SAFETY OUTSIDE OUR SCHOOL

As reported by the College Principal Trish Horner in our last newsletter, a Year 8 student was knocked from his bike on Wednesday 24 February. This was a serious accident with the young man taken to hospital by ambulance. Initially in intensive care, I am pleased to report that he has now been moved to a general ward and is making some progress toward recovery.

Since this incident, the school has met with representatives from Whittlesea Council to discuss the traffic issues experienced during both the drop off and pick up times of school. There are some planned parking sign upgrades to occur and other measures to ensure parking / speed restrictions are adhered to.

I am very pleased to report that more students are now using the crossing to cross Moorhead Drive safely to meet parents parked on the north side of the street. As per usual, we ask parents / carers not to use staff car parks and students to only enter / exit via the pedestrian gates and not either of the driveways.

To help ease congestion during the afternoon pick up time, it would be greatly appreciated if families could consider any of the following strategies:

- Consider picking up you son / daughter in a nearby street pre-arranged with your child
- Plan to arrive at the Middle Years Campus at 3.06pm when many parent cars have already vacated the parking bays out front of the Campus
- Arrange with other families to car pool
- Encourage older students to walk, take public transport or cycle to school.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Semester One Parent / Teacher Interviews will be held during week one of term two on Wednesday April 13. There will be no classes for students on this day. Parents will be able to make bookings for interviews via the Sentral Parent Portal. Bookings will open on Monday 21 March and close on Tuesday 12 April (the day before interviews). Please see the attached instruction sheets for a reminder on how to access and make these bookings.

Student Interim Reports will be available to download via the Sentral Parent Portal also on Monday 21 March.

STANDING COMMITTEES

We are seeking parents / guardians to contribute to the College’s future direction by joining one of the School Council’s sub committees. Members meet twice a term on a Tuesday night and all recommendations made by the committees are taken to School Council. Being a member of a committee also enables greater understanding of how the school operates and how decisions are made.

The sub committees are: Education, Student Engagement & Well Being, Resources, Community, and Finance

It is vitally important that we have parent input. If you are interested in joining one of the committees or have any questions, please contact Joanne Armarego on 9407 9700 or armarego.joanne.r@edumail.vic.gov.au.

ABSENCE LEARNING PLANS

Students who are taking extended absences from school must have a Student Absence Learning Plan to support their education. If a student is to be absent for longer than five school days, parents/carers are required to make an appointment with a member of the principal team from the appropriate campus to request permission for extended absence, provide reason for the absence and work with the college to support the Absence Learning Plan.

Families will appreciate that putting together the plan requires input from all of that student’s teachers and Student Engagement Team. Therefore a minimum of three weeks notice is required prior to the student’s last day of attendance before departure. This will allow time for a comprehensive plan to be established, work collated and presented to both the parent / carer and student and opportunity for the family to seek any clarification of the work or the process. Parents are asked to contact the campus to make an initial appointment to get the process started.
PARENT WORKING BEE

Thank you so much to the staff and families that gave up a Sunday morning to come to the Middle Years Campus and provide some greatly appreciated assistance with general gardening. These amazing people pruned, raked and collected over two skips worth of green waste. A very special thank you must go to the Fellows family who not only provided many pairs of hands but also the dingo pictured below that made light work of some stump removals and loading the trailers with mulch. Families who would like to join us for the term two Working Bee are encouraged to register their interest via the College website.

BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS
Bookings will commence at 9:00am on Monday 21 March.

Bookings will close at 12:00am on Tuesday 12 April.

If you have any problems, please contact the General Office at either Campus

Middle Years Campus: 9407 9700
Senior Campus: 9409 8222
The SRC is involved in organising, participating, and supporting events that the Campus holds. This year the representatives plan to proceed with developing programs and activities to keep the school community content, along with pursuing the implementation of the Colleges expectations and values - which it is built upon. All members involved in the representation of Mill Park Secondary College went through an in-depth selection process of writing about their values, along with what they can offer the school community.

