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## Educating the Whole Student at Mac.Rob



Complementing the core curriculum, a number of programs have been organised during Term 2 to extend students' personal development and assist them with future decision-making. These have included:

### The Year 12 Regeneration Day

All year 12 students were involved in this one day program on Tuesday 17 June. The aim of Year 12 Regeneration Day was to refocus Year 12 students after their exams and provide them with renewed impetus by getting them to consider future possibilities. Speakers included a student who had worked in Mother Teresa's orphanage at the end of her Year 12, a former Mac.Rob student who went to Godstow, a former student who is now studying at an American University, a senior constable who spoke about safe partying and a comedian, who was most effective at 'restoring' everyone's sense of humour. The day was highly successful thanks to Assistant Principal, Miss Margaret Akins and the senior school team of Ms Chris Kelly, Ms Erin Lambert, Ms Linda Harvey and Ms Irene Serpless plus many other members of staff.

### Year 9 RED Days

The organiser of this program, Student Welfare Coordinator, Ms Gillian Baldock has provided the following report:

"On Tuesday 10 and Friday 20 June, all Year 9 students came to school wearing something red and took part in a RED Day Program. RED represents:

**R - Resilience**

**E - Empowerment**

**D - Determination**

The two themes for the day were Body Image and Relationships.

The students began the morning by viewing a program on 'Eating Disorders'. The students then worked in groups with facilitators from Melbourne City Mission and Kombiz about this theme. They had the opportunity to discuss the influence of the media and peer expectations on body size and healthy eating.

After muffins and fruit drinks for morning tea the students watched a wonderful interactive drama presentation on 'Relationships' organised by Ms. Cook and the Unit 1 and 2 Drama class.

The final group activities were then undertaken with the facilitators.

These were two very enjoyable mornings. The facilitators commented very positively on the girls' enthusiasm, cooperation and ability to articulate their thoughts and feelings on these issues."

### Year 10 Exploring University Pathways Program

This was organised by Careers Coordinator, Ms Irene Serpless. All Year 10 students were given a taste of university life in an all day program at the University of Melbourne on Tuesday 24 June. Presenters included former Mac.Rob students, Liz Tu (now working in Marketing at the University), Suzanne Jing and Nicola Chandra (both studying at Melbourne University). An information session on transition and a tour of the University were also included. Ms Serpless will give a more detailed report in the next issue.

### Year 10 and 11 Trip to Central Australia

On Sunday 22 June, 43 students and 5 teachers embarked on a 14 day trip of a lifetime to Central and Northern Australia. Highlights will include the opal mining town of Coober Pedy, the spectacular Kings Canyon, Uluru, the Olgas, Alice Springs, Kakadu, Darwin and much more in between. This will be a truly memorable experience for all participants. The staff members, Ms Williams, Mr Genovese, Ms Priestley, Ms Cutter and in particular, the organiser, Mr Webber are thanked for making it possible.

## Youth Leaders International (YLI)

During the holidays three teams of students from Mac.Rob and Melbourne High School will depart for their overseas Youth Leaders International programs. This exciting program provides a unique enrichment experience for students with high leadership potential. Students in the program work closely with a teacher from Mac.Rob or Melbourne High as their counsellor to enhance their organisation, communication and leadership skills. They develop social awareness through a service project that involves them identifying and fulfilling a need in their home community. They are given the opportunity to interact with students from around the globe. They develop an appreciation of diversity, are able to envision their own future and take action to turn goals into reality. As part of their world cultural experience they attend an annual **YLI conference** in a different location in each of the three years of the program. Best wishes to Year 10 students **Erin Labinski, Madeleine Barrow** and **Aurora Oncken** travelling to Washington DC, to Year 11 students, **Dorota Korab, Isobel Morphy-Walsh** and **Ramyaa Muruganandah** travelling to Prague with Ms Cook and Year 12 students, **Hannah Gould, Abigail Kuttner** and **Isobel Roberts-Orr** travelling to Cambridge.

**Rebecca Vosper**  
**Assistant Principal**

## GLOBAL LEADERS CONVENTION



Last Friday, a group of 8 girls from years 9-12 were chosen to attend the **Global Leaders Convention (GLC)** at the Medallion Club at Telstra Dome.

When we first arrived at the event, everyone was anxious for the day to begin. I couldn't believe at how many students had already arrived-over 700!

