

The Podium

Achieving Optimal Academic Performance - Kindness

Yesterday, I had the privilege, along with Miss Fitzgerald and the Year 10 Pre-VCE Germany in the Twentieth Century class, to attend an educational seminar at the Jewish Holocaust Museum in Elsternwick. The museum is dedicated to the memory of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators between 1933 and 1945. The program allowed students to learn about the Holocaust through individual perspectives and connect with Melbourne-based survivors through their testimonies and artefacts. Students also engaged in critical and creative thinking and examined the character strengths of bravery, judgement, perspective, fairness, hope and kindness as displayed through survivor stories.

The culmination of the morning was the talk and inspirational story of ninety-nine year old Mr. Abram Goldberg OAM. Mr. Goldberg was fifteen years old when the vibrant town of Lodz was changed forever by the Nazi invasion. He was transported from the Lodz ghetto and survived the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz. When talking with students, one of our students asked Abe whether anyone in Auschwitz showed him any kindness, linking one of our school values to the conversation. Mr Goldberg went onto talk about a German block warden who he had observed not being cruel to those in his barracks. He said he began showing him kindness after he smiled at him one day. And that even in a place of horror, a smile made such a difference. Mr Goldberg's final remarks before he left our students was profound:

“Not every day will be a sunny day but after an overcast day the sun will shine again”.

Let us all practise the virtue of kindness this week and in the future.

Mr Andrew Perks - Assistant Principal Optimal Performance Learning

Reminder:

No School on Monday 6 November and Tuesday 7 November

Monday 6 November is Mid-Term Break & Tuesday 7 November is Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.

Refer to [Term Dates](#).

Due to the shortened school week, please note that there will be **no BMG eNews on Friday 10 November**.

Woodlea House Performing Arts Concert Series



On Monday October 16, over 70 students in the Middle and Senior years participated in the Woodlea House Performing Arts Concert Series. This inclusive event brought together several artistic disciplines including dancers, singers, instrumentalists, ensembles, composers and poets. Buoyed by an opportunity to present ‘the best of themselves’, these talented and brave students performed with grace and heart and showcased a diverse range of styles and repertoire. Cheered on by immensely supportive audiences on the day, these students are to be commended for their contributions towards the creation of a thriving Music and Performing Arts culture at the campus.

[Click here to view the full gallery on Schoolbox.](#)

Ms Suzanne Kinsella – Head of Music (Woodlea P-9)

Sport News

National Championships bound for Adi Sanders and Ruby Gorton

Both Adi (Year 5), as emergency GK, and Ruby (Year 9) have been selected for the Hockey Victoria U13 and U15 teams respectively, taking part in the National Championships in Canberra in January.

We wish them both the best in the tournament taking place during the summer break.



Mr David Gorton – Director of Student Engagement

2023 Victorian All Schools Track & Field Championships

The first weekend of the 2023 Victoria All Schools Track and Field Championships took place at Lakeside Stadium over the weekend. Five athletes represented Bacchus Marsh Grammar at the event. These Championships are the qualifiers for the U14-18 Australian All School Championships to be held in Perth in early December.

Under 15 athlete, **Leila Stegehuis**, placed 4th in high jump with a massive jump of 1.55m, 5th in the 90m Hurdles and 8th in the 100m final.

Under 15 athlete, **Tyler Forsyth**, finished 6th in his heat of the 100m.

Under 17 athlete, **Ethan Stegehuis**, finished 4th in the 110m Hurdles, with an impressive run of 15.84.

Under 16 athlete, **Ethan Bloss**, ran his heat of the 400m in 55.29, placing 4th.

Under 16 athlete, **Mackenzie Estlick**, had an impressive weekend, achieving PBs in all events and qualifying for the National Championships. Mackenzie placed 4th in shot put with a strong throw of 9.94m, 6th in triple jump, and an incredible 2nd place in the 100m final with a time of 12.46 sec.

