



COLLEGE NEWS 2020

Robinsons Road, Frankston South VIC 3199
P: (03) 5971 6000 E: mount.erin.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Student Attendance: (03) 5971 6000

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28TH FEBRUARY

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to another great year at Mount Erin. We had a very **POSITIVE START TO THE YEAR**. With 187 new Year 7 students joining the College, our school enrolment is sitting on a healthy 927. Year 7's are quickly adapting to secondary school and moving between classes despite the very hot start that we had. Our Year 12's arrived ready to learn and stepped into classes with enthusiasm after the long holiday break.

The **STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY** set the agenda for us for the year ahead. It was focused on student learning and how that looks in our classrooms. Reviewing our Instructional Model was central to the day, with multiple workshops run for staff to get support in areas where they wanted to develop and build their skills. The final session involved putting their learning into practice. Lessons were developed, showcased and critiqued. The collaboration and commitment of our teachers to continue to build their skills and improve the way they can meet the learning needs of every student, was a powerful way to begin the school year. I congratulate the leadership team and presenters for their work in organising and running such a highly successful day. Well done.

YEAR 12 CONFERENCE, HELD AT MONASH UNIVERSITY on Monday 3rd February was excellent and a very positive way to help our students prepare for the year ahead. With a focus on how to get the most out of the year, many topics were covered. It was lovely to have three students from last year's Year 12 class share their experiences. Well done to the senior team for their work to ensure the day was meaningful and relevant for both VCE and VCAL students.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS have been held for Years 7-9, with a BBQ welcome and a range of topics covered to assist with a smooth transition into the College and through to the next year levels. It was great to see so many families in attendance. Evenings for Years 11 and 12 have also been run so that parents have a clear understanding of the processes and expectations for the year ahead. I thank the staff who have been involved in organising and running these events. We know how important it is that parents feel comfortable to be able to ask questions and get support.

Year 7 **CAMP** was highly successful again this year, with 182 students involved in an action packed program with its main emphasis on building relationships with peers and staff.

There were lots of happy but tired young people disembarking the buses on the Friday afternoon with some really positive experiences of their first weeks at secondary school.

Congratulations to a number of our **STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO REPRESENT THE STATE** in their sport. Thomas T in Year 10 has recently been selected to play in the Victorian Country U15 Cricket Team, and will soon be playing in the National Carnival in Ballarat. Jai C has been accepted into the Archery Australia Regional Development Program. This is a great accolade and takes his training to the next level. We wish both boys well.

The implementation of the **DET MOBILE DEVICES POLICY** has been relatively smooth from day one this year. While a number of students have had phones confiscated, the vast majority have made the change and are enjoying the company of their friends. We have noticed a significant increase in physical activity as well as a greatly increased noise level, as students are now talking directly to each other instead of looking at a screen and sending a message to the person beside them. We appreciate the support from parents and guardians and feel the impact of this policy has been very positive.

I was very pleased to be notified that Mount Erin College is now a **2020 ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE PARTNER SCHOOL**. This partnership program, thanks to generous donors, provides access to schools who may not otherwise have the opportunity to visit Arts Centre Melbourne. Our students will have access to the performing arts through performances, workshops, tours and teacher Professional Development at the Arts Centre Melbourne at low-cost. This opportunity will be great for our students over 2020.

Our **2019 YEAR 12 VCE AND VCAL** students finished the year very well, with strong results and some wonderful destinations. Our median Study Score increased to 28, and our English score went up to 29.7 which is a very strong result, ahead of many of our network schools and ahead of the state average. This reflects the tireless work and encouragement of our teachers. We had a very high level of first round offers to University and TAFE courses and our students have been accepted into a wide array of courses at all the major universities. Our VCAL student have a very high level of positive destinations, with all but one in further

study, apprenticeships and employment. Congratulations to all our students. I am very proud of their efforts and wish them well for their future.

The Leadership Team has developed our **AIP FOR 2020**. This is our annual plan to address our four year Strategic Plan priorities. The AIP sets the key focus areas for our work in 2020. We have goals to improve student outcomes; improve student agency and connection; and improved health and wellbeing. We set these goals, establish key actions and activities we will undertake and set measures that will be monitored over the course of the year.

Mount Erin has been chosen to be part of the **ACCELERATED IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY**, a DET initiative to boost student outcomes in Reading. The decision to invite us to be the secondary school in our network, was based on the student learning growth in NAPLAN Reading at Year 9 last year. Our improvement was significant and well above similar schools and the state. A dedicated team of Year 9 English teachers and Leaders are working very closely with a team of experts from the DET. The aim of this initiative is to come up with best practice strategies that might be adopted by other schools. It is an exciting opportunity for our staff and students and I look forward to working with the team to further improve our results in 2020.

Over the break we have had considerable work undertaken around the College through the **TREE SAFE PROGRAM**. Managing the 15 hectare site to ensure we have a safe site is a huge and on-going task. We were very fortunate to have our application approved for funding for this work. I was notified this week that further works will be undertaken in early March.

Our successful grant application for further **SHADE SAILS** in the canteen area, has seen a great deal of work undertaken. Waiting for council permits has held up the project, but we are hopeful this work will be completed over the next few weeks. It will be wonderful to have this area redesigned and modernised. It is bound to be a very well used area of the school.

Thursday 6th February saw the **RETIREMENT FUNCTION** held for one of our long serving teachers, **Chris Collins**. It was a great opportunity for members of the College and colleagues from across the education sector, to come together to recognise Chris's commitment to the education of so many young people. Chris has been a member of Mount Erin College staff for 26 years and with the Department for 45 years. He has been a critical voice and driver of the culture of the school over many years. He has always fought to have student wellbeing at the centre of our thinking. He has always maintained the importance of encouraging, supporting and walking beside young people throughout the journey of their secondary years. Chris has

made a great contribution to the school and we will miss him.

