



Portland Secondary College

Newsletter

TERM 2 WEEK 4

15th May 2026

Highlights

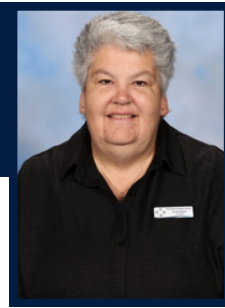
- **Principal's report**
- **Library News**
- **ANZAC Day**
- **Careers**
- **Hands on Learning**
- **Sports**
- **Term 2 Calendar**
- **Student Achievements**
- **Community News and more**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Wednesday 20th May**
 - Year 9 & 10 Boys GD Football
- **Tuesday 26th May**
 - Year 10 ADF Presentation
 - GWR Cross Country
- **Wednesday 27th May**
 - Year 9 English Guest Speaker Scot Gardner
 - Hands on Learning Community Project
- **Friday 29th May**
 - Year 7 - 12 Girls GD Football
- **Monday 1st June - Friday 5th June**
 - Dental Van Visit
 - Year 7 - 9 Mixed Soccer



Portland Secondary College is a Child Safe School



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Already we are well into term 2 and the weather is starting to feel like a Portland winter. I want to take this opportunity to remind students and parents that although the weather is cold, hoodies and puffer jackets are not part of our uniform. Students are welcome to wear long sleeved tops under their shirts, and our soft-shell jackets are very warm. And while I'm writing about uniform, we also need all students in the correct shoes. All members of our student body are expected to be wearing the correct shoes as per our uniform policy. This policy states that students should be wearing black polishable shoes with an enclosed toe. Students wearing black shoes with a small, coloured logo or stripe on the side, tongue or back will be asked to colour this logo black. Students wearing open toe sandals, different coloured sneakers or black shoes with large areas of coloured markings or coloured shoelaces will be issued with a uniform non-compliance note asking for the situation to be rectified. Please support the College in this endeavour.

Once again, the term has started in a very busy fashion. The Year 11 students have completed their Mental Health First Aid Training which teaches students how to look out for their mates who may be experiencing some mental health issues. The College held an Anzac Day ceremony on the Friday afternoon before Anzac Day to commemorate the fallen with many students joining the official Anzac Day March on the Saturday with School Captains Gracie Walder and Sienna Stone laying a wreath. We also had students involved in wreath making for Anzac Day, and picking the flowers and greenery being used in the Shire's display.

Year 9 students have completed their individual Morrisby Interviews where they learn about career paths they would do well in, the Cross Country was held both locally and the next round in Casterton (results elsewhere in the newsletter), our Senior Vocational Major students experienced a visit to Portland Alcoa, our student Leadership Team underwent some leadership training and began work on various projects around the College and the Hands on Learning students worked with Powerhouse Productions and United Way on the making of a short video about the work United Way does with the Community.

The first of the Student Leadership team Projects - Day for Dolly, and the Student Services Showcase - was held last week with students wearing blue and paying \$2.00 for the privilege of being in casual clothes. The money raised will be going to the Day for Dolly cause. Students also put together a number of activities highlighting the need to stamp out bullying and also surveyed the whole school about their experiences of bullying. We will share these results at a later date and also let you know how much money was raised.

We also farewelled one of our Year 9 students who will leave us for a term to join the Alpine School for Leadership. We wish Ace O'Brien all the best on his term away. At the same time, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Khalif Al Bilal, our new Language Assistant who will assist in Indonesian classes.

Our Year 11 students attended RYDA, an all day event held at Alexander Park which looks at the risks associated with driving and this week, our Year 9 Students headed off on their camp to Geelong which is designed to provide opportunities for students to further develop skills essential for life as an adult which are not always readily available in the class room, while also providing opportunities for students to strengthen their feeling of connectedness in a fun and safe environment. Students will complete a range of activities from tree-top ropes courses of varying degrees of difficulty to bowling, mini golf and roller skating/blading. There is a tour around the Gordon TAFE to give students an insight as to the options and related pathways which exist for them after they finish school. There is also a cultural tour of Geelong run by The Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, to further enhance students' understanding and appreciation of Indigenous perspectives and contributions to Australia as a whole. I'm sure the students will have had a great time and will come home tonight very tired.

Over the next fortnight all students will complete the Attitude to School Survey, which tells us how the students feel about PSC and the teachers. The results of this survey will be available early next term and we will share them with the school community. There is further information in this newsletter regarding this survey.



