

The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance – NAPLAN

Over the past two weeks, our students have had the opportunity to be involved in NAPLAN testing. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all involved, in particular our students who displayed exceptional effort. The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, was introduced in 2008 and is an assessment for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. NAPLAN is made up of tests in four domains, Reading, Writing, Conventions of Language and Numeracy and shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children in their age group.



Once again, during the NAPLAN testing, we were very conscious about making sure that all students had the best opportunity to achieve their optimal performance. To coincide with peer reviewed research, the school made sure that all students had the option of having a “healthy snack” prior to the testing. This ensured that students’ brains were appropriately fuelled for the cognitive “exercise” they were about to undertake.

NAPLAN provides the school with data that, when used in conjunction with other data such as internal benchmark testing, results from each subject, teacher knowledge of student abilities can assist staff in determining whether or not our students have the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the foundation for a student’s ability to learn. It also indicates whether they require learning interventions or whether they are progressing well or need to be “pushed” and extended that little bit more.

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NAPLAN is more than an assessment tool. It provides our students with the opportunity to display “Grit.” I have spoken about this in previous articles; however, it is apt to remember that grit, primarily made up of courage, perseverance, adaptability and resilience are hidden drivers of optimal performance and we need to continue to give our students the opportunity to explore and enhance these drivers.

It is only by immersing our students in our academic programs, testing and assessing them, providing them with feedback and assistance that we can help them to explore and develop their courage, perseverance, adaptability and resilience – and take advantage of the immeasurable benefit that “Grit” has to offer.

Once again, I would like to congratulate all the students who so eagerly and aptly completed the NAPLAN testing last week and to all the staff who enabled our students to access this valuable assessment tool. Their commitment to achieving their best and striving for optimal performance is to be commended.

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal Optimal Performance Learning

Last Day of Term 1 is Thursday 6 April

MADDINGLEY CAMPUS

Normal dismissal time of 3.20pm. There will be **NO Late Bus** available on the afternoon of 6 April 2023.

WOODLEA CAMPUS

Dismissal will be 1 hour earlier at 2.20pm – All private buses will depart accordingly.

There will be **NO Late Bus** available on the afternoon of 6 April 2023.

Maddingley Senior School News

Term One continues to speed along in the Senior School with lots going on. Our Year 9 students have completed their final NAPLAN tests and should be congratulated on their mature approach to these tests.

Parent/Teacher Interviews are running this week and next week providing a vital chance for parents, students and staff to have conversations about student learning and how students can continue to strive for their best and challenge themselves.

Next week on Monday, the whole Senior School will be attending the Athletics Carnival. This is a compulsory event for all Senior Students and it is a great opportunity for the whole Senior School to come together as one and enjoy this special school activity.

As this is a busy time in the term and there are many assessment tasks occurring, we encourage all students to review their study/homework planners and ensure they are able to complete work and prepared for all assessment tasks.

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

Junior School News

Spotlight on Maddingley Prep - Teddy Bear's Picnic

Our annual Teddy Bear's Picnic was once again a smashing success with fun had by all Prep students and their teddy bear friends.

The sun came out, our hats looked amazing and our teddy bears were on their best behaviour. Preps focussed on the 't' sound, wrote about their teddy bears, gave them a name and made a poster with some terrific illustrations accompanied by a photo of themselves with their teddy bear. We also measured them and talked about who had the shortest and tallest teddy bears. Then of course we enjoyed some delicious teddy bear biscuits while picnicking in the sunshine together.

At the end of the day, the tired little teddy bears, and their owners made their way home for a well-deserved rest.

View more images on [Schoolbox](#).

Maddingley Prep Team



Spotlight on Woodlea Year 4

Tuesday 21 March was Harmony Day and students at our Woodlea Campus enjoyed various activities which celebrated the theme of: *Everyone Belongs*. Year 4 students engaged in discussions about difference, multiculturalism, and acceptance, sharing their own diverse cultures and belief systems. As part of their exploration, they were encouraged to research a country within our world, finding out about their traditional costumes and customs. Each student was given a paper person, where they confidently depicted their knowledge of each culture. These paper people were then linked together as a representation of unity, respect, and harmony.

Students in 4WC, led by Dr Melvin Tan, read the mentor text 'I'm Australian Too' by beloved Australian author Mem Fox. It is a book which reminds us of the key messages of Harmony Day and highlights our School Values of Kindness and Respect. Harmony Day is a chance for us to celebrate our vibrant multicultural society 'From the oldest continuous culture of our first Australians to the cultures of our newest arrivals from around the world. Our cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths and is at the heart of who we are. It makes Australia a great place to live.' (<https://www.harmony.gov.au/about>) Cultural diversity is also one of Bacchus Marsh Grammar's greatest strengths. Kindness and Respect is at the heart of who we are. It makes our school a great place in which to teach and learn.



