Principal’s Report

There’s been plenty of activity over the past month at Maffra Secondary College. We bid farewell to our VCE Year 12s on their last day of classes with a BBQ lunch and whole school assembly. We were fortunate to enjoy lovely weather over lunch; it was great to see our staff and students in the sunshine together as they reflected on six years of schooling and looked ahead to the all-important examinations.

The Year 12s handed out a range of ‘awards’ to teachers at the assembly, and our school captains did a remarkable job of thanking all their teachers in a very sincere speech to the whole school. It’s on occasions like this I reflect on how fortunate we are to have such strong, positive student-teacher relationships here at Maffra, which I believe goes to the heart of what makes us a great school.

Over the course of the year we have been strategically planning an upgrade to our Senior Study Centre, which is well overdue. Work will commence next fortnight, and will see relocation of the senior team office to the other side of the study centre, and relocation of the wellbeing team to one of the adjacent offices. We’re also investing in new carpet, paint, lockers, furniture and a kitchenette for our senior student. We believe modern and comfortable facilities have a large impact on students’ attitude towards school and their learning, so we’re excited to bring this area in line with our other modern facilities. Work is expected to be completed by the start of 2017.

As we look forward, we have just 3 weeks until our Head Start program where all students move up a year level. Year 8s and 9s will receive their new netbooks, new Year 12s will engage in their Universities and Study Skills camp, and we welcome our new Year 7s to the college. An exciting month ahead!

Adam Hogan,
Acting Principal

Upcoming Events

November 2016

8th 2017 Year 7 Transition Day
15th-18th Year 9-11 Exams
17th-20th RACV Energy Breakthrough Challenge
21st Valedictory Dinner
23rd-25th Year 12 VCE Camp
28th-9th Dec HEADSTART

December 2016

12th -16th Activities Week
15th Presentation Night
Maffra Memorial Hall 7.30pm

School Council Meeting
Tuesday 15th November

Parents’ Club Meeting
Tuesday 8th November
7pm in the Staff Room
Senior School

Sue Clancy  
Year 10 Coordinator

Year 10 Matters

Work Experience
At Maffra Secondary College we prepare our students for the work place! We have received some excellent feedback from employers following the second round of Year 10 work experience in the last week of term 3. Congratulations to all the students who attended a workplace for the week and showed enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Thank you to parents and employers for your support of this important program.

Mock Interviews
On Wednesday 19th Oct, 44 year 10 students participated in a mock interview as part of their 10C2 course work.

The aim of the interview was to provide a real life experience where the students had to prepare resumes and covering letters, dress appropriately and actually answer questions relating to the career path they wish to pursue.

We would like to thank the following individuals for their assistance with the interviews. David Ward (AGA), Gaylene Bateman(NAB), Ross Neilson recently retired, Rylie Evers (APM), Kate Fox and Dan (Defence Force), Paul Shelton (Skillinvest ), Don Veale (MSC), Kim Kell (Victoria Police), Bec Hudson, Robert Smart (Crawford, Smart & Associates), Trish Clancy (Mindscape Counselling & Rehabilitation) , Matt Currie (Maffra Primary School), Nathan Smith (Duart’s Homestead), Ros Allman (Fever), Gerald Adams (Adams Accounting), Dave Mair (David Mair Building Permits) and Michelle Papp (CGHS)

The feedback from these employers was not only positive; it allowed students to focus on areas where improvement could be directed. All the students are to be congratulated as they conducted themselves in a professional manner. The morning was a great success for all involved.

Inspiring Young Women and Men
On Wednesday 12th and 19th October several of our year 10 students attended events to inspire & encourage young women and men to explore various career paths. One student reflected - “It was a great opportunity to speak to some amazing women with all different stories. I learnt more about what can happen after school and there’s always more than one pathway”
Speakers at the Inspiring Young Men - three ex Maffra S C students Tom Breakspeare - Charge Nurse Accident & Emergency CGHS. Brenton Dinsdale - Gippsport and Tom Crosbie running his own Computer, Networking & Repair Business.

Driving Lessons
This week is the final week for yr 10 Driving Lessons. This has been a highly successful program with 21 students availing themselves of 7 driving lessons under the watchful eye of our qualified driving instructor Dan Towb from Understanding Driving. We are extremely grateful to the Bendigo Bank (both the Heyfield and Maffra District Community Bank Branches) for their generous sponsorship of the Driver Ed Program.

