Term 3 is possibly the busiest of the year in some respects as the students prepare for the final exams and make choices about their future pathways. As the term ends our senior students are preparing for their final exams. It is very important that they use their time well during the holidays. I know many of our staff are running some extra sessions in the holidays and there are also study lectures provided externally that students can attend. Next term all students will be completing exams which they need to prepare for.

As the exam period looms, revision takes on a vital role. But what’s the best way to get your child to study?

Students need to learn that they have to work to achieve. Here are some tips for parents to support their children

- Parents have to give some gentle prodding because teenagers expect mum and dad to chivvy them along.
- Avoid head-on conflict. Work out a sensible and productive way of discussing the topic.
- You know how your child works best. Remind them about strategies like flow charts and mind maps.
- Give them pointers on how to keep hold of the information. Research shows that this is best done by learning something and then reviewing it five minutes later. Do the same with that piece of information a day later and then a week later. They can make notes on index cards to refer to.
- Help them break knowledge into chunks, especially if they are feeling overwhelmed by how much they need to revise.
- Accept that loud music can sometimes help because teens can associate facts with tracks. Similarly, children can take in information best at different times of the day. The important factor is the total amount of time spent on revision, not the time of day, although a regular pattern of sleep will help during the revision period and the exams themselves.
- Bribery can help. Do a deal by promising that if they work solidly for half an hour, they can have an immediate reward such as watching a favourite TV programme. Some adolescents can’t concentrate for more than 35 minutes a time.
- Try to find a place in the house for revision other than their bedroom. Make it a rule that cell phones are switched off during revision times.
- Draw up a realistic revision timetable together that doesn’t look too intimidating. The key is to divide the work and time into short chunks. Look at the exam timetable as a whole and prioritise by starting with the first exam.
- Make sure they eat healthily and sleep well. Cut down on carbohydrates which can make them sleepy and increase fruit and protein.
- Speak positively. Offer support – rather than saying “Have you done your work?” ask “How can I help you, would you like a cold drink?”
- Encourage them to write down their goals in life on sticky notes that they can put on the wall for extra motivation.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews were held on Thursday 8 September at the Senior Campus. It is always very pleasing to meet with parents to continue our partnership in supporting student learning growth. I would like to thank the Principal team and all staff for organising this very important event. We are currently investigating some new arrangements to the timing of the interviews next year to move the interviews to coincide with the subject selection process.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

The sunny days have started, hopefully the signal that the weather is going to warm up. I wish you all a wonderful safe Spring break. I thank the staff for all their hard work this term and warn the students to rest up because term 4 will be action packed!

School will resume on Monday 3 October

Have a restful and safe break

Trish Horner
TERM 4

The first day of term 4 is Monday 3 October. Term 4 is a 12 week term. Year 9 students will be sitting EXAMS during week 5 on Wednesday 2 November to Friday 4 November. Year 7 & 8 students will be completing timed exercises during this week also.

END OF TERM 3

Congratulations to all students who have worked diligently throughout the term to achieve their very best in all of their subjects.

EVERYDAY LEARNING

Your child’s most important learning happens in everyday situations. It doesn’t wait until your child starts kindergarten or school.

As your child plays at home, they learn to relate to you, to any brothers, sisters or family members and to their friends. They learn what it means to be comforted when they are upset, how to take turns, how to be kind. They learn what it means to keep going when things get tough, what it’s like to feel sad and then to feel happy again.

As your child goes through daily routines, such as meal times, they learn to share by not taking all the salad from the bowl. They learn to problem solve when everyone wants the last piece of pie. They learn to make choices and to use and manipulate utensils like tongs and forks. With our guidance, they learn about safety (hot things and sharp things).

Think of shopping – an opportunity for your child to learn about colour, size and number: What colour apples will we buy? Can we choose the big bananas? Put some more grapes in the bag. Your child can use the scales and learn about things that are heavy and light.

When you plant seedlings in the garden your child learns about science (what do plants need to grow?) They learn to solve problems (how will all those seedlings fit in the space we have?) and build numeracy skills (how many rows will we need; how many will be put in each row?) As the plants grow, they can care for the plants (building responsibility) and enjoy a sense of wonder at seeing them grow.

