

Issue 18: 21st October 2016

Calendar

October

24-28 7/8 Outdoor School Camp

26 Unit 3/4 Exams Start

31 Student Free Day

November

1 Melbourne Cup Day-No school

3 Hume 7/8 Volleyball

4 Parents Club Fete

7 Year 10/Unit 2 Exams start

9 Prep-Year 6 Celebration Matinee and Evening Performances

Inside this issue:

Prep-6 Celebration	2
College Announcements	3
Sporting News	4
Zoo Reflections	5
Butterfly Life Cycles-1W	8
VCAL Social Enterprise	10
Health Corner	11
Community Events	11
Sport in the Community	13

A few words from the Principal...

Child Safe School

Myrtleford P12 College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. As part of the Victorian Government's commitment to implementing the recommendations of the Betrayal of Trust report, seven Child Safe Standards have been developed. These are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian early childhood services and schools to ensure they are well prepared to protect children from abuse and neglect

As part of this process our school will plan, implement and review strategies that will embed a culture of child safety. There will be a series of related policies which you have the opportunity to comment on. The first of these is attached to this newsletter. Please have a read and let me know if you have any comments or feedback.

Prep to Year 6 celebration evening

A reminder that the Annual Prep to Year 6 Celebration Evening will take place Thursday 9th November at EMPAC. The students have already been practicing and are very excited about performing in front a large audience. This will be a fantastic event showcasing and celebrating student talent and academic achievement. The evening performance starts at 6:00pm and tickets need to be prepurchased from the front office. More details on the following page. I look forward to seeing you there.

Goodbye to our 2016 Year 12 Class

Our Year 12 students completed formal classes this week. On Tuesday students attended lectures and seminars related to Mathematics and English in preparation for the examination period. They shared a morning tea and a catered lunch with College staff. The first VCE exam is English which will be held on Wednesday 26th October. All exams will be held at the Ablett Pavilion. The whole College community wishes them well.



Student Free Day

A reminder that classes will not be running on Monday 31st October. Staff will be updating their First Aid qualifications in the morning followed by professional development in the afternoon. Normal classes will resume on Wednesday 2nd November following the Melbourne Cup Holiday on Tuesday.

...Zlatko Pear

COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prep to Year 6 Celebration Night

Come and help us celebrate our student's fabulous work and achievements over the course of this year.

VENUE:	EMPAC
DATE:	Wednesday 9th November 2016
TIME:	Matinee: 10am Evening: 5.45pm for a 6:00pm start
TICKETS:	\$2 each—Limit 2 per family (evening) \$1 each—no limit (matinee)

9th November

For the last couple of years EMPAC has been busting at capacity and we have had people standing and sitting in the aisles. Due to increased enrolments this year, we are going to have a problem. We will not all fit in EMPAC!

For this reason, we are encouraging families and friends to come along to a matinee performance if they are able to. The only difference between the matinee and evening performance will be that some students receive awards at the evening performance. The College will notify parents beforehand if this is going to happen so that they don't miss out.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- ◆ All students are expected to attend this celebration evening.
- ◆ Class teachers will notify parents about special request regarding clothing, props etc.
- ◆ Students will be seated in class groups with their teachers at the front of the theatre.
- ◆ Parking close to the EMPAC building is limited, so please allow for the extra time needed to walk.
- ◆ We suggest a meal before attending (no food or drink allowed in the auditorium).
- ◆ The evening program will conclude at approximately 7.30pm.

Thank you
Prep to Year 6 Team

**Get your
tickets
now**

**DO YOU HAVE RHYTHM?
Ever wanted to learn the drums?**

**THERE ARE VACANCIES FOR SCHOOL-SUBSIDISED
DRUM LESSONS**



Wednesday mornings for all year levels.
A drum kit is not an immediate requirement but would normally become necessary after about six months.
Assistance and advice regarding this is available.

Prospective participants need to be genuinely interested and prepared to do the work!

Contact Lorne Campbell A.H: 57273569
Mobile: 0427 161240



Our congratulations to Sahra Pugh!

Sahra won Second Prize for Victoria in the National Water Week poster competition and received a voucher from Dymocks.

PARENTS CLUB NEWS

School Twilight Fair on Friday 4th November 4-8pm

Two weeks to go until our Twilight Fair! This is the first time the school has hosted a fair for many years, probably not since last century. Be sure to come and join this community event.

There is an excellent array of stalls and activities planned, including Bubble Wands, Crazy Hair, Guess the Jellybeans, Donuts on a String, Lucky Dip, Badge Making, Obstacle Course and Chocolate Block Throw. As part of their studies, enterprising Year 8 students are tasked with running their own stalls such as footy target, cake decorating, fresh smoothies, handmade stall, gaming zone and a haunted house maze. Be sure to support their endeavours.

Mr Lindsay is coordinating entertainment by student musicians/performers and there will be pony rides and amusement rides.

