

**The Mac.Robertson
Girls' High School**

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Principal News – Week 1 Term 3

Welcome back to school everybody for Third Term. I hope that you are all organised and prepared for this important period leading up to the culmination of the year for the VCE students who have a very short Term 4. I spoke to the assembly on Monday about the concept of self mastery, or as our school motto puts it in Latin, “**Potens Sui**” and how important it is for the individual who wishes to succeed. I encourage each student to revisit their personal goals and make a conscious focus on the organisation and time management needed to achieve these.

My principal colleagues and I enjoyed a very interesting and stimulating visit to the selective schools, or exam schools as they term them, of New York City and are now developing our thoughts and observations for presentation to a range of audiences as part of the DEECD professional development program which enabled us to undertake our tour. Fortunately the program runs over two years because there is so much else going on at the moment making it difficult to find the time to do so.

Congratulations to **Bridget Pianta** on being awarded an **Australian Defence Academy Education Award**. The award includes a laptop computer to assist with Bridget's studies this year and makes her eligible to receive a university scholarship with the ADA on completion of her VCE.

Jane Garvey



Bridget Pianta receiving her award from Captain Matthew Markey

Semester 1 Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

On Monday 21 July students will be given their Semester 1 reports to take home for parents.

They will also bring home Parent/Teacher Interview appointment sheets for parents to organise a time to speak to teachers about any concerns they may have about their daughter's progress.

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be on Tuesday 26 August.

Please contact Ms Marilyn Smith, Assistant Principal, if you require any further information.

STATE SCHOOL SPECTACULAR TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Central Australia Tour 2008



The Central Australia Tour was an outstanding success. All of the students quickly established friendships with each other, the Mac.Rob staff, the driver and the cook.

The tour was completed without illness and any major inconvenience. The behaviour of the students was exemplary with every direction being followed without question or incident. I was especially impressed with the students' adherence to the 9.00pm curfew and the 9.30pm silence and this was maintained throughout the tour.

Everyone contributed to making every day and every event a joyful experience. Thankyou to the student members of the tour for establishing a camaraderie of friendships and concern for and assistance of others. A special thank you to the teachers, **Sharon Williams, Ferdinando Genovese, Jacqui Priestley, and Elizabeth Cutter**, for making my role as tour leader an enjoyable experience.

Russell Webber
Tour Leader.



Tickets are now available exclusively for all staff, students and families of Victorian government schools for this year's Victorian State Schools Spectacular performance **Made in Australia**.

There are just two weeks before tickets will be open for sale to the general public so book now to be assured of good seats.

Made in Australia - the Victorian State Schools Spectacular 2008 and Government Schools Expo will be held at Hisense Arena (formerly Vodafone Arena) at 2pm and 7.30pm on Saturday 6 September; and 2pm on Sunday 7 September.

The Victorian State Schools Spectacular is a massive performance event featuring the talents of 2,500 students performing onstage in massed choreography and song. This year's performance brings together a 100 piece orchestra, a 950 voice choir, more than 1200 dancers, 30 vocalists and 70 specialty performers. The performers are all students from Victorian government schools from all across the state.

"**Made in Australia**" is a celebration of Australian culture – past and present. The music and songs are our most iconic well loved numbers taken from Australia's rich archive of popular music.

Tickets are available through
Ticketek on 132 849 or
www.ticketek.com.au

For enquiries about the show:
contact **Joining the Chorus** on
(03) 9415 1700
or go to [www.education.vic.gov.au/
spectacular](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/spectacular)

CAREERS

Year 10 Careers Week, which was designed to get students thinking about career choice before VCE subject selection in Term 3, was held during the last week of Term 2.

On Monday June 23 we had an assembly with guest speaker **Dr Melanie Archer**, who is an ex-Mac Rob student, and is currently the Honorary consulting forensic entomologist to the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. After leaving Mac Rob, Melanie completed a Bachelor of Science and a PhD in zoology at the University of Melbourne. She is Victoria's only forensic entomologist and one of only three in Australia. She is called in by police whenever an insect infested body is found in suspicious circumstances. Her analysis helps detectives work out the time and sometimes the place of the death they are investigating.

Her work is featured in "**Written on the Skin:**" An Australian Forensic Casebook" which is in the school library. In addition to her involvement in many high profile cases she has travelled on a number of occasions to the Solomon Islands to conduct post-mortems on civil war victims. Dr Archer is now completing a post graduate degree in medicine with the intention of working as a forensic pathologist. She encouraged students to follow their passions and to prepare for not one, but many different careers during their working life.

On Tuesday students spent the day at The University of Melbourne, Exploring University Pathways. Sessions were conducted on the new Melbourne model, prerequisites, transition, university life and the differences between school and university. Speakers included ex Mac Rob student **Liz Tu**, who now works in the marketing department at Melbourne and also current students **Susanne Jing**, (studying Commerce) and **Nicola Chandra** (studying Science) who took part in a student panel. Students were also taken on a tour of the campus conducted by university students.

