

# MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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> 6th December 2018 Newsletter No. 10

#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Our Year 12 Graduation Ceremony was held on the evening of Thursday 25th October in our Gymnasium Hall. There was a packed audience of family, friends and their teachers to honour their six year journey of secondary school and wonderful achievement of graduating for our Year 12 students. The 2018 Year 12 teachers presented a book prize to the top student in each of the subjects and a number of major awards were also announced and presented. Our four College Captains, Bridget Dorizzi, Nicholas Frost, Chloe Giles and Macy Houghton were acknowledged with the College Captain Award. Emily Carroll was announced as the winner of the Caltex All Rounder Award. This year we had six Citizenship Awards, namely Cooper Houghton, Caitlin Chin, Charlotte Chlopek, Shaun James, Katherine Smith and Rita Slewa. Leadership Awards were won by Isabelle Hall, Kyra Krukowitch and Mikayla Lee. Georgia McDermott won the Jackson Lee Memorial Award and Lachlan McKenzie won the SBAT Award. Congratulations to all of these very deserving students. Our Senior School staff, led by Bronwyn Mackey and Deb Metcalfe, is also to be congratulated on another quality and well-received event.

On Monday 19th November, a wonderful celebration of student achievement took place at the annual Gillespie-Upton Rotary Awards, sponsored by the Greensborough Rotary Club. For the past 36 years, Greensborough Rotary has sponsored the Rotary Award for a student at each year level and the criteria for this is to be outstanding in many areas of schooling, which can include academic, sporting and leadership and community service areas of College life. In 2018 we had a large number of students nominated by staff at every year level and once again the task of choosing just one 'stand out' has proved to be very difficult at each year level. However, the six 2018 recipients are outstanding examples of individual and collective achievement and they are:

Year 7: Rylie Gunakesa Year 8: **April Woodward** Year 9: Katrina Dorizzi Year 10: Zoe Dyer Year 11: Jason Le

Year 12: Kyra Krukowitch

The awards ceremony was conducted at the Heidelberg Golf Club and was attended by the students, their parents, grandparents and family members, Assistant Principals, Clara Di Biase and Mark Lohrey, Sub-school Leaders, Bronwyn Mackey, John Healy, Sonia Culcasi and myself. This achievement is a very significant marker in the school life of these most impressive students. We are extremely proud of our six Rotary Award winners and in 2018 they have set an impressive benchmark for others at the College. We congratulate and commend them as outstanding and thoroughly deserving young citizens. I would now like to share with our community their citations from the award ceremony:

### YEAR 7 - RYLIE GUNASEKERA

Rylie completed Year 6 at Gladstone Park Primary School as school captain and came to start Year 7 at Montmorency Secondary College in 2018 not knowing a single person at the College. At the very beginning of the school year, Rylie joined the Student Representative Council and began participating in leadership activities.

Throughout the year, Rylie has participated in a number of activities that have showcased his spectacular leadership skills. In March, Rylie participated in the Thinking Carnival, and acted as a leader guiding Primary School students through problem solving activities. Following this, Rylie was involved in Primary School Leadership Days where he also ran activities for students from local primary schools to participate in. As a role model for the school, Rylie has represented the College at local transition visits, demonstrating his friendly and easy-going nature at addressing questions posed by future students.

Rylie is very community minded and has been recognized as a student who supports those around him. Thus, Rylie not only ran in the student organised Colour Run to raise funds for Cystic Fibrosis, but he has represented the College at our Open Day, Arts Alive and the Remembrance Day service as well as being selected as a Middle School House Captain for 2019.

Berlin Sillergin Brown

In addition to his leadership skills, Rylie is an avid sportsman where he represents South Morang Cricket club in the under 14 and senior's teams, the Winged Karate club and Dance Exclusive in the intermediate Hip-Hop division. He is also part of the Montmorency Secondary sports teams, competing in a range of sporting activities throughout the year.

Rylie has excelled academically throughout the year and he has been a straight A student. Due to this, he was invited to participate in Challenge English, Challenge Maths and Challenge Science at Montmorency in 2019. Many of his teachers note his ability to be a helpful member of the class and without being asked, Rylie on a daily basis helps teachers and his fellow class members. He has a great sense of humour and taste in music and is inclusive of all members of the class, teachers and students alike.