More stalls include trash 'n' treasure & 2nd hand uniform (Dee), 2nd hand books (Kath M.), Mental Health (Rosemary), School History (Historical Society), Car Club display, emergency services, Landcare, Tupperware, plants, cake stall, and more registrations are coming in.

Finally, and importantly, there will be plenty of food to enjoy: Tasty Taters Van, Lupo's pasta, coffee van, roast beef rolls, spring rolls, canteen... you won't go hungry!

Thank you everyone in advance for your support! *Claire Stock*

**WANT A STALL?
REGISTER
THROUGH THE
OFFICE**

SECOND HAND BOOK STALL



Any unwanted books lying around your house?

Donations of second hand books are welcome.
Please drop them off at the school library.



CLEAR UP YOUR CLUTTER!

Seeking small items for our trash and treasure.
Small items/boxes can be dropped off at the office

Unsold items will be donated to the local op shop

Next meeting: Thursday 27th October, 9am at Café Fez, then a pre-Fair meeting on Wednesday 2nd Nov at 3pm at the school

COLLEGE SPORTING RESULTS

INTERMEDIATE BOYS O&M BASKETBALL

O&M Intermediate Boys Basketball was held at Albury Stadium late last term, where our Year 10 boys competed against many of the other schools from the Ovens and Mitta district.

Myrtleford were in Pool B and won all games with ease. The winner from Pool A, Sacred Heart Yarrawonga played against Myrtleford having also progressed to the final undefeated. The final game was a lot more competitive for both teams. Myrtleford led from the start and were able to hold onto the lead throughout the game. There was a fair bit of score board pressure from Yarrawonga as they were able to keep up with the scoring at both ends. Myrtleford came away with the victory with a good 6 point margin.

Team members: Jack Woodall, Jack Milford, Will Quirk, Azia Feltrin, Tim Zanin, Hayden Rouse, Fletcher Caponnechia, Tom La Spina, Connor Dale and Pat Bren.

Clint Slotegraaf



O&M Winners

Year 9 and 10 girls O&M Basketball

Late in Term 3.....

The day started off with a group of fired up and determined girls getting off the bus, ready for a day of intense competition. Both teams played extremely well, demonstrating the high levels of talent and team work they had.

The Year 9 girls put in a big effort and eclipsed the first team they played against. They continued playing well against their other foes, but just fell short of the mark, losing to a team that was better drilled and who demonstrated more discipline. With a bit more preparation time up their sleeves the outcome for the day may very well have been different.

The Year 10 girls were in a league of their own. They dominated from the outset and put some big totals up on the scoreboard. They showed good discipline and amazing skills and the cohesiveness of this team made it seem like they had been playing together for many years.

The Year 10 girls made it through to the Grand Final, where they played their hearts out. Both teams were evenly matched but a few missed shots by our team resulted in a close loss. On any given day the result could have gone either way.

Well done to all the girls who participated during the O&M Basketball Competition, you represented the College proudly and showed that you will be a force to be reckoned with in coming years.

Mr Tyson.

HUME ATHLETICS

On the 6th of October a small group of students went to Hume Athletics in Albury. It was a good day for the students in the warm weather. Isis DeBortolli won first place medals in the shot put and discus which takes her to the State level and Cassie Morgan got a second place in javelin, just missing out on State. Bell Nittayakit got third in long jump, our 20s relay team of Will Quirk, Azia Feltrin, Charlie Crisp and Jack Woodall also finished third and the girls relay team of Georgia Milford, Courtney Furlong, Amy Rogers and Jasmine Cerminara finished third. Overall it was a good day for our students as they competed with some of the best athletes in the Hume district and matched it with them completely.

Jack Milford.

Well done to all the Myrtleford students who participated during the Hume Athletics Competition, you represented the College proudly and achieved some great results. A big acknowledgment needs to go to Isis Debortoli for coming in first place for both the Shot Put and Discus and she will represent the school at the State Athletics Championships later in the term. *Clint Slotegraaf*

Congratulations to William Webb

He competed in the Victorian Schools Mountain Bike Championships in Bendigo on the weekend and finished first!

Competing in the under 15 age group in a field of 27 riders William finished about 20 seconds ahead of the on the 10km (3.3km x 3laps circuit).

Starting at the back of the group there was a mad scramble to get into a good position before heading into the narrow bush single tracks. He quickly advanced up to 5th place in the early part of the first lap before taking the lead at the top of the first climb and was never headed, extending his lead over each lap.

Will was very happy to finish this year's race season with a second state title to his credit. He will compete in the National Championships early next year.

Congratulations Will!



VISIT TO THE ZOO



On Friday 7th October, 75 very excited Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students set off early for the Melbourne Zoo. After a week of flooding, we managed to get all children and teachers to school to meet the buses early on Friday morning. The day included lots of viewing of Zoo exhibits and also a Zoo education program in which the children patted a snake and became 'Wild Explorers' in an outdoor environment. Here they used magnifying glasses to view objects and they made habitats for animals. We would like to thank the parents of the attending students for supporting our excursion with great organization and punctual drop-off of children. We are very grateful to our hard-working Parents Club who subsidized this excursion, making it affordable for all. Thank You.

