FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Bugle is a great little magazine that the College publishes once a year to showcase the students and the events that have occurred. The students of Mooroolbark College are able to access and participate in an amazing array of learning opportunities, performances, sporting events, camps and tours and co-curricular activities. The high participation rate of students and teachers in all the above is reflective of the positive and engaging environment that exists at the College. This will be evident as you read through the Bugle.

This semester has been a busy and productive one for the students and teachers in the College, these will be highlighted throughout the Bugle. The following activities I highlight, as they have been significant for the College.

Our Year 12 2014 students again did us proud, achieving terrific results, with the highest all study average school of all the Government schools in the area. Our English results were again a standout with our students clearly achieving the highest scores. Our DUX Sophie Dillema achieved a very impressive 97.75 ATAR score and is studying Science at Melbourne University. This year’s students are all working hard and we expect them to all perform well this year.

This semester has seen the launch of our new website. The Mooroolbark College website has been upgraded and now offers a valuable look at our College. The site is updated weekly with information and events that are occurring in the College. I certainly recommend that all parents/guardians visit the site and familiarise themselves with what is on the site. The site address is www.mooroolbarkcollege.vic.edu.au.

The Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals were standout events. They were wonderful events with students and staff enthusiastically participating in a wide variety of events. Student attendance was impressive and made for most successful carnivals. Our House Captains were outstanding in supporting their Houses and finding participants for all events.

I would like to thank Keith Clapp, our Sports Coordinator, for putting together an excellent program, which was enjoyed by all. I would also like to thank all the staff for their enthusiasm and support of the day.

March 8 was International Women’s Day. It is an important date in the calendar where we recognise the strength, courage and diversity of women. It is a day of celebration of the achievements of women around the world and recognises the contributions that women have made to their families, communities and the societies they belong to.

Mooroolbark College marked the day with launching ‘Respectful Relationships Education Program’ across the College. The program will focus on supporting young people to have respectful relationships free of violence and intimidation. The program will be integrated into our College across all learning areas both directly and indirectly. This is a great initiative and one we believe will make a difference to the young people in our College.

This semester students across the year levels have been involved in a wonderful offering of camps, tours and extra-curricular activities. They have provided challenging life and learning experiences for students. So far this year there have been; Year 7 Marysville Camp, Outdoor Education Camp, Year 12 Study Camp, Year 9 Tasmania Tour, Year 10 Central Australia Tour, VCE Art Exhibition, Year 11 Debutante Ball, the Music Festival, the VCAL Market Day and the introduction of the morning Running Club.

I highlight the above as it is representative of the opportunities for students at Mooroolbark College. I believe it also demonstrates our care for students and also our desire to provide students with an outstanding education and enjoy wonderful experiences along the way.

A reminder that Monday 13th July, 2015 is a PUPIL FREE DAY. Students will commence back at the College on Tuesday 14th July to start Term 3.

Have a safe holiday.

Simon Reid
Principal

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Term Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>186 Manchester Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday July 14 to September 18</td>
<td>Mooroolbark Victoria 3138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Phone :(03) 9727 8100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday October 5 to December 18</td>
<td>Web: <a href="http://www.mooroolbarkcollege.vic.edu.au">www.mooroolbarkcollege.vic.edu.au</a></td>
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Semester 1 has almost been and gone in Blue House in 2015. With such a busy time within the College, we have had our team members involved in some great events. These included winning the Swimming Sports and finishing 3rd at both the Athletics and Cross Country.

Our Middle School and House Captains were once again involved in Anzac Day services, doing us extremely proud. We have had a number of Principal Awards so far and a number of helpers on Open Night which places us well and truly in the running for the House Trophy.

Our House Captains, Lyn Huynh and Jacob Ellum have been doing a good job helping to run our House assemblies, supporting our carnival organisation and helping our Middle School Captains Mel Barber and Nikita Jerram with their new roles.

Mr Christopher Stephen (B4-6) and Miss Robyn Cooper (B1-3) have been fantastic Blue House Cluster leaders this semester, providing much support to many of our students. They are to be congratulated for all their work so far.

It has been fantastic to see that detentions are significantly down in all areas such as lateness and uniform. This shows that most of our Blue team members are wanting to live up to the high standards that have been asked of them.

We look forward to some more whole House competitions which are planned for Term 3

Go Blue!

Andy U'Ren, Christopher Stephen & Robyn Cooper—Blue House Team
It has been a very enjoyable and positive start to 2015 for Green House. Our House and Middle School Captains, Samantha Mackay, Samantha Learmont, Tiani Welch-Phillips and Angus Fern have demonstrated real initiative in what they have brought to our assemblies, carnivals and home group activities. Their involvement in the Year 7 transition session, coordination of our ‘luckiest student competition’ and informative and professional speeches have been a credit to themselves and a clear demonstration of how seriously they have taken their leadership roles.

While these students have been leading the charge, many of our other Green House superstars have also been taking up opportunities to be involved and show their Green House pride. A clear indicator of this positive attitude has been the sheer number of students we have had getting involved in the Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals, in which we came 3rd, 4th and 2nd respectively. All these days have once again proven to be some of the most enjoyable of the school year and with the new addition of the Green House selfie stick, we now have some very impressive photos to help us remember how fantastic these days really were.

On a final note, as we move into the second half of the year, I hope that all students are looking forward to the challenges that Semester 2 will bring. I want to see each and every one of our students making the most of learning opportunities and taking advantage of the extra-curricular activities that our College is so renowned for providing.

I am really looking forward to a great finish to 2015 and as always GO GREEN!

Matthew Donald, Jenny Roberts & Lucas Unland - Green House Team
RED HOUSE ARE THE ONES TO BEAT IN 2015!

