It is with great sadness that the College reports the passing of a year 10 student Eruera (Ed) Waara on the weekend. Eruera’s death was very sudden and a shock to our community. He would have been 16 this Saturday.

Eruera attended the College from year 7 and made a positive impact on the lives of many of our students and teachers. Eruera had a positive attitude to life, family and school. He developed strong relationships with his teachers. Eruera had a large network of friends within our school and throughout Mill Park. He was widely known and loved.

This is a very tragic event that has affected many members of our school community including many former and current students and teachers.

The death of a young person is always difficult, especially when that person is one of our own. Any parents or students of the Mill Park SC community who may need support are encouraged to contact the College.

Our thoughts are with Eruera’s extended family and friends.
WELCOME BACK! TERM 4 IS HERE
This is a very busy term where achievements are celebrated and numerous events are planned. Attached to this newsletter is a parent calendar to put on your fridge so you don’t miss any important dates. Next week the year 12 students finish their formal classes and a celebration is planned for Wednesday. The year 12 formal is on Thursday evening and then the students will commence their final preparations for the exams. I wish them all success in the final stage of their education at Mill Park Secondary College. All students will be doing either exams or tests in the coming weeks so I have included some tips for study in this newsletter.

WOW - WHAT A SHOW!!!  SONG AND DANCE 2016
Yet again another extraordinary production from Mill Park Secondary College! Song & Dance 2016 was packed with variety and talent, showcasing our amazing students. The team make it look easy but I know that pulling it all together takes both talent and thorough preparation and most importantly teamwork. It was so rewarding to sit in a packed house and feel the support of the audience, particularly the students. I experienced goose bumps so many times as the performances were so engaging. The solo’s dances were of particularly high standard and the music featured many original compositions. Both the music and the dance groups were outstanding. I beamed with pride to be a part of this community.

Thank you to the team – Katie Weston, Wendy Nagel, Renee Langerak, Viv Morton, Elizabeth Jenkins, Brett Gaskett, Lorraine Blyth, Antoinette Hulsen, Peter Simondson, Serge De Leucio, Andrew Laveglia, Rahda Claridge Jack Watson, Jade Carpenter, Elizabeth Tognolini and Gina Palamara!

Also thanks to Sharon Polgar, Lisa D’angelica and Carrisa Strangis for the coordination of ticket sales and administrative support.

X Factor, The Voice, Australia’s Got Talent all wrapped up in one fabulous performance.

ARTS FESTIVAL
A reminder that the Arts Festival will be held in Week 6, from Tuesday 8 November until Friday 11 November. Add this to your diary so you don’t miss another showstopper!

NEW STRAIN OF NOROVIRUS AND HAND HYGIENE
The Department of Health and Human Services has identified a new strain of norovirus that may lead to gastroenteritis outbreaks. Norovirus is characterised by acute onset of nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. Other symptoms may include fever, headaches and muscle aches. Symptoms usually resolve after 48 hours, but if a parent is concerned about their child’s symptoms they should seek medical attention. Throughout the year it is important to remind staff and students of the importance of good hygiene at school and at home.

To help prevent the spread of norovirus, everyone, including all staff and students, should:

- avoid attending work or school when experiencing gastroenteritis symptoms and advise the school of their illness
- stay away from school until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours
- maintain strict hand hygiene procedures at all times. Hands must be washed with soap and water, especially after going to the toilet and before eating or preparing food
- if staff are required to help attend to students with gastroenteritis symptoms, use of personal protective equipment such as aprons or gloves is recommended.

PREPARING FOR EXAMS
The best help you can give your child is by being encouraging, providing healthy refreshments and keeping the house quiet and peaceful. Well before exams, it is useful to sit down and agree on some ground-rules and strategies.