Congratulations to the successful candidates of the SRC whom are as follows:

**YEAR 9**

**CAMPUS CAPTAINS**
- Yasmin Chebbou 9BS
- Cole Hall 9BS

**CAMPUS VICE CAPTAINS**
- Tina Huynh 9BS
- Jaslyn Rodrigues 9AE

**HOUSE CAPTAINS**
- Belle Kong 9BS
- Suhaas Kataria 9BS
- Anthony Morabito 9AR
- Rohan Singh 9BR

**SRC**
- Methmi Manamperi 9BS
- Katerina Toutzoglou 9AW
- Amaneet Gill 9AW
- Skye Shaw 9BE
- Joshua Gallagher 9BW
- Kristian Boca 9BW
- Rovin Korale 9AE
- Rachel Dihayco 9AE

**YEAR 8**

**YEAR LEVEL CAPTAINS**
- Natalie D’Arche 8BS
- Anna-Marie Quagliarella 8AR

**HOUSE CAPTAIN**
- Tharsika SriKamalanathan 8CE
- Caitlyn Olive 8CE

**SRC**
- Jessica Busuttil 8CE
- Veda Mileva 8CE
- Abhishek Chetty 8AW
- Chris Manley 8BE
- Tarsha Lyng 8CE
- Razan Issa 8CE
- Isabella Varallo 8BR
- Jessica Pullar 8BR
- Shelby Nanscawen 8BE
- Marianne Giacoulidis 8BE

**YEAR 7**

**YEAR LEVEL CAPTAINS**
- Antonio Petreski 7I
- Gabriella Taha 7J

**YEAR LEVEL VICE CAPTAINS**
- Jade Sanchez 7E
- Tanner O’Mara 7C

**SRC**
- Mieka Stout 7I
- Jaclyn Fellows 7I
- Giulia Nicastri 7C
- Alia McBride 7C
- Gumaz Khatra 7C
- Yashveer Singh Goraya 7J
- Elise Dow 7J
- Avneet Kaur 7J

The commitment and persistence of all students involved in the SRC will be put to good use within our community, and we look forward to making Mill Park Secondary College a better place.

Regards,

Campus Captains & Student Leadership
EVERY DAY COUNTS
As part of our Annual Report, we have recently looked at our attendance figures for 2015, compared to other state schools. Each year level achieved a 90% or greater attendance level for 2015 which generally is similar to the median for all Victorian government schools. In 2015, student attendance rates improved significantly at Years 7, 8 & 9. We appreciate the support of families that help to ensure that “every day counts”.

Our current term data shows that we continue to maintain attendance above 90% with Year 12 leading the way on 94%, Years 7 & 8-93%, Years 10 & 11-92% and Year 9 just above 90%.

CONNECTING AS A COMMUNITY
During the term our Student Leaders, along with their Pastoral teachers have been running some activities related to building strong levels of connectedness within our community. Student Leaders have been asking their peers about their:

- **HOPES** for their own education
- **FEARS** for their own education
- **DREAMS** for our school
- **FEARS** for our school

The Student Leaders have also been looking at the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) framework and in particular seeking feedback from all students about the positive expectations students have of themselves and others with respect to behaviour:

- In class
- In the yard
- In inside areas
- Outside of the school/In the community
- In the cyber world

Some of our Year 7 families have had the opportunity to be part of these activities, but our student leaders have planned to invite families across the school to share their Hopes, Dreams, Fears and Expectations. Family support will be much appreciated by the Community Sub-Committee and your young people, when the students extend their invitation.
FORENSIC SCIENCE

On an overcast Monday morning the Year 9 Forensic Science class boarded a bus and went to Quantum Victoria for an excursion. Throughout the day, we got to solve the crime of “the missing dinosaur bones”, stolen from the Quantum Museum. In small groups, using iPads as a guide and a range of other lab activities we worked through the day to figure out who stole the bones. It was really great. We got to wear these blue hazmat suits (that we all looked really funny in!) while investigating parts of the evidence. By the end of the day, two groups had correctly solved the crime. I think that everyone who went definitely took something out of this amazing, worthwhile experience, and would recommend it to the next forensics class.