Mrs Angela Tilley - Head of Year 4 : Woodlea & Ms Amanda Maitland-Smith - Head of Senior School : Woodlea

Spotlight on Woodlea Global Studies

Global Studies here at Bacchus Marsh Grammar allows students to authentically explore the world around them. They engage in diverse learning experiences where they build the foundational understandings in History, Geography, Science and Civics and Citizenship. Our Year 2 students are currently studying the world's oceans and the way our environment depends on water. To support and deepen their learning, they recently had an excursion to Sea Life Aquarium in Melbourne. Here they engaged in rich discussions and a myriad of experiences to explore the concept of environmental sustainability. These authentic real-world connections support our young learners to build core knowledge and fully immerse themselves in their Junior School learning journey.



Mrs Courtney Williams – Deputy Head of Junior School : Woodlea



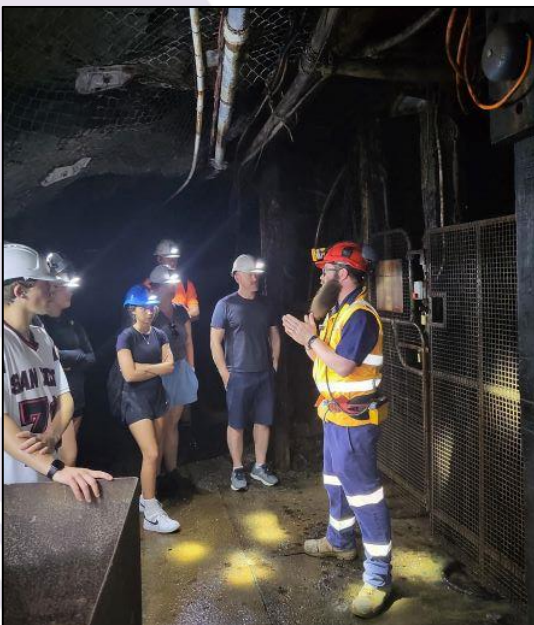
Middle School News

Woodlea - Creative and Critical Thinking

This semester in Creative and Critical Thinking students have been exploring the development of their intrapersonal and interpersonal skills. As Aristotle indicated, 'knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom.' There is significant research in the areas of character education and development and the research clearly highlights its positive impacts on young people. In particular, there is a strong body of research that supports the notion that high-quality character education can promote academic achievement. In the Middle School at Woodlea, CCT culminates with the study of ethics and philosophy in Year 8. This term, Year 8 students have been exploring the topics of Virtue Theory, Utilitarianism and the history of ethical thinking. Students have been able to consider their own ethical positions, while exploring the impact of external sources upon decision making. The students have responded positively to the academically rigorous and engaging course. They have had their thoughts challenged and have worked diligently at critically investigating different theories. Congratulations to all CCT students across the Middle School on their excellent work throughout Term One.

Mrs Sarah Hunter - Head of Middle Schooling

VCE VM CAMP



On Wednesday 15 March, the VCE Vocational Major class went to Bendigo for their class camp.

We started our journey by visiting a Buddhist temple called the Great Stupa. We were given a tour of the temple and gardens by our tour guides Donna and Mary. They took us through the history and stories behind the art and monuments there, the Dalai Lama's visit, and a guided meditation.

Another highlight was the Gold Mine tour. We learned that you can find gold in quartz and that Bendigo was once the richest city in Australia during the gold rush and transferred that to Melbourne.

We developed our own menu for camp where we also had to create a shopping list and budget. We learned we need to check the list twice and try to stick to the budget.

When we were cooking, a valuable lesson we learned was better time management and better delegation of jobs. Three skills that we could continue to develop are our skills of negotiation, collaboration and assigning jobs.

We look forward to our next camp where we can develop our skills from the lessons we learned.

VCE-Vocational Major Team



Woodlea Junior School Assembly

On Wednesday 8 March Junior School students celebrated and honoured two very special days on the calendar - the Festival of Holi and International Women's Day. Students reflected on the significance of these events and were also treated to two debut musical performances from Jack Muscat who performed 'I'm Yours' on the Guitar, and Eleanor Gilford, who played 'A Mixed-up Song' on Piano. Congratulations to both performers for their courage and poise on stage!

Ms Suzanne Kinsella - Head of Music P - Y9



Bus News

Road Closure – Woodlea Campus

Due to the road closure of Elmhurst Ave AINTREE, ALL Bacchus Marsh Grammar Woodlea Private buses will be departing the Woodlea Campus up to 10 minutes after their current scheduled departure times. This is to assist with the increased traffic flow, child safety and the safety of the whole community.

