In 2012 the Board and school leadership undertook a planning exercise to lead the school forward. One of the outcomes of this planning exercise was to investigate the ability for MDCS to cater for 400 students. Fast forward 2 years... At the recent Annual General Meeting we announced the plans to begin a second class of Year 7, in 2015. MDCS has had very full classes in the Junior Secondary for a number of years now, so it was natural to investigate the viability of opening up new opportunities for the wider community to engage in Christian Education at Mountain District Christian School.

This raised a number of questions. The first two that came to mind were, ‘Can we afford it?’ and ‘How do we support the Grade 6’s as they transition to Year 7 (both new and existing students)?’

In answer to the first question, the Finance Committee were given the task of investigating the financial implications of a second Year 7 class. The scenario was investigated and parameters were put in place to ensure that the school would be able to appropriately provide the second class.

In answer to the second question; currently the school has an Experience Year 7 Day at the end of the year, which allows the students to ‘experience’ what a day in Year 7 will look like. The students have the opportunity to meet their class teacher, along with some of the other teachers they will be having and also participate in new subjects such as Science.

In addition, to the Year 7 Experience Day, the school will also be implementing a transition program at the start of the year for all our Year 7 students. Time will be spent with the students as they meet new classmates, teachers and talk through what it looks like to be a student of MDCS. School values including tolerance, friendliness, courtesy, confidence, responsibility and forgiveness will be discussed and activities planned to reinforce them (also listed on page 20 of the Student Diary).

Most importantly, each student will know that all are made in the image of God and that this has implications for them in how they talk to each other, how they interact with each other and their teachers and parents, how they apply themselves to the tasks that they are given and how they will be treated by the teachers and other adults in the community.

What a blessing and privilege it is to work at a school where Jesus is central and we have the opportunity to understand all of life through the lens of a Christian worldview!

We will keep you up to date as the year progresses. Join us in prayer as we move forward in this exciting new phase at MDCS.

Have a wonderful week!

Jason Riding

Forms and Letters sent home this week:
- VCE Studio Art Excursion
- Reminders:
  - Tuckshop & School Banking Tomorrow
  - Secondary Student ID orders

Coming next term
Lock the date into your diaries!!!

Date: Monday 28th July, 2014
Time: 7.30pm
This Seminar will be held at MDCS, more details to follow.

A Seminar for Parents, Educators & Youth Leaders

325 Macclesfield Road P O Box 483 Monbulk 3793 Phone 9756 7244 Fax 9756 7356 mdcs@mdcs.vic.edu.au
Parents please note...

**Primary Soiree**
Friday
June 6th
6.30pm Supper
7pm Start
Tomorrow Night!

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Secondary Student’s ID card reminder

FINAL reminder to get your order form into the office by Friday, 6th June.

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Public Holiday
Queen’s Birthday
Monday, 9th June

Note: Koorong orders are due back TOMORROW

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Meals Needed!
From time-to-time families in our school community go through a rough patch and could use a helping hand. Providing a meal makes a big difference. These meals are stored in our freezer. Currently the freezer is depleted!! If you would like to help replenish it, please contact the office. Thank you! - Mel

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New to Tuckshop menu
Available to order now!

Please add the following items to your menu list:

Vegetarian Lasagne - $3
Macaroni Cheese - $3

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**JUNE**
6th - Primary Soiree
   - VCE Unit 3 Ends
9th - Queen’s Birthday Holiday
10th - Yr 12 Study Break
11th - GAT Exam
12th - VCE Unit 4 Begins
13th - VCE Unit 1 Ends
16th - Primary Assembly (Yr 3/4EB)
16th - 17th Yr 9/10 Exams
16th - 20th Yr 11 Exams
23rd - 27th Yr 10 Transition Week