Student participation and engagement levels in a variety of different school events have been nothing short of inspiring. Even poor weather and black skies couldn’t stop the large hordes of Red Devil’s turning up to both the Athletics and Cross Country events this year, a credit to the ‘all in approach’ we have in Red House. This attitude has seen the Red Devils finish well in all events, including coming first in the Cross Country event. Students have also collected points for the House Cup by participating in the Swimming Sports; Open Night and Reading Challenge, as well as earning Principal and Academic Award. In all events, the Red House students involved have competed against and worked with one another in good spirit, something that we take pride in at the College and emphasise in Red House.

Students have continued to conduct themselves at the College and in the wider community in a very positive manner. Something we are extremely grateful of is the honesty of our students, with some prime examples being the many of students who have handed in lost property, including phones, iPads, books, jumpers, credit cards and cash. One special mention goes to Oliver Haag who handed in a $100 note, which found its rightful owner the next day, who was understandably very pleased.

This year also has seen the introduction of the Red House Cup, designed by our Senior House Captains Jarred Robertson and Annelise Jenkin and supported by our Junior Captains Hayden Watkins and Jaymie-Lee Burton. The awesome four have been doing an outstanding job running the internal House games and collecting points, something which has been enjoyed by all. They have also demonstrated passion and professionalism when addressing 300 strong members during House assemblies on important issues such as equality, anti-bullying, studying habits, respectful relationships, as well as being a positive part of this great College we belong to.

Other proud moments this year include: three of our indigenous students being part of a team that raised the Aboriginal flag for Reconciliation Week, Braedon Dobie breaking the school Cross Country record with a time of 17 minutes and 42 seconds and Corey Hay winning the Yarra Valley Vet cluster student scholarship which came with a $250 cheque.

Overall we are very pleased with every student in Red House. They work hard at improving their schooling by committing to their studies. Keep up the good work!

Remember, we always extend a warm welcome to come and visit us in the Red House Office aka, “The Devil’s Lair,” whenever you require any assistance, no matter how big or small.

Grant Olarenshaw, Matthew Bell & Rebecca McMillan - Red House Team
The mighty Yellow House Stingers have continued to power forward in 2015 and claim themselves as one of the most successful houses across all areas of the College. The attitude, enthusiasm, genuine caring nature and level of effort from all of our Yellow House students continues to impress each and every day.

Our House Captains, Molly McCombe, Jack Van Hoorn, Keeley Hocking and Aimee Mackenzie have been outstanding contributors to the success of Yellow House so far. Their addition to the Yellow House team has been immense, always demonstrating friendship, professionalism and leadership in everything they get involved in around the College and beyond.

There have been many highlights so far, but one that clearly stands out above the rest is Yellow House demolishing the other three Houses at the College Athletics Carnival. The Stingers were out in front at the end of the day, by over 200 points! This left those ‘other’ three Houses to fight it out for the minor points. Our relay teams were outstanding, along with the huge number of students involved in events, which in the end got Yellow House over the line. A great effort by all students attending and competing in numerous track and field events to bring home the ‘John Nichol Bacon’ and Carnival Trophy.

Term Two also brought upon us, the Cross Country running at Lillydale Lake. Yellow House were well represented, having the most students participate in the event. Unfortunately, we didn’t come away with the title on the day, but all four Houses were very close in the end. Once again, there were many individual efforts and records broken. It was great to see the enthusiasm and effort of the Yellow House team that kept us in the forefront of the competition.

House points are earned for contributions in a range of areas including classroom effort and work ethic, participation in music concerts, open night, sports teams, 100% punctuality, participation in Sports Carnivals and Principal Awards. Up until this point, we’ve only had a few Principal Award winners which have added to the House Shield total, but I’m sure those merits and awards will start flowing in during the remainder of the year.

It has been an absolute pleasure working alongside all students and staff in Yellow House so far this year. Their dedication to their studies and willingness to help others around them has been a real standout. Students putting other students before themselves – this is the ‘Mooroolbark College Way’, which we are all so proud to be a part of. We encourage all students to continue to uphold our high standards at the College and strive to be the best, they possibly can.

Go Yellow!!!

Glenn Esnouf, Rhonda Harker, & Jennifer Young — Yellow House Team
## FROM THE HOUSE CAPTAINS

### BLUE HOUSE
As House Captains, we are extremely proud of Blue House this semester. We won the Swimming Carnival by an astounding 200 points and performed very well in the Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals and students have done well in class. We have had a strong Semester 1 this year; let us keep up the good work and go harder in Semester 2.
**GO BLUE!**

*Jacob Ellum and Lyn Huynh*

### GREEN HOUSE
As Green House Captains, we couldn’t be prouder of what Green House have achieved this semester. Seeing the numbers and energy from Green House at both the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals was incredible. There was definitely a ‘sea of green’. Even though the overall victory was not ours, there was loads of fun to be had, with teacher vs student races, dance competitions and costume parades.

Aside from the carnivals, we have had plenty of opportunities to get to know the many great students within Green House, which helps us to develop a close relationship with those in our house. We have many things planned for the upcoming semester which we are very excited about. **GO GREEN!**

*Sam Mackay and Sam Learmont*

### RED HOUSE
What an incredible start to the year for Red House. As Captains we have been blown away with the will and determination from each of the students to achieve their highest standards. The attitude and participation of all Red House has been nothing short of outstanding with their constant contributions to the enthusiastic spirit and competitive nature of the house. As such, an amazing atmosphere has been created by the students throughout the first semester. The Red Devil’s involvement and achievement in the Carnivals, Cross Country and the Home Group activities were outstanding. As Captains, we are very proud to lead Red Devils, with such an amazing team, towards the respected House Cup at the conclusion of the year. We would just like to congratulate and encourage you all, to continue to raise the standards and expectations throughout Red House.

