

# Monash Student Space

Written by Students  
for Students

SUMMER  
EDITION



ISSUE 3 – NOVEMBER 2019

[www.monash.vic.gov.au](http://www.monash.vic.gov.au)

## Mayor's word

Welcome to another edition of the Monash Student Space. The weather is getting warmer and we are heading into a really busy time of year, especially for students. This issue is packed with lots of useful info and we have some fantastic events planned in Monash including the popular Carols by Candlelight. Last year we had around 25,000 people attend this event at Jells Park. I'm looking forward to it! There's also the Family Fun Day in Chadstone on 17 November. This year there'll be students selling their own homemade stuff like scrunchies and jam. It's great to see young people showing entrepreneurial spirit and getting out and about in the community.

Take care,

**Cr Shane McCluskey, Mayor**



## MONASH FESTIVAL SEASON 2019-20

### Family Fun Day

Sunday 17 November 2019, Chadstone

### Monash Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 8 December 2019, Wheelers Hill

### Australia Day

Sunday 26 January 2020, Glen Waverley

### Clayton Festival

Sunday 23 February 2020, Clayton

### Live at Warrawee

Saturday 21 March 2020, Oakleigh



## #ThisIsMonash

For event information visit

[www.monash.vic.gov.au/festivals](http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/festivals) ☎ 9518 3636

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# Opinion piece: Electric cars – the way of the future?

**Scientists have been researching ways we can help ourselves live on Earth sustainably.**

We have come up with different types of renewable resources, renewable energy sources, and ways to stop polluting the Earth. Another option is **electric cars**. Electric cars are now more popular than ever. The most popular and well-known electric car (as well as being a semi-autonomous driving car) is the Tesla, by founder Elon Musk. The Tesla Company started production in 2003, with the Tesla Roadster making its debut in 2008. Electric cars possess many new and cool things, from the chill everyday driver who cares about the environment, to the race car driver!

The mighty electric beast, the Tesla Model S, is officially the world's fastest accelerating car, driving from 0-100 km/h in a stunning 2.7 seconds! Electric cars have this accelerating advantage due to the instant torque that rushes straight to the wheels, making the EV (electric vehicle) fly off the race line in an instant!

From an environmentalist's point of view, electric cars are amazing, because they don't harm the environment like regular gasoline cars. They also don't ruin scenery or beautiful landscapes with engine noise and emissions as they are almost soundless! Because of the fact that electric cars don't have an engine, the sound they produce is very minimal. EV's are also getting a reputation for having a very appealing look. For anyone who loves a plain, but luxurious interior, go with an electric car.



Even for the regular person, an EV has so many more benefits, when compared to a gasoline car, as it also provides more space than a gasoline car. Since the car doesn't have an engine in the bonnet, it gives just extra storage to keep your stuff in. Over time, electric cars will be cheaper to maintain, with low fill-up costs. Electric cars are also safer for us because we don't breathe in the somewhat toxic exhaust fumes other cars let out.

Electric cars are very beneficial to the environment, and to us. By choosing an electric vehicle you are reducing harmful emissions from exhausts and keeping the environment clean for the next gen.

Electric vehicles have zero emissions, thanks to being exhaust-free. I know what I'd love to buy when I'm old enough to drive...

**Vishnu, 12**

## Talking sport with Wesley: Hockey

**For decades hockey has been a sport of discipline, courage and teamwork. It is a thrilling game to play and interesting to spectate – hockey brings out the best in team spirit and fair play!**

The basis of the rules to this sport are similar to those in soccer, except you use a stick to move the ball instead of your feet. The structure of the teams consists of a goal keeper, two full backs, three midfielders, three forwards and two inners.

Hockey is played in two thirty-minute halves and the pitch itself is divided into four quarters. The sport is suitable for those who are sufficient in long distance running and quick changeovers. Any well hit ball, or a tackle, can move the entire game down to the opposite goals.

Not only does hockey include cardiovascular exercise, it also strengthens court awareness and ball handling, such as drags and flicks that require intense skill.

