WHOLE SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Calendar of Events

APRIL
22 TUESDAY - TERM 2 BEGINS
24 Whole School Assembly
25 ANZAC DAY - PUBLIC HOLIDAY
28 Debating Round 2
29/4-2/5 Girls Academy Camp

MAY
5-9 Italian Week
8 Junior Public Speaking DAV
12 Debating Round 3
13-15 NAPLAN
19-23 9D & 9F City Experience
21 School Council Meeting
22-23 School Production Workshops
28 Year 7 & 9 Boys Immunisation
28 Senior Winter Sport
28-30 Boys Academy Camp

JUNE
2-6 Year 10 & 11 Exams
2-6 9C & 9H City Experience
2 Round 4 Debating
9 QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY – PUBLIC HOLIDAY
10-12 Year 9 MIPS Program
10-12 Year 10 OH&S/My Future Program
11 Year 12 GAT Exam
13 REPORT WRITING DAY – PUPIL FREE DAY
16 VCE Units 2 & 4 Commence
16-27 Year 10 Work Experience
18 School Council
20 Year 7 Ancients Day
25 Instrumental Music Concert
27 VCE Acceleration Forms Due (Year 9 students)
27 END OF TERM 2
WHOLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
YEAR 7 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

*From L-R: Year 7D Food Technology Students - Adam Durso, William Blair and Alexander McConville*

The Year 7 Food Technology Students have been working hard in the kitchen throughout Term 1 to create culinary masterpieces such as Spaghetti Bolognese. Students are encouraged to think about presentation when plating up, as well as taking care during food preparation to ensure all safety and hygiene practices are carried out effectively. Students have gained many new skills such as operating the oven and gas cooktop, cleaning, washing up, evaluating, and working in small teams. A range of sweet and savoury dishes have been cooked so far including scones, stuffed potatoes and berry pikelets. *Ms Nora Tchekmeyan - Food Technology Teacher*

YEAR 7 CAMP

The Year 7 camp took place during week two, very early in the College calendar. It was a great opportunity for our Year 7 students to spend time with their friends and make new friends during the transition into secondary school. The weather was perfect for activities at Lake Dewar Lodge where raft building, kayaking, and stand up paddle boarding ensured a swim. Bike riding and the giant flying fox were also some of the favourite activities that challenged students to work together and support one another. Everyone enjoyed the facilities, fantastic food and recreational activities. *Ms Angela Field - Year 7 Co-Ordinator*

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents are reminded that the school and the Department of Education do NOT provide accident insurance for students whilst at school, on excursions, swimming, sporting programs or on camps. Parents/carers are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including transport costs.

*For your information: reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from commercial insurers.*
2013 SPORTING BLUE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The prestigious 2013 Victorian School Sports Awards (Sporting Blue Awards) were held at the MCG recently. Once again, Nicole Livingstone hosted the event, where the Education Minister, The Hon Martin Dixon was key speaker. Presenters were: Steven Hooker (Olympian – Pole Vault), Brad Johnson (former Captain, Western Bulldogs), Matson Lawson (Australian Swim Team) and Alex Rowe (Australian Athletics Team).

It was a fantastic afternoon of sporting acknowledgment with 57 students honoured from across Victoria. Once again, Maribyrnong College and Maribyrnong Sports Academy featured prominently. Congratulations to the following students:

Kieran Elliott – Cricket (Year 12 2013)
Liam Kennedy – Soccer (nominated by North Balwyn PS)
Lucas Vuradin – Tennis
Liam Braithwaite – Hockey
Jessica Brennan – Hockey (Year 12 2013)
Gabby Mifsud – Softball
Andrea Tai – Netball
Joel Smith – Basketball (Year 12 2013)
Hayla Rafei – Tennis (nominated by Strathmore North PS)

GEELONG JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

We entered 3 teams into the 2014 Geelong Junior Volleyball championships. Our major focus for this event was to give our younger players the opportunity to gain valuable game experience. It was very pleasing to see Mikayla Plapp and Darcy Beer, members of our Primary School Development Volleyball squad, do so well on the day.