We wish Mackenzie all the best as she heads to Perth in December to represent BMG.



Mrs Chantelle Estlick – Teacher

Early Learning Centre

Community Club Monster Socks

BMG's Community Club Co-curricular that meets on Thursdays has been working with the Early Learning Centre on our site to create some incredible 'monster socks' in preparation for Halloween.

Yuvraj, Michaela and Tia were amazing in showing the various ways the little ones could create the monsters that they visualised and it was amazing to see how they mentored them to feel good about their creations in the end.

The sessions ended with all the socks on the drying rack and we're hoping to have a puppet show next time when we meet with them again.

It was a lovely afternoon experience for both our students and the little ones.



Mrs Ann Adams – ELC Teacher

Junior School News



We recently held our annual Prep Parent Information Evenings, where numerous families gathered to gain insights into Bacchus Marsh Grammar and understand how we will support the students as they transition into their first year of formal schooling.

Here are some important dates to mark in your calendars for the 2024 Prep Transition:

Tuesday 30 January and Wednesday 31 January, 2024

School Readiness Meetings: Students will have a scheduled twenty-minute session on one of these days with one of the Prep teachers for basic assessments, bringing in book boxes, and gathering relevant information. During this time, one parent is welcome to visit the school to acquaint themselves with the Prep area. Additional details will be provided to families closer to these meetings.

Friday 2 February, 2024

Students' first day of Prep.

As you prepare during the summer holidays, you may want to consider the following:

- Familiarise your child with the school's location and discuss the means of getting there.
- Arrange play dates with other families whose children will also be starting at the school. Having a familiar face in Prep can be reassuring for your child.
- Practise tasks your child will need to perform to get ready for school such as packing their bag, remembering to take a hat, and opening and closing their lunchbox.
- Maintain a positive and enthusiastic attitude about starting school and share in your child's excitement.
- Visit your local library and read books with your child about beginning their school journey.

We look forward to welcoming our new Prep students and families to Bacchus Marsh Grammar in 2024.

Mrs Sally Savic - Head of Junior School (Woodlea) & Lisa Foster - Head of Junior School (Maddingley)

Woodlea Prep Lady Northcote Camp



The Woodlea Preps embarked on their Prep Day Camp at Lady Northcote and had a fantastic experience engaging in a variety of activities. Students had the chance to try their hand at archery; using their bows and arrows to target with precision. They constructed shelters from sticks, logs and leaves; gaining an understanding of the significance of providing cover. The students also took part in yabbying, using their string on a reel to lower into the lake and employing a net to capture yabbies. Our most successful group managed to secure an impressive haul of 24 yabbies. To conclude the day, they had a go at canoeing; learning the art of scooping water to navigate in a specific direction. The Preps enjoyed a splendid day of team-building, resilience-building and thriving in an outdoor environment. We express our gratitude to Ms McMahon for arranging a fantastic day for our Preps to enjoy before they embark on their journey into Year One.



Prep Woodlea Team



A glimpse into Junior School Physical Education

This term, students across Years Prep-Two have thoroughly enjoyed developing their fundamental movement skills and coordination, through a variety of engaging balance activities. They had fun exploring static and dynamic balances using a range of equipment.

Students will finish off the term revising all key concepts and skills that they have learnt throughout the year.

Mrs Chantelle Estlick – Teacher



Year 1 Woodlea

On Friday 27 October, Woodlea Year One students attended their Day Camp at the stunning Anglesea Beach. It was a day filled with laughter, fun, teamwork and unforgettable memories for our young explorers.

As soon as we arrived at the beach, we ate our snacks and students were divided into class teams, each represented by bright face paint in the colours blue, green, orange or purple. The enthusiasm was infectious as they proudly wore their colourful face paint for the day.

The day kicked off with exciting running races and relays. The children cheered each other on as they dashed towards the finish line. The students ate their lunches while enjoying the sunny weather and the sounds of crashing waves.

