Year 10 Centre Trip

Bree with a little friend at Yuendumu
Celebrating 40 Years

This week Principal Martin reflects on the commencement of MECS’s 40th birthday party and what’s been achieved over four decades of Christian schooling at MECS.

The occasion of our 40th Anniversary Ball is an invitation to reflect on MECS...

Out of this fertile and exciting time..., grew the ‘No Icing on the Cake’ book project... rejecting the weaknesses of dualism (simply tacking on a bit of Christianity as ‘icing’ on various areas of life) and offering up a vision of a whole new ‘cake’...

The vision of parenthood - Before the doors opened

The early pioneers of MECS were post WWII Dutch migrants who were fired with a desire for a "School mit ver Bibel" (Lateral translation = School with the Bible). This was their experience in the Netherlands where everyone understood that after you established your church you then started working on your Christian school, that’s what God would want of you: home and school in harmony. Therefore, they established an Association in 1954 and 19 years later opened the doors of MECS.

Whilst many pockets around Australia were birthing ‘parent controlled’ Christian schools, the early Mount Evelyn pioneers were of a particular branch of thinking. They shared the radical ‘whole-of-life’ reformational perspective in the tradition of the Dutch politician and theologian, Abram Kuyper. Accordingly this group frequently were referred to as ‘Kuyperian’. Here lay the roots of a radical Christian school that attempted to develop a distinctive Christian curriculum and teaching practice.

From Birth to Childhood. Getting Started - the 70s

The early Boards were ‘boots and all’ type people. Board and staff worked closely together and little distinction was made between management and governance. Board members and parents worked closely with teachers and Jack, the first Principal, to establish a school that ran everything through the ‘how does this work Christianly?’ filter. Early teaching staff worked with this Christian perspective to give shape to a distinctly Christian educational program. The big two terms of the day were: Integral Curriculum and Christ-centred, child-oriented teaching and learning. Out of this fertile and exciting time, where conversations asked how best to shape a radical Christian education, grew the ‘No Icing on the Cake’ book project. Both the book and the idea of rejecting the weaknesses of dualism (simply tacking on a bit of Christianity as ‘icing’ on various areas of life) and offering up a vision of a whole new ‘cake’, had a profound effect both locally and beyond.

A start of 90 students in 1973 steadily grew so that by 1978 the full extension of the school from Prep to Year 12 resulted. Each expansion saw another cut into the side of the hill and soon another set of buildings emerged. Senior School students were thought to be extra special, so they got their own special spot at the top of the property. Each era seems to attract the leadership thought to be extra special, so they got their own special spot at another set of buildings emerged. Senior School students were frustrated by a sense of being ‘held back’ by a more conservative parent body. The major innovations during this phase were the introduction of the Middle School; the related Years 1 to 9 multi-age grouping of students and the decision to double the school’s intake for Years 7 to 12. MECS continued in its drive to bring a dynamic biblically-informed perspective to every area of learning. The school was renowned in Christian education circles for this and other innovative features and hosted many visitors wanting to know, ‘how to do it’.

During this phase, the predominance of board members with Dutch and Reformed Church connections declined. Many evangelical Christians were catching the vision of a distinctive Christian education. The Board continued to have an emphasis on managing rather than governing the school. The focus of Association Meetings moved from formal proceedings to promoting a vibrant understanding of, and support for, what the school was doing. The proportion of school parents who were becoming members of the Association declined.

Becoming the adult – the 90s

After sorting through key identity issues, a bit like a teenager, questions relating to more mature, adult-like ways of operating emerged. Board members realised that it’s better for a Principal and school leadership teams to manage and run the school so that left the Board with time to address larger governance and directional issues. The Carver model of Board governance was adopted. For the first time the Board was comprised entirely of persons with no Reformed Church or Dutch connection.

In 1993 the Board commissioned a master plan for the school and some longer term infrastructure plans were drawn up, including a new library. This was to be located in the centre of the school and all other future facilities relevant to all three Sections were also to be placed in this hub. School size steadied in the 400’s and in the main, most multi-age groupings were in double clusters.

The Board replaced the one-on-one meetings with staff members, with annual Section-Board dinners. Declining Association membership was met with a ‘members not consumers’ drive and in 2000, the Board commissioned a comprehensive review of the school using the CPCSS model. With massively changing compliance and other expectations on leadership, a key Review recommendation was to provide greater leadership support for the Principal with the appointment of other members to the Executive leadership of the school. Many recommendations addressed issues around renewal and revitalisation of the school facilities, programs and community life.