*Jarrad Robinson and Annalise Jenkin*

### YELLOW HOUSE
We would like to start by commending Yellow House for their continuous display of positive attitude and effort this semester. It has been very satisfying to be part of such great culture. Achievement has been off the carts, and we have lost count of the number of awards for academic achievement and sporting achievement which have been given out at assemblies. The meaning of our motto, “Success Through Participation”, has really been brought Yellow House to a new level this year, with a real desire displayed by the students to get involved in our three sporting carnivals. Participation delivers results, and this was consistently evident, delivering a victory and a second place; the Athletics Sports victory with a record total of some 1050 points! As Captains, we are proud to be a part of such a great House. Let’s continue to raise the bar in Semester 2, **GO STINGERS!**

*Molly McCombe and Jack Van Hoorn*
It has been an exciting semester for Inter House activities, with many Sporting Carnivals and academic events. Students have participated in Open Night, the Musical Festival, Swimming Carnival Athletics Carnival and Cross Country. As a result, the tallies so far are:

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Yellow</td>
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</tr>
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<td>4th</td>
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</table>

David Innes—Inter-House Activities Coordinator

It has been a great start to the year for the Library. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is in full swing with 19 students already completing the challenge and the school as a whole registering over 1,500 books.

This year has also seen the use of OverDrive, the school's digital library system, expanded with all students with a digital device now able to read and access over 500 digital eBooks both in class and at home.

Semester 2 in the library will see Richard Galbraith, the author of *Snowfire*, return to speak to the Year 7s, the conclusion of the Premier’s Reading Challenge and the MS Readathon, which will take place in August.

Matthew Neil—Library Coordinator
CIVICS & CITIZENSHIP

PINK STUMPS DAY
On Tuesday 17th March Mooroolbark College held a ‘PINK STUMPS DAY’ which raises funds for the Jane McGrath Foundation for Breast Cancer Research and Awareness. The day was organised by 12B VCAL students in conjunction with Mr McCormick and the SRC. The event was a huge success with almost $2000 being raised on the day. A huge thank you must go to our College community (Students, Staff and Parents/Guardians) for getting behind the day, and more so the cause. We hope we have made a small contribution to the McGrath Foundation reaching its goal of helping as many families affected by breast cancer as possible.

ANZAC DAY
The College Captains represented the College at Hookey Park in Mooroolbark on Saturday 25th April to commemorate Anzac Day. They spoke well and then laid a wreath. Our Middle School Captains represented the College at the Dawn Service in Lilydale. They laid a wreath. All our Captains represented the College with pride and dignity. We are very proud of them.

RECONCILIATION WEEK
At Mooroolbark College we completed a wide variety of respectful relationships programs. During the week from Wednesday 27th May to the Wednesday 3rd June our students celebrated Reconciliation Week. During this time our house Captains prepared four individual speeches to enlighten and continue to embrace the respectful relationship between our Aboriginal and non-aboriginal students both in the College and the wider community. As part of this week, three of our indigenous students were selected to represent our twenty five indigenous students, to have the honour of raising the Aboriginal flag, which flew proudly in the southern quadrangle.
SENIOR SCHOOL NIGHT OF NIGHTS

YEAR 11 DEBUTANTE BALL
On Saturday 20th June 2015, 35 Debutantes and their partners participated in the 49th Annual Debutante Ball at The Centre, Ivanhoe. They presented themselves admirably and are a credit to their families and the College.

Congratulations on a fantastic night and thank you to all those who attended and staff who gave up their time to help on the night.

It was an eventful night and a great time was had by all.

Claire Jones and Sarah Garnaut - Debutante Coordinators

YEAR 12 SOCIAL
On Thursday 11th June the Year 12A VCAL Class organised a Year 12 Social for both VCE and VCAL students. As a part of their Personal Development Skills class they had to arrange the whole night from start to finish including choosing the venue, hiring a DJ, hiring a photographer, organising food, inviting staff and much, much more.

The social is an opportunity for all Year 12 students to let their hair down mid year and is the main fundraiser for their Celebration Day at the end of the year. This year they raised over $1900.

The night commenced at 7.00pm and by 7.30 the dance floor was full and it was not until the end of the night that they stopped dancing (I am sure that there were lots of sore feet on Friday). The ladies looked spectacular in a range of different formal dresses and all the boys looked as equally stunning all dressed up in their suits and ties.

The students were exceptionally well behaved and all seemed to enjoy the night immensely.

Thank you to all the staff who attended on the night and helped out with supervising, or should I say socialising with all the students.

Jenny Roache - VCAL Coordinator
YEAR 7 CAMP MARYSVILLE

On Monday 20th April, 153 students and 15 staff ventured off to Marysville for our Year 7 camp. It was great to have so many of our Year 7s make the most of the opportunity to spend some time together, to continue building the sense of community that camps provide. Students took part in a large range of activities; including canoeing, rock-climbing, cooking, bush hut building, bush walking, bike riding and various co-operative/initiative based activities. Seeing our students work together and continue to develop new friendships was a delight to observe. Our students presented themselves as a supportive, friendly and positive group at all times. Their behavior on camp reinforced what several of their classroom teachers had been saying that this group does the College proud. As mentioned at the conclusion of camp, the continued success of our College can be driven by the attitude and actions of all students.

Many thanks to the following staff who attended and worked hard to ensure the camp was a success – John Nichol, Lucas Unland, Matthew Donald, Danielle Clarke, Glenn Carroll, Laura Bevan, Rhonda Harker, Claire Jones, Tracey Benness, Jennifer Young, Jan Willingham, Rebecca McMillan, Matthew Bell, Jodie Tilley and student teacher Darcy Price.

