



2023 Commencement Ceremony



On Monday 13 February, students, staff and families celebrated outstanding academic achievements from 2022 as part of the Commencement Ceremony.

This group of students has shown the grit and determination to achieve their very best in VCE studies. The significance of this ceremony is the recognition of effort and the importance of academic achievement.

We heard from 2022 DUX, John Cusmano (pictured left) who thanked his family and all staff for their support in his school journey and those of the Class of 2022.

"I'd like to convey my greatest thanks for the many

hours both during the school day and out of hours, coaching, advising and supporting, not only our year level, but the entire school. Your dedication, encouragement and wisdom have undoubtedly been instrumental in our success."

Students receiving a 2023 Scholarship were also acknowledged across Middle and Senior School and the 2023 School Captains and Prefects were formally inducted into their leadership positions.

Leadership at Bacchus Marsh Grammar is about service. That it starts from the basic premise that leadership is about asking a simple question, "What can I do for others?"

In selecting leaders and looking at the roles for those selected we are wanting people who ultimately want to help others and have capacity to organise to assist others. Leadership is not something that is necessarily initiated, the skills and process can be taught and the programs at this school are designed to do that.

What is important in those programs is the way in which students approach them.

The full list of recipients can be viewed via [Schoolbox](#).

Mr Andrew A. Neal – Principal

Camps Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) Information

This is applicable to families who hold a valid Centrelink pensioner concession or Health care card number (CRN). The CSEF application form can be downloaded from the School's website:

<https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/community/camps-sports-excursions-fund-csef/>

To encourage people to make an application, the School will provide a rebate equivalent to the School Development Levy for those families who submit applications which are approved by The Education Department.

The form which outlines eligibility requirements needs to be returned to the School by 19 June 2023. Parents must meet the eligibility requirements by:

- Eligibility Date: 31 January 2023
- 2nd CRN validation date (for failed CRNs only): 24 April 2024

Parents that received the CSEF at Bacchus Marsh Grammar in 2022 do not need to complete an application form in 2023, providing there has been no change to their family circumstances.

Enquiries should be directed to Sharon de Vries at accountsrec@bmg.vic.edu.au

Message of support

On behalf of the Bacchus Marsh Grammar school community, we wish to send our thoughts and prayers to those impacted by the devastating Turkey-Syria earthquake. We send our condolences to those families grieving the loss of loved ones and send messages of support to the survivors. We recognise the efforts of those teams working tirelessly to rescue survivors and provide medical assistance, as well as the support agencies providing care in the region.

Mrs Sarah Hunter- Deputy Principal

The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance – 2023 Mentoring Program

In 2022 Bacchus Marsh Grammar introduced a mentoring program as part of the Optimal Performance Learning Program for our high performing VCE students. The new program proved to be wonderfully successful with all participants achieving ATARs above 90 and 80% of participants achieving above their predicted results. It was also very pleasing to see these students centre stage receiving awards at this week's Commencement Ceremony.

But what is mentoring and what does it involve? The term mentor comes from the character, Mentor, in Homer's Odyssey. Many of you may have read this wonderful Greek poem. This character was the companion of Telemachus, Odysseus's son and gave him guidance and advice while he was away. Mentor is revealed at the end of the story to be Athena, Goddess of Wisdom.

The mentoring program is a structured one-to-one learning relationship in an academic setting. It will connect students, increase knowledge and build skills for future goals and major milestones. The mentor supports and guides the students to develop and achieve their optimal capabilities. Our mentoring program will be impactful and train mentors and mentees to have productive conversations and meetings, and provide them with tools and resources to accomplish set goals. Implementing a successful mentoring program requires incorporating participant meetings/check-ins and consistent communication, whilst promoting and encouraging respect and trust. Mentoring programs in an academic setting are enjoyable, rewarding experiences for schools and their people. With mentoring, students can find a better direction, gain maturity, and focus on the future (Gallagher; 1985). As noted by Ambrose, Allen and Huntley (1994), "Mentoring is extremely important for high achieving students, not only to develop skills and knowledge, but also for professional socialisation and personal support that is needed to facilitate success at school and beyond." I am extremely excited to be working with our High Achievers again and helping them overachieve in their final year of school.