PARENT / CAREGIVER / GUARDIAN INFORMATION AND CONSENT LETTER

2026 Student Attitudes to School Survey

Dear Parent / Caregiver / Guardian,

This letter is to inform you about the 2026 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), which all government school students in Years 4 to 12 will be invited to complete.

About the survey

The AtoSS is a voluntary student survey offered by the Department of Education every year to help schools and the department understand students' experiences of school. We will ask your child about their thoughts and feelings about their school, their learning, relationships with other students, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

ORIMA Research Pty Ltd has been contracted by the department to manage the collection of the online survey and will provide support to schools through a telephone hotline and email.

This year, the survey will be conducted at your school from 11th May to 12th June.

What are the benefits?

Young people enjoy having a say! This survey has been running for nearly 20 years and helps schools plan programs and activities to improve your child's engagement with school, their wellbeing and their learning. The survey data also helps the Department of Education understand how to improve student learning.

What are the risks?

We don't expect many risks of participation, but some students may find some questions personal or sensitive. If you agree for your child to take part, they can still skip questions or withdraw at any time whilst completing the survey if it makes them upset or uncomfortable. A teacher will be present during the survey to support students.

The questions come from validated survey instruments used in Australia and around the world. They focus on your child's strengths and are designed 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. We are not "testing" your child. Please note:

- Students can choose if they want to take part, skip questions if they don't want to answer, and can stop doing the survey at any time.
- There are different versions of the survey to let all students take part.
- The survey will take around 20-40 minutes to complete.

How is my child's privacy protected?

A teacher will give your child a unique login to complete the survey. This unique student login is an assigned identifier that will be used by the department to link data for analysis and research only. Some student demographic data such as year level, gender, age, and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status are provided to ORIMA research, and linked with the unique student login ID to administer the survey. This information helps to support analysis and research, to paint a clearer picture of how Victorian school students are faring.

ORIMA Research will only use student personal information for research purposes to facilitate the administration and data collection of the Attitudes to School Survey. To keep your child's survey answers private, ORIMA Research won't include any personally identifiable data in the survey answers file that is provided to the department.

All data is stored on servers located in Australia, and only staff who are working on the project can access it.

All information collected about your child will be handled in accordance with the *Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*, the *Health Records Act 2001 (Vic)* and the *Public Records Act 1973 (Vic)*, as well as the Department's [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please note that consistent with the above legislation and our policy, there are instances where we may be required by law to share information provided by your child. For example, where there is a threat to your child's health and safety.

How will results be reported?

The department will only use aggregated survey data to report on initiatives and this data may also be used in public discussions of issues about student engagement and wellbeing. An example of how survey data has been previously used includes reporting levels of student engagement in the Performance Summary in the Annual Report to the School Community. The department will not share any identifiable student data with any other party.

Your child's school will only get reports about groups of students. Information about individual students and the student answers data file will not be shared with schools. If there are low numbers of student answers to a question, the report will not show results for this question to protect the privacy of those students.

Your school may share the survey report back to you.

What if I don't want my child to do the survey?

This survey is **voluntary**. If you **do not** want your child to do the survey, please opt out by contacting the school on 55231344 school before the survey starts on the 11th of May.

Student personal information will be shared with ORIMA Research to facilitate survey preparations prior to this opt out process. If you opt your child out of participating, then your school will ensure that your child is not provided with access to the survey. Student details will be deleted by ORIMA Research at the conclusion of the survey.

If your school does not receive a "Refusal of Consent" email from you before the survey begins, we will assume that you agree for your child to take part in the 2026 Attitudes to School Survey. Please remember, as noted above, the survey is voluntary: even with your consent, your child can choose to skip questions or stop doing the survey at any time.

For more information about this survey, including the questions your child will be asked to answer, please visit the department's [survey information page](#).

If you would like more information or have any concerns about the survey, please speak to your child's teacher, or contact the department at school_surveys@education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Department of Education, Victoria

Portland Secondary College

2026 TERM 2 CALENDAR

MAY

- Tuesday 19th - Passport 2 Employment
- Wednesday 20th - Year 9 & 10 GD Boys Football - Hamilton
 - Legacy Junior Public Speaking Practice @ lunch (A1)
- Friday 22nd - Year 10 VET Multi-Taster (TAFE) (for selected student only)
- Tuesday 26th - GWR Cross Country - Warrnambool
 - Year 10 ADF Presentation
 - Passport 2 Employment
- Wednesday 27th - Year 9 English Guest Speaker - Scot Gardner
 - Hands on Learning Community Project
- Friday 29th - Year 7 - 12 Girls GD Football - Hamilton

