



PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Edition 2, 19 February 2021



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

Contact Us: Ph: (03) 5523 1344 | Email: portland.sc@education.vic.gov.au

2021 Family Statements will be posted out early March.

BPay and bank details are displayed on the Family Statement for your reference. If families would like to set up a Payment Plan or Centrepay, please contact the General Office on 5523 1344.

Principal's Report

My first couple of weeks in the Principal Chair have flown by with many students coming to visit me in the office just to say hello or to showcase some of their class work. It is wonderful to see students taking such pride in the outstanding quality of the work they are producing,

The start to the year has been extremely busy for all students, and particularly so for the new cohort of Year 7. They enjoyed a wonderful three days at camp and engaged in a whole host of team building activities including surfing, bike riding, canoeing, fishing, team games, and yoga. Students also spent some time working with their Peer Support Mentors in Year 10 on relational capacity building activities. Despite the thunderstorm on the last day and having to pack up in the rain, the students all had a wonderful time getting to know their classmates and their teachers.

On Monday the 8th of February, the College hosted a BBQ for Year 7 students and their families. While this event had to be held outdoors due to COVID-19 restrictions, a number of families came along to meet some other parents and enjoyed an Information session hosted by Ms Tayla Morley, the Year 7 Student Engagement Leader. The BBQ was cooked by the Year 10 Peer Mentors and Mr Doyle who did a great job ensuring everybody was fed.

Two days later, the entire school headed to the Pool for the Swimming Sports and enjoyed a beautiful day in the sunshine whilst competing in a wide range of swimming and novelty events. Congratulations to the following students who won their age group championship medals – Matilda Andrews and Brodie Lucas (under 13); Mae Fraser and Diesel Stone (under 14); Zali Lipscombe and Jed Lucas (under 15); Madalyn Shepherd, Makeely Kindred and Chase Jones (under 16); Sarah Tunstall and Lachlan Johnson (under 17); and Holly Lucas and Jamieson Ballantyne (under 21). Overall winners for each Sub-School will be released shortly.

An opportunity exists for parents to get involved in School Council. If you would like to have a say in state education and the operational decisions of Portland Secondary College, please get in touch with the College. Keep an eye on future newsletters for further details.

Then the Circuit Breaker Lockdown came into play and we had to send our students home for a few days. Even our four students away at Alpine School had to return home for the five days. These sorts of lockdowns generate a lot of angst for students, staff and parents but families can be confident that student engagement and well being are our top priorities. Over the next few days we will work through the process of ensuring all students have reliable devices, internet connections, and know how to both download and upload work to Compass should another lockdown occur. When these occur our main means of communication will be via Compass and the PSC Facebook Page and students and parents should check these on a daily basis.

I'm hoping that we are back to normal (or COVID normal) as soon as possible and that we can continue to create a myriad of opportunities for students to uptake. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns as to how your child is coping with the cycle of COVID restrictions.



Jo Kindred
Principal

Up and Coming Events

Thursday 18 February	GD Swimming Carnival (Portland)
Tuesday 23 February	School Photos
Tuesday 2 March	PSC Athletics Sports
Monday 8 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Friday 12 March	GWR Athletics (Casterton)

Have you lost a bear? Or know someone who has? This lovable fellow was left on a school bus last week and so joined the Portland Secondary College community for the day. During the day he wrote a letter to his owner which is published below. If he belongs to you, please let us know because, even though he's had a great day, he would like to go home.



Bear's Day Out at Portland Secondary College

To my owner,

This morning I was forgotten and left on the Narrawong Bus, but luckily a friendly student from Portland Secondary College picked me up! Her name was Elli. Elli took me to the All Saints, Bundarra and Portland Primary School buses, but unfortunately I couldn't find my owner L

So instead of being left all alone Elli and Miss Shiel decided that I should spend my day at Portland Secondary College. First of all, after arriving at school I went down to the year 12 lockers where I was introduced to Elli's friends: Mackenzie, Meg, Sophie and Tahlia. Then the 8:50am bell went, and I was taken up to Mr Rymarz's mentor room in the Library. Here, I spent some time reading some books and having a laugh with the other year 12's in the room like Erin and Chloe.

My first class was MATHS! Here we spent some time learning some DATA and STATISTICS! Mr Wills was my teacher and it was fun! During recess I went down to the art rooms where I watched some students paint the Swimming Sports banner! Their theme is 80s Neon and it looks awesome, I even got to paint some of it! Then after recess I had a study period where I worked on some of Elli's homework with her friend Gemma and they decided to braid my hair! At lunchtime I went back to the art rooms where I watched the banner get painted more while chatting to Gabby and Elaiza. After lunch my next class was ENGLISH with Miss Dixon where we worked on character profiles for a movie her class had been watching. At 3:30pm the bell rang again and it was time to go home!

