



### Virtual Art Gallery

Creativity abounds at Mac.Rob. Pg 9 & 10



### GIVING at Home

Stories of being inspired to GIV from home. Pg 7



### Online Learning

Watch the Mac.Rob Showreel to see online learning in action! Pg 8



### Virtual House Athletics

Oreads victorious as winners in fun competition. Pg 12

# mac.rob news



## DATES/EVENTS

**Tuesday 26 May**

Return to school VCE students:

**Monday June 8**

Queen's Birthday public holiday:

**Tuesday 9 June**

Return to school Year 9 and 10 students:

**Friday June 19**

Student-free day:

**Wednesday June 24**

Student-free day:

**Friday June 26** Last day term two (2pm finish): June 26

### **VCE updates:**

**Wednesday September 9**

General Achievement Test (GAT):

**Monday 9 November - Wednesday December 2**

VCE examination period:



## Teachers appreciated!

**“All teachers assemble! This time of year could have been one of the worst times or best opportunities, and you guys killed it! The whole cohort rocked this term like The Avengers, and there are no more words to appreciate all you have done to support and encourage us!”**

### **A Year 12 student's message to our teachers**

What a whirlwind it has been since our last newsletter, when we were planning for a move to a remote teaching and learning program...how distant that time appears! A lot has certainly happened in the past two months.

Whilst I must admit I don't know much about The Avengers, as you can see from our student feedback, it is clear that our teachers have embraced their online learning superhero identities with gusto! I extend a sincere and heartfelt thanks to our staff who have worked incredibly hard to ensure our students' learning has continued at full

strength...many of us have learnt skills we never anticipated we would need, and all have been driven by the motivation to help our students achieve their best, no matter the situation.

The message included above is part of a series of posts written by our students to our teachers, just one of the ways that our school community has continued to nurture relationships during this period of physical absence. This week our senior students have been excited to return, to see old friends and familiar faces, and to settle back into some of the routine of school life. But whilst we appreciate our return to 'normal', it is important that we do not disregard all that we have learnt over the past two months, and that we consider what we have learnt and how we might re-imagine the future to accommodate this learning.

A significant lesson from this period of change has been the importance of focusing our energy on managing what we can control, and accepting what we can't. Life is uncertain, and as this time has shown us, sometimes things just happen! What matters is how we face uncertainty, and how quickly we adjust our attitudes, our thinking and our actions to suit what is happening in the present. Looking forward means opening the door to what is possible now, not mourning what has been, and it is this growth mindset that will help us think about our future as we emerge from our closure.

'In times of crisis the wise build bridges, while the foolish build barriers,' says Marvel superhero Black Panther. Now is the perfect time for us to reflect on the bridges we have built that will move us towards an even more exciting and successful future.

Superhero teachers? That's Mac.Rob!

### Anne Stout, Principal



Online staff morning tea



3

## Captains' update

With the recent announcement of returning to school, the student body is full of excitement, enthusiasm and eager anticipation. After a near two-month break, we prepare to recommence learning in the classroom, spend lunchtimes with our friends (while keeping our distance!) and seeing familiar faces we have missed dearly. We cannot wait to have our community reunited again.

School, for us students, is not only a place for learning and academic growth, but it is a space that fosters genuine connection with our peers and the formation of lifelong friendships. We know, walking through the school doors for the first time in a while, we will feel gratitude and appreciation. The events over the past few months have offered many valuable lessons and highlighted the importance of daily appreciation for the things that are so often taken for granted.

The common saying 'every cloud has a silver lining', couldn't be more fitting, one of the silver linings was the inspiring way Mac.Robbians have supported one another, and together, we have approached the challenges of this time with optimism, innovation and resilience, which has been the most genuine display of the Mac.Rob spirit which resides in each student and teacher who is at MacRob.

