



PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Term 4 – Week 2

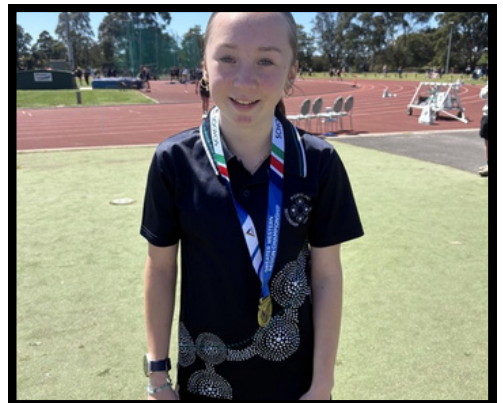
19th October 2026

Highlights

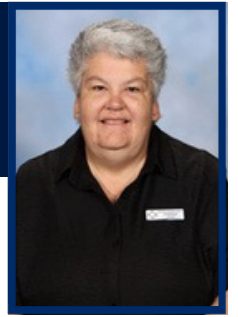
Principal's Report
Library News
Hands On Learning
Year 12 Assembly
Indonesian Tour
Student
Achievements
GWR Athletics
School Calendar
Community News
and more.....

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Friday 23rd October**
Year 10 Multi Taster TAFE (required students only)
- **Monday 28th October – Thursday 18th November**
Year 12 Exams)
- **Monday 26th October**
Year 8 Live 4 Life Celebration Day
- **Friday 30th October**
Year 10 Multi Taster TAFE (required students only)
- **Monday 2nd November**
Year 8 Beach Clean Up Day
- **Tuesday 3rd November**
Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
- **Thursday 5th November**
Year 8 Geology Excursion



Portland Secondary College is a Child Safe School



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Term 4 has arrived and brought some sunshine with it and it's lovely to see students outside enjoying the lovely weather conditions at recess and lunch. I trust all students and their families enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing break and have returned to school for a big final term.

We welcomed back our Indonesian travellers who had a wonderful time overseas and you can read about their experiences in today's newsletter.

Our Year 12 students have completed their practice exams and are well into revision. They leave us today for an intensive study period before commencing their final exams. Last Friday they enjoyed a hearty breakfast, attended their last classes and then entertained the whole school with a great final assembly, showcasing all their years at PSC. They then enjoyed lunch with the staff, and the sun came out just in time to enjoy a massive water fight with staff before we farewelled them out the front gate with a chalk colour run. A great time was had by all and we wish them luck with their exams.

A great deal of planning is now underway for 2027 and Level Managers will shortly begin finalising 2027 classes. Those students currently in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 should know their subjects for next year and Booklists for 2027 will shortly be released. Please keep checking the newsletter for key dates.

The term is once again going to be very busy. Already this term a number of students have competed in the Greater Region Athletics in Ballarat and achieved some great results. Our Future Leaders of Industry students attended their graduation ceremony as they completed the program and it's just a few short weeks until exams for students in Years 10 and 11. There are a large number of sporting teams heading off for Super 8 cricket in the next few days and our Year 8 students will soon participate in the Action for the Ocean Awareness Day.

Also coming up next week is the College's Review. Every four years the College does a deep dive into the past four years and examines good practice and then sets new goals for the next four years. We are keen to hear from parents. A forum is being held on Monday 19th of October at 9am sharp in the Conference Room. It won't run for more than an hour so if you are free, we would love to have your input. Simply report to the General office by 8:50am and state you are attending the parent forum and the Office staff will direct you to the right place. A full report will be issued to the School community following the review. We hope to see you there.

ATTENTION: PSC PARENTS & CARERS

CONTACT DETAILS

Have you recently moved house
or changed your phone number?
Are your emergency contacts up
to date?
Please let us know and we will update
your details so we can keep you up-to-
date!

 portland.sc@education.vic.gov.au

 03 5523 1344

 portlandsc.vic.edu.au



ENQUIRE NOW

Portland Secondary College

144 Must Street, Portland
Phone: 03 5523 1344
Email:
portland.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Heywood & District Secondary College

23 Gorrie Street, Heywood
Phone: 03 5527 1067
Email:
heywood.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Bayview College

119 Bentinck Street, Portland
Phone: 03 5523 1042
Email:
school.contact@bayview.vic.edu.au



Portland Secondary College
Creating the Opportunities.



Bayview College

Thinking about secondary school for next year?
Before sending your child out of town, take the
time to visit your local schools. You might be
surprised by the programs, opportunities, and
support available right on your doorstep. Strong
schools start with strong community
connections — check them out and see what's
possible locally.



Portland Secondary College
Creating the opportunities

SCHOOL UNIFORM



PE UNIFORM



UNIFORM POLICY

Uniform Reminder for Students and Parents/Carers

A friendly reminder to students and parents/carers that Portland Secondary College has a uniform policy that all students are expected to follow. This policy can be found on the College website or in your child's student planner.

- ✓ **Students attending PSC are expected to wear the full College uniform at all times.**
- ✗ **Hoodies and tracksuit pants are not part of the College uniform and should not be worn to school.**

If students require extra warmth, they may wear a white, black or navy long-sleeved top underneath their College T-shirt.

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure their child attends school in the correct uniform each day. Your support in this area is greatly appreciated and assists staff by reducing the amount of uniform monitoring and follow-up required.

Uniform items can be purchased from Squidlydids, located on Percy Street, Portland. A full list of approved uniform items is available on their website:

<https://www.squidlydids.com.au/.../portland-secondary.../>

If you require assistance with purchasing uniform items, please contact our general office.