Waverley Hockey Club is a great place to foster a hockey spirit in young boys and girls. Their "Hookin2Hockey" program is a

fantastic way to ease the children into becoming familiar with the rules, and finding out their strengths in the sport. Whether you currently do not play a sport, or if you are interested in starting a new one, hockey is a great choice. I highly recommend it.

**Wesley, 14**





## Book review: The Three Body Problem trilogy

**The Three Body Problem reflects the culture of China as it explores the rich history of such a nation.**

Written by Cixin Liu and translated by Ken Liu, this creative series of science fiction has drawn international attention and even the eyes of former US President Barack Obama – who really enjoyed reading the trilogy! This book explores both modern day China as well as the cultural revolution.

The book starts off by giving the history of one of the main characters, the daughter of a physicist, Ye Zhetai, who taught at Tsinghua University. Caught up in the revolution between Reactionary China and the progressive Red Guards, Zhetai is killed, leaving his daughter, Ye Wenjie, fatherless. Fast forward many years and Wenjie is now bound to work in the Red Coast Base for the rest of her life as an Astrophysicist. This base studies the space beyond Earth, as it attempts to make contact with extra-terrestrial life forms. Eventually, Ye Wenjie finds out a way to transmit a signal to a planet millions of light years away, the Trisolarans. The Three Body Problem is actually a mathematical problem of three balls, and how their gravitational force makes them rotate around each other. Put a planet in the middle of the balls, and you have a planet with three suns. The Trisolarans are the ones who have to deal with this problem.



When all three suns appear, or two suns appear, your planet and everything on it will melt. This is called an unstable era, but if only one sun appears, it is a stable era, and civilisation will flourish.

An organisation finds out that this planet actually does exist somewhere in space, far away from Earth, and decides to create a virtual reality game based off it. A nanomaterial researcher Wang Miao is dragged into the mess he arranges to beat several stages of the game as he tries again and again to explain and solve the mathematical problem of the "Three Bodies".

This book is full of twists and anything that you will predict will happen turns out to be the opposite of what actually happens. You will be kept awake all night by this fantastically written trilogy. I rate it a 5 out of 5!

**Wesley, 14**

*Editor's note: there is one set available to borrow via the Monash Public Library Service – make sure you reserve it today!*

## Fun and games these school holidays: Laser tag

**Laser tag involves players using toy guns to shoot infrared beams at each other while wearing specially designed vests sensitive to infrared light.**

There are flashing targets on the vest – at the front, on the shoulders, the back, as well as on the gun. When you fire the gun, a laser beam is projected towards your target. When you are shot (someone aims their beam onto your vest or gun), your pack is deactivated for up to four seconds.

Suitable for most ages – laser tag is very enjoyable. Surprisingly laser tag is also known to be a competitive sport with prize money sometimes on offer for the winning teams! DARKZONE in Box Hill holds competitions where people over 10 can participate. They have leagues where you get to battle it out to see which team ends up with the most points.

Laser tag is a team game and allows you to meet new people and work as a team to secure victory. It's a great way to exercise both the mind and body in a fun, team-oriented environment!

**Divi, 14**



# School holiday get away: Western Australia

During the summer season you and your family might be wondering where to go. As one of the largest states in Australia, Western Australia is full of unique tourist attractions and wonderful wildlife that you might want to visit during school holidays. My family and I recently visited the state and I would like to share with you some of the beautiful places you too can experience.

## Kings Park and the Botanical Gardens

The park is very well maintained and is in an elevated position that you have a panoramic view of the Perth City and the Swan River. The park has some interesting attractions such as the DNA tower which copies the DNA shape and has a spiralling stair that you can climb up. The garden is full of native bushland, plants and wildflowers. The treetop walk is a great experience also as it has a glass floor underneath you.

## Fremantle

When in Fremantle, you should visit the market which is popular with tourists. There are many stalls selling unique art and craft products and great foods. We had our lunch at the famous Cicerello's restaurant which is known for its fresh and delicious seafood – especially their fish and chips! You can eat while enjoying the relaxing view of the pier.

## The Pinnacles

The Pinnacles is a desert like no other in the world. With spectacular sand dunes and hundreds of lime stones sticking up from the ground. You can take a drive around the Pinnacles and stop to take photos at any time.