Rylie has proved himself to be a dedicated student in all areas of school life this year. And it is the for the above reasons that he has been selected as the Rotary Award winner for Year 7 in 2018.

Congratulations, Rylie!



### YEAR 8 – APRIL WOODWARD

April arrived at Montmorency Secondary College from Greenhills Primary in 2017. At Greenhills, April was a member of the Junior School Council. She maintained her involvement in the school leadership program upon arriving at the College, where she has been a member of the Student Representative Council for the past two years.

As a member of the Student Representative Council, April has been involved with raising funds for Cystic Fibrosis through the annual Colour Run. April has assisted in the Primary School Leadership days helping organise and welcome students from the local primary schools.

As well as her leadership qualities, April is also an accomplished athlete. She has been training with the Diamond Valley Athletics club for the past eight years and recently finished third in the State for the 110 metre hurdles. April plays volleyball for the College, Netball for Diamond Creek in Division 1, and is also a keen footballer. This year, as a member of the Montmorency girls' under 16 football team, April was selected to play in

the Northern Region A Grade Football team.

Throughout her time at the College, April has excelled academically. She has been a straight A student all year with invitations to both Challenge English and Challenge Maths. In the last twelve months, April has received 9 Academic Excellence awards.

April has proven to be an exemplary student since arriving at Montmorency and for these reasons she has been selected as the Gillespie Upton Rotary award winner for Year 8 in 2018.

Congratulations, April!

### YEAR 9 - KATRINA DORIZZI

I have the very great pleasure to introduce Katrina Dorizzi to you, the Montmorency Secondary College Year 9 recipient of the Gillespie Upton Rotary Award for 2018.

Katrina is a delightful, community-minded young woman, who in just three years at the College, has made a special impression on everyone with whom she has met and worked.

Katrina has volunteered her time over the past three years to serve on the College's Student Representative Council. She engages in its many community and social justice initiatives, particularly, assisting with Primary School Leadership Days, mentoring young students and encouraging the development of their leadership skills. This year, Katrina has contributed to the success of the college's Relay for Life in partnership with the Cancer Council, as well as the Interact Club's Wheelchair for Kids fundraiser. Both are charities that Katrina feels passionate about being able to assist in any way she can. Just a few weeks ago, Katrina assisted with the running of the hugely successful Cystic Fibrosis Colour Run, helping to raise vital funds for research into this most debilitating condition, one which impacts the lives of several of our students at the College.



Katrina has also served as Middle School House Captain in 2018, which means that she has a vital role in communicating upcoming events to students at House Meetings. Not only does she do this well, but she demonstrates what 'showing-up' means. She has assisted and participated in the successful running of the College's annual talent quest, which we call House Off, as well as the College's annual swimming and athletics carnivals. Katrina is also a most welcome addition to the hardworking Student Representative Council team which runs the College Whole-School Assemblies and the SRC Conference each year. She pitches in for the glory-free jobs of setting up and packing up post-House Off and Whole-School Assemblies. It might not be a high profile role which others around the College would recognise or even appreciate, but these fantastic school community events cannot run effectively without participants who are willing to work behind the scenes and ensure the groundwork has been done.

Throughout her time at College, Katrina has also excelled academically. She has been invited to Challenge Science and her teachers compliment her on her mature approach to her studies and diligent effort in all her classes. Katrina regularly achieves Personal Best awards, in addition to Academic Achievement awards in her core and elective subjects.

The Montmorency Secondary College school community warmly congratulates Katrina on her impressive achievements this year.

Congratulations, Katrina!

### YEAR 10 - ZOE DYER

Zoe Dyer began her studies at Montmorency Secondary College in 2015 on the back of a Montmorency Leadership Scholarship. From the start, Zoe was identified as one of the leaders within the school and very quickly became a member of the Student Representative Council. Zoe has been actively involved in many aspects of school life during her time at the College.