The ongoing support from our teachers in particular is something we have the utmost appreciation for. They have excelled within our virtual classrooms, encouraging us to continue striving towards our goals, and stay connected with our peers by participating in group tasks. Continuing to motivate us during these uncertain of times, their dedication, from daily check-ins with our Form teachers, to creating a range of podcasts and videos for different subjects made us feel supported. As well as supporting our academic studies, our teachers have cared for our wellbeing, even from afar, our school value of educating the whole person has been upheld.

Aside from mental and physical well-being which has been a major focus, involvement in extracurricular events has been equally encouraged. We would like to congratulate the portfolio leaders for the innovative leadership they have displayed over the past few weeks, continuing to run events virtually such as House Athletics. This has shown us that Mac.Robbians can meet the challenges of the future with poise, positivity, creativity and enthusiasm. Despite the physical distances between us, we have stayed communicating with one another through an array of new platforms to share information including Tribe, Google Meet and Webex to name but a few.

Thank you all for your support and ability to adapt over the past few weeks

**Michaela and Aishah, School Captains.**



## To the teachers...

A small sample of the thoughtful thank you messages from senior students to MacRob teachers.

**Thank you to all of the teachers and staff of Mac.Rob for your work during online learning.**

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Thanks to every teacher who managed to power through these hard times and had to juggle ongoing assessments, a changing timeline and modifying their lesson plans. Your work has been superb so far, you're all real heroes!

From anon

Thank you to all my teachers who are always supporting me and care for my wellbeing <3

From Anon

Thank you to all the teachers who have put the time and effort into making online learning as easy as possible. The resources, the communication; all are very much appreciated!

From Anon

Thank you for putting so much work into our subjects and helping us through these difficult times. Thank you for always being there whenever we have questions

From ;)

thank you to every single teacher that has made the transition to online learning so smooth. We appreciate it so much thank you:) we hope you are all taking care of yourselves too

From anon

Thank you to all the teachers that have helped us through this tough time, never failing to encourage or help us when we need. We understand that this is just as hard for you as it is for us and we really do appreciate every single one of you!!

From anon

**...from the students.**

## Welcome back to VCE students!

### Out of the fog they came!

It was a foggy morning when teachers welcomed Mac.Rob students back to school on Tuesday 26 June. They came with smiles on their faces and a spring in their step, eager to resume onsite, face to face learning at school. Greeting their friends with elbow bumps and laughs, like a duck to water, they quickly resumed where they had left off, into the stimulating groove that is learning at Mac.Rob!

We look forward to similarly welcoming our Year 9s and 10s on Tuesday the 9 June.



## LRC ready for students return

Learning Resource Centre has timely books ready for students to read for helpful reflection during this time of change. Positive themes from the “Be your best self every day” series are available now from the LRC. Do yourself a favour and borrow one today!







## Mac.Rob Stays United on Tribe.

Since the launch of Mac.Rob Tribe on 15 April, the student community have embraced the many opportunities to stay connected while learning at home.

A positive and helpful initiative by the students, Mac.Rob Tribe hosted shared conversations, challenges and exciting virtual events via the various clubs and leadership portfolios. With Mac.Robbians connecting in many virtual ways over the past two months, Tribe's part in the success of keeping the Mac.Rob spirit alive during lockdown is undeniable.



here's just a snippet of the interactions on Tribe:

### Sage advice from Enviro

"Stay safe and 10 turnips apart", good advice from Enviro Co-Captain Elizabeth Kim and the 2020 Environment Committee

