



**WHAT'S ON
AT MAC.ROB**

Upcoming Events
Pg. 3



**MUSIC AT
MAC.ROB**

Twilight Concert
Pg. 6



**STUDENT
ARTWORK**

Year 10 Design
Pg. 10



**COMMUNITY
NEWS**

Parent Catch-Ups
Pg. 19

mac.rob news

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon April 19th

Term 2 Commences

Wed April 21st

House Athletics Day

Wed April 21st - Sat 24th

Production 2021: A Midsummer
Night's Dream

Fri April 23rd

Legacy ANZAC Service

Mon April 26th - Fri 30th

Year 10 Camp

Thurs May 6th

Parent Teacher Conferences

Tues May 11th - Fri 14th

Year 9 NAPLAN

Wed June 9th

GAT & Report Writing Day

Mon June 14th

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Tues June 15th - Fri 18th

Year 10 Work Experience



Celebrating Term 1

Approaching the end of Term, it's great to look back and see how far we've come in returning to 'Mac.Rob normal'! This month has been jam-packed with activities, and after a lengthy hiatus, our students have been celebrating the joys of the arts and live performance.

The **Regional Strings Festival** saw our Hall filled with 170 musicians from schools across our Region, and this was followed by our sold-out **Twilight Concert**. As I write, our **House Drama** performances are being tweaked and polished in readiness for Wednesday night; House events are a particular highlight of Mac.Rob, being driven entirely by our student body, and the spirit of participation and collaboration is a key element within all the Houses. I know the enthusiasm, energy and levels of creativity will be high!

Clubs are now operating, and I commend all our students for their involvement, whether running a club or participating. Co-curricular activities are important in supporting our students' connection to school and connection to each other, and the range is diverse and fun. From Self Defence to Ad Astra, the MacRob KPOP Club or Needley - there is certainly a club for every student and every interest!

This month we've seen a return to our association events; the Palladians, alongside Melbourne High School's alumni, commenced their **Year 10 Junior Leadership Program**, and a number of our Year 11 students have now begun the **Palladians Mentoring Program**.

Our second **International Women's Day Breakfast** was on the theme of 'Inspiring Women', and we were thrilled to welcome three former students - Ann Nicholson, Sarah Davidson and Ester Erlich - to share their fascinating stories of growth, learning, and unexpected successes. The Mac.Rob Foundation has also continued to support our students, awarding bursaries to three students this Term to support their learning. More scholarships and bursaries will be available in Term 2, so families are reminded to check the website for further details.

I'm delighted to say that we are progressing well with our Lakeside renovation; our School Council President and I have recently been part of the tender process to appoint architects for the project and we hope to be able to provide an update on the successful firm very soon. I expect that by the end of next Term I will be in a position to provide our community with a sense of the project timeline. Our SRC Buildings Action Team has already met with me to discuss the project, and I know that they are as excited as I am about commencing this work.

After a full and rewarding term, I know that our community is looking forward to a well-deserved rest; I wish all our families a wonderful holiday break!

Anne Stout, Principal



Ms. Anne Stout, Students Leaders, and Panellists at the annual International Women's Day Breakfast, 2021.

What's on at Mac.Rob

Production 2021 | "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

The Mac.Rob and Melbourne High School co-production has returned for 2021! Shakespeare's classic romantic comedy of feuding fairies, lost lovers, and muddled Mechanicals is sure to enchant the whole family!

Presented in the Mac.Rob Rose Garden and grounds, and featuring cast, crew, and live orchestra of students from both MacRob and MHS, this is a perfect all-ages community event. [Click here to book your tickets.](#)

Wednesday, April 21st - Saturday, April 24th

School Tours for Year 9 in 2022

The Mac.Rob community is reminded that tours of Mac.Rob are currently being conducted for all students looking to enrol in 2022. If you know a friend or family member interested in enrolling at Mac.Rob, please direct them [to our booking page](#) to secure their spot, as places are strictly limited.

Applications for Year 9 in 2022 close on May 14th, 2021

Presentation Night 2021 | Save the date

Family and friends of Mac.Rob are advised that Presentation Night will be held at Hamer Hall on Wednesday, December 15th. Ticket information will be available later in the year.