## Busselton Jetty

This is the longest modern piked jetty in the southern hemisphere and the second longest in the world! The jetty includes one of only six underwater observatories in the world and one where you can have a spectacular view of the sunset and sunrise.



## Rottneest Island

People who visit Western Australia cannot miss out on Rottneest Island. It is a small island which is unique because of its great natural wildlife and landscape. There are also many crows and seagulls around but you need to be aware of them especially when you have food in your hands as they sometimes will attack you for food. I even saw a peacock there. The beaches on Rottneest Island are very beautiful with white soft sand and crystal clear water. You need to take a ferry there. There are also many activities you can do on the island like surfing, swimming, walking and cycling.

It takes slightly more than four hours to fly from Melbourne to Perth. If you and your family just want a short and relaxing holiday this summer, Western Australia is definitely a good choice.

**Boris, 15**

## Coming soon in 2020!

### Monash Youth Services is moving to 2 Euneva Ave, Glen Waverley!

Supporting young people aged 10 to 25 years:

- Youth Developmental Programs
- Dedicated Youth Space
- Counselling and Support Services

**A Headspace Psychologist is now based with Monash Youth Services – call 9006 6500 to make an appointment.**





# The rights of young people at the Monash City Council

**Monash City Council values all children and young people. We are committed to being a child safe organisation and have zero tolerance to child abuse.**

People that work for the Monash City Council believe that young people who participate in our activities, events, programs or services:

- Should feel comfortable;
- Should be safe;
- Should feel safe;
- Have the right to contact their parents or trusted adult if they feel unsafe, uncomfortable or distressed at any time during an activity, event, program or service;
- Should expect that the activities, events, programs or services that we provide are suitable for young people's age and development, and are led by appropriately qualified staff;
- Will be provided with clear directions and given an opportunity to redirect behaviour in a positive manner if staff believe that program rules have been broken or the young person has misbehaved;
- Should NOT be subject to disciplinary action involving physical punishment, or any form of treatment that could reasonably be considered degrading, cruel, frightening or humiliating; and
- Should contribute suggestions and feedback on an activity, event, program or service in which they have participated.

**For more information, any questions or to view the full policy please email: [childsafestandards@monash.vic.gov.au](mailto:childsafestandards@monash.vic.gov.au)**



## Monash Library study spaces

**Most of the Monash Libraries have quiet study/work spaces where you can work on that project or assignment with your friends or get help from your tutor.**

Here are some handy reminders for when you use these spaces next...

**"Treat the library as though it's your best mates place - with respect!"**



**"When aiming for the bin, try and make sure all the rubbish goes in please!"**



**"The library isn't a WWE arena - leave your wrestling for when you get home please"**



**"Please be careful what you say - lots of younger children use the library and they don't like it when you use swear words, it makes them feel unsafe"...**



## Being a twin!

**Hello my name is Rohan, I am 11 years old and as you can tell from the title, I have a twin brother! Having a twin is really fun because I always have someone to hang around and spend time with.**

My brother and I are very supportive of each other and usually help one another when one of us is facing a tough situation. We both really enjoy playing sports such as tennis, cricket and table tennis just to name a few. We also enjoy watching TV, playing video games and just spending our spare time together doing random things.

### Positive stuff about having a twin

- Since I was born I have always had company and someone to play with. We would always play with each other and have lots of fun and to this day I still treasure having a twin brother.
- Having my brother with me on the first day of school was very helpful because I had someone to keep me company when we were both trying to make friends. A downside of this is that we started getting fairly attached to each other and that is why we were put in separate classes in year 1. Nonetheless, it really helped us transition into a new environment.



### The downside of having a twin

- I am extremely grateful for having a brother, but there are some downsides of having a twin brother as well. One main problem me and my brother had was creating our own identity for ourselves. Because my brother and I looked the same, people would naturally assume that we were practically the same person. Kids would think that the both of us liked the same hobbies, food and clothes. It took my brother and I quite some time to build our own identities and this definitely didn't change who we are today.
- We also had a problem with comparing ourselves with one another for example, let's say that my brother was really good at something and I was not. I would start to get very discouraged that my brother was better than me at something. We failed to realise that we could be good at other things as well. This would cause one of us to quit something because the other twin was better at it, but we did eventually get past it and we both now fully realise that we are good at different things.

