

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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18 May, 2021 Newsletter No. 4

REPORT WRITING DAY (STUDENT FREE DAY) - FRIDAY 11 JUNE, 2021

QUEEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY—MONDAY 14 JUNE, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

As you are aware our College motto is 'Pride in Achievement' and this has certainly been embraced by year 12 student of 2020, Mikaela Doherty, who has been a wonderful ambassador for the College's VCAL program. On Friday 23rd April this year, Mikaela was awarded the Senior Outstanding VCAL Achievement Award for the State of Victoria. This was presented by the Minister for Education and the Acting Premier, James Merlino and took place at Federation Square in the city. Mikaela and her grandparents, together with our VCAL Coordinator, Vicki Bucher attended this special awards ceremony. In 2020 Mikaela excelled in all areas of her Senior VCAL program. She modelled excellent communication skills and was an active participant in all group discussions. She successfully completed VET studies in Certificate III – Early Childhood Care and Education as well as a Certificate II in Sampling and Measurement. At the same time Mikaela maintained steady employment at an Early Learning Centre throughout 2020. Mikaela also organised a 'Footy Colours Day' at the College and set up an action team online and negotiating the day's format with our classroom teachers and Principal team. Our College community was very grateful and impressed by Mikaela's personal efforts in connecting students and

staff after a lengthy lockdown period. In a couch choir project in Personal Development Skills she recorded herself singing and published the song on the VCAL Google classroom, encouraging others to join in. She also photographed each of our VCAL students





to contribute to a Year Book. She regularly recorded class activities and generously shared the footage with fellow class members. At the end of her Year 12 year, Mikaela created an end-of-year video to share with her peers in VCAL and also made a whole Senior School farewell video that included VCE and VCAL students. She also helped other students with their community projects which included initiating installation of a fish pond, a native garden bed and maintaining the school's vegetable garden. Congratulations Mikaela on this wonderful list of positive achievements and the outstanding award so richly deserved.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont...

In the last week of term 1, we conducted our Student Progress Interview Days and Evenings on the Tuesday and Wednesday. All sessions were well attended and provided parents, guardians and students with the opportunity to meet with teachers and discuss student progress and needs in respective subject areas.

Again in 2021 we are participating in the Technical School Student Ambassador Program in conjunction with the Banyule Nillumbik Technical School – Greensborough. In our school this is overseen by our Careers and Pathways Leader, Michael Weeding, and our four student ambassadors are Emma Bell of Year 7, Abby Keiper of Year 8 and Year 9 students, Harrison Abbott and Jacob Lawrence. Student Ambassadors meet on a regular basis to participate in STEM-based activities and projects and serve as advocates for Tech Schools amongst student groups. They work with the Tech School staff, community and industry partners to build student agency at the Tech School and develop technical and soft skills necessary for success as leaders in the future workforce. This program runs over six days throughout the year for the students.

On Tuesday 27th April we held a very successful Transition Information Evening in the Auditorium and we observed COVID-19 safe practice by restricting our numbers to a little over 200. A large group of our student leaders were present and were again wonderful ambassadors for the College and many of them spoke at length to prospective students and parents after the main presentations. A big thank you to Sonia Culcasi, Clara Di Biase, Lisa Ball, Kim Faulkner, Hayley Davies, Mark Lohrey and Jayden Stenton who all worked so hard to ensure the success of this event.

On Friday 23rd April we held our annual House Athletics Carnival at Willinda Park Athletics Field. The number of students who attended was less than previous years, but the events were very well supported and there were some outstanding individual performances. The weather was good and it was an enjoyable day for students, staff, parents and grandparents who attended. Thank you to all staff and especially Mr Bruce Collins, our Sport Co-ordinator, and Assistant Principal, Mark Lohrey, for their hard work and organisation that resulted in the success of this event.

On ANZAC Day this year in another impressive community event, the College was represented at the Montmorency RSL Commemorative Service by Louise van Putten. Louise read the Requiem at the service and also presented a wreath on behalf of the College community.

