Dear Families, Students and Community Members,

Successful Open Events

Last week we held two very successful open events for prospective students and parents, with up to 400 visitors to our Open Afternoon in the Year 7 Learning Centre on Saturday 18 April and over 400 visitors to our Open Night to see the whole school in action on Tuesday 21 April. The success of such events is testament to our sense of community where staff, students and parent representatives from our College Council all played important roles at these events. The level of support and enthusiasm from all involved was extremely positive and affirming.

My sincere thanks to the key organisers, Mr George Tzimourtas Director of Middle School, and Miss Jennifer Roep – Assistant Principal. I would also like to thank all staff for their attendance out of school hours for both events and for organising some terrific displays and highly engaging interactive workshops; to all the students who acted as tour guides or assisted with the interactive workshops, they were so proud to showcase their school; and to the parent representatives from College Council, who were very enthusiastic and proud to speak about Mordialloc College to prospective parents. A special thanks to our student speakers in the formal presentation part of the evening. They all did an outstanding job articulating what it means to them to be a student of Mordialloc College. Congratulations to Max Nichols and Natalie Prochazka speaking in their capacity as School Captains; Eboni Kewin and Jack Crowe representing the Year 7 cohort and speaking so well about their experiences to date; Jack Phillpotts and Abby Howard representing the Year 7 SEAL class and Scott Kingsbury, Imogen Kane and Hannah Blavo representing the Year 10 SEAL class and speaking at the SEAL presentations.

Please see the feedback summary page containing lots of positive comments from prospective parents later in this newsletter. Congratulations to Matthew Taylor, a primary school student, who won the $75 Myer gift voucher, one of many who went into the draw for completing the learning journey passport on the night.

On Thursday 23rd April we held the SEAL entrance exam and we were again overwhelmed with the interest in this program and very high calibre of applicants.

Cross Country

On Wednesday 22 April the College Cross country was held on a cool but dry autumn afternoon. Congratulations go to Iwala (Red house) on their great win, closely followed by Yerlonga (Blue house). It was a terrific contest between the four houses and shows how important it is to participate to the best of your ability whether running or walking the course. Congratulations to Sports Coordinator Tim Wischusen for his excellent organisation of this event, all students and staff for their positive involvement during the afternoon.
Anzac Day Assembly
On Friday 24 April, the College held a whole school assembly to recognise Anzac Day and to commemorate the 100th year of the landing at Gallipoli. This was run by our school captains and middle school captains, including the readings and PowerPoint presentation. They did a wonderful job and I congratulate all students for their exemplary behaviour during the assembly.

NAPLAN: National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy
On the mornings of Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May all students in Year 7 and 9 will be sitting the national tests in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation and Numeracy. It is important that students treat these tests seriously and strive to achieve their Personal Best.

The results will be used to:
- help teachers identify students who require greater challenges or additional support
- help the College identify strengths and, if any, gaps in teaching programs and to set goals in Literacy and Numeracy
- provide additional feedback to students and parents about individual achievements and progress

All parents of students in Years 7 & 9 will receive a NAPLAN report on their child’s progress later this year. The report is only one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and does not replace the more extensive and informed judgements made about your child by teachers.

Ms. Michelle Roberts
Principal

Parents Victoria Online Conference 2014-2015 (Part2)

PARENTS from all Australian states and territories, and from countries beyond Australia, are warmly invited to participate in the second half of the Parents Victoria Online Conference 2014-2015 from 18 May to 21 May. The conference will be held entirely on the internet and there is no cost for participation.

Register for this event, at no cost, at: http://www.straighttothepoint.co/pv/register/

Conference program - Six topics, with associated message boards, will run for four days:

ACCESS TO EDUCATION. What has been the greatest impact on your family getting your children back to school this year? Possible examples: cost of uniforms, BYOD, no EMA, location of school, moving schools.

PARENT CLUBS. Is there still a role for parent clubs/associations in schools? Does your school have a club? If not how is the parent voice heard? How can schools encourage parents to get involved? How can we ensure that parent groups are representative of the school community?