Having a twin brother is something I am truly grateful for and is something that I will enjoy for the rest of my life. I am glad that I can share a small part of having a twin brother with you.

**Rohan, 11**



## Playground Strategy feedback

**Earlier this year a number of Monash students provided Council with feedback on Monash parks and playgrounds.**

Most young people surveyed said that fitness equipment, basketball rings, flying foxes, swings and slides were very important features to include in future play spaces.

Thank you for your feedback!

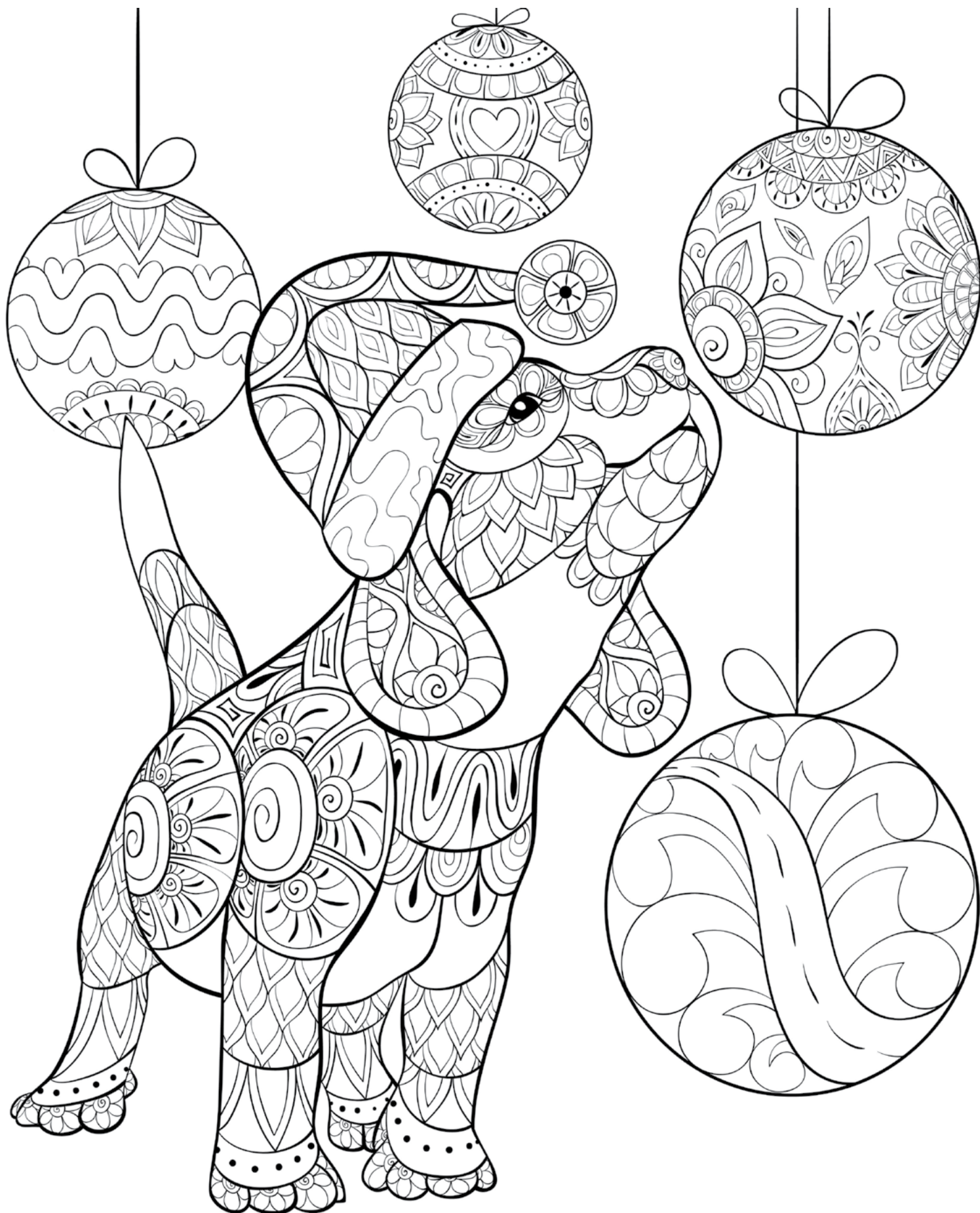
The draft Playground Strategy will be presented for approval at a Council meeting early in 2020 including your feedback.

