



PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Edition 6, 30 April 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

Message from the Principal:

Term 2 is underway and what a term it will be. As always there are multiple opportunities for students to get involved in a wide range of activities. Year 9 students should be involved in completing their Morrisby Testing which explores their skills, attributes and interests and matches them with possible careers. It is the first stage in a focus on Careers for these students. The College entered a team in interschool volleyball for the first time and Year 11 and 12 students headed off on the Tertiary Tour this week which takes them to visit the VCE and Careers Expo, Monash University (Clayton campus), RMIT (City campus), Victoria University (Footscray campus) and Federation University (Ballarat campus). Also coming up is the NAPLAN testing and some Year 8 classes are off to visit Mt. Eccles and the surrounding area to discover the geological activity in the area.

I'd like to remind all parents and students of the need to be extremely careful on the roads around the College, particularly at 3:30. There are five schools, all dismissing students between 3pm and 3:30pm, which can often mean traffic congestion around the College at this time. Bike riders and those students on skateboards and scooters are asked to walk their transport until off College grounds and need to be extremely careful of cars pulling out, particularly those reversing out of the Fawthrop Street carpark.

From time to time we have to hold our students accountable. PSC is proud of its uniform and our students look terrific when all students are wearing it. Even though the weather is cold, hoodies are not and never will be part of our college uniform. Students wearing hoodies will be asked to remove them. Shoes are another issue at present. The nature of many of our subjects requires students to be wearing closed toe, leather shoes for Occupational Health and Safety reasons. Flimsy dunlops or canvas slip-ons are not okay. Finally, the College has a nice, affordable, fully lined spray jacket which most of the students are now wearing. This is the acceptable jacket for the cold weather. Our uniform policy is changing to accommodate this coat and other coats will no longer be acceptable. Students who are not complying with these rules will be given warnings initially but consequences will follow for continued non-compliance. We ask for parent support in these matters. Further information about the correct shoes is available in the newsletter.

Sadly, late last term we farewelled ex-teacher Judy Lane who passed away. Judy had been a teacher at the College for a number of years and headed up our Student Welfare Department. She will be fondly remembered by a large number of teachers and ex-students whose lives she touched.



Jo Kindred
Principal

Up and Coming Events

4th May PSC Cross Country

10th May GD Cross Country (Hamilton)

11th - 13th May NAPLAN

17th - 21st May - Year 9 Career Counselling

31st May - GWR Cross Country (W'Bool)

*** Watch out for Year 9, 10 and 11 Exam information ***

Anzac Day

Portland Secondary College staff and students commemorated Anzac Day with a whole school service conducted by School Captains Elli Aitken and Alex Sealey. Staff and students were pleased to welcome to the College, Mr John Davis, President of the Portland RSL Sub-Branch who informed the students about the sacrifices made by the ANZACs and delivered the Ode. Musicians, Lainie Middleton and Jasmine Biadacz played the National Anthem, the Last Post and Reveille in a moving tribute to fallen soldiers.



Attendance

All late arrivals and absent notes need to be recorded with an approved reason. This can be done through Compass or by calling 55231344.

To avoid receiving a SMS please ensure all absent notes are entered first thing in the morning.

PSC BEANIES

We have sold out of beanies and are waiting on the next delivery. If you missed out, stay tuned on Compass.

Well done to SRC for organising, they flew out the door!

Naplan

All students in Years 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment in the week beginning the 10th of May.

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance. NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials. Students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the tests online or on paper. Results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

What can I do to support my child?

On its own, NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for and students are not expected to do so. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply do their best. Excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers is not recommended. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.



Out and About:

Farewell Cath

Portland Secondary College staff, students and parents would like to farewell Catherine McKenzie, a long-standing School Council member. Cath joined Council as a representative of the Parents and Friends Club in 2001 and became a formal council member in 2002 when her eldest child was in Year 8.

Cath was a busy mother of four children and remained on Council the entire time her children were at school. Her first child Rebecca started at the College in 2001, Peter started in year 7 in 2003, Sheree in 2005 and her last child Nic finished school in 2011. Her children have gone onto careers in truck driving all over Australia, Age Care, working in retail and at the Hospital and some are now parents themselves.