Our **GYM REBUILD** is moving forward and is ahead of schedule. We are looking at having use of the gym by the start of term two, with the classrooms available in early June. It is really exciting to see this wonderful facility take shape.



I thank the PE Team and students for their patience, but know that the wait will be worthwhile.



2020 has seen a number of **NEW STAFF** members welcomed to the school. We have been very fortunate, with a new Assistant Principal, Nicole Pallot joining the Principal Team. We have three new Leading Teachers, with Teri Minnemeyer, Kristianna Davis and Cara Johnston joining our Leadership Team. We have wonderful new classroom teachers both experienced and graduate who are enthusiastic about coming to Mount Erin: Pat Mooney, Nicola Disegna, Manpreet Kaur, Christine Tsimbis, Jackie Cooper, Sam Asaad and Maddison Fenton. We also have some outstanding Educational Support staff joining the school: Diane Scully, Michelle Morgan, Allie Gahan and Barbara Woon-Moloney. Our 2020 AFL Trainee is Kayla Lynch.

I am looking forward to a fantastic year with our students.

Learning is our Priority

Karen Lee
Principal

IMPORTANT COLLEGE DATES

TERM 1, 2020

WEEK 6

- 2nd Mar (M) – Swimming Sports (Competitors only)
- 4th Mar (W) – Sports Academy Challenge Day
- 5th Mar (Th) – Year 7 Immunisations

WEEK 7

- 11th Mar (M) – Labour Day Public Holiday
- 12th – 15th Mar (T-F) – College Dentist Visit
- 15th Mar (F) – Year 11 Presentation Ball

WEEK 8

- 17th Mar (T) – Athletics Day (All Students)
- 19th Mar (Th) – College Open Night 2020

WEEK 9

- 24th Mar (T) – Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
- 26th Mar (Th) – Y9 ASPIRE Awards/Passion Project
- 27th Mar (F) – Last Day Term 1 – 2:30pm Finish

TERM 2, 2020

WEEK 1

- 13th Apr (M) – Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
- 14th Apr (T) – First Day Term 2

WEEK 2

- 22nd Apr (W) – Y7 Our First Term/ASPIRE Awards
- 24th Apr (F) – Presentation Ball (Y11)

YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS

Thursday 5th March

The nurses from Frankston City Council will be coming to Mount Erin College on Thursday March 5th to provide vaccinations to Year 7 students.

Immunisation Consent Cards were included in the Year 7 enrolment packs. If you have not already returned the consent card to the College, please do so as soon as possible. A replacement card can be obtained from the First Aid Office if needed or call Brooke Majera on, PH: 5971 6093.

YEAR 10/11 CAMP

Central Australia

The countdown is on!

20th – 30th June, 2020

112 Days to go!

DEAF EDUCATION CENTRE (DEC)

WELCOME TO 2020!

Our students have had a fantastic start to the year and they are looking forward to the great educational and extra-curricular opportunities that will come before them.

WELCOME CARA!

This year we welcome Cara Johnston as the Coordinator of the Deaf Education Centre and our Leading Teacher of the Deaf. Cara comes to Mount Erin after completing her Masters in Learning Intervention, focusing on Deaf Education and she is passionate about finding success pathways for all students. It has been an excellent beginning to the year seeing all the Deaf Education students thriving and setting new goals to achieve.

YEAR 7

We warmly welcome our two Year 7 students, who are settling in well and bringing new interests to the Centre.

YEAR 8

Science Practical Investigation: 'Microscopic Life in Pond Water.' Locky is using a microscope to observe organisms in a sample of pond water. Great work Locky!



VET COURSES

Connor, Rathmony, Charlotte and Jasmine are enjoying their new adventures studying a range of VET courses, as well as their Year 11 and 12 studies.

HEARING AUSTRALIA

Our next College visit from Hearing Australia is:

- Wednesday 11th March 2020.

Please contact any staff in the DEC if your child is having any hearing technology difficulties and we will make contact with Hearing Australia to alert them to the issue so that a solution can be arranged as quickly as possible.

The team in the Deaf Education Centre are thoroughly looking forward to the achievements and challenges ahead this year and are proud of the accomplishments already made in the first few weeks.

DEC STAFF Cara, Sarah, Kathryn, Anne

SCHOOL SHOES

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please note that the **ONLY** school shoes that are accepted as per the Uniform Policy are black, leather, oxford style shoes as per the illustrations below. The reasons for this is that orthopaedic practitioners recommend that these provide the best support for growing feet and orthotics can be easily fitted to this style of shoe. The other, very important reason is for Occupational Health Standards, as leather shoes are deemed the only shoes that will protect feet from chemical spills in the Science rooms and dropping sharp objects such as scissors, knives etc. which students use in Art, Food Technology, Science, Design Technology etc.

Students **without** the correct shoes may be required to not participate in learning activities if it is deemed as not safe.

We ask parents to please ensure that their child is wearing the correct shoes.



Mount Erin College Privacy Policy

Child Safe Standards

Mount Erin College is a Child Safe School. Our College is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We value all students as individuals and their diversity. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision making.

Mount Erin College is committed to providing a Child Safe environment where children and young people are valued and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

Our College takes a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to Child Safety to ensure that the safety of children is promoted, child abuse is prevented and allegations of child abuse are properly responded to. Mount Erin College has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Purpose

The Department of Education and Training Victoria has developed a new Schools' Privacy Policy and related documents for all Victorian government schools.

The new Schools' Privacy Policy will be implemented over term one of 2018 and will replace any existing Privacy Policies used by schools.

The Department of Education and Training (which includes all Victorian Government Schools, Central and Regional Offices) values the Privacy of every person and is committed to protecting information that schools collect.

All staff, service providers (contractors) and agents, (whether paid or unpaid) of the Department of Education and Training, and Mount Erin College must comply with Victorian Privacy Law and this Policy.

In Victorian Government Schools the management of 'Personal Information' and 'Health Information' is governed by the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and Health Records Act 2001 (Vic) (collectively, Victorian Privacy Law).

This Policy explains how our school collects and manages personal and health information consistent with Victorian Privacy Law.

Definitions

Personal Information is information or opinion, whether true or not, about a person whose identity is apparent, or can reasonably be ascertained, from the information or opinion – that is recorded in any form. For example, a person's name, address, phone number and date of birth (age). De-identified information about students can also be Personal Information.

Health Information is information or opinion about a person's physical, mental or psychological health or disability, that is also personal information – whether in writing or not. This includes information or opinion about a person's health status and medical history, immunisation status and allergies, as well as counselling records.

Sensitive Information is information or opinion about a set of specific characteristics, including a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions or affiliations, religious beliefs or affiliations, philosophical beliefs, sexual preferences or practices; or criminal record. It also includes health information.

What Information do we Collect?

Our school collects the following type of information:

- information about students and their family, provided by students, their family and others
- information about job applicants, staff, volunteers and visitors; provided by job applicants, staff members, volunteers, visitors and others

How do we Collect this Information?

Mount Erin College collects information in a number of ways, including:

- in person and over the phone: from students and their family, staff, volunteers, visitors, job applicants and others
- from electronic and paper documentation: including job applications, emails, invoices, enrolment forms, letters to our school, consent forms (for example: enrolment, excursion, Student Support Services consent forms), our school's website or school controlled social media
- through online tools: such as apps and other software used by our school
- through any CCTV cameras located at our school.

Collection Notices

When our school collects information about you, our school takes reasonable steps to advise you of certain matters. This includes the purpose of the collection, and how to access, update and correct information held about you. For information about students and their families, a Collection Notice is provided to parents (or mature minor students) upon enrolment.

Unsolicited Information about You

Our school may receive information about you that we have taken no active steps to collect. If permitted or required by law, our school may keep records of this information. If not, we will destroy or de-identify the information when practicable, lawful and reasonable to do so.

Why do we Collect this Information?

Primary Purposes of Collecting Information about Students and their Families.

Our school collects information about students and their families when necessary to:

- educate students
- support students' social and emotional wellbeing, and health
- fulfil legal requirements, including to:

- take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm to students, staff and visitors (duty of care)
- make reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities (Anti Discrimination Law)
- provide a safe and secure workplace (occupational health and safety law)

enable our school to:

- communicate with parents about students' schooling matters and celebrate the efforts and achievements of students
- maintain the good order and management of our school

enable the Department to:

- ensure the effective management, resourcing and administration of our school
- fulfil statutory functions and duties o plan, fund, monitor, regulate and evaluate the Department's Policies, services and functions
- comply with Reporting Requirements
- investigate incidents in schools and/or respond to any legal claims against the Department, including any of its schools.

Primary Purposes of Collecting Information about Others

Mount Erin College collects information about staff, volunteers and job applicants:

- to assess applicants' suitability for employment or volunteering
- to administer employment or volunteer placement
- for insurance purposes, including Public Liability and WorkCover
- to fulfil various legal obligations, including employment and contractual obligations, Occupational Health and Safety Law and to investigate incidents
- to respond to legal claims against our school/the Department.

When do we Use or Disclose Information?

Mount Erin College uses or discloses information consistent with Victorian Privacy Law, as follows:

- for a primary purpose – as defined above
- for a related secondary purpose that is reasonably to be expected – for example, to enable the College Board to fulfil its objectives, functions and powers
- with notice and/or consent – including consent provided on enrolment and other forms
- when necessary to lessen or prevent a serious threat to:
 - a person's life, health, safety or welfare
 - the public's health, safety or welfare
- when required or authorised by law – including as a result of our Duty of Care, Anti-Discrimination Law, Occupational Health and Safety Law, Reporting Obligations to agencies such as Department of Health and Human Services and complying with Tribunal or Court Orders, Subpoenas or Victoria Police warrants
- to investigate or report unlawful activity, or when reasonably necessary for a specified law enforcement purpose, including the prevention or investigation of a criminal offence or seriously improper conduct, by or on behalf of a Law Enforcement Agency
- for Departmental research or school statistics purposes

- to establish or respond to a legal claim.

A unique identifier (a CASES21 code) is assigned to each student to enable the school to carry out its functions effectively.

Student Transfers between Victorian Government Schools

When a student has been accepted at, and is transferring to, another Victorian government school, our school transfers information about the student to that school. This may include copies of the student's school records, including any health information.

This enables the next school to continue to provide for the education of the student, to support the student's social and emotional wellbeing and health, and to fulfil legal requirements.

NAPLAN Results

NAPLAN is the national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, in Reading, Writing, Language and Numeracy.

When a student transfers to another Victorian government school, their NAPLAN results are able to be transferred to that next school.

Additionally, a student's NAPLAN results are able to be provided to the student's previous Victorian Government School to enable that school to evaluate their education program.

Responding to Complaints

On occasion our school, and the Department's Central and Regional Offices, receive Complaints from parents and others. Our school and/or the Department's Central or Regional Offices will use and disclose information as considered appropriate to respond to these complaints including responding to complaints made to external organisations or agencies.

Accessing your Information

All individuals, or their authorised representative(s), have a right to access, update and correct information that our school holds about them.

Access to Student Information

Our school only provides School Reports and ordinary school communications to parents who have a legal right to that information. Requests for access to other student information must be made by making a Freedom of Information (FOI) application through the Department's Freedom of Information Unit.

In some circumstances, an authorised representative may not be entitled to information about the student. These circumstances include when granting access would not be in the student's best interests or would breach our duty of care to the student, would be contrary to a mature minor student's wishes or would unreasonably impact on the privacy of another person.

Access to Staff Information

School staff may first seek access to their personnel file by contacting the Principal. If direct access is not granted, the staff member may request access through the Department's Freedom of Information Unit.

Storing and Securing Information

Our school takes reasonable steps to protect information from misuse and loss, and from unauthorised access, modification and disclosure. Our school stores all paper and electronic records securely, consistent with the Department's Records Management Policy and Information Security Standards. All school records are disposed of, or transferred to the Public Records Office Victoria, as required by the relevant Public Records Office Standard.

When using software and contracted service providers to manage information, our school assesses these according to the appropriate departmental processes. One example of this is that staff passwords for school systems are strong and updated on a regular basis, consistent with the Department's Password Policy.

Updating your Information

We endeavour to ensure that information about students, their families and staff is accurate, complete and up to date. To update your information, please contact the General Office.

Current Version of this Policy

This Policy will be regularly reviewed and updated to take account of new laws and technology and the changing school environment when required.

This Privacy Policy was developed in September 2018 and is due for Review no later than December 2020.

Mount Erin College Policies are available on our College website.

<https://mounterin.vic.edu.au/policies/>

Mount Erin College
OPEN NIGHT
 Thursday 19th March 2020
 5pm - 7pm
 Tours will be held at
 5.00pm or 5.45pm
 Bookings can be made via the
 website or office
 5971 6000

Learning is our priority

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MUSIC

Welcome back to our music program families, and we welcome all of our new families to the program!

Music lessons commenced in Week 2, and it was great to meet so many new Year 7 students. Here is some information about the instrumental music lessons:

- Your lesson will be scheduled each week on Compass so it is important for you to check your time as they are rotated throughout each day so that you don't continually miss the same class.
- Please arrive at the music centre five minutes before your scheduled time to find your classroom in the building.
- You will need to bring your pencil case and your diary to write down your home practice tasks.

If you have elected to play Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Violin or Trombone – your teacher will issue you with the instrument loan contract for parents to read and sign. Once this is returned, you will be able to take your instrument home with you and get started!

MUSIC STAFF

Mary Whelan – Music Co-ordinator, Classroom Music and Violin teacher, Junior String Ensemble and Senior String Ensemble Director

Laura Main – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone and Piano teacher, Classroom Music, Concert Band Director, Woodwind Ensemble Director

Maggie Doyle – Voice and Piano Teacher, Choir and Vocal Group Director

Troy Wilson – Guitar and Ukulele Teacher and Rock groups

Alison Bellew – Trumpet and Trombone teacher, Jazz Band Director

Paul Armit – Percussion Teacher

2020 REHEARSAL TIMES:

Senior String Ensemble - Monday lunch time

Junior String Ensemble - Thursday lunch time

Woodwind Ensemble – Wednesday lunch time

Jazz Band -Tuesday lunch time

Concert Band- Friday lunch time beginning February 28th (Year 7 Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion, Bass and Keyboard students)

Choir- Wednesday lunch time

Vocal Group- Friday lunch time



MEC Breakfast Club Program

We are very pleased to announce the new **School Breakfast Club program** is coming soon! Starting Term 2, our new School Breakfast Club will run every **Tuesday and Wednesday** from **8am to 8:30am**.

The Victorian Government has continued its partnership with Foodbank Victoria to provide healthy meals that will help students focus better and participate fully in their education.

Our School Breakfast Club aims to ensure students start the day with a healthy meal, to improve concentration, to help students make friends and strong social connections.

For more information about the School Breakfast Clubs Program visit:

www.foodbank.org.au/VIC/school-breakfast-clubs-in-action/

If you would like more information please contact:

Breakfast Club Program Coordinator:

Annabel Webb

Phone: **5971 6000**

THE IMPORTANCE OF FULL TIME ATTENDANCE FOR OUR STUDENTS

We know that each day of school missed makes a difference, with the effect on learning accumulating over time. From an early age, if children are taught that they need to 'show up' for school and make a commitment, this positive mentality aids academic and career success and brings benefits in adulthood. We also know that students who attend regularly and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.

Every day of absence made a difference. The effect of one day of absence may be considered to be relatively small but add up quickly as more and more days are missed. The effect of missing days accumulates over time, so that school absence not only impacts achievement in the year in which the days were missed but in future years as well. We also know that this applies to students who consistently arrive late to school. It would be no surprise to parents and staff to know that the highest achieving students were those who had attendance levels over 95%.

Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6-17 years **unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted** by the Department of Education. Parents are required to work with the school to submit these applications. The support structures at Mount Erin will include working with the Careers Co-ordinator (Mrs Chris Wood) to complete the forms and obtain all the required documentation.

School participation is important as it maximises life opportunities for children and young people by providing them with education and support networks. School helps people to develop important skills, knowledge and values which set them up for further learning and participation in their community.

Conversely, limited school participation is associated with a greater chance of dropping out of school, disruptive and delinquent behaviour and may lead to a cycle of rebellion against authority. These outcomes have later implications for employment, a range of health risk behaviours (drug and alcohol abuse), homelessness, poverty, welfare dependence, and involvement in the justice system.

We know that for some children and young people mainstream school environments may not always be the most appropriate settings. If parents are finding that this is the case for their child, it is important to work with the school to find an appropriate re-engagement program which would be considered as attendance at school. We have experienced great success with these programs, with most students returning to Mount Erin over time and achieving very successful pathways. Please talk to us about this.

Students are expected to attend the school in which they are enrolled, during normal school hours every day of each term, unless:

- there is an approved exemption from school attendance by the Principal for the student, or
- the student is registered for home schooling and has only a partial enrolment in a school for particular activities.

A student is considered to be in attendance at school when involved in an offsite curriculum program (EG: VET) or other activity organised by the school, example an excursion or camp.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents are required to ensure their child attends school and to provide an explanation for their child's absence from school, and the principal must record in writing the reason (if any) given by the parent. The principal must be able to determine from the records if the excuse given was reasonable in terms of the parent meeting their legal obligations.

Parents should promptly inform the school of the reason for their child's absence so that the school can:

- determine if the child's absence needs to be excused by the principal, in line with school policy and these guidelines
- determine the appropriate follow up to ensure the child's education and wellbeing is supported
- record if the parent has a reasonable excuse for not meeting their obligation to ensure their child attends school each day.

Where possible, parents should inform the school in advance of upcoming absences. Absences for more than 3 days require a Student Attendance Learning Plan to be completed and approved by the Principal.

To ensure a child's education and wellbeing are supported, parents are encouraged to communicate openly with the school where a child has an ongoing medical condition that may result in ongoing absences or medical appointments during school hours. Where possible, medical appointments should be made outside of school hours.

Helping students attend school each day is a shared responsibility of all parents, students and the school community.

Remember that daily attendance is important so students don't fall behind socially and developmentally.

School helps to:

- maximise life opportunities for students by building education and support networks
- develop important skills, knowledge and values that set them further learning and participation in the community
- students make the most of life opportunities.

Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete year 12, or an equivalent qualification, have:

- better health outcomes
- better employment outcomes
- higher incomes across their lives.

Regularly missing school may be an indicator of disengagement, leading to adverse outcomes. It is an easily observable warning sign.

A child missing one day a fortnight will miss four weeks in a year, and more than a year of school by Year 10. It is important that children develop regular attendance habits at an early age.

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Welcome to 2020. We would like to introduce two new members of the Administration Team:

BARBARA WOON-MOLONEY who is our new receptionist. Barbara will be your first point of contact when coming into the College and she will endeavour to assist you with all your enquiries.

DIANNE SCULLY is our new Daily Organiser. Dianne's job is to ensure that every class in the College is covered if a teacher is absent. A very important job indeed.

Please assist us in making them welcome. The Admin Team look forward to working with our families over the coming year.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE OFFICERS 2020

Barb Kershaw – Junior School Y7 – 9 Ext: 6013

Brooke Majera – Senior School Y10 – 12 Ext: 6093

CSEF APPLICATIONS CLOSE 26/06/2020

\$225 FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

If you have a current Health Care Card or Pension Card, you may be eligible for the Camps/Sport/Excursions Fund (CSEF) payment. This funding will be used towards excursions, camps and sporting activities run through the College.

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. Your child's school will apply for the CSEF on your behalf. You will only need to submit an application form in 2020 if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments (all year 7 students): your child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply at the same school in 2019; or
- changed family circumstances such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Schools are able to accept and process applications up until the end of Term Two each year. CSEF payments are made to schools from March onwards each year. Application forms are available from the College, please complete and return to us along with a copy of your card. Payment is \$225 per student for all students in all year levels.

STUDENT ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE: 5971 6000 (Option 2)

If your son or daughter is going to be absent from school, please phone our absence line as early as possible on the day of the absence, stating the student name, form, reason for the absence and expected return date. A note is still required upon your son/daughter returning to school.

You will receive an automated SMS message around 9.30am if your child is marked absent. By phoning the absence line, it will save this message being sent out where possible.

LATE ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

If your son or daughter is going to be late for school, please send them along with a note explaining the reason for their late arrival. Students should arrive at school around 8:20am ready for Form Assembly at 8:30am. Students are expected to be at their Form Room promptly at 8:30am.

PAYMENT OF COLLEGE FEES

Payment of College fees would be appreciated immediately. If you are unable to pay immediately, please contact our Administration Office who will gladly arrange a payment plan to suit your needs. Please note that all VET fees, VCAL fees and electives should have been paid already. Students will be unable to attend any excursions or activities if College fees have not been paid or a payment plan started.

PARENT PAYMENTS – FAQs

The Department's new Parent Payment Policy brings a stronger focus to transparency and family hardship, as well as outlining the expectations of implementation and communication with parents. The following frequently asked questions provide further details about the types of payments schools can request from families.

I THOUGHT PUBLIC EDUCATION WAS FREE. WHY HAVE I BEEN ASKED TO PAY? Schools are funded to deliver a quality education based on the standard curriculum. Schools receive additional government funds based on the needs of the students or location. Parent payments are a valuable contribution to enhancing and enriching the educational experience. These payments allow schools to offer enhanced programs and opportunities which their school communities expect them to offer. Schools decide on the learning program they offer based on the needs and aspirations of the school community.

SOME PARENTS BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC EDUCATION IS FREE. WHAT IS FREE IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS? Victorian legislation clearly states that instruction in the standard curriculum program must be provided free of charge to all students in Victorian government schools. This 'free instruction' is the teaching staff, administration and the provision of facilities in connection with instruction of the standard curriculum program, including reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

WHY CAN SCHOOLS SET THEIR OWN PAYMENTS? The Act allows school councils to set their own payments in accordance with Department of Education and Training policy. Schools serve different communities with different needs and expectations for the curriculum and are able to request payments to cover costs for their learning programs.

WHY AM I BEING ASKED TO PAY FOR DIFFERENT THINGS TO PARENTS IN OTHER SCHOOLS? Every school is different and each school has the ability to set its own priorities. Therefore,

it is common for schools to request different payments from parents because they offer different programs, go on different excursions and have different needs at school. For example, some might want to start a student gardening program and others a photography program.

Schools make parent payment contribution decisions in good faith and in the best interests of their students. They aim to keep costs to a minimum so that they are reasonable and affordable to most parents at the school. In setting their fees, each school ensures that parents understand the links between the school's learning programs and the payments being requested.

WHAT CAN SCHOOLS REQUEST PARENTS TO PAY FOR?

You can be asked to pay for Essential Student Learning Items that the school deems essential to student learning in the standard curriculum including:

- **items which students take temporary or permanent possession of**, including text books, student stationery and school uniforms (where applicable)
- materials for learning and teaching where students **construct, consume or take possession of the finished articles** (for example, home economics, ceramics, photography, materials for build-your-own-kits)
- **activities that all students are expected to attend** (for example, transport and entrance costs).

