Year 12 Valedictory

da night of glamour, fun & CELEBRATION...
...in short, exhausting!!
Last Thursday night's Valedictory dinner was a wonderful evening, celebrating the culmination of 13 years of schooling for our Year 12 students. It was delightful to share the evening with the students' families and staff as we reflected on the year that has been. One of our students, Talia Van Bockel, was unable to attend as she was overseas in Uganda, participating in her Schoolies Revolution trip, however, it was a delight to communicate with her through Skype so that she was able to participate in part of the evening. The staff were able to share wonderful memories of the students on a more personal level, providing very entertaining reflections through the giving of student awards. Not to be outdone, or provide any less memorable moments, the students were then able to reciprocate by providing the teachers with awards, again very entertaining. It was an evening of joy, celebration and laughter.

I appreciated the words of Lee Kotnik, a parent of one of our Year 12 students, whose eldest child graduated this year. She gave a parent reflection, speaking very highly of the school, teachers and the wonderful environment provided by all staff.

Our Year 12 students receive their ATAR on Monday, 15th December. We pray that, now, as they have finished their time with us formally, here at MDCS, that they will stay in touch. We look forward to seeing the doors that God will open for them to serve Him, and the community of which they are a part.

On Monday afternoon we enjoyed our whole school Orientation Day! It was great to welcome so many new students before heading off to class for a session with their 2015 classmates and teachers. While this was happening, the parents of our new families gathered for afternoon tea and received introductory information about school life.

I’m looking forward to tonight’s Year 6 Graduation and sharing in that with our students and their families. Look forward to next week’s newsletter as we share with you the events of the evening and some photos.

With December now here (hasn’t that happened quickly!) may I remind all families that tomorrow is the deadline for 2015 fee payments if you are looking to secure the generous 8% discount.

Have a great week!

Jason Riding
PRINCIPAL

Forms and Letters sent home this week:
- Nurture
- VCE Distance Education (selected students only)

REMININDERS
- School Banking & Tuckshop tomorrow

DECEMBER
- 1st - Orientation Day Whole School
- 4th - Year 6 Graduation
- 8th - Year 6 Excursion
- 12th - Year 10 Last Day & BBQ
- 16th - End of Term 4 Final Assembly

This year the A.A.T.E. (Australian Association for Teachers of English) celebrated its 50th Anniversary. To mark the occasion they launched a writing competition which was open to all secondary students across Australia. We are pleased to announce that two of our students received awards. Erin Jones won 2nd place and Emma Koumourou received a high commendation. Congratulations, girls! We are so thankful to have such talented writers in our community.

Congratulations Erin & Emma!!

DECEMBER
- 1st - Orientation Day Whole School
- 4th - Year 6 Graduation
- 8th - Year 6 Excursion
- 12th - Year 10 Last Day & BBQ
- 16th - End of Term 4 Final Assembly

This year the A.A.T.E. (Australian Association for Teachers of English) celebrated its 50th Anniversary. To mark the occasion they launched a writing competition which was open to all secondary students across Australia. We are pleased to announce that two of our students received awards. Erin Jones won 2nd place and Emma Koumourou received a high commendation. Congratulations, girls! We are so thankful to have such talented writers in our community.

Congratulations Erin & Emma!!

This year the A.A.T.E. (Australian Association for Teachers of English) celebrated its 50th Anniversary. To mark the occasion they launched a writing competition which was open to all secondary students across Australia. We are pleased to announce that two of our students received awards. Erin Jones won 2nd place and Emma Koumourou received a high commendation. Congratulations, girls! We are so thankful to have such talented writers in our community.

Congratulations Erin & Emma!!
Parents please note...

As a school community, we are 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 in a minimum of one food 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 box 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 final assembly on Tuesday, 16th December.

So let’s aim to have those boxes overflowing……and be a blessing to those in our wider community.

For more information, please contact the MDCS Office.

---

Look out for your copy of ‘Nurture’ coming home today with the newsletter!

Well done to the Robotics team members, Jude Amity, Hayden Williams and Hayden Seen, who placed third in the National Robotics Competition held on Saturday the 29th.

Thirteen schools from Victoria and interstate were represented on the day.

