

From the Principal

Parent Access to the School Site – Maddingley Campus

It is our intention to remove more restrictions in relation to parent access to the school site. This will not be a complete return to pre-COVID settings as some of the changes that were made over the last three years have had a markedly positive impact on student self-reliance and development. They also allow for the improvement of the general containment and safety of the school yard.

Until 9:00am the school yard will be closed to parents from Years 2 to 12 unless they have an appointment. Parents dropping students off will do so from the carpark through the Gatehouse.

Prep and Year 1 parents can drop their students off at the classroom door and then make their way to the carpark. If Prep and Year 1 parents wish to speak with the classroom teacher, we ask that an appointment be made.

After 9:00am parents will be able to access the site to meet with staff via an appointment. They will need to sign in either through the Gatehouse or Main Reception.

The School Gates will open at the carpark exit at 2:55pm to enable parents to pick students up from near their classrooms. We would ask that parents do not congregate near classroom doors and stay off the decking of junior areas so as not to disrupt end of day procedures.



Parents of Prep to Year 4 students may attend Assemblies if they wish. Parents will be invited to significant Assemblies in the Middle and Senior School.

Festive Season

I would like to thank students and staff for their hard work and commitment this year. We wish you all an enjoyable and safe holiday break and we look forward to another successful year in 2023.

Mr Andrew A. Neal – Principal

2022 Teaching & Learning Achievements

As the teaching year draws to a close, it is timely to reflect on the outstanding academic successes of our students this year. NAPLAN data provides one way for us to measure the impact of our teaching on student learning and to celebrate their academic achievement.

This year, we transitioned from the previous paper-based NAPLAN tests to the computer-based assessment. NAPLAN online provides tailored assessments that adapt to student responses, presenting students with questions that may be more of less difficult based on their responses. This has the benefit of providing more precise results, particularly for our students performing well above the state and national standard.

In Year 3, 5, 7 and 9, Bacchus Marsh Grammar performed well above the state level in all of the five assessed areas (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy) at both our Woodlea and Maddingley campuses.

NAPLAN results are measured at a student level against an assessment scale in each of the areas tested. The scales span all the year levels from Year 3 to Year 9, and are divided into 10 bands. The band and scale data allows comparison across year levels. A score placing a student in the Top Two Bands at each year level demonstrates that the student is performing significantly above their year level peers across the state and Australia. At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we aspire to ensure that as many students as possible achieve a score that places them in the Top Two Bands, demonstrating abilities above standard and ensuring they are prepared to achieve and excel in their areas of future work and study.

In Year 3, our Woodlea and Maddingley students excelled. In Reading, 87% of students achieved in the Top Two Bands, and this strong achievement was shown across all assessed areas with the following percentage of students in the Top Two Bands: Grammar and Punctuation 83%, Writing 82%, Spelling 79% and Numeracy 72%. This is an outstanding achievement by students, staff and families of Year 3.

In Year 5, Spelling and Reading were the areas in which students were strongest, with 60% and 63% of students respectively in the Top Two Bands. Across all assessed areas, more than 77% of BMG students performed above expectation for their year level. This is commendable.

In Year 7, this strong achievement continued, with more than 50% of students in the Top Two Bands in all areas. A particular strength of our Year 7 cohort is Numeracy; 61% of students were placed in the Top Two Bands. Numeracy is also a strength in Year 9, with 45% of students in the Top Two Bands. 86% of our Year 9 students achieved scores above the National mean for Reading, an impressive result.

At BMG we recognise that NAPLAN is a test at one moment in time and does not capture all the ways students can achieve at school. Nonetheless the assessment tests the type of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school life and provides valuable data about how our students are performing against their peers nationally and within the state.

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we also strive to ensure that we are continually improving through examining evidence of student learning, reflecting on our teaching practice and engaging with the latest research on how students learn best. Our key Teaching and Learning focus this year has been Literacy. All staff have engaged in professional learning and work to implement evidence-based practices to support vocabulary acquisition. In addition, many staff have now completed *The Writing Revolution* course, and this approach to teaching writing has begun to be implemented across year levels, with an initial focus on English. *The Writing Revolution* is a sequenced set of strategies that focus initially on writing structure at sentence level. Once students have acquired basic sentence level skills, there is structured support for sustaining these skills across paragraphs and compositions. These strategies can be used across all subject areas and the rigour is increased through the content that students are writing about. This will continue to be a focus into 2023, as it is implemented across more subject areas.