We have recently lost two long standing members of staff from the College who have retired. Deb Metcalfe has been an outstanding and popular teacher with us for the past 26 years. Previous to 1996 Deb also taught at Buckley Park Secondary College. Apart from her role as an outstanding English, Drama and Humanities teacher she has held a number of level co-ordination positions, has been a Year 12 mentor and has also been involved in many of our co-curricular programs. Deb has also been a mentor to many other teachers and until her retirement was a leading Teacher and Year 12 Level Leader.





Mick Dewdney has been an outstanding Integration Aide who has worked at the College for the past 9 years after joining us from Montmorency South Primary School. Mick has also been very popular with students and his colleagues and he has always been willing to take on any of the difficult challenges and tasks that have come his way. We thank both Deb and Mick for their commitment, dedication and wonderful work for our students and the College and we wish them all the best in retirement.

Regards

Allan Robinson

Principal



Montmorency Secondary College

Homework Club

What is Homework Club?

Montmorency Secondary College offers Homework Club as a service to students from Years 7-12. At Homework Club students are able to access support from teachers to complete classwork and homework as well as offering students a quiet space to complete private study.

When is Homework Club?

From Term 2, Homework Club will run afterschool on MONDAY. There is also a Maths/Science Homework Club that will run on WEDNESDAY. Both are located in the Resource Centre.

Is Homework Club compulsory?

Students may be requested by a teacher to attend MONDAY Homework club until 4:15pm. A teacher requested Homework Club attendance <u>is</u> compulsory for the student to attend. If requested to attend, you will be notified on XUNO and permission will need to be given for your child to attend. Failure to attend the requested Homework club will have the matter referred to your child's co-ordinator.

Students can also choose to attend Homework Club without being requested by a teacher, they are welcome to stay for as long or little as they choose. Once a student leaves Homework Club they are no longer under the supervision of the teachers.

TERM 2 & 3 AT A GLANCE

Wed 19—Fri 21 May

Year 8 Camp 1—8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E

Mon 24—Wed 26 May

Year 8 Camp 2—8F, 8G, 8H, 8J

Mon 31 May—Thu 10 June Year 10 & 11 Exams

Fri 11 June Report Writing Day—Student Free

Mon 14 June Queen's Birthday Holiday

Fri 25 June Last Day Term 2—Early Finish 1:22pm

Mon 12 July Term 3 Begins

Thur 22 July Student Led Conferences

Thur 29—Sat 31 July School Production Performances—Matilda

YEAR 10 VACCINATIONS

Wednesday 25 August, 2021

The Secondary School Vaccine program offers a free Meningoccocal ACWY vaccine to all Year 10 students. This is delivered by the Banyule City Council Immunisation Service.

Year 10 Vaccination Consent cards were sent home via students in Term 1. The consent card needs to be returned even if your student is not having the vaccination. Cards should be returned to the General Office as soon as possible as they are now overdue. If you did not receive a card please contact the General Office.

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

The new mobile phone policy came into effect early in 2020 and required that students who choose to bring mobiles phones to school must have them switched off and securely put away during school hours.

The role of technology

We live in an exciting and technology-rich world and mobile phones are an important modern day communication tool. The school acknowledges that access to a mobile phone by children is important to many of our families in providing a sense of safety for their child while travelling to and from school, and for confirming or changing after school arrangements.

Managing the impact of mobile phones

Mobile phones often create disruptions and distractions in classrooms. Establishing a 'mobile phone free zone' helps teachers to establish and maintain a focused and productive teaching and learning environment.

Research has found that mobile phones can be disruptive in classrooms and open to misuse at school (e.g. accessing inappropriate content, cyberbullying, and unauthorised photography). Additionally, research shows that the unregulated presence of mobile phones in classrooms can undermine students' capacity to think, learn, remember, pay attention and regulate emotion.

At recess and lunchtime our school also values the opportunity for students to communicate with each other face-to-face or be involved in activities rather than being focused on a device, particularly when using the device to engage with social media.

Technology is increasingly impacting the way in which students learn and communicate. Therefore, when a student has been given explicit permission to access and use such devices to enhance learning by the classroom teacher, mobile phones will be permitted for that specific purpose.

