

From the Principal

I would like to thank everyone for the remarkably smooth transition to face to face learning that has occurred over the past few days. I would like to thank students for their understanding of the need for changed arrangements. It has been a pleasure to see so many of them happy and genuinely excited to be back at school.

Given the success of the past few days I am happy for students in Years 3 to Year 10 to start to return in greater numbers. I would encourage those in these year levels to start returning to school onsite at the beginning of next week (Monday 1 June).

Numbers of students at Prep to Year 2 and Year 11 and 12 are now such that we can move more quickly to the next phase of return to normal classes in these year levels.

Online learning for Years 3 to 10 students will continue to occur until 5 June but will start to be scaled back in the week of the 1 June to the 5 June as significant numbers of students return to school in these year levels.

I again thank the community for your goodwill and support over these last few months. We are now well into the process of a return to normal school.

Mr Andrew A. Neal – Principal



Uniform reminder

Students may wear either summer uniform, full school uniform (winter) uniform or sports uniform. They will be required to wear the chosen uniform in full without modifications or 'mixing and matching' until the end of Term 2. Uniform requirements will be reviewed at the commencement of Term 3, dependent upon the resumption of normal supply chains.

Junior School News

The return of the Prep to Year 2 students has been an absolute delight this week. Students have had huge smiles on their faces and have been very happy to return to face to face learning and see their friends.

At the end of the school day, the staggered finishing times and zones have run smoothly. Please see email communication about pickups which is specific to your child's campus. At both campuses the times of dismissal are:

Prep – 2:45pm

Year 1 – 2:55pm

Year 2 – 3:05pm

The Maddingley campus has also modified the times throughout the day to enable a split recess and lunch break with the Middle and Senior schools.

All students have also followed all entry procedures well before making their way to their classrooms.

Spotlight on Year 3

Year 3 students have been set weekly challenges to create at home. It has been amazing to see the creativity the students have been demonstrating. Students have created houses from materials around the house, created games, made vehicles, followed procedures to make an item out of paper and shared how they commemorated ANZAC day and celebrated Mother's Day. We are looking forward to seeing all of the students back at school soon.



Connor Nash 3B



Ellie Firez 3B



Gauhar Duggal 3D



Ethan Ragusa 3D - Car Made from Match sticks



Jack Wilson 3A



Anandjot Singh 3C

Spotlight on Year 3 continued.....



Junior School Team

Fun with the Preps

So exciting to see so many smiling Prep faces back in our classroom. We have already busy working and catching up with all of our friends. This week we decorated some photo frames and added our 'ISO' pictures, then we wrote about why we were happy to be back at school:

- I am happy to be back at school because I can play basketball.
- I am happy to be back at school because I get to play.
- I am happy to be back at school because I like to play in the sandpit.
- I am happy to be back at school because I miss Mrs R.
- I am happy to be back at school because I miss Prep D and my teacher.

Zac Zahra Prep A
Harry Mifsud Prep A
Ayesha Ahmad Prep B
Leo Snell Prep C
Tisha Goregaonkar Prep D

Mrs Kylie McKerrow – Prep Coordinator - Maddingley



Junior Public Speaking Competition 2020

Every year, the DAV runs a state-wide Junior Public Speaking Competition for students in Years 7 and 8. Due to the restrictions around public gatherings as a result of COVID-19, the 2020 Public Speaking Competition was moved to an online forum.

Below is a reflection by Vasish Vasireddy (7WA) on his involvement in the competition. We wish all the competitors well in the adjudication process and eagerly await the results for Team BMG!

Vasish Vasireddy:

On 21 May, I had the privilege of participating in a public speaking competition. Speaking in front of an audience has always interested me, and having the chance to let other people hear your words and opinions on things is truly phenomenal. Due to the current circumstances, the competition went online where students had to choose from one of the three set topics: The myth of freedom, A second chance, and The forgotten people, and submit an unedited video of their speech which had to be persuasive.

Since I was at liberty to choose, my topic of interest was "A second chance." I focused mainly on human relationships, elaborating on how it could benefit vulnerable adolescents and the impact it has on the broader society. One takeaway from my research is that giving someone a second chance is the first step to building a stronger bond of trust and respect. As the great poet Alexander Pope once said, "To err is human, to forgive, divine."

I strongly recommend everyone participate in such events as they are both fun and beneficial. In a way, public speaking is a form of story-telling and helps improve oratory skills, vocabulary, writing skills, etc, and ultimately boosts confidence.

Mrs Sarah Hunter – Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus & Vasish Vasireddy 7WA

Monash Asian Studies Debating Competition Round 2

On Wednesday 20 May I, along with Sadewni Dissanayake (10A) and Lloyd Slimmon (11C), participated in Round Two of a virtual debate in conjunction with Monash University. The topic of our debate was "That we should support China's increasing influence in Africa." The topic initially intrigued me as I have family residing in Africa which has provided its own first-hand accounts in relation to recent Chinese influence on the continent. The atmosphere of the debate was charged and polarised as it should be, and we presented strong arguments against the opposing school which was affirmative in its stance. Unfortunately, we fell short, although I personally feel that the opposing team kept bringing up Australia's point of view as a proxy for the African position which in my opinion should not have sailed. Overall, it was a good experience, including the research and online collaboration. This was my first ever debate and took place under less than ideal conditions but I was grateful for having had this opportunity.

