

Making Waves 2009

MENTONE GIRLS' SECONDARY COLLEGE MAKING WAVES 2009



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Spring heralds the end of the Year 12 academic year and the start of the examination period. It is also the time of the always eagerly anticipated art show - the night of the VCE Malcolm Art Exhibition! The art building, as usual looked as enticing and creatively inspiring as it is possible for a building to look as it sported a stunning array of paintings, drawings, photography, sculptures and graphic design – all works of the highest calibre, exhibiting a productive year's work from the students of the art domain at Mentone Girls' Secondary College. It is extraordinary to reflect on the consistently excellent standard of this annual exhibition. Now in its fourteenth year, the show has never failed to excite the admiration of all and to inspire students about to enter the VCE years. As well, the acquisitive art prize has made possible the excellent collection of student art work that the school proudly displays in its offices and corridors, another way of encouraging and celebrating the achievements of our students.

This annual acquisitive art award began in 1995 and has been a wonderful opportunity for students to exhibit their artwork in a professional manner. This generous acquisitive award is sponsored by Mr Frank Hellier on behalf of Malcolm, the real estate agents in Cheltenham. He has been a loyal and tremendously generous sponsor, donating money for prize winners and valuable encouragement awards for our aspiring young artists.

On display were a stunning variety of media, styles and techniques from the subject areas of Media, Visual

Communications and Design and Art. The works reflected the intense involvement that students have in making their art and the dedication and encouragement of our hard working art staff.

The judging panel for 2008 appropriately included a representative of Malcolm real estate Mr Peter Rogosic, and Ms Deborah Lehner, College Principal.

As ever, a difficult decision in the face of so much outstanding artwork! The winner of the 2008 Award was Nicola Beavan for her creative costume design. Her costumes formed an integral part of "The Wizard of Oz" and were admired by parents and students alike.

Once again it was a gratifying and joyful experience to meet up with ex-students some of whom are now practising artists. It was wonderful to meet up with people for whom art is an important part of life and to know that Mentone Girls' Secondary College has played an important part in nurturing that heart-felt involvement.

It seems that the original purpose of the Award, to encourage and inspire students and to instigate a collection of work that would inspire and motivate has well and truly been achieved.

Congratulations girls and our best wishes for your artistic futures - whether or not you choose to follow a career in the arts, art will always be with you as a way to express your feelings and ideas, to give voice to your passions and to explore your amazing potential in the world.

Mr Gerard Shannon



principal's page



As Year 12 2009 students complete their secondary school studies, it is timely to reflect on the differences they will find in tertiary study.

Most students come from schools which are much smaller than the university. For example, this year's graduating class is a cohort of 164 girls, versus commencing cohorts of 1500 or more. At school, most students experience a "village" community where they are known to each other and to school staff, whereas, at university, they are city dwellers, inhabiting a largely anonymous space.

At school, staff are very attentive to and vigilant in intervening in students' performance and well-being; at university, students who need help have to ask for it and often conclude, from the fact that staff don't initiate contact, that they are uninterested in their well-being.

It is my hope that our students have developed skills in the last 6 years at Mentone Girls' Secondary College to help them overcome such hurdles. Through leadership – formal or informal – sporting and musical pursuits and taking on challenges, the young women who graduate are armed with the knowledge that they are independent, reliable, articulate, confident and self-sufficient. This does not mean they do not ask for help and support, but that they can be relied on to determine their needs and seek that support when needed.

The friends you make as students often remain friends for life – but the relationship cannot succeed without an effort on both sides.

I wish the graduating class success, strength and courage for the future. Remember our motto: 'Virtute et Labore'.

Deborah M Lehner
Principal



assistant principals

"Where has the year gone?" I've no doubt that I say these words, or something very similar, towards the middle of September every year – but this year really does seem to have flown by even more quickly than usual. (Yes, I know that I've probably said that more than once before too!) As the old saying goes – Time flies when you're having fun.

In my main area of responsibility, curriculum development, the most exciting venture for me in 2009 has been the incorporation of the *Learn to Learn* program into our Year 7 and 8 curriculum. Late last year I was extremely fortunate to visit the Cramlington Learning Village and ten other schools in England who have introduced L2L programs in various different formats, with the then principal of Cheltenham Secondary College, Mr Peter Corkill.

On this trip I was able to see first-hand just how successful the program could be in equipping students with the attributes, knowledge and skills that enable them to learn more effectively. I have since been focussed on ensuring that our own MGSC version of L2L is not only relevant to the Australian context, but also that our teachers are competent and confident in delivering the program.

As with any new initiative, there have been teething problems, but thanks to the inspiring work of Ms Lauren James, the teacher charged with re-writing the materials for our school, and the commitment of our Year 7 and 8 English and Mathematics teachers, the first group to deliver the program, we have successfully begun the process of building a *Learn to Learn* culture at Mentone.

When we have embedded the principles of *Learn to Learn* in the teaching and learning that occurs in every classroom in the school, I will know that we are well on the way to being the best learning community that we can be.

Ms Jan Tallarida - Assistant Principal



I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Mentone Girls' Secondary College; the staff and students have made me feel most welcome.

In my role working with the Middle School I have appreciated the opportunity to participate in range of Year 9 and 10 curricular and co-curricular programs. I have had a lot of fun teaching my Year 9 Media classes and like the other Media teachers I am eagerly awaiting the building of the new Media Centre.

The Year 9 City Camp was a fabulous experience, as was the Year 9 City Project, and it was great being able to witness their projects from inception to final presentation. Highlights of my involvement with the Year 10s included the course counselling sessions, the TEENS excursion and the Social.

Another enjoyable aspect of my job this year has been working with the student leaders. I have been inspired by their energy and enthusiasm and their willingness to support a wide range of school programs. In particular I wish to thank Georgia, Rosie and Danielle and I wish them all the best for next year.

I have also had the pleasure of getting to know Khomotso, the exchange student from Soweto. I'm sure the rest of the college will join with me in wishing her well for her final year of school next year. I hope she keeps in touch with her Melbourne friends and host families.

I look forward to another wonderful year in 2010.

Ms Bronwyn Moline - Assistant Principal

Why do we have schools and education? When you come to school every day, obviously you come to learn about the world around us. This learning is achieved in a number of ways. Through the formal curriculum you study subjects like Science, Mathematics, Art and English. You also learn in other ways – by reading, listening and talking to friends and family, watching and using media such as television and the internet. Before you started school, much of your learning took place by simply watching what was happening around you. Sometimes you learn things through making mistakes. Every day you learn many new things by observing and experiencing. Learning isn't just in the classroom with school books, but is around you all the time.

As well as teaching you discipline based subjects such as Maths and English we are supposed to be educating you about a whole range of things such as drugs, obesity, traffic safety, behaviour in the community and so on. There are so many things teachers want you to experience and learn, but so little time in the school day to achieve this. In the 21st century, you are also expected to be global citizens. You are expected to have a social conscience and be the generation that solves all the problems of the 21st century – everything from rubbish in the street to climate change and global warming.

So, how do we decide what to teach you? There is so much to learn, so much to know and so little time in your formal schooling for the learning to take place. This is one of the reasons we have a focus on teaching you how to learn. We want you to walk out of school, not just with your VCE and an ENTER score that is high enough for you to be accepted into whatever future path of study and career you choose, but with the skills and attributes you need to find out what you need to know and how to learn it for yourself.

Congratulations to all our departing Year 12 students on successfully completing their VCE. I wish you all the best for the future as you complete your secondary education and enter the next phase of your lives.

Mr Simon Frazer - Assistant Principal



captain's page

When I was in Year 7, completing Year 12 was the last thing on my mind; I was more concerned with the real issues of the day; not missing the bus, getting to class on time, trying to find the jungle gym - 'Where are the playgrounds?' I asked myself. 'What do these people do with their lunch time?'. Now that is all a distant memory and here I am in my final weeks at Mentone Girls' Secondary College!

As I think back on the six years we've spent at Mentone, my mind is filled with memories, happy, sad, stressful, humorous, some involving long nights of study that stretch on into the early hours of the morning - but all of which include friendship, encouragement and dedicated teachers, who have continued to be inspiring role-models. At this point, after all our hard work and dedication, I am excited about our futures and what they will bring.

Our futures may be undefined, our paths unknown and our goals seem too distant to reach, but if we stay true to ourselves we

will surely succeed. I am proud of you all and can't wait to see what we will have accomplished ten years from now. In the words of Dr. Seuss;

You'll be on your way up!

You'll be seeing great sights!

You'll join the high fliers

Who soar to great heights.

Wherever you fly, you'll be best of the best.

Wherever you go, you will top all the rest!

With the greatest sincerity I wish to thank every teacher at Mentone Girls' Secondary College for their unyielding support and encouragement of every girl, and for allowing their students to develop their potential in a caring and positive environment.

To all other year levels take heed; 2009's Year 12s are positive and hard working girls who are forward thinking and ambitious. I hope all your Year 12 experiences are as good as mine.



Dream big dreams and I hope they will all come true. I've enjoyed every minute of this year. It has been an honour and a privilege to have been a student of this college.

Georgia Sheil - School Captain



school leaders



SRC REPRESENTATIVES

- 7A Ebony Robinson
- 7B Amber McHenry
- 7C Alicia Vardoulakis
- 7D Julia Cole-Trim
- 7E Eleanor Rowbottom
- 7F Alexia Maroudas
- 7G Melissa Lechte
- 7H Shari Hands
- 8A Jemma Alkemade
- 8B Lydia Foord
- 8C Mikayla Rayside
- 8D Kaitlyn Weekes
- 8E Claire Gilchrist
- 8F Stephanie Duggan
- 8G Elisha Jordan
- 8H Elizabeth Sleep
- 9A Ravina Perera
- 9B Cemre Olcer
- 9C Laura Hallett
- 9D Nicole McLean
- 9E Charlotte Kenny
- 9F Lily Jenkins
- 9G Lucy Kenny
- 9H Zoe Hart
- 10A Ella Sheldon
- 10B Michelle Nebert
- 10C Kerri Hempshall
- 10D Jaimi Rayside
- 10E Karishma Simadri
- 10F Suelyn Van Den Helm
- 10G Kate Bellott
- 10H Tara Callahan

SRC VCE REPRESENTATIVES

- Year 11:**
- Anita Balse
 - Kellen Huang
 - Louise Mapleston
 - Gayathri Narendra
 - Chelsea Preston
 - Vini Raman
 - Tracy Trieu
- Year 12:**
- Samantha Sleep
 - Ruby-Jean Jenkins
 - Matia Kuzma Floyd
 - Emily McDermott
 - Danielle Rancie
 - Brianna Reynolds

SRC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- President:** Danielle Everest
Vice President: Brianna Reynolds
Secretary: Sam Sleep
Treasurer: Danielle Rancie
Assistant Secretary: Louise Mapleston
Assistant Treasurer: Ruby Jean
Year 11 President: Chelsea Preston

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- 7A Lucy Cracknell
- 7B Josephine Ivanoff
- 7C Anjali Nambiar
- 7D Victoria Panoussis
- 7E Meaghan Munro

- 7F Shannon Schubert
- 7G Jemma Ford
- 7H Abby Wilson
- 8A Kiralee Lewis
- 8B Tyler McKenzie
- 8C Alexis Popovic
- 8D Monique Kruse
- 8E Carlyn Williams
- 8F Vienna Schnell
- 8G Mia Ruwhiu
- 8H Shwetha Ravichandran
- 9A Taslyn Govender
- 9B Stephanie Van de Water
- 9C Anna Howard
- 9D Deniz Ozcan
- 9E Isabelle Kiss
- 9F Daisy Kinsey
- 9G Jessica Ivanoff
- 9H Tara Siemering
- 10A Milena Fajdiga
- 10B Lily Murton
- 10C Louise Eti
- 10D Sophia Ravenscroft
- 10E India Ainsworth
- 10F Christie Francisco
- 10G Narelle Saunder
- 10H Annika Higgon

PERFORMING ARTS CAPTAINS

- Kenny:** Tamara Partridge
Tilly Le Faou
- Melba:** Helen Ferguson
Charlotte Hood
- Jackson:** Lucy McPhate
Tamara Romero
- Mackellar:** Samantha Fredman
Rosemary Sheppard

Instrumental Captain/s

- Sophie Zhou-Ambatsidis
- Daniella De Koster-Hill
- Ashlee Burn
- Jo Thompson
- Louise Mapleston
- Melissa Cafarella
- Alahana Somerville
- Anna Howard

MUSIC CAPTAINS

- Senior:** Isabell Clements
- Middle:** Tamara Partridge
- Junior:** Jayne Hackett

Vice Captain

- Senior:** Louise Mapleston
- Middle:** Camille Acuna
- Junior:** Iman Tran

DRAMA CAPTAINS

- Senior:** Natasha Margaritis
- Middle:** Amelia Peterson
- Junior:** Rachel Nagy

VCE COMMITTEE

- Rosanna Hall
- Rhiannon Dewar
- Carlee Palmer
- Eliza Bernau
- Brittany Davis

- Lily Cribbes
- Isabelle Stewart
- Khomotso Mashigoane
- Amanda Aridi
- Courtney Meares Whitty
- Helen Ferguson
- Jacqueline Vawdrey
- Kate Southward
- Lillian Marriott
- Samantha Dunne
- Stephanie McMurray

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 - Danielle Shannon
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 - Abigail Scheepers
 - Katia Rapota
 - Annabel Harding
 - Polly Quinn
 - Nicole Thomson
 - Taryn van de Berg

DOMAIN STUDENT LEADERS

MATHS

- Senior:** Nuwani Liyanaarachchi
- Middle:** Melanie Peverill
Kalpana Sivakumar
- Junior:** Vinisha Siddulugari

ENGLISH

- Senior:** Brittany Lord
Franciska Szucs
- Middle:** Hana Dalton
Grace Mahmoud
- Junior:** Ramona Long
Stephanie Placzek

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- Middle:** Sigourney Williamson
Emma Samy
Elizabeth Quan

SCIENCE

- Senior:** Tamsin White
Amy Knight
- Middle:** Melissa Cafarella
Elizabeth Charters
Elaine Anderson

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- Senior:** Chanel Corner
Anita Gurrieri

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- Senior:** Tess Ryan

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- French:** Megan Kruse
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- Japanese:** Joyce Luo
Eleni Angeletos

HOUSE CAPTAINS

SENIOR SCHOOL

KENNY

- Captain:** Karly Funnell
- Vice Captain:** Bianca Robinson

MELBA

- Captain:** Genevieve Mayes

school captains

College Captain:
Georgia Sheil



College Vice Captain:
Rosemary Sheppard



Year 11 Vice Captain:
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SRC President:
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Captain: Maddie Lee Gow

Vice Captain: Claire Kenny

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KENNY

Captain: Laura Naughtin

Vice Captain: Katie Smith

MELBA

Captain: Alana Durham

Vice Captain: Alana Woodward

JACKSON

Captain: Sianaye Evans

Vice Captain: Samantha Banks

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Captain: Taylan Merrick Sim

Vice Captain: Dale Peucker

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KENNY

Captain: Marli Grosskopf

Vice Captain: Rachel Luxton

MELBA

Captain: Candela Ferreyra Bas

Vice Captain: Evelyn Clark

JACKSON

Captain: Jess Thomson

Vice Captain: Caitlyn Bleeker

MACKELLAR

Captain: Victoria Hermitage

Vice Captain: Nicola Deacon

student representative council

Wow, 2009 sure has flown past and I can't believe it's the end of the year already. The SRC has been busy this year, working hard to raise money for various charities that help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Throughout the year, the girls on the SRC, on behalf of their forms have chosen to raise funds for charities such as RSPCA, State Schools Relief Fund, SECASA, City Mission, World Vision and for a hospital in India.

The tragic bushfires necessitated an unplanned fund raising effort so we convened a Bushfire Appeal in which we asked all girls to donate whatever they could, and we set a target of \$1200, which is approximately \$1 from each student. Amazingly we raised over \$7500, an achievement we are all very proud of.

The SRC has also held numerous events throughout the year, including our annual IWD celebrations, which included a purple, green and white casual day and a display at Mentone station with other local girls' schools, Kilbreda and Mentone Girls' Grammar School.

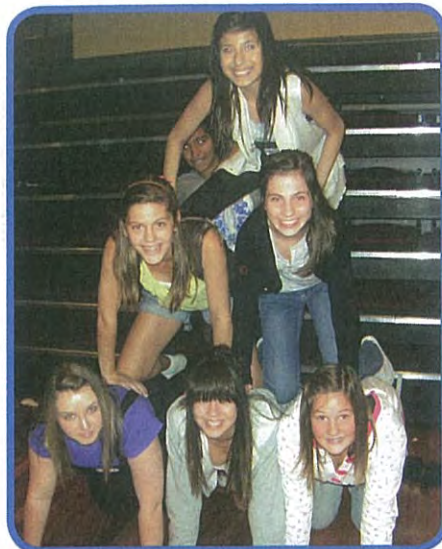
We also organised a primary school day, in which we asked all girls to come in their old uniforms and a pyjama day as well as numerous leadership conferences which were attended throughout the year by SRC representatives.

The SRC also planned the annual Year 10 social, a big event on the calendar for all of the Year 10 girls. We collaborated with the Year 10 representatives and chose appropriate decorations to suit this year's theme. The organisation of the DJs, photographers, drinks and platters of food were all part of our brief. The Nina Carr hall was transformed in our chosen theme of Viva Las Vegas, and all who attended looked stunning, appropriately dressed in the latest designs and shod in an assortment of high heels which complemented their outfits.

The biggest achievement of the SRC each year is the opportunity it provides girls to be the voice of their form in bringing up any concerns within the school or community and the chance it gives for girls to become involved in school events or outside groups, forums and organisations.

Being on the SRC has taught me, and I'm sure a lot of other girls, many skills that they will be able to use throughout their lives. I would like to thank all of the SRC members, the amazing executive team, Ms. Liakos and Mr. McMaster for all of their dedication and support throughout the year, 2009 would not have been the same without you.

Danielle Everest - SRC President



presentation night 2008

Presentation Night showcases the College's achievements and the endeavour of the students who have excelled in the academic, sport and social arenas.

It is especially memorable for the Year 12 students as it is the last time they will wear their school uniform, sing the school song as a year level, and farewell their peers and teachers. It is in fact, the Year 12 graduation evening, a poignant and moving ceremony which is eagerly anticipated by all the graduating students. Furthermore, it is the evening during which the College leaders for the following academic year are announced and leadership roles change hands!

Once again, Presentation Night fulfilled the expectations of all who attended. The pomp and ceremony of this evening was impressive and the various musical items exemplified the high standard of achievement of the Performing Arts Domain. Excerpts from the musical, 'The Wizard of Oz', were performed flawlessly and were enjoyed by all.

Felicity Nagorcka, who graduated from MGSC in 1997 and is now practising law, was an inspirational keynote speaker.

Kim Thompson 12H



muna 2009



Rotary MUNA Conference 2009

All the delegates, from all nations were gathered in Victoria's Parliament House with the stage set for the debate.

