The values which underpin all actions of the whole school community are:

- The belief that every student has the right and capacity to integrate fully into their community.
- The belief that every member of the school is valued and respected.
- The belief that all members of the school community should work as a harmonious team.

Learning programs at Montague Continuing Education Centre aim to:

- Equip students with the educational knowledge, skills and abilities required to obtain employment or to participate in further education.
- Provide students with the capacity to live as independent and contributing members of the community.

Collaboratively the students have defined the goals and codes of conduct:

- We celebrate each other’s differences.
- We are positive, enthusiastic and show joy.
- We treat each other with respect.
Welcome from the Principal

As I have said on many occasions, I feel very privileged to be a part of the community here at Montague Continuing Education Centre. The efforts of the entire team, parents, school council members, staff, and students working together, results in wonderful young people finding their ‘pathway in life’. This review of our year will, hopefully, give you an insight into the educational programs that are offered, and the writings and photos of the students will tell the stories of their many personal successes.

Geri Charles

Principal
The World of Words

This year, many students read the novel *Bridge to Terabithia* as part of their literacy studies. The story allowed students to explore issues including bullying, building friendships, learning to appreciate other people's points of view, as well as loss of friendship and new beginnings. These themes were revisited during the year through journaling, poetry, and debate.

Time, Space and Money

In numeracy this year, students undertook a number of activities that introduced new skills to help further their understanding and independence in this subject. Students practiced using measuring tools inside and outside the classroom. They also practiced using shapes and symbols to communicate ideas and create designs. Money and time were other important focuses of numeracy this year. Students worked with clocks, coins, notes, and catalogues. These activities gave students opportunities to experience real life situations in which numeracy is important.

“What I liked about Literacy was after we finished reading our class book *Bridge to Terabithia* we got to watch the film and compare them.”

— Tannara

“What I liked about numeracy was budgeting. After we Planned what we wanted to buy we went to Coles to go and buy food.”

— Rachael

“I found it interesting to learn about different type’s of poetry.”

— Kate

“I liked learning about measurements. It helped me with my cooking.”

— Jayden
Sustainability

The highlight of the year in sustainability was making and studying bat enclosures. The students used old PVC pipe and carpet to create long tubes which were then painted green and brown to blend into the landscape. Three ‘batcaves’ were then mounted around the school, with the hope they will become home to colonies of microbats. Next year, hopefully, the students will make more ‘batcaves’ and have a microbat colony living on the grounds of Montague to study.

Other highlights included trips to Port Phillip Bay for sessions with the Baymaster, who led students on a trip to learn what shells could reveal about health of the bay and the wildlife living in it. Back at school, students spent a lot of time caring for the gardens and planting herbs and vegetables to use in the kitchen. Inside, new technology was used to work out how much power the school was using, and what could be done to reduce the school’s carbon footprint.
**Outdoor Exploration**

This year students at Montague Continuing Education Centre had the opportunity to enjoy camps and outdoor recreation at its finest.

**Duke of Edinburgh Camps**

It is a requirement for the students involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards to devise and execute an exploration or expedition to qualify for their certificate and medal. In order to meet this requirement Montague students visited the Ballarat Special School Farm where they took part in a program called 'Paddock to Plate'. This camp allowed students to experience some of the day-to-day activities of life on a food-producing farm. The second camp for the year was called 'Food-where it grows and where it goes'. By visiting wholesale fruit and vegetable growers close to Melbourne, CERES, St.Kilda Community Gardens, Captain Cook’s Cottage Garden and markets around the city, students discovered the many different ways in which food can be grown and distributed in Melbourne.

**Alpine Bike Ride**

At the beginning of the year, six boys travelled to the Alpine region to take part in a 100km bike ride alongside cycling enthusiasts of all levels. Starting at Beechworth, the participants rode to Bright, and then returned to Beechworth. Students camped out in tents and enjoyed everything this camp had to offer, including the wonderful weather.

**Rubicon**

In term four, seven students travelled to Rubicon Camp and enjoyed a variety of extreme activities including rock climbing, white water rafting, mountain bike riding, horse riding, and night hiking. The focus of this camp was on diversity and meeting challenges in a supportive environment. All students were able to successfully meet challenges at their personal levels.
The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

This year Jayden Bell, Samuel Beldon, Khushboo Roy and Kate Staton completed the Silver medal, and Tonileigh Jacobs, Antoinette Pezzimenti, Jai Sagor and Johnathon Cabala completed the Bronze medal. Lindsay Sutherland completed the Bridge Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh is an award program that supports the development of commitment and consistency. The award is divided into four main areas, and students must meet the criteria in each area to get their Duke of Edinburgh certificate and medal. The four areas are Skill, Physical Recreation, Service, and Exploration or Expedition. This year, the students chose bike riding as their physical recreation. The service component was working with the elderly at Claremont aged care facility and raising funds for the North Melbourne Lost Dogs Home. The skill component was swimming, and students met the exploration or expedition component by attending camps throughout the year.