### Positivity from Pallas

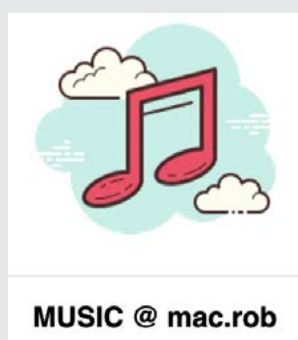
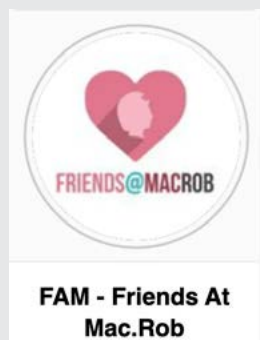
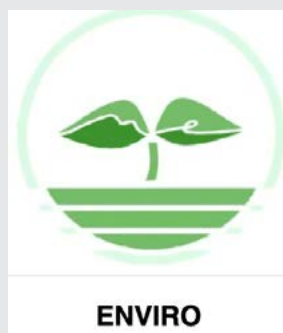
"The world is closed for renovations right now, the grand-opening will happen soon, I promise!" by Ananaya (9H)

### For the love of Music

This is going to be a space for us to provide you guys with an opportunity to interact with each other and share our mutual love for music.

### ICT not just 0s and 1s!

Hello all! Here's a link to the spreadsheet (mmmm, spreadsheets) for the typing competition... *later*...Excellent work and hope you all had fun making your fingers slightly more buff than before!



# Never stop GIVING!

Being in isolation didn't stop Mac.Rob students volunteering or giving.

The 'brief' was, "Share an enlightening experience that made YOU realise the importance of GIVING at home"

"Here are some of those stories that inspired students to do volunteering or giving at home, may that be giving to others or themselves! It is important to spend time doing something you love and enjoy so that you can spread positivity and love around your homes!"



These holidays are the perfect opportunity to dedicate some time for your hobbies - I really enjoy painting!! It was great to take some time off social media/binge watching tv and indulge in something relaxing that also makes me happy:)

~ Manveen 12C



We all need food but it doesn't have to be bought from the shops! Doing gardening in my backyard, initially to reduce shopping trips and be more sustainable, has helped me to appreciate the amount of effort that goes into making food.

~ Chen 11B



For my 6th birthday, I spent the day with my family at an orphanage with children with disabilities. Their smiles made me realise how important it is to give to others, especially those who may not have everything you have.

~ Sadiyah 9F



As we all know keeping active and getting that vitamin D is super important especially when we're stuck at home, so I have been going out and walking my dog! If you have neighbours who can't go outside, this can also be a great opportunity to ask if their dog needs walking too (remember social distancing and wash your hands etc of course!).

~ Nicky 10D



On ANZAC Day, I played the Last Post on my driveway to commemorate not only the soldiers who fought in Gallipoli but also the victims of the coronavirus pandemic. I felt proud and extremely grateful towards our frontline health workers for saving lives as well as putting themselves at risk. I want this pandemic to show us a better side of ourselves, and this was my way of giving back to the community!

~ Dilanka 12B



At home, during this time, I have been helping my siblings with their homework and doing little chores. Fortunately, my grandparents live in the same house as I do and I spend some of my time watching tv with them or just talking with them so they don't feel lonely. :)

~ Narmatha 9F



My grandma lives by herself in Sri Lanka and we call her for a long time every single day. We do this because we know how much it means to have someone be with you through thick and thin especially during hard times like this.

~ Vihagi 9K



I learnt how to knit and now I'm knitting my second blanket for animals in the RSPCA!

~ Suhani 10H



During quarantine, I realised that being at home all the time was a great way to practise a hobby of mine - cooking! Going to a new school meant I was a lot busier and this was a great way to kill some time but also have some fun.

~ Rahmah 9F

# Online Learning Showreel

During the past two months, Mac.Rob students and teachers have used a varied array of technology to ensure online learning is working at a high level. These included, Google classroom, meet and hangouts; Webex; Padlet; Screencast o Matic; Anchor; amongst others.

We have compiled a [Mac.Rob Online Learning Showreel](#) from a selection of subjects and year levels to showcase the innovative and engaging ways online learning is delivered at Mac.Rob. Click on the link above to view.

Below is a taster of our Showreel.

