

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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30th October 2018 Newsletter No. 9

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

During the Term three holiday period, we had two very exciting overseas study tours take place as an important aspect of our language program. Seventeen students, together with teachers Mayumi Yokoe and Matthew Bennett, travelled to Japan for two weeks. Likewise, thirteen students, together with teachers John Healy and Vicki Bucher, practised their French speaking skills in Noumea for two weeks. The cultural immersion experience that these students experienced certainly enhances their speaking skills and both tours were extremely enjoyable and successful.

The last week of Term three was very eventful at the College and this included Student Progress Interview Day and Evening held on the last Thursday. This was again very well attended by students and parents. The last week of term was also 'Science Week' and our Science Faculty celebrated this concept whereby Faculty Leader, Campbell Wilson, and the team, provided a wonderful range of engaging activities for the week, focussing on science for Year 7 to Year 9. This included a most impressive 'Reptile Incursion' for our Year 7 classes, an aeronautical challenge, which included the building of spirals and helicopters for Year 8 classes, and the Bad Science Show for year 9 students – conducted by guest speaker, Nicholas Johnston.

On Monday 22nd October, we held a special farewell assembly for our Year 12 Class of 2018. The assembly was conducted and organised by our student leaders with the guidance of Leading Teacher, Kim Faulkner and the Student Representative Council. Our Year 12 students were interesting, amusing and entertaining in their reflections and celebration of their time at the College and the messages and modelling they imparted to their fellow students, were both positive and a true reflection of our College values.

At the conclusion of the assembly, our Year 12 students, together with the Senior School Co-ordination team and Year 12 Mentors, were bussed to Whittlesea Funfields to let off steam together and celebrate their last day of secondary school in a fun-filled environment.

On the following Thursday evening our Year 12 students attended a wonderful Graduation Ceremony in the College Gymnasium. There was a packed audience of family, friends and their teachers to honour their six year journey of secondary school and wonderful achievement of graduating at Year 12. The 2018 Year 12 teachers presented a book prize to the top student in each of the subjects and a number of major awards were also announced and presented. Our four College Captains, Bridget Dorizzi, Nicholas Frost, Chloe Giles and Macy Houghton were acknowledged with the *College Captain Award*. Emily Carroll was announced as the winner of the *Caltex All Rounder Award*. This year we had six *Citizenship Awards*, namely Cooper Houghton, Caitlin Chin, Charlotte Chlopek, Shaun James, Katherine Smith and Rita Slewa. *Leadership Awards* were won by Isabelle Hall, Kyra Krukowitch and Mikayla Lee. Georgia McDermott won the *Jackson Lee Memorial Award* and Lachlan McKenzie won the *SBAT Award*. Congratulations to all of these very deserving students.

The \$14 million redevelopment and refurbishment of the College is still steadily progressing and landscaping and planting has taken place recently near the College entrance. The materials technology wing, which includes Senior School and staff offices, is now open and operational. The old 'B Block' soon to be classrooms, offices, learning spaces and a locker bay is steadily progressing and the demolition of 'A Block' is nearly complete. Access for students and staff has been severely restricted by

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

these works and re-routing, particularly to the relocatable classrooms on the river side and also Simms Road and the stadium, has been problematic. There has been considerable inconvenience but our students and staff have adapted well and 'the prize' is definitely closer.

On a sad note the College received some sad news with the passing of highly respected former teacher and colleague, Judith Hardacre. Judith taught at Montmorency Secondary College for many years and she was one of the founding members of staff. She was a very professional and caring teacher and very strong on productive relationships by all at the College and indeed, in the wider community where she was also highly respected.

For the past two years the College, led by our Business Manager, Lisa Ball, has been attempting to get improved services for our students who travel to and from school by bus. Many representations have been made to the Department of Education and Training, Transport for Victoria and Public Transport Victoria as well as the bus companies themselves. This term we finally have had success in gaining an extension to Magpie Place (The Montmorency Oval Carpark) for the 385 bus which provides a



Judith Hardacre

service for our students travelling to and from the Doreen and Mernda area. This improves the accessibility and safety aspect as well as the time our students need to spend travelling and is an excellent outcome.

