PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Whilst we are only in November, we have had a very busy end to the 2016 academic year. The students have all finished their classes for the year and have commenced their 2017 timetable for Headstart. This is both an exciting and challenging time for the students as they enter classrooms with unfamiliar faces. But for parents, I say, do not be concerned. Our wonderful teachers have a toolbox of strategies to assist students with developing their resilience during this transition period and the girls will emerge stronger because of this. Whilst I know this can be an unsettling time for adolescents, it can also be the making of them.

I visited the girls who were undertaking the Peer Support Training as well last week and thanked them for their leadership in this important area. Welcoming the 2017 Year 7 students into the school is so vital to them becoming confident, happy and thoughtful members of the MGSC student community. They will not only be role models for them but they will be support people and network builders for these fledgling high school students.

It was a pleasure to greet families at the Presentation Night on Tuesday evening and celebrate the achievements of our students. These awards signify the hard work and achievements of our students and they exemplify the school motto of Virtute Et Labore (courage and work). This is significant. To all the recipients – I hope you enjoyed the moment and remember it.

It was also an opportunity to celebrate the ultimate achievement of the Year 12 graduating class. The last ten months of learning is now behind them and they have completed their last exam. They wore their school uniform for the last time on that night and this was both sad and exciting.

Many teachers have guided the graduating class over the last 13 years, from Kindergarten to Year 12 - from childhood to adulthood. The last year of their schooling was the home stretch of this amazing journey of discovery and they have crossed the finish line. When the girls received their graduation certificates it symbolised an amazing achievement for which every teacher who has taught them felt a sense of pride. This is because it is the core of what we strive for as educators. It is our moral purpose and what gives meaning to our profession.

Ms Linda Brown
Principal
COLLEGE MATTERS

Blazer Pocket Information

In consultation with our uniform supplier, Costume World in Cheltenham, various items of uniform will be replaced with the new logo once existing stocks are sold. All items of uniform will be expected to have the new logo for the commencement of the 2018 school year.

The following arrangement applies for the transition of our ‘old’ blazer pockets to those with the new logo.

There are two types of blazers currently in circulation: those with a sewn in lining and those with a zip lining. The price for adjustments depends on which type of blazer is returned, and whether it has been dry-cleaned beforehand. Colour matching may not be 100% due to wear/fading of blazers due to cleaning and general wear, and also the slight pigment changes in fabric from batch to batch.

Following Presentation Evening on 22nd November, all blazers can be returned to Costume World so they can be sent to the manufacturer who will replace old pockets with a closely matched new pocket.

Blazers must be received at Costume World by 26th November so all work can be completed in readiness for collection in January. Blazers returned after this date will incur an additional charge ($5 -$10 depending on when the blazer is handed in to Costume World). ALL blazers must be clearly named with either an iron on/sewn on nametag, or very clear indelible fabric pen.

Costs for this to occur are met by College families, with the following options:

PRICE FROM THE SUPPLIER:

- For a blazer with the zip lining: Dry-cleaning $8.50, return freight $2, supply & sew pocket $27.50  
  TOTAL COST $38. If blazer is freshly dry-cleaned by customer $29.50 for supply & sew & return freight
- For a blazer with a sewn in lining: Dry-cleaning $8.50, return freight $2, supply & sew pocket $35.50  
  TOTAL COST $46.00. If blazer is freshly dry-cleaned by customer $37.50 for supply & sew & return freight
- Supply pocket only $20.

PRICE FROM THE COSTUME WORLD TAILOR:

- For the blazers with a zip lining it will be $12 + ($20 for the pocket) total $32.
- For the blazers with a sewn in lining it will be $18 + ($20 for the pocket) total $38.

Families will need proof of dry-cleaning (i.e receipt) when they hand their blazers in (OHS requirement). This is not negotiable.

Please ensure you put all of the key dates in your diary to ensure this process goes smoothly for your family. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Ms Carol Duggan
Assistant Principal

Report Verification Days

Staff will be reading through all of the reports on Wednesday 30th November and Thursday 1st December so all students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on these days. The bell times will be as follows:

- Period 1  8.50am - 9.55am
- Recess      9.55am - 10.20am
- Period 2  10.20am - 11.25am
- Period 3  11.25am - 12.30pm
- Lunch    12.30pm - 1.25pm
- Period 4  1.25pm - 2.30pm

Mr David Russell
Assistant Principal

MGSC CURRICULUM NEWS

2017 Booklists

All MGSC students and parents should have received their 2017 MGSC booklists. Please ensure you meet the time deadlines on the booklists to ensure a smooth start to your daughter’s 2017 academic year.

Details regarding the Campion ordering of texts, and the ordering of electronic texts through independent suppliers, are outlined on page three of each booklist. Please read these instructions with great care.

