

Montmorency Secondary College NEWSLETTER

Para Road Montmorency VIC 3094
P 9422 1500 E montmorency.sc@education.vic.gov.au www.montysc.vic.edu.au



MONTMORENCY
SECONDARY COLLEGE

10 December, 2024

END OF TERM 4—EARLY DISMISSAL—Friday 13 December, 2024

Students dismissed at 1:22pm—Buses depart 1:30pm

MSC AWARDS EVENING

Tuesday 17 December, 2024—7:00pm

FIRST DAY OF TERM 1, 2025

Wednesday 29 January - Years 7 & 12

Thursday 30 January - Years 8, 9, 10 & 11

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we approach the close of another extraordinary year, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on our collective achievements and share some important updates as we prepare for the festive season and summer break.

Firstly, a special mention to our Year 12 students who have completed their final chapter of secondary schooling. Their results will be released on **Thursday 12th December**, and we are confident their hard work and dedication will be reflected in strong outcomes. To our graduates: remember, these results are just one part of your journey. We are proud of each and every one of you, and we wish you success in all your future endeavors.

Our **Awards Night** will be held on **Tuesday, 17th December at 6:45pm for a 7:00pm start** in the Allan Robinson Courts. This evening is a highlight of the school year, where we celebrate the exceptional achievements of our students across academic, sporting, and creative domains. We warmly invite all families to join us for this special occasion, as we recognise the outstanding efforts of our students and staff.

Looking ahead, our **2025 Orientation Program** has been a resounding success. From our incoming Year 7s to new students in various year levels, it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm as they prepare to join our school community. Thanks to the combined efforts of our staff and student leaders, these sessions have set a positive tone for the year ahead, ensuring a smooth transition into 2025.

This year has also been marked by resilience and adaptability, especially during periods of change. I want to acknowledge the tremendous effort and commitment of our staff and students in supporting one another through these transitions. Whether welcoming new faces or adjusting to different roles, our community has demonstrated its strength and unity at every turn.

To our teaching and support staff, your dedication has been pivotal in shaping a vibrant and inclusive learning environment. To our students, your energy, curiosity, and hard work inspire us daily. Together, we've made 2024 a year to remember.

As we enter the festive season, I wish all our families a safe and merry Christmas. May this holiday period bring joy, rest, and quality time with loved ones. For those travelling, stay safe and make wonderful memories.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. I look forward to seeing you in the new year, refreshed and ready for another exciting chapter.

Warm regards
Frances Ibbott
Principal

THUDERSTORM ASTHMA INFORMATION

During seasons with increased grass pollen levels, typically between October and December in Victoria, there is an increased risk for seasonal asthma, hay fever and epidemic thunderstorm asthma.

On days when a thunderstorm is forecast on a high or extreme pollen count day it is recommended to avoid being outside, such as during the wind gusts that occur just before a storm hits and to stay indoors with doors and windows closed until the storm front has passed.

Preparation for these seasonal events might include the following:

- Reviewing Asthma First Aid, checking that asthma medication and any action plan is current and available both at home and college.
- When seasonal hay fever is a regular occurrence, consider seeking medical advice for optimal management.
- Download the Vic Emergency App
- Review the college Asthma policy

Asthma First Aid

For severe or life threatening signs and symptoms, call for emergency assistance immediately on Triple Zero “000”

Mild to moderate symptoms do not always present before severe or life threatening symptoms.

1. Sit the person upright, remain with them and be calm and reassuring
2. Give 4 separate puffs of reliever medication, Salbutamol also known as Ventolin, Asmol or Airomir
 - Shake the puffer before each puff
 - Puff one puffer into the Spacer at a time
 - Take 4 breaths from spacer between each puff
3. Wait 4 minutes. If there is no improvement, repeat step 2
4. If there is still no improvement call emergency assistance
 - Dial Triple “000”
 - Say ‘ambulance’ and that someone is having an asthma attack
 - Keep repeating step 2 every 4 minutes until emergency assistance arrives



TERM 1, 2025

Wednesday 29 January	Year 7 & 12 Students begin
Thursday 30 January	Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 Students begin
Tuesday 4 February	Student Photo Day
Tuesday 11 February	Swimming Carnival
Monday 10 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 18 March	College Open Afternoon—early dismissal 1:22pm
Friday 28 March	Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 2 April	Student Progress Interviews—Day 1
Thursday 3 April	Student Progress Interviews—Day 2
Friday 4 April	Last day of term 1—early dismissal 1:22pm

PUBLIC SPEAKING PROWESS

On the 28th of November, the Year 9s crowded into the auditorium to hear 14 chosen peers deliver their persuasive oral presentations. The atmosphere was filled with anticipation as I, among other students, prepared to share our speeches.

