College Principal’s Report

SCHOOL PRODUCTION – “THE WEDDING SINGER”

As this newsletter goes to print the production is in full swing. All reports so far are that it is yet another magnificent production from our students and staff. The Wedding Singer has been reported as having great music and lots of laughs. One comment I heard about opening night “I went home feeling really good”

A big thank you for an outstanding production to Gina Palamara (Producer), Katie Weston (Director / Choreographer), John Collins (Music Director) and the rest of the team of unsung heroes behind the scenes. I can’t wait for Friday night and will add my review next newsletter.

GET THOSE SUBJECT SELECTION FORMS IN!

This term sees the commencement of the very important preparations for 2015. We want to involve parents as much as possible so I have included some important dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th July</td>
<td>Completed Year 9 and Year 11 2015 subject selection forms due (in Pastoral)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th July</td>
<td>Year 9 going into 10 half-day parent pathways interviews, Middle Years Campus Library - 1.30 - 4.30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 31st July</td>
<td>Lakes Enrolment Day, Senior Campus 2 – 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1st August</td>
<td>Completed Year 10 2015 subject selection form due (in Pastoral)</td>
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<td>Monday 4th August</td>
<td>VTAC Information Night, Senior Campus</td>
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It is very important that students submit their Subject Selection forms for 2015. All students from Year’s 8 to 10 should have submitted their forms by Friday 1 August. Enquiries for those who need some assistance should be directed to the Careers Team at either Campus.

Parents of Year 12’s are about to go through the process of choosing a course for 2015. From my own experience as a parent it was a little daunting the first time. We are running a VTAC information night on Monday 4 August to help parents to learn the “tricks of the trade” to support their children in the next very important stage of their pathway.

EARLY LEAVERS

Parents are reminded to give their child a note in the morning if the child needs to leave school early for an appointment. This ensures the student is ready and waiting for the parent when they arrive to collect them. If there is no note, it can take considerable time for students to be located and brought to the office.

WANT TO READ ABOUT OUR SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS?


The annual report is a key legislative and regulatory requirement, but it is also an important way to keep our school...
community informed about how we are performing and what is being done to improve the learning, engagement and wellbeing of our students.

Providing information about our school in this format helps the community to become involved and engaged in discussions about the school and how further improvements can be supported. I encourage you to have a look at our report.

**2014 PARENT OPINION SURVEY**

A randomly selected number of families will receive a Parent Opinion Survey next week. Each year the school conducts an opinion survey of 15% of the school community. The feedback and opinions are used to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement. All responses are completely confidential. I ask the recipients of the survey to take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school.

**TERM 3 PARENT PLANNER**

Included in this newsletter is a planner for the term to keep you up to date on the myriad of activities the students are involved in.

*We work in partnership with you to create bright futures for our students.*

Trish Homer
Meet Emilie Tombre - our new Year 11 Norwegian exchange student

Excited, nervous and overwhelmed by the friendly people she’s met. Emilie, grinning the whole time, is so thrilled to be in Australia and has had a very positive experience so far.

**How long have you been here so far? How long will you be in Australia?**

I’ve been here about a week so far, so not long. I will stay here until the middle of next year, before going back home for my third year of high school.

**What prompted your move, and why choose Australia?**

I really wanted to try something new and different. I love meeting new people, and Australia was far away, so it was new and different. And summer in Australia is much nicer than summer in Norway.

**What classes are you taking?**

I am doing Chemistry, Biology, Maths Methods, Outdoor Education and Health and Human Development.

**What are you passionate about? What do you see yourself doing in the future?**

I enjoy learning, and I love helping people. After high school I want to do medicine, but rather than being a doctor that works with patients I want to do research in a laboratory.

**Would you consider studying abroad again for University?**

Most definitely. I am very fortunate because student exchange is very expensive. But thanks to my dad I’ve been able to study overseas here. I’m half French, so I would absolutely love to study at a university in Paris after high school.

**Is there a really big culture shock?**

Absolutely. I almost can’t describe it, but both Sydney, which was where the orientation for the program was, and Melbourne are very different. The culture is very different, from the conversations to the food to the mannerisms of everyday people. Homework is another thing I was surprised with. Here in Australia I hear about people studying for 4 or 5 hours each night, where back home I never studied that much. So there’s definitely more homework here.

The teachers are also different. They’re very talkative, and I have found it a little difficult to interpret what they’re saying, with their accents and talking habits, but I have studied English since I was ten years old, so I will be able to catch up quickly.

