Year 12 Graduation
Jess giving the student response at the Year 12 Graduation dinner
Rubbish In - Rubbish Out

The curved bay of pristine ultra marine blue water opens out in front of you. Mountains reach down to touch the coast and kiss the sand. Seabirds dart low across their landing strip; the grime of the city is washed away and your heart responds to the beauty of God’s creation.

Sealer’s Cove Wilsons Promontory National Park; a beautiful, natural haven.

Have you been to a National Park recently?
We love nothing more as a family than to get out in the great outdoors and connect with nature and enjoy the bush and coast.

How beautiful is Australia; and what a wonderful resource we have in these designated places for conservation, recreation and preservation of habitat for flora and fauna.

National Parks Victoria has as its motto, ‘Healthy Parks, Healthy People’ - encouraging people to get outdoors and enjoy. “Getting out into the fresh air is good for body and soul; so choose your destination and go.” http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/ Healthy environments and healthy people go together so well. When we learn to look after our environment and care for it, and we look after our own bodies - keeping active and eating well, then our soul is nourished and our environment is cared for.

You may have noticed if you have been to a National Park recently that there are no longer any rubbish bins.
Whatever rubbish you bring in to the park, you must also take out with you: rubbish in; rubbish out! This is part of a strategy to encourage people to be aware of the rubbish they are creating, minimise it and actively care for the environment. It is not because Parks Victoria are unwilling to deal with the rubbish generated. Rather, it’s so money can be channelled directly into preserving habitats, maintaining parks and improving the facilities available.

MECS Primary also values and loves the beautiful environment God has given us. We feel that our school is just like a National Park. We want to learn more about how to preserve and conserve it. We also value the children and families that come to our school and want the children to learn how to look after their environment and also care for their own bodies, getting the right exercise and forming good eating habits that will sustain them for life.

This is why as of the start of the 2017 school year, MECS Primary will be just like a National Park, rubbish in – rubbish out.

Children will be encouraged to have rubbish free lunches, encouraged to enjoy healthy eating and will no longer allow any rubbish or wrappers to be disposed of at school. Students will need to bring home their wrappers and rubbish in their lunch box. This will heighten awareness of what is being eaten, hopefully promoting healthier eating and minimising the impact on the environment. In practical terms, this will mean students will be encouraged to have small containers within lunch boxes with healthy options rather than food wrapped in plastic wraps and highly processed packaged foods with high sugar content. We know as educators that healthy eating does impact learning. High sugar content foods cause distraction in students and the more sustainable and healthier options help learners to concentrate and give their best at school both academically and behaviourally. Healthy bodies, healthy minds, and healthy environment all go together and bring honour to God and, in turn, we are better stewards of the world he has given us to care for.

The Primary teachers will be helping students to think more carefully about what is in their lunch boxes and will be overseeing the going home of any rubbish. There are some really excited parents who are keen to assist us in helping our kids eat better, learn better and look after our environment. There are also many excited students who have been brainstorming how we can better care for our ‘National Park’ MECS.


Di
Assistant Principal - Primary

Healthy bodies, healthy minds, and healthy environment all go together and bring honour to God...

Primary Interschool Futsal

We had such a great day last Friday at the Interschool Futsal tournament.
Pembroke Primary School were our competition and they helped make the day really enjoyable for everyone. We had many tight games throughout the day ending with a grand final for each division which consisted of the top MECS team vs the top Pembroke team.
We ended up winning 3 out of the 4 grand finals which was a great effort. Our Year 5/6 girls grand final ended up going to a penalty shootout. A goal from Indigo Bowden and a save from Sky Wilson sealed the victory for the girls.

A huge thank you to the Mt Evelyn Futsal Centre for being so easy to work with and for the Middle School coaches who did an excellent job coaching and supporting the students.

Jason
Primary Sports Coordinator
SKETCHER’S SCOOP

Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program
We are pleased to announce that Bethany (Year 10, 2016) has been awarded a place in the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program for next year, hosted by The University of Melbourne. This program of events and activities is designed to support and enhance secondary studies, inspire career plans and provide opportunities to interact with University community. It also affords the participants the opportunity to mix with like-minded peers and future leaders. We congratulate Beth on this opportunity and wish her well as she participates in this exciting program.

Roger’s Visit to St Francis Xavier Primary School
We were pleased that Dr Roger F (SS Science teacher) was able to visit this primary school in Box Hill recently. He was invited to come and speak to the children about the role of science in the world and how science can be used to make the world a better place. It is great when our teachers can share their wisdom and insight with other school communities. We have received a lovely letter of appreciation, letting us know how much the children enjoyed his visit.