What can I do to encourage everyday learning?

❖ Remember children will copy what you do. They are learning every time they see you speak to others, manage your emotions or deal with frustration or conflict.

❖ Look for opportunities to support your child’s everyday social and emotional learning. For example, you might talk about feelings after a child has hurt their sibling, or introduce the idea of fairness when children are fighting over a toy. You might encourage your child to try two more times before giving up, or break a task into smaller parts to help your child achieve success.

❖ Share your interests with your children – riding bikes, bush walking, gardening, going to the football or playing a musical instrument. What opportunities do they present for everyday learning?

❖ Share the household chores with the children – look at recipe books, make a shopping list, make a salad, set the table, recycle the papers, wash the dishes; post a letter. What opportunities do they present for everyday learning?

❖ There’s no need to buy a lot of expensive toys to help your child learn. (In fact, some elaborate toys can only be used in one way and children quickly tire of them).

❖ Provide play experiences that your child really gets involved in and support your child with both questions and information. Your children will then interact and learn about a whole host of things in their world (like maths, science, reading and writing) through play.

❖ Everyday learning is about making the most of the here and now. Taking advantage of everyday learning opportunities that present themselves as your child explores the world may mean slowing down and taking more time to do things along with your child. Taking time to engage and wonder about the world around us is one of the most precious things that we can share with our children.
YEAR 7 RECOGNITION FOR EFFORT AND ACHIEVEMENT

The Year 7s have been busy in Term 3 across all of their subjects and working hard for the home group challenge. At the assembly on Monday 5 September, numerous students were recognised for outstanding effort and behaviour in a range of different areas. These included the term Principal Awards for each class, the four School Value Awards for the cohort, the Home Group Challenge award, Special Awards for the Melbourne Writer’s Festival and the winners of the Best Olympic Mascot competition. The winners are displayed below - a big congratulations to all! We hope this outstanding effort continues in Term 4 and we look forward to recognising even more effort along the way.

Peta Johnstone, Year 7 Programs and Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal award for each home group</td>
<td>7A: Luke Di Domenica for always giving the learning a go and being able to lead and guide group work when he is in a team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7B: Emily Maltezos for always working hard during difficult tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7C: Fatima Ahad for always showing respect and kindness to her peers and teachers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7D: Lavindu Weragala for being a quiet achiever with a great sense of humour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7E: Mai Do for encouraging creative and challenging learning through active participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7F: Lago Neemia for always being a happy and helpful member of the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7G: Ibrahim Ahmad for consistently acting in a respectful manner, role modelling excellent behaviour and always giving his best efforts in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7H: Imogen Prince for her kindness, perseverance and fabulous work ethic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7I: Mohanad Al Mohaisan for always giving everything a go in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7J: Sonia Khanna for demonstrating maturity, strength and growth throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School value awards for the cohort</td>
<td>RESPECT: Tanner O’Mara from 7C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RESPONSIBILITY: Jade Opasinski from 7A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACHIEVEMENT: Emily Maltezos from 7B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ENJOYMENT: Angela Sanchez from 7E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home group challenge winner</td>
<td>7H for their continued organisation with diaries, promptness, equipment and uniform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special awards for the Melbourne Writer’s</td>
<td>For representing the school in a positive manner:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Festival</td>
<td>Ty Claridge from 7A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Matthew Marsh from 7A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tanner O’Mara from 7C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For their enthusiasm and participation in all activities:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aminah Dirani from 7H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lilah McCormack from 7H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympic Mascot Competition winners</td>
<td>Dion Fernando from 7C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle Aloysius from 7B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alia McBride from 7C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Skye Young from 7G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Olympic mascot competition winners

Principal award winners

All of the Year 7 award winners
**HOMEGROUP CHALLENGE**

As part of Mill Park Secondary College’s work in supporting students who make positive choices for their education and are meeting the College’s expectations we are into our second year of running the Homegroup Challenge.

The Challenge is conducted within year levels and runs over a term. Each week Homegroups are awarded points based on four different expectations and behaviours; the number of students in correct school uniform, who have their diaries, who have all their equipment and who attend class on time. The winning Homegroup at each year level are rewarded for their positive behaviour with an end of term lunch and movie celebration.

