

**PORTLAND
SECONDARY
COLLEGE**

NAPLAN, EXCURSIONS & SPORTS EVENTS

Parent Newsletter

No 7 MONDAY 13 MAY 2019

Creating the Opportunities



Principal's Report

Dear Parents, Care givers and Community members,

I would be very interested to know how your student responds this week to the questions "How was your day?" or "What did you do at school today?" The fourth week of term has turned into a very busy time with impacts on the normal running of the timetable. All students are involved in the Attitudes to School Survey which is organised by the Education Department. This survey is held annually and it is an opportunity for students to have their say and to provide feedback to the staff and school about what is going well, and areas that they feel could be improved. The data is added to staff and parent viewpoints to provide data that the school can use in planning for improvement. Students are completing this year's survey online and the results are due in June which is significantly earlier than they have been in other years. Students are also given the opportunity to give feedback on individual teachers throughout the year in surveys that are conducted internally.

Our Year 7 and Year 9 students are also taking part in the Australian wide NAPLAN tests this week. There has been considerable debate about the NAPLAN tests in the press but we have found the results valuable for the school as we can go through them and analyse the data to ascertain what areas the students are comfortable with and where they are challenged. The time lag between the tests and the results is problematic as we would like to get them earlier and compare the outcomes with teacher judgements and the other tests that students, do in a timely manner. We would be interested to know how parents find these tests. Do you find that they provide you with clear and valuable information?

Like many schools, we need to call on Casual Relief Teachers at times to cover teachers who are ill, on leave, attending excursions with other classes or on professional development. Teachers will leave work when they know that they will be absent from their class. The subject leader will also provide meaningful work if the absence is unexpected. We are very fortunate with the calibre of the relief teachers that are available in Portland. Many CRTs are in fact teachers who have previously taught at the school and who know the students. We do try to minimise any disruption and understand family angst.

School Council meets monthly. We still have vacancies for parents who would like to be a parent representative. School Council members have input into decisions that are made. They can voice concerns that they have or which other parents raise with them. We also have a very active student voice in the meetings with student representatives raising concerns that students have and providing feedback about school events and classroom learning. Various Council sub-committees such as the Curriculum and Student Services also report to School Council. Perhaps there are parents who would prefer to be on a sub-committee? Please contact the school if you are interested.

Patricia Nunan - Acting Principal.



Coming Events

Regularly check Newsletters and PSC website for updates at www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au Facebook/ portlandsecondarycollege

Tues 14 to Thurs 16 May
NAPLAN

Monday 20 May
GD Cross Country

Tuesday 21 May
Year 9 Careers Day

Monday 3 June
GWR Cross Country—
Warrnambool

Tuesday 4 –7 June
Year 10/11 Exams

Wednesday 5 June
Grade 6 Open Day
(Home Study day for
current Year 7 & 8
students)

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.

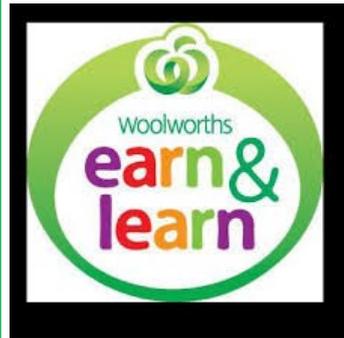
Thursday 13 June
Year 9 Exams

Monday 17 June
- Semester 2 for VCE/

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 1st 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.

Tertiary Tour 2019

- Went to Careers Expo
- Went to Monash Uni
- Went to Melbourne Uni
- Went to Deakin Uni - Waurn Ponds



Our tertiary tour consisted of the VCE and Careers Expo, a tour and amazing race around Monash, a tour from past PSC students Sam Shepherd and Leo Filer around Melbourne Uni and a tour around Deakin Uni's Waurn Ponds campus in Geelong.



The Careers Expo was an insightful experience and gave us the opportunity to learn about the universities all across Australia and courses available. It provided us with the chance to talk to people that knew about what was available in the different institutions and it made it a lot easier to find out about the courses when talking with someone one-on-one.

The presentation and amazing race around Monash was fun and helpful and gave us a creative way to explore the campus and what Monash has to offer. The presentation gave us info about the courses and the uni itself, such as it being the largest in Melbourne in terms of student numbers and one of the most modern.

