
OURS

The weekly newsletter of Melbourne High School

Principal's Report

Volume 22, Number 13
Friday 15 May 2009

Marvellous Millgrove

I have had the opportunity over recent weeks to travel to the Millgrove Outdoor Education centre on a number of occasions to participate in the Year 9 camp program. MHS is one of the few schools with the distinct advantage of having its own camp centre which is occupied almost every week between February to November as each Year 9 and 10 form in turn spends a week in the glorious Warburton valley.

Parents and occasionally students ask us what the objectives of the Millgrove program are and whether their son's attendance is compulsory. Sometimes students have reservations about the time away from normal routines. Sometimes parents have reservations about time away from studies and family.

Notwithstanding any reservations, almost every student returns from Millgrove with a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment and most return having learnt important and affirming life lessons that they will carry with them throughout life.

There is a strong emphasis upon team-building and collaboration at Millgrove. By their nature many of our students would prefer to do things on their own and in their own way and believe they gain the best results this way. Unfortunately, this is not the way the world at large works and employers in any field will insist upon well developed, collaborative teamwork skills from all their staff. Sometimes these are skills our students have rarely practised, yet many Old Boys identify their Millgrove experience as foundational in recognising that these skills and

abilities are essential not only in the workplace but life in general.

Every parent knows that a teenage boy can sometimes be blissfully ignorant of the domestic maintenance they require. Long after they have ceased to believe in tooth fairies or Easter bunnies, many seem to assume that every household has an invisible elf whose sole purpose is to pick up after them, wash and mend their clothes, ensure a constant supply of food and generally tend to their domestic needs.

It is therefore pleasing to see that when



required to do so at Millgrove the majority possess quite adequate domestic skills and are quite capable of washing their own dishes and cleaning up their own room. We encourage parents to build up these experiences on your son's return before lapsing back into past habits.

At Year 9, the program also provides a vital opportunity for each form to knit together as a team of colleagues and friends. Our students come from over 200 schools and even by the end of term one many are still feeling out their interconnections with their peers. The Millgrove program is designed to engender a fluid and co-operative dynamic amongst the group as a whole. As students spend over 80% of their class time in the company of their form, this is critical to their future success.

Lastly, the adventure and team-building activities are simply great fun. Without Millgrove many of our students would never experience white water canoeing, caving, trail biking, skiing or high ropes courses and none will ever forget the perils of confronting Mars Bar hill or the Leap of Faith.

This year the bushfire threat has delayed the Year 9 program requiring the Millgrove team to run parallel camps in some weeks to return the program to schedule. This has placed a considerable burden upon this dedicated team who take responsibility for our students 24 hours a day whilst they are in their care.

More than ever before this has given us cause to appreciate how valuable and important the Millgrove experience is and how grateful we should be for the dedication and skill of the Millgrove team who, each week, welcome in a new class, immerse them in a life-shaping program, then send them back to us better and wiser people.

On behalf of the generations of young men they have helped upon their way, we thank them for their devotion and care.

Success of our Students

In what we believe is an unprecedented achievement, two MHS students have been selected as part of the Australian team for the International Science Olympiad to be held in Mexico and Oxford University this July.

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Web:	www.mhs.vic.edu.au

With only thirteen students selected across Australia, for two students to be selected from one school is truly remarkable. Kristijan Jovanoski will be a member of the Australian Biology team and Bill Huang the Chemistry team. Our congratulation to both of these students on such an outstanding honour.

Jeremy Ludowyke
Principal

RISING GENERATIONS 7TH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CAMP

Term 3: July 23-26

Rising Generations is the leadership group that ran the very successful SRC Training Day at MHS on February 27. It runs the National Leadership Camp (NLC), which is a premier leadership training program for young Australians. Each year it brings together up to 200 students (14-18 years) from across the nation.

NLC is officially endorsed by the Australian Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. It receives no government funding and is maintained through the generous support of businesses and individuals who desire to invest in Australia's next generation of leaders.

Rising Generations is again hosting NLC this year at the beautiful Collaroy Conference Centre, Collaroy Beach, NSW (approximately 45 minutes north of Sydney) from 23-26 July, 2009. Supervised transport will be provided to and from the facility for both interstate and local delegates who require transport from Central Railway Station and Sydney Domestic Airport.

Melbourne High School students have attended this camp for the last three years. Some have been invited back as leaders for following camps.