Mid Life – the 00’s

Is it middle age or even a mid-life crisis? The parallels between the seasons of life and that of a school community...
Welcome back
I hope you had a lovely restful break. It’s great to start the term off with Spring mornings and sunny days.

Staff Review Day
During the Workbreak week, all staff members gathered together at Skyhigh up the top of Mount Dandenong (beautiful panorama). It’s a rare thing to have all 90 staff together, so it was a great day of community, reflection and development. Lorraine, Principal at Bayside Christian College, presented a session on the Enneagram Personality Types and facilitated our discovery of our ‘type’ and what that meant for us in our working relationships. We also had a session on ‘effective teaching’ and undertook some review and planning. Teachers also spent considerable time during the week working on curriculum development and documentation, as well as delving into the book of Isaiah.

Anniversary Ball this Saturday
This is going to be such a great night. Much planning and preparation has gone into transforming our gym and getting all the details right, and I think the result is going to be wonderful. Looking forward to seeing you there with your dancing shoes on.

Centre Trip
It’s always great when the Centre Trip returns all safe and sound, with good stories and experiences to share. We’ll hear more about the amazing impact that living within an aboriginal community has, at the Centre Trip Parent Night coming up. Please check out the photos further on in the newsletter.

Year 11 Formal
It’s happening this Friday evening and the Year 11s will be getting dressed up and displaying their public speaking and dancing skills. It’s another wonderful highlight on the MECS calendar.

New Website
Have you checked out the MECS website lately? It’s had a complete overhaul and is looking pretty amazing. Your feedback is welcome – please let us know what you think.

New Director for Ranges TEC
I am pleased to announce on behalf of the Ranges TEC Advisory Panel the appointment of Phil to the position of Director of Ranges TEC. Phil is presently on the Board of MECS and a parent of 3 boys here at school and working with the Salvation Army.

Phil comes with a wealth of experience in farming; TAFE teaching/ lecturing; working in the rehabilitation and work therapy sector; construction and organisational leadership. Phil and his wife Josie are members of Truth & Liberation Concern in Bayswater and have lived in the area since 2001.

Present Director, Ellen, who has most capably led this exciting new vocational education enterprise will be handing over to Phil at the end of the school year. We pray the Lord will continue to richly bless this bold new school with on-going wonderful leadership.

Even though the MECS Board readily recognises Phil’s gifts for this task they will miss his contribution to the Board, which he will now need to step down from because a Ranges TEC employee is also by organisational arrangement also a MECS employee. We wish Phil well in this bold new endeavour.

Editorial Continued...
are uncanny. This phase in the life of the school built on the substantial review undertaken in 2000. A new Principal in 2002, Martin, overlapped with CEO Stewart so the strength and wisdom of what had been established could be built on with a renewed freshness and zeal.

New planning tools were adopted for Board and school operation. More energy was given to parent education, promotion and events; web sites were built and making effective use of available technology to serve the community which became a focus. There were many challenges in being ‘Christian’, ‘independent’ and having a school-based curriculum in a broader educational context of a prescribed national curriculum, substantial compliance regimes, and standardised testing and reporting impositions. MECS continued to focus on developing an innovative, dynamic and faithful biblically-informed curriculum and educational practice. Since the school’s commencement, all teaching staff have been required to engage in post-graduate training in Christian education. Simply having faith wasn’t enough. Teachers needed to work in teams to reflect on the practice and develop their curriculum on the basis of a biblical foundation.

A substantial new Infrastructure Master Plan outlined 24 projects which would see most areas of the school renovated and expanded. Enrolment grew to the high 500’s and triple clusters became the default model. A GFC saw the government open the purse strings and the long-awaited gym grew much bigger than had ever been dreamed of. Expansion in Christian education didn’t see a new school planted but rather a Kindergarten and the opening of a ‘partnered’ Trade Training Centre.

Four decades of being a Christian school in the foothills of the Dandenongs, and two decades of dreaming and planning before that. God has been good to us. As we reminisce and reflect on what’s been built and how many thousands of students and families have been impacted by this Christian educational community, we can echo the words sung at the school’s opening ceremony...

Be thou my vision, O lord of my life
Parents & Friends

P&F Meeting

Our next meeting is this coming Monday 22 Oct at 9.10am in the conference room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Shopping Tour – with a difference - more shopping, less touring!

Don’t forget tickets are now available from the office. Saturday 10 Nov, $20.

BYO lunch. Morning and Afternoon Tea provided. Depart 7.30am sharp. Return approx 7.30pm.

Visiting Smith St Collingwood, West Meadows and DFO Essendon.

Enjoy Friends and Shopping with no parking problems!

Stationery Helpers

A big thank you to all those who have offered to help. The roster will be sent out closer to the date. There are still vacancies that need to be filled.

Nov 28: am & pm (packing)
Dec 3: am (sales day)
Jan 31: am & pm (sales day and pack-up)

If you can help at any of these times please phone me or email me. It is a great way to meet other parents at the school and the days are filled with fun and laughter.

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

MECS VCE Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!

Evelyn
Stationery Coordinator

VCE Creative Arts Showcase

MECS Visual and Performing Arts students will be joining forces in a combined showcase of VCE Drama, Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design on Wednesday 24 October.

The evening will commence with an art exhibition at 7.00pm in the Senior School foyer (refreshments provided), followed by ten Solo Performances by Unit 2 and 4 Drama students in the Theatrette at 7.30 pm.

All of these students have been working hard throughout Semester 2 to meet the challenges of the creative process, with Unit 4 Drama students relied to have completed their formal examination last Friday and others awaiting assessment! Show your support of our students in their artistic endeavours and come along and enjoy an evening of culture presented by the artists of tomorrow!
Imagine the anxiety the parents of the first ever students to undertake Year 12 (HSC) at MECS back in 1979 must have felt, having sent their children to a school with no proven academic record. After all, it was a small Christian school staffed by teachers who worked hard to provide a radical Christian education, one where the Lord Jesus was proclaimed as the King of all the Earth. In retrospect, those parents need not have worried, as the class of five students produced a specialist renal dialysis nurse, a pastor who went on to gain a Ph.D. in History, a Science graduate - now principal of a Christian school, an Arts graduate who taught at MECS, and an agricultural scientist who gained a Ph.D. in Linguistics after spending many years on Bible translation work in the Solomon Islands.

When I joined the staff mid-way through 1981, the foundations for a unique Senior School had already been laid. The campus was sited a good 200 metres from the Middle and Primary Schools, had its own science laboratory, library, study centre, and a theatrette which also functioned as a lecture theatre. The students were treated as adults by the staff, met in small teacher-led devotion groups and were seen as co-workers on the educational journey. Importantly, our students were not ‘spoon fed’ exam content but rather, were helped to understand concepts. Above all, students were taught to question what they were taught as well as being equipped to probe the world view of any content studied. All these elements continue in the Senior School today.

In addition and importantly, just as they were back in 1981, students are given many non-timetabled study blocks, time they are allowed to use for individual study, discussion, helping each other, or in relaxation. Thus, when our students reach University or TAFE, they are used to working independently, able to solve problems and importantly, tend not to waste their ‘study blocks’ drinking coffee in the Student Union Cafeteria. This practice, and our overall approach to the VCE, has, I believe, ensured that any students graduating from MECS are extremely well prepared for tertiary study. Hard data to support this claim is not available but I do have some personal experience.

In 2003, my youngest daughter missed out on getting into her desired teaching course. She took a year off and the following year was accepted into a Bachelor of Education at ACU. At the end of her first year of tertiary study she was awarded a place on the Dean’s Honours list, ie. she was in the top 10% of students undertaking her course. She achieved this twice more during her course. She attributes her place on the Dean’s Honours list, ie. she was in the top 10% of students undertaking her course. She achieved this twice more during her course. She attributes her place on the Dean’s Honours list, ie. she was in the top 10% of students undertaking her course. She achieved this twice more during her course. She attributes her success to the study habits she learned while at MECS and her ability to question the world views of her lecturers.

She is just one example of the importance of teaching our students to think for themselves - an excellent preparation for tertiary education, but also for many other aspects of life.

"Does the MECS Senior School education adequately prepare students for tertiary life?"

Imagine the anxiety the parents of the first ever students to undertake Year 12 (HSC) at MECS back in 1979 must have felt, having sent their children to a school with no proven academic record. After all, it was a small Christian school staffed by teachers who worked hard to provide a radical Christian education, one where the Lord Jesus was proclaimed as the King of all the Earth. In retrospect, those parents need not have worried, as the class of five students produced a specialist renal dialysis nurse, a pastor who went on to gain a Ph.D. in History, a Science graduate - now principal of a Christian school, an Arts graduate who taught at MECS, and an agricultural scientist who gained a Ph.D. in Linguistics after spending many years on Bible translation work in the Solomon Islands.

When I joined the staff mid-way through 1981, the foundations for a unique Senior School had already been laid. The campus was sited a good 200 metres from the Middle and Primary Schools, had its own science laboratory, library, study centre, and a theatrette which also functioned as a lecture theatre. The students were treated as adults by the staff, met in small teacher-led devotion groups and were seen as co-workers on the educational journey. Importantly, our students were not ‘spoon fed’ exam content but rather, were helped to understand concepts. Above all, students were taught to question what they were taught as well as being equipped to probe the world view of any content studied. All these elements continue in the Senior School today.