The University of Melbourne was a cool place to see, being the oldest university in Victoria it had lots of rustic buildings with lots of greenery. We learnt about how living on the campus works and took away a lot of the pros from Leo and Sam's experience. We also learnt about the student clubs within the university and what university life is like from a student's perspective.

Deakin University had a very open campus and felt a lot more rural than Melbourne and Monash. The tour was very informative, highlighting the facilities, the more relaxed feel and how the classes and lectures are smaller to give a more personalised education for the students. We also got to see an awesome Tesla coil display in which they used the lightning bolts from the coils to play music like the Imperial March from Star Wars.

The tertiary tour was a great and worthwhile experience, it gave us a lot of insight into the universities and the courses they can provide and what awaits us in the life of tertiary education.

Dale Radcliffe - Year 11 Level Leader.





Junior Numeracy at the Re-Engagement Program

Recently the junior students at the Re-Engagement Program completed a major assessment task. This involved each student choosing an activity they were interested in and then teaching it to the class. They also ran a numeracy activity related to their project that taught a specific mathematical skill. The projects were very varied as were the mathematical concepts that were taught. The activities included setting up a fish tank, making abalone nets, doing pancake art, running soccer drills, sewing blankets, origami bookmarks, logging screen time and 'blind' walks. The math areas taught included: volume, area, angles, statistics and unit conversion.

Thanks to everyone for a great effort in both running and participating in the activities.



Mara Satins - Maths/Science Teacher.



“DANCE LIKE NOBODY IS JUDGING”

On Friday 3rd May Portland Secondary College Peer Mentor Students, accompanied by Patrica Nunan, Acting Principal and Tania Beard, Student Services enjoyed a TED style talk with Anthony Ikin. Thanks to United Way Glenelg, Nicole Carr and Cathryn Walder Youth Development Officer Glenelg Shire for inviting us to listen and participate in Q & A.



P.S.C's Peer Support mentors went to the Portland performing arts centre to listen to an inspirational talk about self-acceptance and bullying.

Guest speaker Anthony Ikin talked about how failure is the key to success and how you should never let anybody tell you what to do, he then shared with us his story and how he believes that you shouldn't let negativity get in the way of your happiness, remember negativity can't hurt you unless you let it." IT DOESN'T WORRY"- Anthony Ikin was said a lot, implying that you shouldn't worry about what people think or say because the only opinion that matters is your own.

So turn that frown upside down and have a "Gratitude Attitude".



Before returning to school we ended the session with a Q and A many great questions were asked and answered, I believe everyone that attended left knowing something they didn't before. The talk was very informative and gave new and different perspectives on both self-acceptance and bullying and now having this new knowledge means we can help ourselves and others.

“BULLYING”

What is bullying? Bullying is the unbalanced use of power that is harmful and can really impact a person's health in a negative way. If you, a friend or someone you know is getting bullied please speak up and don't be afraid to ask for help, no one deserves to be bullied and we need to put a "STOP" to it.

There are many ways we can stop bullying.

- ⇒ **Don't be a by stander, that's just as bad as being a bully.**
- ⇒ **If you see someone getting bullied speak up and communicate to the bully in a polite way by telling them to "STOP".**
- ⇒ **Don't bully back or in other words don't bully the bully. By simply saying something you can make a victim feel cared for.**
- ⇒ **Here are 6 different ways to support a friend being bullied.**
- ⇒ **Ask them about their situation.**
- ⇒ **Let them know they aren't alone**
- ⇒ **Provide reassurance.**
- ⇒ **Make sure they are safe.**
- ⇒ **Be prepared to seek help.**
- ⇒ **Look out for their mental health, it's also extremely important to remember if you are being bullied it is not your fault, there is nothing wrong with you and you most definitely do not need to change who you are.**

For more information or help go to:

- Lifeline – www.lifeline.org.au
- Kids help line – www.kidshelpline.com.au
- Bully No Way – www.bullyingnoway.gov.au
- Cybersmart – www.cybersmart.gov.au
- The Alannah and Madeline Foundation – www.amf.org.au/bullying
- Headspace – headspace.com.

Lainie Middleton - Year 10 Peer Support Team .





WE WANT OUR STUDENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing, and quality instruction, and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School Survey is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

Students from Year 7 to 12 at our school will participate in the survey. Your child will complete the survey online during school hours using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during, or after completion of the survey.

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. All responses to the survey are kept anonymous in the response file. Personal identification data will not be recorded in the survey response file. This ensures that the confidentiality of your child's responses is protected at all times.

