



PORLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Edition 11: 13th August, 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:

When the last newsletter was published, we were just emerging from the last lockdown and it's hard to believe that since then we have been back into lockdown and out again. It seems likely that this pattern will continue over the next few months and students, teachers and families are to be commended on their resilience and adaptability as we navigate in and out of remote learning. The more this occurs, the more crucial it becomes that we all engage straight away with online learning; otherwise it is another day of school learning lost.

The repeated lockdowns are playing havoc with our normal school events which have been on the calendar for the entire year. The Year 12 GAT has once again been postponed and no date has been provided as yet as to when this will be held. Obviously, we need to wait until Melbourne schools are out of lockdown as every Year 12 student in the State who is sitting final exams needs to complete the GAT exam.

Subject Selection interviews were held on Thursday and all current Year 8, 9 and 10 students should have had a meeting about their subject choices. Some Year 11 students may also have had a meeting scheduled. Students would then have been supplied with an individual web code to enable them to submit their subject choices for 2022 online. From these choices, the College will make decisions about which subjects will be offered next year and any student who doesn't get their choices will be approached in Term 4 for further discussion. I admit the timing for this day was not ideal but a huge amount of work regarding the structuring of 2022 relies on the information which comes from these subject choices, and we could not delay this date. Ideally, we would have preferred to conduct these interviews in person, rather than over MS Teams or the phone but again COVID restrictions prevent us from inviting parents onto the College grounds at present. Lots of information regarding the selections has been published on Compass and Facebook with links to short informational videos to help explain the process. Any student who is experiencing difficulty with the online subject choice program should see Ms Kindred or their relevant Sub-School Assistant Principal. Please ask if you have any questions. We will endeavour to find you the answer.

On Subject Selection Day Year 7 students enjoyed a team building day at school completing various challenges such as camp fire making, cooking on trangias, exploring changes in the environment and investigating game design as well as some team building games. A great day was had by all involved.

Coming up, as restrictions ease we hope to begin again with interschool sport competitions, public speaking, community events and excursions as we continue to offer our students a wide and varied curriculum and a range of opportunities, including else in the newsletter the option of applying for various scholarships.

Thank you to all our parents who were invited to complete the Parent Opinion Survey. The data we receive is examined closely and helps govern future practice and running of the school. If you did receive an invitation to partake in the survey, please do so. It only takes about 10 minutes and is very helpful to the College.

Jo Kindred
Principal



Important information and dates :

2022 Local Excursion Consent Required

In preparation for 2022 families are now able to provide consent for 2022 Local Excursions including Lagoon, Basketball Stadium, Narrawong etc.

No further consent will be required however you will still be notified of up and coming excursions on Compass.

If you require any further assistance please don't hesitate to contact the office on 5523 1344.

Event approvals
needed attention:

The screenshot shows the Compass app interface. A red arrow points from the text 'Event approvals needed attention:' to a notification bubble. The bubble contains the text 'Events and Payments' with an exclamation mark icon, followed by 'You have 1 event requiring action. Click here'. Below the notification is a section titled 'Latest news' with 'View all' and 'Saved' buttons. At the bottom, there's a 'Sorted by most important' dropdown and a 'Important news' button.

The screenshot shows the 'Events' page in the Compass app. It displays 'Upcoming Events' for 'Logan EDWARDS' with 2 events. The first event is 'Year 11 Study Time' starting on Fri, Feb 5th 2021 at 09:15am and finishing on Tue, Nov 16th 2021 at 01:05pm. The second event is '2022 Local Excursion Consent' starting on Sat, Jan 1st 2022 at 12:00am and finishing on Sat, Dec 31st 2022 at 11:45pm. Both events show 'Attending' status, 'No consent date set', and '\$0.00'. A red circle highlights the second event.

Senior Boys Basketball Playoff

On Friday the 13th of August, the PSC Senior Boys Basketball team took on Bayview College to compete for a spot at the Greater Western Region Competition in Ballarat. The game was played on home soil for PSC, taking place in the PSC gym during lunch time. After a hot start from PSC, the Bayview boys found their groove as we went into the break trailing by 1 point. Steeling themselves against their tough opposition, PSC lifted in the second half to finish 47-40 winners. They will now go on to represent PSC at the GWR level in Ballarat in September. Well done to all the boys on a great performance and for showing resilience.

Thank you to Sarah Tunstall for assisting with scoring and to Alex Sealey for helping referee the game.



Nathan Adams
Sport and Admin Trainee



Year 7 Immunisation

The second HPV vaccination for Year 7 is scheduled for 15th September.