## History Year 10 “Making of the Modern World”

**How do you think this COVID-19 epidemic will be viewed in 50 years time?**

*“The information gathered and collected from this pandemic will assist many fields beyond history itself. Economics, Science, Medicine and Geography will also review and study this epidemic to prevent it. Not only will the virus be seen as a learning lesson but it could change how a country reacts to a sudden global change.”*

*Katie*

## Unit 3 Biology At-Home Experiments

**The effect of calcium on the quality of eggs produced by hens.**



**Fungal growth on bread**



**heating fresh pineapple juice on the activity of its protease enzyme bromelain by observing the viscosity of gelatin.**





## Virtual art gallery

Take a look at these exciting student art works in this [virtual art exhibition](#)! This exhibition showcases student work created at home, such as Unit 1 Studio Art self-portraits, designing an alphabet and photography.

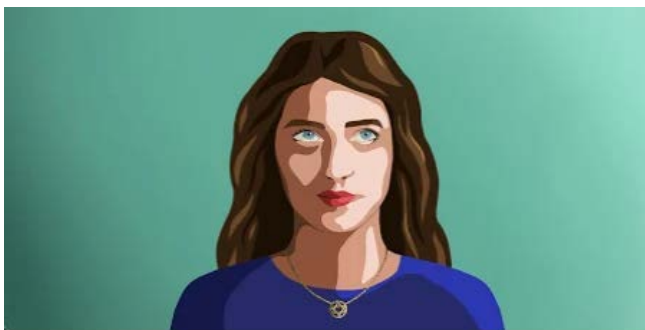


Niran Anbhalagan, self-portrait. Studio Art U1



Bella, Degas digital drawing.

Gila Alphabet poster



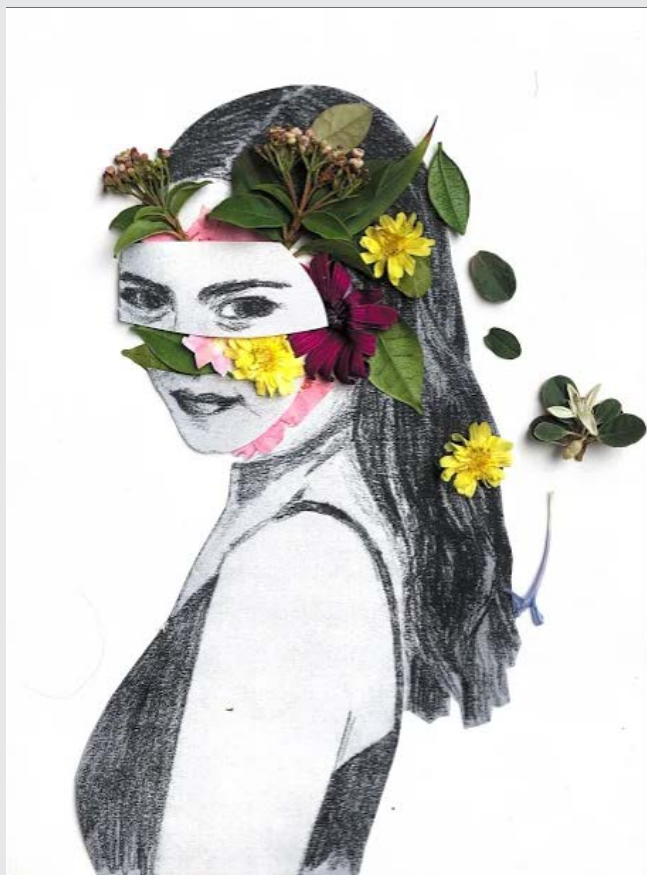
Gila Bloch, self portrait, Studio Art U1