This time change will be effective as of PM Tuesday 14 MARCH.

The AM times for pick up will NOT change.

This DOES NOT affect the times of the Woodlea Late Bus.

Please monitor Roll Call for the PM arrival times of your child's bus.

We apologise for this inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

Events Calendar

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

Term Dates 2023

Access the term dates on the [school's website](#).

BMG Easter Raffle 2023



The BMG SRC (Student Representative Council) is holding the annual Easter Raffle as their fundraiser for Term 1. Money raised from this activity will be donated to **The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal** by the SRC groups.

The SRC is seeking the support of families with the donation of Easter eggs for the Easter Raffle. Easter eggs will be used to make Easter hampers for the raffle prizes. Eggs marked SRC Raffle should be sent to the Main Administration Office by Monday 27 March 2023.

A booklet of 10 tickets was sent home to each family earlier this term. Families are asked to return unsold, sold tickets and money to school by Monday 27 March 2023.

Ticket butts must include the purchasers' full name and a contact number or student's full name and Tutor Group.

The raffle will be drawn at school on **Thursday 30 March 2023** and winners will be notified in Week 10 to collect their prize before the Term Break.

The prizes being raffled are: **Hampers of Easter Eggs**

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support.

SRC Committee

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/>.

Term Break Maddingley Campus Shop Hours

- Friday 7 April Closed Public Holiday Good Friday
- Monday 10 April Closed Public Holiday Easter Monday
- Wednesday 12 April Closed
- Friday 14 April Closed
- Monday 17 April 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Wednesday 19 April 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Friday 21 April 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Monday 24 April 10.00am to 2.00pm
- Start of Term 2 Wednesday 26 April - Normal trade resumes 8.00am to 12.00pm

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, Bacchus Marsh.

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0490 490 362

Located: 111 Frontier Avenue, Aintree.

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



JUNIOR GIRLS

FOOTY 4 FUN



Experience Australia's most loved sport through AFL Victoria's FREE Footy 4 Fun events delivered across Victoria! A footy experience full of fun activities, modified games & memorable moments to take home with you!

Footy 4 Fun Junior Girls is all about giving girls (turning 5-12 years old in 2022) the opportunity to experience football in a fun and safe environment through fun activities and modified game.

WHERE:

Bacchus Marsh Racecourse and Recreation Reserve, Maddingley

WHEN:

Sunday February 26th
10:30am-12:00pm



REGISTER HERE!

Community News

Woodlea – Fields Street Construction Works



23/03/2023

Fields Street, Aintree VIC

Dear Sir/Madam

Due to the construction activities for the Pedestrian and Cyclist Priority Raised Crossing Work, NEW HORIZON CONSTRUCTION PTY LTD will be undertaking construction work along 2 Fields Street and 25 Fields Street, Aintree.

When will this happen?

Works will commence on from 13/04/2023 and finish at 29/04/2023. These works will occur for approximately 17 days. Whereas the road closure to complete these works will occur from 13/04/2023 till 21/04/2023, during the school holidays.

What will we be doing?

We will be carrying out works on 2 Fields Street and 25 Fields Street, Aintree as part of the construction of the Pedestrian and Cyclist Priority Raised Crossing Work. The works around Fields Street will require the Road to be closed to traffic for 9 days from 13/04/2023 till 21/04/2023

What can you expect?

The detours for road closure and footpath closures will be provided and steps will be taken to reduce the impact of construction on the community.

How will we manage traffic?

- Speed Limits near the work zone will be changed from 50 km to 40 km per hour.
- Electronic messaging boards will inform drivers of changes to traffic conditions and detour routes.
- Written notification to all affected residents to inform changes to traffic conditions and detour routes.
- Temporary barrier fencing will be installed to separate traffic from works zone.
- Resident and Emergency vehicle access will be always maintained.

Thank you

We're upgrading Fields Street that will improve the flow of traffic. We acknowledge the current level of traffic disruption on Fields Street is challenging and appreciate your patience while we do this critical work. Road Upgrade is due to be completed by end of April.

To assist us in completing the work and minimising any inconvenience to residents, we would appreciate that vehicles are not parked in the street during the above times and are clear of the work area. Motorists, cyclists and pedestrians are asked to observe all traffic management and signage in the area. Please allow extra travel time.

Contact us

For any project related inquiries or further information, please contact **Usman Siddiqui on 0432 547 077**

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these works.

Yours sincerely

Usman Siddiqui

Site Engineer