



The Messenger

TERM 3 WEEK 2 TUESDAY 28 JULY 2020



"The need for imagination,
a sense truth and
a feeling of responsibility -
these are the three forces
which are the very
nerve of education."
- Rudolf Steiner

To friends and families,

The world is in an extraordinary situation at the moment. It is particularly unsettling for the young who are constantly being bombarded by stories of a rampaging virus with no solutions to halt the path of its destruction, except personal distancing, restriction of social exchanges, and masked interactions. As adults, we understand the importance of tolerating this disruption to our lives for the health of the wider community, but for children, and in particular adolescents and emerging young adults, it is a time of great uncertainty and anxiety as they await an unknown future.

A silent side effect of this pandemic has seen a loss of connection and hope, especially for those at an age who are just starting to develop their social skills or preparing to journey out into the wider world for the first time. At Mansfield Steiner School, we challenge our students to think freely and to take responsibility for their ideas and actions, arming them with determination, perseverance and the resources to find their own path.

There is no more important predictor of success than hope - the ability to envision a more positive future, even when all evidence points to the contrary.

With a focus on beauty, truth and goodness, the arts and practical activities permeate every subject at Mansfield Steiner School, including the highly emphasised science, technology, engineering, and mathematics subjects.

Steiner education recognises the importance of the arts as an integral part of the development of the whole person. Although we may not all aspire to become artists, the value and development of creative thought, whether it be literary, musical, dramatic or aesthetic cannot fail to expand our appreciation and understanding of the world around us.

Through a considered balance of academic, aesthetic, artisan, altruistic and time in the outdoors, students are equipped with everything they need to lead a life of initiative and purpose. The Outdoor Program connects students to the natural environment and cultivates reverence and respect for their surrounds and their peers. Class plays and musical performances generates in all students an ability to speak with confidence, empowering them to voice their concerns and to see a positive future which they themselves can believe they can create. And while parents provide the first, and arguably the most important adult influence in a child's life, we believe that positive, supportive student-teacher relationships are essential to student's success.

At Mansfield Steiner School we value the traditional Steiner School practice of having one teacher accompany the children through their Primary School years. Over this extended period the teacher and children develop a meaningful relationship that fosters an environment of trust and security within which the child can relax into their learning. Teachers come to know each child and as such are better able to meet their individual needs and honour and support their unique learning and development journey.

Each student is recognised for their infinite potential and expectations for achievement are held high.

Mansfield Steiner School is a place where answers lead to new questions and academic success plays just one part of a much larger mission, to build on life competencies of self-esteem, trust, joy of life, curiosity, openness, problem solving, will and social ability.

Fran Cummins
Principal

Term 3: Tuesday 14 July – Friday 18 September 2020	
Class 3 & 4 Boorolite Farm Excursion	Friday 31 July
Year 9 XC Ski Camp	Tue 4 - Fri 7 August
Class 1 Play (daytime performance/student audience only)	Thu 6 August
International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	Sum 9 August
Year 9 Desert Camp	Mon 24 – Fri 28 August
Class 3 Play (daytime performance/student audience only)	Thu 27 August
Year 8 NT Camp	Mon 31 – Sat 5 September
Class 2 Play (daytime performance/student audience only)	Thu 3 September
Developing Sexuality Workshops	Mon 7 – Wed 9 September
Year 9 Play (daytime performance/student audience only)	Thu 10 September
Last day of Term 3	Friday 18 September



YEAR 9 SOCIAL ENTERPRISE FINALLY KICKS OFF

The Year 9 Social Enterprise project came to a halt due to COVID-19 lockdowns in March and restrictions on public gatherings. It was exciting that this weekend, Abby was able to finally participate in the local farmer's market. Her original small business idea, selling upcycled material shopping bags and hand-made cards, was further developed and shaped by the COVID-19 experience as she added washable face-masks to her list of wares. Working for the duration of the market with her classmate Eva, the students successfully sold over \$1200 worth of stock, resulting in a donation to our local Landcare group of over \$1000 in profits. The Social Enterprise sought to teach students the basics of creating and managing a small-business, with the benefits of returning all or part of profits back to the community. We congratulate Abby on her dedication to seeing her enterprise through to completion.