This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday 6th May to Friday 31st of June. The survey only takes up to 20 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time.

The survey results will be reported back to the school before the end of term 2. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified. Data suppression rules are used for schools with low student numbers per year level. We will then report on this data to parents through the newsletter.

If you would like more information, please speak to your child's teacher or visit: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/improvement/Pages/performsurveyat.aspx>

If you have any further questions regarding the survey, please contact Jo Kindred on 55 231344.



Year 10 students attended a Vic Roads 'Road Smart' - information session on Monday morning informing them about what is necessary to obtain their 'P' plates and road safety tips.



Out and About.....



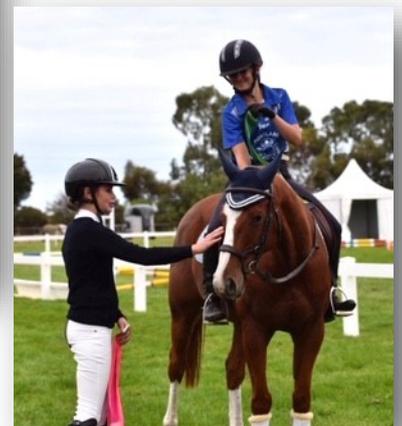
Congratulations Tilly!

PSC student Tilly Shand competed in the 2019 Horshareware Australia Victorian Interschool Equestrian State Championships between 10-14th April held at the Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre.

Results:

2nd in Speed Round
4th in Two Phase
5th Overall

Well Done Tilly these results are outstanding, we look forward to hearing about your future achievements.



Geology Excursion

On Friday the 3rd of May, students in Years 8C, D and E went on a Science Excursion to Budj Bim National Park (Mt. Eccles).

The students have been studying Geology in Science and looking at the different rock types and how they were formed. Students were accompanied by their classroom teachers: Emily Clancy, Phil Henderson and Jen Prichard and tour guide Ian Lewis.



The students enjoyed the day exploring some of the most recently-erupted volcanoes in Australia.

They explored tunnels made out of lava at Byaduk Caves and Mt. Eccles and climbed on top of 'blisters' formed by bubbling lava. They then walked around the rim of an extinct volcanic crater at Lake Surprise.



Teachers:
*Phil Henderson,
Emily Clancy, &
Jen Prichard.*





Full report on the 2019 Cross Country in the next Newsletter.



2019 Cross Country





Year 11 Responses to 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.

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 11 students were asked to complete a short piece of writing reflecting on their insights based on the topic : 'What would I tell my year 7 self?' Here we share some of their entries.

- ⇒ “When I started High School, I was confident I would make new friends but it was harder than I thought. I was worried about being called weird and getting bullied about it. I spoke to my parents about it and they encouraged me to be resilient and just be myself. That's what I did. Now I have friends that I will keep for life, no matter where in the world we end up.”
- ⇒ “If I were to talk to my Year 7 self, I would tell it to follow its heart, as cheesy as it sounds. Good friends will find you if you are a nice person to all around you.”
- ⇒ “When I was in Year 7 I thought I wouldn't fit in, and to begin with, I didn't. I found I was floating between groups a lot and didn't know where to go, both physically and emotionally. Although I never experienced bullying, I was a bit of a social outcast. Eventually I found my place and a group of friends. Now we are always there for each other no matter what happens. Everything I have now, I wouldn't have done if it wasn't for my talks with my mum.”
- ⇒ “I felt confident about meeting new people at school but I was a bit worried about fitting in. I thought people might not accept me for who I was and that I would have to conform and be the same as all the others. Now we are mature and we accept and even like each other's differences.”
- ⇒ “When I first started school I was a little worried about making friends and I hated having to introduce myself in front of other people. I soon made friends and even though there was a little bit of bullying that happened, we all know each other well now and everything that has happened in the past has been forgotten.”

In the next newsletter we will publish some responses from our Year 10 students around the issue of gossiping and spreading rumours.

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: Terry Engel -
Humanities and Textiles Teacher.



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

Being with the students and learning together.

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

Continuing to be the UNO champion.

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

Kate Winslet.

What would the movie be called?

It's a Misterry!

Do you have pets?

Too many.

What was the last book you read?

Mister Pip.

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?

Netflix and TV.

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

Fiji.

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

Tacos.

What makes you smile?

Pay day.



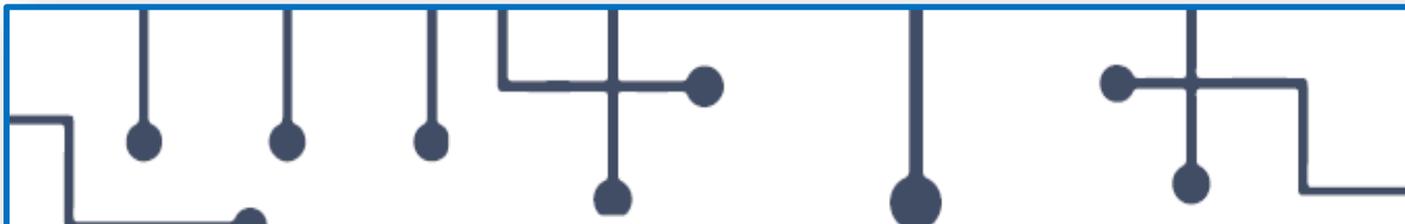
Fun day Friday with Mrs Edwards M3 Science class... how many students can you get on a table balancing on balloons?!!!



Reminder to Parents

This is a reminder to parents/carers to keep an eye out for speed limits in designated school speed zones during specified times as follows:

(8.00 - 9.30am and 2.30 - 4.00pm)



YOUTH WITHOUT BORDERS

SPARK ENGINEERING CAMP '19



Brisbane 1st to 6th July (University of Queensland)
Melbourne 8th to 13th July (University of Melbourne)

- **Who is it for?**

Year 10 to 12 students interested in tertiary education

- **What will you do?**

- Meet real life Engineers
- Stay for a week at a residential college and get a firsthand taste of uni life
- Bridge climb (Brisbane)
- Hands on Engineering workshops

- **Cost?**

Free! Thanks to our generous partnerships formed with engineering companies

*For more information contact our students' coordinator:
Oshini Wijenayake
students@spark.ywb.com.au*



www.spark.ywb.com.au
www.facebook.com/sparkengineeringcamp
[@spark_engineering_camp](https://www.instagram.com/spark_engineering_camp)



Doctors in Schools Program



Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer,

As you may be aware, our school was successful in being selected to participate in the Victorian Government's Doctors in Secondary Schools program.

As part of this program, an adolescent-trained GP (general practitioner) Dr Margaret Garde from Active Health will be operating on school grounds each Wednesday to provide free access to primary health care for secondary students at our school.

We know that teenagers are the least likely of all age groups to seek health care, but we also know that many health problems that can have consequences into adulthood start at this time of life. This program seeks to address this issue.

You can support the success of this program by talking to your child about the program and encouraging them to access the GP if they need primary health care. Students will be able to access the GP themselves, or you can make appointments for them by contacting the Doctors in Secondary Schools Program Lead Christine Hart on 03 55231344. You are welcome to attend consultations with them, if/when required.

WHAT WILL THE GP DO?

- The GP will provide students with the same services as the kind normally provided by GPs in the community, including seeing students about their physical and mental health, and sexual and reproductive health issues. GPs may also make referrals to other health services as required.
- The GP will bulk bill consultations through Medicare, so there will be no out-of-pocket expenses for this service for your family.
- This program is not designed to replace any existing medical arrangements your family may have in place. The GP in the school can provide a convenient alternative to primary care within schools hours, and encourage health care access to those students without an existing relationship with a GP.
- The program is intended to provide better access to primary care for secondary school students. Therefore, parents, carers, guardians and other family members are not able to use this service at this time.
- All GPs in this program will undergo adolescent health training and will understand the health and wellbeing needs of teenagers.

ACCESSING THE GP

Generally, all students can make an appointment to see the GP. Victorian law is clear on how and when students can consent for medical treatment by a GP:

Students who are mature minors can consent to their own medical treatment

Students who are not mature minors cannot give consent to their own medical treatment.

Mature minors are students under the age of 18 years who are deemed capable of seeking and obtaining health care for their particular medical issue. The GP will assess if a student is a mature minor with respect to the issue for which they are seeking medical treatment.

If the GP considers your child is a mature minor, they may see them without you. The GP will often encourage your child to involve you in their care, and GPs understand you are an important source of information and support for your child when it comes to their health. If the GP thinks your student is *not* a mature minor, your consent will be sought if the student wishes to progress with the treatment.

