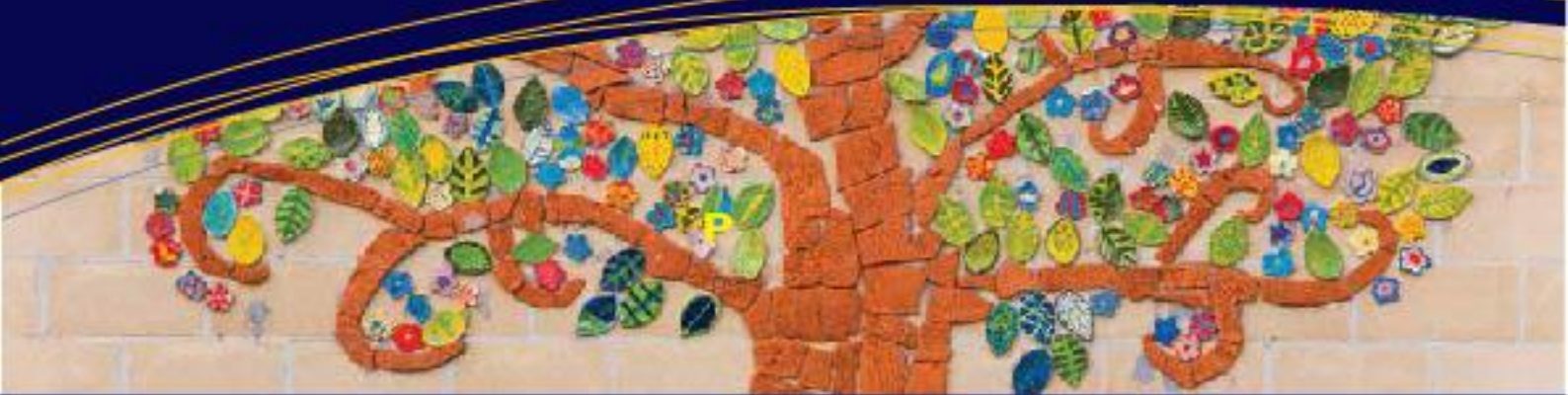


SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



COLLEGE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

IMPORTANT DATES

15th of January -
Uniform shop opens 9.00 - 4.30

26th of January -
Public Holiday

29th of January -
First day of school

As-Salaamu Alaykum & Greetings

Dear College Community,

I pray this message finds our families in the best of health and imaan.

Term Four was once again jammed packed with programs and events that recognised and nurtured our students' academic, social, emotional, and spiritual growth. These included our Year 12, Year 6 and ELC Kinder Graduation Ceremonies. Our families' positive feedback showed that they thoroughly enjoyed these special occasions, which makes us very pleased as our aim was to make these events extra special. We also had our Türkiye Republic Day Program with the esteemed presence of the Consul General of Türkiye Mr. Dogan Işık and the Attache Prof. Dr. Harun Işık, Islamic Soccer Tournament, Year 9 Camp, interschool sports (our Years 7-8 team won the futsal trophy – well done!), Swimming Program, Years F-1 Athletics Day, Activity Day, and our Years F-11 Awards Ceremonies. In addition, we had an unprecedented number of excursions and incursions (over 200) throughout this year, giving our students wonderful opportunities to learn and thrive outside the classroom.



2023 College DUX

I am thrilled to announce that our 2023 College DUX is Omar Daknach. I am very proud of the hard work and dedication that Omar put into his studies. I also want to thank his teachers, his parents, and the College for all their support to Omar. Omar has made us all proud with an outstanding ATAR score of 97.25 (masha Allah).

We wish Omar the very best in his future endeavours.

2024 College Captains Announcement

I am also excited to announce that our College Captains for 2024 are as follows:

- Ceyda Sahin – Captain
- Omar Siddiqui – Captain
- Sofia Khan – Vice Captain
- Adam Abou Zolf – Vice Captain

I am really looking forward to working with our student leaders in 2024 insha Allah and I pray for their success.

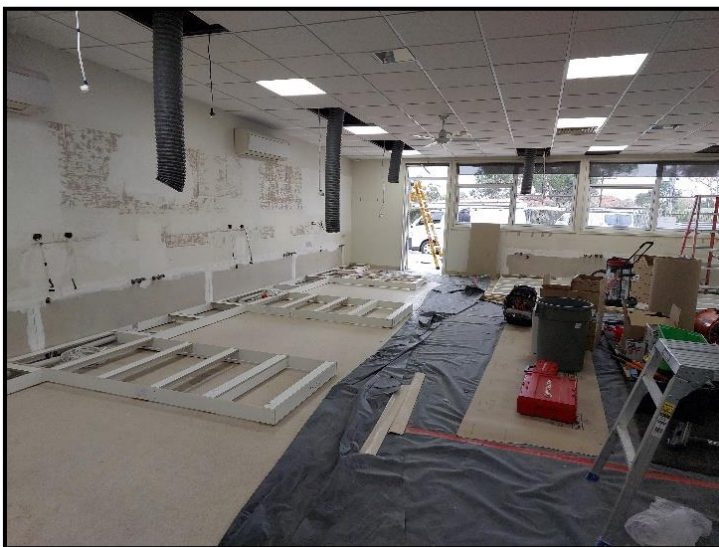
Facilities Updates

In our last newsletter, I updated you on the commencement of two wonderful projects. I am pleased to inform you that these projects are now complete.

