With the school year in full swing – Term 2 already upon us, I thought it was time to bring you up to date with what’s happening with Student Wellbeing at Mordialloc College. As you know, we place a strong focus on encouraging students to achieve their personal best and as a College we strive to have the best teaching and learning in place to enable this. Evidence tells us that students who are happy and feel a sense of connectedness to school are better placed to be able to achieve their personal best. We are therefore extremely happy and proud of our outstanding ‘attitudes to school data’ that places us well above the state average, indicating that students are feeling happy and connected to Mordialloc College.

The Student Wellbeing Team consists of myself, Jenny Muir – Adolescent Health Nurse and joining us this year is Andrew Austin – Chaplain.

Jenny works at the school two days a week and is involved in a variety of curriculum activities around the topics of mental health and sexual education. She continues to run the Respect group on Monday lunchtimes with a keen group of students, promoting the celebration of all areas of diversity in our community. In a few weeks the group will organize and celebrate Rainbow Day – (International Day against Homophobic and Transphobic Bullying).

During Andrew’s two days a week at the College one of his areas of focus is meeting with all new students shortly after they arrive. We are aware that arriving at a new school can be challenging in many ways so Andrew helps to ensure new students are settling in well, making positive connections with students and ensuring they are aware of the wellbeing supports available in the school if required.

Last week Andrew organized a New Students Lunch – a great opportunity for them to meet the staff and other students. It also provided some valuable feedback to us regarding what was helpful for new students to the school and what they recommend we could do to ensure all have a positive transition to our school. Student Wellbeing hosts a breakfast club that operates on Wednesday mornings before school. All students are welcome to come along and share breakfast together, a great way to start the school day!

“Drumbeat” is a new program that we have been able to offer to a group of Year 8 students this year. It is a ten week program that uses drumming as a way of introducing a number of topics including relationships and communication.

As an addition to the Wellbeing Team we also have some valuable connections with other agencies and organisations. We are fortunate to have Janet, a Youth Support worker from Kingston Youth Services, join us each Wednesday to meet with students. Janet will also be facilitating a series of lunchtime activities for Year 7 students later this term.

Brooke, a psychologist with Engage One on One Psychological services, is at the school each Tuesday and is available to see students.

Please feel free to contact me anytime to discuss the different support services we have available at the College as part of the wellbeing program and the wide range of agencies we have links with in the community.

Mrs Dianne Douglas
Director Student Wellbeing
1st **Green House** - 577 points  
2nd **Red House** – 550 points  
3rd **Yellow House** – 524 points  
4th **Blue House** – 513 points

**Age Group Champions for House Cross Country**

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<td>Jamie Lee</td>
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<td>Bridget Cameron</td>
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**Male**

| 12-13    |     |     |     |     |
| Samson Melatua  |     |     |     |     |
| 14        |     |     |     |     |
| Alex Alford |     |     |     |     |
| 15        |     |     |     |     |
| Kyle Du Plessis |     |     |     |     |
| 16        |     |     |     |     |
| Joel Davis |     |     |     |     |
| 17-20     |     |     |     |     |
| Jack Simm |     |     |     |     |

**SRC Fund Raising**

The SRC in conjunction with the student council raised $2000 for the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal during Term 2. We held BBQs at both the Swimming and Athletics carnivals as well as the SRC Easter raffle, which was drawn at Parent Teacher Interviews. We would like to thank everyone that bought from us and gave money for charity, the teachers who donated chocolate for the Easter raffle and everyone who helped out during the SRC events.

*Blake Hamling, Vice Captain*

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**Important Dates**

**May**

- **Thursday 8/5**  
  - VCAL Career Expo
- **Friday 9/5**  
  - Y10-12 French Play “Cher Trésor”
- **Saturday 10/5**  
  - VCE Top Arts
  - SEAL entrance exam 10-12 noon
- **Monday 12/5**  
  - Y8 Camp Phillip Island 12-14
  - Y10 Work Experience all week
- **Tuesday 13/5 - 15/5**  
  - Y7 and Y9 NAPLAN
  - Y12 RACV Seminar
  - Music Camp 20-22
- **Thursday 15/5**  
  - Y10 Top Arts
  - Senior Round Robin
- **Friday 16/5**  
  - Y12 History Seminar
  - Y9-12 UN Youth Summit
- **Tuesday 20/5**  
  - Y12 RACV Seminar
  - Music Camp 20-22
- **Thursday 22/5**  
  - Y12 Business Yakult Factory
  - Y9 Art Dreamworks
- **Friday 23/5**  
  - Y10 Health/PE Jump Factory
- **Monday 26/5**  
  - Y9 Community Placements
- **Tuesday 27/5**  
  - Y7-10 French “Berthe Mouchette”
- **Friday 30/5**  
  - Y8 SEAL Sovereign Hill
  - Y9 SEAL Point Nepean