In some more good news, year 9 student Amber Fielder represented Montmorency Secondary College at the Victorian Weightlifting Association's Schools Championship competition. Amber was able to continue on from her recent successes and won her 59kg female category. Amber also won 'best female lifter' as she had the highest weights overall. Amber has also recently been awarded the 'Diamond Valley Leader' newspaper's Junior Sports Star award for 2018. Congratulations and well done Amber.





Amber Fielder

Please take note of the 'Snake Alert' article later in this newsletter. With the recent onset of warm weather there have been a number of sightings of tiger snakes on the river path adjacent to the College. We need our students and all pedestrians to take special care with this.

Regards

Allan Robinson Principal

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

Montage 2018

The 2018 edition of the Montmorency Secondary College Yearbook, Montage is currently in production and will be distributed to students in Term 1, 2019. The College only purchases the number of copies that have been preordered. Thank you to those families who have already paid to receive their copy. If you have not yet paid, but would like to secure a copy of *Montage 2018*, please pay \$25 to the College Cashier no later than Friday 16th November, 2018

TERM 4 AT A GLANCE

Wed 31 Oct—23 Nov Unit 4 Exams

Wed 31 Oct—Fri 2 Nov Year 9 Camp

Tue 6 November Melbourne Cup Day

Mon 19 Nov—Wed 28 Nov Year 10 & 11 Exams

Tue 27 November 2019 Year 7 Information Night—7:30pm

Wed 28 November School Council—7:30pm

Mon 3—Fri 7 December 2019 Year 11 & 12 Orientation

Mon 3—Tue 11 December 2019 Year 8—10 Orientation

Thur 6 December Swap Shop 6:30pm—8:00pm

Fri 7 December Last Day for Current Year 10 & 11 students

Tue 11 December Year 2019 Year 7 Orientation Day

Wed 12—Fri 14 December SRC Conference

Mon 17 December Last Day for Current Year 8 & 9 students—End of Year Activity to Greensborough Hoyts

Tue 18 December Last Day for Current Year 7 students—End of Year Activity to Luna Park

Thur 20th December Awards Evening

SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE Montmorency Secondary College



Thursday 20th December, 2018
Planetshakers Centre
360 Main Road, Lower Plenty

6.45pm for a 7pm Start

How to apply for a tax file number (TFN)

- Complete the online application form.
- 2. Print the online form summary
- 3. Book an interview at a participating Australia Post outlet
- Attend your interview with your printed online summary and proof of identity documents.

Your TFN will be mailed to you within 28 days of attending the interview.

ato.gov.au/getTFN

OUTSTANDING MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT

On Saturday 20th October, Belle Shi of Year7 sat an A.M.E.B. examination on her violin for 'Certificate of Performance'. This exam is the level above Grade 8, which is the highest graded exam possible. To complete this Belle played a 35 min performance of 5 pieces, including Concerto in C by Kabalevsky

Huge congratulations to Belle for not only completing this exam, but achieved an outstanding A+ High Distinction. To achieve this Belle had to satisfy all the requirements as well as demonstrating outstanding achievement in all areas of the exam including performance flair, consistent technical fluency and penetrating stylistic insight.

Congratulations Belle.



WELL DONE LUKE ZELIFF

Congratulations to Luke Zeliff of 7L who in September, won the Sub Junior Division at the Victorian State Short Track Ice Racing Championships. Luke also achieved two personal best times during the championships.

From October 5th – 7th Luke competed at the Australian Open Short Track Ice Racing Championship. The championships attracted top skaters from around Asia Pacific with teams from seven countries competing. Luke, who is only 12, was competing against skaters up to 15 years of age and managed to place fourth overall in the Sub Junior Mens division. Luke qualified for two A Finals and also achieved five personal best times during the competition.

Very well done Luke!



SWAP SHOP

6th December, 2018

Parents are advised that Swap Shop is on **Thursday <u>6th December, 2018</u>** from <u>6.30pm – 8.00pm</u>. Parents and students will be able to buy and sell books directly to each other on that night.

As in previous years, the procedure will be as follows:

- * A list of books which students will be able to buy and sell for the following year will be produced, along with suggested prices.
- * A room will be provided for each year level where parents can buy books for the following year and sell books from the current year. It will be up to parents to negotiate prices with each other, based on the condition of the book.
- * Parents will need to ensure that they buy the current edition (as advised by the school) and that they have the correct money/necessary change.
- * Parents should note that this is a popular evening, and it is usually a case of first come, first served.

