



Murrayville Community College

No. 16
28th October 2019

Inspiring P.R.I.D.E. • We Value • Persistence Respect Independence Determination Excellence

From the Principal

Good Luck Year 12 –

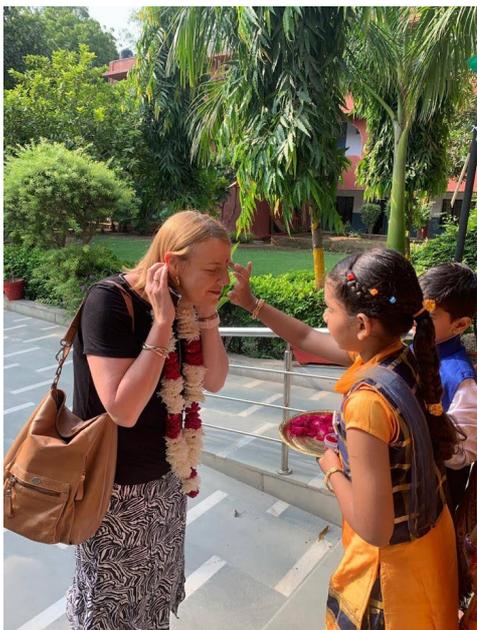
Friday was the Year 12's last official day of school as they prepare for their first exam on Wednesday. They had some pranks ready to keep everyone amused throughout the morning. I wish them and the Year 11 students doing Year 12 subjects all the very best over the next three weeks as they complete their exams.

Staffing 2020 –

I have much pleasure in announcing that Keryl Beckmann will be returning to MCC in 2020 to teach the 5/6 class. Keryl started her teaching career at Murrayville and has been teaching for the past 8 years at Redcliffs East Primary School. Keryl is an outstanding teacher and we look forward to welcoming her and her family back to our school and community next year.

Women in School Leadership Trip to India –

As you are aware I was very fortunate to travel to Delhi, India in the final week of last term and immerse myself in the culture and education system of the region. It was truly an amazing experience, so much to see and learn. Delhi was so different to Murrayville in so many ways, but it was truly surprising how



many times I felt that things were also quite similar. We arrived into Delhi at 4am and although it was dark the pollution (a mixture of smog and dust) was clearly visible in the headlights and streetlights. It was very hot, around 35° most days and only dropped to 27° at night. I travelled with five other female Principals from Victoria, all were from larger schools than ours, four were from different parts of Melbourne and one from Bairnsdale. We were all paired with Indian Principals. We stayed in the business and administrative part of Delhi, which was not unlike an Australian city, just a little less organised and a lot noisier. I did find the traffic congestion, the interpretation of the road rules and the constant honking of horns, quite challenging to begin with but felt more comfortable that I was most probably going to reach my destination unscathed by the end of my stay. The administrative centre of Delhi had a strong British influence and the layout of the Parliament building and the War Memorial (India Gate) was reminiscent of Canberra. My partner Principal was Dr Meenakshi Gupta, who is Principal of S.D. Public school, a private school of 2300 students. I was very fortunate to spend 3 days in her school with her staff and students.



On the days that I visited the students were completing Mid-year exams. Exams are conducted 3 times a year from Year 3 and are the main form of assessment of student progress. Her school services a very middle class area of Delhi and parents strive to be able to pay the fees to access an education here. India has 1.8 million schools, 80 million students and millions of children with no access to education.

Only 22,000 schools of the 1.8 million deliver a curriculum guaranteed by the

government. S.D. Public school is one of those, so it is highly regarded. The attending students are highly motivated to do the very best they can as education is seen in India as the key to securing a better future.



I found the school to be quite different to ours in the way they go about their day to day teaching and learning. The class sizes were between 40-45 students, the classrooms only had basic resources of blackboards & interactive whiteboards, but

very few learning aides. The secondary teachers moved from classroom to classroom, rather than the students moving between lessons.



The outside play area doubled as an assembly area and was really a large sand covered quadrangle. Although the students mainly learnt in English, they were expected to learn 3 languages Hindi, English and another language of their choice either German, Latin or Sanskrit. Students with diagnosed learning difficulties were excused from learning the third language.

The whole school (2300) had an assembly every morning where they sang the National Anthem, the school anthem and said a prayer. Indian culture is celebrated regularly by the school. It seemed like everything had some sort of cultural significance in India, which I felt was maybe the most stark difference to Australia.

It was very impressive the level of learning that was achieved by these students, despite large class sizes and few tangible resources.

School starts at 7.30am and is finished by 1.30pm and students attend school on every second Saturday. Children start formal learning in kindergarten at 2½, learning the alphabet, to count, colours and shapes. The children could write in full sentences by the time they commenced school at 5.

There is a kindergarten and a girls' school that share the same area, making the total student population almost 3500. I think they found my issues of declining population and enrolments a little bit hard to relate to.



As a group of Principals we visited significant educational and cultural sites around Delhi. We travelled to a poor district, and visited a school that operated as a girls' school in the morning with a Principal and staff and in the afternoon another Principal and whole new staff arrived and it operated as a boys' school. We also visited a youth centre that catered for adolescents that had not had been able to access education.