HOW ARE THE ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS PURCHASED?

Schools will offer to purchase these items on behalf of parents, although parents have the option of purchasing equivalent materials from other sources. If you choose to provide equivalent materials, this should be done in consultation with the school, and should meet the specifications provided by the school. Some items, for example food provisions for home economics, may only be provided by the school.

PAYMENT PLANS FOR COLLEGE FEES

If you are unable to pay your College fees in full, we are more than happy to discuss the option of a payment plan. By doing this, it means you can make regular payments (weekly, fortnightly or monthly) at a cost that is affordable to you. It is advisable that you sign up to a payment plan early in the year so that your payments can be paid over a longer period of time and therefore making them more affordable to you. By signing up later in the year, your payment plan will of course be higher than it needs to be.

We have two options available:

1. **Centrepay:** If you receive family allowance or pension payments from Centrelink every fortnight, you can elect to have an amount deducted from your payment. This payment will come to us automatically every fortnight. There are no fees involved for you.
2. **Debit/Credit Card:** We will deduct the agreed amount through our EFTPOS facilities here at the College. All you need to do is provide your Credit Card number, Expiry Date and complete the Authority Form and we will do the rest.

If you would like to commence a payment plan, please feel free to call the College and speak with Erin Gray in our Administration Office, who can discuss the various options with you. PH: 5971 6055.

STUDENT ILLNESS

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. The College provides a First Aid attendant and has facilities to attend minor illness and injuries only. We are unable to provide a "Sick Bay" for unwell students who should be at home.

If a student is feeling unwell at school, they obtain a pass from their classroom teacher and report to the First Aid Office. Students are not to call home themselves. The First Aid attendant will telephone home to have the student collected and signed out of school. Parents are requested NOT to collect students from the College without ensuring they are first signed out through either First Aid or General Office. We are not authorised to provide Panadol or similar medications to students. If there is an existing ailment, students are encouraged to bring their own medication from home. Parents are encouraged to contact our First Aid attendant if they wish her to administer prescribed medications.

If a student is injured at school, first aid will be administered. If the injury requires further attention, parents will be contacted and/or an ambulance will be called if deemed necessary by the attending first aid staff. Parents/Guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including transport costs. The Department of Education & Training and Mount Erin College do not hold accident insurance for school students. JUA Underwriting Pty. Ltd. and Willis Australia Ltd. provides accident insurance policies for students.

ATTENDANCE AT NON CURRICULUM RELATED ACTIVITIES

As specified in the 'Parent Payments Policy 2019', the College Board have requested that participation in non-curriculum related activities, not limited to but including activities such as Formals, Debutante Balls, Valedictory Dinner and various extra-curricular camps and excursions may be restricted if a participating student's "Essential Education Items" and Elective charges have not been paid in full. A regular scheduled payment plan arranged with the Administration Office is acceptable.

Events for 2020 which would fall into this category:

- Presentation Ball (Deb Ball): 24th April
- Yr 10/11 Central Australia Tour: 20th June
- Valedictory Dinner & Presentation (ceremony is permitted): November
- Other events as arranged

**** If your child is attending one of these events, payment of your College fees is required to allow attendance ****

SPORT NEWS

U15 VICTORIAN COUNTRY CRICKET



Tom T of Year 10's future in cricket continues to grow after several impressive years of progressing through the ranks which has now led to him making the Victorian U15 Country Cricket Team. After making the U12 Keith Mitchell MPCA side, Tom progressed to the U14 South East Country Sharks side in the 2018/2019 season where he opened the bowling. This side

became Victorian Premiers for the first time in South East Country history.

He was then selected in July 2019 to train with the Victorian U15 squad with selection process lasting five months, finally being selected on December 20th into the Victorian Country U15 team to play in the National Cricket Carnival being held from 20th – 27th February, 2020 in Ballarat.



From all of us at Mount Erin, we congratulate Tom and wish him all the best for the upcoming carnival – we can't wait to hear how it goes.

IS ARCHERY YOUR SPORT?

Frankston Archery Club in Baxter Reserve will run free 1 hour *Come and Try* sessions on the following 3 evenings at 5.30pm or 6.30pm.

Friday February 28th

Friday March 6th

Friday March 13th

Girls in particular are encouraged to come along.

To register for one of these sessions please call:

0413 295 494

Let us know which date and time you would like to attend. Spaces are limited for each session.



ALPHAVILLE AND BETATOWN

Difficulty: Taxing

Darryl wants to ride his donkey from Alphaville to Betatown. The donkey is always hungry and will only walk if Darryl keeps feeding her apples. She will eat one apple per kilometre they travel. Darryl's donkey can carry Darryl, Darryl's luggage and 60 apples. Unfortunately, it's 80 kilometres from Alphaville to Betatown. Darryl has plenty of money to buy apples in Alphaville – he can buy hundreds if he needs them. But there's nowhere to buy them between Alphaville and Betatown. Is there any way for him to complete his journey?

Solution page: 14



DRAMA VICTORIA THEATRE FESTIVAL (Y9)



This year the Year 9 Arts Academy class will be participating in the Drama Victoria Theatre Festival to promote an understanding of first nations' culture, history and stories. The class has chosen to concentrate on the stories of our local Bunurong tribe. To start our research and planning Charlie and Sarah met with Grant Lea the Frankston City Council Reconciliation officer and Alan Johnson our Koorie Engagement Support Officer for the Bayside Peninsula Area. The meeting was incredibly informative and both girls took a large amount of information and stories that we have now incorporated into our learning and the performance planning stages. Well done to both Charlie and Sarah for being an excellent representation of the values our college upholds. We are looking forward to watching this space and seeing what the Year 9 team create.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

Written by: College Captains: Olivia B and Tijana K

With our new role as MEC Captains for 2020 comes the responsibility of establishing a positive culture within our community. Mental health is no longer as taboo as it once was, and with this follows an increased level of awareness pertaining to the various non-physical adversities youth endure in their everyday lives. Mental health concerns psychological and social well-being, which can drastically alter young people's morale, ambition, and outlook, with both classroom learning and social interactions being impacted.