If you would like regular updates on this project please subscribe to:  
**[www.monash.vic.gov.au/playgroundstrategy](http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/playgroundstrategy)**





**Take time out! Mindful colouring in is a great way to reduce stress.**



## Ask Anastasia...

**Hi Anastasia, I keep hearing a lot about body image issues – what is it all about and how can I make sure that I have a positive body image of myself? I am 14.**

Body image is all about how you see yourself. Some people have positive thoughts about how they look and some don't. Here are some ideas on how you can have a positive self-image!

- Don't compare yourself to your friends or others – especially not people on social media.
- You don't need to look perfect – people on social media will take heaps of photos and post only the most 'perfect' ones. They photoshop pics as well as add filters, just like people in magazines and commercials.
- Body image applies to both genders though some people might be more concerned than others.
- It's different for everyone – you can get influenced outside of social media by advertising billboards, TV and bus stop ads.
- Even if you are not on Facebook/Instagram/Tic Toc, you still need to make sure you have a positive body image of yourself.

It's important to have a positive self-image because it means that you feel good about yourself. And, when we feel good about ourselves this reflects in other parts of our lives from school to sports, work and even friendships!



**Hi Anastasia, I am going to be in Year 7 next year at a new school – any tips?**

Starting Year 7 in a new school can be quite scary – most kids that are in high school already will tell you that actually, it's not that bad! Here are some quotes from young people:

- "It's not going to be what you think it will be like – it will most likely be better than what people say it is like"
- "A lot of other people will be in the same boat as you so there is nothing to be afraid of"
- "Try a lot of things – you are in Year 7, you have nothing to lose! Get involved in sports, leaderships and make new friends".

**If you have any questions for Anastasia please email your question to: [childfriendly@monash.vic.gov.au](mailto:childfriendly@monash.vic.gov.au)**

**Anastasia, 17**

## What makes a good friend?

**A number of students were asked the question we all ask ourselves sometimes. Here is what they thought:**



- "They are serious when you don't want them to joke"
- "Always encourage your friend when they are in need, help them and have a talk to them"
- "A good friend may share common interests with you"
- "Similar interests and morals"
- "Someone you can share most things with"
- "Someone who makes you feel like you are worth something"
- "Being their friend even when they are not there"
- "They are always there for you"
- "Good communication"
- "Standing up for others"
- "Can talk about anything"
- "An honest friend"
- "Their ability to understand how you feel"
- "Is there to support you through tough times".





Artwork by Ashwin, 11

Would you like to hang your artwork in the foyer of the Monash Civic Centre?  
Email: [events@monash.vic.gov.au](mailto:events@monash.vic.gov.au)

For any Monash Council related questions please email: [mail@monash.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@monash.vic.gov.au) or contact our friendly customer service team on 9518 3555 who will be able to assist.





# What is your 2040?

In September, a number of students got to view the feature documentary 2040. Here is what one student thought...

2040, written and directed by Damon Gameau, is a movie all about sustainability.

From under the sea with seaweed, to back on stable land with solar and soil, this film has non-stop solutions on ways to protect our world. The future world isn't looking great, so what a way to find solutions! This documentary is full of hope for our planet!

Damon wishes the best for his daughter and her future, so he travels all around the world, and finds himself in Bangladesh. Bangladesh has solar smart ways, however, he soon finds out that this type of solar energy is banned in parts of the world. So he goes to find other solutions, this time looking for ways to reduce carbon! Damon meets a marine biologist who teaches him ways to use seaweed.

The next stop was Singapore and there he finds a driverless car. Damon tests the car and it works.