WE WANT OUR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS/GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents/caregivers/guardians think of our school. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents/caregivers/guardians (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

Approximately 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 19th July to Sunday 22nd August**.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

Survey results will be communicated to parents/caregivers/guardians through annual reporting, through Compass and through School Council. Last year we used the survey results to plan school activities and directions.

Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like more information.

Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](#) | (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](#) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Elizabeth Paulet

Portland Secondary College

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PSC BEANIES

Available at the General Office for **\$15**



Doctors in Schools and the Services available at PSC

Visiting clinicians/specialists include:
Headspace | Portland District Health | Student Support Service | CAMHS by referral |
Vic Police | DHHS

Consulting each Wednesday at the purpose built Doctor's Pod located on school campus,
appointments can be made at the Student Services office or directly at the Pod (on
Wednesdays).

Please don't hesitate to contact Michelle or Tania if you have any questions about the above
mentioned service.

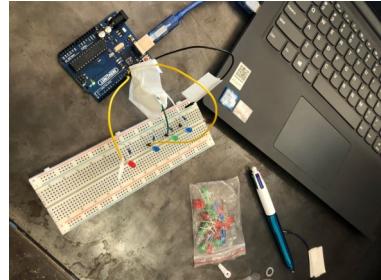
Phone: 5523 1344

Year 11 Systems Engineering

Upon return from lockdown Year 11's hit the ground running. In Unit 2 we cover electrotechnology, breadboards and computer coding. Here in the following photos Zak Denham has completed a circuit which allows the lead to flick on and off and in a specific sequence. Zak was able to get the sequence similar to a red/amber/green traffic light. Zak has taken the time to research the coding program Arduino to develop the specific code in order to allow the leads to flick on and off.



Greg Grant
Technology Department



AUGUST PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The competition theme for August is -

"FUR, FEATHERS and SCALES"

It is open to all staff and students.

Be in it to win it!

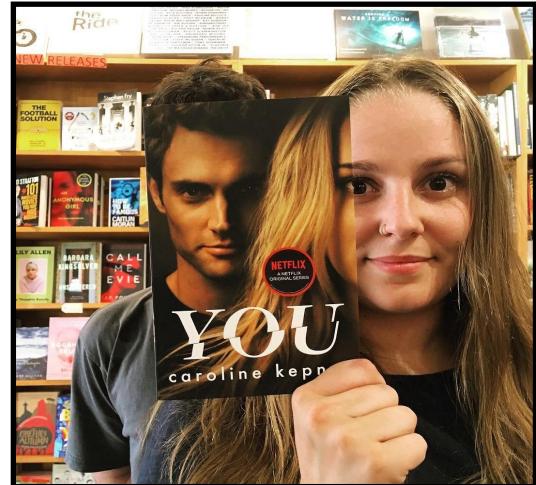
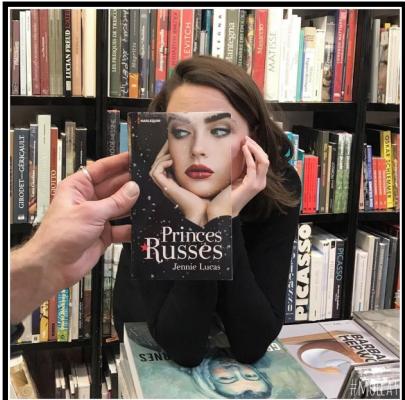
The entries must be submitted to the

'PSC-2021 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION'

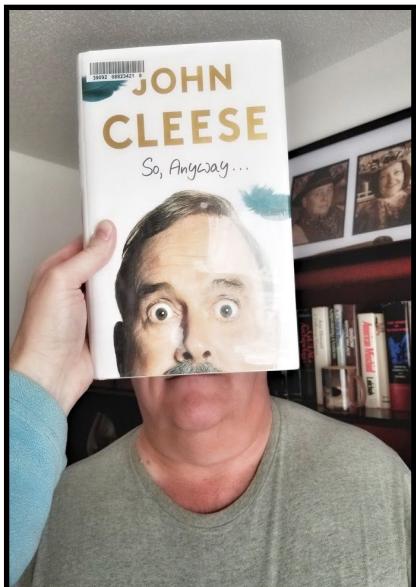
group on MS Teams before the 31st -
you will need to search for the team
and 'Join' or add this Team code - lxs5a5l
(any questions please see Miss Taylor).



Library News



#BOOKFACE



When: Month of August

Post your entries into the Photography Competition group on Team's, under the channel **#Bookface**.

Books on display in the Library for use.

Prizes for best photo in junior, middle and senior levels as well as staff categories!

Book Week

Book Week is the week of 21-27th August, and our annual Book Week dress up day will be held on Thursday 26th August, so you can start planning your costume now! Don't forget that if you are not dressing as a book character you need to be in full school uniform.

