Principal’s Report

Last week half the Year 9 classes took part in the City Camp. The students are to be commended as they continued even though the weather was terrible, and they once again demonstrated that their behaviour was exemplary. This week the other half of Year 9 will participate and I am sure that they too will make the school proud.

On Friday 1st August we held our Year 10 Course Counselling Day. All Year 10 students had appointments to come with their parents and discuss their subject selection for VCE. I was very impressed with the group of girls I saw since they had all done a lot of thinking before they arrived.

Then, on Friday night, they all dressed up in their finest clothes and attended the Year 10 Social which was held in the school gym. It was a great success even though it was cold, and I would like to thank all the teachers who attended to supervise.

I was a little disappointed that the Parent Forum did not have a large attendance – we really need to hear from our parents if we wish to improve as a school. Those people who did attend gave us some really important feedback about areas of improvement.

College Council will meet on Tuesday 19th August and I am still looking for another parent who can fill the casual vacancy. Please contact me if you are interested or have any questions about how Council operates.

Our Japanese Sister School, Nakamura High School, have been visiting last week and this week, with students participating in homestays and in classes with their Mentone Girls’ SC hosts. Cultural exchanges are an important way to develop global understanding and we look forward to a return visit to Japan next year.

Next week is Production Week – please buy your tickets for Back to the 80’s online at www.flexischools.com.au and come along and enjoy some fantastic performances.

Finally, a reminder to all students in Year 8 to 12 you must complete and submit your course selections by the due date set at each level to avoid disappointment. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 should be attending as many Open Days at tertiary institutions as possible, so that they know just what is on offer.
College Matters

Inaugural Cheltenham Police Engagement Forum

I had the pleasure of attending the Inaugural Cheltenham Police Engagement forum on Thursday 24th July, along with representatives from St. Bedes, Kilbreda, Southland, DFO and other community groups. One issue the police are particularly concerned about is licensed drivers using phones and causing accidents. Given many of our Year 12 students are getting their licence, it is a timely reminder for families to discuss how dangerous this practice is. On another note, the police would like all members of the community to make reports of incidents such as loitering or suspicious people. Once they are aware of concerning behaviour in the area, they will adjust their surveillance.

Ms Carol Duggan
Assistant Principal

Back to the 80’s

I would like to extend my thanks to the parents who have kindly volunteered to assist with the College production of Back to the 80’s. A full list of names will be published in the next newsletter.

Congratulations to Indigo Reith of Year 11 and Dominque Lonsdale of Year 10 who submitted fabulous poster designs. Indigo’s poster featured in the last newsletter and Dominique’s is in this edition of the newsletter.

Tickets can be booked online at www.flexischools.com.au and printed at home. You will need to register with Flexischools if you have not yet done so. Type Mentone Girls’ Secondary College in the box below WHAT’S ON AT YOUR SCHOOL? The school name will appear; click on this. You will then see the services page with dates of the performances.

- Wednesday 13th – Friday 15th August 7.30pm
- Saturday 16th August 2pm & 7.30pm
- Please note online bookings close at 4.30pm for evening performances and 11am for the matinee.

Recycling team

Every week a team from Statewide Autistic Services comes into the school to do our paper recycling. Each Blue Thursday lunchtime Rhianne Manners and Larissa Eigenbrod work with them. Rhianne and Larissa will be finishing this job at the end of the year so I am looking for three Year 9 students who would like to volunteer for this. Please see Ms Moline if you are interested.

Ms Bronwyn Moline
Assistant Principal

National Schools Tree Day

On Thursday 24th July, our College celebrated National Schools Tree Day. A group of students across all year levels worked together with our gardener Jessie Buckley to plant a variety of shrubs and trees around the school.

National Schools Tree Day is celebrated as part of the National Tree Day organised by Planet Ark. Each year, over 2500 schools and kindergartens participate in the event. The event aims to increase environmental awareness in students and improve school sustainability. It encourages a love of the outdoors and brings students from a variety of year levels together to help improve the school gardens.

The planting took place at lunchtime, with the help of these students: Belle Hopkins, Jenny Vu-Tran, Pari Jalali, Larissa Eigenbrod, Rhianne Manners, Darcie James, Grace Carroll, Tabytha Finnegan, Beth Pogson, Anika Raj, Lucy Dixon, Sarah Furlonger, Nici Treseder, Fidela Whittle and me. Some students worked near the LOTE classrooms, planting lavender shrubs in our LOTE garden. Others planted a variety of native trees and shrubs in the garden between the JLC and the tennis courts and outside the Lecture Theatre.

The beautifully sunny day was a great success. The students involved had a chance to improve their school environment and reconnect with nature. A huge thank you to the environment committee for organising the event with Ms Moline, and to our school gardener Jessie who helped organise the plants and planting.

Jenny Schaumann 11F
Environment Leader
Senior School News
2015 VCE Course Selections
All course selections for Year 11 and 12 2015 are due today. Please ensure your daughter has completed her online selection and submitted her forms. Late submissions risk having a lower priority in being assigned to classes for next year.