Prep-2 Teachers

Reflections from Prep L

On Friday, we went to the Melbourne Zoo. First we travelled on a bus. Then we saw the fairy penguins. Next we saw the hyenas. Finally we went home. I felt happy.

Sienna Molina

On Friday we went to the Melbourne Zoo. First we went on the bus. It was big. Then we got off the bus. Next we had a lesson. I got to pat a snake. Finally we got to see the giraffes and the butterfly house. I was happy. *Hunter Macgowan*

On Friday we went to the Melbourne Zoo. First we ate a little snack. Next we saw an elephant. Next we saw a monkey. We had lunch. Then we went home. The zoo was awesome! *Charlie Gios*



Zack's Gorilla picture

Reflections from Prep A/H

I love meerkats because they are cute. I like their colours. *Jacinta*

The giant tortoise has a giant shell. Its head can breathe out of water. *Shane*

I liked watching the elephants. They are strong and heavy. They have long trunks. *Amelia*

Amelia

I like the gorillas because they are cute. The baby was cute. It was hiding from us. *Zack*

Zack



Reflections from YEAR 1W

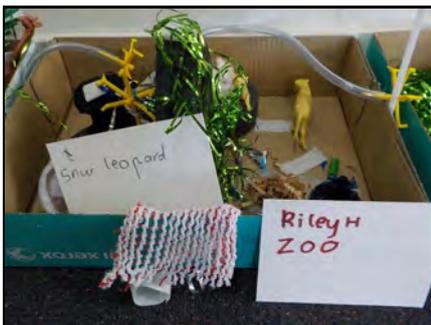
On Friday P-2 went to the Melbourne Zoo. We went to the zoo because we are learning about animals. First we saw some meercats that can stand on two legs. Next we saw a lemur. I saw King Julian. Lemurs are fluffy. I felt good! **Rianna Brown**

On Friday P-2 went to the Melbourne Zoo. We went to the zoo because we are learning about animals. First we went to see the leopards. Then with Mrs Craftwright we saw the turtles. After we went to see the meercats. We had so much fun! **Riley Howell**

On Friday P-2 went to the Melbourne Zoo. We went to the zoo because we are learning about animals. First we saw the cute meercats. Then we went to the mat and we patted a snake. After that we went in the garden. We had fun! **Olive Fullwood**

On Friday P-2 went to the Melbourne Zoo. We went to the zoo because we are learning about animals. First we saw the little cute meercats. Then we saw the spotty giraffe. After that we saw the butterflies. They were pretty. It was awesome! **Maddison Reid**

On Friday P-2 went to the Melbourne Zoo. We went to the zoo because we are learning about animals. First we went to the meercats. Then we went on a walk and we saw a tiger, it was big and stripy. After I felt awesome and tired! **Paige Kiss**



20'D Reflections

On Friday at 6:10 we went to the Melbourne Zoological Gardens. We saw reptiles, frogs, butterflies, turtles, peacocks and tigers. My teacher was Miss O and I really enjoyed the tigers. - **Geordie**

At the zoo we got to do a lesson. We got to have a touch of a snake called Patch. - **Ayla**

At the zoo we saw lions, tigers, zebras, frogs, giraffes, monkeys and butterflies. My favourite animal was the father gorilla because he was so protective. - **Molly**

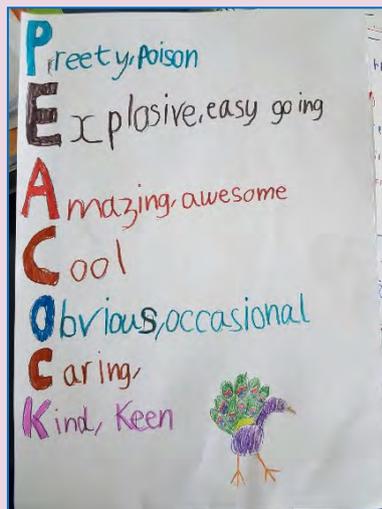
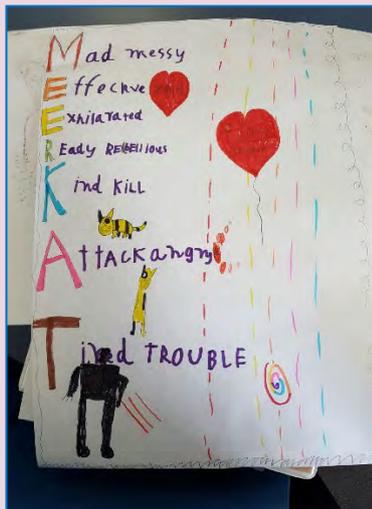
I saw tortoises, elephants and hippos at the zoo. We also got to do a lesson with Simon in the zoo gardens and the classroom of animals- **Bailee**



2L Talk about Zoo Animals

2L Acrostic Poems about our favourite Zoo animal.

