

Woodlea Commencement Assembly



Thursday 23 February marked Woodlea's inaugural Commencement Assembly. It was a chance to formally mark the beginning of a new academic year and to celebrate the achievements of all students in the Middle and Senior Schools. The Assembly opened with Geet Mata and Alexis Sharp delivering the Acknowledgement of Country in both English and French. Scholarship recipients were recognised and School Leaders from Years 4, 6 and 8 were also acknowledged. School Captain, Surya Sureshkumar read the School Leaders' Pledge on behalf of all leaders and committed the group to upholding the Bacchus Marsh Grammar model of Service and Leadership. Alaina Matta of Year 7 delivered the New Student Pledge and dedicated herself and her peers to learning about and adopting our Values: Respect, Discipline, Confidence, Ambition, Leadership and Kindness. These were the anchor points of Mr Abramovic's inaugural Commencement Address which challenged students to embrace change, aim high and to take comfort in the firm principles on which their *Education for Life* is founded. Rakshita Vij and Tanish Krishna spoke on behalf of the School Captains and they too were clear in the advice they shared with their peers: have purpose, set goals and work hard in order to excel; in short, to find 'the Best of Us'. Perhaps Mr Neal summed it up best, when he reminded students and staff to take every opportunity presented to them this year.

Carpe diem Woodlea.

Ms Amanda Maitland-Smith – Head of Senior School: Woodlea



The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance – Sleep and Academic Performance Revisited

Last year I penned an article regarding the importance of sleep for our students. Interestingly, this week I read an insightful academic paper by Dr. Gina Poe titled, “Shining a Light on the Mechanisms of Sleep for Memory Consolidation.” Dr. Poe is a professor in the Department of Integrative Biology & Physiology at the University of California, Los Angeles and runs a lab looking at the mechanisms of sleep on performance. This article once again highlighted the importance of sleep in terms of quantity, quality and regularity if we wish to maximise our academic potential and lends strong support to the hypothesis that sleep is essential for the consolidation of memories from the hippocampus and the consolidation of motor learning.

Why do our students find it difficult to get to sleep?

During early adolescence, the change in a child’s hormones means that they are likely to find it difficult to go to sleep as quickly and as early as they have previously. This is a result of a change in the timing of their brain’s production of melatonin. This change also means they will have trouble waking up early in the morning.

Sleep and technology

Added to biological changes, teenagers exacerbate the problem by entertaining themselves with electronic media in the hours before they fall asleep. By nature, the movement, colour and noise of these devices activate the brain, making it even harder to fall asleep. Light from devices also cues the brain to stay in a state of alertness.

Sleep Deprivation

The average teenager needs at least 10 hours of sleep. Unfortunately, the average Australian teenager gets less than 8 hours per night. That means that their sleep debt is growing daily. Ongoing sleep deprivation has a big impact on growing brains. Some of the effects, as outlined by the Victorian Health Department include:

- Concentration difficulties.
- Mentally ‘drifting off’ in class.
- Shortened attention span.
- Memory impairment.
- Poor decision making.
- Lack of enthusiasm.
- Moodiness and aggression.

The highly regarded English scientist and Professor of Neuroscience and Psychology at the University of California, Matthew Walker suggests:

4 Things Parents can do?

- Carve out enough time and make sleep a priority for your child.
 - Students aged 6-12 years need 9 to 12 hours.
 - Students aged 13-18 years need 8 to 10 hours.
- Model and encourage habits that help promote good sleep. Setting a regular bedtime and rise time, including on weekends, is recommended for everyone—children, adolescents and adults alike. Adolescents with parent-set bedtimes usually get more sleep than those whose parents do not set bedtimes.
- Dim lighting. Adolescents who are exposed to more light (such as room lighting or from electronics) in the evening are less likely to get enough sleep.
- Implement a media curfew. Technology use (computers, video gaming or mobile phones) may also contribute to late bedtimes. Parents should consider banning technology use after a certain time or removing these technologies from the bedroom. Studies have shown that the blue light emitted from these technologies hinder sleep quality. Technologies like mobile phones and iPads should not be used within 30 minutes of bedtime.

We all need to make sure that our students and children are getting enough quality and effective sleep for the sake of their mental health, physical health and academic performance.