JUNE

- Monday 1st - Friday 5th - Dental Van Visit
- Monday 1st - Year 7 - 9 Mixed GD Soccer
- Tuesday 2nd - Year 8 & 9 Drama Performance
 - Warrnambool Eisteddfod
 - Passport 2 Employment
- Wednesday 3rd - Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award (Hamilton)
 - Warrnambool Eisteddfod
- Monday 8th - Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- Tuesday 9th - Friday 12th - Year 10 & 11 Exams
- Tuesday 9th - Passport 2 Employment
- Wednesday 10th - Year 9 - 12 Girls and Boys Basketball
 - Hamilton and District Legacy Junior Public Speaking
- Friday 12th - Year 7 & 8 Boys Football - Hamilton
- Tuesday 16th - GAT
- Thursday 18th - Year 10 Deakin Immersion Day - Warrnambool
- Tuesday 23rd - Year 10 Preparation Day (students stay home)
 - Passport 2 Employment Graduation
- Wednesday 24th - Friday 26th - Year 10 Melbourne Experience
- Friday 26th - Last Day Term 2
 - Semester 1 Reports Released



Calendar was last updated on
15/05/2026.

Please monitor Compass,
Newsletters & Social Media
regularly for updates.



2026 CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to the families who have made a contribution throughout Term 1. We truly appreciate the ongoing support of our school community, allowing us to ensure students receive the best possible resources, support and opportunities during their education.

Our Term 2 payment plan is open. This is visible on your Compass dashboard. If you scroll through the details, you will be given an option of pay in full or pay in contributions.

If you have any queries or require assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the General Office or email accounts@portlandsc.vic.edu.au.

CAMPS, SPORT AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF REMINDER – Application close 20 June 2026

Don't miss out on receiving \$400 Camps, Sports and Excursions funding.

To be eligible to receive the funding:

- Hold a current concession card displaying the students name (a copy required to submit with application)
- Meet special consideration category

Please ensure to contact the General Office if you are new to Portland Secondary College or your family circumstances have changed from last year.

VICTORIA Department of Education
State Government

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Student Services Team

Tania Beard Nicola Taylor
Michelle Cables
Karin Sandstrom

2026 DAY FOR DOLLY

On May 8th, our Year 11 VCE VM PDS class held a successful hot dog lunchtime fundraiser for Do It For Dolly Day. This initiative, part of our Connecting with Community unit, aimed to raise funds for anti-bullying programs.

By coming together, we sparked important conversations about kindness and school safety, helping ensure PSC remains a place where every student feels protected and heard.

A big thank-you to our canteen Team Tam and Tressilla for raising additional funds through their blue cupcake sales, and to the entire school community for supporting this cause and contributing to meaningful change.

Thank you to Bakers Delight Portland for donating the bread. Mark and co are always happy to support community and school events.

We are proud to announce that our Do it For Dolly Day fundraiser raised

\$646.93!







NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK



Stepping Stones to your future – getting started...

STEP 1. Who are you?

Think about yourself:

- Your interests
- Your values
- What are you good at?
- What do you enjoy doing?
- What skills do you have?
- What environment do you want to work in?
- Do you want to study full time, part time or later?
- What type of personality are you?
- Do you know what you want to do?
- Your needs.

STEP 2. Be aware of your options?

Work –

- Explore the occupations that interest you
- Research the industries in which you would like to work
- Research where the vacancies are.

Further Education –

- Explore your study options – University, TAFE or other courses offered. Check entry requirements, cost of courses, employment outcomes, etc

Training –

- Apprenticeships, traineeships, on-the-job training, etc

STEP 3. Making decisions – use Steps 1 & 2 to make your decision

Looking at who you are and what options are available for you can help you to decide:

- Your next step
- How to get there
- Implications on your life
- Funding
- Short term & long term goals.



Resources to assist you include:

- Job Outlook www.joboutlook.gov.au
- Myfuture www.myfuture.edu.au

STEP 4. Doing it

Getting a job –

- Job Search – look for vacancies
- Prepare your application/ resume
- Prepare for an interview.

Further Education and Training –

- Complete your application for your chosen course.

Things to remember:

- You are surrounded by people who can assist you – teachers, careers advisors, VET coordinators, parents, family friends, university/TAFE course coordinators, professional associations, etc
- Do your research
- Do what YOU want – not what your friends are going to do.

Parents and carers play an important role in helping their children to make career choices. They are the greatest influence on their children's career choice. Making career choices may be challenging. The "world of work" is complex and careful investigation is needed so that careers can be properly planned.

The workplace children will enter may be very different from when their parents started working.

Some strategies to help your teenagers with their career choices:

Remain positive

No matter how complex and confusing the changes in employment and training may seem, the majority of school leavers now have access to a number of education and vocational pathway opportunities.

Try to avoid the "What are you going to do/be when you leave school?" Type questions. These questions are often very confronting. Instead take the opportunity to talk about career options whenever possible, for example when a news item appears on a current affairs program or when a University/TAFE Open Day is approaching.

Encourage your child to develop a positive self-esteem

Focus on their achievements – but not just at school. Acknowledge their efforts in all their activities – keeping their room tidy, participating in sport, community activities, setting goals and achieving them.

Show them you believe in them!

Allow for a change in direction

It is very unusual for a student to choose a career at a very early age and never waiver in their choice. Be prepared for changes in direction and encourage your teenager to continue to explore a variety of options.

Encourage them to learn from their mistakes

Even if you feel uncertain about their choice, remain positive as they make their first steps towards their career. It isn't the end of the world if they choose the wrong work experience or subject. Discovering that a previous career interest is not for them is a positive step in the decision making process as it gives them the time to re-assess their interests and to broaden their options.



Encourage them to find an industry contact

When a teenager begins to express an interest in a particular career, if it is possible, help them to establish links with someone in that field. This person can then provide a direct, first hand information link with that particular occupation or industry.

Networking

Students should be actively encouraged to develop an information network themselves. This network could well be friends, neighbours, part-time work employers, work experience employers and your family's builder/car repairer/plumber/accountant (depending on their career interests) and other contacts made by the student. The network serves two purposes – it allows students to gain realistic insights into their chosen career and it broadens their chances of finding jobs as a large number of vacancies are only advertised by word-of-mouth.

Share your experiences

Talk to your teenagers about your own experiences of work and study and your reasons for making particular career decisions. Discuss the problems you have faced and how you dealt with them. Speak openly of the positive and negative aspects of the jobs you have done.



HANDS ON LEARNING

Three members of Portland Secondary College's Hands on Learning program – Addi Newton, Mason Lindsey and Cody Jackson-Keiller – have volunteered their time to help one of the program's community partners, United Way Glenelg, film a promotional video.

The video is being produced by Powerhouse Productions and will be launched at United Way's annual general meeting in late May.

It is a 35-second snapshot showcasing the many projects United Way Glenelg delivers throughout the Glenelg Shire.

One of those projects involves putting together more than 200 Winter Care Packages, which the HoL class will help pack later this term. These gifts will then be distributed to elderly residents across the Glenelg Shire.

This is one of the many ways PSC and the HoL program are connecting our students with the community.



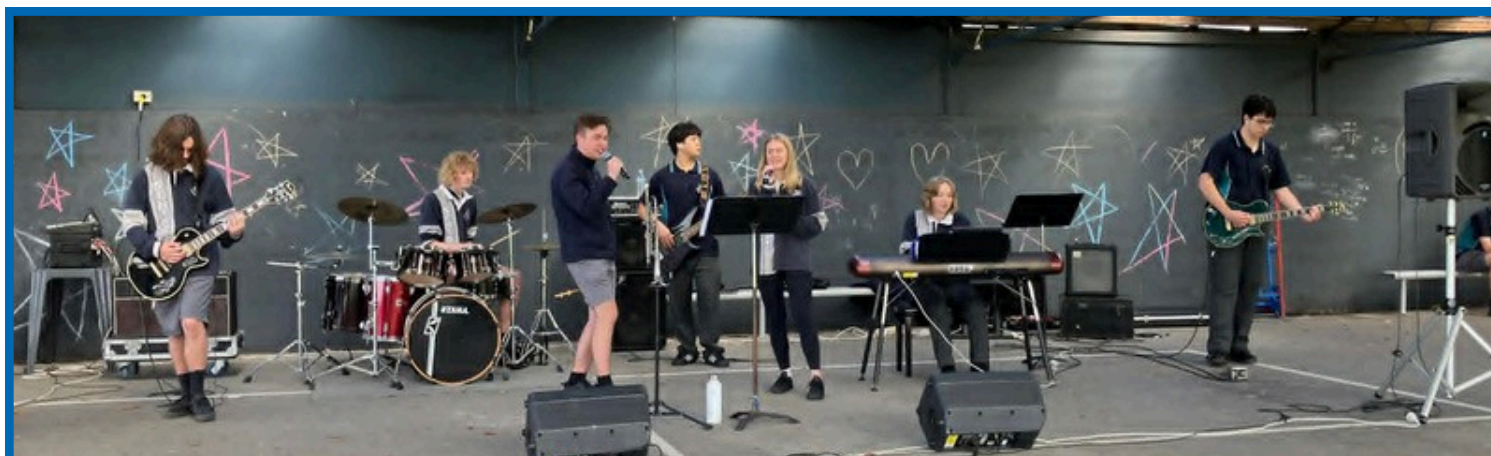


VCE MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Last Tuesday, our VCE Music Performance class treated the school to a lunchtime performance featuring repertoire they are currently studying. It was fantastic to see so many staff and students come along to support them.

A big thank-you to Mr Healy for organising this.

Our music department is also working hard to prepare for the upcoming Warrnambool Eisteddfod in June.





HANDS ON LEARNING

Portland Secondary College Year 8 student Toby King works best when using his hands. To help develop these skills, Toby has been attending a Hands On Project class over the past 12 months, where he has completed projects such as a balsa-wood plane, a personalised sign for his bedroom, and a stand for a model boat.

Over the past few weeks, Toby has completed an artwork on wood, which has helped him connect with his culture.

A feature of the artwork is his favourite trees, the eucalyptus, which have been given texture through layered cardboard before being painted. The background's dark sky features The Emu in the Sky constellation, which holds profound meaning in Aboriginal Dreamtime stories.

Toby is one of several students who attend the Hands On Project classes each week.



Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

Sue Taylor, Year 11 & 12 Level Leader



YEAR 11 RYDA PRESENTATION

On Monday 11 May, the Year 11 students attended the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) Road Safety Event at Alexandra Park.

Throughout the day, students explored what makes a vehicle safe, examined modern vehicle safety features, and considered how passengers and external factors can influence the driving experience.

The day encouraged students to think beyond the mechanics of driving and develop a greater awareness of safe decision-making on the road.

The program included interactive workshop sessions featuring discussions with police officers, driving instructors, and crash survivors, providing students with valuable real-life perspectives on road safety.



Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

Gene Stewart, Artisan Teacher/Hands on Learning Coordinator



HANDS ON LEARNING

The Portland Secondary College's Hands on Learning class have been busy making improvements to their workspace.

The 10 students, who spend each Wednesday with two Education Support staff working on individual and group projects, spent the past couple of sessions painting their shed – along the way learning some new skills.

They also created a new basketball ring and backboard, with a particularly arty and colourful design!

Improvements to the area will continue throughout 2026, with a revamp of the space in front of the shed to incorporate some paving and redesigned seating.

The improvements to the area reflect the four pillars the Hands on Learning program is based on: A Place to Belong; People to Belong To; Real Things to Do; and A Chance to Give Back.

SHED



SHED



BASKETBALL



SHED



Sam Wells, Outdoor Education Teacher



YEAR 9 OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Our Year 9 Outdoor Education class participated in a free first aid and safety session provided by Surf Victoria and facilitated by Keith Curtain from Go Surf School.

The session covered how to identify swimmers in danger or drowning, the basics of performing CPR, and where to find and how to use a defibrillator.

Although aimed at surfers, this program is highly beneficial for anyone – especially young people living in coastal towns.



Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

Emily Gorey, Physical Education Teacher



PSC CROSS COUNTRY

Students (and some staff) were spoilt with perfect running conditions earlier in the term as they took part in this year's cross-country event!

It was great to see so many students competing, including our more experienced runners but also those who might have been pushed outside their comfort zone.

Everyone gave their all - congratulations to all who participated and those who cheered on if they were unable to.

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPS



LUCY COLLEY



MAX BOTT



ELLIE ANDERSON



JETT MCKAY



RUBY ROWE



ZAYNE MEDINA



OLIVE WATT



INDY BARCLAY



JASMINE SIEMON



JUDD CARTER



SIENNA STONE



SCOTT BRYCE

Respect

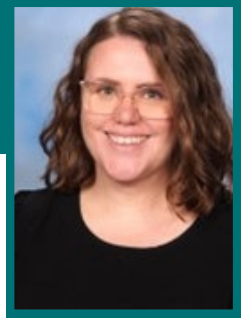
Success

Resilience

Creativity



Donna Bassett, Food Studies Teacher



YEAR 9 FOOD STUDIES

Ms. Turri and Mrs Bassett's Year 9 Food Tech classes recently made burritos in class using homemade tortillas.

This was part of the class focus on sustainability, particularly exploring how to reduce food waste and packaging waste by using pantry-staple ingredients to make your own versions of products we often buy—such as spice mixes, tortillas, and yoghurt.



Rebecca Gould, Food Studies Teacher



YEAR 11 FOOD STUDIES

Year 11s have been investigating bush spices and indigenous foods as part of their studies.

Turns out chocolate and wattle seed self saucing pudding is a WINNER!



Emily Gorey, Physical Education Teacher



GD CROSS COUNTRY

Earlier this week, a PSC team of around 30 athletes attended the GD Cross Country event held in Casterton.

We had a very successful day, with many of our runners finishing in the top 12 of their age groups. These athletes will now progress to the GWR Cross Country later this month in Warrnambool (these results are yet to be finalised).

Congratulations to Year 7 students Lucy Colley and Max Bott, who were both named U13 Age Champions – an outstanding achievement!

GD CROSS COUNTRY AGE CHAMPIONS

**U13 Girls:
Lucy Colley**

**U13 Boys:
Max Bott**



Portland Secondary College
Creating the opportunities

Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

Sue Taylor, VCE Art Teacher
Sharon Clark, VCE Visual
Comms Teacher



TOP ARTS AND TOP DESIGN TOUR

Our final-year Visual Communication Design (VCD) and Art Making and Exhibiting (AME) students recently travelled to Melbourne for an immersive educational excursion, gaining a firsthand look at the state's highest-achieving student work from 2025. While navigating the public transport system proved to be tedious, it certainly provided plenty of lively conversation along the way, and Mr Payne's fantastic bus driving kept everyone moving safely.

At the Melbourne Museum, VCD students explored the Top Designs exhibition, which showcased groundbreaking student solutions across four major design fields. This included environmental design, highlighted by a refugee shelter integrated with a facility-information app, alongside diverse works in messages, interactive experiences, and objects. Simultaneously, our AME students immersed themselves in Top Arts at Federation Square with a folio viewing and exhibition visit. They then visited Melbourne's premier art galleries, comparing and contrasting exhibition spaces and curatorial considerations. Accompanying teachers Mr Payne, Ms Taylor, and Mrs Clark highly praised the group for their exceptional conduct, curiosity, and professionalism throughout the city. The teaching team hopes this look at the best portfolios in Victoria inspires the students as they develop their own final folios. These projects lay the critical groundwork for future tertiary creative studies and industry career goals.





Library News



Reading for pleasure is important both for educational purposes as well as personal development.



There's more!

| | |
|--|---|
| Reading can help children improve their vocabulary. The more words they read, the more they will know. By improving their vocabulary, they will also improve their writing. | Reading can help children to explore new worlds! They can be transported to the past, the future and more! |
| Reading can help them to improve their confidence when speaking by expanding their vocabulary and seeing how different people express themselves. They will also become more articulate! | Reading will help improve their understanding as they often take on the role of the main protagonist - it can also expose them to a range of new ideas, reactions and feelings. |
| As reading will expose them to new things it will help develop their interests. They might suddenly find themselves interested in Japanese culture from reading Haruki, or this scientist from reading Frankenstein! | Being a reader helps children to improve their intellectual functioning which will help them avoid boredom, to be a creative person and to have the full of full advantage! |

What Can You Do To Support Reading For Pleasure??

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| Build a home library! Children who have books of their own enjoy reading more and read more frequently. | Literacy-targeted rewards, such as books or book vouchers have been found to be more effective in developing reading motivation than rewards that are unrelated to the activity. | Give children choice! Allow them to choose what they read and how they read! | Role model! Students' relationships with reading can be influenced by the relationship teachers and parents have with books. Be seen reading! |
|---|--|--|---|



Created by @missedutton with information from the following sources:

- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/284286/reading_for_pleasure.pdf
- <http://bookfamily.com/best-quality-books-reading/>
- <http://www.evidencebasedpractice.com/>
- http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/assets/0000/0002/reading_pleasure_2006.pdf
- <http://www.readsthor.org/why-reading-matters/>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlL299_5tI

Don't forget that at PSC everyone has Reading for 10 minutes after lunch each day – the library has a variety of books, magazines and graphic novels available for students and staff to borrow – there's surely something for everyone.

We regularly add new titles to the collection and happily accept requests – just see Ms Collins in the library if there is a book or magazine you would like to see made available to the school community.

Recently the Year 7 students have been becoming familiar with the Library web app during their Library and Information Skills sessions, it would be helpful if all students had access to this, so if your student sends a request for access, please allow this.

A number of Year 7 students have are making progress with the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, including one reading superstar who is half way to the goal of 15 books! There is still time for any other students who would like to enter.

