Dear Families, Students and Community Members,

Every day counts – School Attendance

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study. Evidence shows that young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes and better employment outcomes.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they will have missed more than a year of school. Not only impacting academically, missing school can also affect students socially, impacting on their relationships with other students.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teachers and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teachers or Year Level Coordinator and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your Year Level Coordinator as early as possible. If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your Year Level Coordinator know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Principal’s Update

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 as 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 production of “Guys and Dolls” with the assistance of Kelly McConville, Demis Danoudis and Nigel Maas. The production was launched at our whole school assembly on Monday 2nd 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 a number of rehearsals together here in the lead up.

Auditions for our current students are happening this week.

Information nights

On Tuesday 3rd February the Year 10 information evening was held for parents to welcome them to the senior school and inform them of the expectations we have of our students in this sub-school. Attendees also received information about our compulsory work experience program and the link to Unit One.

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Industry and Enterprise, a subject all our Year 10 students complete. Parents also received information about the Year 10 camp to Queensland in August. Thanks to Amelia Hargreaves, our Year 10 coordinator and Shelley Muir, Director of Senior School, for running this evening and the teachers who were able to attend to meet the parents.

On Tuesday 10th February the VCE Year 11 and 12 Parent evening was held where parents and students heard from our Year 11 Coordinator Robyn Wilson about the expectations for this year level, Director of Senior School, Shelley Muir on expectations and requirements of VCE, Year 12 Coordinator, Justin Wischusen on statistical moderation, scaling and the ATAR and Jane Jamieson, our Pathways coordinator. There was also a separate information session for our VCAL students and parents run at the same time. 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 12th 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 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 huge attendance with so many new families to our school starting in Year 7 this year and there was very positive vibe about their child’s start at Mordialloc College.

Tonight, (Thursday 19th 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.

**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: Alana Singh, Daniel Williams, Tim Wischusen, George Tzimourtas, Matina Karamanis, Benita Hughes, Meaghan Baker, Katie Talerico, James Evans, Loretta Ilott, Janine Danckert, Lyn Butler and Jenny Muir. Also Di Douglas and Jen Roep spent one day at the camp. Thanks to Alana Singh for organising the camp and the Year 7 team for their support of our new cohort of students into Year 7.

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**Important Dates**

**February 2015**
- Thursday 19
  - Student Leadership incursion
  - School Council Meeting 5pm
  - Y8 Information Night 6pm
- Friday 20
  - Y9 Advance Snorkelling
- Monday 23
  - Y7 & Y10 Immunisation
  - Senior Golf and Lawn Bowls day
  - VCAL Gunnamatta Ocean Outfall
- Tuesday 24
  - Y11 PE Anatomy Excursion to Monash
  - School Photos
- Thursday 26
  - House Swimming Sports

**March 2015**
- Tuesday 3
  - VCAL Sustainability - Brunswick
- Wednesday 4
  - Y12 Luna Park Physics Day
- Thursday 5
  - Literature excursion
- Friday 6
  - Kingston swimming
- Monday 9
  - Labour Day Public Holiday
- Wednesday 11
  - Y9 Advance Surf Camp 11-13
- Thursday 12
  - Y9-12 French Film Festival
- Friday 13
  - Kingston Swimming
- Monday 16
  - Y8 French Film Festival
- Tuesday 17
  - Y11 Elevate Seminar
- Thursday 19
  - Intermediate Round Robin
  - Y7 French Film Festival
  - School Council AGM 5pm

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**Year 8 Parent Information Night**

**TONIGHT - 6pm**
Mordialloc College

House Swimming

Friday 27th February

All students to participate – wear PE uniform or house colours!!

Remember: Bring permission form, bathers, broad brimmed hat, sunscreen, lunch, snacks and drinks.

Parents & Carers Marquee

An open invitation to parents & carers of the Mordialloc College community to join us at the House Swimming Sports from 10.00 am onwards.

Refreshments provided

Carnegie Swim Centre
Moira Avenue
Carnegie

Contact Mrs Diane Douglas 9580 1184

ALL STUDENTS MUST TRAVEL TO SWIMMING ON COLLEGE BUSES

Book Fair

Monday 2 March - Thursday 5 March

Parents and friends are welcome to drop into the Hub between 8am and 4pm (2.30pm on Tuesday). There will be books for all ages – from pre-reading to adolescent fiction – and a wide range of stationery items.

