools Track & Field Championships

The Victorian All Schools Track and Field Championship took place at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park over the weekend of October 26-27 and November 2-3. Bacchus Marsh Grammar had strong representation with Ethan Bloss, Amy De Wit, Mackenzie Estlick, Myah Estlick, Ethan Stegehuis and Leila Stegehuis all competing in various events.

There were some outstanding performances at the championships:

- Leila Stegehuis – 1st in the U16 200m Hurdles & 3rd in the U16 200m. *(Photographed Top-Right)*
- Mackenzie Estlick- 2nd in the U17 100m *(Photographed Top-Middle)*
- Ethan Stegehuis – 2nd in the U18 110m Hurdles *(Photographed Top-Bottom)*
- Ethan Bloss – 3rd in the U17 800m

The first and second placed athletes are automatically selected to represent Victoria in the National All Schools Track & Field Championships which will be held in Brisbane from Friday 6 December.

We extend our best wishes to Ethan, Leila and Mackenzie who have qualified for the National All Schools Championships.

Mr Bryce Durham - Head of Faculty: PE & Health



Music

Woodlea Showcase

On Monday October 28, 54 of our most accomplished performers graced the stage with their courage and talent, taking part in the inaugural Woodlea Showcase. The Gym at Woodlea was presented beautifully with balloon arches, flowers and light catering, creating a warm atmosphere for families, staff and students.

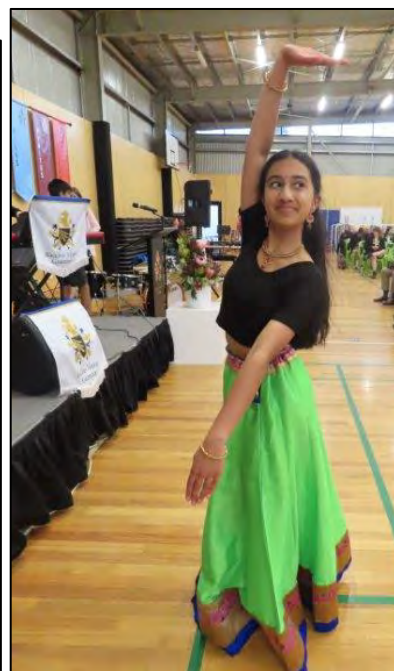
The programme included classical piano pieces, an A Cappella arrangement of 'Ocean Eyes' by Billie Eilish, a Bhangra dance performance, gorgeous String ensemble and solo pieces, and a rousing drum kit performance.

The diversity and quality of the musical and dance talent at Woodlea was wonderful to see, with many students having prepared for months to present their pieces.

Special thanks to Ms Jo Porch (Director of Performing Arts) for her inspired leadership and passion for the Performing Arts, to Michael Abramovic for his unwavering support of the Performing Arts, to Cathy Perconte for the event catering,



Guy and the maintenance team for their tireless efforts, and the incredible Instrumental Music staff who fearlessly support and guide our students every week.



Ms Suzanne Kinsella – Head of Performing Arts and Music: Woodlea

Announcement: 2025 Maddingley Senior School Production - Chicago: Teen Edition

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is thrilled to announce our 2025 school production: Chicago - Teen Edition! This exciting opportunity is open to all students in Years 9 to 12 who are interested in being part of a dynamic and unforgettable musical experience.

Sign-ups are now live on Schoolbox, so don't miss your chance to join! Rehearsals will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:25 pm to 4:25 pm in 2025. Whether you're a seasoned performer or new to the stage, we welcome you to be part of the magic.

Bring your passion and talent, and let's make this production one to remember!

Students who would like assistance with their audition are encouraged to see Miss Quinal during lunch on Monday (A12), Wednesday (yellow pod) or Friday (A12), or Mrs. O'Connor on Tuesday and Thursday in the Music Office. Our music staff is here to guide you in the right direction and support you in preparing for a successful audition.