The camp will cost \$430. This covers accommodation, meals, venue hire, bus transportation from Sydney, resource material and all activities during the camp. **Return travel costs to Sydney are extra.**

Please obtain further information and registration materials from Mr Smyth. Students can register for NLC by **completing the registration forms with payment** and returning the completed forms to Mr Smyth. Registrations close June 26.

David Smyth
Assistant Principal

SUCCESS OF OUR STUDENTS

The annual Australian Geography Competition, run by the National Geographic Channel and the Australian Geography Teachers Association, is pleased to announce the outstanding success of Melbourne High School students for 2009.

For the tenth year in a row, the School has been placed first in Victoria, and for the first time reaching second overall amongst all Australian schools.

We are also immensely proud of two individual students, Chris Phillips of Year 10 and Eric Chen of Year 9. Chris has come first in Victoria in the senior level (out of at least 20 000 students) and Eric equal fifth in Victoria in the intermediate level. Chris will be offered a place in Geography's Big Week Out in December in the Perth region with a possibility to represent Australia at the 2010 International Geography Olympiad in Taiwan. This is a great achievement and the Geography Department congratulates these winners, including the many who entered and did so well in the competition.

Raymond Pask
Geography Coordinator

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Parents and Friends group will be serving soup, tea and coffee on Careers Night in the Canteen area, 5.00 - 7.00pm.

We are working hard on Trivia Night and really hope you will book in. It is a great chance to meet other parents and we will seat you with parents with your year level or class.

Karen Connolly
kaconn2000@yahoo.com.au

REQUEST TO PARENTS DRIVING SONS TO SCHOOL

Could all parents who drive their sons to School please observe our requests to drop them outside the School grounds. If all parents drove in to the School's driveways, it would quickly become unmanageable. As well, having less cars in the driveways each day makes it much safer for the vast majority of boys who arrive on foot.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

David Smyth
Assistant Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wed 13 - Sat 16 May *Beauty & the Beast*
(Mac.Rob & MHS Musical)
- Tuesday 19 May Old Boys Career Night
- Friday 22 May Junior Social
- Saturday 30 May Parents & Friends Trivia Night

INTERNET SITE OF THE WEEK

The State Library's Ergo page (www.slv.vic.gov.au/ergo) is a practical guide to studying and teaching history in Victorian schools. It gives students aid in writing essays, finding resources and preparing for exams. The current display includes exploration, convicts, colonial Melbourne and indigenous issues. Also there are numerous original documents and images. A teachers' section gives assistance on the VELS and other curriculum issues.

Richard Wakeham
Library

THE INAUGURAL ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CAMP

1ST - 3RD MAY

Millgrove

The school student leadership team made the short trek east to Millgrove a few weekends back to participate in a long weekend of activities and discussion about the future of the School and the role that student leaders can play. Organised and lead by Will Gort, Mr Ludowyke, Mr Guthrie and Ms Carroll, the camp aimed to create strong bonds and friendship between the leading students and teachers of the School while at the same time discussing the future directions of the School and key issues of change.

The camp proved a great success with many passionate and focused minds coming together to build an atmosphere of immense pride and love for the School. This atmosphere allowed for some in depth discussion about the directions of the School for the future and the role that students will play in the greater development and change that will occur over the next decade.

For many of the senior students, the talks seemed quite arbitrary in light of the brief time they have left at the School, and the limited window of opportunity they have to see these changes played out. However, the camp has lead to an introduction of a legacy that will lead the School through future years which allows for the opinion and voice of the student body to be clear and integral in the decisions made about the future of the School. The structure within which this legacy will operate is currently being discussed by the student leaders. We hope to have it implemented in the near future.

The weekend at Millgrove involved many fun team building activities centred around the camp, like the low ropes course, as well an incredible leadership and public speaking workshop lead by Ms Carroll. Mr Ludowyke and Will Gort facilitated some detailed discussion that lasted many hours.

The exhausting weekend brought together many previously unacquainted students from the leadership group of years 10-12, who, by the end, were interacting as if they had been friends since primary school. The passion, knowledge and legacy of the senior students were imparted upon the younger leaders to ensure an enhanced transition in the future, which will lead to greater outcomes when they take up senior mantles.

Despite all the serious discussion, the camp was a lot of fun and will hopefully be continued for many years to come. We can only hope to see this new passion and knowledge of the students empowered for the betterment of the School and its broader community.

Thanks so very much to all the students, parents and staff who were involved in making the camp a success.