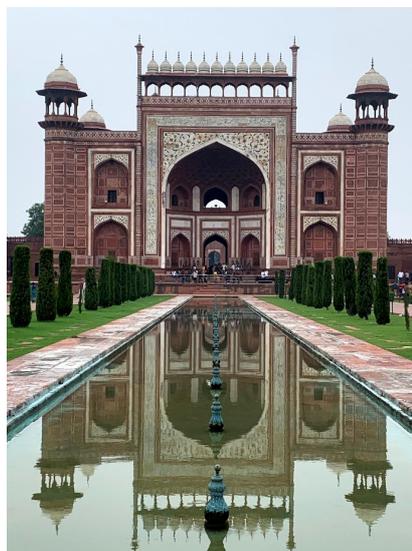
As a group we also participated in a large professional development program around mental health and wellbeing. Mental health and wellbeing of adolescents is a growing issue in India as it is in Australia. I noted many similarities even though the context is quite different. We were fortunate to be joined by the Deputy Premier and Education Minister, James Merlino on two of the evenings. There was a large celebration of the launch of both the Women in School Leadership program and the Young Leaders to India program.



I look forward to May 2020 when we get to reciprocate and host our Indian Principals in Victoria and Dr Meenakshi Gupta will stay in Murrayville and visit our school. I have also been invited to express an interest in the Young Leaders program to India, which I am currently doing on behalf of the Mallee Education Cluster. I would encourage anybody who is thinking about visiting India to do so. It is an amazing place!



Natasha Mudie - Principal





The Year 12 group addressed students and shared special memories of their school days at their final assembly on Thursday, as well as thanking staff for their support over the years.



We were greeted with this odd group on Friday morning - part of the Year 12 Muck Up Day pranks! Their final exams commence on Wednesday of this week.

CANTEEN

ALL ORDERS TO Front Office BEFORE SCHOOL
Late orders will only have access to ham & cheese toasties

MONDAY	Sandwiches <u>AND</u> Toasties
TUESDAY	Sandwiches <u>AND</u> Toasties
WEDNESDAY	HOT FOODS & Toasties <u>ONLY</u> (no sandwiches)
THURSDAY	Sandwiches <u>AND</u> Toasties
FRIDAY	HOT FOODS & Toasties <u>ONLY</u> (no sandwiches)

Pies/Pasties \$4.50 : Party Pies \$1 : Sausage Rolls \$3
Sauce 20c
Pizzas (Ham & Pineapple / Bacon & Cheese) \$2.20
Sandwiches - various prices
Ham & Cheese Toasties \$2

Please - no more than \$5 in your envelope

PRIDE AWARD

P-1:

Cornelius DU PREEZ

for showing RESPECT towards his learning and others in the class, remembering to listen to others and be patient

Alex BECKMANN

for showing RESPECT towards others in our primary school, always being kind and showing initiative to help others

2-4:

Davyd DAVYDIUK

for showing DETERMINATION in his big write to have good structure and a longer story

5-6:

Evie OAKLEY

for EXCELLENCE in preparing a well thought out prop for Oracy

WELL DONE

We wish you all the Best



FAREWELL YEAR 12



variety
the children's charity

The P-6 students and staff enjoyed a fantastic afternoon with a visit from the Variety Bash Cars spreading positivity, lots of fun and laughter on their journey to raise awareness and donations for Cancer Research. The students enjoyed the collection of cars and well know cartoon characters that visited and were treated to a puppet show by Canteen (a childhood cancer charity).

The show educated students about what cancer is and isn't and continued to spread a message of being caring and compassionate for all. Everyone got involved and had a terrific afternoon.

Eryn Wyatt





Kitchen Garden last week had more tantalising smells coming from the Home Economics Room.

- ☺ Mrs Crane's group made Silverbeet, Broccoli & Mozzarella Pizza
- ☺ Mrs Finn was in charge of students making Sauted Garlic Broadbeans with Bacon & Coriander
- ☺ A third group, led by Mrs Hand, made Pumpkin & Spinach Lasagne
- ☺ Mrs Bai led the production of a Whole Lemon Cake

The production line (below right) shows a lot of the kids helping to pop the outer skins off the beans - very labour intensive!

kitchen garden



COLLEGE CALENDAR

28/10-1/11	Year 9 at Rubicon
30/10	VCE exams commence
8/11	Secondary booklists due
11/11	Student Free Day : Staff PD College Council
15/11	Year 12 Dinner
18-22/11	Year 8 Aldinga camp
25-29/11	5/6 Ballarat camp
27-29/11	Year 11 Retreat
29/11	Year 11 Last Day
5-6/12	9/10 Outdoor Ed Aquatic Camp
6/12	Year 10 Last Day
12/12	College Council
12-13/12	Year 9 First Aid
18/12	Presentation Night

We acknowledge the
 Aboriginal and Torres
 Strait Islander peoples,
 the first peoples and
 traditional custodians of
 the lands where we live, learn and work. We pay our respects to the Elders, both past, present
 and future, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of Indigenous Australians.



Community Notices

Kids Club Term 4

Fortnightly, on Tuesdays, from 3.30-4.30
 Pinnaroo Lutheran Hall

This term it's all about the lead up to Christmas!
 It's expected that the kids will form a choir again
 for the carols performance at the Pinnaroo
 Wetlands on Sunday 15th December



SECONDARY BOOKLISTS

will be sent home with students
early this week.

Please note that these will need to be
 returned to the school no later than
Friday 8th November so that orders can
 be collated and placed with the suppliers.
 Parents, if you have students involved in
 camps, please make sure this is attended
 to so they do not miss out.

If we all did the
 things we are
 capable of doing
 we would literally
 astound ourselves

Primary booklists
 will be sent home
 at a later date.



**A REMINDER
 THAT HATS ARE
 TO BE WORN
 WHEN OUTSIDE
 AT SCHOOL IN
 TERMS 1 & 4**