Written by: Rhiannon Tymms

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Tuesday 22 March – Year 7 Immunisations (HPV1 & Boostrix)
- Thursday 24 March – Last day of Term 1
- Monday 11 April – Term 2 commences
- Wednesday 13 April - Parent Teacher Interviews
- Friday 22 April - Athletics Carnival
- Monday 25 April – ANZAC Day – Public Holiday
- Wednesday 4 May – Senior Campus Open Night

HOME STAY – ITALIAN LANGUAGE ASSISTANT

As in previous years, the Middle Years Languages Faculty will soon be welcoming an Italian Language Assistant from Italy. Benedetta, who is a 26 year old woman from Perugia will require accommodation from Friday April 15 until Friday May 13 (4 weeks). If any families are interested in hosting our Italian visitor for part or all of that time please contact Philippa McIlroy on 9407 9700 or mcilroy.philippa.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
**TENNIS**

Six boys and four girls competed in the Year 7 Whittlesea Division Tennis Competition at Whittlesea Tennis Courts. Both teams not only did themselves and the school proud in the way in which they exemplified the school values in their level of sportsmanship, but also in their level of success.

The girls’ team of: Nishita Maharaj, Kate Stojcevska, Paige Duson and Priyanka Sharma, fought well to reach third place in their round of competitions. The boys’ team of: Patrick Brennan, Julius Garcia, Elijah Christodoulou, KC Opara, Zak Andriopoulos and Carter Arnold, most capably played to win their division and will go on to compete in the Northern Regional Tennis Competitions in Term 2. Congratulations to all those who participated!

Debbie Prideaux

**VOLLEYBALL**

On Wednesday 9 March our boys and girls Volleyball superstars travelled to Whittlesea to compete in the Whittlesea District round robin. Both teams played very well and were a force to be reckoned with as they served, duged, setted and spiked their way to victory! The girl’s team had a very long day, playing a massive 8 games – winning 2 and drawing in a 3rd. They placed 5th in the round robin. The boy’s team won 3 of 5 games and managed to nab the coveted 3rd spot in the round robin! A big congratulations to everyone who participated!

Katie Grounds

Boys team members included: Liam McDonough, Declan Flexder, Jaycob Boca, Brody Light, Jack Andrews, Ibrahim Ahmad, Matthan Cruz, Bennie Rahimovski, Maafi Loto and Michael Krstevski.

Girls team members included: (front) Fatima Ahad, Mai Do, Mia Icaro, Marjan Falah Zadeh, Jade Hazel, (back) Lagi Neemia, Lilah McCormack, Kayla Perrotta, Ryhiana Ahluwalia and Ebony Edwards.

**YEAR 8 BOYS CRICKET**

Our cricket team may not be quite ready for the World T20 tournament; however I was very impressed with the encouragement, teamwork and positive spirit on the day. Unfortunately the day started with a trouncing at the hands of Epping SC who passed our score of 28 in the 4th over of their allocated 12 overs. Our bowlers did peg things back after the initial onslaught, with Troy Slater 1 for 3, Ahsan Inam 1 for 0 and Sharuk Nanthakumar 1 for 1 being instrumental in the comeback.

The second game versus Hazelglen was a much tighter affair with our bowlers working with much better line and length, creating wicket opportunities (Sharuk 2 for 1, Gurfateh Mahal 1 for 2, Umnishadd Ksharma 2 for 2, Abdullah Warrich 1 for 4, Fairuz Kafi 1 for 2, Tim Maisano1 for 4 and Ashish Rawat wrapping up the innings with 2 for 0).

A total of 44 to chase down was certainly within reach if we batted well. After the loss of an early wicket, George Vavlitis and Troy combined for a handy 27 run partnership. Troy was then joined by Abdullah, who played aggressively, helping to maintain the required run rate coming into the last 3 overs. At this point Hazelglen brought back their opening bowler, who produced a maiden over. With the pressure now on Abdullah continued his aggressive approach, but due to tight bowling was unable to farm the strike sufficiently to get the winning runs away. A narrow 3 run loss, but a very good effort!