Will Gort
School Captain 2009

MILLGROVE WORKING BEE

Sunday 24 May 2009

The second working bee for the year will be held at the School's Millgrove Outdoor Education Centre on Sunday May 24.

The camp is situated about 1½ hours drive from South Yarra and can be found in Melways at Map 289 A2. The day will begin at 9.00am and go to about 3-4pm.

You are of course welcome to attend as long as best suits you and your family's needs. Please bring any gardening or carpentry tools and working gloves that you may have.

The Millgrove coordinator, Megan Wilson, has compiled these tasks for the working team:

- Construction of new garden beds outside of the toilet block
- Maintenance of garden beds
- Construction of campfire pit
- Clearing gutters
- Cleaning up fallen trees Fencing
- Painting and repair of old cabins
- Removal of weeds

If you are able to attend, please contact the Principal's secretary on 9823 7122 or smithn@mhs.vic.edu.au

David Smyth
Assistant Principal

JUNIOR SOCIAL 2009

22 May 2009

The Melbourne High School Junior Social will be held on Friday 22 May from 6.30pm - 10.00pm. All students who wish to attend should note that this event is a School sanctioned activity and, as such, the following conditions will apply on the night:

- Entry will be via ticket and School ID
- Tickets must be purchased prior to the event
- Entrance will be via the front door only
- Pass outs will not be issued
- It is a smoke free event
- No alcohol or illicit substances are to be consumed prior to or during the Social
- No alcohol or illicit substances are permitted within the School grounds or buildings
- Designated areas of the School building will be out of bounds
- A cloakroom will operate
- Soft drink and bottled water can be purchased on the night
- Good behaviour is expected at all times
- Teachers will be supervising throughout the evening.

Warren Fall
Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT ADVICE FOR

YEARS 9 AND 10

The last due date for homework Assessment Tasks in any subject is **Monday 25th May**. The intention of this deadline is to ensure students are free to dedicate their home study time to exam preparation in the days leading-up to the examination period, which begins on **Thursday 4th June**.

All students will receive, as appropriate to each subject, some exam preparation material well before the exam period.

Students are strongly encouraged to make the best use of these arrangements. Parents are also encouraged to monitor their son's home study over the next few weeks, to help ensure that all Assessment Task deadlines are met and that appropriate exam preparation is undertaken.

Nick Fairlie

PARENTS VICTORIA ONLINE CONFERENCE

18-24 May 2009

PARENTS of primary and secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18 May to midnight Sunday 24 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. **You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part.** Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

Register online at no cost

The Parents Victoria Online Conference 2009 website will open from 6am on Monday 18 May at: http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv1_09/ but please register yourself online first at <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm>

The conference will feature seven 'live' daily online discussions, each of them hosted, for several hours each day, by a member of Parents Victoria or expert staff from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or the VSCA. Each day will focus on a topic that is currently of concern to parents. An online 'resource bundle' of recent online newspaper items related to the day's topic will also be provided as an optional extra to give you a kick-start on each day's discussion.

Also, there will be one continuous week-long online discussion (6am to midnight every day) on the topic: **'What support do parents need to be active participants in their children's learning and development?'**

Janet Prideaux
Assistant Principal

2009 INTERSCHOOL

SNOW SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Location: Mt Buller

Dates: Friday 21st August – Wed 26th August
2009

Skiing events:

- 1) Alpine Giant Slalom
- 2) Alpine Skier Cross
- 3) Snowboard Giant Slalom
- 4) Boarder Cross
- 5) Moguls

- The team will consist of 20 MHS students.
- Accommodation has been booked at Eltham Ski Lodge, located on the mountain, very close to the ski school.
- Every boy must participate in at least 2 events.
- Only boys currently training in a Mogul Squad are allowed to enter the Moguls event.
- Both disciplines of Alpine and Snowboarding may be contested by a student.
- MHS staff are responsible for the students. All team members will stay at Eltham Lodge.
- The team is bussed to and from the championships.
- All meals (except for 2 dinners on travel days) are supplied.
- Meetings for students will be advertised in the daily Bulletin to allow for expressions of interest and for further information to be given.

Ann Chandler (P.E.)
Coordinator of Snow Sports



Parent volunteers needed for a survey on children's everyday activities

The Royal Children's Hospital is looking for parents of **typically developing children/adolescents** to complete a survey on their child's everyday activities. This information will help us understand the needs of children who have had a brain injury.

What would I do?

Complete one 40 minute survey.

The survey asks about your child's everyday activities; for example, shopping, interacting with others and organising leisure activities.

Where & When?

We can meet you at your home or your child's school - whatever is easier for you.
Your child will not be interviewed.

We'd be happy to hear from parents of:

Children between 8 and 14 years old.

Typically developing children (who have not had a brain injury or other problems with development).
At the end of the project, we will give you a summary of the study findings.

Interested ? Want more information ?

Please contact: Ms Vivienne Champness
by phone: 0421 957 651 or by email: vivienne.champness@mcri.edu.au
or return the slip below.

I am interested in participating in the above Royal Children's Hospital project (HREC no: 27104).

Contact person: Ms Vivienne Champness, Research Assistant (0421 957 651)

Parent's name: _____

Child's name: _____ Child's age: _____

Contact number: _____ School: _____

Please return this slip to:

Ms Vivienne Champness

Department of Psychology

Royal Children's Hospital

Flemington Rd, Parkville VIC 3052



FROM THE CAREERS ROOM

MHSOBA: 2009 CAREERS NIGHT



The MHS School community is invited to attend our annual MHSOBA Careers Night on:

TUESDAY 19th MAY

**Careers Expo: Dinning Hall, 5.30pm - 7.20pm (representatives from Vic. & Interstate Universities)
Presentations by Old Boys from 7.30pm till 9.15pm**

Careers Night: Current Presenters List

Accountant	Alan Lasnitzki	Nexia ASR
Actuary	Andrew Samaratunge	AXA Asia Pacific Holdings
Architect 4th year student	Michael Lyon	Billy Kavellaris, KUD
Audio Engineer	Scott Trickett	SBS
Chiropractic	John Adamopoulos	Self Employed
Business - Auditing	Phuong Nguyen	Pitcher Partners
Business - Management	Alastir Galloway	Ellerston Capital
Business - Banking	Aaron Foo	ANZ
Orthodontist	Giles Plunkett	Self Employed
Defence Force:	Peter Murdoch	ADF
Dentist	John Hatzis	Self Employed
Economist	Simon Corden	Victorian Competition & Efficiency
Engineer:	Keith Allilomou	Pioneer Road Services
Engineer - Civil and Management	Stewart Pullin	
Engineer - Electrical	James Hamond	Indice Pty Ltd (self employed)
Engineer – Mechanical Engineering	Nadeera Wimalatissa	
IT -	Paul Chester	IBM Australia
Law - Barrister	Sina Taghdir	Self Employed
Law - Solicitor	David Mckenzie	Septimus Jones and Lee
Law - Solicitor	Robert Pulham	Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Media - TV writer, producer, director	Andrew Sugarman	Self Employed (freelance)
Media - Journalist, ABC	Ryan Sheales	ABC News
Media - Journalism	Gregory Hywood	Tourism Victoria
Medicine - Psychiatrist	Richard Jasek	Eastern Health & Private Practice
Medicine - Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon	Michael B Johnson	Royal Children's Hospital
Medicine: Director Rehabilitation Medicine	Nathan Johns	St John of God, Nepean Rehabilitation
Nurse - Director	Douglas Mill	Western Health
Paramedic	Rohan Anstey	Ambulance Victoria
Physiotherapist	Sriyan Peries	Self Employed
OHS Coordinator	Andrew Billingham	Department of Primary Industries
Scientific Researcher	David Finkelstein	The Mental Health Research Institute of Victoria
Social Work - Policy	Dean Lombard	
Police	Matthew Court	Australian Federal Police
Property - Real Estate	Chris Ewart	Christopher Russell
Pilot	Owen Hinson	Qantas

Soup and a roll can be bought from the canteen. Proceeds will go to our P&F.

Year 12 Tertiary Information Service (TIS)

All Year 12 students will attend TIS on Wednesday 20th May at the University of Melbourne's Wilson Hall at 1.30pm. There will be a panel of speakers who will talk about a range of issues related to tertiary study, especially the application process and transition. Most universities and TAFE providers, as well as some private providers, will be there to offer course advice.



Tertiary
Information
Service



FROM THE CAREERS ROOM

Part-time employment Opportunity at HOYTS

HOYTS Cinemas currently have casual cinema worker positions available at their Melbourne Central location (Cnr Swanston & La Trobe Street). They are looking for young people who are enthusiastic, reliable and committed to providing excellent customer service. No experience required. If you are interested in applying then submit your resume, including cover letter and your availability, to the cinema box office. The next intake is scheduled for Saturday 30th May, 2009.



