



Creating the Opportunities

Principal's Report

Dear Parents, carers and community members,

What a great start. The sun is shining, students and staff are returning to school and our community is safe. Safety and wellbeing will be our priority for this term with a continuation of strict COVID -19 practices – masks, social distancing, sanitizing, own water bottles and restricted visitors to the school. This does not mean that we do not want to hear from you or talk to you. Please call or email if you have a concern or wish to discuss any matter.

We are expecting some pre-service teachers and an education consultant to attend to work with staff and students but this will be subject to being tested for the virus first and receiving a negative result. They will also be required to have the necessary permits and abide by the rules.

I would like to announce and congratulate Jo Kindred as the Acting-Principal for 2021. The strong focus on curriculum development and effective teaching, underpinned by wellbeing, will continue under her leadership.

Our thought, and indeed that of the media, give a lot of attention to the Year 12 students of 2020. I fear that they will become known as the Corona year. Often we think of and acknowledge what they are missing with the cancellations of many of their rites of passage. The formal, graduation dinner and many of the fun things have not happened. Our junior students have too missed out on the leadership that our senior students provide in setting the culture and expectations of what lies ahead. They have not heard of the continual reference to SACs and CATs and study periods or watched their school captains relay the important lessons that they have learnt about their school lives. We have not had our senior students modelling appropriate behaviour and being mentors to our younger students as we see in other years. In this respect we are all the poorer for the 2020 Corona year.

It is not all doom and gloom for our senior students. The students completed their General Achievement Test last week completing their first exam. The Government and Department of Education are working to lessen any negative impact. The students are asked to complete a Consideration of Expected Disadvantage and teachers are asked to also provide the students with a mark that they think that the student would have received had COVID not happened. I do not profess to understand the formula that the authorities will then use to take as many factors (The Gat, CED, Indicative Score, SAC and CAT results and Exam results) into consideration before ascertaining the students' final result. The students may benefit from the Federal government budget announcements of increasing apprenticeships and compensating traineeships. Some universities are also offering very attractive entry offers that are not as reliant on the ATAR. I do not know the impact that the new fee structure will have on the students.

Schools rely heavily on surveys and data results to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs and to offer opportunities for people to have a voice. This feedback is vital for reflection and future planning. The student survey has been completed and the staff survey is still open. The parent survey is still to come. NAPLAN was not held this year and we will be relying on teacher judgement and internal PAT testings to measure learning growth. Please participate in providing feedback to the College where possible.

Patricia Nunan - Principal.



Year 10, 11 & 12 Course Confirmation Day

Monday 30th November 2020

On **Monday 30th November 2020** from 10am to 2pm, all students in Year 10, VCE or VCAL in 2021 are required to attend Course Confirmation Day.

On this day students will rotate through a variety of stations, in a similar format to University enrolments. Parents are advised to attend.

In order to make the day flow as smoothly as possible and to minimise wait times for parents we ask that where possible Year 12 students attend between 10am and 11am, Year 11 students between 11am and 12 noon and Year 10 students between noon and 1pm. Of course, if these times do not suit please come anytime between 10am and 2pm.

- **Step 1 - Students will have their subjects confirmed for 2021 and receive a timetable for Headstart. If confirmed, students will proceed to Step 3 if doing VETiS or Step 4. If subjects are not correct, students will proceed to Step 2.**
- **Step 2 – Correction of subjects.**
- **Step 3 – VETiS Students only – Students will have their VETiS course confirmed and will order and be measured for uniform if required.**
- **Step 4 – Students will pay their Essential Educational Items fees.**

Subject Essential items are those items or services that are essential to support the course of instruction in the standard curriculum program that the school provides. In order to provide educational opportunities beyond the bare basics of classroom learning, the College relies on family payments to the school budget. Each year the school programs are planned based on a budget that includes both government and family contributions. We spend considerable time selecting the most appropriate items and services to meet the needs of our students.

The approximate cost for your child's subjects will be made available to you once the students have had their subjects confirmed.

If you are in the situation where payment may be difficult, there are a range of payment plans available for those parents/students who are not in receipt of Centrelink payments.

These options can be discussed and put into place by contacting the College Business Manager which can also be done on Course Confirmation Day.

We understand that starting your child in Year 10 or Senior School is an expensive undertaking. That is why we are running an article in the newsletter outlining this day so early but we will not be able to send your exact amount until after students completed their subject selections which is occurring now.

We look forward to seeing you on Monday 30th of November. If you cannot attend, please send your child along with the necessary funds.