VTAC Registration
Year 12 students should be registering. A significant number of students will also be applying for SEAS through this site. SEAS is a form of special consideration for students who may have been disadvantaged through this year or longer. Please explore the categories with your daughter and start considering how she can gather supporting evidence or who to approach to provide it.

Middle School News
The Year 9 City Camp is conducted over two weeks with two separate groups enjoying this experience on the Wednesday-Friday of their allocated time. We are pleased to report that last week this was ushered in successfully despite some inclement weather. Ms Holman and Mr Astorino, supported by Miss Chris have done a sterling job in ensuring that the girls are organised and find this a rewarding experience.

The Year 10 Social was on Friday 1st August. It was bracingly cold but the girls and their partners were pictures of sartorial splendour and could be seen dancing enthusiastically, posing for photos and nibbling on pizzas. Thanks to all the staff members who supported this event.

Six Year 10 girls, Tori Baranov, Caitlin, Loch, Sheridan Thomas, Alex Mallis, Annabel Quinlivan and Denise Baker, are involved in a community radio project whereby they present a program between 8 and 9am on Thursdays for a Bayside FM station. They organise their own music and topics for discussion and this is invaluable in terms of developing their confidence and helping them with career choices. They are good ambassadors for the College.

The Year 9 and 10 girls are currently involved with selecting their subjects, including electives for next year. It has been a busy month in Middle School!

Science
2014 ICAS Science Competition – Year 7 and 8 Results
Congratulations to the 376 students from Year 7 and 8 who participated in the ICAS Science Competition. Overall results: nine Distinctions (Year 8: Kimiko Rathbone, Sheena Hodgens, Ramta Tata, Tjala Hobbs and Bronte Southgate and Year 7: Isabelle Jacques, Zoe Cunningham, Erin O’Neill and Christina Copeland) 48 Credits and 43 Merits. Students will receive their certificates from their Science teacher (or at the College assembly) as well as a letter that outlines their strengths and weakness.

Ms Louise Rieniets
Science Domain Leaders

English
Year 8 Legacy Public Speaking Competition
On 30th July, three students from 8C – Rikki Andison, Megan Clark and Maddy McAllister, attended Kivington Grammar School in Ormond, to compete in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competition. The girls researched topics dealing with community service and social justice and prepared five minute speeches. Rikki spoke enthusiastically about community support following the ‘Black Saturday’ Bushfires. Megan provided interesting information about ‘Random Acts of Kindness’ and Maddy compassionately explored the issue of ‘Homelessness’. The girls also responded to an impromptu topic – ‘My favourite letters of the alphabet’ with five minutes to prepare their comments and two
minutes to deliver their response. Megan, Rikki and Maddy all delivered relevant and engaging speeches and Megan was the only speaker out of 15 students to speak for the full two minutes. Her delivery was clever and entertaining. The girls are to be congratulated for volunteering to take part in this competition and they gained information about improving their delivery from observing a number of speakers, exploring a range of topics.

Ms Jenny Perry

Sport

Sporting success

Congratulations to Gracie Geddis (7D) who has been selected to represent Hockey Victoria at the U13 Outdoor Hockey national championships, which will be held in Brisbane in October. We wish Gracie every success.

Ms Bronwyn Moline
Assistant Principal

Maths

2014 Maths Challenge for Young Australians

The 2014 Maths Challenge for Young Australians competition was held over the latter part of Term 1. Interested Year 7-10 students completed a range of problems individually and in groups. The resulting student work was assessed and certificates have been awarded at the following levels: Distinction, Credit and Participation.

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<tr>
<td>DISTINCTION</td>
<td>Gabriella Hall</td>
<td>Lucia Pugh</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Natalie Hooper</td>
<td>Seo-Yeon Sohn</td>
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<td>Harhini Sundaram</td>
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<td>CREDIT</td>
<td>Janvi Gupta</td>
<td>Helena Ces</td>
<td>Bronte Alston</td>
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<td>Ramya Tata</td>
<td>Isabella Hall</td>
<td>Madeleine Culshaw</td>
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<td>Chanel Medeira</td>
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<td>Shanon McKenzie</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Caitlyn Woods</td>
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Congratulations to these students and to the others who participated in this important competition. Student work and certificates will be distributed when received over the coming weeks. The above named students will have their awards presented at the College Assembly on Friday 7th November. Well done girls!

2014 ICAS Maths Competition Update

Year 7-10 students who have nominated for the ICAS Maths Competition will be sitting the related papers during Period 2 on Tuesday 12th August. Papers are set at each year level, comprising 35 multiple choice / 5 free response questions over a 60 minute testing period. All students will receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. These tests are also an excellent preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting student strengths and weaknesses. The certificates and individual student reports are also suitable for including in portfolios and should be available mid October.

MGSC’s Numeracy Week

MGSC students will be celebrating all things mathematical with their own dedicated Numeracy Week from 25th-29th August. This will include a range of challenging and interesting activities both inside and outside the classroom. Student leaders and teachers are currently actively involved in preparations. Please watch out for updates via the display screens, @MGSCmaths Twitter and Facebook pages.

