FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Andrew A. Neal
Principal

I would like to welcome all families to the commencement of Term 2 and hope that you have all had a restful break. Over the break there was significant press on the role of computers in classrooms, following one high performing school in NSW decision to remove mobile computing devices until the end of Year 10.

Whilst I feel this move to be somewhat extreme, the move is not without thought or indeed some sensible academic backing. IT in classrooms is but another tool to enable good teaching to occur. Technology in and of itself does not improve student learning outcomes. Indeed, there is some evidence to suggest if it is used incorrectly it can have a negative effect. Computers like calculators before them and “rods” before that are tools that help students grasp ideas or remove some of the mundane aspects of tasks to make teaching of complex ideas move efficient or practical. Anyone old enough to have been at school “pre-calculators” would remember that a large slab of Year 8 Mathematics involved learning how to navigate a book of log-tables so that complex calculations could be done with some speed. All of this became unnecessary or simplified dramatically with the arrival of the calculator. One of the major concerns in relation to the introduction of computing into schools has been that to justify the expense of equipment schools and teachers have been under some pressure to use technology, even when it has been of limited or no benefit.

When this school went through the process two years of making decisions about I.T. it was well aware of these concerns. In this sense the choice of the Chromebook was a considered one and the basic sense of the decision is becoming more apparent. Chromebooks are powerful enough to do virtually any I.T function that school students may need to do. In the few areas this is not the case specialist equipment has been provided. Whilst not inexpensive, the Chromebook is available at a price that requires no one (school or teacher) to use IT for the sake of it; if it is not going to in some way improve classroom efficiency.

I feel that in the Chromebook we have had a remarkably smooth roll out of a major initiative, that is increasingly being shown to enable schools to provide I.T. when needed at the right price. The benefits of this decision both in terms of cost savings and educational outcomes are becoming more apparent every day.
Teacher interviews is to get a brief overview of how your child is progressing.

Parent teacher interviews are now booked via the PARENT PORTAL, accessed through the school website. The portal will be open for appointments approximately 2 weeks prior to the evening and close the day before the scheduled parent teacher date.

When making an appointment, do not book consecutive appointments for different teachers. Allow 5 minutes between each appointment – travel time from teacher to teacher.

If you, as a parent, have significant concerns regarding your child’s progress, an alternative meeting would be appropriate. If after your parent teacher interview you have concerns that you would like further addressed, please contact your child’s Year Level Coordinator or me to arrange time to further discuss your concerns.

If you were unable to attend, please contact your child’s teacher for an interview time that is mutually suitable. If concerns were raised and further discussion is required, please contact your child’s Year Level Coordinator and/or teacher to arrange a time for a more detailed interview.

FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM - JUNIOR AND SENIOR SCHOOL

As of the beginning of this term, the full (winter) school uniform can be worn by all students. Full school uniform is to be worn from Tuesday 26th of April.

Students need also be reminded that wearing blazers to and from school is compulsory and that a neat, tidy presentation is required when wearing the school uniform.

If the weather forecast is to be 25 degrees or higher, summer uniform may be worn.

Kevin Richardson
Deputy Principal – Head of Senior School

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
– HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Junior School Co-curricular Program 2016
Activities for this program begin week 2, Wednesday 20th April.

Term Two Uniform Requirements

Students are expected to wear full winter uniform from Tuesday 26th April. There is a two week change over period from summer to winter uniform. Girls are expected to wear either their trousers or their skirt/kilt with black tights – socks are not permitted. All students are required to wear their school tie. If we experience unseasonably warm weather, days forecast to be 25 degrees or above, students may choose to wear their summer uniform.

Students are not allowed to mix and match uniforms. They must either wear full summer or full winter uniform. Please note that students are not permitted to wear black tights with their summer uniform or long sleeve t-shirts under shirts and dresses unless they are covered by the school jumper. In these cases students should be wearing full winter uniform.

Please note Junior School students are expected to wear their school jumper to and from school with their winter uniform, and from Year 5, their school blazer.

Please refer to the school diary for further information regarding uniform and hair requirements.

Junior School House Athletics Carnivals

All Year Three to Year Six students have, over the past three weeks during Physical Education class and Sport, been training for athletics and participating in trials, for selection into field and track events, for the Junior School House Athletics Carnival.