Adam Lorkin — Transition Coordinator/Assistant Principal

Student Voice — Marysville Camp

Camp Marysville was amazing. They had great staff, great food and the accommodation was the best. I enjoyed all the activities. The activities were: rock climbing, canoeing, mountain-bike riding, ’Grow it, Cook it’, bushwalking, initiatives and hut building. They were all fun.

Abbey Crossland — Year 7 Student

Camp Marysville was an amazing camp. There was canoeing and bike riding. I jumped into the water when we went canoeing. I went onto the rock climbing wall. You could either scream with fear or yell with excitement. I enjoyed camp heaps!! One day I will do it again.

Rochelle Spooner — Year 7 Student
This year our tour was split into two groups, Group A had 42 Year 9 students and Group B had 40, with 9 staff. Group A departed Sunday 22nd March and Group B departed Monday 23rd March. We travelled on the Spirit of Tasmania and we were lucky to have a relatively smooth sail until we hit the Heads. We arrived unscathed at 6am and we disembarked about 6.45am.

We met our Redline Coach Captain and we loaded up the bus and headed to breakfast at Sheffield. After bacon and egg rolls, we explored the Murals at Sheffield and then we were on our way to Marakoopa caves. We stayed in a different motel each night and spent the days travelling and visiting many places of interest along the way.

Some highlights included:

**DAY 1**
- Seeing the fantastic murals in Sheffield whilst, marveling at the surrounding mountains.
- Marakoopa Caves— the stalagmites and stalagtites and the glow worms, Cataract Gorge, the chairlift ride.
- The Botanical Gardens in Launceston to watch the monkeys.
- Shopping in Launceston.
- Arriving at Tamar Valley Resort, where students could play mini golf or, on the jumping pillow and staying in our Swiss-style chalets for the night.

**DAY 2**
- Richmond and Ross
- The wood carvings in the main street at Campbellfield.
- Zoodoo Wildlife Park—lion feeding, crazy ostriches and emus, tassie devils, patting the Albino wallabies and koalas.
- The Blow Hole, Devils Kitchen and those excellent chips.
- Port Arthur at night for the Ghost Tour, no torches allowed.

**DAY 3**
- Visiting the Port Arthur site the next day and cruising to the Isle of the Dead and visiting the convicts' graves.
- Completing the Scavenger hunt—many received prizes for their efforts. Remarkable cave.
- Hobart Mall.
- Arriving at the Riverfront Motel—many students were lucky enough to stay in the mansion, river house and coach house.

**DAY 4**
- Visiting Cadbury’s factory shop-fabulous hot chocolates made with real chocolate flakes.
- The Huon Air Walk and barbeque.
- Flying home Friday evening.

Group A arrived back at school around 12.40am, after the flight was delayed due to electrical storms, we eventually boarded and had an uneventful flight home with Jetstar. Group B was more fortunate, with no delays occurring.

The accommodation and food were excellent!

A great time was had by all! Thanks to all the staff who gave up their time to accompany the students on the tour.

*Jodie Tilley, Janet Whitby & Elizabeth Nickel—Tour Organisers*
I was in two mind sets about it. Should I go, shouldn’t I go? As none of my close friends were going, I didn’t really know anyone that well, and I never really liked camps, so I thought; what good could come out of it? But I made the choice to go on the 2015 Central Australia camp and I will never regret it, as I had the best time ever.

The teachers organised the camp really well and made every minute count with fun and entertaining activities, which really helped you meet new people and make new friends. I absolutely loved the bus trip, as there was never a boring or dull moment. You really got to see everybody's bubbly and fun side through the games we were playing like the sour strap and cream egg challenge, speed dating, the banana battle and the paper, scissor, rock competition. I also loved the nights we had like Hawaiian night, date night, trivia night and movie night. It ended a great day on a high note. They were so much fun. I also really enjoyed dressing up each day, especially drag day. My favourite part of the camp would definitely have been hiking up Kings Canyon in drag and swimming in the water hole up there. It was so beautiful. I also really enjoyed sleeping underground at Coober Pedy and learning about the Opal mining, and how they live underground up there. It is such a different way of life, so I found it very interesting to learn about. I loved the camping environment we were in, like camping in the two man tents under the stars. But the one thing I looked forward to the most at the end of each day was the “nobinations” read out at dinner, which were so funny that everyone was laughing and having a blast.

The camp was filled with nothing but positive memories and was truly an amazing experience, one that I will always remember.

Nicole Luglio—Student
YEAR 12 STUDY CAMP

YEAR 12 CAMP 2015
On Monday February 23rd, we left for Camp Oasis for the annual Year 12 Study Camp. The camp serves several purposes. It provides an opportunity for Year 12 students to mingle and get to know their peers, to reflect on their schooling and how they would like to finish. There are formalised presentations from Elevate – study sensei and time management, and a motivation speaker Mark Dobson who has worked with international universities and Olympic athletes, challenges our students to think about why they are studying Year 12 and what they want to achieve. The camp also provides an opportunity for students to get to know the Senior School team in an informal and relaxed manner.

John Nichol, our Well-Being program manager, has developed an excellent camp program that is a blend of challenging physical and metal activities, along with a series of high-level presenters. There is also an element of silliness, making the retro karaoke night a huge success this year.

The feedback from students is always positive and the program is tweaked according to their suggestions and current educational thinking.

A follow up Elevate session on Exam preparation will run later in the year and a complementary parent session will run on Wednesday 4th March.

Thank you to Mrs Roache, Mrs Davis, Miss Clarke, Mrs Jennings, Mr Innes, Mr Reid and Mr U'Ren for their support and assistance with the camp.

