Principal’s Report

Welcome back to all of our students and families for Term 4. We’ve had a great first week, although busy in many regards.

We began the term with a whole school assembly, where it was great to hear from two students about their Kokoda experience earlier in the year. They spoke passionately about their life changing experience, one of the many great opportunities we are pleased to be able to offer our students.

We also heard speeches from students in Year 11 vying for the role of 2017 School Captain or Vice-Captain. We transition our captains this time each year in order to reduce the onus on our Year 12s who move into their examination period. I am pleased to announce that Tanika Smith and Emma Hellings will be our 2017 School Captains, and Jarrod Lovas will fill the role of Vice-Captain. Well done to all students involved.

I spoke with all Year 12 students on Monday morning as well, as they embark on the final part of their secondary schooling, with some big hurdles still to come. For VCE students, many subjects have an exam which is worth half or more of the overall results, so it is crucial that the students make the most of the next few weeks. Our VCAL students need to work hard to make sure all requirements are met before classes conclude.

Together we reflected on the fact that our Year 12s have been at school for about 520 weeks, and now have 3 to go.

We know from experience this time of Year 12 can be a stressful time for both students and families. Our Wellbeing Team continue to provide a range of supports for students, and I encourage any student to seek assistance if needed. I will also be engaging regularly with our Year 12s over the next few weeks for support and advice, and as always, I wish them all the best.

We have been doing a large amount of work in the background as we start to plan for 2017, from subject selections, staffing allotments and key leadership roles. From next year we will have two key sub-schools, being Middle Years (7-9) and Senior Years (11-12). We will shortly be able to confirm subjects for students next year based on the preferences they put in and the many careers counselling conversations we’ve had.

Adam Hogan,
Acting Principal
Middle School

Term 3 was a very busy and industrious time in the Middle Years. Along with daily classes, students were involved in a multitude of activities, events and excursions.

Broadening Horizons was a significant event for our Year 8 students highlighting the excitement of exploration and discovery over the term. Year 7s, as a component of their Second Language Studies, also participated in an Indonesian Day exposing students to a wide selection of dynamic cultural learning activities. Sporting events were well attended with a big focus on volleyball, and technology was promoted through continuing experimentation of new programmes and ways of learning alternately via ICT. Ongoing welfare pursuits to encourage students to build life skills through our Positive Behaviours Matrix (PBS) continued throughout the term with Year 7 Links classes running Resilience Circles to compliment the PBS and welfare enhancement focus. Student mentoring, the Hands On Learning program and the more pragmatic ‘Posi’ slips were used to continue to encourage students in Middle Years to strive to do their best in all areas of their growth.

Celebrations were held towards the end of term to both acknowledge student achievement e.g., a hot chip lunch for students with the best progress reports, and also to recognise the need for fun and ‘down time’ with the Middle Years Disco run by student leadership. Parent – teacher night and day, were well attended by our Middle School families to add to the ongoing communication we have as a school community.

Term 4 promises to be even busier term with our students already completing their online VCAA Literacy and Numeracy tests this week and our Head Start program and Activities Week being planned. We will continue to enhance existing curriculum and all of the programmes we offer and strive to build our younger students capacity to even higher levels this term.

Senior School

Year 9 – 12 Exams

Year 12 Students are well into their revision for their exams that begin on the 24th of October. Throughout the next three weeks it is vital that students are finding a balance between study in all subjects, sports, rest and social activities. A number of staff are running catch-up and revision sessions for students to gain extra assistance during this time. If you have any concerns please contact either Belinda Marshall or Brett Hudson. Exams for year 9 – 11 students are being held from the 15th to the 18th of November. The exam timetable will be available via Compass at the end of next week. We wish all are students the best of luck coming into their exam period.

Valedictory

Valedictory for all Year 12 students will be held on the 21st of November, students will be able to purchase tickets shortly.

Subject Allocations

Next week students entering year 10, 11 and 12 will be given their subject allocations for 2017. Can parents/guardians please discuss these allocations with their child/ren, if you or your child have any concerns please contact Booma Burgess.

2017 Year 12 Students

Jumpers

The year 12 jumpers are in the process of being finalized. A Deposit of $50 is due by the 8th of November.

Camp

The final payment for year 12 camp is due on the 4th of November. Camp on the 23rd of November to the 25th of November, 2016. This date is prior to our Head Start program. All 2017 Year 12 VCE students are required to attend the Melbourne Camp. The Senior School team have worked together to plan a camp that is going to assist students coming into Year 12.