Jo Kindred — Assistant Principal.



2021 Booklists to go digital

Over the next few weeks students will have discussions with their Level Leaders and Sub-School Assistant Principals to finalise their subjects for 2021. All students will then receive a login details to a booklist for items required for 2021. Students studying in Years 11 and 12 should receive their login booklist details very shortly and need to order their books quickly so they are available for the Head Start Program held in December. The Head Start Program sees all year levels begin the 2021 school year at the end of this year and is designed to give students a flying start into their new year level.

Due to COVID – 19 restrictions the process this year is a little different. All orders will be made online and must be pre-paid. We strongly encourage students to select the home delivery option so your materials will be delivered directly to your door in time for classes. If this is not possible, Year 11 and 12 students will be able to collect pre-paid packages on Monday the 30th of November between 10am and 3:30 (this is also Course Confirmation Day).

Students who are studying a subject outside their normal year level must also check the requirements for this subject so may need to log into two different booklists.

Any student who cannot access the booklist online can contact the General Office for a hard copy but the order itself will still need to be placed online. Any family experiencing financial difficulty should also make contact with the General Office so alternative arrangements can be explored.

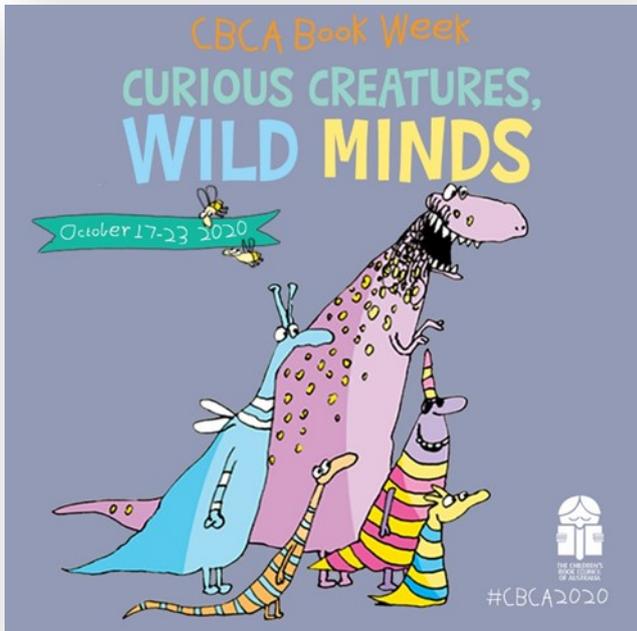
Any students studying a PSC VET subject such as Kitchen Operations or Furnishing must collect some additional information from the General Office. Please follow the instructions on the VET booklist carefully and return your VET booklist to the General Office by the due date.

If you want to trade in second Hand books please check the noticeboard in your designated locker space where students can post notes about what they have for sale. Please be very careful checking you are acquiring the correct edition. If the words 3rd edition or 3E appear, for example, then this is the edition required. However, sometimes this edition might encompass several years and can be purchased second hand.

Any enquires about the booklists can be directed to Assistant Principal Ms Jo Kindred.

Jo Kindred — Assistant Principal.





Book Week

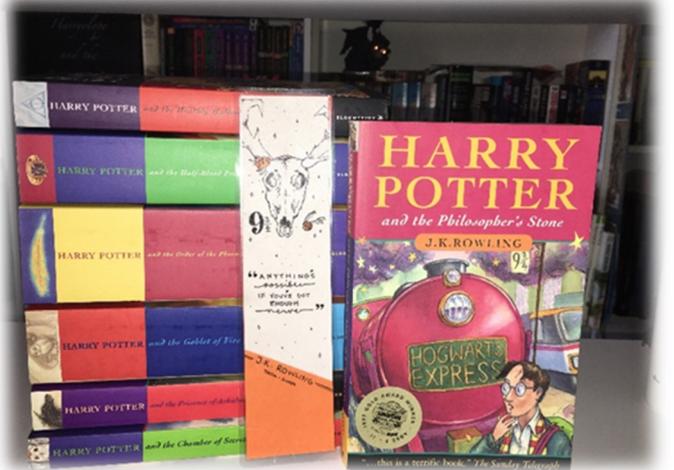
Yes, Book Week is back!

Usually held in August, Book Week will this year be held in Term 4, from the 17-23 October.

We will be having the traditional dress up day on Friday 23rd October, when all students are challenged to come dressed up in their best book – inspired outfits.

We will also be holding a bookmark design competition, pictured right is last year's winning entry, which was inspired by the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling. I look forward to seeing lots of new, excellent designs this year.