Thank you for your ongoing support in maintaining the high standards and positive presentation of Portland Secondary College.

Victorian Young Leaders First Nations Program 2027

The Department of Education is offering the Victorian Young Leaders First Nations (VYLFN) program for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students enrolled to complete Year 9 or 10 at a Victorian government school in 2027.

The program provides students with opportunities to strengthen leadership skills, connect with culture, and participate in unique intercultural learning experiences.

Program components

- **Victorian immersion** (13 to 17 January 2027): A 5-day camp on Phillip Island featuring cultural learning, guest speakers and collaborative filmmaking.
- **Offshore experience** (22 to 29 May 2027): Pre-departure preparation followed by a fully coordinated 8-day visit to Aotearoa New Zealand, where students will participate in cross-cultural learning alongside Māori peers and cultural leaders.
- **Program reflection and celebration** (June 2027): Activities that support reflection, leadership development, sharing of learning with school communities, and celebration of participants' achievements.

Students will be supervised at all times in line with Victoria's Child Safe Standards. All program costs, including flights, accommodation and meals, are funded by the Department of Education.

Teachers are also encouraged to apply for a supervisory role and support students throughout the program. First Nations teachers will be prioritised.

Application process

<https://www.study.vic.gov.au/en/global-learning-and-engagement/student-programs/victorian-young-leaders/first-nations>

The expression of interest process for the program closes on 23 October 2026.

Further information on the program, including eligibility requirements and application details is available at: VYLFN program 2027.

Information session

Students and parents/carers are invited to attend an online information session on **8 October from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm**. To register, visit: [VYLFN information sessions](#).

Additional online Q&A sessions for students, parents/carers and school staff will be held on:

- **12 October from 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm**
- **19 October from 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm**

To register, visit: [Q&A sessions](#).

A [recording](#) of the recent information session is also available for students, parents/carers interested in learning more about the program. The password is: Pp7BPJ2i

For further enquiries on the VYLFN program, please email:

global.learning@education.vic.gov.au



Portland Secondary College

Creating the opportunities

It's not ok to be away

When you are away...	That equals ...	Which is ...	And over 13 years of schooling, that's ...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

Attendance matters! All day everyday!

Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

Does it matter if your student misses a day here and there?

Does it make a difference if they "just take a day off"?

YES, IT DOES!

Attendance matters at PSC – YOUR student's attendance matters!

Every day your child misses' school is a day of missed learning.

One missed day a week equates to 40 days a year of missed learning.

Please make sure your child attends school every day.

We have attendance officers for each Year level who will make calls home regarding student absences.

If your child does need to be absent from school, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to make contact with the school to provide the reason for the absence. This can be done by calling our general office 5523 1344 or via your parental Compass app.



Portland Secondary College
Creating the opportunities

REMINDER... MOBILE PHONE BAN



A reminder that the Victorian Government and Department of Education have banned mobile phones at all government schools. Students may bring phones due to travel needs, but they must be stored in locked lockers for the entire day. Phones are not to be in pockets, bags, or pencil cases. If a phone is seen or detected, it will be collected in line with government regulations.

This rule also applies when arriving and leaving—please wait until you are off school grounds before using your phone.

Any collected phone will be secured at the General Office, and parents will be contacted to pick it up. Failure to hand over a phone when asked will result in suspension from the year level manager.

Portland Secondary College

2026 TERM 4 CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Monday 5th - Term 4 Commences for Staff & Students
Thursday 8th - GWR Athletics (Ballarat)
Friday 9th - Year 10 Multi Taster TAFE (*required students only*)
Monday 12th - Thursday 15th - Unit 3 & 4 Practice Exams
Friday 16th - Year 10 Multi Taster TAFE (*required students only*)
Thursday 22nd - Year 7 -10 Super 8 Cricket
Friday 23rd - Year 10 Multi Taster TAFE (*required students only*)
Monday 26th October - Thursday 18th November - Year 12 Exams
Monday 26th - Year 8 Live4Life Celebration Day
Tuesday 27th - Future Leaders of Industry Graduation
Wednesday 28th - Year 7 - 10 GD Golf
Friday 30th - Year 10 Multi Taster TAFE (*required students only*)

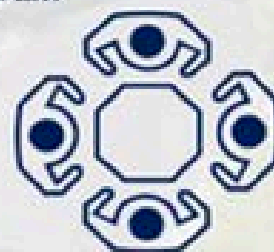
NOVEMBER

Monday 2nd - Year 8 Beach Clean-Up Day
Friday 6th - Year 7 - 10 GD Tennis
Wednesday 18th - End of Year Family Music Concert - 6pm
Thursday 19th - Year 12 Graduation Dinner
Monday 23rd - Thursday 26th - Year 10 & 11 Exams
Thursday 26th - Final Music lesson - *please return instruments*
Friday 27th - Student Free Day

DECEMBER

Tuesday 1st - Headstart - 2027 Year 11 & 12
- Celebration Day - 2026 Year 7, 8, 9
Wednesday 2nd - Headstart - 2027 Year 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12
Thursday 3rd - Headstart - 2027 Year 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12
- Presentation Night
Friday 4th - Headstart - 2027 Year 11 & 12
- Bridgewater Day - 2026 Year 7 - 9
Monday 7th - Grade 6 Big Day Out
- Grade 5 Discovery Day
- Student Free Day
Tuesday 8th - Statewide Orientation Day 2027 Year 7s only
Wednesday 9th to Wednesday 16th - End of Year Program
Thursday 17th to Friday 18th - Student Free Days

Calendar was last updated on 07/10/2026.
Please monitor Compass, Newsletters & Social Media
regularly for updates.