It is fabulous to see that our work to improve our already strong literacy results is having an impact. NAPLAN data from Year 3, 5, 7, and 9 shows that Bacchus Marsh Grammar has further increased our Writing achievement, in comparison to the state. This is an outstanding result and is certainly reflective of our ethos for Teaching and Learning: *Bacchus Marsh Grammar has a culture of achievement, which encourages staff and students to strive toward their personal best.*

Next week, Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) results will be released. We look forward to sharing some of these results and celebrating the many successes of our 2022 Year 12 students in the New Year.

Semester Two Reports

Parents will be able to access an electronic copy of their child's report after 23 December by going to the Schoolbox link, selecting their child, and then 'Academic Reports'. Paper copies can be expected in the early New Year. Semesterly reports provide an excellent opportunity to support your child to reflect on their academic progress and in particular, we encourage a focus on existing strengths and the next steps for improvement.

Mrs Emma Kannar – Deputy Principal: Teaching & Learning

Year 6 Graduations

This week both Woodlea and Maddingley Year 6 students celebrated their graduations. It was wonderful to welcome our families onsite to enjoy the ceremony and afternoon tea.

Mr Matthew La Franchi - Acting Year 6 Coordinator & Ms Elese Demarchi – Year 6 Coordinator





Tanisha Quilliam

Congratulations to Tanisha Quilliam who received a framed edition of the AFL jumper she designed for the Girls' AFL Team. Mr Neal, Mr Durham and Mrs Todd presented Tanisha with this special gift in gratitude for her work. The journey of this project is explained in the latest issue of the [Grammarians](#) plus a snapshot of her creative talent.

We all look forward to watching Tanisha's continued success.



School Administration Information

2023 Booklists

The 2023 Booklist provider is Campion Education. It is strongly recommended that all items are obtained through Campion Education. This will avoid unnecessary problems with reliability of materials, especially textbooks.

A PDF copy of the 2022 Booklist can be accessed via the Bacchus Marsh Grammar website:

<https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/community/booklists/>

There will not be a dedicated 'booklist collection day' at the Maddingley or Woodlea Campus in 2023. **Booklist Orders placed online by Sunday 11 December will receive free home delivery.** Orders placed after this date will attract a postage charge.

If you have any queries regarding your child's 2023 Booklist, please contact Michelle Graham on 5366 4800.

2023 Term Dates

Please refer to the 2023 Term Dates on the [school website](#) for the relevant start dates for each year level.

Office Hours over the 2022/2023 break

Please be advised that the School will close for the Christmas Holidays on Friday 16 December 2022 at 12.00noon.

Maddingley Administration Office will re-open Monday 9 January 2023 to Wednesday 25 January 2023 between 9:30am to 3:30pm.

Woodlea Administration Office will re-open on Friday 27 January 2023. (Remains closed to the public for the term break)

2023 School Handbooks – Junior and Middle School

The 2023 Handbooks are available to view on the school's website under [School Publications](#).

A message to new families - Schoolbox

Access to Schoolbox and accompanying user guide will be distributed to contacts in early January 2023 sent by email servicedesk@bmg.vic.edu.au. This will connect families through to the myBMG Parent Portal for access to the Finance and My Details Tabs.

Finance News

Payment Plans detailing proposed Instalments for 2023 fees will be available online (Schoolbox/myBMG Parent Portal - Finance tab) by 18 January 2023.

Student Wellbeing

While school holidays bring a welcome break for many, the holidays can be an anxious, upsetting or stressful time for others. Some children and young people miss the routine of school or get bored easily. [Kidshelpline](#) suggests there are signs of stress that you can be looking out for, as well as offering helpful tips to keep kids calm and happy over the holidays. To find out more, please visit [Kidshelpline](#).

There may also be young people who need additional support over the holiday period because they feel disconnected and have difficulty managing the change in routine. [Headspace](#), a resource for people aged 12 to 25 years, offers tips for both [young people](#) and [family and friends](#) to help support and promote a healthy headspace. Headspace has produced a [resource](#) outlining six steps to help support your young person's mental health and wellbeing over the holidays, as well as information that may help you to identify when your young person might need some extra support and where to go for help.