We are delighted that Zoe, as a member of the SRC, is greatly committed and invested in helping others at school and in the wider community. She has attended all SRC meetings and displayed strong leadership skills by organizing and participating in several events, including giving her time and support to a number of fund-raising activities in 2018. As an integral member of the SRC, Zoe has often been called upon to represent the school in a number of capacities including;

- Several Primary School Leadership days and the Thinking Carnival, where she led major activities with groups of primary school children.
- Every Montmorency Secondary College Open Days/Nights in the past 4 years, welcoming prospective parents, students and other visitors to the school and organizing displays; and
- she has represented the school at the past four ANZAC Day commemoration ceremonies and community events.

This year Zoe has also been involved with the school's 'Bigger Buddy' program, working with and mentoring a number of Year 7 students at the College. Zoe also helped run the 2018 'LipSync Battle', which was a fund-raising event enjoyed by staff and students alike.

As you can see, Zoe has been an outstanding member of Montmorency Secondary College for a long time, but especially this year. The kindness and care she constantly demonstrates towards others in need, and her love of, and commitment to, her school community makes her one of the star performers of the College.

In nominating Zoe for this award, the Senior School Team wishes to recognize her outstanding efforts and the positive approach she has demonstrated towards both her studies and her co-curricula activities at the College. We are delighted by the potential she has shown and excited by what her future will bring.

### Congratulations Zoe!



### YEAR 11 – JASON LE

Jason played an integral leadership role at Montmorency Secondary College in 2018. He willingly undertook positions of responsibility and provided a positive role model to his peers.

Jason has been an active participant in the school leadership community. Indeed, he has been a member of the SRC since 2014 and a Senior Leader this year. His commitment to the SRC has resulted in Jason securing senior leadership roles for 2019, including Senior School Leader and House Captain. Jason's commitment to the SRC was further recognized by his participation in the 2018 Victorian SRC Congress held at Ormond College. Here Jason was awarded the distinction of being made a Victorian SRC Ambassador in 2018/19.



Jason has also participated in a broad range of activities including,

- Relay 4 Life
- Bigger Buddies program
- Open Day guide
- House Off
- Beyond Blue fund raising
- Fair Share fund raising activities
- Attendance at Armistice Memorial
- Involvement in primary school leadership days
- Attendance at SRC conferences
- Participation in Wheelchairs for Kids event
- Attendance at all House events

Jason is indeed a worthy recipient of this award and we wish him well in his Year 12 studies.

Congratulations Jason.

### YEAR 12 - KYRA KRUKOWITCH

Kyra Krukowitch is an outstanding student and a wonderful young woman who has demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities and a strong sense of social justice during her six years at the College. Kyra was selected as Rotary's exchange student to Japan in 2017/2018 and she is also the 2018 Interact President.

Kyra's academic achievements are many. She has received Academic Excellence Awards each year since commencing in 2013 and most recently, achieved academic excellence in all six VCE Unit 3 & 4 subjects that she has undertaken this year.

Her kindness and sense of social justice, and also her concern for her peers and the wider community, has seen her involved in many fundraising and community events. Some of these include:

- The World's Greatest Shave with Interact, which raised in excess of \$5000.
- Kyra organised and helped run the wheelchair for kids events the wheelchair basketball game and the relay event which raised in excess of \$10,000.
- Kyra helped organise and run the Ermha Foundation 'Dare to Donate' event, raising in excess of another \$2000.
- In 2018, Kyra was the Senior Leader for HeartKids, running the fundraiser for this, which included the spartan run and Valentine's Day cards.
- Kyra participated in the 2018 Relay for Life and was an Open Night Guide for College tours.
- Kyra helped make the cupcakes and flag pins for IDAHOBIT Day and has been a member of the knitting club that runs at lunchtimes, to help make blankets for homeless women with babies.
- Kyra participated in the Cystic Fibrosis Colour Run

Kyra is an exceptional young woman and is an exemplary role model for other young women. We would like to congratulate Kyra on this wonderful achievement and wish her all the very best in her endeavours beyond secondary school.





