

Primary Interschool Athletics...



**...WE
WERE
FLYING!**



Honouring God in VCE

Tonight we will be celebrating at the Graduation Dinner with the Year 12s as the culmination of 13 years of schooling. This is a great time to honour the commitment they have put into their studies, especially since this has been their primary focus over the past two years. It is awesome that we have been able to share the journey with them and help them to achieve their best.

The VCE journey is a very stressful one for these students and no sooner has the journey finished for one, a new cohort begins theirs. This week, our 2017 Year 12 students started their final year of studies in the Early Commencement program that is run at the end of each year. Often people want to support and encourage by reminding them that there is so much more to life than VCE results. This can leave students caught between this feeling and wanting to honour God by doing their best in their studies.

It is good to refocus and acknowledge that by completing VCE, our students have a wonderful opportunity to live out the Excellence, Success and Faithfulness, which have been a focus within the school. Our students have reflected excellence

through attempting all of their subjects to the best of their abilities. Their success is in the completion of each of their studies culminating in stringent, and for some harrowing, external exams. They have displayed faithfulness by committing to their studies over the past couple of years. This faithfulness allows our students to be in a position to seek where God wants them to use their gifts beyond their time at school.

Above all the academic successes these students have strived for, it has been wonderful to watch them grow in their faith. The

...“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” ...

1 Timothy 4:12

verse which they have held onto this year is 1 Timothy 4:12 “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” Let us see these young people off, not playing down the journey they have been on, but by lifting them up for the example they have shown through all they have been through in completing their VCE. We should keep praying that these young people continue on as an example for others in order that God can be gloried by all they do.

Paul Lock
VCE Coordinator

An active MDCS Board

An update from Martin Hanscamp.

Last week the Andrews’ government had forecast changes to the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* (what we have been calling the ‘*Inherent Requirements’ Bill*) which are targeted at religious institutions. If the Bill is successful Christian schools would be required to prove why faith is necessary for every staff employment position. The proposed *Equal Opportunity (Religious Exceptions) Bill 2016* was debated in the Legislative Council (Upper House) on Tuesday, 8th November. Dr Rachel Carling-Jenkins (Democratic Labour Party MLC) spoke passionately (**two members of our MDCS Board,**

Marianne Bierstekker and Tim Messenger, were quoted in her speech!) in defence of Christian schools retaining authority over their own employment practice and was applauded by a packed public gallery (this is not allowed and the President warned the gallery). The debate was supposed to resume on November 10th and be voted on but the government pulled it from the program because they knew it would be defeated. It is listed on the November 22nd Notice Paper. Please continue to pray about this issue.

Pictured above is Martin Hanscamp (CEO Australian Association Christian Schools), Hon Gordon Rich-Phillips, Pam Lavery (Victorian Christian Education National State Executive Officer), Merryn Van Bremen (MDCS Board Chair) and Dan Flynn (Australian Christian Lobby) after viewing the presentation in the public gallery at Parliament House.



COMING HOME THIS WEEK:

- Yr Prep-2 Melbourne Aquarian Excursion
- Yr 6 Graduation note

- Yr 6 Graduation Celebration
- VCE Text Book Invoices
- VCE Text Book pick up reminder

REMINDERS:

- Tuckshop tomorrow
- School Banking
- VCE Text Book pick up



BUS AWARENESS & PARKING AT SCHOOL

Please park in designated bays (either lower or upper carparks) to drop off and pick up your children.

The spaces in front of the school reception should only be used as disabled parking or to visit the school office. Please reverse park in these spaces during peak times. **DO NOT PULL OUT OF THESE SPACES INTO THE PATH OF ONCOMING BUSES**, wait until the driveway is clear before leaving

VCE BOOK REMINDER:

Reminding all 2017 VCE Parents to pick up their child's VCE books. Payment and pick up can be made in the school office.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Each year, students in Year 3 - 12 are invited to enter the Australian Mathematics Competition. Literally hundreds of thousands of students from around 30 countries participated in the competition. **CONGRATULATIONS** to Jonah Owen who was awarded a Distinction. Thank you to Jonah for showing faithfulness in being willing to use the abilities God has given you and in exploring the possibilities for using mathematics in problem solving.