Wednesday, December 15th, 2021 @ Hamer Hall



The combined 2021 Production, "A Midsummer Night's Dream", featuring students from Mac.Rob and MHS. Tickets on sale now.

Follow Us On Social Media

Stay up-to-date with all the latest news, photos, and videos by following us on social media.



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



Captain Updates

Hi, Mac.Rob! March has been a jam-packed month, with so many events to demonstrate our school spirit. We saw outstanding participation in the Swimming Carnival, with the house spirit continuing on with House Drama! It's been amazing to see our school come together for some friendly competition, all while constantly supporting each other. These occasions are all the sweeter following lockdown in 2020. The plays at House Drama were incredible, with the talent of all the students involved shining through. Congratulations to Dryads and Nereids for their victories at these events!



There have also been plenty of musical performances throughout this term, with the Twilight Concert and Mac.Rob Idol both being huge successes. Sport also had a busy month with Ride2School Day and sport competitions such as the Teacher vs Student Volleyball competition, the dodgeball competition and inter-school sports .

This term, we have definitely seen incredible energy, setting the pace for the year to come! We can not wait for Term 2, where we will undoubtedly make more memories and keep thriving.

Alexa (School Captain) & Krish (Vice Captain)



Students receive a healthy smoothy to celebrate National Ride2School Day.



Year 9 Philosophy Aesthetics Excursion

What is a work of art? Who decides? Is aesthetic value universal or simply “in the eye of the beholder”? Is an artwork’s meaning what the artist intended it to be or what the viewer sees? What do I: See? Think? Wonder?



On March 11th, the Year 9 Philosophy class went on an “Aesthetics Excursion” with Mr. Regalo and Mr. Richardson to the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA), which is like a gallery, but with a twist. By and large, many galleries curate art from artists who are no longer alive, but all the pieces at ACCA are created by living artists and reflect the current ideals and opinions of our time.

One artwork that stood out to me was Tracing Inscriptions by Robert Andrew; it was a white wall with coal-like branches scraping across it. At first glance, it seemed perfectly ordinary, perhaps even nonsensical, but once the meaning behind the work was explained, it really changed my perspective and I began to appreciate it more. Andrew is an Indigenous artist, with an engineering background, who used his skills to create a pulley machine that used AI to control the branches to spell “words” from his Indigenous language. Even the branches themselves were meaningful, as they had come from different areas that had been affected by the 2020 bushfires.

It was an amazing example that questioned my expectations of what art can be (and do), how we come to value and experience art, and why contemporary art galleries are an integral part of learning.

Tania, Year 9 Philosopher



Students explore the art installations at ACCA (Australian Centre for Contemporary Art).

Music at Mac.Rob

Regional String Festival



Last week, our school hosted the Regional String Festival for the very first time. String players from the Mac.Rob Music Program gathered in the hall, with very talented musicians and teachers from schools all across South East Melbourne including Mckinnon SC, Bentleigh SC, Glen Eira SC, Mentone Girls' SC, and Berwick SC.

Although there was a wide range of experience and skill level amongst the players, we were able to present a wonderful performance to the teachers after a productive day of practising and rehearsing. The encouraging atmosphere, and the passionate players and conductors, allowed us to have an amazing experience.

Belinda, Year 12



Participants of the Regional String Festival 2021, hosted by Mac.Rob.

Twilight Concert

The Twilight Concert was held on Thursday, March 25th, which was the first concert that Mac.Rob had held in over a year. It was an amazing experience for students, and a great way to kickstart the musical year. Many of our ensembles were able to perform and showcase what they had been rehearsing since the beginning of the Term. The concert ran very smoothly and was a huge success. Thank you to the music staff and stage crew for all the effort that was put into the evening. We look forward to future music events and can't wait to see you all there!

Chen & Anjali, Music Captains





Clean Up Australia Day

On March 5th, the Environment Committee held our annual Clean Up Australia Day in collaboration with the EAG club at Melbourne High School. This year we had an overwhelming number of participants with 80 students getting involved to pick up rubbish at Albert Park Lake and St Kilda Beach. We ended up collecting enough rubbish to fill plenty of bags and on our return, enjoyed some well deserved, delicious pizza!

Overall, it was amazing to see so many enthusiastic volunteers willing to get involved in our annual Clean Up Australia Day and we hope to encourage more students to participate and be more environmentally conscious of the waste around them.

Imandie & Catherine, Environment Captains





Indonesian Restaurant Excursion

On Monday, March 22nd, the Year 10 Indonesian class had a hebat (great) food excursion! We walked to an Indonesian restaurant near Albert Park called Garam Merica, which translates to “salt and pepper”. Our super keren (cool) Indonesian teacher, Pak Knock, booked out the restaurant just for us that day and we were fortunate to have Ms. Koulouris also tag along.

We had to speak Indonesian to order our meals which gave us the chance to apply everything we’ve been learning in the classroom to a real life situation. It was an awesome experience and the food was enak sekali (very tasty)!

Some of the foods we ate included rendang daging (coconut beef curry), lodeh tahu buncis wortel (tofu and vegetables stew), ayam bakar (Padang-style grilled chicken) and gulai kale (kale yellow curry). A huge terima kasih (thank you) to Pak Knock for organising this excursion!





Year 10 Visual Communication Design

Students reflect on their creative process while undertaking the Magazine Cover Illustration Design Task. Fantastic work everyone!

Ms. Sarah McCrum, Year 10 Visual Communication

'This task was to create a magazine cover design - and it was very fun! I really enjoyed doing a pencil art piece and then transferring it into Photoshop and editing to create it how I pictured it to be. I put as much creativity as I could into this and enjoyed every step of the process!'

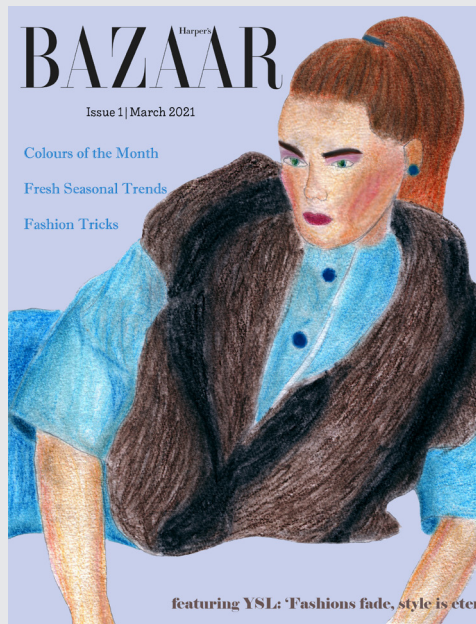
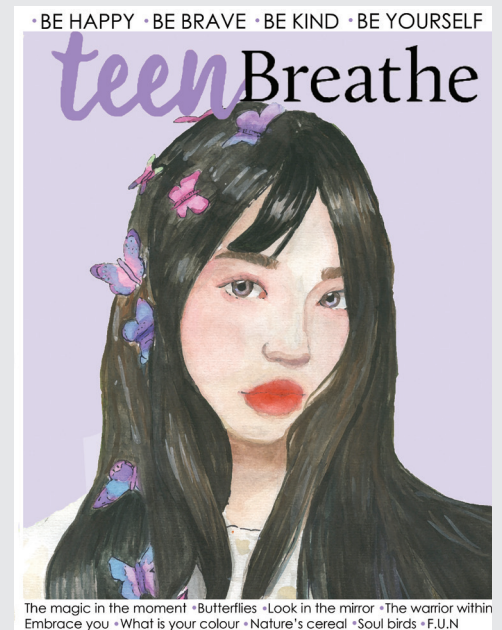
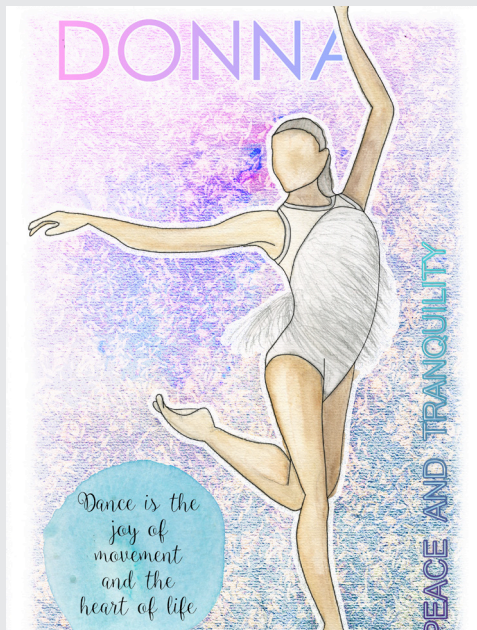
'For this task, I have chosen Vogue to be the main inspiration of my magazine illustration design. I focused on clothing rather than facial features and aimed to give a modern young look. The final magazine cover design was also meant to be kept simple and clean.'