The variety of topics was both engaging and thought-provoking. These included banning vapes to stopping duck shooting. My speech was about why kids under 18 shouldn't be allowed into the fashion industry, a subject I'm truly passionate about.

As the event unfolded, there were homegroup awards after every few speeches, adding fun to the day. But for me, after each award and every speech, my nerves only grew. When my turn finally came, I felt my heart racing and my legs trembling. I reminded myself why I had chosen to perform and focused on my message. I put passion into each word, holding eye contact with every student in the crowd. I explained all the struggles and exploitation young people have to face in the fashion industry. It was not easy, but I felt proud walking off that stage. Then to make the moment even more rewarding, first place won me a voucher to Robinsons Bookshop.

Turns out a good presentation and trembling legs was not as fun as I thought! But still, a day I will not ever forget.

Olivia Pleaner 9D



Ruby Glover



Mila Van Wyk



Hayden Smith



Stefanie Villarreal



Natalie Henry (teacher), Kai Bunyard, Ruby Glover, Olivia Pleaner, Mark Lohrey (Assistant Principal)



Grace Trobbiani

YEAR 9 CAMP

The Best of Year 9 Camp was...



... doing the giant swing with Lakeita
Courtney Carlson 9F

... the mud run, because it was
challenging and hard
Darcy Wood 9F

... the mud run because it was
something different
Sawyer Fisher 9A

...doing the giant swing, because I was
scared
Eleni Christophidis 9G



The best and worst part of camp was
the mud run: good because after it
felt like you could achieve anything
and bad because it was stinky, wet,
cold and muddy
Will Pope 9C

YEAR 9 CAMP

The Best of Year 9 Camp was...



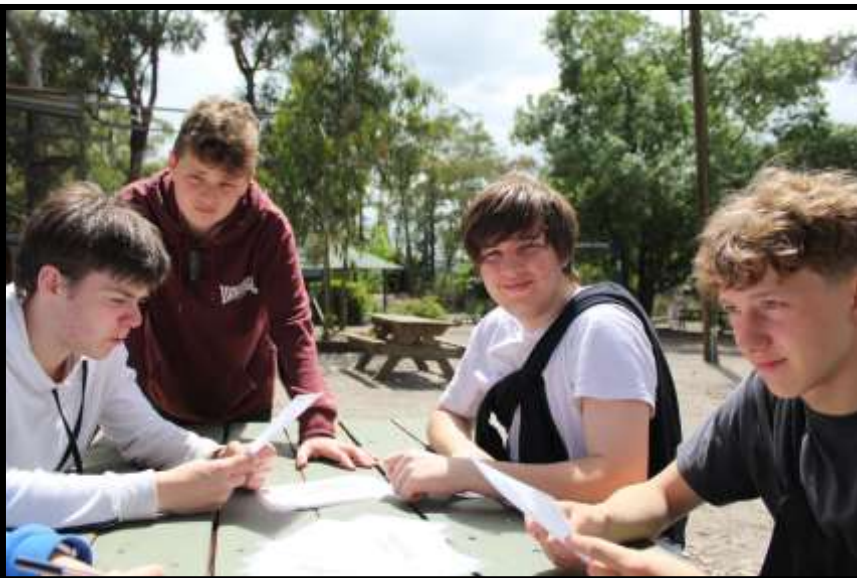
... the leap of faith because I didn't think I could reach the bar but I made it in the end

Ethan Maihi 9D



...the leap of faith was fun because it pushed me out of my comfort zone

Wes Meckiff 9F



...doing the leap of faith upside down because it was scary fun

Amelia Waldram 9A



Intermediate Girls' Hockey Team – State School Victorian Championships

On Wednesday the 15th November the *Intermediate Girls Hockey Team* were invited to compete in the State School Victorian (SSV) Hockey Championships. This was a wonderful opportunity for our team to test and showcase their skills, ability and teamwork against teams from across Victoria ... and our goal was to make finals.