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal: Optimal Performance Learning

NAPLAN 2023

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) test window is occurring for the first time in Term 1, between Wednesday 15 March and Monday 27 March. Please find below the intended test schedule for Bacchus Marsh Grammar. Any unexpected disruptions or technical issues may result in alterations to the intended schedule which we will endeavour to communicate to families.

NAPLAN will occur online with computer-based assessments. NAPLAN online provides a better assessment and is more engaging for students. It is a tailored test that adapts to student responses, presenting students with questions that may be more or less difficult – resulting in more precise results.

For our current cohorts of Year 3, 5, 7 and 9, it will be their first time completing NAPLAN online. We therefore encourage students and families to access the National Assessment Program public demonstration test to further familiarise themselves with the types of questions and related functionalities available in the online NAPLAN assessment. This can be found at: <https://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>. Students will also be provided opportunities at school to familiarise themselves with the online platform so that all students are best placed to achieve a result that accurately reflects their ability.

In 2022, our Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 cohorts 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. We look forward to celebrating the achievement of all our students and importantly, using this assessment data to ensure that each student is achieving their full potential.

Intended test schedule:

Woodlea Campus									
	15 March Wednesday	16 March Thursday	17 March Friday	20 March Monday	21 March Tuesday	22 March Wednesday	23 March Thursday	24 March Friday	27 March Monday
Year 3	Writing	Reading [Catch-up Writing]	[Catch-up Reading]	Language Conventions	[Catch-up Language]	Numeracy	[Catch-up Numeracy]		
Year 5	Writing	Reading [Catch-up Writing]		[Catch-up Reading] Language Conventions	[Catch-up Language]	Numeracy	[Catch-up Numeracy]		
Year 7	Writing	Reading [Catch-up Writing]		[Catch-up Reading]	Language Conventions	[Catch-up Language]	Numeracy	[Catch-up Numeracy]	
Year 9	Writing	Reading [Catch-up Writing]		[Catch-up Reading]	Language Conventions	[Catch-up Language]	Numeracy	[Catch-up Numeracy]	

NAPLAN continued....

Maddingley Campus									
	15 March Wednesday	16 March Thursday	17 March Friday	20 March Monday	21 March Tuesday	22 March Wednesday	23 March Thursday	24 March Friday	27 March Monday
Year 3	Writing Reading	Language Conventions [Catch-up Writing]	Numeracy	[Catch-up Reading]	[Catch-up Language]	[Catch-up Numeracy]			
Year 5	Writing Reading	Language Conventions [Catch-up Writing]	Numeracy	[Catch-up Reading]	[Catch-up Language] [Catch-up Numeracy]				
Year 7	Writing	Reading [Catch-up Writing]	Language Conventions		Numeracy		[Catch-up Reading] [Catch-up Language]	[Catch-up Numeracy]	
Year 9	Writing	Reading [Catch-up Writing]	Language Conventions		Numeracy	[Catch-up Reading]	[Catch-up Language]	[Catch-up Numeracy]	

Please also refer to a letter from the Principal's Office at the end of this newsletter regarding NAPLAN scheduled for March 2023.

Mrs Emma Kannar – Deputy Principal, Teaching & Learning

Senior School News

Term 1 continues to see the Senior School students displaying their best efforts in their classes. It is heartening when we have been visiting classes to see students engaged in their work, having insightful discussions about the content being covered and seeing students striving to improve their understanding. We look forward to seeing this continue as we visit more classes over the term.

Next week will see the Senior School participate in the Swimming Carnival. It is an expectation that all students attend the Swimming Carnival, support their House and get involved wherever possible. It is very exciting to see the return of these types of events after the past three years and we look forward to being able to enjoy the day as a Senior School and build a sense of community together.