To start the day off we were given a passport with our new identity (as an Indian child labourer), information booklets and a free T-shirt! After checking out all of the stalls that the team at GLC had set up, they gave us all a quick welcome and then we were split into different groups and sent us off to work! We were made to sit on the cold ground in silence, making matchboxes. We had to work for two hours to try and pay off the debt that we owed to the government.

By the end of it, all that everyone had earned was more debt either because we were talking, not doing enough or because the matchboxes weren't good enough. After the two hours everyone was frustrated and complaining.

Following a well-earned rest, an Indian girl, who had actually been a child labourer in a matchbox factory, gave us all a talk about the long three years that she had to work there. At age 13, she would work for six days a week, thirteen hours a day! She was paid 15 rupees a day, 10 of which went back to her boss and 5 to pay for her food - she was forever in debt. In order to be paid the 5 rupees for her to eat she would need to have made 1500 matchboxes that day from scratch! It was when she turned 16 that she was rescued by an organisation run by World Vision. She informed us that if it weren't for the organisation she would be working there until her dying day. She truly inspired everyone to be grateful for the things in life that we so often take for granted.

After a motivating talk from Tim Costello, urging all of us to get involved and to make a change, we were again split into small groups for a debate on how different groups in India see child labour.

We were also given a talk by Jasmine Zapka, Victoria's Youth Ambassador, about her recent trip to India with World Vision. Now, I wish I could tell you everything she said, but it is just simply too much to condense for this article. I will quote her though.

"This year I will take part in the Forty Hour Famine for the fourth time. This time it is going to be different, it is going to be real, with a purpose. It is going to be forty hours with a constant reminder of what I experienced, forty hours of remembering what so many people go through their entire lives. We have the power to make a change, to unlock freedom, to give children back their childhood. Be the powerful person you can be and do not forget to pass it on! Will you be the voice of change?" Please make a difference - get involved.

On behalf of everyone who went to GLC, I would like to thank everyone who organized this event for Mac. Rob. We had an amazing day and hope to do it again.

**By Natasha Tsiaousis 9H**

***"You must be the change you want to see in the world." - Gandhi***



# R.S.P.C.A DONATION



Congratulations to Year 9 student, **Kasuni Punchi**, who raised \$227.35 for the R.S.P.C.A as part of her Independent Learning Project this semester. Kasuni received a Certificate of Appreciation and a letter of thanks from the R.S.P.C.A for this donation, which will be directed towards making the lives of neglected animals happier.

**Rebecca Vosper**  
I.L.P Teacher



A reminder as we approach the end of the financial year.

This is an opportunity to take advantage of the tax deductible component of your parent contribution.

**The Mac.Robertson Girls Building Fund is tax deductible.**

## STATE CHAMPION!

Congratulations to **Genevieve Bone** in Year 10 who became the Victorian State Champion in U15 Foil Competition last weekend. This is an impressive achievement.



## HOLIDAY WISHES

This twelve week Term has been a particularly long one – in fact, two weeks longer than usual. It is important that students use the holiday fortnight to rest and catch up with their life outside school, so that they can commence Term 3, on Monday July 14 feeling refreshed and energised.

**All staff and students are wished a relaxing, enjoyable and safe holiday.**



### RAIN IS FORECAST

It's time to purchase your very own

### MAC.ROB UMBRELLA

**\$30 — Red or Dark Green**

Good quality and sturdy.  
Available at the General Office.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS: TERM 3

### **Week One:**

Monday 14 July Students back at school

Wednesday 16 July Mac. Beth Presentation to all  
Year 10 Students  
Theatre 1.30—3.30pm

Friday 18 July Year 12 Formal—7pm

### **Week Two:**

Wednesday 23 July House Drama— Theatre

Wednesday 23 July—Saturday 26 July Cadets camp at Tallarook

Thursday 24 July—Friday 25 July V.C.A.A Plain English Speaking Awards

Thursday 24 July Chemistry Quiz—Morning Only

### **Week Four:**

Sunday 3 August—Wednesday 6 August Adelaide Exchange

### **Week Five:**

Friday 15 August Opening of School Portrait Galley. The Function  
Room 6.30pm

### **Week Six:**

Thursday 21 August Winter Concert. The Dallas Brooks Hall 7.30pm.

### **Week Seven:**

Tuesday 26 August Parent/Teacher Interviews

Friday 29 August Third round of Gardasil Immunisation

### **Week Eight:**

Sunday 31 August—Tuesday 2 September Sydney Girls Exchange

Friday 5 September Year 11 Formal –Evening

### **Week Nine;**

Wednesday 10 September—Saturday 13 September Combined Play—Evenings and Saturday Matinee