We met at the College at 7:30am and headed off to compete. Placed in a pool against three other teams, we won our first game 5-2, second game 4-0 and third game 7-0, achieving our goal. I was so proud of the entire team, as only four of our 14 players played hockey outside of school. The skills, knowledge and understanding of the game of all players had improved so much, via the *Hockey GALA Day* (practice round), *Northern Zone Regional Sports Day* (where we also made finals) and training sessions held at lunchtime throughout the course of Terms 3 and 4. Ultimately, we achieved an outstanding result, coming 2nd overall in the State School Victorian Hockey Championships!

I would like to thank all team members for their commitment to the team and training, Bruce Collins the *Sports Coordinator* for all his behind the scenes sports administration, Georgia L'estrage (Captain), Jessica Thompson (Co-Vice Captain), Elsa Holly (Co-Vice Captain) and Tommy Telfar (Assistant Coach on the day and brother of Alana Telfar, who played in goals, as our Goalie). Thank you to everyone who helped this year's team achieve this outstanding result.

Team Members:

Sarah Douthat 9F, Makayla English 9B, Taysha Haddon 8F, Elsa Holly 8A (Co-Vice Captain), Alysha Jeffery 9E, Ava Kay 9E, Georgia L'estrage 10A (Captain), Leni Macdonald 9G, Eliza Ridsdale 9B, Cailin Scott 9E, Kate Sheridan 9F, Leah Taylor 10F, Alana Telford 8A, Jessica Thompson 10F (Co-Vice Captain) and Alexia Ucchino 9E.

Coaches:

Thomas Telfar 12C (Assistant Coach on the day)

Zoe Wood (PE/HHD Teacher/Hockey Coach)



Year 7 & 8 Baseball—SSV State Championships

In week 8 of Term 4, the Year 7 and Year 8 Baseball teams played in an SSV State Championship Final with the Year 7 team achieving the fabulous result of State Runners Up, and the Year 8 team achieving the greatest prize available in the Victorian School Sport Program - State Champions!

Both teams easily won their preliminary District and Regional competitions to qualify to play at State and both teams trained most weeks at lunch times throughout the year to achieve this. We had so much fun on this journey, and along the way picked up several new teammates all eager to learn the skills of this exciting game. This was a fabulous team effort involving players, scorers, bat boys and base coaches – all performing critical roles for the success of both teams.

Our fabulous Monty students worked very hard for success at State, and they are all thrilled with their achievement this year. Both teams have already played and won our respective 2025 District Round Robins, and looking forward to playing in their regional competitions early next year. We are hoping to get both teams to State again in 2025 and know we will all have to work hard and learn new skills to achieve this result.

Congratulations again to all involved and special thanks to base coaches Jessica Thompson, Angus Friend and Ben Connolly, and to scorers Addison Seabridge and Alegra Lambert – we couldn't have run the teams without you. Special Congratulations to Captains Darcy Squire (Year 8) and Oliver Friend (Year 7).

Bruce Collins
Sports Co-ordinator



Year 8 Team—SSV State Champions



Year 7 Team—SSV State Runners Up

Rapunzel and the Realms Beyond the Tower - By Cayla Chua

Chapter 1: The Tower and the Longing

Once upon a time, in a kingdom bordered by mountains and seas, lived a young woman named Rapunzel. But she wasn't your average fairytale princess. For one, Rapunzel had hair as golden as a summer sunrise, but it wasn't just long—it was magical. Her hair shimmered, glowing softly in the moonlight, and held an enchantment that could heal wounds, soothe pain, and even turn back the hands of time...a little.

