Self Evaluation, Reflection, Improvement

Portland Secondary College staff and student representatives, along with College Council members are currently working with the leadership team in evaluating our achievements as set out in the College's Strategic Plan 2011-14 in the lead up to the school review. We have been seeking feedback from many sources and the Curriculum & Student Services sub-committee will be holding focus group sessions for parents and students.

The aim when providing feedback should:

- be constructive and developmental in nature, aimed at assisting us to reflect on and improve our school. Positive observations should be made where the group thinks there is room for further development.

- be based on evidence gained through observation and sharing of documents and attitudes, and not on intuition.

- generally be restricted to the goals that have been agreed on so that there are no surprise

- include a discussion about what can happen next, what new practice could be trialed, what new resources could be utilised, and what professional learning could be beneficial to improve student outcomes

It will then be the responsibility of a Peer Review panel, along with an accredited school reviewer to determine recommendations what the preferred outcomes will be. The school then decides; What will we do with this feedback? What will now change because of it? What will we try to continue to improve in our professional practice?

This is a very similar approach that the Year 8 and 9 students will be undertaking in the revision and exam skills development program (see inside for details). This is also how Years 10-12 students get the best outcomes from their studies and exams.

Mrs. Toni Burgoyne
Principal.
MEDIA RELEASE

Students lounging as they learn at PSC

Forget bringing an apple for the teacher. Hard working staff at Portland Secondary College are now enjoying coffee made expertly by their students thanks to an innovative new partnership with United Way Glenelg.

The refurbishment of the PSC Whalers’ Café Reading Lounge was funded by the United Way Glenelg Community Fund and merges this comfortable lounge area with a waiters’ station where students can practice their hospitality skills.

The unique facility is aimed at building vocational skills for students in Years 8 – 10 who have re-engaged in schooling or are at-risk of disengaging from formal education. It assists as they transition to mainstream studies, further education and training or onto the workforce.

Students from the PSC Re-Engagement Program (PREP) will soon be using the space as they work towards completing their Certificates in Hospitality and then holding popular free coffee mornings for their teachers to help build practical skills.

United Way Glenelg Executive Officer Nicole Reefman congratulated Portland Secondary College on the initiative.

“United Way Glenelg believes strongly that the building blocks for a good life are health, education and income and this project helps the participants with all those building blocks,” Mrs Reefman said.

“The Reading Lounge gives students a comfortable spot to build their literacy skills – so crucial as they move towards their final years of secondary schooling and begin to prepare for the workforce or further education,” Mrs Reefman concluded.

The UWG Community Fund will open for applications in August. For more information including how you can apply please contact Nicole Reefman on 0410 51 3305 or via email mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au

Pictured above is Re-engagement Program student Nathan Stephenson, United Way Executive Officer Mrs. Nicole Reefman and PSC Principal, Mrs. Toni Burgoyne utilising the Whaler’s Café Reading Lounge.
Year 8 and 9 Exams

In 2013, Portland Secondary College trialed a Year 8 Indonesian exam with great success. We are looking to continue curriculum development in 2014.

The Year 8 & 9 Exam program was implemented to alleviate pressures in senior years and to allow more time for students to feel confident leading into their Senior years of schooling.

Exams are to ensure students learn the following skills:

- effective note taking
- Good book keeping skills
- Time Management
- Study Skills/Exam preparation
- Revision
- Alleviating Exam pressures
- Exam Etiquette

In Week 7 of Term 2, students will be completing their first round of exam practice in their classrooms.

- In the first half an hour of the exam, teachers will mark the roll, go over protocols, ensure all students have the correct equipment and answer a sample question together as a group.
- The exam will go for 40mins and focus on a set unit or work completed during Semester 1.
- When the 40 mins is up, teachers will ask students to change the colour of their pen, for the last ten minutes, and make any changes.
- The exam will go for 50mins in total.
- The last few minutes will allow students to talk about the exam and discuss how they tackled it/should have tackled it.

Below are the subjects each Year 8 & 9 form will be completing:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 8 Form</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Humanities/Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Humanities/Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8C</td>
<td>Humanities/Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8D</td>
<td>Health/Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td>8E</td>
<td>Health/Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8F</td>
<td>Health/Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9A</td>
<td>Enquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td>Enquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9C</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9D</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9E</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(As Year 9 students will be completing the NAPLAN, we will hold off Maths and English exams until Semester 2).

Over the next few weeks, Curriculum leaders will be informing students and parents about which subjects are undertaking exams.

If you have any questions please contact Matthew Powell. (Teaching and Learning Coach).

Mr. Mathew Powell - Teaching and Learning Coach.
Author Event - Michael Pryor

On Wednesday 4th June, 2014 author Michael Pryor will be conducting an author talk/writing workshop at Portland Secondary College Library at 11 am.