There will be no charge for this service, apart from the negotiated price of the books changing hands. Any unwanted/unsold current books can be donated to the school, for our Student Welfare Co-ordinator to distribute to students in need.

MONTY COMMUNITY GROUP PRESENTS 'SCREENAGERS' DOCUMENTARY FOLLOWED BY GUEST SPEAKER FROM ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Have you ever questioned the role that screens now play in our children's lives? Teens now have their own smartphones, toddlers have iPads and students are on Surface Pros. It recently came to the attention of the group that it was time to do something for the more junior members of the community. There have been several articles in the media highlighting the negative impacts of screen media on children. Toddlers are having language delays, teenagers seem to make less eye contact and there seem to be young children addicted to games.

Montmorency Community Group are therefore having a community movie night and we are running the documentary 'Screenagers' to help raise awareness about the issue of mental health and children. Dr Delaney, the documentary-filmmaker, takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through moving, and unexpectedly humorous stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world and find balance.

\$21.00 AUD Admission + \$2.00 booking fee = \$23.00 70 TICKETS NEED TO BE SOLD FOR THIS TO GO AHEAD (You will be refunded if we don't sell enough)

FAN-FORCE.COM

Screenagers – Hoyts Cinemas Greensborough, Wednesday the 28th of November

Check out Screenagers – Hoyts Cinemas Greensborough on FanForce

Buy tickets online https://fan-force.com/screenings/screenagers-hoyts-cinemas-greensborough-vic/



STUDENT WELLBEING UPDATE

What a busy start to term 4, the Student Wellbeing Team has grown and we now welcome Adolescent Health Educator, Jackie Weepers & Provisional Psychotherapist, Lou Spence to Montmorency Secondary College. Both Jackie and Lou will be at school each Monday; Lou will be available to counsel students 1:1 and Jackie will be working to build capacity and improve the health & wellbeing outcome of our students. For students who have not been to visit us yet, we are



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!"

Headspace has arrived and is operating from Montmorency every second Wednesday. Our Provisional Psychologist, Claire Collie will be operating from the Student Wellbeing Rooms and all students will have access to a **private & confidential** appointment **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

ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Young people will often need additional support with their mental health during times when they feel under pressure or stress at school, in connection to friendship or peer relationships or perhaps when dealing with family issues or concerns. To assist them with additional supports outside of school, you might like to consider some of the agencies available below:

Banyule Community Health-General Counselling Program 9450-2000

CAMHS Austin Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service 1300-859-789

Headspace (National Office) 9027-0100

Greensborough Headspace 9433-7200

EHeadspace www.eheadspace.org.au

LaTrobe Psychology Clinic 9479-2150
MIND 1300-286-463

MindHealthConnect An on-line option to find mental health and

wellbeing information, support and services <u>www.mindhealthconnect.org.au</u>

NEAMI(Rosanna) 9481-3277
North Eastern Crisis Assessment Team (CAT) 1300-859789

RMIT Psychology Clinic offers affordable, high quality psychological

services for children and adolescence 9925-7603

If you have any concerns about the mental health of your child and are seeking support from the school or externally, please feel free to discuss this confidentially with either myself or one of the Wellbeing Team, we may be able to assist you and alleviate some of your concerns.

Please feel confident to call to discuss your concerns with me directly on 9422-1632, or call to make an appointment so we can talk privately of your issues.

Sue Muir

Student Wellbeing Coordinator

STUDENT WELLBEING UPDATE

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

*

OPEN HOUSE 67-71 STRATHALLAN ROAD MACLEOD 3085 PH: 9450 7600

www.openhousecic.org.au

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

information please contact Mel 0448 503 442 or email mazzopardi@open

housecic.org.au

For more



STUDENT WELLBEING UPDATE

PARENTING SUPPORT

Being a parent /guardian or carer can often be such a challenging time, many of us feel that we are alone and without supports and guidance. Assistance and support is available for you and your family. Listed below are some contacts to local agencies, which can provide private & confidential support.