SOCIAL MEDIA. We often hear only the negative side of social media use, what are the positives? How is social media being used in your school? Do the students use it? Does your parent group have a Facebook page? Jump on board and leave your thoughts about the use of social media in the school environment.

ONLINE REPORTING. Many schools are moving to online reporting. What do you think about this change? How do you receive your child’s report? Do school reports provide you with the information you want and need to monitor your child’s progress at school? What could be improved?

FUNDING EDUCATION. What should the Government pay for? What, when and how should assistance be provided for disadvantaged students? Additional funding should be directed towards providing additional support for students with learning difficulties.

ADDITIONAL OPEN FORUM & CAREER & PATHWAYS GUIDANCE. An extra discussion message board has been provided to give you an opportunity to raise other education issues you believe are also important. If you choose to start a new thread, please add an appropriate subject heading so other participants can follow the discussion. For those of you who wish to express an opinion on Careers & Pathways Guidance, which has emerged as an area of concern, the following questions might be considered: Are our children being given enough advice and guidance about their possible careers and the pathways that lead to these careers? What more could schools do to assist students eventually realise their full potential in the employment market?

Note: There is no need to re-register if you already registered to take part in the October 2014 section of the online conference.

To view the first half of the online conference (from October 2014), please log on to: http://www.straighttothepoint.co/pv/conf14-15/program/

Conference protocol
* Please note: In the interests of courtesy and privacy, the name of your child, your child’s school, and names of school staff (or identifying details) should not be entered on to the message boards. Please refer to your own context as ‘My child’s school’, ‘My local area’, ‘My child’s teacher’, and so on. Please email Parents Victoria at: office@parentsvictoria.asn.au should you wish to discuss private, parent-related issues in more detail.
**Homestay Families Required!!**

As part of our International Student Program we are responsible for sourcing quality Homestay providers for our international students.

This is a great opportunity to develop an understanding of different cultures and contribute towards a positive experience for our international students. Having your own child attending the school is a great benefit for the experience of the international students. We are currently requiring a Homestay family living in the local area who could host a student.

If you are interested in becoming a Homestay family please contact me on 9580 1184 to discuss further.

*Mrs Diane Douglas,*  
*Director of Student Wellbeing*  
*International Student Coordinator*

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**Premiers’ Reading Challenge**

The 2015 Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open. Students have until mid September to read 15 books and need to pick up a consent form from the Hub so that they can be registered.

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**Important Dates**

**April 2015**
- Thursday 30: Equal Opportunity Sports Day
- Y11 Top Arts Folio Viewing

**May 2015**
- Friday 1: Immunisation Y7&9 students
- National Youth Forum
- Monday 4: Y8 Camp Phillip Island 4-6
- Y11 Biology excursion
- VCAL Barista Course
- Tuesday 5: Y12 Media Top Designs
- VCAL Barista Course
- Wednesday 6: Intermediate Round Robin & Senior Table Tennis
- Thursday 7: Y11/12 Sleep for Wellbeing & Performance Seminar 1:30-3:00 pm
- Y11/12 VCAL Careers Expo
- Friday 8: Y10-12 French Play
- Wednesday 13: Y8 Coastal Excursion
- Tuesday 12: Y7 & 9 NAPLAN 12-14
- Wednesday 13: Y12 Ensemble Performance Night
- Thursday 14: Senior Round Robin
- Friday 15: Y12 History Seminar
- Monday 18: Finance Meeting
- Tuesday 19: Music Exchange Camp 19-21
- Thursday 21: Y12 Business Management excursion
- School Council Meeting 5.00pm
- Friday 22: Y11 History - Jewish Holocaust Centre
- Wednesday 27: Big Day In - Careers IT
- Thursday 28: Y7-10 Berthe Mouchette Poetry Competition
It is the year of the Anzac Centenary and therefore it is important we take time to remember those who have sacrificed themselves for the freedom of Australia in times of war. In light of this, Mordialloc College has taken the opportunity to participate in multiple commemorative ANZAC occasions including the Student Representative Council excursion to the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne to attend the annual student ANZAC ceremony on Thursday 23 April. Over 3000 students from Victoria and 20 Mordialloc students took part in ceremonial activities such as learning about the history of the ANZACs and the importance of mateship in our national identity, a minute’s silence, listening to the Last Post and singing the National Anthem. Along with this, a wreath laying ceremony was conducted by representatives from each school there, including College Captain Max Nichols and College Vice Captain and SRC Leader Shae MacBryde. Others in attendance included the Governor of Victoria the Hon Alex Chernov and his wife as well as the President of the Melbourne branch of Legacy Mr Ian Harrison. Along with the commemoration of ANZACs, we celebrated the 84th year of Legacy, a fantastic organisation which aids family and loved ones of Australians who have given their lives for our country. All those who came along behaved fantastically, in full respect of the occasion, and gained a lot from the experience.