In 2L we have been writing acrostic poems about our favourite animals at the zoo. Here is just some of our poems.



"The Zoo was a lot of fun and I had the best day ever at school!" **Jordyn N**

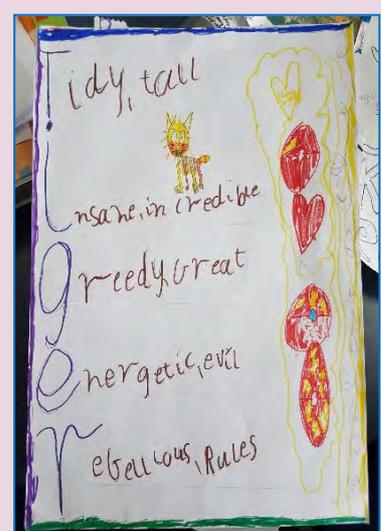
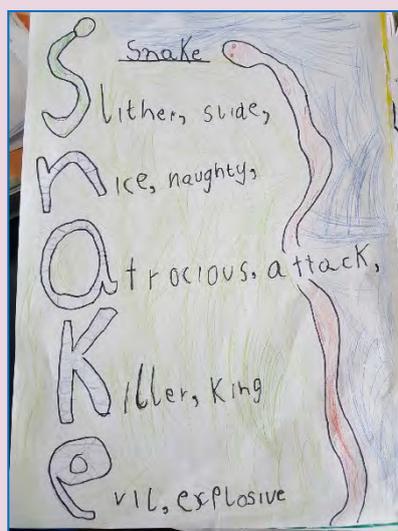
"It was exciting and adventurous!" **Josh**

"I thought the zoo was amazing because I learnt about animals and now I know how they survive in the wild." **Jalen**

"The zoo keepers were really kind and we got to pat Patch the snake" **Charli**

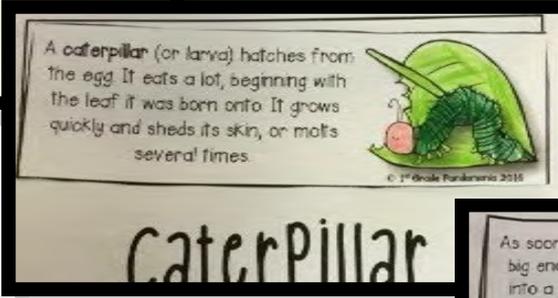
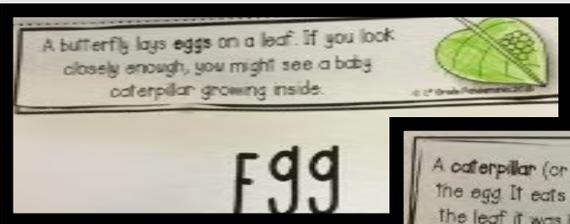
"We went to the zoo and saw lots of awesome animals" **Jay**

"It was funny when Patch slithered out of his sand box" **Caleb**



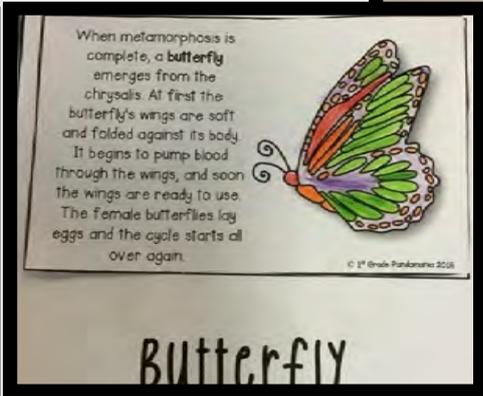
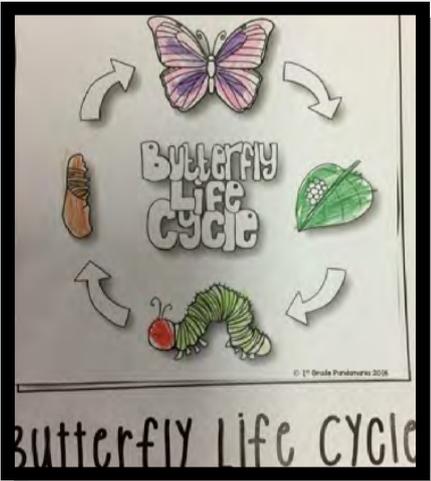
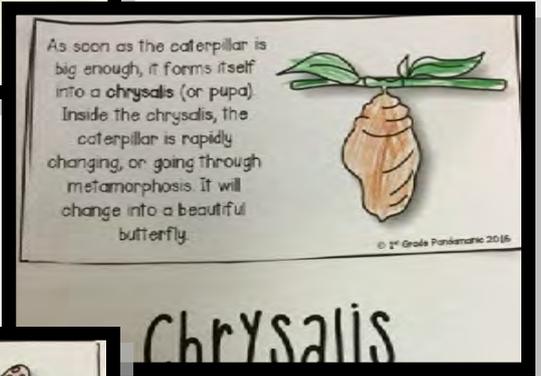
"It was such a long but fabulous day with a wonderful group of students!" **Mrs Lock**