Our Under 15 A Girls played very well and achieved a silver medal:
Ellie Worthington Mow, Julia Seymour, Thalia Wright, Caitlin Gashi, Keely Knight & Jewel Barun

The Under 15 B Girls team also performed well, finishing third:
Miranda Presti, Kaitlin Kissack, Jovana Gajic, Mikayla Plapp & Anardia Az Zahra

The Under 15 boys team just missed out on the grand final:
Patrick Fowler, Jason Johnson, Alex McConville, Ziyad El Tahir, Alex Ilic, Darcy Beer, Harrison Nickolaus, Aidan Sweeney & Alex Istanto
ROWING RETURNS TO MARIBYRNONG COLLEGE

The sport of rowing has made a return to Maribyrnong College after a long absence. The school had a proud rowing history throughout the 1960’s with several very successful crews rowing out of the Footscray City Rowing Club and there are reports that at least one of the old wooden rowing shells still resides under the school buildings! Through the encouragement and coaching of Footscray City Rowing club stalwarts, Reg McKay and Kevin Bourke, a group of twenty Year 8 students were introduced to Rowing during Sport Education classes in Term 4 last year. This was the catalyst for a crew of Year 9 girls to continue with rowing in 2014, and they have just competed in two regattas after six weeks of early morning training.

Anika Dawe, Ellen Polacsek, Rhiannon Wood, Evie Davenport and Michelle Duong (coxswain) formed the crew who competed in the School Sport Victoria/Rowing Victoria regatta on the Barwon at Geelong recently as well as the Footscray City Rowing Club regatta on the Maribyrnong river last weekend. Emily Glen, Maribyrnong College student and club rower at Footscray City helped the crew out on occasions allowing them to train with a full boat. At Geelong, the girls finished third in their heat but won the repechage final with a strong performance in front of College Principal, Mr Scott. They finished second in both races at Footscray behind more experienced women’s crews. Overall they really enjoyed their short season and are motivated to resume training in term 4 to continue their involvement in the sport. In term 4, the rowing club will repeat the Year 8 Sport Education trial to find our next crews and the trail blazing efforts of the girls will undoubtedly inspire new students to the sport. The College extends a big thankyou to Ms Kerwin, Ms Player, Ms Titcume and Mr Carroll for assisting with transport and supporting the regatta days as well as all the parents who came along to support the girls during training and competition.

ITALIAN GELATI DAY

Year 7 and 8 students enjoying gelato di Cioccolato (molto popolare), Fragola e Limone.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS OF THE VCE CLASS OF 2013

2013 was a remarkable year of wide ranging achievements culminating in some truly exceptional VCE results. There are many individual highlights and excellent results across the range of VCE studies. These outstanding results are a testament to our commitment to all students achieving their personal best and are a great source of pride and satisfaction for students, families and staff. Some brief highlights include:

- Increase in the median study score from 28 to 30
- 23% of students achieving ATARs in the top 20% of the state with a significant number of students achieving an ATAR of 90 and above
- Increase in the average ATAR score from 52.4 to 62.8
- Huy Vu, the College Dux, achieving an ATAR of 98.50
- 84% received a university offer, the remaining a TAFE offer
- 76% of students received their first preference

I would also like to acknowledge the hard work, effort and persistence of Year 12 teachers, as well as all the teachers in the College who have worked with the 2013 cohort in their earlier years. The work that is done by these teachers leading up to Year 12 is what ultimately prepares students for the rigour of Year 12.

I would like to congratulate all the Year 12 students on their achievements throughout their time at the College. We look forward to learning more about their future plans and successes and providing further highlights of student achievements. Dani Angelico - Assistant Principal

YEAR 11 STEELE CREEK EXCURSION

On a sunny Thursday in Term 1, the Year 11 geography class headed to Steele Creek reserve in Avondale Heights to get a first hand look at the Maribyrnong River and surrounds.

Some students were brave enough to get into the creek (in gumboots, of course) taking measurements and getting up close to the fish, whilst others stayed on the bank making observations about the environmental conditions and land use.