Sustainability and Wellbeing Garden



VET Hospitality / Food Technology Room – Major Upgrade



I am very grateful and proud of the wonderful progress the College has made across the years alhamdulillah. This could not have been possible without the vision and support of our Head of College, our College Board, Leadership Team, dedicated staff, supportive parents, and the efforts of our wonderful students. It has been an honour to be part of such progress and especially to share in the journeys of our students and watch them grow and develop for yet another year.

My heartfelt thanks go to our College Board, Leadership Team, staff, and all our parents and students for your outstanding efforts and contributions throughout this year.

I pray you have a restful and enjoyable summer break, and I look forward to seeing everyone back safe and refreshed for another amazing year insha Allah.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Toni Pikos-Sallie

College Principal

Dear College Community,

As we draw the curtains on another transformative year, I am thrilled to reflect on the countless learning opportunities provided to our students beyond the classroom. Our 220+ excursions and incursions have enriched their educational journey, offering hands-on experiences that extend far beyond textbooks. These experiences fostered a holistic approach to learning, shaping well-rounded individuals poised for success.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all families for their unwavering support during our major events. Türkiye Republic Day, the F Transition Program, Graduation Ceremonies, and Camps were moments where our community thrived. Your participation and enthusiasm contributed immensely to the success and vibrancy of these occasions.

To our esteemed Year 12 graduates, congratulations on this incredible milestone! Your hard work and dedication have laid a strong foundation for your future endeavours. Remember, this is just the beginning of a remarkable journey filled with opportunities for growth and success. For those who may not have achieved their desired outcomes, I encourage you to view this moment as a stepping stone. Your journey doesn't end here; it's a pivot towards discovering your strengths and recalibrating your path towards success. Embrace this as an opportunity to learn, grow, and strive for excellence.

A few gentle reminders: Reports are now available on the Compass platform. Additionally, our college website contains essential information such as booklists and details about school uniforms for your convenience.

Congratulations to all recipients of the 2024 Academic or Sports Scholarships, as well as our college captains for the upcoming year. Your achievements are a testament to your dedication and passion, and we are immensely proud of your accomplishments.

As we approach the holiday season, I wish everyone a safe and rejuvenating break. Remember, our doors are always open, and should you have any queries or need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out via email.

Thank you for being an integral part of our college community. Here's to a prosperous and fulfilling year ahead.

Warm regards,

Mr. Cihan Karahan

Vice-Principal

cihan.karahan@mthira.vic.edu.au

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the year, it is a good time to reflect on the milestones students have reached during Term Four.

Beginning with our newest graduates who have finished their schooling, completed their VCE exams, graduated and started planning for the next stage of their lives in just a few short weeks. Breaking up the stress of the upcoming exams the Year 12 students enjoyed their celebration day, where our vice captains Sheema Asher and Omar Daknach farewelled the community in moving speeches, before the students enjoyed a round of minigolf (which got pretty competitive), enjoyed lunch and shared their final goodbyes through the tradition of signing each other shirts. After exams, were completed, all eyes turned to the Graduation Ceremony, which was our chance to recognise the cohort's great achievements and celebrate the milestone of finishing school. It was a pleasure to watch each student cross the stage as graduates and to help hand out the awards recognising the academic, contributions and leadership of our graduates. I would like to thank both Fatima Albir and Muazzam Abbas for their excellent speeches at the Graduations Ceremony, which captured the essence of what makes Mt Hira such a special College. I wish all Year 12 students the best of luck for the next chapter of their lives, and I hope to see you drop by to catch up in the future.

Our Year 11 students have made it through their first full year of VCE and have now begun the Unit 3&4 VCE Head Start program. The students were presented with their Year 12 jackets on their first official day of Year 12, to signify their place as the new leaders amongst our cohort and acknowledge the beginning of their final year of school. During their new head start classes, students focused on developing the key skills needed to do well next year. While they were excited to join their new Unit 3&4 classes, I think this was trumped by their excitement to finally be able to use the Year 12 Common Room. They even managed to convince their form teachers to have their class in the Common Room for a couple of days. To all of our new Year Twelve Students, please ensure you return from the holidays having read your English novels (had to include this as an English teacher) and having completed all other holiday homework. You want to ensure you start the year strong and not trying to catch up on day one. Also make sure you enjoy this last long break before you begin your final year of schooling, you want to come back refreshed and being both mentally and physically ready to complete the intense year that Year 12 is.

Having completed their final exams, Year 10 Students have now met with myself and Ms Rihab to finalise their VCE subject selections for 2024. Students have received a range of advice about prerequisites for university and also about balancing their subject load. Despite the time spent trying to pick the ideal program for each student, there is still a bit of trial and error associated with selecting VCE subjects, so students will be provided an opportunity to change a subject early in Term One in case they feel one of their subjects just isn't right. On a personal note, I enjoyed all these meetings and getting know a bit more about each students' future goals.

