From the Acting College Principal

It is always at this time of year that I inevitably get a comment from a friend (who is not in the teaching profession) that goes something like this…. ‘You must be starting to wind down now with your senior students finishing up and classes coming to a close.’ I always have to bite my tongue and politely tell them of all the things still happening at school for students and staff!

I do want to acknowledge the efforts of students and staff. Students are busy finishing final assessments, preparing for exams and getting ready to transition up to the next year level as part of our Promotions Program. Many of our year 8 students will be heading off to Camp, as we try the new beach camp at Waratah Bay in Gippsland. Of course we will also celebrate the achievements of our students at our Awards night next Monday 28 November. This year with the bigger numbers, we have moved into the main theatre at the Karralyka in Ringwood. It promises to be a great night of celebration. We also welcome our new year 7 students at both campuses, starting with Small Schools Day, Parent Information Evening and Orientation Day.

Year 11s

Our year 11s started their Essentials (Year 12) program and it was great to see students working hard on their Unit 3 studies, both in class and during their study sessions. I am very excited about the commitment and high standards they are setting already. I urge them to complete their holiday homework over the break and be ready to begin the start of 2017 fully prepared and up-to-date.
From the Acting Mooroolbark Campus Principal

Valedictory Dinner
It was great to celebrate the milestone of the completion of Secondary School with our year 12 cohort of 2016. To be able to recognise their efforts in front of family friends and their peers was fantastic. I do want to thank Karen Phillips, Carolyn Bryant and Sharon Phillips for their efforts organising the evening.

I would also like to thank Karen Phillips and Carolyn Bryant for their work on the Senior School over the last few years. They have both made decisions to step down from their respective roles for 2017. I want to acknowledge and thank them for their tireless work and dedication to senior students at the college. Welcome to Brenton Millott who will be the new Head of Senior School at the college from 2017. He joins us with a wealth of experience in student management and VCE teaching. He will be joined by Courtney Jordan, who will be the Year 11 & 12 Coordinator.

I want to make special mention to all the staff, students, parents and supporters who took part in the Relay 4 Life event on the weekend of 12 & 13 November. I was lucky enough to witness our students being such great ambassadors of the college in wet and windy weather. Thank you to Virginia Stacey who organised the event.

Greg Cowan
Acting College Principal

Year 12 Valedictory Dinner
On Friday November 18 I joined 270 invited guests, staff, parents and most importantly students to celebrate the end of thirteen years of schooling for our 2016 year 12 students. The night was a celebration of the efforts and achievements of the young adults pictured below. We wish them all health and happiness as they embark on the next stage of their life journey and look forward to catching up with them in the future to hear about the excitement that we are sure their futures will hold.

Examinations at Mooroolbark
Exams for students in Years 7 -10 commence next Monday November 28. Students in Year 7 & 8 will complete their English exams on Monday and their Maths exams on Tuesday. Later in the week they will also complete their on demand testing to provide information for teachers during the promotions program. Year 9 & 10 students will complete examinations from Monday November 28 until Thursday December 1. Parents are asked to ensure that students have all resources required for examinations.

Examining Caneat

Report Writing Day will be on Friday December 2. There will be no scheduled classes on this day as staff will be completing correction of assessment tasks and examinations. Parents are reminded that all required work for assessment should be submitted before this day.
Year 9 Advance

As part of the year 9 Advance curriculum students are required to be involved in a community project. The Advance class had discussions on how to participate in the community and this generated the idea of developing a community vegetable garden and outdoor classroom.

A timely meeting with Mr Peter Giddings of the Mooroolbark Lions Club enabled plans regarding this project to take shape. After meeting with Mr Giddings and a conversation with our Acting Principal Mr Greg Cowan, the Mooroolbark Lions Club were happy to make a significant contribution to the project. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Yarra Hills Secondary College and in particular the Advance students, to thank Mr Peter Giddings, Mr Rob Wyatt and the Mooroolbark Lions Club for their generosity. We look forward to working with you.

Encouraging a community partnership with the Lions Club, students who participate will gain valuable benefits working as a team enhancing problem solving skills and becoming more civically engaged.

The Advance students have already shared their respective garden drawings ideas and selected the top 5 drawings which were placed in the main staff room for staff input. The final concept drawing was drafted by Caitlyn Good which incorporated a combination of the top five student designs.

The area will consist of 6 grow beds, 4 purpose built benches with seating to accommodate 40 students, and the possibility of shade cloth for shading. This will be situated outside D-Building Foods area. The outdoor classroom area can be utilised across all Key Learning Areas but will have particular interest for Science and Food Technology.

Students have already commenced some work on the project by relocating the bamboo shrubs which currently occupy this area.

An opening ceremony will be organised on completion.

David Audesho
From the Mt Evelyn Campus Principal

Last Friday I was fortunate enough to attend the Valedictory Dinner for our year 12 students. When our year 10s leave us to begin their VCE or VCAL studies, we enjoy hearing about their successes. For those staff who teach on both campuses are often lucky enough to still our students from time to time. The Valedictory dinner is always such a beautiful celebration of what these students have achieved. I often reminisce when I see our students, all grown up, of their time when they started with us at year 7. Next year we will have our new year 7s and wonder will I still be here when they graduate in 2022!

