

NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This is my first Principal's Report to the Mentone Girls' Secondary College Community and I am very excited to be joining you all at this wonderful place of learning. I officially started on Tuesday and I have already met all of the Year 7 students. I visited them as they participated in their classes – Textiles, Science, Food Technology and in the JLC. It was a lovely experience.

But I am no stranger to MGSC. I was a teacher here from 1995 to the end of 2004 and I understand and treasure the rich culture of this school. I then moved to Melbourne Girls' College in 2005 and held a number of leadership positions before becoming an Assistant Principal in 2007 where I remained until Monday. It is a surreal feeling to be back – almost like waking from a dream. Much has changed here but at the heart the soul (and some teachers) of MGSC remain the same.

This means that I have worked in girls' education for over 22 years and I can assure you that you have sent your daughter to the very best school in which to flourish academically and personally. At MGSC we have a focus on developing girls' leadership skills, their resilience, their respect for self and others, and belonging and contributing to their community.

The partnership forged between school and home is borne of a desire to nurture and develop young women to be global citizens confident to take their place in the world alongside other inspiring women throughout history. The world of tomorrow is here already. Books are often out of date soon after they are printed and knowledge and understanding is developing at a fast pace. The cost of entry to this world is flexibility of thought, adaptability and portability of skills, creativity, and the ability to problem solve and work in teams. That is our focus at Mentone Girls' Secondary College.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank David Russell for acting in the role of Principal during Deborah's absence and to Gayle Steinfort for stepping into the role of Assistant Principal. I also want to acknowledge Carol Duggan (Assistant Principal) and Inny Smit (Business Manager) for their contribution in keeping MGSC moving forward.

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to acknowledge the 19 years of Deborah Lehner in the role of Principal. She has accomplished much with regards to the building projects at the school as well as the area of curriculum development and innovation. Her warm personality and the way in which she related to the families and community at MGSC will not be forgotten.

I look forward to meeting you at our various events over the next year and beyond.

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Ms Linda Brown
Principal

SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATIONS

Semester 2 examinations will take place between Monday 7th and Friday 11th November.

Year 11 exams run on all days. There will be no Year 11 classes during this time. Year 11 students will only be required at school when they have an exam. However, if any Year 11 students are undertaking a Unit 3/4 subject they must attend these scheduled classes unless they have an exam at that time.

Year 10 exams are scheduled for Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th November. There will be no Year 10 classes during this time. Year 10 students will only be required at school when they have an exam.

Year 9 exams are scheduled for Thursday 10th and Friday 11th November. There will be no Year 9 classes during this time. Year 9 students will only be required at school when they have an exam.

Students are free to make use of the library for private study at other times.

The examination timetable will be distributed to all students.

Students are encouraged to arrive early and to ensure they know the location of their exams. Full summer uniform is to be worn. If a student arrives to an exam in incorrect uniform they may be required to sit it at an alternative time.

If for some reason a student is unable to attend due to illness or any other reason, parents are asked to ring the absence line. Students will be required to sit the missed examination at another time.

Students are reminded that normal examination rules apply and include NO talking or communication between students in the examination room. In addition, 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 for students as this type of assessment is a significant part of the overall grade in Year 12 subjects. They assist in developing the skills that are necessary to achieve the students' best performance.

Mr David Russell
Assistant Principal

PRESENTATION EVENING

This year Presentation Evening is being held on Tuesday 22nd November at Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University, commencing at 8pm sharp.

Presentation Evening is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students in a wide range of areas, including academic achievement, leadership, community service, music, drama and sport. There are prizes for outstanding achievement in each year level. At the conclusion of the evening we farewell our graduating class of 2016 and wish them well in their future endeavours.

The guest speaker is always a past student. This year it is Ms Kylie Watson-Wheeler, General Manager Disney Consumer Products and Retail, Australia and New Zealand

Students who are receiving an award do not have to book tickets. They will sit in allocated seats.

Tickets are free and all parents and students not receiving an award who would like to attend will need to book tickets. The links to book your complimentary tickets are either: <http://tinyurl.com/hs4qshj> - this is a direct link or on the website www.monash.edu/mapa - go to 'Buy tickets'. The links are also on the school website.

Please note that prams, baby capsules, flowers or any large item are not permitted in the auditorium but will need to go into a special 'Pram Parking' area in the foyer.

Ms Gayle Steinfort
Acting Assistant Principal

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: Drycleaning \$8.50, return freight \$2, supply & sew pocket \$27.50
TOTAL COST \$38. 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.

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

TRAFFIC AROUND THE SCHOOL AT DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

We have been contacted by neighbours who have not been able to access their driveways at school drop off and pick up times. Please ensure when dropping off and picking up your daughter that you do not block any driveways. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Bronwen Peterson
Facilities Manager

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S WEEK: 22nd to 30th October

We have a week for everything now. Yes, that's the latest fashion. This time we are celebrating our students during National Children's Week starting 22nd October. Our theme is 'Unity Among Children'.

