

From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 4. This week we welcomed back our VCE/VCAL and Primary students at the Maddingley Campus. It is wonderful to see many excited and happy faces of the students as they entered the school grounds. We are happy that the Woodlea students will return onsite from Monday 12 October.

Our focus this term will be on ensuring a smooth and welcoming return to school for students and we encourage parents to contact their child's teacher, year level coordinator or Head of School if you have any concerns regarding your child's return to school.

Normal bus services for Maddingley and Woodlea have resumed and we remind students to please ensure that they are wearing their masks whilst on the bus. Secondary students will also be required to wear a mask whilst at school unless they have a medical exemption.

The School Canteen at Maddingley and Woodlea are now open. The School's preference is for parents to pre-order lunches via the Qkr App, there will be limited over the counter service at Maddingley and lunch orders only at Woodlea.

Staggered finish times are in place for Prep to Year 2 students and these have been communicated to parents. Parents are asked not to congregate in groups and practise social distancing at all times and ensure that they are wearing their face mask whilst in the school car park. Parents are not permitted on the school grounds.

Uniform – all students are able to wear either their summer, sports or full uniform (winter). The chosen uniform must be worn correctly with no 'mixing and matching'.

Many of you and your children are rightfully concerned about the return to school and the impact of the time away from school on your child's progress. We have been direct in stating that it has had an effect, but one that we are able to remediate. I will lay out our "roadmap" in this area next week. Our first aim is to get students back onsite and motivated to learn in a classroom environment; we will then roll out assistance and extension programs once students are settled.

A small number of students remain at home. The school will endeavour to continue to provide their learning needs, however, the focus now is clearly on getting all students back to school as quickly as possible.

I wish to thank the school community for your remarkable resilience during what has been a very difficult time. The support of the school community has been overwhelming and welcome.

Mr Andrew A. Neal



ICAS

Parents who have registered their child/ren to participate in ICAS Assessments have been emailed advising them that, with students on-site at each BMG campus, the school can now make arrangements to set processes in place and finalise dates for assessments. Please be patient while we work through this.

The school had proposed new testing dates to be 12 October to 23 October. We can confirm that testing will **not** take place the week of 12 to 16 October while students settle back on-site and return to their normal routine/schedule.

The dates may now extend as late as 13 November. As soon as formal dates and processes are confirmed, parents will be emailed.

Contact Casey Ryder with any questions on 03 5366 4800.

School Administration Information

Edsmart – Email notification system

A reminder to families that the school continues to move toward email notifications via EdSmart. This software provides a more effective and efficient platform for managing school communications between the school and parent/guardians. For example, Edsmart is used for any incursion/excursion notifications instead of hard copies via the class pigeon holes.

For the system to operate effectively it is important that all parents/guardians ensure their email information is current on the myBMG Parent Portal under the MyDetails Tab.

Camps Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) – Extended Eligibility Due Dates

This is applicable to families who hold a valid Centrelink Pensioner Concession or Health Care Card number (CRN).

In recognition of the impact of COVID-19 on schools and families, the Department of Education and Training (Vic DET) has extended the cut off date to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) in 2020.

Further information and the CSEF application form can be downloaded from the [School's website](#).

If you have yet to return your CSEF application form, please ensure this is returned to the Administration Office no later than 27 November 2020.

Please contact Kerryn Browne for further information via brownek@bmg.vic.edu.au.

Senior School News

Welcome back to Term 4

It has been fantastic to see so many of our senior students on campus this week. Despite students being off-site for quite some time, they have returned to their 'normal school routine' with relative ease. I would like to commend all the BMG families – parents and students, on their resilience and perseverance throughout this year. I would also like to thank the parents for their support and encouragement in getting their children back to school this week as I'm sure it hasn't been easy. The change in getting up earlier for school and back into a routine will take some time to adjust to, so please be mindful of this. I encourage parents to communicate with relevant Year level coordinators, tutor group teachers or myself if you would like to discuss any matters regarding your child so we are able to provide appropriate support.