For a small number of students with particular health needs, an exception to the policy may be granted. Please contact the school if you would like to discuss this.

We would like to remind all students and members of our school community of our school's expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of mobile phones at school. The Mobile phone policy can be found on the College website for further information and reference.

Emergency situations

In the event of an emergency or if you need to contact your child, we ask that families contact the staff in the school office who will pass on a message as needed.

Many Thanks Clara Di Biase Assistant Principal

Year 9 NAPLAN certificates of achievement

A new feature of the NAPLAN assessment is being launched this year, with the award of Year 9 Certificates of Achievement.

The new certificates aim to celebrate and recognise the importance of both excellence and learning growth.

Beginning in 2021, Year 9 students who achieve outstanding results or who significantly improve their results in NAPLAN tests will receive a NAPLAN Certificate of Achievement.

The certificates will be awarded for two categories of achievement:

- Category one: the achievement of excellence through getting a result in the top band for reading or numeracy, or both.
- Category two: the achievement of outstanding learning growth through improve by two or more bands between the NAPLAN Year 7 and Year 9 tests for reading or numeracy, or both.

For more information about the new certificate and measures for learning growth, refer to <u>Year 9 NAPLAN certificates of</u> <u>achievement</u> on the Department's website.

WELLNESS WEEK

Monty hosted its first Wellness Week during March to support the message behind 'beyond blue', as well as promote gratitude amongst the school community. The week went extremely well, with engagement and participation from the majority of students, who commented that the weeks activities left them feeling happy and fulfilled.

Day one, Monday the 15th, kicked off with art therapy in B-block. Students could colour and create pieces while peacefully listening to some music.

On the Tuesday, it was 'Just Dance' hosted in the gymnasium at lunch time. The atmosphere was set with lighting effects and a smoke machine, creating the scene for around 150 students that danced and enjoyed themselves immensely.

Wednesday's activities involved making Fairy Bread during lunchtime. All students were invited to come and make their own fairy bread, supplied free of charge.

On the Thursday, we had students participate in a scavenger hunt. Throughout the school there were clues to ultimately help find the letters that spelt out 'WELLNESS'.

Lastly, Friday the 19th activities were 'Guess the amount of chocolates in the jar'. Over 200 students tried their luck, but it was the top 3 closest guesses that won a teddy bear each.

Throughout this special week, homerooms were decorated with a gratitude wall. Students were able to write on bright sticky notes about things there were grateful for!

Wellness Week was also completely free, as the whole idea was for students to stress less and just enjoy themselves. We chose to run a seperate fundraiser, which was a raffle held on the Parent Teacher Interview days. There was 3 winners on each day that received Easter chocolates. All the easter chocolates were donated by families throughout the week, and dropped off in the office. The raffle money was then donated to Beyond Blue!

We were also asking for non-perishable food donations that was given to Diamond Valley Rotary Club. Thank you everyone for your donations. It was awesome to see a van loaded with food delivered to people in need!











DOES YOUR CHILD NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY???

- Students are not permitted to leave the College grounds during the school day without permission.
- It is expected that students will make dental, medical and other appointments, outside school hours wherever possible.
- If a student needs to leave school early for any reason, the following procedure should be followed:
 - 1. The student should have a note from the Parent/Guardian requesting permission for the student to leave school at the specified time.
 - 2. Upon arrival at school, the student is to take the note to their Level Co-ordinator, who will then sign the note and return it to the student.
 - 3. The student then presents the signed note to their class teacher when they need to leave.
 - 4. Once the student leaves class, they will present the note to the General Office staff and sign the Early Leavers record. The office staff will retain the note for attendance recording.
 - 5. If the student needs to return to school later in the day, or following the appointment, they should report to the General Office and sign in.
- It is important that class interruptions are kept to a minimum. Wherever possible, parent/guardians are asked to avoid telephoning the College in order to have students paged or dismissed from class and should follow the above procedure instead.