At the same time as being a full time mother, Cath worked in various jobs including running the family business with her husband, working as a volunteer at Portland Primary School helping with literacy programs, working at Portland Primary School and Portland Secondary College's canteens, working as Officer Manager of Portland Taxis and as a Committee Member and Co-ordinator of Junior Basketball, and still found the time to volunteer for Portland Primary School Council prior to joining PSC Council.

So why did she decide to join Council? "My Mother was a member of my Primary School's Parent's Club and she fostered in me a deep belief that you should get involved in your children's education. By being a member, I got to help out at the school and I stayed informed. Being on Council meant I got to know the amazing staff, I met parents from different year levels and I got to know the students who attended the meetings. I gained a better understanding of the school and the way it is coordinated, and I started to understand how things work in the Department of Education. Over the years I also got to go on day trips to look at other schools for new programs that were going to be included at the secondary college to look at building designs before a new section of the College was built or renovated. I got to listen to a number of student presentations about trips and excursions they had been on, as well as hear them pitch proposals to Council about changes they would like made. I was a member of the Physical Services Committee and learned all about the compliance measures schools have to meet and, as a member of the Finance Committee, I learned how to read the financial reports. I was School Council President for two years and Vice-President for a number of years. A lot of people are daunted by holding a position on School Council but I recommend everyone should have a try. The great staff at PSC are always willing to help with information or advice and there are online training modules you can do."

Cath enjoyed her time on Council and after her last child left school in 2011, she remained on Council as a co-opted Community representative and continued to serve until she retired in March of 2021. "I would highly recommend getting involved in your child's School Council. Your opinion is valued and your questions welcomed. You get a better insight into the governance of the School. I suggest you put your hand up to be involved, take a year or two to get to know the system and then you can take on a leadership role. It's not a big commitment – it's one or two short meetings a month and the benefits are great."

On behalf of all Portland Secondary College students and staff over the past twenty years – thank you Cath for your service and dedication to the College. Your presence around the Council table will be missed.



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Applications available from the General Office, please bring your current concession card.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like:

- school camps or trips
- swimming and school-organised sport programs
- outdoor education programs
- excursions and incursions



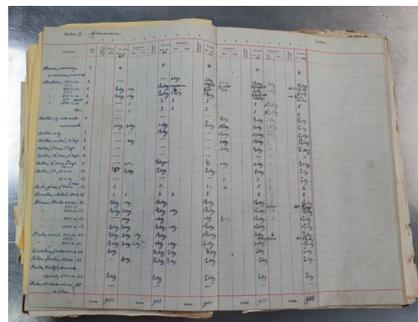
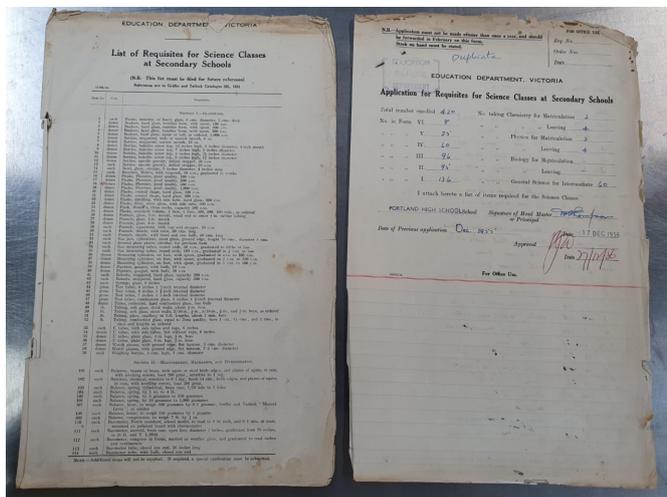
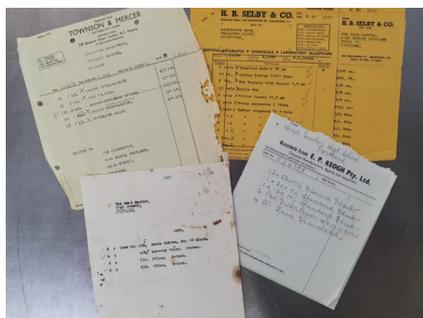
Science Relic

This little gem was found hiding up the back of a filing cabinet drawer in Science. The brown colour you can see on the cover is a beautiful, but very old, suede fabric.

