College Principal’s Report

Term 3 is possibly the busiest of the year in some respects as the students prepare for their final exams and make choices about their future pathways. Interim reports are available on the Parent Portal. The reports will assist students supported by their parents to set their term 4 goals. 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 some of our staff are running some extra sessions in the holidays and there are also study lectures provided externally that students can attend.

Planning is well underway for the 2017 school year. All students should have submitted their subject selections for next year. I would like to congratulate the Pathways team for all of their hard work and guidance in supporting the students in making very important decisions about their 2017 course.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Thursday 8 September at the Senior Campus. Bookings are made via the Parent Portal. The interviews are very important in terms of our partnership with you to create our student’s futures.

Parents are reminded that classes are not run on this day and students are not required to attend however students are expected to attend the interviews with their parents.

PREPARING FOR PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

The focus of the conference is your child’s learning. We want to discuss how well your child is doing and what we can do to support even better learning. We look forward to meeting with parents to work in partnership to achieve excellent learning outcomes for our students.

MILL PARK RECOGNISES EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICERS (ESO’S)

August was Education Support Staff Recognition Month. The ESO’s are very ably lead by Julie Wolfe. Their roles include office staff, integration aides, IT support, student welfare coordinators, the facilities team, library technicians, laboratory assistants, careers support team and many others. I know that staff, students and parents agree we have a fantastic team. The ESOs were invited to a special afternoon tea at a local cafe as acknowledgement of the very important work they do.

EARLY LEAVERS

Parents are reminded to give their child a note in the morning if their 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.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG AND THE MAGPIES ARE SWOOPING!

The warmer weather is finally here, along with allergies and swooping Magpies. Swooping birds can be a frightening and even dangerous experience for any unsuspecting passers-by. August to December is the period when many areas become danger zones as native birds swoop to protect their nests, eggs and young.

LAST DAY OF TERM 3

Term 3 concludes on Friday 16 September, students will be dismissed at 12:35pm so staff can attend a meeting. The offices at both Campuses will close at 12:45pm.

Term 4 commences on Monday 3 October.
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Bookings for the term 3 Parent / Teacher Interviews are now open and can be made via our Parent Portal on Sentral https://sentral.millparksc.vic.edu.au/portal

Interviews will be held at the Senior Campus on Thursday 8 September. There are no classes for students on this day. Interviews commence at 11.30am and finish at 7.30pm.

Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN results can be collected from the student’s homegroup teacher.

YEARS 7 IMMUNISATIONS
Year 7 students will have their final immunisation (HPV3) on Friday 9 September.

END OF TERM THREE
The last day of Term 3 is Friday 16 September. All students will be dismissed at 12.35pm.

The first day of Term 4 is Monday 3 October.

YEAR 9 CITY SCHOOL EXPERIENCE
Congratulations to Ms. Philippa McIlroy and the team of teachers who escorted all year 9 students over the last two weeks to their City School Experience. Some of the great activities students participated in included;

- Eureka Sky Deck
- Tour of the MCG, Federation Square and Old Melbourne Gaol
- Big Issue Classroom
- Visited SEN radio station, and
- Rock climbing among other things.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK
Students competed in a catapult building competition at lunch time during National Science Week.

The winners were:

1st place: Anthony Murabito (9AR)
2nd place: Ben Whiting (7E)

Sarah Forbes,
Science teacher
YOUR CHILD’S MOST IMPORTANT TEACHER

You are your child’s most important teacher

What your child learns from you and other family members will stay with them throughout their lives. It doesn’t matter what your family looks like – you could be a single parent or belong to an extended family, your child learns through the relationships they have within your family.

Most importantly, learning that they are valued and their world is safe and secure becomes the foundation for all the new behaviours, attitudes and skills your child will later learn.

Whenever you spend time with your child, you are teaching

Your child watches and copies what you do and say. This means you are teaching even when you’re unaware of it.

As your child’s most powerful and important teacher you will also take on different roles at different times. You will ask questions and offer ideas. You will demonstrate how to do things and also be a coach (encouraging and motivating your child). You will be a source of knowledge about the world and how it works. You might also be learn and discover new things alongside your child.