Another highlight this week was to be able to hold our Commencement Ceremony which marks the formal beginning of our academic year and allows us the time to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of our students from 2022. It was wonderful to welcome back and honour our students from 2022 who obtained ATAR scores over 90 and/or who had achieved a study score of 45 or above out of 50 (placing them in the top 2% of students in the state in the subject). We were very proud of the achievements of our students in 2022 and enjoyed hearing from the DUX of 2022, John Cusmano, and his insights into how to achieve success in VCE. It was just an inspiring way for us to start our academic year and it encouraged students in 2023 to set their own goals for success in their learning.



Mrs Erin Thornton - Head of Senior School:
Maddingley & Mrs Natalie Desira – Deputy Head of Senior School: Maddingley

School Captain Introductions

Joselyn Bennetts



Being selected as one of Bacchus Marsh Grammar's School Captains for the 2023 school year is an honour I am incredibly proud of and grateful for.

I have attended Bacchus Marsh Grammar since Year 8, during this time a main focus of mine has always been participation in the school life. Participating in sporting events, clubs and more, a main aim of mine as a leader is to encourage all students to get involved in the school life outside of the classroom. Bacchus Marsh Grammar has areas of interest and passion for everyone; whether it be chess, debating, badminton or basketball, there is a team for all to participate in. Making the most of our time both inside and outside of the classroom, I believe truly shapes all of our journeys here at Bacchus Marsh Grammar and creates lifelong friendships, memories and experiences.

Opportunities within the school community have taught me resilience, motivated me to aspire for more and I have developed a sense of integrity. Beyond Bacchus Marsh Grammar, I hope to start a path in physiotherapy, osteopathy or chiropractic. Whichever field I end up embarking upon, I know that the skills I have obtained from my time at

Bacchus Marsh Grammar will help me to be successful in any environment.

In my final year at Bacchus Marsh Grammar, I am excited to see the leadership team thrive in representing not only our peers but the entire school and community beyond. With the challenging and busy year ahead, which will undoubtedly move very fast, I hope to take in every experience and opportunity.

Jackson Brown



It was an absolute honour to be awarded the position of School Captain at Bacchus Marsh Grammar for 2023. This has been one of my goals for as long as I have known what a School Captain was, and I couldn't be happier to finally achieve this goal.

I have attended BMG since Prep and have been an active member of the school community throughout this time. I have participated in a wide variety of extracurricular activities at school and have been fortunate enough to also hold the position of Junior School Captain and Middle School Captain. I strongly encourage everyone else to get involved in the school community as much as they can.

When I finish school, I want to be a lawyer. Whilst the show 'Suits' was originally a pretty big part of this decision, I have developed a great appreciation of the legal profession over the last few years. I love the dynamic nature of our legal system and would love to be a part of it one day. I have been fortunate enough to participate in a week of work experience at a law firm and have since gone back to work at the firm as a casual employee. This has further developed my admiration for the legal profession and has

made me very excited for a career in this field.

Throughout this year, I will try to listen to everybody and help everyone to the best of my ability. I love hearing from lots of different people and I strongly encourage everyone to come and speak to me and the other leaders if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

As a School Captain, I will try my best to give back to the school and help all students at BMG achieve everything that they are capable of. I am very excited for what I'm sure will be a great year and I look forward to hearing from you.

School Captain Introductions continued....

Ethan Marchington



This year marks the last in the long and arduous journey of schooling for me and many others. In that light, I could not be more grateful for the opportunity to immerse myself in the school community that now lies in my past and ever present. School Captaincy is not a pleasure that I owe to school leadership, or to myself, but rather to the people who come to form the community within which we learn and grow at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. It is for them that I take up this role, to live and breathe the essence of a young, passionate and proactive student core, in our journey through 2023.

Having arrived to Bacchus Marsh Grammar in Year 2, I have, like the school, flourished over the past 10 years, undergoing change, growth and adversity as our school expanded, diversified and interwove itself into its ardent community and its student base, leaving me proud of a school that will continue to thrive into the future. In embracing this evolution I have learnt to consistently involve myself in all the opportunities afforded by Bacchus Marsh Grammar, seeing me take up leadership roles in Year 6, 9 and 10, whilst navigating the many extra-curricular activities such as Debating, and numerous sports teams. This year, I hope to truly advocate for and

contribute to the community which I so adore, and most importantly, the students within it, so as to build greater rapport between the 2023 leadership team and students, across now multiple campuses and all year levels.