Thanks to Peter and Kerry, who may not have been rewarded with wickets and top scores, but were the most energetic in the field and both bowled economically.

There are a few budding cricketers in the group and I have encouraged all who are keen to get down to their local cricket club for the beginning of the next season.

Simon McRae
This year, our Year 7 students went to camp at Ace-Hi Ranch near Cape Schank. This was the first time Mill Park Secondary College had ever attended this camp and everyone was excited about the new opportunities that would be available.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the camp would have to have been the Horse Riding activity. Students were given a one-hour Horse Awareness Program and then a one-hour trail ride through the camp grounds. Students were grinning from ear to ear after they finished and thoroughly enjoyed the experience, as some had never ridden a horse before!

Other activities included the giant swing, an initiatives course, flying fox, archery and rock climbing. For those who couldn’t or didn’t want to horse ride, bush golf and a camp scramble were the activities that were played. On the Thursday night, there was a concert and there was a special appearance by the famous Mill Park Secondary College ‘Nonna’!

Friday came along and both students and teachers alike were very tired! Lots of photos, friendships and memories were formed.

A big thank you must go to all the staff who attended the 3 day camp who took the time to take our students to camp and who were away from their own families.

Melissa Barnard, Year 7 Programs and Learning Outcomes

LOST ITEMS FROM YEAR 7 CAMP

Students who have misplaced or lost any of their belongings from Camp can come and collect these items from the Year 7 Student Engagement Office.

Any items that are left after the last day of Term 1 will be given to charity.

Lost items include drink bottles, towels, a sleeping bag and other assortments.

Melissa Barnard, Year 7 Programs and Learning Outcomes Manager
**CAREERS WEBSITE**

Our new Careers website is now fully operational! Have you checked it out yet? This is a fantastic resource for students, staff and parents. I absolutely encourage parents to log on to the website and see its full functionality. It has the answers to every possible question that you may have about careers, VCE and VCAL, University and TAFE, and will help you to answer all of those tricky questions that your children may ask you. Log on to [www.millparksccareers.com](http://www.millparksccareers.com).

**SRC**

Our SRC have been doing some great things already this year. As well as working with Westfield Centre Management on some community projects, and running the Year 10 and 11 SRC elections, students will also be attending some leadership training in the near future. Many of our SRC led sessions in our Pastoral classes last week, using the hopes, fears and dreams protocol – in order to gather ideas from students to inform future ideas and directions from the school. Congratulations to all involved.

**YEAR 12 ENGLISH ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

This week our Year 12 English students have begun preparations for one of their major assessments of unit 3, which is the Point of View persuasive oral presentation. I took the opportunity to dust off my teaching hat, and run workshops in some classes, specifically around public speaking skills. I had great fun working with Ms Philip’s class on Wednesday where we worked on stance and posture, vocal expression, signposting and cue cards. I’m hoping to get into a few more classes before the end of term.

**VCAL BARISTA TRAINING**

Last week our two Year 11 VCAL classes completed a full day of both Barista training and Responsible Service of Alcohol certificates. This is all part of getting our VCAL students workplace ready, and giving them the opportunity to complete as many qualifications as possible during their two years. These are industry standard certificates and will allow students to work in a range of part time jobs during their study, and help them get into the hospitality field after completing school. Thanks to all of the teachers who supported the training and the students who participated.

**SENIOR CAMPUS CANTEEN - UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT**

The Senior Campus Canteen offers a variety of Gluten Free, Halal and Vegetarian options, people will need to place an order with the Canteen at recess to ensure any of these special requirements are catered for. The Canteen is open to discuss any other dietary requirements and will do its best to meet needs.

**CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)**

Parents / guardians holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CSEF in 2016. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Applications are available from the General Offices at both Campuses.

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student. The secondary school student rate is $225 per year.


