### TERM 3 CALENDAR

Please go to the McGuire College Website to view all Term 3 calendar dates.

http://www.mcguireco.vic.edu.au

#### Upcoming Events:

- Parent Teacher Interviews – Wednesday 17\textsuperscript{th} Aug – 4.00 – 6.00pm
- School Council Meeting - Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} Aug – 7.00pm
- VTAC Parent Info Evening – Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} Aug – Shepparton High School - 6.00pm
- Pupil free Day – Wednesday 7\textsuperscript{th} September

### SENIOR SCHOOL FORMAL

The Senior School Formal will be held on Friday August 19\textsuperscript{th}, 2016 at the Shepparton Harness Racing Club for students in Year 10, 11 and 12 from McGuire College only.

- Ticket Price: $42 each and are available from the General Office
- The theme is: FORMAL students must wear formal clothing
- Time starts: 8pm to 12.00 (Midnight)

* More information will be available after students have purchased their tickets.

### AFTER SCHOOL HELP

Available on Mondays and Tuesdays: **3.30pm - 4.15pm**

**Monday** – Maths help in C6


All students welcome!
It is that time of the year when many of our students are thinking about their pathways and courses of study for the year ahead. Over the past week our leadership team have been active in supporting students and their parents with these decisions. It has been a great opportunity to discuss future career and learning pathways with our students and to gain a better insight into their goals and aspirations and how we can support them as a school. In 2017 we are again working as part of the Better Together Alliance (McGuire College, Shepparton High School, Wanganui Park Secondary College & Mooroopna Secondary College) to ensure we are providing our senior students with a broad range of learning opportunities that include VCE, VCAL and VETiS subjects. As students complete their selections we will be working towards confirmation of these in early Term 4 to enable all students to be ready to commence 2017, ready to learn from day one.

**Enrolments 2017**
Enrolment documentation for all students commencing with us in 2017 has recently been posted out and parents are encouraged to complete and return to this to us as soon as possible. This will ensure that we are able to support your son/daughter with a transition program that gives them the best start to their schooling in 2017. New enrolments are always welcome, so if you know of anyone new to the area or yet to enrol for 2017, please encourage them to do so as soon as possible. School tours are always available.

It is also important that we know if your son or daughter will not be returning in 2017, if this is the case, we would appreciate your early notification.

**Supporting a diverse College Community**
At McGuire College we are very proud of our capacity to support a diverse community and the needs of our students. In many cases this involves developing individual and specific learning plans and outcomes for each student, in order to ensure their success and growth at school and a pathway beyond school. Last week two of our senior students, Bryce Woodward (Year 12) and Drue McEntee (Year 10), joined our School Nurse, Mark Metcalf and myself for the Goulburn Area Marrung forum. This was an exciting opportunity to engage with other local learning providers to understand Marrung, the Aboriginal Education Plan and how we can further support our Koorie students to realise improved educational outcomes.
Attendance

Attendance matters – we know from the extensive research available that students’ attendance at school matters. We also know that students who miss one day a week of school throughout their secondary schooling will have missed the equivalent of 1.25 years of school by the time they complete Year 12. When this is the case it becomes more difficult for us to ensure a strong and viable learning and work pathway beyond school for the young person concerned. We require the support of parents to ensure that your son or daughter is at school on a daily basis, unless of course they are unwell.

In 2016, many of our Year 12 students have struggled to develop a positive attendance pattern and in order to encourage them to do so for the remainder of the year we have set a minimum attendance requirement in order for our Year 12’s to participate in the End of Year Breakfast and Valedictory Dinner. In order to participate in these two events, our Year 12 students will require an attendance rate of 90% or higher from July 29th onwards.

Our attendance rates from the start of Term 3 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>80.1%</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
<td>83.9%</td>
<td>78.5%</td>
<td>79.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>83.9%</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
<td>76.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We hope to see a marked improvement over the next two weeks as students ensure they are regularly at school. As always, if parents or students require assistance around regular attendance at school, please do not hesitate in contacting the College.

Mobile Phones – Safety & Responsibility

There is a lot of information available about the use of mobile phones and I recently read an article advising of the potential dangers that exist for children and teenagers when they begin using mobile phones. The article gives some alarming statistics about very concerning phone use for these age groups. Whilst the stats are American, I can well imagine that they would be similar across the globe. Here is a small section of the article:

‘Research shows that virtually all kids who are allowed to keep their cell phone in their room overnight will answer a late-night text, and most of them have spent at least some late nights sending texts. Only 11 percent of parents suspect their teens have ever sent, received or forwarded a sexual text, while 41% of teens admit they’ve done so. Only 4 percent of parents believe their teens have ever texted while driving, while 45% of teens admit that they routinely text while driving. Studies show that texting begins in the fifth grade, on average. Pornography consumption begins around age 8. Half of all kids admit they are addicted to their cell phones and worry that they use them too much. Their parents agree, and 36 percent of parents say they have daily arguments with their kids about their phones.’