We hope that some of these resources support you and your families as you navigate the holiday period with your children. We wish you all the very best for a healthy and safe summer holiday.

Student Wellbeing Team

Junior School News

Happy Holidays

As another school year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and restful break. May it be a safe, healthy and happy one and whatever your holiday plans are, may they be most enjoyable!

This year, it has been a pleasure to see our Junior School students participate in a wide range of activities – in class, at lunchtime, on numerous trips and excursions. Academic success is vital, but we also value the various character-building opportunities we provide at school to ensure that all children's abilities and interests are fostered and supported.

We are all very proud of the students and would like to congratulate them on a great school year. You should all be very proud of how they represent themselves, their families, and their school every day.

We wish students who are leaving us the best of luck in their future endeavours. We hope you will remember your time at Bacchus Marsh Grammar fondly.

Parents will soon be receiving the Semester Two reports. Please ensure you read the covering pages which explain the format of the report and take the time to discuss your child's achievements and future goals.

We look forward to welcoming our Year 1 to 4 students back on Tuesday 31 January 2023. Our Prep students commence on Wednesday 1 February. We look forward to seeing you all ready for another school year full of educational activities and learning opportunities.

**Mrs Sally Savic – Head of Junior School: Woodlea
& Mrs Melanie Morton / Ms Sian Rawlinson - Joint Acting Heads of Junior School : Maddingley**

Middle School News

Maddingley Middle School Leaders for 2023

We are excited to announce our Middle School Leaders for 2023. Congratulations to all students.

Name	Year 8 Leadership Position	Name	Year 6 Leadership Position
Lenix Aiga	Year 8 Captain	Vivaan Ogale	Year 6 Captain
Samaira Venkat	Year 8 Captain	Gurbani Nehal	Year 6 Captain
Kayura Thimmaraju	Year 8 Vice Captain	Jack Coy	PENTLAND Captain
Sihan Kalupahana	Year 8 Vice Captain	Annie Thomas	PENTLAND Captain
Evie White	PENTLAND Captain	Elsie Peldys	BRAESIDE Captain
Reischel Sestoso	PENTLAND Captain	Isabella Bao	BRAESIDE Captain
Amelia Whiteway	BRAESIDE Captain	Jupleen Kaur	BACCHUS Captain
Dihan Kalupahana	BRAESIDE Captain	Lucas Pante	BACCHUS Captain
Alana Durovic	BACCHUS Captain	Guntas Kaur	HILTON Captain
Aikam Brar	BACCHUS Captain	Nivaran Bassi	HILTON Captain
Akhil Kanneganti	HILTON Captain	Connor Nash	SRC Captain
Charlotte Burr	HILTON Captain	Ryan Bansal	SRC Captain
Eram Deveshwar	SRC Captain	Trisha Kapur	LITERACY Captain
Arshveer Kumar	SRC Captain	Kiarah Kapil	LITERACY Captain
Wareesha Haq	LITERACY Captain	Arjun Kallapalle	STEM Captain
Olivia Barwick	LITERACY Captain	Max Ambrogio	STEM Captain
Arnav Thorat	STEM Captain	Gauhar Duggal	WELLBEING Captain
Yash Gaind	STEM Captain	Vanya Sharma	WELLBEING Captain
Chahak Narang	WELLBEING Captain	Maddie Herrity	Performing & Visual Arts Captain
Lucinda Matthews	WELLBEING Captain	Audrey Newman	Performing & Visual Arts Captain
Samuel Davie	Performing & Visual Arts Captain	Stefania Robu	Music Captain
Amelie Sadlo	Performing & Visual Arts Captain		
Mikayla Tito	Music Captain		
Naisha Gupta	Music Captain		

Mr Scott Bayne – Head of Middle School

Music Department Updates

Student Success

Congratulations to the following students for their recent examination success:

Student Name	Section	Result
Stefania Robu	AMEB Piano Comprehensive Grade 8	A+ High Distinction
Sehaj Kaur Mata	AMEB Piano Comprehensive Grade 3	A Honours

Students who participate in instrument/voice lessons or other performing arts programs outside of Bacchus Marsh Grammar are also encouraged to forward any examination or competition results for acknowledgement in future newsletters: music@bmg.vic.edu.au

Moorabool Light Orchestra Christmas Concert

Congratulations to graduating Bacchus Marsh Grammar student Cooper Pitts and alumni Hayley Closter for their recent performance with the Moorabool Light Orchestra. It was also pleasing to note a number of BMG staff members performed at this event – Chiara Stebbing, Michael Love, Andrew Clare and Amanda Middleditch.