**What has your reception been like in Melbourne?**

So amazing! Everyone is fantastic and lovely and so incredibly friendly! I didn’t know my host family before I came, but they have been very nice, and I really like staying with them. Also, all the students and teachers at the school are so welcoming! Everyone is always coming up to me and introducing themselves and asking if I need help with anything. I didn’t think everyone would be so friendly.

I haven’t really done a lot yet, because I’ve only been here a week, but I’m excited to hang out with my new friends and have fun.

(Interview and article by Emily Stambanis – English Captain)

Photo: Hamar Cathedral School - Emilie’s school in Norway
Senior Campus Report

Senior Girls Netball

On Wednesday 23 July, the Senior Girls Netball team went to the Northern Metropolitan Division Competition and won all 3 games with ease. They now advance to the next round to be played on Monday 8 September. Special mention to the Captain, Ebonie Bowen and College Sport Captain, Anthea Karantzoulis for their extra coaching and encouragement.

Mill Park vs. Viewbank: 24-3
Mill Park vs. Gladstone Park: 32-10
Mill Park vs. Macleod: 28-13

MPSC First Careers Expo

On Friday 8 August, Mill Park Secondary College will be hosting our first Careers Expo. This event was organised by the Student Representative Council and we have worked very hard on securing the attendance of multiple institutions across all boards. The expo will be attended by The University of Melbourne, La Trobe University, Deakin University, Victoria University, RMIT (University and Tafe), Swinburne University of Technology, Kangan Institute, NMIT, JMC Academy etc. We had approximately 50% of the year 12 cohort complete a brief survey and tried our best to tailor the expo to the feedback we received. The expo will be set up in booths with representatives that are equipped with answers to any kind of question a student may have; to ensure the expo is as beneficial to as many individual students as possible. This expo will be attended solely by the year 12 cohort and if all goes well we hope for it to be an annual event that is open to the whole senior campus - a way for us to leave a lasting legacy as MPSC's 2014 SRC!

Student Representative Council

OPEN NIGHT AT THE SENIOR CAMPUS

Last week the Senior Campus was ‘open for inspection’. It was great to see families from our Middle Years Campus, families from The Lakes P-9 School and many others from other colleges in the area come to see what our campus has to offer.

Guests were provided with a short information session in the library explaining why Mill Park Secondary College is an excellent choice for families, not the least of which is the enormous range of VCE subjects and Year 10 electives we are able to offer our students. Both our VCE and VCAL Centres for Excellence are another unique positive for our students, but most importantly, the continual improvement we have seen in our Year 12 results over the last 3-4 years.

After the information sessions guests were free to participate in a self-guided tour of the campus, visiting all the faculties and hearing first-hand from students and teachers about the courses on offer and the opportunities we are able to provide our student cohort.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the staff in preparing for this important event as well as the many student volunteers who willingly contributed to making this night a success. The displays and the information provided for our guests were excellent. All students who participated in this event will be receiving a certificate of appreciation.
Each week we will be showcasing some of the exciting things our graduates are up to. This week we would like to introduce:

**Gemma van Duijneveldt - Bachelor of Science Student**

Age: 18  
Years at MPSC: 2008-2013

Throughout her 6 years at the College, Gemma consistently displayed the College values. Her exceptional work ethic led to her becoming Dux of the College in 2013 and gaining entry into her preferred course at the University of Melbourne.

To read more of Gemma’s and other past student’s stories head to our website.

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**‘Short Shorts’ - Winners 2014**

2014 Year 12 Media students Monica Muleta and Sam Pullen have won 2nd place in the ‘Short Shorts’ Film Competition with their short ‘Closed in the Open’ run by the City of Banyule at Jet Studios in Bundoora. We are so proud of these talented young image-makers and are looking forward to seeing where their talents take them.

Vyvyan Stranieri - Media
Year 9 Pathways Planning
This term is especially important for our Year 9 students who will be making their subject selections for 2015. A successful Senior Campus Information Night was held last week with many parents and students choosing to attend. Following this there is a half day Parent Pathway Interview Day next Wednesday 30 July anytime from 1.30pm to 4.30pm in the MY Library. Parents are strongly encouraged to come to the school to discuss their child’s selections. Final subject selections for 2015 are due at the school on Friday 1 August.

Year 8 subject selection forms were due today, Friday 25 July.

