



# PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Edition 8: 4th June, 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](mailto:portland.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

## Message from the Principal:

Here we again back at school after successfully navigating once more a Lockdown due to a COVID-19 outbreak and once again, engaging in a period of on-line learning. I'd like to congratulate all our students, staff and families on the resilience they have shown through this difficult time. I'd particularly like to congratulate the Year 8 Grampians Retreat Campers who were forced home from camp a day earlier. When I visited them Thursday morning, they were all very excited and active and it was a shame to break the news that they were going to have to head home earlier than expected. The Camp Owners were very accommodating and Thursday became very busy as we endeavoured to fit two days of activities into one. Well done to all staff and students on this camp who demonstrated our four College Values of Respect, Success, Resilience and Creativity. Make sure you read the write up of this camp later in the newsletter.

The last week of normality saw the Celebration of Education Week with lots of fun activities happening at school. The LOTE Department held a Chilli eating contest with competing students having to negotiate their way through five levels of "heat" to be crowned Chilli Kings. Lots of students and staff had a go with many having to reach for a glass of milk or two to relieve the hot symptoms. The Technology Department engaged in a Game Design Workshop, Maths ran Giant Chess matches in the Marriott Theatre and Art engaged in drawing activities. Science encouraged students to try their hand at dissection of Sheep brains, eyes, kidneys and hearts and English Staff engaged students in some lively debates. The College Leaders and their parents enjoyed an afternoon tea catered by the Hospitality Students. Unfortunately the Health and PE activity scheduled for the Friday had to be cancelled as we moved into lockdown.

Students quickly settled into their classes, completing work and uploading it onto Compass. I'd like to encourage any student or parent who had trouble accessing Compass to make contact with the College on 55231344. We will do our best to resolve any issues as soon as possible. Certainly, the last week has taught us that we need to be ready to move into Remote and online learning at a moment's notice and it is important that all students be ready to go with workable devices and internet connections. I'm not sure that we've seen the last of the lockdowns as yet.

It was lovely to see all students back at school today, full of energy and ready for learning. This next week looks to be very busy. All students will need their devices on Tuesday morning so they are able to complete the Attitude to Schools Survey – this survey provides us with a lot of data and helps shape our planning moving forwards. Wednesday 9th June was to be GAT day - a three hour long exam for those students completing a Year 12 subject but this has now been postponed until further notice. When it does occur it will be a study day at home for all students in Years 7-11. We will advise parents of the date as soon as we know. Exams for Years 11 and 10 will occur from Thursday. Students are asked to check Compass for details. I wish all students well in their exams and encourage them to do their very best.

Jo Kindred  
Principal





20 years of Reconciliation Australia



National Reconciliation Week 2021

27 May – 3 June

nrrw.reconciliation.org.au

#MoreThanAWord #NRW2021

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

I decided to choose a picture of my little brother in the traditional clothing and ochre as it shows a connection to our people and country in our current community of Portland.

Matilda Close - Coolwell Digital media



Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

DWECH and Glenelg Shire Council have partnered together to deliver a youth art project, creating art for Round About Banners, spanning across two locations in Portland.

Congratulations to our students who participated in producing a creative piece of art for the 2021 Reconciliation Week organised by the Dhauwurd-Wurrung Elderly and Community Health (DWECH) in collaboration with the Glenelg Shire. Their spectacular art work will be produced into banners displayed around high and proud at two Portland roundabouts. Further information can be found on the DWECH Facebook page. Enjoy!

The colours represent the Aboriginal Flag. The pattern is a story of Country before colonisation.

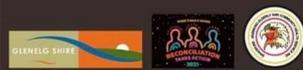
Tighra Cleary water colour and pencil.



The eye symbolises the idea of awareness and the ability to recognise. In order to reflect and progress, we must look beyond the boundaries. Take action together, be mindful and open our eyes to Gunitjmara culture and the significance it holds both in the past, now and into the future.

The flag in the eye is upside down as it symbolises distress and danger and it's internationally known, he has chosen to put it upside down to bring attention to the fact that aboriginal people don't own the rights to their flag, and it's actually owned by a white company named WAM, look at the free flag movement to get more information through Clothing The Gap.