I would like to thank all the students, families, and teachers for their support throughout 2023. Lastly, I would like to wish our students and their families a safe and enjoyable break. Once again it has been my pleasure to work with the Senior School and wider Mt Hira Community.

Kind regards,

Jack Franklin

Head of Senior School

Dear Parents/Guardians of Mt Hira College,

As we near the end of another eventful year at Mt Hira College, I am delighted to reflect on the enriching experiences and accomplishments within our Middle School. The journey has been filled with growth, learning, and memorable moments that have contributed to the holistic development of our students.

Our recent Year 9 camp at the Summit in Trafalgar stands as a testament to the spirit of adventure and camaraderie among our students. The feedback has been resoundingly positive, with students relishing the myriad of activities, particularly the exhilarating mud run. Witnessing our students engage wholeheartedly and bond through these experiences is truly rewarding.

Empowering our students with essential life skills and strategies is a key focus at Mt Hira College. The Project Rokit incursion was a vital step in equipping our students with the tools to combat bullying, providing them with strategies to stand up, support one another, and foster a safe and inclusive environment within our school community.

Amidst the academic rigors, the Semester Two Examinations showcased the determination and dedication of our students. I commend each one of our students for their hard work and commitment, encouraging them to be proud of their efforts, regardless of the outcomes.

The celebration of 29 Ekim, Turkish Republic Day, was a vibrant and culturally enriching event. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all Middle School students who actively participated, showcasing their talents, and embracing the significance of this day with zeal and enthusiasm.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the unwavering support of our dedicated parents, the resilience and enthusiasm of our students, and the hard work and commitment of our teaching staff. Together, we have created a nurturing environment where every individual's contributions are valued and celebrated.

As we approach the year-end, I extend my sincere gratitude to our entire Mt Hira College community for their collaborative efforts in making this year a resounding success. Your support and engagement have been invaluable in shaping a year filled with growth, resilience, and accomplishment.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and looking forward to another amazing year ahead.

Warm regards,

Serdar Eroglu
Head of Middle School

Assalam u alaikum Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of another academic year, I am pleased to reflect on the incredible journey we've experienced together at Mt Hira College Middle School. This year has been filled with academic achievements, personal growth, and memorable moments that have enriched our vibrant school community.



Year 7 Camp



Year 9 Camp

Our students have demonstrated commendable dedication to their studies, consistently showcasing academic excellence. Their hard work and commitment to learning have not gone unnoticed, and we are immensely proud of their achievements.

This year, our middle school students have actively participated in community service initiatives, embodying the spirit of compassion and responsibility. Their contributions have made a positive impact on both local and global communities.

From Islamic Science Symposium to cultural festivals, our students have showcased their creativity and talents at various special events.



Islamic Cup 2023 Champions- Year 7

Our middle school athletes have excelled in various sports, bringing home numerous victories, and demonstrating the values of teamwork and perseverance. Their sportsmanship on and off the field is truly commendable.



Year 7 District Soccer Champions and 8



Core Leadership

As we bid farewell to this academic year, we eagerly anticipate the opportunities and challenges that the next year will bring. We are committed to providing an enriching learning environment that fosters not only academic success but also personal growth and character development.

We appreciate the ongoing support from our dedicated parent community. Your involvement is crucial to the success of our students, and we look forward to continued collaboration in the coming years.

I want to express our deepest gratitude for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. It has been a pleasure witnessing their growth and achievements.

Warm Regards

Faiq Amiri
Deputy Head of Middle School

The highlight of Term 4 for Year 9 students was undoubtedly the The Summit Camp. Students participated in what was a challenging but ultimately rewarding week. All students showed energy and enthusiasm for the Giant Swing, (which was an instant favorite), the Snowy River Challenge, Orienteering, Leap of Faith and the dark and creepy Cave experience.

We also embarked on the epic Monster Course, a mud run around the grounds of The Summit involving tyres, charades, mud, cargo nets, holey buckets, mud, mud, and more mud! It was a very difficult activity, but most students thought it was the most memorable experience of their week.



Each group voted for the student who identified as displaying the values of enthusiasm, motivation, and leadership within their groups. The Values winners were Dion, Adam, Senad and Aydin!

Congratulations to all students for their positivity which ensured the week was an amazing experience for all!

Ms Melanie Gibney
Year 9 Coordinator



Dear Students, Parents, and Carers,

The end of the 2023 academic year has arrived. It has proven to be an enriching term, marked by students learning many skills and values. Students continued to embark on valuable learning within the classroom and experienced exciting incursions and excursions which helped to build their overall school journey in 2023.

Foundation and Year One students thoroughly enjoyed their swimming week, where they learnt various, key swimming skills. The students also participated in an Athletics carnival where they enjoyed participating in various group activities and some field events.

This term in Foundation, students learnt about 3D shapes and worked on various strategies to assist them with understanding subtraction. In Art, they used various recycled materials to create a monster from their imagination which assisted in building their creative skills. They also learnt about maps in Integrated which gave them an understanding of place and location. We are super proud of how far our Foundation students have come. We have loved witnessing their growth in all aspects including, physically, emotionally, and intellectually. Good luck to all our foundation students. We will miss you, but I am sure we will see you around thriving.