The winning Homegroups for Term 3 are 7H, 8BE and 9AR.

Bill Van Driel, Student Engagement Leader

---

**YEAR 9 CITY SCHOOL EXPERIENCE**

During Week 7 and 8 of this term our Year 9 students enjoyed discovering the modern and historical sites of the City of Melbourne and the opportunity to feel independent, responsible and challenged in an alternative learning environment.

We are proud of the way the students conducted themselves in the city and represented the school.

Each morning the students came together for the day at The Atrium at Federation Square. Some enjoyed a hot drink while they waited for their classmates to arrive and activities to begin for the day.

Homegroup 9AE shared some thoughts on the program:

**Highlights…**

“Chinatown was a highlight because it is different to the rest of the city and something you don’t usually see” – Alyssa

“Rock climbing was the highlight” – Jason

“Walking around with friends and completing the walking trails was great. Especially the ANZAC memorial walking trail” – Josh

“It was fantastic to be up high and see the whole city at Eureka Tower” - Alessia

**Surprises…**

“I was surprised by how careful we needed to be with our budgets and timing. You don’t want to spend all of your money at once or be late to the next activity” - Tara

**What we learnt…**

“It was interesting that the MCG uses special lights from overseas to help the grass grow on the ground” - Rishi

“Catching a train was a new thing for me” – Alessia

“I didn’t realise the high rates of homelessness in Australia or how we can help by buying copies of the magazine The Big Issue” – Josh

“It was interesting to learn about how Federation Square operates behind the scenes” - Tara

**Plans for the future…**

“During the holidays I plan to go to the city again with my family and friends” – Josh

“It was exciting to be in the city. From this experience I feel more confident about going into the city again and knowing the streets” – Alyssa

**Advice to the Year 9s in 2017…**

“Make sure you get on the train first so you don’t have to stand!” – Jason
YEAR 11 CHEMISTRY

The Year 11 chemistry students visited the Victorian Space Science Education Centre to help determine why a team of astronauts were behaving in an odd manner. They tested the vitamin tablets, water source and ‘iced tea’ and found that the astronauts were consuming some unexpected substances!

Jesse Roth-Barton, Science teacher

Senior Campus Awards and Graduation Night
15 December 2016
at
Moonee Valley Racecourse
more details to follow

IMPORTANT DATES:
♦ Monday 3 October - First day of Term 4
♦ Thursday 6 October - Song and Dance Concert
♦ Wednesday 19 October - Year 12’s last day
♦ Tuesday 1 November - Melbourne Cup public holiday

M.P.S.C.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM
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
As the temperatures began to increase (slightly!) the Year 12 outdoor students counted down the days to their final camp of their school careers. The two classes came together on the Murray River, sharing tents, canoes, riddles and toasted marshmallows. The group spent four days winding their way downstream through the picturesque Barmah National Park, into farm land and finally finishing in Echuca. With one boat going for a very cold swim on the first day, everyone else was much more focused on staying upright from then on! Through the Barmah Lakes wetland area, we saw a unique ecosystem in its flood cycle, a natural phenomenon that helps the river red gum forest to regenerate. As we got closer to Echuca the human impacts on the river became more evident but there was still nothing more satisfying that pulling the boat up on the river bank to make camp and relaxing around the fire at night.

Thanks to everyone for a fantastic last camp for the year.

Maree van Raay, VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies teacher
The end of Term 3 is very busy for our Year 12 students. It’s a time where they are completing work, preparing for exams and having to apply for post-secondary studies at tertiary institutions. Students are able to do this via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre, more commonly known as VTAC (www.vtac.edu.au). VTAC is the central point for applications to Victorian universities, TAFEs, and Independent Tertiary Colleges. VTAC also calculates the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) for Year 12 students. We encourage all of our Year 12s to apply for VTAC as it gives you a number of options to look into once finishing high school. Offers for courses are available January 18, where you have the final decision to accept, defer or reject future study options. Courses can range from 6 months at TAFE to 3+ years at university in an undergraduate degree, depending on what you want to study. Timely applications close for VTAC on the 29 September (5pm - $32). This is a last minute reminder for all our Year 12s to get their applications in NOW (Late applications cost $100.00). Students are also reminded to look into applying for Special Entry Access Schemes (SEAS) and Scholarships.