Woodlea and Maddingley Campuses – 2023 Instrumental Program

Re-enrolment for existing instrumental students is currently being finalised. Offers for new places in the program and wait list updates are due to be sent out over the December/January period.

Mr Steven Bell - Head of Faculty: Music & Performing Arts

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is the world's leading youth development program, present in more than 130 countries and reaching over 8 million young people.

This week the Year 8 students were welcomed into the Senior School. As part of their transition session, students received an information pack regarding The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Parents are encouraged to spend some time familiarising themselves with the program and supporting their child in filling out the planning sheet over the summer break. At the beginning of 2023, students will sign up to the Bronze Certificate and can begin logging their hours.

On Monday 21 November, 135 young people who have successfully achieved their GOLD Award (over the past 3 years) were recognised at a ceremony at Melbourne Town Hall.

Congratulations to:

Amanda Wallis (2020)

Abbey Knight (2021)

Olivia Ogston (2022)

With their dedication, perseverance and passion, they have accomplished something truly extraordinary and we are very proud of their achievements.

Mr Daniel Velden – Duke of Ed Coordinator

SRC – 2XU Wellness Run

On Sunday 4 December a number of students and staff braved the heat to run at the 2XU Wellness Run in St Kilda, representing Bacchus Marsh Grammar. The Wellness Run raises vital funds for mental health charity Beyond Blue, and overall raised around \$387 000.

On 22 November BMG ran a gold coin 'Silly Sock Day' and raised \$1000 toward the total funds raised in support of Beyond Blue. A huge thank you and well done to those that donated and participated on the day.

An enormous well done to the following students who ran at the event:

Benjamin Bowler

Deanna Rubino

Poppy Burt

Felicity Gribbin

Harry Jackson

Jessica Fisher

Lyla Hewitt

Stella Blaikie

Tansy Seymour

Mr Ben De Bortoli

2022/2023 Travel Conveyance Allowance Application Updates

Conveyance Allowance Applications for 2022 have now been finalised and submitted for processing.

No further applications for 2022 can be accepted.

Semester Two payments (which include Terms 3 & 4) for current families with a 2022 application will be processed in January 2023.

Current families who submitted a 2022 application do not need to complete a new application as these will be rolled over for 2023, unless their details have changed (ie: change of address, mode of transport or bank details). If there has been a change of details, a new application form needs to be submitted by the due date.

New families or families who did not make an application in 2022 and who want to apply for the travel conveyance allowance in 2023, should refer to the Schools Business Notice for eligibility and the application process which can be located on the [BMG website](#).

Application forms are available on the [BMG website](#), the myBMG Parent Portal and Reception at both campuses.

Applications for 2023 must be received on or before **Friday 3 February 2023**.

For further information, please contact Suzanne Pollard.

Mrs Suzanne Pollard – Administration Officer

OSHC Vacation Program – Y Ballarat



Please find the Vacation program for upcoming December 2022/January 2023 period on the [school's website](#).

For more information and to book call 0490 490 362 or visit yballarat.org.au.

On Campus Uniform Shop

Uniform information and shop business hours are listed on the [school's website](#). Please note that uniform can also be purchased online via <https://www.noone.com.au/>.

On Campus phone number – 5367 4072

Last day of trade on campus Friday 9 December 2022

January 2023

- Monday 16 January 10.00am to 3.00pm
- Wednesday 18 January 10.00am to 3.00pm
- Friday 20 January 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Monday 23 January 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Wednesday 25 January 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Friday 27 January 8.00am to 4.30pm
- Monday 30 January 8.30am to 4.30pm
- Tuesday 31 January 8.00am to 11.00am

Normal trade resumes from Wednesday 1 February