Middle School Camps
This week all our Middle School students and staff from across the secondary school have been off on their final camping experiences for the year. The Year 9s have been exploring the nation’s capital on their trip to Canberra and the Year 7s and 8s are at either Inverloch or Wilsons Prom. Thanks to the parents who are assisting with the hiking and cooking on these camps – we really appreciate your assistance and couldn’t run our program without your support. We pray these experiences will be a great way to finish off the students’ curriculum programs as they see and experience the things they have been learning about.

MECS National Park
It is exciting to read in this week’s newsletter the important initiatives our Primary School is introducing next year to eliminate the waste brought into our school grounds. Students will be encouraged to take all waste home with them; but even better they will be encouraged to not even bring waste packaging in the first place! We look forward to the ways we can support parents in making these changes so that we can not only maintain our beautiful school environment, but also maintain healthy bodies and minds for good learning.

End-of-year Programs and Celebrations
There is a lot happening in the final few weeks of school and I’m sure you are across all the details that are relevant to your children! However, feel free to contact our friendly office staff if you are unsure of anything: we wouldn’t like your children or family to miss out on any of the great events planned over the coming weeks. We are looking forward to finishing the year well and being able to celebrate God’s goodness as we look back on 2016!

FOCUS On... The Library

Is there such a thing as a ‘bad’ book?
The easiest way to raise literate children is to teach them to read and to show them that reading is a pleasurable activity. Simply put, this means finding books they enjoy and letting them read.

Now and then, adults point to a particular genre, series or author and declare them to be ‘bad literature’. Enid Blyton and R.L. Stine were both declared bad authors and comic books were once said to foster illiteracy. Without going into issues of faith, as that is a different issue, there is no such thing as a bad book. Every child is different and has different tastes. Do not discourage your children from reading because you think they are reading the wrong thing. Well-meaning adults can easily destroy a child’s love of reading. We need our children to get onto the reading ladder; anything they enjoy reading will move them up the ladder into literacy.

Research has proven over and over that students who read often and widely are generally more successful academically than those who do not.

According to Transformational Education, we recognise that students are made in the image of God, learn differently and are given different talents and abilities. We recognise the need to stimulate the imagination and nurture curiosity. Students should be given the scope to pose questions and explore topics of interest as they deepen their understanding of the world. At MECS, we are fortunate to have a library, full to bursting of a wide variety of books, books that will stimulate imagination and get students to ponder “What if?”. The world is constantly being changed by individuals who imagine that things can be different and it can all be started by a humble book! One of the best cures for a reluctant reader, is a tale they cannot stop themselves from reading.

Fiona
Library Manager

MECS Impacts!
Courtney-Anne attended MECS Primary a number of years ago. Courtney-Anne was in my Junior Primary class way back in 2003 and 2004.

Over the years Courtney-Anne has regularly reminded me of the massive impact MECS had on her, even though she was only here for a few years in Primary School whilst her parents were at BCV (Bible College Victoria).

Courtney-Anne visited this week to say “Hi” and to reconnect. She is studying Medicine at West Sydney University and her family are now living in Geelong. It is wonderful to know that MECS does help shape Godly young men and women to be disciples in this world.

Diane
Assistant Principal - Primary
MECS Notes

End of Year Information

Here are a few important pieces of information relating to the end of the school year.

School Finish Time:
The last day of term will be Wednesday December 14. School will finish at 2pm.

Distribution of Reports
Distribution of reports will occur as follows:

• Reports for all Foundation-Year 6 students will be distributed on the second last day of term.
• Reports for Middle School students will be distributed on the last day of term.
• Reports for students in Years 10 and 11 will be sent home with a younger sibling, or posted home.
• Reports for any students absent on the last day of school will be posted home.

Distribution of Class Lists:
Class lists for 2017 will go home via email in January (January 16-20). The exception will be 2017 Foundation students who will receive theirs at the end of this year, via post, just after school finishes.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact me via the office.

Natasha
Enrolments & Office Manager

Speech Therapy at MECS

Lauren from Speaking of Learning will continue to provide speech therapy at MECS in 2017.

Private sessions, FahnSCIA funded students, some other funded students and any other students requiring therapy can be accommodated through MECS.

Therapy will happen during school hours either on a weekly or on a 5-week block basis each Tuesday/Wednesday. The cost ranges from $92.50 to $114 per half hour, however a subsidised rate of $50 per half hour sessions is available in certain circumstances. We will require a signed commitment to pay from parents; parents are billed monthly.

Spaces are limited; please request a permission form from the office to ensure a place.

Please email Shirley at if you have any questions.

