College Principal's Report

Student Leadership
One of the many important things we foster at Yarra Hills is the opportunity for students to exhibit and experience leadership. Leadership can come in many forms and does not just have to be about being a College Captain or other School Leader. Leadership involves the student not only taking responsibility for themselves and their actions, but also actively trying to positively influence the actions of others. Over the last fortnight I have again had the pleasure of seeing this in action at many levels. We had Student Leaders proudly representing our College community at ANZAC Day commemorations, sending a strong message to the local community of our values Respect, Endeavour, Achievement and Pride. We also had a large group of students attending our College Music Camp, with the older members actively leading and mentoring those new to the program in how to develop as musicians. We also had several sporting events, including the College Cross-Country, where students lead by example in striving to achieve their personal best in challenging situations.
Finally I’d like to specially acknowledge two of our students, Jess Foley and Annabelle Smith, who last weekend participated in the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), which is a 2-day program simulating sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN). This was held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber of Parliament House and involved the girls representing a member country, Syria, while investigating and representing the views of that country as they debated selected UN resolutions.

All students involved were asked to dress in clothing appropriate for the represented country and their culture. Of the 39 school teams involved, Jess and Annabelle were runners up in the ‘Debating & Public Speaking’ category and also received the Rotary District Governor’s Award for their ‘Listening & Responding’ (thinking on your feet) skills.

This was a fantastic experience and a wonderful result for the girls, one that we are extremely proud of as a College. Well done!

Darren Trippett
College Principal

From the Mooroolbark Campus Principal

It is hard to believe as I put together my report for the newsletter that we are at the end of Week 4. These first few weeks of term have gone so quickly but have also been so busy both in and out of the classroom. It is a time when our students should be working hard across the school to complete and be up-to-date with work. Over the next few weeks, teachers will begin writing Semester 1 reports. I have been reminding teachers to alert parents about any concerns they may have with ‘at risk’ students, to give those students time to catch up on overdue work.

The day prior to the last newsletter we had just completed the Mooroolbark Campus Open Night. It was a great success and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our students who participated and helped on the night. We had students helping in all of the Learning Area displays, our senior music ensemble played on the night, members of a drama/dance classes performed, and we had many senior students including Vice-Captains and Peer Support Leaders assist our Year 7 Ambassadors with the running of school tours. Our College Captains, Chelsea Solomon and Mitchell Wilson along with two of our Year 7 Ambassadors, Liam Maher and Jordan Stanfield also spoke about their experiences of Yarra Hills at the Information session. They spoke very well and we are proud of their efforts. It is so heartening to see students involved in school events and be such great ambassadors of the school to our local community. I would also like to thank Ben Callaghan, one of our Year 8 students who developed a fantastic video of our college from an aerial perspective using a ‘drone’. We were able to show case this at our Information Session.
It has been a great 2 weeks to celebrate all we do so well with co-curricular programs.

Firstly, I was able to join several staff and our College Captain and Vice-Captains for the Lions Club Anzac Day service at Hookey Park in Mooroolbark on Saturday April 25. Fittingly with light rain falling, our College Captains Chelsea and Mitchell did a reading/prayer, and our Vice Captains Justin and Caitlin laid a wreath. It was a solemn occasion where we remembered the 100th anniversary of soldiers landing at Gallipoli during the World War 1. Federal Member for Casey Mr Tony Smith personally thanked our students for their input into the service.

Secondly, I would like to mention our sporting success. We had success in our Senior Sport last Monday, with the Senior Boys soccer team winning through to the next level of interschool sport. We wish them every success as they compete in the zone finals in the next couple of weeks. It is so great to see so many of our students competing in Junior, Intermediate and Senior teams in a variety of sports over these last couple of weeks and in the weeks to come. We had our Cross-Country on Monday May 4, and we were lucky enough to have a fine afternoon. All of our Year 7-10 students, and some of running enthusiasts in the senior school took part during Period 3 on the day. Teachers are so grateful for the great majority of student’s enthusiasm and willingness to have a go at all levels of sport.

Thirdly, I had the opportunity to go to Portsea on Thursday April 30 and see our Music students playing, rehearsing and having fun on the annual Music Camp. I would like to thank Richard O’Toole our Music Director and the team of staff who attended and work so tirelessly with the students.

Darren Trippett, our college Principal, has made mention also of 2 of our Year 11 students, Jess Foley and Annabelle Smith and their involvement and success at the Rotary MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) at Parliament House over last weekend, May 2 and 3. They were both tremendously successful and put so much time and effort into the event. They did both the Yarra Hills College and the Mooroolbark Campus proud.