The GAT was completed on Wednesday 7 October by all our VCE Unit 3/4 students. Having to complete a 3+ hour exam was a massive day for them – a tough return to school after many months away! I am sure the VCE students are relieved that this task is now out of the way and we wish them well with the next phase of preparing for the end of year examinations. Practice exams will run on Monday and Tuesday next week, with English in Week 3. Please continue to monitor your Year 12 student at home and continue to support them (as you have done all year) through their final stages of secondary school.

Fingers crossed we have all students on campus for the remainder of the year.

Mrs Debra Ogston – Head of Senior School

Junior School News

It is with great excitement that we welcome all our students and families back to the final term of 2021. The teachers are looking forward to having all the students back in the classroom and to a return to face-to-face teaching. Students might experience feelings of excitement and some anxiety, which are all normal considering the circumstances. Similar to starting a new school year, we will ensure a smooth transition back into the classroom environment. If you have any concerns, please contact the classroom teacher.



Gabriel Llaneza – Prep D



Bentley Tonkinson - Prep A

Class Arrangements 2021

As we move into Term 4, forward planning for the following school year is a high priority as it ensures a trouble-free start to the school year. Allocating students to classes for the following school year is one of the areas that staff and school management spend many hours on to ensure that students are placed in classes that allow for maximum learning in a safe and caring environment.

We understand the valuable role parents and guardians play in supporting their child to make the right choices when it comes to selecting students they would like to be placed with in 2021. We ask parents who have not yet replied to the class placement email from their child's tutor group teacher to do so by Monday 12 October 2020.

It is our aim to ensure that each child has at least one of their five selected students in their class the following year. However, if parents only submit two or three preferences, we cannot make the same guarantee. If you are having difficulties completing the selection, we encourage you to make contact with your child's classroom teacher.

The Junior School Team

Bus Information

BUS TRAVELLERS – 2021

If your child/ren's current private bus travel arrangements in 2020 are going to change or require a change for 2021, (eg. moving home, updated address, no longer requiring a private bus service), please contact the School Bus Service Administrator on 5366 4800 or email bus@bmg.vic.edu.au to discuss options and availability.

WOODLEA SERVICE

The emergency buses for Woodlea will cease at the end of the PM route Friday 9 October. All private buses will resume their normal timetabled routes Monday AM 12 October 2020.

MELON BUS

Parents have been emailed an updated timetable for the Melon bus which will take effect **Monday 12 October 2020**.

KANGAROO BUS

Parents have been emailed an updated timetable for the Kangaroo bus which will take effect **Monday 12 October 2020**.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

Middle School Update

Well, here we are – finally back onsite for face-to-face learning in Term Four, 2020. We would like to take the time to welcome each and every one of you back to school because we sure have missed you all!

It is hard to put our experience this year into words and we know that many of you will have mixed emotions about coming back to school. Some of you will have loved learning from the comfort of home and may be feeling hesitant to return, while others will be busting to get out and back into things. Some of you will be feeling nervous about reuniting with friends and teachers, while others will be excited about re-connecting. Some of you will be worried that you have fallen behind or lost touch with your goals, others will be less concerned about these things. ALL of you will have undoubtedly outgrown some, or all, of your uniform since you last wore it, a sure sign of how long it has really been.

No matter how you are feeling about returning to school, know that your emotions are completely normal and all of your teachers are ready to support you in your transition back into the classroom. Also know that your teachers are incredibly excited to have you back and filling the seats in their classrooms that have been empty for too long.

To our parents, we sincerely thank you for your support and patience during this time. We are well aware of how difficult this has all been for you all. Despite the obvious challenges, we hope that the time you have spent with your children and families has also been positive. We are sure there are some elements of home learning that you will look back upon fondly, while also being pleased it is over! Please don't hesitate to make contact with us, or your child's tutor teacher, should you have any concerns about their transition back to school.