“On the 20th of the second 2013, we had a morning bike ride, but Cathy our bike ride teacher was away so Lee came in and took over with Marcus. All morning we had to get our bikes ready. We checked our helmets, wheels, seats, and chains. Today we have to thank you Lee for taking us out on our bike ride, when Cathy was away and couldn’t come. Thank you all for working as a team.”

— Elise

“On Thursday the 25th July, the Duke team had the Claremont residents to Montague for Mid-winter Christmas. The meal was Turkey and Ham, Cauliflower cheese. Dessert was a gorgeous rice pudding. The residents enjoyed themselves immensely and presented Montague with a beautiful piece of art. One of the residents paints animals and makes them 3D. Our Basset Hound sits in pride of place at the reception window.”

— Duke Team
Zombie Attack!

In 2013, students from Montague wrote, produced and starred in a horror film about a zombie attack on South Melbourne. The Department of Education supplied funding to purchase equipment, including props, make-up, costumes, and a camera. The students enjoyed learning about filmmaking techniques and terminology, special effects creation, make-up techniques, and sound recording. Many students had the chance to dress up and shuffle around Montague pretending to be hordes of hungry un-dead. The students hope you will get a chance to watch their film soon.

“I didn’t like taking the blood capsules when I was a zombie, they tasted gross.”
— Rachael

“Making the Zombie film was pretty cool, I got to hold the camera and say Action.”
— Maya

“I liked working with Lee and David making the opening and closing credits of the film.”
— Josh

On Track

‘On Track’ was a stop motion animation developed in 2012 at Montague, through the Artists in Schools program. The thirteen students who participated not only gained skills in a new field of learning, they were also given the opportunity to experience a sense of achievement that was publicly recognised, and they have a CD of the completed animation to treasure. This would not have been possible without the grant, the expertise of artist Dave Jones, and the dedication and commitment of Natasha Togni.
Fitness is Fun

Over the course 2013, students participated in a variety of activities that promoted physical fitness, team building, and improved self-esteem. During term one, the students worked with a personal trainer at St.Kilda P.C.Y.C. The personal trainer gave students advice on fitness, nutrition, and achieving their goals. Students participated in a Boxercise class one week, followed by core and weight training the following week. In the final term, students enjoyed walking around nearby suburbs, which also allowed them to learn about the local culture and environment.

Teaming up with SEDA

Each week, in terms two and three, students from Montague met with SEDA students at the Melbourne University sports grounds to participate in a variety of sports and activities. Montague students learned about teamwork, cooperation, and enjoyed the opportunity to interact with their new friends from SEDA.

“I really enjoyed getting to know the Seda students and having fun. There is only 3 weeks to go with the seda students this is an experience I will surely never forget. Thank you for such an amazing term of sports!!!”

— Tannara

“On Thursday the students from Cedar came to Montague. We played crab ball, table tennis, basketball and Wii. We also played battleships and scrabble. We usually go to Melbourne University for Sport. Lee takes us and we have had fun doing the different sports. All students get along and work together as a team.”

— Kate

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— Kate
Skills for the Workplace

As part of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students at Montague study Work Related Skills. These units are studied to develop skills, knowledge, and attitudes valued in the workplace and to help students along the path to training and employment. Throughout 2013, students learned about OH&S procedures. They also visited a warehouse and took part in Youth Connect’s Industry Xplorer program where they received information and advice about entering the job market.

“I’m glad I came today because we went to see a furniture store. We looked for serial numbers of boxes and put them in order. We had a go at the staple gun in helping to put a bed together. We pulled staples out of chairs which were to be repaired. Pizza lunch was good. I enjoyed it and would like to go again and help out any time.”

— Johnno

“It was good. Using the nail gun was cool. Pizza was good and talking to the workers. I enjoyed getting in the shipping container and trying to pack everything so it all fits.”

— Tommy

“Today was awesome and I want to go again. I’m really interested in working in a factory like upholstery or a woodwork factory.”

— Sam
“We made these decorations for Carers Day for the Port Phillip Council. We used rum balls wrapped in organza and tied with ribbon. We decorated the bowls with sparkles and tinsel, a red windmill bee and we filled the jar with lots of other goodies. We made 10 of these which decorated the tables. The carers of Stonington, Glen Eira and Port Philip all had a great day out and loved the treats in the bowls. We enjoyed making them. It was fun.”