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal: Optimal Performance Learning

Woodlea Senior School - Program Kaizen @ BMG

The Year 9s have made a wonderful start to the year and have worked to make connections with those students and staff members who are new to BMG this year.

Students in the Black and Gold Pathways have begun their relevant VCE subjects of General Mathematics and Legal Studies Units 1 & 2. The students in the Blue Pathway have enjoyed starting their chosen semester-based electives and all students in *Program Kaizen* are being challenged by the rigour in Senior School classrooms.

Year 9s have already visited our Staughton Vale campus and undertaken Science experiments which aimed to develop their practical report writing skills. They also spent time planning for their Peer Support program that will be delivered to the Year 5 students. The Peer Support program will form an important component of *Allez!*, the Year 9 Values Program which is running throughout the year.

This year marks the beginning of our Senior School at the Woodlea Campus and there has been a great sense of excitement and endeavour as we begin this journey together. In our first assembly, I shared with the Year 9s a reflection from Michelle Obama's 'Becoming' which I had just finished reading over the summer break. In it, she reflects on the people in her life who have helped her "become". She writes: "These were people who mostly did not know one another and would never have occasion to meet, many of whom I'd fallen out of touch with myself. But for me, they formed a meaningful constellation. These were my boosters, my believers, my own personal gospel choir, singing, *Yes, kid, you got this!* all the way through." I reminded the Year 9s that they too had their own 'gospel choir' of supporters in their teachers, their parents, their friends and their wider BMG community. As they begin *Program Kaizen*, we are all singing 'You got this!'

Ms Amanda Maitland-Smith - Head of Senior School: Woodlea



Maddingley House Swimming Carnivals

Middle School House Swimming Carnival

The Middle School had its swimming carnival in stunning weather last week at Melton Waves. It was an absolute pleasure to watch the students not just giving their all for each event but also those cheering alongside the pool. This saw the students break 17 records that day! It was particularly great to see the students competing in the kickboard relay, regardless of their swimming ability, they showed real determination. Unfortunately, there has to be a winner, although many would say respect and determination won the day. Pentland House again showed their swimming prowess and took out the day, with Braeside and Bacchus Houses not being able to be separated and came joint 2nd with Hilton House valiantly bringing up the rear.

We would like to thank all the competitors and cheering supporters including parents for helping make it a special day. We would especially like to thank Mrs Ogston who organised and ran the trails and swimming competition.

Mr Scott Bayne – Head of Middle School: Maddingley

The final house placings were as follows:

1st Pentland – 2248 points
Equal 2nd Bacchus – 1679 points
Equal 2nd Braeside – 1679 points
4th Hilton – 1565 points



Age Group Champions

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Female Champion Akikat Brar – HI	Female Champion Isabella Bao – BR	Female Champion Taylor Miller – PD	Female Champion Tanya Ding – PD
Male Champion Mitchell Durovic - BA	Male Champion Jack Coy - PD	Male Champion Magnus Strickland - BA	Male Champion Armaanpartap Brar - HI

Record Breakers

Year 5		Year 6
Harrison Lovett - BR 50m Breaststroke	Paige Smith - HI 50m Freestyle	Isabella Bao - BR 50m Breaststroke 50m Butterfly
Mitchell Durovic - BA 50m Butterfly	Hamish La Franchi - HI 50m Freestyle	50m Backstroke 50m Freestyle
Akikat Brar - HI 50m Backstroke 50m Butterfly	Celeste Peroulis - PD 50m Backstroke	Jack Coy - PD 50m Butterfly 50m Freestyle 50m Backstroke 50m Breaststroke
Jacob Purchase - PD 50m Backstroke		

Senior School House Swimming Carnival

The Senior School House Swimming Carnival 2023 took place last Wednesday. There was an electric atmosphere, with fantastic displays of house spirit and participation all round. Many crazy costumes and cheer squads could be seen on the sidelines supporting the competitors. Congratulations to Braeside for being crowned the Senior School House Swimming Carnival 2023 champions. Massive thanks to the house teachers for organising the competitors and events on the day. Also, to Mrs Ogston, Mr Hunter, Mr Oldaker for handling everything behind the scenes.

Ben Peterson – Braeside House Captain

It was great to see positive student participation in the inaugural water polo event, one that will hopefully become a regular on future swimming carnival programs.

