

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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2nd June, 2017 Newsletter No. 5

STUDENT FREE DAYS

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY—Monday 12th June, 2017
REPORT WRITING DAY—Friday 16th June, 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Term Two has again been an incredibly busy time in the College and in 2017 this has included coping with the logistics of also operating as a major building site (see photos on next page). To the credit of our students and staff the most important aspect of the College, the Learning and Teaching has operated as usual with minimal disruption.

Once again this year many of our Year 7 English students entered the Lower Plenty Traders Association Mothers Day poetry writing competition. The Year 7 English teachers gave students this opportunity and the level of poetry was outstanding with a number of our students being awarded prizes. To receive their prize students had to be present at midday outside the Lower Plenty IGA and read their own poem to the community gathering.

The Naplan testing for Year 7 and Year 9 students was conducted in week 4, and in week 5 of this term our Year 10 students undertook the Work Experience Program held by the College. This program has been overseen by our Work Experience Coordinator, Bronwyn Mackey, Careers



Alexie Neale, Trinity Ellis, Sienna Brent, Aleecia Cole, Tara Dyer with their mothers at the Lower Plenty Serpent sculpture (a joint school/community art project of ours) after receiving their Mother's day poetry writing competition prizes.

and Pathways Co-ordinator, John Hallsworth and Senior School Assistant, Leora Levacic who have all played important roles in directing students through this process. It has been a most beneficial experience as it helps to inform students as to their work and career choices in the future. The experience not only helps to identify and work on their employability skills, it also helps to direct their course of study undertaken to achieve each individual student's career and study goals. The process now sees each of our year 10 students counselled at the College level into their career pathways and each student now develops a career action plan.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont...

I am very pleased to report that our annual mid-year Music Concert, held on the evening of Monday 29th May, was a wonderful success. This year the event was well supported by parents, family members and friends who were a 'full house' in our Auditorium and we were all impressed by a variety of student talent and musicality. Our bands, ensembles, choir and individual performances, entertained the large audience and it is very rewarding and affirming to witness the gathering momentum and development of our Instrumental Music Program over recent years, not only in the growing number of students now involved, but also in the quality and development of musical performance. Congratulations to all our Music students and special acknowledgement to our team of Instrumental Music Teachers for their dedication to our students and the program. Our team is led by Instrumental Music Director, Anthony Citino (Percussion and Bass) and includes Sharon Cooke (Strings), Cheryl Clark (Woodwind), Spencer Nelson (Brass), Tania Grimshaw (Vocals), Joanne Siegersma (Piano) and Hugh Thorneycroft (Guitar).

While on the topic of our Music Program, I would like to also acknowledge two recent Music Workshops held at the College for our students. The first of these was organised by Anthony Citino on Friday 12th May for our band students. We were fortunate to have a visiting conductor along for this event, Doctor Robert McWilliams who is the Education outreach Advisor and consultant for Yamaha in Victoria. Our second day was on Monday 15th May and this was for our percussion and string ensembles.

On Tuesday 23rd May, fifty-five of our Year 7-10 student leaders participated in a Primary School Leadership Day with ninety students from Sherbourne and Lower Plenty Primary Schools. This was held at Amberley Lodge in Lower Plenty, and focussed on leadership and team building skills using a 'low ropes course'. Impressively this was facilitated by Leading Teacher, Kim

Faulkner and five former student leaders from the College known as 'Blue Shirts'.

In week 6 of this term the College held its inaugural Year 8 Activity Camp. This was a very successful and enjoyable experience attended by most of our Year 8 students along with their Co-ordinators and Home Group Teachers. The camp was held at Billabong Ranch in Echuca and most of the activities, including horse riding, a ropes course, animal care and a bonfire were conducted at the ranch.

