PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It has been an incredibly busy two weeks since the last newsletter. The Year 7 and 9 students undertook NAPLAN assessments last week. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the students on the way they applied themselves to the tasks given, with a real sense of purpose and application. Results will be forwarded to parents in late August/early September and will further assist the staff to tailor learning for students.

The two Year 8 camps occurred last week and I was fortunate to visit the second camp on the Thursday. It was a real highlight to see the girls push themselves to complete activities and tasks that were initially confronting to them. With encouragement and support from their peers, many girls faced and overcame their fears, and the smiles when they succeeded were an indication of their satisfaction. Thank you to the staff who accompanied the girls on these camps.

I was also privileged to watch the VCE recital evening on Wednesday 18th May. Year 11 and 12 music students performed to each other and to families and friends as part of their music studies assessment. It again highlighted our students’ talent.

Continuing the music theme, this week we are looking forward to the annual House Music Competition. The House Captains have been working hard tohone the performances of their houses to hopefully win. Will Kenny make a clean sweep of the three major house events having won the Athletics and Swimming Carnivals? All will be revealed today.

Next week is examination week for Year 9, 10 and 11 students. Please read the information regarding the examinations in this newsletter.

Mr David Russell
Acting Principal

IN THIS EDITION
College Matters
ISP & ELC News
Student Wellbeing News
Senior School News
Middle School News
Junior School News
English
Science
Sport
Parenting Ideas
Key Dates

Year 7 Museum Excursion – Tuesday 7th June
Students must be at school by 8.30am in full winter school uniform, with a packed lunch, pencil, pen and blank page booklet. Buses will return by 3.15pm.

Available online at http://www.mgsc.vic.edu.au/newsletters

Cnr Balcombe & Charman Roads (PO Box 52), Mentone VIC 3194 | (03) 9581 5200
mentone.girls.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au | http://www.mgsc.vic.edu.au/
REPORT VERIFICATION SESSIONS

Two report verification sessions are coming up, requiring early finish days on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th June. The bell times for these days will be:

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SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATIONS

Semester 1 examinations will take place between Monday 30th May and Friday 3rd June. Year 11 exams run on all days. No Year 11 classes will run during this time. Year 11s will only be required at school for their exams. However, Year 11s undertaking a unit 3&4 subject must attend these classes unless an exam conflicts. Year 10 exams are scheduled for Wednesday 1st to Friday 3rd June. No Year 10 classes will run during this time. Year 10s will only be required at school for their exams. Year 9 exams are scheduled for Wednesday 1st to Friday 3rd June. No Year 9 classes will run during this time. Year 9s will only be required at school for their exams. Students may make use of the library for private study at other times. The examination timetable will be distributed to all students and can also be found on page 5 of this newsletter. Students are encouraged to arrive early and ensure they know their exam locations. Full winter uniform must be worn. A student in incorrect uniform may be required to sit the exam at an alternative time. If a student is unable to attend due to illness or another reason, parents should ring the absence line on 9581 5236. Students will be required to sit missed examination at another time. Normal examination rules apply and include NO talking or communication between students. Mobile phones, other electronic devices and bags must NOT be taken into the examination room and must be left in locked lockers. These examinations are important as this type of assessment is a significant part of the overall grade in Year 12 subjects. They assist in developing the skills necessary to achieve each student’s best performance.

Mr David Russell
Acting Principal

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM & ELC NEWS

Tomorrow we will celebrate the cultural diversity of our students by providing students and staff with an opportunity to participate in a zorba flash mob during recess and to wrap a rice roll with Ms Roberts during lunchtime. Many of the international students are excited about this as they have never participated in such events. Experiences like these enable them to understand how multiculturalism is an important part of Australian life.

Ms Ekaterina Xanthopoulos
ISP/ELC Manager

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

IDAHOT Day

On Tuesday 17th May MGSC celebrated IDAHOT day (International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia). Our same sex attracted and gender diverse group, the Equalities, made purple ribbons for the entire school which students and staff wore on the day. There was also a library display, and a question and answer box at each subschool. Thanks to everybody involved who helped celebrate such an important event.