It has been a tricky year for the Year 9 students to navigate this project around the hurdles of COVID-19. In early November the Mansfield Council intends to hold a gathering and competition at the local skate-park where some of our other student will look to conduct their small business enterprise ideas as part of the event.

- Suzanne Van Wyk (Secondary Coordinator)



CLASS 2

Class 2 had a very productive session sanding their own very special squares of wood. They then hammered 10 nails in a circle and used this to make the patterns of the multiplication tables. They have clapped the multiplication tables, sung them, made the patterns with wool both on their nail boards and outside in a large circle, they have drawn the patterns and written their tables out.

The next step is the hard bit - they need to learn them so well that they don't have to think for a second about the answerA huge thank you to Andy Webb for cutting the wood.

- Jacinta Walker (Class 2 Teacher)

CLASS 1

Class 1s are now fully immersed in the production of 'The Animals of Timbertop', their first Class Play. We spent the first week of practice chanting the lines together as we stomped, walked or stretched. On Friday everyone received their parts which means this week we can practice the characters individually. We will perform the play to the rest of the primary school on Thursday August 6th.

In conjunction to this Main Lesson we have been writing one sentence per day based on the play and

drawing a picture to match. These sentences will make up the students first reader.

There is also much excitement around the work we are doing with our recorder bags. Once all the bags are completed, we will receive our recorders. We hope to play recorder for a short time each day, learning to play a number of songs that we can already sing.

- Clare Bennetts (Class 1 Teacher)



ROSA MUNDI

The Rosa Mundi Prep Class have been very busy enjoying time out in the unseasonal sunshine. Using the pruning from the ornamental grape on the fence we wove a retaining fence for the millet grass to grow behind in the spring. It has become a ship to play in. We have enjoyed some big walks into town. First to collect some fish for our bowl. Goldy, Mandy (short for mandarin because of her colour) and Sorbet (because he is orange sorbet on top and lemon sorbet on the bottom) have made themselves at home. Feeding the fish is now a sought-after job in the afternoon job rotation. On Friday we walked down to the Botanical Gardens. Lots of trees were climbed in the beautiful sunshine.

- Ariel Stava (Rosa Mundi Prep Teacher)



MORNING STAR

Our return to Morning Star has been full of adventure. We have been exploring the big school in the morning, experiencing nature at its best in the fog and frost.

Our worm farm is our sustainable project, we are learning about what worms really like to eat, as well as what they don't like. We have learnt that they don't like the cold, so we feed them and tuck them into bed with a blanket.

We have also all enjoyed our recent story 'The Shoemaker and the Elves'.

- Sandi Valerio (Early Childhood Teacher)



AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PROJECT

On Thursday Year 9 students participated in a Mansfield Council initiative that saw students mentor and teach IT skills and internet navigation to older Mansfield residents at the local Youth Centre. Students prepared for the session with initiatives coordinator Bianca Shearan, training how to communicate effectively with people across generations and express ideas in metaphors to be easily understood by people of an older generation. The Year 9 cohort also completed an online, government module so that they could be COVID-19 safe whilst working with their mentees. Students were initially tentative approaching the session but were quick to enjoy the company of their mentees and share their knowledge of technology. One very happy participant exclaimed she had learnt more in her two-hour session with her mentor, than previously in a 10-week computing course.

- Suzanne Van Wyk (Secondary Coordinator)

Tech help sessions for residents over 55

MANSFIELD'S community members aged 55 and over will have the opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills in information and technology as well as connect with students from Mansfield Rudolf Steiner School as part of an Age Friendly Communities project to start later this month.

Mansfield Shire mayor Marg Attley said that "COVID-19 restrictions had highlighted the need for people to be able to connect with friends and family using different technology platforms".

"We have an aging population here in Mansfield," Cr Attley said.

"Remaining connected to family and friends plays a vital role in promoting and assisting in healthy ageing."

"We're excited that this project is helping people to use the technology to connect to their own family and friends while making new connections with teachers and year 9 students from the Steiner School."

Mansfield Rudolf Steiner School principal Fran Cummins said as a part of the year 9 curriculum, students are required to participate in community service.