The Food Hub

2026 Menu

BREAKFAST 8.30-8.55AM

Tea or Coffee	\$2.00
Hot Milo	\$2.00
Toasted Cheese Sandwich	\$3.00
Toasted Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	\$3.50
Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich	\$4.00
Toasted Ham, Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	\$4.50

SANDWICHES & ROLLS

<i>Available in White & Multigrain</i>	<i>Sandwiches</i>	<i>Rolls</i>
Vegemite	\$2.00	\$2.50
Vegemite & Cheese	\$3.00	\$3.00
Cheese	\$3.00	\$3.50
Cheese & Tomato	\$3.50	\$4.00
Cheese, Beetroot & Salad	\$4.50	\$5.00
Ham & Cheese	\$4.00	\$4.50
Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$4.50	\$5.00
Ham & Salad	\$6.00	\$6.50
Ham, Cheese & Salad	\$6.50	\$7.00
Egg & Lettuce	\$4.00	\$4.50
Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo	\$5.00	\$5.50
Chicken & Salad	\$5.50	\$6.00
Chicken, Cheese & Salad	\$6.00	\$6.50
Salad & Beetroot	\$4.00	\$4.50

No charge for Mayo, Sweet Chilli Sauce other Sandwich combinations available upon request.

WRAPS

	<i>Half Wrap</i>	<i>Full Wrap</i>
Ham, Cheese & Salad	\$4.00	\$8.00
Chicken, Cheese & Salad	\$4.00	\$8.00
Falafel, Cheese & Salad	\$4.00	\$8.00
Egg, Cheese & Salad	\$4.00	\$8.00
Veggie Burger, Cheese & Salad	\$4.00	\$8.00

No charge for Mayo, Sweet Chilli Sauce .

SALADS

	<i>Small</i>	<i>Large</i>
Fresh Fruit Salad	\$3.50	N/A
Garden Salad Bowl w/ Cheese	\$5.00	\$8.00
Garden Salad Bowl w/ Egg	\$5.00	\$8.00
Garden Salad Bowl w/ Chicken	\$5.00	\$8.00

No charge for Sauce .

HOT FOOD

Burger Buns & Rolls available in White & Multigrain

Flame Grilled Chicken Burger No Cheese	\$5.00
Flame Grilled Chicken Burger with Cheese	\$5.50
Flame Grilled Chicken Burger with Cheese & Salad	\$7.50
Flame Grilled Beef Burger with Sauce, No Cheese	\$5.00
Flame Grilled Beef Burger with Cheese & Sauce	\$5.50
Flame Grilled Beef Burger w/Cheese, Sauce & Salad	\$7.50
Veggie Burger with Cheese	\$5.00
Veggie Burger with Cheese & Salad	\$7.00
Hot Cheese Roll	\$3.50
Hot Ham & Cheese Roll	\$4.50
Hot Chicken & Mayonnaise Roll	\$5.50
Premium Beef Pie	\$5.00
Plain Sausage Roll	\$4.30
Cheese & Bacon Sausage Roll	\$4.30
Hot Ham & Cheese Croissant	\$4.50
Noodles	\$2.70
Hot Chicken & Gravy Roll	\$5.50

DRINKS

Cool Ridge 600ml	\$2.00
Cool Ridge 750ml	\$3.50
Focus Flavoured Water 600ml	\$3.00
Gatorade Active Water (No Sugar) 600ml	\$4.50
Juice Bombs	\$2.50
Fresha Fruit Juices 500ml	\$4.00
Emma & Toms Juices	\$4.50
Up 'n' Go Flavoured Milks 250ml	\$2.50
Oak Iced Milk 200ml	\$2.20
Oak Flavoured Milks 600ml	\$4.50
Ice Break Iced Coffee 500ml	\$4.50
Cans 375mls (No Sugar)	\$3.00
Bottles 600mls (No Sugar)	\$4.50
Iced Honeycomb Nippy's	\$3.70
Chill Iced Teas Assorted	\$3.50

SNACKS

Assorted Fruit - Banana, Apple, Mandarin	From \$0.70 to \$1.00
Peaches	\$1.50
Yoghurt Frogs	\$0.20
Jatz Crackers	\$0.50
Hummus	\$1.50
Cheese	\$0.50
Custard Scrolls	\$3.00
Muesli Bar	\$1.00
Sultanas	\$0.80
Jam or Lemon Biscuits	\$0.50
Assorted Muffins - Blueberry or Chocolate Chip	\$3.40
Banana Bread	\$3.50
Cheesymite Scroll or Cheese & Bacon Scroll	\$3.00
Bread Roll	\$1.50
Eclipse Mints	\$3.70
Monster Cookies	\$3.00
Slices from Clarks & Chitticks - Assorted	Small \$2.20 Large \$4.40
Our Hub Slices - Assorted	Small \$1.50 Large \$3.00
Large Packet Chips	\$3.00
Small Packet Chips	\$2.00
Chocolate Brownie	\$3.40
Snapstix	\$1.20
Frozen Yoghurt (Bulla)	\$3.00



We have a "Daily Specials Board" displaying additional Hot Food Options not listed on this menu, they are specific to that day and change Seasonally.

Prices may be subject to change.

School Crossing Safety – A Reminder for Parents

The safety of our children is a shared responsibility. School crossings are in place to provide a safe point for students to cross the road, and it is important that all parents and caregivers follow the rules to help keep everyone safe.

When using school crossings, parents are reminded to:

- Always use the designated crossing point rather than crossing between parked cars or away from the crossing.
- Follow the directions of the School Crossing Supervisor at all times.
- Wait until traffic has come to a complete stop before stepping onto the crossing.
- Hold your child's hand when crossing, particularly with younger children.
- Talk to your child about safe road behaviour, including the need to dismount from bikes and scooters and walk them across the crossing.
- Avoid calling children across the road – instead, meet them on the same side and cross together.
- Park safely and legally, observing all parking restrictions near the school.

School zones are high-risk areas during pick-up and drop-off times. Slowing down, being patient, and setting a positive example for children reinforces safe road behaviours.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to keep our school community safe.



PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE

PSC STUDENTS: YOUR SAFETY IS #1...

- ⚠ Students must cross the road at designated crossings where available
- ⚠ Students need to practice the “Stop, Look, Listen, Think” rule, no matter what age they are
- ⚠ Students must stick to footpaths when possible
- ⚠ Students should minimize distractions, such as using mobile phones and headphones while crossing the road
- ⚠ Students must walk their bikes and scooters across the road and must not ride in and out of the traffic
- ⚠ Students must not walk in and around the bus loop area
- ⚠ Students must not run/walk in amongst moving traffic. You must cross the road at a safe place when the road is clear of traffic
- ⚠ Students must not run/walk/ride through the staff car park



PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE

STUDENT SAFETY IS IMPORTANT

- ⚠ Drivers must be alert, watching for school zone signs, traffic signals and potential hazards such as student movement and opening car doors
- ⚠ Drivers must obey the 40km speed limit in school zones that are in effect between 8:00am to 9:30am and 2:30pm to 4:00pm weekdays during Victorian school terms
- ⚠ Drivers must avoid distractions, such as using mobile phones
- ⚠ Drivers must park in designated areas and avoid parking on driveways, footpaths and grass areas
- ⚠ Drivers must be aware of school busses pulling out into traffic and students getting on and off busses
- ⚠ Drivers must use designated drop off and pick up areas
- ⚠ Drivers are not permitted to park in the staff car park and are only to park in the visitors car spaces if attending the General Office

Student Achievement

Australian Maths Competition

In August, 26 students from Years 7 to 10 took part in the 2026 Australian Mathematics Competition, a national event that challenges students with problems designed to test reasoning, creativity and persistence well beyond the usual classroom exercises.

Year 7

Credit: **Vaidehi Baniyal, Joel Prentice, William Ward**

Proficiency: **Billie Cummins, Adelean Harrison, Arley Trickey**

Participation: **Rory Anderson, Francis Guingab**

Year 8

Credit: **Cam Botica, Troy Carlyon, Heath Keiller**

Proficiency: **Daisy Bassett, Flynn Belden, Hugo Keenan, Leisel Stringfellow, Brody Trickey**

Year 9

Credit: **Oscar Quarrell**

Proficiency: **Quinn Stewart, Ethan Matley, Zayne Medina, Ryder Trickey**

Year 10

High Distinction: **Akshara Singh**

Credit: **Oscar Elford, Georgie Taylor**

Proficiency: **Dylan Goodman, Jack Matley**

Congratulations to every student who took part in the 2026 Australian Mathematics Competition. Taking on unfamiliar problems in a national field takes courage, and every student should be proud of both the challenge they accepted and the results they achieved. We look forward to seeing even more participants take on the challenge next year.

A special congratulations to **Akshara Singh**

Akshara's High Distinction is an outstanding achievement and one the whole school community can be proud of. This is the highest level of recognition in the competition, awarded to only a small proportion of students across the country. In a paper designed to stretch even confident mathematicians, with problems that reward flexible thinking and careful reasoning over memorised methods, she demonstrated exceptional mathematical ability, accuracy and composure.

Karen Mizzi, Food Tech Technician



Year 10 Food Technology



This week, Mr Dawson's Year 10 Food Technology class rolled up their sleeves and created delicious homemade bagels from scratch. The students quickly discovered that making bagels is a labour of love, requiring plenty of kneading, resting, and patience along the way!

One of the most interesting steps was giving the bagels a quick dip in boiling water before baking, helping them achieve their signature chewy texture and golden finish. Once fresh from the oven, students topped their creations with a variety of favourites, including ham, cheese, cream cheese, and even Mr Dawson's famous smoked pastrami – a clear crowd favourite!

It was wonderful to see students developing their cooking skills, trying something new, and enjoying the rewards of their hard work. By all accounts, the bagels were a great success! 🍞✨

Janelle Collins, Teacher



GWR Athletics Success in Ballarat

A small but talented group of students travelled to Ballarat on Thursday 8 October to compete in the GWR Athletics competition, returning home with an impressive collection of medals and achievements.

Our students not only performed exceptionally well in their events but also represented Portland Secondary College with pride, demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship, encouragement, and determination throughout the day.

Congratulations to our placegetters:

- **Scott Bryce** – 2nd Place, Shot Put
- **Max Bott** – 2nd Place, 800m; 3rd Place, 1500m
- **Ruby Rowe** – 3rd Place, 800m; 3rd Place, 1500m
- **Zayne Medina** – 2nd Place, Triple Jump; 1st Place, High Jump
- **Lucy Colley** – 1st Place, 800m; 1st Place, 1500m
- **Judd Carter** – 3rd Place, 1500m
- **Oscar Elford** – 3rd Place, Discus

We congratulate all students on their fantastic results and thank them for the positive way they represented our school. Their hard work, commitment, and sportsmanship made the day a great success. Well done to everyone involved! 🏅👏🏃🏃





Dave Storer – HoL Assistant

Hands on Learning



A Busy Start to Term 4!

In Week 1, students continued work on the seating area, adding finishing touches, planting, digging post holes, and cementing the support posts into place. They celebrated a fantastic start to Term 4 with a BBQ lunch before beginning plans for their individual projects. 🌱🔨🍷



Dave Storer – HoL Assistant



Hands on Learning

Week 2 Update

In Week 2, students planned the next stage of planting and prepared the area by digging holes for additional native plants. In the afternoon, they focused on their individual projects, working collaboratively and supporting one another by sharing ideas and advice. It was great to see students demonstrating teamwork and encouraging each other throughout the day.



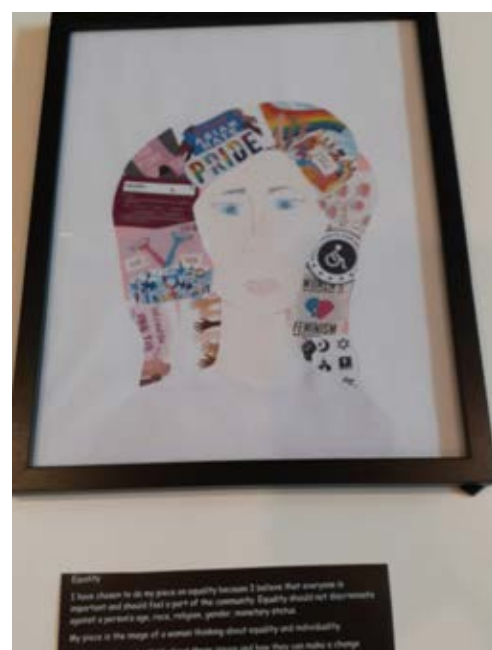
And Amber was able to complete her amazing saddle stand and took it home ready to use.



Scrapbook Storytelling Project

Students from the Re-Engagement Program worked with the Project Officers to plan and create some major work of art exploring issues of interest or lived experience to them. The project aims to amplify youth voice, increase awareness and understanding of mental health issues and foster connections, belonging and collaboration among participants. The Glenelg Shire's Meghan Bennett, Melissa Smith and artist Karen Meridith came to Re-Engagement every fortnight during term three and into this term to help students investigate and explore their area of interest and how they could develop and express this through an artwork. The project finished this week with a celebration and launch at the library.

A valuable experience for all students.



Andrew Prentice, Teacher



Ambulance Victoria Visit

Our VCE VM Personal Development Skills class recently hosted Liam and Brittany from Ambulance Victoria, organized by Year 11 students **Dom Gadsden** and **Scarlett McGennissen**. As part of our "Connection to Community" unit, the guest speakers shared vital insights into emergency response, healthcare careers, and keeping our local community safe.



Celebrating the class of 2026

On Friday 9 October, we proudly celebrated our graduating Year 12 students as they marked their final assembly at Portland Secondary College.

The day began with a special breakfast hosted by our VM students before the Class of 2026 gathered with staff, students, family and friends for a memorable whole-school assembly. The assembly provided an opportunity to reflect on their achievements, celebrate their journey, and acknowledge the contributions they have made to our school community.

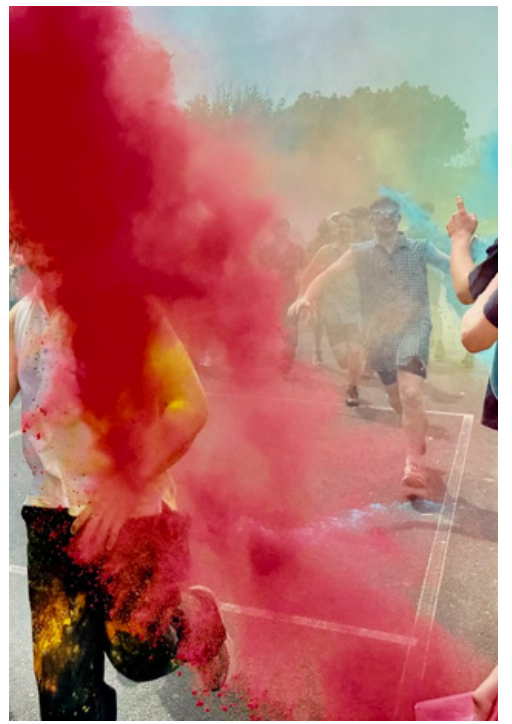
Following the assembly, the celebrations continued with a friendly water fight between the Year 12 students and their mentor teachers, before everyone enjoyed a colourful and energetic Colour Run to mark the occasion.

Congratulations to the Class of 2026 on reaching this significant milestone. We wish our VCE students every success in their upcoming exams and extend our very best wishes to all graduates as they move on to further study, training, employment, and new opportunities ahead.

Congratulations, Class of 2026. We are proud of you and look forward to seeing all that you achieve in the future. 🎓 ✨







Jane McGrory, Teacher



Indonesian Tour

Trip of a Lifetime

PSC students recently travelled to Indonesia for 13 days of learning, adventure, and cultural exchange. Students were curious, brave, and resilient travellers – they did PSC, their families, and themselves proud!

The aim of the trip was to introduce students to Indonesia's marine environments, conservation projects, diverse cultures, and friendly people, and it certainly delivered on all fronts.

Indonesia is a country of more than 10,000 islands, and we made a good start by visiting five of them. From crystal-clear oceans and coral reefs to mangroves and rice fields, we encountered a magnificent range of ecosystems and wildlife, both above and below the water. We met Komodo dragons, fireflies, manta rays, turtles, bats, black-tip reef sharks, and a seemingly infinite variety of fish. Year 9 students Ryder Tricky and Archer Cumming said the snorkelling was a highlight, particularly the opportunity to seek out majestic manta rays in Flores.

Our group visited a number of conservation projects, learning how to restore coral reefs, combat ocean plastic pollution, release endangered turtle hatchlings, and replant mangrove forests. We weren't merely observers of the environments we visited; we pitched in to help conserve and maintain these natural wonders.

The beauty of these environments was matched only by the friendliness of the people and the richness of the culture. We were greeted with warmth and smiles at every destination. Students had great fun sharing sports equipment and other supplies with children in a small fishing village. These gifts were purchased using funds raised through school fundraising activities, along with donations from the PE team. As Year 9 student Ava Killmister reflected, the school was very basic compared to Australian schools, and therefore it was rewarding to be able to help out. We made instant friends with packets of Jumpys and Caramello Koalas (although the same cannot be said of the Vegemite we shared!).

We got a taste of traditional culture in Flores and Bali, learning different dance styles and musical traditions. Several students had the opportunity to participate in the traditional whipping dance of the Manggarai people (speak to Year 8 students Hugo Keenan or Sammy Molloy if you would like a demonstration). This hair-raising cultural tradition was almost as thrilling as Waterbom's highest waterslide.

The trip provided opportunities for students not only to explore new environments but also to challenge themselves with new experiences. They fully embraced these opportunities as travellers, not tourists, going beneath the surface to discover the deeper layers of Indonesia and themselves.



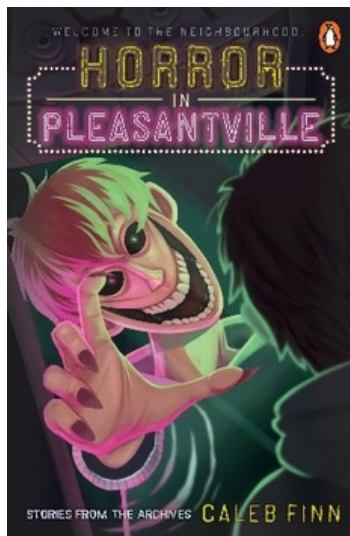
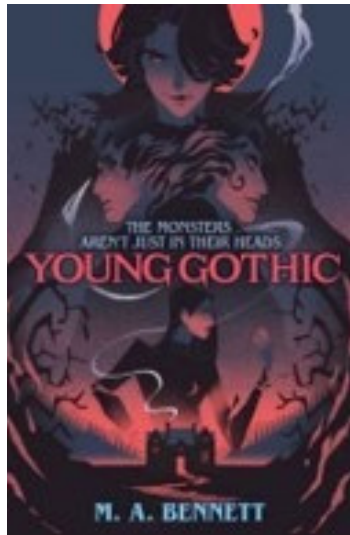
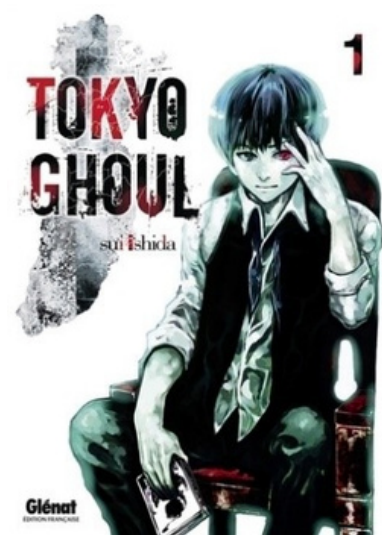






LIBRARY NEWS

We have been busy adding lots of new books to the shelves, both physical and electronic, come in and find yourself something fresh for Reading. With Halloween coming up soon, you might get into the mood with a book from our Horror or Supernatural sections. You can choose from novels, short stories or graphic novels.



A reminder that many students currently have items on loan that should now be returned or reborrowed. Please have a look around and make sure any library books are returned as overdue letters will be sent out in the coming weeks. Fiction and Non-Fiction are due 28 days after, the loan period for Graphic Novels and Picture Books is 14 days, and magazines 7 days. All can be reborrowed by dropping in to the library and asking, or you can renew via the Library web app (found under the star menu on Compass).



Happy Reading

Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

Donna Jennings, Science Teacher



Year 10 Biology: Investigating Microbes

Year 10 Biology students have been putting their knowledge of microbes and microbiology techniques to the test this week, conducting their own experiments to investigate whether essential oils could be a potential alternative to antibiotics in the treatment of *E. coli* infections.

Students used aseptic techniques and lawn plating methods to investigate the antimicrobial properties of different essential oils, while demonstrating their practical laboratory skills. Senior school student assessors observed and graded students on their technique.

A big thank you to **Charlee, Paige, Callum and Nethma** for being our assessors and helping with our assessment.



Andrew Prentice, Teacher



VETDSS Cookery Students Rising to the Challenge

Our second-year VETDSS Cookery students have had an outstanding semester, continuing to build their skills and confidence in the kitchen while demonstrating a high level of professionalism.

Throughout the term, students have developed and refined advanced culinary techniques, gained valuable experience in kitchen operations, and consistently produced high-quality dishes. Their commitment to teamwork, food safety, organisation, and attention to detail has been evident in every practical session.

It has been fantastic to see students grow in both their technical skills and their confidence as aspiring hospitality professionals. Their dedication and hard work reflect the significant progress they have made as they work towards completing their Certificate II qualifications.