The President of 9810 Rotary International spoke to everyone about how the UN works and the topics of debate that would be conducted throughout the weekend. Mentone Girls' Secondary College had four students representing the School at the conference. Tamara Partridge 10C, and Vinisha Chand 11B represented the Netherlands; while Sigourney Williamson 10G and Amelia Peterson 10C represented Iran. Twenty nine other schools had delegates representing other countries. These schools also included our close neighbours from Sandringham College, Beaumaris Campus who were representing Brazil. The weekend consisted

of international debate on topics such as the death penalty being abolished in all UN countries, genetically modified foods and equal human rights for all people.

provided a great a learning experience for everyone. It encouraged all of the representatives to research information concerning a particular country that they may not really have taken much notice of if they weren't representing it.



For me personally it was a great weekend which allowed me to learn more about my appointed nation, Iran, and how international governments work. After this experience I feel that I would like to extend my knowledge of politics further and perhaps continue in that field in the future.

I would like to thank Mr Howells for giving up his weekend with his family and friends, to support me and the others in MUNA from Mentone Girls' Secondary

College as this would not have been possible for us without him.

College as this would not have been possible for us without him.

Sigourney Williamson 10G

music

On Monday 10th August the members of the Symphonic Wind Band participated in the Billy Hyde Melbourne Schools' Band Festival.

The band festival gives school bands the opportunity to perform in front of a highly qualified panel of judges and other schools from all over the state.

Each of us started with a tutorial on listening to what a good band sounds like and what to listen for if something does not go quite right in their performance. We then listened to two other schools of a similar standard to our own perform which gave us great insight on what was expected of us. Finally we performed in front of two other schools and a panel of judges on the Robert Blackwood Hall stage at Monash University. When the performance ended we had a session on

stage with one of the instructors on how to improve our performance and how to get the best out of ourselves in a pressure performance environment.

It was really inspiring to hear from a professional on what can be done to improve our future performances. The whole experience was nothing short of amazing - to go through rehearsals, combine as a group, to witness how other bands go about their work, to participate in a professionally run competition and be judged by experts in the field.

It was a fantastic experience, one that helped us with our musical development and to be part of the band festival was an opportunity that everyone will remember for some time as we gained so much.

Alahana Somerville 11G



music

As in every other year, the music department of Mentone Girls' Secondary College was jam-packed with various music performances.

Throughout 2009, the school held recitals for this year's VCE music class, preparing the girls for the end of the year exams and concerts. The ensemble performances included events such as Open Night, Winter Wonderings, Sisters of Sass, Mentone RSL and a large variety of workshops. The ensemble groups include Concert Band, Senior Jazz Band, Senior Stage Band, Percussion Ensemble, String Ensemble, Madrigal and Symphonic Wind Band, all showing their true colours in more ways than one!

Many important events occurred on the music calendar this year, such as the House Music Competition, held on the 20th of May. As one of the most competitive school extra-curricular activities, there is always a great turn out. All the Houses got stuck into rehearsals straight away, given only nine weeks to complete and perfect two choral songs and one instrumental piece. Peter Foley, Head of Music Department at Wesley College and also the conductor of the local jazz band, Mordialloc Jazz Orchestra, adjudicated on the night and was impressed by the hard work and musical talent of all the competitors. His summative statement is worth quoting as it

encapsulates the performance in a succinct and complimentary fashion: "The amount of effort all the houses put in to create a night as fantastic as this makes everyone winners."

Another highlight for Mentone Girls' musicians was the Music Camp. Due to the terrible bush fires in February, the camp was postponed until June. Unfortunately, an outbreak of sickness caused a few students and teachers to miss out.

All the girls practiced and prepared for a night of wonderment for the camp concert that following Thursday. The highlights of the camp include Elvis the chicken and Saturday night's Talent Show, displaying the epic creativity of the music students. The weekend, despite the cold and wet, went swimmingly well at Arrabri Lodge in Warburton.

Finally, we are very proud to announce that the Symphonic Band received a Bronze Award for a very good performance in their section. This is a great achievement and we look forward to participating again next year.

Congratulations to all the girls who participated in the various musical items throughout the year and a big thank you to all the music teachers for their dedication and hard work.

Isabell Clements - Music Captain



swimming carnival

On Wednesday 26th February the annual Swimming Carnival for Mentone Girls' Secondary College was held at the East Bentleigh pool. The day was uncharacteristically overcast.

In keeping with the prevailing weather pattern, the clouds did not shed any tears and the grey skies and relative coolness spared the students some of the scorching conditions we have experienced in previous years.

It's been a recent trend for students to display more patriotic fervour, both in their cheering and choice of attire. There was barely a student spotted whose allegiance to House was not proudly displayed.

Girls showcased feathers, faux fur, fairy, skirts, silk, velvet, butterfly wings, glossy capes, polka dot stickers and formal accoutrements in a valiant attempt to carry off the coveted fashions on the 'field' award.

The competition was spirited and some fresh talent emerged in the junior ranks among the new arrivals at the college. The staff relay is always a highlight and this year the students were no match for the accomplished teachers.

Thanks must be extended to Mr Shillabeer who organised and convened the day and to all, including student helpers, who played their part in ensuring that it was an enjoyable and successful day.

Anne Gamble



athletics carnival

On Thursday the 24th of April, Mentone Girls' Secondary College students decorated their bodies in their house colours for the annual house athletics carnival.

Girls were seen rolling through the gates of Dolomore Oval showing off their house colours with pride and ready for a fun day of events.

Setting up the tents in the perfect location was the first event of the day for most students, before the athletic events started. After all the girls had arrived it was time to formally start the day. Between track and field girls were having their own races to get to all their events, but you don't have to be the best runner or shot-put thrower to join in. The novelty events are the highlight of many students' day. Having a laugh while trying to get the egg across the finish line still balancing on the spoon makes the novelty events fun for all.

All day students participated in physically demanding events and left the oval at the end of the energetic day tired and worn-out. Another great athletics carnival completed.

I look forward to writing about the Athletics Carnival next year!

Danielle Shannon 11G

The Athletics Carnival was definitely a day to remember. Girls had got out their old fairy costumes, feather boas and other items in their House colours to show their support for their House. The athletes were energetic and pumped with adrenaline ready to break a few records! As the onlookers cheered the participants ran faster and faster.

We all had an enjoyable day and we shouted so hard that we lost our voices.

Katia Rapota 7H



year 7 and 12 fancy dress



Once again the Year 7 and 12 Fancy Dress evening was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. The students who were involved in this extravaganza put weeks of hard work into their routines, song choices and their outrageous costumes.

Our theme this year was "Evolution of Dance" which gave us the freedom to try almost anything! The Year 12s gave up their valuable study time to teach each Year 7 class the choreography to songs of their choice.

Students arrived at 6:30pm for adjustments to the costumes, dance routines and final touches to their make up. Everyone had a last minute rehearsal and then went into the Nina Carr Hall. Our hosts for the evening were the school captains, Georgia Sheil and Rosie Sheppard. Everyone was nervous before performing and the atmosphere was electric! But when it was their time to shine everyone pushed away the nerves and tried their best to win the coveted trophy for their form and enjoy the experience. Everyone was very excited especially the Year 12 students who waited anxiously to see their Year 7s perform their choreography and hopefully win!

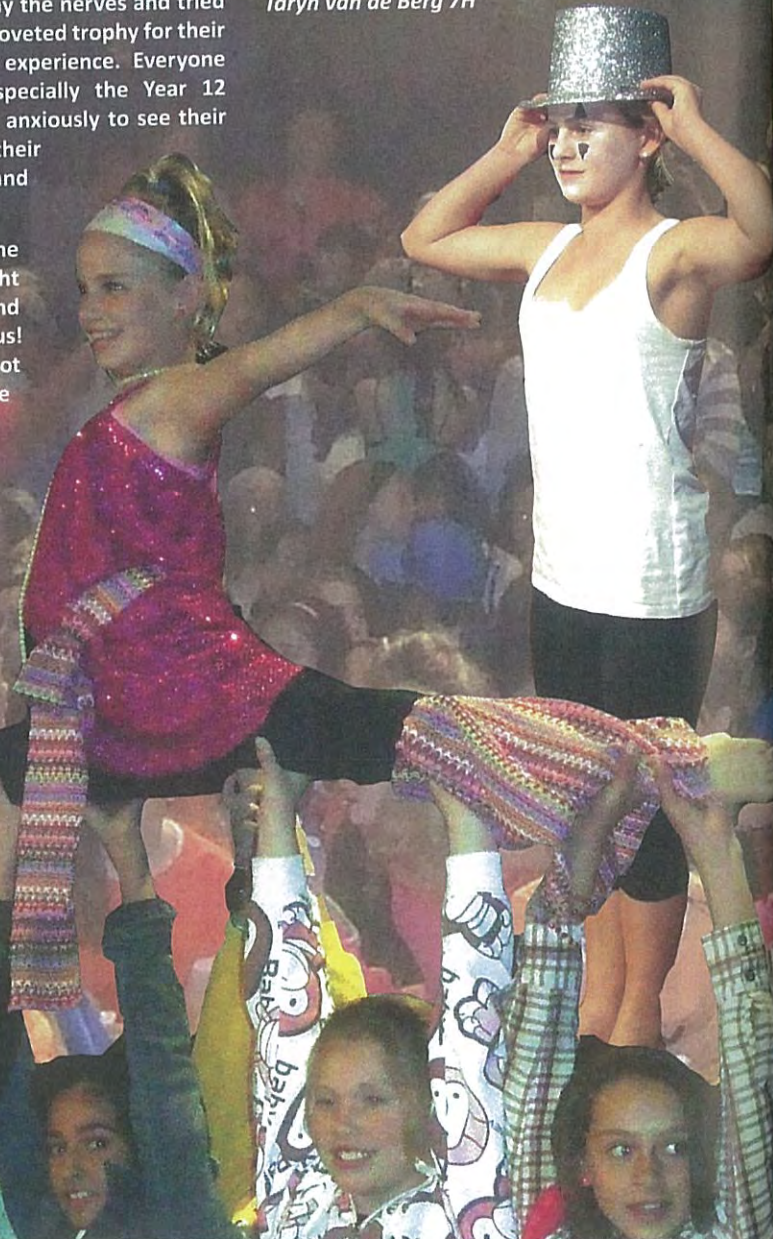
The costumes for the dances on the night were amazing and definitely outrageous! Even the teachers got dressed up for the occasion. After half of the Year 7 classes performed the teachers showed off their costumes and their dancing

talent! It was hilarious to watch! When everyone had performed it was time to announce all the winners for the night.

Rosie and Georgia started off with the best dressed teacher. The winner was Mr. Bartlett in his bright orange costume reminiscent of Bollywood. The teachers, being a competitive bunch, tried to outdo each other and some spectacular and unusual costumes were proudly paraded. The teachers' dance routines, including the agile rap number, were entertaining and enjoyed by all the participants. Then the winners of the night, in all categories were announced to the enthusiastic applause of all.

The winners for 2009 were 7C! They did an outstanding job of their routine and were asked to perform it again. Overall I think the night was so much fun for all who attended and was definitely something to remember!

Taryn van de Berg 7H



sport

2009 has been a stellar year for both of the junior tennis teams and MGSC is proud of the girls' outstanding achievement!

The A team beat Mordialloc SC 6 sets, 126 games to 0 sets, 45 games. We beat Sandringham College 4 sets, 44 games to 0 sets, 33 games and we beat Cheltenham SC with a similar result. Similarly, the B team beat Sandringham College 6 sets, 126 games to 0 sets, 55 games. We beat Mordialloc College 6 sets, 126 games to 0 sets, 28 games. The B team didn't concede any points in 3 of the five sets against Mordialloc.

The team comprised of Maria Bulmaga, Emily Suckling, Amy Prentice, Megan Lewis, Tash Lamberton who was unfortunately absent on the day, Ruby Wardlaw, Shari Hands, Scarlett Whitlock and Georgia McDonnell. The girls were coached by Emily Cushion, Michaela Baker-Smith and Ms Gayle Steinfort.



All girls played with great sportsmanship and trained very hard in the weeks leading to the finals. Their motivation and enthusiasm is to be commended. The tennis finals were held at Dendy Park on an uncharacteristically wet day. The girls persisted playing through the rain and became quite good at dodging puddles.

A big thank you to Emily and Michaela who umpired every match and gave great coaching hints to the girls at training.



The Senior Girls' Tennis Team dominated at this year's State Final Championship in Baroondara and came away victorious. We tried extremely hard to take home the title. We arrived at the venue at 8.30am and left at 5.30. It was clearly a long day filled with many exhausting matches, and, in our breaks, studying for SACs. We played an extremely tight match against Essendon Secondary College who should have played in the Grand Final as they were extremely hard to beat however it was Warnambool Secondary College who came runners-up. We were awarded medals and took home a pennant for the gym wall at our school. It was a worthwhile experience and it satisfies us to know that we helped contribute to the Mentone Girls' Secondary College's wall of fame!

Jacqueline Vawdrey 12H

The Senior Squash team achieved a solid victory at the State Finals at MSAC on Thursday 27th August. We won our way into the finals after playing two other schools. The finals were against Epping Secondary College and all girls played extremely well to win their games convincingly. The team comprised Sue Hsien Chong, Carly Draper, Jacqueline Vawdrey and Ruby Jean Jenkins and their coach, Mr Michael Warden. The team played against four schools in total and won every match by a large margin. Some of the students have been participating in this sport since 2004 and have won every year except 2007 where we came runners-up. We were awarded medals and a pennant to add to the collection at the gym. It was a glorious yet sad day for the girls as we will never get to play in the MGSC Squash Team again.

Jacqueline Vawdrey 12H



netball

2009 has been a wonderful year for both the Year 7 netball teams who have managed to uphold the sporting spirit of Mentone Girls' Secondary College.

Throughout the rounds both A and B teams played with enthusiasm, a positive attitude and outstanding sportsmanship.

The girls relished every game and supported each other as a team. They attended netball practices and were of their coaches, Kate Tanzimat. In the teams were undefeated. Zone Finals, both the SC and Mornington Final to Frankston SC. achievement especially one goal in the last 30 The A Team comprised Ward, Ella Fajdiga, Amber Isabelle Diggins, Miranda Kesidis, Marian Kesidis and Sarah Redmond. The B Team comprised Lucy Georgeson, Nicki Lee, Grace Davis, Holly Martello, Laura Kilfoyle, Shannon Schubert, Jess Haslem and Shari Hands.



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The B Team comprised Lucy Georgeson, Nicki Lee, Grace Davis, Holly Martello, Laura Kilfoyle, Shannon Schubert, Jess Haslem and Shari Hands.



Once again the Year 7 Netball B Team played incredibly well. The girls came to every training session and they made it all the way to the Metropolitan which is a huge effort. They gave their all on the day of the Finals, playing energetically against three schools. Our girls won the first two Rounds leaving their biggest challenge till last... Frankston! It was a very competitive game but in the end Frankston came out on top.



On behalf of the team I would like to congratulate all the players for not giving up and putting in one hundred percent. Most importantly we would like to thank Ms Dickson, Kate and Rhiannon for devoting their time to coach the team which would not have been able to get this far without them.

Shari Hands 7H

This year both the A and B Teams played in the Metropolitan Finals in Dandenong.

Both teams played very well but unfortunately both teams lost the final game which means that neither team gets to play in the State Finals which we were really confident about winning. Everyone played her hardest and I think we deserved to be in the State Finals.

Marian Kesidis 7H

On Friday, 14th August this year, the Year 7 A and B netball teams and the Year 8 netball team played in the Netball Zone Championships which were held in Dandenong. It turned out to be a great fun-filled day during which we met students from lots of different schools who were all very competitive.

All three MGSC netball teams won their games and this placed us all in our separate Grand Finals. The Year 7 B team won the Grand Final for their division as did the Year 8 team. Unfortunately the Year 7 A team lost their Grand Final by two goals which was very upsetting for all of us. Winning the Grand Final made the Year 7 and 8 teams Zone Champions and the A team runners-up which is still an awesome effort!

Grace Nelson 8G





DANA BENNETT PAIGE BLAKE TORI CASTELLAN LUCY CRACKNELL HAYLEY FARNAN LUCY GEORGESON EMILY GORBAN AMY GREEN IVY-RAE HOLLINGSWORTH



JULIA HOWELL KATIE JENKINS NICOLE LEE MIRANDA LOFT TESS LUCAS DEMI METSIKAS BRIDIE NICHOLLS ALEXANDRA OATES



MIKAELA PRATT EBONY ROBINSON TESSA SCOTT ELIZABETH SHEPPARD COURTNEY WARD NATASHA WARDEN RUBY WARDLAW BRIANNA WHYTE



AMY AMOROSO LILY BOWE SOPHIE CAILLAUX GEMMA CASHMAN NICOLA CUMMINS GEMMA ERDELYI-GOTZ ELLA FAJDIGA MEGAN HIGGINS MICHELLE HUANG



JOSEPHINE IVANOFF ELYSHA JARDINE GINGER JENKINS ARIELLE KISSAS MADISON KLUSIK ALAA MAREI AMBER MCHENRY



SOPHIA MOORE KATELIN RYAN TARA SCOTT REBECCA STANDFIELD LIBBY THORNTON EMILY VAN DE WATER ASHLEIGH WILSON JASMINE WRIGHT



JANA ACKOVSKA JACINTA BATEMAN NICOLE CARMENI AMY CHEEVERS JESSICA DALY ALICIA DOYLE SARAH FURLONGER KATE HINE JESSICA IAKOVIS



VOLHA KAZLOVA EMILY LAUGHTON AMY LEARMONT JANET LI KESHAVI MOHAN ELLEN-MARIE MOUSELIMIS ANJALI NAMBIAR NIKKI NIEVAART



MADÉLINE BRINSON-FRY KIRRA PATERSON TAHILIA SOUTHWELL ZOE STEWART GRACE TSUCHIDA-TAYLOR ALICIA VARDOLAKIS FIDELA WHITTLE MEAGHAN WILSON-HUGHES MEL YUCEL



KATIE BENEDICKTER ARDEN BITSONIS GEORGINA BOLTON MADDISON CAIRNS-BERTRAND SIJING CHEN JULIA COLE-TRIM ILAINE CRAEB ISABELLA DIGGINS MILLIE DUNSHEA



CHARLOTTE HILTON FELICITY HUGHES EMILY KEANE CASEY LEES ELISE MAK LAUREN MCAULEY ALYSE MCMULLEN SASHA NASSRALLAH



VICTORIA PANOUSSIS JESSICA RIMMER ALANA STEWART ELEANOR THORNTON EMILY TURNER CELINE VILSHANSKY SARIAH WERE ZOE WOEBKEN ALICE WOODFALL

...all about Year 7

Frightened!

Click! The harness was strapped in. I was ready. Well that's what I told my friends. Inside, my heart was racing and my palms were sweating as I gripped the ropes. I turned back and gave my friends a big fake smile. It was convincing. Giving me the thumbs up my friends ushered me forward. Carefully I started to climb.

My footing was perfect. The distance from the ground to my feet was getting further. As I got to the first obstacle I looked down. "Gulp!" I climbed up from the first obstacle and got onto the second. Rock climbing! The hand grips moved! Could it get any worse? Great! I must have looked like a dancing penguin. A dark sinking feeling was in the pit of my stomach. "I can't do this," I thought. It was crazy to do something like this. Didn't people know I could not handle heights. Stupid peer pressure...you never know they are doing it to you at the time but then it hits you when you least expect it.