- Be organised. Have a revision timetable. Write down the dates and times of the exams. With your child, work out what needs to be done and by when, and draw up a timetable. Don’t let them leave the difficult subjects until the last minute.
- Target specific topics in the revision timetable, not whole subjects.
- There is no correct revision method. Find the way to revise that works best.
- Make sure your child has a quiet space for revision.
- Help your children work out when they are at their brightest and most alert - morning or evening – and adapt the revision timetable to suit them by placing their most challenging topics at their optimum times for study.
- Most people have an energy low after lunch, so suggest that they go for a walk then or relax away from their books. The optimum time to revise is after a break.
- Forty minutes is about as long as a child can concentrate in one stretch. The brain’s ability to concentrate drops after 35 to 40 minutes so it’s best to take a break at that point for five or ten minutes. The brain maximises beginnings and endings but not the middle, so this method effectively minimises that period. They can take break for a drink and a snack like fruit or nuts. Be warned that if the break involves television or computer games, it can be hard to get started again.
- Remind them that just staring at notes doesn’t mean anything is going in. They need to use strategies to ensure the material is being absorbed – writing it down, repeating it aloud, testing themselves.
• **Revise exam technique, using past papers.** Every question should be attempted and the answer planned out before starting to write. Keep jotted notes to hand as a crib sheet.

• **Don't interrupt revision if it is going well, even for a family outing.** If there is an important event coming up, factor it into the revision timetable but even teenagers have to accept that sometimes they must miss out.

• **Accept that children who are worried about exams will tend to be grumpy.** Remind them about stress-reduction techniques like exercise and calm breathing and make sure they are eating nutritious meals and drinking enough water. Reassure them that you value their efforts more than perfect results.

• **On the morning of an exam, avoid wishing them “good luck”.** Talk of luck can raise anxiety levels. School exams are not a lottery, they are an appraisal of information already learned. Instead, say: “I hope everything goes well.”

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

In March 2016, the Victorian Government released its International Education Sector Strategy which included an explicit strategic direction for Victorian schools to increase the number of international students studying in Victoria. Increasing the number of Chinese students studying in Victorian government schools also enhances language learning and the development of intercultural literacies in Victorian classrooms. International students make a valuable contribution within schools, providing the benefit of cultural enrichment and global perspectives within school communities. Another benefit of increasing international enrolments is that they fill existing vacancies in classes and contribute to our locally raised funds.

A recent DET coordinated roadshow to China conducted in March 2016 contributed to a 30% increase in total Chinese student applications received. I will be joining a Recruitment Roadshow to China from 20 October to November 8. The itinerary is very full with long days travelling to many cities to meet with agents and prospective parents. The roadshow includes Beijing, Shijiazhuang, Taiyuan, Jinan, Qingdao, Zhengzhou, Shanghai, Suzhou, Changsha, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. I will be travelling with representatives from Ringwood Secondary College, North Geelong Secondary College, McClelland Secondary College and Carwatha College P-12. Karen Eastlake will be Officer in Charge while I am away.

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**TERM 4**

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MIDDLE YEARS CAMPUS EXAMS

As per normal practice, all year 9 and year 7 & 8 SEAL classes will participate in 3 days of exams. These will commence the day after Melbourne Cup and run through to the end of week 5.

For the first time, the year 7 Extension class will participate in an English exam. All other year 7 & 8 classes may have timed exercises conducted in normal classes.

The exams will be graded and overall results will be provided on the semester two report for each child.

I draw parent / carer attention to Wednesday 2 November afternoon classes on the program below. All year 9 students are given Private Study time which they can choose to use at school in the library or at home. There will be no official classes for year 9 students that afternoon. Dismissal time will be 12.35pm.

All students will be given a detailed exam timetable indicating rooms etc. during week 4 of this term. All classes involved in exams should be commencing exam preparation now and classroom teachers will be providing revision time in classes as required. I strongly encourage all families to talk to their students about the importance of preparing for exams and treating them seriously. While we acknowledge and understand that these do cause a degree of anxiety for young people, they are very good practice for students as they approach transition to Senior Campus. All we can ask is for students to take exam preparation seriously and try their very best. Avoiding the exams and staying away from school only limits a young person’s ability to cope with them later on and does not build any resilience to difficult situations.

Students are encouraged to talk to their classroom teachers about the exams and what they can expect to see on them and their structure. Understanding helps to minimise anxiety.

YEAR 9 EXAMS – Overview

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<td>English</td>
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<td>5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Private Study – students permitted to study from home or library</td>
<td>Normal Classes</td>
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(All Year 9 exams should occur in the Year 9 Hub)

YEAR 7 & 8 SEAL PLUS YEAR 7 EXTENSION (English only) EXAMS - Overview

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<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Wednesday 2 November</th>
<th>Thursday 3 November</th>
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<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
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DEBATING

Year 7 and 8 debaters participated in the second round of the Junior Secondary Debating Competition on Monday night. All MPSC teams were praised on the sophistication of their points and quick thinking in rebuttal. Particular congratulations to Fatima Ahad, Dion Fernando and Gabriella Taha who won their debate arguing that the government should increase funding to the arts. Dion was also awarded the best speaker award for the debate.

Pictured: Alia McBride (year 7), summing up the arguments of her team mates, Upnishadd Ksharma (year 8) and Amisha Murugathas (year 7) in a debate against Thomastown Secondary.

Sonia Louden, Debating
Congratulations to all Performing Arts students and the staff who put together another wonderfully entertaining night of great music and dance performances last week at our 16th annual Song & Dance Concert. It is always a highlight seeing these students perform, particularly year 7s who are appearing for the first time.

We are now looking forward to seeing the great work produced by our Visual Arts students at the upcoming Arts Festival which kicks off in week 6 of this term. The opening night for this will be Tuesday 8 November. More details to follow in upcoming newsletters.
CELEBRATING DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY WEEK 2016
IN MYC LIBRARY

Design & Technology Week was celebrated in the Middle Years Campus Library. We would like to thank Mr Spiros Tsetsos for the Technology gadgets display and Mrs Anita Burum and students for the Food Technology creations.

Stella Lambrou, MYC Librarian for the Library

YEAR 7 AND 8 GYMNASTICS

As part of the year 7 and 8 Physical Education practical curriculum, all classes have been participating in a gymnastics unit.

Here are samples of some of the activities they have been required to undertake as part of the unit.

David Maltby, College Physical Education
CELEBRATION DAY

Wednesday 19 October is our Celebration Day for year 12's. This is a great day for Year 12 students and teachers to celebrate achievements across 13 years of school. It is a great tradition at the Campus for students to dress up in costume and participate in the breakfast, fashion parade and other activities in a safe and respectful manner. Students are reminded to make sure that their costumes are respectful and tolerant, and don’t have any racial, sexual, drug or alcohol related costumes. We want students to be creative, not offensive.

Students who choose to act in an inappropriate manner on Celebration Day either at school or off site may:

- Be sent home from school.
- Be prohibited from attending the year 12 formal.
- Have their exams moved to a neighbouring school.

These expectations and consequences have been made very clear to year 12 students across the year and especially in the last few weeks.

Year 12 students should ensure that their lockers are emptied by Tuesday 18 October.

GRADUATION

The Graduation and Awards Ceremony for 2016 will once again be held at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Thursday 15 December. Students have already been distributed flyers for the event. Just a reminder that following College tradition, year 12 graduating students are required to wear formal / semi-formal black and white clothing for the evening. Year 11 and 10 students receiving awards should wear their full school uniform. Enquiries for the evening can be directed towards Carissa Strangis in the Senior Campus office.

VCAA EXAMS

All year 11 and 12 students undertaking Unit 3 and 4 exams have received their instructions and schedules. If parents have any questions regarding these, please contact Ms Sam Gonzales, VCE Coordinator.

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

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Wednesday 19 October** - Year 12’s last day
- **Tuesday 1 November** - Melbourne Cup public holiday
- **Wednesday 2, Thursday 3, Friday 4 November** - Year 9 exams
- **Wednesday 2, Thursday 3, Friday 4 November** - Year 7 & 8 SEAL exams
- **Thursday 3 November** - Year 7 Extension English exam

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
TERM 3 SPORTS STAR - TAYLA HARDIMAN

☆ Started playing netball when she was 7 years old.
☆ Currently plays in Victorian State League for the DC North East Blaze.
☆ Her most memorable career moment so far was travelling to Malaysia with the Pacific All-Stars Netball Association for an international competition where they finished 3rd. It was at this tournament that she was scouted to represent the Cook Islands National Team.
☆ To be an elite level netballer Tayla suggest having the following traits: be a good sport, have a positive mindset and be dedicated to your training.
☆ If Tayla was to be picked up to play in the new national netball league she would love to be picked up by the Adelaide Thunderbirds because they have Nat Medhurst who is her favourite player and rates as one of the smartest players in the competition.

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-eh-dik-tor-ee n -tohr-]

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

Valedictorian

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.marina.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
REMINDER:
- YEAR 12 VICTORIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS CENTRE (VTAC) - timely applications closed on 29 September; applications can still be made, but now cost $100.