Greg Cowan
Mooroolbark Campus Principal

From the Mt Evelyn Campus Principal

Well I think our run of good weather has finally ended and winter is slowly creeping in. It is always a highlight to see students shine whether it is in public speaking, being Ambassadors for our school or excelling in the classroom. The last few weeks have certainly been a great example of this.

Music Camp
I was fortunate to attend the Music Camp at Portsea last week. With over 70 students attending the camp, this was always going to be a busy one! More news on the camp in the Instrumental Music Coordinator’s article later in this newsletter.

Mindfulness comes to Yarra Hills
Students were treated to some hot chocolate as well as a treat for their minds with Leigh James and Jayne Lauder running mindfulness activities at lunchtime last Tuesday. It was very well attended with students walking away a little more aware of the importance of looking after their mental health.
Grade 6 Information Evening at Mt Evelyn Campus

With over 200 people in attendance, Mt Evelyn Campus really put on a good show! The classrooms were all open with many static displays while students were participating in activities and assisting our Primary visitors to participate. Other Ambassadors took tours of people throughout the school, giving them all an insight to Mt Evelyn Campus. In our formal presentation Chloe Robertson and Braden Woolridge gave a great speech of what it was like for them settling into Yarra Hills. Then Liela Peterson and Kira Franken gave their perspective of secondary life. I was so proud of all our students and congratulate everyone for their effort in showcasing our campus.

Robyn Dew
Mt Evelyn Campus Principal

Open Night - English Lego Competition

Thank you to all the students and families for attending the Yarra Hills Secondary College Open Night. We would like to congratulate two winners for the Lego Competition as part of the English display. They created the winning slogans ‘Anything is possible’ and ‘Creating real life with your own hands’. One was from Coldstream Primary School and the other from Gladysdale Primary School.

We found their slogans to be catchy and engaging. These features are all part of a successful advertising campaign. Congratulations once again.

Rebecca Fletcher
KLA Leader and Literacy Coordinator

On 25 April, Mitchell and I had the privilege to represent the college at the Lions Club of Mooroolbark Anzac Memorial, held at Hookey Park in Mooroolbark. As a part of our captain duties we where honoured to read the prayer, remember and reflect on all those who lost their lives for our country. This continued on from The Journey Of Remembrance presentation held last term.

Chelsea Solomon
School Captain

A note from the Coordinators:

A friendly reminder to all students and parents as we enter the chilly season that our uniform policy applies to all students before and after school, as well as during school hours. It can be tempting to cover up with additional layers on these cold days, however, it is important to remember that whilst our students are in public, they are representing our school community. It is therefore important that our students wear their full school uniform at all times. Students are permitted to wear extra layers underneath their school uniform for extra warmth as long as these layers are not visible – for example, no hoodies.

Robyn Dew
Mt Evelyn Campus Principal
The Impact of Road Trauma

On Monday, Pam from the Road Trauma Services came to speak to us about safe driving and her personal experiences with dangerous driving. She told us about the accident that her youngest son, Tim, was in, and the impact it had on her, her family, his friends, and a lot of the people around them. She told us that she got the call that Tim had been in an accident, from her oldest son, Chris. Tim, his best friend, and a few other mates had been driving around Chirnside Park, and were doing burnouts. Tim had been cautious when getting in the car, but did so anyway. Peter had been driving, and lost control of the car on Maroondah Highway, after possibly being cut off by another car. The car fish tailed before hitting a tree. The hit had been to the passenger side, where Tim happened to be sitting. The car ended up basically wrapped around the tree.

When Pam got the call from Chris, she went straight to the scene. It was all taped off, and police, ambulance and fire vehicles were present. She tried to run to the car to see Tim, but the police wouldn’t let her through. Tim was taken to hospital where he was in ICU on life support for 5 weeks, and hospital for a total of 3 months, and rehab for another 5. He was then an outpatient for another 18 months. All this, and Peter only had a broken arm. Tim and his family were very upset, because Peter only came and saw Tim in hospital 3 times, but it was later revealed that he couldn’t cope with the guilt, stress and shame of having done that to him. Peter and Tim have remained friends, but it has never been the same since the accident. Chris spent every day beside Tim’s bed hoping and praying for him to survive. He still suffers PTSD to this day.

The message Pam was trying to get across is that the pain doesn’t stop after the injuries have healed. The event can stay with you for years, if not forever. It effects more than just the people directly involved. The choices you make should not be the reason for someone else’s suffering.