A Remembrance Day to remember!

Every year as a campus we acknowledge Remembrance Day. We had several students who represented Yarra Hills at the Mt Evelyn Remembrance Day ceremony. Gaia Mitting read the list of fallen soldiers who came from Mt Evelyn whilst other students laid wreathes on behalf of Yarra Hills and David Smith. Back at school we took advantage of our wonderful ANZAC garden to hold our own ceremony. Robyn Johnston gave students a great understanding of the importance of remembering those who gave their lives in previous wars. It was a solemn occasion and I was so proud of our students and how respectful they were.

How clever are our students?

I just love hearing about the successes of our students and this week I learned about two students.

Ruby Barber managed to earn herself a scholarship to the Northern College of Art and Technology. Congratulations Ruby! We are so proud of you.

Caleb Barkway enjoys archery as a hobby and recently won gold for his age group in the 2016 club challenge. He has won several medals over the last two years with his best effort coming 6th in the state and 15th in the National competition. Caleb needs to fire his arrow 145m which takes a great deal of concentration and skill. Congratulations Caleb, this is a fantastic achievement!

A busy end of year ahead!

There is so much in place for students between now and the end of the year. We have a letter with a timetable to explain what’s happening to hopefully make it easier for students and families. This will be given to students this week and emailed home for families. Please take the time to read this to become familiar with your child’s very busy timetable.

A request for uniform

If your child has grown out of their uniform or you no longer have use of the uniform and it is in good condition, please consider donating it to the school. We would really appreciate it for families who struggle to purchase uniform. If it could be laundered and handed into the office that would fantastic. Thanking you in advance.

Robyn Dew
Mt Evelyn Campus Principal
Victoria Police concerns around harm occurring to young people

Dear Parents/Carers of Students

I am writing to inform you that we have received information from Victoria Police about local ‘pop-up’ parties and social gatherings being organised via social media which are unsafe for the young people attending.

These parties are being hosted in private homes, abandoned buildings and public halls across south eastern and eastern Melbourne.

Victoria Police acknowledges that many young people are also attending safe parties. However, Victoria Police has made a number of recommendations to ensure young people can safely attend local gatherings:

- Talk to your children and be mindful of where they are
- Be vigilant around monitoring all of your child’s social media accounts (consider there may be multiple accounts) and look online at any events your child wants to attend;
- Investigate any party your child is attending, and be satisfied of where your child is and who they are with. If a party location is unknown one or two weeks prior to a party date, this may be of concern.
- Underage alcohol drinking and drug use is not recommended.

Students with any wellbeing concerns or issues they are encouraged to speak to our wellbeing officer. If you have any information that may assist police, phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

If you are concerned that your child has been the victim of a sexual assault and may require support, please contact Centre Against Sexual Assault on 1800 806 292.

Anthony Raitman | Area Executive Director | Outer East North Eastern Victoria | Regional Services Group

Year 10 Driver Education

Year 10 Driver Education students recently completed their ‘Driver Instruction’ sessions at the METEC driving complex in Colchester Road where they learnt how to drive manual vehicles and to develop their ‘on road’ driving skills.

Most of the students started out with low rated driving standards during the first week, as for many it was their first experience at driving. The driving ability and skill awareness improved in each of the students during the second week. They were able to obtain greater confidence in handling their vehicles and successfully obtained higher results with their driving skills.

Well done!

Murray McAllister
Mt Evelyn Community Market

July 23  
August 27  
September 24  
October 22  
November 26

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Mooroolbark Soccer Club's
FAMILY CHRISTMAS &
EARLY REGISTRATION DAY

Date  
December 11th

Time  
11AM to 3PM

Place  
Esther Park

JUMPING CASTLES, FACE PAINTING, SAUSAGE SIZZLE,  
LOLLY BAGS AND A VISIT FROM SANTA.

2016  
Miniroos $190  
Sub Junior $320  
Junior $400  
Senior $500

2017  
$230  
$360  
$440  
$500

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT FOR 2017 FEES
Pay In FULL During the December Registration Day and Pay 2016 Prices

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Early Payment of Fees also ensures your Child's Top is ready before the season starts.

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St Peter Julian Eymard Primary School
FAMILY TWILIGHT FAIR

Saturday 26th November 2016
12pm - 7pm
Reay Road, Mooroolbark

★ Rides 12 - 7pm  
★ Pony Rides 12 - 5pm  
★ International Hot Food  
★ Wine & Beer Tent  
★ Cake Stall  
★ Face Painting  
★ Jumping Castles  
★ Market Stalls  
★ Raffles & Prizes  
★ Live Entertainment  
★ Community Showcase  
★ Kids & Family Activities  
★ Show Bags & Snowcones  
★ Devonshire Tea

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With thanks to our major sponsors:
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter, Compass contact and phone if necessary. Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day. As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website: yarra.hills.sc.vic.edu.au and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan. Other forms of social media will also include updated information.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.

For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.