The purpose of the camp is to prepare the students for the demands and expectations of Year 12 and for them to experience life as a university student. The camp involves a range of sessions that focus on:

- Careers and Pathways
- Student leadership and self-leadership
- Self-awareness and management
- Preparing for Year 12 - Administration, Study, Self
- Team Building, Cohort bonding

As well as specific subject based activities

If any students are experiencing any financial difficulties please contact either Belinda Marshall, Brett Hudson or Cheryl Evans.
Science News

The Graeme Clark Oration

Is it possible to diagnose mental illness with a phone?

2016 Graeme Clark Oration

Just over 40 of our students heard about some emerging technology in the treatment of mental illness, at the recent Graeme Clark Oration held at the Melbourne Convention Centre in Term 3. The Graeme Clark Oration is a prestigious Science event where international guest speakers address the public, scientists and students. Students first attended the Melbourne Museum and then travelled to the Convention Centre to participate in three events: a schools presentation, the Oration and a dinner celebrating science.

This year, Dr Thomas R. Insel, Director of Clinical Neuroscience at Verily (formerly Google) Life Sciences, spoke to 2000 secondary students, researchers and scientists in Melbourne about new emerging technologies in the treatment of mental illnesses.

Finally, two students were selected to participate in the Oration dinner (Ebony Fixter and Jason Dowe) along with Mr David Montague, where they joined leaders from Victoria’s medical research and academic community, government and business for an evening of networking, fine dining and conversation.

The oration dinner was a great experience and a good way to make connections. I sat next to this wonderful lady who is doing her masters at Melbourne Uni and looking at the ethics of genetic coding, she gave me some tips and tricks on how to study and what Melbourne Uni is like. Thomas R. Insel’s long career in medicine, politics and business as well as his love for convergence science makes him one of the most inspiring people I have ever met. One of my favourite parts of the night, other than dessert, was the Q&A section, which gave a more in depth explanation of what Thomas R. Insel has planned for the future of mental health.

Written by Ebony Fixter, Year 11 student

Special thanks goes to all the students who once again represented Maffra Secondary College extremely well at this prestigious event and to Ms Loueen Smith, Ms Nicole Creaser and Mr David Montague for supervising the students.

Thanks also to Mr Montague and Ms Fixter for supervising Jason and Ebony overnight in Melbourne so they could attend the Oration dinner.

Written by Jason Dowe, Year 11 student

Queen, Shirley and Abbey at the Graeme Clark Oration
Melbourne Convention Centre

Bridget Hanratty, Kimelle Lawless, Sammi Berryman and Karli Bower attended the event.

Dr Thomas Insel discusses mental illnesses in Australia

Jason Dowe, Ebony Fixter and Mr David Montague about to attend the Oration Dinner.

Professor Graeme Clark and Dr Thomas Insel

The Oration Dinner
VCAL News

Structured Workplace Learning Placements

During Term 3, several VCAL students have chosen to explore alternate career experiences than the one they have completed TAFE studies in, or initially considered when they began VCAL. Some of these:

Assisting Tom McInnes from Colmac Homes, Jay has become very familiar with how a shovel works!! With the construction industry very busy at the moment, Jay is keen to find an apprenticeship locally.

Another keen student to try IT is Jake who has just completed his Electro technology TAFE studies through AGA. He is currently gaining some experience at AZ Computers in Sale where he works mostly on hardware problems.

Traf Diesel & Machinery in Maffra are allowing Tom to work on some very large machinery which is mainly used in the Agricultural industry. After completing his TAFE Automotive studies, Tom is keen to drive these large harvesters and tractors.

Marathon Electrical has always been very supportive of our students and Andrew is using their business to gain experience on small and large work sites. Whilst limited in what tasks he can perform, he has demonstrated his willingness to learn about many aspects of this industry.

Kate is at Gumnuts childcare in Sale two days per week- one due to TAFE studies and the other her SWL placement. Setting up for play activities and interacting with children have occupied most of her time in different age group rooms.
Humanities

Loueen Smith

Indonesian Cultural Immersion Day

On Wednesday 7th September all year 7 and 8 students of Indonesian participated in a day long cultural programme.

Activities included:

- **Playing Angklung**
- **Cooking Indonesian Food**
- **Playing Gamelan**
- **Learning Indonesian Dances**

And the activity voted the favourite by the students, riding the becak.

