

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

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20th March, 2020 Newsletter No. 2

END OF TERM 1

EARLY DISMISSAL

Friday 27th March, 2020

Students dismissed at 1:22pm

Student Progress Interview Days on Wednesday 25th March and Thursday 26th March have been cancelled.

Instead of these two days/evenings of interviews there will be one Student Free Day on Wednesday 25th March . This day parents/ guardians can converse with teachers by email.

COLLEGE UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to update you on how Montmorency Secondary College is responding to the rapidly changing COVID-19 situation. Together, we are facing an unprecedented event. The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting all our families, our students and our staff. At the College, we are focussed on the health and well-being of our students and their families and also our staff.

We have introduced a range of measures, as per Departmental advice, to help members of our College community remain as safe as possible, while ensuring minimal disruption to teaching and learning activities in the classroom. This includes temporary changes, cancellations and postponements to a range of co-curricula programs, events, excursions, assemblies, parent-teacher interviews, sport, work experience and placements, camps, expos and school tours.

While new information is coming through repeatedly, we will continue to provide updates to keep you informed. We are disappointed that our students and staff will miss out on the benefits of many of the cancelled events and programs, however, we know there are far bigger challenges facing our community at the moment.

The latest advice is that Victorian schools will remain open, in line with the latest advice from Australia's Chief Medical Officer and Victoria's Chief Health Officer. It was also announced yesterday that no school students or school groups of any size should visit aged care facilities to further protect the elderly members of our community who are more vulnerable.

We have fielded a number of queries relating to camps and excursions. The latest advice from the Department is:

"Queries have come in about when the ban on camps might be lifted as schools try to decide whether to proceed with planned bookings for the second half of the year. It is not possible at this stage to predict the length of time measures, such as the ban on camps and excursions, will continue to be applied."

A question that a lot of people in our community are asking frequently is, "Will schools close and then what will the learning look like for students and teachers?"

In the event of closures, teachers will be working from home and using online platforms and applications that are available to schools and also accessing learning resources and best practice in relation to remote curriculum delivery.

Already our staff and students are putting in place online tools and programs such as *Google Classroom* and *XUNO* to help with this reciprocal communication and learning to cater for such an eventuality.

I will continue to keep our College community updated on any significant new information from the Department.

Regards,

Allan Robinson Principal Buses depart at 1:30pm TERM 2 COMMENCES TUESDAY 14th APRIL, 2020



CHEWING GUM IS PROHIBITED

AT MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

It has been noted that there has been an increased use of chewing gum amongst students at the College. Students are reminded that chewing gum is not to be brought to school because of the hygiene risk it poses and the damage that it can cause to College property. Often chewing gum is incorrectly disposed of after chewing and ends up underneath desks, seats and all over the College grounds and pathways.

In the past it has cost us several thousand dollars to have chewing gum removed from surfaces around the College. This is money that could be better spent on relevant resources and equipment for students and I am sure they would see this as a better option. Our new buildings and surrounds are most impressive, so let's all help keep them this way.

Allan Robinson Principal

COLLEGE FEES INSTALMENT PAYMENTS

Families who have made arrangements with the College to pay school fees by instalments, please note that payments are deducted from your nominated account during the first week of each month.

If you have any concerns or queries about payments please do not hesitate to contact the College bursar.

Junior and Middle School Homework Club 2020 (Year 7, 8 and 9)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Junior and Middle Schools are offering a program to help Year 7, 8 and 9 students to keep up to date with their work. This program will run each Wednesday after school for 55 minutes from 3.20 until 4.15 p.m., beginning on the 5th February in the Resource Centre.

If your child would like the opportunity to undertake homework at school, teachers will be on hand to help them with their work.

Let me know if you wish to have your child permanently booked into the Homework Club each week via my email address.

mathew.dean@education.vic.gov.au

Please leave a contact number or email address so that I can notify you if your child has not shown for Homework Club.