Most importantly, thank you to the Year 12 attendees. You were an absolute pleasure to have on camp.

Samantha McIntosh - Year 12 Coordinator
Another exciting semester in the world of Sport Leadership. Students have organised and budgeted for several team building activities this semester. These have included a commando course, laser strike, rock climbing, paddle boarding, pool snorkelling games, bush walking, and an aerial circus course. They have also completed a bike programme in preparation for their end of year camp to Warburton, a 90km bike ride over 2 days.

Students are presently working hard to complete their Level 1 First Aid course and have also completed their AFL umpiring course. They are now officially qualified AFL umpires. They then had the privilege to umpire the Aus Kick at the MCG and Ethiad stadium, with a further two games next semester.

The sports leaders have also been working with Manchester and Bimberdeen Primary School umpiring several AFL, Netball and Soccer inter-school matches. They were rewarded for all their hard work with a surf trip and excursion to a trampolining park.

Students are presently writing their lesson plans in preparation for running sport lessons in Term 3 for Manchester and Bimberdeen Heights Primary schools. In term 4 they will run an athletics programme for Kilsyth Primary school.

There is clearly a lot of hard work to come next semester on top of completing their Pool Bronze certificate. I know the students will rise to the challenge and complete their community work with the high standards they set themselves.

Paul Ryan - Sports Leadership Coordinator
This year’s Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh team began to develop their leadership and initiative skills, both in and out of the classroom. They have bonded very well as a group and their determination and commitment to the subject have shown that they have the potential to make great leaders in the future.

Duke of Edinburgh isn’t just a class; it’s an experience and a qualification. To complete the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, each student has to complete 3 months (minimum 1 hour per week) of physical recreation development, a new individual skill undertake, community service (volunteering) and 2 adventurous journeys.

We have participated in a myriad of team challenges, trust games and initiative activities to get to know each other and work as a team. Throughout the semester, students have worked on developing their leadership skills by leading activities and setting the standards within the class and around the school. They have also begun to develop more confidence, self-esteem, and respect within the classroom.

The class has already taken part in such activities as: a commando course, a walk to and peer assessment session at Lillydale Lake, a practice hike session at 1000 Steps, Mt Dandenong, a 3 day camp in the Cathedral Ranges, and we are having a wheelchair basketball game after an educational session with a disabled athlete in the final week of term.

The semester’s main highlight was our 3 day / 2 night practice journey and hike to Cathedral Ranges State Park. We will continue to learn basic survival skills (and complete our Level 1 First Aid course) to enable us to put these skills into action in preparation for our final adventurous journey in Term 4. There are many more experiences and activities to attempt during the second semester, to enable students to make the most of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

A fantastic semester so far, but the adventure has just begun….

SPORTS CARNivalS

Swimming Carnival

Mooroolbark College held their annual Swimming Sports on a perfect weather day on Monday 16th February. Not too hot but with enough sunshine to show off the wonderful colours and outfits many students chose to wear on the day in support of their signature Houses.

It was a fun way to start the year and the enthusiasm displayed by both staff and students was exceptional. The non-stop dance party in the toddlers’ pool attracted hundreds of spectators and participants and it was great to see teachers involved and not afraid to get wet.

The learners pool supplied more competitive activities with the traditional wading polo a favourite. The whirlpool and Pick-Up Cork events broke up the action a little.

Music is a constant and again the Carnival atmosphere reached loud and noisy heights.

The actual races were still active and when all were completed the results saw Blue Thunder the new title holder with 472 points, claiming victory over last year’s winner Yellow Stingers.

There were two records broken in the relays by the 20 boys and 20 girls and with the customary Staff Student race to complete proceedings many declared it the best day ever.

Overall it was just a marvellous day.

Athletics Carnival

Mooroolbark College had their annual Athletics Sports at Knox on Tuesday 28th April, under threatening skies, but with no rain. The proceedings were all completed in good time, thanks to new innovations of iPads and Mr Seabrook recording all field events through the library system of bar code scanning.

Yellow Stingers House blitzed the field to secure their first win for new House Leader Mr Esnouf.

The student body once again displayed their willingness to support their House colours and this contributed to the carnival atmosphere and high spirits shown. Mr Olarenshaw opened proceedings with a “Fashions on the Field” procession to acknowledge people’s dress up efforts.

The relays again provided great excitement with Mr Nichol and Mr Ryan adding to the performances with a public address commentary. The Teachers vs Students Relay finished the day with the staff again victorious, but with all parties enjoying the festivities.

Cross Country

Mooroolbark College’s annual Cross Country Carnival was held at Lillydale Lake on Friday 8th May.

It provided good running weather and some 600 competitors accepted the challenge to run the Lake course, gain a little fitness and support their Houses.

The excellent turn out from the seniors and student leaders was a highlight.

Great to see our House Leaders, Mr U’Ren and Mr Donald, running and competing with their students, giving the runners a target to chase.

The Red Devils were judged the winning House with a total of 294 points.

Our new bar code system introduced by Mr Seabrook and Mr Ryan was a welcome improvement, eliminating lines of students waiting to have their name recorded as a simple zap by the scanner registered all their details.

The traditional icy poles were welcome and very popular after an invigorating run and all declared it a fun and enjoyable afternoon.

Four new records were set with Thomas Sheridan, Thomas Hardstaff, Lachlan McGee and Braedon Dobie all reducing the winning time in their respective age groups.

Interschool Sports

A full range of summer and winter sports are entered with some special events included as well.

The Maroondah District based around Ringwood offers cricket, tennis and volleyball in Term 1 for both boys and girls, with boys baseball and girls’ softball additional activities.