John Healy, Sonia Culcasi, Rylie Gunakesa, April Woodward, Katrina Dorizzi, Zoe Dyer, Jason Le, Kyra Krukowitch, Bronwyn Mackey, Allan Robinson

In some more good news our sports program in 2018 has been both vibrant and highly successful, with many of our teams progressing to regional and state finals. Many staff have volunteered their own time and skills to coach these students and examples of outstanding success include:

- Year 8 boys Basketball Team Runners-up at State Finals
- Year 8 Girls Softball Team Third at State Finals
- Year 8 Boys Baseball Team State Finalists
- Year 8 Boys Netball Team Runners-up at State Finals
- Year 7 Boys Baseball Team State Finalists
- Intermediate Girls Softball Team (Year 9/10) State Champions
- Intermediate Boys Cricket Team State Finalists

In Week 4 of this term, it was our 'Arts Alive' festival and a real celebration of our performing and creative arts programs and students' talents and achievements. On the Monday, we held our Music Performance Night in the Auditorium to a full house of parents, guardians, grandparents and family members. The evening was co-ordinated by Instrumental Music Director, Anthony Citino, and Music Faculty Leader, Sharon Cooke. Our dedicated team of instrumental teachers proudly presented their students to perform and they did so in wonderful fashion. At the conclusion of the performances, awards were presented for instrumental music and it was most rewarding to witness the emerging talent and passion for music by our junior students, and the outstanding accomplishments of our senior music students. As part of this concert, there were also some impressive dance routines performed by some very talented student dancers.

On the Tuesday evening, we held the official opening of our Creative Arts 'festival' in the Gymnasium/Hall and our Art, Technology, Drama and Music staff were present to celebrate the achievements of their students. Awards for the top students in these subjects were awarded and presented. This year the awards and evening were led by Art and Technology teacher, Claire Mooney, and an impressive display of quality creative artwork was also officially opened.

Awards were also presented to students who participated in our annual Primary School Art competition from local primary schools. A large audience of parents, guardians, grandparents and family members, students and teachers joined together to celebrate an outstanding level of teaching and learning, as well as the artistic achievement and talent of our students.

On Thursday 8th November, over 100 of our Year 7, 8 and 9 students from the Student Representative Council attended a special service to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of World War One Armistice Day. Our students and staff walked to the Montmorency RSL at Petrie Park to join representatives of other local schools for this event. Year 10 student, Christopher Mackie, was chosen as the Master of Ceremonies for the occasion and he was outstanding. Another of our Year 10 students, Sarah van Putten, was chosen to present her own speech on 'The Meaning of Remembrance Day' and she was also outstanding. Congratulations also to Kim Faulkner, Hamish Yule and Karen Giles for their hard work in organising our students for this event.

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, I participated in the Department's 'Principal for a Day' program, which is sponsored by ACER and the Bastow Institute. I was shadowed throughout the day by Juilian Sallabank, who is the Group Chief Executive Officer of the Clarius Group, which is one of Australia's largest listed specialist recruitment, on demand and people services organisations and the largest Australian-owned Chinese specialist recruitment firm. Julian was very impressed with our College and, reflecting upon the experience, we agreed that we shared a lot of logistical, staffing and client challenges in common.

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November we held a very successful Year 7, 2019 Parent Information evening in our Auditorium. This was very well attended by almost all of the 200 families who will be joining the College next year and a lot of very useful information and news was presented by Sonia Culcasi, our Leading Teacher in charge of Year 7 and transition. Also attending and fielding lots of questions were Assistant Principal, Clara Di Biase and Year 7 Level Co-ordinators, Belinda Bell and Gemma Pearson.

In Week 4 of this term, 116 of our Year 9 students attended the Year 9 camp at The Summit in Trafalgar for the first time. From all accounts, this was an



Principal for a Day—Allan Robinson &

Julian Sallabank

outstanding experience and at the camp students were challenged through a combination of meaningful programs and powerful activities to build self-worth, character, success and happiness. Activities included a bush challenge, flying fox, orienteering, giant swing, rock wall, leap of faith, laser skirmish and obstacle mayhem.

On Thursday 15th November, together with our Assistant Principals, Clara Di Biase and Mark Lohrey, I attended the North East Melbourne Area (NEMA) Term 4 Principals Forum at the MCG. At this event, we were introduced to the over-arching "The Victorian Teaching and Learning Model", which stems from the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO), gradually being introduced by the Department and State Government. Our work on the day centred around the FISO concept and the new over-arching model and its four elements: Vision for Learning, Practice Principles, High Impact Teaching Strategies (HITS) and the Pedagogical Model. It is very obvious that this is not a linear model for school and student outcomes improvement and it will be a work in progress for quite a while.