Overdue entries have been made on compass, please check and return (or renew) any items you have overdue from the Library. If you have any questions please come see Ms Collins or contact her via Teams or Compass.

Marlowe Richmond
Library Trainee



2022 Scholarships

There are a number of educational scholarships available for students to apply for. Parents need to visit the individual websites for eligibility criteria and details on how to apply.

The Harding Miller Education Foundation Scholarship Program provides practical support to lift the educational and career aspirations of high potential Australian girls who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. Each scholarship is valued at \$20,000 across four years – beginning in year nine. Applications are accepted from eligible female students (who are currently in year 8) who are enrolled in a public school within any state or territory of Australia. Basic eligibility and selection criteria can be found by visiting their website at www.hardingmillereducationfoundation.org.au

The Public Education Foundation's Jack Brockhoff Victorian Indigenous Scholarship supports Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in Public Schools in Victoria to successfully complete their senior years of schooling. The scholarship is supported by the Jack Brockhoff Foundation which was established in 1979 by the late Sir Jack Brockhoff. Sir Jack Brockhoff was Chairman and Managing Director of Brockhoff Biscuits Pty Ltd, a business established by his grandfather in 1880. Throughout his life, Sir Jack was keen to assist others in the community less fortunate than himself. The Foundation exists to support the health and wellbeing of all Victorians. Eight scholarships are available in 2022. The scholarship will provide financial support of \$1,250 per year in year 11 and year 12 for each student (total scholarship value is \$2,500 per student). To apply for the Jack Brockhoff Victorian Indigenous Scholarship, students can access the link to the online portal via the Foundation's website – <http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarships>

The Public Education Foundation's National Secondary Scholarships support two Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students, two refugee students and two students currently experiencing financial hardship that may prevent them from continuing their senior years of education in a public school. (*Note – a student may only apply for one PEF National Secondary scholarship*). Six scholarships are available in 2022. The scholarship will provide financial support of \$1,500 per year in year 10, 11 and 12 for each student (total scholarship value is \$4,500 per student). To apply for the PEF National Secondary Scholarships, students can access the link to the online portal via the Foundation's website – Please select *either* the FINANCIAL NEED, INDIGENOUS *or* REFUGEE scholarship when applying <http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarships>

The Public Education Foundation's Rural & Remote Indigenous Secondary Scholarship supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in Australian public schools in rural or remote areas. The intent of the scholarship is to allow students to engage, learn, strive, reach their full potential and excel through their final two years of secondary education. The scholarship will provide financial support of \$2,000 per year in years 11 and 12 to help the student with resources and services relevant to improving their educational outcomes. To apply for the PEF Remote Indigenous Secondary Scholarship, students can access the link to the online portal via the Foundation's website – <http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarships>

Jo Kindred
Principal





PSC raises \$19,088.50 for refugees!

A team of 32 PSC students, parents and staff took on the Ration Challenge for Refugees in June, raising money and awareness for Syrian refugees forced from their homes due to conflict. During the Challenge, participants ate only a small box of rations – lentils, chickpeas, beans, oil, sardines, rice and flour for 3 – 7 days. Friends and family sponsored challengers, and collectively, we raised an impressive total of \$19,088.50. These funds will help to provide food, medical care and education for refugee communities in Syria and other communities impacted by war.

While the fundraising is important aim of the Ration Challenge, awareness raising is too. Speaking on ABC Radio Southwest about the challenge, Elijah Roberts said that the Ration Challenge make him more aware of the many things he takes for granted and how fortunate we are in Australia. He said that it was hard to get by on the simple rations, but this was nothing in comparison to the many challenges faced by refugees in accessing not only food, but also safe housing, healthcare and education.

Staff member, Marlowe Richmond also found the challenge difficult, but rewarding. “I found that my physical and mental energy was low when eating the rations, but it was a really valuable experience to empathise with refugees.”

All participants in the Ration Challenge are proud of what we achieved and grateful of the support provided by the school community. This support made us the fifth highest fundraiser among schools across Australia. We showed that, as a school community, we stand with refugees.

Well done to all our Ration Challenge participants: Elijah Roberts, Donna Jennings, Elley Foster, Kirsten Mitchell, Jen Pritchard, Simon Jones, Makeely Kindred, Jane McGrory, Adrian Porter, Jessica Saliba, Oliver Chow, Christine Hart, Milly Bayona, Tyler Watson, Tigrha Cleary, Stacey Finck, Cathy Francis, Marlowe Richmond, Nash Schmidt, Kate Mee, Emma Speers, Sally Dunstan, Amelia Oliver, Shakiah Stellini, Kelle Harper, Ella Millard, Laura Harper and Toby Bassett.

Jane McGrory

PLAT Leader: LOTE Indonesian

