Dear Students, Parents and Community Members,

It is with much sadness that I write to inform you of the passing of Mrs Rhonda Merryfull, our dear friend, colleague and respected teacher. Our sincere condolences to Peter, Courtney, Luke and extended family members. A tribute to Mrs Merryfull will appear in next week's newsletter.

Mrs Hobbs' Headlines
Dear Students, Parents & Staff

Student Led Discussions
As part of our continued journey along the Visible Learning Methodology our next stage is to develop student voice not only in the classroom but how they can articulate their learning to teachers and parents.

Part of the process is empowering students to understand and have a greater say in the learning process, and how to fully and proudly participate in College life and/or what they need to work on to do so.

This term on September 1st the College will be running Student Led Discussions for the first time. Your child will have the opportunity to sit with you and showcase their work in terms of: What they have learnt and what do they still need to learn and what steps they need to take to succeed?

This self-reflection is important for students to understand how they learn and what can sometimes inhibit their learning, such as organisational skills, social skills and self-awareness.

Every student will be ready to share their learning with a parent, if for some reason you cannot attend on the day please make another time. However, students who do not have a parent attend on the day will share their learning with a staff member so that they feel included.

More information and an invitation to attend will be sent home via mail so that this very important interview with your child does not get overlooked. Please ensure that you complete the time slot that you require (which is included in your letter) for coordination purposes.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College if you require more information.

Child Safety Policy – Commitment Statement.
Balmoral Community College has always had policies in place to keep children safe from abuse. However, there is now a new Ministerial Order No. 870 and the College is required to inform the school community about our arrangements set out in Ministerial Order No. 870, with regard to the Child Safe policies.

You will notice in our newsletters that we have developed a short commitment statement with regards to being a ‘Child Safe’ school. Also in this week’s newsletter and on our website is the Commitment Statement (policy) endorsed by school council as to our continuing obligation to keeping children safe.

Everyone connected to our College can help children be safe. We have zero tolerance for any abuse of children. We already have policies and processes in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children. These are being strengthened to ensure a zero tolerance approach to child abuse.

There are clear boundaries about how adults in our College community may interact with the children here. The new child safe standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past. The child safe standards apply to College staff (including volunteers and contractors), visitors and students’ family members.

Keeping children safe is everyone’s responsibility. Different people at our College have different roles and responsibilities for ensuring children’s safety. Things you need to know about: what ‘zero tolerance’ means to us, what roles and responsibilities adults have for child safety, our new procedures to respond to and report complaints of any form of child abuse.

We want to ensure you know how we are keeping your children safe at school, and how we’d like you to support us (for families).

The College newsletter and website will continually update you with our new procedures. Please take the time to read the Commitment Statement and the College’s Child Safety Coordinators for the remainder of 2016 are Mrs Wendy Hobbs (Principal) and Mrs Bernadette Kirby (Welfare Coordinator).
Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Balmoral K-12 Community College is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Balmoral Community College has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Balmoral Community College is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Balmoral Community College has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In its planning, decision-making and operations Balmoral Community College will

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
5. Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children;
6. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
7. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues;
8. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
9. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and
10. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers.”

Review 2018
Balmoral K-12 Community College Newsletter 2.8.2016

Brambuk Excursion Years 3/4

On Monday the 18th of July, as part of learning about Australia’s first people, years 3 & 4 went on an excursion to the Brambuk Aboriginal Cultural Centre in Hall’s Gap.

We watched two films which explained about the creation of Gariwerd (The Grampians).

We also had a go at playing the didgeridoo and produced some pretty weird sounds! We tasted some bush foods including kangaroo, damper and some very tasty chutney and jams made with bush berries.

Everyone had a wonderful time, we learnt a lot and we wish we could go again!
Lily Weaver, Year 4

Soft Plastic Recycling and Compost

Coles in Hamilton is one of many in Australia that now collects soft-plastic recycling, which would previously end up in landfill. This includes plastic bags and packaging, like chip bags, cling-wrap and bags for pasta and rice.

The plastic is collected from Coles by a company called RedGroup (http://redcycle.net.au/redcycle/) who go on to recycle it into useful products such as furniture and signage. Each classroom has now been provided with a receptacle for soft-plastic as well as a container for food scraps in the senior area. The students are doing a good job at separating their rubbish and this has resulted in an almost full compost bin and the large amount of soft plastic being recycled (pictured below).

Many thanks to all students and staff for helping with this (a big congratulations to grade 4 for their enthusiastic efforts and contributions). I look forward to seeing this continue throughout the year!

Mr Middlebrook

P.S. As the compost bin in the senior area is rapidly filling, if any-one in the community has an unused compost bin they could donate that would be much appreciated.

Heated Lunches
Reminder to families that heated lunches will be available on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout Term 3.
Monday, 1st August - Suse McClure
Wednesday, 3rd August - Kate Smith
Monday, 8th August - Kaye Parker
Wednesday, 10th August - Ainslee Daffey
“Understanding Youth Allowance”

Do you have a child undertaking studies at Year 11 or Year 12 who is intending to go on to Tertiary studies?
Do you have a child already attending tertiary education?

Advance Accounting are holding an “Understanding Youth Allowance” seminar on Tuesday 6th September 2016 Seminar will be at Harrow Bush Nursing Centre commencing at 7pm for approx. 2 hour session.
Presenter will be Gavin Simmons who worked for Centrelink for over 10 years and now manages Centrelink affairs for over 350 clients.
Topics covered includes Independent vs Dependant, Bachelor vs Diploma/Certificate, On-Campus vs Off-Campus, Income Tests and Scholarships
This seminar is a must to understand your families choices when your child does head away for tertiary studies.
Please ring Lyn Beaton on 5588 2000 to register your attendance ASAP
Seating is limited.

VCE students cooking up a storm at the RSL kitchen whilst our renovations are under way. Many thanks to the RSL for supporting our school. Jackie Grant
One on One With The Principal

Congratulations Tom on your School Based Apprenticeship, what can you tell me about it?
I am working for Grampians Homes on Wednesdays and Thursdays doing Computer Aided Drawing (CAD) and Engineering Fabrication.
I started last week and it was good and something different and to break up the school week.
So even though you think it is better than school is there anything that you are doing at school that helped you to get the apprenticeship?
Visual Communication and maths have definitely helped. My Vis Com portfolio I think got me over the line for the job as I have been working on the CAD which is exactly what they were looking for.
I was pleased with how my portfolio looked. Also last year I did the Life Skills elective and we did mock interviews and wrote resumes, this was helpful and being confident in knowing what to say.
So what made you think about a School Based Apprenticeship?
The Apprenticeship is for 18 months and I will still get my VCE certificate at the end of it and hopefully it will lead to a full apprenticeship. Also to make Mum happy, she has always wanted me to finish VCE and now I have the perfect compromise. I can keep learning at school especially the Vis Com and maths, it makes it busy but keeps me motivated and I keep in touch with my classmates.
Having a VCE certificate does look good on a resume and it will be an achievement for me to finish school and not drop out.
What will be the secret to managing, school, sport (half back line specialist for HBFC) and work?
I will have to be very organized and don’t stress and just do it!

Around the Classrooms...

Last week the Preps took time from their busy schedule to spend some time learning about the Tech Shed with Mr Selway...
"Yesterday I went to the Tech Shed. I built a boat and I used a saw and a hammer" - Primrose
"I got to use a hammer and a drill and sandpaper" - Camilla

Thankyou Mr Selway.

Try a Trade VET day

Jamie & Nathan at the Try VET day held in Horsham Last Thursday. They were learning about Certificate II in Interactive Digital Media
Year 3 – “Real Life Experiences”
keeping us busy!

During the first few weeks of term, the Year 3s have been involved in a number of activities bringing real world experiences to the curriculum.

They have been to visit the Brambuk Cultural Centre in Halls Gap and made an advertising brochure to promote GARIWERD (the aboriginal name for the Grampians).

As part of the Woolly West Fest they have welcomed the Cavendish Year 2 and 3 students to our school, and listened to the “Story Peddlers”. In preparation for Sheepvention they have made a flock/mob of sheep (in this case a Merino ram and ewe). “Of course we’re going to promote the wool industry in our area!”

Then on Friday they were planting native trees in the school grounds, learning how to plant seeds and seedlings in pots, and working with cut flowers. What a nice change to have MUD as a bit of a problem.

Graham Lewis

Year 3s and their flock/mob of Merino sheep.

Making brochures to promote Gariwerd (The Grampians).

2016 School Council Members

Ms Helen Grego – President
Mrs Wendy Hobbs             Mr Mark Kuchel
Mr Sam Roberts               Ms Bev Munro
Mrs Kaye Parker              Mr Daniel Thomson
Mr Luke Rees                 Mrs Jackie Grant
Mrs Lisa Cameron             Miss Alice Houlihan
Mrs Kylie McClure            Mrs Maria Merryfull
Mr Justin Weaver             Mrs Kate Wardlaw

Careers - Uni Open Days

ACU - Melbourne 14 August 10-4, Ballarat 28 August 10-3
Deakin - Warrnambool 7 August, Geelong & Waterfront 21 August, Burwood 28 August
Fed Uni - Ballarat & Gippsland 28 August 10-3
LaTrobe - Melbourne 7 August, Bendigo 14 August
Monash Uni - Parkville 21 August
RMIT - 14 August
Melbourne Uni - 21 August Parkville 10-4

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY INFORMATION SESSION

Warrnambool City Centre Campus
165 Timor Street, Warrnambool
Friday 12th August 6-7.30pm
To register please phone 03 9244 3059 or email nursinfo@deakin.edu.au or Eventbrite page: deakin.is/nursing-midwifery
Balmoral Community College Proudly Presents...

The Adventures Of "Six"

A musical production featuring the talents of the students of Balmoral Community College.

At the Mechanic’s Hall on the 30th and 31st of August 2016. Starting at 7.00pm. Entry by a gold coin donation.

Come along and enjoy a fun hour of music, masks, costumes and song.

Enjoy the adventures of “Six”... a lamb with an uncommon sense of adventure and excitement in a dangerous world.
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<td>1 - 5 August</td>
<td>8 - 12 August</td>
<td>15 - 19 August</td>
<td>22 - 26 August</td>
<td>29 Aug - 2 Sept</td>
<td>5 - 9 Sept.</td>
<td>12 - 16 Sept</td>
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<td>Sheepvention 9/10 Ag Students</td>
<td>Year 6 PAG Visit</td>
<td>Keys Please 10.00am</td>
<td>11/12 Blood Donation Ballarat</td>
<td>School Production The adventures of Six</td>
<td>Year 9 Ski Camp Yr 10/11 Work Exp Year 6 Camp Melb</td>
<td>Year 4/5 Camp Roses Gap State Badminton Year 7 Girls</td>
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<td>ICAS English Test</td>
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<td>ICAS Maths Test</td>
<td>11/12 Football</td>
<td>School Production The adventures of Six</td>
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<td>Homework Club</td>
<td>Homework Club</td>
<td>Last Day for August Uniform Orders</td>
<td>BCC Aths Weather Permitting No Homework Club</td>
<td>Homework Club</td>
<td>Year 9 Ski Camp Yr 10/11 Work Exp Year 6 Camp Melb</td>
<td>Last Day term 3 Dismissal at 2.30pm</td>
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Please drop your completed forms into the Library once you have finished reading!!

The Art Dept. is seeking donations of Cereal boxes which will be used to make masks. Please leave any donations at the office. Thankyou!

The Library is seeking donations of saleable second hand novels, children’s, general interest books etc., to stock a book stall at the "Food For Thought" Festival in October. Please leave any donations with the Office. A great way to clear out your shelves for some new books!!! Thankyou!