Many thanks to Bu Tess for organising the day, Bu Disti for teaching angklung and the teachers from Baguskan for sharing their expertise in dance and music. Local primary schools also ran cultural days and we had students assist with this. Josh Caithness, Chloe Williamson, Meg Wilson and Flynn Cannon went to Boisdale and Chelsea Wain, Keily Nikolajew, Ryan Matthew and Jess Bower went to Rosedale, where they ran an activity all day.
Music
Kim Bramstedt
Music Coordinator

**We Will Rock You Recording Excursion**

On Tuesday 13\textsuperscript{th} September, eight students from Year 9 Music took the opportunity to visit a recording studio. Students embarked on a one hour journey to Bruthen. Upon arrival, they were met by Brent Hodgkin, owner of Bruthen Music. The day started with students being given a tour of the studio and a rundown of how the recording process works. Students asked questions and watched intently as Brent talked them through the ins and outs. The recording session started with Sam Dwyer tracking drums. Sam set up in the drum room and Brent talked the students through the tracking process and the different types of microphones used for recording drums.

At the end of the recording, students were walked through the mixing process and how it affects the overall sound of the recording. After a break for lunch, students had time to observe a recording of vocals. Marni Bosman-Hughes took to the booth and recorded a song with guitar and vocals. During this recording, students were shown the process of layering voices to create more depth and interest. At the end of the session, Brent showed students how the recordings are bounced and exported to audio. We received a copy of the recordings and were able to go into the shop at the end of the session. All up it was a valuable day in which students were able to expand their knowledge on the music industry and how it works.

Instrumental Music Report

The instrumental music department has been busily working away the past semester, and groups are starting to bring their repertoire together.

On Thursday 15\textsuperscript{th} September, a select number of students from the instrumental music program, toured to primary schools around the area showcasing some of the music opportunities we have to offer at Maffra Secondary College. The day started off at Boisdale Consolidated Primary School, followed by Stratford Primary School, lunch in Stratford and with the day ending at Briagalong Primary School. Throughout the day, students from Maffra performed for enthusiastic groups of students from all Primary Schools. Performances included a rock riff mash up by the Guitar Ensemble in which the audience were able to identify and were taken to another place with the smooth melodies from Gershwin’s ‘Summertime’ performed by the M.S.C Jazz Ensemble. The Percussion Ensemble wowed the audiences with their loud and interweaving drum pieces and the Rock Group involved the audience with ‘My Sharona’. Audience members were mesmerized by a song composed and performed by Jackson Binks and found themselves singing along to ‘Radioactive’ performed by Nathan Grant and Kobey Dorber. Students from each of the primary schools asked questions in which students from Maffra Secondary College answered. A lot of interest was shown and all students got the most out of the day.

The next event for the music department is our Annual Music Concert on Thursday 13\textsuperscript{th} October, 5.00pm. We will be showcasing all instrumental groups and the work they have been doing this year.
Sport

Year 8 Boys Hockey

Our combination side of year 7 and 8 boys were also successful in the Wellington Round of the hockey competition. There were a number of local and representative hockey players at the Maffra ground where the boys put on a polished display to defeat a very strong side from Catholic College Sale 2-0.

The boys then re-grouped for 5 mins and headed straight back onto the field to play against Sale College. The MSC boys were in control of the game, using their skill to get around their bigger Sale College opponents, but were unable to put the ball into the net. Some fantastic saves in goals from Arzel Dela Cruze, and fine play from Kane Dixon and Lachie White saw Maffra rebound into the attack time and time again. The match finished fittingly as a draw, 0 – 0, with Maffra SC advancing to the Gippsland finals in October on percentage.

Well done to all the boys for their effort and sportsmanship, and for many, their debut game of hockey. Thanks to Adelle O’Doherty and Nathan White who assisted with umpiring and coaching on the day.

Volleyball

Back Left: Ella Bailey, Hannah Bennett, Jack McIntosh, Matt Angliss, Walker Newman, Anthony Young  Front Left: Keily Nikolajew, Holli Oakley and Bianca Dorber.

Maffra Secondary College had nine participants representing Victoria in the Australian Junior Volleyball Championships, held in Queensland in the last week of the school holidays. This is a massive achievement for a small rural school and is testament to the hard work and skills of our Head Coach Anthony Young.