To combat this concern, an initiative introduced at our College was a therapy dog working alongside our well-being team. Dexter has become an integral member of the College community, combatting stressful energy as well as targeting the stigma of attending welfare. His presence has created a noticeable difference as the fear of getting help is replaced with "It's cool to hang out with Dexter."



As leaders, we strive to ensure a safe school environment, to empower students to be accepting of their peers' individualities. We are at the forefront of changing the vocabulary around Mental Health at Mount Erin College and would like others to follow our example. We wish those in government could see the incredible difference Dexter has brought to our community and fund this amazing initiative in all schools across the state of Victoria.

New in the Library



A New Kind of Everything follows the story of the Gallagher family following the sudden accidental death of their father. It is a compelling novel for teens 13 years and older covering the themes of grief, family, and revival by the award-winning author Richard Yaxley.

Other books in the Mount Erin Library collection by Richard

Yaxley are, **This Is My Song** and **The Happiness Quest**.

By: Richard Yaxley

Genre: YFB - General fiction (Children's / Teenage)

Published by: Omnibus Books

Published: 1 Feb 2020

ISBN: 9781743834077



student eyecare

Free Eye Tests

Covered through Medicare

Haven't had your eyes tested in a while?

According to the **Optometry Association of Australia**, every person should get their eyes checked at least once every two years.
Full eye tests will be conducted at **Mount Erin College**.
At least **1 in every 6** students have vision issues that go undetected.
Typical symptoms that go undetected are **quick loss of concentration, reading avoidance, blurry vision, tired eyes and headaches**.
All students are given a detailed report at the end of their eye tests.
Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/6HoJm5g-CV6u0Nk>

Don't miss out

For more info, please visit www.studenteyecare.com.au | (03) 8644 7012

FREE EYE TESTS (Y7)

The College is pleased to announce that the Student Eyecare Program will be running this year, beginning with Year 7 students in Term One. An optometrist will be onsite during school hours to provide students with a **free comprehensive eye examination** that is covered through **Medicare Australia**. **1 in 6** students have eye conditions that go undetected. This is due to the high level of visual demand on their eyes from books, laptops, tablets and smartphones.

Every student who signs up will receive a full report about their eye health and a prescription will be provided if glasses are required. The prescription can be taken to any optical store to get the glasses made. Don't let your child miss out on this worthwhile health program!

VCAL BARISTAS!



On Tuesday 11th Feb our Intermediate VCAL students spent the day learning how to be Baristas. The caravan was equipped with five coffee machines, as well

as two others for us to practise with. We learnt all about the coffee beans, growing and harvesting procedures as well as learning lots of different types of coffee to make. The day was well supported by staff who came a long for a free coffee, made by our students. We also completed the Food Hygiene and Handling course on Thursday 20th Feb. Next stop for us is the Melbourne Grand Prix on 12th March with the Senior VCAL students!



“The course went all day and we got to make all sorts of coffee – we got to learn about how the coffee beans are grown and prepared for coffee use” – Billy N



“The Barista course taught us all about coffee, and the harvesting. I know how to make all sorts of coffee” - Caleb M



“The Barista course went all day, we learnt about the history of coffee and set up our own coffee grinders. We learnt how to froth the milk to the correct temperature and the right consistency for the different variations of coffee.” – Marcus C

MATHS SOLUTION

It's possible but it'll take a few trips.

Darryl needs 20 more apples than the donkey can carry. If Darryl stashes 20 apples somewhere on the path, he can load up midway and keep going.

One solution is:

Load up with 60 apples at Alphaville, then ride 20 kilometres towards Betatown. Darryl now has 40 apples left. Hide 20 apples and then ride home to Alphaville.

Load up again with 60 apples, ride 20 kilometres and find the hidden apples. Darryl has 40 apples, and collects 20 more, making 60 in total. It's now 60 kilometres to Betatown, so Darryl can ride straight there!



FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT:
'MOUNT ERIN COLLEGE'



'Like' us at our new MOUNT ERIN COLLEGE Facebook page.
Keep up to date with all of the activities and information that is happening within our school.

NEWSLETTER

The next issue will be published:
Term 1: Week 9



School Crossings Victoria Inc.

Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2019/2020 School Crossing Supervisor of the year award.

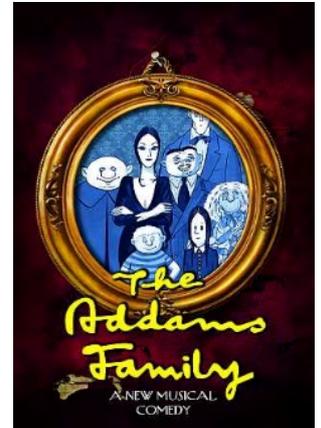
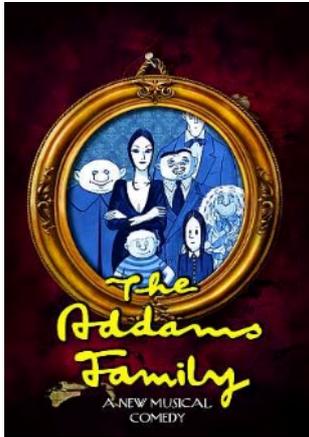
Jump online and complete a nomination at

www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au.

Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

Congratulations to all students who auditioned for a performing role in 'The Addams Family'. Each and every one of you should feel very proud of your efforts. The production team knows that you will all do an amazing job bringing this show to life, and look forward to continuing to add to the list of the students involved as we start to build our backstage and technical crew later in the year.

