

The Heartbeat of Mountain District Christian School



Last Friday's picnic was a wonderful way to begin the year. Although it was hot, it was delightful to share holiday stories, hopes for the year and meet new families. Thanks to Pete Heading and Steve Denny for constructing the water gazebo to cool us down. It wasn't just students that enjoyed it, the adults enjoyed cooling down in it as well.

Last night the first meeting for the secondary production, 'The Wind in the Willows' was held. There was much excitement about this from those participating. Over a third of the secondary school were represented, eager to help in some capacity, whether on stage, backstage or in a supporting role. I'm looking forward to seeing this journey unfold along with the final performances, as the joy and satisfaction of all the hard work that goes into all the rehearsals is realised. Thank you to all the parents that are playing a role in supporting this also.

I'd like remind you of a few upcoming events:

This weekend we have our Term 1 Working bee. We'd love to see you there to help out with some tasks around the school.

Next Wednesday evening is the Parent Information night. This provides an opportunity to meet your child/ren's teachers for 2020. It is also an opportunity for

parents in Years 7-9 to hear about their upcoming camps, and primary parents to hear about the new spelling program and maths resource. The night begins at 7.00pm in the multipurpose room.

Our first Whole School Assembly will be held on Monday, 17th February beginning at 9:15am. Parents are most welcome to join us.



Later this month, the Year 7/8 students will be heading off to Camp Coolamatong for their camp as part of their General Studies unit Place and Livability while the Year 9 students will be hiking along the Great Ocean Walk as part of their Empower Program.

Have a wonderful week!

Jason Riding
Principal



MDCS Parent Information Night!

Wednesday, 12th Feb
7.00pm - 8.30pm

Hear what's planned for your child's class. All your Prep - VCE questions answered!

This night is invaluable to you as parents, to let you know what your child's year looks like, and we greatly encourage you to attend.



Community Corner

MDCS wants to continue to grow a supportive and caring community and so to encourage this we are implementing Community Connectors again for 2020.

We are in the midst of approaching parent representatives from each class to be a 'Community Connector' (CC). In most cases the CC is a parent of a student in your child's class. At present Alex McMaster and Vicky Zarzu have volunteered their time to take on this role for our Primary years. Our CC's have volunteered their time to help families connect in the MDCS Community. Our Primary CC's will be sending a letter home in the near future introducing themselves so stay tuned.

Mellisa Ashton

Community Engagement Officer

COMING HOME THIS WEEK:

Secondary House Swimming Carnival

Yr 7/8 Camp

Yr 9 Challenge Camp

REMINDERS:

School Banking Tomorrow



Foundational Matters

Starting school is a very exciting time in a child's life and brings

about many new things to learn. This years Preps have been enjoying getting to know each other and meeting all their specialist teachers. Getting used to school routines such as eating snacks at recess time and sandwiches at lunch time takes time to develop.

Remembering to take turns when playing with others and remembering to ask for help when we need it are skills students will learn early on. These can be great conversations to have at home, to remind your child of how to engage well at school.

To help the Preps find their friends at recess and lunchtime, we are encouraging the Preps and Year 1 students to play close to the classroom. Their play space for the first half of the term includes: the Year Prep/1 playground, sandpit and cubby area. We also have a yard duty teacher in the playground who can assist children in finding someone to play with to ensure that play time remains a positive community building experience.

Throughout the term we will spend a lot of time talking about what being a good friend is and how we can live out the fruits of the spirit in our words and actions.

Please pray for our Junior Primary as they settle into school.

Kellie Mason - Year Prep/1



2020 Paperwork

Just a brief note to remind all parents that if you have not already done so, we need the 2020 paperwork to be returned to the office. This is particularly important for direct debit forms for fee payments.

We cannot operate on last year's forms so we need the new ones completed.

We also need the bus and working bee indications to be sent back for planning purposes.

Ross Ingram - Business Manager



Skoolbag updates for 2020

Reminding all parents to update **'My Subscription Groups'** (located under the More tab on your App) to reflect your child's new class and unsubscribe from last years class, if applicable. We would also encourage you to subscribe to Events, Tuck shop and Newsletter when updating your selections.

Secondary Production



This year, our secondary production of 'Wind in the Willows' will be a combined Year 7-12 venture. As we kicked off the project with our first meeting last night, it was wonderful to see the students' enthusiastic engagement. Many thanks to the parents who have already volunteered their time to help us get this production off the ground. If you have any spare time to help make this happen, we would really appreciate your help in the following areas: Props, costumes, technical support, hair and makeup, choreography, promotions and

administration. Please contact Jason Beer or Judy Miller to discuss how you can support the students in this exciting project.

Rehearsals for the secondary production will be held in the gym every Wednesday afternoon from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Please note that next week, the rehearsal will be on Thursday 13th March as our Parent Information Night is on the Wednesday. Each student will be given a rehearsal schedule; please contact us if you would like a copy of this.

Thank you. - Judy Miller



WORKING BEE

This Saturday!

8am—3pm

Come along to help get our school ready for Open Day! Jobs for all capabilities; morning tea and lunch provided. Come and be a part of the school community as we work together.

Did you know that learning a musical instrument is excellent for the brain, developing:

Listening & Reading skills
Fine & gross motor coordination
Concentration & Perseverance
Hand-eye coordination
Space-time awareness
Social/cooperation skills (when playing with others)



Lesson are currently available in: Piano, violin, guitar, drums, flute, tin whistle & Voice.

If you are interested, forms available in the school office.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

8th - WORKING BEE

10th - Primary Assembly

12th - Parent Information Night

17th - Whole School Assembly

18th - Secondary House Swimming Carnival

24th - Primary Assembly (Yr 5/6)

24th - 28th - Year 7/8 Camp

- Year 9 Great Ocean Road Camp

26th - Year 10 English Excursion

MARCH

2nd - 6th - Primary Swimming Program

3rd - 6th - VCE O&ES Grampians Camp

4th - Secondary Assembly

9th - LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY