Dear Families, Students and Community Members,

**Year of Review and New Strategic Plan**

Great schools regularly evaluate their progress. They pause to reflect, undertaking a thorough analysis of the available data to look back on how well the human, financial, physical and information resources of the school have been deployed to achieve the goals and priorities in the school’s strategic plan.

As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, following the accountability cycle set for Victorian government schools, Mordialloc College is up for external review this year. The current strategic plan is for 2013-2016, thus the focus of the review is to reflect on the past three – four years’ data and performance in relation to the goals and targets set in the three broad student outcome areas of Student Learning (Achievement), Student Engagement (including pathways and transitions) and Student Wellbeing; and then work with an external reviewer and peer reviewers to assist us in forming the priorities for the development of our next strategic plan.

Thorough self-evaluation is an essential first step in a broader cycle of performance monitoring and review. As such, the self-evaluation should not be expected to do everything – review and strategic planning will complement it to collectively support the school in drawing on the experience of the past to guide future plans for action.

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The self-evaluation is a significant opportunity for discussion, consultation and feedback across the whole College community, with an opportunity for active contribution and leadership from students, staff and parents.

During the period of self-evaluation we will undergo as a school we will be guided by the following questions:

- What did we set out to achieve?
- What outcomes did we achieve?
- What factors supported or inhibited our success?
- Where might we focus future efforts?

I will be running parent, student and staff forums to gather feedback from all stakeholders throughout the review process, with the parent forum set for Thursday 10 March 7pm in D1. I will provide regular reminders of this in the lead up and I encourage you to attend.

Our school self-evaluation will provide an opportunity for the school community to reflect on our achievements, our strengths and areas where improvement is needed. The self-evaluation and the review process will provide a powerful information base from which we can develop our new strategic directions for the next four year school strategic plan (2017-2020).

Emergency Management Plan

I am sure most people are aware of the spate of hoax threatening phone calls to Victorian schools over the first few weeks of school. Our school has not received such a call but I wanted to inform you that, like all schools, we have an emergency management plan in place for situations like this, and we practise it throughout the year. Those schools which did receive a threatening call enacted their emergency management plans and they worked well. The safety and wellbeing of our students is always our top priority. We always hold a practice evacuation drill early on in Term 1 so all of our new students (especially in Year 7) and staff are made aware of the process to be followed. In light of the current climate we don’t want to cause unnecessary stress so I am informing the community that we will be holding a practice evacuation next week.

Student Planner

A reminder to parents and students about the use of our student study planner as a valuable organisational tool to support learning and an important means of communication between school and home. Students should take their planner to every class and keep it graffiti free and tidy. Students should record home study, important dates e.g. upcoming excursions and due dates for class work. Teachers will use the planner to inform parents about matters of importance within their specific class. I ask that parents check their student’s planner on a regular basis.

School Production

This year, we are again very excited to welcome back former student and school captain, Josh Mulcahy, to lead our College production of “Hairspray” with the assistance of Kelly McConville, Adelle Stevenson and Demis Danoudis. The production was launched at our whole school assembly on Monday 1 February with the return of a number of former students to perform one of the songs from the show. This was another wonderful showcase of the sense of community that prevails within our College, with their preparedness to undertake rehearsals together here in the lead up. Auditions for our current students are happening this week.

Information nights

On Tuesday 9 February the VCE Year 11 and 12 Parent evening was held where parents and students heard from our Year 11 Coordinator, Robyn Wilson, on the expectations for this year level, Director of Senior School, Shelley Muir, on expectations and requirements of VCE, Year 12 Coordinator, Tim Randell, on support for our students, Kevin Osborne on statistical moderation, scaling and the ATAR and Jane Jamieson, our Pathways coordinator. Thanks to Shelley for organising the information evening with the assistance of the Year Level Coordinators and all staff who attended to meet the parents.

On Thursday 11 February the Year 7 Parent information evening was held in the Year 7 Learning Centre. This was an opportunity for parents to be introduced to the key features of the Year 7 program (structure of a typical day, communication with home group teachers and leadership team, the iPad program, home study, learning tracker, Compass, google docs, and assessment). Thanks to Director of Middle School, George Tzimourtas for organising this night along with Year 7 team leader Alice Leppin, and the home group teachers and members of the leadership team for their support and attendance to work with the parents on the night. We had a positive attendance with so many new families to our school starting in Year 7 this year and there was very much a positive vibe about their child’s start at Mordialloc College.