"Community service enables students to acquire life skills and knowledge,

provides them with an opportunity to become active members of their community and allows the students an opportunity to provide a service to those who need it most," Ms Cummins said.

Council's Age Friendly Communities project officer Bianca Hurle said the technology lessons would be provided in a cafe style.

"Community members will be able to work with the students and problem shoot areas that can assist them to gain confidence and knowledge in individual devices and therefore promote socialisation and connection," Ms Hurle said.

"They'll work with participants assisting them with downloading and using apps, such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Microsoft Outlook, Gmail, Skype, Facebook, Messenger and more."

The sessions will run for two hours, with 10 students from the Steiner School being mentors to 10 community members.

These technology cafe sessions form one of five projects to be delivered within Mansfield Shire under the Age Friendly Communities project.

Mansfield Shire Council was one of four local councils across regional Victoria to receive an Age Friendly Communities grant from the

Department of Health and Human Services.

Following the community engagement phase of the project, five priority projects were identified, including fostering intergenerational connections while increasing technology knowledge and skills among adults over 55 years.

The technology sessions will be held at Mansfield Shire Youth space at 7 Erill St, Mansfield.

Due to the current social distancing requirements, only 10 community members and 10 mentors will be possible per session. The sessions will be held between 11.30am and 1.30pm on Thursdays, July 23, July 30, August 13 and August 20.

A light individual snack will be provided to participants and students.

Bookings are essential so that COVID-safe requirements can be managed and to keep you informed if there are any changes due to the social distancing regulations.

If you require any further information or would like to book into a session visit www.mansfield.vic.gov.au/residents/community/age-friendly-communities or contact Bianca Hurle, Age Friendly project coordinator on 5775 8563 or bianca.sheeran@mansfield.vic.gov.au.

- The Mansfield Courier

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (GC) meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 6.30pm.

President – Sarah Lieber

Vice President – John Bowen

Treasurer – Tim Ross

Secretary – Scott Ersvaer

Catherine Yencken, Ingrid Ueno, Rosemary Brennan.

Mandate Groups

Marketing – Sarah Lieber

Gardens & Grounds – Scott Ersvaer

Policy – John Bowen, Ingrid Ueno and Rosemary Brennan

Project Steering Team – Catherine Yencken, Sarah Lieber

Finance Committee – Tim Ross, Sarah Lieber

STAFF SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESSES

Fran Cummins (Principal) franc@mrssk.vic.edu.au - For ALL school issues. (Parents please note your first port of call is to your class teacher to discuss any issue regarding your child, thank you)

Jacinta Walker (Vice Principal) jacintaw@mrssk.vic.edu.au

Suzanne McKay (Secondary Coordinator) suzannem@mrssk.vic.edu.au

Andrew Karzons (Operations and Financial Manager) andrewk@mrssk.vic.edu.au

Sally Singleton (School reception and College Secretary) sallys@mrssk.vic.edu.au – Everyday admin enquiries. All staff have a school email address as above, being their first name and initial of their last name ie: name@mrssk.vic.edu.au.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Early Days is a series of FREE workshops for parents and other family members of young children (0-7 years) who are on the autism spectrum. They are also suitable for parents who feel their child may be on the spectrum but have not received a formal diagnosis.

Understanding Behaviour Workshop for Parents

Part 1: Wednesday 29th July 2020: 7.30pm-9.00pm

Part 2: Thursday 30th July 2020: 7.30pm-9.00pm

Part 3: Wednesday 5th August 2020: 7.30pm-9.00pm

**must attend all workshops*

What this workshop offers:

- Understanding why your child has behavioural issues.
- Learn how to identify the purpose of your child's behaviour.
- Learn how to develop strategies.
- Plan for success.