Michael was born in Swan Hill where he lived until he moved to Bendigo at the age of 10. After secondary college he attended University in Melbourne where he still lives with his wife and children. Michael has written over 25 fantasy novels as well as over 40 short stories. Portland Secondary College Library has a number of his novels including the following:

- The popular ‘Law of Magic’ series,
- A number of books in the ‘Quentaris’ series; and
- His new book ‘10 Futures’ which explores a number of interlinking stories imagining what the future may hold.

Students who are interested in participating in this event need to register their name at the library before Friday 30th May, 2014. Places are limited.

Mary Faure - Librarian.

Event: Michael Pryor – Author talk/workshop.
Date: Wednesday 4th June
Where: Portland Secondary College Library.
Time: 11 am.
LIMITED PLACES SO BE QUICK

National Youth Science Forum

The National Youth Science Forum is a wonderful opportunity for Year 11 Science students who are interested in a career in Science, Engineering and Technology.

It is a 12 day program held in either Canberra or Perth.

Our local Rotary clubs have offered to help with the cost. Past students who have participated in this program have benefitted enormously from it.

If you are interested talk to your Year 11 Science teacher and Mrs. Edwards.
Senior Footy Boys – Kicking Goals!

Winning ‘Herald Sun Shield’ for second consecutive year.

Last Tuesday, Portland Secondary College’s Year 11 and 12’s played two games of football. Our first game was against Baimbridge College. Aaron Caldow was in fine form kicking goals and taking big marks. It was a great performance for the two halves, with great ball movement and seeing us comfortably win by 110 points.

In the second game we came up against Monivae College. The first half was a tight contest, we did a good job of sticking to our structures and taking the lead. The second half opened up and we continued moving the ball well to open up the game and win by 70 points.

Winning both games saw us win the ‘Herald Sun Shield’ for the second consecutive year. It was a great team effort from the Portland Secondary College senior football team.

Daniel Jackson & Patty Haylock.

Congratulations to Brad Jasper

On Friday 2 May, Brad Jasper from Year 11 participated in the BMX Australian Championships in Shepparton. Brad had a fantastic day and placed 2nd, 1st and 3rd in his moto/heats; 4th in the quarter final; and 8th in the semi-final. This meant he was placed 15th out of 151 riders in his age group (17-24 age men).

Congratulations on this fantastic result, Brad.

Tertiary Information Session

On Tuesday the 1st of April, Year 12 VCE students went to the Civic Hall to a Tertiary Information Session. There were representatives from different Universities in Victoria and a couple from South Australia.

This gave us a chance to ask questions and find out more about what options we have after Year 12. It was also a great opportunity to think more about our future and explore our options.

Thank you to Ms. Patterson and Mrs. May for taking us. – Tiffany & Kaitlyn.
UPDATE
2014 Indonesian Sister School Visit to PSC

ARRIVAL IN PORTLAND:
Friday August 8th 2014

CABARET: Friday August 15th 2014

DEPARTURE FROM PORTLAND:
Sunday August 17th 2014

DON’T MISS OUT ON YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HOST!
Places are still available for families interested in hosting students from our Sister School during their visit in August. This is an excellent opportunity for you and your family to learn more about Indonesia, improve your Indonesian, and to help host students to learn about life in Australia!

HOST FAMILY INFORMATION — INDONESIAN SISTER SCHOOL VISIT

Name: __________________________________________________________
Name of child attending P.S.C.: _________________________________ Form: __________
Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________
Postal Address: ________________________________________________
Residential Address: ___________________________________________
Preference for hosting (please circle): Male / Female Student / Adult

Working With Children Check Card
Name on Working With Children Card: ___________________________
Number: ___________________________


Students carved a Lino cut design to emboss a ceramic plate, (a process similar to using shortbread moulds).

David Burgoyne
Visual Art Teacher.
**Hospital Bed — Visiting Dad**

Here for the last time,  
You’ve been in here for months,  
You can let go now.

Trying hard not to cry,  
Sitting at the end of the bed,  
You can let go now.

No more pain for you,  
You only really get one chance,  
Your time is now over.

By Tiasha Morrison — 9B

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**The Car Crash**

Blink, Blue flash, huge bang,  
Blue Car screeching to a stop,  
But it is too late.

It’s been 6 months,  
The memory won’t go away,  
Neither will the pain.

It keeps happening,  
Every time I close my eyes,  
There is no escape.

By Katherine Cauchy — 9B

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**Letting Go**

The last time we’ll meet,  
Never to see him again,  
We will say goodbye.

Don’t let the tears out,  
Does it really have to be,  
He will be gone soon.

Don’t want to let go,  
Not ready to say goodbye,  
Goodbye my Father.

Anonymous

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**Letting Go**

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Don’t want to let go,  
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Goodbye my Father.

Anonymous

---

**Haiku**

Just made a hard choice,  
Might lose this person forever,  
I can’t stand this pain.

Now waiting at home,  
So impatient for the results,  
Sitting by the phone.