Mrs Debra Ogston – Deputy Principal

The final house placings were as follows:

1st Braeside – 2158 points
2nd Pentland – 2147 points
3rd Bacchus – 1733 points
4th Hilton – 1472 points



Age Group Champions

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Female Champion Zara Brigham – BR	Female Champion Ella Ward – BR	Female Champion Pravallika Tripurana – BR	Female Champion Rachel Lillie – HI
Male Champion Rodney Tang - PD	Male Champion Samuel Lillie - HI	Male Champion Thomas Smith - PD	Male Champion Andrew Jenks - BA

Record Breakers

Year 9	Year 11	Year 12
Rodney Tang - PD 50m Backstroke	Pravallika Tripurana – BR 50m Breaststroke 50m Freestyle 50m Backstroke 50m Butterfly Thomas Smith - PD 50m Breaststroke 50m Freestyle 50m Backstroke 50m Butterfly	Male 50m Freestyle Relay BRAESIDE Female 50m Freestyle Relay BRAESIDE Male 50m Freestyle Relay BRAESIDE

Maddingley Junior School Swimming Carnival

A wonderful day was had by all at the Junior House Swimming Carnival. The sun finally shone, and the students enjoyed the warmth of the heated pool in Werribee.

Team spirit was strong as students cheered, chanted and supported each other from the sidelines. House Captains led by example on the day and demonstrated the school values of Leadership and Kindness. The House Captains also encouraged Junior School students to achieve their best, helped marshal competitors and assisted in the organisation of the day. Thank you, House Captains!

All students participated and represented their teams remarkably well, putting in an amazing effort to swim a variety of strokes. But in the end, there was only one winner and what a deserving winner it was. Congratulations to Pentland House who took out first place on the day.

Overall Results

1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place



4th Place



Age group champions will be announced at the next Junior School assembly. A big congratulations to all who attended!

Mrs Erin Bullen - Junior School Sports: Maddingley

ICCES Swimming – Tuesday 7 March

The ICCES Swimming Carnival will take place on **Tuesday 7 March**. The Carnival will be held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre Pool, commencing at 12:00pm and concluding at 4:20pm. All students will be transported to the selected venue by bus, which will leave Bacchus Marsh Grammar Maddingley Campus at **10.00 am** and will return at approximately **6:00pm**.

Students are required to wear their full school sports uniform and bring their bathers and a towel. Students are not permitted to wear board shorts in the competition. Speedos are recommended for boys and girls must wear appropriate swimming attire. It is also suggested that your child be adequately prepared by bringing along a hat, lunch, sunscreen, plenty of water for re-hydration, snacks and lunch.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Durham before the day of competition.

Congratulations to the following students for making the BMG ICCES Swimming Team in 2023 - see next page for full list of names.

Mr Bryce Durham - Head of Faculty: Physical Education and Health

ICCESS Swimming Team

BOYS		YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11/12
BREASTROKE	A	Magnus Strickland	Armaanpartap Brar	Rodney Tang	Samuel Lillie	Thomas Smith
	B	Mason Eichler	Max Schoemaker	Ethan Bloss	Leon Earnshaw	Benjamin Nolta
FREESTYLE	A	Magnus Strickland	Callum Laneza	Rodney Tang	Samuel Lillie	Thomas Smith
	B	Thomas Smith	Max Schoemaker	Ethan Bloss	Benjamin Bowler	Benjamin Nolta
	C	Thomas Tran	Armaanpartap Brar	Cobie Stevens	Leon Earnshaw	Andrew Jenks
	D	Harry Metcher	Owen Simson	Gus O'Donnell	Noah Van Orsouw	Jake Parton
BACKSTROKE	A	Magnus Strickland	Max Schoemaker	Rodney Tang	Samuel Noonan	Thomas Smith
	B	Thomas Smith	Armaanpartap Brar	Ethan Bloss	Leon Earnshaw	Benjamin Nolta
BUTTERFLY	A	Magnus Strickland	Callum Laneza	Ethan Bloss	Samuel Lillie	Thomas Smith
	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Thomas Smith</i>	<i>Armaanpartap Brar</i>	<i>Rodney Tang</i>	<i>Leon Earnshaw</i>	<i>Benjamin Nolta</i>
RELAY	1	Magnus Strickland	Callum Laneza	Rodney Tang	Samuel Lillie	Thomas Smith
	2	Thomas Smith	Max Schoemaker	Ethan Bloss	Benjamin Bowler	Benjamin Nolta
	3	Thomas Tran	Armaanpartap Brar	Cobie Stevens	Leon Earnshaw	Andrew Jenks
	4	Harry Metcher	Owen Simson	Gus O'Donnell	Noah Van Orsouw	Jake Parton
MEDLEY RELAY						
BACKSTROKE		Thomas Smith	Max Shoemaker	Rodney Tang	Samuel Noonan	Thomas Smith
BREASTROKE		Mason Eichler	Armaanpartap Brar	Kayden Hopkins	Leon Earnshaw	Benjamin Nolta
BUTTERFLY		Magnus Strickland	Callum Laneza	Ethan Bloss	Samuel Lillie	Andrew Jenks
FREESTYLE		Thomas Tran	Owen Simson	Cobie Stevens	Benjamin Bowler	Jake Parton
Emergency on Day if Required		<i>Jack Van Orsouw</i>	<i>Dean Slattery</i>	<i>AJ Strickland</i>	<i>Matthew Stevenson</i>	<i>Nicholas Cassar</i>