In addition and importantly, just as they were back in 1981, students are given many non-timetabled study blocks, time they are allowed to use for individual study, discussion, helping each other, or in relaxation. Thus, when our students reach University or TAFE, they are used to working independently, able to solve problems and importantly, tend not to waste their ‘study blocks’ drinking coffee in the Student Union Cafeteria. This practice, and our overall approach to the VCE, has, I believe, ensured that any students graduating from MECS are extremely well prepared for tertiary study. Hard data to support this claim is not available but I do have some personal experience.

In 2003, my youngest daughter missed out on getting into her desired teaching course. She took a year off and the following year was accepted into a Bachelor of Education at ACU. At the end of her first year of tertiary study she was awarded a place on the Dean's Honours list, ie. she was in the top 10% of students undertaking her course. She achieved this twice more during her course. She attributes her place on the Dean's Honours list, ie. she was in the top 10% of students undertaking her course. She achieved this twice more during her course. She attributes her place on the Dean's Honours list, ie. she was in the top 10% of students undertaking her course. She achieved this twice more during her course. She attributes her success to the study habits she learned while at MECS and her ability to question the world views of her lecturers.

She is just one example of the importance of teaching our students to think for themselves - an excellent preparation for tertiary education, but also for many other aspects of life.
Year 10 Centre Trip

50 intrepid students and a dozen or so assorted staff have recently returned from our annual Year 10 Centre Trip. For the past 30 years, the Centre Trip has become a MECS ‘rite of passage’ and is often the highlight of our students’ school years, and this year was no exception. God blessed us with a ‘smooth’ trip in every way: great weather, safe travel, no natural disasters, a keen and engaged bunch of students, delicious and plentiful food, and an exceptional time with our Warlpiri brothers and sisters in Yuendumu.

What rich and amazing experiences we had! From the long days on the coach, gazing at the vastness of the Australian desert or passing the time singing and playing cards, to exploring God’s astounding creation as we walked the rim of King’s Canyon or tried to capture on paper something of the majesty of the sunset over Uluru. From camping almost every night under the stars, enjoying campfires and trying a bit of ‘roadkill’, to enjoying the luxury of staying in an underground cave in Coober Pedy. From learning about another culture within our own country and discovering our skin names as we played with the kids at Yuendumu, to helping kids learn from games in the classroom at the school. From trying some cool moves at the Disco, to an impromptu singsong and dance lesson for the girls in a shady river bed as the old ladies told us of their traditional ways. From hearing from an ex-MECS student some of the problems and challenges facing the Warlpiri community to discovering the joys and challenges of living in community ourselves for 18 days as we washed dishes together and shared in our groups.

We give thanks to God for allowing us the privilege of sharing this amazing trip together. A huge thankyou to the hard-working and long-suffering staff who make this trip possible and for our school community that prays and supports us as we go.

Melinda
First Aid Officer

Centre Trip

I think Centre Trip gives you the chance to learn about new cultures. It is an opportunity to make new friendships and improve old ones. We can forget everything going on at home for 18 days. It’s a time to learn/ listen to God and spend more time just being with Him. I think it is a time to grow in ourselves. We can learn from others and grow better relationships with the teachers. We will do things we haven’t done before, like sleep outside every night and spend 18 days away from home. Over all I think Centre Trip is a massive opportunity to grow.

Mia
Year 10 Centre Trip

On the Road

The road is where it started, the adventure that we were on, the road was an endless opportunity, to see what lay beyond.

The opportunity on the horizon, the surprise that laid await, the opportunity to find ourselves, to find God or find our fate.

The bus trips were sometimes long, they seemed to never end, but the road trips were always fun, in the company of a friend.

The road took us from the usual, to new wide open spaces, from Yuendumu to Uluru, and many other beautiful places.

The road allowed for our adventure, for our exploration to pan out, I can’t wait to hit the road again, I know this with no doubt.

Laura

School Age Wrestling Nationals

From Tuesday 2 October to Monday 8, I and three other wrestlers, my coach and a lovely mum, all journeyed to South Australia for the Annual School-Age Wrestling Nationals held in Adelaide. We prepared by coming to MECS for 6 hours of training during the first half of the holidays. On Tuesday we made our way to our holiday and competition by minivan. Torrens Valley Christian School was happy to provide a place to stay which felt very homey to me, almost as soon as I got there. We stayed in South Australia for a week, allowing ourselves to enjoy a holiday and be able to train at Glenelg beach for a bit.

