Principal's Report

An informative session “Drugs 101” was held on Wednesday 5th August and was attended by quite a few parents. Their comments were that it was great to get up to date information, have their questions answered by experts on the panel and to get a useful booklet that contains a wealth of information. The panel comprised:

- Leona Thomson (MGSC SWC)
- Lisa Karpas, youth outreach worker – Taskforce alcohol and drug service
- Fiona Blee, Turning Point
- Paula Ross, psychologist/family therapist – Williams Road Family Centre
- Kristen Cleland, Manager – Headspace, Elsternwick
- Sarah O’Neill and Sofia Alexiou, Moorabbin Police – Youth Resource Officer

We will continue to run information sessions on relevant topics each term.

The annual Winter Wanderings Concert and Art Exhibition, held on Wednesday 12th August, was a great success. Students performed to a full house in their various ensembles. Thanks and congratulations to all the music staff and to parents and teachers who helped backstage, front of house and providing supper.

Thank you to all the parents who were randomly selected to take part in the Parent Opinion Survey – we had a great response this year. This forms part of the data we use to plan what we need to do as a school. Another part is the “Students’ Attitudes to School Survey” which shows improvement this year across most areas. Our results show us at or above the state average on all factors. The Staff Opinion Survey will take place shortly, giving us insights as to how we are performing.

Last weekend our aerobics and dance groups performed at the National Championships in Queensland, with one Aerobics Team and the Lyrical Dance group both receiving third place. This is a fantastic effort, and our thanks and congratulations go to Ms Courtney Anderson for preparing the girls.

As part of the Anzac 100 year celebrations, a national competition was held for schools. Ms Deborah McKay researched in the State Library and found some photographs taken by a local Mentone soldier in Egypt, before the Gallipoli landing. The local Historical Society mounted an exhibition of the photos, and a group of our Year 9 students developed a catalogue for the exhibition. This was entered into the Anzac Schools competition and was awarded runners up. The Honorable Senator Mitch Fifield will present a plaque and a check for $500 to the students on 3rd September. Well done to all concerned!

Ms Deborah M. Lehner
Principal

Reminder: Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund
The school is able to accept and process applications until 15th September. If you are eligible please contact the general office to obtain a CSEF application form.
**College Matters**

**Last Day of Term Bell Times – Four Period Day**

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Ms Carol Duggan  
Assistant Principal

**Term 3 Interim Reports and Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews**

Parent/teacher/student interviews will be held on Wednesday 2nd September in two sessions: 1.30 to 5pm and 6 to 8pm. The school will again be making the interim report and the booking schedule available online through the Parent and Student Portal. Please note that there will be NO classes on this day.

The portal access is http://portal.mgsc.vic.edu.au/ You will be required to use the same username and password as for previous reporting cycles. The reports and access to the booking schedule will be available from 4pm on Friday 28th August.

The interim report is a timely snapshot of how your child is progressing in Semester 2 and can often be the catalyst for re-energising their efforts at school as they go into Term 4. Parents who have difficulty accessing the Parent and Student Portal (eg. forgotten password) are asked to contact the IT Helpdesk via portal@mgsc.vic.edu.au Please check your ability to access the portal prior to the 28th August so any issues can be rectified before the reports and booking schedule become available.

Mr David Russell  
Assistant Principal

**Parent Support for the 60th Anniversary**

I extend my thanks to the following parents and students who helped at the working bee on Saturday 8th August: Peter Byrden, Joanne Hill and David Knuppel, Sarah, Lucy and Polly Hutchins, James Malliaros, Ann Marsh and Adrian Moorrees and Tim Sanford. They did a great job clearing pathways and picking up lots of rubbish!

On Tuesday 11th August members of the Parents and Friends’ Association helped the Past Students’ Association sort through school memorabilia to be displayed at the 60th anniversary. Thanks to Emma Walker, Cathy Capomolla, Marissa Ford, Ales Nebesky, Cheryl Beasley, Lou Buchhorn, Maureen Griffin and Wendy Ford. Another group of parents has also volunteered to help set up this display on Friday afternoon.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the 60th anniversary Open Day on Saturday 22nd August.

Ms Bronwyn Moline  
Assistant Principal

**The Past Students’ Association wishes to congratulate MGSC on its 60th Anniversary!**

Many teachers, staff, parents and students have passed through MGSC’s doors in this time, each making her/his own contribution to the thriving and strong educational institution and learning community MGSC has become.