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

- Students, who arrive after Home Group, should report to the General Office to sign in and collect a Late Pass.
- A note from a Parent/Guardian, explaining the student's late arrival, should be provided to the General Office, or alternatively, the Parent/Guardian should telephone the General Office, providing a reason for their child's late arrival.
- Students who do not provide an acceptable reason for being late to school may be given detention.

ILLNESS AND FIRST AID

- Students who become ill should advise their classroom teacher that they are feeling unwell and receive permission to report to Sick Bay, located in the General Office.
- Students should not use their mobile phones to contact parents directly during class time.
- Students who report to Sick Bay will be attended to by the College Nurse and, if necessary, parents will be contacted.
- It is important that a current emergency telephone number is listed on each student's school record. Any change to the home address, work address and telephone numbers or emergency contact, should be provided to the General Office immediately.

Allan Robinson—Principal

PERMORMING ARTS NEWS

Matilda the Musical

On the last Thursday and Friday of the school holidays, the *Matilda* cast had rehearsals. On Thursday we rehearsed at the school and almost finished one of the main songs in the show, 'Miracle'. On Friday we could not rehearse at the school due to construction, so we relied on the help of All Saints Anglican Church in Greensborough to ensure our rehearsal could go ahead. During Friday's rehearsals we completed 3 musical numbers - 'When I Grow Up', 'Smell of Rebellion' and 'School Song', thanks to the work of our student choreographers, Tess and Amy Baldwin, and our teachers.

The two days, whilst busy with dancing and singing, allowed time for new friendships to be built across all the grade levels of Year 7s to Year 12s and many great memories were formed. The cast bonded over KFC and at one point a kazoo choir was formed. There was certainly no shortage of musical theatre tunes throughout the two days.

The musical is coming along very well and everyone involved is working hard to make it the best show possible.

If you are interested in supporting the cast of *Matilda* and coming to see our show, tickets are available via the website at www.montysc.vic.edu.au

There will be three shows this year, including two evening shows on July 29th and 30th and one matinee on Saturday, July 31st.



Meet the cast!

Spencer Waymire will play 'Trunchbull', the school's infamous principal who likes to make things even more difficult for Matilda.

After a year of what some people call "doing nothing", it is exciting to be back at school and in particular, rehearsing for this year's school production. I am pleased to announce that I, Trunchbull, will be taking the position of Crunchem Hall's Principal. The production, *Matilda* the Musical, will incorporate the education of grotty little children with my value of discipline. Come along to witness the noble profession of hammer-throwing, disciplinary action through physical education and Trunchbull's top tips for punishing children who step out of line. Keep an eye out for more information and tickets for what will be the most spectacular show you will witness this year.

Vanessa Wilson will take on the role of 'Miss Honey', Matilda's kind-hearted teacher.

I love theatre. I have been an active member of the performing arts community since I was 6 years old. Recently I've performed in shows such us Shrek Jr, Seussical, Little Shop of Horrors and the Lion King Jr. My personal interests lie in singing, acting and film. I love theatre because of the people. The dedication that everyone puts into a show is inspiring. I am so proud to be surrounded by such amazing, creative people in the cast, crew and band as I take my role as Miss Jennifer Honey in this year's school production of Matilda.







MUSIC NEWS

What an exciting and busy start to Term 2 in the music department. The Year 7 band had their first rehearsal on Monday 19th April. These students have only had a few lessons, but already they are doing a great job playing together. They are working towards their first concert in only a few weeks time.

This week has been 'workshop week'. All groups have had extra rehearsals, often with multiple instrumental staff to help consolidate the pieces they are preparing for the Mid Year Concert. There has been some great work achieved and many wonderful pieces are in preparation.



Year 7 Band

Upcoming performances:

Tuesday 15th June - Soiree 5:30-6:15pm

Students can elect to play at this performance. Individual items only. Casual clothes.

Limited places available to ensure the timing of the event.

Friday 18th June – Pizza Performance day

Montmorency Secondary College Auditorium. All instrumental students to play a piece. Period 3 & 4

Sharon Cooke Music Coordinator

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS



Feels like the holidays were months ago, we certainly had a very busy start to the term, so much planning and preparation has gone into getting our programs ready for students to experience and participate in, here is a snapshot of what is coming!