Shirley
Education Support Coordinator Kinder/PS

Friends of MECS

Stationery
Thank you to everyone who has offered to help with the stationery packing and sales day. The roster will be emailed this week so if you don’t receive it please let me know. I would still like some more people to help so if you are free on any of the following days, please email me or contact me via the main office.

Wed 30 Nov, 9-12noon   Tues 6 Dec, 8.30-12noon
Wed 30 Nov, 12.30-3pm   Tues 6 Dec, 12-3pm
Thurs 1 Dec, 9-12noon

I will be in the Senior School unpacking the new stock tomorrow, Fri 25 and Mon 28 November, so if anyone can spare even a few hours to help that would be great. Just come to rooms 9 and 10 anytime between 9am and 3.30pm. Thanks.

Evelyn

Enrolments now open for 2017

3C Kidz Care

Mount Evelyn Christian School

3C Kidz Care is a ministry of Casey City Church
Cycle A Polynesian Expo

Cycle A’s subject for a few weeks was Polynesia. We studied about the Islands and gathered facts. Our CS (Core Studies) teachers put us into groups, each of those groups got a specific island in Polynesia.

We researched and collected our facts on Polynesia, getting ready to present our islands at the Polynesian expo. Then came the day. We set everything up and got ready for the other classes to see our islands. We went around the Cycle A classes and looked at, played with and ate what they had to offer. Some of the food was particular to each island. I was in Hawaii and studying Hawaiian food, and I cooked laua salmon and it was very exciting to cook it and explore new tastes with my taste buds.

Jacques

MECS Notes

MECS Primary Teaching Team for 2017

We look forward to a wonderful year in 2017.

Leadership
Assistant Principal Primary - Diane
Assistant Primary Coordinators - Ben, Mel

Foundation
Bilbies - Jan (Cluster Leader for Foundation)
Geckos - Stephanie

Junior Primary
Echidnas - Kaye (Cluster Leader for Junior Primary)
Wallabies - Viv
Bandicoots - Fiona
Frilled Neck Lizards - Rachel

Middle Primary
Middle Primary Blue - Alistair (Cluster Leader for Middle Primary)
Middle Primary Green - Naomi
Middle Primary Red - Carly

Senior Primary
Senior Primary Blue - Ben (Cluster Leader for Senior Primary)
Senior Primary Red - Mel (Cluster Leader for Senior Primary)
Senior Primary Green - Michelle
Senior Primary Numeracy Teacher - Sarah

Specialists
Music and Performance (Choir, Band, Production) - Scott
PE/Sport - Jason
Foundation PE/ Senior Primary Support - Rebekah Clark
Indonesian - Rachel
Primary Production - Chris
ICT Coordinator and Teacher - Mic
Library - Marrie

Education Support
Education Support Coordinator - Shirley
Education Support Teachers - Gen, Ange, Susan
Guided Reading JP/MP - Di, Ange, Learning Assistants, JP and MP Teachers

Emily & Tyler

by Tyler

by Kalina

by Alexander

by Tyler

TJ & Cameron

Jonathan, Scarlett, Kasey & Zak

Therese, Elise, James, Eliza & Alexander

by Alexander

by Tyler
After 13 years of schooling it is finally here... Graduation

Last week we commissioned and farewelled the Year 12 class of 2016. Although there is the excitement of seeing where God will lead the students, there is also the inevitable sadness of letting go of the close bonds that have formed over the many years.

It is a long held tradition at MECS that the teachers give a speech about each student, acknowledging and celebrating their giftedness. It was clearly evident from these speeches that the staff not only knew their students’ academic abilities, but also their character; and are desirous for students to use their gifts as a response to God’s great love for His world.

This year we also said farewell to Paul, recognising his 10 years of faithful service to the MECS community; including the countless number of times he was on the tech desk for events such as this one.

Mic filmed the night, so if any parents are interested in a copy they can contact the office.

Given the uncertainty of the future paths we travel, it is of great comfort to know that, “If I rise on wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast”. Psalm 139: 9-10.

We wish the class of 2016 God’s blessings in their future endeavors and pray that they might know God’s guidance and love as they look to Him in all they do.

Sharon
Year 12 Coordinator
Imagine a normal movie screen and multiply it by 3 or 4 times, that’s IMAX, and we could feel the sounds vibrating through our seats. We watched the movie ‘Forces of Nature’, which was about earthquakes, volcano eruptions and tornados. It was really awesome.

**Calvin SPG**

I really enjoyed the IMAX excursion. The screen made the movie ‘Forces of Nature’ really clear. It was hard though, to see people suffering just because of our Earth’s earthquakes and volcanoes. The museum also had amazing figures and real life bones.

