FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is with sadness that I heard of the passing of Andrew Conolly overnight. Andrew was the longest serving Chair of Council, fulfilling that role from May 2000 to December 2013.

Andrew joined the Bacchus Marsh Grammar Council during a period of significant turmoil in the governance of the school and when the relationship between School Council and Principal and the general outlook for the school was poor.

Andrew was one of a significant group of people who stabilised School Council and supported me in getting on with the job of managing and operating a school. It is fair to say that this group has provided me with the ability to develop the school.

Andrew had a vision for this school which to a large part is on target and met. Andrew saw this continuing over the last decades and was unwilling to see the future of the school constrained in any way.

Andrew had a mercurial quality which was sometimes exhausting and perhaps forgot some of the finer details, but he loved this school, was a significant contributor to its development and will be greatly missed.

I extend our sympathy to all members of his family particularly Sandra, James and Austin.

VALE

Andrew Conolly
School Council President
2000 to 2013

Andrew A. Neal
Principal

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IMPORTANT DATES - 2016

2-6 May Senior School Production Week
4 May Hairspray Technical Run
5 May ICCEC Athletics
5 May Hairspray Full Rehearsal
5 May BMG Hospitality High Tea
6 May JS Cross Country
6 May PFA Mother’s Day Breakfast [SOLD OUT]
6 May Hairspray Production
7 May Hairspray Production
11 May Vietnam Trip 1 Information Session
10-12 May NAPLAN (Yrs 3, 5, 7 & 9)
12 May BMG Hospitality High Tea
13 May BMPSSA Athletics
13 May Senior School Careers Expo
17 May Year 3 Excursion
17 May Senior School House Cross Country
18 May BMPSSA Cross Country
19 May Year 7 Immunisations
19 May BMG Hospitality High Tea
20 May JS Jump Off Day
20-22 May Senior Music Camp (Narmbool)
24 May JS Assembly
25 May Year 5 Fieldtrip
25 May Annual General Meeting
26 May JS Division Cross Country
26 May BMG Hospitality High Tea
27 May Prep Pizza & Pyjama Day
27 May Year 1 Excursion – Scienceworks
27 May Year 11 Exams Commence
30 May DAV Debating Round 4
30 May Years 10-11 Exams Commence
31 May ICAS Science Competition (Yrs 3-10 selected students)
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL  
– HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

SENIOR SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS

Examinations for students in the Senior School are to commence Friday 27 May. An examination timetable for students, for reference, will be issued to students and published in the weekly newsletter in the next fortnight. Please ensure that your child is familiar with the times that their exams occur.

Year 11 students have the ability to either study at home or at school. Classes for Year 11 students will be suspended for the duration of the examinations. Year 11 students are not to use this time to socialise at local “fast food” establishments. They must be engaged in one of the following

1. completing an examination
2. studying at school
3. studying at home

Kevin Richardson  
Deputy Principal – Head of Senior School

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL  
– HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

NAPLAN Testing Schedule

Students in Years 3 and 5 will sit the NAPLAN tests as follows:

Tuesday 10 May   Language Conventions  
Tuesday 10 May   Writing  
Wednesday 11 May  Reading  
Thursday 12 May  Numeracy

If parents have any questions or concerns about the NAPLAN testing, please speak to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible.

Junior School House Cross Country

On Friday 6 May, Year P-6 Junior School students will be participating in our annual House Cross Country Carnival. The carnival is another fantastic opportunity for the children to compete for House Points as all children who complete the course gain valuable points that go towards the House Cross Country Shield and School Colours. This carnival is also an opportunity for children in Year 3 to Year 6 to gain selection into the B.M.P.S.S.A Cross Country Carnival, which will be held on Friday 15 May at BMG. The first five competitors from the 9/10 year old, 11 year old and 12/13 year old age groups will be selected for B.M.P.S.S.A.

Elizabeth O’Day  
Deputy Principal - Head of Junior School

The House Cross Country will run at the times listed:

- Prep – Year 2  Periods 1 & 2  9.15am – 10.40am
- Year 3 and 4  Periods 3 & 4  11.00am - 12.50pm
- Year 5 and 6  Periods 5 & 6  1.40pm – 2.50pm

If the weather forecast is extreme, we may postpone the event. If this is to occur we will endeavour to notify you via SMS.

The Cross Country courses will be different for each age group but will include Old Mines Rd, South Maddingley Road, Kerrs Rd and East Maddingley Rd around the boundary of the school and in certain areas through the school. Parents are welcome to run/jog/walk with the children. Please ensure your child is in full sports uniform on the day.