Further access to all MGSC year level booklists can be gained through the Curriculum section of the MGSC website.
2017 Headstart

The MGSC 2017 Headstart program commenced on Monday 21st November 2016 and is designed to connect students with their teachers, subject matter and peers in their 2017 classes. VCE and many other subject teachers will set homework to be completed over the summer break. Students will return in 2017 confident in their timetables, course expectations and with their first learning task well underway.

2017 Assessment and Reporting

MGSC staff have been working in teams to commence online progress reporting in 2017. Twice-yearly semester reports will continue to provide holistic judgements on student performance, student progress against national benchmarks and improvement strategies. Additionally, feedback on specific Assessment Tasks in all subjects will be delivered regularly throughout each term in 2017 via Compass. This will make communication on progress to parents and students more specific and timely, thus providing authentic feedback to reinforce good learning habits or hasten interventions where necessary.

This new system will require the development of new habits, so regular instructions on access and procedures will be issued throughout 2017 in this newsletter and through Compass emails.

Ms Nola Rees
Head of Curriculum and Enhancement

COMPASS INTERNET ADDRESS CHANGE

Please be advised that the address used to access Compass School Manager has changed to mgsc-vic.compass, education, which offers improvements to speed and reliability. If you maintain bookmarks or favourites in your web browser, replace the old address with this new address as soon as practical. The old address will continue to operate until the end of the year.

Phil Pearson
ICT Manager

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM & ELC NEWS

We wish all the students good luck as they head into Headstart. Thank you to the ELC Peer Support students for supporting the ELC students, and to all those students who participated in various ISP activities and celebrations. Your participation demonstrates how our international students are made to feel included by the whole school community. Many new and caring friendships have formed within this program that reveal how friendship is not necessarily about common interests but about a sense of being connected across a community.

To the current VCE students who have just completed their Units 3-4 examinations, good luck and we wish you all the best in the future.

Finally, thank you to Ms Erwin who has been in the ELC in the last 18 months as a Science and Maths teacher. Your professionalism and thoughtful nature has allowed the students to feel safe, happy and successful as ELC graduates. As Ms Erwin moves into the teaching of senior classes, Ms Briedis will be joining us, and together, we look forward to teaching exciting and innovative ELC classes in 2017.

Ms Ekaterina Xanthopoulos
ISP & ELC Manager

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Senior students were excited and apprehensive to begin their VCE studies in Headstart. During the next two weeks the students will be taking on the seriousness of their studies and will have some holiday homework to complete.

The new Senior Sub School team for 2017 is:

- Sub School Leader: Ms Christopoulos
- Year 12 Managers: Ms Holman and Mrs Liakos
- Year 11 Managers: Mr Day and Ms Kosack

Please be reminded that if students are absent we need a phone call to the Senior Office on 9581 5231.

Senior School Team
MEDIA
Made In Melbourne Film Festival

A big congrats to Year 12 Media student, Fiona Sanderson. Her live-action/stop animation VCE Media film ‘Mr Sandman’ was accepted as a finalist in the Made in Melbourne Film Festival. This is now becoming a long list of VCE and Year 10 Media students who have had their films shown in this growing film festival.

This year the festival runs on a Sunday afternoon in South Melbourne. If anyone would like to attend, Fiona can only win the ‘High School’ category with an audience award so the more people voting for her, the better her chances are.

Sunday 11th December, 2pm, The Backlot Studios, 65 Haig St, South Melbourne

Tickets can be purchased for $10 at the following link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/made-in-melbourne-film-festival-2016-tickets-29065004210

Ms Lisa Blumenstein
Media Teacher

ENGLISH
Heastart affords the students the opportunity to meet their teachers and classmates and begin course familiarisation. In English we offer discrete resources and programs given that students won’t purchase texts until the summer holidays. We use this work as the springboard for the rest of the year, but in the case of VCE units, the time is invaluable for allowing us to complete some of the work.

Ms Anne Gamble
English Domain Leader

SPORT
Year 8 Basketball – State Final

Our Year 8 Basketball team made it through to the State Final held at MSAC on Monday 14th November. They played three games that were all very close, they won one and lost two. The standard of play was outstanding by all members of the team.

The girls had a successful day of improvement, fun and great team work. Their first game was against Maribyrnong Sports Academy. The girls put in a hard battle and defended really well against some very tall players but unfortunately they lost by eight points. Their second game was against Lavalla Catholic College from Traralgon. Again they played really well, moved the ball around the court and scored well. Unfortunately they lost by four points. Lavalla ended up winning the Year 8 Basketball State flag in the final against Bendigo. MGSC played Templestowe College in our third game and won by four points. All eight players should be congratulated on their efforts.