Congratulations to all of our VETDSS Cookery students on a successful semester. We are incredibly proud of your achievements and look forward to seeing your continued success in the hospitality industry and beyond. 🧑🍳🍴👏



Donna Chapman – Numeracy Support
Elley Foster – Literacy Support



HOMEWORK CLUB



Portland Secondary College
Creating the opportunities

HOMEWORK CLUB

TERM 4

Every Wednesday - Mrs Donna Chapman
& Mrs Elley Foster

Every Thursday - Mrs Donna Chapman

Time: 3:40pm - 4:30pm

Location: The HUB

**Students are reminded to bring work
to complete or a reading book**

Students need a pre-arranged way home
as the office will be shut (no phone use)

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Respect

Success

Resilience

Creativity

PORTLAND Community News

newsletter@schools.vic.edu.au | 03 5523 1344

Understanding Youth Gaming and Gambling A free workshop for Parents and Carers



In today's digital landscape, the lines between gaming and gambling are increasingly blurred, posing new challenges for young people.

As a parent or carer, your influence is crucial in shaping young people's attitudes towards gaming and gambling. By understanding the risks and learning effective communication strategies, you can help prevent gambling harm and support healthier choices.

Thursday 29 October - 6pm - 7:30pm - Portland Library

MELI

Libraries
Change Lives

Public Libraries
Victoria

VICTORIA
State
Government

GLENELG LIBRARIES GLENELG SHIRE

FUN SWIM

FUN SWIM provides young swimmers with a fun and engaging program to explore and develop and improve 'race ready' skills.

1HR



TOTAL SWIM
TIME

up to 12
YEAR OLDS

RACE READY
SKILLS

WHEN:

8 Weeks | Sundays

Term 4 | Week 1 | 1 - 2pm

WHERE:

Portland Leisure
And Aquatic Centre

COST:

\$38 Registration Fee

Get in touch to find out more!

0407 161 882

portlandswimclub@outlook.com.au

www.portlandswimclub.com.au



FUN SWIM CHECKLIST

- ☒ Can you swim 25m confidently?
- ☒ Are you under 12 years old?
- ☒ Do you have a basic understanding of different strokes?
- ☒ Are you interested in racing?
- ☒ Do you want to improve racing skills?
- ☒ YOU ARE READY!



Portland Swimming Club Fun Swim Expression of Interest 2026/2027





Portland
Secondary
College

Same
school...
Different
hair...
More
stories!
♡

CLASS OF 1996

30 YEAR REUNION



SATURDAY
31ST OCTOBER 2026



6PM



PORTLAND MEMORIAL
BOWLING CLUB
Cape Nelson Road, Portland

Let's
catch up!



FRIENDS
MEMORIES
CLASS OF '96 ♡
PORTLAND SC

NOW INCLUDES
KARAOKE!



Once a Portie...
Always a Portie! ♡

Good
Friends
Last
Forever
= ♡ =



THURSDAY'S
3:30PM
- 5PM

YOUTH SOCIAL HUB

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE 16-25 YEARS



GAMES · HANG OUT · FREE FOOD
Come along and meet new people

BROPHY - 33 OTWAY STREET
STARTS 29TH OCT TO 3RD DEC



PORTLAND

NOVEMBER CHRISTMAS CHEER CHALLENGE

30 days of giving • One item each day

Join in as an individual, family, workplace, school or community group.
Add an item to your collection each day and tick it off as you go.

01 Can of Spaghetti ☐	02 Long Life Custard ☐	03 Pasta ☐	04 Pasta Sauce ☐	05 Can of Corn ☐	06 Cake Mix ☐
07 Can of Peas ☐	08 Fruit Salad ☐	09 Can of Carrots ☐	10 Instant Mash ☐	11 Can of Tuna ☐	12 2 Minute Noodles ☐
13 Cup of Soup ☐	14 Lollies ☐	15 Cordial ☐	16 Jelly ☐	17 Pasta Dish ☐	18 Soft Drink ☐
19 Gravy ☐	20 Meal Base ☐	21 Christmas Pudding ☐	22 Simmer Sauce ☐	23 Rice ☐	24 Chocolate ☐
25 Chips ☐	26 Cereal ☐	27 Sweet Biscuits ☐	28 Bon Bons ☐	29 Coffee ☐	30 Your Choice ☐

★ A little each day. A lot of Christmas cheer. ★

Give what you can — every contribution is welcome.
Help bring hope and Christmas cheer to our local community.

Deliver to The Salvation Army, 33 Henty St, Portland

Please deliver your donations by Friday 4 December.

Please donate unopened, in-date food.

Hope
People
Community

Together
we can
make a
difference

SingleTrack™
**GPT
100**
MILER



Adventure
LIKE NO OTHER

**DUNKELD,
LET'S GET
RUNNING!**

GPT100 KIDS & FAMILY TRAIL RACES **Sunday 8 November 2026 | Dunkeld, Victoria**

Get outdoors, get moving and be part of the excitement of the GPT100 Miler!

Bring the kids, gather your family and join us in beautiful Dunkeld for a morning of trail running, community spirit and

adventure, surrounded by the spectacular scenery of the Grampians (Gariwerd).

Whether it's your child's first fun run or a family challenge on the trails, there's a race for everyone!

RACE DAY SCHEDULE

6:45am – GPT33 Start at Griffin Fireline

With these runners finishing in Dunkeld, come along and cheer on these incredible athletes!

7:30am – 5km Family Trail Race Start A fun trail adventure for families and runners of all abilities.