Why haven’t they called yet,  
is he going to be alright,  
This is too heartbreaking.

By Kyrali Simpson — 9D.

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**HAIKU—Human Empathy**

Students in the Year 9 and 10 Art of Writing classes began this term by stepping into other people’s shoes. After watching a short video focusing on staff, patients and visitors to a hospital, they wrote a series of haiku to capture the inner lives of one of the featured people.

Haiku is an ancient Japanese form of poetry, although it’s widely practised around the world. It is not the rhyming kind of poetry, but draws its power from glimpses into life and from fractured moments. There are three lines in a haiku, with each one limited to a number of syllables. The last line should leave the reader thinking deeply about the subject, and hopefully stays with them as they go about the rest of their day.

Mr. Ben Langdon - Curriculum and Professional Learning Leader/English Teacher.

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**Child**

A true natures gift  
Delivered through pain and love  
Love only to be lost.

Unsuspected loss  
Only afterwards she knew  
Another child death.

Yearning for her own  
As her heart break recovered  
Never forgotten.

By Natalie Dickinson — 9E.

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**Has Been Waiting 3 Hours - Haiku**

It’s so quiet here,  
I’ve been waiting for 3 hours,  
Why am I ignored?

People are walking,  
All words are in slow motion,  
The world is breaking.

Everything is blurred,  
My tears won’t stop coming out,  
Is my wife okay?

By Lewanna Hayes — 9D.

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**Haiku**

Don’t know how to pay,  
There’s no money in the bank,  
Credit Card declined.

In rehab for months,  
Accident was months ago,  
How will I pay?

Could I get a job?  
To repay all of my debts,  
Will they accept me?

By Erin Husband — 9C.
We are excited about the Whalers’ Café and Reading Lounge.

**Why?** It is a social enterprise-style café to give opportunities to Young People in Tourism, Business and Hospitality Vocational Education.

**What Next?** We are seeking support of business and community organisations to assist with establishing the Café.

Donations are Tax deductible.

Contact: Toni Burgoyne, 55231344 if you would like to help.

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**REMOVE IT**
**LOCK IT**
**OR LOSE IT!**

Global Positioning Systems or GPS, Laptops and cash have been identified as some of the most common items stolen form motor vehicles.

Police are encouraging motorists to take the following precautions in order to help prevent the theft of property from unattended vehicles.

- Remove your GPS from display along with the mounting unit.
- Remove all other valuables from the vehicle. Do not leave coins in view.
- Ensure your vehicle is LOCKED.
- Covering items can cause an inquisitive thief to steal them.
- Mark items with the letter ‘V’ for Victoria followed by your drivers licence number. This helps police to return property.

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**PSC Bush Mechanics**

We are enthusiastic about the Portland Secondary College Bush Mechanics Shed.

**Why:** We have the PSC Motor Mechanics Initiative which is a Social Enterprise-Style project to give opportunities to Young People in Pre-Vocational Education.

**What Next:** We are seeking donations to assist with establishing this Project.

Donations are tax deductible. BSB: 063 536 ACC: 10298514 or via the PSC General Office.

Contact: Toni Burgoyne, 55231344 if you would like to help.
Year 9 Adventure Bound Camp — money due today!

All Year 9 students have received permission forms regarding this year’s Adventure Bound camp to be held between May 19th and May 21st at the Grampian’s Retreat, Dunkeld. Permission forms along with the payment of $170.00 needs to be paid to the General Office TODAY Monday May 12th.

Those students not attending the camp are expected to attend school on the days their class are on camp. They will also be required to complete an assignment during that time which will be a major assessment task.

Any student that suffers from asthma will need to complete an additional asthma management form, likewise any student that has food intolerances will need to complete an additional form for that also.

If you have any queries regarding the camp please contact Mr. Craig Keenan, Mr. Dale Cumming or Mr. Greg Ward at school.

Year 7 Open Day

Tuesday 20th May.

On Tuesday 20th May, all Grade 6 students from Portland primary schools will be spending the day at Portland Secondary College.

As a result, our current Year 7 and 8 students will be required to undertake set school work at home on this day; they are not required at school.

On the same day Grade 6 Scholarship testing will take place from 6.30 until 7.30 in the GLC (Global Learning Centre).

Parents are invited to an Information Session at this time also in the GLC from 6.30pm.

REMINDER:

- Portland Secondary College Open Day: Tuesday 20th May
- Portland Secondary College Information and Scholarship Testing: Tuesday 20th May 6.30 to 7.30 in the GLC.

Please encourage everyone to attend this Open Day and Information Evening as it will provide information necessary for enrolment into Year 7 in 2015.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kirsten Mitchell
Transition Manager
Portland Secondary College
mitchell.kirsten.i@edumail.vic.gov.au

Mission Statement

To develop each student socially, physically and academically, in a safe, caring, yet challenging environment.

Wise and Witty Words.

Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.