Tonight, (Thursday 18 February) we are holding our Year 8 information evening. Again this will be an opportunity to meet the key teachers for Communication and Discovery, and the home group teacher for each class. Parents will be taken through the main aspects of the Year 8 program in the EZ (Enquiry Zone), the high expectations that have been set around uniform, behaviour and work ethic and the structure of a typical day and week with the inclusion of a range of specialist
classes. Thanks to Year 8 team leader, Lauren McIvor, for the organisation of this night.

**Year 7 Camp**

Two weeks ago the Year 7s headed off to Camp Rumbug for a three day camp. The aim of the camp is for students and teachers to get to know each other better and for team building. Students had the opportunity to participate in a range of adventure type activities. Thanks to the following staff who attended: Daniel Williams, Tim Wischusen, George Tzimourtas, Meaghan Baker, Katie Talerico, Laura Gorman, Alice Leppin, Courtney Wills, Bibi Peerbux, Liz Evans, Loretta Ilott, Lana Paten, Ewan Slater, Jen Roep and Jenny Muir. Thanks to Year 7 coordinator, Katie Talerico for organising the camp and the Year 7 team for their support of our new cohort of students into Year 7. It was the first year we took along some Year 10 Peer Support leaders and they were a great addition working alongside Jenny Muir with the Year 7 students.

*Ms. Michelle Roberts  
Principal*
**Personal Best** - Work to the best of your ability. Pursue excellence, try hard and constantly seek to improve.

**Integrity** - Be true to yourself by doing what is right. Be honest and trustworthy.

**Respect** - Treat everyone with equal consideration. Be accepting of others and their differences.

**Responsibility** - Be accountable for your actions. Contribute positively to the school and wider community.

We want to share the special achievements of our students at Mordialloc College with our school community. If your son or daughter has accomplished something special outside school in an activity, hobby or sport, please let us know by email: paten.lana.n@edumail.vic.gov.au and we will acknowledge this in our College newsletter.

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**Respect**

Nikkita Veitch: working well in a team and supporting class members

**Integrity**

Jason Pereira: working well in a team and supporting class members

**Personal Best**

James Gott: working hard to achieve outcomes and vast improvement in effort and accountability

**Responsibility:**

Cooper Vallis: taking initiative to contribute to the College newsletter and participating well in the VCAL program

**Responsibility:**

Jake Watson: taking on a leadership role in the shelter-making challenge

**Responsibility:**

Patrick Turnbull: taking on a leadership role in the shelter-making challenge
World Safety in Relationships Day

On Tuesday 16 February Kingston Youth Services conducted a lunchtime activity, promoting safety in relationships. As part of this, the students voted on the qualities they found most and least attractive in a relationship. The ballots were then collated and the top five results were:

**Most Desirable** | **Least Desirable**
---|---
Honest | Cheating
Funny | Stuck up
Happy | Moody
Trustworthy | Dishonest
Committed | Bossy

This sent a very powerful message to young people that it is who the person is and their personality and behaviour that makes them attractive rather than physical features. It also sends home the message that everyone likes to be (and needs to be) treated with respect!

At the end, Katy from Year 7 and Ethan from Year 8 both won Village Cinema tickets for their participation. Congratulations to them!

Many thanks to Janet, Emma and Marz from the City of Kingston Youth Services for this initiative.

*Jen Muir*
*(AKA Nurse Betty)*
CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef) or the College website: [www.mcsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.mcsc.vic.edu.au)

Eligible families need to lodge a new application every year. You should lodge an application by February 29 to access this allowance.
MORDIALLOC COLLEGE

◊ PERSONAL BEST ◊ INTEGRITY
◊ RESPECT ◊ RESPONSIBILITY
MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

We are currently taking enrolments for our NEW and exciting workshops:

**FACE PAINTING**
Thursday, Feb 25
12.00 - 3.00pm

**FLOWER ARRANGING**
Tuesday, Feb 23
1.00 – 3.00pm

**PRINTING**
Wednesday, March 2
9.30 – 11.30am

For further information, or to make a booking, please phone:
*Mordialloc Neighbourhood House on 9587 4534*