8:30am – 2km Junior Trail Race Start

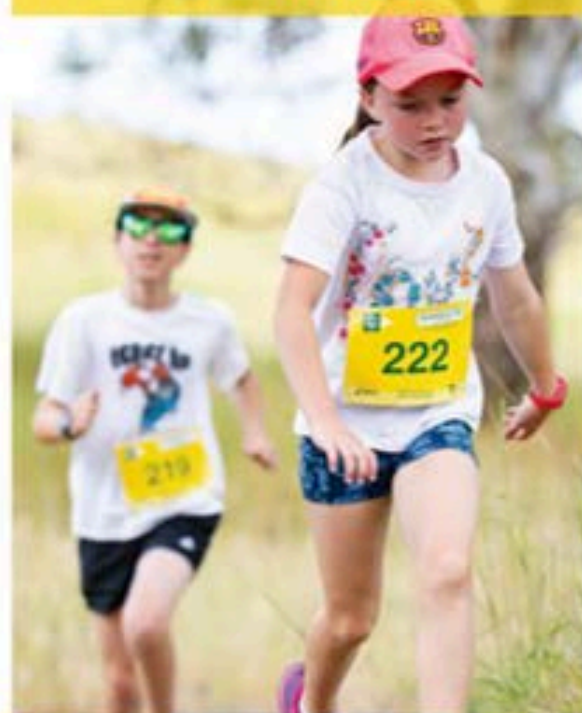
The perfect opportunity for young runners to get outdoors, give it a go and earn their very own finish!

10:00am – THE FINISH OF THE 100 MILER!

Be there to witness an incredible achievement as our final 100 Mile runners reach the finish line after tackling one of Australia's great trail-running challenges.

Bring your cheers, make some noise and help us welcome these amazing athletes home!

**COME FOR THE
RUN. STAY FOR
THE COMMUNITY.**



 **Race hub: Dunkeld Visitors Centre**

 **Event details and entries: www.gpt100.com.au**





413SQN is recruiting now!



**ALL
RECRUITING
FOR 2027
CLOSES 30TH
NOVEMBER 2026**



Become an Air Force Cadet

The Australian Air Force Cadets No. 413 Squadron in Warrnambool are recruiting for their next intake.

If you're at least 12 years of age and turning 13 (Year 7) to 16 and have an interest in aviation, drones, STEM, leadership and personal development, bushcraft, a career in the Australian Defence Force, or just want to make new friends, we're keen to have you join our ranks. You'll learn many new skills and have a lot of fun along the way. We are sponsored by the Royal Australian Air Force and you will have the opportunity to fly and visit Defence bases in Victoria, and so much more.

Submit an Expression of Interest online now for the 2027 intake.

413 Squadron - Warrnambool

Flying Officer (AAFC) Graeme Cox
Commanding Officer

ENQUIRIES:

co.413sqn@airforcecadets.gov.au

REGISTER TODAY:

www.airforcecadets.gov.au

Recruiting Information Session:

When: 29th October 6:45pm

Where: Tel el Eisa Barracks, 19
Pertobe Road, WARRNAMBOOL



AIR FORCE CADETS

INSPIRING TODAY - LEADING TOMORROW

Want to support your teen with anxiety or depression?



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 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

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 online coaching sessions with a PiP Coach
- 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/



Spots are filling fast for FREE program access in 2026 for
parents/carers

who want to support their teen's mental health!

Partners in Parenting (PiP) is an evidence-based, online program
designed to help

parents and carers build skills and confidence in supporting their
teenager's mental

health. More than 5,000 families across Australia and the UK have
already benefitted
from the program!

Monash University researchers are running a study with two versions
of the program,

PLUS parents/carers get \$40 e-gift vouchers for completing surveys
after the program.

Sign up now to secure your spot.

Register here: <https://redcap.link/monash-p2p>

Learn more about Partners in Parenting here:

<https://p2p.partnersinparenting.com.au/>



TERM 4 FREE KIDS TENNIS

Portland Lawn Tennis Club

Session Dates & Times

Wednesdays | 28 October - 2 December 2026

●● Red & Orange Ball Prep - Year 3
4:00pm - 4:45pm

● Green Ball Year 4 - Year 7
5:00pm - 5:45pm

To register your interest please

Text Cam 0418 312 007

or email Cammccallum@live.com.au

Limited spots available 🎾



2027 Course Information Sessions

In person: Monday 26 October, 6:00 PM @ RiST Hamilton

Virtual: Wednesday 28 October, 6:00 PM via Teams

Bookings Essential

Discover why spending more time on-farm practising the hands-on skills sought after by industry is the best learning environment. You'll also meet the people who'll train you.

Find out how to apply to study in 2027

Reserve your seat today 1800 883 343 | info@rist.edu.au | rist.edu.au

PORTLAND WOMEN'S
SERVICE CLUB



Open Garden EVENT

*Step into a world of colour,
charm and inspiration!*

Explore 4 beautiful gardens,
meet friendly faces and enjoy
a relaxing afternoon tea.

Tickets
\$25.00

Includes entry to
4 gardens and
afternoon tea.

**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 8TH**
1pm - 5pm



RAFFLE



PLANT SALE



A DELICIOUS
AFTERNOON TEA

THE GARDENS INCLUDE:



5 Richardson St
(Cottage & natives)



11 Argos Road
(Heritage Apple
orchard & rambling
garden)



195 Cashmore Road
(Quirky & rustic)



153 Caledonian Hill Rd
(Open landscaped)

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

Intimate Apparell

or at the Garden Gates (Cash only)

MULTICULTURAL PLAYGROUP

Play ♥ Make Friends ♥ Belong



**Every Thursday
at 11am**

during the school term



**South West TAFE
Portland Campus**



No booking required



Contact

Melinda Hitchcock – 0428 586 921

Carol Stewart – 03 5522 2331

All Welcome