GIRLS		YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11/12
BREASTROKE	A	Abbey Smith	Tanya Ding	Nilay Sarman	Ella Ward	Pravallika Tripurana
	B	Koko Shand	Abigail Pellow	Ruby Gorton	Madelyn Hunter	Mischa Petilla
FREESTYLE	A	Taylor Miller	Tanya Ding	Nilay Sarman	Ella Ward	Pravallika Tripurana
	B	Abbey Smith	Alana Durovic	Maddison Weeks	Emma Stewart	Rachel Lillie
	C	Koko Shand	Heer Shah	Zara Bringham	Emily Marchington	Tansy Seymour
	D	Anika Tran	Amelia Whiteway	Ruby Gorton	Jessica Fisher	Mischa Petilla
BACKSTROKE	A	Taylor Miller	Alana Durovic	Nilay Sarman	Ella Ward	Pravallika Tripurana
	B	Abbey Smith	Tanya Ding	Maddison Weeks	Emma Stewart	Rachel Lillie
BUTTERFLY	A	Taylor Miller	Tanya Ding	Nilay Sarman	Ella Ward	Pravallika Tripurana
	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Abbey Smith</i>	<i>Abigail Pellow</i>	<i>Maddison Weeks</i>	<i>Emily Marchington</i>	<i>Mischa Petilla</i>
RELAY	1	Anika Tran	Tanya Ding	Nilay Sarman	Ella Ward	Pravallika Tripurana
	2	Abbey Smith	Alana Durovic	Maddison Weeks	Emma Stewart	Rachel Lillie
	3	Koko Shand	Heer Shah	Zara Bringham	Emily Marchington	Tansy Seymour
	4	Taylor Miller	Amelia Whiteway	Ruby Gorton	Jessica Fisher	Mischa Petilla
MEDLEY RELAY						
BACKSTROKE		Taylor Miller	Alana Durovic	Maddison Weeks	Emma Stewart	Rachel Lillie
BREASTROKE		Koko Shand	Abigail Pellow	Ruby Gorton	Madelyn Hunter	Mischa Petilla
BUTTERFLY		Abbey Smith	Tanya Ding	Nilay Sarman	Ella Ward	Pravallika Tirpurana
FREESTYLE		Anika Tran	Heer Shah	Zara Bringham	Emily Marchington	Tansy Seymour
Emergency on Day if Required		<i>Jenna Baker</i>	<i>Reischel Sestoso</i>	<i>Emma Niessen</i>	<i>Lyla Hewitt</i>	<i>Saanvi Venkat</i>

Student Wellbeing

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is excited to introduce and offer the **C'YA!** (Conquering Your Anxiety) Program which is a new school-based program that will initially support students in the Middle School (Years 5 – 8). The **C'YA!** Program, which will be offered to Middle School students in Term 2, will focus on understanding feelings of anxiety, identifying body signals and exploring strategies to assist in managing these feelings. **C'YA!** is a six-session program which will be run in small groups during class time and facilitated by a staff member from the Wellbeing Team. Anxiety is a normal and natural emotion; however, anxiety can be a problem when it interferes with your child's everyday life. Anxiety can present at school in many different ways. If you have a child in Middle School (Years 5 – 8) and feel that they would benefit from participating in the **C'YA!** program in Term 2, please register your interest by contacting a member of our Wellbeing Team.