Federation Uni Trip
On Friday 14th Oct, both Mrs Hudson and I accompanied the 10C2 students to Federation University for a day where students experienced life at a University campus. For those who did not go to the university it was a valuable day as many of the Federation Training takes place at this venue.
Students participated in a study session, a Great Race to familiarise themselves with the University campus, had a Q&A session with current students as well as experienced a sports business lecture.
Once again it was a pleasure to accompany the year 10 students who were great ambassadors for Maffra Secondary College.

Supa Coaches
During the last 2 weeks of term 3, our Supa Coach students assisted with Sale and District Aths and the Wellington and District Aths. This email came from Steve Cunningham who is the District Convenor
I don't give out false praise when it is not warranted BUT this year's group was easily the most effective and cooperative I can remember having. They all listened, were polite, worked all day and did not have to be reminded to go to an event, they supported each other well and they were effective at their events. I could let them run the judging for all places on their own and they were very efficient at working out the close races with the Ipad and communicating well with each other
So thanks, they were terrific and excellent ambassadors for MSC
Middle School

Year 8 Camp

As some of you may know, our year 8 camp was this term in the 2nd week. This year and hopefully every other year, we went to The Summit. The Summit is known for its challenging activities and boot camp like courses, and that was just the beginning. This camp taught us a lot about teamwork getting us to work with people we barely knew and support each other as we worked together through our own fears and challenges as well as our peers. Teamwork wasn’t the only value they worked on at camp. As well as respect and communication, they also worked on trust, trust in ourselves and each other. During most activities we had harnesses and other types of safety equipment holding us up, and if it wasn’t us holding ourselves and securing ourselves we had to put trust into our fellow students. But enough on values, I’m sure you want to hear about the camp itself. Apart from the gruelling monster course and bad weather, the camp would have to be one of the best I have been to, just ask Bu Smith, she goes every year.

The camp had 8 activities, a night walk and the monster challenge. These activities included, the giant swing (24m), leap of faith (around 15-18m), flying fox, laser skirmish, snakes and nails, snowy river challenge, skybridge, and the rockwall. The giant swing was a massive 24m high and could sit 2 people at a time. Now if you’re not scared of heights like I am, it’s exhilarating and thrilling when you reach the top and pull the cord. For the height haters the giant swing may send you into a panic attack and you won’t have the courage to the pull the cord, but once you stop screaming it’s a brilliant experience.

The leap of faith is not for you if you hate heights, especially if you don’t like falling upside down. But the adrenalin rush you get just from jumping is totally worth it. The flying fox is a way to relax and see the sights, going over the beautiful lake is amazing. Laser skirmish is for the competitive ones, and I must say, the girls in my group smashed out the boys.

Snakes and nails, is a fun activity, walking over 2m of nails does get your heart pumping, but the snakes where very friendly and loved to curl around legs and up your back. The snowy river challenge was a way to put trust into your team and work together through some small and challenging obstacles, along with going through a wombat hole.

The skybridge was fun and also helped those height haters walking over a ladder type bridge across the lake. The monster challenge was a course that involved carrying tyres around the camp while going through...
water, clay, up and over a bridge, in mud pits, and even charades. The team that won smashed by a 9.3 minute improvement time, which was blue house!!! (My team)

Last but not least the rock wall. The rockwall was a little harder than you think because your group members where holding you up and by the first 5 minutes your fingers were numb. It was hard to trust those you barely knew. Overall this camp challenged everyone with their own fears. I don’t think one person wasn’t challenged once. I would definitely recommend participating in this camp!

Thank you to all the teachers that gave up their spare time to come and supervise, the camp definitely couldn’t happen without them, so thank you to Mr Young, Bu Smith, Miss Stone, Mr Redenback, and Mr Williams. And thanks to the staff at the camp!

Charlotte Kiefer

Reminders

DEB BALL PAYMENTS
A Non-refundable payment of a $100 due by the 14th of Oct, 2016.
A second payment of $100 is due by the 11th of November, 2016.
Full payments of $180 for boys & $80 for girls will be due by the 9th of December, 2016.
PLEASE RETURN ALL FORMS AND PAYMENTS ON TIME!