Term 2 is our football time with soccer and AFL football on offer for both boys and girls. Netball is offered on separate days for both Boys and Girls with badminton added as well. Basketball, table tennis and hockey make up the year’s official pursuits of the Maroondah Schools Division.

Special events can be offered depending upon interest and in recent years we have also had teams in various equestrian events, multiple cycling events, lawn bowls, orienteering, triathlons, indoor hockey, gymnastics, aerobics, snooker and darts, lacrosse, team handball, squash and beach volleyball. New initiatives are taken on their merits each year.

Keith Clapp—Interschool Sport Coordinator
Students in the Arts have been busy creating, making and performing this year with a large variety of items displayed in the school community from the vast number of subjects on offer.

Work has been outstanding across all year levels. Students excelled at making the ceramic heads that keep ‘popping out’ of the kiln, ceramic platters and pots, Koorie and Pop Art inspired art, portraits of people in many different styles and medias, together with technical drawings, magazine covers, poster design, cartoon character designs created in Media, VCD and Digital Discovery.

Photography in both digital and film format are constantly being developed, creating interesting works. Etching and block prints are working their way out of the printing press.

Students have worked hard this term on Improvisation skills. Classes have rounded off the semester with a team Theatresports competition, which encourages the most crazy and imaginative performances from the students. Students from all year levels are rehearsing for the upcoming College Production, *A Somewhat Amusing Nine-three and Three Quarter Minutes*. It is a collection of classic comedy skits and performances from Faulty Towers. Make sure you get in early for the tickets.

The music team continues to provide students with opportunities to showcase their talents in musical performances. This semester there was the Year 11 Concert (to an audience of Year 7 and 8 students), Year 9 and 10 class concerts, and the Performing Arts Festival, during which performances from Year 7 Instrumental Music through to Year 10 Music were executed, along with a visual plethora of 2D Art surrounding them. All students, guests and parents who attended enjoyed the items, which were presented with enthusiasm and much critical praise.

Congratulations to all the creative and talented people who have exhibited their work so far. We look forward to more in the next half of the year.

Karen Ellis – Head of Arts KLA
**Getting through the Slump**

So here we are… halfway through the year already. The coming term is usually the hardest one for many of our students – the weather is dismal, the days short and grey and cold. Many Year 12 students struggle with their motivation at this time of year. All of us who have taught Year 12 over the years agree on this. And, honestly, I don’t know what the solution is except to be forewarned. It is very important for our Year 12 students to stay as positive and as focused as they can be next term. I’m a regular attendee at Club 3/4 on Tuesdays and Thursdays and sometimes the study centre is overflowing with staff and VCE students – all there to deepen the learning experience. The place is really buzzing. This is extremely encouraging and I see regular attendance at this academic melting pot as one way of sustaining motivation.

We’re through the NAPLAN tests again this year and we’ll see the results at the end of the year. As English teachers, we’ve put some thought and effort into assisting our Year 7s and Year 9s through this process. As someone who had to supervise both the Year 9 NAPLAN tests and the Year 11 English exam, I was very impressed with the focus most of our students brought to bear under exam conditions. The VCE Unit 1 English course, in particular, has been a challenge for some of our Year 11 students and it was fantastic to see them coming out the other side of the tunnel in terms of planning and writing essays in the exam. Equally impressive was the same focus that many of our Year 10 students displayed in their English exam.

So we can all look back on the first half of 2015 with a fair amount of satisfaction for a job well done. The trick is to keep the fire stoked and burning – particularly for Year 12 students because, really, Term 3 is their final term and they need to make the most of it.

*Jev Telford— Head of English KLA*

**FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT**

It has been a very busy semester in Mathematics in 2015. Students have been actively studying and preparing for NAPLAN tests and working on their general numeracy skills. Year 7s have been working on developing their integer, fraction and decimal skills. Year 8 students have been working on how to analyse statistical data and revising their BODMAS skills. Year 9s have been assessed on Measurement, Pythagoras’ Theorem and Trigonometry. Year 10s have just finished working on Pythagoras, Trigonometry, Algebra and Indices. VCE students have been getting used to the fast pace required to cover all the material required for the exam. Further Mathematics students have just finished their enormous Data Analysis multi-part SAC, whilst the Mathematical Methods students have completed a complex Differentiation Analysis task.

This year has introduced exams for Mathematics for Year 7s, 8s and 9s, to give students more practice in revising multiple topics at once and responding in a formal test environment. The exams proceeded very successfully and it is a credit to the students for treating the examinations as seriously as intended. There were no major behavioural issues and a number of students achieved excellent results.

Next semester, students in Years 10 and 11 will be choosing mathematics study next year. I highly advocate students in Year 10 Advanced Mathematical Methods to put Year 11 Specialist Mathematics, a new subject, at the top of their priority list. The level of advanced mathematics taught will give strong foundations for Mathematical Methods and Tertiary Level Mathematics. This would be an ideal subject for students who are good at mathematics, particularly Algebra, and are keen to study engineering at University.

This semester we have welcomed Mr Evan Maddock, who has been an absolute marvel on the team, teaching Year 7, 8 and 9 Mathematics. We also welcomed Mr James Taylor who had taken over from Mrs Brightling for a few weeks and will be returning again next semester to cover other classes. We are also very sad to say goodbye to Mr Daniel Smalley. Mr Smalley has been teaching in the Mathematics Department for three years and has developed a great rapport amongst students. Mr Smalley was consistently passionate and enthusiastic in every class he taught and he was able to communicate all the concepts in an easy to understand manner. He will leave an ironically large gap in the department and he will be very difficult to replace.

*David Innes - Head of Mathematics KLA*
We started the first half of the year on the front foot in the Health and Physical Education Department. Once again we continued our focus on beginning lessons as quick as possible with warm up / switch on activities linked to our learning intentions – making the most of our lesson time.