I hope your day was as fun as mine!

From Tiger Ted J

Privacy Policy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in Portland Secondary College's Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website: www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au

Procedures for Contacting Staff at PSC

With the creation of the three new sub schools, and the Assistant Principals, we have established a procedure for parents contacting the school if they have any queries concerning their child. This ensures parent's/guardian's receive the best results in a timely manner.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Step 1 | Contact your child's Mentor. |
| Step 2 | Contact your child's Level Leader. |
| Step 3 | Contact the Assistant Principal's Assistant for an appointment. |

Year 7 Computers

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)

When your student starts school they can bring their BYOD (computer) to the IT Office and we can connect it to the school wireless and install Microsoft Office and an Antivirus if needed. Please note devices must comply with the following specifications:

Minimum Requirements:

- ⇒ Windows 8.1 or newer
- ⇒ Apple MacOS x 10.8 or newer
- ⇒ Apple iOS 6 or newer for a tablet

Note: Android, Windows RT, Windows S and Chrome based devices are **intentionally omitted** from the Hardware Specifications.

Families should use their discretion when considering additional software purchases.

ANDROID devices are NOT currently supported as a BYOD.

Please keep in mind that there will be an influx of devices that other students will need connected so we will do our best to return it to you in a timely manner.

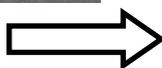
Seeing Double or Triple?

It seems there were a couple of popular clothing choices from our staff members upon returning to school.

Thanks to Ms Hart for capturing the moments!



Mrs Hollis and
Ms Cobby



Mrs Bassett, Miss
Shiel and Miss
Morley

Celebrating Woman in Science - 11 February

This year's celebration of the Day addressed the theme "[Women Scientists at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19](#)". Over the past 15 years, the global community has made a lot of effort in inspiring and engaging women and girls in science. Yet women and girls continue to be excluded from participating fully in science.

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly brings together stakeholders from high-level government officials, representatives of international organizations, foundations, private sector, civil society as well as women in science experts from around the world.

Miss Prichard who teaches Year 7, 9 & 10 Science and Year 11 Chemistry and Science Technician Mandie Pethybridge celebrated the International Day with students.



School Photos

The school photos are being taken on **Tuesday 23 February**. We ask that all students bring their school jumper on this day even if they only put it on for the duration of the photo. Envelopes have been distributed to families. The College does not process any of the payments; these are enclosed directly in the envelope, returned on the day and given directly to the photographer.

* If you'd like a FAMILY photo please collect an additional envelope from the General Office.

Please Note on this day the General Office will open at 9.00am instead of 8.00am.

Library News

The start of the 2021 school year saw the start of a new member of library staff at PSC, Marlowe Richmond who has started a position as a library assistant trainee. One of her first tasks was to assemble our 'Blind date with a book' display for Library Lover's Day. Pictured is Gabbi Stephens with her choice from the display.



Sadly we have now also had a snap lockdown – but the library is still just a click away. You can access the library web app via the star menu on Compass (log in via SSO using your Compass username@portlandsc.vic.edu.au and your Compass password) and you are still able to access the PSC eBook and audiobook library.

A screenshot of the Portland Secondary College library website. The header is blue with the college name and a star menu icon. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for Home, Search, Visual Search, Quick Lists, Reserves, My List, and Print. A search bar is prominently displayed. The main content area is divided into several sections: "PSC eBook library" with a bookshelf icon and a link; "Great reads!" featuring a carousel of book covers, including "TRU ELIF3" by Jay Kristoff; "Need help with a bibliography?" with a link to "PSC citation maker"; "World Book online" with a "WORLD BOOK ONLINE" logo; "Echo education" with a brief description; "Try out One Search!" with a "One Search" button; and "Using the web app" with an "Access it" button. A large blue arrow on the left points towards the "PSC eBook library" section.



Year 7 Camp

On Wednesday the 3rd of February Year 7 students from Portland Secondary College headed off to Narrawong for their Year 7 Camp. They participated in a range of different activities including canoeing, surfing, bike riding, beach art, yoga and fishing. Student's showed success in many ways including catching fish, making it to the top of the hill on the bike and by standing up on a surf board.

There was smiles throughout the whole camp with students and teachers being creative with new ways to celebrate camp achievements. Resilience was a must from staff and students on the last day when they had to pack up their belongings in the rain and head back to school to finish camp.

We will to continue to create opportunities for these students back at school throughout the year.