Fieldwork is a great way to get out of the classroom and experience some hands on learning. Senior Geography (both year 11 and year 12) have fieldwork components as part of their VCE course.
WESTERN METROPOLITAN REGION SWIMMING FINALS

On Thursday 27th March the swimming team competed in the Western Metro Region Swimming Finals and won. This results in a large number of students progressing to the State Finals. We wish them the best of luck.

DEBATING

It looks to be another fantastic year for our Maribyrnong College Debaters. The year began with our annual training afternoon on March 14th. Students involved from Years 8 to 12 indulged in pizza, while brushing up on their debating skills and beginning to prepare for Round One. Much fun was had by all.

Round One took place on Monday 24th of March with three of five teams winning their debates as follows:

Our A Grade (Year 12) team of Matt Li, Alex Walker and George Parker defeated Overnewton College on the topic "That the west should lift all sanctions on Iran".

Our D Grade (Year 9) team of Don Phu, Ainsely Ben and Luis Montero defeated Keilor Downs Secondary on the topic "That we should ban the gender-specific advertising of toys."

Our D Grade (Year 8) team of Alana Pirruccio, Rahda Butler and Jamieson Battistella defeated Salesian College on the topic "That we should ban the gender-specific advertising of toys."

Best speakers on the night were:
George Parker (Year 12)
Don Phu (Year 9)
Jamieson Battistella (Year 8)

Congratulations must also be extended to Maree Muscara (Year 11) who trialled for the Victorian State Debating Team on Sunday 16th February. Maree is one of our most talented and engaging debaters and I am told that she performed magnificently on the day. Congratulations Maree!

Congratulations to all of our wonderful debaters for their outstanding efforts. They are now busily preparing for Round 2 which will be held at St Bernard’s College on Monday 28th April at 7pm. We warmly invite all members of the school community to come and watch us in action! Please contact Olivia Grant with any questions.
YEAR 7 PARENT BBQ

On Thursday the 27th of February we held a BBQ for all Year 7 students, families and teaching staff. It was held in the courtyard area just outside the staff room. Well over 100 families attended the night. Our music students provided the entertainment and our school captains conducted tours for all who attended. The food was cooked and served by the Parents and Friends Association and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We would like to thank the PFA for all their efforts and the staff who attended the evening.

VICTORIAN SCHOOLS BEACH VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our teams won 4 state titles at the recently held 2014 championships.

**Gold medal winning teams were**-
Yr 7 Boys Fours: Patrick Fowler, Jason Johnson, Alex McConville & Ziyad El Tahir.
Yr 7 Girls Fours: Summer Leatitagaloa, Kaitlin Kissack, Jovana Gajic & Mikayla Plapp. (Mikayla is a member of our Primary School Development Volleyball squad. She is grade 6 student at Ascot Vale West Primary)
Yr 12 Girls Pairs: Georgia Nankivell & Achol Akec
Yr 11 Girls Pairs: Brianna Pyritz & Caitlin Waterfall

**Silver medal winning teams were**-
Yr 11 Girls Pairs: Vivien Maslov & Tayla Mangles

**Third places were achieved by the following teams**-
Yr 8 Girls Fours: Miranda Presti, Ellie Worthington Mow, Julia Seymour & Thalia Wright.
Yr 9 Fours: Caitlin Gashi, Thalia Wright, Keely Knight & Jewel Barun (all yr 8)
Yr 9 Girls Pairs: R Valentine- Bell & Lauren Taylor (yr 7)
Yr 11 Girls Pairs: Alicia Gould & Ruby Valentine Bell (yr 9)

This is another great result produced by our students and our Specialist Beach Volleyball coach "Chico" Jones.
LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

Last year, Maribyrnong College’s library underwent a full scale makeover which saw it evolve into a bright, modern and comfortable space. At recess and lunchtimes the library is abuzz with students playing games (electronic and traditional), reading, studying and socialising. The stigma that was sometimes associated with spending time in the library is well and truly gone, and it is great to see the mix of cultures, interests and ages all enjoying this space together.