This week 1W have been learning about the Lifecycle of a Butterfly. They have also been learning about different ways of displaying their information. Here is some of their work. Mrs Watson



Year 1W

BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE



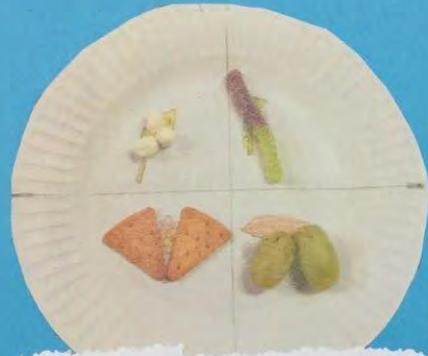
Butterfly Life Cycle



On my lifecycle we had real food. We drew a leaf, a plant, a branch and a flower. Then we put some little marshmallows on the leaf for the eggs. We put sour worms for the caterpillars. We put some grapes for the chrysalis and some biscuits for the butterfly.

By Riley H

Butterfly Life Cycle



We are learning about butterfly life cycles. On Tuesday we did a butterfly life cycle with real food. At the end Mrs Watson took a picture of our one. We got to eat the real food at the very end.

By Olive

Butterfly Life Cycle



On Tuesday 1W made an edible butterfly lifecycle. One of the lollies was a salty worm. It was very tasty. We all liked it.

By Charlie P

Butterfly Life Cycle



Butterflies lay eggs on a leaf and they can make a chrysalis and they turn into a butterfly.

By Ella

VCAL NEWS

Over the past few months VCAL students have been working on a social enterprise project , producing dog houses in various sizes. **MP12 PUP HOUSE** was developed! All money raised will go towards our local kindergarten or local wildlife rescue. The students have been attending a small business course to help with the project, and have learnt valuable skills in business planning, development and promotion. Orders are now being taken. Contact details shown on the flyer.

Mr Dwyer

P-12 PUP HOUSE



SMALL: \$70 MEDIUM: \$80
LARGE: \$90+

OUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IS FUNDRAISING MONEY TO GO TOWARDS YOUR CHOICE OF THE LOCAL KINDERGARDEN OR OUR LOCAL WILDLIFE RESCUE

contact details
phone: Ryan-0450 671 298
email: MyrtlefordP12@jdlf.com
Facebook: P-12 Pup House

Help support our VCAL Social Enterprise Project



HEALTH CORNER...with Adolescent Health Nurse Rosemary Bunge

Keeping kids safe! “Day for Daniel”

On Friday October 28th we will be talking to the primary students for the day to deliver a message on personal safety to the students from Prep to Year 6.

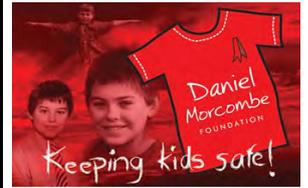
On this day we invite all students to wear their red uniform shirt with pride in memory of Daniel Morcombe as it is resources from the Daniel Morcombe Foundation we will be using on the day and you will be able to use in the future. Most people will have heard the Daniel Morcombe story and associate the wearing of red with a “Day for Daniel” and the foundations aim to keep kids safe from personal danger inflicted by others, be they strangers or not.

We will be using the 3 R’s: **RECOGNISE, REACT, REPORT.**

Don’t forget after the day to ask your child what they learnt. For further information for you and your child visit www.danielmorcombe.com.au/

You can also download a free safety app from www.DanielMorcombe.com.au/APP

*Rosemary Bunge Adolescent Health Nurse Myrtleford P12 College
Together with Year 9 students Tara and Miaka.*



Thought for the week:

‘A few simple skills can make a world of difference in protecting kids from harm!’

IN THE COMMUNITY



PUTTIN’ ON THE RITZ

2016 JAZZ DINNER

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28 \$ 90pp 6.30 ‘til late

GATEWAY QUALITY HOTEL 29-37 RYLEY ST WANGARATTA

featuring

THE HIGH SOCIETY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

***drinks and canape on the terrace * two course meal
and featuring the incomparable *Society Sisters*
DRESS TO IMPRESS and DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY**

**Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/NBLV> or <https://www.trybooking.com/229471>
For enquiries call Patti on 0408 597 451**

The Rotary Club of Milawa Oxley is proud to support the Wangaratta Festival of Jazz

IN THE COMMUNITY

Contact local coordinator
Jan James 0424931900

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Southern Cross Cultural Exchange will be welcoming some excited and enthusiastic exchange students into Australia. These students come from many countries around the world including Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Italy, France and Japan. We are looking for some wonderful families who would love to host one of our students. If you are interested in welcoming these students into your home on a permanent basis please feel free to contact us.