Next week emails will be sent out to parents about overdue items, as there are a significant number of items still needing to be returned. Some students have items on loan from 2025 and even earlier. If you could check at home and send any library books to be returned, that would be appreciated. If an item has been lost, it would be appreciated if the library is notified of this, as it may need to be replaced so others can borrow.

Happy reading 😊

Elley Foster, Literacy Support

Donna Chapman, Numeracy Support

Homework Program



Portland Secondary College

Creating the opportunities



HOMEWORK CLUB



WEDNESDAY

&

THURSDAY

AFTERNOONS

3:40PM - 4:30PM

in The HUB

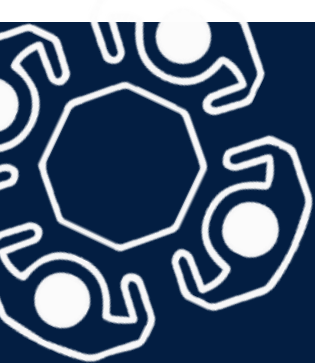
Students are reminded to bring work to complete or a book to read.

Our Literacy and Numeracy Tutors will be available to help you.

Students need a pre-arranged way home at or before 4:30pm as the office will be shut.

The schools no phone policy applies.





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 | 03 5523 1344

Call for Participants

Are you a member of the LGBTQIA+ community living in the Glenelg Shire and interested in sharing your story?

The Big Picture: My Colours is a community project celebrating the diversity, strength and experiences of LGBTQIA+ people across the Glenelg Shire. We are inviting local community members to be part of this project by sharing a little of their story and helping create a public display that reflects pride, identity and belonging

Participants must:

- Be a resident of Glenelg Shire
- Be aged 18 to 100 years
- Identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community

You can choose to share your story anonymously if you prefer.

We will work with you to arrange a time and place that feels comfortable and safe for you. Participation will involve approximately one hour of your time, including:

- A relaxed conversation about your lived experience as part of the LGBTQIA+ community in Glenelg Shire
- A small photo session (your face does not need to be included if you would rather not)

Your story and chosen image will then be designed into a window decal to be displayed in windows across the Glenelg Shire as part of celebrating and embracing our Pride community.

Before anything is printed, you will receive a proof of your design for approval, so you can make sure you are comfortable with how your story is represented.

Every story matters, and every colour adds to the bigger picture 🧡

Limited places available, if you would like to be involved or learn more, please get in touch at:

youthservices@glenelg.vic.gov.au



Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2026

27 MAY – 3 JUNE

ALL IN

FOR RECONCILIATION

#NRW2026

RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

National Reconciliation Week SUNRISE CEREMONY

Wednesday 3 June 2026
7.30am – 8.15am

Kardermudelar Karweeyn Mirring
Portland Bay Dance Ground

Glenelg Shire Council invites you to join us to
reflect, connect and celebrate local reconciliation

All welcome
Free coffee provided

For further information contact **Carol Stewart** at Glenelg Shire Council at
cstewart@glenelg.vic.gov.au or call (03) 5522 2200





Support for grandparents, foster carers, kinship carers and other non-parent carers of children

Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Advisers provide extra support for formal and informal carers who provide ongoing care for children.

They can help you with all of the following:

- getting tailored information about payments and support services based on your family circumstances
- arranging appointments with specialist staff, including social workers
- getting referrals to federal, state and community service providers
- accessing Medicare, Child Support and Centrelink information and payments.

Payments and services

If you're a non-parent carer of children and live in the same house as a parent, you may not be eligible for payments. If you're in this situation, you can contact us to discuss your circumstances.

If you're a grandparent, foster carer or kinship carer, you may be eligible for:

- **Family Tax Benefit** – to help with the cost of raising children
- **Child Care Subsidy and Additional Child Care Subsidy** – to help with the cost of child care
- **Medicare payments** – to help with health care costs
- **Double Orphan Pension** – to help with the costs of caring for children who are orphans or who can't be cared for by their parents in certain circumstances
- concession and health care cards, including **Foster Child Health Care Card** – to help with accessing cheaper health care services and medicines, and
- **Child support** – you may be able to receive child support from one or both parents.

You may be eligible for other payments and services. Contact us to discuss your circumstances.

We have specialist staff available to provide additional support to your family, including:

- social workers
- Financial Information Service Officers
- Indigenous Service Officers
- Multicultural Service Officers
- Community Engagement Officers.

Next steps

For more information about assistance available for grandparent, foster and kinship carers, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/grandparentcarers or servicesaustralia.gov.au/nonparentcarers

To speak to a Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Adviser, call Freecall™ 1800 245 965.

