



College Principal's Report

With a taste of summer in the air and Christmas decorations appearing it would be tempting to slip into holiday mode however there is much to be done! After each year level completes their exams there will be a compulsory 'Step Up' program at the Senior Campus. 'Step Up' is vitally important to success in 2017. Students will attend lectures and classes that will provide the expectations and an outline of courses for next year as well as homework to be completed over the summer holidays. Attendance is essential and as we have extreme pressure from students wishing to enrol, the 'Step Up' program is a confirmation of intention to attend in 2017. The Year 11 students completed their 'Step Up' Program this week. Students in Year 10 are required to attend 'Step Up' from 28 November. Year 9 students will commence their 2017 program on 5 December.

SUBJECT NOTIFICATION & BOOKLIST DISTRIBUTION

Subject allocation is almost completed and Year 8, 9 and 10 students should receive notification shortly. Booklists have all been distributed to students. Lists can be submitted online at www.campion.com.au or www.millparksc.vic.ed.au, or alternatively you can return the list to the school by Thursday 15 December 2016.

BOOK COLLECTION DAY

Book Collection Day is on **Wednesday 25 January 2017** at the **Middle Years Campus library**.

Times: 8:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5:00pm

Parent payments can also be paid on this day. Cash and credit card payments will be accepted. Payment can also be made via BPAY, please refer to your statement for your unique BPAY reference number.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 5 December 2016 to Friday 9 December 2016 – Year 10 Step Up Program - All Year 9 students will begin their Year 10 subjects at the Senior Campus.

Tuesday 6 December 2016 to Friday 9 December 2016 – Year 8 Alexandra Adventure Camp

Tuesday 6 December 2016 – Grade 6 to Year 7 Orientation Day *Year 7 and Year 8 students are not required at school.*

Monday 12 December 2016 – Picnic Day - Year 7 & 8 at Funfields, Whittlesea, Year 9 at Luna Park, St Kilda.

Tuesday 13 December 2016 – Middle Years Campus Awards Evening. The Middle Years Campus Awards Evening will be held at Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre and will commence at 7:00pm.

Thursday 15 December 2016 – Senior Campus Awards & Graduation Evening

Wednesday 14 December 2015 to Friday 20 December 2016 No classes or activities will run for students – students who need to attend school at this time will be supervised while working as part of our end of year clean up.

Thursday 19 January 2017 – General Office open at both Campuses – 9am – 3pm

Friday 20 January 2017 – General Office open at both Campuses – 9am – 3pm

Monday 23 January 2017 – General Office open at both Campuses – 9am – 3pm

Tuesday 24 January 2017 – General Office open at both Campuses – 9am – 3pm

Wednesday 25 January 2017 – Book Selling Day – MYC office is open from 8am – 5pm

Thursday 26 January 2017 – Australia Day holiday

Friday 27 January 2017 – College is closed

Monday 30 January 2017 – College open – all teaching staff return.

Tuesday 31 January 2017 – Student's return to school

College Principal's Report

SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL SHOP

A reminder to parents and carers that once again we will be using the Sustainable School Shop as a means of selling and purchasing second hand books and uniforms.

The site operates like an Ebay for books and uniforms. Once logged on you can search the "For Sale" ads for items that you need, and you can list ads for items you wish to sell. Our school booklists and uniform lists are pre-loaded onto the system to make the ad listing process easy and accurate. The system matches the ads of buyers and sellers; buyers then contact sellers and arrange where to trade. Please note that on the Middle Years Campus, all students must have their books for class until Monday 5 December. Although the deals can be made, the actual trade should not take place till after these dates.

To access the site you need to log on to www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au and register according to the instructions. While it is free to browse ads, there is a cost to place them. You must nominate "Mill Park Secondary College" as your school during the registration process.

Detailed brochures on how the site works have been included with booklists. The site also provides excellent telephone and email back up for those new to the system and requiring assistance. Simply call 1300 683 337 or email info@sustainableschoolshop.com.au

FORWARD PLANNING – THE START OF THE 2017 SCHOOL YEAR

As many families are planning their summer holidays it is important to note that ALL STUDENTS will commence on Tuesday 31 January 2017.

I can't believe this is the second last newsletter for the year! How time flies.



Trish Horner



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

ParentWorks

ParentWorks is a FREE online program for Australian parents and caregivers of children 2 to 16.

It provides evidence-based parenting strategies to improve parenting skills, confidence and child behaviour.

ParentWorks has been developed by a team of psychologists and researchers at the University of Sydney.

It is known from research that parenting programs are more effective when all parents are involved, this program is developed to be father friendly.

www.millparkscareers.com

We've put together a new website.

VTAC/UAC/QTAC

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

VET

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

CHECK IT OUT NOW!

The Careers Team

WORK EXPERIENCE

DO AN INTERESTS TEST

FIND A JOB

CHOOSE A UNIVERSITY

GAP YEAR

CREATE A RESUME

DEFENCE CAREERS

YOUTH ALLOWANCE



THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT



Karen Eastlake
Middle Years Campus Principal

MY Campus Principal's Report

YOUNG VICTORIAN ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR



Middle Years Campus Year 9 students were this week fortunate to have **Fablice Manirakiza – Young Victorian Achiever of the Year** present his story to them.

At the young age of 21, Fablice has already achieved a lot in the musical field, recording a full length album of original material with his nephew G- Storm under the FLYBZ moniker and recently releasing a single featuring iconic Australian songwriter Paul Kelly. Impressive feats at such a young age, but even more so when one discovers the hardships Fablice has endured during his young life in his native Burundi and later during his time in a refugee camp in Tanzania. The small African nation of Burundi, once colonised by Belgium, has since endured many years of civil war and wide spread poverty. At the age of 11, Fablice was taken by the local militia in an attempt to make him a child soldier. Fortunately, Fablice was able to escape this bleak future and now aims to raise awareness and spread his message of peace and appreciation of education with his music. See more at: <http://www.dumbofeather.com/conversation/fablice-manirakiza/#sthash.DegZdqlQ.dpuf>



MYC MUSIC NIGHT

Last night the Middle Years Campus celebrated a wonderful year of music learning with the annual 'End of Year Concert'. Students from Years 7 to 9, performed a wide range of music styles including pop/rock, classical, blues, jazz and musical theatre. It was a fantastic night and well attended by parents and friends. Congratulations to our students for sharing their performances. Thankyou to staff and family members for supporting our students with their musical learning.

Photos are from the dress rehearsal Thursday afternoon.



Middle Years Campus Report

YEAR 7 ITALIAN EXCURSION

In the last two weeks each Year 7 class has spent a day enjoying all things Italian. We visited CoAsst's 'Museo Italiano' in Carlton and learnt about Italian migration to Australia and the experiences of new arrivals in the 1900s and 1950s. Students were able to see some of the key sights around Lygon Street, Carlton including the famous Brunetti café and other eateries such as Lygon Street Food Store and the University Café. Each of these places were significant to the Italians who arrived in Australia. The students enjoyed finishing the day with a pizza lunch and gelato in North Carlton. Buonissimo!

Thank you to the Italian team who accompanied the students - Ms Benedetta Coli, Ms Catherine Asquino, Ms Cassandra Fatcher and Ms Vanessa Molino. A special thank you to Ms Peta Johnstone for helping.

Our Italian language assistant, Benedetta Coli, will be finishing up with us soon as her stay in Australia comes to an end. We are extremely grateful for the support and expertise Bene has brought to the faculty and our classrooms. Grazie mille, Bene!

Ms Philippa McIlroy, LOTE Domain Leader



YEAR 7 DISCOVERING LA TROBE UNIVERSITY EXCURSION

On Thursday 17 and Friday 18 November all of the Year 7 students were lucky enough to visit and explore La Trobe University. Student ambassadors from the university hosted the students through a range of activities designed to help students consider university as a viable and exciting pathway once they finish school. Students participated in a race around the university, listened to how different students made it into university and considered what it means to be a university student.

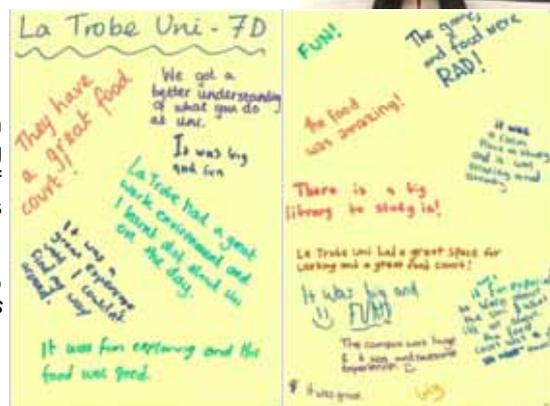
The Year 7 students came up with the following highlights about the day -

- ☆ Learning about university options
- ☆ Learning about campus life
- ☆ Seeing all of the different options for study
- ☆ Listening to how different people ended up at university
- ☆ Thinking about what they might like to do and how they can get there
- ☆ Learning about all of the other fun things that university students do



Thanks to all of the students for their curiosity on the day - we want you to keep thinking and talking about university as an option! Thanks also to all of the teachers who accompanied the students through the day.

Peta Johnstone,
Year 7 Programs and Learning Outcomes



Middle Years Campus Report

YEAR 9 SCIENCE EXCURSION TO IMAX & THE MUSEUM

The excursion to the museum was entertaining, interesting and exciting for both teachers and students. The exhibits helped further the learning regarding ecosystems and the interactions that occur within them. It was amazing to see a complex forest system inside the museum. The students were surprised to learn that the animals in the 'wild' exhibit were all once alive but have been preserved so that they can be viewed by everyone. The final instalment for the day involved seeing the 3D version of the documentary about the Galapagos Islands. It was great way to expand the learning horizons of our students and hopefully it will spark the curiosity for a future in the study of ecology.

Thanks to all the teachers and students who attended the excursion. Feedback from everyone has been really positive and we hope to make this a permanent feature of the Year 9 Science course in future years.



Rachel Aiello, Science / Mathematics Teacher



YEAR 9 BAKING & CONFECTIONERY

This semester in Year 9 Baking and Confectionery, we have baked a variety of scrumptious sweet and savoury foods. We have really enjoyed cooking in this elective because we have learnt and utilised many skills and techniques including: decorated cupcakes with a theme using fondant icing, chocolate truffles, herbed tomato tarts, pull apart ham and cheese bread and many other delicious foods.

Written by 9BS students:
Methmi Manaamperi and Belle Kong

Teacher: Anita Burum



Middle Years Campus Report

WHITTLESEA SHOW WINNERS

The English and Humanities faculty was very proud to learn that several of our students were winners in this year's Whittlesea show. At Senior Campus Anaam Zuhoor of 10A won First Prize in his division for his story on Family and Relationships. On the Middle Years Campus, Tarsha Lyng of 8CE won First Prize in her division for her story about a strange visitor. Olivia Tetzner of 8CE won Second Prize in her division for her short story about based on the novel, 'To Kill A Mockingbird'. Finally Alisha Sazdova of 8CE won Second Prize in her division for her poem about the struggle to be accepted.

Considering there were over 5000 entries throughout all the divisions for poetry and short stories, we are extremely impressed by the prizes our students won. Well done to all who entered!!



YEAR 7 SRC- VEGGIE PATCH PROJECT



Recently, the Year 7s in the SRC have been working on a new Veggie Patch. We have been planning to plant various fruits, vegetables and herbs including summer plants such as tomatoes and coriander, and winter plants such as garlic, brussel sprouts, cabbage, and rosemary. This project has been worked on since Term 3 and we plan to continue into 2017, in which we will be planting our fruits, vegetables and herbs. The Mill Park Veggie Patch will be supplying fresh products to the school canteen and the Year 8 & 9 food tech classes. In the future we may add other plants and decorations to the vegetable patch; we may even sell to an independent grocer. We are seeking help from anyone who would like to do weeding, cleaning and planting in our garden. If you would be interested in this,



GAMBLING AWARENESS

In Maths this term, the Year 7 Extension class had the opportunity to study probability and issues surrounding gambling in the Whittlesea region.

We first looked at some statistics and were shocked to learn that \$50,000 is lost at Plough Hotel behind our school every day and that Whittlesea loses over \$96,000,000 to gambling every year.

Miss Naidu gave us character cards to portray with information about employment, family situation and current bank balance. We then entered the "Casino" and were able to withdraw money from our accounts and participate in games such as Black Jack, Dealers Wars and Bluff. We investigated favourable probable outcomes in card games by recording data in experimental trials and tested whether favourable outcomes or the "odds" are equal between organisations such as casinos and the public.

What we found was that the odds were always against us and that even if one person was winning the Casino would always win more from others. We learned that "chasing losses" could lead to addiction and problems with mental health. The Casino always has the game in their favour, therefore we have more chances of losing rather than winning. This is one of the reasons as to why you should gamble responsibly, or just avoid it all together.



Understanding the effect of gambling on community and probability will now prevent us from making bad decisions in the future. To make gambling safer in our community, we want to increase community awareness about both the risks of gambling and the help available to those with a gambling problems.

Written by: **Elise Dow and Gabriella Taha – 7J**





Colin Burke
Senior Campus Principal

Senior Campus Principal's Report

STEP UP 12

Our Year 11 students have successfully made the step up to Year 12 this week, as our StepUp12 program got underway. This year we have increased the number of classes that students complete during StepUp, to enable them to get the best possible start to Year 12 in 2017. Parents of Year 12 students should be aware that there are significant work demands placed on Year 12 students, and all subjects will require students to complete homework, reading and other tasks over the holidays.

VCAL INFORMATION NIGHT

Thursday 24th November the Senior Campus welcomed parents and students new to the VCAL Program for 2017. Discussed at the evening was the expectations of the program, VET requirements and timetabling structure. Thanks to Kelli MacDonald, Peter Tonis, Shaun Isbister, Christine Manunzio, Tristan Russell and Geoff Ferris for running the evening. Also thanks to the numerous parents who attended.

EDROLO FOR YEAR 12 2017

Hi to our new Year 12 students!

Edrolo is a new digital resource we have made available to all Year 12 students. It is an online tutorial, quiz and practice exam resource, available for you to use from now until your final exam at the end of next year. Many of you who have studied a Year 12 subject this year, will already know about the program.

Edrolo is now up and running for the 2017 school year for Year 12 classes in the following subjects: *Accounting, Biology, Business Management, Chemistry, English, Further, Health, History, Legal, Methods, Phys Ed, Physics, Psychology, Studio Arts and Vis Comm.*

We want you all to log in and activate your account right now, so that you can take advantage of the great tutorials, quizzes and resources as part of your Year 12 preparation over the holidays.

ACTIVATION INSTRUCTIONS

If you already have an Edrolo account, you can view your new classes by logging in with the same details you've already been using! You don't need to follow the below instructions.

If you don't have an existing Edrolo account:

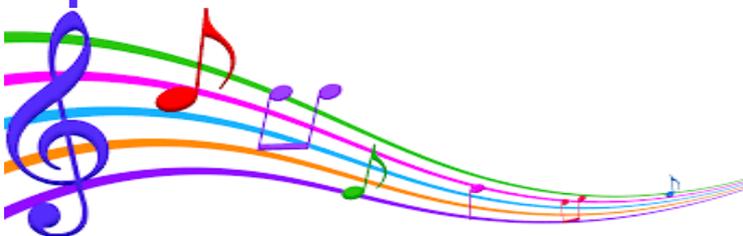
Go to edrolo.com.au/mill-park

- Enter your surname and check that it recognises your correct first name
- Enter your email address, mobile phone number, and select a password
- Click 'Let me in'
- You'll then be logged into your account
- Please start by watching our short training video -- you're now ready to go!

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - BOTH CAMPUSES

Instrumental Music Enrolments for 2017 have opened. Anyone wishing to learn an instrument at MPSC must return a signed enrolment form or re-enrolment form. Instruments available include: voice, keyboard, drum-kit, guitar, bass guitar, trumpet, trombone, flute, clarinet and saxophone. ***Students enrolled in VCE Music Performance are strongly recommended to have an Instrumental Music teacher to support their instrumental development and performance program.*** Forms can be collected and returned to the General Office at each respective Campus.

Wendy Nagel, Co-ordinator of Extra Curricular Performing Arts: incl. Instrumental and Classroom Music



Careers Update - Year 12

When Can I Change My Preferences?

If you have applied through VTAC to study in 2017, you will have several opportunities to change your course preferences throughout the application and offer period.

While Change of Preference is open, you can add, remove or re-order your preferences as much as you like.

After the closing dates, the preferences will be locked so institutions can make offers based on the courses you have listed. After offers for a particular round are made, Change of Preference will reopen at 10am on the following business day to allow you to make changes to preferences before the next round.

Changing your preferences could be a good idea if you've changed your mind about the course you most want to study, if you get your ATAR or other results back and want to amend your courses based on this, or if a course has been cancelled/a new one announced. Even though you can change preferences all the way through until Round 5, most offers are made in the first round. Make sure you finalise your preferences by the Round 1 deadline to maximise your chance of an offer.

There is no cost involved in changing your preferences, and you can change them as many times as you like while Change of Preference is open. When Change of Preference closes, the order of your preferences is locked and will be used for the next offer round, so make sure you are happy with your preferences before each Change of Preference period closes.

Please be aware that if you have a course on your preference list which had an **early closing date** you can re-order this preference but if you delete it, it cannot be re-added.

Change of Preference dates

If you are a domestic applicant applying for undergraduate courses, the below diagram shows the periods within which you are able to change your preferences. During the locked periods, institutions are preparing to make course offers, and you will only be able to view, not change, your course preferences.

Change of preference for undergraduate courses prior to Round 1 will also be open between 10am and 4pm on Wednesday 4 January to accommodate IB applicants and Western Australian Year 12 students, who do not receive their results in time for the 20 December closing date.



Note: If you are applying for international courses or graduate entry teaching courses, the diagram and dates above do not apply. Please refer to the **Dates and Fees** page for the relevant closing dates.

How to change your course preferences

If you have already submitted a Course Application with VTAC, you can change your preferences in 4 easy steps:

1. Log in to your VTAC Account, using your VTAC ID and PIN
2. Open your Course Preference List from the VTAC Account home page
3. Add, delete or re-order your preference
4. Submit by clicking the 'Change My Preferences' button at the end of the page



YEAR 12 AND VTAC

- Late **course applications** can still be made, but now cost \$100 (till 4 Nov). After that, applications will cost \$130 (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.

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 ASK ACU (1300 275 228); **COP event** on Tuesday 13th December.
- ♦ **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 DEGREE (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 Expos:** 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-1pm, 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)