Although the last days of school looms ahead, with the bitter-sweet goodbye that it beckons, I am thrilled to make all that I can of my time left at Bacchus Marsh Grammar, whilst making attempts to contain the excitement I harbour for the future outside of school. From there I hope to explore the world, seeking tertiary education overseas, or home in Melbourne, where the stream of social sciences and law can become the career path of my dreams. I thank the school again, for the honour of taking up captaincy this year, and for the integral memories and experiences that it will now enrich.

Anvita Nallajerla



I feel so privileged to be chosen as one of the School Captains for 2023 and to represent our school in our community.

I have been attending Bacchus Marsh Grammar since Year 7 and I am one of the students who is actively seeking opportunities to be involved in our school community, participating in clubs and being involved in as many extra-curricular activities as possible. This involvement has allowed me to create some of the best memories and friendships I have here at BMG which I will be able to keep for life.

In my opinion, a leader is somebody who leads by example, puts others needs before them, is approachable and is willing to create a difference and lead with positivity and integrity. These are all qualities I wish to incorporate and display throughout this year and beyond.

This being my final year of school, one of my aims this year is to make an impactful difference in our school whilst also representing my fellow classmates and assuring them that their voices and opinions are heard. I want to be able to motivate those

around me to be involved in the school life for one last year and benefit as much as I did from it. As they say, "School is what you make of it."

I am very excited for the year ahead of me and I wish the best of luck for everyone in our school community, and encourage all to embrace the opportunities presented to them.

Junior School News

Students are well into Term 1 learning, and we have settled into excellent routines across both campus'. Students are getting back into the routine of homework and reading.

Students are expected to read every night, and record their reading in their reading journals. Research shows that volume of reading has a greater effect on reading ability than cognitive ability. In a large study, Anderson, Wilson, and Fielding (1988) traced reading growth to independent reading and reading volume. They found that the amount of time students spent in independent reading outside of school was a strong predictor of reading achievement. In the Junior School we want reading to be an enjoyable experience. Independent reading should be easy for students so they can demonstrate fluency and enjoyment. We encourage families to foster a love of reading by showing interest and sharing the books of interest students bring home from the library, and listening to the take home readers students bring home. Students should be reading their readers multiple times during the week.

Across the Junior School we continue to embed our BMG values of Respect, Confidence, Kindness, Discipline, Ambition and Leadership. Students are being explicitly taught these values, and recognised when they display them.

In the next few weeks, you will get an opportunity to book in a Parent Teacher Interview or a Student Support Group meeting to discuss your child's learning. These meetings can occur on Zoom or face to face. It is so important to us to being our annual partnership to support your children as they learn and grow.

Mrs Lisa Foster – Head of Junior School: Maddingley & Mrs Sally Savic – Head of Junior School: Woodlea

Woodlea Year 1



Woodlea Year 1 students have had a fantastic start to the year and are settling in well to new routines. We have seen students make excellent progress in their understanding of Shapes. They have consolidated their grasp of two-dimensional shapes from their Prep year and are currently broadening their knowledge of the features of three-dimensional shapes. Students have been exploring the concept of symmetry and they were excited to identify shapes and symmetry in nature during our Staughton Vale trip. In this unit, we created Shape Monsters and identified an assortment of two-dimensional shapes within them. 2023 is really shaping up to be a wonderful year!

Woodlea Year 1 Team

Middle School News

Through our three key focus areas for this year: academic excellence, participation and character development, we have an opportunity to draw upon our current school values Respect, Discipline, Confidence, Ambition, Leadership and Kindness to further improve our school culture.

In Tutor Group and in our classrooms, we are focussing on each School Value on a biweekly basis. Every two weeks we will highlight one school value to reflect upon, engage with and show action towards. The first week will see the introduction of one of our School Values and, in the second week, the focus will be on how this school value supports academic excellence.

