



MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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1st August, 2018 Newsletter No. 6

CURRICULUM DAY
FRIDAY 10TH AUGUST, 2018
Student Free Day

SHREK THE MUSICAL—COLLEGE PRODUCTION

Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th August, 2018

Tickets still available through the Monty website

www.montyssc.vic.edu.au

Adult \$15

Child Concession \$11

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Term 3 is now upon us with many co-curricula programs operating and planned, including Student Representative Council activities, sport, subject excursions and the Japanese exchange program. This week we have welcomed eleven students, and their teacher, Takatoshi Norimatsu, to our College from Takakura High School in Japan. They are being looked after by their host families from our College as they spend two weeks practicing their English and also exploring many of the sights and tourist attractions of Melbourne.

Special congratulations go to Year 9 student, Amber Fielder, who went to Perth with Team Victoria to compete in the Australian Weightlifting Under 15 Youth Championship over the Term 2 school holidays. Amber had won the Victorian Under 15 Weightlifting Championship overall best female in April, 2018. In Perth she achieved personal bests in both the Snatch and Clean and Jerk, giving her the highest total score to become the Australian Champion in the Under 15 Women's 58 kg category. Amber began competing in 2017 and trains three to four times a week with Cross Fit Diamond Valley, as well as being coached in weightlifting. We all congratulate Amber on this outstanding achievement.

In the second week of term, on Wednesday 25th July, we held our annual Student Led Conference Day, which follows on from mid-year exams and student semester reports. Again, this proved to be a highly successful day, giving students a real voice and opportunity to focus once again on their learning goals and also to reflect realistically on their learning progress and school experience. At this conference, students also complete the Group 8: High Performing Schools Survey, which has a PoLT (Principles of Learning and Teaching) focus. This provides the College with detailed and valuable data about their attitudes to all their classes and their teachers. We are now in our thirteenth year of



Amber Fielder

Continued Page 2

FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont...

collecting this data and the feedback during this time has enabled the Leadership Team and the College to adjust, or refocus, the way we do things in a more timely and effective manner than is otherwise possible.

The \$14 million redevelopment and refurbishment project at the College is certainly becoming much more visible to our community. The administration block and main office area is now relocated to the front College entrance, adjacent to the Dobson Road carpark. The carpark itself has been rebuilt and extended and includes a quick drop-off zone for students and parents. The main entrance area is still to be landscaped but is open for practical use. This includes the General Office, which now has many upgraded features, including separate public and student entrances and service desks, two new conference rooms, new sick bay area, Principal Team offices, staff toilet facilities and a general staff room and courtyard. A lot of progress has been made on our materials technology wing and rooms and we hope they will be fully operational very soon. Our old administration area is also being demolished to make way for some exciting new general purpose classrooms and student areas.

On Sunday 22nd July, the State Government hosted the 2018 Recognition of Service Presentation Ceremony in the Great Hall at the National Gallery of Victoria. One of our very experienced teachers, Ian Toohill, was presented with a '40 Years Service Award' by Education Minister, James Merlino.

Ian has been a Photography, Media Studies, Art and Humanities teacher at our College for the past 26 years and this award is a very significant marker in his long career. Ian commenced teaching at Glenroy Primary School in 1971, followed by a number of years at Reservoir West, West Melbourne and Kangaroo Ground Primary Schools. Ian also spent time at the Queensberry Street Curriculum Branch before coming to Montmorency in 1993. Many of our students and staff have benefited from Ian's work and support from Eltham Rotary and he has established the 'Interact Club' at the College for our students. Through this interest, he has also successfully assisted a number of our students in 'The Duke of Edinburgh' program.

We congratulate Ian on this very impressive award and thank him for his service to Victorian education.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind students, parents and carers about the requirements of student attendance at school. Parents and carers are required to ensure their child attends school every day and have an obligation to contact the College to notify the College of their child's absence. Parents and Carers should inform the College in advance of known upcoming absences, or, on the day of the absence as soon as practicable. In addition, in order to implement this requirement, it is essential that parents and carers provide schools with their most up-to-date contact details.

Regards,
Allan Robinson
Principal



Education Minister, James Merlino and Ian Toohill

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 your 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 their Level Coordinator, who will then sign the note and return it to the student.
3. The student can then present the note to their class teacher when they need to leave.
4. Once the student leaves the class they 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 your child needs to return to school later in the day, they should 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) they 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 them to class.
- Students who do not provide an acceptable reason for the lateness in a note may be given a detention.

SICK BAY AND FIRST AID

Students who become ill should advise their classroom teacher that they are feeling unwell and receive permission to go to Sick Bay which is located in the General Office. Students will be attended to by the School Nurse and if necessary parents will be contacted. It is important that a current emergency phone number is listed on each student's school record. Any change to the home address, work address, telephone numbers or emergency contact should be provided to the Office immediately.