The Library has organised many fun filled activities to celebrate our children; our future. During recess and lunch our students are invited to the Library to participate in group activities, including jigsaw puzzles, TicStacto and A Minute to Win It. We have also set up a large whiteboard for them to write messages of unity, joys of being a child, etc. Many girls have written some special thoughts of being a child.

The celebration will continue until the end of next week giving our students more time to experience new games, activities and other entertainment. It is great to see our students engaged as groups to play games and giving a rest to the computers.



Ms Neelika Kottacchhi
Library Manager

SCREEN IT 2016 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

ACMI (Australian Centre for the Moving Image) has announced the finalists for the annual Screen It competition, Australia's largest moving image competition for school-aged filmmakers, animators and game makers.

The 2016 Screen It competition attracted an unprecedented 587 entries – a 30 per cent jump on the record entries received in 2015 making it the most competitive year to date to rank as a finalist. Entries were created by 2,521 budding filmmakers, animators and game designers from across Australia, who responded to the 2016 theme, Mystery.

In the Senior (Year 9-12) Live Action category, one of our Year 12 students, Fiona Sanderson, is a finalist with her film 'Mr Sandman'. Congratulations Fiona!

Each year, Screen It is judged by a pool of esteemed industry professionals. Long after the ceremony is over, winning entries will be exhibited in the recently revamped Kids' Space within ACMI's free and permanent exhibition Screen Worlds. Audiences can also view the 2016 finalists and winners on the ACMI website and in the Australian Mediatheque, a view-on-demand facility housed inside ACMI, which is run in conjunction with the National Film and Sound Archive.

For more information about Screen It and the upcoming awards ceremony, please visit: acmi.net.au/screen-it

MGSC ARTS & DESIGN SHOW

This year's MGSC Arts and Design Show featured outstanding work from the Year 12 Media class of 2016.

This year, the judges awarded two awards to Media productions; Charlotte Byrne – Media subject winner for her 18-piece photographic sequence of fashion photography, and Shanon McKenzie whose 5-minute animation, 'Monday' was bestowed the award to a student whose work is the most outstanding across all subjects including Art, Vis Comm, Food and Textiles.

Media is a subject that allows students to undertake work across a range of mediums including but not limited to photography, print, film, online content and convergent media, combining one or more mediums.

Year 11s have just completed their major productions for the year so stay tuned for a future date where the Media Centre will feature all Year 11 and 12 final works for 2016.

Ms Lisa Blumenstein
Media Teacher

MATHS @ MGSC

End of Year Exams

Year 12 Maths students are within days of their first exams. We encourage them to spend the remaining time on constructive revision with a clear focus on completing practise exams.

Year 9-11 students will also be sitting exams over the coming weeks, so they need to be well progressed with their revision and preparations.

These are some proven approaches to achieving the best possible results in exams:

- ensure all outstanding coursework and assignments is completed
- revise topics throughout the coming weeks
- prepare summary notes including sample questions and answers
- VCE students can access prior year VCAA exams via our MGSC Maths Google website
- identify 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 friends in a study group with the focus on revision
- review progress each two weeks and fine-tune revision plan accordingly.

ICAS Maths Competition

Earlier this year 393 Year 7-10 students sat the ICAS Maths Competition. Our students performed impressively with one High Distinction, 12 Distinctions, 62 Credits and 43 Merits being awarded. Detailed student reports are currently being distributed to every participating student, along with related certificates.

The following students will receive their certificates during our College Assembly on 4th November:

High Distinction

Year 9: Gabriella Hall

Distinctions

Year 7: Samantha Hooper, Vaish Kiritharan, Sienna Leem Jessica Marquis, Saanvi Mattoo

Year 8: Cassidy Copeland, Sophie Gibbins, Stephanie Kyriacou, Chelsea McDonald, Paige Price, Shirley Shi

Year 9: Zoe Day

Maths Homework Club

The Maths Homework Club is back after school holidays. We provide help with Maths homework and preparation for tests or exams.

- Tuesday: 1.15pm-1.45pm – Room 12
- Thursday: 3.20pm-4.50pm – Room 12

Less than 35 school days to go, so do your best and remember... "Maths makes a real and imaginary difference."

Maths Curriculum Area Team

Don't
forget to visit
www.mgscsports.com
for sports news!

AEROBICS SPRING CHALLENGE

On October 16th, two teams competed at the Aerobics Spring Challenge competition in Geelong. The Year 8/9 team placed fourth in a tough field and the Year 7 team placed second out of 15 teams. The girls performed brilliantly and should be congratulated on their efforts.