This week is our second week of embracing the value of 'Leadership', where our conversations highlight how we can lead in our everyday actions. Leadership is about service, actions, decisions, messages and choices - not only about holding a nominated position. We think this will be a fundamental way of highlighting our values and look forward in seeing our students reflect on ways they can lead in and out of the classroom.

Mrs Rebecca Perks - Deputy Head of Middle School: Maddingley & Mr Michael Abramovic - Deputy Head of Middle School: Woodlea

RESPECT

DISCIPLINE

CONFIDENCE

AMBITION

LEADERSHIP

KINDNESS

Middle School News continued....

Woodlea

On Thursday 9 February, Year 6 and 8 leaders took part in their first session of the Leadership Challenge. These sessions focused on students developing capabilities in leadership. Students had to think about themselves as a leader and be exposed to opportunities to develop skills through theory and practice.

These sessions are hosted by a motivational speaker, Darren Pereira, from Success Integrated. Students will build their knowledge, resilience and performance through these programs. Bacchus Marsh Grammar believes in "Leading as Service". These sessions also allow students to embed and apply these skills to help make a difference within the school community,

In March, leaders will participate in a targeted session which develops public speaking skills. This session will culminate in the inaugural Leadership Evening to be held late in Term 1. More information will be provided to families in the coming week.

Maddingley

Year 6 English – Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Year 6 students have begun their exciting unit of study on William Shakespeare. They have explored what life was like during the Elizabethan era in which Shakespeare lived. Associated vocabulary has been examined and we will continue to build upon this terminology throughout the unit. Students are becoming familiar with the characters of Shakespeare's play, A Midsummer Night's Dream, before they begin reading and acting out the script. Students will be exposed to the format used for a play script and will examine some of the elements such as setting, narration, dialogue and stage directions. Plenty of fun and interaction on the horizon for our Year 6 students!

Mrs Sarah Hunter – Head of Middle Schooling & Mrs Scott Bayne – Head of Middle School: Maddingley

Student Wellbeing

The [eSafety Commissioner](#) offers a suite of free webinars that provide parents and carers with the knowledge, skills and tools to support children to have safe, positive online experiences.

The education and training team have expanded the program in 2023 to include more dates and topics. The webinar topics available for this term include:

- How eSafety can help you.
- Setting Your Child up for success online.
- Getting the most out of gaming.
- Navigating online friendships.



Term 1, 2023
Free eSafety parent and carer webinars

Join eSafety's expert education team for a free live webinar designed for parents and carers.

Term 1 topics:

- **eSafety 101: how eSafety can help you (30 minutes)**
For parents and carers of young people in primary and secondary school.
- **Setting your child up for success online (30 minutes)**
For parents and carers of young people in primary school.
- **Getting the most out of gaming (45 minutes)**
For parents and carers of young people in primary and early secondary school.
- **Navigating online friendships (30 minutes)**
For parents and carers of young people in secondary school.

For more information and to register now: esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars

  esafety.gov.au

Please refer to the eSafety Commissioner '[Webinars for parents and carers](#)' page for registration dates and further information, or the above eSafety Commissioner details.

Student Wellbeing Team

English Faculty News

A Wealth of Support in English

2023 has started with a bang in the English faculty, with a range of supports available to students across Years 5-12 and students in all year levels showing enthusiasm and excitement about their learning.

After-school English has been moved to Tuesday afternoons to accommodate students who also wish to attend another academic club on Thursdays. To complement our new-look after-school club, a complete schedule of engaging and exciting activities, workshops and screenings has been organised for each week, with posters displayed around the school informing students of what is on. Students are looking forward to beginning a screening of the Hitchcock classic 'Rear Window' this week, with engaging viewing activities designed to support the development of strong literacy skills in our younger attendees, while older students receive support as they work towards a personal response to the film.

Year 12 English students have been rushing to book in for tutoring with our in-house tutors, Julie Gainey and Tracey Bolton-Wood, and many have already had helpful sessions with the tutors as they work through their creative response to Shirley Jackson's 'We Have Always Lived in the Castle.' Spaces are filling up quickly, so if your child would like to book in, or go on a waiting list for next term, they should speak to their English teacher.