Beth - Year 10

Music Camp 2015

This year’s Music Camp was held at the Portsea Camp, with 70 music students enjoying the summer-like weather, activities such as the giant swing and flying fox, a walk to the beach and of course band rehearsals. The 3 day camp is such a great opportunity for our Year 7 musicians to get to know the older musicians, who are brilliant in mentoring the younger musicians.

At all hours of the day, music could be heard right around the camp, with the Senior, Intermediate and Junior Bands practising throughout the day, and into the evening. The highlight of the camp was the massed band, where all 70 musicians were playing together for a combined rehearsal.

Thank you to all students for their efforts during the camp, and to staff members - Skye Cameron, Virginia Stacey, Chantelle Mitchell, Matt Sheaves, Cathy Bruce, Chris Cameron, Danny Madden, Rachael McLeod – for their support during the camp.

Richard O’Toole
Instrumental Music Coordinator

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Beth - Year 10
SPORTS REPORT

Off and Running

The annual school house Cross Country Run was conducted on Monday 4 May under blue skies and bright sunshine and the Mooroolbark Campus had a high participation rate in each of the age groups. The 3 kilometre course around the local bike paths and streets proved to be a challenge for some of our competitors and many had to slow down for a bit of a breather along the way. But there were some great results achieved on the day.

The fastest boy was Lachlan Kilpatrick in the 14 Year age group with a time of 11.22, followed by Tristan Hudson 17+ age group with 11.40 and then Shane Jackson 15 Years in a time of 11.52.

In the Girls Events the fastest home on the day was Brittany Jackson in the 12/13 age group with a time of 15.17 followed closely by Kaitlyn Blennerhassett with a time 15.20. The Third fastest time went to Jasmine Rowe in the 15 Year division with a time of 15.59.

Congratulations to the top 8 runners in each age group who will now represent Yarra Hills In the Yarra Group Cross Country event which will be conducted on Tuesday 26 May at the Lillydale Lake Circuit. Good Luck!

House Cross Country Mt Evelyn

Our House Cross Country was held during period 4 on Monday 4 May. It was a sunny day with high student participation. The following are the first 3 placegetters in each of the age groups:


After the points were tallied up from both the Mount Evelyn and Mooroolbark Campuses the final placings were 1st Blue Dolphins 1858 points, 2nd Gold Eagles 1751 points, 3rd Green Dragons 1607 points and 4th Red Back Spiders 1414 points.

Year 7 Sport

Well done to all students who have competed in the Year 7 Sport program this term. We have had a number of teams participate in the Yarra Group round robins in Boys Tennis, Girls Tennis, Boys Cricket and Girls Cricket with some very good results:

Our Boys Cricket finished 1st and managed to win their round robin and have progressed through to the Eastern Zone finals - congratulations boys.

Girls Tennis finished 2nd and the Boys Tennis finished 3rd overall, an excellent effort for their first interschool sport representing Yarra Hills Secondary College, we have some very talented sports persons among our Year 7 cohort we look forward to seeing them participate further in our sporting program, and I am confident that they will reap the rewards of their efforts in the near future, well done.

Year 7 Sports Coordinator
Senior Sport

Congratulations to all year 11 and 12 students who participated in the Yarra Group Round Robin sports events. Senior sports is coming to a close with only the Boys and Girls Badminton and the equal opportunity sports to be completed. We have had a quite a number of students involved in the program with some very good results as follows:

**Boys Table Tennis “A” division finished**
1st - progress to Eastern Zone Final

**Boys Soccer “A” division finished**
1st - progress to Eastern Zone Final

**Boys Tennis “A” division - finished 3rd**

The Boys Basketball “B” division - finished 2nd

We have had a number of students who did a fantastic job coaching our teams, special mention for Dean Garner, coaching the boys’ basketball and Rachael Hincksman who coached the Girls Netball, thank you very much for your participation. To the many staff and visiting teachers who volunteered to coach and manage our Senior and Junior sports teams - the players have appreciated your coaching and assistance, as have I, so thank you all very much your continued support.

Senior School Sports Coordinator

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**Guitar/Bass Guitar lessons:**

The Music Department has some vacancies for any students wishing to learn the Guitar of the Bass Guitar. Lessons are held once per week on a rotating timetable at each Campus. There is a $25 cost per lesson, which is paid to the Campus Office, usually at the start of each term. Please contact Richard O’Toole via email at otoole.richard.j@edumail.vic.gov.au if your son/daughter is interested in learning.
Welcome to the Mooroolbark campus Library news column where you can read and learn about all things “Library”.