Following a lengthy process of state-wide advertisements, applications and interviews, the Leading teachers for 2019-2021 have been appointed. All of these appointments are from within the College and they are:

Caitlin Penrose: English/Literacy

Stephen Horn: Mathematics/Numeracy

Kim Faulkner: Student Engagement/Involvement
Sonia Culcasi: Year 7 Year Level Leader/Transition

Michelle Clark: Year 8 Year Level Leader
Krista Durham: Year 9 Year Level Leader
Matthew Bennett: Year 10 Year Level Leader
Deb Metcalfe: Year 11/12 Year Level Leader
Glenn Blackmore: Learning and Teaching Leader

Together with the Principal Team, these leading teachers form our Strategic Planning Team, which is the team that leads the College in our four-year Strategic Plan (2019-2022).

Under the terms of the 2017 Victorian Government Schools Agreement (2017 VGSA), we have appointed five new category Learning Specialist Teachers for 2019. Their tenure is for one year and they have also been appointed from within our own staff ranks. They are:

Science: Campbell Wilson
Languages: Marjory Creta-Ireland
Humanities: Rebecca Culnane
Health/Physical Education: Kate Webb

Arts/Technology: This position is to be shared between Claire Mooney & Jason Mill

The Learning Specialists significantly extend our educational leadership profile at the College.

Congratulations to the 15 teachers on appointment to these important leadership positions at the College.

Due to increasing student numbers we have a number of new teachers coming to the College in 2019. We also have some staff changes due to some retirements and promotions and this means we also have some new appointments to Year Level Leader and Co-ordination teams for next year. Our Year Level Co-ordination teams are now in place for 2019 and they are:

Year 7

Year 7 Level and Transition Leader: Sonia Culcasi

Year 7 Level Co-ordinators: Belinda Bell, Gemma Pearson

Year 8

Year 8 Level Leader: Michelle Clark

Year 8 Level Co-ordinators: Alecia Kelly, Stephanie Short, Eleonora van Graas

Year 9

Year 9 Level Leader: Krista Durham

Year 9 Level Co-ordinators: John Healy, Ivanka Sapina

<u>Year 10</u>

Year 10 Level Leader: Matthew Bennett
Year 10 Level Co-ordinator: Mary Curran

Year 11 & 12

Year 11 & 12 Level Leader: Deb Metcalfe
Year 11 Level Co-ordinator: Matthew Pickett
Year 12 Level Co-ordinator: Kerryn Robinson

In relation to our \$14m redevelopment and refurbishment of the College, we have made some steady progress with building works since our last meeting. The builders are still confident that the works will be completed by the end of January 2019 and ready for students and staff. We are less confident of them meeting this deadline but building works are well underway in 'A Block'. It will also be interesting to see when all the proposed landscaping takes place and also the attention to defects. However, the end of the project still looms as an exciting climax.

Regards

Allan Robinson Principal

# **SAVE THE DATE**

FOR THE
Montmorency Secondary College



Thursday 20th December, 2018
Planetshakers Centre
360 Main Road, Lower Plenty

6.45pm for a 7pm Start

THE COLLEGE WILL
CLOSE ON
FRIDAY 21ST
DECEMBER, 2018
AND RE-OPEN TUESDAY
29TH JANUARY, 2019

YEAR 7 & 8 STUDENTS
WILL COMMENCE
THURSDAY 31ST
JANUARY, 2019
YEARS 9-12 WILL
COMMENCE FRIDAY
1ST FEBRUARY, 2019

#### **TERM 4 AT A GLANCE**

Fri 7 December Last Day for Current Year 10 & 11 students

Tue 11 December Year 2019 Year 7 Orientation Day

Wed 12—Fri 14 December SRC Conference

Mon 17 December Last Day for Current Year 8 & 9 students—End of Year Activity to Greensborough Hoyts

Tue 18 December Last Day for Current Year 7 students—End of Year Activity to Luna Park

Thur 20th December Awards Evening

# **ORIENTATION PROGRAM 2018**

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December students begin the College Orientation Program. For current Year 7-9 students, this program will finish on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018. For our senior students (current Year 10-12 students) the Orientation Program will finish on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Students will be allocated into their 2019 classes and during the Orientation period they will be taught 'as much as is possible' by the teachers that they will have the following year. The program is essentially designed to provide students with an insight into all the subjects they will be doing next year. It is an enrichment program that will give students the opportunity to commence the work they will be doing in each subject and provide them with an adjustment period prior to commencing classes in 2019.