Aaliyah Moosajee 11E

Plain English Speaking Award

On Monday 18 May, Mia White (11A) and I participated in the Plain English Speaking Award run by VCAA. VCE students who are interested in public speaking are invited to participate in this event. This year, the event was run on Zoom and was quite different from our usual public speaking setting. Mia and I wrote our prepared speeches on issues we are passionate about – 'Data Privacy' and 'Human Rights', and then completed impromptu speeches on the topic 'The Future is Bright'. I am very thankful to have been offered the opportunity to represent Bacchus Marsh Grammar in the Plain English Speaking Award, especially in times like these. It was great to be able to speak on behalf of my school and to interact with other students with similar interests from schools in Victoria.

Samara Peel 11E

Maddingley Campus - Gatehouse Operations

The Gatehouse is located next to the On-Campus Uniform Shop at Gate 2 of the Main Car Park at Maddingley Campus. This is now staffed by Administration to assist with monitoring the entrance of students and staff through the thermal temperature cameras, also for parent queries and processing of late passes. It is currently staffed from 8.00am to 4.00pm.

We thank the BMG Community for their patience and support.

Student Wellbeing

Self-care during challenging times

Taking care of yourself during challenging times such as this COVID-19 pandemic, is essential as not only will it help you feel better overall, it will give you a sense of having some control. [Orygen](#) suggests the following strategies and actions for looking after yourself:

- Draw on skills that you have used in the past during difficult times,
- Be creative. Try something new and teach it to someone else if possible,
- Acknowledge your sense of achievement when you have tried something new or feel good about something,
- Establish and try to keep to a routine,
- Anxiety is normal so listen to how your body is feeling and talk about it. Lots of people are feeling the same way,
- Make an effort to take care of your physical health by eating well, staying active and getting enough sleep;
- Stay in touch with your friends and family, and
- Get reliable facts about the COVID-19 pandemic from credible sources of information.

Remember that children will observe adult behaviour and emotions for cues on how to manage their own emotions during difficult times. Also, stay connected to those around you and check-in with how they are. If you know of vulnerable people in your community, say hi and ask if they need any assistance. Even if you are practising self-care, sometimes situations can feel overwhelming. Talk to a friend or health worker if this is the case and seek some additional support.

Adapted from Orygen fact sheet: Taking care of yourself in a time of COVID-19.

Student Wellbeing Team

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 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 with any additional queries.

Updated Private Bus Timetables

A reminder to parents that the following bus timetables have had time adjustments to their routes at the end of Term 1, these changes came into effect from 15 April 2020.

Updated timetables are available on the [school website](#).

Maddingley Campus

Black
Green
Purple
Silver
Violet
White

Woodlea Campus

Kangaroo
Kookaburra
Platypus
Wombat

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

BOOK CLUB NEWS MAY 2020

ISSUE FOUR IS NOW OUT ONLINE

In these unprecedented times, we are aware that our BMG parents are keen for their children to improve their reading skills and the school supports its community in this. Scholastic Bookclub offers a range of titles selected to cater for all age ranges and reading abilities. Some titles are also included on the Premier's Reading Challenge list.

Issue 4 catalogue is now out and ready to accept orders until the end of Term 2. Your Scholastic order will be delivered to your home (postage & handling \$5.99). Orders can still be placed for the Issue 3 catalogue but will incur another postage and handling charge.

Here is the link to the online catalogues: <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

If you haven't ordered before, you will need to register.

- Create an account – assign it to either yourself or one of your children. You are advised to just set up one account and place your orders for all your children under this account. As orders incur a postage & handling fee of \$5.99, this will reduce your overall cost.
- Your child's designated teacher is the Year Level Coordinator as we no longer have separate class teachers listed.

Maddingley:

Prep: Kylie McKerrow/**Year 1:** Helen Saunders/**Year 2:** Sian Rawlinson/**Year 3:** Jodie Taniguchi-Muston/**Year 4:** Lisa Stephens/**Year 5:** Trevor Hilton/**Year 6:** Wes McLaughlin.

Senior School orders can be placed under Diane Dunn as the designated teacher.

Woodlea:

Prep – Year 7 orders nominate Feona West as the designated teacher.

Your order also generates rewards used for valuable school resources. Thank you for your support.

Mrs Diane Dunn (Maddingley Campus) & Mrs Feona West (Woodlea Campus)
Scholastic Book Club Coordinators



Story Writing Competition

BMG Story Writing Competition

The strange house at the end of the blue court.

A competition for students in **Years 2 to 8!**

- No hard copies will be accepted this year.
- You should type up your story, create a Google doc, or scan a handwritten story.
- You may enter more than once.
- Send all entries to westf@bmg.vic.edu.au.



Remember to include your **name** and **class** on each entry, and you must include the theme "**The strange house at the end of the blue court.**"

The due date is **Thursday 13th August.**
Enjoy writing your story!

No late entries accepted.

Poster by Alana Fenech 6B – Literacy Captain

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 Phone: 0490 178 638 W: www.ballarat.ymca.org.au

Maddingley:

bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au

0438 154 842

Location: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au

0490 490 362

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

Regular Contacts

Student Absentees

Maddingley Campus

Absentee Line 5366 4888 or Absentee Email – maddingley_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au

Woodlea Campus

Absentee Line 5366 4988 or Absentee Email – woodlea_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au

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

School Website: www.bmg.vic.edu.au