End of Semester Reports
By now all parents and guardians should have received their end of semester reports. I hope you have had the opportunity to discuss the reports with your child to consider both the strengths and the areas for improvement. Should you wish to discuss these reports with any of your child’s subject teachers, please contact the front office on 9407 9700. Please also contact the front office if you have not yet received your child’s report.

Maths and Homework Club
A reminder to students that they are welcome in the library every Wednesday afternoon from 3.05 to 3.50pm. Staff will be available to assist students with their work.

City School
Year 9 students from 9AE, AR, AS and CE will enjoy their City School experience in week 4 from the 4 to 8 August. Permission forms and money should be returned to the office as soon as possible if they are not already there!

Uniform
A reminder to parents that only school uniform items should be worn. Non school track pants and hoodies are not part of the uniform and should be left at home. If your child cannot be in proper uniform on any given day, please provide them with a note.

Contact Details
If you have moved home, changed phone numbers or e-mail addresses, please contact the office on 9407 9700 to notify us of the change. It is important that we have up to date records in the event that we need to contact you.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):
The second instalment of the EMA is to be paid in August. If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA.

If you haven’t previously applied for the EMA you can obtain an EMA application form from the general office – it must be returned by 1 August 2014.

Parents who received the first instalment EMA payment through this school don’t need to lodge another EMA application form to receive the second instalment payment.

State Finals—Cross Country
A huge congratulations must go out to Shannon Mills Year 8. On Thursday 17 July Shannon competed in the School Sport Victoria Cross Country State Finals competition held at Bundoora Park. He won his way through to the finals by finishing in the top 3 at both the Whittlesea Division and the Northern Metropolitan competitions. Shannon put in a fantastic effort, running a personal best and finishing 23rd in a field of more than 90 competitors from all over Victoria. A fantastic effort Shannon and another example of the excellent sporting talent we have at our college.

A special mention must also go out to Imtithal Diedricks Year 9, who won her way through to compete in the State finals, however suffered a knee injury before the event and was unable to compete on the day.

WELL DONE!

Darren Patterson, Physical Education MYC, Sports Coordinator MYC
Reminders
- UMAT Test Date: Wed 30 July, 2014

❖ YEAR 12’S APPLYING FOR COURSES FOR 2015 – The application process for university and VET places is done through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Applications are completed on-line at www.vtac.edu.au. Applications open on Monday 4 August, and will cost $28.00 if done on time (ie by 30 Sept). More info. later.

❖ TERTIARY ENTRY GUIDE FOR YEAR 10’S - Newspapers will publish a tertiary guide for Year 10 students planning their VCE program for 2015-16. The Guide will be included in the paper on Tuesday 22 July.

❖ OPEN DAYS – University and TAFE Open Days are coming up soon. They are a great way to find out more about courses, collect information, talk to staff and students, and to check out facilities. Year 10-12 students are advised to attend.

OPEN DAY GUIDES
Monash University (Berwick & Peninsula campuses)
Deakin (Warrnambool), Monash (Caulfield & Clayton), Swinburne
Australian Catholic Uni (ACU) (Melbourne), Deakin (Geelong), RMIT
La Trobe Uni (Bendigo), University of Melbourne; Monash (Parkville – not 3 Aug)
Box Hill Institute; Deakin (Melbourne), La Trobe (Melbourne), Victoria, William Angliss Institute
ACU (Ballarat), Federation Uni (Ballarat & Gippsland)
Holmesglen – has ‘Open Wednesday’ each week – see their website to book a visit.

❖ HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF OPEN DAY VISITS – Don’t wander aimlessly….try the following:
- Allow sufficient time for your visit; two hours or so would be advisable
- Speak to staff about courses which interest you - note your questions beforehand
- Get a student perspective - speak to students studying courses which interest you
- Collect information/brochures
- Ask about industry based-learning (IBL) programs; these can help with getting a job
- Ask about international study opportunities – a popular option
- Consider transport issues; is the campus accessible from where you live?
- Check the environment where you will study; will you be happy there for three/four years?
- Consider the facilities/clubs offered at your preferred institution
- Consider visiting a rural campus, especially if you think you won’t obtain a high enough ATAR for a metropolitan campus. ATAR’s are often lower and they often offer more personal assistance, accommodation, and a lifestyle which will suit some students.

NOTE: If you plan to apply for a course involving an interview/folio presentation/ audition as part of the selection process, attending is a must! You might be asked what you learned at Open Day.