Teachers will also be booking in students who are getting behind in their work into this class. In this instance, a notice will go home for you to sign to give permission for your child to attend. Your child **must** return this notice to the teacher on duty.

In order to support teachers help keep all students up-to-date with their work, after school Coordinator detentions will be given to those students who do not have a valid reason for nonattendance.

Please contact me on the above email address if you would like more information.

M. Dean On behalf of the Junior and Middle Schools

SCHOOL INJURIES

AND INSURANCE

Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund.

Parents and families are encouraged to have Ambulance Fund Membership as any trip in an ambulance is considerably expensive.

The Department of Education and Training does not hold accident insurance for school students. Likewise the school does not currently hold accident insurance for students.

Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance. The Department cannot advise parents/guardians on whether to purchase a student accident policy or which policy to purchase. It is recommended that they seek assistance in this matter with an insurance provider.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not

insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.



This event has been postponed until further notice. Students are encouraged to keep fundraising with their sponsorship sheet or online via the College fundraising site.

Tou need parent permission for shave, where you can also have sponsors.

Permission and sponsor forms available from the general office or you can sign up on the Monty SC World's Greatest shave page: <u>https://secure.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/registrant/</u> <u>TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?TeamID=117236</u>

CAREERS NEWS

Montmorency Careers Website

Go to: For Students>Job Videos

Career Videos for students

- ICT Career Wheel
- Skillsone Job Videos
- Choose Maths Videos

Students can look at a diverse range of videos regarding career pathways, where subjects can lead to in industry. The videos are a valuable resource for all students across the school and I encourage students to explore them.

Michael Weeding Careers & Pathways





Dreaming up Robots with Maths

Marita Cheng is the Founder of the International organisation Robogals, designed to encourage more women into Engineering. She is also ...



Climbing with Maths

Solai Valliappan has a Bachelor of Commerce (Actuarial Studies) from the University of NSW. She is a Fellow of the _____



Taking Off with Maths

Lee Turnley has a double degree in engineering and science (biotechnology) from Swinburne University and is a Composite Research Engineer ...

CAREERS NEWS

STARTING YEAR 11 IN 2020?

DISCOVER OUR EARLY LEADERS PROGRAM



JOIN OUR EARLY LEADERS PROGRAM AND GET AND GET AHEAD OF THE GAME ON UNI PREP!

Build the confidence and skills you need to transition from school to uni with ease.

Explore your interests, hone your strengths, get clarity on your passions, and put the shine on your CV.

You'll gain valuable skills in academic writing, creativity, job readiness and community development. Plus, get the chance to ask a current student everything you want to know about what uni's really like.

Best of all? This program is FREE!

For more information visit

swinburne.edu.au/earlyleadersprogram or email earlyleader@swinburne.edu.au

CAREERS NEWS

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THE FAST LANE TO A CAREER IN MOTORSPORT

 \bigcup ndersake a nationally accredited motorsport course at Kanyan Institute's Automotive Centre of Excellence. This world-class training facility in the heart of the Docklands precinct provides you with exceptional opportunities to advance your career in motorsport.

CERTIFICATE II IN MOTORSPORT TECHNOLOGY (SERIE)

Bain hands-on experience in the motorsport environment including servicing potrol filet systems, inspecting transmissions, servicing engines and more. This course can lead you to a career as a motorsport technician or inechanic.

CERTIFICATE III IN MOTORSPORT

Pingress your career and gain knowledge in inotosport event and team safety requirements, assemble and prepare competition web cles and much more. This course can lead you to an exciting corcer within a race feam.

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Kondunational Agenced Call **13 TAFE** Email **enquiries@kangan.edu.au** Visit **kangan.edu.au/motorsport**

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Our partnership with Kelly Racing is your pit-lane pass to a rewarding career in motorsport.

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MUSIC NEWS

Thankyou to some of our wonderful students who performed at the Lower Plenty Primary Fete on Saturday March 29th. It was a fantastic day, both in weather and entertainment, displaying some of our fantastic talent into our local community.

Thankyou to Sophia Church, Michael Elliott and Paige Manley-Breen & Charli Manley-Breen.





Charli & Paige



Charli & Sophia



Michael, Paige & Sophia

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Over 50 of our new Year 7 students have taken up the opportunity to learn an instrument. There are still a few spots left, so don't be shy. I encourage students to think seriously about taking up this wonderful opportunity that the college offers.

If you're unsure of the benefits of learning an instrument, have a look at this TED-Ed talk (4mins)

How playing an instrument benefits your brain.

https://www.ted.com/talks/anita collins how playing an instrument benefits your brain?language=en

Sharon Cooke Music Director sharon.cooke@education.vic.gov.au

RELAY FOR LIFE

The Diamond Valley Relay for life was from the 29th of February until the 1st of March. It was an awesome sunny day that started with lots of purple and yellow decorations covering our gazebo and the starting ceremony that set an enthusiastic tone for the whole event. Everyone showed their teamwork and communication skills with the passport challenges which were both fun and a little bit competitive. The Candlelight ceremony was very moving as we got to see people walking around the oval to show support for people affected by cancer and support for the research. The overnight crew was amazing and showed tremendous amounts of determination staying overnight to keep the each other walking and energised with help from some coffee and bacon and egg sandwiches. We had the Midnight Madness challenge which was 80s theme where everyone was wearing some crazy fluro colours.

The morning came around really fast and the team was still walking right up until the closing ceremony. Our team this year was presented with the Spirit of Relay award, presented with an outstanding contribution award for fundraising over 100,000 dollars for the Cancer council over 10 years and a research award. This year our Schools team had 161 people participate and have so far this year raised \$14,200 for the Cancer council. It's been a fantastic effort by everyone who has participated and donated a this year and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their ongoing support for this amazing event.

By Madison Downing, Bree Rushton and Emily Drysdale





RELAY FOR LIFE



DOES YOUR CHILD NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY???

- Students are not permitted to leave the College grounds during the school day without permission.
- It is expected that students will make dental, medical and other appointments, outside school hours wherever possible.
- If a student needs to leave school early for any reason, the following procedure should be followed:
 - 1. The student should have a note from the Parent/Guardian requesting permission for the student to leave school at the specified time.
 - 2. Upon arrival at school, the student is to take the note to their Level Co-ordinator, who will then sign the note and return it to the student.
 - 3. The student then presents the signed note to their class teacher when they need to leave.
 - 4. Once the student leaves class, they will present the note to the General Office staff and sign the Early Leavers record. The office staff will retain the note for attendance recording.
 - 5. If the student needs to return to school later in the day, or following the appointment, they should report to the General Office and sign in.
- It is important that class interruptions are kept to a minimum. Wherever possible, parent/guardians are asked to avoid telephoning the College in order to have students paged or dismissed from class and should follow the above procedure instead.

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

- Students, who arrive after the class roll has been taken during Home Group, should report to the General Office to sign in and collect a Late Pass.
- A note from a Parent/Guardian, explaining the student's late arrival, should be provided to the General Office, or alternatively, the Parent/Guardian should telephone the General Office, providing a reason for their child's late arrival.
- Students who do not provide an acceptable reason for being late to school may be given detention.

ILLNESS AND FIRST AID

- Students who become ill should advise their classroom teacher that they are feeling unwell and receive permission to report to Sick Bay, located in the General Office.
- Students should not use their mobile phones to contact parents directly during class time.
- Students who report to Sick Bay will be attended to by the College Nurse and, if necessary, parents will be contacted.
- It is important that a current emergency telephone number is listed on each student's school record. Any change to the home address, work address and telephone numbers or emergency contact, should be provided to the General Office immediately.

Allan Robinson—Principal