YEAR 8 STAND UP PROGRAM

Stand Up is a primary prevention program for sexual exploitation targeted at young people in year 8. Given that young people are most vulnerable between the age of 13-15, the aim of the program is to facilitate young people to critically think about:

- 1. healthy sexual, and personal relationships in their own lives
- 2. how to safeguard self and others from being sexually exploited.

At completion of the program, the young person will be able to:

- Define sexual exploitation
- Identify risk scenarios in healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Understand the role of consent and the law in sexual relationships
- Define, understand and respond to grooming
- Develop real life strategies to deal with risk of sexual exploitation, grooming, and managing unhealthy relationships
- Identify barriers of seeking support and advice and how to overcome these

You can find out more about the program and watch a YouTube clip by following the link below;

http://www.kidsfirstaustralia.org.au/page/Stand-Up!



The 'I CAN' School Program

Through SFYS (School Focused Youth Services) we have won a grant to run the "I CAN" Program, which supports students on the Autism Spectrum feel more connected to each other, to school and their community.

The program offers a safe space where young people can develop self-acceptance, belonging, optimism and confidence. Sessions also focus on helping students prepare for post-school pathways.

Places are very limited, so if you believe that this program could be of assistance to your child, please contact me ASAP so that they can be included to the program. The program will run for **one session per week**, over **10 weeks** with a max of **16 students**. It is fully funded, students can be nominated from **Years 7 – 12.**

We will also offer a Parent Information Session and a Teacher Information Session for those who are interested in attending.

Just a little clip about the program if you are interested? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vb-oWX5O6Ic

I look forward to hearing from interested parents/ families, please contact me, Sue Muir, Student Wellbeing Coordinator on 9422-1632.

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

WILD WILDERNESS PROGRAM

Luke Mitchell, through healthAbility has acquired funding to run the **Wild Program** starting mid-May. This program is targeting students in Years 8 -10

The Wild program focuses on participants developing skills and tools to increase;

- Self-awareness, self-esteem and self confidence
- Social skills
- Resilience
- Leadership skills and problem solving abilities
- Education with education

Have a look at the program..... it's fabulous! https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=h0NpfCG4Ofg

Please speak with Sue Muir, Student Wellbeing Coordinator on 9422-1632 if you feel this program may suit your child.



what's happening in Banqule for our

YOUNG PEOPLE?

YOUNG CARERS PROGRAM

Jets are welcoming young people aged 12-17 who may be taking on additional responsibilities in the home to help care for parents/siblings or kinship networks. The young carers program is an opportunity for young people to connect with one another, celebrate and reflect on their journeys as carers whilst enjoying a wide range of fun activities and take home packs.

WHEN: every second Friday- Beginning 4th April TIME: 4pm-7pm

WHERE: Jets Studio - 2/24 The Conchord, Bundoora

Bookings essential: Contact Maddi on <u>0481 003 524</u>

AGES: 12-17 years COST: FREE

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

JETS – ART VIBES WORKSHOP

We are excited to be offering this FREE art and mindfulness workshops to school and community groups. Young people will work with Jets staff to learn how art can be used to tune in and express themselves.

Bookings essential: Call Jets 9098 8000 or 0411 267 427 **COST:** FREE



EVENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

"The Vovos @ The Mezz"!

With a tasteful punk line up, this all-ages event will be headlined by 'Girls Rock!' Melbourne's very own. The event will be FREE and will feature food, drinks, merch, music and more! Do you want to manage a stage, the artist, sell merch, and more? Get in contact!

WHEN: Saturday 29 May, 12-4pm

WHERE: Mezzanine Carpark at WaterMarc (1 Flintoff Street, Greensborough) – enter via the Greensborough Walk

Bookings essential: Jay on jay.mifsud@banyule.vic.gov.au

or on 0434 187 511 AGES: All ages welcome COST: FREE



BANYULE COMMUNITY ART MURALS

Did you know that Banyule has a number of programs that provide free installation of murals into community spaces impacted by graffiti? Commissioning street art murals is one of the strategies we use to manage graffiti hot spots, and to improve community safety.



