PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It has been pleasing to see the number of families wishing to enrol their daughters at the College. The level of interest has seen the decision taken to have an additional Year 7 class next year. This has now been factored into our planning for 2017. Overall there has been a significant increase in student numbers at all year levels for 2017, a very pleasing situation.

We have commenced our Grade 6 to Year 7 transition process with Music Information Nights run by Anna Berlingeri. These are the first part of the transition process that will occur over the term.

On Monday 17th October we will farewell our Year 12 students at their final formal assembly. On Tuesday 18th October, the Year 12s will have their traditional assembly for the rest of the school where they run the agenda, reflect on their year and organise entertaining games for the teachers. That evening they will celebrate with their families at Valedictory Dinner. The girls have represented the school exceptionally well and I wish them well for their final examinations. Thanks to Jo Egan, Deb Jarvis, Leah Liakos and Clare Selir for their work with the Year 12 students over the course of the year.

The MGSC Art & Design Awards will be held at 6pm on Friday 15th October in the Media Centre. All are welcome to attend. This is a wonderful celebration of the talented students we have at this school; many pieces of work are tertiary or gallery standard. I congratulate all the girls whose work is to be exhibited and their teachers for the guidance and support they have given their students throughout the year.

Finally, this is my final Principal’s Report as Acting Principal. I have had the privilege of working in this position over the past year and have thoroughly enjoyed the role and the demands and responsibilities that have come with it. I thank the whole school community for their support throughout this time.

Mr David Russell
Acting Principal
COLLEGE MATTERS

No Parking Within School Grounds

A reminder to all families that car parking within school grounds is not permitted. Please support this and ensure the safety of your family members.

Melbourne Weather!

With four seasons in one day at the moment, students are able to wear either FULL summer or winter uniform to school. Scarves are NOT to be worn with summer uniform please. All student should be in summer uniform from the beginning of November.

Opportunity to Attend Alpine Leadership School in 2017 – Year 9 Students

I am pleased to announce we have secured four places at the Gnurad Gundidj campus of the Alpine Leadership school in 2017. All current Year 8 students will be given a letter to take home this week which explains what the camp is all about. Previous attendees were present at the Year 8 assembly on Friday 14th October to answer questions from interested students. The duration of the camp is five weeks during Term 4 (Sunday 12th November - Saturday 16th December 2017).

New Logo and Blazers

Mentone Girls’ Secondary College introduced a new logo in 2015. 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. With this in mind, all items of uniform will be expected to have the new logo for the commencement of the 2018 school year. Arrangements for the transition of our ‘old’ blazer pockets to the new logo will be communicated by letter and email shortly, however families will have a variety of options to ensure blazers are updated in readiness for the 2017 year. For your information:

- 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.
- 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).
- 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: Drycleaning $8.50, return freight $2, supply & sew pocket $27.50 TOTAL COST $38.00. If blazer is freshly drycleaned by customer $29.50 for supply & sew & return freight
    - For a blazer with a sewn in lining: Drycleaning $8.50, return freight $2, supply & sew pocket $35.50 TOTAL COST $46.00. If blazer is freshly drycleaned 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.
  - ALL blazers must be clearly named with either an iron on/sewn on nametag, or very clear indelible fabric pen.

Ms Carol Duggan
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

The first year of my role as parent member on the school council is nearly coming to an end and so is the year for the VCE students. These are exciting times at MGSC, with a feeling of relief for students and staff, no doubt. As students enter the next phase of their lives, it’s important to remember to always ‘think outside the square’ when possible, as there are many opportunities to be had and ‘to believe in yourself and you are half way there’ with whatever life throws at you.

I am also impressed to see the opportunities the students have at all levels e.g French trip, Alpine leadership conference, sporting events and school camps, to name but a few.
School Council and Acting Principal Mr Russell have been proactive at securing new portables, pathways and car parking. We are always looking at ways we can assist in improving the College.

Mark Weatherley

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM & ELC NEWS

The students had a wonderful time last term at the Mid-Autumn Festival luncheon. Several of the students gave speeches explaining the importance of the festival and how it is celebrated in China. Nicola Reeves also spoke about her role as a Peer Support student for the ELC students and how it is important to exchange knowledge and cultural practices so that we learn from one another.

During the holidays, a couple of students attended the International Student Excursion to see a film and have lunch. The students had great fun!

Upcoming events: Diwali and the Sovereign Hill excursion for the ELC students and their Peer Support friends.

Ms Ekaterina Xanthopoulos
ISP & ELC Manager

WORLD CHALLENGE

Only two months to go before the expedition to Peru departs from Melbourne. I hope all of the Challengers had time over the holidays to arrange their vaccinations and get their kit sorted. Now would be a great time to ensure the Challengers start (or maintain) regular exercise, especially carrying weights in a backpack or daypack.

On Friday 18th November, there will be the last World Challenge group meeting in the VCE Centre for the Challengers from 1.15 to 5pm to check their medical details and their kit and to discuss final expedition details.

The students will be expected to bring their PACKED BACKPACK (as if they were leaving that day but without their spending money) to this meeting – the backpack should have approx 10L spare room for group gear.

The fortnightly Tuesday Gold walks start again, starting at the middle school office at 3.30pm.

Mr Michael Warden

EUROPEAN TOUR WITH THE AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR

I recently spent three weeks touring with The Australian Girls Choir. I was one of only 56 girls selected Australia wide. We travelled to London, Mansfield, Villers Bretonneux, Paris, Venice, Marostica and Rome. During this time we performed 16 concerts ranging from small concerts for local community to much larger ones. We performed at schools, churches and an Australian Embassy. We did workshops with other choirs and schools, and of course fit in some sightseeing and shopping. I was also lucky enough to get my first solo with the choir which was really confidence building. I stayed with five different host families which was an amazing experience. Some hardly spoke any English so Google translate came in handy. The highlight was performing for the Pope at The Vatican in front of over 50,000 people. I am very grateful for this experience.