Maddingley Campus: Jillian Campey campeyj@bmg.vic.edu.au or Raigan Francis francisr@bmg.vic.edu.au

Woodlea Campus: Paige Zerafa zerafap@bmg.vic.edu.au

We hope to be able to offer the C'YA! Program across the Junior and Senior years later in the year.

Student Wellbeing Team

Middle School News

Middle School Colours

Middle School Colours is a proudly held tradition in the middle years of schooling at Bacchus Marsh Grammar and brings to life our ethos of *Education for Life*. It is an initiative that highlights student contributions to community, the representation of the school and its values, as well as student effort and achievement across the breadth of student endeavour.

Through Bacchus Marsh Grammar's range of program platforms and unique campus settings we offer Middle School students a range of curricular and co-curricular opportunities that aim to develop personal, social, academic and leadership capabilities. The Middle School Colours initiative is a way of recognising achievement in these areas and contributions to the culture of continuous improvement at Bacchus Marsh Grammar School.

To be eligible to receive school colours, students must demonstrate a high level of cooperation, responsibility and care towards other members of the school community. Students eligible to be awarded School Colours must have accumulated in excess of 50 points in areas determined by the Middle School Colours program. No student will be awarded Middle School Colours if they do not meet the conduct standards expected by Bacchus Marsh Grammar.



From Semester Two, eligible students will be presented with a Middle School Colours badge at assembly. Students may achieve Double Middle School Colours once they have accumulated 100 points and will be presented with a braid to be sewn into the blazer pocket. Tutor Group teachers are responsible for confirming the allocation of points towards Middle School Colours. Where appropriate, they will liaise with other staff and Heads of Year to confirm when a student is ready to apply for a Middle School Colours presentation. The specific areas of endeavour for which students can receive Middle School Colours points are always accessible on Schoolbox. We encourage all students in Middle School to show the best of themselves at all times.

Mr Michael Abramovic and Mrs Rebecca Perks - Deputy Heads of Middle School

Maddingley - Year 7 Get To Know You Day



Year 7, and school in general, is a journey, as are the relationships we make during this time. Experiences like these must be provided to students to allow them to learn together and bond as a cohort with each other and their teachers.

Over the past couple of Mondays, our Year 7 students have taken time out from classes to visit the Staughton Vale Campus. All students were able to participate in activities that promote the importance of culture, belonging and service, as these are some of the key principles of Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

Their sense of identity and belonging were channelled into painting a personalised piece of artwork that will then be combined with every Year 7s' artwork to create a legacy piece. This will be displayed in the new Library complex.

During the day, students went on a hike to the observation deck where they wrote letters to their future selves about their current life and future aspirations.

7I was victorious in the Yabbying Competition with 31 yabbies* in total. This was a great example of teamwork, where students also experienced a variety of team-building activities and got to know better, other members of their Tutor Group.

A huge thank you must go to Ms McMahon, as well as all the Staughton Vale and camp/co-curricular staff for organising and running the activities. A special thank you to Mrs Griffiths, Mr Love and Miss Anderson for their history and culture-based art activity.

*Yabbies were returned back to the dam unharmed.

View more images from the day on [Schoolbox](#).

Mr Scott Bayne - Head of Middle School & Mr Matthew La Franchi - Head of Year 7



Woodlea Co-Curricular

The 2023 co-curricular activities were launched in Week Four of Term 1 at the Woodlea campus. With over 200 students across Years 5-9 participating in lunchtime and afterschool events, this year's co-curricular is already proving to be very successful.

Activities range from academic support to extension opportunities, as well as development in artistic and musical pursuits, in addition to development in sports skills. Woodlea staff eagerly organise activities for co-curricular and also host external coaches in the areas of Chess Club, Futsal and Cricket Academy.

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is keen to ensure that all students across the Middle School have access to opportunities in an area of personal interest. This ensures engagement, connectedness and improved outcomes for each child.

Further details regarding the Woodlea co-curricular program are available from your child's Tutor Group teacher. Please see the list of current activities below. Also, please note that some activities have a waiting list due to student numbers.