One of our committee members, Lorraine Pritchard, who started in 1955, spoke at the College assembly on 4th August and gave an interesting and amusing account of the school and community in those days and how much things have changed since then.

We hope to see many past students at the 60th Open Day on Saturday 22nd August from 10am-3pm – doing a tour, catching up with friends, sitting in the lounge for a chat and enjoying food and beverages which will be available on the day.
The Past Students’ Association was established in 1990 and is in its 25th year. Thanks are due to all those who have volunteered on the committee since its founding until now. We would like to see new members coming on board, so if you have a little time to spare and would like to contribute to our activities for past students/fundraising for disadvantaged students, please contact MGSC for details.

Past Students’ Association

School Council Report

My name is Darren Hawkless and I am currently on School Council as a parent representative. School Council only takes up 1-1.5 hours per month to meet with both Education Department employees and parents to discuss matters regarding the operation of our school.

A recently raised matter at last month’s meeting was the application by the Languages domain for a trip to France for the students studying French in Years 10 and 11. The application was ratified by Council for 2016. Although the application was readily accepted, it took a large commitment of time by teaching staff and Assistant Principal Carol Duggan to coordinate such a proposal. Quotes, relevant forms, proposed parent and student meetings all need to be considered, together with staffing allocations that need to be adjusted to allow for teachers to accompany the girls on the trip without hindering the classes that those teachers will leave behind.

As a School Council member, I have become acutely aware of the groundwork that is involved before matters come to fruition at Mentone Girls’ SC and the importance of being involved. I strongly support your consideration to become further involved in our school by representing our parent community when the next School Council committee is formed.

Darren Hawkless

Schools Auction Idol Competition

I am pleased to announce that MGSC won The Inaugural Victorian Schools Auction Idol Competition on the evening of Thursday 30th July. Tori Baranov (Year 11) placed 1st and Alex Mallis (Year 11) was the runner up. The girls will represent Victoria and MGSC against students from South Australia and Tasmania at the Inaugural Australasian Schools Auction Idol Competition to be held in Melbourne in September. Congratulations to both girls and good luck for the final.

Ms Rebecca Poulos
Career & Pathways Manager

MGSC Student Nina Selover to Take the Spotlight at Hamer Hall

On Monday 14th September Nina Selover of Year 10 will take part in the Morning Melodies festival at Hamer Hall in the Melbourne Arts Centre; one of Australia’s most prestigious performance venues. Nina is performing in Give My Regards to Broadway; a celebration of the golden age of Broadway musicals featuring songs from A Chorus Line, Sweet Charity, West Side Story, Guys and Dolls and many more.

This exciting special event will be hosted by Patti Newton and features 100 of the most talented members of the Young Australian Broadway Chorus (YABC); the leading youth musical theatre group in Australia. Guaranteed to entertain children and adults alike and presented during two family friendly time slots, Give My Regards to Broadway will be an event to remember! The incredibly gifted young singers, dancers and actors of the YABC are some of the most talented performing artists of their generation. You can find out more about the YABC at www.broadwaychorus.com.au

If you would like to see Nina take part in this spectacular performance, you can purchase tickets at:

YABC Present Give My Regards To Broadway
Date: Monday 14 September
Time: 11am and 1.30pm (duration: 60 minutes)
Venue: Hamer Hall, The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne 3004
Tickets: $12-$20
Senior School News

On Friday 14th August the Year 11s were treated to an excellent presentation from Swinburne based around the concept of Innovation. A current lecturer from the Business Department engaged the girls with an interactive talk which required them to think expansively and make contributions to the marketing of a new product. The representatives from Swinburne also provided career advice, offering potential pathways through their organisation.

Students in Year 11 and 12 have been checking their enrolment for all their current subjects to ensure that their details are correct so that their VCE results are not jeopardised in any way.

Our Assistant Principal Mr David Russell reminded the Year 11s to cross the railway line safely as we have heard that some students have been taking risks rather than wait while the boom gates are down. We would like parents to be also vigilant in this respect.

Parents should also bear in mind that the subject selections are in the process of being completed and some girls may be contracted by Ms Egan soon if their preferences cannot be satisfied. She will be offering them the opportunity to revise their selections and checking that their proposed courses are viable.