Learning is a social experience that can happen anywhere and at any time – at home, in the community, as well as in formal settings. The trick is noticing when it is happening (or could happen) and making the most of those opportunities.

What does this mean for me?

☆ Value what you know about your child and don’t underestimate your importance and knowledge. Your knowledge is important to share with early childhood educators, practitioners and school.

☆ Your child learns from your behaviour, conversations and actions. If you want your child to be compassionate, how do you model being kind? If you want your child to respect the environment, what do they see you doing? If you want your child to listen, first listen closely to them.

☆ Don’t try to be a formal ‘teacher’. Your child will have plenty of them as they grow older. Love your child and enjoy being a parent or carer or grandparent or uncle. Your child’s learning will happen without flash cards, and fancy ‘educational’ toys. Often the most valuable lessons are when you share time and experiences together.

☆ Spend time with your child – without hovering over them. Include them in what you are doing and thinking. Give them lots of time to play. Play with them.

☆ Have conversations with them where you ask an open question and listen to their response and then respond.

☆ Show your child the world outside your home. Visit the library, museum, art gallery or go to a playground. Take a trip on a train or bus – just for the sake of seeing the world. Go for walks in the bush or play at the beach. Being out and about in the world not only builds that important sense of belonging to a community, it gives your child the chance to explore, to experiment and to create.

☆ Above all, have fun and enjoy learning along with your child.

You may also like to read

You may also like to read other titles in this series:

☆ Learning through play
☆ Everyday learning
☆ Encouraging your child’s strengths and interests

Other related newsletters can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au

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
This year we celebrated Book Week with all things Australian! Students had the opportunity to celebrate by entering competitions and activities including ‘Aussie Slang’, ‘Famous Australian Brands’, ‘Famous Australians’, ‘Flags of Australia’ and ‘Guess how many lollies are in the jar’.

Congratulations to the following students who were winners of the Book Week competitions:

- Rita Su’a & Verise Volpato
- Iman El-Mohammed
- Patricia Sims
- Sangkari Jeyakumaran
- Sanara Manamperi
- Katelyn Peschel
- Tim Wilson
- Thomas Howe

Thank you to all the students who participated in activities across the week.

Save the Date!

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

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Thursday 8 September - Parent Teacher Interviews (No classes for students)
- Friday 9 September - Year 7 Immunisations - HPV3
- Friday 16 September - Last day of Term 3 - students dismissed at 12:35pm
- Monday 3 October - First day of Term 4

WLF INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY BOOK DRIVE

This year to mark World Literacy Foundation (WLF) International Literacy Day, WLF Ambassador Maleeka Quick and School Vice-Captain Iman El Mohammed have initiated a book drive to raise funds for this cause.

The books will be sold at Coburg Trash and Treasure on 18 September and proceeds will go towards improving education across the globe.

We need your preloved books so please bring your donations to the Senior Campus Library on or before Friday 16 September.

Tell your friends, family and local community about this important education initiative and collect their preloved books!

Come along to Coburg Trash and Treasure and find a bargain at our book stall!
YEAR 11 OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

As the temperatures dropped this winter, many people were hibernating inside by their heaters, but the year 11 Outdoor and Environmental Studies classes were heading out to the mountains for their cross country ski camp – a highlight of the year.

For many students, this was their first time seeing snow and the excitement of walking on it, seeing it fall out of the sky and throwing it at each other was not lost on anyone!

Both groups visited the beautiful and relatively unspoilt Mt. Stirling, a rare example of skiable snow without the large crowds, hotels and restaurants. After being kitted up with the right clothes, boots and cross country skis, we got a lesson to master the basics and everyone slowly grew in confidence. Travelling at a snail’s pace and falling over while standing still, soon lead to skiing down steep blue runs and cruising around narrow bends in the trails.

Skiing is truly a test of perseverance though and the students who fell over the most and kept getting back up to try again quickly took to the slopes like seasoned pros.

Each night was spent sharing dinner and swapping stories around the fireplace while comparing bruises – who knew snow wasn’t that soft?

Maree van Raay, Outdoor & Environmental Studies teacher
Senior Campus Report

Entries to Ms Hristova OR Ms Tassone via email

Graduation

[graj-oo-ey-shuh n]

noun
1. an act of graduating; the state of being graduated.
2. the ceremony of presenting degrees or diplomas, as at a college or school.

Awards Night = Graduation

Date: Thursday 15th December

Daily Bulletin Entry:

Valedictorian

[val-i-dik-tawr-ee-uh n, tohr-]

noun
1. a student who delivers the farewell speech at the graduation night on behalf of the graduating year level.

Awards Night = Graduation
Date: Wednesday 16th December

If you wish to apply for valedictorian, you must be an active and academically oriented student who is able to represent the graduating class, and be a confident public speaker. The speech should be approximately 3-5 minutes long.

Please email your speech to Ms Hristova or Ms Tassone at hristova.maria.m@edumail.vic.gov.au OR tassone.katherine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au by the end of Term 3. See Ms Hristova or Ms Tassone at the Coordinators office for any questions.

Entries to Ms Hristova OR Ms Tassone via email
Reminders:

- **‘INSIDE MONASH’ UNIVERSITY SEMINARS**
  One to go – Teaching - Sept 13; Details and bookings: www.monash.edu/inside-monash

- **YEAR 12 VICTORIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS CENTRE**
  - Timely applications close 29 Sept
  - Book: www.monash.edu/mada/workshops

- **OPEN DAYS - Sun 29 Aug - ACU (Ballarat); Box Hill Institute (Box Hill); Deakin University (Burwood); Federation University, Victoria University (Footscray campus)**

1. **YEAR 12**
   - **APPLY WITH VICTORIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS CENTRE (VTAC)**
     Complete an application for courses for 2017 on the VTAC website www.vtac.edu.au if you have not done so. You can change your application as many times as you wish at no extra cost ($32.00) as long as you apply by 29 Sept. After that it will cost $100.00. Preferences can be changed when you have your ATAR in December.

2. **DO YOU WANT TO DEFER YOUR STUDY IN 2017?**
   Most courses allow deferment, so even if you plan a break from study in 2017, you are still encouraged to apply in 2016. Institutions have different deferment policies. For the deferment policies of the various institutions see: http://www.vtac.edu.au/courses-inst/institutions/deferment.html.

3. **SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS)**
   Don’t forget to organise your SEAS application if you are eligible. Category 1 simply requires you to click the YES box. **All other categories** (2 – 4) require you to supply extra information or evidence. If you need help with your application from school staff, do it soon as applications close at 5pm on 4 Oct. See: http://www.vtac.edu.au/applying/seas.html.

4. **MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS**
   - **Femmes in STEM** – Hosted by the world’s 4th ranked faculty of pharmacy and pharmacology, the Monash inaugural Femmes in STEM event allows girls to meet and be inspired by women changing the world through science. Hear about possible career paths, engage with some of the big scientific challenges of the future, and meet other girls who are just as keen on science as themselves. **Who:** Year 10-12 girls; **When:** 11am-2.30pm, Fri 23 Sept; **Where:** Cossar Hall, Monash Parkville campus; **Register:** http://www.monash.edu/pharm/femmesinstem

   - **TAKE CTRL EVENT** – Year 11 and 12 students are invited to a taste of Information Technology at the event ‘Take CTRL’. You will be able to meet Monash IT staff, PhD students, and leaders from the IT industry to talk about career opportunities. Activities include: workshop, tour of the immersive data visualisation facility, CAVE2, and a presentation from a guest speaker about where a Monash IT degree can lead. **When:** 10am-4pm, Tues 27 Sept; **Where:** Monash Clayton; **Details** and to register attend: www.it.monash.edu/TakeCTRL; **Questions:** Taylor Maxwell ph 9905 5845, taylor.maxwell@monash.edu

   - **MEDICINE, NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES** – If you are passionate about promoting good health, preventing disease or managing illness and disability, then consider a Bachelor of Public Health Science, the public health specialisation located in the Bachelor of Health Sciences course. The course provides a solid foundation in health science, with a broad overview of health care and skill development in identifying, investigating, analysing and assessing health issues. Studies include epidemiology, biostatistics, health program planning and health-data management. Careers are in public health research, disease prevention, health promotion, or health planning and management. For more information see: www.study.monash.edu

3. **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DRAMATIC ART (NIDA)** – NIDA, a leading institution for dramatic arts education and training, is offering: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting, Costume, Design for Performance, Properties and Objects, Staging, and Technical Theatre and Stage Management; Diplomas in Live Production and Technical Services, Musical Theatre, Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services) and Stage and Screen Performance. You must demonstrate commitment
and passion in relation to the creative and cultural industries. NIDA wants applications from those of diverse backgrounds with varied levels of experience in theatre, film, television, or other area. Applications close: 30 Sept; Auditions/interviews: Nov/Dec in capital cities; Apply: www.apply.nida.edu.au.

4. **RMIT UNIVERSITY NEWS**
   - **SCIENCE IN THE CITY LAB TOURS** – Visit RMIT’s state-of-the-art laboratories to learn about courses and discover how RMIT science courses provide the knowledge and practical skills to tackle real-world problems and advance the way we live, travel, learn and work. When: 11am-2pm, 19 Sept; Info/reg: http://www.rmit.edu.au/events/all-events/tours/2016/september/science-in-the-city-lab-tour
   - **SHORT COURSES AT RMIT** – Available in design, business, engineering, fashion, architecture, communication, art, languages, technology, community services, haealth and more. For the 2016 Short Course Guide see: https://shortcourses.rmit.edu.au/filing/cms/SCG_Jul-Dec_2016.pdf For info: 9925 8111.

5. **UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS**
   - **DIPLOMA OF LANGUAGES (DipLang)** is a great way to gain a language qualification while completing a degree. On offer: Ancient Greek, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Russian and Spanish. Students also have the option of a concurrent Diploma in Informatics, Mathematical Sciences or Music. Info: www.students.unimelb.edu.au/achieve/concurrent-diplomas
   - **MUSIC AT SOUTHBANK** – In 2017 the University commissions construction of a new building for the Conservatorium of Music (MCM) in the Melbourne Arts Precinct. It will help consolidate the existing MCM staff and students on the Southbank campus. The existing Conservatorium building will be retained at Parkville. The new building will include a 443-seat auditorium and a public square contributing to the community space plan for the Melbourne Arts Precinct Blueprint. In addition, the Dobbs Street Stables redevelopment will redevelop the Dobbs Street police stables into a visual arts wing at Southbank, creating a new entry point to the University and opening the campus to students, local business and residents. It is planned to be completed by mid 2017.

6. **LA TROBE UNIVERSITY NEWS**
   - **ASPIRE APPLICATION CLOSING SOON** – Applications for the Aspire Early Admissions Program (EAP) Close Wednesday 31 Aug - see http://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/aspire/about-aspire.
   - **EDUCATION COURSE OVERHAUL** – The accreditation system for initial teacher education (ITE) programs in Australia is experiencing a shake up. Reforms requiring evidence-based accreditation of ITE programs are coming to ensure graduate teachers are better prepared and ‘classroom ready’. La Trobe is making the mandatory changes but using this opportunity to make improvements across all major education offerings.

7. **SWINBURNE NEWS**
   - **NEW BACHELOR OF SCREEN PRODUCTION IN 2017** – This course will prepare you for careers in the new media environment. Gain skills to adapt to the global media industry as it forges new broadcast models. Learn digital literacy and media production skills for multiple broadcast platforms-smartphones, networked environments and social media applications.

8. **DEAKIN IGNITED SCHOLARSHIPS**
   - Ignited scholarships are aimed at attracting more female students into non-traditional areas of study such as Engineering, IT and Construction Management. See: www.deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/scholarships-and-awards


Compiled by: m. walker