Mrs Sarah Hunter – Deputy Principal & Head of Middle Schooling

Day	Activity
Monday	Musical
Monday	Photography Club (Years 7-9 only)
Monday (lunchtime)	Book Club
Tuesday	STEM
Tuesday	Science Support
Tuesday	Languages Club
Tuesday	Chess Club (GS Chess)
Tuesday	Sports Club
Wednesday & Friday	Cricket (Cricket Star Academy)
Tuesday & Wednesday (lunchtime)	SRC
Thursday	Community Service
Thursday	Mathematics Support
Thursday	Mathematics Extension (invitation only)
Thursday	English Support
Thursday	Futsal (Woodlea Soccer Academy)
Thursday	Art Club

Junior School News

Spotlight on Teaching and Learning in the Junior School (Maddingley)

Reading at Home

Bacchus Marsh Grammar prides itself on using a strong evidence base to plan our teaching and learning programs.

We are excited about working with the Junior School students as they continue their reading journey, consolidating their skills in learning to read while enriching their vocabulary and general knowledge to support them in reading to learn.

Parents play a vital role in their child's learning and we look forward to working with you to support your child on their reading journey. To foster this partnership, we have hosted several Reading Information Sessions throughout Term 1, targeted at specific year levels. At these sessions, we discussed how we teach students to read, the most effective way of teaching reading, and how you can support your child at home.

While most classes have established a home reading routine and are sending home **reading material**, many parents are often confused about what reading at home should include, especially if their child is not bringing home the traditional 'readers' or books as sent in previous years.

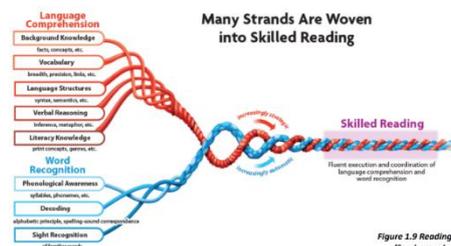


Figure 1.9 Reading Rope (Scarborough, 2001)

Children need to be exposed to different texts to develop the various skills in **Word Recognition** and **Language Comprehension** that are required to become skilled, proficient readers. Therefore, reading at home includes reading a range of materials to support and develop different skills.

"All teaching efforts should be initially focused on a single goal, the grasp of the alphabetic principle whereby each letter or grapheme represents a phoneme."

READING IN THE BRAIN, THE NEW SCIENCE OF HOW WE READ, Stanislas Dehaene p. 228

www.phonicbooks.co.uk

www.phonicbooks.com (USA)

Learning to Read - Reading to Build Skills in Word Recognition

Reading for word recognition includes **materials that can be read independently by your child**.

Beginning readers need to learn the alphabetic code, the phonemes (sounds) and graphemes (letters) that represent these sounds. Therefore, nightly reading in the earliest stage of learning to read involves repeated practise of sounds and connecting these sounds to graphemes or letter representations.

When students have mastered the early stages of phoneme-grapheme correspondences, they can move to single word reading using this learnt code.

Your child should continue practising all the sounds and letters previously learnt as well as reading single words. This should be repeated every night with the phoneme-grapheme correspondences and words being presented in a different order.

Once your child has sufficiently mastered the basic alphabetic code including phoneme-grapheme correspondences and single word reading, the nightly reading routine will be extended to include phrase and sentence reading.

The next step in building word recognition skills is for students to read connected text using decodable books. These books are selected to match your child's knowledge of phoneme-grapheme correspondences and their ability to apply this knowledge to word, phrase, and sentence reading. Each decodable text should be read at least three times to help build automaticity and fluency.

Decodable texts are a means to an end. These texts support children in learning how to blend sounds and lift the words off the page on their own so they can access quality literature for themselves.

Reading to Learn - Reading to Build Language Comprehension

Quality literature including rich, authentic texts support students in building background knowledge, vocabulary, syntax, and comprehension. These books may be selected for your child by their classroom teacher or can be selected by your child from the classroom library.

While a child is still learning the alphabetic code and how to apply it to decode words, phrases and sentences, these **texts should be read to your child**.

When a child has mastered the alphabetic code, including the extended, more complex code **and can decode proficiently demonstrating automaticity and fluency**, these **texts should be read independently by your child**.

Talking about Reading

A key factor in developing both word recognition and language comprehension skills is rich discussion. Talking about the text with your child will help to build their understanding of the text, including comprehension and vocabulary. Parents can support this by asking questions that require children to recall information directly stated in the text and by talking about the vocabulary and the meaning of different words in the text.