More information on consent, confidentiality and medical treatment by a GP is included in the information sheet, which is on the Doctors in Secondary Schools webpage at: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/doctors-secondary-schools.aspx>.

What's On!

Soccer anyone?.....

Aussie Aussie Aussie Oi Oi Oi, the Portland Panthers are calling on all 8-11 year old boys and girls wanting to try outdoor soccer and be part of the next Soccerroos or Matildas.

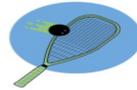
The Portland Soccer Club will be running their kids winter soccer competition at the Portland soccer grounds in Glenelg St Commencing on Sunday 12th May at 8:30.

For more information contact Jason Sweetman on 0439209120.



Squash and Racquetball

GO!



FUN | INCLUSIVE | SOCIAL

Welcome to Squash and Racquetball GO!

This is a great initiative to introduce 12-17 year olds to squash and/or racquetball in a fun and inclusive environment. The program is designed to run over 6 weeks and gives the participants an opportunity to learn the basic skills, but with a game focus. We ran an initial come and try session as a pilot in Term 1 to test product and market fit – the feedback was great, and we are excited to be rolling out phase two of Squash and Racquetball GO!

If you are a school, youth group or sporting organisation, please get in touch! Once you have registered interest in running the program, we will work with you to make it happen. This program is designed to be run on squash courts with all equipment provided. All participants under 17 must wear protective eyewear.

We can't wait to see more participants on court and learning new skills, which participants can use throughout their lives. We are working to build a strong community of junior players in Portland and across Victoria and value your support. Register your interest below. A form will be sent to you once registered.

When: Friday nights (starting 24th May for 5 weeks).

Time: 4pm-5pm

Cost: FREE

Where: Portland Squash & Raquetball Club, Fitzgerald Street, Portland
Registration: Carrie Templeton Email:

carriedtempleton@hotmail.com Ph 0427 317 348

COME CELEBRATE

IDAHOBIT

Day - May 17

Join the Skittles crew for a free community afternoon tea to celebrate our LGBTIQ Community

DATE: Friday May 17th

TIME: 3.30pm - 5.00pm

PLACE: Glenelg Shire Council, Reception Room, Portland

JUSTICE AND PROTECTION FOR ALL

IDAHOBIT day was launched in 2004 to celebrate LGBTIQ people globally. Today, IDAHOBIT Day is used to champion inclusion, and build a better world for the LGBTIQ community. This date commemorates the day in 1990, that the World Health Organisation declassified homosexuality as a diagnosed Mental Health disorder.

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA & BIPHOBIA

MAY 17 A Worldwide Celebration of Sexual and Gender Diversities





PROJECT RESPECT HEYWOOD

6 PM - 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY 2019
HEYWOOD COMMUNITY HALL

Join us for the launch of Project Respect Heywood and an inspiring evening of discussion on ways to increase gender equity and drive positive social change across the community.



Keynote Speaker
AFLW Footballer

Moana Hope

+

Panel Q&A with
community leaders
working in the gender
equity space

Panelists include:

Andrew Jeffers - Managing Director, Wannon Water
Nicky Grayson - Adolescent Health Nurse, DET
Mark Jansz - Project Officer, South West Sport

Facilitator:

Emma Mahony - CEO Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West

Free Event

Limited spaces. Please RSVP by Friday 10 May:
0447 902 272 or hcarragher@gleneilg.vic.gov.au

Light supper provided

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 14 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Wed 15 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Thurs 16 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Fri 17 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Mon 20 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Tue 21 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Wed 22 May	10am - 1.30pm	
Thurs 23 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Fri 24 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please
Mon 27 May	10am - 1.30pm	Help Needed Please

Kilts

- ⇒ A large supply of PSC Kilts have just arrived.
- ⇒ \$75.00 each.
- ⇒ Size 8 – 26.
- ⇒ Available from the General Office between 8.00am and 4.00pm daily.



Visiting Parents

All parents and visitors to the College are asked to report to the General Office immediately they enter the school grounds. The Office staff will then locate the staff member or student you wish to speak to. **Please do not wander around the grounds.**

Jo Kindred – Assistant Principal

Wise and Witty Words.

Arguing with a fool proves there are two.

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

Must Street Portland 3305 (P.O. Box 452)
Phone: 55 231344
Fax: 55 234449



EFTPOS details. BSB: 313140

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Web Site: www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au
Acc: 12067508 Bank: Bank Melbourne