Want to support your teen with anxiety or depression?



Check out Partners in Parenting!



What is *Partners in Parenting*?

- Evidence-based, online program designed to help build your skills and confidence to support your teen's mental health
- Covers parenting challenges such as communication, managing strong emotions, boundaries, conflicts, and staying involved in your teen's life while they navigate their independence

You will:

- Receive **one of two versions** of Partners in Parenting:
 - Self-guided version (explore the online program at your own pace)
 - Peer-guided version (paired with a 'PiP Coach' who has lived experience of caring for a teenager with mental health challenges)

You will be asked to:

- Complete some surveys at 3 time points over 12 months
- Complete up to 10 online modules, weekly
- If you receive the peer-guided version of the program, complete up to 10 coaching sessions with a PiP Coach, via videoconferencing

You may be eligible if you:

- are an adult caring for a teen aged 12-17 years
- are concerned about your teen's anxiety or depression
- can read, write, hear, and speak English
- have regular internet access
- live in Victoria

All parents and teens who complete surveys will receive e-gift vouchers (up to \$80 for parents, up to \$45 for teens)



p2p.partnersinparenting.com.au/



Partners in Parenting



Contact
pip-p2p@monash.edu



MONASH University

MUHREC Ethics ID: 46221



Help us support exchange students

Host Families Needed

- All Shapes and Sizes Families
- Students aged 15-17
- \$100 per week per hosted student
- Term to Year programs

CONTACT US NOW!

(03) 9598 4733
inbound@wep.org
@wep.welcomes.australia



INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

PLAYERS & TEAMS WANTED!

GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER OR JOIN AS A PLAYER!
FUN, FITNESS & GREAT VIBES!

| ★ GAME FEES ★ | |
|---------------|------------|
| 16 & OVER | 15 & UNDER |
| \$10 | \$8 |

6 PLAYERS PER TEAM

REGISTRATION IS FREE!

TUESDAY NIGHTS FROM 6PM

PORTLAND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE
3 CELLANA COURT
(INDOOR CRICKET CENTRE)

CONTACT DARYL | 0427 505 893

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND COME HAVE A HIT!

BUS SAFETY MONTH IN MAY

Schools are invited to participate in an upcoming Bus Safety Month in May initiative proudly supported by the School Welfare Action Group (SWAG), Glenelg Youth Network (GLYN), and Portland Blue Light.

This initiative aims to promote safe behaviours, awareness, and respectful conduct for students travelling to and from school by bus. Using the BusVic Safe Bus Travel guidelines, we are encouraging students to think about how they can contribute to a safer journey for themselves and others.

As part of this program, we are running a student competition across year levels:

Foundation – Grade 2: Colouring-in competition

Grade 3 – 4: Colouring-in competition (more detailed design)

Grade 5 – 6 & Secondary: Create-your-own bus safety poster

Secondary School : Year 7,8,9 and then 10,11,12

Themes include but are not limited to:

Staying safe near roads and bus stops

Respecting the bus driver and other passengers

Safe crossing behaviours

Looking out for others

Prizes:

A \$50 prize will be awarded to one winner in each age category.

Please see the following colouring sheet/poster templates.

Returning completed entries by May 25th to students schools or to the Portland Police Station.

Winners can be announced at the conclusion of the event.



Name _____

Age _____

School _____

Entries close May 21st, 2026
Entries to be kept at school's offices and collected after due date.

BUS SAFETY MONTH

COLOUR ME SAFE!

Welcome on board.
Enjoy. Be aware.

Look out for the flashing lights on the bus. It means children are getting on or off.



Do not push others when the bus is approaching.

Leave home 10 minutes early to get to the bus stop on time.



Make sure you always treat the driver with respect. They have the important job of getting us all to school and home safely.

Wait until the bus moves well away and you can see clearly in both directions, before crossing the road.



Do sit down on your seat quietly and quickly. If there are no seats, move to the back of the bus and use the handgrips on the side.



Stand well back from the road and wait until the bus has completely stopped.



If you are using headphones they **MUST** be removed before leaving the bus.



Name: _____
Grade: _____
School: _____

BE SAFE • BE RESPECTFUL • BE KIND
LET'S LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER!



BUS SAFETY MONTH

Be safe. Be kind. Be aware. ♥



Stand well back from the road.



Wait until the bus moves away before crossing.



Look both ways before you cross.

Listen to the driver and follow instructions.



★ Sit down quietly and keep the bus clean.

♥ Be kind and respect your driver and other passengers.

Name: _____

Grade: _____

School: _____