Due to the large volume of students at these levels, we have decided to run two distinct types of Athletic carnivals.

1. Year 3 & 4 House Sports Day - Friday 22nd April
   9.00am – 1.00pm

On this day, all students in Year 3 and Year 4 will participate in a program equipped to include all students, regardless of their ability, in either a field or track event/s. There will be a rotation of 8 activities in which Year 3 and Year 4 students will participate in Houses at their appropriate age level. Students will be awarded both place and participation ribbons on the day. Parents are most welcome to come and join in the morning of activities.

Students are required to wear full sports uniform to and from school on this day. Depending on weather, your child will need to bring their school hat and sun screen for use on the day and to ensure they have their drink bottle. If the weather turns cooler then students may need their school anorak.

Parents and friends are welcome to join us for the House Athletics Fun Carnival.

2. Year 3-6 Junior School House Athletics-Qualified students’ only, - Selection process for BMPSSA and District representation - Friday 29th April.

This carnival will be conducted under the rules and guidelines of the BMPSSA. ONLY students who have qualified for events through the trial program conducted over the past three weeks during sport, will participate in this day.

The program will begin at 9.00am and conclude by 3.00pm. Junior School House Coordinators will collate their teams from the information gained over the past 3 weeks in PE classes and trials at sport time. Students will be notified of events in which they will participate, if they have qualified under the rules and
guidelines of the BMPSSA. Lists of competitors will be placed in and around the R block, in the display cabinet and the F block. Students will record in their diary events they have been selected to participate in and parents of competitors will be notified by a note sent home with your child. As with House Swimming, students will have an opportunity to compete in a maximum of 4 individual events and 1 relay. The 4 fastest 100 metre times will be the students who compete in the relay event at the next level, not the winning relay team at our house carnival.

Students in Years 3-6 who do not qualify to participate, will have normal classes on this day.

Year 5 and 6 students, who do not qualify to participate, will be taken to spectate and cheer on their house, during their scheduled sport time from 1.30pm and where practical, during some of the scheduled field events. Students competing are required to wear full sports uniform to and from school on this day. Depending on weather, your child will need to bring their school hat and sun screen for use on the day and to ensure they have their drink bottle. If the weather turns cooler then students may need their school anorak.

Parents and friends are welcome to join us for the Junior School House Athletics-Qualified students’ only, Year 3-6 - Selection process for BMPSSA and District representation.

Important Dates in the Junior School:
April
19th Prep Excursion-Werribee Zoo
22nd Year 3 & 4 House Sports Day
25th Anzac Day [No School]
26th Junior School Assembly 9.00am in the Gym
  • ANZAC DAY SERVICE – Year 5
  • Junior Guitar Ensemble
  • Year 2C and 2D Performance
29th Year 3-6 Junior School House Athletics-Qualified students’ only, - Selection process for BMPSSA and District representation

Sports Hub Term 2

Bookings for the Sports Hub Term 2 have closed.

We plan to offer four sports during Term Two:

- Circus skills will operate on Monday
- Basketball on Tuesday
- AFL on Wednesday
- Diamond Games on Thursday

Parents of children who gain a place in the program can consider the position confirmed once payment has been cleared by the school.

Elizabeth O’Day
Deputy Principal - Head of Junior School

BMG HUBS PROGRAMS
NEWS

Important to all Hubs participants – you must notify the Hubs team if your child is not attending on the scheduled day by phone, email or text.
Please remember that we have a **No Hat No Play** policy for all children attending the Hubs program must have a spare hat to wear outside.

Reminders for the Hubs programs:
- Students attending Sports Hub are reminded to pack a healthy snack for them to have after school and a named water bottle.
- If your child is unable to attend either program please contact us via email, phone or text.

For each of these programs it is important and the parent/guardians responsibility to notify the program coordinators if there are any changes to your child/ren’s attendance on the day that they are to attend. This may be done by SMS to either related program on the following numbers:

- The Learning Hub - 0408 548 058
- The Sport Hub - 0428 315 081

Confirmations of absentees may be phoned through the main school number on 5366 4800. or
email the Learning Hub via
hubprograms@bmg.vic.edu.au

**SRC NEWS**

Students in the Senior and Junior SRC will be supporting the local Bacchus Marsh RSL by selling ANZAC badges on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd April. Badges will be available for $1.00 and $2.00 and will be sold from the BMG Cafeteria during recess and lunch on these days. Please support those who fought for us. “Lest we Forget”

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB NEWS APRIL 2016**

This is a reminder to parents that Book Club is no long available through the school. Parents are welcome to view the Scholastic catalogue online and register to order and have delivered to your home.