Less than 80 school days until the end of the year, so do your best and remember... “Maths makes a real difference”

Maths Domain Team
For all you busy mum’s out there, we have the ideal workshop for you:
‘THE BUSY MUM’S GUIDE TO ORGANISING THE FAMILY’
This informative workshop covers a variety of topics, which will be presented via a PowerPoint presentation with Q&A time. The workshop includes a worksheet activity which will be done as a group and parent’s go home with an action plan to implement.
WHEN: TUESDAY, AUGUST 19th
TIME: 10am-12pm
COST: $20 per person
WHERE: MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
457 MAIN ST. MORDIALLOC
CHILD CARE AVAILABLE: BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.
For further information and bookings, please phone the office: 95874534

FREE STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION EVENING IN CANTERBURY
Hear from returned students, find out more about discounts and scholarships available and ask questions.
Thursday, 14th August - 7.30pm
Conochie Hall
2 Rochester Road, CANTERBURY
Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call 1300 135 331 for more information

SURF RESCUE CERT (YEAR 7&8)
BRONZE MEDALLION (YEAR 9-12)
Where: Bonbeach Lifesaving Club
When: October 2014
Cost: $50 for non-members (redeemable off Season 2014-15 membership if wanting to continue with Bonbeach LSC nippers/cadets)
RSVP/Further Info: Steph Reindel Thomas 0424 163 466
BLSC Chief Instructor OR Dawn Walterfang 0417 100 701
BLSC Junior Coordinator

Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose
The Drugs Kids are Actually Using
The sex talk is one of the most confronting conversations parents have with their children but there is another topic of conversation that is of equal importance and it often gets overlooked. Drug use is something that parents need to talk about with their children. Australian website, the Other Talk focuses on helping families speak openly about drugs with their children. But to be able to start the conversation early parents need to know what drugs kids are being introduced to today.

Geoff Munro from the Australian Drug Foundation says parents should focus on the drugs that pose the biggest risk to young people and they are not necessarily the ones that first come to mind.

Munro said: “I think it’s really important that parents understand that the drugs kids are faced with today are the traditional ones, alcohol and tobacco and pharmaceutical drugs. But a certain degree.”

“Cannabis is also certainly available in the community so alcohol tobacco and cannabis are the ones we really think parents should focus on,” said the National Policy Manager.

In particular, parents should direct their attention to alcohol and its effects as it is the most accessible.

Livia Gamble

BOOK WEEK GAMES
It’s play time
It’s time to connect
Time to move away from your computer screen and notice the lovely people just like you around you are waiting to connect with you.
Come to the Library and start the games and stay warm. Book Week activities are open to you now. You still respect the Library rules and other students who use the Library for study purposes.
Let the games begin!
Back to the 80’s!

THE TOTALLY AWESOME MUSICAL!

WRITTEN BY NEIL GOODING
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH DAVID SPICER PRODUCTIONS WWW.DAVIDSPICER.COM.AU
NINA CARR HALL
WED 13 – FRI 15 AUGUST: 7.30PM
SAT 16 AUGUST: MATINEE 2PM AND 7.30PM
TICKETS: $25 ADULTS / $15 CONCESSION
BOOK NOW – WWW.MGSC.VIC.EDU.AU
## Key Dates | August 2014

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<td><strong>Gold Week</strong></td>
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<td>7 NEWSLETTER #12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ICAS UNSW Maths Competition</td>
<td>Yr 8 Round Robin</td>
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<td>PRODUCTION WEEK - Back to the 80s</td>
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<td><strong>Gold Week</strong></td>
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<td>21 NEWSLETTER #13</td>
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<td>9LAS City Immersion Excursion</td>
<td>9OED Sailing Excursion (P3 &amp; lunch)</td>
<td>Yr 12 Legal Studies Excursion</td>
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<td>2.30-6pm VSMF - Symphonic Band (P4 bus departure); Federation Square</td>
<td>College Council</td>
<td>2.30-6pm VSMF - Symphonic Band (P4 bus departure); Federation Square</td>
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<td><strong>Blue Week</strong></td>
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<td>Yr 7 Immunisation Day</td>
<td>Yr 7 Chinese Museum Excursion</td>
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<td>Yr 7 Round Robin</td>
<td>Yr 10 State girls’ school conference (selected students); Pascovale GSC</td>
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<td>Yr 9 LAS Student-led Excursion Day</td>
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<td>Sep 1</td>
<td>Gold Week</td>
<td>9OED Windsurfing Excursion (P3 &amp; lunch)</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Student interviews (no formal classes)</td>
<td>NEWSLETTER #14</td>
<td>Literacy Week - Character Free Dress</td>
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<td>Sep 8</td>
<td>Blue Week</td>
<td>Yr 11 PE excursion – Bounce (P1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>Vocal Night</td>
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<td>Sep 15</td>
<td>Gold Week</td>
<td>Beachside Track and Field</td>
<td>Yr 9 City Project Presentation Day</td>
<td>College Assembly</td>
<td>NEWSLETTER #15</td>
<td>Last day of Term 3 (early finish)</td>
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Term 3 Holidays

MENTONE GIRLS’ SC NEWSLETTER
Edition 12 | 7 August 2014