Ms Sian Rawlinson - Deputy Head of Junior School, Teaching and Learning



Spotlight on Junior Art at Maddingley

It has been an exciting start to the Year in Art in the Maddingley Junior School. Students from Prep Reception to Year 4 have created some amazing Art pieces with a focus on Paint and Printing, experimenting with acrylic, ink wash and watercolour paints.

Prep Reception students have been experimenting with paint mixing and learning what happens when two primary colours are mixed together. They had fun sponging blue and yellow paint together to create a green background for a beautiful floral art piece.

Junior School News continued...



Students in Prep have been introduced to a range of different line and brush techniques and have enjoyed applying these techniques to their work to create some beautiful art pieces including a self portrait and a beautiful oil pastel and ink wash caterpillar.

The Year 1s have recently been busy creating Fairy Castles, a work of Art involving painting, printing and collage.

In Year 2 students have been consolidating their knowledge of the colour wheel and have demonstrated their understanding of primary, secondary and complimentary colours through their works of Art.

The Year 3 have been creating some very eye-catching animal prints. They have used a foam plate to create their prints and have demonstrated their knowledge of complimentary colours through their printing.

Students in Year 4 have enjoyed discussing the still-life paintings of artists such as Henri Matisse and Paul Cezanne and using the works of these artists as inspiration to create their own still-life watercolour fruit bowl.

Junior School students at Maddingley have enjoyed admiring the work of their peers through regular gallery walks. Families can also see some of the wonderful things we have been learning in the art room via the Family Engagement pages on Schoolbox.

Junior School Art Team - Maddingley

Spotlight on Junior School Visual Arts at Woodlea

Visual Arts in Term 1 has been exciting for all students involved. It has been great to be back in the classroom getting hands-on and allowing our creativity to flow.

Prep lessons have included manipulating paper and learning a range of paper skills to create a 3D roller coaster and they have created an abstract self-portrait based on the work of Pablo Picasso. The Year 1 and 2 students have been drawing/painting a self-portrait and exploring the element of colour with paint. The students in Year 3 are creating a replica of Van Gogh's *Starry Night* and worked together to create a community piece which will be displayed within our school. Year 4 students completed a watercolour landscape of Uluru and used their paper skills to create a landscape collage.

We look forward to creating more artworks in Term 2 during co-curricular time. All students are welcome to these classes that are offered to P-4 students throughout each week at lunchtime on different days. Students will experience manipulating clay, using oil pastels, painting and learning how to draw. There will be more information to come regarding co-curricular activities starting in Term 2.

Junior School Art Team - Woodlea



Woodlea Prep – Teddy Bear Picnic

On Wednesday 22 February the Woodlea Preps brought their furry friends to school. Each had their own version of a stuffed toy come in and support their learning. They participated in a range of activities together, but the highlight was having a picnic with their Year 4 buddies after some teddy craft together. They also made patterns with teddies, made masks, and completed some writing about what their teddies can do. It was a marvellous day that was enjoyed by all.

View more images via [Schoolbox](#).



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](#).

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: chrissie.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

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Community News

Ballan Autumn Festival Activities

Sweet and Sassy's Cake Decorating Competition!

Get your bake on to go in the running for a bunch of delicious prizes and cash!

Categories are in both Junior and Adult ages.

Business cards are welcome to be displayed with your cake at the Ballan Autumn Festival.

The Cake Decorating Comp will only go ahead if we have enough interest so, please.

Sign up below: <https://forms.office.com/r/Hc4Wt2aN8q>



Win #BAFbestdressed at the Ballan Autumn Festival Sunday March 19th.

Get inventive, get creative and get on down to the Fiske Street stage by 12pm to strut your stuff and be in the running to win:

Under 12s Best Dressed Medal and Sweet and Sassy Superhero Showbag!

Under 18yrs Best Dressed Medal and a \$100 IMAX voucher

Over 18yrs Best Dressed Medal and a \$100 IMAX voucher!

Better yet get the whole family involved. We'll see your superhero self there!



It's Bird! It's a Lama! It's YOUR PET!

Don't forget to register for the Ballan Autumn Festival! And we are adding a category this year:

- **The Superhero Pet!**

Medals and Scruffie Dog Grooming Prizes to be won!

Enter now at <https://forms.office.com/r/ePqtpTctzV>