This has been a new initiative this year for MDCS students and we are very proud of their efforts. The Ankle Biter (robot) is currently on display in the office but watch out it has a mean bite!
We have been doing a segment in our ‘Water’ General Studies unit about keeping our water safe and clean.

We discussed the issue of how litter and rubbish pollutes our waterways, so we decided to go around the primary school and clean up the litter – this photo is what we found.

9/10 Music elective excursion to Willowbrooke Retirements Village...

On Thursday 20th November the 18 students of the 9/10 music elective class performed their Christmas songs for the residents of the Willowbrooke Retirement Village. This was a wonderful opportunity to be part of the community and share the wonderful talents that God has given each of these students. Although there were nerves and apprehension about the performance, the students embraced this experience. Many were comfortable to talk to the residents, and the performances all went smoothly. I am proud of how the class conducted themselves; they were responsible and professional in their performance, as well as engaging with the residents. Thank-you God for all the talents you have given these students.

Mrs Denny
### INDIVIDUAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9yrs</td>
<td>Hamish Gemill</td>
<td>Triple Jump</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9yrs</td>
<td>Poppy Giles-Kaye</td>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10yrs</td>
<td>Thalia Van Bremen</td>
<td>200m</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10yrs</td>
<td>Asher Megee</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10yrs</td>
<td>Jarred Winter</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10yrs</td>
<td>Jack Harvey</td>
<td>Triple Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10yrs</td>
<td>Liam Harvey</td>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>Caleb Wittmann</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>James Bridges</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>Georgia Nelson</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>Florence Strike</td>
<td>Shot Put &amp; Discus</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>Tim Roe</td>
<td>Discus</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>Gabe Penketh</td>
<td>800m</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hurdles</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>Girls Relay</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Isabelle Van Rossen, Erin Grech, Holly Williams &amp; Amy Schroeders)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>Finn Clark</td>
<td>Discus</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>Hugo Fountain</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>800m</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GROUPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9yrs</td>
<td>Over &amp; Under</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10yrs</td>
<td>Tunnel Ball</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shuttle Relay</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11yrs</td>
<td>Shuttle Relay</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>Tunnel Ball</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On Wednesday, 12th November, MDCS took part in the Christian School Interschool Athletics Carnival. It was so much fun!! I competed in Long Jump and came first with a 3.70m jump. The girl who came second had a jump of 3.69m. It was so close.

Next I had High Jump and I came second. The highest jump that I made was 1.17m.

After that I had the Circular Relay. In my team was Erin, Isabelle, Holly and me. We all tried our hardest, ran 100 metres and came third.

Altogether it was a great day.

Amy Schroeders
Yr 6
Last Thursday night we congratulated the Class of 2014 at their Valedictory Dinner at Nathania Springs in Monbulk. It was a lovely celebration being able to share our memories of this wonderful group of students. It was beautiful to hear how Mountain District Christian School has impacted Lee Kotnik and her family as she responded on behalf of the parents. We also enjoyed a fun montage video produced by Mr Beer and were able to FaceTime to Talia Van Bockel in Uganda on her Schoolies Revolution Mission trip; it was a delightful surprise to have her join her peers on this night! Each student was blessed with an individual speech from one of their teachers which highlighted the contribution and uniqueness that each of them has brought to the school. Likewise, the Year 12 Students were able to respond, and gave some humorous awards to their teachers. Overall, the night highlighted the blessing of the positive relationships that our staff and students form over the years.

Along with this, the following students were presented awards for Outstanding Results in School Assessed Coursework (highest result in their class):

- Studio Arts – Talia Van Bockel
- Further Mathematics – Nathanael Remminga
- Psychology – Talia Van Bockel
- Mathematical Methods – Adam Thompson
- Chemistry – Talia Van Bockel and Adam Thompson
- Health & Human Development – Amber Sirre
- English – Matthew Sheppard
- Biology – Talia Van Bockel
- History Revolutions – Nathanael Remminga

Finally, a huge ‘thank you’ to Lucy Van Rossen who tirelessly worked to make this event such a blessing for the Year 12s and their families.

We offer them congratulations on finishing their secondary schooling years and pray that God would bless them as they enter the next season of their lives.

Sian Conway
VCE Co-ordinator