On Thursday lunchtime **Nerys Lewis** from the RSPCA accompanied by her pet rats Diego and Zorro, spoke on careers with animals and **Takakao Yoshizawa** another ex Mac Rob student, who is studying in California gave advice about study in the United States.

On Friday morning there was a workshop for those students interested in running their own business. **Sacha Colburne** who conducted the Business You session has run her own business which

manufactures natural aromatherapy products, since the age of 18. She discussed the challenges of being a young entrepreneur and engaged students in a number of creative activities relating to product design and marketing.

During the week there was also a careers competition, with prizes kindly donated by the Parents Association, the winner being **Caitlin Conway**, and students also received their 2008 Job Guides.

Irene Serpless Careers



Students with rats at RSPCA



Dr Melanie Archer



Liz Tu

Mac. Rob students do well in the National Geographic Australian Geography Competition

Earlier this year students in Years 9 and 10 as well as students in VCE Units 3 and 4 Geography, sat the **Australian Geography Competition** sponsored by the National Geographic Channel. This demanding competition challenges students to analyse and interpret a range of unseen geographic data in map, visual, statistical and graphical formats. Much of the material is not taught formally within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards curriculum or in the VCE. The results are therefore a testimony to the abilities of students in the school.

The results have at last been published and we are pleased to announce that in the **Junior Division** there were **4 Credits** and **2 Distinctions** and **3 High Distinctions** were awarded to **Joanna Wang, Kimberley Chang** and **Georgia Carapetis** of Year 9.

In the **Intermediate Division**, there were **53 Credits** and **86 Distinctions** and **51 High Distinctions** were awarded to:

Anurandha Balasooriya	Joyce Cheng	Lydia Chew
Cherylln Chong	Jennifer Liacos	Rebecca Low
Jenny Mai	Rachel McNaughton	Naomi Peck
Sarah Tan	Alice Trumble	Joanna Usher
Kimberly Yan	Madeleine Barrow	Zoe Chan
Phoebe Imms	Caitlyn McCoy	Caitlin Mullen
Ivy Nyuyen	Louise Selvadurai	Sharon Tran
Jaclyn Fisicchia	Elizabeth Hong	Sophia Connor
Thao Le	Stephanie Choy	Amanda Hii
Natasha Podesser	Rose Albiston	Grace Ho
Regina Lee	Anna Lieschke	Alexandra Marks
Stephnie Nithianandan	Manoshi Perera	Chiharu Yamano
Danae Andreopoulos	Jennifer Duong	Sadia Karim
Semonti Modak	Christine Bui	Kelly Lian
Eunice Low	Sophia Ordonez	Jithendri Weerasingha
Jeanna Wong	Linda Doan	Tina Trinh
Wendy Hu	Isiri Wickramartachchi	Chiharu Yamano

At the **Senior Division** there were **18 Credits** and **11 Distinctions** and **6 High Distinctions** were awarded to:

Anna Lewis	Runa Lindblom	Sarah Blundy
Meaghan Thomas Richards	Hilary Hunt	Alice Bisits

All of the students are to be congratulated on their fine efforts.

John Stewart
Leader – Humanities and Geography Teacher



IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME



Scholarship Scheme to tempt junior bowlers
Open day, Sunday August 24, 11am to 5pm
St Vincents Gardens, South Melbourne
Albert Park (VRI) Bowls Club is celebrating its
135th birthday
by creating a junior scholarship squad

To attract younger bowlers, Albert Park (VPI) Bowls Club is providing free specialized coaching, free use of bowls, free membership, free green fees and free uniforms. Aspiring bowlers of any age are welcome to turn up at the club's open day on Sunday August 24, starting at 11am to 5 pm.

The club's junior development officer, Mr Robert Fairweather said that the club boasted two level 1 coaches and a new level 2 coach.

"Albert Park Bowls Club is one of a handful of clubs in Australia to have a level 2 coach and ours has had lots of experience with younger bowlers. With specialised tuition, younger players can go far. It's not too hard to see some of them ending up in the state or national teams," he said.

"Over the past few years, we've doubled our membership and are able to organise three Saturday pennant sides, with a fourth likely," he said.

"In 2006 our top side won the division pennant flag and last season was runner up."

"One of the reasons our club is so special is its location in the middle of the magnificent St Vincent Gardens with no fences or gates and stunning tree lined greens. It's famous for weddings, family gatherings but, more importantly, wonderful bowlers."