Throughout the afternoon, Year Ones rotated through an array of fun activities on the sand including a thrilling treasure hunt in the sand, a long jump challenge, a sand sculpture construction contest, a cometball throwing event, and many more engaging activities.

Year One teachers were proud of our students' sportsmanship throughout the day and their representation of our school values within the wider community.

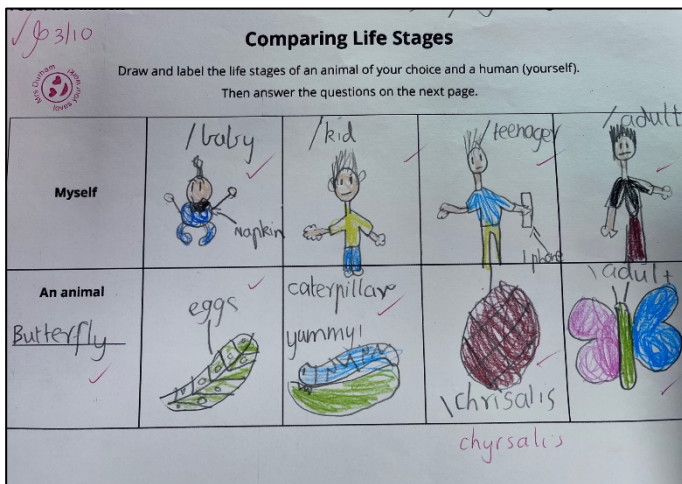
As we returned from our adventure-filled day at the Anglesea Day Camp, it was clear that our students had experienced something truly special. Not only did they participate in exciting activities but also developed teamwork skills and created lasting memories with their friends.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the teachers, camp staff, YMCA staff, parents and leaders who made this day possible. Your dedication and support ensured that our Year One students had an extraordinary day!



Woodlea Year 1 Team





Year 2 Maddingley

What a busy term it has been in Year 2! The students attended their first overnight camp at Sunnystones. Despite the trying weather conditions experienced by some of the classes, the teachers were impressed by the resilience, kindness and support demonstrated by the students as they all participated in new and sometimes unfamiliar activities.

This term, the students have been investigating the largest group of animals on Earth, insects. Students researched the life cycle of insects, their common features and investigated the differences between social and solitary insects. They have explored ways that insects can be both helpful and harmful to the environment.

We have also travelled back in time to explore the Ancient Greek civilisation. Students have enjoyed reading Greek myths and learning about the main gods and goddesses who live on Mount Olympus. Students explored the differences between life in ancient Athens and Sparta and compared it to their own lives. Many of our female students were dismayed to learn that in ancient Athens girls were unable to attend school or play sport and had to learn to cook, clean and sew. Similarly, many of the boys were not impressed that in Sparta, young boys had to leave their families and complete twenty-three years of army training.

We are very impressed with the new knowledge and vocabulary our students are learning through these units.

Mrs Ashleigh Durham - Head of Year 2 (Maddingley)

2023 ICAS Assessments

ICAS certificates have now been circulated by the Administration team.

For those students in Years 2 to 6, certificates were distributed by classroom teachers on 31 October and 1 November. For students in Years 7 to 10, certificates were posted from the Maddingley Campus on Friday 27 October.

These certificates contain a log in code for parents to access their child's results portal.

We thank families for their patience.

Mrs Casey Ryder – Executive Assistant: Maddingley

Woodlea DAV Debating Competition

At the Woodlea Campus, we have two teams participating in the Debating Association of Victoria's Junior School Debating Competition held this term. Students collaborate with their team and begin preparations for topics in the Debating and Public Speaking Co-Curricular. Students then travel to Williamstown for the debating competition on set Tuesday evenings. Thus far, students have enjoyed a training session and a mock debate by staff at the DAV, and they have also participated in two rounds of debating in quick succession. Over the two rounds, both teams experienced victory and defeat competing with the teams from Bayside College and Footscray High School.