Rapunzel was kept in a high stone tower by the sorceress Gothel, who had raised her since she was a baby. Gothel wasn't wicked, exactly, but she was obsessed with power. She'd discovered Rapunzel's magic when the girl was just a toddler, and rather than allow her powers to fade away, she'd kept Rapunzel hidden from the world. Gothel had told her countless stories about the dangers of the world beyond the tower—fierce beasts, greedy thieves, and people who'd do anything to get a hold of someone with magic in their veins. Rapunzel had grown up on these stories and didn't often think about the world outside... until recently.

She'd just turned eighteen, and lately, she felt a quiet longing for something more than the stone walls, the books, and her own reflection. She was growing restless, and though she still had love for Gothel, she began to question her life. *Wasn't there more than this tower?* she thought.

One evening, a particularly beautiful sunset filled the sky, and Rapunzel climbed up to the tiny, barred window in her room to gaze out. In the distance, she saw something unusual: a strange light, flickering in the forest. It wasn't fire, but it glimmered with all the colours of the rainbow. Rapunzel felt drawn to it. She'd never seen anything like it in all her years in the tower.

"What are you staring at?" Gothel's sharp voice made her jump.

"Nothing," she replied quickly, hoping to hide her curiosity.

But Gothel noticed the glimmer in her eye. "Rapunzel," she said, softening, "you know that outside this tower, people will only want to use you for your magic. I will protect you here." Rapunzel nodded, yet as Gothel's footsteps faded away, she found her mind drifting back to that light.

Chapter 2: The Great Escape

That night, Rapunzel decided it was time to do something she'd never dared before. She would escape. Armed with a bundle of her belongings—a small loaf of bread, a book, and her paintbrush—she took her hair and began braiding it into a long, sturdy rope. It wasn't the easiest of tasks, but by the time dawn painted the sky, she was ready.

And with a deep breath, Rapunzel climbed out the window, using her hair as her rope. Rapunzel's first hours outside the tower were like stepping into a dream. She felt the grass between her toes, the wind on her face, and the fresh smell of the forest. She'd never felt so alive. She made her way toward the mysterious light she'd seen the night before, heart racing.

Soon, she reached a grove with a pond shimmering under the sunlight. But it was no ordinary pond. As she approached, the water rippled and glowed, sending colourful waves across the surface. And just when she thought it was only a trick of the light, a voice called out to her.

"Rapunzel."

She gasped. The water had formed a face—a warm, kind face, with eyes that held stars and a voice like a song. "You've finally come," it said.

"Who...who are you?" Rapunzel asked, her voice barely a whisper.

"I am the Guardian of the Realms Beyond," the face replied. "I watch over those who seek the power of magic—and I've been watching you."

Rapunzel couldn't believe it. "Why? Why me?"

"Because," said the Guardian, "you have a gift, Rapunzel. Your hair's magic connects you to ancient powers. But your destiny isn't in that tower. You are meant to travel beyond it—to heal, to explore, to see worlds you could never have dreamed of."

"But Gothel said—"

The Guardian's eyes softened. "Gothel's fears are real. Many would indeed seek to control you. But there are also those who need you—the sick, the wounded, those suffering from curses only your gift can lift."

Rapunzel took a deep breath. Could she really leave behind everything she knew? It felt terrifying...but exciting too.

Chapter 3: The Journey Begins

The Guardian showed her the way to a hidden path, one that would lead her to other enchanted places. Along her journey, Rapunzel encountered all sorts of magical creatures—talking foxes, giant eagles, and even a band of fairies who taught her to dance under the starlight.

She helped a young knight lift a curse on his kingdom and healed a village plagued by a mysterious illness. News of her travels spread, and people began calling her “The Golden Healer.”

One day, as she wandered through a misty forest, she heard someone calling her name. Turning around, she was startled to see Gothel. But she looked...different. Her eyes held a mixture of sadness and relief.

“Rapunzel,” Gothel said, her voice soft. “I’ve been searching for you. I know I kept you locked away, but it was only because I wanted to keep you safe.”

Rapunzel’s heart softened. “I know, Gothel. But there’s a whole world out here—a world that needs my magic. I can’t hide away forever.”

Gothel sighed. “I know. I just...” She took Rapunzel’s hand. “Promise me you’ll be careful.” They embraced, and for the first time, Rapunzel felt that maybe, just maybe, Gothel could become part of her journey.