NOVEMBER

17th - Year 12 Valedictory

21st - Primary Assembly (Year 6)

21st - 22nd Yr 9/10 Exams

23rd - VCE Unit 1 Begins

- Prep Orientation #1

25th - Year 11 Last Day

28th - Secondary Assembly

- VCE Unit 2 Ends

29th - Whole School Soiree

- Yr 9/10 Indonesian Exc

30th - Prep Orientation #1



Year 9/10 Anatomy Physiology & First Aid....First Aid training....

As part of a term assessment, the Year 9/10 Anatomy Physiology & First Aid elective students took part in a practical Training Day on Tuesday. The students had the opportunity to put their knowledge to the test as they practiced CPR and other first aid techniques. It was encouraging to see the students so thoroughly engaged in learning these life saving skills. All students received their Certificate 2 in First Aid. Well done!

Bron Hamilton
Year 10 Class Teacher



Community News...

BOXES BOXES BOXES

Do you have any spare boxes at home suitable for packing??? We have a family who is shifting in December and needs some boxes for the shift.

Please bring them into the office and we will pass them on. Thanks!!



Year 2 Sleepover...

On Friday, 11th of November, nobody could be prepared for the wave of emotions that would sweep Year 2. From the moment their swift moving little feet hit the carpet (not for long as they were on the ceiling for most of the day and night) we were met with a wave of energy and excitement. Every activity that was designed to tire the students out, including the fast

paced T-ball game and gold coated chocolate coin treasure hunt,

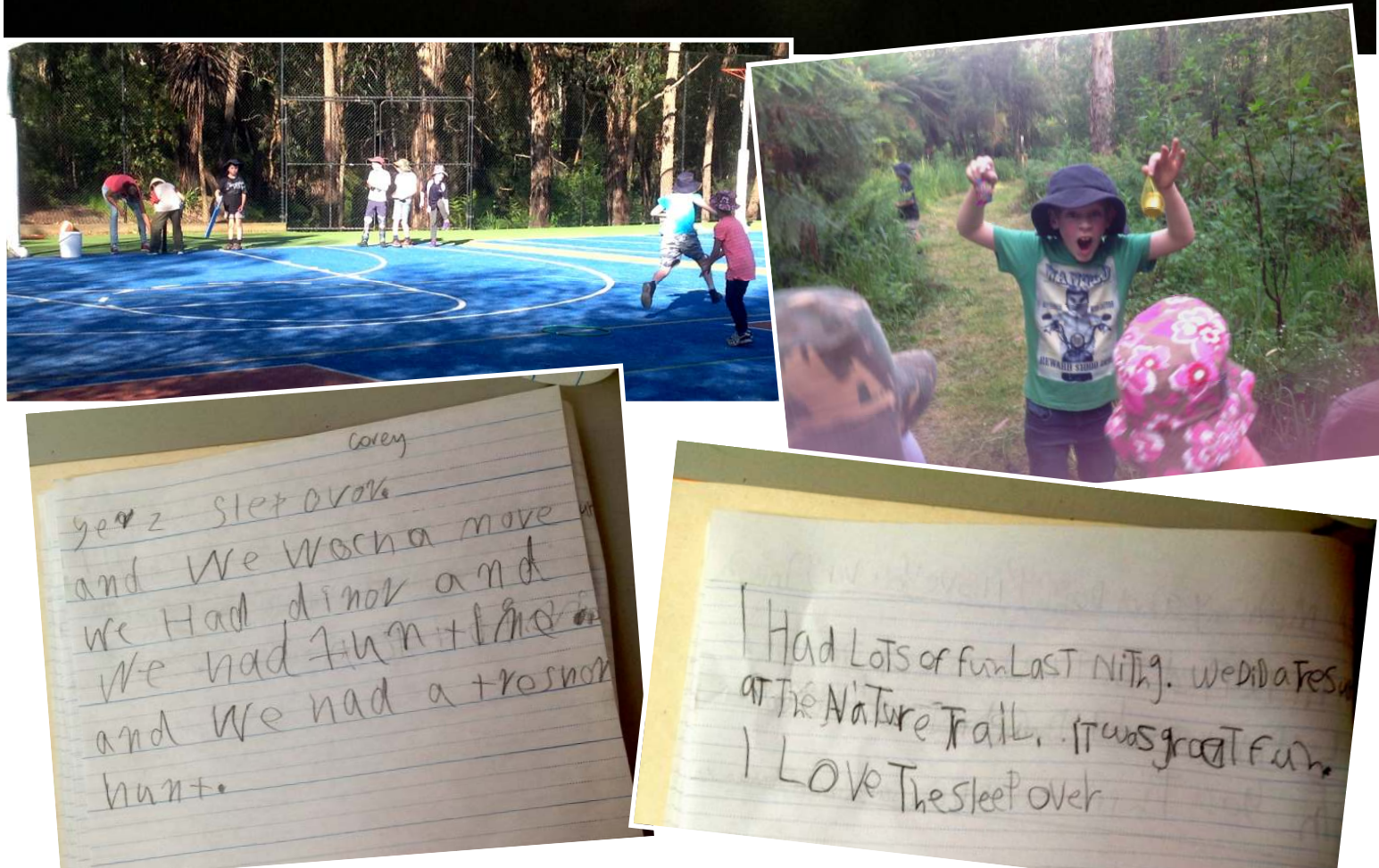
seemed to empower them with an even greater surge of energy than before!