**June**

- **Monday 2/6**  
  - Y11 Exams 2-6/6
- **Tuesday 3/6**  
  - MEX Info night
Camp Awakenings

I had the opportunity to attend the Rotary Camp Awakenings during the school holidays. Four Year 9 students from Mordialloc College joined 150 students from many different schools. The activities I most enjoyed were the Giant Swing, Archery and the many night games. One night we were crawling in sand to a check point where we did sit-ups, push-ups and sprinting to a finish line while getting soaked in water — it was fun!

There were a number of talks organised on a range of topics which were really interesting. After the camp we came back for a ‘Recharge’ Day – more fun games and a great opportunity to catch up with all the friends I had made.

I think I came back as a new, improved me!! Thanks to Aspendale Rotary for organising a great camp.

Nikkita Veitch, Year 9

Holocaust Survivor Speaks to Mordialloc College Students

Early afternoon on the 24th of April, Year 11 History students, plus Mr. Shanahan and his parents (who were visiting from America), left the school to go to the Jewish Holocaust Museum and Research Centre, which, in their own words, was made to ‘commemorate the murder of six million Jews by the Nazis between 1933 and 1945’. After taking a series of trains and trams, we finally arrived at Elsternwick at noon, with just enough time to have a quick lunch. At 12:45 we entered the museum and were given a presentation about the Holocaust, trying to impress on us the large amount of people who were killed in the genocide.

Then we met a Polish Holocaust survivor, Szymon (pronounced Simon) , who told us his story as a young child having to live in such cruel conditions. It was truly harrowing, and it was hard for us to keep composed after hearing of so many harsh events. He had been near the brink of death so many times it was almost a miracle he was able to tell us his life story.

Afterwards we had a Q&A with Simon, where he taught us that we should ‘always fight bullies’ and ‘never be passive’, and also that he considered Australia his home now. Next, we went through the general exhibit, where we saw a variety of Holocaust evidence and images. What hurt us the most were pictures of the ‘burial pits’ where they piled Jewish bodies over Jewish bodies and then covered them with dirt.

While not a happy or exciting experience, it was certainly one we wouldn’t have missed. We learnt a lot about how racism and bigotry can cause events like these, how we should always be tolerant, and how we can make sure nothing this terrible ever happens again.

To quote holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel ‘There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.’

William Harrison, Year 11

College Communication

If you are not receiving regular communication by email we do not have your current email address. Regular updates are being sent from teaching staff and Principal Class. Our newsletter and most communication from the College is being distributed electronically.

Please email your preferred email address to: mordialloc.co@edumail.vic.gov.au advising your name and student name so that we can update our records.
Canteen News
Two Week Special
Lunch orders received before 9am will get $1.00 OFF their order.
Monday 12 May - Friday 23 May

Host Families Needed
For New Exchange Students in 2014
There are girls and boys aged between 15 and 18 from exciting countries like Italy, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, Brazil, Norway, Sweden, Japan, Finland, Canada and Austria hoping to come here to study for 3, 5 or 10 months from July this year and stay with a volunteer family that is willing to host and welcome them. If you feel you could do this for them for the length of their stay or even some of it, please contact Klaus Schumann on (03) 97584279 and let me know of your interest.

MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
Searching for a creative outlet? Why not join our art class
ART FOR PLEASURE
A class to suit all skill levels.
WEDNESDAY: 9.30-11.30am
For enrolments & further information, please phone 9587 4534

Dobson’s Uniform Shop at Mordialloc College
9587 0738
Trading Hours
Monday 8.30 - 11.30 am
Wednesday 12.30 - 4.00 pm
Situated off the foyer of the School Hall

All advertising enquiries may be directed by email to mordialloc.co@edumail.vic.gov.au