In Physical Education, Year 7, 8 and 9 PE classes began Term 1 with Minor Games and Fitness units where we saw many personal bests in fitness testing. Term 2 saw Year 7s (Netball) and Year 9s (European Handball) involved in Sport Education Programs, where the students took on the roles of Coach / Captain, Organiser/Manager, Scorer, Timekeeper and Statistician. Year 8 classes began units such as Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis and Soccer. Our Year 10s (half the year level) participated in many active classes which included trips to facilities in the local community. Our VCE classes (Physical Education, Outdoor Education and Health) once again boast strong numbers and are kicking goals, striving for great results.

In Health, Year 7s undertook their Peer Support Program with the help of Year 10 students and finished the semester beginning formal health classes at the College. Year 8s began the semester with a look at the Dimensions of Health and stages of the lifespan. We then looked at Nutrition and Puberty / Sex Education. Year 9s (half the year level) looked in detail at Mental Health, Drug Education and Sex Education. As always the main messages revolve around showing Respect and making good Choices for self and others.

Our electives subjects are once again proven to be popular, with Duke of Edinburgh, Sports Leadership and Bike Ed at Year 9 and Intensive Sport, Outdoor Education and Health at Year 10. We continued our community links with each P.E. class walking to Subway once a term to mix fitness with a healthy eating choice. We also saw the introduction of a girls walking group at lunchtime once a week. Furthermore the lunchtime gym club boast consistent numbers in the weights room with a strong contingent of Year 9s as regulars.

Luke McCormick – Head of Health and Physical Education
The first semester of 2015 has proved to be a busy one for the Humanities Key Learning Area. With Mrs Agardy taking leave prior to her retirement, we were pleased that Mr Clapp was able to step in and teach her Commerce and History classes. We thank Mr Clapp for his efforts over Term 2 and wish him well with his European travels.

Open Night proved to be busy and provided an opportunity for the Humanities KLA to showcase the efforts of our students. The classroom walls displayed posters of our History and Geography students. Humanities staff were available to talk to prospective students and their parents. The Geography room was alive with activity, as students created contour models out of sand. Year 7 and 8 student PowerPoints featured on the E3 computers.

Each year the Australian Securities Exchange Limited (ASX) operates a simulation exercise based on the buying and selling of shares on the stock market. It is designed to give an understanding of the securities market, without the risks normally faced.

Students form syndicates of one to four people who are allotted a theoretical $50,000 to buy shares. Each syndicate establishes a portfolio at the commencement of the game and may either trade or hold their portfolio. The challenge is to be the most profitable syndicate in the State.

Mooroolbark College entered twenty-nine syndicates from Years 9, 11 and 12 in the first game of 2015. Mitchell Salter of Year 11 came top in the college with a capital gain of $7,844.99. He was 32nd in Victoria.

In May, the VCE History students made a visit to the Holocaust Museum. This turned out to be a moving and enlightening experience for both students and staff.

As part of their course requirements the Year 12 Geography class took part in a number of field trips.

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Our first Performing Arts Festival for the year was held on Thursday 18th June, during lunchtime, Period 4 and after school. It was a resounding success with music students from Years 7 to 11 performing in A3. All of the College's ensembles played, including our Concert Bands, Guitar Ensemble, Choir, Keyboard and Percussion Ensemble, as well as some smaller groups, bands and individual musicians.

It was a wonderful opportunity for students and parents to see and hear some amazing performances from our College music students.

We have some truly talented students at our school, and it was a delight to see such high standard performances. Two of our very talented Year 8 trombone players also participated in the NEVR Soundtrack Concert at Hamer Hall on Wednesday 27th May. Max Travis and Cian Austin performed in the Rookie Band along with many other students from State Schools around Victoria.

The Music Department would also like to congratulate two of our piano students who recently sat ‘Modern Piano’ exams. Aleisha Hilet received Honours in her Grade 1 exam, and Megan O'Rorke was awarded 1st Class Honours for her Grade 3 exam.

Congratulations to all of our music students for all of your hard work this semester.

Lisa Gaudion—Instrumental Music Coordinator
The year has started off smoothly, with a new batch of Year 7 students enthusiastically starting either their German or Mandarin studies at Mooroolbark College. Of course, some students had already started a German or Mandarin program in their primary schools, but the expectations are much higher at high school. The progress has been so fast that we now have top language students in Year 7 German and Mandarin, who have had no prior knowledge of their chosen language.

Mandarin has been taught this semester at Mooroolbark College for the first time in the school’s history. Incoming Year 7 students now choose their preferred language class when they enrol. The College was very pleased to secure the services of Mr Jeff Loh, teacher of Mandarin and we plan to continue teaching Mandarin in both Year 7 and Year 8 next year.

Mrs Nickel has been enjoying long service leave during Term 2 and we welcomed Mr Jordan van Keulen to replace her in her absence. He will also be replacing Mrs Henderson, who will be taking long service leave in Term 3. Mr Loh and Mr Van Keulen have both been impressed by the high calibre of our students in the language classes.

The Year 7 German students were busy in Term 1 making a poster in German about themselves, and this term they prepared for spoken and written assessment. The students wrote and performed small dialogues in front of the class and this was very well done.

Year 8 German classes consist solely of students who have proven ability in German. These classes have worked extremely well and last term they prepared a poster in German about a person they admire. This term they wrote more sophisticated dialogues, which were often amusing, and performed them. Just before Easter, some Year 8 girls tried out the making and decorating of German style Easter eggs in Mrs Henderson’s class. They blew out the contents of real eggs and painted them, having a lot of fun in the process. The talented Mr Bahlo brought his guitar several times into his Year 8 German class, to facilitate the learning of verb conjugations. Herr Bahlo composed catchy songs to help students memorise the verb endings, which resulted in them gaining a greater understanding of the concept.