We encourage students not to use their mobile phones to contact parents directly during class time, and for the convenience of all involved ask students to follow the above procedure.

Allan Robinson—Principal

TERM 3 AT A GLANCE

Fri 10 August	Curriculum Day
Fri 17 August	Borneo Trivia Night
Mon 10 September	Whole School Assembly
Wed 12 September	School Council—7:30pm
Thur 20 September	Student Progress Interview Day
Fri 21 September	End of Term 3—Early finish 1:22pm

CHALLENGE/BRIDGING PROGRAM 2019

At Montmorency Secondary College we firmly believe that:

- All students can learn
- All students can experience success, and
- All students are talented in one area or another. Therefore,
- All students deserve the opportunity to display and extend their talents.

We have always endeavoured to offer curriculum programs that encourage students to achieve their best, academically, creatively and socially. This has been complemented by an extensive co-curricula and sport program.

To fully celebrate the successful programs that we already offer, and highlight new opportunities for our students to fully develop their learning, we offer the **Montmorency Secondary College Challenge/Bridging Program**. In Semester 2, students in year 7 & 8 will be selecting Learning Units for 2019 and students will be invited into the Challenge and Bridging Programs for the following year.

The Challenge Program offers all students multiple opportunities and pathways to develop their talents and extend their learning. It is open to all students who strive for success and encompasses many different areas of College academic and community life. It includes some exciting curriculum initiatives, especially at Year 8 and 9.

The Challenge subjects are specifically designed to extend student understanding and appreciation of the subject area involved and further develop their higher order thinking skills. *Entry into these units is by invitation only based on student academic results in the previous semester or year in the relevant subject.* Students will be invited to accept up to two Challenge semester-length units per year at both Year 8 and Year 9.

We will continue to provide structured opportunities within the Year 8/9 elective framework for students who need extra assistance with English and Mathematics to improve their skill-level by running the subjects, Bridging English and Bridging Maths.

Our extensive Arts, Design & Technology and Business Studies learning unit offerings will continue to be offered in the Year 8/9 elective block as previously.

Year 9 students have a choice with French or Japanese (with a view to progressing into VCE LOTE) or undertaking an Endeavour Program. They will need to make a choice between the two.

The **Endeavour Program** prepares students for their lives as young adults and positive members of the community they will live in and work in. It is built on a series of challenges that include:

- Self- Development
- Careers Exploration and Management
- City Challenge
- Melbourne as a 'Global Village'

Parents and students are encouraged to read through the Montmorency Secondary College Handbook which will be made available online to gain a better understanding of what each of the Learning Units involve.

The College will be running an information evening for parents on the Challenge and Bridging programs and details regarding this will be emailed to parents.

If you have any questions regarding the Challenge or Bridging Programs, or the Elective Program, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Clara Di Biase
Assistant Principal

2018 PARENT OPINION SURVEY

WE WANT OUR PARENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Montmorency Secondary College is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our College. The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.