Regards

Allan Robinson Principal





TERM 2 AT A GLANCE

Thurs 8th—Thurs 15th June Year 10 & 11 Exams

Wed 7th June School Council Meeting & Annual General Meeting —7:30pm

Mon 12th June Queens's Birthday

Fri 16th June Report Writing Day—student free day

Wed 21st June Whole School Assembly

Fri 30th June End of Term—1:22pm finish

DOES YOUR CHILD NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY???

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day without permission. It is expected that students will make dental, medical and other appointments outside school hours wherever possible. However, we understand that this is not always possible. If your child needs to leave school early for any reason, we ask that you follow College procedure set out below:

- 1. Please provide you child with a note requesting permission for your child to leave school at the specified time.
- 2. Upon arrival at school, the student is to take the note to his/her Level Coordinator, who will then sign the note and return it to the student.
- 3. The student can then present the note to his/her class teacher when he/she needs to leave.
- 4. Once the student leaves the class he/she will present the note to the General Office staff and sign the "Early Leavers" record. The office staff will retain the note for attendance recording.
- 5. If you child needs to return to school later in the day, he/she is to report to the General Office and sign in.

It is important for all students and teachers that class interruptions are kept to a minimum. Wherever possible, parent/guardians are asked to avoid telephoning the College in order to have their child paged or dismissed from class and follow the above procedures instead.

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

- Students who arrive after the class roll has been taken (after Home Group) should report to the "Time Out" room and sign in the Late Arrivals book.
- If students arrive after Period 1 (10.05am) the should report to the General Office and sign in the Late Arrivals book
- A note from a Parent/Guardian explaining the lateness should be provided to the office staff.
- The late student then collects a "Late Slip" which will admit him/her to class.
- Students who do not provide an acceptable reason for the lateness in a note may be given a detention.

Allan Robinson Principal

INTRODUCING REACHOUT.COM/PARENTS

When a parent recognises a teenager needs help, they're more likely to get it. That's why **ReachOut Australia** – the country's leading online mental health organisation for young people – has introduced a free new service to help parents help teenagers. Free and available 24/7, ReachOut.com/Parents provides evidence-based practical support and tips that encourage effective communication and relationships between parents and young people aged 12–18 years, as well as easy-to-read information on a range of mental health and wellbeing issues. The service features more than 140 fact sheets, stories, practical tips and tools, and also provides access to an online community forum so that parents can connect with each other to share experiences in an anonymous, supportive space.

MOBILE DENTAL SERVICE

Mobile Dental Services will be visiting Montmorency Secondary College in July and scheduling a **bulk billed** (no out of pocket expenses) dental van clinic for children who are eligible under the Medicare Child Dental Benefits Scheme. This offers an initial examination and follow up dental treatment. Children who are not eligible can still be seen and charged Medicare rates, and also able to utilize any Private Health Insurance. To be eligible for dental treatment, you need to be receiving a payment from the Australian Government.

If you are not sure that your child is eligible for the CDBS, please fill out all the details in full so we are able to check eligibility on our end; if you are not eligible then you will be informed before our visit.

Information and consent forms will be given to children in the week of June 1^{st} , 2017 and must be signed and returned to the college by Wednesday, 28^{th} June.

Parents are welcome to attend the treatment with their children. Approximate appointment times will be provided upon request, closer to the visit in **July/August**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Heather Douglas at the college, or alternatively Dr Swati Sharma on 8401 3855.



We are a group of Year 9 students completing our Endeavour project. We are collecting sanitary items (pads and tampons) for the not for profit organisation, Share the Dignity.

Share the Dignity is a charity determined to collect or raise money for the homeless woman and children who can't afford sanitary items. We have organised a donation drive for this cause hoping that the school community will donate these sanitary items.

A pink box has been placed at the front of the General Office for the pads and tampons to be collected in. We will be collecting donations up until the 9th June.

Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

Sarah, Brooke, Makayla, Bronson and Chloe

Year 9 Endeavour students

MANAGING STRESS DURING EXAMS INFORMATION FOR SENIOR STUDENTS: MANAGING STRESS DURING EXAM TIME

Everyone experiences stress at some point, but there are heaps of simple ways to minimise its impact on your life. Right now is a great time of the year to work on stress management skills and be ready for when the stress-deluge comes (exams). Stress can be mild or intense, and it can make people feel frustrated, anxious and even hostile. Ever been grumpy because of stress? There you go. Stress can get in the way of sleep, cause headaches and change your appetite. It can also reduce your ability to concentrate and make it harder to remember course content. ReachOut has lots of fact sheets and practical tools for beating stress. Here are a few:

All work and no play? Bad idea. Make time every week to completely forget about study and do something you enjoy, like playing sport, hanging out with friends or watching TV. Taking regular breaks and me-time to clear your head will also help you study more productively: au.reachout.com/taking-regular-me-time

Feel like you're not achieving what you're capable of? Sit down and set goals at the beginning of each term. Define your goal, set sub-goals and make a plan of action. Then you'll know what you're aiming for and it will be easier to stay focused: au.reachout.com/how-to-set-goals

When you are feeling stressed, it helps to have a proven strategy lined up to help you deal with it. It could be something like reducing the number of commitments you have, telling a close friend you're stressed and talking through it, or even using positive self-talk strategies: au.reachout.com/building-better-coping-skills

Sometimes it might feel like stress is unbeatable, but its definitely manageable. For more info on keeping it in control, check out these fact sheets on ReachOut.com:

Tips on managing stress: au.reachout.com/im-always-stressed Helping someone with stress: au.reachout.com/helping-a-friend-with-stress Ways to relax: au.reachout.com/ways-to-relax

Tips for problem solving: au.reachout.com/all-about-problem-solving Information on anxiety: au.reachout.com/how-to-manage-anxiety

THE VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS



GET YOUR TICKETS!

We are proud and excited to have some of our students participating in both the singing and dancing in the 2017 *Victorian State Schools Spectacular: Anything is Possible.*

This year's Spectacular will be held at Hisense Arena on Saturday 16 September, with two shows at 1pm and 6:30pm.

For a fun, family entertainment experience, and to cheer on our students from the audience, be quick to secure discounted tickets.

Talented young skaters, puppeteers, musicians, dancers and singers will feature on stage, while many other students will work behind the scenes, gaining unique, on-the-job, professional experience.

This program – managed by the Department of Education and Training – helps to develop each student's performance skills, discipline, perseverance, cooperation and confidence under the training of industry professionals.

Discount Early Bird tickets for the Spectacular will be available for <u>13 days only</u> from **10am on Wednesday 31 May**. Standard ticket prices will apply after this date. No discount code is required.

Early Bird tickets – available for 13 days only from 10am on Wednesday 31 May

- 1. Adult \$35
- 2. Child Under 15 \$18
- 3. Concession \$30

Buy 10 tickets and get one adult ticket free (for group bookings please call 1300 364 001)

General Admission tickets - available from 9am on Tuesday 13 June

- 4. Adult \$40
- 5. Child Under 15 \$20
- 6. Concession \$30

Buy 10 tickets and get one adult ticket free (for group bookings please call 1300 364 001)

To purchase tickets, visit <u>www.ticketek.com.au/spectacular</u> or phone**Ticketek** on **132 849**.

For more information about the program and event, go to the Spectacular Facebook and website page:

https://www.facebook.com/performingartsunit

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/spectacular

LOTE NEWS

On the Monday 22nd May, we (the Year 12 French class) had the fabulous opportunity to go to a restaurant. We caught the train to the city and arrived to the French Brasserie. What an amazing place with a lovely French ambience!

The waiters were very nice and were speaking to us in French. Nothing like a real situation to improve your French.

We had the choice between meals: black pudding, salmon, duck, collyflour soup.....

The sophisticated French cuisine is the best and even better with a soft drink served in a wine glass: just to pretend!