The team consisted of April Brake, Mikala Clarke, Maddy Geist, Uma Miles-McCabe, Paige Price, Marion Scully, Sanju Suresh and Daisy Walker.

A big thanks to Barry McCabe for coaching the girls on the day.

Ms Stefanie Jager

MATHS @ MGSC
Congratulations

A collective sigh of relief has engulfed our Year 9-12 students over the last couple of weeks. All exams have been completed and all but our Year 12 students have received their results.

We congratulate students who have applied themselves to their studies and done their best. Results should be reviewed to see how this impacts future studies, but these results should not define a person. It is the journey one travels that matters in life, so students should continue to set their sights high and good things will come to those who remember to apply themselves to every task at hand.

A special mention to our 2016 Year 12 Maths students. They leave the school with the knowledge they have set a wonderful example for others to follow and take with them the best wishes from the entire MGSC community.
Make a Good Headstart

Our 2017 Year 8 – 12 classes are now underway via our Headstart program. This provides a wonderful opportunity for students to be settled into their new classes and do some vital preparations for their 2017 studies. Teachers have developed an engaging program of activities to start students on the right foot.

Less than 15 school days until the end of the year, so students should do their best and remember... “Maths makes a real and imaginary difference.”

Maths Curriculum Area Team

HOW TO ENCOURAGE KIDS TO BE PROBLEM-SOLVERS

By Michael Grose

When parents solve all children’s problems we not only increase their dependency on adults but we teach kids to be afraid of making mistakes and to blame themselves for not being good enough. That’s fertile ground for anxiety and depressive illness.

So, how can we raise kids to be courageous problem-solvers rather than self-critical scaredy cats? Here are three practical ideas to get you started.

1. Turn requests into problems for kids to solve
Kids get used to bringing their problems to parents to solve. If you keep solving them, they’ll keep bringing them. ‘Mum, my sister is annoying me!’ ‘Dad, can you ask my teacher to pick me for the team?’ ‘Hey, I can’t find my socks!’ It’s tempting if you are in a time-poor family to simply jump in and help kids out. Alternatively, you can take a problem-solving approach, cuing them to resolve their own problems and take responsibility for their concerns.

   ‘What can you do to make her stop annoying you?’
   ‘What’s the best approach to take with your teacher?’
   ‘Socks, smocks! Where might they be?’

2. Ask good questions to prompt problem-solving
A problem-solving approach relies on asking good questions, which can be challenging if you are used to solving your child’s problems. The first question when a child brings you a problem should be: ‘Can you handle this on your own?’ Next should be, ‘What do you want me to do to help you solve the problem?’ These questions are not meant to deter children from coming to you; rather, to encourage and teach them to start working through their own concerns themselves.

3. Coach them through problems and concerns
So, your child feels she was unfairly left out of a school sports team by a teacher and asks you get involved. The easiest solution may be to meet with the teacher and find out what’s going on. You may or not resolve the problem but in doing so you are teaching a child to become dependent on you. Alternatively, you could coach your child to speak to the teacher herself and find out why she was left out. Obviously, there are times when children need their parents to be advocates for them such as when they are being bullied, but we need to make the most of the opportunities for children to speak for themselves. Better to help your child find the right words to use and discuss the best way to approach another person when they have problems. These are great skills to take into adulthood.

KARATE CLASSES
Aspendale Gardens Community Centre

Want to start learning real Japanese Karate but don’t have any experience or don’t have a uniform (dobu)?

In these new classes, facilitated by the Japanese Karate Association (JKA), everybody aged between 6 and 65 is welcome, whether you have no experience or decades of experience in Karate or any other martial art.

A globally accredited volunteer instructor with more than 30 years of experience who is a local to Aspendale Gardens will bring this authentic Japanese martial art to the AGCS.

The sessions offer a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to train alongside each other and share in the joy of this ancient martial art.

Term 4 | Wed 6.30pm – 7.30pm | Sat 2.30pm – 3.30pm
$132 per 11 classes + insurance

Bookings Essential 9587 5955
Aspendale Gardens Community Service
35-45 Kwoyly Drive Aspendale Gardens 3195

Proudly Supported by:

buxton

Sundridge Rotary Christmas Fun Walk, Bike & Food Drive

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016
Parade starts at 9:30am
Walking/riding from the Sandy Football Oval to Green Point

Only $10/family
To enter & for more details visit sandringhamrotaryclub.org.au

Entertainment provided by

PAUL JANIESON

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ATKINSON + PONTIFER

WEBPLUS .com.au

FOOD BANK

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Children Adults Seniors

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FOOD BANK
## Key Dates | November 2016

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- **Remember:** 
  - **School Attendance – Every Day Counts**

**Headstart – Week 1**

**Headstart – Week 2**

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## KEY DATES | DECEMBER 2016

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**School Holidays**

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