Meg Walker 9B

GEOGRAPHY

During regular Year 7ALL classes in Term 4, students will be taking part in excursions to Mentone Beach to complete ‘Annotated Field Sketches’ and ‘Drainage Basin Models’ in their study of Geography skills. Students will be escorted by their usual 7ALL teachers as they walk along Charman Road to the local beach. They will only need to bring a pencil, folder or something to lean work sheets on, along with beach buckets and spades etc if they wish.

Please direct any further enquiries to me on 9581 5200 or email howells.adam.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Mr Adam Howells
7ALL Program Coordinator
ENGLISH
Some of our students entered into the ‘EducationPerfect’ world championships for English. Many received commendations, but Georgia and Zoe Vogelsang, and Olivia Rybinski were recognised with Gold Awards.
The Kingston Council has organised the Ink About It Competition. The theme for the writing pieces is ‘The Hero’ and it closes on 15th October. All students were emailed the details and instructions to enter. Please encourage your daughters to become involved. The prize is a $500 Westfield voucher, but it also helps develop the students’ writing.
Alison Fiddes, Catilyn Elms, Chloe Corcoran, Leila Youngi Lu and Chloe Boul all participated in the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards and received certificates for their efforts.

Ms Anne Gamble
English Domain Leader

SCIENCE
Science Champions
Congratulations to Mrs Selir’s 10G Science class, the Science Champions and winners of the pizza lunch. Together they answered the most ‘Education Perfect Science Championship’ questions in the school during Science Week.

Ms Louise Rieniets
Science Domain Leader

HEALTH & PE
Health & PE Week (10 October-15 October)
This week is Health & Physical Education week. To celebrate we will have lots of activities happening at lunch time in the gym including, skipping, badminton, dodgeball and a staff v student netball match. The circuit room will also be open each day.
To start the week Mr Bruhn challenged the students to the Beep Test. Mr Bruhn was the clear winner scoring 13.1. Well done to Sarsha Berntsen and Olivia Davies who both scored 10.1. Well done to all participants.

Ms Jackie Mathews
Health & PE Domain Leader

MATHS @ MGSC
Only One Term To Go
Our Year 12 Maths students are within two weeks of their first exams. We wish them all the best and encourage them to spend the remaining few days on constructive revision with a clear focus on completing practise exams. Year 9-11 students will have their own exams. Similarly, they need to be well progressed in their revision and preparations.
Again, we would like to share some proven approaches to achieving the best possible results in these exams:
• ensure you complete all outstanding coursework and assignments
• revise topics throughout the coming weeks
• prepare summary notes including sample questions and answers
• VCE students can access prior year VCAA exams via the links on our MGSC Maths Google website
• identify any areas of weakness and spend extra revision time on these
• undertake trial exams in simulated exam conditions
• prepare a set of flash cards for each topic – sample questions on one side and solutions on the other
• set up a specific study timetable
• work with your friends in a study group with the focus on revision
• review your progress each two weeks and fine-tune your revision plan accordingly.

Education Perfect Maths Championship
We wish to acknowledge the efforts of the students who competed in the online 2016 Education Perfect Maths Championships. Students received the following awards:
• 5 Gold Awards

Don’t forget to visit www.mgscsports.com for sports news!
• 3 Silver Awards
• 6 Bronze Awards
• 13 Credit Awards

Gold awards will be presented to students in the College Assembly on 4th November, while other awards have been distributed via classroom teachers. Well done.

Less than 45 school days until the end of the year, so do your best and remember... “Maths makes a real and imaginary difference.”

Maths Curriculum Area Team

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PARENTING IDEAS: TEACH KIDS TO PROBLEM SOLVE
By Michael Grose

When parents solve all children’s problems we not only increase their dependency on adults but we teach them to be afraid of making mistakes. That’s fertile ground for anxiousness and perfectionism, which often go hand in hand.

Kids get used to bringing their problems to parents to solve. Of course, 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?”

Here are 5 questions you can ask kids to encourage them to resolve their own problems:

1. “Can you solve this yourself?”
Get kids thinking they can do it.

2. “What do you think needs to happen?”
Start kids thinking about solving problems.

3. “What’s the first step?”
Sometimes just getting kids started is enough to get them working out issues themselves.

4. “How would you like me to help?”
Get kids considering the type of assistance they need.

5. “What’s the best way to do this?”
Get kids assessing and prioritising.

Problem-solving is one of the four major skills (optimism, social skills & independence being the others) that resilient kids share, yet it’s the one that many of us aren’t equipped to develop. Start by stepping back and asking good questions when kids bring you their problems to solve.
# KEY DATES | OCTOBER 2016

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<td><strong>Middle School study skills program - Session 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yr 10 Inside the Human Body; Monash Clayton</strong></td>
<td><strong>Year 11 Theatre Studies performances</strong></td>
<td><strong>MGSC Art &amp; Design Awards; Media Centre</strong></td>
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<td><strong>College Assembly</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Past students’ 15 &amp; 20 year reunion</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Middle School study skills program - Session 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Year 12 Valedictory Dinner</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Handball/ touch rugby (selected students)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yr 12 exams commence</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Yr 7 Cricket SMR</strong></td>
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**HOLIDAYS**

**REMINDER:**

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – EVERY DAY COUNTS**
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**MENTONE GIRLS' SC NEWSLETTER**
Edition 16 | 13 October 2016