CSEF – DAIRY ASSISTANCE
Families who received the means-tested Camps Sports and Excursion Fund payment and own, share-farm or lease a dairy farm business; or those primary occupation is working on a dairy farm are eligible to receive the Dairy Assistance one-off payment of $375 per student.
Parents need to apply for the assistance via the Dairy Assistance Application Form along with evidence by 18 November 2016.

Contact the main office for an application form or for further information.

KOKODA FUNDRAISING
The students who completed the Kokoda Track are asking for assistance from the Maffra Community. They will be holding several fund raising activities at the school over the next few weeks to raise money to hire a porter to transport exercise books, pens, posters and chalk to the Kagi School (the village in which they spent 2 days in the middle of their trek) as they have very little in the way of educational aids.
If you have any exercise books, pencils, pens, chalk, educational posters or the like which are in reasonable condition, could you drop them to the ‘Kokoda kids’ at the main office and we will arrange for them to be transported to Kagi.
Middle Years Disco

On Thursday the 8th of September Middle Years Leadership Team held a disco to raise some money for Hands-on Learning and have some fun. All year 7 to 8 students were welcome. It was dress as your favourite character and the best dressed person one a prize, we had a photo booth where you could take a crazy photo with your friends. We had some disco lights and music playing and lots of fun all around. People came to hang out with their friends and socialise. Nearly everybody got up and danced there were old and new songs. For the people with no costume there was a costume box, that's where people spent the most time all up I think it was a good night.

Mikeely Hone Yr7

Wellbeing

Emily Boyle
Wellbeing Leader/School Counsellor

Youth Mental Health First Aid – GOLD ACCREDITATION

In the last newsletter, we reported that a number of staff and parents completed the Youth Mental Health First Aid Course. Because we now have 20% of Maffra Secondary College staff qualified in Youth Mental Health First Aid, Maffra Secondary College has been awarded a Gold, Medium Workplace badge for the next 12 months!

Mental Health Week

Maffra Secondary College, supported by the Wellbeing team participated in Mental Health Week from 10-14th of October which also coincided with world Mental Health Day on Monday 10th of October. Activities were organised for each lunch time which involved our school captains for 2016 and 2017. Our themes for the week were:

Monday: a display of apps from Reach Out particularly on sleep. Handouts were available for our students and music played by the music department.

Tuesday: Healthy foods. Posters were displayed in middle years depicting healthy meals and free fruit, milk and cheese was enjoyed by many students who came to the lunchtime activity. Our Wellbeing Leader Emily has been working with a group of students on a project called Youth for Causes and this group of girls have received seed funding and mentorship to create a social enterprise which they called Happy Heads. The group is selling socks which will raise money for Headspace. These girls also spoke about their enterprise and the importance of looking after you mental health at our Tuesday lunchtime activities and they also handed out show bags they had made with their Happy Heads logo and the bags included lots of information on how to look after your mental health.

Wednesday: All students and staff encouraged to join in a walk. Unfortunately this had to be cancelled due to the weather.

Thursday: Whole school invited to a staff versus student game.

Friday: A visit to the school by Josh from Headspace to inform our students of headspace services and resources.

It was a great week as we all focused on how to look after ourselves and our friends/families mental health and where or who we might seek for support and help if needed.

We would like to acknowledge Murray Goulburn for their generous donation of milk and cheese for our students.

If you would like to support the happy heads team in generating funds for headspace Morwell, you can purchase socks at the front office.
Sport

State Athletics

Congratulations to the 7 students who competed at the State Athletics held at Lakeside Stadium on Monday 17th Oct. These are the most pleasing results that we have had in the past few years.
Tom Veale placed and 3rd in the Javelin 47m, 4th in Triple 11.97m and 6th in Long jump 6.12m (PB),
Amber Ross placed 3rd in the discus
Jenna Ross placed 3rd in the Javelin
Meaghan Wilson placed 3rd in the High Jump.
Rohan Abbott placed 7th in the Long Jump.
Ben Bould came 15th in his 1500m but he ran a new PB by 6 secs at 5:04.
Jyle Nardone came in 16th in his 1500m.
Congratulations to everyone, a great effort!

Table Tennis

On Tuesday the 11th of October, the MSC Intermediate Boys Table Tennis team made their way down to Traralgon to compete in the Gippsland Region Table Tennis competition. The team was made up of year 9 students Tom Lee, Raiden O'Connor, Marlow Fraser, Harry Conway, Grady Flett and Shane Atkinson.
The competition was tough, and as such the boys lost their first two matches by a reasonable margin against some teams that included some very strong and experienced players. The final match of the day however went down to a count back, as both teams finished on an even amount of games won. Unfortunately on the count back the opposition took the win as they had won more sets throughout the match. Although the boys left without winning a match, they competed well and enjoyed the day, and displayed outstanding teamwork during the doubles games. Hopefully they are able to return to the same competition next year as year 10’s and grow from this experience.
VCAL News

As this is the last newsletter item for the 2016 VCAL students, I would like to congratulate the students who have taken the opportunity to complete their assessment tasks and the parents who have supported the VCAL staff in their child’s educational endeavours. The LAST DAY for VCAL students to attend is WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9TH. This allows staff time to mark the last of the assessments and submit their subject results to the VASS coordinator.

I would like to wish all of the student’s best wishes in their future studies and employment.

Recent Activities

CFA students attended Fulham Emergency Services training ground to complete their final practical assessment recently. They were most impressed when they managed to put out the burning car- an experience that they never wanted to undertake in real life circumstances!

Mr Clive Alsop, a retired Magistrate, came & spoke to the Year 10 Legal students and the Year 12 VCAL students about cases that he had adjudicated on, the importance of thinking before you act and the rise of sexting amongst adolescents and the issue it may cause with future employment. VCAL students were required to write a reflective paragraph of what that information meant to them.

Final classes for ALL TAFE students WERE held on November 3rd. Reports will be distributed with end of year school reports. I would like to congratulate the students who made the most of this opportunity by completing their competencies to a satisfactory, thereby adding to their education. Well done!
Science

Australian Cancer and Health Sciences Competition

VERY early in the morning on the 27th of October, five keen year 10 Biologists headed to the Walter Eliza Hall Institute in Melbourne to take part in the inaugural Australian Cancer and Health Sciences Competition.

The students heard lectures from cancer researchers who are the best in their fields. They participated in a workshop facilitated by university students studying biomedical sciences, and took a tour through the laboratories, learning about the research that was taking place.

Merrick and Kobey stated their highlight was the networking time – chatting with other students and PhD candidates about their research. Shae, Carley and Adelle enjoyed the laboratory tour – getting a first hand look at research in action.

All students participated in the competition at the conclusion of the day, doing their best to win the coveted prize of an internship in the laboratory. Everyone was very glad to collapse into a seat on the train home, many catching some shut-eye after an early start.

Well done to all students involved for representing Maffra Secondary College so well. Special thanks to Jo O’Doherty who kindly drove us to the station at the crack of dawn, and returned us in the early evening.

The picture is of our students with a representation of an antibody.

SOLAR EXPLORERS – YEAR 8

During Term 4 Year 8 students are working on a solar energy unit. During this unit they will partake in experiments around solar energy, insulation, solar cells and heat transfer.

They will use their understanding about solar energy, reflection and radiation to design and construct a solar cooker. During the last week of Year 8 (before Headstart) they will be using their cookers to participate in a SOLAR COOK-OFF against other students. Please feel free to help your Year 8 students with their design and construction – we hope that they can come up with some creative, innovative designs.

During the unit of work, students in 8B and 8E have been communicating with other students from across the globe in a forum called “Solar Explorers”. We have:

- formed two media teams who communicate on the forum via posts online
- uploaded photos of the media teams
- conducted experiments into solar energy
- researched solar cooker designs

Maffra Secondary College Solar Explorer’s 8E media team – Tabitha, Lucy-Belle, Bridie and Annie.

Students have also been learning about the work of students in countries around the world. The project is run across the globe in the following countries:
Through this project, we hope that our Year 8 students can understand how students live and learn around the globe. If you would like to see more about the project, go to https://iearn.org/

Bus & Attendance

Kath Shepheard
Bus & Attendance coordinator

Bus forms for 2017 are overdue and need to be completed ASAP if your child intends to access the bus service next year. Many thanks to those who have already returned their bus forms.

Please remember to use the SMS number for attendance (0419 345857). This is for SMS ONLY. A short explanation of why your child is away is all that is needed. Eg: Peter Piper is away ill today.

The only approved absences are for illness and unavoidable occasions like bereavement. Birthdays, shopping or tired are not considered approved.