Connect with VTAC today to receive updates, tips, and timely reminders:
Blog: blog.vtac.edu.au (subscribe by email)
Facebook: facebook.com/vtacguide
Twitter: @vtacguide

‘The Careers Team’ – www.millparkscareers.com
Reminders:

- YEAR 12 VICTORIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS CENTRE (VTAC) - timely applic’s close 29 Sept
- MONASH ART, DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE (MADA) WORKSHOPS - 26 & 27 Sept, MADA (Caulfield campus) for Year 11 & 12’s; Bookings: www.monash.edu/macia/workshops.
- Femmes in STEM – Year 10-12 girls; 11am-2.30pm, Fri 23 Sept; Monash Parkville; http://www.monash.edu/pharm/femmesinstem
- TAKE CTRL EVENT – Taste IT at Monash; 27 Sept; Details/bookings: www.it.monash.edu/TakeCTRL

1. YEAR 12 NEWS –

- REMINDER: If you are planning to study next year, make sure you have your VTAC course application done by 29 September - see www.vtac.edu.au. Also, remember Special Entry Admissions Scheme (SEAS) applications close on Tuesday 4 October (first week of term 4) so get onto it as soon as possible.
- OFFERS OF PLACES: The first round of offers of places occurs on 18 January, 2017. You can adjust your preferences after each offer round, irrespective of whether you have received an offer of a place already or not. There will be five rounds of offers. Change of preference will close a few days before each round and reopen the day after each round.
- PATHWAYS – Concerned about your ATAR? Universities have pathways into many of their degrees, very useful if you don’t achieve a high enough ATAR this year. For example, lower ATAR’s are required at Colleges linked with the university (eg Monash and Deakin Colleges), relevant TAFE courses require a lower or no ATAR, and some universities offer associate degrees requiring lower ATAR’s. More details in the next newsletter.
- AUDITION AND ART FOLIO PREPARATION WORKSHOPS – Hoping for a great audition or art/design folio presentation? hone your skills/techniques with a Box Hill institute one-day workshop.
  - Audition skills for musicians: 26 Sept (Whitehorse campus); audition skills for musical theatre: 28 Sept (City campus); see: www.boxhill.edu.au/courses/audition-skills-pafas-sc/.
  - Folio preparation for designers, 28 Sept (Nelson campus); Folio preparation for visual artists: 27 Sept (City campus); see: www.boxhill.edu.au/courses/folio-preparation-pafps-sc/.

NOTE: Free if applying for a Box Hill Institute music, musical theatre, design or visual arts course. Call 1300 BOX HILL to book.

2. YEAR 10’s INTERESTED IN IT AND ENGINEERING - ENGenuiTy is for you. Year 10 girls are invited to spend a day discovering the excitement and creativity of engineering and information technology at Monash. Staff and students will be on hand to present workshops and demonstrations, practical activities and experiments, find new role models in women who work in engineering and IT, and get an insight into the diverse experiences and career paths available.
  - When: 10am-4.30pm, Wed 28 September;
  - Who: Year 10 girls; Where: Monash University Clayton;
  - Register: http://eng.monash.edu.au/engenuity;
  - Email: anna.siassios@monash.edu.

3. THINKING OF STUDYING MARINE BIOLOGY AT DEAKIN UNIVERSITY?
From 2017 you will be able to study Marine Biology at either Deakin’s Geelong or Waurn Ponds or Warrnambool campuses. You will learn about how marine ecosystems function and how organisms interact with their living and non-living environments. There will be hands-on experience through fieldwork in temperate marine environments on the Victorian coast. There will also be opportunities to study tropical marine environments within Australia and overseas. More information see: http://www.deakin.edu.au/course/bachelor-environmental-science-marine-biology
4. CONSIDERING AVIATION?

