

**PORTLAND  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE**

## **FLYING START TO TERM 2**

# Parent Newsletter

No 6 MONDAY 29TH APRIL 2019

*Creating the Opportunities*



## Principal's Report

Dear Parents, Carers and Community members

Welcome back for Term 2. I trust that the holidays were restful and that everyone made the most of the glorious weather.

I am excited to be spending another term at Portland Secondary College as acting principal while Mrs Burgoyne is on leave. The staff and students have been delightful to work with and I have been impressed by their enthusiasm and determination to improve student learning in a safe and secure environment. We only have a very small number of students who are requiring extra boundaries and support at the moment to ensure that their learning and the learning of others is not impacted.

Last week we held a small ceremony at school to remember the ANZACs and then many staff and students also participated in the ANZAC parade on Thursday representing the College, playing in bands or as a member of a local organisation. The school captains Maddie and Taylah laid a wreath on behalf of the school. Students presented themselves in a respectful and thoughtful manner on all occasions. I was very impressed with the ANZAC ceremony on Thursday and the floral displays were outstanding.

The College five year Strategic Plan and the Annual Implementation Plan will be presented to School Council on Wednesday night and then it will be made available to the Community via Compass. This year the College is concentrating on developing a very deep and enriching curriculum and associated teaching and learning strategies that will build on the fine work that had already been in place. Education is never static and evolves to meet the changing society that we live in. I am watching the research findings about screen time with interest as this will have implications on our students and the way that we use technology at school.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College if you have an issue.

Regards,

Patricia Nunan - Acting Principal.



## Coming Events

Regularly check Newsletters and PSC website for updates at [www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au)  
Facebook/  
portlandsecondarycollege

**Thurs & Fri 1 & 2 May**  
Tertiary Tour

**Friday 10 May**  
PSC Cross Country

**Tues 14 to Thurs 16 May**  
NAPLAN

**Monday 20 May**  
GD Cross Country

**Wednesday 22 May**  
Grade 6 Open Day  
(Home Study day for current Year 7 & 8 students)

**Monday 3 June**  
GWR Cross Country—  
Warrnambool

**Tuesday 4 –7 June**  
Year 10/11 Exams

**Friday 7 June**  
GD Soccer

**Monday 10 June**  
Queen's Birthday  
Holiday

**Tuesday 11 June**  
Year 8 Exams

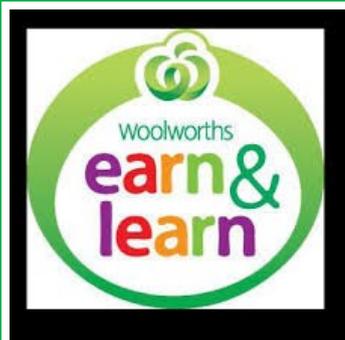
**Wednesday 12 June**  
Senior Student's Day  
GAT - Senior student's  
day only.

**Thursday 13 June**  
Year 9 Exams

## Attention Parents.....need to know more about Compass Student Manager?

Take the opportunity to learn more about Compass.

Lessons & enquiries for Parents are available from the General Office.



Portland Secondary College will once again be part of the *Woolworths Earn N Learn* program which starts on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Parents, students and community members can drop off their stickers and forms to the boxes in Woolworths or bring them to school.

### Attention all Parents!

Local Police have contacted the school concerned about the following car parking issues in Fawthrop and Must Street:

- ⇒ Parents please do not park in the 'No Standing' zone in Fawthrop Street, large fines apply.
- ⇒ Please do not drop off/pick up your child whilst travelling through the angled car park area.
- ⇒ Students should not be running across the road, ducking and weaving through traffic to be collected on the other side of the road.
- ⇒ Allow enough space either side of the school flags in Must Street, it is an offence to park too close to school crossings.

Thank you for your support.

### New Facebook Page .....



The *Portland Secondary College Facebook* page is a popular way for parents and students to keep up to date with what's happening at PSC – upcoming events, news items and daily activities.

We have now created a new Facebook page called *PSC 2nd Hand School Items For Sale* where parents and students can buy and sell secondhand uniform items. You must request to join the page as a member pending approval.

Please contact the school if you require more information regarding this page.