— Montague Students

**Work Experience**

All students, aged 17-18 years old, are encouraged to participate in a range of work placements while at Montague. In-house work experience is also available through Montague’s Vocational Education Centre where students learn basic warehouse and processing skills. In-house vocational education is an important part of the curriculum at Montague. Staff and student treat vocational education as work experience, and an emphasis is placed on a professional attitude and standard of behaviour while working.
Many of the students attend TAFE courses as a part of their Vocational Education and Training (VET) while at Montague. This year, students studied a number of areas including Fashion, Retail, Horticulture, Hospitality, Media, Hairdressing, Transport and Logistics, Sport and Recreation and Furniture Making.

“On Friday, I go to Tafe. We drive to Broadmeadows. I’m in the horticulture class. We did gardening and planted seeds in small pots. I have lunch with my classmates in the canteen. After Lunch we went to the library and on the computers. We were looking at garden stuff. I have been planting seedlings which we will sell next week. They have a stall and we can sell flowers, vegetables and trees. I have learnt how to water, plant and look after plants and flowers.”

— Luke
The Mindfulness program is designed to assist students develop skills to help manage stress and enhance performance. This year, students learned simple, positive, and constructive ways to practice self-care. Key areas included learning to identify personal triggers and responses to stress, self-awareness, calming and focusing techniques.

“Mindfulness makes me cool and calm.”

— Luke

“On Saturday I go to work at Elanora Café. We make and sell coffees to customer. When we got there we have to turn the coffee machine on. We have to take out the coffee cups, sugars the sweets. We had to set the tables and makes sure everything is ready. We made $65.000 dollars on the Saturday. It was very busy for us. Most people wanted lattes and cappuccinos. There were lemon slice, chocolate slice and banana cakes. They were free with the coffees. The coffee cost is $2.50 each. Kate and I had a good time. I like making coffees.”

— Khushboo

“On Monday the 20th of November the girls form Montague and Berendale School got a visit from ladies which are partners with Indola they gave us a book that we had to read and write through. They ladies that came talked to us about body image and our self-estees.”

— Tannara
ArtAbility is an annual art exhibition held at the Atrium in Federation Square. Each year, ADEC invites artists living with a disability, from culturally diverse backgrounds, to submit work for an exhibition in December. Montague students have been participating in this event for four years. During that time, many of the students' works have been sold to industry, government, and others for display. The theme for this year's exhibition was 'Destinations'.

ADEC ArtAbility

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Students at Montague have a wonderful creative streak, and participate in art classes each year.

“Today I worked on a number of art works. I like boats and painted a boat.”
— Yash

“I have drawn cars this year. My dream is to get my license and get my own car.”
— Jalal

“I did a sketch with charcoal of myself.”
— Khushboo
Write 4 Fun

Congratulations to students at Montague for participating in the Write 4 Fun Poetry and Short Story Competition for 2013. This year many pieces of writing by students from Montague were selected for publication in the annual anthology. This year’s book will be called ‘Big Dream’. Students and staff look forward to seeing some familiar names in print.

Don’t

Don’t listen to them.
Don’t be weak.
Don’t take being shoved.
Don’t take being pushed.
Don’t let them punch you.
Don’t keep it to yourself.
Don’t worry about the names you’re called.
Don’t go down to their level.
Don’t let them walk over you.
Don’t waste your time crying.
Don’t use me.
Don’t try to control me.
Don’t tease me.
Don’t worry about my weight.
Don’t concern yourself with the way I look.
Don’t bother with the way I am.
Don’t swear at me.
Don’t invade my space.
Don’t call me stupid.
Don’t call me retarded.
Don’t laugh at me.
Don’t hurt me so for no reason.
Don’t keep following me.
Don’t bully me!

Bully

Bullies think they’re cool but they’re just
Up themselves.
Leave me alone, back off.
Look away, not my way.
You’re dumb, so watch your back.
By Joshua Warrick
Hey Mr Bully boy,
Stop swearing at me.
Just because you’re tall
You look down at me.
You keep annoying me.
You think you’re smarter than me.
You think you’re cool.
You think you’re awesome.
You think you’re so funny.
You think you’re so cute.
You think you’re rough.
You think you’re tough.
You think you’re the boss of me.
Well HEY KIDDO,
YOU’RE OUT OF LUCK!!!
STOP BULLYING ME.”