On behalf of all of the Middle School teachers and staff, we extend our congratulations to you for making it through, and whole-heartedly welcome you back for what will be a wonderful and productive Term Four.

The Middle School Team

Maddingley Middle School Service Leadership

Bacchus Marsh Grammar has a firm commitment to service leadership. Service leadership is based on service to others, the school and the wider community. All students in the Middle School are encouraged to participate in service leadership opportunities and be positive role models for all students across both the Middle and Junior Schools. To facilitate the promotion of service leadership across Bacchus Marsh Grammar, there are a number of specific positions of service leadership available for Year 6 (2021) and Year 8 (2021) for which students can apply.

If your child wishes to apply to be a Maddingley Campus Middle School Service Leader, they are required to submit a letter of application. Information regarding the leadership application process has been emailed to all parents via the school's email notification system, Edsmart. A copy of the Application Form and Selection Criteria can also be found on the Middle School Service Leadership page on Schoolbox under BMG Community. Spare application forms are available from the Year 5 and Year 7 Year Level Coordinators or Head of School.

All applications for leadership positions must be submitted on paper to the Year Level Coordinator **on or before Friday 16 October**.

Mr Dean Peplinkhouse – Head of Middle School

Woodlea Student Leadership opportunities 2021

Woodlea Middle School Leadership applications (Year 6 & Year 8) and Junior School Leadership applications (Year 4) have now closed. We would like to thank all candidates for their hard work, enthusiasm and thoughtfulness in composing their applications. Interviews for shortlisted candidates will be conducted in the coming weeks and a reminder that the number of School Service Leadership positions is limited. If your child is not successful with their application, we encourage them to continue to involve themselves in the many other opportunities which will arise within the school.

Mrs Sarah Hunter – Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus

Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge for 2020 is now finished. Congratulations to the following students who completed the Challenge:

Dhruv Menon 9H	Avni Sachdeva 5WC	Ashton Tountzis 4B	Lyla Mardesic 4C
Chinmayi Potluri 8E	Riddhee Sharma 5WC	Christian Failla 4B	Pratika Mehrotra 4WA
Harry LaFranchi 6A	Evan Martin 4A	Billy Borlase 4B	Stefania Robu 3D
Aryan Chadha 6C	Rianna Attwal 4A	Oscar Weston 4B	Rowel Ali Khan 3C
Parnika Mehrotra 6WC	Thomas Tran 4A	Bismanjot Bal 4B	Gurkirat Singh 3WA
Alisha Chaudhary 5C	Nahreen Shahed 4A	Sapphire Leckie 4B	Calvin Badhan 3WA
Manveer Jhalli 5B	Hendrix Kavanagh 4B	Saoirse Sandoval-Roche 4B	Vinamra Singam 3WB
Bhavesht Potluri 5B	Veekshana Jakkula 4B	Anika Tran 4C	Mackenzie Sharp 3WB
Muskaan Singh 5WC	Liam Collins 4B	Anna Schukin 4C	Joshya Pallapothula 3WB

Mrs Feona West - Coordinator: Library P-6

Canteen for Term 4

Please be advised that the School's preference is for parents to pre-order lunches via the Qkr App, there will be limited over the counter service at Maddingley and lunch orders only at Woodlea.

Maddingley Campus - Full Service (including before school and lunch orders) from Thursday 8 October 2020.

Woodlea Campus - Lunch orders from Monday 12 October 2020.

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. See details via the [school website](#).

Enrolments are now completed online.

Email: chris.ashmore@ymca.org.au Phone: 0490 178 638 W: www.ballarat.ymca.org.au

Maddingley:

bacchusmarsh.oshc@ymca.org.au or 0438 154 842

Location: South Maddingley Road, Maddingley, Victoria 3340

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@ymca.org.au or 0490 490 362

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

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