Last Thursday we held our annual Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). The purpose of this meeting was to present a budget to the Association and the following years school fees. At our EGM there is a theme to the evening and this year it was Loud Tie. The MPR was beautifully decorated with a range of ties..... that we may not choose to wear anymore! We were supplied with a delicious Thai meal from one of our local restaurants, Tamarind Thai. The food was plentiful and superb! We were even served by one of the staff. I want to outline four highlights, among many, of the evening.

Firstly, our guest presenter, Andrew Courts, pastor of Hills Bible Church shared with us the importance of recognising the Lordship of Christ in all areas of our school. He encouraged us in the work we were doing here as we seek to deliver a Christ centred, biblically directed education. It was a privilege to have him share with us.

Secondly, the budget and new fee schedule, the main items of business, were also accepted. Over the past six months the finance committee have been working hard to ensure that MDCS remains an affordable option for families that, as is in our Mission statement, ‘desire a Christ centred education’. The decision was made to restructure the Primary school fees for 2015 and the Secondary school fees in 2016. It was important that no family would be worse off under the restructure. If anything, the restructure has made it more affordable and equitable. For 2015, Prep fees have been set at $1000, Grade 1 at $1500, Grade 2 at $2000, and so the pattern continues in a similar vein throughout the primary school.

You will see advertisements appear in our local papers in the coming weeks, sharing the news with our local community.

The third highlight. An update on the second Year 7 class was also presented. As you will remember, last week I announced that we had employed our second Year 7 class teacher, Mr Baird. But where will they be? For 2015 and 2016, the MPR will become the temporary home to the Music program. The current music room will become home to the Year 10 students and the new Year 7 class will be in the current Year 8 room as the Secondary classes, (8 – 10) shuffle along one room. In 2016 we hope to begin work on a new facility with a focus of the new building to house our VCE program while also giving scope to accommodate our Performing Arts, supporting our wonderful productions that are held each year at Year 9 and every second year in the Primary School.

Finally, it was also announced that a new school Master Plan is almost complete. This plan will support our educational plan, guiding our schools building development into the future to ensure that we can provide a Christian Education with appropriate and suitable facilities for our students’...

Other news.

Today is the final day of formal schooling for our Year 12 students. For some of them, this brings an end to thirteen years at MDCS! Please pray for them as they prepare for their final exams and life beyond school.

Yesterday, MDCS hosted a ‘Round table’ event, facilitated by Independent Schools Victoria. Local political candidates standing for the seat of Monbulk in the upcoming State election were invited to attend to discuss issues relevant to independent schools in Victoria. I’ll share more about this next week.

Have a great week!

Jason Riding

Forms and Letters sent home this week:
- Yr 8 Snowy Camp Forms
- Secondary Term Letters (sent last Friday)

Reminders:
- Tuckshop tomorrow
- School Banking tomorrow
Hello Mountain District Christian School community. Welcome to Term 4. I trust your term break was safe and restful.

In this edition I’d like to focus on the emotion of anger. In my role as a Chaplain, I hear a lot about people’s feelings, and find it interesting that some people try to avoid anger, perceiving it to be a ‘bad’ or ‘wrong’ emotion; whilst others become enraged and handle it poorly, often damaging relationships with loved ones and friends in the process.

There are two Greek words in the New Testament which are translated as “anger”- one means “passion” or “energy”; the other means “agitated” or “boiling.” The times we read of Jesus becoming angry, are times where he was responding to an injustice regarding a person or a principle. For example, Jesus became angry when he saw that some of the Jews had defiled worship at God’s temple in Jerusalem (John 2:13-18).

Interestingly, the Bible does not say to avoid feeling angry or allow it to engulf us, but rather instructs us to not sin in our anger (Ephesians 4:26-31). The reality is anger is one of the basic emotions we have been designed to feel. It is a God-given energy intended to help us solve problems, and for a reason. It’s okay to feel angry but what we do with it is important. Stopping to understand what is driving us to feel angry is crucial as that can help us to respond in a way which addresses the issue rather than attacking the person with whom we feel angry. For example we may be feeling angry because we feel taken advantage of and may need to say, “When you ask me to drop you at your friend’s place, I feel annoyed because the deal was you would do your homework first.”

The reality is we all feel angry at times, but I pray that God will grant us wisdom and self-control as we learn how best to ‘do’ our anger.

Elissa White
Chaplain

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

Scholastic Book orders due
TOMORROW, Friday 24th October

Last chance to work off your points:

Twilight Working Bee
Friday, 7th November

4pm - 8pm  Dinner provided

BEE organised, BEE part of the fun & BEE here!!

NOTE: Please be aware that if children are attending a working bee, it is the parents’ responsibility to supervise them at all times and ensure their safety.

EGM does
Loud THAI night!

Looking for a way to cover your Units from home? Can you help with book covering? Enquire at the office or with Stephanie Hanscamp. Community Levy points 1 unit = 2hrs

OCTOBER
23rd - 24th Primary Production
24th - Yr 9 Basketball
27th - Primary Assembly (5/6HB)
29th - VCAA Exams Begin
30th - Experience Yr 7 Day (2015 Class)

- Yr 7 Basketball

- Yr 1/2 Aquarium Excursion

31st - Immunisation Yr 7, + Yr 9 Boys

NOVEMBER
3rd - 4th Melbourne Cup Holiday
5th - 7th Yr 11 Study Break
6th - Yr 7-11 Interschool Aths Carnival
7th - TWILIGHT WORKING BEE