Merryn Van Bremen, our school’s Board Chair, and I recently attended the Christian Education National’s (CEN) Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Canberra. I also stayed on to attend the National Policy Forum held in Canberra. This was a wonderful time of information, networking and a reminder of the wonderful network that we are a part of. CEN’s AGM is incorporated into a larger event over a weekend to enable attendance by CEN Board members and Executive staff. Speakers and workshops are held to allow discussion to occur at a national level. Rod Thompson was one of the keynote speakers over the weekend. He shared with us the importance of recognising the relevance and meaning of the whole of the Biblical story and not taking individual stories in the Bible as separate and discrete events. In addition to Rod’s talks each day, a number of workshops were held. Dr. Ken Dickens, CEO of Christian Education National, shared his from his presentation reminds us of the challenge to be authentically Christian in every facet of the school. He says ‘If our schools are really to take every thought captive for Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5) and enable students to be transformed by the renewing of their minds (Romans 12:2) we need to disciple their thinking. This requires purpose, focus and professionalism in our Christian thinking at the same level of excellence as our pedagogy. The alternative is school experience which is Christian in name, but where the actual Christian components are so small in scope in the life of the school, that the school functions in fact according to a secular paradigm.’

This is an aspect of MDCS that we take very seriously. At the commencement of each term, staff work through Biblical perspectives for each of the units that are taught. Teachers are given time to discuss these perspectives across areas of specialty and year level taught. This is one specific effort we make to help ensure that we seek to honour God in all aspects of the life of our school. Dr. John Collier also noted that it is one thing to have Christians teaching but it is more important to have Christian teachers teaching Christianly! I agree!

Thanks to all those that attended last week’s AGM. It was a wonderful time to reflect on 2013 and celebrate all that had been achieved. In next week’s edition of the Pulse I will talk more about what was presented at our AGM.

Have a wonderful week!

Jason Riding

New to Tuckshop menu

Starting tomorrow:

Please add the following items to your menu list:

Vegetarian Lasagne $3
Macaroni Cheese $3

mmMMMMmmmmMMmnmnmnmnmnmnmnmmmm.....noodlicious....

Forms and Letters sent home this week:
- Yr 3/4 Scienceworks Excursion
- Koorong Kids Catalogue
- Primary Headlice check

Reminders:
- Tuckshop & School Banking Tomorrow
- Secondary Student ID orders

Note: Koorong orders are due back - Friday 6th June

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

**Coming next term**

Lock the date into your diaries!!!

**Secondary Student’s ID card reminder**

Just a reminder to get your order form into the office by Friday, 6th June, if you would like to order an ID card for your secondary child. Student Photo ID cards are very useful where ever student concession is available or ID points are needed (eg. for bank account applications etc...). Spare order forms are available from the school office. ID cards are $3 per student.

**Late photo orders**

If you have not returned your envelope yet, or would like to make an additional photo order (i.e. split families etc...) spare envelopes are available from the office. Please pick one up and get them in ASAP.

**Public Holiday Queens Birthday Birthday Monday, 9th June**

**JUNE**

- 2nd - Secondary Assembly (Yr 8)
- 6th - Primary Soiree
- 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