Note: Issue 3 is available for ordering online but LOOP is closed so no orders will go through the school account.

**Book Fair will still be running early in Term 3 so watch this space!**

Di Dunn
Bookclub Coordinator

**SS PRODUCTION NEWS**

Hairspray is now in its final month of rehearsal! A Term Two rehearsal schedule has now been posted on Moodle for students to access. Please note that there are extended rehearsals at BMG on Wednesdays, [April 20 & April 27](#), and also the all-day rehearsal on Friday, [April 29](#). These three rehearsals will conclude at [5pm](#) and **students will need to be collected** from Wilson Hall. The late bus is not available for the later finish.

A note outlining the schedule for Production Week will be sent home shortly. Please keep this information handy and return the appropriate section regarding travel arrangements to ensure we are aware of your plans. Looking forward to seeing you at the show!

**Tickets on Sale Now !!**

Bacchus Marsh Grammar presents the musical classic “Hairspray”. This production features a huge cast of talented young actors, singers, dancers and musicians. This will be an entertaining and affordable show that appeals to all ages.

**Dates:**
- Friday 6th May Official Opening Night 7.30pm
- Saturday 7th May 2.00pm
- Saturday 7th May 7.30pm

**Venue:** Clocktower Centre, Moonee Ponds
750 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds VIC 3039
(03) 9243 9191

**Tickets:**
- Prices - Adults $8
- Students - $5
- Family $21 (includes 2 Adults & 2 Children)

Tickets will be available from Monday 11th April 2016 and may be purchased via the Box Office: ph 92439191 OR online at - clocktowercentre.com.au
Free Friday Matinee Dress Rehearsal Performance

The school will be offering a free limited seating matinee performance for the wider community on Friday 6th May at 11.30am. Tickets for this performance will only be available via the school from Monday 18th April and must be collected in person.

To obtain tickets for this performance please send an email to the school email school@bmg.vic.edu.au with ‘Hairspray Friday Matinee’ in the subject line or alternatively contact the school on 5366 4800. Tickets will be distributed on a “request received” priority. Tickets for this performance will be available for collection from the school from Monday 18th April 2016. The performance will be held at the Clocktower Centre, 750 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds VIC 3039 (03) 9243 9191.

The Hairspray Production Team

HOSPITALITY NEWS

BMG HIGH TEAS

High Teas will be conducted on the following dates:

Thursday 28 April – French Theme
Thursday 5 May – Winter Wonderland
Thursday 12 May – Vintage Theme
Thursday 19 May – Indoor Picnic Theme
Thursday 26 May – Baby Blue & White Theme

Cost: $15.00 per person (children no charge)
Time: 9:15am to 10:30am
Venue: BMG Café
40 tickets available per sitting (3 highchairs available – need to be pre-booked)
To book, please contact Reception on 5366 4800

LOTE NEWS

THE 2016 BMG TRIP TO JAPAN

Where: Tokyo, Nagasaki, Kyoto, Kumamoto-Japan
When: 3rd September -24th September, 2016
How: By planes, trains and automobiles
Cost: $4500 approx plus spending money
Who: Any students from Years 9-12
Why: Because it is fun and you get to experience a new culture

What to see: Temples, gardens, tea ceremonies, schools, theme parks, big department stores, traditional houses, festivals, calligraphy classes, noodle making classes, fast trains, subway trains, big crowds, karaoke stores, sushi restaurants, bowls of rice, hi tech vending machines and much more........

If anyone is interested in going, then please get in contact with Mr. Love for more details. You can also visit the parent portal on the school website.

****The cut off will be at the end of May. If numbers are low, the tour will be cancelled.

CAREERS NEWS

Year 10 Work Experience

For students in Year 10 in 2016 participating in the Work Experience program the forms are now available on the school’s website. Parents and/or students may download the Work Experience Arrangement Form at the following link; http://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/_uploads/ppage/files/WORK%20EXPERIENCE%20ARRANGEMENT%20FORMS%202015.pdf

Alice Wu-Tollis and Li Richardson
Career Development Practitioners
**ART NEWS**

*Students in front of their “Street Art” as displayed in the Lou Callow Gallery*

**CANTEEN NEWS**

With the start of term 2 the canteen no longer makes fruit salad.