HealthAbility 9430-9100
 MATTERS (Berry Street) 9450-4700
 Northern Parentzone 8470-9999

ReachOutParentCoaching

- Web https://parents.au.reahout.com/coaching-eligibility
- Orange Door (Domestic Violence Support)
- WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICES

Box Hill 9896 6322 Blackburn 1800 900 520 Ringwood 9259 4200 Doncaster 9856 1500

CHILD FIRST

1300 762 125

 TARA (Teenage Aggression Responding Assertively) A support group for teenagers and program parents of teenagers who respond violently at home 9450-4700

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 Contact; 677 The Boulevard, Eaglemont Victoria 3084 Phone 9450-4700

Email:

UNIFORM SUPPORT & DISCOUNTED SHOES

Just a reminder to families who are under financial hardship, if you are a holder of a Health Care Card or a Pension Card, you may be eligible for assistance through **State Schools Relief (SSR) for School Uniform.** SSR is a not for profit charitable organisation which assists families in need. To see if you are eligible, please contact me for a confidential appointment on 9422-1632. State Schools Relief are now also offering **leather school shoes** at a heavily discounted price **and** with every pair purchased, you are helping SSR provide assistance to tens of thousands of Victorian students that need their help every year.

Shoes are available from The Premium Group, 15 Goodyear Drive THOMASTOWN

Phone 9466-4250

SNAKE ALERT

An urgent and important reminder to all students who travel to and from school using the Plenty River path or the sports ovals that they need to be aware tiger snakes are usually active at this time of the year, and that for the last seven years they have been very aggressive during hot weather. Environmental experts predict that snake sightings will become more prevalent this year. I have spoken to a field officer from the City of Banyule, and he said that short bursts of warm weather and sunshine resulted in snakes emerging from the scrub near the river and sunning themselves on paths and concrete surfaces. We have also had some Council warning signs installed near the river paths warning pedestrians to "Beware of Snakes".

In February some nine years ago one of our own students was bitten by a snake while walking near the river path at Simms Road Oval, and he spent a considerable amount of time in hospital. There are now warning signs along the path but all students and pedestrians need to exercise extreme caution when travelling to and from school along the river tracks. It is comforting to know that we have a great network of neighbours and pedestrians who use the river path and if there are any sightings of snakes they let the College know immediately.

Take special care,
Allan Robinson—Principal

Alexander and Bridget Jones

Montmorency Secondary College 2019 Scholarship

Going to The University of Melbourne in 2019?

Scholarship Snapshot

This scholarship is awarded to honour the memory of Alexander and Bridget Jones, graduates of Montmorency Secondary College and students of The University of Melbourne.

Overview	The scholarship aims to assist graduates of Montmorency Secondary College who have been offered a full-time place at The University of Melbourne for the first time.
University	The University of Melbourne
Faculty	All
Study area	All
Scholarship type	Need based, Merit based
Year of study	First year undergraduate bachelor's degree
Duration	One year initially but may be awarded for up to two years (dependent upon academic performance)
Intention of Scholarship	Accommodation costs and/or other expenses directly related to the study of successful applicants (eg. course costs, study related materials/equipment, text books, tutoring)
Award Value (per student)	Award value is \$5,000 (per annum)
Eligibility	To be eligible, the following criteria must be met: Must have graduated from Montmorency Secondary College in either 2018 or in 2017 (taken a gap year) Must have received a Letter of Offer from The University of Melbourne to commence a full-time undergraduate bachelor's degree in 2019 (in an approved Australian course) Must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident Must be a first-time, first year undergraduate in 2019 (first attendance at an Australian University) Should be able to demonstrate community involvement Should be academically motivated
Nationality	Australian citizen or permanent resident
Applications open	3 December 2018
Applications close	29 January 2019
How to apply	Please visit www.bendigobank.com.au/scholarships for more information.
Criteria	Scholarships will be awarded on the recommendation of a selection committee and will be assessed on academi achievement, demonstrated disadvantage and community contribution. The student should be able to describe their passion for how they intend to use their knowledge in the future.
Further Information	The website will contain full information from 3 December 2018. If you still have a query, please contact Community Enterprise Foundation™ on 1300 304 541

The summary above is intended to provide you with a quick snapshot only. Please ensure you review all information provided on the website (during the application open period) thoroughly before you consider applying.



Community Enterprise Foundation™