In this week’s newsletter I thought I would like to talk you about what has been happening in the Library. Both Mrs. Jan O’Sullivan and myself are busy cataloguing and processing the many books that have been donated to us since the fire at the former Cambridge campus, where we lost our entire collection. This meant that we had nothing to bring over with the merger of the campuses. However, many many people have been extremely generous by donating books to us so we can rebuild the Library collection. So from the Library staff and in particular the students, we would like to say THANK-YOU very much for your generosity.

Also a special thank-you to Oliver Herrmann who generously donated his collection of Lemony Snicket books to the Library. We gratefully accept these books as this was one collection that we had lost due to the fire at the former Cambridge campus.

merci beaucoup どうもありがとうございました asante sana grazie mille Thank-you very much!

THE TOP FIVE!
There are many books in the Mooroolbark Library however some books are proving to be really popular and are borrowed again and again and again....
So the top five books that are most popular from the Library so far this term are:

1. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins  COLL (DYS)
2. Star-crossed by Frances Kelly  KELL (LOV)
3. Frostbite by Richelle Mead  MEAD (SGS)
4. Jump by Sean Williams  WILL (DYS)
5. People’s Republic by Robert Muchamore  MUCH (MSD)

May the books be with you...

Ms. Alison Hay
Teacher-Librarian
On April 20, our Year 11 History class visited the Holocaust Museum in Elsternwick, as part of their studies of 20th Century History – Social Life in Nazi Germany. This is what our students had to say about this engaging and moving experience:

‘After our excursion to the museum, I found myself reflecting upon the day with sentiments of both enlightenment and sorrow. It was incredibly humbling and I feel personally privileged to have been able to share in the stories of those effected most by the atrocities committed by the tyrannous Nazis in the second World War.’

Annabelle Smith

‘At the museum our class had the chance to speak with, and listen to, a man named Joe who was only 17 years old when the Germans invaded the Netherlands. I think what struck me most is that he was my age when his mum died and his dad was taken to a concentration camp. He was all alone and had nobody he could trust as he couldn’t ask his friends to help as they couldn’t even be trusted not to turn him in – all for being a Jew.’

Gabby MacDonald

‘My favourite part of the museum was an exhibition called ‘Besa’. It was about Muslim Albanians who took in Jewish people during the Second World War Their stories inspired me – the generosity and compassion shown by this religious groups of people made me think not all religion is bad.’

Lara Jamieson

‘Inside the museum there are quotes from Jewish people who experienced the Holocaust. One of them really showed me how brutal and painful their experiences were. Titled ‘The beginning, the end’, it read:

All the worlds’ roads, all the outcries of mankind, lead to this accursed place. Here in the kingdom of night, where God’s face is hidden and flaming sky becomes a graveyard for a vanished people.’

Jordan Ginniff

‘All in all, it was a magnificent excursion for it infused interest and learning with horror and disgust while capturing an element of joy and happiness - because of the solders that fought for it to stop, for those who survived, and for my family and I and everyone else who still have their lives.’

Anneliese Webber

‘It’s very touching that there were people who had to go through such a traumatic experience all because of one person who was unaccepting towards difference.

Leoni Caltieri
Supporting our Young People in an Online World

We are holding an information session for parents on:

Wednesday 22nd July 2015
7pm – 8.30pm @
Mount Lilydale Mercy College
120 Anderson Street, Lilydale
RSVP: Monday 20th July, ph: 9735 4022

Join in the discussion with an ACMA Cybersmart expert.
Arm yourself with the knowledge of ‘what’s trending’ and how to assist your child navigate safely online.

FREE EVENT – TEA & COFFEE PROVIDED

www.cybersmart.gov.au

TALKING TEENS
AN OPPORTUNITY TO CALL IN, ASK QUESTIONS, MEET OTHER PARENTS AND SHARE IDEAS THAT WORK!

- Do you wonder why they aren’t listening to you or how to deal with their anger?
- How do we talk so they will listen?
- Do you want to maintain a connection with them?
- Take some time out for parents

WHERE: Anglicare Victoria
47 Castella Street, Lilydale
WHEN: Monday May 18 - June 15
7pm – 9pm (5 sessions)
WHO: Dads, Mums & Carers of teenagers 12-18 years
COST: FREE (bookings essential)
CONTACT: Helena at Parentzone
9735 6134 or 0488 501 204

DRUKE
Dandenong Ranges Ukulele Festival
Burriinja Cultural Centre
29–31 May 2015

FEATURING
Tomoki Gato (Japan)
Paul Iacono (NZ)
Lucy Weis (Aus)
Sarah Carroll (Queen of Bellarine)
Alex Burns (Aus-UK)
Amie Brouillette (France... almost)
Matthew Fagan (Aus)
with
Ukelele Groups, Competitions, Workshops, ‘Woman in Uke’, Stalls and more.

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