'This task was such an interesting way to play with shadows and different media that I was not familiar with before. It was so fun to experiment and I'm so glad I got the chance to do something like this in VisComm.'

'The magazine cover design task that was completed in Term 1 took place over several weeks and the aim was to produce a handmade magazine cover at the end. We explored various different media, including pastel pencils, watercolour paints, copic markers, watercolour pencils and fineliners. After much debate, I decided to use watercolour pencils as my final choice, but I decided to experiment with various colours to achieve the look I was going for. The most enjoyable part of this task was filling in the sketch with watercolour and creating gradients. Adding the text in at the end pulled the whole cover together and created a soft and sleek look.'

'In my magazine cover, I created an actress and model to represent 'fashion' using tan paper and wax colours. The dark palette and complexity of my cover established a bold, modern and elegant aura. Throughout my design process, I enjoyed applying different media trials into my artwork such as watercolour, pastel and copic markers. Widening the range of media helped me improve in my skills such as rendering and observational drawings. In my opinion, I really enjoyed creating this design and would like to do similar projects later in the future!'





National Schools Constitutional Convention



I was fortunate enough to be selected as one of Victoria's representatives in the 26th National Schools Constitutional Convention, which spanned across two days.

Due to the current travel restrictions, the Victorian delegates met in Hotel Windsor, where parts of the Constitution were finalised during its drafting in 1898, whilst other delegates met in hubs across the country and called in.

The topic of the Convention was whether our Constitution's preamble should be amended to reflect the values which modern Australia holds.

The Convention heard from many academics, University professors, and lawyers regarding this topic, all whom were fascinating to hear from. The Convention was also able to hear, and give questions to, current members of the political scene, including the Deputy Premier, James Merlino; the Federal Minister for Education and Youth, Alan Tudge (who is also the Victorian member for Aston); the Governor-General, David Hurley; and the President of the Senate, Scott Ryan (who is also a Victorian Senator).

On the second day, the Victorian delegation toured the Victorian Parliament, where we were able to sit in the Legislative Council and discuss our views on the current law-makers which represent us. Amongst all these activities, the Convention's delegates were drafting our own proposal for a constitutional amendment to the preamble, which was eventually voted on with the official method of constitutional referendums, being facilitated by representatives from the Australian Electoral Commission.

Ultimately, I am immensely grateful for this opportunity to represent Victoria and to hear from such distinguished guests, and hope to further participate in the political and law-making sphere of our nation.

Amanda (12G)



Learning Resource Centre Update

Year 9 Digital and Information Literacy Program



As part of the Wonder Transition Program for our new Year 9 students, all Year 9s spend a double session in the LRC, learning various skills based around the research processes known as the Information Skills Process, or ISP. This is a six-step process promoted by the State library of Victoria which provides a scaffold for researching in an independent manner.

A reflective pre-test was used whereby students looked at themselves as researchers, identifying their strengths and areas of improvement as independent learners. These skills are very much needed in senior years (both in VCE and I.B.) and of course at the tertiary level.



Left to right: The LRC prepares for the Premier's Reading Challenge; students participate in the Australian Geography Competition.

Students were then introduced to the LRC's wonderfully rich website, where information in the form of trustworthy databases is held. The difference between random internet searches and secured, reliable sources was highlighted. Students were also introduced to the LRC catalogue, where they can write reviews, make suggestions, access their reading history and favorites, among many other features.

Two further sessions were run as part of this induction process. One, run by our highly capable ICT Captains, presented information and training on how to navigate the digital world of Mac.Rob. They were also made familiar with Mac.Rob social media platforms, led by our Communications team. A final separate session was held with each group and their English teacher on the PRC (Premiers' Reading Challenge), which is launching very shortly.