All students are welcome to attend the Creative Writing Club every Wednesday during lunch in the Senior Library. If your child has an interest in writing and wants to meet like-minded friends in a supportive and creative environment, please do encourage them to attend.

Debating activities are well underway with three competitions alone taking place this term. Debating is a fantastic opportunity for young people to develop their voice as part of a team, make friends and build confidence. If your child would like to participate in our debating team, they should contact Ms Coyne or Ms Baker.

As ever, your child's success is our utmost priority, so please do contact your child's English teacher or me should you have any feedback or suggestions about how we can support them better this year. Here's to the start of a fantastic year!

Ms Leigh Radbourne - Head of English



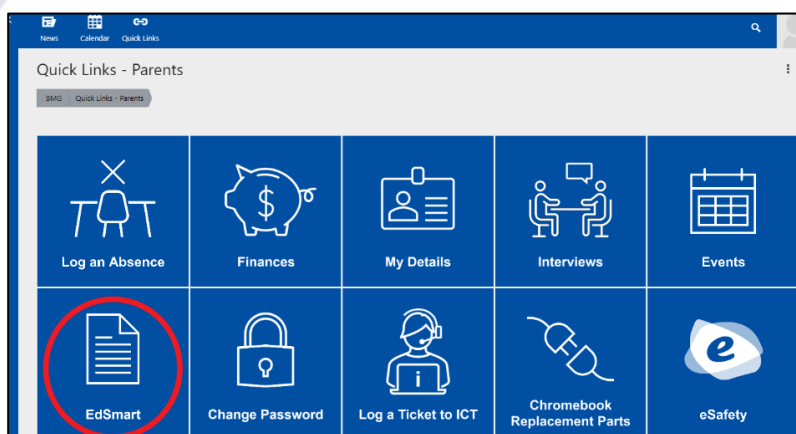
School Administration News

EdSmart – notifications for excursions/key school communication

All families are sent notifications and permission forms for completion via the EdSmart email notification system. Look for 'Bacchus Marsh Grammar' in your inbox. **It is important to read all event information for upcoming activities and respond with permission by the due date in order for students to participate in these scheduled activities.**

Always check your 'junk mail' to ensure notifications are not missing.

If you believe you are not receiving communication, contact the Maddingley Office and speak to Administration staff to verify details.



You can access all EdSmart notifications relevant to your child/ren on Schoolbox, under Quicklinks/EdSmart.

Mrs Casey Ryder

Bus News

ID Cards

ALL Students have been issued their Student ID cards. They can use them to tap on/off the bus. Student ID cards are compulsory when boarding a private bus or attending all school excursions/camps etc and they must be carried at all times. Students who board the bus without their ID cards will receive a detention.

Student Permission Cards

Students in Prep – Year 6 require a green permission tag on their bag if they are to disembark the bus to be picked up by someone other than their parent/guardian. Students in Years 5 & 6 can disembark the bus on their own if they have a green permission tag on their bag for the driver to check. Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notices are available on Schoolbox under School Letters. Please return Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notices to bus@bmg.vic.edu.au. **2022 Student Permission tags will be removed from the students' bags on Friday 17 February 2023. Any student requiring an updated tag for 2023 must have an updated Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notice completed by this date so a 2023 replacement tag can be attached to their bag.**

Stop Allocations

If you have changed your child's stop at which they board or disembark as a permanent change, please advise the School Bus Service Administrator on 5366 4800 so this information can be updated on Roll Call.

Prep to Year 6 students disembarking at the PM Route

Drivers are instructed to not allow primary aged (Prep to Year 6) students to exit the bus unless there is a parent or guardian to receive their child at the bus door. Students will not be allowed to disembark the bus if parents/guardians are waiting in the car or are not waiting at the bus door to collect their child. If no parent/guardian is visible at the door the driver will not allow the child/ren to disembark and continue on their bus route.

Mrs Leanne Robertson – School Bus Services Administrator

Early Learning Centre, Woodlea

Expressions of Interest for 2024 4-5 year old and 3-4 year old Long Day integrated Kindergarten program will be **closing shortly**.