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**Local Homestay Families Wanted**

Host families are a very important factor in the success of our International Student Program and are greatly valued by the College.

Our program is growing, so we are looking for more families interested in providing a warm and supportive environment for an international student who has chosen to study at Mill Park Secondary College. Families receive payment to cover expenses for full board and our International Student Coordinator is available at all times, to provide ongoing support to host families.

For more information please contact Marilyn Pridmore

Phone: 9409 8222 or 0438 681 125  Email: pridmore.marilyn.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
Reminders:

- **Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT)** – Register by: 3 June; Test date: 27 July (required by undergraduate Medicine at Monash University)
- **Inside Monash Seminars** – 15 March: Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- **VCE and Careers Expo** – Caulfield Racecourse; Thurs 5 – Sun 8 May; Cost: $10, $25 families; Info: www.vceandcareers.com.au.

1. **OPEN DAYS** – Open Days are held at universities and TAFE institutes each year, giving the public the opportunity to see the facilities, talk to staff and students, collect information and attend information sessions. They are generally held on Sundays later in the year, but dates are provided here so that you can put them in your diary now.

**Some Open Day Dates for 2016:**

- **Sun 31 July** – Swinburne University
- **Sun 7 Aug** – Deakin University (Warrnambool); La Trobe University (Bundoora); Monash University (Caulfield & Clayton)
- **Sun 14 Aug** – Australian Catholic University (Melbourne), La Trobe University (Bendigo), Monash University (Peninsula); RMIT University; William Angliss Institute
- **Sun 21 Aug** – Box Hill (Lilydale campus); Deakin University (Waterfront & Waurn Ponds); University of Melbourne
- **Sun 28 Aug** – ACU (Ballarat): Box Hill Institute (Box Hill); Deakin University (Burwood); Federation University; Victoria University (Footscray campus)

2. **HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY?** La Trobe holds ‘Experience La Trobe’ days in the school holiday breaks. These are a chance to see facilities, find out about courses and careers, and talk to staff and student ambassadors about La Trobe. You will be able to attend tutorials and lectures; why not attend with friends or family? **When:** Melbourne campus (Bundoora) 31 March; Bendigo campus 1 April; For more info and to book: See: www.latrobe.edu.au/experience.

3. **DO YOU WANT A JOB WORKING WITH ANIMALS?**

A great way to find out more is by attending Healesville Sanctuary’s ‘Keeper for a Day’ or ‘Vet for a Day’ program OR Werribee Open Range Zoo’s ‘Keeper for a Day’ program. These programs are suitable for students in Years 7 – 12. **When:**

- **Healesville Keeper for a Day:** 9.30am-3.30pm, March 29 & 30, April 5 & 6; Cost: $115
- **Healesville Vet for a Day:** 9.30am-3.30pm, March 30 & 31 and April 6 & 7; Cost: $129
- **Werribee Open Range Zoo Keeper for a Day:** 9.30am-3.30pm, March 29 & 31 and April 6 & 8; Cost: $115.

**Information/Booking:** Ph 1300 966 784; See also: www.zoo.org.au/education/careers-programs.

- Another opportunity to find out about working with animals is to attend the **WERRIBEE OPEN DAY**. This is run by the University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences. Find out about the B. Agricultural Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine programs, attend course information sessions, explore other careers in science, veterinary nursing and equine studies, tour the facilities and go to food stalls to support Melbourne students. **When:** 10am-3pm, Sat 19 March; **Where:** 250 Princes Highway, Werribee; **Information:** bit.ly/Werribee-open-day-2016.