This is the last newsletter for 2016. Best wishes to those of you who move into other forms of education in 2017, be it university, VET, an apprenticeship or traineeship, or into employment.

1. YEAR 12 AND VTAC –
   - Late course applications can still be made, but now cost $100 (till 4 Nov). After that, applications will cost $300 (till 2 Dec). The payment deadline for most applicants is 19 December.
   - Course preference changes can be made till 12 noon 20 December, except for the period 8 – 21 November; they can also be made between Offer Rounds in January and February.
   - The first Offer Round of courses will be on 18 January, the second on 7 February. There will be three later rounds of offers as well.
   - You are advised to accept your first offer of a tertiary place. Most applicants will only receive one offer. Accepting an offer does not stop you from receiving a later offer for a course higher in your preference list.

2. WHERE CAN I GET ASSISTANCE DURING ‘CHANGE OF PREFERENCE’ WEEK? The week after you receive your ATAR is generally known as Change of Preference (COP) week (Mon 12 – noon on Tues 20 December). During this time tertiary institutions run information sessions, COP Expos, offer phone assistance, and will help you in any way they can. You can also obtain assistance at school. These institutions are offering the following (check online for more details):
   - Australian Catholic University – Hotline: 1300 000 792
   - Box Hill Institute – Hotline: 1300 BOX HILL (1300 269 445); 5-7pm, COP Night 14 December (all campuses) (cont.)
   - Charles Sturt (NSW) – Hotline: 1800 334 733
   - Chisholm – Hotline: 1300 244 746
   - Deakin – Hotline: 1300 334 733; Chat online with staff and ask questions: http://choose.deakin.edu.au/
   - Information Evenings: 4-7pm, 15 December, Level 2, Building BC, Burwood Campus; 4-7pm, 16 December, 1 Gheringhap St, Geelong Waterfront Campus; Register: http://choose.deakin.edu.au/
   - Federation – Hotline: 1800 333 864
   - Holmesglen – Hotline: 1300 693 888
   - Kangan – Hotline: 13 8233
   - La Trobe – Hotline: 1300 135 045; Advisory Day: Tues 13 December (Bundoora 10am-2pm), (Bendigo 11am-2pm).
   - Melbourne Polytechnic – Hotline: 9269 1200
   - Monash – COP Expo: 3-7pm, Wed 14 December, Building H, Caulfield campus, 900 Dandenong Rd, Caulfield East; COP Hotline: 1800 MONASH (1800 666 274); see www.study.monash
   - RMIT – Hotline: 9925 2260; Visit info Corner; 330 Swanston St, Melbourne (Cnr. La Trobe St), COP Expo: Arts, Design, Communication, Justice, International and Community Services courses 11am-1pm, 14 Dec; Business courses 3-5pm, 14 Dec; Science, Engineering and Health courses 11am-3pm, 15 December; http://inspired.rmit.edu.au
   - Swinburne – Hotline: 1300 275 794; COP Expo: 11am-4pm, 14 Dec (Hawthorn campus); See: www.swinburne.edu.au/choose
   - University of Melbourne – Hotline: 13 MELB (13 6352), email 13MELB@unimelb.edu.au
   - Victoria – Hotline: 1300 VIC UNI (1300 842 864); Book an appointment: www.vu.edu.au/change; COP Expo: 3:30-6:30pm, 14 December (Footscray Park)
   - William Angliss – Hotline: 1300 ANGLISS (1300 264 547)

3. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS –
   - TRANSPARENCY OF OFFERS AND ATARS’s
     - Students wishing to learn more about the distribution of ATAR’s in the previous January offer round can check out details. See: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/entry-requirements/summary-of-undergraduate-offers
   - NEW SCIENCE MAJORS IN 2017 – 41 areas of specialisation are now available in the B. Science with the addition of Data Science and
Environmental Engineering Systems. A Data Science major gives graduates a deep understanding of how to apply statistical and computing principles to working with big data. The other new major focuses on the interactions between physical materials and processes, and human and non-human organisms. See: www.bsc.unimelb.edu.au.

- INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONSULTATIONS – Year 12 students can book a consultation at Melbourne to discuss study options, applications, and support services. When: 2-5pm Tuesdays and Wednesdays; Register: www.futuresstudents.unimelb.edu.au/consultations-v12.

- RESOURCES FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS Those applying for Melbourne are eligible for entry and scholarship consideration under the Access Melbourne scheme. Also offered are the four-year Bachelor of Arts (Extended) and Bachelor of Science (Extended) for Indigenous students. In addition, support is available through Murrup Barak, the Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development.

4. INDIGENOUS STUDENTS: THINK YOUR WAY – Get inspired and build aspirations by checking out this portal, providing information, links and resources and videos of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders ‘thinking their way’ to achieving educational ambitions. See: www.thinkyourway.edu.au.

5. WHAT IF I DO NOT GET A HIGH ENOUGH ATAR TO GET INTO MY DESIRED COURSE? Many pathways and programs exist to assist you in getting to where you want to go. Suggestions:
- Complete a Diploma of Tertiary Studies at Monash University in either Education, Business or Nursing (ATAR 50+) or a Diploma of Higher Education (ATAR 65+); Indigenous pathways – See: www.study.monash/how-to-apply/indigenous-student-applications.
- Complete a course at Monash College in Art & Design, Arts (Human Behaviour or Psychology streams), Business or Commerce, Engineering or Science; search Courses on VTAC website.
- Complete a course at Deakin College in Commerce, Computing, Engineering, Health Sciences, Management, Media and Communication or Science.
- Complete a Unilink Diploma at Swinburne (Arts and Communications, Business, Design, Engineering, Health Science, IT, Science).
- Complete a Diploma at La Trobe Melbourne in Biosciences, Business, Engineering, Health Sciences, IT or Mass Media Communications.
- Complete a Tertiary Preparation Course at RMIT in engineering or science.

- Consider studying a related university course with a lower ATAR; if you do well you MAY be able to transfer to your desired course later on.
- Start with a VET (TAFE) course in a related field; two years of VET often equals one at university.
- Complete a Tertiary Studies Diploma at Melbourne Polytechnic (Preston).
- Complete a Certificate IV in Liberal Arts – a pathway into a range of degrees. Swinburne and Victoria Uni have this Certificate.
- Consider a country/rural campus. ATAR’s are often lower, usually due to lower demand; most have accommodation (apply ASAP).

- For nursing consider first completing Division 2 at TAFE (or a private provider) – eg. Box Hill, Chisholm, Federation, Goulburn Ovens, Holmesglen, RMIT or Swinburne.

- ACU has certificate/diploma courses that can lead to degrees (through ACUCom) See: http://www.acu.edu.au/courses/2013/other/courses/vocational_education/training_vet/

- Complete a Victoria University Foundations@VU alternative entry to higher education and diploma studies course - a 13 week course designed to build academic skills needed for tertiary study. See: www.vu.edu.au/courses/foundations-at-vu-vjac.

- Complete a 2 year Associate Degree – Do you want to study at university but are not sure if you will meet the entry requirements for a bachelor's degree? Several universities offer Associate Degrees (eg Deakin, RMIT).

Compiled by: m.walker
WHITTLESEA MULTICULTURAL DAY!

SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER
4pm - 8pm @ Mill Park Leisure
33 Morang Drive, Mill Park
Gold coin donation entry!

Celebrating Differences | Stronger Together, Weaker Apart
Family event to raise awareness for refugee and newly arrived families.
Bring picnic rug or chairs | Smoke, Drug & Alcohol Free Event
Door prizes • Fun and entertainment • Food Trucks
Face Painting • Music • Dance • And lots, lots more!

Food
• Asian
• Turkish
• Greek
• Coffee
• Ice Cream

Performers
• African Dance
• Italian Dance
• Indian Classical
• Soccer Freestyle

Stalls
• Henna Art
• Face Painting
• Arts & Crafts
• Jewellery

Participants from the YMCA Whittlesea Youth Engagement Project 2016 are proud to organise this multicultural event with assistance from YMCA Whittlesea and Baseline for Young People. Proceeds from this event will go towards supporting the newly arrived refugees and families in the local community.

YMCA Whittlesea
E navin.dhillon@ymca.org.au
P 9407 6206
The Spring Film Festival 2016
Short film created by young people
Outdoor Event - 6.30pm, Friday 18 November
Westfield Plenty Valley Shopping Centre
415 McDonalds Road, Mill Park
Free Event
Fully supervised smoke, drug & alcohol free
Management has the right to refuse entry

www.facebook.com/baselinemedia
9404 8800 or
baseline@whittlesea.vic.gov.au