It is vital that all students attend all classes during the Orientation period. They will be expected to complete classwork, homework and all assessments which will count towards the students' overall grade in each subject in 2019.

Please note the following important information:

- Students will be required to wear full College uniform during the Orientation Program.
- Students should ensure that they bring writing equipment and a notebook, their Ipad and study planner to all subject classes. Please note that <u>textbooks are not required</u> during the Orientation Program.
- Current Year 8 & 9 students will have a Year Level Activity Day on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to the Hoyts Cinema in Greensborough.
- Current Year 7 students will continue with their Orientation day classes on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and will have their Year Level Activity Day on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018, representing the culmination of a great year's work. Year 7 students will be going to Luna Park.
- A large number of students from Years 7 to 12 will be involved within the SRC Leadership Conference which will be held from the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- During this time the Orientation Program will continue to run for all students not involved in the SRC program and students from years 7 to 9 are required at school. For students not involved within the SRC program the focus will be upon completing "skills" based work in each subject area over the three days of the leadership conference.
- From the 18<sup>th</sup> December to the 21st December there will be <u>no regular classes</u> and students who attend on these days will be assisting staff with alternative tasks.
- Friday, 21st December is the final day of the school year. Students will not be required to attend school; however, staff will be available if parents require them.

Please note that the school buses will cease to be in operation from Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, so alternative arrangements may need to be made.

#### Students resume school in 2019 as follows:

- Years 7 & 8 on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2019
- Years 9-12 resume on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019

If you have any questions regarding the scheduled program, please contact the College as soon as possible.

We wish everyone a safe holiday period and look forward to seeing our students in the New Year.

Clara Di Biase Assistant Principal



# Learn the piano!

Research has found learning an instrument improves educational outcomes.

Learning to play the piano is not only enjoyable it helps your child in every aspect of their education.

> Private Lessons (1 on 1) are available for Montmorency students in 2019

# during school hours or at your home

(if limits are exceeded at school)

Limited places are still available for next year.

For further information:

# Joanne Siegersma (B.Mus.Ed, Melb)

Very experienced at ensuring students enjoy lessons and achieve pleasing results.

Ph: 9431 0555 Email: josieg53@gmail.com

# 2018 Diamond Valley Foodshare Christmas Appeal

With Christmas fast approaching there are families here in our own community who cannot afford some of the things we can often take for granted.

Each year, Diamond Valley Foodshare provides essential food items and support to needy local families. Demand for their help is always significant. You can help by donating non perishable food items and toiletries.

Items can be dropped off at the office of Jenny Macklin MP, 149 Burgundy Street, Heidelberg any time before 5:00pm, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.

Any kind donation, however large or small, will make an enormous difference to a local family that also deserves a Happy Christmas.

Jenny Macklin MP Federal Member for Jagajaga

### **SNAKE ALERT**

An urgent and important reminder to all students who travel to and from school using the Plenty River path or the sports ovals that they need to be aware tiger snakes are usually active at this time of the year, and that for the last seven years they have been very aggressive during hot weather. Environmental experts predict that snake sightings will become more prevalent this year. I have spoken to a field officer from the City of Banyule, and he said that short bursts of warm weather and sunshine resulted in snakes emerging from the scrub near the river and sunning themselves on paths and concrete surfaces. We have also had some Council warning signs installed near the river paths warning pedestrians to "Beware of Snakes".

In February some nine years ago one of our own students was bitten by a snake while walking near the river path at Simms Road Oval, and he spent a considerable amount of time in hospital. There are now warning signs along the path but all students and pedestrians need to exercise extreme caution when travelling to and from school along the river tracks. It is comforting to know that we have a great network of neighbours and pedestrians who use the river path and if there are any sightings of snakes they let the College know immediately.