We identify suitable mural sites and work with youth, street art facilitators and property owners to develop designs and engaging artworks.

Private residential property and property located outside of Banyule are not eligible for consideration for a community street art mural. Due to third party restrictions, public transport and property that is the responsibility of another asset or public utility can also not be considered. For examples of our previous murals head to our online Street art gallery - www.banyuleyouth.com/banyule-street-art-gallery

To be considered for a future mural, please complete an online EOI.

Expressions of interest: https://banyulecitycouncil.wufoo.com/forms/street-art-mural-expression-of-interest/

FOR MORE INFO: Kieran West kieran.west@banyule.vic.gov.au 9490 9937

2021 BANYULE YOUTH SURVEY

Banyule Youth Services encourages young people living, studying or playing in Banyule to have their say in the 2021 Youth Survey. This survey captures the needs and interests of local young people to ensure programs remain meaningful in current times.

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and places young people in the draw to win monthly prizes. BYS values the input of all young people, celebrating the diverse population of Banyule.

Click here to access the survey



Discover **DEAKIN**

Course information webinars

Are your students interested in a particular study area?

Discover Deakin webinars will give your students a chance to experience our progressive, real-world approach to learning. The webinars will cover a range of undergraduate study areas and topics to help your students make a confident choice to study at Deakin. They will also have a chance to meet future teachers, hear student stories about what it's like to study at Deakin and get their questions answered by our experts.

Webinar	Date
Doctor of Medicine	Tue 20 April
Science	Tue 4 May
Environment	Wed 5 May
Criminology	Mon 10 May
Engineering	Tue 11 May
Bachelor of Arts	Wed 12 May
Business analytics	Mon 17 May
International studies	Wed 19 May
Health sciences	Mon 24 May
Nutrition and dietetics	Tues 25 May
Psychology	Wed 26 May
Nursing and midwifery	Thur 27 May
Exercise and sport science	Mon 31 May

Webinar	Date
Creative arts and design	Tuesday 1 June
Marketing psychology and human resource management psychology	Wed 2 June
Teaching	Thur 3 June
Property and real estate	Mon 7 June
Commerce and business	Tues 8 June
Law	Wed 9 June
Sport management and sport development	Thur 10 June
Architecture and construction management	Wed 16 June
Information technology	Tues 22 June
CASPer Test	Wed 15 Sept

Register your attendance at deakin.edu.au/discover-deakin

FREE maths & data careers webinar

Wednesday, 19 May—12:00pm

Maths is critical to not only fast-growing STEM jobs but also careers in insurance, health, trades, security, agriculture and more. During our free careers webinar meet three featured role models from our latest Maths & Data issue. Ask them any burning career questions and hear their tips for study and work.



STAY UPDATED SUBSCRIBE & ORDER

Never miss an issue!

<u>Subscribe now</u> to receive our quarterly magazine delivered to your doorstep for only \$25 per year.

Every issue of Careers with STEM is also available to read online here.

CAREERS NEWS

La Trobe Achieve Program

Semester 2 - Applications Open:

https://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/pathways/undergrad/achieve-at-la-trobe

Your ATAR is one way to get into university – and to measure your achievement. But La Trobe's research shows there are other ways to predict your success.

That's why you can now study a single uni subject online while you complete your Year 12 studies and use your mark (instead of an ATAR) to get into a selected range of courses.

With Achieve at La Trobe, get a taste of uni life and unlock an offer to an eligible degree based on your uni marks and your complete VCE, IB or interstate Year 12 (scored or unscored). Depending on the subject you choose, you can also receive credit towards your future degree.

We'll use your subject mark to calculate a La Trobe entrance score, and if you also receive an ATAR we will use whichever result is higher to assess your application.

Achieve at La Trobe is free and online.

Do you want to know more? Contact our Future Students Centre on 1300 135 045, check our <u>FAOs</u> or talk to us via <u>live chat</u> for more information.