1800 500 501
www.scce.com.au
cheryl.p@sccce.com.au

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

ALPINE COUNTRY Fair

Sunday 30th October
10am - 3pm

live music
handicrafts
food + drink
games
prizes
pony rides
face painting
animal nursery

Bright P-12 College, Park Street, Bright
Gold Coin Donation Entry

DICKENS REAL ESTATE PTY LTD

Bright Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank

WANDILONG PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

MYSTERY AT MAGDIE HATOP

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF PRINGLES, FEATHERS, FLAPPER GIRLS, SPY GLASSES & CHARLESTON YOUR WAY THROUGH THIS PACY, ENERGETIC MYSTERY WITH FABULOUS MUSIC, A HUMOROUS SCRIPT AND INTRIGUING TWIST



FIRST EVER PERFORMANCE IN AUSTRALIA

TICKETS
- BRIGHT POST OFFICE
- COUNTRY COLLECTABLES
- AT THE DOOR
- \$5 ADULTS
- \$2.50 CHILDREN

VENUE
- BRIGHT ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
- FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2016
- SHOWTIME - 7PM

MUSIC FROM THE BAKING 20'S

Girls Night In!
Michellini Wines Cellar Door

No pressure. No dress code.
No expectations.
Are you in?

Friday 21 October 2016
5.00pm—8.00pm

Tupperware

* Live music—Adam Lindsay 5.30pm—7.30pm

* Tupperware sales & giveaways

* Scrapbooking sales & mini workshop hosted by Jo Caird, Scrapbookit, Bright

* Arbonne cosmetic sales & gift ideas
Proudly supported by Jo Ivone, Arbonne Independent Consultant

* Catering by Cindy Zyga & the Alpine Tucker Truck

Entry \$ 5.00 per person, donated to Girls Night In
**Pre - purchased tickets only
(includes a glass of sparkling wine on arrival & door prize raffle ticket)
Door Prize donated by Michellini Wines

DON'T MISS OUT, BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY!

ARBONNE INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT

GIRLS NIGHT IN

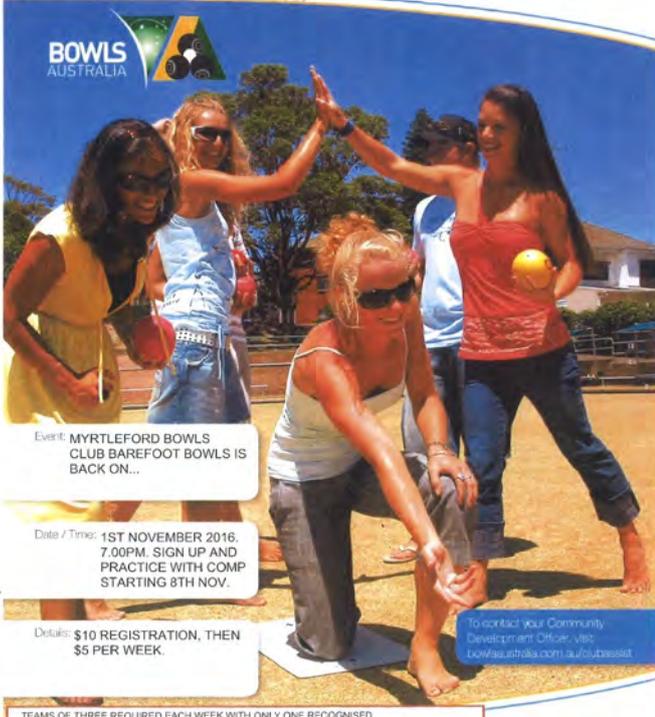
Cancer Council

MICHELINI WINES

213 Great Alpine Rd, Myrtleford
~ Ph: (03) 5751 1990
E ~ sales@michelininiwines.com.au

SPORT IN THE COMMUNITY

Roll up, roll up, roll up...



BOWLS AUSTRALIA

Event: MYRTLEFORD BOWLS CLUB BAREFOOT BOWLS IS BACK ON...

Date / Time: 1ST NOVEMBER 2016, 7.00PM. SIGN UP AND PRACTICE WITH COMP STARTING 8TH NOV.

Details: \$10 REGISTRATION, THEN \$5 PER WEEK.

To contact your Community Development Officer, visit: bowlsaustralia.com.au/clubindex

TEAMS OF THREE REQUIRED EACH WEEK WITH ONLY ONE RECOGNISED BOWLER ALLOWED PER TEAM. EXTRA PLAYERS ENCOURAGED TO COVER ABSENCES. NAMES TO BE PUT ON LIST AT THE BOWLING CLUB OR PHONE COL BYRNE: 57 522 852 OR 0447 387 600

Term 4 Special at TDA Performing Arts



- Come and try dance in a fun & friendly environment.
- Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Acrobatics & Hip-Hop offered.
- Learn a routine & take part in our End Of Year Concert on December 10th (At WPAC, Wangaratta)

Dance away—No more to pay!