Wow! I hadn't noticed it but I'd passed the second obstacle. I was a metre from the bell. If I could reach out and ring it this would all be over. I reached up. Snap! Somebody screamed and the harness which was attached to me broke off. I was falling, falling, falling.

I screamed. I woke up in a sweat. "Just a bad dream," I said out loud. I rolled over in my bed and tried to go back to sleep. Suddenly I remembered I had camp with the school in two days time. Gulp!

Louise McCormick 7E

My Girragundgi

I was always afraid of the dark, school and what people thought of me but not now. Now I have my Girragundgi. All the kids at school used to tease me because I was the nerd who could not play sport but knew all the things that seemed pointless. I tried to fit in by taking up basketball but it was no good. The coach just benched me for every game and when I finally got to play the ball slipped from my hands and I completely missed the loop.

A few days later I happened to enter an aquarium store. In the back right hand corner I noticed a small bright green frog. His big brown eyes stared back at me and I knew I had to have him.

That night I was not afraid of the dark any more. My Girragundgi kept me safe. The next day at school was a breeze. I did not care what the kids thought of me and later in Sport I pretended that my little frog was in danger and I had to run fast to save him. I beat all the other kids and felt really good about myself.

The next few weeks were wonderful but then my Girragundgi got sick. I took him to the vet but nothing could be done for him. I tried my hardest at school and ran home at the end of each day to check on the health of my little friend. But one day I felt that something was not quite right. When I got home I saw my Girragundgi lying down in his tank. He did not seem to be breathing. My Girragundgi was dead! Although I was very upset I realised how well I was doing at school and how my Girragundgi had helped me.

Toryn van de Berg 7H

Fear Can Crush Mountains

Ian was adopted at the age of three. Ever since the accident when he had been trapped in a burning house from which his deceased parents managed to save him, Ian had a serious case of claustrophobia.

He is now twelve years old and living in Sydney. His adoptive mother is always saying what luscious brown hair he has and how his big blue eyes remind her of the full moon on a cold winter's night. When she said that he always wondered which of his biological parents had given him these traits.

"Hurry up Ian, you're going to be late for your swimming lesson." Ian did not want to go. He did not want to do anything that involved getting trapped, for it would trigger his fear. He was afraid that his parents would take him to a psychologist so he preferred to be punished instead.

For his thirteenth birthday his parents decided to take him on a mystery day trip to the Jenolan Caves on the Blue Mountains. They had booked a special tour of one of the caves specially for him. Ian stood there mortified in practised silence.

A few days later they made their way to the tour meeting area and sat on a rock. "Why me?" thought Ian belligerently. As Ian put on his gear he kept thinking of how he could get away. He tried to think of a really good excuse but came up with the banal comment of "I have to go to the toilet."

"Come on Ian, get a hold of yourself!" he thought miserably. "You can do this." The prospect of being in the cave would be terrifying but he had decided to go in there. He wanted to be brave. "So, Mum and Dad, are you coming?"

"NO!"

Amy Amaroso 7B



The War



Guns blasted like soaring firecrackers
While the battlefield darkens into a grey gloom
Trenches begin to give way

Revealing mounds of blood and bone

The sacred and brave scatter around like glass

Shattering across the floor

The last glimpses of hope fall through and die in the

Phenomenal sound

Day slowly turned into night and the fighting went on

No one remembers the joy of Christmas

Awaiting them

The moon shone bright as a lamp in the sky

And slowly the reddish glow blanketed the

Atmosphere

Suddenly the battlefield of deep, rich

blood silenced

As the first rays of sun appeared

A final rest has come

Emma Van Den Helm 7H (Winner of the Poetry Competition)



Trouble!

Here I am in my room laying flat on my bed. I hate it when my sister dib-a-dobs on me. I don't really care anyway. "Mandy, MANDY!" screamed my mum. What did she do to me in for this time? I came down the stairs and saw my mum's favourite vase lying on the floor. I looked up at my sister. She made me feel even angrier when she showed me her innocent face.

"Mandy did you do this? yelled my mum.

"No! Honest!" I explained "If I did I would tell you straight away!"

"Well your darling sister said she saw you with her own two eyes!" replied mum. "You are going to have to miss out on your allowance, now go to your room". I stomped up the stairs. This time I knew that I was going to get revenge on Molly. All the times I let her go before but this time I was going to get her good and proper. I took a piece of paper from my drawer and started to jot down ideas.

About an hour later I thought of the most incredible idea. In a few weeks it would be Halloween. She always got me into trouble the day before Halloween so I was unable to go trick-or-treating. So I decided to film her doing something to get me into trouble on my camera. I could not get the idea out of my head and I could not wait for that fateful day to dawn.

Days went by followed by weeks. Finally it was the 30th October. I made sure that I charged my camera and had everything set up for my plan. As soon as I had finished setting up I started to follow her. I didn't know when she would strike but I had to stay alert. 30 minutes had passed and nothing had happened...yet!

Suddenly she looked left and right, I turned on the camera and started filming. Molly walked over to mum's ballet trophy, she quickly struck at it and I had it all on film!

"Mum, Mandy broke your trophy" shouted Molly. I stopped the filming as mum walked into the room. "Mandy come here!" shouted mum from the living room. I approached the living room facing my annoying sister and angry mum. "Why do you break everything you touch?" asked mum. "That's it you're not going trick-or-treating tomorrow!"

"But I didn't do it mum I have it all on camera." I replied confidently.

"All this time I've been blaming this on your sister and it's been you!" I watched mum 'giving it' my sister.

I got that on film too!

Jerrie Francisko 7H



MARIDIA ASTARUS SAMANTHA BASAS COURTNEY BARTABY AMANDA BATEMAN ELIZABETH BRADBURY GRACE DAVIS LUCY DIXON EBONY DUNKLEY ESTHER FIELD



LUCY GEDDES COLUMBIA GOLDMAN ZEREN GULEOGLU SABINE HENNESSEY SARAH HULSE RAHNI MACLEAN HOLLY MARTELLO LOUISE MCCORMICK



MOLLY ANNE MCKENNA BRYDIE MCLENNAN MEAGHAN MUNRO VANESSA NORTHCOTT EMMA PEVERILL ELEANOR ROWBOTTOM LUCY VANDERSTELT-GU ELLY WARREN



MIRANDA BAILEY TARA BICKHAM LAURA BUCKLE MARIA BULMAGA ALDANA CANTAVENERA CHARLEA CORAM ELLIE DAVIDSON ANGELA DAVIES TIARA DEALEY



TAYLAH EDWARDS TIANNA EGER ANDREA HEMPSHALL SAMANTHA HOWE NEENA HUNT RENEE KEMPS LAURA KILFOYLE MEGAN LEWIS



ALEXIA MAROUDAS CHASELEY MCKENZIE ALEXANDRIA McMILLAN JEMIMA OLLIE GEORGIA OVENDEN DAVIN PARK AMY PRENTICE SHANNON SCHUBERT



GISELLE AITKEN GEORGIA ARCHER-BLACKWOOD TARA-JADE ASHLEY-DOMBI SOPHIE CONWAY HOLLY FINLAY JEMMA FORD ZOE GEORGIU BRITTANY GOLDSMITH JESSICA HASLEM



SERENA JOSEPH KLOE KESIDIS FARHA KHAN CASSANDRA LAMBRINOS MELISSA LECHTE ALISON LONSDALE VIOLA MAHONY SHARI MOGYOROSSY



CHELSEA PHILLIPS JESSICA POGSON SARAH REDMOND STEPHANIE ROSENFELD EMILY SUCKLING MELISSA TRUONG KATHERINE TSANKEKIDIS SCARLETT WHITLOCK MURPHY WOOD



MAKAELA ACQUARO JAMIE BOLGER KIM BOSTAILLE NICOLE GROZIER JADE DAVEY ANNELEISE FARRER JERRIE FRANCISCO SELENA GREAVES-MAHER SHARI HANDS



MAXINE HOWARD FERN JUNJAE KIRUBA KARTHIKEYAN MERINDA KENT MARIAN KESIDIS NATASHA LAMBERTON LAUREN MARSHMAN



GEORGIA MCDONNELL KATERINA RAPOTA MATILDA RODWELL ZIARA DE RIJTTER-ROGIER-ROGIER TARYN VAN DE BERG EMMA VAN DEN HELM KIARA WEDDERBURN ABBY WILSON

global citizens' day

Global Citizens' Day is another innovative idea to keep the Year 8 students engaged in their studies whilst learning about and experiencing the problems and hardships some countries face because of poverty and lack of education.

Global citizens day was an accurate representation of our world's global economics and the whole of Year 8 spent May 27 in the gymnasium experiencing the deprivations of poverty and the luxuries of wealth.

Identities were randomly distributed, telling us of our new name, age, literacy, health, religion and income. Throughout the day we were treated accordingly. Accordingly to what you may ask? Our income and status of course! The higher earning citizens were given luxuries while the poorer dealt with financial hardships. With our new identities we built houses with materials based on our income and we were shown that regardless of lack of materials the poor managed without a struggle.

Although complaints (from the underprivileged) were many we were able to see and appreciate the ease of living in our own society.

Nicole Thomson 8G



cranbourne gardens

The 24th to 27th of March saw the annual Year 8 trips to the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens.

During the trip we participated in four stimulating activities. The first was a sculpture contest where we were split into groups of four.

Each group constructed and designed a garden using mulch, rocks and shells. We then proceeded to receive a tour of the gardens from one of the dedicated group leaders, during which we completed a booklet of

fascinating botanical facts. It was a good opportunity to explore and experience the gardens.

Our third activity was all about compost and the significance of insects and wildlife in the garden. We also discussed the importance of compost and the importance it plays in Australia's ecosystem today.

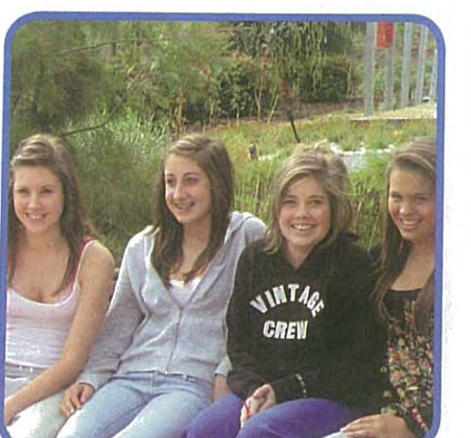
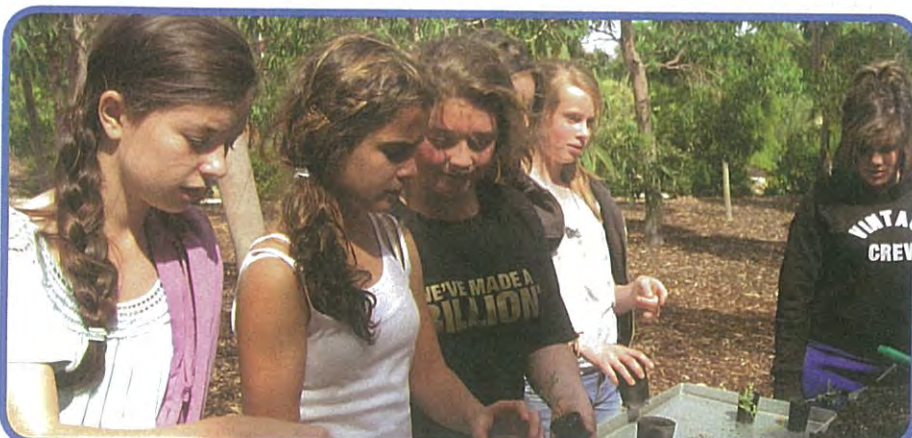
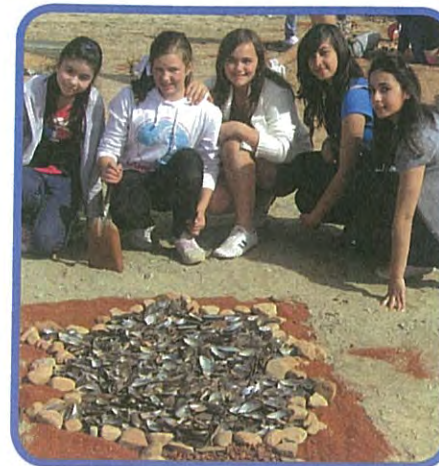
The Cranbourne Botanic Gardens are cleverly designed to cater to a drought ridden country through their recycled water system which uses recycled water which they purchase from the local plant. This is mainly storm water and water

from the surrounding suburbs which goes into artificially constructed lakes on the housing estates.

Then followed an exercise that involved potting our own *Golden Button* plants to take home as souvenirs of our excursion.

Finally we were taken on a walk through native bush to a lookout tower, overlooking the gardens and the city beyond. All in all it was a worthwhile excursion and enjoyed by many.

Nicole Thomson 8G





year 8 activities

Togetherness Day

Mentone Girls' Secondary College is one of only eight state girl schools in Victoria which is something to be proud of. To bring all these schools together a Togetherness Leaders Day for Year 8 students was arranged.

The day was held at Gilmore Girls' Secondary College and ten student leaders were chosen to go from each school.

We began with an activity where we moved into groups with one girl from each school. We discussed why girls' education is so unique. I valued this because it was great to hear the ideas and topics we all came up with. The next two activities were improvisation and learning a Hip Hop routine. These were all great fun and another chance to get to know the other girls.

My favourite part of the day was the final activity where we competed in a sporting circuit. I enjoyed this day so much and I can't wait for another opportunity to meet up with these students again.

Stephanie Placzek 8F



Les gâteaux français

Deanne : Il y a des petits gâteaux, des grands gâteaux mais tous les gâteaux sont délicieux.

Iman : Nos gâteaux sont très délicieux.

Amy : Notre gâteau est une buche de Noël, c'est grand, sucré et c'est savoureux.

Mikaela : La classe a fait beaucoup d'effort avec la présentation.

Vinisha : Nos gâteaux sont sucrés et savoureux. J'adore tous les gâteaux. Miam miam, les gâteaux sont très bons.

Chelcie : J'aime beaucoup les gâteaux.

Lauren : J'aime goûter les gâteaux français.

Katherine : Nos gâteaux sont délicieux. J'adore le gâteau au chocolat.

Melanie : Nos gâteaux sont formidable.

Jade : Mon gâteau est délicieux, très bon!

Beth : Nos gâteaux sont délicieux et miam.

Togetherness Day

On Wednesday 20th of May, ten student leaders from Mentone Girls' Secondary College, including myself, attended a Year 8 "Togetherness Day".

Ten girls from each of the other eight state girls' schools gathered at Gilmore Girls' School in Footscray.

After the introductions and welcomes, we went into groups with one person from each school and had half an hour to "brainstorm"; the theme was what our school offers for our individuality. After morning tea we broke into two large groups for the next activity.

My group did Hip Hop dancing first. The second workshop we attended was about improvisation. For this drama activity, you needed to just go with the first thing that pops into your head, no pondering if your train of thought was right or wrong.

These two workshops were really worthwhile and fun, but it wasn't just the activities that made my day, it was how we all suddenly got along really well with these other student leaders we have never met before, and learned about other schools in Melbourne.

We worked with other people and gained new skills along the way, such as teamwork and speaking your thoughts without hesitation.

At the end, we all received a badge that says "Victorian Association of State Secondary Girls' Colleges".

I hope this day continues for other girls to attend in the future.

Ramona Long 8F



Winter

I look up and see the sky covered with clouds

A neverending blanket as far as the eye can see

All signs of blue are gone

Instead my eyes see an expanse of sad grey.

I look down and see shining wet surfaces

Everything drenched with water

Not a dirty spot in sight

Only water for me to spy

The wind is strong and cold

It stings my face as it blows.

The wind is mean and gives no mercy

Buffeting and pushing me as I walk in its path

The air is icy and cruel

It numbs my fingertips until I think they will

fall off.

Shivers crawl down my spine

Winter is all around.

Abigail Hawkins 8C

Interview avec Elodie Labbe, assistante de langue française et des élèves de douzième : Tilly LeFaou, Ruby Jean-Jenkins et Holly Van Maanen.

Tilly : D'où venez-vous ?

Elodie : Je viens d'Alsace, c'est la frontière de l'Allemagne et la Suisse, dans le nord-est de la France. *I come from Alsace, situated on the border of Germany and Switzerland, in the north-east of France.*

Ruby-Jean : Ca fait combien d'années que vous apprenez l'anglais ?



Elodie : J'ai appris l'anglais pendant 12 ans, depuis la sixième. *I've been learning English since Year 7, so that is 12 years now.*

Holly : Comment trouvez-vous la vie à Melbourne ?

Elodie : J'aime beaucoup, il y a plein de choses à faire. On peut voir des pingouins dans la ville, et il fait beau la plupart du temps. C'est multiculturel, alors j'aime bien. *I really like it, there are lots of things to do. We can see penguins in the city, and it's nice weather most of the time. It's cultural, so I like it.*

Tilly : Est-ce que vous croyez qu'il y a une



influence française à Melbourne ?

Elodie : Il y a beaucoup de magasins français et de restaurants qui essaient de représenter la culture française, donc c'est pas mal. *There are lots of French inspired shops and restaurants that try to represent the French culture, so it's good.*

Ruby-Jean : Comment trouvez-vous notre école MGSC ?

Elodie : J'aime bien cette école, mais pour moi c'est bizarre d'être dans une école de filles, en France il n'y en a pas. Je trouve que ça crie un peu fort des fois. MDR. Mais les profs sont super sympa et les élèves, ça va. Non, je rigole, elles sont gentilles. *I like the school, but for me it's weird to be in a school with only girls, because there aren't any in France. I think the girls squeal a bit too much sometimes. LOL. But the teachers are really nice, and the students are.... okay Just kidding, they're sweet.*

Holly : Comment avez-vous obtenu ce travail ?

Elodie : J'ai obtenu ce travail en posant ma candidature dans un organisme français qui s'appelle CIEP. Il met en relation l'ambassade de France et l'ambassade de l'Australie et donc les gens qui veulent un poste en Australie avec les écoles qui veulent des assistants de français. *I got the job by filling out an application form through a French organisation called CIEP. They link the French and Australian embassies who connect people who want a job in Australia with schools who have asked for a French assistant.*

Tilly : Qu'est-ce que vous voulez faire à l'avenir ?

Je ne sais pas, mais sûrement quelque chose comme prof de français-anglais. Dans une école anglaise, comme prof de français je pourrais continuer à parler anglais mais enseigner le français en même temps. *I don't know, but surely something to do with teaching French or English. In an English school in France, by teaching French I can continue to speak English and teach French at the same time.*

Merci, Elodie, et bonne chance!