Ms Leona Thomson
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

The Senior School is busy with the Year 11s coming into exam time on 30th May. Students should be focusing on organising their time effectively to give an equal amount of time to each subject in preparation for the final assessment. Students have been given great strategies for exam preparation and should revisit their exam tip booklets to remind
themselves of these techniques. Students will find their exam timetable on Compass and they need to familiarise themselves with their exam times as there will be no rescheduling of exams.

The GAT is an assessment requirement for all students completing a unit 3&4 subject this year. It will be held on Tuesday 7th June. Students are required to be at school by 9.15am in their full school uniform. Students should consider appropriate transport to ensure they arrive on time with the appropriate materials. Year 11s have completed a GAT preparation session and Year 12s will complete this session tomorrow. They will receive a handout outlining the appropriate materials allowed in the assessment and a copy of a previous GAT to familiarise themselves with the question style.

Students will commence their unit 2 and 4 classes shortly. They should take this time over the next couple of weeks to reassess their study habits and make any necessary changes to their study program in preparation for next semester.

Senior School Team

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Although all Middle School students and teachers are preparing for final semester assessments, we have been able to have some fun too.

On Friday 13th May, 30 Year 10 students braved the darkness of the school at night at our first ever sleepover. There was dancing, singing, movies and plenty of snacks. After only a few hours sleep, a hearty breakfast was made by Kate McMahon, Ms Ingold and Ms Chris. The students did a terrific job of cleaning the rooms the next morning and a number of them went off to Saturday sport commitments. It was a fun night and we are grateful to the teachers who were willing to devote their free time for this activity. Thank you to Ms Ingold, Mr Warden, Mr Bruhn, Mrs Duggan and Ms Chris.

Middle School has received funding which has enabled us to offer breakfast to students who skip a morning meal to get to school on time. The students are enjoying this short time before school, nourishing their bodies while building relationships and responsibility. We hope this will continue till the end of Term 3 and that the students will create a habit of eating breakfast and ensure they prepare their own and get to school on time in the future.

Middle School Team

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Year 8 Camp

Congratulations to all of the Year 8 girls who went to The Summit camp last week and achieved their target, ‘stretched’ or ‘superstretched’ to complete activities. The girls were a pleasure to take away and even though some of the activities were out of their comfort zone, they set their mind to it and gave it a go. It was wonderful to see girls encourage others to take that extra leap. The monster course was a challenge to many, but again, most girls faced their fears and embraced that mud. Seeing the girls realise that they had overcome their fears was also fantastic.

A huge thank you to the staff who attended, as they take time away from their families and organise work for missed classes. Thank you also to Ms Lisa Kosack and Ms Amanda O’Hara for organising such a great experience.

Junior School Team

ENGLISH

On Friday 20th May Year 11s enjoyed a Macbeth incursion whereby actors from a Shakespeare company performed key scenes. An interactive workshop followed which allowed students to speak with the actors. This session was invaluable for their outcome and exam preparation, and to enhance their knowledge of this classic play and the drama genre.

Year 11 students received GAT training last Friday afternoon and this Friday Year 12s will be provided with advice regarding the English component of the GAT.

The Year 7 Expo was successful and it was heartening to see the large number of parents admiring their daughters’ work and enjoying conversing with teachers and other parents. The overall winner of the prize for the best presentation will be announced shortly.

Caitlin Tasci of 7B performed in the Rotary Public Speaking Competition. Her topic was cruelty in the Greyhound Racing Industry. Caitlin was highly commended as she was easily the youngest speaker on the night. Well done Caitlin!