# VCE TERTIARY SESSION



## Tertiary Information Session 2019

Portland Secondary College Year 12 VCE students joined those from other district schools to attend a Tertiary Information Session in March.



Representatives from all of the Universities, local TAFE Colleges and some independent Colleges were there to provide students with information about their many options for life beyond secondary school.



It was a chance for them to get information about 2020 courses, how fees and the application process works, and ask questions about the types of opportunities that they might be interested in when they are planning their futures.

Students came away with not only free pens, but also the buzz of all of the possibilities.

Ms Logan and the Year 12 Mentors will be providing more detailed information and sessions for students and parents in Term 3 about VTAC and the tertiary application process (for both University and TAFE).

In the meantime, they encourage students and parents in both Year 11 & 12 to plan trips to the institution Open Days which are held from June-September.



**Suzanne Patterson** -  
*MIPS/Careers Development Co-ord & Koorie Liaison Officer.*

# Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 student Cruz Victor spent his work experience at Yumbah Aquaculture abalone farm. He is seen here cleaning the abalone in the tank.



Lainie & Kirsten, trumpeters at the ANZAC ceremony recently.

## Out and About.....



Ellie & Beau completing work in the new 'J' wing.



ANZAC Day assembly.



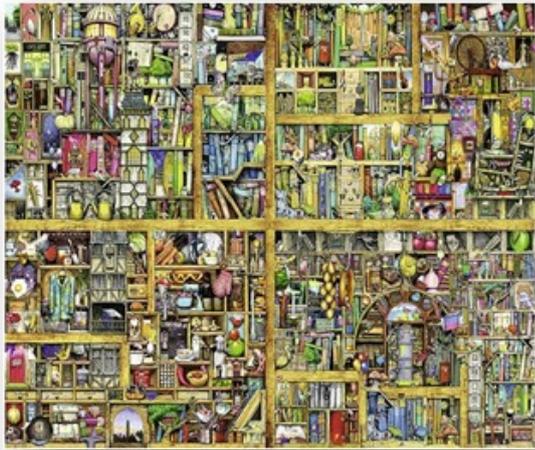
Shannon helping prepare wreaths for ANZAC Day at the Civic Hall.



Below: Year 7 students enjoying their Indonesian class last term

Left: PSC School Captains, Taylah and Maddy, explaining the ANZAC Day story to fellow students at the assembly last Wednesday.





## The Magical Bookcase



The Magical Bookcase is an 18,000 piece jigsaw which took Ms Kindred two years to complete.

Ms Kindred completed the jigsaw in four quarters at home, transferred the sections to the library and then assembled the whole jigsaw with the help of her daughter Makeely.

It took four hours to assemble



## DID YOU KNOW?



An initiative by



Victorian  
Responsible  
Gambling  
Foundation

As well as being everywhere, many of these gambling-themed apps and video games use inflated odds, giving young people the impression that winning is just as easy in the real world.

On top of this, advertising on many of these apps and games leads to real gambling sites, creating an easy pathway from fake gambling to real gambling.

Australian research shows teens playing these apps may:

- think gambling is a normal, everyday activity
- be more inclined to take up gambling
- be more confident about winning due to false beliefs about gambling odds.

Even though teens can't win real money from these apps, they can spend real money on in-app purchases to boost their chances in the game. These often cost only a few dollars but a player in the 'zone' can quickly rack up expenses.

Video games like *Grand Theft Auto* and *The Sims*, and even complimentary games on Nintendo DS consoles, feature gambling by including casino and poker machine elements.

The good news is that you can help your child understand how gambling actually works, despite these games making it seem like a regular and easy way to win money. It's important to remember that you don't have to be an expert before you talk to your teen. These games are constantly changing and you can't be expected to know about them all. The trick is to talk to them about how these games make gambling feel more normal and can be misleading about their chances of winning – so next time they come across one of these .

For more information about games that look like gambling and how to talk to your teen about them, go to [lovethesame.vic.gov.au](http://lovethesame.vic.gov.au)

## Bullying.....

Bullying in Schools continues to be a hot topic in the media and one which we take very seriously at Portland Secondary College. While we don't profess to have all the answers, I would like to reassure parents that we are working proactively to both minimise bullying and to educate students on ways to best deal with bullying.

While we don't purport to have all the answers and we acknowledge that bullying at some level will always be an issue in society, there can be no doubt that the most common events of bullying that Mentors, Level Managers and Assistant Principal's deal with at school is cyber bullying – via text messages on mobiles or on social networking sites. Students need to realise that once they post messages on Facebook or send inappropriate texts to someone else, these messages don't go away, simply because they have been erased; they remain in cyber space and can be retrieved. Parents, as well as schools, have a role to play in monitoring the appropriate use of these sites.

**Late in Term 1**, the whole school completed a range of activities around bullying, cybercrime, gossiping, sexting and inappropriate behaviour online as part of the National Day of Action – Bullying No Way! Day.

**Year 12 students** were asked to complete a short piece of writing reflecting on their experiences related to bullying in their early years and how things have changed now they are nearing adulthood. Here we share some of their insights:

- ⇒ *“I was bullied during my early years at Primary School and I have seen people be bullied. If it happened at high School I went to Student Services and they helped me sort everything out and the bullying stopped. I also learned how to stand up for myself as I learned it was better to ignore it and move on. Since doing this ignoring, I haven't been bullied since. Now as a senior student looking back I know ignoring and moving on was a good idea.”*
- ⇒ *“I saw a Year 8 student bully another student when I was in year 7. I confronted that student and told them their behaviour wasn't okay. I then approached a teacher and the situation was resolved. Talking to a teacher really helped.”*
- ⇒ *“I have never been bullied myself but I have seen bullying happen. As a young student, I never did anything about it as I was too scared. Today though, I would stand up to bullies and tell them their actions aren't okay because I have learned to be more confident and I have educated about how damaging bullying can be.”*
- ⇒ *“As a junior in High School, you may see many kinds of bullying and you know the right thing to do is to go and get a teacher to do something about it but you assume that someone else will do this and so you end up doing nothing at all. Now as a senior student, you realise not to take this chance and to stop being a bystander. Seek help regardless.”*
- ⇒ *“I was bullied in primary school to the point that I didn't want to go to school anymore. It was a little better at High School and has become progressively better the older I get. Most of the bullying I experienced was through social media and while the school has taught us a lot about staying safe on line and using social media appropriately, I believe it is really up the parents to know what their children are doing online. I now report online bullying behaviour to the organisation that processes it. I also talk it through with my parents who go through the options with me and support me.”*

In the next newsletter we will publish some responses from our Year 11 students around the issue of bullying.

Most importantly, please contact the College and report any bullying that is occurring. We can only respond to incidences if we know about them. While we acknowledge parents can be very emotional about perceived harm to their child, if as adults, we take a calm and mature approach to dealing with the issue, we can use the opportunity to foster some resilience and coping strategies in the victim as well as providing support and assistance.

Only by working together will we continue to limit the instances of bullying which occurs.

Jo Kindred - Assistant Principal



## 60 Seconds with.....

**Name and Role:** Tayla Morley - Health & Physical Education Teacher.



**What do you enjoy most about working for the Education Department?**

Watching students learning everyday because of something I have done.

**What would be a highlight to date of your time at PSC?**

The swimming carnival (winning in the teacher race) and also getting such a great mentor group (7A).

**If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who would play the lead?**

Blake Lively.

**What would the movie be called?**

Achieving dreams.

**Do you have pets?**

No.

**What was the last book you read?**

LIVE IT UP, VCE Physical Education Units 1 & 2.

**If you had to be shipwrecked on a deserted island, but all your human needs—such as food and water were taken care of, what two items would you want to have with you?**

A ball, a blanket, runners.

**You've travelled and seen lots of places, which would you most like to return to?**

Thailand.

**If you invited your Mentor Group to your house for dinner, what would you cook?**

Pasta.

**What makes you smile?**

Making others happy.

## Uniforms

School Jumpers

(size 10-22) \$50

(size 24 & 26) \$60

School pants (tailored) \$45

(72cm—107cm)

Plain navy caps \$10

Draw cord shorts \$20  
(s - xl)

Tailored shorts \$25  
(10 youth - 107cm)

Kilts \$75

(size 8—26)

Jacket \$85

(xs - xxxl)

## Jackets

## Galore

We have a good supply of PSC Jackets available in the Uniform Store.