Students enjoyed consuming two servings of home-made spaghetti bolognese and individual mini pavs with cream, blueberries and strawberries for dessert. A full stomach was the recipe for a good sound sleep after watching Ice Age 5. The next wave of energy surged again at 6 am sharp! Pancakes, maple syrup, bacon and jam were consumed until their bellies were once again full ready to go at 8:30 am.

What a great Year 2 Sleepover!

Ken McDowell

Year 1/2 Class Teacher



Corey
year 2 sleepover
and we watched a movie
we had dinner and
we had fun + time
and we had a treasure
hunt.

I Had Lots of fun Last Night. we did a treasure
hunt at the Nature Trail. it was great fun.
I Love The sleep over

Primary Interschool Athletics day...

He peered over his shoulder, looking for a familiar face in the crowd. His hands fidgeting, his face, tense as his eyes scanned the sea of colour in the stands. A moment of recognition came over him, his face relaxed slightly as he approached the starting line. "Take your marks" came the call of the starter, and off they went. No signs of nerves now, as his body relaxed into the familiar rhythm of running. And so began the first event of our Interschool carnival last week.

Our students clapped, cheered and patted each other on the back, both as celebratory and conciliatory gestures. Each student doing their best, spurred on by their friends, parents and teachers. As the day progressed we saw the confidence grow in our students, and watched proudly, the interaction they had with the other competitors. In the seeming chaos of multiple events happening at the same time, our students pursued their best in running, long jump, triple jump, hurdles, tunnel ball, over under, discuss, high jump and relays. As the day came to a close, we all returned to the stands for the results. A whopping cheer erupted from Donvale Christian College as they were declared the school with the highest number of points. And then, a hush filled the stands, as the announcer explained the introduction of the Gideon Shield. This shield is awarded to the school that scored the highest using a standardised formula to even up the playing field.

Our 77 representatives all cheered in unison as Mountain District Christian School was declared the winner of the inaugural Gideon Shield. What a successful end to an invigorating day. Well done everyone. - Sam Leonardis