CAST LIST



MITCH H 12A	GOMEZ ADDAMS
ALISHA P 10A	MORTICIA ADDAMS
TYSON C 12A	UNCLE FESTER
CHARLOTTE S 7D	WEDNESDAY ADDAMS
OLIVIA B 12B	GRANDMA
MIA F 8C	PUGSLEY ADDAMS
KADE C 10A	LURCH
COREY B 9D	MAL BEINEKE
TARSHA G 8E	ALICE BEINEKE
CAMERON O P 8C	LUCAS BEINEKE
KANE H 9F	COUSIN ITT

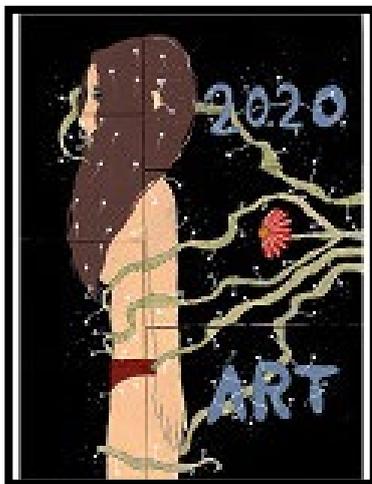
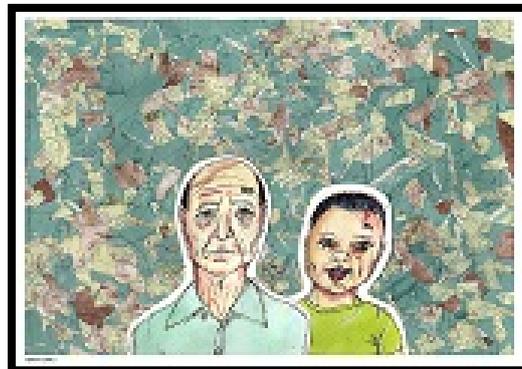
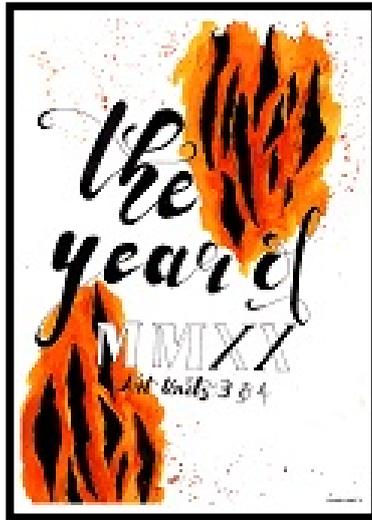
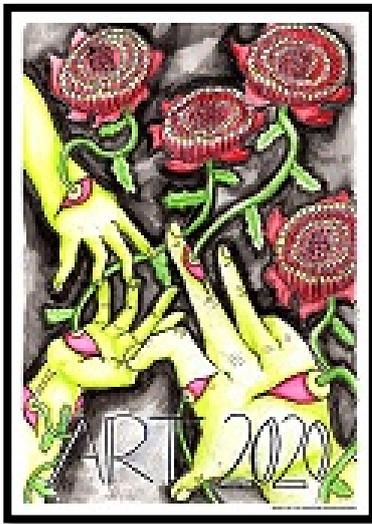
FEATURED ANCESTORS	
SKYE M 11C	CONQUISTADOR
CHARLOTTE B 9C	COWGIRL
MADDY B 10C	FLIGHT ATTENDANT
RUBY B 10C	BRIDE
CAITLIN M 10C	SOLDIER
WIL W 10E	GAMBLER
FRANCESCA N 10C	PURITAN
FREYA C 9C	FLAPPER
ANCESTORS	
GEORGIA B 10C	
TANISHA D 10E	
JACKY P 8D	
AIDAN P 7A	
CAITLIN R 10A	
AMBER A 9C	
CALEY N 8C	
ANASTASIA S 7A	

FEATURED DANCERS
CHIARA S 11C (Choreographer)
KAITLYN F 10A (Assistant choreographer)
ELLA K 9C (Assistant choreographer)
JAZMYN M 8C
RHINO A R 8C
INDI A 8C
CHLOE D 8C
BRODIE T 8C
MORGAN C 7H
TAYLAH M 7H
STEPH C 7H
SARAH D 9C
KEIRA W 7H

YOUNG WEDNESDAY ENSEMBLE/ GHOSTS AND GHOULS ENSEMBLE	
CRYSTAL P 8C	
PHOEBE H 8C	
LIANDRI B 8C	
PAIGE R 8D	
CHARLIE R 8H	
AMY B 7A	
BAILEY P 9A	
GHOSTS AND GHOULS ENSEMBLE	
JAZELLE M 12C (Ensemble director/ choreographer)	ASHTON L7A
JAI DYN A 8A	JAYMEE M 7C
TAHLEAH F 8A	CHLOE S 7D
BAILEIGH C 8C	RUBY C 7E
RYLEY J 8C	GEORGIA B 7F
ISSY H 8C	SEBASTIAN O 7G
ALYSSA P 8C	SHAYE R 7H
DAPHNE W 8D	SOPHIE J 7H
JOSH M 8D	AIDEN B 7H
MYTCHELL C 8D	ALFIE T 7H
ZOE W 8D	LANE M 7H
MATILDA B 7A	CALLEIGH B-S 7H
	AYLA J 7H

2020 VISUAL FOLIO COVER PAGES

Adriel DF, Miray A, Charisma B
Emma B, Rori A, Jazelle M
Trinity C, Keeley G
Maddi G, Riley D, Shaylah C



In the senior years in the Art Department, students use the ART PROCESS to develop their folio and final artworks. Most of the planning and experimentation for a final artwork happens in their Visual Folios. These Visual Folios go everywhere with the art students and by the end of each year are filled with beautiful, tangible access to their thinking throughout the creative process. For Y12 students, these folios are often the reason they are accepted into courses in Visual Arts, Design and Media. Here are some examples of exceptional folio cover page designs from Y10 through to Y12.