\$85.00.

Uniform store open 8.15am until 4.00pm each day.

What's On!

# INSPIRING AUSTRALIA'S YOUNG SCIENTISTS

## APPLY NOW FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM 2020 YEAR 12 PROGRAM

Do you love science, or technology, or have a drive to find solutions to problems and fix things? Are you constantly asking Why? How? Why not? Do you see yourself working in a science-related field and would like to know more about science related study and career paths?

The NYSF Year 12 Program is a 12-day residential program designed to give students a broader understanding of the diverse study and career options available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to encourage continued studies in these fields.

**Year 11 students apply online now, by 31 May:**

<https://www.nysf.edu.au/what-we-do/how-to-apply/>



National Youth  
Science Forum

We can help you get there

Rotary  Portland Bay inc.

Contact us for endorsement of your application.  
We can assist with funding and fundraising.  
email: [rotaryclub.portlandbay@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryclub.portlandbay@gmail.com)  
ASN: A0040066F ABN:72585022988



## EVERY DAY COUNTS

# EVERY DAY COUNTS

## ATTENDANCE FACT SHEET FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

School is better when you're here

### DO I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Yes. Victoria school is compulsory until you turn 17.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing 4 whole weeks of school a year.

From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school.

Apart from this, school is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you're away and wonder if you're OK.

### WHY IS IMPORTANT THAT I GO TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

Right now, being at school is your most important job. You're building habits that you'll take into adulthood.

While it might not seem obvious, when you come to school you are learning about more than just Maths and English. You're learning all sorts of skills like working in teams and meeting deadlines that will help when you're an adult.

If you can't show up to school every day, how will you learn to show up for work?

Being at school every day also means you are involved in your own learning, interacting with other students and teachers and are a part of environment that is motivating and stimulating.

You can get help from your teachers and friends and won't have to rely on trying to learn things in your own time.

There is also a lot of evidence that shows that young people who attend school more frequently have better outcomes after school too.

This means they earn more money, have better job prospects, are less likely to misuse drugs and alcohol and are generally healthier.

### DO I NEED TO LET SCHOOL KNOW IF I'M GOING TO BE AWAY?

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away. The school then decides if the absence is approved or not according to their attendance policy.

If you aren't at school, and the school hasn't heard from your parents, they now have to try and contact them as soon as possible on the day that you're away.

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund — payment arrangements for 2019

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) has changed to a Term one application process and payment cycle from 2019.
- The changed timing of the program provides a better alignment with school budgeting and administrative processes and will give families certainty at the beginning of the year regarding CSEF eligibility.
- Applications for the CSEF program will open from the commencement of Term one 2019 helping to ensure that all eligible students are able to participate in school trips and sporting activities.
- **Families holding a valid means-tested concession card are eligible to apply.** A special consideration category also exists.
- A payment of \$225 for eligible secondary school students will be paid directly to the school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs for the benefit of the student.
- The Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.
- This initiative is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.
- **Application forms are available from the General Office.**

## Canteen Roster

Tue 7 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Wed 8 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Thurs 9 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Fri 10 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Mon 13 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Tue 14 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Wed 15 May	10am - 1.30pm	
Thurs 16 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Fri 17 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please

## TECHNOLOGY FREE *Tuesdays and Thursdays*

Starting this term we will be having 'Technology Free' days in the Junior School building. This does not apply to classes, where teachers will direct students in their use of technology, as required.

Before school, recess, lunchtime and after school, students will **not** be allowed to use their phones, computers or other devices in the building. During this time we are encouraging students to talk, walk outside, borrow some sports equipment, go down to the gym or even read or play games in the library.

There are lots of interesting and active options for all students at PSC and we encourage you to explore them.



Ms Kirsten Mitchell  
Assistant Principal:  
Junior School.

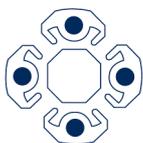
THE JUNIOR WING  
IS A



EACH TUESDAY & THURSDAY

*Wise and Witty Words.  
Exist to be happy not to impress.*

EFTPOS is available for your convenience at the General Office.



### Mission Statement

*To develop creative, articulate, respectful and resourceful young people able to contribute positively to the global community.*



**COMPASS**  
School Manager

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