Bethany Lo-Han, self-portrait. Studio Art U1

## Virtual art gallery ...continued

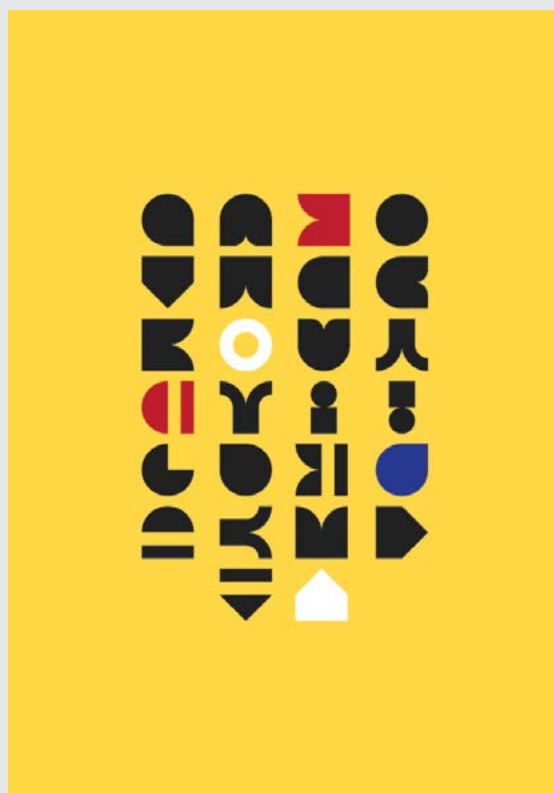
Clodagh McMahon, self portrait, Studio Art Unit 1



Choeyang Gurung Photography Yr 9



Zahreen Morshed, self-portrait. Studio Art U1



Bella, Alphabet Poster

## Premier's VCE Awards recipients

Last year's top performing VCE students received the awards in recognition of their outstanding academic performance last year, with 28 students achieving Top All-Round VCE High Achiever awards.

There are 307 awards handed out across 95 different subjects for outstanding academic performance in 2019.

Four Mac.Rob VCE students from 2019 are recipients of the Premier's VCE Award.

**Congratulations** go to:

Kennice Tan for her results in English EAL,

Emilin Joby for her results in Health VET,

Maryam Darmawan for her results in Indonesian Second Language,

Hannah Chin for her results Music Performance.

You can view the full list of reward recipients online [here](#).

## Mac.Rob Podcast:

### How to Change the World

A student produced podcast - researched, written, recorded and edited entirely by Year 10 Mac.Rob students.

In their Year 10 Humanities elective, "How to Change the World", they were given free rein to choose the social issues they care about, and explore how our Australian and global community addresses the challenges that face us. This podcast is entirely their work.

[Listen for free](#) on Anchor to weekly episodes, released every Monday.



### Latest Episode

The [latest episode](#) from the 25th of May covers the Stolen Generation, and, like every episode, is completely the work of Mac.Rob students.





# Virtual House Athletics 2020

## Sports Report



SPORT@Mac.Rob

Nothing was going to stand in the way of the traditional and competitive House Athletics this year! An excellent opportunity to stay fit and healthy while in isolation, the sports students organised a Virtual House Athletics to take place from the 1st to the 8th of May. During the week, students filmed themselves taking part in various 'events' from home sending their highly creative and often amusing videos to rack up points for their House.

Having no access to sport equipment didn't get in the way of Mac.Rob athletes competing, throwing fruit instead of a shotput, using umbrellas as javelins, and our favourite, doggedly lifting their pets to simulate weights, (luckily they didn't own a Bernese Mountain Dog!).

Take a look at [this highlight reel](#) to see just how creative the students got in order to compete against their peers and continue the tradition of House Athletics.

Congratulations go to **Oreads** for their win in 2020, it'll go down in the annals of history!

Final scores:

1st place: **Oreads** 1445 points

2nd place: **Dryads** 1005 points,

3rd place **Naiads** 920 points,

4th place **Nereids** 260 points.



Happy Captains of Oreads, winning house - Nhi Nguyen and Trisha Tan



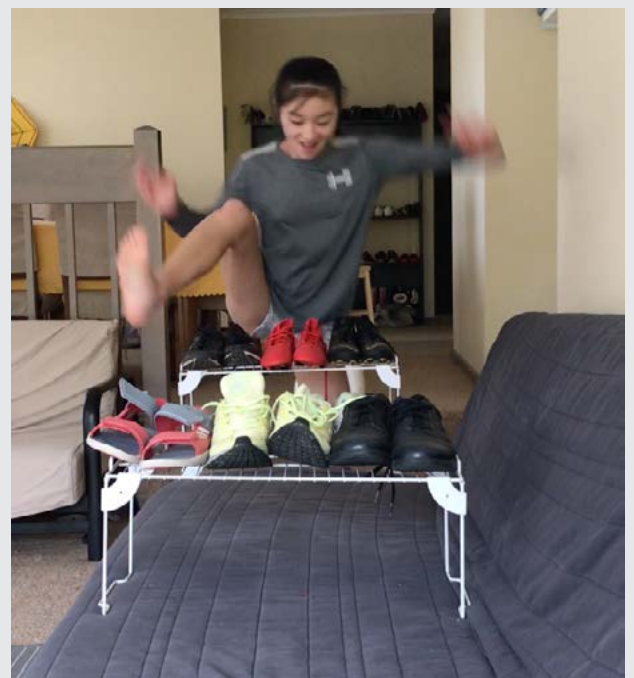
Tara Lake from Oreads had a willing weight in her dog Coco, doing her bit for the win!



## Adaptability in Sport:

### More fun at the games:

In the spirit of having fun and staying healthy, here are more examples of Mac.Robbiants being innovative with found objects at home in order to engage in and compete in the Virtual House Athletics!



## Environment

### Keen Green Beans Club

A happy surprise awaited the Keen Green Beans Club on return to school. Plants and vegetables did not take a break from growing! A late harvest of banana peppers, yellow tiny tomatoes, purple capsicum and looooong squash has been a joy to pick and share.

If you're passionate about making a difference, join the club now to enjoy planting, caring for and eating of winter crops. The more you put in, the more you get out of it! See Chenxin or Jennifer at the Veggie Plot on Friday lunchtimes and most sunny days.





## Inspired Social Change Makers.

A group of enthusiastic young leaders from Mac.Rob Year 11 attended the Youth in Philanthropy YiP20 Forum at the State Library of Victoria, the exciting inaugural event on March 10 for the 2020 Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (LMCF) Youth in Philanthropy Program.

Around 180 students from 19 Melbourne schools had the opportunity to hear from inspiring leaders such as Dr Catherine Brown OAM and Mr David McNamara, respectively, LMCF's and Food Bank Victoria's CEOs. Philanthropists spoke about some of the challenges currently facing our community and the excellent work being done through charitable organisations to tackle those challenges.

Mac.Rob Vice-Captain, Aishah Brockhoff, was invited to speak to students about her experiences and learnings as a 2019 YiP alumni.

Are you inspired to make social change? If you are and would like to learn more about current community issues, community leadership and philanthropy, click on this link for information from Aishah about the [Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation YiP program](#).



L-R: CEO Dr Catherine Brown OAM, 2019 YiP alumni guest speaker Aishah Brockhoff, and Chief Marketing & Development Officer, Garry Tanner. Photo courtesy of Glonaida Quiapon from LMCF.



Mac.Rob's Youth in Philanthropy (YiP) 2020 Committee attending were, Sharanaa Jayaroopan, Rebecca Le, Le-Ann Lim, Evonne Lu, Arushi Senchaudhuri, Hedy Shi, Clarissa Van, Sophie Wang.

## Parents Association



### Committee for 2020

President	Mrs Keetha Rajavel
Secretary	Mrs Pratibha Madan
Treasurer	Mr Wiknesh Nagenthiram

### Committee members

Sabine Dejeu Ruth Murphy Manju Kampli Ben Golding

Find out what the 2020 committee are working on in the Parents Association in the next edition of Mac.Rob News.