Riley Wilkie Pencil



## Year 8 Camp 2021 – Grampian’s Retreat, Dunkeld

It was fantastic to be able to get out and about on the Year 8 camp again this year. Leaving at 9.00am on Wednesday morning of last week, it wasn't long before we were at the campsite in the Grampians and getting ready for our first challenge – hiking up and down Mt Sturgeon and The Piccininny. Although a great challenge, the students have been practicing their hiking by doing sections of the GSWW in HPE classes and they handled the hike very well. The views were amazing and the students felt a real sense of achievement at the end. That night we enjoyed marshmallows by the campfire with some reflector trails to follow around the campsite, which was a fitting end to the day.

Thursday, day two, and the students were in teams for the various activities that the Grampians Retreat has to offer. The low ropes course remains a challenge – especially if they are a bit slippery! The high swing and flying fox provide a nice adrenaline rush, no matter how many times you've been on them. We discovered quite a few Robin Hoods among our cohort during archery, while the Aboriginal art making gave us all a chance to get inside and take a break from the outdoor activities.

Even though the camp had to finish a little sooner than expected, the students and teachers had a ball being together, getting outside and getting back to nature. The camp operators commented on the behaviour of our students and mentioned how impressed they were – they are very keen to have us return next year. Being in lockdown again this week is a reminder of how important and special our time on camps is.

Well done year 8's and a big thank you to our staff, Mr Walker, Ms Yi, Ms Taylor, Ms Dixon, Ms Gorey, Mr Doyle and Ms Speers for attending and Ms Kindred for visiting.

**Ashley Elijah**  
Year 8 Student Engagement Leader



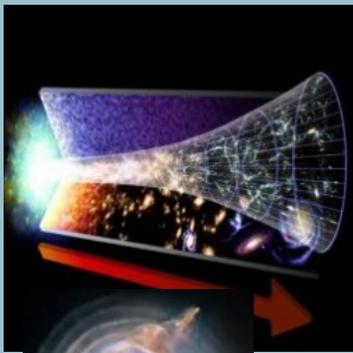
## Origin of Atoms

On Tuesday the 18th of May 11 Physics students had an early start and met at PSC at 4:50am for an excursion to the Victorian Space Science Education Centre. They attended a workshop on the origin of atoms that explained how all of the elements on the periodic table were created. From events a few minutes after the big bang to form hydrogen and helium to the merging of neutron stars to form the heavy elements.

Thank you to the students for their exceptional behaviour and Miss Shiel for helping out and joining us on the excursion.

**Dale Radcliffe**

Design and technologies PLAT Leader



## 60 Seconds with...

*Mackenzie Field who is a School Council member.*

**What do you enjoy most about coming to School Council?**

Being able to represent my peers and help make PSC better for everyone.

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

Year 10 Geelong Camp - loved the experience having to shop and cook all our own meals, good for learning life skills.

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

Either Hugh Jackman or Margot Robbie.

**What would the move be called?**

Fear Less.

**Do you have pets?**

Yes, dog Ralph and a cat Cleo.

**What was the last book you read?**

Should say 'Nine Days' for the sake of English and Mr Powell seeing this!

**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?**

1. Photo's of family and memories
2. Music

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

Rocklands, lots of amazing memories from my childhood there.

**If you hosted a school dinner, what would you cook?**

Spaghetti Bolognaise

**What makes you smile?**

My family.



## Education Support Day

On Monday 17th May, Portland Secondary College said thank you to the Education Support Staff (ES) for all the hard work they do supporting staff and students. Staff enjoyed morning tea catered by the teaching staff. Thank you to Miss Shiel for making a special ES cake.



## Year 12 Biology

Miss Jennings's Year 12 Biology students recently tested the antibiotic resistance of E.coli against a number of different types of antibiotics.

**Results:** Streptomycin and Ampicillin were most effective at inhibiting E.coli growth, whereas Penicillin was not effective at all.



**Mandie Pethybridge**  
Lab Technician



## APRIL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION: HOLIDAYS

Thank you to all of the students and staff that entered the 'Holiday's' photography competition for April! These are some of our entries, special mentions and our winners!