PSC Swimming Carnival - Wednesday 10 February



RESULTS

AGE GROUP	GIRL CHAMPION	BOY CHAMPION
13	Matilda Andrews	Brodie Lucas
14	Mae Fraser	Diesel Stone
15	Zarli Lipscombe	Jed Lucas
16	Makeely Kindred & Maddie Shepherd	Chase Jones
17	Sarah Tunstall	Lachlan Johnson
18 and over	Holly Lucas	Jamieson Ballantyne



FUN DAY!



Year 12 Systems Engineering

Semester One is well underway and the Year 12's Unit 3 Systems class have been learning about Fulcrum Effort and Load. This basically means moving a load with minimal effort.

To demonstrate the concept of Fulcrum or Archimedes Principle the Year 12's have researched cardboard cranes and have started construction.

The Year 12's have made a wonderful start to Semester One and they are all extremely focused when they come to class.



Greg Grant
Teacher

Secondary School vaccinations in 2021

The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccines to Year 7 and 10 students.

These vaccines provide protection against:

- **Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) – one dose for year 7 students**
- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – two doses for year 7 students**
- **Meningococcal A,C,W,Y – one dose for year 10 students**

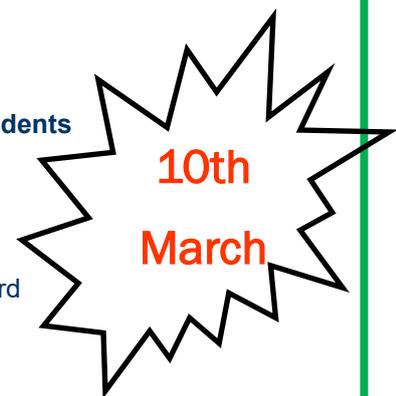
Parents/guardians of Year 7 and 10 students should look out for the vaccine consent card booklet coming home from school with your child. You need to read the information.

Complete and return the card regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

The Glenelg Shire immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 28 February 2021 if you do not want your contact details given to the Glenelg Shire immunisation service.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Additionally, the Commonwealth government is funding vaccinations for all children under 20 years who missed scheduled vaccines. If students have missed vaccines, either in childhood or adolescence, and require catch-up vaccines, they should speak with their immunisation provider. (ie. local council or GP).





YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

YOU MUST BE OVER 18 YEARS OLD TO ATTEND

TUESDAY THE 9, 16, 23 & 30 OF MARCH 2021

PORTLAND SOUTH WEST TAFE CAMPUS
154 Hurd Street, Portland, VIC 3305

6:00PM - 9:00PM

YOU MUST ATTEND ALL FOUR SESSIONS

COMPLETING THE COURSE, YOU WILL GAIN:

- Improved knowledge and awareness
- increased confidence
- Decreased Stigma
- Increased community support
- Practical skills in recognising common mental health problems
- Knowledge to provide initial support and seeking professional help



\$30 FEE TO REGISTER

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL:

Scan our QR code

or <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/140237719795>



For more details, please contact Nicky Grayson: 0407 831 495

PSC Uniforms

School Jumpers

(size 10-22) \$50

(size 24 & 26) \$60

School Pants (tailored) \$45

(72cm—107cm)

PSC Bucket Hat \$8

Draw cord shorts \$20 (s - xl)

Tailored shorts \$25

(10 youth - 107cm)

Kilts \$75

(size 8—26)

PSC Jacket \$85

(xs - xxxl)



Community News

We love hearing from our community, please contact us if you have an event or story to share.

newsletter@portlandsc.vic.edu.au | Ph: 5523 1344

WE'RE HIRING



WE ARE LOOKING FOR SALES STAFF!

MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR AFTER SCHOOL HOURS AND ON THE WEEKEND.

ENQUIRE WITHIN.

Bakers Delight

HOSTED BY QUALIFIED COACH: LIZ MILES

COME AND TRY CALISTHENICS

Inters ages 14-18
Mondays 5pm-7pm

Fun, friends and fitness!
No experience needed
Come and try free for 2 weeks

CONTACT
LIZ - 0434 207 640
OR CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE



Year 7 Family BBQ



Staff and students had a great night at the Year 7 bbq on Monday 8th February on site making use of our great facilities.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

We would love you to join us as a parent member.

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

- A mandated elected parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected school employee member category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
 - An optional community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.
 - A small number of school councils have nominee members.
 - A mandated elected student member category, two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Please contact Vicki Taylor on 03 55231344 for more information or fill out the attached nomination form. Nominations close Tuesday 1 March 2021.

Form 3: self-nomination form for parent member category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

Name _____

Residential address _____

Contact phone (mobile or landline) _____

Email _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____ who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

Statement

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training.

Yes / No (please circle)

I am an employee of the school council.

Yes / No (please circle)

I am engaged in work at and for the school.

Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have never been, insolvent under administration
- I am of sound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of candidate _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on: _____

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.

If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.