The last solution was right here in Australia. When we farm, we use chemicals, and chemicals make carbon emissions rise. But a wonderful man named Fraser found another way to do farming. A way which sucks down CO2 into the soil to help the soil and the ozone layer. Therefore, I would 100% recommend this movie for anyone who wants a say in their future!



This is by far the best and most amazing documentary I've ever seen. It makes you feel like you want to do something.

Saving the world isn't just about plastic recycling, so if you want to know other ways to help our world, then watch this movie!

Thank you Monash Council for providing the bus trip and film viewing. It was amazing!

**Felicity, 10**



**SUNDAY 17  
NOVEMBER  
11am – 3pm**

**Batesford Reserve**

**Corner Batesford Rd  
and Power Avenue,  
Chadstone**

**For more info: 9518 3636**

**[www.monash.vic.gov.au/festivals](http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/festivals)**



# Students were asked to write about their vision of 2040 – here is what they thought!

"I think we need to change" – Lewis, 11

"All the rubbish in the water would be cleaned so all animals in the water would never die from eating rubbish" – Leon, 10

"The robot teacher will help the human teacher have a permanent rest but get money from their robot counterpart" – Aaron, 11

"Buildings will have flowers and plants hanging from them" – Anna, 11

"Our homes won't use fossil fuels and we would use solar panels from the sun" – Emily, 10

"All of humanity being healthier and eating 100g of meat (or less) daily" – Shawn, 10

"If we want a future, we'll need to take care of what will be the past: the present" – Shane, 10

"We should have more public transport and only use cars for special occasions" – Rahul, 11

"There will definitely be no one who will use paper then (hopefully)" – Neha, 10

"We will use electricity to charge our cars because it won't pump bad air into the atmosphere" – Trinity, 11

"Deforestation should be stopped!" – Kosta, 10

"Stop cutting trees as it may cause harm to us because trees give us oxygen" – Kiersten, 11

"Cars should be charged or should run by a solar panel. The cars might be slow but it is saving our world" – Lucas, 11

"People will be eating less meat and chicken and more vegetables so they will be healthy" – Clairine, 11

"Instead of farmers having cows on their fields, we will make it a solar panel farm so they will still have a job and we will get electricity. It's a win-win for us and them" – Colin, 11

"I want a stress free future" – Nikael, 10

"There are not a lot of homeless people anymore because the government bought apartments and gave the rooms to the homeless people" – Phoenix, 11

"If you have a car that uses gas you will get taxed and the money will go to help the environment" – Peter, 11

"We will have robots doing simple jobs and housework so that us humans can focus on more important things such as homework and taking care of yourself and your family" – Claudine, 11

"Everyone has a tree farm so that we can breathe fresh oxygen" – Nic, 10

"Cleaner fuels instead of fossil fuels and smoke in our air" – Brodie, 10

"More plant life around the world, wherever you go there is a bit of nature following you" – Daniel, 10

# Cooking with Duvaraka: Scones for Santa!

Instead of making cookies for Santa - why not leave him some scones?

## INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 75g butter
- 1 cup milk

## METHOD

1. Sift flour and baking powder into a large bowl.
  2. Rub the butter with your fingertips until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs into the bowl.
  3. Make a well in the centre of the flour mixture and add the milk.
  4. Mix into a soft dough.
  5. Knead lightly till smooth.
  6. Roll out onto a bench into 2 cm thickness.
  7. Cut out the scones with a plain round cutter.
  8. Place each scone onto a lightly greased tray - 1 cm apart.
  9. Bake at 210 degrees for 10-15 minutes.
- Serve with whipped cream and jam!**
- Duvaraka, 11**



## Christmas gift ideas!

No matter who you are - everyone loves receiving gifts! Christmas is a great time to buy something special for someone - here are some ideas:

### Mum and Dad

- Personalised key chains
- Custom made photo coasters
- Family Christmas ornaments
- Watch organiser/case
- Jewellery organiser

### Friends/Siblings

- Customised drink holders
- PopSocket phone stands
- Polaroid camera
- Sports shoes
- Gaming equipment - like a lit-up keyboard
- Wireless noise cancelling headphones

**Nashaly, 16**