The Premiers' Reading Challenge Launched for 2021

The Premiers' Reading Challenge (PRC) for 2021 is underway, with all Year 9 students challenged to read 10 books from an approved reading list and 5 books of their own choice.

The challenge is run by the LRC team in coordination with Year 9 English teachers, and has been a staple of the school since 2007.

As part of the challenge, students must write reviews and respond creatively to books that they've read this year, and the class which produces the strongest efforts will win the prize of attending the Melbourne Writers' Festival and a celebratory luncheon.

There will also be book vouchers for individual students who show themselves to be highly engaged with the challenge.

We know that there is no shortage of great readers at Mac.Rob and the LRC hopes to nurture this love of reading through programs like the PRC.



Year 9 Premier's Reading Challenge Captains at their induction.

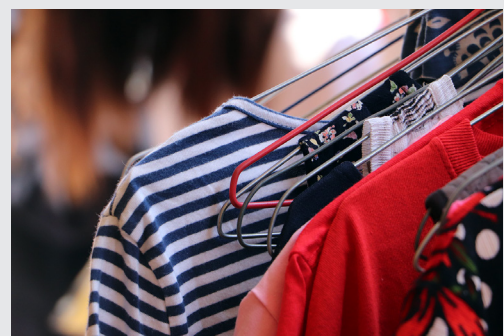


GIV Update

This Term, GIV and Social Service organised a volunteering expo in which students were provided with the opportunity to listen and learn about how they could get involved within the wider community. Some of the stalls included World Vision, Red Cross, RSPCA and lots more! We were lucky enough to welcome a guest speaker from The Smith Family organisation to talk about what kind of volunteering students could take part in.

It was amazing to see the large number of students that came and showed keen interest in the booth. Both portfolios created and handed out pamphlets and posters too. If you missed out, please check out our whole school email that has the pamphlets and info attached.

Nina & Nicky, GIV Captains





Social Service Planning Day

On Tuesday 16th of March, the Social Service fam worked together for four periods to collaborate and share ideas for charity fundraisers in 2021. There were so many incredible ideas brought to the table including a book sale, christmas present donations, and fun activities for Social Service week. It was really fun meeting with class reps and building off of each other's ideas!

Faiza & Kavya, Year 9 Social Service Execs

55 Squats Challenge

In March, students of 9F rose to the challenge to support Breast Cancer Research, by participating in the formidable 55 squat challenge! In some classes, teachers also participated, holding mass squat sessions toward the end of the lesson. One student, Muntaha has made a GoFundMe page, and has been successful in raising a whopping \$220! A huge thanks and congratulations to everyone who participated, donated and raised awareness throughout the entire school.

Kyra, 9F Social Service Rep

Term 1 is drawing to an end and 9D has done exceptionally well by actively participating in the squats throughout the month, motivated by women living with breast cancer. The Social Service Planning Day was a wonderful day for all of us to collaborate and collectively contribute to the super fun activities we'll be holding and the cabinet has made sure we'll be creating a positive impact on the community.

Nishka, 9D Social Service Rep

Close the Gap 2021

On the 18th of March, the Year 10s educated themselves on Close the Gap, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the health disparities between Indigenous and non- Indigenous people. The Year 10 Social Service Fam collaborated to send out an engaging email to the cohort and created an interactive Kahoot to test their knowledge. The day was all about helping spread the necessary information regarding racism to our cohort, ensuring that our future generation is understanding.

Amani, 10C Social Service Exec



Division Swimming

On Tuesday, March 9th, the Mac.Rob swimming team competed at the Beachside Division Swimming Competition at the Oakleigh Recreation Centre. Despite the cold and rainy weather, everyone did extremely well! Mac.Rob came first in the Intermediate and Senior Girls categories, as well as the All Girls category. Overall, we came 3rd compared to eight other schools.

Five individual swimmers progressed to the next round, which is the regional level competition to be held at MSAC in late March. Well done to Diana, Sienna, Isabelle, Emma and Ivy! Furthermore, five relay teams also progressed to the Regional level. These were the 12-14 and 15-16 years Medley Relays and the 15-16 and 18-20 Freestyle Relays. Special mentions goes to Emma from 12B, who set a new record for the 18-20 year old 50m Butterfly.