Mrs Narelle Pritchard – Teacher

Administration

2025 Annual Acknowledgement

BMG families were emailed on 13 November 2024 advising of the 2025 School Fee Schedule and release of the 2025 Business Notice.

All parents/guardians associated with a student of the School are required to complete the Annual Acknowledgement that has now been emailed via Edsmart.

The Annual Acknowledgement needs to be signed and submitted by 4 December 2024.

If you require any assistance completing the Annual Acknowledgement, please contact Administration on (03) 5366 4800.

School Policies and Documents

The following School document has been updated and is available to view from the School Policies tile in Schoolbox and on the BMG website:

School Community Code of Conduct – this document has been reviewed and updated to further clarify School expectations of behaviour including social media.

Ms Kerryn Browne – Risk, Compliance and Policy Manager

Co-Curricular

Heroes of Virtue: Presented by the BMG Explorers Club

Continuing on with our Characters of Virtue, presented by the BMG Explorers Club this week we are excited to highlight the amazing Elizabeth Cochrane, also known as “Nellie Bly.” Nellie was a trail blazing journalist who rose through the ranks of a male-dominated profession to become a star reporter with the New York World in the 1880s. One Sunday evening in the winter of 1888, whilst stuck with writer’s block and not knowing what to pen, she wished she was, ‘At the other end of the Earth!’ This was a light bulb moment for her and led her to attempt a record-breaking feat: to circumnavigate the globe faster than Jules Verne’s hero in the novel Around the World in Eighty Days. Inspired by Verne’s hero Phileas Fogg, Nellie set off on her around-the-world journey with nothing more than a brown leather gripsack. Nellie was:

1. Courage

- Nellie Bly was incredibly brave, often taking on assignments that others would shy away from. She embarked on her around-the-world journey, inspired by Jules Verne’s novel Around the World in Eighty Days, at a time when such a feat was seen as dangerous and impractical for a woman.

2. Determination

- Bly was relentless in her pursuit of truth and justice. Whether it was pushing the boundaries of travel or storytelling, her determination to succeed and uncover hidden truths drove her work.

3. Adventurous

- Bly’s adventurous spirit was clear, not only in her around-the-world journey, but also in her career. She was willing to take risks to get the story, whether it involved exposing corruption or taking on physically demanding assignments. Her around-the-world trip, in particular, was a bold endeavour for a woman of her time.

4. Tenacity

- Bly was known for her persistence. She didn't give up easily, even when faced with challenges or obstacles. Whether it was persuading her editors to let her pursue a difficult story or overcoming the hardships of her travels, Bly's tenacity was key to her success.

Nellie Bly's character was a blend of courage, determination, empathy and creativity. She was a pioneering figure in the world of journalism, using her investigative work to expose social injustices, while also breaking barriers for women in a male-dominated profession. Her character traits, from her boundless curiosity to her courageous defiance of social norms, were as revolutionary as the stories she told. In her work, she combined intellect, empathy, and tenacity in a way that felt both deeply personal and profoundly impactful, making her a true trailblazer

The BMG Explorers Club encourages all to reflect upon the virtuous behaviour of Nellie Bly, who lived our motto.

“Character through Adventure”

Mr Andrew Perks - Deputy Principal: Culture and Character Education

Maddingley SRC Food Train



It's that time of year again when Maddingley's SRC is asking for donations of non-perishable items for our annual Food Train in support of Neighbours Place, such as tinned vegetables, canned fish/meat, rice, jars of pasta/curry sauce, long-life milks, dry pasta, etc.

Donations can be brought to Maddingley Front Administration to be placed in the carriage-tubs. The train will be leaving the station on Friday 6 December (students' last day) to help those in need in our community this Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support!

**Ms Caitlin Bowers & Miss Kimberley McBain – SRC Coordinators
Maddingley**

Annual BMG Sunflower Contest

Students from multiple year levels across Maddingley, Woodlea and the ELC have embarked upon a competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower. From either seed or seedling, the home groups involved have been given the opportunity to nurture their seed or seedling, originating from the Staughton Vale Sunflower collection.