In both debating evenings, our students showed excellent academic skills in relation to their understanding of current issues in society, high level public speaking skills, and fast thinking and improvisation skills. They also displayed remarkable interpersonal skills including teamwork, responsibility, flexibility and understanding. It has been a pleasure to watch the following students represent BMG Woodlea and I look forward to the final round where our teams compete against each other.

Mrs Lee Tadic - Coordinator: Debating and Public Speaking 9 to 12



Indoor Rowing achievement on a Global Scale!

Congratulations go to the following students who have achieved some of the top 500m rowing times “in the World” for 2023. Based upon their rowing times set during Tuesday lunchtimes, the following are truly “making waves” in their respective categories.

- In Year 5, Charlie Metcher achieved a Global Ranking of 16th in the U12 Female category, with a time of 2:31.7
- In Year 8, Mikayla Tito achieved a Global Ranking of 45th in the U18 Female category, with a time of 1:53.2
- In Year 10, Ella Sedge achieved a Global Ranking of 35th in the U18 Female category, with a time of 1:51.0
- In Year 11, Matthew Harbison achieved a Global Ranking of 45th in the U18 Male category, with a time of 1:33.5

Rowing takes place every Tuesday in the gym and now can be seen on the big screen. Why not come down and have a go and see if you can also break the top 50 in the world rankings.



Mr David Gorton - Director of Student Engagement

Student Leader Mock Interviews



As a part of the student leadership program at Woodlea campus, current leaders had the opportunity to participate in mock leadership interviews for applicants for 2024. This wonderful opportunity was a positive experience for both interviewer and interviewee alike.

Sehaj Mata, 2023 Literacy Leader, provided this commentary on the mock interviews:

In Term Four, staff organised practice student-leader interviews to prepare the younger students for their

upcoming meeting for potential leadership roles in 2024. These meetings were a chance to help the younger students prepare through the guidance of current student leaders at the school.

Over the period of two weeks, current leaders helped to develop the skills of students in Years 3 and 5. On Thursday the 19 October at lunchtime, we began by interviewing the Year 5 students who were applying for Year 6 leadership roles for 2024. Then, on Thursday 26 October during lunchtime, we met with the young students from Year 3, and provided feedback on their practice interview performance.

Some questions that we asked were: 'What does leadership mean to you?', and 'Why are you applying for this role?' I believe that this coaching provided by the interviewers greatly benefited the interviewees, as many of the students came into their interview hesitant and unsure of themselves, and went out looking proud and determined. However, this experience did not only aid the interviewees, I also learned how to interview effectively, how to coax out the best version of the students and how to give proper feedback.



Mrs Sarah Hunter - Deputy Principal: Head of Middle Schooling

Bus Update

Monday 6 November 2023

No Private Buses will be operating Monday 06 November due to the Mid Term Break. Students sitting a VCE exam on this day will be required to make their own way to and from school.

PUBLIC BUS TRAVELLERS

It has been brought to our attention by Bacchus Marsh Coaches that there are a lot of students travelling on public bus services without a MYKI card or credit on their MYKI card. It is compulsory for all students who travel on a PTV bus to pay with their MYKI. Any student boarding a bus at BMG without a MYKI or credit on their MYKI could be refused travel and parents will be called to collect their child/ren from the school. PTV inspectors are boarding buses over the coming weeks to check students are travelling with a valid MYKI card. Students who are travelling and have not tapped on can be issued with a fine of up to \$340.00.

Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator

Exam Timetables

Semester 2, Years 7-11 Exam Timetables can be [found here on Schoolbox](#).

2024 Term Dates

The 2024 Term Dates have been published on the [school's website](#).

Events Calendar

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

Uniform Shop

Uniform information and shop business hours for both the Maddingley Campus Onsite 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. Upcoming Term Break and Vacation Care information features at the end of the newsletter.