As well as the SRC excursion, on Friday the whole school participated in an ANZAC assembly which reminded everyone of the importance of 25 April and what it means. The assembly was led by student leaders who recited readings such as the requiem and the ode and read poems such as ‘In Flanders Fields’. We also observed a minute’s silence and listened to the Last Post, finishing it off by singing along with the vocal group to the National Anthem. On ANZAC morning, College Captain Max Nichols and Vice College Captain and SRC Leader Shae MacBryde attended the Chelsea dawn service to represent the school and participate in a wreath laying ceremony. The service allowed an amazing turnout of locals to show their respect for fallen soldiers and their loved ones and remember the history of Australia that allows us to live freely today.

Over these three occasions, Mordialloc students have shown a great deal of respect for the ANZACs and appreciation of what they have given us. Thank you to Ms Campbell for organising this year’s SRC excursion and Mordialloc’s participation in the Chelsea dawn service. May we all take time to remember the meaning of mateship in our lives.

Lest we forget.

Shae MacBryde
SRC Leader and College Vice Captain
Parent Feedback from Open Night 2015

- Such a well run night. Perfect!
- Great job- well done
- Interesting, had fun.
- The interactive activities were great.
- Liked the Science & Hub areas. Great night. Thanks.
- Helpful students & teachers.
- Tour of the school was great. Gave us lots of ideas of what high school is about.
- Approachable staff; students responsible.
- Atmosphere positive. Daughter is very keen to come here
- Whole person approach came across tonight
- Amazing! Yay!
- Excellent
- The guides were well spoken and kept the group moving to all rooms on time.
- The College has a great vibe and the students and teachers were warm and friendly. Thankyou!
- Very informative and well done. Good to see all the areas.
- I was very impressed with the students, layout and the vibe of the school, the classes you conduct and the facilities. Thankyou.
- Very informative opening address by the Principal.
- Great concept getting students involved
- Great being able to speak to the students. We could have spent hours more here.
- We found the experience easy. Plenty of room and time at each area. The activities excited our son who is now excited to come here. Thankyou for making it easy.
- It was a great pleasure to come to the Open Night. It started the minute I saw the building. A very impressive school with a lot to offer to students and their future. Keep up the great work! Thankyou Mordialloc College.
- Excellent tour guides. Amazing teachers. The kids loved to see all of the different buildings. Great job!
- This is a great school. It was really enjoyable and a fun place to be. I hope I can come here.
- I think tonight was AMAZING; the preparation was BRILLIANT.
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.”

Cross Country Hall of Fame

A new payment option

The new Qkr! app is now live for families of students at Mordialloc College. Qkr! by MasterCard can be downloaded for free from Apple’s app store for iPhones (iPads should download the iPhone app) or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets. After downloading the app and registering, simply scan the QR code on the left using the Qkr! Code scanner or type MORDIALLOC after tapping the magnifying glass in the top right of the home screen of Qkr!, and then the app will always recognise you as part of Mordialloc College in future to make payments even easier. You can pay for all College activities/electives and charges right now using Qkr! to make payments immediately, so why not download it today and take a look at our school on Qkr! - all feedback to the school office is very welcome.

SCAN THIS CODE ON Qkr!

Mordialloc College staff and students share and proudly demonstrate our agreed values of:

Personal Best
Integrity
Respect
Responsibility