

# BMG NEWS

22 May 2020

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 14



## From the Principal

On Wednesday 18 May students started to return to school in significant numbers. It was wonderful to see students back in classrooms and around the school. Our procedures were shown to work well and will continue to be refined over the next week.

The clear message is that schools are a safe place to be and the inherent social nature of learning makes schools the best place for learning to occur.

I am strongly encouraging students to return to school as soon as possible. In that regard I have had a significant number of parents in Years 3 to 10 wishing to know if they can send students back to school earlier than the 9 June. The short answer is, Yes! We are happy for students in these years levels to come back to school from next Monday.

I again take this opportunity to thank everyone in the community for the way we have worked together to get the best outcomes during this difficult period. It has been wonderful to see the way that parents, staff and students have worked together in the common cause of seeking the best outcome for our young people. I personally thank you for the messages of support and goodwill that I have received during this period.

**Mr Andrew A. Neal – Principal**

## Junior School News

Whilst the Prep to Year 2 students prepare for a full return on Monday 25 May, it was great to welcome many of our younger students back to the Prep to Year 2 Transition Days on Wednesday 20 May and Thursday 21 May. The students were beyond excited to see their friends again and the teachers were also happy to have their students back in their rooms. Upon arrival, the temperature checks were taken quickly and calmly which set the tone for the day. During the day, students were taken to the different pick-up areas to familiarise them with the new pick-up arrangements and staggered finishing times. We look forward to a return to normal as the school moves into the next phase.

### Online Learning Spotlight on Year 1

This term in Integrated Studies, the Year 1 students have been researching and exploring the Solar System and, in particular, the planets. They have been learning the order of the planets and have begun learning and researching fascinating facts about the topic. For example, Max Frisina (1B) was amazed to find out that although Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun, Venus is the hottest planet. The students have enjoyed using the online library Epic to read non-fiction stories about space and the planets, as well as the hands-on activities they have been able to do to help with their learning. Students have been very creative with using various materials and techniques to show their learning.



### 'Crazy Hair' day in Class 2D

As a fun part of their Remote Learning, students in 2D had the opportunity to participate in 'Crazy Hair' Day. It was fantastic to see so many creative and wacky hairstyles. A great day was had by all!



## Senior School News

---

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews scheduled for the end of Term 1 and beginning of Term 2 were cancelled. In lieu of these interviews, all Senior School teachers have completed an Interim Report for each student. This report is a summary of how your child has engaged in remote learning during the first five weeks of Term 2.

Parents can access the Interim reports from 25 May by logging onto Schoolbox via the myBMG Parent Portal.

With students returning to school over the coming weeks, they are reminded to bring their own water bottles with them, as there will be limited access to drink fountains. This is especially important for students who have Physical Education classes.

**Mrs Debra Ogston : Deputy Principal – Head of Senior School**

## Resilience

---

***“It’s a little like wrestling a gorilla. You don’t quit when you’re tired. You quit when the gorilla is tired.”***

Robert Strauss

Another remote learning week has passed, and previously I have spoken of gratitude for what *we do have* rather than lament what we do not. Several people (students, teachers and parents) have since described to me the struggle and the challenges they face in remote learning, supporting children at home and in remote teaching. I admire everyone’s resilience at this time and acknowledge the genuine hard work by all, particularly those with average IT skills, language difficulties or physical restraints.

I am reminded of Australia’s speed skater Steven Bradbury who famously achieved an unexpected gold medal at the Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games. Coming into the five-man final, Steven Bradbury was the rank outsider and, as the race progressed, his chances looked slimmer with each passing lap. However, the leading quartet all fell in the final straight, leaving the way clear for a nonplussed Bradbury to cross the line unchallenged and claim the most unexpected of gold medals.

When quizzed whether his victory was by default, an indignant Bradbury asked his ABC interviewer whether they knew how hard it was, what dedication it took to skate to his level and even make an Olympic Final. *Staying on one’s feet* was certainly the most important skill for any skater, he said, and one that had now deservedly won him fame and fortune. Bradbury recognised that he may not have had the athletic ability of those who skated ahead of him but he had the ability to remain calm and steady, and the presence of mind to persevere and achieve ultimate success. There are parallels here for our brave students to remain calm and to persevere on the path to success.

I have always been non-plussed that AFL umpires are abused by fans and players for making a mistake, when each and every player has a *clanger* statistic on their statistics sheet recording every error they make. Mistakes are made in each individual’s quest to achieve and succeed. Failure, in whatever form it takes, is the first step towards success. A close friend’s son approached me recently asking whether he should continue his music lessons, lamenting that he wasn’t very good at it (his musical instrument). Urging him to continue, I said to him that many of life’s so called *failures* are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up. Work harder, practise more, ask if you are unsure, work with others, be inspired by professionals but *never give up*. That’s the same for every endeavour, surely; true for every student, parent, teacher and administrator.

Sir Winston Churchill embodied the importance of perseverance and resilience when he said to the tired British people during the London Blitz of World War II “...*We shall not flag or fail .... we shall fight on the seas and the oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength*”. He also said, “*Never give in...never, never, never, never, in nothing great or small, large or petty, never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense*”. We urge our students in these challenging times to be true to themselves, do what they know is right - *persist, pursue and prevail*.

Keep up the great work you are all doing.

**Mr Bruce Simons – Associate to the Principal**

## Staughton Vale - Picasso Cow Update

---

The votes are in - Annie, Bessie Vale or Binda? These were the top three names that went head to head in our voting all last week. With voting concluding over the weekend, it can finally be announced that our new resident cow at Staughton Vale will be called **Bessie Vale**. This name received the majority of the votes in a very tight contest.