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

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THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP FROM THE GREATER BALLARAT BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THIS INCREDIBLE SPECTACLE ALLOWS CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS OF DIVERSE ABILITIES AND BACKGROUNDS TO EXPERIENCE ASTONISHING MAGIC AND ILLUSIONS, HILARIOUS COMEDY AND MIND-BLOWING BALANCING AND JUGGLING ACTS! ENJOY AN INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND FLEXIBLE ENVIRONMENT WITH A RELAXED ATTITUDE TO AUDIENCE NOISE AND MOVEMENT.

*ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY, INCLUDING FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS.

*ONE TICKET PER PERSON IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY.

*BULK AND INDIVIDUAL TICKET ORDERS FROM SCHOOLS, ORGANISATIONS, FAMILIES AND CARERS ARE WELCOME, INCLUDING TENTATIVE BOOKINGS.

*AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS UNTIL BOOKED OUT.

IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND THE LIVE SHOW, FREE UNLIMITED AND ON-DEMAND VIDEO STREAMING WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE LIVE SHOW DATE.

FOUNDERS THEATRE, FEDERATION UNIVERSITY, MT HELEN CAMPUS

FRIDAY, 1ST DECEMBER 2023

@ 11AM & 6PM SHOWTIMES

TO BOOK YOUR COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS,
PLEASE EMAIL OR TEXT YOUR TICKET ORDER AND CONTACT DETAILS TO...

✉ MEREDITHNEWMAN@SHOWINTENT.COM.AU

☎ 0404-367-782



Community News

Dromkeen Illustrators Exhibition



Dromkeen 2023 Between the Pages

An exhibition featuring the picturebook
art of children's writers & illustrators

*Leigh Hobbs, Ann James
Gabrielle Wang & Mark Wilson*

Opening November 12 12.45pm to 3pm

Mark Wilson's new picturebook *Caroline* will be launched during the opening by Cristina Pase, Managing Editor at Windy Hollow Books

followed by refreshments & book signing

At 2pm, Mark Wilson will hold a Workshop for children of all ages...

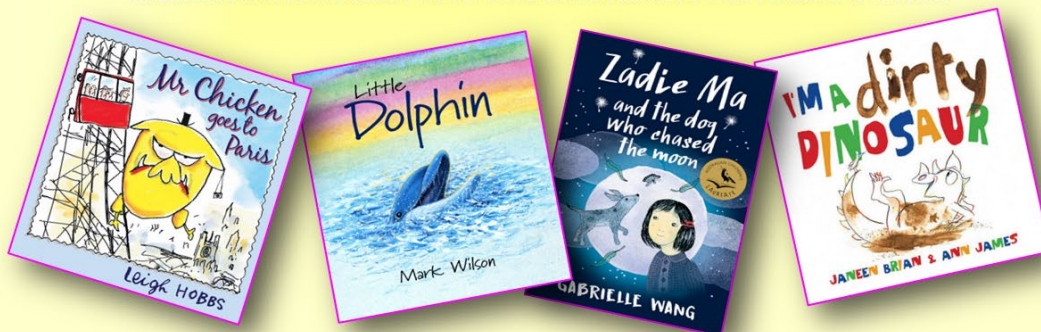
'Drawing our Wild Creatures'

RSVP to opening and Workshop at: bernadette@dromkeen.com.au

The exhibition continues to April 28, 2024

Original illustrations, prints and books are for sale

Dromkeen Homestead: 1012 Gisborne/Kilmore Rd. Riddell's Creek





HOOK IN 2 HOCKEY

at Darley Primary School

Join us for six weeks of fun!

**Every Wednesday from
8 November - 13 December**

Ages 5-8
4:45pm - 5:30pm

Ages 9-12
5:30pm - 6:15pm

Spots filling quick, register today!

Register here:

bit.ly/Hin2HDarley23