Ms Anne Gamble
English Domain Leader
SCIENCE

Science Club: Careers in Science

Tracy Teck Yong, Year 12 Science leader, organised a presentation for VCE students. She invited Dr Elena Tucker, a geneticist from the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, to speak about her career journey. Amongst Dr Tucker’s many achievements, she was one of three women awarded the 2014 L’Oréal for Women in Science Fellowship. She spoke about her research into mitochondrial disease as well as her use of high-throughput gene sequencing technology to study individuals who have experienced menopause in childhood or adolescence. Students had the opportunity to ask about her research and the challenges scientists face in their careers. For more information visit: http://stories.scienceinpublic.com.au/loreal/solving-rare-disease-mysteries/#more-8339

Do you know a Scientist that would be able to share their story? Please contact Louise Rieniets at the school.

Ms Louise Rieniets
Science Domain Leader

SPORT

Year 7-9 and Year 10-12 played football earlier in the term in a Round Robin at LePage Park, Cheltenham. Both teams won quite easily. Their next round is on the 28th July in the SMR finals.

The B Senior Netball team won the Beachside competition and will play on the 4th August in the SMR finals. Tomorrow Intermediate Handball, Netball, Badminton and Soccer are playing in the Beachside competition. Good luck girls.

Mr Phil Hull
Interschool Sport Coordinator

Junior Footy

On the 4th May, several Year 7 and 9 girls participated in the girls footy competition. It was a successful day. The girls played four games against Cheltenham, Elwood, Mac.Rob and Albert Park. The girls won three of the games and drew for one, advancing through to the second round. The day was fun and it was good to see the girls getting involved. Well done girls.

Nat Desylva & Chelsea Bowen 9A
Student Coaches

www.mgscsports.com

All of the College’s sport updates, results and photos can be found on www.mgscsports.com along with Sporting Star interviews.

Mr Anthony Bruhn
Carnivals Coordinator

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATON FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Schools can provide students with learning experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. They are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for the CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

• $125 for primary school students
• $225 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
All students with approved special exam arrangements will sit their exams in Room S6.

**Friday 3rd May**

1. J2 & J1 General Mathematics Unit 1 - Exam 2
2. J2 Specialist Mathematics Unit 1 - Exam 1
3. J1 Visual Communication & Design Unit 1
4. J2 Legal Studies
5. J2 Theatre Studies Unit 1

**Wednesday 1st June**

1. 1B & 20 Chemistry Unit 1
2. 12 Art Unit 1
3. 2A & 2B Mathematical Methods Unit 1 - Exam 2
4. J1 & J2 Biology Unit 1
5. J2 Media Unit 1
6. J4 J1 Legal Studies
7. J4 J2 Theatre Studies Unit 1

**Thursday 2nd June**

1. 18, 20, 12 & P1 General Mathematics Unit 1 - Exam 2
2. J2 History Unit 1
3. 18 Physical Education Unit 1
4. J1 Business Management Unit 1
5. J2 French Unit 1
6. J4 J1 Sociology Unit 1
7. J2 Japanese Unit 1
8. J2A Product Design & Technology Unit 1

**Friday 3rd June**

1. J1 J2 History and Human Development Unit 1
2. J1 J2 Visual Communication & Design Unit 1
3. J1 J2 Visual Performance Unit 1
4. J1 J2 Physical Education Unit 1

**Tuesday 31st May**

1. J2 & J1 General Mathematics Unit 1 - Exam 1
2. J1 Specialist Mathematics Unit 1 - Exam 1
3. J1 Visual Communication & Design Unit 1
4. J1 & J2 Psychology Unit 1

**Monday 2nd June**

1. 1B & 20 Mathematical Methods Unit 1 - Exam 2
2. J1 Visual Communication & Design Unit 1
3. J1 & J2 Biology Unit 1
4. J2 Literature Unit 1
5. J1, J2 & J15 English Language Unit 1
6. J2 Food Technology Unit 1

**Wednesday 1st June**

1. 1B & 20 Chemistry Unit 1
2. 12 Art Unit 1
3. 2A & 2B Mathematical Methods Unit 1 - Exam 2
4. J1 & J2 Biology Unit 1
5. J2 Media Unit 1
6. J4 J1 Legal Studies
7. J4 J2 Theatre Studies Unit 1