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**MORDIALLOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE BOOK CLUB**

Do you enjoy reading and discussing books over a cuppa?
Then why not join the Mordialloc Neighbourhood House Book Club.
The group meets the second Monday evening of each month.
Books are chosen by member rotation.
Come and join the fun.
For further information, please phone:
Mordialloc Neighbourhood House on 9587 4534

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**News from Chelsea Heights Community Centre**

Still time to enroll for our De-cluttering workshop on Monday 29 February 7pm to 9pm and the 4 week Positive Mind, Positive Future Course starting Thursday 25th February 7pm to 9pm. Both these activities will give you strategies to simplify and bring more calm to your life.

On Saturday 5th March graphic designer James Hawkins will be running a four hour Photoshop workshop, don’t miss this one, places will be limited.

Get fit on Thursday mornings with a calorie burning, Latin inspired Zumba dance workout – your first class will be free! On Wednesday afternoons 1pm to 3pm the line dancing class welcomes beginners to advanced dancers.

Your children will enjoy the fun Wednesday and Thursday childcare sessions and parents will enjoy the four hours of time.

Ring 9772 3391 to book, for more details or our Term brochure, and please visit our website for a full program at [www.chelseaheightscommunitycentre.com.au](http://www.chelseaheightscommunitycentre.com.au) or just drop on by.

*Chelsea Heights Community Centre*
*Beazley Reserve*
*160 Thames Promenade*
*Chelsea Heights 3196*
*PH: (03) 9772-3391*
From September to April in Victoria, when average UV Index levels reach 3 and above.

Check the SunSmart UV Alert every day and protect your skin during the sun protection times (when UV levels are 3 or above), even when you are in the sun for short periods.

The UV Alert is available as a SunSmart app, on the SunSmart website, and in the weather section of the daily newspapers.

During the sun protection times, use a combination of the five SunSmart steps:

- Slip on sun clothing that covers as much of your body as possible.
- Slop on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen liberally at least 20 minutes before sun exposure. Reapply every two hours when outdoors.
- Slap on a broad brimmed hat that shades your face, neck and ears.
- Seek shade.

Further information available at www.sunsmart.com.au
College Values
Student Pledge

“As students of Mordialloc College, we are determined to achieve our personal best, not only academically, but in sports, the arts and in the wider community. We will constantly strive to be the best we can be. We will endeavour to take responsibility for our actions, owning up to mistakes and helping others out when in need. We will be respectful towards all teachers and students, and we will be true to ourselves by being honest and trustworthy.”
Have you ever thought how good it would be to be able to:
Learn what it's like to live in another country?
Learn a new language and experience a different culture?
If you are in years 9, 10 or 11 now
Rotary Youth Exchange can offer this and more.
Contact; Stuart McDonald, ph 0408 388 489
www.ryea.org.au

What’s your dream?

Parlez - vous
ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE?

For further information contact;
Stuart McDonald, District 9810 Rotary Youth Exchange
Tel. 0408 388 489 or Email, stuhoo2000@yahoo.com.au
www.ryea.org.au
Dobson's Uniform Shop at Mordialloc College

Trading Hours
Monday 8.30 - 11.30
Wednesday 12.30 - 4.00
Situated off the foyer of the School Hall
Telephone: 9587 0738

Please note the Uniform Shop is not open during the school holidays.

LIVE WELL WITH ASTHMA
FREE Education Session by the Asthma Foundation of Victoria
Date: Tuesday, 23rd February 2016
Time: 7pm

Parents, Carers & Grandparents, please join us for a FREE one hour education session and learn all about:
- Asthma Triggers, signs and symptoms;
- Asthma Medications and how to administer them properly;
- What to do in an Asthma Emergency;
- Asthma Action Plans.

To book your place, please contact the Centre during office hours.

ASPENDALE GARDENS COMMUNITY SERVICE INC.
103-105 Kearney Drive ASPENDALE GARDENS VIC 3195
Tel: (03) 9587 5955
Business Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9am to 3pm
Web - www.agcsinc.org.au
Email: enquiries@agcsinc.org.au