Natalie Smith - Yr 11

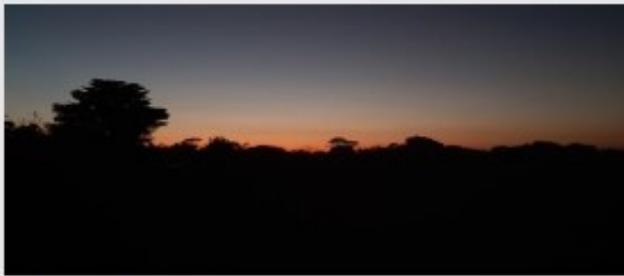
Rebecca Goode – Yr 9



Emma Sheridan – Yr 10



Tracey Ward - Staff



Riley Williamson - Yr 8



Nathan Adams - Staff



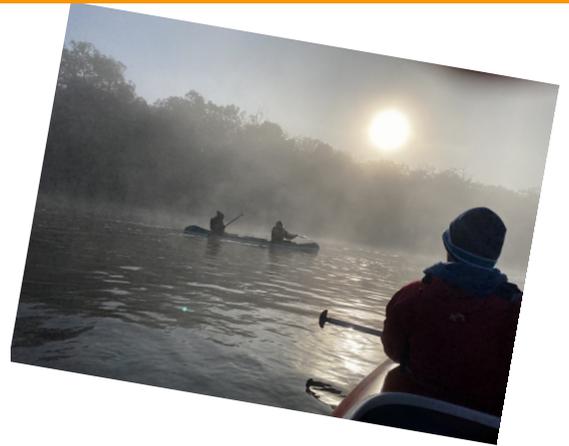
Staff Winner - Janelle Collins



Student Winner - Nyla Conheady Yr 9

# Year 11 Outdoor Education Studies Camp

How lucky were we? Having a camp in Victoria in May and the only rain we got was while we were in our tents fast asleep. Students were able to experience a range of different activities including shelter design, bush walking, canoeing and fishing. During this time they not only developed a deeper understanding of the content from Unit 1 Outdoor and Environmental Studies but they were also able to show the school values, for example showing resilience when one of the canoes got a hole in it or creativity when setting up the tarp. Although it was only a 2 night camp I'm sure that all staff and students slept well on the Friday night back in their own beds after a busy two days.



**Tayla Morley**  
Year 7 Student Engagement Leader  
PLAT Leader: Health & PE



During Careers Week Brianna Keenan took the opportunity to interview her Mentor Teacher Mr Jon Taylor.

Here is what she found out!

**Where did you go to school?**

*Portland High School (this was situated behind Portland Primary school and was disbanded in 1993). His Favorite subject was Art.*

*Jon went to Melbourne State College which is now Part of Melbourne University and studied Creative Arts and Design in the MAD building on the corner of Grattan and Swanson Street. Mr Taylor has taught graphics, art, and metal work but over and above he enjoys teaching wood work.*

**What was your first Job?**

*Working at the Bridgewater bay Kiosk getting paid 40 cents an hour, he would take out the rubbish, sweep out the sand and mop the floors and do general cleaning.*

*He also worked at Borthwicks Meat Works while at University on his holiday breaks, in the skin room and also packing lamb tongues for export. This influenced his decision to become a vegetarian for a few years. The pay was very good and as a struggling University student, he was able to save over the holidays and buy a car.*

**What is a Challenge in the workplace?**

*Sometimes having unmotivated students.*

**Is there something that you learnt from early in your career?**

*He learnt early on the value of safe work practices. A student cut their finger with a chisel in his class and had to get stitches and then a week later another student did the same thing, this time there was a lot of blood and this made another student nauseous at the sight of it who unfortunately vomited. Luckily though Mr. Taylor had lots of saw dust for clean up. All students still have their fingers and he is now very strict around safety in the workshop and it has never happened again.*

**What skills are vital to your Career?**

*Being Patient, flexible and being a good team player.*

**Are you part of any Professional organisations?**

*Yes, Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) Australian Education Union (AEU) and Design Technology Teachers Association.*

**If you could would you change anything?**

*Not sure, dunno, not too much.*

**Best thing about your Job?**

*Working with young people; it keeps me physically fit and mentally young.*



Thanks Brianna J

# News from the Food Hub!

We've been busy this Term, testing and trialling new menu items to match the changing weather and need for warmer, comfort foods. Maybe you have seen or even tried our new menu items? If you haven't, here's what's new:

Vegetable Lasagne

Mac 'n' Cheese

Meatball Pasta

Fried Rice Fridays



Toasted Wraps and Focaccias containing delicious combinations such as Lamb & Feta, Chicken and Sweet Chilli Sauce, Chicken & Basil Pesto and Falafel, Spinach and Cheese.

Soup and a Roll – So far, we've trialled Roast Pumpkin with Sour Cream, Pumpkin and Sweet Potato, Potato and Bacon, Chicken and Sweetcorn and Vegetable Soup.

We would love your feedback if you have tried any of our new items and we are always open to suggestions, so much so, that very soon we will be posting a survey on compass to ask you what you think of the Food Hub, it's menu, prices and what you would like to see more or less of.

## Senior Football Report

On Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, a group of year 11 & 12 boys travelled to Hamilton to compete in the Herald Sun Country Cup. It was a cold and dewy start to the day, with all the competing schools struggling to keep hold of the footy as it rolled around on the slick surface.

An undermanned PSC side fought hard all day but were unable to register a win. The boy's best performance of the day came against Baimbridge as they put on 3 quick goals to finish the game, though were unable to get over the line.

Well done to all the boys who participated and thank you to Charlee Ferguson who helped out on the day.



**Nathan Adams**  
Sports & Admin Trainee



**English:** "Thursday afternoon saw a clash of the titans between staff and senior students. Tensions in the Drama Centre were high as Alex Sealey, Kenny Chambers, Elijah Roberts and Hamish Drew took on Miss Molly Dixon, Miss Dakota Robinson, Mr Simon Jones and Ms Gabrielle Robinson in a series of debates, adjudicated by Rostrum Voice of Youth champion Milly Bayona, Year 12 student Charlee Ferguson and Mr Braden Dawson. A large crowd filled the room as final preparations were made by each team.

The first topic 'Staff should wear a uniform too' kicked off the debates, with Alex and Miss Dixon both having some excellent points, however it was Miss Dixon that took the first points with the staff, arguing that choice of clothing at school is a rite of passage for those completing necessary tertiary training. Next, Mr Jones fought vehemently about whether 'Smartphones are making us stupid', but Elijah clutched the first victory for students, grossly overestimating Mr Jones' age in the process.



Things continued to heat up as Kenny and Miss Robinson debated if 'Aliens Do Exist', but after some hard-hitting points using Drake's Equation, Kenny reigned victorious. With the audience laser-focused, the last arguments between Ms Robinson and Hamish on whether 'Cannibalism should be legalised' were heard. While Hamish put up a strong, repetitious argument, it was Ms Robinson whom the adjudicators and the audience declared the winner, leaving the scores between staff and students at 2-2.

*A big thank you to all staff and students who participated in or attended the debates. The high level of interest indicates a passion for debating at PSC - something I look forward to seeing happen again soon."*

**Braden Dawson**  
English PLAT Leader

**SCIENCE** ran some dissections stations so that students could have the opportunity to hone their skills with a scalpel. Students were able to choose between a heart, eyeball, brain, or kidney and were provided with all the necessary equipment to make incisions and investigate the form and functions of the organ. Many of our dissections happen in senior science so we felt it important that juniors in particular were allowed to explore this fascinating (if gruesome) aspect of science!

**Jennifer Prichard**  
Science PLAT Leader

### CHILI EATING COMPETITION!



Students and staff experienced a spicy taste of Indonesia in our Education Week chili eating competition. 90 Brave contestants worked their way through rounds of progressively spicy Indonesian dishes - all prepared by the students of Year 9 Humanities-Indonesian class. The final challenge: a fresh chili chow-down to be crowned a PSC Chili Champ! The spice resilience was impressive with champions putting away no less than three of the Portland Community Garden's hottest chilis. Great work by chili champs, contestants and cooks!