The book is a record of 'requisites' for running the Science program at Portland High School and lists materials and equipment used at the time. The book was used as a way of 'stocktaking' and ordering materials and equipment, and entries date back to 1945.

There were many loose sheets of paper sitting inside the book, including receipts from suppliers and chemical companies and an 'Application for Chemicals for Science Classes in Secondary Schools' dated 27/5/63.

A typed 'circular' addressed to all Head Masters and Head Mistresses from the Education Department, dated 28th February 1955, was also found in the book. The circular granted approval to purchase materials for Science classes and stated the allowance for each calendar year: £60 for High Schools, £40 for Girls' Secondary Schools.



Mandie Pethybridge
Laboratory Technician



Food Studies

Year 10 Food with Ms Logan made Butter Chicken this week. Here is the recipe for those who might like to try it at home.

Butter Chicken

Served with Rice and Pappadums

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ tablespoons butter
- ½ onion, finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon minced ginger
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- ¼ teaspoon chili powder (can be left out)
- ¼ teaspoon ground cumin
- ¼ teaspoon ground coriander
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon flour (can be GF flour)
- 2 chicken thigh fillets
- ¼ Cup chicken stock (mix ½ teaspoon chicken stock with ¼ Cup hot water)
- 200g crushed tomatoes
- Pinch salt
- ¼ cup natural or Greek yoghurt
- ½ cup rice

Method:

1. Melt butter in a frypan (medium heat)
2. Add the onion, ginger, garlic and all of the spices
3. Cook on medium-high heat for 2 minutes, and then stir in the flour.
4. Add the chicken.
5. Gradually stir in the chicken stock and tomatoes.
6. Cover and cook on medium for 20 minutes, or until the chicken is tender. Stir occasionally whilst cooking.
7. Turn off the heat, and add the yoghurt and leave to stand whilst cooking the rice and pappadums.
8. RICE: in a small saucepan, bring 1 Cup of hot water to the boil; add the rice and turn down to medium-low with the lid on.
9. PAPPADUMS: place on a papertowel on a plate, without them touching. Microwave on high for 1 minute per plate.
10. Serve the butter chicken on the rice, in a bowl.



Library News

Celebrating Harmony week.

Harmony week is a time to embrace Australia's multiculturalism. To celebrate Harmony week, the Library held colouring in activities during lunch time. Students coloured in bookmarks, cut out paper-chain people and contributed to our hand display for our Harmony week poster.



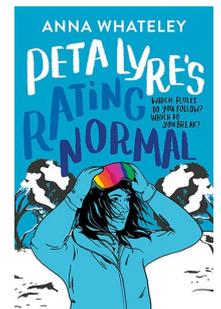
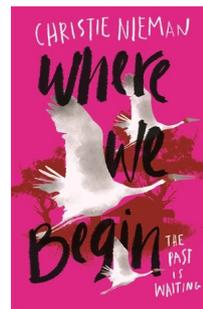
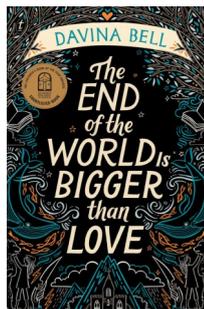
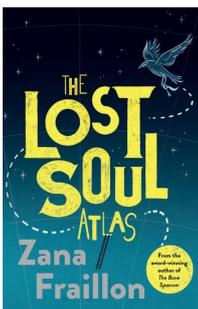
Marlowe Richmond
Library & Admin Trainee



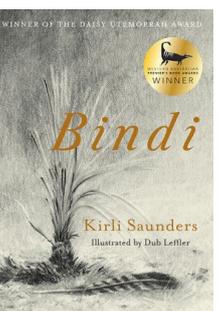
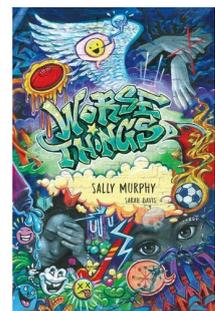
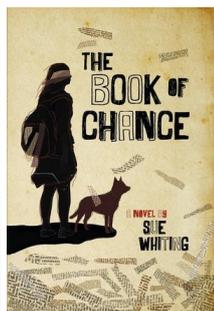
CBCA Book of the year awards shortlist:

The CBCA shortlist has now been released, we have most of these titles available for loan in the library and many are also available as eBooks on the library web app. You can access the library web app via the star menu in Compass. Why not decide for yourself which one you think should win? The winners are announced during Book Week, which this year will be August 21-27, when we will be celebrating with many activities, including our annual dress up day. Stay tuned for more details.