**Julia SPB**

IMAX was a great experience for me. We went to watch a movie on one of the biggest screens in the world. The movie we watched was about natural disasters. I enjoyed watching it. We also walked around the Museum and looked at information about animals and bugs. I even smelled bug poo that day. Overall, I really enjoyed IMAX and I think people who like movies would definitely like this. I gave it an 8/10.

**Ethan SPB**

Lots of kids thought the dinosaur fossils were amazing! I really enjoyed the giant spiders, but I found the Bug area really crowded. After the movie, ‘Forces of Nature’, we went to the park and played gang-up tiggy. It was a really fun day!

**James SPG**

Boom! The sound of volcanoes erupting made it feel like we were actually there. It shook the seats in IMAX. Volcanoes, earthquakes and tornados: the natural disasters we have been learning about. We looked around the Museum and the stuff in there was really interesting. After that we were all starving: recess. IMAX, then lunch, playground and then back to school we go. We had a great day.

**Zoe SPR**

Last Wednesday the Year 5s went to IMAX. When we got there we went into small groups. There was lots of cool stuff to see in the Museum. I liked looking at the animals. After we ate recess we went to watch a movie. It was very good. Then we ate lunch at a park and played on the playground, then it was time to go. What a great day we had.

**Foundation Crazy Hair Day**

Introducing the tri-graph air with the key word hair was a good excuse for ‘Crazy Hair’ day!

**Jan**

*Foundation Cluster Leader / Teacher*
MECS COMMUNITY NOTICES

MECS does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by Mount Evelyn Christian School for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

Car For Sale
Contact Anna Turner 0400 162 501.

Free Guinea Pigs
3 guinea pigs, free to a good home. Comes with a hutch and all accessories.
Contact Bernadette de Jong on 0438 565 039.

Free Bunk Bed Base
Low-line bunk bed base with steps on the side that double as storage. Loads of space under the bed for additional storage such as desk or chest of drawers or even an awesome cubbie! Lots of possibilities.
Please contact Alex on 9736 1974.

Free Rabbit Hutch
We have a rabbit hutch that is no longer required, and free to whoever may need one. It’s pretty old and well loved, but does the job! Pick up from Croydon.
Contact Natasha 0417 056 565.

Apple Man
The Apple Man is coming tomorrow, Friday Nov 25 and the following varieties will be available: Granny Smiths, Fujis, Royal Galas, Pink Ladies and Green Pears. Apples $10 a bag, Pears $8.
Please put the correct money in an envelope with your order written on the front, and hand it into the office before 10.30am on Friday Nov 25.

Free Rabbit Hutch
We have a rabbit hutch that is no longer required, and free to whoever may need one. It’s pretty old and well loved, but does the job! Pick up from Croydon.
Contact Natasha 0417 056 565.

Baby Sitting Needed?
I am a 20-year-old female with lots of experience working with children including:

• Babysitting experience, ages 4-12
• Teaching small groups of children at primary schools
• Leader on 12 ‘Kids of Gold’ camps
• Spent a year working at a Christian camp running activities
• Teaching piano
• Have ‘Working With Children’s Check’
• Have First Aid (CPR 2016)
I can cook, clean, as well as entertain the kids. If you, or your kids are interested, give me a call on 0490 112 554.
(References available if required)

Talia Van Bockel

Children’s Christmas Carols
Mount Evelyn Children’s Christmas Carols, Sat Dec 10, 10am-12noon at the Rotunda, Wray Crescent carpark, Mount Evelyn. Free Children’s activities, CFA fire truck, Santa, showbags, sausage sizzle.

BAKE SALE
ON THE 30TH OF NOVEMBER @
THE UNDERSTORE
R.S.P.C.A, R.C.H OR R.M.D.H
FROM SWEET LIL THINGS
ONCE YOU BUY A TREAT YOU CAN CHOOSE IF YOU
WANT TO DONATE THE MONEY TO...
YUMMY TREATS FOR EVERYONE!
Including Nut Free, Dairy Free, Egg Free & Gluten Free.
From $1 - $5
ON THE 30TH OF NOVEMBER AT
THE UNDERSTORE
ONCE YOU BUY A TREAT YOU CAN CHOOSE IF YOU
WANT TO DONATE THE MONEY TO...
R.S.P.C.A, R.C.H OR R.M.D.H

Wednesday November 30
7pm in the Senior School Theatrette
Performers - ‘Dress to Impress’
Come along and support our last Recital for the year!

Notices sent home this week and on Website

Next Working Bee
Sat 3 Dec,
7am-1pm
with Breakfast

• Primary Headllice Alert Notice (last week)
• Primary Scholastic Order Form
• Working Bee December Letter

• Kinder Connection No 7 (last week)
• Term 4 Instrumental Recital Parent Letter (last week)