Senior School Team

Middle School News

Year 9 and 10 students have finalised their elective choices and Miss Chris is currently working on these. She hopes to accommodate their selections but there will be a review period once these are released. Electives for Headstart and 2016 will not be published before week 6 of Term 4.

We are excited about Year 10 Camp. The managers have organised the evening grouping and are finalising the activity groups for the three days. A reminder to parents and students who are not coming to camp and are not on the Japanese tour that it is expected they will attend school for an alternative program.

While most of the students wear their uniform correctly, Year 9 and 10 Student Managers have noted some sloppiness creeping in. We urge parents to be vigilant in this matter. Students must use the official school bag, not an alternative. They should not wear sports uniforms to school except if competing for the school in an all-day event.

Middle School Team

Food Technology

On 11th August, the Year 11 Food Technology students went on an excursion to the Queen Victoria Market to gain a greater understanding of seasonal produce, food miles, cultural diversity and the cost of producing healthy meals. The girls enjoyed a two course lunch at William Angliss to experience fine dining and gain ideas for food presentation and creativity in the kitchen.

Miss Tess Molina

Science

Science Week Events

Ten Year 11 students enjoyed a Science breakfast on Thursday 13th August to celebrate Science week. The Alliance of Girls’ Schools Australasia (Victorian Branch), together with Mentone Girls’ Grammar School co-hosted this annual event. Presenter Nicole Brown, CEO of Robogals, spoke about her experiences since leaving school and her passion for Science, especially in the field of Engineering. Other activities to be held at MGSC for Science week include making sunprints and fun in the Physics room to celebrate the theme ‘Making Waves – the Science of Light.’

National Youth Science Forum – Congratulations Evie

Exciting news – Evie Tripp of Year 11 has been accepted into this program for 2016 after a long application process which included various rounds of interviews. We wish her well when she heads off to Canberra in January where she will take part in many exciting Science programs with likeminded students from across Australia.

Ms Louise Rieniets
Science Domain Leader
**English**

In the coming weeks we will be celebrating our MGSC 60th anniversary, enjoying a range of Literacy Week celebrations, hosting a performance of Shakespeare’s Macbeth and initiating the VCE exam techniques and revision sessions.

Aug 22: Reflections on MGSC’s 60th anniversary are presented in the students’ poetry book, ‘We shall not cease from exploration’ and in our live poetry SLAM

Aug 24 to 30: Literacy Week will be celebrated in our Brain Busters Global Literacy Quizzes, The Book Exchange Stall, writing competitions and classes on literacy/income relationships for women.

Sept 3: A performance of Shakespeare’s Macbeth for Year 11.

Sept 4 and Sept 11: VCE English EXPO. Specialised Exam Techniques and revision workshops for Unit 3-4 students in English, EAL, Literature and Language.

The following poem about MGSC’s 60 years was written by Megan Taylor, 7F. Megan personifies the College as a benevolent observer of change.

**I’m Turning 60 this Year**

I’m turning 60 this year, gee I am getting old
I love protecting the girls every day from the cold.
Seeing each of them with a smile on their face,
And knowing that they love being in this wonderful place.
I love seeing them in their uniforms looking great
They are so inspirational it shows me life never takes a break.
I feel like a guardian looking after these girls,
Knowing they will have lots of memories to take out into the world.
Teachers walk around my grounds beaming with pride,
You can see the inspiration in their stride.
There are so many things to do at my wonderful school,
Science, Maths, English, Music, PE, but there are many, many rules.
Everyone looks happy and laughing with their friends,
I know they love being here and never want it to end!
I love that girls get a good education and dreams come true here,
And that the girls will achieve high when it is time for them to leave at the end of their school years
Each year is something different, full of potential to reach out best,
MGSC is better than the rest!

Ms Nola Rees
Director of Teaching and Learning - English and Literacy

**Maths @ MGSC**

**ICAS Maths Competition**

288 Year 7-10 students sat the UNSW ICAS Maths Competition on 11th August. They completed a broad range of maths questions designed to test their numeracy skills at their respective year levels. The competition is part of MGSC Numeracy Co-curricular program where we encourage students to stretch themselves and apply their maths skills in a range of different situations.

All students who participated will receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating their results and their score compared with the cohort of students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for future exam situations and the student report is useful for highlighting strengths and weaknesses. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for including in a portfolio.