There will also be colour-your-own bookmarks based on this year's theme of 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds' available from the library.



Below are the shortlisted books for the Book of the Year: Older readers category.



In other news, we have recently been offered a donation of two murder mystery games for the school, which we have gratefully accepted, if you would like to find out more, click here: <http://murdermystery.com.au>

Happy reading :)



WHAT HAVE OUR YR 10s LEARNT FROM ISOLATION/REMOTE LEARNING?

Creating the opportunities

"I have learned that it's really important to communicate with the family that you cannot see at the moment"

"I have learned to not be late in meetings"

"Learning to be more self independent."

"I have learnt that things can get challenging but you can overcome them"

"That my teachers are very supportive and care about my learning"

"That it's good for your mental health during these times to regularly keep in contact with your friends and get outside and go for a walk or bike ride"

"I have learnt that my study habits do not get any better even after 8 weeks of remote learning"

"To be organised and get your work in before the deadline"

"That no matter what work you haven't done, people will support you all the way and help if you're stuck on something and you can eat a lot of food. I mean A LOT OF FOOD over this isolation period."

"I have learnt that things can get challenging but you can overcome them"

"I have learned to be more prepared and independent on my own schedule"

"I have learnt that I'm pretty good at building in minecraft"

"I learnt that staying up past 3am is not good for your health."

"I have learnt that it is really important to keep in touch with people, talk to your friends as much as possible, and to take breaks when you need some. It is really important to look after your mental health and it has been hard to do that during isolation, but talking to friends and family regularly has helped me a lot"

"For my isolation I was playing my piano, writing some songs, dancing, yoga, workout, walking with the dogs, doing schoolwork, jumping on the trampoline and drawing. That's what I do for my isolation and I have some fresh air thinking of good vibes"

2020 Portland Secondary College

Yearbook

order now.....

To secure a copy of this year's Yearbook, it is now listed as an 'event' in Compass until Friday 23rd October when orders need to be finalised.



For your convenience you can pay \$20 online now (via Compass) and in December enjoy looking over the year's activities and events with lots of photos (a little different from other years with the event of COVID-19).

Your child's class photo will also appear in the Yearbook unless we are otherwise informed. This page features some pages from last year's Yearbook.

Note: We still have a few copies of last year's Yearbook (eg. the photos featured on this page) for sale for \$20. Contact the school to arrange payment and collection.





UNDERSTANDING SELF-HARM AND NON-SUICIDE SELF-INJURY

Interactive, Online Workshop
for Parents & Carers of Youth

Learning content

Delivery by **Trish Thomas** - BPsychSc(Hons) MASRC

- An introduction to non-suicide self-injury
- Why people engage in self-injuring behaviours
- Methods of self-injury
- Identifying signs and symptoms
- How to have a conversation
- Case Studies
- Take home strategies and resources

sessions

19TH OCTOBER

4PM - 5.30PM

22ND OCTOBER

4PM - 5.30PM

28TH OCTOBER

4PM - 5.30PM

30TH OCTOBER

10AM - 11.30AM

Cost: \$45p.p

Trish has experience working with young people in the field of mental health and encountering the issues of self-harm and suicidal behaviour.

Trish is an accredited instructor of Mental Health First Aid which is complimented by degrees in Psychology and a Masters degree in rehabilitation counselling

PsychAssist 
Working with people together

LIMITED NUMBERS | BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BLXNO>



1800 Glenelg Together

**A free community
hotline for Glenelg
Shire residents
requiring support
during the
Coronavirus
pandemic.**



The hotline will direct community members to local support services such as:

- Food and hygiene support and deliveries
- Medication deliveries
- Phone check in and support

The hotline will be monitored by the friendly staff at Portland District Health.

You can contact the hotline between the following hours:

- **Monday - Thursday:** 10am - 3pm
- **Friday:** 10am - 4pm

 **Call:** 1800 512 461

 **Email:** 1800GlenelgTogether@swarh.vic.gov.au

Protect yourself and your family

Wash your hands regularly



Stay germ free and healthy



2020

Yearbook

.....don't forget to order your copy of this year's PSC Yearbook/ Magazine.

A 'one off' edition - the year the Pandemic caused students and staff to work remotely for part of the year.

Order and pay through Compass, or contact the general office to arrange alternative payment.

ORDERS MUST BE IN BY
FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER.

Wise and Witty Words

Sometimes good things fall apart, so better things can fall together.

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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Phone: 55 231344



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