Chapter 4: The Golden Healer

Years later, tales of Rapunzel’s adventures were told across the realms. She became known as the greatest healer, a brave explorer, and a wise friend. Her hair grew even longer, shimmering with magic that only grew stronger with each person she helped. And though her tower remained standing, it was empty—a silent witness to the girl who had once lived there, and the woman she had become.


The End

YEAR 8 WELLBEING DAY

Year 8 Student Wellbeing Day was a huge hit, packed with fun and activities designed to help us unwind, connect, and build a better sense of ourselves. In the morning students learned about ways to improve and practise mindfulness, before participating in a host of activities.


One activity was meditation which was really relaxing and helped students wind down. Karate was a firm favourite as students were able to learn how to block and kick with each other. Overall students had the chance to learn how to develop the best version of themselves.

The pizza lunch proved a highlight of the day, freshly warm from the shop and students and teachers kindly volunteered to hand out the tasty slices. Many students came back for seconds. After lunch, the cohort divided into groups to compete in a range of challenges designed to encourage teamwork and communication. Overall, the day was an unmissable experience that built long lasting memories.

**VCE**
SUMMER TUTORING

2025 PROGRAM
WILL RUN: 6 TO 17
JANUARY 2025


WANT TO GET A HEAD START IN VCE?




VCE Summer Tutoring is a charity created by university students that offers an accessible, low-cost academic and extracurricular summer program for students in Victoria.

Our mission is to ensure high school students from a diverse range of backgrounds across Victoria can access a high quality education.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO
JOIN US THIS SUMMER
HOLIDAY!





FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
[HTTPS://VCESUMMERTUTORING.AU/](https://vcesummertutoring.au/)

Final Festivities at Funfields for Year 7 Students





For more information on these great events or to find out more visit:
banyuleyouth.com or call 9457 9855

f Banyule Youth Services | @BanyuleYouth



Banyule Youth Services acknowledges that these events will be held on the land of the traditional owners, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin nation. We pay our respects to their elders and leaders - past, present and emerging.



For bookings and more information about Banyule Youth Services, visit www.banyuleyouth.com



MOVIE: SONIC 3

MON 13 JAN / 1 - 3.30pm

Hoyts, Greensborough

Sonic is back! Sonic, Knuckles & Tails reunite to battle Shadow, a mysterious new enemy.

We have the whole cinema to ourselves.

Cost: \$8 includes ticket & gift bag

Ages: 12 - 18 years

Bookings essential; banyuleyouth.com

VISION BOARD & JOURNAL WORKSHOP

TUES 14 JAN / 1 - 3.30pm

Jets Studio, Bundoora

Start the year right - create your own vision board & set up a bullet journal to take home

Cost: \$5 includes all materials

Ages: 12 - 18 years

Bookings essential; banyuleyouth.com

IMMERSIVE WORLDS

WED 15 JAN / 12 - 4pm

Ivanhoe library

Explore new worlds through table top gaming, D&D, board games & switch on the BIG screen.

Cost: FREE

Ages: 12 - 20 years

Bookings essential; banyuleyouth.com

This event is a partnership with Yarra Plenty Regional Library

MEGA MINI MAYHEM

THURS 16 JAN / 1 - 4pm

Watsonia Library

Table top gaming with miniatures! All gaming materials supplied.

For beginners & experienced players.

Cost: FREE

Ages: 12 - 18 years

Bookings essential; banyuleyouth.com

This event is a partnership with Yarra Plenty Regional Library

SLIDE NIGHT

FRI 17 JAN / 6-9pm

WaterMarc, Greensborough

Unlimited rides on the slides. Try your skills on the giant inflatable obstacle course, pool entry & listen to music by request.

Cost: \$3

Ages: 10 - 17 years

This event is a partnership with WaterMarc

DRUMMING WORKSHOP

THURS 23 JAN / 4 - 5 pm

Malahang Park, West Heidelberg

Join in an African drumming experience.

All drums supplied & no experience necessary.

Open House will also be running

"Backyard Sports" - all welcome

Cost: FREE

This event is a partnership with Open House

