

The Heartbeat of Mountain District Christian School



Last week we held our VCE retreat for the 2018 Year 11 and 12 students as they stepped up from the ranks of Year 10 and 11, beginning their new journey in VCE. All the students in the 2018 VCE cohort attended the VCE retreat, where they were given the opportunity to unwind, reflect on 2017 and have the opportunity to look at what the coming year may

hold. The students had the perfect way to unwind with Stand-Up Paddle Boarding on a beautiful 30-degree day in a private sheltered lake. This was a highlight for many students.

As well as these wonderful experiences to relax, the students were able to hear about and begin to understand what VCE is like and what it really takes, focusing on the two words,

Plan and Engage. These sessions were designed to provide a realistic view of the VCE and what students need to put in place to achieve their best, overcoming any challenges that may come their way.

On the last day, the students heard a commencement speech by Denzel Washington. He made 4 key points which I hope will inspire the students in the year to come.

- Put God first – our students should (even in the busyness of VCE) know the God who created them and who loves them dearly, putting Him above all that they do.



- Dream big ("Dreams without goals are just disappointment") - Denzel said that discipline and consistency is the key to achieving your goals. Our aim is that our students learn the truth of this through their achievements, so that this can follow them into their lives beyond school. Our students should not be afraid to fall short of their goals as long as they can walk away knowing they have honestly put everything they have into their work.
- The most "selfish" thing you can do is help others – true fulfilment and joy comes from helping others, not from any achievement or possession you could own.
- Thank God in advance for what is already theirs and all the achievements to come - Working hard is about claiming what God has put before you. The pressure should be off our students as they know that God has a path set out before them and they are just claiming this through their hard work.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

One of the concluding activities of the camp was to write their goals for VCE. It was amazing to see the excitement in the students as they set themselves for the year ahead. Does it mean that the year ahead will be easy? No, VCE is tough. Does this mean our students are prepared and ready to run this race? Yes, they have prepared well and have a great support behind them, with loving families, supportive teachers and an Almighty God.

Paul Lock
VCE Coordinator
Head of Senior Secondary

COMING HOME THIS WEEK:

- Prep - Year 5/6 End of Year Information
- Yr 7-9 End of Year Program Friday & Monday (2 x letters)
- 2018 Yr 12 School Jumper Order Form

REMINDERS:

- SCHOOL BANKING TOMORROW
- RETURN PAYMENT SLIP FOR FRIDAY'S END OF YEAR PROGRAM
- RETURN YR 12 JUMPER ORDER

OPEN DOOR' CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



MDCS is again partnering with Open Door Church and the Monbulk Care Network to help provide for those in need this Christmas. Each student is encouraged to bring an item that could be included in a Christmas 'Hamper'. Some suggestions include:

* Packaged 'Christmassy' treats such as Puddings, Fruit Mince Pies, Canned Ham, Chocolates, Biscuits, other basic 'non-perishable' food items

* Children's Toys

Each classroom will have a bucket in which items will be placed, and we hope to present them to a representative from Open Door Church and /or the Monbulk Care Network, at our Thanksgiving Assembly on Tuesday, 12th December @ 2pm. All welcome!

So let's aim to have buckets overflowing.....and be a blessing to those in our wider community. For more information, please contact the MDCS Office.



LOST PROPERTY REMINDER!

Lost property contains:

US size 5 blue, white and yellow Asic runners—Good Condition.... and, various jumpers, shirts, drink bottles etc...

Did you know that many children do not recognise their own clothing or items once they are no longer 'attached' to themselves?

Weird! PLEASE feel free to come and check lost property at any time. Lost property is located at the MPR.

All items not collected by the end of the year will be donated to an op-shop over the holiday period.

Items will also be available to look at after the Thanksgiving Assembly on the last day of term. THANKS

Hello Parents and Children of Monbulk & District!

We have provided a colouring sheet today to all of MDCS Primary students. The Christmas colouring competition will be judged on **Saturday the 9th** of December, so if your child wishes to enter, hand your completed picture either back to the school or directly to the Bendigo Bank branch in Monbulk by the 9th of December for your chance to win some great prizes!

Your drawings will be judged on both creativity and neatness!

Great cash prizes for your Bendigo Bank account!

Monbulk & District

Community Bank® Branch  **Bendigo Bank**

Updates on staffing for 2018

As you would be aware from a previous edition of the Pulse we are currently in the process of searching for a new Primary teacher. Applications closed yesterday and we will be interviewing in the coming weeks.

In addition, there have been some minor changes to the class teachers in the Secondary school. - Jason Riding



Year 7
Mrs Diprose



Year 8
Mr Baird



Year 9
Mr Grace



Year 10
Miss Miller



Year 11
Mr Mahoney



Year 12 – Mr Lock & Mr Beer
will share this role



Volunteers Afternoon Tea

We hope our volunteers felt a little special at our Volunteers Afternoon Tea yesterday. For those that didn't make it, thank you so very much for the time you have given to MDCS in 2017. We hope you have felt as blessed as we have by volunteering and

engaging with
the school
community.
Blessings,
Mel Ashton



Thanksgiving Final Assembly

Tuesday, 12th Dec

2pm ~ Gym

Come and celebrate
2017 with us!



SCHOOL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

30th - Yr 6 Celebration

DECEMBER

1st - Year 6 Aquatic Excursion

4th - Primary Assembly

5th - Whole School Orientation

6th - Year 10 & 11 Last Day

10th - Year 10 BBQ

12th - Whole school Thanksgiving Assembly

- END OF TERM 4!