Mac.Rob also had three age group champions: Ivy (15 yo), Sienna (16 yo) and Emma (18-20 yo). Congratulations to all 23 swimmers who attended! Overall, it was a fun and memorable experience racing as well as cheering for the team on the land.



Then, on Monday, March 29th, the Mac.Rob swimmers who progressed from Division Swimming competed at the Southern Metropolitan Regional Championships. The event was held at MSAC's outdoor pool, and 41 different schools attended! Mac.Rob came 8th overall out of all these schools.

It was a busy day for Mac.Rob, as we competed, watched in the grandstands and helped out with timekeeping and the medal ceremonies. Four individual swimmers are going to the next round, which will be the State Championships early next term: Emma (50m breaststroke), Isabelle (50m and 100m backstroke), Diana (50m backstroke) and Ivy (200m freestyle, 50m and 100m breaststroke). All relays performed outstandingly: the 12-14 yo Medley Relay came 3rd, and the 18-20 yo Freestyle Relay came 2nd. The 15-60 yo Medley Relay and the 15 yo Freestyle Relay came 1st and will be progressing to the next round. It was a great effort from everyone, well done!

Best of luck also to Ivy (9L) and Sienna (10I) who are competing in the Australian Age Swimming Championships on the Gold Coast in the holidays.

Ivy, 9L

Members of the Mac.Rob school community can view the livestream of the State Swimming Carnival (Thursday 22nd April) using [this link](#).

Year 9 P.E Day

Building knowledge, skills and confidence through Physical Activity!



Friday, March 19th, was an eventful day for Year 9 students, who firstly participated in Ride2School Day, and then spent the remainder of the day experiencing several different physical activities focusing on further developing movement skills, body confidence and collaboration skills.

With the intention to host a Physical Education Day each Term throughout 2021, the focus of this initiative is to increase students' levels of physical activity and progress Mac.Rob one step closer to achieving mandated Physical Education time at this Year level. This day allowed students to experience activities they may otherwise not be able to experience during PE lessons due to space and time constraints.

Specialists in the fields of gymnastics, beach volleyball, lacrosse, netFit, barefoot bowls, and dance provided students with structured lessons and expert feedback, with support from the classroom Health and Physical Education teachers. This learning complements the creative movement skills, the transfer of movement concepts to new and challenging situations, as well as the leadership being developed within Physical Education classes.

Comprehensive research clearly outlines the benefits of physical activity to health, wellbeing, and academic performance. Mac.Rob hopes that through innovative Health and Physical Education lessons, students will feel supported and able to prioritise lifelong participation in physical activity and consequently benefit from the many positive physical, mental, social and emotional health outcomes associated with high levels of physical activity.

The Health & Physical Education Domain



Mac.Rob Community News

Community Engagement and Professional Partnerships

Parent Association Catch-Ups

Early Term 1 was the great start to many local catch-ups, with many families and carers eager to meet other people from our community who live within kilometres of them. Both the South East and North West Catch-Ups were a fantastic success, and many more events of this nature are scheduled to occur throughout the year.

For the parents who couldn't make it and are interested in being part of the South East / North West WhatsApp Group, please email the following details to rose.shamoil@macrob.vic.edu.au:

- Full name
- Suburb
- Mobile Number

Thank you to all who attended, and we look forward to seeing more Mac.Rob families at these events in the future.

Rose Shamoil, Community Partnerships Leader



Megantic Mentoring Internship Program

Megantic and The Mac.Robertson Girls' High School are partnering up on a Mentoring Internship Program. Congratulations to the following students for being accepted in such an innovative program: Suying, Michelle, Sharanaa, Cherry, Ivy and Alexis. Looking forward to the year to come with many more opportunities for students to partake in.

Reminders from the Department of Education

Changes to Consent Education

Recently, the Minister for Education has highlighted the important role schools will play in furthering education around issues of consent, sexual assault and gender inequality. Our school, in partnership with our families, has an important role to play in addressing this significant social issue.

We teach respectful relationships education as part of the Victorian Curriculum, which focuses on building students' social and emotional skills by supporting them to recognise and regulate emotions, develop empathy for others and build and manage safe and respectful relationships (including understanding consent). Our school provides sexuality education as part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum.

From Term 2, education around consent will be changing, and our school community will be updated once further information is available. Families are encouraged to contact the school if they have any questions or would like further information on any of these matters.