

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students

Our College Council for 2015 has now been formed and I would like to welcome new parent representative member, Nicola Rooks and congratulate Neal Topia, Wayne Pryor and Elaine Major who have been re-elected to Council also in the parent representative category. Congratulations also to Clara Rocca and Mark Lohrey who have been reelected as staff representatives.

I would like to acknowledge the work and commitment of parent category representative, Chris Eavis, who has served on our Council for the past 8 years. Chris has decided not to renominate for College Council. Chris joined the Council in 2007, completing an extraordinary eight years' service to the College. He has held several major roles in that time, including President and Vice President. Chris has served on various sub-committees, including Finance Committee, Buildings and **Grounds Committee and Canteen** Committee. As Principal of Montmorency Secondary College, and on behalf of College Council I thank him for his dedication and passion to the College.

Our College Council for 2015 is now:

President: Neal Topia 25th March, 2015 Newsletter No. 3

COLLEGE OPEN DAY TUESDAY 21ST APRIL, 2015 STUDENTS WILL BE DISMISSED AT 1:22PM BUSES DEPART AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30PM

TERM 2 COMMENCES 13TH APRIL, 2015

Vice President: Martin Hone

Treasurer and Community Co-option: Colin Baker

Parent Representatives:

Martin Hone Elaine Major Shane Penrose Wayne Pryor Nicola Rooks Neal Topia Mehgan Uren

Executive Officer (Principal/DE&T):

Allan Robinson

DEECD Representatives:

Sonia Culcasi Mark Lohrey Clara Rocca Ian Toohill

Co-opted Student Representatives: Puby Panozzo Mitch Harris

Ex-Officio, non-voting members: Lisa Ball (Business Manager) Kerryn Murray (Minute Secretary) Congratulations to Neal, Martin and Colin on being appointed to these important leadership positions and I look forward to working with our 2015 College Council team in the Governance of our College.

I would like to congratulate our Year 7 and Year 10 Student Leaders and also Assistant Principal, Clara Rocca and Middle School Leader, Sonia Culcasi for another superb annual 'Thinking *Carnival'* on Thursday 19th March. Over 350 students from Sherbourne, Greensborough, Greenhills and Montmorency Primary Schools were involved. The team work, problem solving and creative thinking achieved by the students in their groups on the day was wonderful and vindicated the hard work and efforts of all concerned. Impressively, we had 100 of our Year 7, and 120 Year 10 Student Leaders who facilitated the day under the guidance of our staff.

In term 2 we have some staffing and leadership changes due to long service leave arrangements and two members of staff who have been seconded to other teaching locations.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont...

I have been granted Long Service Leave from DE&T for all of term 2 this year. With the approval of DE&T Clara Rocca has been appointed as Acting Principal from Monday 13th April to Wednesday 20th May, and Mark Lohrey as Acting Principal from Thursday 21st May to Friday 26th June. Leading Teacher Glenn Blackmore has been appointed as Acting Assistant Principal for all of Term 2.

Glenn is being replaced by contract teacher Melinda Robertson and Campbell Wilson will assume the role of Learning and Teaching leading teacher.

Bronwyn Mackey, Leading Teacher and Senior school Leader will also be on Long Service Leave in term 2. This has a flow on effect in Senior School for leadership position which results in David O'Donnell replacing Bronwyn in her teaching load, Deb Metcalfe taking over as Leading Teacher and Senior School Leader, Matt Bennett becoming Year 12 Level Co-ordinator, Andrew Burt becoming Year 11 Level Co-ordinator and Kerryn Robinson becoming Year 10 Level Co-ordinator. Jacob Bloom, History and Physical Education teacher, has been seconded to Greensborough Secondary College for the duration of term 2 and he is being replaced at the College by Lee Thompson.

We congratulate Ryan Swan on his secondment for the rest of 2015 to the Heidelberg Teaching Unit which is a wonderful achievement on his part. Our College has had a long association with the Unit for many years and it has been a vital source of special education for many of our students. Ryan's secondment comes about due to the retirement of Mick Butler who has led the Unit for over 30 years in what has been a truly remarkable career. Congratulations to Mick from the Montmorency Secondary College community.

Regards

Allan Robinson Principal

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE OPEN DAY & SCHOOL TOURS



WEEKLY TOURS

Small group tours and information sessions are conducted regularly at the College throughout February, March, April and May. Tours are capped in size to ensure each participant has a personalised tour. If you are considering enrolling your son or daughter at Montmorency Secondary College we warmly invite you to join us on a tour to see our College in action. Bookings for College tours can now be made online via the College website

www.montysc.vic.edu.au

Please allow one ticket per person (adult or chlid) attending. If you need to cancel or change a booking please contact the General Office on 9422 1500. Bookings can also be made through the General Office.

TERM 2 AT A GLANCE	
Sat 28th & Sun 29th March	Relay For Life
Mon 13th April	Start of Term 2
Wed 15th April	State Swimming
Tues 21st April	Open Day & Night—students dismissed at 1:22pm
Fri 24th April	Anzac Day Assembly
Thurs 30th April	Athletics Carnival
Wed 6th May	School Council Meeting—7:30pm
Tues 26th May	Curriculum Day
Fri 29th May	House Off

YEAR 7 CAMP

The days that we were on camp were Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for 7D, E and F and 7A, B, C and G went from Wednesday to Friday. Our favourite activity was surfing because it was really fun to be able to ride the waves back to shore and it was something we had never done before.

On day one we went horse riding at Blazing Saddles. The horse riding was a great experience and we're glad we got to take part in it. It was great to ride and most people enjoyed it. The organisers at the camp, Julie and Angus, were great. They were really nice and helpful.

The activities at the camp were great and they were run really well. Some of our favourites were, Archery, The Giant Swing, Low Ropes, The scavenger hunt and The Initiative Course.

On the first night we went on a night walk for a while then when we got back to camp we had a great camp fire and got to roast marshmallows and tell jokes. After that, we watched a movie.

On the second night we had a teacher's scavenger hunt where we had to find all the teachers hidden around the camp. They were really hard to find but eventually we found them all.

This camp was great, we had opportunity to meet kids from other classes and have a lot of fun doing the great activities.

We will never forget this camp being our first of secondary school and would like to thank the teachers for making it happen and be so great. Thank you on behalf of all the year 7s!

Devon Noons 7D & Sarah Streat 7G











Please don't Smoke Here!

From 13 April 2015, smoking will be banned at more areas in the community.

Under the Tobacco Act 1987 smoking will be banned:

• On the grounds of, and within four metres of an entrance to, all childcare centres, kindergartens and primary and secondary schools;

• *Within four metres* of an entrance to public hospitals and registered community health centres;

• *Within four metres* of an entrance to certain Victorian Government buildings;

• Within four metres of an entrance to children's indoor play centres.

The intention of the new ban is to stop people from smoking in outdoor public areas to protect everyone from the dangers of second-hand smoke.

Banyule City Council is encouraging the community to be aware of the new bans (Victoria wide) and respect the right of everyone to enjoy fresh air, by not smoking at these areas.

For further information

www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms

www.banyule.vic.gov.au



COLLEGE OPEN DAY

TUESDAY 21ST APRIL, 2015 STUDENTS WILL BE DISMISSED AT 1:22PM BUSES DEPART AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30PM

Our student led Open Day/Night is on Tuesday 21st April, 2015. This day provides us with an opportunity for students and staff to showcase our school and its programs within our wider community and it is a big day for us as a College.

Open Day is led by our student cohort and due to student, staff and school preparation, there will be a shorter school day. All 5 periods will be shortened and the school day will finish at 1:22pm

TAKE THE CHALLENGE: YEAR 9 CAMP 2015

Our Year 9 students will be attending Kinglake Ranges Wilderness Adventure Camp. The camp will run for three days during the week of **November 4**th – 6th 2015.

The aim of the camp is to help young people discover their place, their potential, their right to have respect and the maturity of giving respect to place and others.

The core activities are carefully selected to optimize the engagement opportunities for students ensuring that they will be challenged and also feel comfortable and confident in taking a leading role. The camp culminates with the complex and highenergy collaborative mission.

The Value In Action Positive Psychology Unit the students will undertake at the camp is founded on the belief that people want to lead meaningful and fulfilling lives, to cultivate what is best within themselves, and to enhance their experiences. The camp and unit will be the start of the transition process from middle to senior school.

Camp activities consist of Bush Survival, Bush Tucker & First Aid, Navigation & Bushwalk, Challenge Ropes, Climbing Wall, Rope Ladder & Water Course, Camp fires and Drumming Sessions.

The camp will cost \$350.00 of which \$100 is due Friday, 27th March 2015, a further payment of \$100.00 is due Friday 26th June 2015 and the balance of \$150 is due Friday 18th September 2015.

Please note, ALL CAMP PAYMENTS must be received by Friday 18th September 2015

In cases where parents/guardians find payment of this camp difficult, alternative payment arrangements can be negotiated with the Business Manager. Please contact Lisa Ball on 9422 1500 to make such arrangements.

It is our expectation that every student will attend, as the Camp is an important part of the semester curriculum. Please return the reply slip and deposit in an envelope to the Business Manager.

The Middle School Team

DISTRICT SWIMMING

On Friday 6th March, the Monty Swimming Team competed in the District Swimming Competition at Aquarena. Our 23 swimmers achieved four 1st places, eleven 2nd places, seventeen 3rd places, seventeen 4th places, and one 5th place. This is a very solid team performance earning 4th place amongst the nine schools in the District. Of note is that we had a good number of Year 7s compete this year with several bravely swimming in combined or open age-groups with older students, so they should place more highly as they mature in those events over the next year or two.

First and second place-getters qualify to swim at the NMR competition to be held at WaterMarc on Tuesday 24th March. Congratulations to our seven qualifiers for the NMR Swimming Team.

Connor Fyffe - 7B:	1 event - 13y 50m Breaststroke
Keely Gray—7D:	1 event - 13y 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay
James Hone—12A:	3 events - Open 100 Butterfly, 20y 200m Freestyle, Open 400m Freestyle
Lachlan Morris—10D:	3 events - Open 100m Breaststroke, 16y 50m Breaststroke, 20y 200m Individual Medley
Indiana Murphy—7D:	1 event - 13y 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay
Mackinley Scales—7E:	1 event - 13y 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay
Sarah Streat—7G:	5 events - 13y 50m Breaststroke, 13y 50m Butterfly, 13y 50m Freestyle, 13y 50m Backstroke, 13y 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay

A very special thank you to each of our student helpers Charlotte Chlopek and Caitlyn Chin who assisted at the finish line all day, and also to our staff Michael Weeding and Loukia Andrews who officiated at the finish line all day.

Bruce Collins Sports Co-ordinator



French and Japanese Language Homework Club

Starting in Term 2, we will be running a combined French and Japanese Homework Club on Mondays after school. Anyone is welcome to attend. There will be a French and a Japanese teacher on duty for each of the sessions to help you with any of your language work.

The sessions will run in A2 from 3:20 to 4:15 pm as follows:

20th April 18th May 15th June 4th May 1st June

Hoping to see you there.

Kind regards from the Language Faculty

YEAR 7 VOLLEYBALL

Well done to all Year 7 Volleyball team members on their wonderful sportsmanship, participation and success during our round robin on Wednesday 17th March. Our teams played some great matches and certainly gave Eltham High, Diamond Valley and St Helena Secondary College a run for their money placing equal 3rd in both the male and female divisions. A special mention must go to our most valuable player for the day, Indiana Murphy of 7E. We would like to thank our coaches Caitlin Groat and Ruby Panozzo for their help on the day.



Year 7 girls tennis team also included in the photo







IT'S SHAVE TIME AGAIN!

The Interact Club will be running its annual 'Shave for a Cure' fundraising activity in support of the Leukaemia Foundation on Monday 1st June, 2015. Last year we raised just over \$4000 and hope to exceed that total.

We ask all students to sign up with the school to at least colour their hair if not game to have a number one haircut and get family and friends to sponsor them.

Sponsorship forms will be available from the front office early next week.

Please join by getting a form from the General Office NOT ONLINE

BE BRAVE AND SHAVE



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Secondary School Attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things are school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with falling behind in subject topics and assessment tasks, and lead to fewer subject choices and may impact on achievement in years 11 and 12.

Getting in early

It's never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates for all students are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts.

Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

"**Day off**" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy; the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your home room teacher or year level coordinator and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your home room teacher or year level coordinator as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/ studentattendance.aspx