http://www.ahaparenting.com/Ages-stages/tweens/Cell-Phone-RulesSafe-Responsible-Kids

We enforce our Mobile Phone (PED) policy at the College and expect that all students use their phones sensibly and in accordance with not only the rules, but with our College values. We ask that parents, who are commonly the first providers of phones to their children, educate themselves about the risks and responsibilities associated with these devices. Something that concerns us greatly is student phone behaviour out of school hours that then impacts on student learning at school. Students who ‘stay connected’ to their phones and other devices throughout the night are arriving at school tired and irritable because they have had no rest, physically, mentally and socially from being ‘connected’ 24/7.
We strongly urge parents to set and enforce boundaries regarding phone/device use, especially after school and during the evening when students should be finishing homework and spending time with their families. A conversation with your child about phone use overnight is also strongly recommended. Everyone needs some ‘down-time’ where they can separate from phones/devices and have adequate mental, physical and social rest so that we are in control of our lives – not being controlled by our phones and needing to respond immediately to every text, message, etc. Students learn better, communicate more effectively, are more resilient and exercise better social judgement when they are able to experience real, positive human interaction and are able to be self-disciplined with regard to their phone use. However, we know that we have a responsibility to educate these young people about all kinds of ‘online’ behaviour including phones.

Parents have a very important part to play and we appreciate it when parents set and enforce rules that are sensible, consistent and supportive of good phone behaviours at home and at school. The article (link above) has some good suggestions about how parents might approach these conversations with their child and also reminds parents that they are entitled to supervise and monitor their child’s use of a phone that they have provided.

Kind regards,

Brad Moyle
Principal

Out There- The Australian Ballet in Schools brought to you by Samsung

As part of the Better Together Alliance, 30 of our Year 9 and 10 students will be lucky enough to attend a series of dance workshops hosted by the Australian Ballet’s Dance Education Ensemble. Over two weeks, our students will be exposed to 10 hours of dance sessions focusing on developing dance movement skills, choreography, and technique and dance vocabulary, as a way to encourage an appreciation for the performing arts. The experience is also linked closely with technology, giving our students the opportunity to use Samsung Tablets and Watches to record, create and review their progress in line with the Performing Arts curriculum aims. Furthermore, our students’ hard work will be showcased in a special Dance Performance at Wanganui Park Secondary College at 1pm, on Friday the 16th of September.

We encourage all family, guardians, friends and supporters of our McGuire College students to attend.
On Friday the 22nd of July, four students from the McGuire College Public Speaking Team competed in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award. The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is designed to give young Australians the chance to talk about a topic of their choosing. Whilst students are able to choose their own topic, they need to link it to the values of Legacy; social justice, caring, mateship, voluntary service, personal effort and personal sacrifice. Moara Smith, Chloe-Jay Taylor, Claire Hardy and Nicholas Brereton worked closely with Miss Craighead and Mr Butler in weekly meetings and class time to write their speeches and practice presenting.

The competition began at 10.30am with competitors from different schools presenting a 5-minute prepared speech. Moara was first up from McGuire College, talking about the different volunteer organisations and how it is important for everyone to volunteer. Chloe-Jay spoke second, discussing the importance of Anzac Day and why it is important to her. Claire spoke third, giving an insightful explanation into living with Turner’s Syndrome. Nick spoke last for McGuire College giving a thought provoking speech about Nelson Mandela and how one person can change the world. All the speakers spoke with confidence, linking their ideas to the Legacy values and making the audience think harder about themselves and their actions.

Following the prepared speeches, all students had to present a 2-minute impromptu speech on a given topic. They were given 5 minutes to prepare their speech on the same topic and were then called into the room, one by one to give their speech to the audience. The topic they had to talk on was, ‘Information technology, a blessing or a curse?’ The prevailing opinion of students was that I.T. is both a blessing and a curse. The four McGuire speakers all spoke confidently and fluently, doing an amazing job of structuring a speech with very little preparation time.

Waiting for results was a nerve wracking time for all the competitors. The judges spent 20 minutes discussing the results with a number of students in the running for second place. McGuire College received an honourable mention with the students showcasing their developing talent for public speaking. Even though the students from McGuire didn’t win, they all did exceptionally well for their first competition.

By: Ben Okely and Noor Zia Faqeer-Zada
HAVE YOU LOGGED INTO THE PARENT PORTAL?

The Parent and Student Portal contains information regarding your child’s progress at McGuire College.

What you can view
- Attendance
- Timetables
- Incidents and achievements
- Calendar of upcoming events
- Reports

Quick link to the Portal [https://portal.mcguireco.vic.edu.au](https://portal.mcguireco.vic.edu.au)

If you are having issues with your log in detail please contact the College on 03 5858 9800
The Alfred Hospital P.A.R.T.Y. Program (Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth)

On Monday, July 18th a number of Year 12 students attended the PARTY Program, which is normally held at The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. On this occasion, the Alfred in partnership with GV Health brought their Program to the country and was here in Shepparton at Eastbank for two days. Local schools were offered the opportunity to participate and be involved in the Program for one day.