Music

Kimberley Brmstedt
Music coordinator

Instrumental Music:
M.S.C Annual Music Concert

On Thursday 13th October, the Music Department held its Annual Music Concert. The concert gave students the opportunity to showcase the repertoire they had been working on throughout the year. The audience consisted of parents, guardians, siblings, friends, family and staff. Students performed a vast range of music to the delight of a full room of spectators. From an original composition by VCE Music student Jackson Binks, to free flowing and interpretive music by the M.S.C new Music Ensemble, there was something to cater everyone’s musical pallet. Students performed well and should be very proud of their efforts this year. We would like to thank those of you whom have supported the Music Department over the year and look forward to a bigger and better year next year.
ASTHMA EDUCATION SESSION

The Asthma Foundation of Victoria is funded by the Commonwealth Government of Australia to provide free one hour education sessions to people living with asthma as well as their families and carers and professionals working in the community, health and education sectors. Learn the basics about asthma management and help your child understand their condition and develop good management skills as they become more responsible. The session will give a better understanding of asthma symptoms, various triggers and how to manage them, medications available and how they help asthma, asthma symptom control and how to achieve it, device technique, written asthma action plans and asthma first aid.

WHEN: Thursday 17th November
TIME: 10am
COST: FREE
BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL on 5147 1487

EMERGENCY ASTHMA MANAGEMENT—10392NAT
Emergency Asthma Management is comprised of one unit EAMMAW001A Manage Asthma in the workplace.
This unit covers knowledge and skills to recognise the clinical manifestations of asthma and identify and respond to an asthma emergency. This unit applies to all workers who may be required to provide Asthma First Aid in a range of situations, including community and workplace settings.

WHEN: Thursday 17th November
(FOLLOWING THE EDUCATION SESSION)
TIME: 11.30am - 1pm
COST: $55
BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL on 5147 1487

Free Music Workshops for all ages!

Foothills Music Festival, with the help of Wellington Shire, present FREE workshops in drumming, ukulele, harmonica, singing, dance, guitar and instrument making as well as Music for tiny tots and Tipi storytelling for children. There will also be Live Music throughout the day at various venues around the town. Saturday, November 5 in Briagolong. For more info visit www.facebook.com/foothillsmusic
### School Newsletter: November 2016 Edition

**SBTA Networking Breakfast**

**with Local Area Commander Rob Wallace**

Discussing local crime concerns, recent crime stats & how to protect your business.

@ Wild Honey

Wed 9th Nov - 7:30am

(please arrive 15 min early to purchase your breakfast – 76 Cunningham St - in the Mall)

ALL WELCOME

RSVP admin@salebta.com.au

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### School Canteen Volunteers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th Nov - 11th Nov</td>
<td>Sally Kors Kellie Lear</td>
<td>Fiona Channing Irene Devisser</td>
<td>Emma Williamson Maree Lang</td>
<td>Tracey Ryan</td>
<td>Kerry Peel Louise Leighton Katrina Gravener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th Nov - 18th Nov</td>
<td>Sally Kors Fiona Gardiner Sandra Dekkers</td>
<td>Melissa Fulton Jodie Underwood Cath McDonald</td>
<td>Justine Lowery Lauren McQuillen Julie Shingles</td>
<td>Kim Marchesi Linda Cam</td>
<td>Louise Seighton Kerry Flett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Nov - 25th Nov</td>
<td>Michelle Delaney Sally Kors</td>
<td>Vivian Johnstone Vicki Nikolajew</td>
<td>Helen Peeters Maree Lang Sue Brown</td>
<td>Kim Marchesi Cherie Walshe</td>
<td>Louise Leighton Christina Cooper Brad Coridas</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Nov - 2nd Dec</td>
<td>Sally Kors HELPERS X 2</td>
<td>HELPERS X 3</td>
<td>HELPERS X 3</td>
<td>Linda Cam Leanne Gallatly</td>
<td>Brad Coridas Louise Leighton HELPERS X 1</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

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### MAFFRA CARERS’ GROUP

Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month from February to November - providing information & support for people in various caring roles.

If you know someone who could benefit from the support friendship & information our group provides - please feel free to extend a welcome to come along to our meeting.

As always, the nature of caring allows for the fact that we can’t always be in a certain place at a certain time but we hope to see you there! Meetings provide information and support for people in various caring roles.

Contact people –

Pam S 51455417 & Thelma C 5145 1387

**Nov 21 – please contact us for venue & other details for this, our final meeting for 2016**

All welcome