Take special care,
Allan Robinson—Principal

### **REMEMBRANCE DAY**

On Friday the 8th of November, 100 SRC students were selected to attend a Remembrance Day Armistice Centenary Service at the Montmorency RSL alongside other local schools. The celebration marked 100 years from the 11th of November, 1918, at 11am when guns fell silent and a wave of relief overwhelmed ANZAC soldiers.

Many that attended wore the medals of their relatives, others from their own battles in war -- sharing stories of courage in the face of adversity and the strength these ANZAC soldiers possessed. Armistice Day is a day to honour the fallen, those who have returned and those who remain in foreign lands. Most importantly, it honours the strength and courage these servicemen and women had to uphold, and continues their legacy - of which was highlighted in Sarah Van Putten's commemorative piece titled, "My meaning of Remembrance". Sarah spoke of their sacrifices and heroic actions in her speech, stating,"...we must praise all of the men and women who put themselves in that position. We do that by remembering them."

The service provided further insight into the lives of the soldiers and those left behind at home- representatives from each school, including Montmorency's Spencer Waymire and Madi Downing laid a wreath in memory of those who devoted their lives to defend our country. The audience was presented with beautiful renditions of 'Flanders Fields', 'Amazing Grace', 'Here You Lie (Side by Side)' and Mr. Campbell Wilson's 'Flower of Forest' on the bagpipes. Soon after, the Australian National Anthem was sung and students were gifted with small medallions marking the hundred years since the end of WW1 - it was engraved with a soldier, a poppy, the year the war ended and a quote stating, "We will remember them."

Lest we forget.

Rebecca Catania









# A MILESTONE FOR OUR INTERACT CLUB

This year has been a particularly rewarding year for the Interact Cub at Montmorency Secondary College, as we celebrated our 20 year of continuous operation. The Club, which started as the Interact Club of Eltham in 1998 has always 'punched above its weight'. With an average annual membership of 25, members have raised in excess of \$200,000 for a variety of local and international causes. Fundraising activities have ranged from 'Shave for a Cure' which we have participated in for over a decade, to dinner dances for a school building project in Timor Leste, Rotary BBQ's to fund students to leadership camps, 'wheelchairathons' for wheelchairs for children in need in the developing world to name a few. For many years, it was the only Interact Club in the local area. The Club recently had a name change to Interact Club of Montmorency Secondary College, since there are now several other local Colleges with clubs that have started in the last couple of years. Next February several of our members will be attending a statewide Interact conference day in Melbourne as a leadership and networking opportunity.

Recently elections were held for President and Executive for 2019 and we congratulate Jade Upton having been elected as President for next year. Jade is also the recipient of the Rotary Japanese Exchange Scholarship and will spend 9 weeks in Japan this summer. The Club's major projects for next year are Shave for a Cure and a dinner dance in conjunction with the college community and Rotary to raise funds for a Rotary building project in Nepal. The project will start building a facility for a training college in Kathmandu in September 2019.

All Interact Clubs worldwide are mandated to conduct at least one major fundraising project annually in support of a local and overseas cause.

We look forward to another great Interact year in 2019.

Ian Toohill
Rotarian Interact Coordinator



### JAPAN STUDY TOUR

On Saturday the 15th of September, I was lucky to be one of the seventeen year 10 and year 11 students who met at Melbourne Airport to embark on a journey to Japan that I knew I would never forget. Our first stop was Tokyo where we visited many beautiful places. These included Tokyo Tower, The Imperial Gardens, Shibuya district with the famous intersection and Harajuku with it's famous shopping streets including Takeshita Street. But I'm almost one hundred percent sure that everyones favourite place in Tokyo was Disneyland. Despite the heavy rain that occurred late in the evening and the long wait in lines the day was filled with laughs, crazy hats, many photos and huge smiles from everyone. It is definitely the happiest place on earth.

Our second stop on the trip was the homestay. As we arrived in Nagoya on a bullet train everyone tried to hide their nerves about staying in someone else's house. When we arrived at Takakura High School, many of us saw familiar faces and others who were also nervous. We attended school with our host students for two days. School was so much fun and everyone enjoyed the Japanese school life. Over the weekend with our host families many of us went shopping, enjoyed the beautiful Nagoya Castle, went to theme parks and explored the local towns. The home stay was very different to our home life in Australia.