In Year One, students had a wonderful experience attending an incursion on insects and minibeasts. They investigated the parts of the animals that enable them to move, feed, protect themselves, as well as their habitats and considered how their habitats provide for their needs such as food, water, and shelter. In Music and Drama, students worked on dance moves and used these to create a class dance. Students also enjoyed learning about cinquain poems and worked on creating their own.



In Year Two, students attended an engaging science incursion on forces. During the incursion, our budding scientists eagerly participated in hands-on experiments that unravelled the mysteries of forces. They explored concepts such as gravity, magnetism, and friction, where they gained a deeper understanding of how these forces shape our world. In addition to their scientific exploration, our Year Two students also showcased their ability to recall various writing genres, with a special focus on recount writing. They have had the chance to orally recount memorable events from their lives, further enhancing their speaking and listening skills. We commend our Year Two students for their active participation, commendable conduct, and remarkable progress throughout this exciting term.





This term, the Year 3 students embarked on a culinary adventure inspired by MasterChef. Throughout this journey, they gained valuable insights into kitchen safety, distinguishing between heat and cold refrigerated items designated for the fridge or freezer. The students explored the various sources of heat generation and found excitement in the process of creating their own ice cream. Following precise measurements and procedural steps, they thoroughly enjoyed this hands-on experience.



As part of the MasterChef unit, students also undertook a challenge requiring them to bake something at home and bring it to class for a shared tasting. Each student enthusiastically presented their dish to the class, providing insights into their unique procedures. This MasterChef challenge proved to be one of the most thrilling and memorable units the students have undertaken this year.



In Year Four, students learnt about forces and materials in Science, musical instruments around the world in Music and the importance of a balanced diet in Health. In English, we continued to focus on our reading and writing skills and the importance of punctuating, proofreading, and editing our work. In Maths, we looked at time, including both 12-hour and 24-hour time, reading timetables, 3D shapes, graphing, lots of problem solving and more. Year Four students were also very lucky to visit the Melbourne Aquarium where they learnt all about the lifecycle of animals and took part in Task Works, learning all about the different forces in our everyday world. We encourage all students to continue to read over the school holidays and keep a journal to write in daily.



In Year Five, students explored probability and chance in Mathematics and found this an interesting topic to learn about. Students also learnt about facts and opinions during their Literacy lessons. In Music and Drama, students embarked on a creative journey to develop, produce, film, and edit their own 'Behind the News' style episode. They built essential skills in scriptwriting, performance, video production, and teamwork, culminating in the creation of a compelling and informative video. On their excursion to the Puffing Billy Railway, students learnt about measurement and geometry by developing solutions for the water tanks at the railway, which are a vital part of the locomotives.

Finally, throughout the semester, Year Six students immersed themselves in working on their Micro-Bits Stem project. Students attended an Expo Day which was a huge success. There were several schools involved in the expo, held at Athol primary school. The students worked collaboratively with students from different schools.

Students were showcasing their STEAM projects like smart city, smart home and smart agriculture fostering teamwork and creativity and a sense of achievement.



As we come to the end of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support. I am proud of all the students and what they have achieved.

Wishing everyone a safe and restful summer break.

Sincerely,

Miss. Natasha Padayachee
Head of Junior School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

During Semester Two, Year 6 – 9 students have continued to participate in a literacy program called '**Accelerated Reader**,' in which they read books and quiz on them to receive points. There were some outstanding individual efforts, with the following students reading and quizzing on an incredible number of novels:

- Deana Ameti – 41 books
- Aydin Bilgrami – 37 books
- Yoseph Shafai – 34 books
- Rehana Rasimi – 31 books
- Haleema Dhanshe – 28 books
- Nadeen Ryan – 24 books
- Azghaan Ashaar – 22 books
- Munise Hayrulla – 20 books
- Zeynep Sahin – 20 books
- Aydin Besic – 13 books

During Term Four, Year 12 students completed their **Year 12 English Examination**. Students worked hard in the lead up to this exam and should be commended for their dedication to their studies. We would like to extend our congratulations to our Year 12 cohort for finishing their exams and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

We would also like to wish all students, parents, and college staff a restful break and hope to see you all again, happy and healthy, in 2024.

Ms Megan Barling
English Domain Leader

Welcome to the latest edition of the Mathematics Newsletter. The Mathematics Department extends a heartfelt congratulations to all our students for their dedication and hard work this semester. As we bid farewell to another amazing year, we want to turn the spotlight on you – our wonderful students!

In this special edition, we're diving into the student experience. What did they enjoy, what are they grateful of, what were the highlights in their learning, and what moments will they remember forever? Here is what some students had to say:

"This semester I enjoyed mathematics as I was able to really challenge myself and test my capabilities of completing tricky questions. We covered topics such as indices, decimals, fractions, percentages, cubes, square roots and linear equations. I believe I have picked up various useful methods and techniques that would surely benefit me in my remaining schooling years."

- **Elham Ayache 7T**

"I really enjoyed mathematics this term. I like learning about square roots, cube roots and fractions because the way Ms Natasha teaches it's very understandable and fun. I asked many questions and scored high on my tests, I also helped my friends when they struggle or if they make a mistake. I believe I have developed over the semester on my maths skills and will strive for accuracy next year!"