Ms Tess Molina
Aerobics Coach

ENGLISH

This week the Public Speaking has taken place for Years 7-10. A girl from each form spoke in front of the whole cohort on an issue related to the overarching theme for the year level. The three placegetters received a certificate and each winner was presented with a book voucher. Every student had to deliver a speech. This is invaluable in terms of the girls' preparation for VCE and life.

Ms Anne Gamble
English Domain Leader



Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
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You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Henry Frenkel, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(03) 8517 5670 / 0488 069 627
or hfrenkel@jewishcare.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered across Port Phillip, Glen Eira and Kingston by Jewish Care Victoria. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Sandringham SC is holding trials for 2017 season for all age groups Boys U10-U18 and Girls U11-U16 in November to select talented and motivated players for our 2017 junior teams.

Players of all abilities are welcome to attend for their age group. Trials will be held at Mentone Grammar Playing fields in Keysborough.

For Dates/Times visit www.trybooking.com/NHXQ

Players not wishing to attend trials will still be placed in a team during the normal registration period.

What It Means To Be An Emotionally Intelligent Parent

Michael Grose

So what does an emotionally intelligent parent look like? Here are five attributes that emotionally intelligent parents have in common. Emotionally intelligent parents have the following five attributes in common. They will usually:

1. Listen more and judge less

There is nothing better than being understood. Parents who operate from an emotionally-smart mindset are more likely to listen to their kids when emotions are high, trying to access what may be going on, rather than clamping down their behaviour or closing them down with well-meaning advice.

Impact: Better, more open relationships.

2. Accept strong emotions

Anyone who lives with teenagers will know that emotions can run very high. They can say the worst possible things to each other and, at times, to you. Ten minutes after delivering a hateful tirade they can be cuddling up to the person who was the butt of their anger, frustration or anxiety. Emotionally intelligent parents know that feelings need to be expressed rather than bottled up, and allowed to fester. They also believe there is nothing so bad that a child can't give voice to in a family, however there are behaviours that are not unacceptable.

Impact: A healthy expression of emotions.

3. Focus on the present

Most parents are rightfully future-focused. We focus on the homework that needs to be handed in tomorrow; the washing that needs to be done; the meal that needs to be cooked. That's part of everyday life. Children generally focus on the here and now. That of course can be frustrating to a task-oriented future-focused mother or father. However, when we lower our gaze we are more likely to pick up how kids are feeling, and importantly help them understand and manage their moods and emotions.

Impact: Happier families and less stress felt at home.

4. Use rules rather than their moods to determine discipline

Some parents discipline according to their moods. If they feel good then they give children plenty of lenience. If they are feel bad then they pick their kids up on every little thing. It's better to stick to the family and house rules; that makes you more predictable, which kids really crave.

Impact: More consistent parenting

5. Develop a language around feelings

A family develops a vocabulary around the things that are important to them. Kids in a sport mad family will inevitably have a rich vocabulary around their chosen sport. The same holds for emotional intelligence. Families that truly value building emotional smarts will develop in kids a rich palette of words that will help them describe how they feel. This vocabulary will inevitably stay with them for life.

Impact: Better relationships later in life at work and in their own families.

KEY DATES | OCTOBER 2016

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Gold Week	Remember: SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – EVERY DAY COUNTS					1	2
Blue Week	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Gold Week	10	11	12	13 NEWSLETTER #16	14	15	16
Blue Week	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Gold Week	24	25	26	27 NEWSLETTER #17 Yr 7 Cricket SMR	28	29	30
			Public Speaking Competition		Yr 12 Exams		
Blue Week	31 Classes as usual (NOT a pupil free day)						
	Yr 12 Exams						

KEY DATES | NOVEMBER 2016

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Blue Week		1 Melbourne Cup Day holiday (Student free)	2 Diwali festival	3	4 College Assembly Sovereign Hill - ELC students	5	6
	Yr 12 Exams						
Gold Week	7	8	9	10 NEWSLETTER #18 Year 7 & 8 Band Evening	11	12	13
	Yr 9 Exams						
	Yr 10 Exams						
	Yr 11 Exams						
	Yr 12 Exams						
Blue Week	14 2017 Yr 11 Orientation Day 7B & 7F VSMF Excursion; <i>Federation Square</i>	15 2017 Yr 12 Orientation Day Peer Support Training Day	16 2017 Yr 10 Orientation Day 8B & 8F VSMF Excursion; <i>Federation Square</i>	17	18 2017 Yr 9 Orientation Day	19	20
	Exam feedback lessons						
Yr 12 Exams							
Gold Week	21	22 8pm Presentation Evening	23	24 NEWSLETTER #19	25	26	27
	Headstart – Week 1						
Blue Week	28	29	30				
	Headstart – Week 2						