**Thursday 2nd June**

1. 18, 20, 12 & P1 General Mathematics Unit 1 - Exam 2
2. J2 History Unit 1
3. 18 Physical Education Unit 1
4. J1 Business Management Unit 1
5. J2 French Unit 1
6. J4 J1 Sociology Unit 1
7. J2 Japanese Unit 1
8. J2A Product Design & Technology Unit 1

**Friday 3rd June**

1. J1 J2 History and Human Development Unit 1
2. J1 J2 Visual Communication & Design Unit 1
3. J1 J2 Visual Performance Unit 1
4. J1 J2 Physical Education Unit 1

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**HOW TO MANAGE TEEN BEHAVIOUR AND MAINTAIN A STRONG RELATIONSHIP**

By Michael Grosche

One of the biggest challenges parents of teenagers face is how to maintain a good relationship with a young person while managing also their sometimes tricky and anti-social behaviour. The balance between good guy and bad guy is precarious indeed.

There are two simple strategies, when used in tandem can really help parents straddle this great divide. They are - following through and following up.

**Following through to teach responsibility**

‘Following through’ means doing what you say you’ll do. If you say “You’re grounded” yet then let a young person off the hook when they came home from an outing later than agreed, you are merely issuing a meaningless threat. Most young people know a meaningless threat when they hear one.

‘Following through’ is about taking parent action and the most appropriate action is the use of behavioural consequences. When young people behave poorly, irresponsibly, transgress family rules or someone’s individual rights, then the experience of a negative consequence teaches them that there is a link between their behaviour and outcomes.

It’s important that the consequence issued matches the misdemeanour. When we go too far – “you’re grounded for the term” – then we generally get resentment. Not strong enough – “you should apologise” and they become ineffective. It also helps when consequences are related to the misdemeanour.

**Following up to reconnect**

It’s easy to lock a young person out emotionally following a behaviour meltdown or disagreement, particularly when they’ve said or done hurtful things. Once the dust has settled after discipline, it’s time to follow-up with a kind word, an enjoyable activity or even just a sincere smile. It generally takes the adult in the relationship – parents or teachers – to make the move to reconnect on an even keel.

Following through and following up are a dynamic discipline duo when they are used together as they help parents straddle the good guy, bad guy line that seems to appear on almost a daily basis. Use them in tandem and you’re more than likely hit the right parenting mark.
EQUAL SAFE & STRONG

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION.

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN FURTHER SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AND THE SCHOOL TO PROMOTE RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EQUAL, SAFE AND STRONG PROGRAM TAKING PLACE IN YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOL.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 8, 2016
7.00 - 8.30 PM
MENTONE GIRLS' SECONDARY COLLEGE
LECTURE THEATRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CONTACT LEONA THOMSON
thomson.leona.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

2016 making waves
Front cover competition

DO YOU WANT YOUR WORK ON THE FRONT COVER OF THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE?
THEN ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS MAKE SOME KIND OF CREATIVE ORIGINAL PIECE OF ART AND GIVE IT TO MARCIE IN THE GENERAL OFFICE OR SEND IT TO KONSOULAS.MARCE.M@EDUMAIL.VIC.GOV.AU

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**KEY DATES | JUNE 2016**

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- **1** Yr 7 & 8 Band Evening
- **2** Year 9 Exams
- **3** Year 10 Exams
- **4** Year 11 Exam week
- **5**
- **6** Report Writing Day (student free)
- **7** GAT
- **8** Semester 2 commences
- **9** NEWSLETTER #9
- **10**
- **11**
- **12**
- **13** Queen's Birthday Holiday
- **14**
- **15** College Assembly
- **16** 9am College Tour
- **17** Yr 7 Brainstorm Productions Incursion P4
- **18**
- **19**
- **20**
- **21**
- **22**
- **23** NEWSLETTER #10
- **24** Last day of Term 2 (early finish 2.15pm)
- **25**
- **26**
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**HOLIDAYS**

- **7** MENTONE GIRLS’ SC NEWSLETTER
  Edition 8 | 26 May 2016
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- **HOLIDAYS**
- Nakamura visitors arrive (til 6th August)
- Year 9 Camp