



The General Achievement Test

On Wednesday 13 June (10.00am to 1.15pm) all students completing one or more VCE Unit 3&4 subjects will be completing the General Achievement Test (GAT).

The GAT is a 3 hour test of general knowledge and skills in: written communication, mathematics, science and technology, humanities, the arts and social sciences. Although GAT results do not count directly towards a student's VCE results, they play an important role in checking the accuracy of internal and external assessment marking and in calculating a Derived Examination Score if required. Students need to take the GAT seriously and try their best.

Students are permitted to bring into the GAT an English and/or bilingual printed dictionary; however, a thesaurus or a combined thesaurus-dictionary is not permitted. There will be two writing tasks (about 45 minutes each) and 70 multiple-choice questions.

Writing task 1 will present written and graphical information in colour. The task will be to write a piece that presents the main information in this material. Students should not present an argument. Remember the writing is being assessed, not the extra knowledge students may have about the material. Students' writing will be judged on:

- how well they organise and present their understanding of the material;
- how effectively they communicate the information; and
- how clearly they express themselves.

Writing task 2 will present some statements on an issue. The task will be to develop a piece of writing presenting a point of view on the issue based on one or more of the statements. Students are free to include other knowledge or information they may have to support their view. In doing this task, students should aim to present reasons and arguments to support their view and to rebut opposing ideas. Students must also aim to communicate clearly and effectively to the reader. Students' writing will be judged on:

- the extent to which they develop their point of view in a reasonable and convincing way; and
- how effectively they express themselves

The **multiple-choice questions** will cover mathematics, science, technology, humanities, the arts and social sciences. There will be 70 questions in this section, which will take about 90 minutes to complete. Students should attempt every question. Marks will not be taken off for incorrect answers. Students must use a pencil on the answer sheet for multiple-choice questions.

Tips on doing the GAT

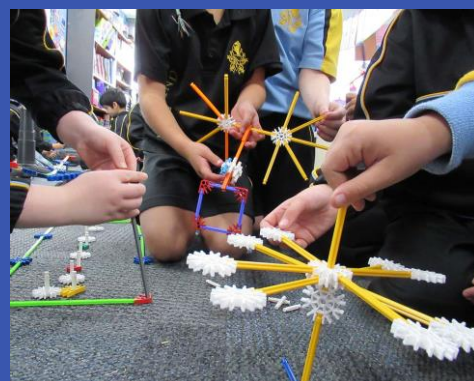
- Read all the information carefully.
- Read each question carefully and try to pick out the key ideas and information.
- For the multiple-choice questions, try to quickly reject choices that appear wrong, then read the question again and select the answer most likely to be right.
- Attempt all questions and don't spend too much time on any one question. Questions can also be revisited later.

In completing the GAT, students should try their best. Good luck!

Leigh Park Assistant Principal - Teaching and Learning

Woolworths Earn and Learn Program 2017

Last year the school participated in the Woolworths Earn and Learn Program that supported schools across Australia. With the support of the school community we were able to order a number of K'nex construction sets, games and other valuable resources that have made their way into classrooms and the Early Learning Centre. Thank you to Woolworths and especially the wider community for supporting this program.



Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – YMCA Ballarat

Earlier this term the School Principal advised that YMCA Ballarat would be the provider for Out of School Hours Care for Bacchus Marsh Grammar from Term 3 2018. The Hubs Program, both Learning and Sport will cease as of Friday 22 June at 5.30pm.

Families who currently use the HUBS program will receive a YMCA Ballarat information pack. All families in Prep to Year 6 will receive a welcome letter from the YMCA via the class pigeon holes to the youngest in the family on Friday 1 June. The relevant handbook and enrolment form are available via the [School website](#). Additionally, families can request an information pack by making a request through the student diary at this stage.

As stated in the [correspondence](#) distributed to parents earlier this term, the YMCA will be operating a Vacation Care program from 25 June 2018 to the 16 July 2018 inclusive. The program will operate from the school gymnasium from 7.00am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday.

Due to the changes to Child Care Benefit (CCB) and the roll out of the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) on the 1st July 2018, parents will not be eligible to claim CCB for the first week of the holiday break i.e. 25 June – 29 June 2018. The school will subsidise payment for care for this week, 25 – 29 June 2018, for families who commit to the full time Vacation Care Program spanning 25 June to 16 July inclusive.

The full cost of the Vacation Care program is \$90 per child, per day, however the school will subsidise 50% of the cost for the first week only. Parents who meet this criteria will be charged \$45 per child, per day for the applicable week and then parents will be eligible to claim CCS for the remainder of the program.