Older reads:



Younger reads:



2021 Student Attitudes to School Survey

Dear Parent / Guardian,

This letter is to inform you about the 2021 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), that your child is invited to participate in.

About the survey

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 your school.

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist your child's school to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, bullying and life in general.

There are also some questions about student health and wellbeing. Understanding health and wellbeing needs is important to support students to learn and thrive at school. The Department is providing this addition to the core survey to allow your child's school to capture this information to support students.

Students will be asked about resilience, family relationships, community connections, health (including mental health), access to health services and physical activity.

This year, the AtoSS will be conducted at PSC over the period 17th of May to 31st of May.

What are the benefits?

In our experience, young people enjoy having their say. We have been running this survey for nearly 20 years and it has been invaluable in helping schools understand student views. Your school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

What are the risks?

While we do not anticipate many risks of participation, some students may find some of the survey questions too personal and sensitive in nature. Should you agree for your child to participate, they are still free to skip questions or to withdraw at any stage if the survey makes them upset or uncomfortable.

The survey been approved by a Human Research Ethics Committee. The questions are selected from validated survey instruments, are strength-based, and tailored for each year level group.

What will my child be asked to do?

Your child will be invited to complete the survey online during class time using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Please note:

- Student participation in the survey is voluntary and students may withdraw at any time.
- The survey will take around 20-45 minutes to complete.

How is my child's confidentiality protected?

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey from their teacher. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. Personally identifiable 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.

How will results be reported?

The survey results will be reported back to the school in an aggregate form throughout the survey period. 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.

Your school may share the results of the survey with parents, in documents such as the School Annual Report.

Options for participation

Participation in this survey is voluntary. If you do not wish for your child to do the survey, please opt out via email to your school: portlandsc@education.vic.gov.au. Please do so before the 14th of May, stating that you wish to opt out of your child's participation, along with their name and year level.

If your school does not receive a Refusal of Consent email from yourself before the survey commencement date mentioned within this letter, it means that you give your consent for your child to participate in the 2021 Attitudes to School Survey.

A copy of the survey that we are asking your child to complete is available from your child's school. Please contact the administration office if you would like to see the survey before making your decision about whether you would like your child to participate.

If you would like more information, please speak to your child's teacher, or contact the Department at attitudes_school_survey@education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

The Department of Education and Training Victoria

Indonesian pancakes – enak sekali!

How does chocolate, cheese, peanut and condensed milk work as a flavor combination? Surprisingly well, according to students in Year 9 Indonesian-Humanities when they cooked up a sweet storm at the end of term 1. Students had expert guidance from Language Assistant, Jyoti Sistadi, to cook *martabak manis*, a popular street food in Indonesia.

In Year 9 Indonesian-Humanities, we combine study of the Humanities with learning about Indonesian language and culture. The diverse food culture of Indonesia provides a tasty insight into this life in this important neighbor. Great work Year 9s in cooking and tasting something new - looking forward to seeing what you cook up next!



Getting Arty! Year 9D Art

Leonardo Da Vinci painted one of the most famous artworks in the world, the 'MONA LISA' in 1503. Last term our Year 9 Art students chose the style of another artist that appealed to them and painted a make-over of the Mona Lisa on a canvas board using that artists style.

The results are fantastic! The following works are by Kelle Harper, Crystall Tuffnell, Dallas Little, Freya Bamblett and Sky Baker.



Way to go PSC!!!!



Vic - Pathways to Post School Life

A session for young people in Years 10-12 and their families

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and the Department of Education and Training (DET), Victoria would like parents/carers of young Victorians with a disability in Years 10-12 to attend a virtual information session.