The Sunflower competition complements the School's commitment to the Sunflower emblem, recognising the memory of our students Piers, Marnix and Margaux.

Upon conclusion of the competition, the sunflowers will be planted in the school grounds and will be harvested for seeds once ready.



The meaning of sunflowers originates from their very nature - always facing the sun, they symbolize unwavering faith and constant orientation towards the light. This is why they are often associated with positivity, happiness and optimism.

Mr David Gorton – Director of Student Engagement / Head of Staughton Vale Campus

Reports

Semester Two Reports

At the conclusion of each semester, we provide parents with a formal report that provides important information about each student's academic performance, their approach to studies and attendance. In addition, teacher comments on the reports provide information about each child's involvement in the school community, strengths, improvement areas and, importantly, strategies to support the identified next steps for improvement.

The reports for each semester supplement the range of other ways that the School communicates with parents about their child, including parent-teacher interviews, contact with teachers, Schoolbox and celebrations of learning in the weekly BMG newsletter.

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

We anticipate that the digital copies of reports, accessed via Schoolbox, should be available by Monday 16 December, with paper copies to follow after the Christmas shut-down period. Should any unforeseen technical issues prevent this, further communication will be made.

Mrs Emma Kannar – Deputy Principal, Teaching and Learning

Library

Manga Day

On 6 November the Hive Library celebrated Manga Day with a range of activities and displays. Manga is the fastest growing part of the library collection and is very popular with students of all ages. We ran two creative competitions on the day and the following students were the winners:

Junior school Pokemon colouring competition:

Govindh Karthik in Prep A

Middle school no context caption writing competition:

Ryan Durovic in 5B



Mali Jorm – Head of Library Services

Book Club News

Christmas is coming!

Issue 8 of the Scholastic Book Club catalogue is out now. [Click here](#) to go to the 'How to order' page.

Check out all the wonderful books available and place your order and have it delivered to your home well in time for the Festive Season.

Scholastic is offering a \$5 promo code on all orders over \$17.50 which can be redeemed in Issue 1 2025 PLUS the chance to win movie tickets for the new Dog Man movie being released in April 2025!



Scholastic Book Club Coordinators - Diane Dunn: Maddingley and Feona West: Woodlea

Alumni – Celebrating 10 and 20 Years!



**BACCHUS MARSH GRAMMAR
ALUMNI**

**SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2024
5.30PM TO 7.30PM**

**CELEBRATING 10 & 20 YEARS
GRADUATES FROM 2014 & 2004**

**WE WELCOME YOU TO SHARE THIS WITH OTHER STUDENTS FROM
YOUR GRADUATING YEAR AND ASK THEM TO REGISTER WITH THE
BMG ALUMNI**

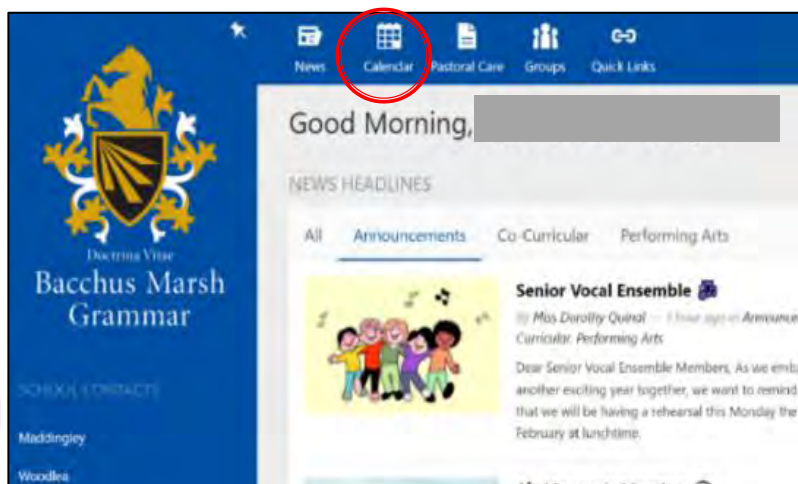
[HTTPS://WWW.BMG.VIC.EDU.AU/COMMUNITY/ALUMNI/](https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/community/alumni/)

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/>.

The on-campus uniform shop will be closed for the first week of school holidays and reopen in the second week of school holidays with the below hours:

Monday 30 September	10.00am – 2.00pm
Wednesday 2 October	10.00am – 2.00pm
Friday 4 October	10.00am – 2.00pm

Health Centre

New Contact Method for Maddingley and Woodlea Health Centre

We would like to inform all parents that the Maddingley and Woodlea Health Centres have transitioned to using mobile phones as the primary means of communication with parents. This change is intended to streamline and improve the efficiency of our communication.

Contact Information:

Maddingley Health Centre Mobile Number: 0409 660 290

Woodlea Health Centre Mobile Number: 0448 281 290

Please save these numbers in your contacts to ensure you can easily recognise calls from the health centres.

Families can still reach the Health Centre through Reception if they wish to do so.

We encourage all parents to update their contact lists and ensure that these numbers are accessible. This change aims to provide a more direct and prompt communication channel between the Health Centre and parents. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Health Centre Team

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

Maddingley:

maddingley.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0438 154 842

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0490 490 362



The Y OSHC Management team wish to advise the closure of all OSHC programs on **Friday 29 of November 2024**.

This will include all Before School Care and Afterschool Care programs.

All OSHC educators will be attending a full day of Professional Development training.

Normal Before School Care and After School Care sessions will resume on Monday the 2nd of December 2024.

Regular Contacts

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

F +61 3 5366 4850

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

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

Community News

Bacchus Marsh Christmas Tees at the Village



Help us WIN a \$500 Officeworks gift card

Visit The Village Bacchus Marsh school Christmas tree display near Specsavers and vote for our tree!

Five voters will WIN a \$50 Coles gift card.

WE WANT YOU!

JUNIOR NETBALLERS

**SEEKING GIRLS TO JOIN THE COBRAS IN
2025.**

**Come and join the
Bacchus Marsh Football & Netball
Club**

**Under 11 Boys &
Girls needed for
Under 11 netball!!**

**If you are born after
2012 we want you for
our Under 13,15 & 17
teams!**

Enquiries or more info contact:

Meaghan Nixon: 0418 140 925

Matt Ruddick: 0427 429 012

mnixon@bmfnc.com.au



GIRLS PLAYERS & COACHES WANTED



COME JOIN US

BMSC is on the hunt for Players & Coaches for the 2025 Season.

To register your interest, please contact the club via our social media pages, or via email.

bacchusmarshscorpions@hotmail.com

We are currently running our Summer Social Soccer Program and invite players old and new to join us.

Day / Night	Group	Start Time	Year of Birth	2025 Season will Play in
Monday	U8s	6:30pm	2017	Under 8s - Girls
	U10s		2015 / 2016	Under 10s - Girls
	U12s		2013 / 2014	Under 12s - Girls
	U14s		2011 / 2012	Under 14s - Girls



*It's time to
become a*
GIANT!

THE AINTREE GIANTS WANT YOU!!!



LOOKING TO PLAY AFL?

LOOKING TO MEET NEW FRIENDS?

LOOKING TO TAKE YOUR GAME TO A NEW LEVEL?

The Mighty Aintree GIANTS are on the hunt for Under 8's to Under 12's players for the 2025 Season.

We will hold free come and try sessions in November and February, please visit our website and social media pages for dates and times.

UNDER 8'S | UNDER 9'S

UNDER 10'S | UNDER 12'S

UNDER 10'S GIRLS | UNDER 12'S GIRLS

WWW.AINTREEFC.COM.AU | 0493 514 000 | AINTREEFC@HOTMAIL.COM