- **Mehr Amarkhail 7T**

"During semester two, my fascination with maths grew significantly. Being at Mt Hira for 10 months now has showed me that even though I started at rock bottom, I still progressed and made my way up to the top of the class, which in the end, helped me attain 100% in the maths examination. We went through a range of topics including rates and ratios, index laws, measurement, and probability. I really enjoyed learning about statistics and probability as it took numbers to a whole new level. I can't wait to see what the math teachers have in store for the year 9's in 2024 and I wish all the best to the year 7's coming into year 8."

- **Yoseph Shafai 8M**



"I thoroughly enjoyed maths over the last semester, we participated in many different interactive activities. We learnt about rates and ratios, measurement, index laws and probability. Our teachers always ensured that we were learning in new ways that not only helped us to understand the topics but also to view them in a fresh perspective. We had access to many different resources that helped us practice and review our skills including Mathletics and the topic booklets that our teachers put lots of effort into making for us. I personally enjoyed rates and ratios because we had lots of chances to review real life examples."

- **Joman Mesleh 8T**

"Year 9 Mathematics is interesting because solving problems can be fun and challenging. It was also sort of challenging to achieve perfect scores because often silly mistakes can be made. This year we learnt a lot and I am looking forward to studying more mathematics next year."

- **Yusuf Munshi 9M**

'In our Year 10 Advanced Math odyssey, our class accompanied by our fearless guide through the mathematical labyrinth was none other than Mr. Yaqub. In Semester 2 we navigated through the realms of quadratic expressions, equations, non-linear relations, and polynomials. Semester 2 brought forth the formidable Probability Test, a true mathematical challenge that tested our mathematical strength. Through the ups and downs, our collective struggle forged bonds of resilience. The semester marked our classes shared victories as we tackled the mathematical mysteries together. Together, we demonstrated that even the most puzzling tests couldn't dim the sparkle of our enthusiasm for the captivating world of mathematics as we move on to tackle maths in VCE. '

- **Cihan Gurbuz 10H**

"I really enjoyed Year 11 General Mathematics this year as it was beneficial in helping me learn skills for the future. Consistency was key for me ensuring I keep up with my class work and homework and making sure my revision material was up to date, which made revising for SACs and exams easier. But most importantly having a good and supportive teacher (Ms Chatila) really helped me achieve what I did." Khadija Abdelkader 11M

"In Mathematical Methods, I enjoyed learning about circular functions, quadratics, differentiation, and calculus. Our teacher Ms.SantAngelo prepared booklets for each of our chapter topic which helped us cover all the content with ease."

- **Ceyda Sahin 11M**

"In Mathematical Methods circular functions and differentiation were my favourite chapters. It was fun to learn about these topics and I also got a good mark as the work was well presented and organised by our teacher."

- **Samah Atmar 11T**

"Studying Specialist Mathematics has been a challenging as well as interesting experience. All the efforts with this subject are worth it as it is very rewarding in the end. Thanks to Ms. Amy, the learning process was made much easier and efficient."

- **Ibraheem Munshi 11M.**

Our year 11 General students really enjoyed the course and would like to encourage other students to study this subject. Some of their comments are as follows:



"I found the content easy to understand as my teacher presented the content really well."

- **Ajla Ademi 11T**

"It was an interesting subject and I highly recommend it."

- **Adam Vikic 11M**

"I really liked the how it was taught."

- **Fiola Dzemali 11T**

We would like to thank our students for making this year unforgettable!

Warmest regards,

Ms Michelle SantAngelo
Maths Domain Leader

Dear Mt Hira Community,

I'm thrilled to share the latest updates from our Science Domain, where exploration and academic excellence are at the forefront.

Year 7 Healesville Sanctuary Excursion: Unveiling the Wonders of Australian Ecosystems

Our enthusiastic Year 7 students recently embarked on a captivating excursion to Healesville Sanctuary. Amidst the stunning natural backdrop, they engaged in hands-on activities, analysing Australian animal interactions, dissecting diverse food webs, and studying unique adaptations. The excursion aimed not only to deepen their scientific understanding but also to underscore the critical role humans play in ecosystem impact. We believe these experiences foster a sense of responsibility and connection to the environment.



Unit 3&4 Biology Melbourne Zoo excursion

At Melbourne Zoo, students had the unique opportunity to engage in a hands-on analysis of living primates, observing their behaviors, social structures, and anatomical features. Through meticulous comparisons, they sought to identify the primate species most closely related to humans and draw connections to our shared evolutionary history.



Semester Two Exam Preparation: Navigating Success from Years 7 to 11

As we approach the conclusion of the academic year, our dedicated science teachers actively guided students from Years 7 to 11 through comprehensive preparations for Semester Two exams. The focus extends beyond rote learning, encouraging critical thinking and a holistic approach to education.

As we anticipate the conclusion of the semester, we are confident that the hard work invested by our students will yield commendable results. Their growth and achievements are a testament to their dedication and the support of our entire college community.

Lastly, I extend warm wishes to all students and parents for a safe and meaningful holiday.

Ms Khaiera Shakeri
Science Domain Leader



Well, we've made it to the end of another successful year at Mt. Hira College! We're so proud of the students' achievements and the hard work they have put into their studies this year.