ASHLEY ALLEN BETHANY CHADWICK MIKAELA COOK ZOE DEFTEREOS-BRENNAN CLAIRE EDWARDS CLAIRE GILCHRIST MADELEINE GRANT JAYNE HACKETT SARAH HAIG GEORGIA-MAY AUSTIN ELIZA BIRCH YUN YOUNG CHOI BRIGITTE DALACH NICOLA DEACON TAYLA ELSDON ZOE FARRELL EUSSA HOWARD EUSHA JORDAN



ANNABEL HARDING LAUREN HULSE DEANNE HURRELL-WATTS HWA YEON JIN CHELCE KEENAN VICTORIA KOVACEVIC SARAH LUDAK JADE MCKENNA



JASMINE KICK EMMA KING CASSIDY LAWSON JESSICA LECHTE JACQUELINE MYER GRACE NELSON TAYLA PAYTON EMILY ROBINSON



ERIN MERCURIO BROOKE OUSSOREN KATHERINE POWELL MELANIE ROBERTS VINISHA SIDDULLGARI IMAN TRAN KATELYN WARING CARLYN WILLIAMS



JESSICA ROLLS MIA RUWHIU EMMA SHELTON KIAH STEWART NICOLE THOMSON HANNAH WEEKS STEPHANIE WHEDLOCK TIA ZAKIS

Principal, Deborah Lewis



REI BENSON TAMARA BOOTH DARCI BOURKE LAUREN BREWER CARLY BROWN EVELYN CLARK REBECCA CRAWFORD EMILY DUCKHAM STEPHANIE DUGGAN SNEHA BALSE NETHMI BORALESSA YAPA SILVIE BUI HOANG ASHLEIGH BURCHELL CARLEY DAGGETT AAYUSHI DAHIYA JETT EDWARDS NASTASSJA EDWARDS SKYE HESS



MOLLY DUNSTAN GARINA FLOREA RUBY-MARIE GREIG-HURTIG ROISIN HOOLE TAHILI HOWARD ELIZABETH JANKOVIC-TRAINE JESSICA KENT TALIA LINSDELL



GEORGIA HIGGINS NATASHA LIM RACHEL LUXTON JEMIMA MOGUEIS EMILY MURPHY VARSHA NAYAK ALISON O'DONOGHUE SHWETHA RAVICHANDRAN

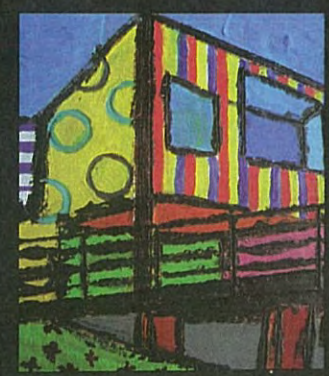
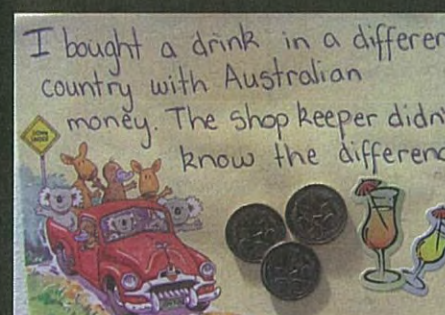
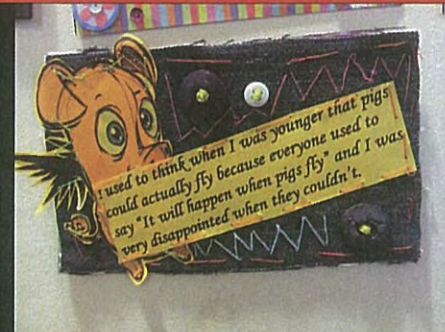
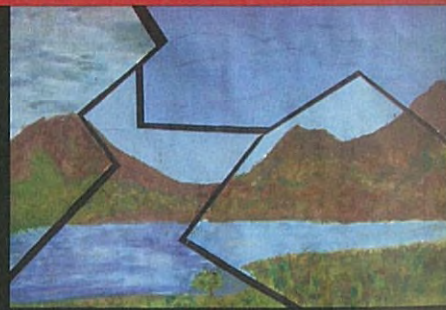


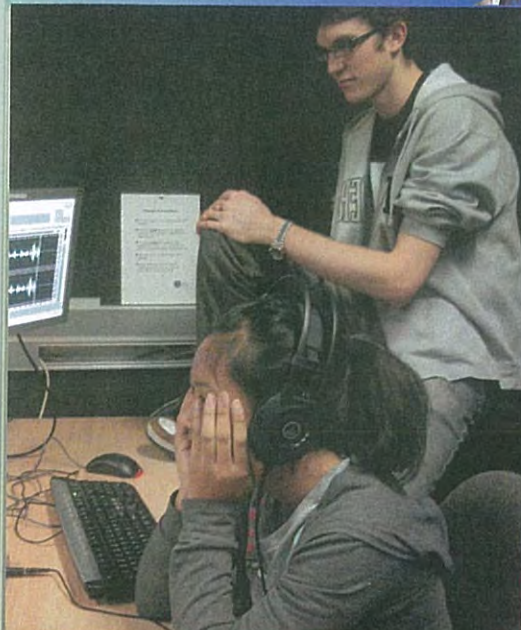
RAMONA LONG RACHEL NAGY SARAH PAMFLETT STEPHANIE PLACZER OLIVA SADLER VIENNA SCHNELL GEORGIA SCOTT AMBER SWALES SARAH THONG MADELIN REDMAN CAISHUN SIMPSON ELIZABETH SLEEP JENNY TAN TIFFANIE THOMAS TRACY THOMPSON JESSICA TRIEU SULNA VAN WYK LAUREN WINNETT

junior art



C E R A M I C S P O S T S E C R E T S S E L F P O R T R A I T S A U S T R A L I A N S T A M P S





“...our Year 9 students were featured as extras in a Bollywood movie which was being filmed in the city, an event of serendipidity which we will all remember”.



ity experience

eminent australian

The evening of the 'The night of the Eminent Australian' was a colourful one. All the Reflective Learning Centre walls were covered in posters of Australians who had made their mark on Australia's history.

Geoffrey Rush, Judith Wright, Rove McManus and Jesse Martin were only some of the famous Australians hung up on the walls. Some students were giving out pamphlets on their chosen Australian, others food and drink, and some just offered a smile and a few games. Younger brothers and sisters were kept busy with the games that some of the students had presented. They especially liked the ones with football, basketball and other sports.

This evening gave us a chance to honour many selfless and successful Australians as well as express our creativity. All of the Year 9 students were expected to participate not only on the evening, but also prior to the event. The night turned out to be very rewarding as we showcased our innovative displays and learnt many interesting facts.

Despite the humidity everyone was keen to get involved in the interactive activities, and to ask questions about our eminent Australians. It really made the evening worthwhile to see parents discovering facts from their daughters that were unknown to them before. Teachers were also highly encouraging and were proud of the girls' accomplishments. A special thanks to the teachers who contributed consistently to help make this night possible.

Abigail Scheepers 9D

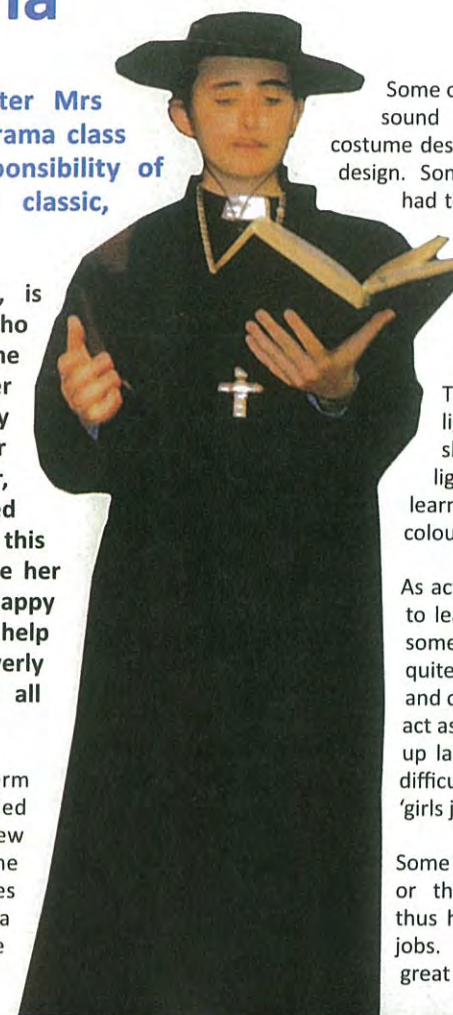


pollyanna

In the first semester Mrs Peterson's Year 9 drama class undertook the responsibility of producing the old classic, 'Pollyanna'.

The play, 'Pollyanna', is about a young girl who is terminally glad. She comes to live with her very wealthy Aunt Polly Harrington, after her father dies. Her mother, who is Polly's sister, died many years before this event. The town where her Aunt lives is a very unhappy town, and with the help of Pollyanna's overly optimistic views, they all learn to be glad too.

Since the beginning of term one, after we were handed or separate roles and crew jobs, it was pedal to the metal to get all the lines learnt as well as getting a good start on the separate jobs.



Some of the crew jobs were: sound and music, lighting, costume design, make-up and set design. Some of the costumes had to be rented from the fancy dress shop while others were slightly tweaked costumes from plays of long ago.

The girls who did the lighting learnt new skills at making sepia light tones as well as learning what how light colour fits the mood.

As actors some of us had to learn to act as a man, something that can be quite gender confusing and others had to learn to act as young, well brought up ladies. It can be quite difficult when after all, 'girls just wanna have fun'.

Some of us had to play two or three characters and thus had the harder crew jobs. Mrs Peterson was great help, being more



enthusiastic and 'glad' than the notoriously happy Pollyanna Whittier, who was played by Olivia. Mrs Peterson helped keep us motivated with praising words and sweet treats.

On the first night of the play, though there were a few unnoticed hitches, all went well. The audience loved us, of course, and there was only minimal embarrassment to those select few actors who did not really want to be who they were playing. The second night went even better and the crowd, though slightly smaller, loved us all.

All in all, the rehearsals and the night of the play was enjoyable and we all had a few good laughs.

Abigail Scheepers 9D





BEE
AREE-UEA



COURTNEY
BATEMAN



ANNELIESE
BAXTER



APRIL
BOWMAN



SHANNEN
BROWN



ROWENA
CAREY



PRISCILLA
CHAO-SOK



JAYE
ECCLESTON



ISABELLE
GEDDES



CAMILLE
ACUNA



ELAINE
ANDERSON



SARAH
BEDWELL



ALICIA
CARROLL



REBECCA
CHAMBERS



JEMMA
CHUTER



ELEANOR
FLEMMING



IRENE
GABRIEL



GENEVIEVE
GABRON



TASLYN
GOVENDER



EMMA
HARDY



CARTIA LEE
HART



SHARNOAH
HURLEY



MICHELLE
KANEVSKY



NUR-YLIANNA
KIFLI



REBECCA
LOOMES



CHRISTY
MICUA



REBEL
GORDON



SHANNON
GREY



LAURA
HALLETT



ISABELLA
HANDS



LAUREN
HERBISON



ANNA
HOWARD



REBECCA
JOHN



GRACE
MARIE



JUSSHAVI
MOHAN



AMY
NGO



KIEU
NGUYEN



RAVINA
PERERA



BRIDGET
RONALDS



COURTNEY
WADE



HANNAH
WHITTAKER



SARAH-JANE
WINCHESTER



ALAINA
REYNOLDS



KATIE
SMITH



ISABELLA
SOKOLOFF



HOLLY
TREVERTON



SANA
WAIS



MELANIE
WALLIS



ADRIENNE
WYNNE



ASHLEA
YOUNG



BRIANE
ANTONOPOULOS



GEORGIA
BLYTH



OLIVIA
CAMPBELL



JENNY
DANG



JACLYN
FERGUSON



LORYN
FOSTER



SARAH
LESTER



RISA
MCMANAM



DANA
ALATEYEH



RACHEL
BALMER



KYOKO
BOWDEN



OLIVIA
BRIDGER



ASHLEY
BROCK



ASHLEIGH
CASTELLAN



ELLA
CRABB



AMY
NGUYEN



KITTY
NGUYEN



CEMRE
OLCER



SOPHIE
PAUL



JACQUELINE
SALE



KATARINA
SCHNELL



SAVANNAH
SHUKLA



SKYE
DAVEY



SARAH
DUXBURY



CLAUDIA
FENWICK



MARLEY
GABB



KYRA
GREEN JAQUES



STEPHANIE
LINDLEY



COURTNEY
MARTIN



CHLOE
SYNODINOS



TAYLOR
TATA



GABRIELLE
THERON



ALZENNA
THOMPSON



ALYSE
TRELOAR



STEPHANIE
VAN DE WATER



CAITLIN
WOOD



NICOLE
MCLEAN



DENIZ
OZCAN



JESSICA
RODDY



CHLOE
SCAPETIS



ABIGAIL
SCHEEPERS



JEMMA
SHELTON



EIRENE
TRIANATAFILLIOU



BRODIE
ZEALAND

year 9 writing

The Year 9 City Experience

On the week on 'The City Experience' the Year 9 students had to get up early to meet their teachers at Mentone Station at 7:00am in the morning.

This is a big ask for this particular age group and the fact that all the Year 9s arrived more or less on time says much about the City Experience!

Unfortunately, some of the students from group, 9 C and D, were running late so we arrived at Melbourne Central Station twenty minutes later than expected. When we finally arrived at the station we speedily walked to the Melbourne Discovery Hotel, where we would be staying for the next two nights.

At the hotel we were given maps of the city, so we wouldn't get lost (but we still did), itinerary sheets and our room numbers and room keys. Soon enough we were on our way to the Immigration Museum.

On the evening of the first night we went to the Old Melbourne Gaol. Many people made a fuss, but, honestly, it was not that scary. We had dinner before that at the Universal Pizza. Also on the first day we had a scavenger hunt in the afternoon. We were supposed to ride around the city on trams and find out the answers to the questions given.

The second day was filled to capacity with activities. Before we set out we had breakfast at a little cafe next to the hotel. Not the best food, unfortunately. We then separated into the two classes and travelled to the Telstra Dome, which was called the Ethihad Theatre. We also went to the State Library and perused various historical documents and books. Then we went to The Big Issue, a magazine company that gives jobs to homeless people. We chatted with a man who had a dog, and he told us his life story. We got a picture with him as well.

After that we went to the MSAC swimming pool. While we were in the water we were surrounded by mostly immature teenage boys. Not fun. The waves were nice and so was the slide. We then went to the hotel to get changed then to the cafe for dinner. The food was better, not by much, but the ice cream we had for dessert was yummy. Then after supper, we went to the IMAX Theatre to watch 'Under the Sea' which was informative and interesting. After the show we attempted to catch a tram back to the hotel but we missed the last tram...so we walked all the way back to Queen Street.

Not fun at all.

The next morning, deprived of our local shopping mall, we went to the Queen Victoria Markets to buy trinkets and a duck in one case. We had a packed lunch on that day.

On Friday we went to the SYN FM radio to record our little session. Some students talked about what we did that week, others about cellphone ringtones and my group talked about the duck that they bought at the market. All went well. Then we had to walk back to the hotel to grab our things and then back to Melbourne Central Station and back home.

Overall, 'The City Experience' was an informative and interesting experience which made us appreciate the diversity of our city, Melbourne.

Abigail Scheepers 9D

The SRC Committee comprises a large group of dedicated students supported by the highly motivated and inspiring Ms Liakos.

We are five students from this Committee who would like to make our school a better place to be. Recently we have thought of a number of ways to improve the school.

These ideas include building an indoor centre for lunch and recess which could be utilised by all year levels in all different types of weather. As this is a long-term and expensive plan, we would like you all to get involved by letting us know what you think of this idea and ways in which we could raise money to bring it about.

We believe that the SRC provides all students with wonderful opportunities because we get a chance to express our opinions and be part of the decision making process of our College.

The SRC also gives the students the opportunity to go on leadership conferences throughout Australia, meet students from other schools and network with the representatives of the all-girls schools in Victoria. We also go to Curriculum meetings and the Resource meetings with the teachers. It also gives us a chance to voice our ideas and represent the ideas of all the students at our school in order to make Mentone Girls' Secondary College an even more ideal place for young women to learn.

Lily Jenkins and Lucy Kenny



year 9 writing

City Project

During term 3, the Year 9 students had been extremely busy with their major assessment task, 'The City Project'.

This project involved researching the different aspects that make up our great city, Melbourne, and trying to further improve these areas in our creative way. We had been allocated our topics which included law, media, sport, art, music, fashion, food and many more. We proceeded to prepare ourselves for this epic endeavour by formulating questions and deciding what we were going to research.

The project required that we spend two days in the city to enable us to delve deeper into our topics. Our first day in the city was a great beginning for this task. For this excursion we were accompanied by teachers but had to independently make our way to the city and back. During the course of the day, we visited a range of places that were related to our area of study.

Some of us went to sporting arenas whilst others visited the high fashion shops, the Magistrate's Court, music studios and many other places. After many hours of walking and a colossal amount of fun, we were allowed to return home exhausted but exhilarated.

Our second day in the city was a true test for the students who were unfamiliar with public transport. For the week leading up to this day we were hurriedly planning our itinerary for the day that would allow us to extend our knowledge of our topic.

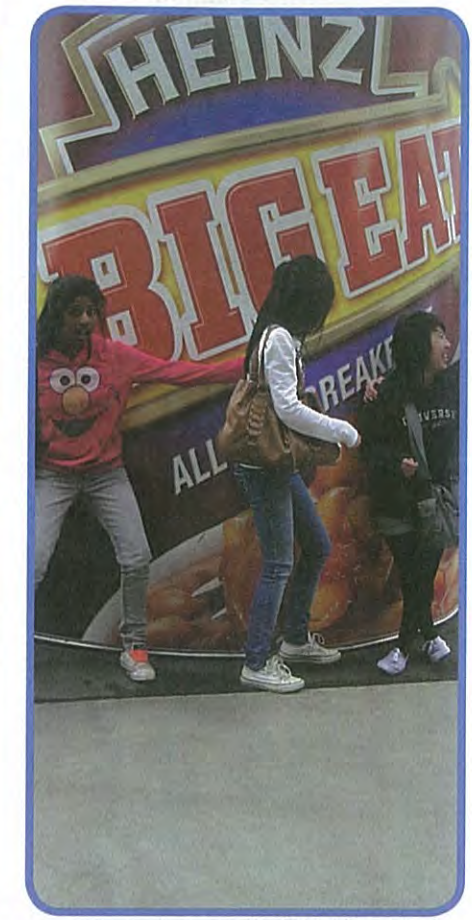
Working in groups outside our friendship circles, we were able to organise interviews, tours and visits to many respective places around Melbourne. This was an indication that organisation was a vital skill required to complete this project. Patience was also required when many of us listened to the lovely sound of music when placed on-hold frequently during our many calls in the organising stages of our excursion.

When our teachers were satisfied with our itineraries, we were able to begin planning how we were going to navigate our way around the city independently. It turned out to be quite humorous when we got lost and unaware of our bearings on the map.

We returned at the end of the day wet from the rain and exhausted but also with a deeper understanding of how we were going to improve the city of Melbourne in our area of study.

Everyone should be commended on achieving a successful outcome and spending many hectic weeks collating their data.

Izzy Kiss 9E





FRANCES-VICTORIA ANAGNOSTOPOULOS



RAIHAN BOLANG



MARIANNA BOUSATTOUT



MUANNA CHHEN



ROSEMARY COLE



AMY COLLINS



TEGAN COMBRIDGE



CATHERINE CORKILL



EBONY BAILEY



OLIVIA COLLETT



DIANNA DAOU



GEORGINA DERHAM



TAMARA DRAPER



MELISSA FREDMAN



OLIVIA GREENWOOD



CARRINGTON IONN



JESSICA MANOFF



GEORGIA FEBEN



ANGIE GUY



GEORGIA HURST



HAYLEY JONES



CHARLOTTE KENNY



ISABELLE KISS



DANIKA LORD



BRONTE MILLS



SARAH PARKINSON



MELANIE PEVERILL



MICHELLE SIANI



CHRISTINE SOMPHANPANYA



ANASTASIA TSIRO



OLIVIA WARNER



FRANCESCA ZIDICH



NINA MOORREES



KARTHIKA NARENDRA



MEGAN O'DONOGHUE



NATALIE SHAW



ROBYN VAN DEN BERG



AINSLIE WARNER



TESS WILSON



ISABELLE ZAKHAROV



SARAH JAMES



JADE KARAKURT



LUCY KENNY



LISA KOSHENKO



SHANNYN LAVAL



ELLA MARTINI



ELLYN MCDONNELL



MIA ALEARDI



LISA AMOROSO



PHILIPPA ATKINS



STEPHANIE BORNYAN



MADDISON BUTLER



OLIVIA CURTIS



ASHLEE CUST



ROSE DUDDY



ALEXIE FARMER



FARIA AHMED



JESSICA ALLAN



MELISSA BINDING



VICTORIA COLLETT



ASHLEIGH CONNELL



KAYLA EMSLIE



ANNIE-ROSE FIELD



GRACE GURRIERI



MAULI GOVINNA



CARLY GREINER



LILY JENKINS



GRETEL KELLY



ASHLEA KETIS



DAISY KINSEY



SIBYLLA KULKUS



GRACE MAHMOUD



IMOGEN MCLEAN



ELIZA MCTAGGART



POLLY O'DONOVAN



ENA PLEICIC



SARAH RZEK



TAYLOR SMYTH



VANESSA STEPHEN



ALANA WALSH



NAOMI PORTER



MEG RILEY



DARCEY ROGERS



TARA SIEMERLING



STEPHANIE TIMS



ZENIYA VREUGDENHIL



ABBY WHITFIELD



ALANA WOODWARD



ZOE HART



CHLOE HIGGINS



TAYLOR JACKSON



AMANDA JAYATILAKE



TEGAN KELLY

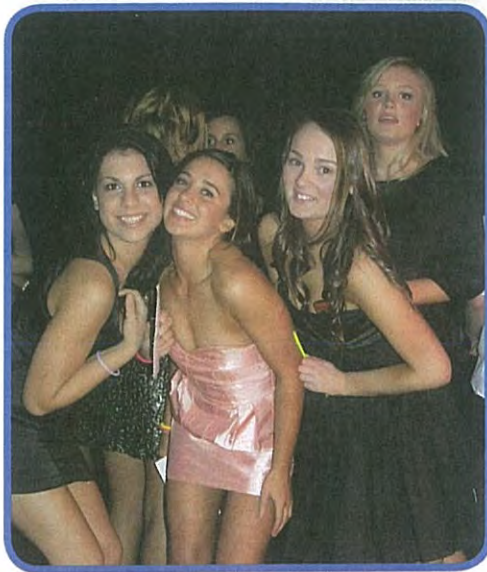


LEAH NEILSON

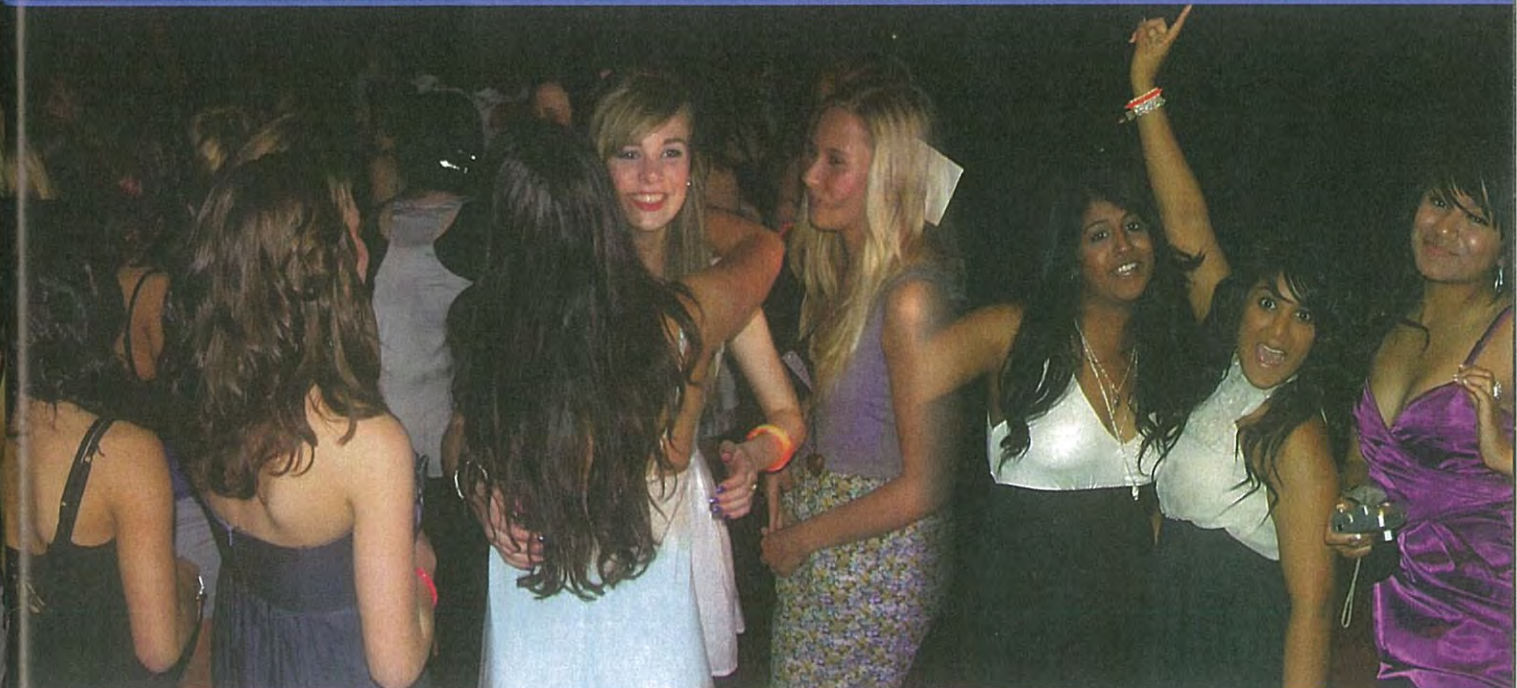


ELISE NEWMAN

year 10 social



year 10 social



The Year 10 Social was held in the Nina Carr Hall and our theme this year was 'Las Vegas'. There was a lot of dancing, music and fun.

Professional photos were taken and there was a DJ too. Everyone looked great; it was really good to see everyone dressed up. The night was about having a great time and socialising with others from our year level. There were also many awards given out, like best dressed, best shoes and king and queen. The food was good too; there was pizza, lots of finger food, and slushies available throughout the night.

The Year 10 Social was better than expected and I am sure everyone had a fantastic time.

Jade Lew 10E

The Year 10 Social was an unforgettable night themed 'Las Vegas'. Eagerly anticipated by many of the year level, the night certainly lived up to its expectations. The Las Vegas decorations looked fantastic, the lights were bright and the hall never looked better! The music played all night long and the dancing continued right up till the very last moment. Even some of the teachers took to the dance floor!

The night was a great excuse for everyone to purchase new outfits, get dressed up and to have some fun outside the classroom. All

the girls looked stunning and very grown up dressed in beautiful and original dresses of all different colours and styles. The girls' partners were also well dressed, many in smart casual trousers and shirts.



A big thank you to Mrs Liakos, Mr McMaster and the SRC for organising such a fantastic event! It certainly set a high standard for the Year 10s of 2010 to live up to!

Kerri-Anne Hempshall 10C

After weeks of preparation, the girls made their last minute arrangements and appointments for the annual gala event, the Year 10 social! On arrival, the girls and their dates found the Nina Carr Hall transformed by the SRC Committee to portray the 'Las Vegas' theme. Everyone had really stepped up to the plate and come dressed in carefully chosen and co-ordinated dresses, shoes and beautifully artistic hair styles. The DJ had music pumping out across the room, enticing dancers and

party-goers to join the beat.

Snacks and non-alcoholic drinks kept the more 'hardcore' dancers going and everyone was invited to have professional photos taken to remember the night. To finish the night, certificates were awarded for the best dressed, best dancers, and best couple.

Overall it was an event not to be missed.

Polly Quinn 10E



ALISON AMSTERDAM



GILLIAN BANKS



LARA BARTABY



CHLOE BENEDICKTER



CHELSEA BROWNLIE



BRIDGET DAY



ROMY EVANS



MILENA FAJDIGA



LUCINDA BASHFIELD



NICOLE CLEMENS



SARAH COOPER



RHIANNA CORRA



ALEXANDRA CROCKER



PHEBE DZELILOVIC



DEBBIE EA



RAEWYN-LOUISE ETI



MEGAN FOLEY



TESS JENE



RADOST KRASTEVA



KIARA LUFF



TAYLAN MERRICK-SIM



ANDREA NELSON



KERRI HEMPSHALL



LAURA NAUGHTIN



KATE O'CONNOR



CARISSA OLSEN



TAMARA PARTRIDGE



AMELIA PETERSON



DALE PEUCKER



ANNA OSTAPENKO



REBECCA PITTS



SHANTI RAKA



GEORGIA RAMMAN



ELLA SHELDON



ALEXANDRA SMITH



RAJITHA SURESH



ELIANA POLIAS



KATHLEEN ROWBOTTOM



AMBER STROH



EMMA THOMPSON



ERRISMILA UTHAYAKUMAR



SARAH VAILEBA



ROSIE WATSON



AMELIA ADDERLEY



SAMANTHA BANKS



KIMBERLEY BARKER



GEORGINA BROWNE



SIMONA DUBROVSKVA



LUCY DUNSHEA



ALANA DURHAM



AMY (YUQI) FENG



SARAH ADAMS



ELENI ANGELETOS



ALYSHA BOYLE



ELIZABETH CHARTERS



DANIELLA DE KOSTER-HILL



TAYLA DOWSON



KARA GELLIE



GABRIELLE HEWET-LEFORESTIER



EVELYN LU



STEPHANIE MCCORMICK



MELANIE MEDCALF



JASMINE MEIERS



ZAHRAA MIAN



ALICE MUIR



LILY MURTON



BONNIE-MARIE HIBBS



ELLENA HIGGINS



NICOLE HOLLOWOOD



PAIGE MATTHEES



ELLA RAGAUSKAS



SOPHIA RAVENSCROFT



JAIMI RAYSIDE



MICHELLE NEBERT



CORRIN PAL



RANDY PALIAKKARA



BRIDGET POUND-GOW



CHRISTIE PRETORIUS



NADIA PUZZOLO



INDIA STRAUCH



TAHLI WALSH



ANNI RUUSKANEN



TAYLA SCOTT



SARAH SHELTON



MARIA SPATHIS



ZOE TREZISE



JASMINE TUNBRIDGE



SINTHU UTHAYAKUMAR

year 10 writing

Descriptive writing piece

Sitting, hanging, longing for someone, anyone to step onto its tiles and work some culinary magic.

The kitchen, constructed of liquid silver gleams like the glossy butter inside the fridge. Proudly it holds its knives and spoons, itching to push through the unopened packages of food which line up on the shelves of its pantry.

Shining new pots and pans hanging from the roof glint as they swing beneath the florescent light. Capsicums, onions and tomatoes tumble from baskets as the kitchen grows restless, impatient to begin. As the time on the clock nailed to the wall, ticks by, the vibrations of distress grow stronger.

Anger burns in the oven, switched on by the room's unhappiness. Testing its new found ability, the kitchen eases a large pan from its warming hook as it clatters noisily to the cool cream floor. Hand crafted ceramics bowls, plates and curly glasses dishes shatter like windows in a burning house while plastic cutlery and children's cups melt and warp in the furious heat emitted from the oven.

A metallic toaster flickered and jumped happily, landing in a puddle of sloshing aqua spurting from the melting dishwasher. Brilliant blue zig zags of platinum erupted from the appliance darting around the room and sending a fizzing impulse through a collection of forks.

Aprons hanging off glowing metal hooks and heavy wooden chopping boards, unused and unscathed from previous slicing adventures catch alight, throwing orange licks of flame and black shadows of dusty, bitter smoke onto the freshly painted plaster walls.

Polly Quinn 10E



Until The End Of Time

Pretty little girls with billowing bows on their perfectly polished heads curtsy to the dashing young boys asking for their hands to dance.

They look like the perfect pictures printed in a fairytale storybook; smiling; gleaming; dream-like, everything you would imagine in such an elaborate celebration. As they spin and twirl, the delicate ribbon cinched around their itty bitsy waists, wraps around their petite bodies. This was heaven on earth; a white, whimsical world of ever-lasting love.

With every turned head, there were people smiling, joyous, having the time of their life; clinking champagne glasses together as sparkling bubbles frothed and overflowed from the glass rims. People eat politely, laughing with each other, colourful confetti still trapped within the wisps of their hair.

Magical music; mesmerizing; bewitching; hypnotic; spine tingling, with sweet melodies captivated quests, all dressed in the fanciest frocks they could find. "Never knew I could feel like this; like I've never seen the sky before; I want to vanish inside your kiss; Every day I love you more and more; Listen to my heart, can you hear it sings; Telling me to give you everything; Seasons may change, winter to spring; but I love you till the end of time." Lyrics, strong; meaningful; powerful; passionate; could bring a tear to even the most unbelieving of people.

Over-excited friends and family snap uncontrollably, continuously, on their highly expensive, state-of-art digital cameras, ensuring that they record every single moment, each special and significant in it's own striking way. Lights flash simultaneously, obscuring and blinding the view for others. The stars of the show say "Cheese", their cheek muscles sore and cramping, exposing their pearly whites; flawless.

Nagging wives fuss over their careless husbands, straightening their ill-fitting bow ties or sponging their dipping sauce, with a name that no one could pronounce, off their crisp, white shirts. Guzzling, greedy men; red-faced, round and rotund; stuff their sweaty faces, dabbing their shiny foreheads with their paper napkins, already creased and stained with scraps of gourmet food.

Some woman, single, sit alone; probably wondering when they would find the dream man who would come and sweep them off their feet; like a noble knight in shining armour rescuing a damsel in distress.

The longing is written on their face; yearning

for someone or something to bring them back to life. They are the ones, unlucky in love, who stare at already-married couples with a sweet, but sardonic smile; somewhat solemn; admiring the natural way in which couples share from each other's forks and still look into each other's eyes with the same amount of love, compassion and devotion as they did when they first met.

Twinkling fairy lights droop from the ceiling like icicles on a roof in sub-zero temperatures, as the newlyweds take to the petal-covered floor for the very first time as husband and wife. The beautiful bride looks radiant, glowing like the exquisitely crafted crystals that encrust the bodice of her one-of-a-kind wedding gown, her eyes, glowing, sapphire blue light up as she locks eyes with the handsome man she now calls her husband. He tenderly pushes a stray strand of her blonde flowing hair behind her ear, revealing dazzling diamond studs. Lashings of mascara encase her eyelashes; her feet swiftly glide in time with the music.

All eyes are directed toward the young bride and groom, gracefully moving like ballet dancers; spellbinding; charming; the hem of her delicate dress gently kissing the ground...

Demi Martello 10E

The Seaside

Families pack to the beach like a swarm of seagulls fighting for the last chip. The dirty, dusty track seems to go forever like the distance run in a grueling cross country race.

Trees and bushes smother flustered faces, whistling kindly, shading them from the harsh, blaring sun. Restless children struggle to walk along the winding narrow path, dragging their boogie boards, behind them.

The sand, golden and hot, glues to the back of their calves, their rubber thongs flicking sand with each step they take. Stiff prickly plants that poke out from the sides pierce and prod their skin; smothered with sunscreen and kissed by the scorching sun. Parents, huffing and puffing, trudge in front of their sons and daughters, bearing the weight of their bursting beach bags, buckets and spades sprouting from the sides. The rumbling and rolling of the waves echoes throughout their ears, like a powerful washing machine that tumbled and turned. The salty smell of the sea overwhelms the families as they finally make it to the top. A fresh breath of wind blows straight past the red, sun burnt faces.

year 10 writing

Millions upon millions of fine little grains of sand scatter along the beach as far as you can see. The crystal clear, aquamarine ocean has ribbons of whites floating through the water. Schools of bolting bream, begging for bait, wriggle like worms, weaving in and out of long legs. Cool, calm and collected crabs crawl along the bottom of the ocean, nipping thighs that get in their way. Jellyfish jiggle about as they glide with the breaking waves. The sharp seashells wait along the waterfront edge to be drifted back out to sea, to be among the sea orchids.

Vibrant colourful towels are lined up in rows, kaleidoscopic umbrellas and tents with the fair and freckly underneath, trying to protect themselves from the sun's strong rays. Rows and rows of girls compare their tans as they reapply their tanning oil; they are like a side of beef roasting on the spit. Little hands are at work along the water's edge building castles, elaborate fortifications and humungous holes. Kids of all ages screech and scream as they brave the icy waters of Port Phillip Bay. The yellow and red flags stand tall marking out the safe area for the cautious swimmers. The skilled surfers and body boarders are the only ones brave enough to ride the dumping waves. Children whine and weep from bites and stings received from creepy crawly crabs and feet scratched and sore from scaling the rugged rocks.

Seagulls scout for food while families picnic on vegemite sandwiches that are now soggy and heavy with sand. The gritty sand has worked its way into the children's bathers and between their sunburnt toes. The ocean reflects the bright blue cloudless sky. Salty sea water stings the eyes of the swimmers and the saline solution leaves a bitter taste in the mouths of those unfortunate enough to have swallowed some of the brine.

As the day mellows the ruby red sunset turns the swimmers and walkers into black silhouettes. People toss their towels, rummage through the hot sand to find missing thongs and sunnies and stamp on the sand castles, lovingly constructed hours before. Others shower the sand off their tired, sore and stinging bodies while the surfers peel off their wetsuits and shift their surfboards onto their Kombi vans. Families pile into their cramped cars as smouldering seatbelts burn fragile skin. Little kids, exhausted from their big day of adventure, press their chubby faces, red from the sun, against the car window and smear it with the pink zinc on their cheeks and lips. Their grubby hands, sticky with the residue of ice cream, icy poles and sticky drinks wave goodbye to the descending flocks of seagulls, their new best friends.

Grace Murton 10E

Changing Seasons

The changing of seasons creeps through eyes Without any whisper of longing goodbyes

A stray brown leaf caught in the wind Threatens to fall below with the sinned

With no sign of change a snowflake does fall As white and as round as a small cotton ball

A few more do follow and fall to the ground With no sign of passing my eyes left astound

Flowers arise where puddles once formed And grass will now grow for the season has warmed

The ice lakes are melting as the temperatures rise. The large weeping willow goes unnoticed like lies

Some flowers are dying yet others are blooming

The sun is still shining but the dark clouds are looming

Georgia Browne 10B



Seoul Searching

A busy bustling city, splashed with colour and full of culture, Seoul is a terrific place to experience what Asia has to offer. The South Korean capital which has a population of 10 million people combines vastly modern technology and architecture with a rich depth of culture and tradition like no other.

The streets of Seoul, characterised by the bright coloured lanterns overhead and pink cherry blossoms in the spring is a treasure trove of trinkets which can be found around every corner. Tiny, traditional Korean restaurants serve authentic local delicacies, each with their own unique and interesting flavour. Market streets can be found all over the city and all have a range of different stalls selling fake designer bags, watches, clothes, souvenirs and traditional foods. Bargains are not hard to come across and it is possible to spend a whole day shopping without spending too many won. The streets of Seoul are extremely busy and the traffic slow-moving so the complex but efficient subway train network is a vital method of transport.

Another good reason to visit Seoul is the relatively low numbers of Western tourists which makes Seoul, in many ways, an undiscovered treasure. The people of Seoul are remarkably hospitable and welcoming, eager to share the best of their city with visitors.

I visited Seoul in April this year as part of the Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize study tour. I was one of the ten Year 10 students from across Victoria who was selected to go after we submitted entries to the competition. Accompanied by eight adults, we travelled to South Korea where we visited the Korean War Memorial, the border between North and South Korea and an ancient palace which was beautifully breathtaking. We then travelled to Turkey where we went to the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sofia in Istanbul, the Roman city of Ephesus and of course Gallipoli which was very moving and sad.

By the end of the sixteen day trip we had learned much, made many new friends and had numerous memorable experiences. This was a truly amazing trip and I feel privileged to have experienced all that it offered.

Hana Dalton 10F



ISABELLE ASHLEY-DOMBI



MADDIE BODE



GRACE CHARLES



SARAH DOHERTY



SARAH DUGGAN



KIRUBA KARTHIKEYAN



KOKO KERDEL



MILLY LEIGHTON-JANS



REEM ALY



KATE BELLOTT



BROOKE BLAKELEY



MELISSA CAFARELLA



EMILY CASHION



JADE COWIE



TEAGAN DIXON



MEGAN DURHAM



JADE LEW



TAYLA LEWIS



DEMI MARTELLO



ALICE MENKHORST



SIMONE MOLLER



GRACE MURTON



MELISSA OLDHAM



JEANTI EGER



SIANAYE EVANS



ELIANE HARRIS



GEORGIA HARRIS



CHERIE HAYSOM



ALANNA HOWARD



JESSICA HOWE



JIVIEN ONG



POLLY QUINN



EMMA ROUND



KARISHMA SIMADRI



JEMMA SIMMONS



SNEHA SRIDHAR



ALIX WHITELAW



FIONA IVEY



EMMA SAMY



NARELLE SAUNDER



ELIZA VAWDREY



CHARLEY WEBBER



ALEMTSEHAY WILLIAMS



SIGOURNEY WILLIAMSON



RUBY YEE



AMIRA ABDULHA



SUE YIN CHONG



AINSLEIGH COX



MILLICENT CYSTER



HANA DALTON



CAITLIN EWING



CHRISTIE FRANCISCO



SONIA GARRETT



MIKAELA BAKER-SMITH



TARA CALLAHAN



MADALINE CANTY



BRIANNA EARLE



MEG GEORGESON



STEPHANIE GESCHKE



KYRA GUY



ANNIKA HIGGON



ELLEN GRANT



PRASHANTHI JITENDRAN



SOPHIE KEYE



DANIELLE MACPHERSON



CHARLOTTE NICHOLLS



AMANDA PROSSER



SARAH-ROSE ROBSON



BRITTANY HOOD



GABRIELLE KENDALL



TAM SIN MACKENZIE



STEPHANIE MEEDE



GRACE MONKS



LAUREN MYER



SHANNON O'HEHIR



CASSANDRA ROLLS



NADIYA SALIM



MADELEINE SMITH



CHLOE STALEY



SUELYN VAN DEN HELM



TAHLAH WATSON-TATE



SOPHIA ZHOU-AMBATSIDIS



CARLEY PURCELL



KALPANA SIVAKUMAR



VERONICA STROVER



HANNAH STUART



BRIDGET TRIBE



MARIJA VOJISAVLJEVIC



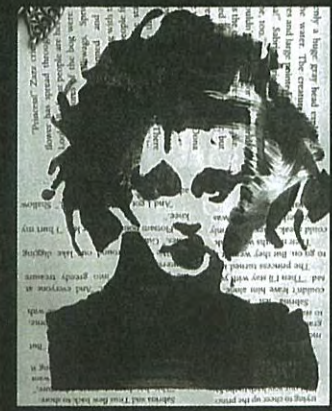
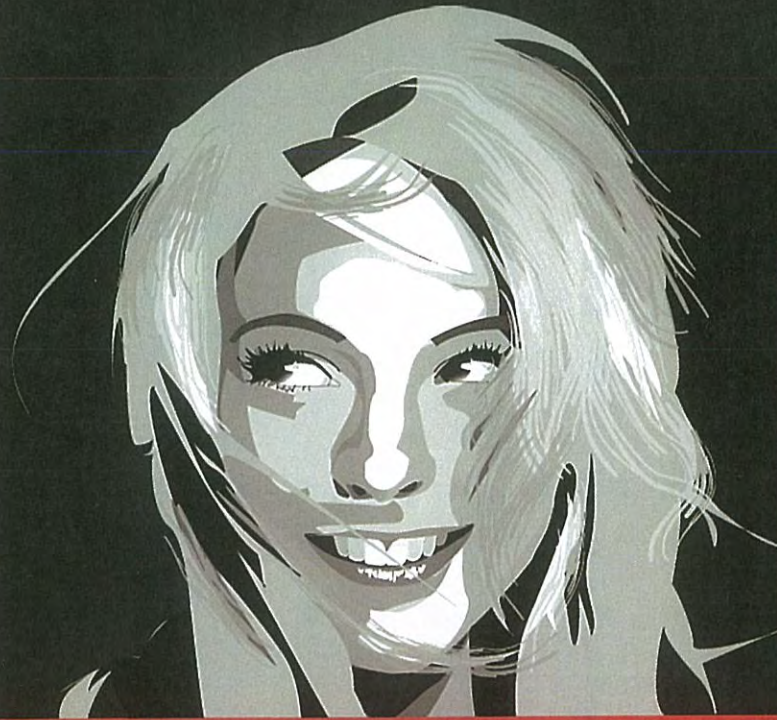
LAUREN WALSH



OLIVIA WOODFALL

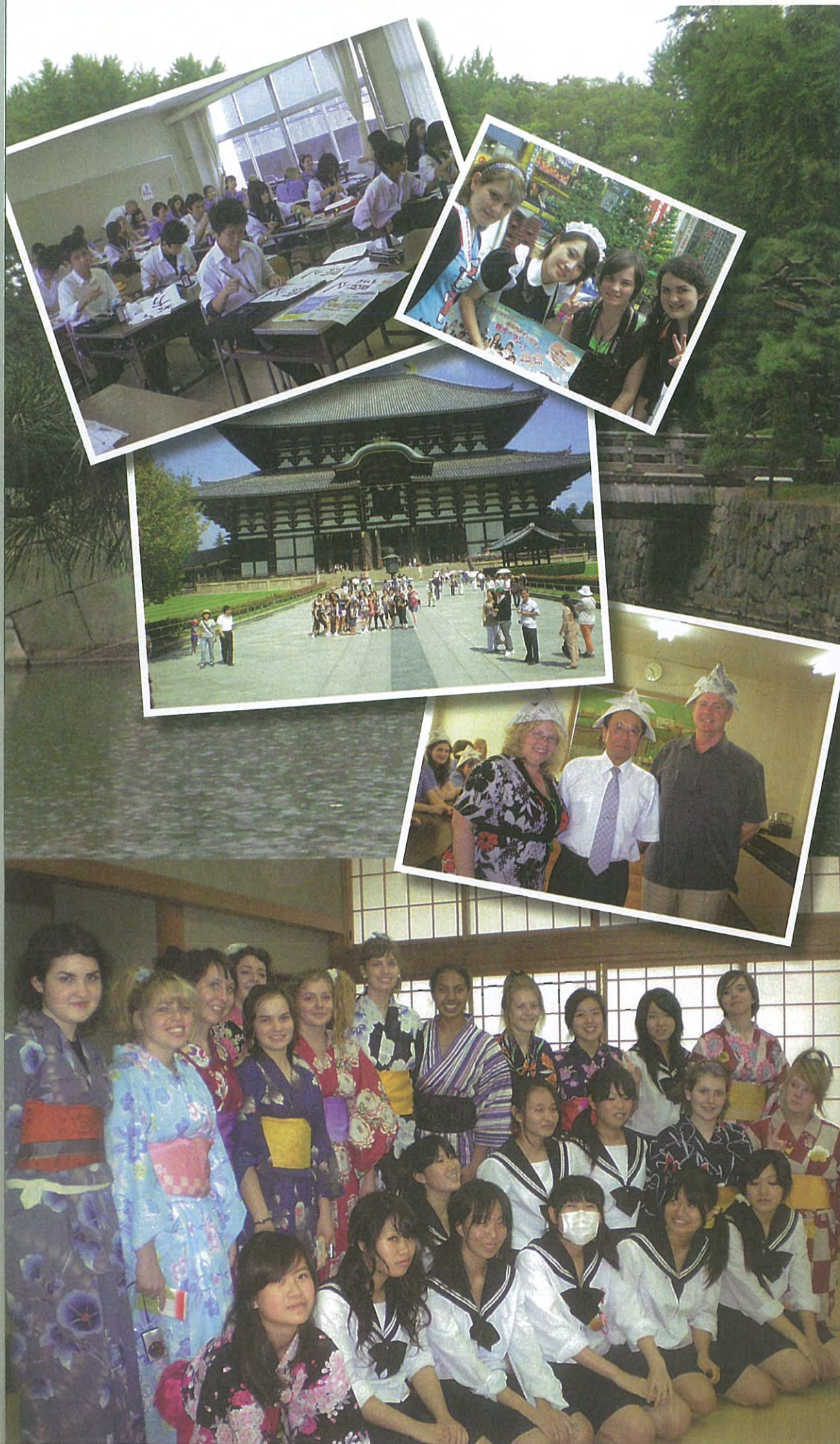


middle school art



ETCHING SPAINING G POP ART STENCIL AUSTRALIAN IDENTITY MOOD BOARD





japan



The MGSC Japan trip 2009 started off in Kyoto. As a group, all the 17 of us visited picturesque Japanese castles and shrines.

One temple we visited was Kinkakuji temple, or the Golden Pavilion. It was a beautiful, golden temple situated in the middle of a carp-filled lake. The gardens surrounding these temples were lush like a rainforest.

Kiyomizu Dera temple was a huge wooden structure that juts over the hillside, overlooking Kyoto city. It was surrounded by sacred waterfalls that the Japanese believe have healing properties. Nara Park is home to over 1200 deer, and none of them are shy. Whilst visiting temples within Nara Park, we experienced their forceful nature. We saw Todaiji temple, which contains a 50-metre tall bronze Buddha, one of the largest bronze statues in the world. Whilst we were in Kyoto, we got to see how wet Japan can be, and it rained relentlessly for six straight hours.

Our home stay experiences were all very different. This was our opportunity to really experience Japanese culture with a pinch of independence. There were many highlights of the six night home stay in Nagoya. We all enjoyed observing their school life, and what they do in class. This includes sleeping in class, applying make-up and false eyelashes, combing hair and not paying attention without any consequences.

Shinkansen (bullet train) to Hiroshima. We spent a wonderful day at Miyajima Island, which is chock-a-block with mountains and traditional shrines and temples. There was a beautiful beach with clear water, many a deer and the occasional flying fish.

Our last day in Hiroshima was spent at the Hiroshima peace memorial and museum. It is difficult to put into words the atmosphere at the Peace Park and museum. We all valued our time there, as it is a very special place. We saw Sadako's memorial with thousands of paper cranes folded and sent from around the world to be displayed at the memorial.

Our last stop was Tokyo. We did so many fun activities in Tokyo. We hit the main shopping spots such as Akihabara, known for its advanced technologies far beyond anything in Australia, Shibuya, known for being the busiest crossroads in the world, and Harajuku, known for its crazy street fashion. We spent 13 hours at Disneyland one day, and it was not difficult at all to return to the mindset of a ten-year-old for a day. We all emerged from our shells to participate in some light-hearted karaoke at some point in the trip and let our hair down.

Overall we had a fantastic trip, filled with laughter and many unforgettable moments. The group would like to thank Mrs Witt and Mr T for giving us this wonderful opportunity, and for their efforts organising the trip. We encourage any future students considering this trip to take this opportunity as it is a great experience.

Arigatoo Gozaimasu

Saskia Penn and Sarah Miller



Our highlights at Nakamura were origami, calligraphy and the traditional Japanese tea ceremony we participated in. Our hosts dressed us in beautiful yukata, a summer kimono. After an eventful weekend with our host families, we bid a sad farewell and hopped on the





vietnam challenge



At the end of November 2008, twenty-four anxious, but overwhelmingly excited girls from years 10 and 11 arrived on the VCE centre steps ready to embark on a one month World Challenge adventure to Vietnam. Our challenging journey took us to some beautiful places and introduced us all to a very different culture.

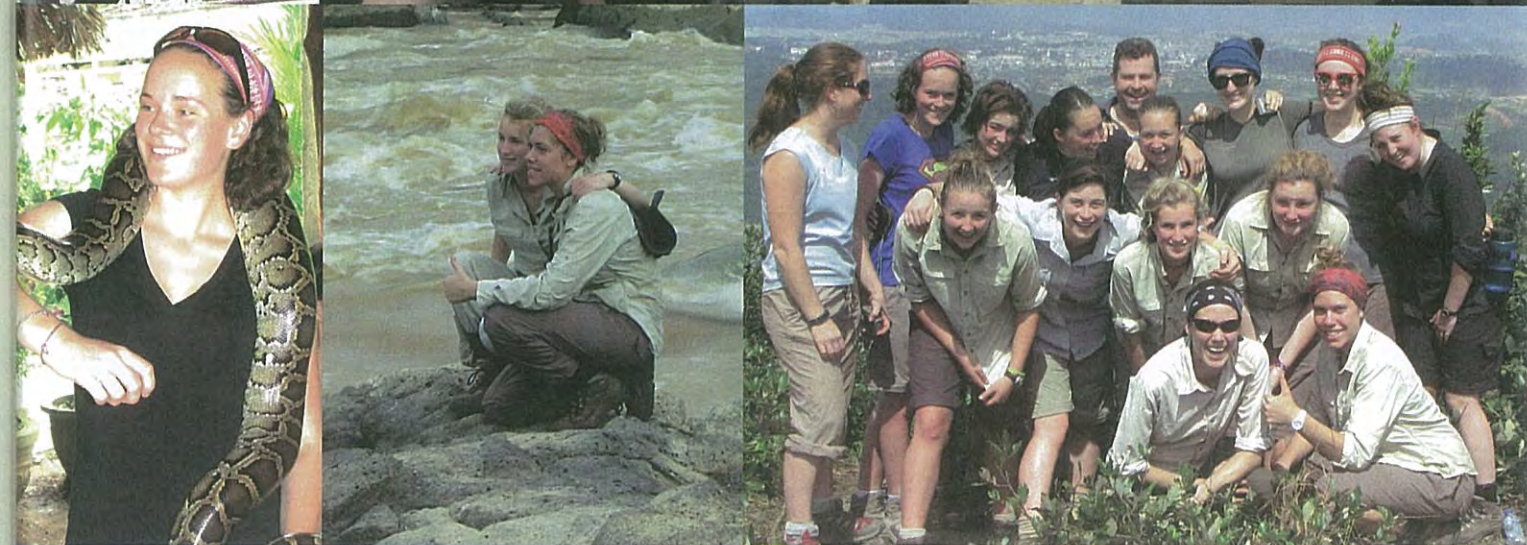
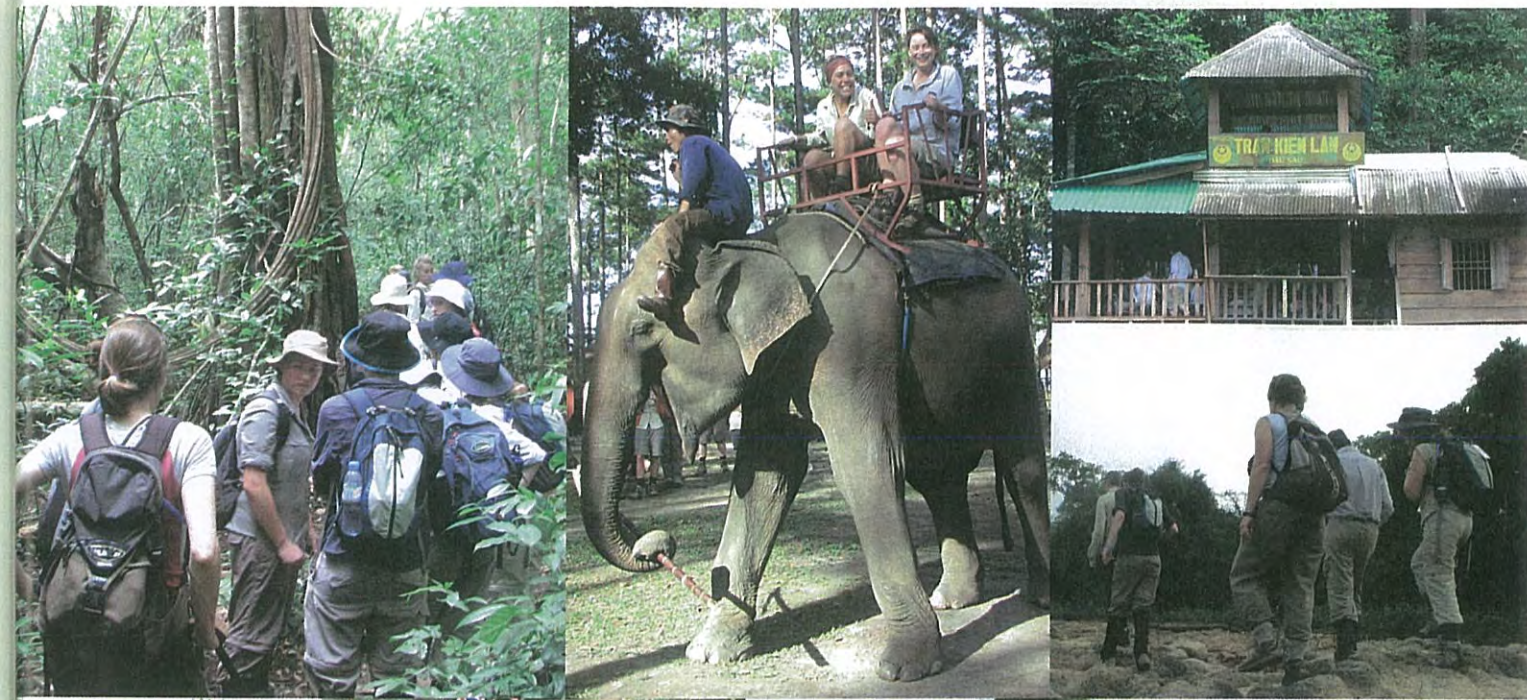
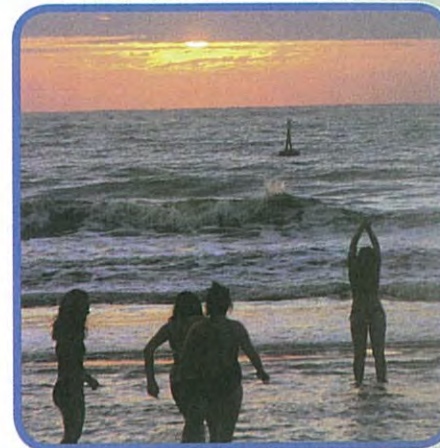
On arrival in Vietnam we were all very disorientated by the fast-past and unpredictable Ho Chi Minh City. Our journey started here, in a City which opened our eyes to the challenge that awaited us on our expedition. From Ho Chi Minh city our two groups separated, each member of the team had a crucial position amongst the team. These roles included being team leader, accountant or, most hated job of all, being time keeper (this entailed waking everyone up in the early hours of the morning so we would get to our destinations on time.)

We completed our acclimatisation phase in Hoi An, a city which offered the most amazing shopping! All of us went crazy getting clothes and shoes made to fit, some more than others – would you consider buying 15 pairs of shoes a shopping spree or a massive splurge? At the end of our time in Hoi An we were all feeling confident with our positions and congenial with our

team members; we were ready to tackle the Project phase. We spent the next four days in central Nha Trang at a orphanage where we spent most of our time repairing the overgrown gardens and configuring a new central garden. The highlight of the Project Phase would have to be the last day we spent in the Orphanage, we brought the children fruit and lollies and spent the afternoon playing soccer with them; we all had a great time, two children in particular had more fun than the others. The day before we left the orphanage knowing that our time there was through, we all stood back to take a last glimpse at our efforts; it was lovely to see that our hard work would make a lasting impact – I speak for everyone when I say that it is a great wish of ours to go back one day and see how tall our trees have grown.

Our last days were spent back in Ho Chi Minh city and our final day in Vietnam was spent doing last minute shopping and trying to squeeze everything we've bought into our bags and making sure that they don't exceed the weight limit. Many of us had to chuck all our toiletries and some of our old clothes out so that it would all fit. The next day we staggered onto the plane, looking forward to being back home with our families for Christmas, but with a definite sadness at leaving a country that had given us such fond memories, good and bad (e.g., Bach Mah). We were heading back to reality, to normality and away from the hustle-and-bustle of busy cities and crowded trains, where we wouldn't wake up with 10 friends not knowing what adventures the day would bring. We had the most incredible time in Vietnam, have many remarkable stories to tell and forged friendships that will last a lifetime.

Georgia Sheil 12G



oh what a year!



The Great Transport Race

The Great Transport Race started one day at Mentone Station with Mrs Witt, Milly, Alanna, Grace and I on one team, Mrs Liakos, Karishma, Simone, Sarah and Georgia on the other.

Two teams from Mentone Girls' Secondary College were selected to take part in The Great Transport Race; a race around South Melbourne using only a Metcard and a Melways. There were 20 pit stops in total and 29 competing teams from different schools. The race was on for teams to complete the course hitting as many pit stops, and doing as many activities as possible. The more stops you hit the more points added to your total. I felt like I was on the TV show, *The Amazing Race* especially with the film crew chasing us around wherever we went, as well as constantly taking photos and interviewing our team. It was very stressful as time was a critical factor. We had to work as a team and make group decisions.

After completing the race, we were so exhausted but glad to have taken part. It was a lot of fun. Unfortunately, none of our teams won or made it through to the next round, but we definitely learnt a lot about public transport and how to get to certain places in South Melbourne. The whole day was a great experience and I was glad I was chosen to participate.

Jade Lew 10E



My Market Day Experience

On the 31st of May, Mentone Girls' Secondary College held their annual market day, where all the Business Management Unit 1 and 2 students ran small businesses to raise money for the bushfire appeal and also to get an idea of the processes involved in organising and operating a business.

The businesses were mainly food stores with nachos, sausages, cakes, lollies and fairy floss being the main products.

Our business was Krispy Kreme Original Glazed Doughnuts. The business ran smoothly on the day with all the doughnuts sold and no complications occurring. In order for the business to succeed, a lot of thought and preparation was needed. One of the main challenges the business came across was where and how to collect the products and the quantity we needed to buy. We didn't want too many or not enough. The problem was resolved and the plan for the day began taking shape. Our products were going to be bought and collected from Krispy Kreme so we didn't need to have electricity or eskies to store the product in order to keep them fresh.

On the day, at the start of the third period Rajitha and I travelled by bus to Southlands to collect 6 boxes of Krispy Kreme doughnuts. We had pre-ordered the doughnuts which were collected by a parent to help us transport the doughnuts back at school. When we arrived back to the school, we set up our stall. Our store was located right next the RLC. Our neighbouring stalls sold lollies, chips and cans which were also very popular; they brought us customers and were helpful. The doughnuts all sold out quickly and all that was left were the crumbs in the empty spaces.

Our business was very successful; we managed to make a decent profit and we were able to gain back all the money we spent. There were no major problems besides running out of small change quickly because many paid with notes.

Overall we had a great time setting up a small business and experiencing what has to be done to open one.

Unfortunately not all the stall holders were as fortunate as we were. Problems arose and had to be solved quickly and efficiently. Pancakes would not cook because the electricity was turned off and it took a while to sort out this problem. The sausage sizzle stall did a thriving trade as both students and teachers are attracted to the smell of cooking sausages.

Zahraa Mian 10B



2009 MGSC Debating Association

This year we had students represent MGSC at two Debate Association of Victoria Competitions. Three teams of year 7 students represented the school at the Junior Debating Competition held at Mentone Girls Grammar, while three teams of year 9 girls participated in the Middle School Competition held at Brighton Grammar. The Junior Debate competition included training sessions before each debate. This assisted our junior members greatly in building up their public speaking and debating skills. The Middle School Teams also competed admirably throughout their competition and won many of their debates. All competitors enjoyed representing their school, competing with friends and building up upon their public speaking, debating and presentation skills. Well done girls for a great year of debating!

Mr Howells - MGSC Debating Coach





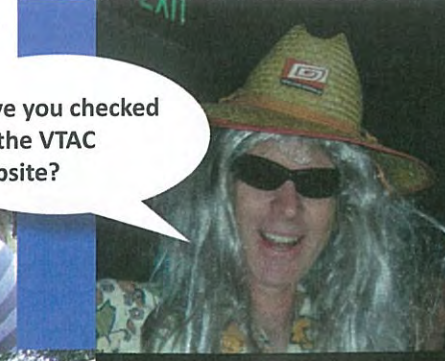
It's a dig-free vegie garden.



It's like nailing jelly to a tree.



Have you checked on the VTAC website?



This is the last time I demonstrate volume

...those who can teach..



Can anyone recommend a good book?



Has anyone seen my beanie?



Where is camera 'B'?



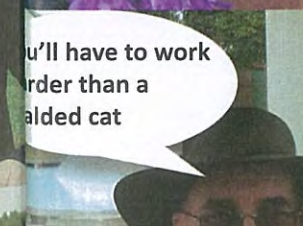
Look at me, I'm more important



Girls! Hand sanitiser!



We need to have a little chat.



You'll have to work harder than a balded cat



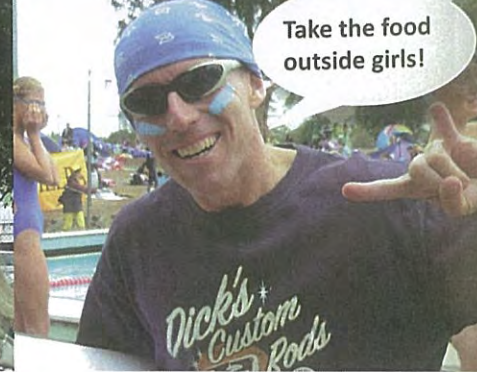
Please excuse this short announcement.



A little bit of 'SHUSH' please.



'Exacerbated' - I love the word.



Take the food outside girls!



student exchange

Being told that I was going to represent my country and my school, Letsibogo Girls' High School, in Australia, was both nerve wracking and exciting. I didn't know what to expect but I couldn't wait to get started. I considered myself to be one of the luckiest girls on the planet. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined that I would be here.

My first week at the school was probably the funniest week I've ever experienced. I honestly thought everyone was programmed to be nice towards me, to smile when they saw me and to say 'Hi'. But then I realised that it's in their nature to be nice and that's how they have been brought up. I instantly made heaps of friends with everyone and they all welcomed and made me feel at home. I now consider Australia my new home away from home.

This experience has been eye opening, filled with opportunities and somewhat challenging. I had to adjust to different families and I had to adapt to different rules. I have learned a lot about the Australian culture and travelled to places around Australia such as Phillip Island, Port Fairy, the list is endless. I've also had my first bike ride, driven a Bobcat on the farm. I went to a lot of footy games and I'm proud to say that I'm a devoted fan. The great thing about being an exchange student is being popular and having everyone know you. I've also enjoyed taking part in the madrigal, house chorals [GO MELBA!], subject competitions, VCE committee, magazine committee, swimming sports and athletics. These have enabled me to interact with a lot of wonderful people.

I'd like to thank all the families that have helped me settle in and welcoming me as part of their families. It takes a great person to welcome a stranger into your home and accepting that person as your own daughter. Thank you to all the teachers at Mentone, to Ms Lehner and to everyone I haven't mentioned for making my stay in Australia a memorable stay.

It's shocking how rapidly good things come to an end. Trust me this isn't the last time you are ever going to see me, hopefully in the not so distant future, I'll come back to Australia. By then I'll be rich and not famous. I'm planning on going to University after year 12 and studying medicine or forensic science or biochemistry.

I have loved every second of my time spent here in Australia and I will remember and cherish this year for as long as I live.

Khomotso Mashigoane 11E



environment committee



This year the Environment committee has been busy with raising money for charity, planting new, leafy, drought resistant trees and generally beautifying our school environment with greenery. The year also included the planting of our very first veggie patch, which will not only produce delicious fresh vegetables but hopefully encourage sustainable living among students. Members of the Environment committee have enthusiastically cared for many plants around the school.

During the last Working Bee which was attended by parents, during and teachers, plants were pruned, reshaped and the few plants which had been unable to survive were removed. "Dig free" boxes were built between the Middle School and the Science wing using the space which had been used for decades by students to park their bicycles. Childhood obesity aside, it appears that students no longer cycle to school and these neglected spaces have been beautified with strongly constructed "dig free" garden, inspired by Mr Greg Walls.

This year's highlight was MGSC Enviro day, which involved all the students of the college and featured a lunch time concert (feat "Brighter Night") and a cake stall. This day was organised to encourage the students to pick up their litter, as well as the signing of 500 environmental government lobbying post cards. The day also included the kicking off of the 'Melbourne 200 mobile collection' for old, unloved mobile phones. The collection of these phones recycles a precious metal that is mined viciously in the natural habitat of the gorillas. This lunchtime activity was enjoyed by all and was a great success.

Congratulations and thanks to the Environment for an outstanding years work. Remember, life is a garden, DIG IT!

Lou Nelson 12E - Environment Committee Captain





soccer & footy

Intermediate State Soccer Finalists 2009

It was with bleary eyes and plenty of yawning that the Intermediate Soccer team boarded the bus at 8am for the State Soccer Finals in Darebin. We had won every game up to this point and had only conceded one goal in all the games so far. But we knew we were facing the 'best of the best' and would be in for a much stiffer challenge.

Our first game was against Echuca SC, which we won 1-0 – great performances by Kate O'Connor in defence (solid as a rock) and 'all the Hannahs' saw us put 3 points in the bag and move to the top of the group. Our second game was against Cobram SC, which we won convincingly 4-0. A stunning headed goal by Kate O'Connor and a terrific performance by the defence (special mention to Sarah D for her great clearances) saw us on 6 points and a guaranteed spot in the final. Our third group game was against Keilor Downs SC, which we won 2-0 and was a great all round performance – slick passing and strong defending. The Final was contested against Kew HS – a tight 1st half, with both teams showing tiredness and nerves was goalless. Into the 2nd half a fresher performance by the girls, and 'the Hannahs' showing their class and determination saw us score with 5 minutes to play.

Another State Championship for Mentone Girls' SC, and only 1 goal conceded in the whole Intermediate competition! Well done girls!



MGSC 3 - 16 34 defeated Sunbury 4 - 6 30.
Goal kickers- Sophie Paul, Hannah Whittaker, Nicola Deacon

Junior Football State Title Triumph

Brave, gutsy, determined, fearless...all words to describe the famous victory that our Junior Girls football team achieved in winning the State against Sunbury.

Struggling with the wind and a resolute Sunbury defence, goals were very hard to come by on the vast expanses of Victoria Park. Despite doing more attacking for the first three quarters, our failure to convert left Sunbury with a sniff of victory at three quarter time. With two early goals, Sunbury hit the front in the final quarter and maintained this lead into the dying minutes. Mentone willed their exhausted bodies up the wing to drive the ball forward in our last roll of the dice and Nicola Deacon was able to get boot to ball to snap the winning goal. Our courageous captain Hannah Whittaker, who came into the game under a significant injury cloud, was awarded the Football Victoria medallion for best on ground. Courtney Bateman with her outstanding ruckwork and determination in winning the hard ball, and Candy Ferreya Bas with her run and drive from Centre Half back would have been equally deserving winners.

outdoor ed

Outdoor Ed is one of those subjects that provides students with lots of hands-on experiences!

With that in mind, the 17 VCE Unit 3 and 4 Outdoor Ed students, have had wonderful opportunities to kayak on the Yarra, bushbash through the Otways, hike and surf among other things.

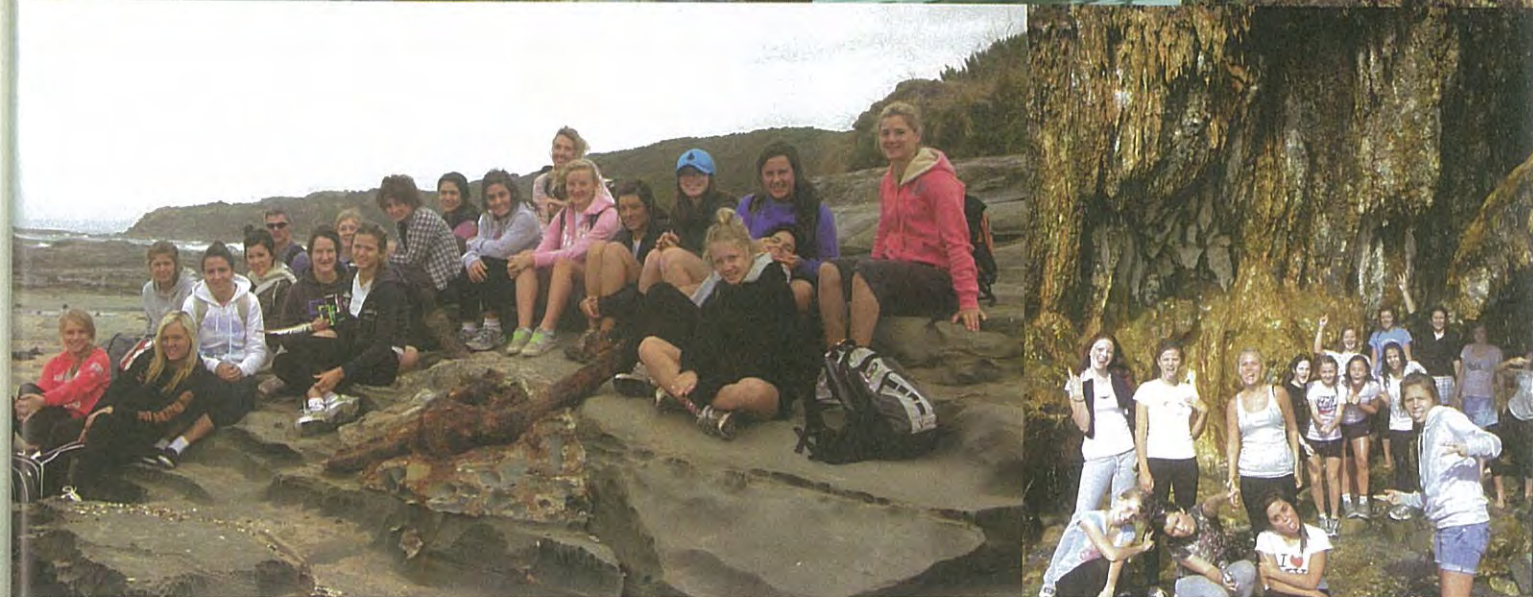
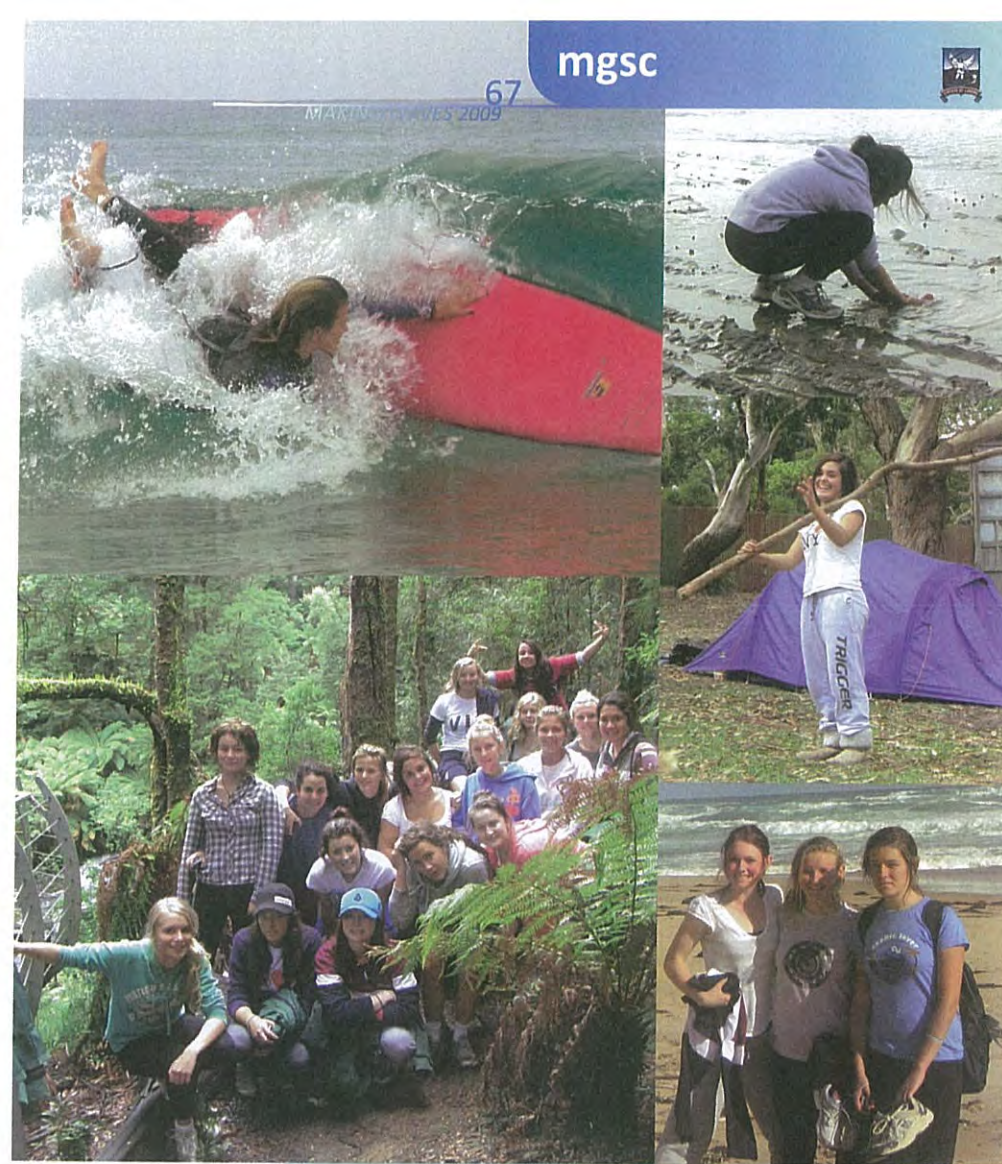
One of the highlights of the year was the three day camp at the Otway Ranges. This camp gave us all an opportunity to eat bush tucker, make our own damper and camp among grunting koalas and other miscellaneous wild life noises.

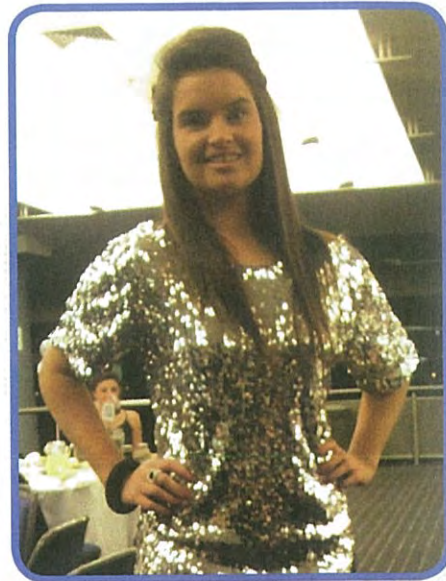
During the three days we surfed, walked along the wind-swept beaches and hiked up the Rainbow and Triplet Falls.

These activities were challenging and tested our endurance and strength. They also taught us to be co-operative and appreciate the support which our peers offered in times of stress.

The Outdoor Education group which comprises both Year 11 and Year 12 students has enabled us all to make friends with students from both year levels and relate to our teacher in an environment which at times can be challenging.

Claire Kelly 11D and Kelly McKenzie 11E





vce formal

Happening to be one of the least formal people ever, it came as quite a surprise to me at how excited I got before this years VCE Ball.

It shames me to say this but, yep, I succumbed, surrendered my soul to filthy, fully-fledged, formal-fever.

It's a disease. Mention the words 'dress', 'clutch', 'limo' or 'after party' in the preceding week, and, oh I got all giddy.

The annual VCE ball- this year themed 'All That Glitters'- was highly anticipated as always. And understandably, it is apparently the 'night of nights', the crowning our entire high school careers. the. night.of.nights. THENIGHTOFNIGHTS. omg.

Adorning sparkles, feathers, white gloves, corsages...everyone looked resplendent as they descended upon Caulfield Racecourse-greeted by four ready-to-frisk security guards and a very temperamental lift.

The dining hall filled rapidly and soon there was, a long, impatient line for photos, crowds around bathroom mirrors and squeals of unadulterated excitement. As disgruntled waiters ran around wildly with plates of chicken, people gradually ventured onto the dancefloor.

It was there- amidst a crowd of people attempting a, by-this-stage slightly uncoordinated rendition of the Nutbush- that a thought struck me. Long buried memories of primary school disco after

primary school disco came flooding back and I realised: that this was the last one.

The last school-hired DJ, the last opportunity to see teachers' dad-dancing, the last chance to buy the unflattering photos off the internet. The end- the very end- was looming over us all as we staggered about in our uncaring state of hedonistic glory.

For, it may seem like we've come a long way from being excited at the prospect of staying out till 9pm, to listen to Steps and sip orange-flavoured cordial served by a member of the parents' committee- but *the end* is nevertheless a very scary thought.

The ruthless night air pinched at every bare, spray-tanned limb that left Caulfield Racecourse and ventured into the darkness. But no one noticed. All we wanted to do was yank off our heels and train it back to the after party.

Kim Thomson 12H



year eleven 2009



year 11 writing

In VCE Legal Studies we learn about different types of crime, the court system and what happens upon an arrest, but having the experience to talk to someone who has gone through it all is a unique opportunity.

On Tuesday the 21st of April, the year 11 and 12 Legal Studies students and their teachers took a two hour bus trip to Castlemaine to visit Loddon Prison. Loddon is a medium security prison with an education program for students to talk with prisoners about their experiences and to observe what a real prison is like.

Ideas of "Prison Break" and other Police shows were going through the minds of many of the students but when we arrived our ideas changed. The Loddon grounds include beautiful gardens and a shine area for the religious prisoners. All these areas were built for and maintained by the prisoners.



When we arrived at Loddon Prison we disembarked the bus and went to the visitor's registration area. After we checked-in, got our visitors passes, went through metal detectors and heavy doors that you have to shut in order to open another, we walked through the prison grounds to the visitor's centre. Two prison guards showed us a presentation about the prison and photos of the grounds. After the presentation concluded we met four prisoners, each of whom were in prison for very different crimes. We met a prisoner convicted of fraud, a culpable driver, a murderer and a man convicted of armed robbery. We spent some time talking to the panel of prisoners asking them general questions about their experiences of prison. We then broke off into four groups and were able to speak to each prisoner and ask them questions in circle time.

Thank you to the teachers who put their time into organising and coming on the excursion- all of the students thoroughly enjoyed the experience!

Danielle Shannon 11G

The Young Women's Leadership Academy

This year I was lucky enough to attend the UBS, Young Women's Leadership Academy at Sydney University. I arrived at Melbourne Airport on the Monday morning, desperately looking for any other petrified 16 year old girls and thankfully made my first two friends, who happened to be from Brighton and Traralgon.

We were escorted to the bus and driven to Sydney Womens' College, an all female boarding house for students at the University of Sydney.

The College has played home to some of Australia's most recognised and established women, such as Tanya Majors, an aboriginal former 'Young Australian of the year' and Quentin Bryce, former principal for the college and now Governor General of Australia.

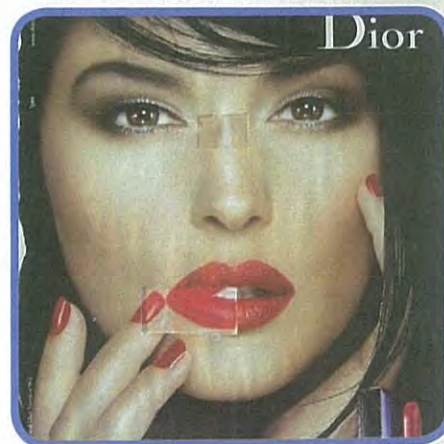
Throughout the duration of the conference we

undertook activities such as the Myer Briggs Personality Test and mock debates on government issues run by the current Australasian Debating Champion. We had seminars on media influence with Angela Bishop from Channel 10, the etiquette and effectiveness of dressing for occasions, improvising speeches, recognising our own leadership styles, identifying our personal values and mostly networking and creating contact with professionals in all different fields.

Throughout the week I learnt a lot about myself including learning to tolerate those who have opposite political or personal values. I learnt that listening is a far more effective tool in persuading others to follow you as all talk becomes tiresome and boring.

I also learnt that there are at least 49 other people on this earth who could 'out enthuse me if we ever had an 'enthusiastic' competition!

Louise Mapleston 11E



year 11 writing

Singfest 2009

The 2009 Singfest held in April was a valuable experience for those who participated. Participants were fortunate to be part of a mass choir made up of a collaboration of students from various schools.

The students were conducted by the talented and colourful Kathryn Sandler. The choir was divided into two groups. The Cantori group consisted of students who were experienced in reading music and sight singing. The second group, Decani, was made up of students with less experience.

'Synergy' was the first song that we learnt after an impressive introductory warm up. 'Synergy', composed by Kathryn Sadler, was written for VoxSynergy who competed in the 'Battle of the Choirs' last year. Both groups, Cantori and Decani combined to perform this uplifting and inspiring piece of choral genius. We also learnt a delicate and graceful piece called 'Shoshone love song', which we also combined to perform. This expressive love song communicates emotion and sentiment through its moving lyrics. Each group also learnt an individual piece that they performed. Cantori learnt 'Don't Stop', an upbeat jazz song that brings an audience to its feet whilst the Decani learnt a blues rendition of 'Mary had a little lamb'.

As a final piece, Cantori and Decani combined again to perform 'Salaam Alaikum', a farewell song that says goodbye in many different languages. All the songs learnt over the course of the two days were then performed to an audience in the Lecture Theatre.



Singfest was a thoroughly enjoyable and valuable experience for all the students who attended. Kathryn's bright personality created a fun-filled and light-hearted atmosphere for all the singers. We were extremely lucky to have the opportunity to work with such an esteemed musician and her words of advice will be remembered by all who were involved.

Cleo Georgakopoulos 11D and Helen Rushby 11F

Excerpt from an essay written on the film "Heavenly Creatures"

...The girls' raw screams rent the silence of their surroundings as they lurch wildly along a wooded path. Their flight through the parkland is filmed from behind and the director's use of a hand-held camera significantly amplifies the sense of chaos and anxiety derived from the scene by the audience.

A person viewing the film for the first time would easily conclude that the girls were being pursued; that they were in fact the victims. The desperate way the characters scramble up the sloping terrain, rending the air with their primeval screams, further develops the idea of flight and escape, a theme that prevails throughout the film.

The camera focuses on the girls' pounding legs and the audience notes the scarlet blood staining their shins bright red, a warning of danger foreshadowing disaster. Intercut throughout the scene are shots of the same girls running along the deck of a ship, the camera focussing on their legs to enhance the fluidity of the transition and to emphasise their determination.

In contrast to the harsh colours of reality, these shots are sepia toned indicating fantasy.

The mood is one of bliss but for the thin straining of violins in the background; music that is haunting in its wistfulness. The girls are beaming and as Juliet calls out 'Mummy', her voice echoes slightly, a sound reminiscent of a dream. Indeed, this is their dream: to be visited at last permanently.

'Boronia' is a fantasy realm to which Pauline and Juliet escape in times of distress or frustration. It is depicted by the director as a timeless, rowdy and at times, violent place that is populated by the life size versions of the plasticine characters that they model in their free time together. 'Boronia' is significant for a number of reasons. It is described by the director as an outlet for the girls' violent fantasies and it is where the concept of using a pink gem to lure Honora to her death is first presented to Pauline, fully formed as though of her own sub conscious creation...

The murder scene at the conclusion of the film gives the audience a clue as to how the girls feel during the execution of the murder...the director manages to convey a growing sense of unease and trepidation

... a variety of film techniques to shape the audience's response such as foreshadowing, symbolic colours and varying camera angles are used extensively.

Ella Ruuskanen 11G



year twelve 2009





As you like it

"All the world's a stage and the men and women merely players."

Velvet, vests and pantaloons were aplenty throughout the VCE Theatre Studies performance of 'As You Like It' during May this year. The drama rooms were transformed into a vine-crawling forest as the class evoked the joyful charm and wry melancholic wit of Mr. Shakespeare's characters.

Working tirelessly, the class sought to autonomously prepare lines, sets, and costumes for the performance. They need to be applauded on the results.

The play proved to be brilliantly cast. Everyone seemed to ease into their roles effortlessly- with the help of buckled shoes, man-tights, French accents and elaborate dresses, of course.

Notably the play's gender-bending plotline was taken to a whole new level throughout this all-girl performance. However, our school's lack of testosterone proved no problem- a few sock-stuffed crutches and penciled-on monobrows was all that was needed.

Congratulations to all the girls and their teacher Mr. Perks for achieving such an entertaining rendition.

Kim Thomson 12H



year 12 – a year to enjoy

Jean Paul

Sixteen bruises on my shins,
On the road to freedom again.
The golden curls are gone
and the lazy-eyed filth
bohemian emerges.
Abandon yourself.
You are nothing when you sit.
This contingency is making me nauseous.
The absolute or the absurd?
The beast or his poison?
You are not fixed.
Which way does the red balloon drift?
Too much sky and too much skin.
Let's become the resistance.
Write til they do not recognise us.
The molotov cocktail sits in my heart
ready to sneeze into my ribs,
until they shatter like shrapnel
into my lungs.
He wasn't the same.
Bodies had burned.
All he could do was write the truth

Kim Thomson 12H

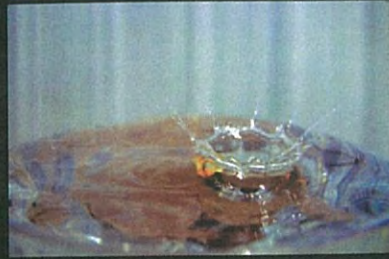
Fun at Four O'Clock

Fun at four o'clock
Just the cab driver and me
Having a secret war
Over the silence
Over sleeping humanity.
The stop signs beg
As each are not obeyed
With the world to ourselves
We strut
And create havoc
Before all has even realized.
We break the dew
And make clouds of life
Shivers reach out
Like Satan's hand
Making us give in
And let it grasp us
Tight.
The Whisperers come out to play
Ghosts and memories
Dance at this Holy Hour
Street lamps as spotlights
The road the dancefloor
The silence their music
I waltz the streets

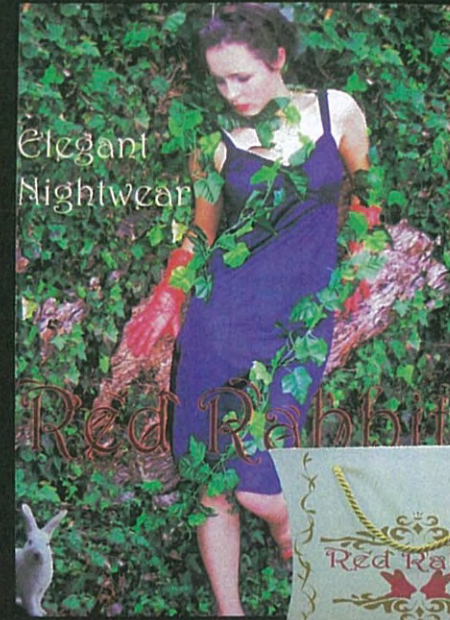
Alongside you
Down to the station
As the first train of the day
Haunts the tracks
The wheels passing over them
A familiar path
Longing for indifference.
Each stop
Rudely breaks into each quiet world
Bringing on the dawn
Of another day
Another time
Another memory
Of our fun at four o'clock.
Isabell Clements 12A



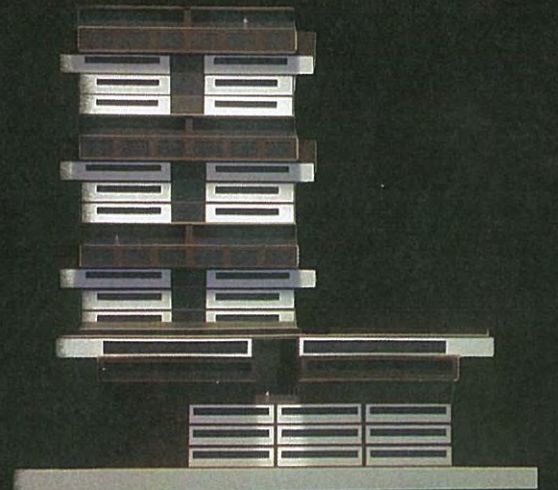
vce visual arts



Heavenly sins (in gloves, \$30. One get gets here, \$41)



V A N M A A N E N S T E P H E N S K A R A V A S I L H O L F D M C P H A T E S A B I N H A L L Y A R W O O D J E G E R



final words...

So I guess this is goodbye. Having had the privilege of working on the magazine committee since 2006, it seems quite sad to be all of a sudden leaving; forced to step over the threshold and into the big wide world.

The 2009 magazine we present before you is once again an impressive effort. Enclosed as always, pages and pages of cringe-worthy photos, encapsulating the most awkward of school moments: the frizzy hair, the oversized blazers, the beloved lace-ups. We'll all look back fondly one day I'm sure. So, many, many thanks to a particularly wonderful committee. Your articles, your time, your immense chip-consumption: this magazine could not have been done without you. And of course, the glue that holds us together: Ms Smith. Her relentless hours of stressing about text boxes, pixilation and typos have undoubtedly paid off.

It has been a pleasure working with all of you over the last few years, I wish everyone good luck for the next issue, and the endless issues to follow.

Kim Thomson 12H

I hope you all enjoy *Making Waves 2009*, a celebration of the spirit and life of Mentone Girls' Secondary College. It has been a delight to work with Kim Thomson and Danielle Shannon, the editors, and all the members of the committee. A special thanks to the staff and students who contributed articles and to John Pepping from Allardice for his generous help and support.

Georgia Smith - Magazine Co-ordinator

Another year of intense work has been undertaken by the magazine committee members. It has been a pleasure to work with Kim Thomson and Ms Georgia Smith once again as well as meeting the new members. We have all worked together to produce what I believe to be a great magazine.

All year the committee members have given up their Thursday afternoons to work on the magazine. Writing, proof-reading and reproof-reading have been the feature of our meeting but we still have managed to fit in all the laughs and jokes. Once again the year has been filled to the brim with the special occasions, events and activities the students have been involved in and we have tried to incorporate as many as the pages could hold.

The magazine could not have been completed without the hours that Ms Georgia Smith puts in along with the stress. Thank you for giving up your free hours to spend with us students debating over which picture looks better. I am looking forward to being editor once again next year and working with next year's committee.

Danielle Shannon 11G

The College would like to thank the retiring teachers for their professionalism and dedication. We wish them all the best in their retirement and will remember them for their passionate commitment and hard work.



Ms Hassell will be remembered fondly by many students as their Year 7 or Year 9 Co-ordinator and as the member of staff responsible

for implementing the City Project, a daunting and innovative task! As a Year Level Co-ordinator she showed deep concern for the students in her care and many students will remember the part she played in their lives. We wish her well in her retirement.



Ms Goldis has had a long association with MGSC and although she is passionate about her vocation, sadly for us, she has decided to retire. Ms Goldis taught

French to many students and organised many trips to France; their experience of French culture will be remembered fondly. She will be missed by her students, especially the Year 8's who she co-ordinated in the last two years and wish her well in her retirement.



Over the years, Ms Young has taught food, textiles and Health and Human Development. She was also a Year 7 Co-ordinator in the

early nineties and a Year 9 Co-ordinator for many years. Sadly, Ms Young decided to retire and she will be sorely missed by her students. We wish her well and hope she enjoys the extra hours she can now devote to her creative pursuits.



MGSC will not be the same without Ms Koperszmidt's big smile and encouragement. During her time at our College she

undertook numerous roles but will be remembered for her untiring work with the Debating Teams. She also assisted the SRC and used her weekends to attend MUNA with the representatives from our school. She was always eager to supervise students at the numerous musical evenings and to help out in whatever way she could.



Mentone Girls' Secondary College Staff

2009

Principal: Deborah Lehner