**Jane McGroy**  
Indonesian PLAT Leader

# 2021 EDUCATION WEEK ACTIVITIES



**TECHNOLOGY** On Tuesday lunchtime students from all year levels were invited into T10, the new Innovation Hub, to try their hand at Game Design. Students were introduced to Game Design and were able to sample games made by others and get a feel of what goes into designing games. Game Design, using newly purchased PS4s is currently running at Yr 8 and will be expanded to 9 and 10 in 2022.



**Dale Radcliffe**

Design and technologies PLAT Leader

## YEAR 8C SCIENCE

YR 8 SCIENCE CLASSES HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL CHANGES AS PART OF THEIR CHEMISTRY UNIT.



## Textiles and Food Studies

Ms Francis's 8F class made no-sew cushions from reclaimed fabric. One side is polar fleece and the other donated cotton fabric. The students braided two sides of the cushion closed and knotted the other two sides. They were filled with cushion inserts that had been recycled. Very soft and a great job by the students.



Ms Perkins class produced yummy decorative biscuits in food Studies and fun cushions in textiles.



# THE AMAZING RACE



*Mrs Hart with Marni Watson*

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>, The Senior Re-engagement students and the Senior Numeracy VCAL Students ran an Amazing Race as part of their assessments. The students were required to plan the day from the activities that the contestants would compete in at their stations, to the timeline of how the day would run. We had 9E come along and join us on the adventure for a fun filled day. 9E students competed in donut eating challenges, scavenger hunts, obstacle courses, and egg-and-spoon races. Thanks to Mrs. Logan, Miss. Clancy, Ms. Hart, Mrs. Bassett, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Burgoyne, and Jacinta for helping to supervise the day.



*Noah McKinnon, Ben Scard and James Cannon*



*Nic Sealey, Beau Edwards and Millie Ferguson*



*Dane Skinner and Jett Sandeman*



*Jacinta Knight with Jack Brooksby, Chace Otto, and Jayke Bates*



*Ben Scard, Noah McKinnon, James Cannon, Hayley Von Czapiewski*

## What is it like to eat like a refugee?

23 students and staff are about to find out! From 13-20<sup>th</sup> June, the PSC team will participate in the Ration Challenge for Refugees, eating the same rations as a Syrian refugee and getting sponsored to do it. The ration packs include rice, beans, chick peas, sardine, flour and oil – similar to the simple provisions given to refugees worldwide. That's right - no coffee, no sugar, no fresh fruit or vegetables.

The funds we raise will provide emergency food, healthcare and life-saving support for people in conflict-affected countries. And by sharing in one aspect of the refugee experience, we also have a chance to create more empathy and compassion in society.

The PSC team has already raised an impressive amount - \$13,398! Vice Captain, Elijah Roberts, alone has brought in more than \$1,600. You can show your support for the PSC Ration Challengers and for refugees by making a donation. Visit our sponsorship page at <https://schools.rationchallenge.org.au/t/p-secondary-college>



## 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](mailto:newsletter@portlandsc.vic.edu.au) | Ph: 5523 1344

# KARAOKE FOR A CAUSE

Songs for Dolly's Library  
Hosted by Jeff Mizzi.

Join us for a fun-filled night to raise money for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library!

Pre-select two of Dolly's most loved songs, practise, dress up and get ready to perform them on the night for a chance to win some great prizes! Sign up to sing by yourself, with friends or co-workers.

**FRIDAY 2 JULY 2021**  
7:30pm - 9:30pm

Portland Football Netball Club

TIX \$15 Per person TEAM PRIZES!  
Auction + Raffles



Want more information?  
Contact United Way Glenelg on 0410 513 305



# Hearing for Healing

## Ear Health message competition

Tell us how hearing helps you connect with Family and Community. Be inspired by the NAIDOC theme of Healing Country.

OPEN TO ALL VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ARTISTS, YOUNG AND OLD

All submissions forwarded to [Anne.MarieBanfield@hearing.com.au](mailto:Anne.MarieBanfield@hearing.com.au) by 14th June 2021

DIGITAL, PHOTOGRAPHY AND ARTWORK ENTRIES WELCOME

<https://visiongraphics4.wixsite.com/hearingforhealing>

Winners awarded during NAIDOC week - Wednesday 7th July  
4 prizes of \$1000 up for grabs