❖ ANOTHER CAREERS EXPO – The Melbourne Careers Expo is a careers and education event with 180+ exhibitors from many occupations, information from universities, VET, private providers, ‘try a trade’, seminars, GAP year, and government student services info. When: 15-17 August; Where: Melbourne Exhibition Centre; Info: info@careerexpo.com.au, www.careerexpo.com.au (ALSO - free tickets available from this website).

❖ MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS –
- PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE – Monash Parkville campus will hold an ‘Open House’, 10am-3pm, Sun 17 Aug (same day as Melbourne University’s Open Day). Pharmacy will also be represented at Monash Clayton’s Open Day, Sun 3 Aug. Info: www.monash.edu/pharm/openhouse.
- MEDICINE, NURSING, HEALTH SCIENCES - Physiotherapy – as previously stated, the UMAT and ISAT are not required for 2015
entry. An interview is still required and will be offered based on applicant’s academic record.

Radiography and Medical Imaging – an interview has been introduced as an extra requirement for entry to this degree. Applicants will be invited to attend an interview based on their academic performance. The interview will involve 4 MMI (Multiple Mini Interview) stations. NOTE: find out more about radiation oncology careers: www.acareerinradiationoncology.com.au.

Bachelor of Nursing (Community Health) – Berwick campus won’t have an intake for this degree, but will have the Bachelor of Nursing from 2015 (VTAC - listed with Clayton and Peninsula campuses).

Direct Entry MBBS – Monash is the only Victorian university offering Year 12 students who aspire to become a doctor the option of applying directly to the B. Medicine and B. Surgery program from school. There are 242 places for domestic students and 65 for international students.

- Discontinued courses for 2015 –
  - The B. Nursing and B. Emergency Health (Peninsula). Students can alternatively study a B. Nursing followed by a Master of Emergency Health OR a B. Emergency Health (Paramedic) followed by a Master of Nursing Practice.
  - The B. Health Science and B. Business (Caulfield campus).

- ARE THERE STILL JOBS IN JOURNALISM? Career Practitioners at a conference at Monash Uni, heard about opportunities in journalism. Journalism is not in decline; it is newspapers that are in decline; newspapers and journalism are not the same thing. The digital era that is destroying the old business model is opening up opportunities. We are entering an age where we can combine all media to tell our stories. Skills needed include enterprise, independence and resourcefulness. Jobs in media are fragmenting with online opportunities proliferating. Journalists need to: think critically, understand the concepts of evidence and impartial argument, find stories, research, interview, write, edit, know the difference between good/bad writing, and digital skills in content creation and distribution. With the skills of journalism, you are also a good fit for jobs in many areas such as PR, communications, speechwriting and producing. NOTE: Journalism can be studied at most universities.

- WHAT ABOUT SURVEYING? Surveying offers opportunities for those looking for a diverse and varied career. The national demand for surveyors means graduates are more likely to secure jobs in surveying compared with many other professions. Surveyors get to work indoors and outdoors, taking precise measurements using specialised technology, then analysing and interpreting the results. Students interested in maths, geography, physics and science may suit this career.

8. DEAKIN UNIVERSITY NEWS –

- BACHELOR OF DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
  There is a trend to increasingly adaptive industries, where manufacturing and product development companies are becoming smaller and adopting more diverse interests and product lines. The industry needs versatile, technologically-minded people with design, project management and organisational skills to drive innovation. Commencing in 2015, Deakin’s B. Design Technology has design and innovation as core focus. Gain design skills for application in technological settings, and an understanding of using technology to enhance design and product development. Graduates will be able to create and design consumer, sports, medical or industrial products. Where: Geelong (Waurn Ponds); Prerequisite: English

- BACHELOR OF PLANNING (HONOURS)
  As cities grow, there is increasing demand for planners to manage change. This new Deakin degree brings together planning, design, urban studies and society in one degree. Where: Geelong (Waterfront); Duration: 4 years; Prerequisite: English.

- NURSING AND MIDWIFERY INFORMATION – Deakin has information sessions about their courses. When/Where:
  - Burwood – 2.30-4.30 pm, Sat 26 July, Bld Y, room 1.11 A and B; Geelong Waterfront – 6-8pm, Wed 23 July & 2.30-4.30pm, Sat 26 July, Bld AD, room 2.217; Warrnambool – 7.30pm, Fri 25 July, Warrnambool City Centre Campus; Info: 9244 6032 or www.deakin.edu.au/nursing.
  - Register: nursinfo@deakin.edu.au, indicating the session you will attend.

Compiled by: m.walker