- Moorabbin Flying Services Open Day; tour the Ground Theory Centre, meet instructors, explore courses, see simulators and aircraft. When: 10am-2pm, Sun 11 Sept; Where: 55 Grange Rd Moorabbin Airport Cheltenham. MFS also has a Become a Pilot for 3 Days Program in the school holidays; Cost: $699.00; Email: admin@mfs.com.au, Ph 9580 8822.

- Lilydale Flying School Open Day - interactive information sessions, career advice, tours, displays and a discounted introductory flying lesson. When: From 12 noon, Sun 11 Sept; Where: 13 Macintyre Lane, Yering; Ph 9739 1211, email info@yvaviation.com.au.

- RMIT Flight Training Day – instructor advice, tours, see the new planes. When: 10am-4pm, Sun 11 Sept; RAAF Williams, Point Cook Base – Bldng 202 Williams Rd, Point Cook. Register: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/flight-training-open-day-tickets-26652742069

5. WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE NEWS –

Located in La Trobe St, Melbourne, William Angliss is a specialist centre for food, tourism, hospitality and events courses. William Angliss has been teaching and mentoring students for 75 years. It has modern training facilities, training restaurants and demonstration kitchens ensuring that skills learned occur in a realistic environment. If you wish to apply for a Cert IV, Advanced Diploma or Bachelor Degree at William Angliss, you need to submit a VTAC application. Apply direct to the Institute for all Certificate III courses. International students apply direct to the institute; see: www.angliss.edu.au/international/how-to-apply

- William Angliss is holding an Information Evening where you can get your questions answered. When: 5.30-7.00pm, Wed 21 Sept; Book: www.angliss.edu.au/first

- Due to limited places, the Certificate III Aviation (Cabin Crew) interview process is now more selective. Applicants will be invited to attend an interview in late November and must RSVP to the invitation. Interview format: registration and induction; team activities looking for teamwork, initiative, enthusiasm and communication skills; lunch break; panel interview.

- Beauty Therapy is suspended for 2017.

6. MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS -

- MONASH INDIGENOUS ENTRY SCHEME –

The new Monash Indigenous Entry Scheme guarantees an offer to Indigenous Australian students into a range of courses with an achieved ATAR of 50+, the required course prerequisites and the completion of a supplementary information form. All indigenous students at Monash are eligible to apply for a range of scholarships, and receive support through the Yulendj Indigenous Engagement Unit. Information: https://www.study.monash/how-to-apply/indigenous-student-applications

- VCE SCIENCE REVISION LECTURES –

Monash Science (Clayton) is providing free VCE exam revision in the September break. The seminars are designed to reinforce key competencies and will be delivered by qualified VCE teachers. 3/4 Maths Methods: Mon 26 Sept; 3/4 Chemistry: Tues 27 Sept; 3/4 Physics, Wed 28 Sept; 3/4 Biology, Thurs 29 Sept; 3/4 Specialist Maths, Fri 30 Sept; Register on line at: http://www.monash.edu/science/about/events

- SCIENCE PRECINCT TOURS – Monash is providing these tours in the holidays. Be guided by current students, find out more about studying science at Monash, and obtain course advice. Register: http://www.monash.edu/science/about/events

- SCHOLARSHIPS – The Monash program recognises exceptional achievement, and support students who have experienced financial disadvantage through the merit and equity categories. Students with at least one Monash course listed in their VTAC application will be considered for the merit scholarships. No separate application is required. Other scholarships must be applied for through VTAC, with applications closing 5pm, 15 October. See: www.vtac.edu.au/scholarships. Applications are now open for the Monash Community Leaders Scholarships. This rewards and supports students who want to use their Monash education to make a difference, and recipients receive $4,000pa and join a network of other high-achieving students who help inspire young people to pursue university study. Info: www.monash.edu/access/mentoring/become-mentor

7. HOW DO I GET A JOB?

A helpful website has suggestions on how to present yourself, what employers are looking for, and so on. See: www.employment.gov.au/posters-job-seekers

compiled by: m.walker
SONG & DANCE concert 2016

THURSDAY 6TH OCT @ 7:30pm
Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre
35 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

TICKETS:
Student/Conc $8  Adult $10
Book Online: www.trybooking.com/MWMX
Also purchase from General Office (MYC/SNR) or At The Door

MILL PARK SECONDARY COLLEGE