More about Early Days workshops

- Free to attend
- Held in small groups of 12 and gives you an opportunity to meet other parents

Workshops held remotely via Zoom

It is highly recommended you attend the "My Child and Autism" workshop prior to attending this workshop



For more information about this workshop or other workshops and to register
<https://www.amaze.org.au/support/early-days/>





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**Encouraging Interaction:
through play and social learning workshop for parents**

Part 1: Monday 3rd August 2020: 9.30am – 11.00am

Part 2: Tuesday 4th August 2020: 9.30am – 11.00am

**must attend all workshops*

What this workshop offers:

- Understanding play, social learning
- Strategies to scaffold and encourage play and social learning

More about Early Days workshops

- Free to attend
- Held in small groups of 12 and gives you an opportunity to meet other parents

Workshops held remotely via Zoom

It is highly recommended you attend the "My Child and Autism" workshop prior to attending this workshop



For more information about this workshop or other workshops and to register
<https://www.amaze.org.au/support/early-days/>



LOCAL BUSINESS REGISTER

Mansfield Steiner School is excited to launch our new Local Suppliers Register. The purpose of this register is to support our school community's local businesses, promoting a wider awareness so that our community can show local support when considering the purchase of goods or services.

As we continue to grow this list, we are seeking the support of our local business community through the submission of business information. Please complete the [linked](#) form to ensure your information is featured correctly. Forms can be returned to emmaw@mrssk.vic.edu.au or dropped in to the school office.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us on 03 5779 1445.

TRADE	BUSINESS NAME	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL	DETAILS
Registered Osteopath	Dr Bernadette Gifford	Dr Bernadette Gifford	5775 2166	bn.osteo@hotmail.com	Osteopath
Barber Shop	The Shearing Shed Mansfield	Jodie Morris	5775 2300	morrisjodie1973@gmail.com	Men's Hairdressing, Proraso Grooming products & Wahl Grooming products
Agriculture	HCH Genetics	Jacqui Aylan-Parker or Dale Edwards	0429795468 or 0427806672	jacquiavlanp@gmail.com	Cattle AI, semen sales, ultrasound pregnancy testing, embryo flush and transfer.
Retail	Mansfield Sweets Shoppe	Natasha Kavanagh	5775 3221	info@mansfieldsweets@gmail.com	Lollies & treats
Registered Commercial & Domestic Builder	Full Scale Constructions	Matt Anderson	0405 441 473	matt@fullscaleconstructons.com.au	Green living Accredited. Master Builder Member New homes, extension & renovations, shop fits & commercial projects.

Retail	Maison Fireplaces	Ivan Pacak	0409 353 331	ivan@maisonfireplaces.com.au	5% Discount for Steiner Families. Inbuilt & free standing European fireplaces.
Mechanic	High Country Mechanical	Scott Ersvaer	0409 700 978	hcm20B@gmail.com	10% Discount for Steiner Families. All mechanical work, cars & farm machinery.
Electrician	Daniel Friday	Dan Friday	0448 533 510	d.a.friday@hotmail.com	All types of electrical, installation & repairs. Split system air conditioning supply & installation. TV Antenna & Satellite Dish installation & repairs. Fully Licensed & insured.
Retail	Mansfield Noodle House	Jamie & Michelle	5779 1880	jamiepon@hotmail.com	Chinese Cuisine & noodles. Student and teacher lunches by special order.
Retail	Shopping World	Michelle & Maggie	5775 2838	N/A	Variety Shop. Party needs, craft, kitchen needs, picture frames and storage etc.
Counselling and Therapy	The Wellbeing Paddock	Jane Hall	0417 765 366	jhall@ggs.vic.edu.au	thewellbeingpaddock.com.au Individual counselling, Equine Assisted Therapy. Social/emotional skills programs, support and staff workshops available.
Graphic Designer	Baker Design Co.	Adam Baker	0407 007 245	info@adambaker.com.au	Graphic Design, Sign Writing, Murals.
Life Coaching / Business Consultancy	Briana Seaton Coaching	Briana Seaton	0427 878 071	hello@brianaseaton.com	www.brianaseaton.com Life & Business Coaching. Published co-author 'Empowered Woman Empowering the World'.
Retail	Snowfox	Kym Henderson	0419 526 344	kym@snowfox.com.au	Snowfox.com.au Skiwear, Ski Accessories, Winter boots, Designer casuals, Alpine jewellery, homewares, snow-themed toys, Mt Buller clothing & souvenirs.
Artist, Qualified Dressmaker, Interior Decorator and Designer	Agnes Robinson	Agnes Robinson	0413 564 228	agirobinson@gmail.com	Natural toys, alterations, sustainable products, craft workshops & Covid-19 Masks.



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