**Logic2Magic**

Another exciting co-curricular opportunity we have undertaken this year relates to a challenging extension program being run for Year 10 Maths students. It is called “Logic2Magic” and sees students from a number of Victorian Secondary Schools connecting remotely to an interactive set of engaging online lessons exploring the mathematics of magical situations. We have worked with Emerging Science Victoria and John Monash Science School to provide this wonderful learning opportunity. A group of four students are participating in two hourly
sessions each week throughout Term 3 to early November. It will culminate in the preparation of a detail report on their new insights into mathematics.

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

Sport
Interschool Update
Interschool Sport has been extremely busy this term. Senior Basketball, Year 7-9 and Year 10-12 Football, and Year 7, Year 8, Intermediate and Senior Netball all competed in the Southern Metro Finals. After many lunchtime training sessions, the Year 7 and 8 Netball teams did themselves proud when they came out victors. They will now play in the State Netball Finals on the 31st August at Waverley Park Netball Centre. A big congratulations to all girls involved in sport this term.

This term we also have Year 7, Year 8 and the Intermediates playing Hockey, Table Tennis and Basketball, starting at the local Beachside level. We wish them well.

Thanks to all the student coaches and staff who give up their time to train the girls.

Intermediate Netball
On Thursday 6th August we took our two intermediate Netball teams to regionals. They each played two games needing to win them both to qualify for states (although the B team could not continue). The A team had a strong first game against Frankston leaving them to feel confident for their next game against Parkdale Secondary. It was a tough game and after the scores being level at half time, they knew they had to finish with a strong second half. Unfortunately in the third quarter a couple of girls got injured and the team then struggled to pick themselves up again, but was overall a solid effort by the girls. The B team were ready to play starting with a game against Frankston, the girls played hard and came back at the end having an evenly scored match. Our last game was against McKinnon and the girls were itching to get on court. Throughout the whole game it was neck and neck, the girls were playing hard to win the ball, but unfortunately we lost to McKinnon at the end by only four points. The girls have done well to have come this far in the competition and they all showed good sportsmanship and played extremely well.

Holly Bowman & Brooke Davies
Year 12 coaches

Netball – MGSC v Kormilda College
On Friday members of our intermediate netball squad were fortunate enough to play a match against Kormilda College from the Northern Territory. Kormilda College were visiting Melbourne as part of a netball tour. It was a great experience for both teams. Our girl won a hard fought game. Special thanks to Emma Hawkless and Emma Gardner who umpired the match.

Mrs Jackie Mathews
PE Domain Leader

Junior Football
Junior Football has been fun. This was the first time we had played and we really enjoyed ourselves. Last Thursday we went to Bentleigh’s football oval and played a game against Parkdale and Frankston. Sadly we lost both games but played well as a team. We fought really hard, got bruises and scratches and a bit dirty. I enjoyed the day but it was freezing cold and windy. We look forward to doing footy next year.

Hannah Smith, Year 8
Music
Dizzy’s Jazz Club Gig
Dizzy’s Jazz Club is a live jazz music venue and restaurant, where visitors can enjoy a wonderful night of entertainment. On Tuesday 8th September the Mentone Girls’ Secondary College Stage and Jazz Bands will be performing. Music runs from 7.30 to 9.30pm, meals from 6.30 to 8.30pm. It’s recommended to book on 9428 1233 as this is a popular event. Venue: 381 Swan St, Burnley Street VIC 3121.

Ms Sue Cook

IT’S TIME FOR DADS TO SPEAK UP
By Michael Grose

Michael Grose looks at the role of a father’s ‘presence’ and the need for fathers to ‘speak up’ to their kids to impart important life lessons.

The messages for fathers from parenting experts like myself have morphed over time. Two decades ago dads were encouraged to be a presence in the lives of their children.

A decade or so ago the ‘be a presence’ message for dads was turned up a few notches to become involved in all parts of children’s lives. A raft of research linked a father’s active involvement with positive educational and social outcomes for kids, as well as a dad’s satisfaction with the role. Men embraced this ‘hands on dad mantra’ in droves.

It’s time to speak up
It’s time to ramp up father’s presence once again, but in a different way. The recent actions of some high profile representatives of the Millennial Generation – from being arrested in a $9000 a night hotel, through to cringe-worthy public antics - has many Australians scratching their heads in bewilderment. Quietly, many people are questioning the quality, or lack thereof, of the advice they receive from their fathers. Being present and involved in children’s lives isn’t enough per se for this current generation.