Our final destination in Japan was Kyoto. During our stay in Kyoto we visited the Nara Park, which would have to be one of

my favourites during the trip as we were able to get up close with deer. The deer were just roaming the streets and park lands and as we continued to walk many more deer appeared. These deer were not afraid to bite at clothing and backpacks to get attention and even more food. We also visited many famous temples and shrines throughout our stay in Kyoto such as The Golden Temple. We also immersed ourselves in a ninja culture when visiting a Ninja park. Many were scared while walking through the haunted house

while others enjoyed the mirrors, puzzles and jumping castle within the maze. While in Kyoto we tried to find the Kitsune (if you were on the trip then you know what I'm talking about) but also rushed to find gifts for everyone back home.

Overall the 2018 trip to Japan was definitely an experience that I know the whole group will remember.

Throughout the entire trip we all made new friends, explored a new country, practiced our Japanese and had a once of a lifetime experience.





Zoe Dyer 10B





## ARTS ALIVE MUSIC AND DANCE CONERT

As part of a weeklong celebration of the Arts at Montmorency Secondary College, the week long event opened with the Music and Dance Concert.

This year, for the first time we had dance performances and they were very impressive. Miss Short, who teaches dance at the school, is a great support to the dance students and it showed both in rehearsals and at the concert. Speaking of impressive, all our instrumental music students created a very exciting buzz as they gave their best to the evening concert. While most of the year seven students have only been learning for this year they were magnificent and leading to the senior students who put their advanced talents on display. The groups varied in size and many such as solos on Tenor Saxophone by Lachlan Barnes, viola and vocal duet by Imogen and Solveig Prictor, Piano Duet, Flute Trio, year seven drum and bass ensemble, to the larger groups such as Guitar, Woodwind, Percussion Ensembles, Choir, Concert Bands and String Ensembles. The evening came to a close with a combined performance of Concert Band, Choir, Guitar Ensemble and vocal solo from Abby Keenan who composed the piece. She won a national song contest, which had her work in Sydney with John Forman, to create the 2018 Music Count Us In piece for performances across the country. Congratulations to all the students on a very fine evening of music and to all the music, drama and dance staff for all their work behind the scenes, both on the night and throughout the year.

Mr. Anthony Citino
Director of Instrumental Music













### **ARTS ALIVE AT MONTY**

This year Arts Alive has again been a shining example of student achievement in the Arts.

The Instrumental Music and Dance Performance on the Monday night and the Arts Alive Exhibitions and Awards Night on the Tuesday night both showcased a wide and exciting diversity of work from our art, design, media/photography, dance, drama, music, food studies and technology students.

Arts Alive is also a chance for our VCE students to display their final artworks they have been working so hard to create. Congratulations all the students awarded an Arts Alive Achievement award, and to all those who participated in the exhibition.

The Arts Alive Primary School Art Competition also drew many entries with the theme 'Community'. Twenty finalists had their outstanding artworks displayed in the exhibition, and Rebecca Baines of Greenhills Primary School took home first prize. Congratulations Rebecca!

#### **Arts Alive Award winners 2018**

Vanessa Wilson
Bell Shi
Sam Fox
Aleecia Cole
Amy Mati
Sophia Church
Dylan Hoi
Eboni Amos
Claudia Panozzo
Lily Chan
Abby Keenan
Sarah Bain
Eloise Durrant
Rachel Coventry

Claire Mooney Arts and Technology KLA Leader Isabella Jenkinson Jamilla Revitt-Mills Jess Sirianni-Hunter Olivia Ferronato Emily Butler Ryan Lawrence Claire Steel Caleb Darroch-Moore Jamie Hazelden Luke Jurkovic

Jamie Hazelden Luke Jurkovic Daniel Thompson Holly Jackson Alys Nicklin Zane Saavedra Caitlin Cartwright
Rylie Gunasekera
Noah Osborn
Margeret Wozniak
Anthony Rutherford
Amy Unwin
Paige Manley-Breen
Patrick Reichenbach
John Hoysted
Ryan Siede
Michael Elliot
Poppy Phillips

Bogdan Olenko