4. **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A NURSING AND/OR MIDWIFERY CAREER?** Division 1 nursing involves a three-year degree at university while Division 2 requires an 18-month diploma. Some students who wish to study nursing also wish to study midwifery. This can either be done through a double degree in nursing and midwifery which will take 4 years or by studying nursing and then doing an 18-month course in midwifery. The double degree is offered at Deakin, La Trobe and Monash Universities. The good news for Year 12 students is that Victoria University (St Albans campus) is introducing this double degree in 2017. The aim is to address the challenges in maternity care. Increasing rates of health conditions such as mental health disorders, diabetes and obesity have increased the complexity of care for women. **NOTE:** there are many other combinations of double degrees with nursing, providing more employment and interest options upon...
graduation. For example, ACU offers Nursing/Paramedics at the Ballarat campus and Deakin offers Nursing/Public Health and Health Promotion, Nursing/Psychological Science (and also a single degree called Nursing [Clinical Leadership]).

5. CHECK OUT STUDYING SCIENCE AT RMIT — Deciding where to study after finishing school is a challenge...

One way to find out more is to visit the university that interests you and see the facilities. RMIT is offering such an opportunity in the school holidays. Go behind the scenes on a tour of the facilities. Students and parents are invited to visit RMIT’s state-of-the-art learning laboratories and to find out about how RMIT degrees provide the knowledge and skills to tackle real-world problems and advance the way we live. Programs cover biology, biotechnology, chemistry, environmental science, food science, nanotechnology and physics. When: 11am-2pm, 30 March; Where: Building 3, Level 1, Applied Sciences Reception, RMIT City; Book/Info: www.rmit.edu.au/events/all-events/tours/2016/

6. DO YOU WANT TO CHECK OUT WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE IN THE CITY? William Angliss is a provider of courses in hospitality, food, tourism and events. William Angliss is giving school students the chance to delve into the world of Tourism & Travel and Events in the school holidays. Tourism, Travel and Events – a hands-on introduction to the travel and tourism industry via an on-site amazing race-style activity. Students will then go to the new aeroplane interior demonstration area and be given a taste of what a career as a flight attendant could be. After a catered lunch, students will get the chance to jump into the world of Event Management with a table theming activity held in the Angliss Restaurant. When: 9.30am-2.30pm, Thurs 31 March; Where: 555 La Trobe St, Melbourne; Who: Students in Years 9-11; Cost: $120 (including lunch). REGISTER HERE! Enquiries: Marketing@angliss.edu.au

7. GOOD NEWS FROM BOX HILL INSTITUTE - The good news is that Box Hill Institute has this year re-opened the former Swinburne campus at Lilydale, providing tertiary education in this area once more. A broad range of courses will be available, increasing as time goes by. NOTE: William Angliss Institute is conducting cooking and tourism courses at this campus in conjunction with the Box Hill Institute. Box Hill Institute also has plans to offer other programs and facilities on the Lilydale site.

8. MONASH UNIVERSITY (BERWICK) — Many of you will have heard the news that, after about 20 years in operation, Monash has confirmed that it intends to abandon its Berwick campus at the end of 2018.

9. MORE SWINBURNE NEWS - In addition to items mentioned in the last edition, Swinburne is proposing the following courses/changes for 2017 (some subject to academic approval):

- Swinburne is considering an Early Entry Scheme (already offered by ACU and La Trobe universities). The ATAR would no longer be the sole determinant for entry.
- Introduction of the Bachelor of Nursing (possibly at Wantirna)
- Revised majors in sports science, nutrition and clinical technologies
- Introduction of Bachelor of Exercise Science
- Introduction of a common first year for the Bachelor of Engineering, giving students a taste of the different fields in engineering before making a decision about their specialisation (similar to Monash University engineering)
- Introducing a Masters in Occupational Therapy.

More news on all of this when it becomes available from Swinburne.

- Where can I use my ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEGREE? Opportunities are increasing all the time with new technological developments, much more so than in civil engineering for example. Electrical engineering can be used in banking, the television industry, mining, automotive (eg driverless vehicles), marketing, solar cells, the health industry and renewable energy to name a few.

- ROBOTICS is another area of growth in engineering (eg drones, robotic vacuum cleaners, humanoid robots, Mars rover).

Compiled by: M. Walker
We've put together a new website.

It's a "One Stop Shop" for everything you need with Career Planning and help.

CHECK IT OUT NOW!

The Careers Team

THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT