

Valedictory



show
faithfulness...
seek
excellence...
embrace
SUCCESS!

From the Head of Primary...



Next Thursday night, the Year 6 students will celebrate the half way mark of their learning journey at Mountain District Christian School. This is a milestone in the lives of our students, as they take time to reflect on their school experiences to this point. The camps and excursions feature high on the most memorable list, as do the friendships that have been forged over the years.

Yet, so much of the past has led to the shaping of these students and I want to take

this opportunity to thank the teachers, educational assistants, administrative staff, parents and grandparents for the contributions they have made during this journey.

As 2016 comes to a close and preparations for 2017 are well on the way, there is much to be thankful for. We are blessed to have a team of committed teachers and educational assistants who are passionate about teaching our children how to understand this world through God's eyes and encouraging them to take their place in His story.

This year, across the primary school, we have seen the introduction of a number of programs to support the learning of our students. The SMART spelling program is an explicit and systematic approach to teaching spelling. It involves spelling being taught through pattern and regularity, with an emphasis on word meaning to develop the vocabulary range of our students. All these aspects are combined to develop the writing

and comprehension skills of students across the primary years.

Our English program has been bolstered with the introduction of the CSI program from Year 3-6. The Comprehension Strategies Investigations, complement and further develop the strategies the CARS and STARS program that is running in the lower years. These strategies help children access text in a deeper way.

The PM Writing Big Books from Prep to Year 4 are also a new addition. This resource provided models for students to explore the language features and structures of different text. By

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identifying these components of text, students will continue to develop their writing skills.

We've also introduced a process of problem solving in Mathematics, using the mnemonic RUCSAC. This requires students to "read, understand, calculate, solve, answer and check"

word problems, requiring the application of mathematical reasoning and processes.

All of these programs provide a foundation for developing a common language across year levels, supporting the understanding and learning of students.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed Christmas and safe return for 2017.

Sam Leonardis
Head of Primary
Year 5/6 Class Teacher



COMING HOME

THIS WEEK:

- Year 8 Fundraiser flyer
- Primary Monbulk Community Colouring Competition

REMINDERS:

- Tuckshop tomorrow
- School Banking
- VCE Text Book pickup

What is Christian education?
How is it different to another education?
How is teaching Christianly distinctive?
How is Christian education based on the Bible?
Maybe you love Christian education but would like to be re-energised

CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CCE)

ONE DAY ENGAGING WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS, TEACHERS & STAFF

Join us
for presentations, videos, discussions, cartoons and reflections

Donvale Christian College

Saturday 25 February 8.30am - 3pm

Lunch and refreshments provided

Register: www.cen.edu.au (vic events)

Enquiries: Pam Lavery 3439442666 or pam.lavery@cen.edu.au



29th November on Tuesday

ICE-CREAM DAY

In the gym

Bring \$2.00 for 1 scoop

And \$3.00 for two scoops

Fun flavours like

Chocolate, strawberry and
vanilla

To raise funds for the *Save the
Children* campaign.



School Fees 2017

The School Fee invoices for 2017 have been mailed along with information about buses and Working Bees. Thanks to all who have returned the forms requested to the office, and a reminder to those who have not to return them ASAP. Also a reminder that if you want to take advantage of the 8% discount you have to make payment by Friday, 9 December. If you require replacement forms or invoice please let the office know or send an email to accounts@mdcs.vic.edu.au

OPEN DOOR' CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

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 bucket 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, 13th December. So let's aim to have buckets overflowing.....and be a blessing to those in our wider community. For more information, please contact the MDCS Office.

Prep Orientation, first visit!

Yesterday, the 2017 Preps visited their new school. They did craft activities, sang songs, read stories and played in their new classroom. At the end of the session they left looking forward to visiting again next week.



Please note that all secondary textbooks are to be returned by Tuesday, 13th December, 2016. Class and subject teachers will be communicating to students in which lesson the texts will be returned as a group.

Any student without their text in the allocated lesson for return has until the end of term to do so individually. It is their responsibility then to do so.

If the texts are not returned by 13th December, 2016, an invoice will be issued to replace the textbook. These will be prepared on the 14th December, 2016.

No refund will be given for texts which are returned during the new year, as replacement texts will have been ordered and purchased.

It will also be at the library's discretion to judge the reasonable condition of texts returned to determine if they need to be replaced, and the borrower's charged.

Denise Scott - Head of Secondary

NOVEMBER

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

MDCS hosts Prep Literacy Project...

Our school is participating in a professional development program called the Prep Literacy Project, facilitated by Michelle Hutchison from ISV (Independent Schools Victoria). Prep teachers from five local schools are involved in the project which runs over a two year period. Last Tuesday's session was the final session for this year and was held here at MDCS. Over the course of the project we have been learning how to implement best practice in our prep literacy program. Participating in the program has been an excellent opportunity to learn and develop as a teacher.

Erin Bennett
Prep/1 Class Teacher



Community News & non-school inserts/advertisements ...

Note: any non-school inserts must meet school policy and inclusion does not represent endorsement

Babysitting needed?

I am a 20-year-old female with lots of experience working with children.

My experience includes:

- Babysitting experience, ages 4-12
- Teaching small groups of children at primary schools
- Leader on 12 'Kids of Gold' camps
- Spent a year working at a Christian camp running activities
- Teaching piano
- Have 'Working With Children's Check'
- Have First aid (CPR 2016)

My interests:

- Insects/reptiles/animals
- Outdoors/environment
- Art/craft/drama/music
- Henna and painting nails

I can cook, clean, as well as entertain the kids.

If you, or your kids are interested, give me a call on 0490 112 554.

(References available if required)

Talia Van Bockel

Merry Monbulk Colouring

Competition

Colouring sheets will be sent home today for the Merry Monbulk Christmas Party, please return your completed sheet to Monbulk & District Community Branch @ 70 Main Rd Monbulk by Friday 02/12/2016 to enter. Prizes will be drawn at Merry Monbulk 03/12/2016.



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!!

Monbulk & District Community Bank® Branch

 Bendigo Bank

Year 12 Valedictory...



Year 12 Valedictory...

The Valedictory dinner was celebrated last Thursday evening (17th November). This was a wonderful night where we acknowledged the commitment these students have shown in their studies over the past few years in VCE, and what amazing young people they have become. The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God", and with this in mind we had the opportunity to announce Jessica Rowe as Valedictorian. She is an example of the commitment of the entire cohort. She displayed Excellence, Success and Faithfulness by honouring the gifts God has given her through managing her time wisely, committing to studying hard and seeking to delve deeply into each of her areas of study throughout VCE. We pray for each one of these students as they have finished their schooling here at MDCS and seek the path which God has in store for them in the future.

