

23rd August , 2019

CALENDAR

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<u>September</u> Wed 4th Thur 5th Fri 20th

Year 7 Melbourne Excursion

Thur 12th China Trip departs Thur 19th Gippsland Athletics

End of Term 3

<u>October</u>

Mon 7th Start of Term 4

Yr 12 October Tests begin **Gippsland Basketball Finals** Mon 21st Tues 22nd SGMP Intermediate Band Day

Wed 30th







As term 3 continues to march on and the weather gloomy now is a timely reminder about the perils of poor mental health and stress that can play out in our young people and adults alike. I was startled to see the latest suicide rates by age group reported by 'Lifemind Australia' a few weeks ago. It was alarming to see that rates of suicide and attempted suicide has spiked by 15% in 2018 on the age group 14-20. More alarming was the high rate of suicide and attempted suicide of persons over the age of 70. Why is this relevant? What does it mean for us here at MNSC?

At MNSC we work very hard to look after students in our care. Many ongoing programs are put into place so that our staff are in the best place to assist students in crisis or under severe stress. On Thursday this accounted for one of those measures where staff engaged in 'Dealing with Trauma and how to Respond'. This is the reason why students left a little early. This highlights an ongoing commitment by the staff of this school to address welfare needs. Previously staff have engaged in programs such as 'Calmer Classroom's' and 'Trauma informed Practice' in recent years.

Add to this the appointment of interim Chaplain, Jim Barratt, Suzie Jacobs (School Nurse) as well as the year level coordinators, peer support programs and mental health first aid and we form a team that addresses the needs of many students in this school.

However, we are the first to acknowledge that we do not know of all of the students who suffer the effects of trauma and stress. It is vitally important that as a parent, these issues are addressed for your children in the form of seeking a mental health plan from a medical practitioner and then finding appropriate support. At MNSC we are happy to assist you to do this or and will always take your concerns seriously.

Our year 9's on top of this are spending a significant amount of time at Strzelecki House (The Mirboo North Aged Care Facility) working with the aged. The significant boost that this gives to not only the residents when they communicate and engage with our students, but also the reciprocal relationship that it creates for our students who get a significant amount of self-esteem making a real difference in people's lives.

The Student Attitude to School survey has been released by the department. The results are not final and are preliminary only. At this point it is fair to say that there has been a small decline in some areas of our student's engagement in school. Over the coming weeks, staff, students and other members of the community will be sought for consultation to see how we can improve these results. It is important to note that in most areas MNSC is still well above the state average.

The School is in the midst preparing the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for the remainder of 2019 and all of 2020. Leadership team members will do this in consultation with stakeholders in the MNSC community. This comes on the back of the work completed by our school community on the School Strategic Plan (SSP) which was finalised recently.

Finally I would like to bid a fond farewell to those students going on the German exchange for 2019. This is always a highlight on the calendar for those involved. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Petra Hopkins who work tirelessly on these exchanges every year. She has now qualified the school for the VRQA program meaning that it runs much smoother and is covered by DET insurance and mitigates risk. This took Mrs. Hopkins many weeks and ensures the viability of this program for some time.

Enchanted Adventure Garden

On Tuesday 30th July the Year 12's travelled to Arthurs Seat to visit the Enchanted Adventure Garden, for some team building and bonding activities. Activities included high ropes course (tree surfing), tube slides, canopy walk and various mazes. Upon their return we ran a session regarding transition, VTAC, Scholarships and SEAS for the VCE students and interested VCAL students and their parents.

Though cold, it was a great day and I think the students enjoyed themselves.

















FORENSIC SCIENCE WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 30th July students in year 9 and 10 were given an insight into the work done by crime scene investigators and forensic scientists. A Forensic Science Workshop incursion was held in the school auditorium where students were presented with a crime scene to solve. They were given information about the suspects and be able to examine the evidence found at the scene. Also on display were the results of tests that were carried out in the Forensic Laboratories to help solve the crime just like a real Forensic Scientist. Students were able put themselves into the role of a Forensic Scientist learning how they process crime scenes to find the vital clues they need to assist a Police investigation. Students learned how fingerprinting, DNA profiling, ballistics, microscopy, trace evidence transfer, gas chromatography can be used to assist in the identification of the murderer. After gathering all the evidence students came up with their suspect. The presenter then tracked through the evidence to show how this crime was actually solved.





















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GERMAN NEWS

We have had a very successful first half of the year!!

The year 9s won the inaugural German play day. A fantastic effort and well deserved for this hard working group.

At the Regional Poetry competition, we won all shields including; year 7, year 8, year 9 and the new group performance category.

Results

<u>Year 7</u> 1st Angus McCarten 2nd Charlotte Pors 3rd Nathan Basarke



Year 8

1st Jett Gundy 2nd Paige Thompson 3rd Oliver Petty Place Paige Anderson



Year 9

1st Alexandra Proctor 4th - 6th, in no particular order Hayden Anders, Casey Marsh and Kacy Naparowski



Group Performance

1st with Jetty Gundy, Paige Thompson, Oliver Petty and Paige Anderson



All students should be congratulated for their excellent performance on the day and they were all great ambassadors for the school. We would also like to thank Club Astoria in Morwell for their continual support of the German language.