If any current families are interested in registering their child for one of our 2024 Kindergarten programs, please visit

<https://www.bmg.vic.edu.au/learning-teaching/elc/> to download and complete our Registration of Interest and email to the Early Learning Centre.

Please note you must complete a Prep Registration of Interest prior to submitting the ELC form.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me on 5366 4999.

Mrs Kerry Osborn - Director of Early Learning Services



Book Club News 2023

Welcome back to our BMG families. We trust you had a good break over summer.

Scholastic Book Club catalogues are back with a new look this year.

Check out the latest edition on the BMG website at the link below.

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

You can place your order online and have it delivered to your home. Commission from our sales go towards new books and resources for the school.

Scholastic Book Club Coordinators:

Mrs Diane Dunn (Maddingley Campus) & Mrs Feona West (Woodlea Campus)



Events Calendar

Dates for upcoming events and excursions can be viewed via the events calendar on the [school's website](#).

Uniform Shops

Uniform information and shop business hours for both the Maddingley Campus Shop and Rushfords in Werribee are listed on the [school's website](#). Please note that uniforms can also be purchased online via <https://www.noone.com.au/>.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – The Y Ballarat



The Y Ballarat operates the Out of School Hours Care at Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

Enrolments are completed online. For full information please visit the [school's website](#).

Email: chriessie.ashmore@yballarat.org.au **Phone:** 0490 178 638 **W:** <https://yballarat.org.au/>

Maddingley:

maddingley.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0438 154 842

Located: South Maddingley Road,

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0490 490 362

Located: 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

111 Frontier Avenue
Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4999

F +61 3 5366 4850

General School Email: school@bmg.vic.edu.au

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





**Bacchus Marsh
Grammar**

February 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students are held in March each year. In 2023, the NAPLAN test window is between Wednesday 15 March and Monday 27 March. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals and can be used to improve student achievement.

NAPLAN tests are delivered in an online format. This delivers many benefits including:

- a 'tailored test' design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses providing a more precise understanding of student achievement;
- innovative use of technology, including a more engaging test design and a wider range of item types; and
- an extended and more flexible test window, allowing schools greater opportunity to schedule the tests at times that suit them best and increasing student participation.

A [public demonstration site](#) is available for schools, teachers, parents, carers and students to familiarise themselves with the online tests.

All eligible students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. Catch up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days up to and including Monday 27 March 2023.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year. If your child is eligible for support due to disability or exemption, you should discuss this with his/her teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a student withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child's participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about NAPLAN, please visit the [VCAA website](#) or the [ACARA NAPLAN website](#).

Yours sincerely,

Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal

Community News

Ballan Autumn Festival

Calling all Bakers! BAF is bringing back their Cake Decorating Competition!!

All ages and all-inclusive! The Ballan and Districts CWA is teaming up with Sweet and Sassy to re-launch this wonderful community tradition with some great prizes!

Check out entry deets, rules and prizes via the enquiry form today!

Form: <https://forms.office.com/r/fG6waJhEG2>



Community News

Bacchus Marsh Netball Club



UNDER 17



 **THURSDAYS 5PM - 6PM**

 **TRYOUTS**
THURSDAY FEB 9TH &
THURSDAY FEB 16TH

ALL PLAYERS WELCOME!

ALL PLAYERS - SEND US AN EMAIL:
JUNIORNETBALL@BMFNC.COM.AU

- **THREE PREFERRED PLAYING POSITIONS**
- **FULL NAME & DATE OF BIRTH**



ANNOUNCEMENT



SENIOR NETBALL

Training returns
Thursday, February 9th at 6pm.
Trials Thursday, February 15th.



Kinship Carer Group BBQ

Cafs is kicking off our 2023 Kinship Carer Group activities with a Summer BBQ.

Join us for lunch and some downtime with Cafs Kinship Care Team and fellow carers.

Date: Monday, March 20th

Time: 12:00 - 1:30pm

Address: Cafs Family House

601 Sherrard St, Ballarat Nth

RSVP Essential for catering purposes

To find out more contact Kara Nelson, Kinship Care Group Facilitator on 53373333 or register today at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/).