For more information regarding the OSHC programs offered by YMCA Ballarat please contact:

Chrissie Ashmore - Chrissie.Ashmore@ymca.org.au - Ph: 03 5329 2800

Prep Reception to Year 6 School Photos 2018 - Tuesday 5 June and Wednesday 6 June

All students from Prep/Reception to Year 6 will have school photographs taken. Students will be required to wear full Winter uniform, which includes jumpers, blazers and ties for students in Years 5 and 6, and jumpers and ties for students in Prep Reception to Year 4. Family photos will be taken at recess and lunchtimes only. Siblings will need to arrange their own meeting day and time for their family portrait. **Family portrait orders will close at 9.00am on Monday 4 June.**

Positive Parenting

Encouraging Kids to Take the Perspective of Others

Most children are not renowned for empathy. When it comes to seeing another child's perspective or understanding their feelings, a very young child's ability to empathise is yet to develop. Coming to understand that others have thoughts, perceptions and feelings that are separate from their own, along with the ability to explicitly infer these mental states in others, are important developmental milestones for kids.

Things you can do:

- Discuss book or media stories as opportunities for kids to practise recognising the perspective of others – what do the characters in the story think, believe, want or feel?
- Play games where you the parent pull a face or act in a certain way so that kids can identify and empathise with the emotion or body language being displayed. Then give the kids a turn and you do the guessing.
- Role model tolerance and acceptance of diversity.
- Talk about how beliefs, thoughts, desires, and emotions can motivate behaviour.
- Be selective with terminology when assessing inappropriate behaviour of others.
- Initiate discussions about other kids living with disadvantage and disability.
- Help your kids to understand that the world doesn't revolve around them – encourage chores and helping around the house.
- Encourage talk around the 'how would you feel' theme by helping kids discover what they have in common with other people. Encourage them to tell you how they would feel if they were that person being victimised, bullied, or ignored.
- Raise awareness of ways that kids can help other kids – simple acts of sharing, caring, helping, cooperating.
- Help kids develop an A-Z of feeling words.

Source: Farrant, et al., Infant and Child Development 21 : 175-188 (2012)

Veronica Johnston

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Exams for Years 8 to 11

Exams will take place from Friday 1 June to Friday 8 June. The full timetable and room allocation is on the [school website](#).

School Photographs – Prep Reception to Year 6

Information and ordering details on the [school website](#).

BMG Annual Creative Writing Competition Open to Years 2-6

Topic: **Once I Found a Key** - entries are now being accepted

For more information, please refer to details posted on the [website](#).

Junior School House Music

Bacchus Marsh Grammar will be holding this year's Junior School House Music event on **Monday 4 June**. We would like to extend a warm invitation to parents, family and friends to join us. It is a great opportunity for our up and coming musicians to showcase their talent and to develop their performance skills. The all-day event will be held in Wilson Hall, please see the schedule below:

Years 3 & 4 - 9:00am – 10:50am **Years 5 & 6** - 11:15am – 12:45pm

Years 1 & 2 - 1:35pm – 2:30pm

STUDENT ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Middle School Musical - Peter Pan - Term 2 Rehearsal Schedule

Week 8 – All students to attend rehearsal – except Backstage Crew & Mermaids

Week 9 – All students to attend rehearsal – rescheduled photo day

***PHOTO WEEK – ALL STUDENTS REQUIRED**

Term 2 - Junior School Assembly

The assembly will feature P-4 Musical Showcase on Tuesday 19 June in the Gymnasium, starting at 9am.

Roll Call

Information relating to how to change your child's bus stop on Roll Call has been emailed to families. For more information regarding Roll Call visit the [school website](#).

2019 Term Dates

The 2019 Term Dates have been posted onto the [school website](#).

REGULAR CONTACTS & INFORMATION

Absentee Line - 5366 4888 or Absentee Email - student_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au

Health Centre direct number - 5366 4873

The Learning Hub - 0408 548 058

The Sport Hub - 0428 315 081

Email – hubprograms@bmg.vic.edu.au

Senior School After School Classes

Tuesdays – English (N Block) and Science (Room 01)

Thursdays – Mathematics (M Block)

Visit the [BMG Events Calendar](#) for the latest upcoming events.



Bacchus Marsh
Grammar

Celebrating **30** Years

South Maddingley Road
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

P +61 3 5366 4800

F +61 3 5366 4850

E school@bmg.vic.edu.au

www.bmg.vic.edu.au