Special price includes costume hire & insurance.

OFFER VALID FOR ALL PRIMARY AGED STUDENTS!!

Contact person:
Miss Vicki Sherriff
0418 626 987

\$75.00



MYRTLEFORD LAWN TENNIS CLUB

HOT SHOTS PROGRAM

Conducted by Myrtleford Tennis Coaching –

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

The program will be conducted over 6 weeks, **commencing on Saturday 5 November 2016** and will be held at the **McNamara Reserve tennis courts**
9.00 – 10.00

COST: \$ 35 per student for the 6 Week program.

Racquets can be provided

Enquiries And Enrolments 0438 522 141
Or email details to info@myrtlefordtennis.com.au

Relax and play Barefoot bowls

FOODWORKS
Supermarket

Team **FOO-DY FIGHTERS** is hosting a

BAREFOOT BOWLS & BBQ FUNDRAISER

At MYRTLEFORD BOWLS CLUB
Friday 28th October
Starts at 6pm
Entry \$20 PER PERSON
(INCLUDES A GAME OF BOWLS, BBQ DINNER AND NIBBLIES)
Drinks available at bar, no byo!
Entertainment by local muso Alex Milligan
ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO CANCER COUNCIL
Booking info: 0411329690



View this newsletter in colour on the Skoolbag App . Enjoy notifications and reminders with the App!
Available free on both Android and Apple devices.
Also available on the school website or it can be emailed to you. Just notify the school to request this.

Our Sponsors....

We're on the web!
<http://www.myrtlefordp12.vic.edu.au/>



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Mobile: 0417 019 623



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Owner/Operator - Kane Howell

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A/H 03 5752 2531

EMAIL: heitanafreight@gmail.com

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Myrtleford 3737

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Myrtleford P12 College Child Safe Policy

INTRODUCTION

Myrtleford P 12 College is committed to promoting and protecting the interests and safety of children. We have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Everyone working at Myrtleford P 12 College is responsible for the care and protection of children and reporting information about child abuse.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is

1. To facilitate the prevention of child abuse occurring within Myrtleford P 12 College
2. To work towards an organisational culture of child safety.
3. To prevent child abuse within Myrtleford P-12 College
4. To ensure that all parties are aware of their responsibilities for identifying possible occasions for child abuse and for establishing controls and procedures for preventing such abuse and/or detecting such abuse when it occurs.
5. To provide guidance to staff/volunteers/contractors as to action that should be taken where they suspect any abuse within or outside of the organisation.
6. To provide a clear statement to staff/volunteers/contractors forbidding any such abuse.
7. To provide assurance that any and all suspected abuse will be reported and fully investigated.

Myrtleford P-12 College is committed to promoting and protecting at all times the best interests of children involved in its programs.

All children, regardless of their gender, race, religious beliefs, age, disability, sexuality, sexual orientation, or family or social background, have equal rights to protection from abuse.

Myrtleford P-12 College has zero tolerance for child abuse. Everyone working at the College is responsible for the care and protection of the children within our care and reporting information about suspected child abuse.

Child protection is a shared responsibility between the College, all employees, workers, contractors, associates, and members of the Myrtleford P 12 College community.

Myrtleford P 12 College will consider the opinions of children and use their opinions to develop child protection policies.

Myrtleford P-12 College supports and respects all children, staff and volunteers. The College is committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, and those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children living with a disability. If any person believes a child is in immediate risk of abuse, telephone 000.



Myrtleford P12 College Child Safe Policy

PROCEDURES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Myrtleford P-12 College Council has ultimate responsibility for the detection and prevention of child abuse and is responsible for ensuring that appropriate and effective internal control systems are in place. The School Council is also responsible for ensuring that appropriate policies and procedures and a Child Protection Code of Conduct are in place.

The Principal is responsible for:

- Dealing with and investigating reports of child abuse;
- Ensuring that all staff, contractors, and volunteers are aware of relevant laws, organisational policies and procedures, and the organisation's Code of Conduct;
- Ensuring that all adults within the College community are aware of their obligation to report suspected sexual abuse of a child in accordance with these policies and procedures;
- Ensuring that all staff, contractors and volunteers are aware of their obligation to observe the Code of Conduct (particularly as it relates to child safety);
- Providing support for staff, contractors and volunteers in undertaking their child protection responsibilities.

All managers must ensure that they:

- Promote child safety at all times;
- Assess the risk of child abuse within their area of control and eradicate / minimise any risk to the extent possible;
- Educate employees about the prevention and detection of child abuse; and
- Facilitate the reporting of any inappropriate behaviour or suspected abusive activities.

Management should be familiar with the types of abuse that might occur within their area of responsibility and be alert for any indications of such conduct.