PARTY is aimed at educating students about some potential consequences of their actions. One of the major consequences can be serious injury and so PARTY steps the students through what may happen if they end up injured as a result of their own behaviour.

The scene was set by guest speakers such as: Emergency Room Doctors and Nurses, Victoria Police and Ambulance Victoria, who talked about their job in the hospital, highlighting the effect that injuries can have on the individuals’ future and their family. Students were then rotated around 5 different groups in 40 minute sessions to spend time seeing and experiencing some of the key areas of a hospital and health care that deal with a person who has been injured.

The rotations were:

- Critical Care Rotation: an Emergency and Intensive Care Unit was created at Eastbank to show the students what happens when you arrive at a hospital Emergency ward as well as the care of the critical patients.
- Paramedic Rotation: Ambulance officers stepped students through some key lifesaving first aid information.
- Trauma Care Rotation: Nurses from the Trauma ward explained some of the important things which need to be done to a patient after they have been injured or burnt.
- Rehabilitation Rotation: students were able to try on some of the neck braces, halo’s for broken necks, prosthetic legs, and arm casts as well as try some of the food that a person may have to eat when they are hospitalised. A focus for the students about what would this be like to put up with for months on end?
- Trauma Survivors Story Rotation: A brave father told the story of his son when he was involved in a motor vehicle accident. Focusing on some key decisions and the effect on the family.

Students who participated had a really important experience and were able to see the consequences of their behaviour from a different perspective. A really valuable day for all involved.

**Student Feedback:**

The day was engaging and it was interesting to learn about other risk taking activities other than drugs and alcohol such as jumping fences or not wearing protective clothing when required and the impacts that these behaviours can have on you.

*Braden Johns*

The day made me think twice about driving irresponsibly or getting in the car with someone who was not driving safely. Seeing the ICU (Intensive Care Unit) was confronting as it was very realistic.

*Josh Price*
Important information about the transition to NAPLAN Online.

From 2017, NAPLAN will commence the transition from a paper-based to an online computer-based assessment.

From 2019, it is anticipated that all students will undertake the NAPLAN tests online.

NAPLAN Online will deliver numerous benefits, including:
- reduced time between testing and reporting, increasing the ability of teachers to use the results to inform teaching practice
- a ‘tailored test’ design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses, providing a more precise understanding of student achievement
- innovative use of technology, including a more engaging test design and a wider range of item types
- improved equity of access, including greater potential to support students with a disability
- the extension of the ‘test window’ to two weeks, allowing schools greater opportunity to schedule the tests at times that suit them best and increasing student participation.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is leading the transition nationally.

Transition in Victoria

To commence the transition in Victoria, there will be a pilot of NAPLAN Online in 2017. Approximately 200 schools across Victoria have nominated to participate in the pilot. Your school is in this group.

All schools that have expressed interest in the 2017 pilot are required to participate in an Australia-wide trial of the NAPLAN Online system. The trial will be conducted from Tuesday 16 to Friday 26 August 2016 and provides an opportunity for schools to give feedback on the system and confirm their readiness for 2017.

The trial will involve selected classes from current NAPLAN year levels completing two tests using the online system – a writing test and an ‘omnibus’ test. The omnibus test will include questions from across the reading, language conventions and numeracy domains. Please note that the omnibus test is not constructed to assess curriculum knowledge, but rather to provide students with an opportunity to experience the types of questions that will be included in the online assessment. At the conclusion of the tests, students will have the opportunity to answer some questions about the online system.

Please note that the data collected from the trial will be used only for the purposes of research and evaluating the NAPLAN Online system. No information identifying students or schools will be made publicly available.

If you have any concerns about your child participating in the trial, please speak to your school.

Following the trial, the VCAA will confirm schools’ participation in the 2017 pilot.

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the VCAA website at: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au
Raising Resilient Teenagers:  
A NEW Online Program for Parents

Researchers at Monash University and the University of Melbourne are pleased to offer parents of teenagers an evidence-based online parenting program, which has been shown to help improve parent-child communication and reduce family conflict. Through interactive online activities, parents can develop skills in emotional intelligence, supporting their teenager through difficulties they face, and maintaining a close relationship with their teen. The program is based on Parenting Guidelines that were published in partnership with beyondblue and have been accessed by thousands of parents internationally.

Parents will receive either:
- a personalised feedback report and interactive online modules, OR
- a set of five fact sheets about adolescent development and wellbeing.

You are eligible to participate if you:
- are a parent or guardian of a child aged 12 to 15
- live in Australia,
- are fluent in English, and
- have Internet access.

Participation will take a few hours of yours and your child’s time over 12 months. Both you and your child will be reimbursed for your time.

To sign up for a FREE trial of this program, please visit: www.partnersinparenting.net.au

Questions? Contact us:  
Email: med-partnersinparenting@monash.edu  
Phone: (03) 9905 1250

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