In the Championship Division we had Hannah, Jack and Holli playing for their State. Both Jack and Holli’s team overcame shaky starts to the week to finish on a high by both winning bronze medals. The Under 17 Boys team won the medal in 4 sets over the ACT, while the Under 15 girl’s team won the Bronze medal in 4 sets over NSW. Hannah represented Victoria in the Under 19 white team, which had many close matches to narrowly miss out on a chance to play for a medal.

Walker Newman represented Victoria in the Division 1 competition and had a great week, winning a Silver medal in a close fought 4 set match against South Australia. Matt Angliss represented Victoria West in this competition, and despite many strong showing for the week narrowly missed out on playing for medals. The team with the most Maffra representatives, Under 15 Girls Victoria East, had a strong focus on development and was not expected to perform strongly, so they were very proud young ladies when they took a set off one team, and actually won the match 3 sets to 1 against Vic Metro.
Chaplaincy Programs

A couple of students just finished their projects while developing their skills in planning a project, maintenance and welding. They have been learning a skill that will serve them right through life. I have also had the privilege of working with quite a few students including a year nine boys group of fifteen students. With the help of Peter Caithness the boys all completed the Touchstone Personal Development Program.

I have been at MSC for two terms now and thoroughly enjoy working with the students and the very supportive wellbeing team of Rochelle, Marieta and Emily.

Gerard Abdoo
MSC Chaplain

Wellbeing

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Maffra Secondary parents and staff participated in the recent Youth Mental Health First Aid Course. 20% of Maffra Secondary College staff are now qualified in Youth Mental Health First Aid.

The course teaches adults how to assist adolescents who are developing a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis. Course participants learn about adolescent development, the signs and symptoms of the common and disabling mental health problems in young people, where and how to get help when a young person is developing a mental illness, what sort of help has been shown by research to be effective, and how to provide first aid in a crisis situation.

Bandannas are available at the Main Office and the Wellbeing Office for $4

National Bandanna Day
Friday October 28
M.S.C ANNUAL MUSIC CONCERT

WHEN
Thursday
October 13th
5.30pm

WHERE
M.S.C Arts Building
Bill Cane Court, Maffra

FEATURING · M.S.C Percussion Ensemble · M.S.C Jazz Band · M.S.C Guitar Ensemble · M.S.C Choir · M.S.C New Music Ensemble · Rock Groups and More
October 10th - 14th
Arts Building
MAFFRA SECONDARY COLLEGE
Showcasing a range of student work from year 7 - VCE.

OPENING Reception:
Monday 10th Oct @ 5.00pm

Exhibition Open during school hours of this week
The Maffra & District car club is hosting another of their “Junior Driver training” sessions at the Boisdale Hillclimb complex on the 30th October 2016. These events are designed to teach 12 to 18 year olds basic car control skills in a controlled environment. The drivers have an instructor with them at all times & are taken through a series of tests to develop the skills. The entry is Free to all Junior drivers & there is also a Free barbeque at the conclusion. Vehicles & Instructors are supplied by Maffra Car Club members. The event is open to the first 40 entrants.

Bookings are required & entry forms can be obtained from the website www.madcc.com or contacting Chris Clark (JDP Coordinator) on 0409 007628.
School Canteen Volunteers

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<tr>
<td>10\textsuperscript{th} Oct - 14\textsuperscript{th} Oct</td>
<td>Sally Kors</td>
<td>Fiona Channing</td>
<td>Emma Williamson</td>
<td>Brad Coridas</td>
<td>Kerry Peel</td>
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<td>Nicky Maxfield</td>
<td>Irene Devisser</td>
<td>Maree Lang</td>
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<td>Sally Kors</td>
<td>Melissa Fulton</td>
<td>Justine Lowery</td>
<td>Kim Marchesi</td>
<td>HELPERS X 3</td>
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<td>Lauren McQuillen</td>
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<td>Cath McDonald</td>
<td>Julie Shingles</td>
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<td>24\textsuperscript{th} Oct - 28\textsuperscript{th} Oct</td>
<td>Michelle Delaney</td>
<td>Vivian Johnstone</td>
<td>Helen Peevess</td>
<td>Fiona Channing</td>
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All volunteers please help as much as possible as it is hard to operate with 2 windows open for the Students as they only have a short time to get food before the bell. Even if it’s only for recess or lunchtime for those who are not on the roster. All help is much appreciated. Thank you. Tracey