On Friday, the day before the Championships, our wrestlers weighed in. The next day was the main attraction. Our team achieved two gold medals and one silver. Then in beach wrestling the next day, we scored gold again. Our team celebrated by having dinner with an ex wrestler who wrestled in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. It was very insightful and amusing, because surprisingly at the age of 80 he was still pulling out some moves on us on the carpet of the restaurant during dinner.

The whole experience had an impact on me on a personal level and I was able to socialise in a way that I had never done before - over wrestling and during a holiday. Both went hand in hand for our team, and for most of us it was the first experience of wrestling with the big guys from around Australia. We’ve all come out of it feeling proud of ourselves and our accomplishment as representatives of MECS. We fought hard and we loved it. Jacob even received a blood lip! But don’t worry that was our only injury. What a trooper! I reckon good on him for showing strength. Our team had become accustomed to the rough aspect of wrestling because I noticed that neither of our two younger guys cried the whole time we were there. In order to succeed in wrestling you have to deal with that sort of thing. Adam reminded us of this, but he also made sure we received no real injuries. On top of that, we had lots of fun and learnt about our own, and other wrestlers’ techniques. Now I think that we are all ready for the new Greco-Roman style of wrestling in Term 4! I’d like to thank, Amandal, Adam and Connie for providing the finances for all our expenses. You guys made the week so much fun. You trained us well and encouraged us heaps. I’m glad I came with you all.

Joe

Year 12 Student

Joe, Dillon, Nathan, Joe & Adam
Mon 15 October
Term 4 Begins

Mon 15 - Fri 19 October
VCE Performance Exams

Thur 18 October
Dance Lessons for 40th Anniversary Ball 7.30pm Gym

Fri 19 October
Year 11 Formal 6pm

Sat 20 October
MECS 40th Anniversary Ball 7pm

---

Mon 22 - Fri 28 October
VCE Performance Exams

Mon 22 October
Hooptime Finals
Step into Prep (2013 Orientation)

Wed 24 - Fri 26 October
MP Camp

Wed 24 October
Going Solo - VCE Drama Student Performance - Theatrette 7.30pm
Year 12 Classes

Thur 25 October
Year 12 Farewell Assembly in Gym
11.30am - Parents Welcome
Year 7/8 Super 8s Cricket
Association General Meeting 6.30 for Dinner, 7.30pm Meeting start

Fri 26 October
Year 7 & 8 Interschool Basketball
Year 7 Immunisations

Sat 27 October
Working Bee 8am - 1pm

---

MECS Kindergarten News

We have had some exciting developments regarding our 4 year old Kindergarten in 2013.

At this point in time, we are only a few enrolments away from being able to run two four year old Kindergarten classes, with the final decision being made on October 31.

If you know anyone who would like more information about the Kindergarten please call the school office to let us know so we can get the information to them, or suggest they call the school.

---

House to Sit Needed
A family coming from Canada is needing a place to house sit over the holidays while they look for a house to rent. If you can help please contact Christine via the Main Office.

Labradoodle Pups For Sale
Multigenerational Labradoodle’s have a gentle temperament and are a low-no shedding breed.


Large Desk For Sale
Corner Desk, 180 x 180cm. $50 ono. Amanda.

Oasis Revive Festival
Sat 10 Nov, 66-72 Monbulk Rd Mount Evelyn. 2-5pm Fun Under the Sun. 5-10.30pm Dance & Groove.

This is a fundraiser for Hopebuilders and 100% of all profits will go to them. Entry $25/family (2 adults/2 Children), $10/Adult, $7/Child (up to 15yold). Under 4 Free. Includes rides and local bands.

For more info see www.oasis.asn.au

Advent Workshops 2012
The Christmas Story told through story, songs and craft for children from 4 year old kindergarten to Year 6. Mon - Nov 19, 26, Dec 3 & 10 - 3.45 - 5pm at Montrose Uniting Church, Cnr Gratton & Canterbury Rds Montrose. $12 per child for 4 weeks, paid in full on registration by 11 Nov. Call Robyn for a registration form. Pre registration is recommended.

Self Esteem Workshop
October 31 - A one evening workshop focussing on self esteem, self esteem traps and rebuilding esteem identity at River Valley Church - 3039 Warburton Hwy Millgrove.

Holiday Home For Rent
In Shoreham (near Flinders) on the Peninsula. A 4 bedroom holiday home is available for rent, in a quiet court, not far from the beach. If you are interested in renting it for a few days, a weekend, a week or longer, just let us know. Very reasonable rent.

Please ring Maria and Henk.