I’m not a bully

Laughing at hobo’s,
Making fun of them.
Throwing water bombs at them,
It’s so fun.
They get up and chase you.
Abuse you and run.
And you laugh with mates.
Who thinks it’s a good laugh.
Insulting comments are a game.
Bag the way those hobo’s look.
Bag the way they dress.
Life’s a game.
I want to be part of the cool gang.
I don’t want to be unkind.
I don’t want to be cruel.
But it’s just a game.
So I join in the bully games.
So I don’t get bullied to.
What’s wrong with me?
Bulling is just not me.

You used to be my best friend

You used too be my best friend
You stabbed me in the back.
You called me names.
You made me upset.
You turned everyone against me.
You wrote bad things on Facebook about me.
You made fun of me.
You think your perfect and I’m not.
You used to be my best friend and now you’re not.
Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards

This is the third year Montague students have participated in the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards. The theme this year was ‘Wherever the Wind Blows’. Kate Staton and Daniel Warrick received a Commendation, and Daniel was invited to recite his poem for a televised showing. Congratulations to all Montague students for a magnificent effort and for participating in this event.

Wherever the wind blows

My mind has gone BLANK. I don’t know what to say. I don’t know what to do. I get very upset. I don’t like it When people interrupt ME They should know better. Especially if they are older. This is boring. Everything I do is boring. Why does everything I do have to be boring. I’m not writing any more. I just want to go wherever the wind blows.

— Kate Staton

Blowing In the Breeze

Adrenaline is soaring. Higher and higher. The start is getting nearer. “We’re off,” I cried. Crowds move forward, Through to the starting line. Everyone is running and running, Puffing and puffing. Through the city of Melbourne. People running all around. Going towards the finishing line. The air is full of life and laughter. There’s music in the air. It makes me push harder. The breeze in my face. My heart is pounding harder. I finally made it. Everyone is cheering us on. I love the feeling of the wind. Blowing in my face.

— Jayden Bell

With my friends

Me, my mates and cousins chill out. We go cruising around along the beach. We have a nice swim and Go here and there. We go Highpoint and get us some clothes. Sometimes we work on cars. We go motor bike riding, And have a lot of fun. We do whatever comes our way. We go to gym. We go to the boxing matches. We’re VIP’s, And we like to have fun.

— Stephen Stefakis

Meron

I got the cake there or time. Chocolate mud cake with pink icing It was a great surprise. She’s was so cute. She cried as there where so many people there. She’s blew out the candles. Her god mother helped. Her parents said thank you. The cake had picture on it And lots of pink roses. She looked so pretty, All dressed in pink. She’s is so adorable and I Love her so much. This where the wind blew For me, last week.

— Birhana Meningistu

Yey Whatever!

Wherever the wind blows. Yeh whatever! The wind has taken me to Narre Warren. It’s all right, We moved there ’cause Mum wanted to get out of Hoppers and Make a new start. We picked a suburb as far as Possible from the old one. Mum looked for a good neighbourhood. No one bothers us here. I’m happy to go wherever The wind takes me. I’m a carefree person. I’m funny, friendly and fine. I like to do my own thing. I like to do Whatever comes along Yeh whatever.

— Daniel Warrick

Motorbikes

Motor bikes are cool. Motor bikes are awesome. Motor bikes are fast. Motor bikes are hot. Motor bike are fun to ride. Monos are exciting. Jumping on Dirt Mountains is amazing. I go really fast. Room Room Room Roar

— Joshua Warrick
Family Luncheon

“On Sunday 19 May the Physio students who have done placement here for approximately 20 days over the past two years with the aim to experience a new community and then to do an activity with the community thus, they have organised a Family luncheon. We played games. We tied a balloon to our leg and see whose balloons could pop and Cody’s mum won. They did an egg spoon race there were 3 teams. My team won. The master chef contestant Lisa came in.”

— Jalal

“My mum and I came to the family Luncheon here at school on Sunday. We arrived at 12 O’clock. We played games and then we made a healthy lunch. I had a good time. There were 12 students who came. All the students came with family members or a friend. Everyone enjoyed the day and it was nice to see everyone having fun.”

— Elly
Staff

Sue Batchelor  Erika Beattie  Trish Carpenter  Geri Charles  Janet Etty-Leal  David Stewart

Soturia Hatzis  Cathy Pendelich  Lee Russell  Peter Smith  Joshua

Sam  Jayden  Johnathon  Andrew  Elise  Jalal

Billy  Toni  Khushboo  Jai  Elly  Kate

Tonileigh  Lindsay  Lyndal  Daniel  Yash  Sarah

Absent Students

Rachael Bramich  Tommy Nguyen
Tannara Grey  Blake Perkins
Joshua Howes  Luke Schroder
Cody Kerr  Stephen Stefakis
Brihana Mengistu  Maya Tamang
Josh Miles

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