We are now making soup and a bread roll for $4.50.

Please remember that wedges are only available on a Monday for juniors and Tuesdays for seniors. If they are ordered on any other day a sweet chilli chicken roll is substituted for them.

The canteen stocks soothers and butter menthols for $2.00 a pack.

Have a healthy and happy week

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Canteen printed lunch order bags are now available and may be collected from the Canteen or the Administration Office.

**Canteen Reminders**

- No frozen food items can be ordered at lunch, they need to be purchased over the counter.

*Please note:* there are minor changes to drinks on the Canteen menu due to some stock no longer available.

**Cancelling Online Orders**

Orders may be canceled up until the cut-off time of **9.30am** (excludes emergency lunch orders or payments) by following the same process as completing an order. Just select the order and then 'cancel' a credit sit against your account for use at another time.

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**Emergency Lunch Procedure**

In our busy day-to-day lives the school understands that students and families may forget lunches and an emergency replacement lunch may be required. **This can now be ordered online using Qkr! By MasterCard.** Or if this should occur all students are to report to the Administration Office for an emergency lunch requisition. Payment for the emergency lunch must be made to the Administration Office on the next school day. Teaching staff will **not be permitted** to send students directly to the canteen for emergency lunches.

Contact will be made with all parents/guardians of all students requiring an emergency lunch for permission to give students the emergency lunch requisition and to check if there are any specific dietary requirements.

Students will be supplied with:

- a sandwich
- a piece of fruit and/or a small yoghurt
- a bottle of water.

Thank you to all our volunteers who lend their time to come into the Canteen and help, your children/ grand children love seeing you and we appreciate your help.

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**Canteen Volunteers**

The School and canteen staff would greatly appreciate volunteer support from the school community and your assistance is always welcomed. Volunteers do not have to commit to a whole day. You may choose to help out for a shorter period of time.

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To any parent who is thinking of assisting in the canteen in 2016, you are required to have a current **Working With Children Check.** Once you have received your card please present it to the Administration Office where a copy of the card will be kept in a confidential file.

Due to OH&S and Food Handling regulations all persons working in the canteen are to have closed in footwear ie runners. Thongs, sandals and open toed shoes are not permitted.

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Kerrie, Leanne and Janine

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**myBMG NEWS**

**myBMG – Parent Portal**

The parent portal continues to provide information regarding your child(ren) including all student notes. It also contains options to make payments towards your school fees, learning hub fees, various user pays activities and any ad hoc charges.

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The Grammar Weekly
encourage all parents/guardians to refer to the Parent Portal for information regarding your child(ren).

Forgotten Password
A number of current Parents/Guardian have lost or forgotten their login details for the myBMG – Parent Portal. Parents/guardians may now request this information using the ‘Forgotten your password?’ link on the Portal login page. Parents/guardians will require their Debtor ID or Family Code and must have provided the school with a valid e-mail address for all contacts for students. Parents/guardians may update their e-mail address by contacting the school via: email - school@bmg.vic.edu.au or completing change of address/details form available on the schools website.

If current Parents/Guardians have any further enquiries they will need to contact the school on 03 5366 4800. The myBMG – Parent Portal is for Parents/guardians of current students to access only. It is advisable that students do not have access to this service.

Luke Robertson
Information Systems Support Officer

SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT
NEWS

DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONE

*Remember the drop off zone is a “kiss and go” zone. Your assistance will ensure that the drop off zone flows in an ordered and steady manner.

A reminder to all families that the South Maddingley Road visitor parking (in front of the Administration Building) is not to be utilised by students as a “Drop off and Pick Up” area between the following times:

Before School: 8.00AM - 8.45AM
After School: 3.05PM – 3.30PM

It is far too dangerous for cars to be reversing onto South Maddingley Road during the bus times.

We would also like to remind families that it is illegal to text and utilise mobile phones whilst driving and this includes within the School carparks. All drivers should have full concentration on their surroundings particularly whilst in School zones and near school crossings.