Angus McCarten and Jett Gundy are to be congratulated for representing the college at the State Finals. Both achieved a fantastic fifth position! Awesome effort and we are extremely proud of them both.

We also want to wish Emre Cupples, Isabella Randall, Caitlyn Gill and Gemma Tompkins all the best as they head for Germany on the 24th August. They will be spending time at our sister school, Alfred-Amann-Gymnasium in Bönnigheim

STEAM NEWS

What a year so far! We have had several students involved in different STEAM opportunities. On the 15th May, Scott Callander took a group of girls to a Gippsland Tech School taster day where they got an introduction on how technology is influencing and changing many industries. The girls involved were Frances Brunton, Audrey Crawford, Bailey Crebbin, Namatai Douglas, Meghan Harris, Jorja Oddy, Gemma Tompkins and Ebony Wright. From all accounts the students loved the day.

This year we have been fortunate to have four girls take part in the STEM Sisters initiative run by the South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN. The STEM Sisters project aims to raise awareness of opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to Year 10 girls to address the problem of low participation rates of girls in STEM subjects and in STEM careers. Our

representatives are Emre Cupples, Namatai Douglas, Audrey Crawford and Gemma Tompkins. At the end of last term all four students took part in a 3-day camp focusing on the challenge of raising awareness about the importance of healthy eating and activity for young people in the Latrobe Valley. Through the design thinking process, students developed a prototype that encouraged better eating choices or more physical activity. Every school in the Gippsland area, including both private and state schools, took part in the challenge. Students were mixed into different groups and presented their ideas to government and industry representatives. All four girls were exceptional and were fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Currently, we have three students Hayden Anders, Bryce Gazzard and Alexandra Proctor taking part in a 12-week BrainSTEM challenge. Again, students are required to solve real world problems and present their solutions at a panel of judges. We wish them all the best! Mr Holman supported them during their first day of training.











YEAR 7B WHAT INSPIRED YOUR 'CORALINE FOOD'?

Maddy Carey

I made the 'stone with a hole in it', which was important to Coraline because it helped her find the souls of the children that the other mother stole.

Kaylee Riordon & Gabby Buissink

We made a cake with chocolate buttons on it, because the people in the other world had buttons on their eyes.

Imogen McGrath

I made black button key cupcakes. The button key helps Coraline enter the other world, but it also helps her escape from the other world.

Adele Carter

I made cupcakes with buttons because Coraline's other parents had button eyes and they had blue icing because of Coraline's blue hair.

Flinn Schill

I made a marble cake with the face of the other mother on it – buttons and all! The hair was liquorice and Jasper tried to eat the buttons – Flinn told him they were edible.

Ollie Mahoney

I made oreo and chocolate royal spiders with jaffa eyes and pretzel legs









SOUTH GIPPSLAND Gliding Club Inc.

LA TROBE, SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND VSA JUNIOR GLIDING SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The Gliding Federation of Australia Inc (GFA) is the national body regulating the sport of gliding and soaring in Australia. Its mission is "to drive the development and promotion of the sport of gliding and foster excellence in safe, accessible and enjoyable soaring".

The South Gippsland Gliding Club has a 50 year history of gliding and in its time has trained many pilots who have gone on to enjoy the thrill of gliding in particular and aviation as a profession. The La Trobe Valley Gliding Club was established in the same period and flew from the La Trobe Valley Airfield. This Club has now ceased operations and has dedicated its remaining funds to South Gippsland on the proviso that the money be used for *ab initio* gliding training. An annual gliding scholarship aimed at encouraging new people into the sport of gliding by providing scholarship holders with low cost *ab-initio* gliding training. The La Trobe and South Gippsland Scholarship is administered by the South Gippsland Gliding Club and will be awarded to suitable applicants.

In partnership with Victorian Soaring Association (VSA) the aim of this scholarship is to encourage young people to take up gliding. Applicants must have had no previous hands on flying training. The funding from VSA is on the proviso of a commitment from the successful applicants as shown below in Conditions 6 and 8.

The value of this scholarship for 2019/20 is up to \$1500, for gliding training costs. The scholarship does not include GFA or South Gippsland Club membership costs. Detailed scholarship conditions and application process are summarised below.

Applications are now sought for the 2019/20 Gliding Scholarship, for the period December 2019 to 30th June 2020. Applications are to be received no later than midnight on 30th September 2019 to the La Trobe, South Gippsland and VSA Scholarship Committee, South Gippsland Gliding Club, PO Box 475, LEONGATHA, VIC, 3953 OR EMAIL TO: owenkr86@gmail.com

La Trobe, South Gippsland and VSA Scholarship Conditions

The award of the scholarship will be subject to the following conditions:

