A few years ago my wife and two sons were away on various travels, leaving me and my two teenage daughters at home. I decided that it would be good to have a dad and daughters day out, and asked the girls what they'd like to do. Horse riding! was their immediate and joyful response! Having never ridden a horse in my life I somewhat reluctantly agreed to their request.

We travelled down the Mornington Peninsula and booked ourselves into the ‘Bush and Beach Horseback Experience’. They kitted us out and the three of us were soon sitting on our horses looking every bit the part. As the lead horse began trotting away, my horse followed, this was the point at which I very much ceased to 'look the part'! I just couldn't get the hang of the movements needed to work in unison with my horse; this was a great source of amusement for my daughters, who took delight in pointing out my horse riding inadequacies. Very soon a very serious faced instructor trotted up beside me and declared, “You need to become one with the movement of the horse”. This was not a revelation to me as I had worked out that the horse was not going to change its movements to suit my riding style.

This year’s key verse, from John 15:5, calls for us to: ‘remain in God’ and in order that we are able produce fruit. This ‘remaining in God’ very much reminds me of my experience on the horse; to remain in God - in his love, grace, peace, joy and strength - we need to work in harmony with him. It is through this harmonisation that we are enabled and empowered to grow and experience the rich fruit and abundant life that God has for us.

God has called our College Community to a year of ‘INCREASE’ and I am truly blessed that we are seeing the fruits of increase across so many areas of the College. I will reflect more specifically on the 'INCREASE’ towards the end of the year, in the meantime, we will continue to work hard on remaining in harmony with God's calling, responding to his leading and movements as we continue to take the College forward.
NOTICES

**YEAR 9 INFO NIGHT**

On Wednesday the 7th of September there will be a Year 9 WA Trip Information Night for current Year 9’s. The evening will commence at 6pm in the Middle School Building.

Light refreshments will be provided.

This event is compulsory for all students who must be accompanied by at least one parent. RSVP to the Office.

**SPRING MUSIC RECITAL**

The annual NCC Spring Recital is fast approaching with a whole bunch of students eager to perform and showcase their musical skills. The Spring Recital will be held on Monday evening the 7th of November at the Banyule Theatre.

Students who are selected to perform will receive a letter home informing you of this. Tickets will be available for purchase from the school office at the commencement of Term 4.

**PETER PAN JR.**

We are selling tickets for a Prize Draw!

Prizes are three handcrafted toys (one for each winner):

- Peter Pan
- Pirate
- Tinkerbell

Tickets will be $3 for 3 or $5 for 10. You can pick which prize your tickets go towards by placing them in a specific bucket.

Prizes will be drawn at the performance on Saturday 3rd of September. All funds raised go back into the musical.

Online ticket sales for the performances will finish at 2:30pm on Friday the 2nd, but tickets will be available for purchase at the door.

**HOUSE POINTS**

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<tr>
<th>Noble Knights</th>
<th>Courageous Conquerors</th>
<th>Worthy Warriors</th>
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<td>2232</td>
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On Wednesday, the 10th of August, some students from Northside went to a conference for gifted students at Siena College. There were lots of others school there, including: Trinity College Kew, Carey Baptist Grammar, Marcellin, Scotch College and McKillop. We went to four sessions. The first session was about Aristotle, Plato and philosophical thinking. The second session involved getting into groups with students from other schools and thinking about fairness and equality. The third session, probably my favourite, was about quantum mechanics and how things behave differently when they are being observed. The last session was a debate between a student and the speaker, Julie Arliss. After they had spoken people, were allowed to get up and voice their opinions as well.

Laura, Year 8

The whole day was very interesting and we all learnt something new. It was interesting to hear about what the great philosophers, Plato and Aristotle, thought and beliefs about learning and our world. By the end of the day we had all made up our minds on how we, as humans, learned and our full potential. We also learnt the differences between fairness and equality, and it was great to see what other people thought.

Abigail, Year 9
Write a Book in a Day

Write-A-Book-In-A-Day was an enjoyable experience, though stressful. From 8 am to 8 pm we worked hard to complete a 4000 word story. Our group struggled to get over the word minimum and worked really hard. We managed to produce a complete book. The feeling of satisfaction of publishing a full story was worth the trouble and I’m glad I participated.

Lunlana, Year 10

Our creative geniuses from Year 2-10 spent the day last Monday 22nd August planning, writing and publishing their own original illustrated storybooks for the Write a Book in a Day competition hosted by the Kids’ Cancer Project. Each team is responsible for raising $240 for children’s cancer research, in order to have their books entered for judging. Our 35 students in 6 teams worked tirelessly and produced incredible books! Check them out on the INSPIRE wall in Reception.

Amy Horneman
STUDENT WELFARE UPDATE

What parents should know about underage drinking...

Each parent is an expert on their young person. There is research to help parents in doing their best in supporting their young people. Coming from a Christian home is no insurance against your child from being exposed to alcohol and other drugs. BUT the values you promote certainly help your young person to be able to make wise choices when and if they are in a situation where decisions need to be made.

1. They learn what they see: Moderation or the elimination of alcohol as modelled healthy behaviours by parents has been shown to impact on the perceptions and thus the choices a young person makes about alcohol both now and also later in life.

2. Warm and supportive parenting styles: clear and consistent boundaries and open lines of communication create an atmosphere of safety for the young person to explore their thoughts, whilst receiving non-judgemental and open feedback.

This promotes other aspects of well-being too. It allows for reason and rational thinking to occur BEFORE it is challenged in peer situations.

3. Just a sip: the more a young person is permitted to "have a sip" or "take a drink" whilst underage the more likely they are to drink at risky levels later in life or to participate in underage binge drinking.

4. It’s not enough just to teach your young person to say “No”. They need practice in discussing situations and how they might respond. Friends, and others, exert a lot of influence and at a time when it’s so important for young people to feel they fit in, discussions about self worth outside of joining in to fit in are vital.

Have confidence that your parenting investment will have a significant influence on the choices your young person will make.  

Fiona Dumitrache

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Our Middle School students as well as the Year 10-11 Literature class went on an excursion to the city on Thursday 25th August to watch Bell Shakespeare’s production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’. Inspired by this energetic performance, on Thursday afternoon 15th September, the Yr 7-9 students will be putting on a Shakespeare Festival for the Primary School students in the Middle School building in P6 & 7.

There will also be a repeat of the performances for parents of all students from Prep to Year 12 from 4.00-5.30pm in the Middle School building. All parents and students are invited to attend and to watch our English students transformed into Shakespearean actors!

Tickets will be a gold coin donation at the door to go towards the cost of professional acting masterclasses for our students with the Bell Shakespeare Theatre Company.

Amy Horneman
YEAR SIX EXCURSION TO PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND THE CITY OF MELBOURNE

On Thursday the 11th of August, the Year 6s went to the Parliament House. We learnt all about the Government and what their roles are. We also took part in a role play that went through ‘How to make a law’. After that, we got a brief taste of what it’s like to be in a Government discussion.

Later on, we split up into groups and worked as a team to complete a series of clues. This was a real team effort and it was just like the Amazing Race. We visited many key places around the city like; Chinatown, The Melbourne Town Hall and The Arts Centre. We even watched the Olympics at Federation Square. The winning team was Lily, Itunu and Faith, accompanied by their parent helper; Mrs Lisle. Go Girls! We had a great time putting our mapping skills into practise.

Overall it was a great day. The students got to learn about the government and had heaps of fun cracking clues.

Paris & Isabelle
BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY

Last Friday saw an array of colourful and creative characters invade the College for our annual Book Week Dress Up Day. We saw beautiful princesses and fabulous superheroes in Prep, a washing machine, an astronaut, assorted Where’s Wally’s, Tigger and Eeyore, a very hungry caterpillar and the cast of The Wizard of Oz – just to name a few.

Many thanks to Mrs Eynaud for leading a very entertaining parade and everyone who helped out on the day.

Thanks you also to all parents and students who spent so much time making wonderful costumes. Your efforts are appreciated and make the day such a success.

Chris Marsh
YEAR 10 CANBERRA CAMP

In the last week of Term 3, Year 10 students will be going on a 3 day camp (Weds 14th-Fri 16th), to Canberra, the National Capital. They will be flying with QANTAS, and staying at the YHA Canberra.

The camp is a compulsory event, and supports learning in the Year 10 History, Geography and Civics and Citizenship curriculum. Attending the Canberra Camp provides students with the opportunity to visit sites and institutions at the heart of the Australian political and legal systems. While there students will visit; the Australian Institute of Sport, the High Court of Australia, Telstra Tower (Black Mountain), and the Australian War Memorial.

The experience will provide depth to the students understanding of the key institutions that underpin the way our society operates, and key events in its history.

Teresa Connelly

Disney’s
PETER PAN

Fri 2nd & Sat 3rd September

Almost SOLD OUT

www.trybooking.com/MGKM
Support for ALL PARENTS

CYBERSAFETY INFORMATION SESSION
Middle school building

PARENT EDUCATION
Not to be missed!

6:30-7:30pm
Monday 5th September
RSVP at RECEPTION NOW!