PFA
NEWS

Upcoming events:
- Mother’s Day Stall Monday 2nd May

- Mother’s Day Breakfast Friday 6th May - numbers will be limited. More details about these 2 events will be distributed next term

The PFA is registered and part of Amart sports loyalty rewards program. Families shopping at Amart stores across Victoria may choose to nominate Bacchus Marsh Grammar as their community group and the PFA will receive benefits associated with this program.

Symone Whiteway
PFA President

BUS
NEWS

Private Bus Service Reminder
Private bus services including all Werribee, Watergardens, Caroline Springs, Cairnlea and Sunbury/Gisborne buses are private bus services for students who live in the Werribee, Watergardens, Caroline Springs, Sunbury and Gisborne areas. Students who are not allocated a seat on these bus routes are not permitted to travel on these services at any time.

School Early Leavers
A reminder to all students and parents: if a student is required to leave school early for any reason, please ensure that your child has a signed note in their diary. This note must be sighted and counter signed by their Year Level Coordinator or Teacher, Mr Richardson or Mrs O’Day. Parents are required to arrange to meet their child at the Main Office in order to sign out in the Early Leavers Register.
Please note students are not permitted to have mobile phones switched on during School hours.

UNIFORM
NEWS

Senior School UNIFORM PASS: All senior students, who are not wearing the correct School uniform, are to report to the Main Administration Office and collect a uniform pass. The uniform pass is valid for one day only (date of issue).

Lost Property
Please check that all items of students’ clothing are clearly named: in doing so, items mislaid and taken to lost property will quickly be returned via class/tutor group teachers to their owners.

Please note that un-named property will not readily be released to students who claim ownership. Please clearly name your child’s uniform to protect your investment in its purchase. In the lead up to the end of the school year parents and guardians are asked to check their child/ren’s uniform to ensure they have not mistakenly taken home another student’s property. Any items that may have been mistakenly taken home maybe brought to the Main Administration for distribution back to the correct family.
SECONDHAND BOOKS & UNIFORM NEWS

Secondhand books and uniform are now sold through the Sustainable School Shop. To get started, go to www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au and either register as a parent or log-in if you’re already registered.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

On Campus Uniform Shop
“ON CAMPUS” TRADING HOURS
Mon & Fri: 12:30p.m. to 4:30p.m.
Wed: 8a.m. to 12noon
Bacchus Marsh Grammar “On Campus Shop”
Phone: 5367 4072

RUSHFORDS TRADING HOURS
Mon-Fri: 9a.m. to 5.30 p.m.  Sat: 9a.m. to 1p.m.
Shop 3-5 Watton Arcade, 28 Watton Street, Werribee
Phone: 9741 3211 Fax: 9741 3155
Email: rushfords@noone.com.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

Djerriwarrh Health Services
Mother’s Day Lunch

@ St Bernard’s Parish Centre
Friday 6th May 11.30-3.30

Includes 2 Course Meal & Champagne
Live Entertainment # Raffle # Door prizes
Tickets $50.00
Book Now Contact Nadine 0431 444 920

Disclaimer: please note the school provides this newsletter space to local community activity based businesses and does not have an affiliation or endorse individual businesses.
Free pre-planning

Be prepared for your National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) planning meeting

*If you don’t ask - you won’t get what you need*

**Information Sessions**
- learn about the steps you need to take
- receive handbooks to guide you through the process
- speak directly with a Pinarc planner who can answer your questions

**Dates:**
17/3/16 at 10.00-11.00 a.m.
17/3/16 at 7.30-8.30 p.m.
19/3/16 at 10.30-11.30 a.m.
13/4/16 7.30-8.30 p.m.
1828 Sturt Street Alfredton

21/4/16 at 10.00-11.00 a.m.
Bacchus Marsh Library

28/4/16 10.00-11.00 a.m.
Daylesford (venue TBC)

Phone: 5329 1300 to register

**Individual Pre-Planning Sessions**
- meet with a qualified & experienced Pinarc planner
- identify the supports you are receiving now
- identify the additional supports you need
- prepare your Participant or Carer Statement
- learn about the language the NDIS uses

**Dates:**
At a time to suit you
1828 Sturt Street Alfredton
Phone: 5329 1398 to book

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**Be prepared for your full entitlement**

**Pinarc Disability Support:**
- Is already working in the NDIS system
- Has qualified and locally based planners
- Has knowledge of supports you can access and trust
- Has been offering planning for over 15 years