With the roll out of BYOD at Maribyrnong, the library is focussing on increasing the number of eBook available through the Overdrive system. This term has seen a real uptake in the use of Overdrive; and shows a growing trend in students downloading and reading using iPads and android tablets. Some of the most popular eBooks this term have been Chasers, City of Bones, City of Glass, The End of the World and Dead Beautiful and Starting Eleven.

Keep an eye for the new and exciting eBooks added to our library collection throughout the year. If any students need help to access eBooks they just need to ask a library staff member.

We are always looking for ways in which we can connect more with our students. Coming soon will be additional plasma screens which will provide information about new hard copy and eBook titles, community and youth events, and general information we feel could be useful to the students. We will endeavour to facilitate connections between our students and the community using forums such as Youth Central. Have a look at their website (youthcentral.vic.gov.au) to see the opportunities available through government programs to assist in the personal and skill development of our students.

The other exciting announcement is that Maribyrnong College is taking part in the 2014 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge. The Challenge encourages and fosters a love of reading, and we are thrilled to see such a great response from the students so far. All students from year 7 to year 10 are welcome to participate, and will need to read at least 15 books or eBooks by the 5th of September. For more information students are encouraged to come to the library or ask their English teacher.

In the coming terms our teacher-librarians will continue to reach out to students to cover topics such as completing bibliographies in the Google world, plagiarism and cybersafety. This information is available to parents and students on the library page of the school website (http://www.maribsc.vic.edu.au/node/45).

Libraries are and will always be centres for information gathering and sharing ... but exactly what this looks like is very different in today’s world of ever changing technology. We love that our library is a place where laughter and talk is encouraged and embraced, and where students can exercise and extend their minds using whatever methods work for them.

If you haven’t already visited us please feel free to do so at any time. We are open from 8.15 to 4.00 pm Monday to Thursday and 8.15 to 3.15 on Friday.

STUDY TOUR OF ITALY, 2015

An EXPRESSION OF INTEREST note will be sent home soon with ALL students in years 8, 9 and 10 for parents to indicate whether their child might participate in a study tour of Rome, Florence, Venice and surrounds, next year.

PLEASE KEEP TUESDAY 29th APRIL at 6pm FREE FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION REGARDING DETAILS OF THE TOUR.
NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 2014

This term Maribyrnong College has welcomed ten new International Students. All are in Year 11. They are, from left to right, Tyler Huynh, Tracey Nguyen, Michael Bui, Jewel Duong, Michael Mao, Sejla Duzel, Manh Ninh, Vy Le, Khiem Vu and Bao Vu.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WELCOME EVENT

Each year in March, the International Education Division of the DEECD holds a welcome event at Government House for new International Students. Schools hosting new International Students are invited to send a representative from the staff and students. This year Jewel Duong attended the event, accompanied by Ms Cameron, the International Student Coordinator. Jewel is pictured here with the Minister for Education, the Hon. Martin Dixon.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BADMINTON

When International Students come to Australia, they leave their families to live with relatives, family friends, or in school arranged homestays. In order to help them feel at home here, the school holds several events for International Students during the year. This recent Friday evening badminton event was enjoyed by all who attended.

HAT DAY
Safe School Travel

With some minor preparation, travelling to and from school either via public transport or walking can be enjoyable and safe for everyone.

Here are just a couple of small tips from your local Footscray Police as to how you can travel safely.

- **Plan your trip.** Where you are going? How long do you intend to be? Which route you are taking? It’s always good to have these things planned out before leaving home or school.
- **Let people know where you are.** Letting family or friends know where you are and what times you’re travelling is always a good idea.
- **Travel with a friend.** Pairing up with a friend or walking in a group is a good way to improve your safety.
- **Pay attention to your surroundings.** Familiarising yourself with the public transport facilities you use. Remember key street names. Take notice of the location of public telephone boxes along the trip. When walking keep to well-travelled well-lit routes and avoid shortcuts. Be mindful when using headphones as you may not hear approaching danger or be fully alert to traffic and other surroundings.

Adopting just a couple of these tips can make sure you have a safe trip to and from school each day. Safety is everybody’s responsibility.