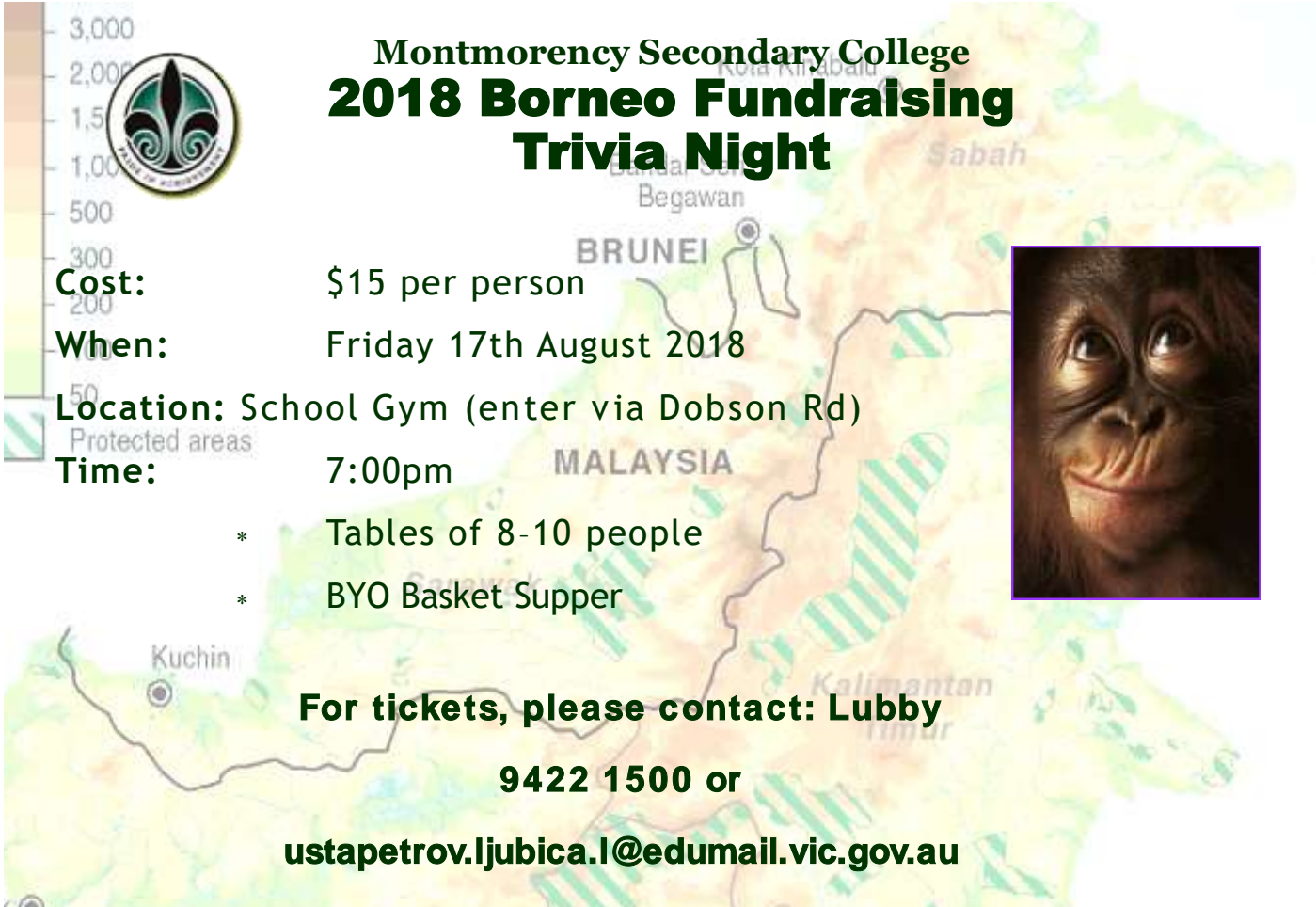

Approximately 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 23rd July to Sunday 26th August**.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **10-15 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

The survey results will be reported back to the College at the end of September.

Please contact the General Office on 9422 1500 if you would like more information.

Allan Robinson
Principal



Montmorency Secondary College
2018 Borneo Fundraising
Trivia Night

Cost: \$15 per person
When: Friday 17th August 2018
Location: School Gym (enter via Dobson Rd)
Time: 7:00pm

- * Tables of 8-10 people
- * BYO Basket Supper

For tickets, please contact: Lubby
9422 1500 or
ustapetrov.ljubica.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

STUDENT WELLBEING UPDATE

What a busy start to the term! The Student Wellbeing Team have moved and are now located at the far end of the Gym, near the top Basketball Courts. We have two new offices and a quiet student space, feel free to come and say "hello!"

Exciting News! Our Student Wellbeing Team is increasing and Headspace Greensborough is **coming to Montmorency one day each week!**

Headspace will be operating from the Student Wellbeing Rooms and all students will have access to a **private & confidential** appointment with the Clinician or Psychologist **FREE** of charge. Initially this service will operate from July to December 2018 with the possibility of funding extended to 2019.



For more information on how to access this service, please speak to Sue Muir, Student Wellbeing Coordinator

OPEN HOUSE YOUTH WORKSHOP FEMALE MENTORING PROGRAM

This is a wonderful program and it currently has some vacancies for female students who may feel disengaged or need additional support. If you believe your child may benefit by participating in this program, please give me a call and we can arrange a tour and discuss the possibilities. Thanks, **Sue Muir** Student Wellbeing Coordinator

*** OPEN HOUSE YOUTH WORKSHOP FEMALE MENTORING PROGRAM ***

Who can join the program?

- * Female students in years 7 - 10
- * Students who want to participate in a practical hands on trade based program with a view on developing appropriate life skills, work habits and competences that will enhance their schooling and prepare them better for possible future employment
- * Students who have a genuine desire to develop their life in a positive way

What can I expect?

- * Involvement in work experience, personal projects, fun activities and discussion in a positive non threatening environment
- * Actively develop an ability to respond to situations thoughtfully and positively
- * Develop a willingness to accept advice and instruction
- * Confidence and self assurance in completing tasks
- * An improvement in the way you relate to others

Choose between
Tuesday morning 9am-12pm or
Tuesday afternoon 12pm-3pm

For more information please contact Mel
0448 503 442 or email - mazzopardi@openhousecic.org.au

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A photograph showing three female students in a workshop or kitchen environment, smiling and looking towards the camera.

BERRY STREET SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Berry Street support many families who may need assistance with their young person. They work in a respectful and collaborative way, encouraging all family members to be part of the process in resolving the issue.

See the attached link for more information on Berry Street and how they could support you and your family.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vh6g8HtNsM>

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