Year Prep – Year 4 students are permitted to wear sports uniform to and from school on this day.

Students in Years 5 & 6 will be required to change into their sports uniform as per normal arrangements for Year 5/6 sport.

Important Dates in the Junior School:

May  
6  House Cross Country  
   • Prep – 2  Periods 1 & 2  
   • Years 3-4  Periods 3 & 4  
   • Years 5-6  Periods 5 & 6
10  National Testing - Language Conventions and Writing
11  National Testing - Reading
11  Vietnam and Cambodia Study Tour 1 Parent/student dinner
12  National Testing - Numeracy
13  BMPSSA Athletics Carnival
17  Year 3 Excursion-MCG
18  BMPSSA Cross Country Periods 3 & 4
20  Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off Day – selected times
21  Prep 2017 interviews
24  Junior School Assembly  9.00am in the Gym  
   • Year 3/4 Choir
   • Prep B and C Performance
   • Prep A Performance
25  Year 5 Field Trip
25  Annual General Meeting  
   • Year 1 Performances  
   • Combined Prep and Year 1/2 Choir
   • Year 3/4 Choir
   • Year 5/6 Glee Choir
26  Divisional Cross Country
27  Pizza & Pyjama Day
31  ICAS Science Competition(Nominated Students Yr3-Yr10)
NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2016 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 10 May, Wednesday 11 May and Thursday 12 May 2016. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. During test week, catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. These students may undertake catch-up tests on the days in the test week after the scheduled test, up to and including Friday 13 May 2016.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for support due to disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with Mrs Wendy Green prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au

BMG HUBS PROGRAMS

Important news for all Hubs participants:

- Students attending Sports Hub are reminded to pack a healthy snack for them to have after school and a named water bottle.
- Students attending The Clubs Hub are reminded to pack a healthy snack for them to have after school and a named water bottle.
- Students attending The Learning Hub, The Spelling Hub and The Clubs Hub.

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

or

Confirmations of absences may be phoned through the main school number on 5366 4800.

or

email the Learning Hub via hubprograms@bmg.vic.edu.au

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.
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 – SOLD OUT
Saturday 7th May 2.00pm – Limited tickets available
Saturday 7th May 7.30pm – SOLD OUT

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)

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 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

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

CAREERS NEWS

Edition 3 of the BMG Careers Newsletter is available on the school website. A special feature of this term includes an on campus event: our annual BMG Careers Expo. At this expo, a number of major institutions and organisations will be showcasing their post education and training options to students in Years 10-12.

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

HOSPITALITY NEWS

BMG HIGH TEAS

High Teas will be conducted on the following dates:

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

Cost: $10.00 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

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

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.

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.

### 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.

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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### 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. I 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.

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**SAFETY AND 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.

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**PFA NEWS**

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.

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**Symone Whiteway**

PFA President
**Private Bus Update – SMS Communication**

In October last year the School communicated that Bacchus Marsh Coaches would be able to SMS parents any delays to morning services. If you returned the slip granting permission for the School to forward your contact details to the bus company, then this service is now operational.

For any delays in the afternoons, the School will continue to SMS parents.

If you have any questions, please contact Casey Ryder on 5366 4800.

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**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**.

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**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.

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**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).

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**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

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**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](http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au) and either register as a parent or log-in if you’re already registered.

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**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

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**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

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**Qkr! NEWS**

Qkr! By MasterCard is now at Bacchus Marsh Grammar

*Please ensure when you set up your child/ren in Qkr! that you include their correct year and class/tutor group for each child.* This allows for us to ensure that lunch orders are provided without any challenges. Please see below:
The new Qkr! app by MasterCard is now available for families of students at Bacchus Marsh Grammar to make payments to the School by Mastercard or Visa. The Qkr! app by MasterCard can be downloaded for free from Apple’s app store for iPhones (iPads should download the iPhone app) or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

After downloading the app, register by simply scan the QR code below using the Qkr! Code scanner or type BMG after tapping the magnifying glass in the top right of the home screen of Qkr!. The app will then always recognise you as a member of Bacchus Marsh Grammar in the future and enable you to make payments to the school (including School fees). You can also order lunch from the Canteen right now using Qkr!

To make payments immediately why not download it today and take a look at our school on Qkr!

An information flyer regarding the service is attached to the full version of The Grammar Weekly available online.

For further information visit www.bmg.vic.edu.au and search for Qkr!

Luke Robertson
Information Systems Support Officer

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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.