Year 6 students will now be challenged with designing the artwork to decorate Bessie Vale as part of the curriculum program that helps them learn about the Australian Dairy Industry and the importance of agriculture, food and fibre production. Students will have Term 3 to makeover Bessie Vale's 'canvas' based on the theme of Farm to Plate, while recording their experiences in a learning journal along the way. They will investigate and report on responsible production in the dairy industry and explore the following topics:

- Managed environments;
- Systems involved in looking after cows and calves;
- Managing a dairy farm;
- Managing the environment sustainably;
- Producing milk and manufacturing it; and
- Developing more sustainable processes for the future.

Bessie Vale will soon MOOve out to her new home at Staughton Vale to begin her journey to becoming a Picasso Cow masterpiece.

Mr Bryce Durham – Staughton Vale Coordinator

## 2020 Instrumental Music Program

---

### New Music Enrolments Semester 2, 2020

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is pleased to provide students with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. We invite you to enrol your child in Instrumental Music Lessons for Semester 2, 2020. Please download an [Expression of Interest for Instrumental Music Enrolment Form](#) and forward to [music@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:music@bmg.vic.edu.au) or return to the Main Administration office at your child's school campus.

Information regarding the Instrumental Music Program and associated fees can be located in the [2020 Instrumental Music Handbook](#).

**The deadline for submissions for Semester 2, 2020 is Wednesday 3 June, 2020.**

Whilst we cannot guarantee immediate placement in the program, every effort will be made to accommodate selections. Students may be placed on a waiting list in any instance where a position in the program is not currently available for the preferred discipline.

Please contact [music@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:music@bmg.vic.edu.au) with any additional queries.

## Conveyance Allowance

---

If you live more than 4.8 km from the School and there is not a free bus service in your area, you might be able to apply for a Conveyance Allowance.

Following a recent decision by the Student Transport Unit of the Education Department, it appears that there might be some movement in the way the Department makes a judgement on which is the nearest appropriate school. This comes after considerable work by the school on your behalf.

If your decision to send your children to Bacchus Marsh Grammar was because you felt that it was the nearest appropriate school that respected ecumenical values and did not require your child to participate in religious instruction or religious celebrations, then you could be (subject to other Conveyance Allowance rules) eligible for the Conveyance Allowance.

If this statement applies to you, whilst I can make no guarantees, I believe it in your interests to submit a Conveyance Allowance Application for 2020. The application should be accompanied by a simple letter stating the reasons why you believe Bacchus Marsh Grammar is the nearest appropriate school i.e. because of its values and its lack of a requirement to participate in religious instruction or religious celebrations of any particular faith.

Please ensure that you complete the form that applies to your child's travel. Forms are available on the MyBMG Parent Portal. Alternatively, a form can be obtained by contacting Kerry Brown. Please be aware that no allowance is payable if the journey to and from school can be made using a free bus service.

Please contact Kerry Brown for more information on 03 5366 4800.

Ms Kerry Brown - Risk, Compliance and Policy Manager

## BMG Community Contacts

---

### Bacchus Marsh Grammar Uniform

Updates from Noone detailing operations for both the On-Campus Shop and Rushfords are listed on the [school website](#).

### Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – YMCA Ballarat

YMCA Ballarat continue to operate Out of School Hours Care.

The latest information for the Vacation Care Winter Program is available on the [school website](#).

Enrolments are now completed online.

**Email:** [chrissie.ashmore@ymca.org.au](mailto:chrissie.ashmore@ymca.org.au) Phone: 0490 178 638 W: [www.ballarat.ymca.org.au](http://www.ballarat.ymca.org.au)

#### Maddingley:

[bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au](mailto:bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au)

0438 154 842

Location: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

#### Woodlea:

[woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au](mailto:woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au)

0490 490 362

Location: 111 Frontier Avenue, Aintree, Victoria. 3336.

## Regular Contacts

---

### Maddingley Campus

South Maddingley Road

Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

P +61 3 5366 4800

F +61 3 5366 4850

### Woodlea Campus

111 Frontier Avenue

Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4900

F +61 3 5366 4950

### Woodlea Early Learning Centre

5-7 Quarry Road

Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4999

General School Email: [school@bmg.vic.edu.au](mailto:school@bmg.vic.edu.au)

School Website: [www.bmg.vic.edu.au](http://www.bmg.vic.edu.au)

## Middle School Lateral Thinking Quiz – Answers to Part 2

---

1. A window cleaner is cleaning the windows on the 25th floor of a skyscraper, when he slips and falls. He is not wearing a safety harness and nothing slows his fall, yet he suffered no injuries. Explain.  
A: *He was cleaning the inside of the windows.*
2. The band of stars across the night sky is called the “..... Way”?  
A: *Milky Way.*
3. Yogurt is made from fermented .....  
A: *Milk.*
4. What do cows drink?  
A: *Water. After the previous two questions, did you answer milk?*
5. A farmer has 15 cows, all but 8 die. How many does he have left?  
A: *Eight.*
6. If the hour hand of a clock moves 1/60th of a degree every minute, how many degrees will it move in an hour?  
A: *One.*
7. How many hands does the clock of Big Ben have?  
A: *Eight: there are four faces to the clock of Big Ben.*
8. How many times do the hands of a clock overlap in 24 hours?  
A: *22: the minute hand will go round the dial 24 times, but the hour hand will also complete two circuits. 24 minus 2 equals 22.*
9. John’s mother has 3 children, one is named April, one is named May. What is the third one named?  
A: *John.*
10. You are running in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in?  
A: *If you overtake the second person then you become second.*