Wreck, Rock & Ruin: Exploring Careers in Archaeology

The Heritage Council of Victoria presents a National Archaeology Week event that allows students to hear about recent discoveries in Victorian archaeology. The event also includes an open forum featuring archaeologists and other heritage specialists discussing training, trends and careers.



Heritage
VICTORIA



Saturday 23rd May 2009 9.30am—4pm (morning tea provided)
Elisabeth Murdoch Building, Theatre A, The University of Melbourne (Melways 75A, F10)

For further information visit: www.heritage.vic.gov.au or www.archaeologyweek.com.

Defence Force GAP Year 2010

Applications for the ADF GAP year are open between 1st May 2009 till 3rd September 2009. The only way to apply for the ADF Gap Year is to complete an **online application**. During this application you will be asked a range of questions to determine your eligibility and suitability, as well as what sort of Gap Year roles may suit you. This year, the application process will move away from the previous model of 'first in – first served', to assessing all candidates for suitability. Students should apply as soon as possible online at: <http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/Gapyear/>.




DATES TO REMEMBER



Work Experience: the cut off date for Work Experience in the Term 2 holidays is **Monday 5th June 2009, by 4pm**. Students must have organised and submitted information about their placement to the Careers Room (T39) by this date.

Monash Seminar Series 2009:

The Monash Seminar Series continues throughout Term 2. This. All sessions start at 6.30pm. The  **MONASH** following seminars will take place over the next week:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| • Psychology | Monday 18th May | Clayton |
| • Drama & Theatre Studies | Tuesday 19th May | Clayton |
| • Business & Economics | Wednesday 20th May | Caulfield |
| • Engineering | Thursday 21st May | Clayton |

For information and to book online: <http://www.monash.edu.au/study/events/atmonash> or phone: 9903 4758.

Focus on Melbourne:

The University of Melbourne evening seminar series for years 10-12 students and their families continues. The program enables participants to take a closer look at the study options available at the university. The following seminar will take place from 6.30pm-8pm:



Wednesday 27 May **Commerce** - Covering the Bachelor of Commerce and graduate study
First floor, Medical Building, Corner of Grattan Street and Royal Parade

To register or for further information go to: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events/vic/focusonmelbourne.html

Annette Travers
Careers & Work Education Coordinator

For further information on any item above email: annette.travers@mhs.vic.edu.au



STUDENT SERVICES

Seminar - Generation Next - Saturday 13 June

A public seminar aimed at understanding the unique health and wellbeing challenges facing generations Y & Z – and how these challenges can be met.

Topics covered include: drug & alcohol; internet & cyber safety; sex, the media and teenagers; positive parenting; and mental health.

Presenters include: Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (adolescent psychologist), Susan Mclean (cider safety expert) and Paul Dillon (drug and alcohol research and training Australia).

For more information call 1300 797 794 or visit www.gennextseminars.com

USEFUL CONTACT POINTS

Do you know someone who is concerned about family issues, school or social issues, mental health issues, substance abuse, sexuality and many other common adolescent concerns?

Visit: Reach Out - www.reachout.com.au

Information about health, mental health, dealing with family, drugs, helping friends and much more. There is even a place where you can 'scream' your thoughts away into cyber space! Includes a service finder to find services close to you. Be sure to check out the 'FACT SHEETS' as they are an excellent resource.

Visit: Kids Help Line 1800 551 800 www.kidshelp.com.au

Trained counsellors available 24 hours a day. The Kids Help Line is Australia's only free, confidential and anonymous telephone and online counselling services specifically for children and young people aged up to 18 years. There are over 80 professionally trained counsellors able to talk to you. Kids Help Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Web counselling is available between 3pm and 9pm, Monday to Friday and from 10am to 4pm on Saturday (QLD time).

Melbourne High School and The Mac.Robertson Girls' High School
production of



Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Music by
Alan Menken

Lyrics by
Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Book by
Linda Woolverton

May 13, 14, 15, 16 at 7:30 pm
Matinee: Sat 16 at 2:00 pm

Adult: \$22 • Child & Student: \$16 • Family (2 adult + 2 children): \$70

Venue: Memorial Hall • Melbourne High School • Forrest Hill, South Yarra

Book on-line: <http://mhstix.com.au> • phone: 9824 0480

visit our website: <http://resources.mhs.vic.edu.au/beautyandthebeast>