This lunch was also a farewell moment. I said goodbye and thank you for this amazing year in this enthusiastic class. I met such great people and I was lucky to get from them an Australian charm and a lovely card.

I would also like to say thank you to our amazing teacher, Madame Creta, and our amazing French assistant, Mégane.

Maeva Verlhiac, French exchange student









A FABULOUS MUSIC CONCERT (MID YEAR)

On Monday 29 May, the music department put on a very entertaining formal concert. It displayed the fabulous talents of so many students at all levels of skills and learning. The choir opened the evening with a quality performance which then continued all night from so many ensembles and groups. From solo singers, clarinets, saxophones and drumkit, there were also larger groups: blues band, concert band, string orchestra and drumming ensemble playing with fluro lights in the dark. Even the new and beginning students showed their fabulous talents on stage for all to hear. Everyone is welcome to attend these concerts so stay tuned for more.

Anthony Citino Director of Instrumental Music











An invitation is extended to all members of the College Community to attend

A PUBLIC MEETING OF
MONTMORENCY SECONDARY
COLLEGE COUNCIL

to be held

Wednesday 7th June, 2017

at 7.30pm

in the College Staff Room for the presentation of the

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



WE NEED YOUR KIND DONATIONS

Please help, by donating...

TOWELS

DOG & CAT TOYS

DOG & CAT FOOD

As part of the Year 9 Endeavour program, our students are collecting items to assist The Lost Dogs Home. Your donations will make a huge difference.

Please leave donations at the General Office.

THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT NEEDS CALCULATORS

Years 10 –12, if you have a green Texas Instruments Calculator (TXB30) that you no longer require the Maths Department will purchase it for \$5.00. Drop off at the General Office.

Must be in good condition.

Breast Cancer Network of Australia

This term the SRC will be holding a series of events raising money for the Breast Cancer Network of Australia. These will be held on the last week of Term 2 and will include a Lip Sync Battle, with \$5 to compete and a gold coin donation to enter, decorating the school in pink, and a Casual Clothes Day where all students are encouraged to wear pink. This will be held on the 29th of June.

More information will follow via email

We hope you will support us raising money for the Breast Cancer Network of Australia.

PINK LADY FUNDRAISER

We are raising money for the Breast Cancer Network of Australia. You will be able to purchase a card where you can write a message to someone you know who has been diagnosed with breast cancer or a message of support for a minimum \$2 coin donation. Your message will be attached to a pink lady silhouette where we will then create a field of pink ladies in the senior court yard. This will help in our efforts to "paint" the school pink.

1 in every 8 females are diagnosed with breast cancer at some stage in their life time making that 55 female students from MSC that will be

diagnosed with breast cancer at some stage in their life.

Tam and Charlie Year 9 Endeavour students

SOFTBALL SUCCESS

The Year 8 girls' Softball team represented our school district at the regional competition on Wednesday 3rd May. Playing on the familiar diamonds at Mill Park Reserve, our team performed very well throughout the morning against Epping and Gladstone Park, earning a place in the final.

With a mixture of nerves and excitement the team faced Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College. Excellent batting and fielding efforts produced and outstanding win for the team. Every student made it home at least once during the game. The Mercy rule was applied with 15 runs to Montmorency and 0 to Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College at the end of the second innings. This is the second year in a row this group has been selected to compete at the State level and the school community is again looking forward to seeing what you accomplish this year. Thank you to the parents who attended the day, your support means so much to



Congratulations girls and good luck for the State Softball Competition in November!

Samantha Shelton—Coach

SENIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL



On the 16th May, the Senior Girls Football competed in the local round robin and finished runners up. They will now compete in the district competition at the end of term. The girls played very well and beat three teams soundly.

YEAR 8/9 CARPENTRY





Emily Shine 8F







Bonnie Charlton 8B

Jackson Taylor 8D

Matthew Radonich 9E

Jamie Hazelden 8D



Ethan Glenn 9E



Sam McMurtrie 8C