TIME magazine recently described this group as ‘a generation with narcissistic tendencies that contribute to a feeling of entitlement before they’ve achieved anything’. But an overblown sense of importance is only half the story. Growing up in a reality TV culture where everything is critiqued it is little wonder that today’s young people are perhaps the most critical generation that have ever lived – posting careless criticism of ideas, people and institutions at the tap of a finger at unfathomable speed, fast losing the art of thinking things through. So what’s a dad to do?

Reclaim your place
Part of the modern parenting malaise is that many fathers are unsure of their place when their children are unsocial, unfriendly or just plain painful in public.

It’s not just when kids act like brats that dads need to step forward. They need to be present when children and young people are hurt, fearful, lonely, sad and depressed. The best thing that they can bring to the table is their vulnerability and a willingness to talk about feelings. I suspect most adolescents would think likewise if asked.

The language of fathering is a very physical one. That is, many dads build relationships with their children through games and active pursuits. It’s very often how dads pass on important lessons such as fairness, persistence and winning and losing. If physicality is a bloke’s only strategy then a father is left out in the cold when his sons and daughters move into adolescence – well passed the playful age.

A man’s just got to talk to get his messages through. He can start by letting kids know when their behaviour is likely to offend others; when they behave like chumps when they are not yet champs; and when they need to show respect to those who’ve tread whatever path they are on before them. This is what great fathering is about in these interesting times in which we live.

MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
TAX HELP IS BACK !!!
Are your tax affairs simple?
Do you earn less than $50,000 ?
You could be eligible for FREE help with your tax return.

The Australian Taxation Office has appointed a trained volunteer to assist you with your 2014 -2015 tax return.

Appointments will be held every Monday.
Bookings essential.

For further information, or to make a booking, please phone:
Mordialloc Neighbourhood House on 9587 4534

You are cordially invited to attend the
60th Anniversary of MGSC
on Saturday 22nd August, 10am-3pm

Featuring Tours | Past Student Lounge | Food Stalls | Coffee Van
School Memorabilia | New Logo Unveiled at Midday
Decade Group Photos in the Gym from 12.20pm

MENTONE GIRLS’ SC NEWSLETTER
Edition 13 | 20 August 2015
### KEY DATES | AUGUST 2015

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**Remember:**

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – EVERY DAY COUNTS**

- **3** Gold Week: National Numeracy and Literacy week
- **5** Blue Week: Unit 4 Outdoor Education Camp
- **10** Gold Week: 60th Anniversary Open Day, 10am-3pm
- **14** Blue Week: 60th Birthday Celebrations at school
- **17** Gold Week: Yr 11 PE (P3 & lunch); Mentone Primary School
- **20** Blue Week: Market Day (Unit 1&2 Business Management students)
- **24** Gold Week: Vocal Night
- **25** Blue Week: Yr 7 Round Robin

**Note:**

- **10** Gold Week: Yr 11 PE (P3 & lunch); Mentone Primary School
- **18** Gold Week: Yr 11 PE (P3 & lunch); Mentone Primary School
- **20** Blue Week: Market Day (Unit 1&2 Business Management students)
- **21** Blue Week: Market Day (Unit 1&2 Business Management students)
- **24** Gold Week: National Numeracy and Literacy week

**Edition 13 | 20 August 2015**
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<td>Yr 12 Physics excursion; Synchrotron 1.30-8pm P/T/S Interview day/evening (pupil free)</td>
<td>Yr 11 Macbeth performance (P2&amp;3); LT, DR1 &amp; DR2</td>
<td>9OE Mountain Bike Riding; Lysterfield park, Narre Warren North Yr 8 Medieval Day Yr 12 English Expo</td>
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<td>Dizzy’s Jazz Band Performance; Richmond 11am-3.30pm Unit 2 PE excursion; X-Treme Trampoline park, Keysborough</td>
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<td>15 Yr 9 City Project presentation day COLLEGE COUNCIL 7.30-8.30pm PFA meeting; Main staffroom</td>
<td>16 9am College tour Last day SAT submissions 1-3.30pm Unit 2 PE; 1000 steps, Mt Dandenong</td>
<td>17 NEWSLETTER #13 COLLEGE ASSEMBLY No Yr 12 SACS after today 10am Mid Autumn festival morning tea; Conference room 7pm VCE recital evening</td>
<td>18 Last day of Term 3 Yr 12 English October test (4 shortened classes - early dismissal)</td>
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