All staff/volunteers/contractors share in the responsibility for the prevention and detection of child abuse, and must:

- Familiarise themselves with the relevant laws, the Code of Conduct, and Myrtleford P -12 College's policy and procedures in relation to child protection, and comply with all requirements;
- Report any reasonable belief that a child's safety is at risk to the relevant authorities (such as the police and / or the state-based child protection service) and fulfil their obligations as mandatory reporters;
- Report any suspicion that a child's safety may be at risk to their supervisor (or, if their supervisor is involved in the suspicion, to a responsible person in the organisation); and
- Provide an environment that is supportive of all children's emotional and physical safety.

DEFINITIONS

Child means a person below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.

Child protection means any responsibility, measure or activity undertaken to safeguard children from harm.



Myrtleford P12 College

Child Safe Policy

Child abuse means all forms of physical abuse, emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse and exploitation, neglect or negligent treatment, commercial (e.g. for financial gain) or other exploitation of a child and includes any actions that results in actual or potential harm to a child.

Child sexual assault is any act which exposes a child to, or involves a child in, sexual processes beyond his or her understanding or contrary to accepted community standards. Sexually abusive behaviours can include the fondling of genitals, masturbation, oral sex, vaginal or anal penetration by a penis, finger or any other object, fondling of breasts, voyeurism, exhibitionism, and exposing the child to or involving the child in pornography. It includes child grooming, which refers to actions deliberately undertaken with the aim of befriending and establishing an emotional connection with a child to lower the child's inhibitions in preparation for sexual activity with the child.

Reasonable grounds for belief is a belief based on reasonable grounds that child abuse has occurred when all known considerations or facts relevant to the formation of a belief are taken into account and these are objectively assessed. Circumstances or considerations may include the source of the allegation and how it was communicated, the nature of and details of the allegation, and whether there are any other related matters known regarding the alleged perpetrator.

A reasonable belief is formed if a reasonable person believes that:

- (a) The child is in need of protection,
- (b) The child has suffered or is likely to suffer "significant harm as a result of physical injury",
- (c) The parents are unable or unwilling to protect the child.

A 'reasonable belief' or a 'belief on reasonable grounds' is not the same as having proof, but is more than mere rumour or speculation.

A 'reasonable belief' is formed if a reasonable person in the same position would have formed the belief on the same grounds. For example, a 'reasonable belief' might be formed if:

- a) A child states that they have been physically or sexually abused;
- b) A child states that they know someone who has been physically or sexually abused (sometimes the child may be talking about themselves);
- c) Someone who knows a child states that the child has been physically or sexually abused;
- d) Professional observations of the child's behaviour or development leads a professional to form a belief that the child has been physically or sexually abused or is likely to be abused; and/or
- e) Signs of abuse lead to a belief that the child has been physically or sexually abused.

EMPLOYMENT OF NEW PERSONNEL

Myrtleford P-12 College undertakes a comprehensive recruitment and screening process for all workers and volunteers which aims to;

- Promote and protect the safety of all children under the care of the organisation;
- Identify the safest and most suitable people who share Myrtleford P-12 College's values and commitment to protect children; and
- Prevent a person from working at Myrtleford P-12 College if they pose a risk to children.

Myrtleford P-12 College requires all workers/volunteers to pass through the organisation's recruitment and screening processes prior to commencing their engagement with the College.

Persons applying for a role as a teacher with the College must be registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.



Myrtleford P12 College Child Safe Policy

Myrtleford P-12 College will require applicants to provide a police check in accordance with the law and as appropriate, before they commence working at the College and during their time with the College at regular intervals.

Myrtleford P-12 College will undertake thorough reference checks as per the approved internal procedure.

Once engaged, workers/volunteers must review and acknowledge their understanding of this Policy.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Myrtleford P-12 College will ensure that child safety is a part of its overall risk management approach.

The College will have a risk and compliance sub-committee committed to identifying and managing risks at Myrtleford P12 College. Risk and compliance sub-committee members will receive regular training in relation to child safety.

Reporting

Any staff member, volunteer or contractor who has grounds to suspect abusive activity must immediately notify the appropriate child protection service or the police. They should also advise their supervisor about their concern.

In situations where the supervisor is suspected of involvement in the activity, or if the person having the suspicion does not believe that the matter is being appropriately addressed or dealt with, the matter should be reported to the next highest level of supervision.

Supervisors must report complaints of suspected abusive behaviour or misconduct to the Principal and also to any external regulatory body such as the police.

Investigating

If the appropriate child protection service or the police decide to conduct an investigation of this report, all employees, contractors or volunteers must co-operate fully with the investigation.

Whether or not the authorities decide to conduct an investigation, the Principal will consult with the authorities to determine whether an internal investigation is appropriate. If it is decided that such an investigation will not conflict with any proceeding of the authorities, the Principal may decide to conduct such an investigation. All employees, contractors and volunteers must co-operate fully with the investigation.

Any such investigation will be conducted according to the rules of natural justice. The Principal will make every effort to keep any such investigation confidential; however, from time to time other members of staff may need to be consulted in conjunction with the investigation.