- Books for all ages and interests
- Fun stationery
- Lots of prizes

Books make great Easter presents!!
Biology Excursion to GTAC

Fresh back from holidays the budding biologists of Year 10 and 11 headed off to GTAC to learn all they could about cell structure and function. This is what they learnt from the experience:

**Cameron** ....where all the organelles are, new functions and where they are in the cell.....

**Maysie** .....How to use a microscope, which helped to see living and moving aramecium eating.....

**Noraine** .....learned the different staining techniques and what benefits it brings in studying cells....

**Jessica** .....That to view a specimen at x1000, oil has to be added to the slide which immerses the objective lens and the specimen....

**Josh** ....that you can identify different organelles by different chemical stains....

**Zeke** .....I learnt how to use 1000x and that GTAC is gnarly!....

**Joel** .....I learnt how to use a light microscope efficiently and Estella taught me so much valuable information. Thanks again Estella!

**Shandi** .....I received a better understanding of the structures and organelles within average cells.....(Plant and animal)

**David** .....I gained a better understanding of cell structure and function and the ability to correctly use light microscopes....

**Ethan** .....I learnt about the steps required to stain a specimen correctly....

Last week, on Thursday 12 February, we went on an excursion to the Healesville Sanctuary to take part in the “Fight for Extinction” programme.

We were greeted by Lisa who gave us an introduction to the Sanctuary and their role in the fight against extinction. Lisa introduced us to some of Australia’s most endangered native animals through an informative slide show.

We were then instructed to meet back at the Discovery Centre a few hours later and, in our groups, present an idea on what we can do to help fight against extinction. During our few hours free time we explored the Sanctuary and met some of our unique native animals.

When we got back to the Discovery Centre we sat in a circle and discussed our ideas and thoughts. We were all full of ideas, opinions and suggestions.

The day overall was a great learning experience and Lisa, our guide, was very informative, enthusiastic and passionate.

_Heather Murray, Year 12 VCAL._
Dobson’s Uniform Shop at Mordialloc College

Trading Hours

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12.30 - 4.00</td>
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Situated off the foyer of the School Hall

Telephone: 9587 0738

FREE STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION
EVENING IN MELBOURNE

Hear from returned students, find out more about discounts and scholarships available and ask questions.

Wednesday, 4th March - 7.30pm
Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens
380 William Street, Melbourne

Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call 1300 135 331 for more information

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Change of Trading Hours

Uniform Shop will be closed Monday 9th March for Labour day and Wednesday 11th March

It will be open Tuesday 10th March 12.30 - 4.30pm and normal trading hours will resume the following week.

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CENTRAL BAYSIDE
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES
ORAL HEALTH SERVICE

YOUR CHILD’S DENTAL HEALTH

Central Bayside Community Oral Health Service is currently offering dental examinations and treatment to children attending your school.

Formally the School Dental Service located at Parkdale, is now part of the Community Oral Health Service.

My child has visited the Oral Health Services (formally School Dental Service) before:

If your child/children has previously been seen by the Oral Health Services or the school dental program you will receive a letter offering you an opportunity to make an appointment when your child is due for their next check-up. In this case, no action is required.

My child has never visited the School Dental Program:

Please contact Central Bayside Oral Health Service on 8587 0350 for an appointment.

Who is eligible?

- Children and young people:
- All children aged 0 – 12 years (fees apply for non concession card holders)
- Young people aged 13 – 17 years who are health care or pensioner concession card holders or dependants of concession card holders

Children who are eligible for dental benefits under the Child Dental Benefits Scheme

Where is the service located?

Central Bayside Community Health Service
Oral Health Service
335-337 Nepean Highway
PARKDALE
Phone: 8587 0350
Entrance is off Carrier Avenue

Find us on Facebook!

You can find Mordialloc College on Facebook by typing Mordialloc College into the search bar, then clicking ‘Like’. If you like us you will receive information about upcoming news and events within your newsfeed - just another way we are improving digital communication within our College community. For more information contact Mrs Lisa Ip.