This is a session for parents/carers of young people with a disability on building skills and paving a pathway to post school life. The DET and the NDIA will discuss a range of career planning and pathways tools, NDIS-funded supports and other assistance to help young people to build skills to prepare for their transition, and support them in achieving education, training, employment and other goals, post-school.

Sessions are offered over multiple dates to allow flexibility for attendees, and will be delivered via video-conference using Microsoft Teams. Registrations will close three business days before the event. If you would like to attend, please register via Eventbrite. Two business days prior to the event, login details (including the MS Teams link to join the session) will be sent from events@ndis.gov.au to the email address you provide at registration.

For any enquiries regarding this session, please contact events@ndis.gov.au. Please include the session name in the subject line.

Where: Virtual Information Sessions via Microsoft Teams

Dates & Times:

Tuesday 11 May 2021	7.00pm – 8.30pm (AEST)
Wednesday 12 May 2021	10.30am – 12.00pm (AEST)
Tuesday 18 May 2021	10.30am – 12.00pm (AEST)
Thursday 20 May 2021	7.00pm – 8.30pm (AEST)

RSVP: Please register via Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/vic-pathways-to-post-school-life-a-session-for-students-in-years-10-12-tickets-147913698855>

Additional information: Accessibility is important to us. If you have any accessibility requirements please let us know when you register for your chosen session. Please note - we need a minimum of five (5) business days' notice to book Auslan interpreters and live captioning services.

7A Science with Miss Satins

7A got to test out their home-made rockets as part of their 'Forces' unit in Science. A mixture of vinegar and baking soda reacting inside the rockets was supposed to cause 'lift-off', but unfortunately the combination of wind, and panic to get it stabilised on the ground before it 'blew', meant that none achieved vertical 'lift-off' but there were a few that scooted horizontally across the ground.

Great effort all round!



Mandie Pethybridge
Laboratory Technician



MARCH PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION: Thank you to all of the students and staff that entered the 'Black and White' photography competition for March! These are some of our entries, special mentions and our winners!

Alisha Hoggan Yr 8



Rebecca Goode Yr 9 - Middle School Winner



Elijah Roberts Yr 11



Macayla Belden Yr 8

Riley Williamson Yr 8 - Junior School Winner



Taylor Roberts Yr 10



Janelle Collins - Staff



Marlow Richmond - Staff



Daniel Goode Yr 7



Seb Barras Yr 10



Suzanne Patterson - Staff



Lily Rose Collier Yr 7



Lauren Place Yr 10



Natalie Smith Yr 11 - Senior Winner



Brian Healy - Staff



Nicole VanVeen - Staff Winner



Holly Pauwels Yr 10

GWR Volleyball

On Tuesday the 27th of April, a team of Year 11 and 12 students travelled to Horsham to compete in the GWR Senior Volleyball competition.

The team played excellently all day with only 5 players on the court. Although they didn't win a game for the day, they went close to knocking off the top two teams, going down by only 2 points in each encounter.

Well done to all the students involved!



Nathan Adams
Sports & Admin Trainee

Students L to R Back: Jacob Farr, Logan Edwards, Nash Wollard
Front: Sam Peters, Christopher Heath



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

Junior Indoor Sports

At the Portland Indoor Sports HUB (Formerly Portland Indoor Cricket Centre) 3 Cellana Crt, Portland

Phone: 0427 505 893

“NEW”

JUNIOR INDOOR CRICKET - FREE REGISTRATION

Any boys and girls interested in playing [Indoor Cricket](#) can attend the Centre on Monday April 26 between 4.30pm and 6pm to register.

School teams or club teams welcome.

Age groups:

11 years & younger and 14 years & younger.

All equipment supplied.

“NEW”

JUNIOR INDOOR NETBALL - 7-A-SIDE

Any boys and girls interested in playing [Indoor Netball](#) can attend the Centre on Tuesday April 27 between 4pm and 6pm to register.

Club teams or school teams welcome.

Age groups:

11 years & younger and 14 years & younger

Bibs and equipment supplied.

REGISTRATION IS FREE for all Indoor Sports. Game fees are \$6.00 per player per game. No other fees are required.