In the alternative study, Cultural Studies, the students have been examining the indigenous history of Australia, after watching the powerful movie, "The Rabbit Proof Fence."

The students of the Year 9 German class have taken the greater workload in their stride and the class has been performing student composed dialogues in class, based on their course work.

The main focus of Term 2 has been the global Language Perfect Competition. All language classes competed for a full 10 days in May. This year we gained not quite as many awards as last year, but we obtained more valuable awards. We still won an impressive 73 awards this year. Last year just one student obtained a Gold Award at Mooroolbark College. This year we had three recipients of Gold. The top student in the College was TARA MOIR in Year 7, followed by JAMES KEMPTON (Year 7) and HOLLY PAPS (Year 8). Silver Awards were won by Year 8 students, JORDAN DANIELS, CHARLOTTE PAPS and RIVER STEVENS-DOBBY in Year 9. KELLIE STEVENS (Year 8) was also awarded a Silver Award, just as she was last year. This is a very impressive achievement. Fourteen students won a Bronze Award after earning over 1000 points. Congratulations those students who won Bronze and to the 52 students who won a Credit Award. The competition was intense! Mooroolbark College can be very proud of coming 4th in German out of 168 Victorian schools teaching German, after coming 6th last year. Our Mandarin students also enjoyed being a part of the competition.

It was once again an amazing effort by all students of Languages at Mooroolbark College.

Andrea Henderson—Head of LOTE KLA
FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department and staff are amazed at how quickly the semester has gone. We have been busy working with students to ensure they are learning the theory and performing experiments.

We have been pleased with the students' hard work and efforts.

**Year 7**  
Skill building for the students has been a priority. Many experiments in “Introduction to Science” and “Separating Mixtures” and “Classification” have been undertaken by enthusiastic participants.

**Year 8**  
Chemistry has been a topic where the students increased their understanding of the topic by studying elements compounds and the periodic table. Many experiments were performed to reinforce the subject matter. Students became confident with using microscopes to look at and identify different types of cells. Energy and insulators are currently being investigated.

**Year 9**  
Students have been learning about their body, particularly the brain, nerves and hormones. The dissection of the sheep’s brain was mostly enjoyed by all. The bull’s eye discussion was also a popular activity. Chemistry has been studied and knowledge from previous years has been built on.

**Year 10**  
Students undertake different semester units and we have had some DNA models made, DNA separated genetic crosses performed, Cells and organelles studied, photosynthesis and cellular respiration, just to mention a few of the areas of study in one of the units. Chemistry and Psychology students have also been busy undertaking many experiments and learning theory. Mid year exams are coming up soon so we wish the students well.

**Senior School**  
It is most enjoyable to observe students in the senior classes of either Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, Physics and Environmental Science. Students are working hard towards mid year exams and completing school assessed coursework tasks.

**Year 11 Psychology**  
A visit to the Museum to look at the Mind and Body exhibition was an interesting and educational visit.

**Year 11 Environmental Science**  
Lillydale Lake has been a local area studied by our students. They have completed a detailed study of the ecosystem and performed many practical activities to gather and evaluate data. Guest speakers enlightened the students about fauna in the area and our students were most impressed and also were impressive.

The University of New South Wales Science Competition will be conducted soon and some of our students will be sitting the paper. We wish them all of the best.

We look forward to another busy and enjoyable semester, after a safe and relaxing holiday.

*Debra Curciel—Head of Science KLA*
Once again it has been an exciting and highly productive start to the year in Technology. Student work has been outstanding across all subjects with our VCE Product Design, Systems Technology and Food Technology students all leading the way with highly creative and well thought out folios and final pieces.

It has been great to see the Year 10 Foods students demonstrating their design and cooking skills at lunchtimes, cooking various menus on the portable kitchen, under the premise that the menu should suit a food van service. It has been closely followed by both students and staff. Year 9 students have also excelled with a high degree of skill and technique producing some most impressive cake designs.

This year is the first time we have run Year 7 IT. With its introduction into the Year 7 curriculum, it has been an extremely valuable process, allowing all year 7 students to solve any connectivity issues to the school’s network, Mooroolbark College email, digital library and reading challenge. It has also allowed us to cover cyber safety and appropriate usage of digital technologies. Many students have also found the word processing introduction valuable. As always, the textiles and fashion students have not let themselves down, producing extremely high quality products ranging from the designer aprons in Year 7 to the personal bags in Year 9. Fashion students have again been given the opportunity to extend themselves by attending extra lunch and afterschool sessions, where they get the opportunity to create their own garments.

Students in Woodwork have again not failed to impress with a range of high quality tasks being undertaken from the Tangram (Chinese puzzle) and wooden pencil box in Year 7, through to some highly creative wooden toys being designed and produced by the Year 10 wood class. It’s great to see students using the CNC mill and wood athe to add to the large list of hand tools and power tools used in wood.

Metalwork students have again shown great skill in producing a range of products across all classes, ranging from Year 8 through to Year 10. By using a range of specialist tools such as spot welders, bench folders, drills, soldering irons and gas torches, students have been able to expand the number of hand tools they can use.

My final thoughts for the semester are, Mooroolbark College is overflowing with gifted and talented students and we look forward to seeing you all in one or more of our numerous technology classes next semester.

Grigor Cummings—Head of Technology KLA
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College Uniform Policy

Tattoos cannot be visible and must be covered at all times.

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Department of Health; Regulations of tattooing and body piercing:

Legal restrictions on tattooing in Australia