"The club has excellent facilities and a handy location. You can play social or competition bowls, enjoy free rollups, voting rights and bar discounts. It's small, and intimate, almost boutique, friendly and welcoming. Imagine a pleasant summer evening, an organized twilight meeting, including a barbecue dinner, prize money and, more importantly, great fun and relaxation. Twilight meetings cost only \$10 and it's all inclusive.

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These nights are just a sample of what Albert Park offers those who need a challenge in their lives."

The open day includes a sausage sizzle, free coaching, and lots of activities to keep all the participants occupied and involved. Bowls are provided. There are special incentives, especially for younger people, to join up.

More info: Rob Fairweather, Junior Development Officer, on 0408 360 257 or Norman Armstrong, President, on 0418 551 068.

CITY OF PORT PHILLIP FREE PUBLIC EVENT

The City of Port Phillip's **Sister Cities Program** is holding a free public event next Wednesday 23 July, from 3.45pm.

The Sister Cities Book and Music Launch celebrates:

- the launch of the Sister Cities Community Music Podcasts developed by staff member Nicole Hurtubise during her staff exchange to our Japanese sister city, Obu;
 - the relaunch of the Obu Book Collection that is a result of a library book exchange program between Port Phillip and Obu Library Services; and
- the publication of a Japanese version of 'Granny, a history mystery', a picture book written by local historian Meyer Eidelson.
- Tea Master Adam Wojcinski will perform a traditional Japanese tea ceremony to mark the event.

THE LAND OF 1000 FACES

The Gallery, St Kilda Town Hall, corner

Brighton Road and Carlisle Street.

To July 31. Monday-Friday, 9 - 5.

The Land of 1000 Faces, an exhibition of over 1000 self-portraits by young people who live, study, work or play in the City of Port Phillip, opened at The Gallery, St Kilda Town Hall on Tuesday July 1, running the full month to July 31. This includes self portraits by Mac.Rob students who were encouraged to enter by our Art Teacher **Ms Wanda Baulch.**

Army Cadet Bivouac

During the last weeks of Term 2, the **MHSCU** went up to Mount Disappointment for our five day bivouac. The pace was rapid, with numerous activities packed into the 6am – 10pm days. Day navigation lead to night navigation – with cadets developing confidence with moving in the bush at night. A mock emergency provided a challenge for cadets to not only locate the ‘casualty’ and provide first aid, but also carry the [not-so-light-weight] officers on self-constructed stretchers made of japara and spars over densely-vegetated and puddle-filled sections of the bush.

The confidence course, which was built by the Year 10 & 11s of the unit was easily the most fun activity of the bivouac. For the course to work, the Langley cadets had to tie knots securely, use pullies correctly and construct a raft. Cadets had to crawl under cargo-nets, across tightropes, balance on a raft across a lake and got very muddy in the process. The sections with the greatest teamwork and motivation skills finished the course with the best times.

Langley company gave a survival cooking lesson. The three-course meal consisted of damper, chicken, vegetables – which could be grilled, roasted or boiled depending on the specialty of the senior cadets. Practical skills developed and knowledge gained included lighting and maintaining fires, using the ANPRAC radio in an efficient manner and night vision. All cadets labelled it a ‘fun’, ‘useful’ and ‘challenging’ bivouac, which made them appreciate even more the slow-pace and warmth of the holidays that followed.

**Bridget Pianta
& all Mac. Rob MHSCU Cadets 2008**



SENIOR STUDENTS EXCEL IN NORTHERN ZONE COMPETITIONS..

The Mac.Robertson Girls’ High School competed very successfully in the **District Senior Winter Sport Competitions**. The school represented Yarra District in the Northern Zone Competitions involving the sports of Badminton, Basketball, Hockey, Netball, Squash and Table Tennis. The outstanding results continued for these competitions with the Badminton, Hockey, Netball and Table Tennis teams all winning. These teams will now compete in the State Finals in August. Congratulations to all the members of these teams and their coaches. We wish them further success in the State Championships.



CROSS COUNTRY TEAM ACHIEVE SUCCESS AT NORTHERN ZONE COMPETITIONS.

The Senior and Intermediate Teams competed successfully in the Northern Zone Championships in Bendigo in June. The Intermediate Team achieved an outstanding result easily winning the team event. Every member of the team earned the right to compete in the State Championships as an individual competitor, with **Rosie Donegan** winning the event. The Senior Team also performed creditably, with **Stephanie Dearaugo, Paula Loveland** and **Olivia Rog**, qualifying to compete at State level as individual competitors. Congratulations to the team for these achievements and a special thankyou to **Mr Mannix** and **Mr DeLosa** for their inspirational leadership and training of the team.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: TERM 3

Week Two:

Monday 21 July

Semester 1 Reports Sent Home

Wednesday 23 July

House Drama— Theatre 7.30pm start

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 8.55 - 10.10am No VCE Classes Until Period 3

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



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