In Term 4, the Year 8 cohort have been learning about landscapes, landforms, and migration with a focus on coastal landscapes. Year 8s made a splash at Mordialloc beach and did field sketches of the coast, including both natural and man-made aspects of the coast.



Year 9

In Term 4, the Year 9 cohort have engaged in a variety of Geography activities. They identified different Australian biomes and explored food production methods. Students then completed a group assignment that investigated the threats to food security.



Year 10

In Term 4, Year 10s learned about the Geographies of Wellbeing and explored some eye-opening differences between the living standards here, compared to countries all over the world. Some of our students even managed to engage the class with guided meditation.



We wish the 2023 Year 12 cohort all the best with their future endeavours and look forward to hearing about their successes in the future!

A massive thank you to the Humanities Team, parents, staff, and students who have made my role as Head of Domain a fun one!



Wishing you all a safe and happy summer break.
See you in 2024!

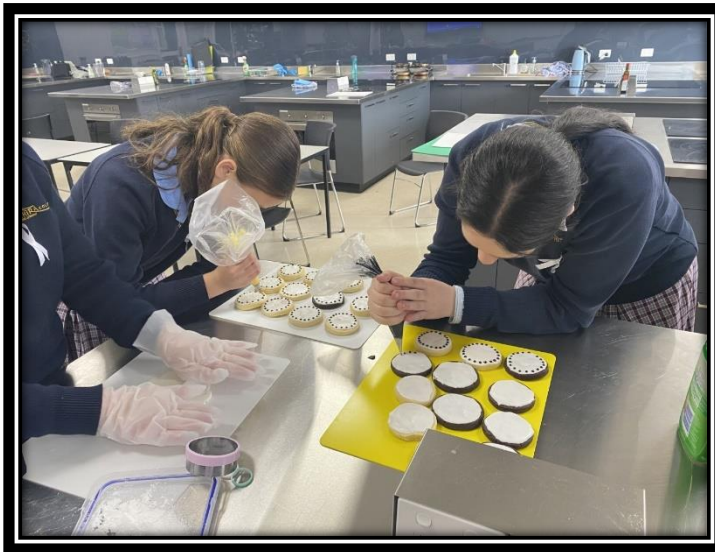
Kind regards,

Ms Rebecca Liddicoat (Sim)
Humanities Domain Leader

VET hospitality

We have been very busy in VET hospitality in Term 4 preparing for the Turkey Republic event. This was one of our first skill showcase where the students served our VIP guests, made Turkish tea, as well as prepared some amazing appetizers and brunch items. The students have been learning about customers service, table, and place settings, how to correctly take orders and carry plates. All the students did a very good job and there was a lot of positive praise and feedback from the attendees.

The students have also planned and created the graduation cookies for the ELC, Year 6 and Year 12's. This project had the students make 2 varieties of cookie dough, calculate quantities for bulk orders, plan time lines and experiment with decorating and packaging techniques.



Food technology

We started term 4 in the classroom while our room was being renovated. This was a good opportunity for the students to focus on their meal planning project. The students learnt how to plan quality and nutritious meals using seasonal produce. The challenge was to feature the seasonal fruit or vegetable in a variety of ways. It was very exciting to be in our brand-new kitchen for the remainder of term 4. The luxury of having ovens and induction stoves allowed us make dishes such as Kofta, flatbread, sushi, soups, and baked goods. We all appreciated the ease of having multiple sinks to wash hands and dishes which certainly made the pack up much quicker and smoother.

A friendly reminder to all food technology students to please bring in your own container if you wish to take your food items home 😊

Ms Nicola Glanville
Food Technology Coordinator



This term, our Year 7/8 girls and boys, proudly represented the college in the annual Futsal Islamic Cup. The outstanding achievement by our Year 7/8 boys in winning the cup added a significant highlight to our school's sports accomplishments.

Our Middle School PE classes took a refreshing turn with an alternative sports unit, exposing students to a diverse range of sports including, Ultimate Frisbee, Frisbee Golf, Mini Golf, Lacrosse, and Tchouk Ball were among the unique activities explored.

Our Year 9 students took inspiration from these sports, crafting their own team games that incorporated elements from various disciplines. This initiative not only showcased their innovative spirit but also fostered teamwork and strategic thinking.

Over the course of four weeks, our Year 7 students embarked on a school-based walkathon unit, covering a total of 8 kilometres during this period. The culmination of their efforts took them to the iconic 1000 Steps, completing a 3km walk. This unit not only promoted physical activity but also instilled a sense of accomplishment and perseverance.

Simultaneously, our Year 10 students engaged in a dynamic 4-week Fitness unit, featuring excursions to a local recreation gym. Here, students set personalised fitness goals and developed individual training plans, putting them into action during their gym sessions. This practical approach not only enhanced their physical well-being but also nurtured a sense of self-discipline and goal setting.

Junior HPE

The Usman Khawaja Cricket program was implemented for our students in years 3-5, providing a platform for them to enhance their cricket skills and encouraging active participation in cricket beyond the school setting. Engaging in a variety of activities, students were exposed to different facets of the sport.

In addition, our junior school classes included diverse sports such as hockey, softball, and lacrosse. This initiative aimed to broaden their sporting experiences and foster a well-rounded approach to physical education.

This year's F-1 Athletics Day was held on the synthetic courts, featuring a range of field events like long jump and shot put, alongside the excitement of a 100-meter race. The day was a celebration of athleticism and healthy competition, showcasing the diverse talents of our students.

Furthermore, our F-1 students had the valuable opportunity to enhance their water safety skills through participation in the swimming program. This initiative not only promoted physical fitness but also emphasized the importance of water safety, equipping students with essential life skills.

These programs and events are integral to our commitment to providing a comprehensive and enriching educational experience for our students. As we reflect on these activities, we look forward to continuing to offer diverse opportunities that contribute to the holistic development of our students in the years to come.

Ms Antonia Barbalace
Health and PE Domain Leader

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I extend my congratulations to the students, their families, and the teachers on the success we've achieved this year. In Term 4, the LOTE Department organised two major events that were highly successful.

The first event was the Arabic calligraphy incursion for students in years 4, 5, 6, 9, and 10. Artist Br. Shakeel designed personalised artwork with students' names in Arabic, providing a unique and engaging experience. The second event was the International Children's Day, where students learning Turkish showcased various performances, speeches, and poems. The Consul General of Turkiye, Mr. Arif Eser Torun, graced the event with his presence.

Our primary challenge remains in motivating students to learn Arabic and Turkish. At all levels, students receive dedicated support from their teachers and teacher aides to aid their progress in both languages. Parents play a crucial role in their children's learning, and I urge them to actively engage in their children's Arabic and Turkish studies. The COMPASS platform is a valuable resource where parents can monitor planning, lesson delivery, and students' achievements.



We encourage all parents to utilise COMPASS starting from the beginning of 2024.

In 2024, new Arabic textbooks will be introduced. Once the list is finalised, we will communicate the details to parents.

If you have any inquiries regarding Arabic and Turkish languages, please feel free to contact me via email at sdorhmi@mthira.vic.edu.au

Wishing you all wonderful holidays, and I look forward to seeing you next year.

Kind Regards

Dr. Samir Dorhmi
Head of LOTE Domain

In art this semester we have been focusing on our fine motor skills from Grade 3 to Year 10. Students have experimented with various art forms and have created their final artwork using numerous materials like oil paint, 2-point perspective drawing, quick dry clay, nature collage, digital art, free hand drawing, paper mosaicking and yarn painting.

Throughout the term, students have dedicated the majority of their time to exploring and researching avenues to transform their passions into artistic realities. In their final assessments, senior school students have crafted exceptional artworks by incorporating elements of their cultures and facets of their identity into their body of work.

Whilst focusing on fine motor skills, our primary cohort had the opportunity to learn patience with tedious tasks like yarn painting, paper mosaicking and creating a nature collage. Students had the freedom to pick and choose their own colour themes, students experienced a sense of autonomy in for their final artwork.

In the commemoration of the 100th Year Republic Day for Türkiye, Grade 3 to Year 10 students collaborated wholeheartedly regardless of their nationalities and united in creating breathtaking artworks. This collective effort exemplified the strength of the family we at Mt Hira College embody.

Serving as the Art Teacher for our school in 2023 was a true honour, and witnessing the creation of incredible artworks was a privilege. I have forged strong connections with my students and observed many of them gaining a deeper appreciation for recognising the significance beyond just mere colours and shapes in art.

We have had an outstanding year overall and cannot wait to see the amazing art works our students will continue to produce next year.

I pray everyone has a safe holiday and our students have a well-earned break.

Miss Guldane ♥



Dear Mt. Hira Community,

Term Four has arrived swiftly, amidst these difficult and challenging times, requiring us to navigate our social and emotional well-being. I remain dedicated to fostering the mental, emotional, and relational health of our students and their families. Moving forward, I am committed to offering a supportive environment where families can collaborate to address challenges that may impact students' academic performance, behaviour, and overall functioning.

My door is always open to families seeking engagement in family counselling or therapy.

During Term Four, the following well-being programs were conducted:

1. **AFP Cyber Safety/Bullying:** Tailored for our Years 7 to 9 students, this program emphasised the importance of cultivating positive online behaviours and employing proactive strategies to ensure their safety. Supervision for young children plays a pivotal role in preventing self-produced child exploitation material and online grooming. Continuous open communication with children, spanning all developmental stages, is essential for their safety.
2. **Project ROCKIT:** Our school organised an Anti-bullying program for Middle school students (Years 7-9), centered on fostering a world where kindness and respect triumph over bullying, hate, and prejudice. The aim was to create an environment where every young person can realise their potential by empowering them with skills, confidence, and connections to drive positive change.
3. **Mental Health Week:** World Mental Health Day focused on raising awareness and discussing strategies to initiate positive change for everyone's mental health.
4. **White Ribbon Day:** A comprehensive understanding of Family Violence, its impact on families, and the commitment to signing pledges against violence towards women. The entire school community embraced this initiative.



I extend my gratitude to all students and teachers who contributed to our well-being initiatives this year. A special acknowledgment goes to our year 12s for successfully completing their final year of schooling. I wish them success in their future endeavours.

As we step into the new year, I urge families to continue prioritising their own well-being and that of their children. Please feel free to reach out for support or resources. We are here to assist and are dedicated to collaborating as a community to ensure the best possible educational experience for our students.

Thank you for your consistent support and involvement in our school community. Wishing you a safe and delightful holiday!

Ms Rose Bogarts
College Counsellor

Assalamu Alaikum respected College Community,

We are delighted to share with you the exciting events and programs that recently took place at the Religious Education Department during Term Four. Our commitment to providing enriching and diverse experiences for our students extends beyond the classroom, aiming to foster a holistic understanding of Islamic traditions and values.

Ottoman State Focus Excursion to the Islamic Museum of Australia:

The Year Ten students embarked on a captivating journey to the Islamic Museum of Australia, immersing themselves in the rich history of the Ottoman State. This educational excursion allowed our students to explore the cultural treasures and historical artifacts, deepening their understanding of the Islamic heritage.

Islamic Soccer Tournament:

A vibrant display of sportsmanship unfolded during the Islamic Soccer Tournament, where teams from Australia, Albania, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Morocco, Palestine, Turkiye, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Pakistan competed. Congratulations to all the participating teams, and a special acknowledgment to Team Palestine for emerging as the champions which earned a trophy and a \$250.00 prize. The tournament not only showcased athletic prowess but also celebrated unity among diverse cultures.

Understanding Islamic Funeral and Burial Rights:

This was a unique educational program designed to provide a deeper insight into Islamic Funeral and Burial Rights for our Year Eleven students. This program offered a comprehensive exploration of the funeral and burial procedures according to Islamic customs. The schedule for the program was as follows:

Keysborough Mosque Morgue: Witness the preparations and processes before a burial, gaining hands-on experience in the respectful handling of the deceased.

Travel to the Cemetery: Proceed to the cemetery for practical demonstrations enhancing students' understanding of Islamic funeral and burial procedures.

Spiritual and Communal Insights: Engage in a recitation of Quranic verses, followed by insights from Br Fadil Fachni, shedding light on the spiritual and communal aspects of Islamic funeral and burial practices.

Visit to Another Section (Rawada An-Nur Section): Explored another section of the cemetery for a comprehensive understanding and Reflect on the day's learning and experiences as we return to the college.

Annual Qur'an Competition:

The Qur'an is the book of Allah (swt) and the most beautiful and correct of all words. It is our source of healing, guide to salvation, and means of the mercy of Allah (swt) for us that leads us to the right path. In this regard, it is stated in one verse as follows, "O mankind! There has come to you instruction from your Lord and healing for what is in the breasts and guidance and mercy for the believers."

The Holy Qur'an is a unique address by the Almighty Allah (swt) to bring people out of the darkness of unbelief and into the light of guidance. It is a voice and sigh of relief from al-Rahman that provides ease for our overwhelmed hearts. It is the most valuable entrustment the Prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) left for his ummah.

Reciting, correctly understanding, and duly living up to the Holy Qur'an should be the primary purpose of our life. Enabling our children, who are the light of our eyes, to meet with the spiritual climate of the Qur'an and teaching our children its messages as well as what it regards halal and haram should be our greatest ideal. Let us not forget that our children each are entrustment to us from the Almighty Allah (swt).

We can look out for this rare entrustment in the best way only through raising them in the guidance of the Qur'an and the Sunnah. It is our most important duty to raise our children as generations with the consciousness of being a servant of Allah (swt) and ummah of the Messenger of Allah (saw), with good morals, and as beneficial people for humanity. As in the words of the Prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h), "There is no gift that a father gives his child more virtuous than good manners." Thank you to the 110 students who have participated in the Qur'an Competition.

We hope that these programs leave our students with a greater appreciation for the cultural, spiritual, and communal aspects and most importantly inculcate the love of Islam. Your support and engagement are integral to the success of such educational initiatives, and we look forward to sharing more enriching experiences next year inshaAllah.

Kind Regards,

Muhammed Sezgin
Head of Religious Affairs/RE Domain Leader

Term 4 Exciting Updates and Upcoming Events

As we approach the end of the academic year, it's time to celebrate significant milestones and prepare for exciting opportunities ahead. Our Year 10 students successfully completed their enriching work experience program, gaining valuable insights into various industries and nurturing their professional skills.



Congratulations are also in order for our diligent Year 12 students who have completed their final exams and submitted their university preferences for 2024. We wish them the very best as they await the next chapter of their academic journey.



Looking ahead to 2024, we are thrilled to announce that the Work Experience Induction Sessions for the upcoming year will be held soon. These sessions serve as a gateway to invaluable learning experiences, enabling our students to explore diverse career paths, gain practical knowledge, and make informed decisions about their future aspirations.

Stay tuned for further updates and details about these induction sessions. It's an exciting time for our students, and we're committed to providing them with the guidance and resources they need for a successful transition into their chosen career paths.

Keep an eye on your emails and noticeboards for more information about the induction sessions for all our year 10 students transitioning through to senior school, and let's make 2024 a year filled with growth and new opportunities for each and every student!

Rihab Abou Zolf

Careers Coordinator



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