

SENIOR GRADUATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

Term 1 2023 Start Date
6th February 2023



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PRINCIPLE'S REPORT

It is hard to believe that another year has passed so quickly, a year full of twists and turns and excitingly our first year as an independent college.

As I reflect on Term 4, our students and staff have been busy, inspired and curious across a range of activities. Photography workshops continued again, and images were displayed as part of the Information evening, thank you to those that were in attendance to hear our take on the curriculum changes for 2023 and how we can best support families and students. Students stretched their creativity, planning for and attending the Artisan Market, KIOSC and the Amazing Race. Beechworth camp was a highlight as an all-college event and another opportunity to explore a different part of Victoria. Students loved METEC driving school, we congratulate those that were successful in attaining a learners permit. I'm sure these skills came in handy for the end of year go karting (Le Mans).

At MDCC, we are fortunate to have a hard-working, caring and dedicated team. Administrators, teachers and our well-being team, who collaborate tirelessly and who always go above and beyond to ensure that every student gets the best experience possible. Alongside this, our students deserve recognition for their passion for learning and determination to work through challenges to succeed. Thank you also for the support and partnership of our fantastic parental community and the support of the board.

To the families who are leaving us, I wish you all the best in your future destinations. For our returning families, I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday February 6, 2023.

I wish you all a safe, relaxing and enjoyable break.

Best wishes,
Elise Hopkins



SENIOR QUOTES

By Sage Sheridan

As it's coming to the end of the year, we are saying our last goodbyes to the senior class as they graduate from Mountain District Community College!

"THANK GOD
SCHOOL IS
FINISHED!"
- ARWEN

"THE SHOWS ARE
NOT LONG, YOU
JUST DON'T HAVE
THE DISCIPLINE TO
WATCH THEM"
- JOSH

"LIVE , LOVE, LAUGH"
- ALANNAH

"HIGH SCHOOL TO
WENT I, SCHOOL HIGH
TO WENT Y'ALL"
- CHRISTIAN

"IT'S BETTER TO ACT
AND REPENT, THAN NOT
TO ACT AND REGRET"
- JEM

"IF YOU WANT TO
SHINE LIKE THE SUN,
YOU FRST HAVE TO
BURN LIKE IT"
- OWEN

"BARN OWLS WERE
PROBABLY PRETTY
STOCKED WHEN BARNS
WERE INVENTED"
- SAGE

"GET COMFORTABLE IN
THE UNCOMFORTABLE"
- RYAN

"WE ARE ALL GONNA
MAKE IT"
- MISCHA

"PERFECTION IS A MYTH,
BE THE BEST YOU CAN
BE IN THAT MOMENT, ON
THAT DAY"
- CYMONE

"LIFE IS LIKE A BRIDGE
AND A BRIDGE IS JUST
A BRAVE ROAD"
- JAMES



GAMING FRIDAYS

Joshua Donaldson

James has been running Gaming Fridays for about two terms now which has been a huge success with a large amount of student engagement. In my sit down with James, he talked about how at first he wanted to do a literacy activity, but as all the students have been working hard on work for the end of the year, he humbly decided to set up Friday Gaming.

As Friday gaming has changed, James has enjoyed seeing how students have come in and brought new ideas like getting free-to-play games that everyone can play, such as Among Us and Jack Box, which are games that you only need to download on your phone.

James has high hopes for Gaming Friday to expand into other games. He also wanted to move into sporting games if the weather is good. James revealed Spike Ball as a possibility for one of the outdoor sports.

James believes that Gaming Friday has a lot of room to grow and hopes that it gets to a point that we not just play just video games and play outside games as well.

The conversation slowly moved to James' upcoming Esports event Rotterdam. James showed some doubt about winning saying "if we can make the playoffs, which is top 8, that would be a really good result for us, and anything beyond that is just exceptionally well".

James also shared about how he gets tired of Rocket League. To him it has now become his job now and how this changed his view on Rocket League James is looking forward to Gaming Friday and how new ideas will evolve, expand and grow throughout 2023.



DRIED FLOWER ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

Joshua Donaldson

I sat down with Phoebe, a student who took part in the dried flower arrangement workshop. Phoebe explained how she went to a shop in Belgrave along with the rest of the class and shown how a flower arrangements are made. They are made with a little pot with a piece of a styrofoam at the bottom in which you sort them into a design with different type of flowers. The student really liked the workshop as they and everyone else made excellent designs with the flowers. Their favourite part was picking what colours they were going to use, which were green yellow and white.

When asked if they would do it again, they responded 'YES' with no hesitation, as well as other students enjoyed the workshop as well and everyone in the group of students got to keep their arrangements. We could do it within the school which opens the door to making other thing like soaps Christmas refs.

I think the dried flower arrangement workshop was a great success, and has now opened the door for MDCC to explore more crafty typo projects in the future.



PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Joshua Donaldson

Rachael, our student support worker, has taken up the photography workshop for term 4, which I have been told will have an exhibit. I sat down with Rachael to ask about her aspirations and thoughts on how the workshops went. Rachael explained how the workshop operated. During the program, a photography teacher came and taught the group of students how to use different aspects of the camera, learning how to adjust lighting and focus. Rachael explained that the classes were organised into two parts, with one part being theory and the other part practice. Rachael highlighted that the response from student that partook in the workshop has been amazing, with student feeling proud of what they had made, alongside some students buying their own cameras, and even some saying they're looking at doing photography study as they have enjoyed it a lot.

When asked if the school would run the workshop again next year Rachael showed great enthusiasm. The school has bought four of its own cameras, but is still deciding whether to bring a photographer as there are some students who were unable to the workshop this year or turn it into a weekly session where they go out for a while.

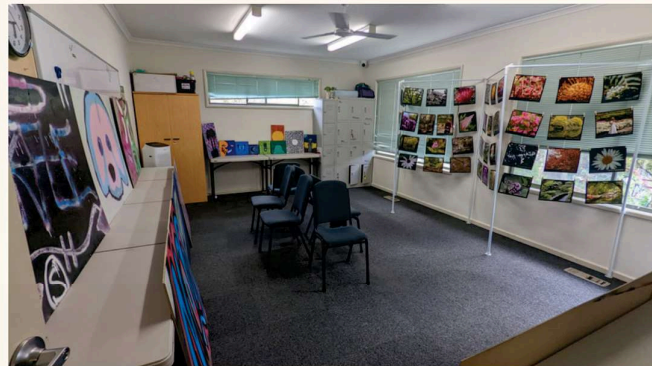
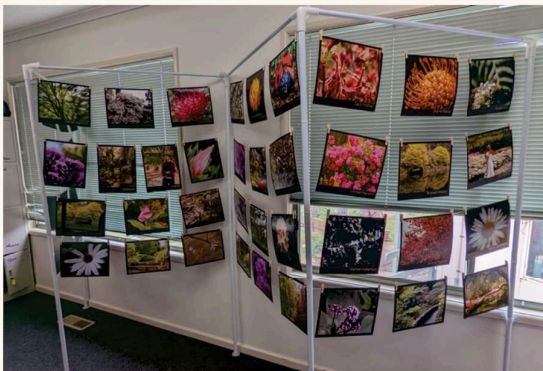
Also what was not reported in the last term's issue was the photography workshop trip to the Dandenong Botanic Gardens to take photos, which will be shown off in an exhibition held during the 2023 Information night in which each student has 3 photos they like printed and displayed.

Overall, it seems like big things are planned for the photography workshop next year to come back bigger and better.



PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

During the 2023 Information Night, on the 30th of November, the students who participated in the 2022 Photography Workshops displayed their photographs they took on their excursion to the Dandenong Botanic Gardens in Olinda. This was a great success with everyone enjoying the exhibit.



METEC DRIVING SCHOOL

Sage Sheridan

On the 4th of November, the foundation students and a few students from years 11 and 12 attended the Kilsyth Metec driving school. Ethan explained there being automatic cars designed with multiple two sets of pedals to allow for the driving instructor to brake and accelerate in potentially dangerous situations.

At Metec, students were initially taught a lot of theory before beginning the driving component, such as who has right of way and staying in lane. The Metec course helped out students with driving knowledge they may have missed out on. Students, Alannah and Brandon, explained that Metec helped them iron out some of their driving skills.

Overall, the students can agree that Metec gave them a head-start as a learner on the road that other learners may not have gotten otherwise.

Brandon claimed it was "definitely a good course to recommend a beginner who has no prior experience on the road." Ethan noted, "it was good. I'd be keen to go back."



MDCC FAREWELL JAMES

Joshua Donaldson

James, at the time of this newsletter, has left MDCC. I got a chance to interview James before he left. When asked about how he felt about his time at MDCC, James has had a lot of fun with the time he has spent at MDCC. As a primary school teacher by trade, it has been quite the change coming to a community school, but it has been a very enjoyable time in a community school environment. One thing James has enjoyed was working with secondary school students who have more independence in how they organise themselves at school.

When I asked James about the best parts of his time at MDCC, James really liked the excursions we did as even though we had a lot of work he felt that we also had a lot of freedom to enjoy lot of the things we did. James also reflected on some of the feedback he's gotten from some students, with some students saying they like how they've been able to connect with a student support worker whether it be with common interests hobbies or even just the additional support with their school work.

To end off this interview, I asked James to give one piece of advice for everyone at MDLC James said.

"Find something you really enjoy. Like I mean you know obviously there are some things we do that aren't the most thrilling, but I feel like if you have at least something that you really enjoy and you really want to become better at, that inspires you to learn more about it and do more, and if you're inspired to learn more and do more you can actually move those skills of learning to many other areas in life which I think is a really powerful tool for learning."

Overall, James has had a great time here at MDCC, and we look forward to seeing him in the future and wish him the best of luck to all his future endeavours.



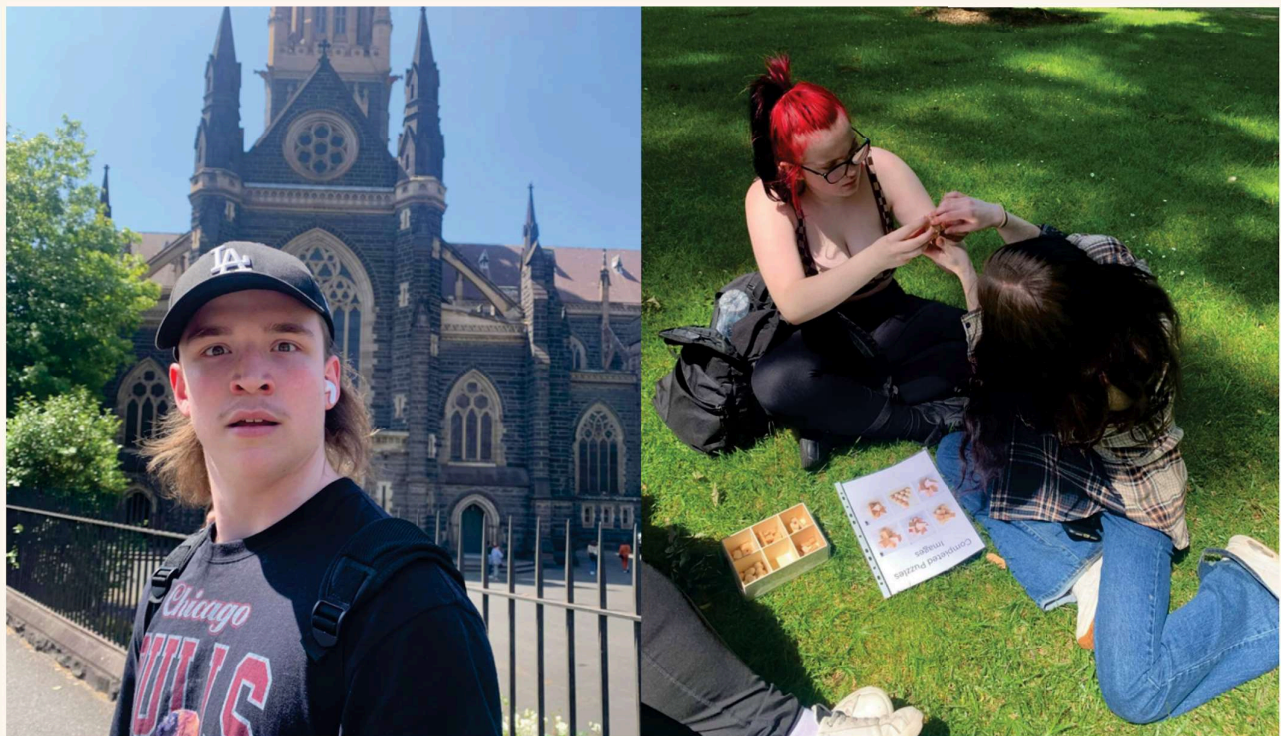
AMAZING RACE

Sage Sheridan

On Friday the 2nd of December, senior students held an amazing race for the year 11s and 10s to attend. Each main challenge in the race is related back to an environmental or ethical issue in Australia, highlighting issues based on the task at hand. For example, to highlight plastic pollution, a challenge set by Alannah and I for the students was to untangle rubber duckies from the fishing lines. This clearly highlights how plastic pollution affects wildlife.

The amazing race was located at Fitzroy gardens the large green foliage made for the perfect race grounds to scatter our challenges. There were five groups holding challenges: The plastic pollution group by Alannah and I, housing insecurity by Jemma and Josh, water and food waste by Mischa and Jem, Indigenous Australians and respecting the planet by Arwen and Owen and Climate change by Ryan and Christian. Challenges ranged anywhere from trying to maintain a certain amount of water within a holey cup or trying to build Jenga buildings on balance boards.

The aim of this race was to help spread awareness on certain topics while also engaging students in fun activities outside.



BEECHWORTH 'OLD PRIORY' CAMP

By Owen Roberts

On the 4th of October 2022, the MDCC students attended The Old Priory Camp in Beechworth where they were to stay and engage in activities around Beechworth until they departed on October 7th. Due to the haunted nature of Old Priory, combined with the fact that it used to be a nunnery, the first night all the students watched a horror movie called *The Nun* to fully immerse themselves in the atmosphere of the building.

When students awoke the next morning, they departed to the Beechworth Berry Farm where they learnt about the importance of climate change associated with Australian farms and then made their way to the Silver Creek Sourdough Bakery. On the second night of their stay, students were welcomed by an Australian singer and songwriter named Lazy Harry who got the students to engage in traditional Australian bush dancing and singing folk songs.

The next morning, students met with Dave who was with the Totally Renewable Yackandandah energy community and discussed different innovative ways they could use renewable energy in businesses to help combat climate change. Afterwards, students went for a Beechworth Honey Experience where they learnt about the importance of bees in the ecosystem and also taste-tested lots of different honeys. In the afternoon, students went to the Beechworth Historic Natural Park to check out the insane asylum and other historic buildings. At night, students experienced a full tour of the old Beechworth Asylum with some students even reported experiencing supernatural events that many were not expecting.

The next day, after packing up all their belongings, students went to the old Beechworth Gaol, where the famous Ned Kelly had previously been a prisoner. They were given a full tour learning about the dark history of the prison. At 10:30am students then departed back to MDCC on a coach leaving Beechworth with many fun experiences and memories.



MDLC ARTISAN MARKET

By Rhian McManus and Margo Willoughby

On the 26th of November, Mountain District Learning Centre held an artisan market day with the local CFA and other local stalls. Mountain District Community College helped make items to be sold at the market specifically the intermediate class.

The intermediate students planned and created the majority of the items we sold, This included scrunchies, dried flower arrangements, bracelets, crystals, clothes and candles. The foundation students helped by creating heat packs, bee hotels and bee friendly seed packs. On the day the intermediates came and worked at the market for an hour or so individually.

Besides the MDCC stall the market also had face painting, henna, crafts and free sausages! There was live music from up in Belgrave and little clothing/jewellery stalls from all around Ferntree Gully. Children were running around having a ball along with the teenagers and even adults/elderly were seen enjoying themselves.



INFORMATION NIGHT

By Sage Sheridan

The term 4 Information night, held on Wednesday 30th November, was a great opportunity for both currently enrolled families and future enrolled families to get an understanding of the year ahead. Families got to meet the current staff with opportunities to ask any questions about the curriculum, and possible future school activities and just get an overall understanding of how the school is run over a BBQ cooked by Tristan and Alan. At Information night, there was a presentation that explained all the planned changes to VCAL and MDCC for 2023, there were explanations on VPC and VM. Part of the presentation was a reflection on the 2022 year and all the amazing activities that students got to undertake with an emphasis on the importance of wellbeing and attendance. Families that attended the BBQ were then invited to view the exhibition of photographs that had been taken during two workshops ran by Rachael.



FORMAL PHOTOS



FORMAL PHOTOS





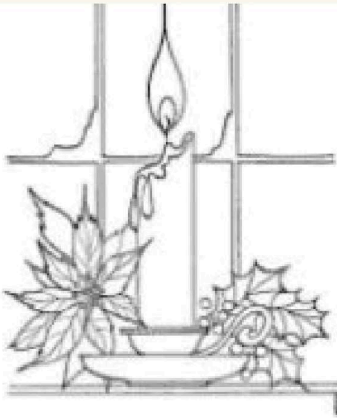
CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH



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| CANDLES | SANTA | FROSTY | MERRY |
| CANDY CANE | SEASON | GIFT | MISTLETOE |
| CARDS | SLEIGH | GIVING | NOEL |
| CELEBRATE | STOCKING | GREETINGS | NORTH POLE |
| CHIMNEY | TREE | HOLIDAY | REINDEER |
| CHRISTMAS | WREATH | JOLLY | |





We Wish You A Merry Christmas



**We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
And a Happy New Year.**

**Good tidings to you,
And all of your kin,
Good tidings for Christmas,
And a Happy New Year.**

**We all know that Santa's coming,
We all know that Santa's coming,
We all know that Santa's coming,
And soon will be here.**

**Good tidings to you,
And all of your kin,
Good tidings for Christmas,
And a Happy New Year.**



**We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
And a Happy New Year.**



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Eggnog Ingredients

These are the ingredients you'll need to make this classic eggnog at home:

- **Milk and light cream:** This traditional eggnog recipe contains milk and light cream
- **Spices and seasonings:** You'll need cinnamon, cloves, vanilla extract, and nutmeg.
- **Egg yolks:** Egg yolks thicken the mixture, creating a decadent texture.
- **Sugar:** Of course, you'll need white sugar for this dessert-like beverage.
- **Rum:** Spike your eggnog with light rum or leave it as-is for a non-alcoholic treat.

What Alcohol Goes In Eggnog?

This boozy eggnog recipe is spiked with light rum. You could also use brandy or bourbon, depending on what mood you're in and what you have on hand. Of course, if you'd like, you can leave out the liquor altogether.

No matter how you serve it, everyone at your holiday party will love this cheery drink.

How to Make Eggnog

You'll find the full, step-by-step recipe below — but here's a brief overview of what you can expect when you make this traditional eggnog:

1. Heat the milk, cinnamon, cloves, and a dash of vanilla. Boil, then remove from heat.
2. Whisk the egg yolks, then whisk in the sugar.
3. Gradually whisk the hot milk mixture into the egg mixture.
4. Cook the mixture over medium heat until thick, then strain to remove the cloves.
5. Stir in the cream, rum, remaining vanilla, and nutmeg. Refrigerate overnight.

