

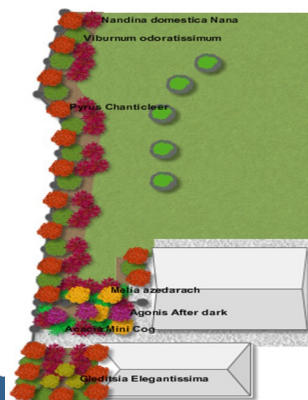
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The start to third term has been very busy with information nights and the college open night, all have been very well attended. It has been a pleasure to be able to welcome the Point Cook community and families into our college so that we could inform them about what we do. I would like to thank all the staff who have stayed back for these evenings to talk to families and answer their questions. I would also like to recognise and thank the students who have stayed behind to assist the staff for their invaluable contribution. Having our students as guides and speakers is affirmation of the work we do in developing the whole person here at PCSSC.

I have mentioned in previous newsletters that the college was going through a review process for the 2015 – 2018 Strategic Plan in the first half of this year which has now concluded. The review occurred over four days, May 4, 10, 14 and 21 and on one of those days we had two reviewers present which counted as another day. The School Review Report has been released and I presented it to the school council at our last meeting on Thursday 16 August. I have now had a copy put on the school website should you wish to read it.

Following a comprehensive collaborative consultation process with staff the draft 2019 – 2022 school strategic plan has been finalised and was loaded endorsed by our SEIL (Senior Education Improvement Leader) Judy Maguire. I presented the Strategic Plan to school council at our last meeting on Thursday 16 August where it was accepted and endorsed. I have also placed a copy of this on our website should you wish to read it.

The first stage of the college garden has nearly been completed at the front of the college and we are in the process of adding mulch. This will enhance the entry and vista of the college from the road, especially once spring arrives and the trees get some leaves. I look forward to further development of the college grounds over the next few years to create a better environment for the college community.



A well done to the student leaders who organised the Jeans for Genes Day on Friday 3 August. Jeans for Genes Day was established in 1994 to raise funds for revolutionary research that helps diagnose, understand and find cures or treatments for conditions affecting kids, including genetic diseases, cancer and epilepsy. PCSSC students raised \$622 through gold coin donations from students and staff.

You may have notice that we have an acoustic baby grand piano in the foyer, which has been generously donated to the college. We are waiting to have it properly tuned and regulated which will happen soon. I'm sure the students at PCSSC will appreciate this gift for many years into the future.



Chris Mooney



CALD Engagement Forum

On Monday 6 August PCSSC hosted a CALD (Cultural and Linguistically Diverse) run by the Centre for Multicultural Youth and DET (Department of Education 7 Training) to present an information session about Victoria's government education system. Parents and other members of the community interested in education were invited to attend.



Speakers included Hon Jill Hennessy Minister for Health, representatives from the Department of Education and Training as well as local government schools representatives (myself and Frank Vetere Principal Point Cook P-9 College). Those attending had the opportunity to ask any questions about government schools in Victoria.



There was information about the Victorian Government's \$8.5 billion record investment in education to build a world-class education system that gives everyone a chance to succeed in life. This included some information about the new schools opening in Point Cook in 2019 and 2020.

Welcome Back and Thank You

I would like to extend a big thank you to the college community for welcoming me back from Family Leave and into the role as Assistant Principal. Returning to PCSSC has reinforced for me how lucky we are to have such a supportive and positive learning community.

I have particularly enjoyed meeting the new cohort of Year 10s and their families and reuniting with students from the current Year 11 and 12 cohorts. After being away for almost one year, the growth of the students at our school is remarkable.

Working with students on Information Evenings, Respectful Relationships CoP, student leadership initiatives and touching base with students at Friday's Breakfast Club is something I've sincerely missed while on leave. I was particularly impressed by Mark Gorfunkel's new take on fairy bread!



Moving in to Semester 2 I look forward to working with students, families and staff on some new and existing initiatives within the school, including the development of: Respectful Relationships, SWPBS, YMFA and the myriad of extracurricular program available to students.

I look forward to working with the whole college community over the coming years.

Kate Kennedy



VCE Literature Experiences: Bringing Texts to Life!

This year has been a big year for VCE Literature students. Earlier in the year, on the 6th of March, our Year 11 and 12 Literature classes hosted award-winning author Maxine Beneba-Clarke for a workshop on her collection of short stories *Foreign Soil*. Students had the unique opportunity to ask the author whatever they liked about the text and to hear about how the author negotiated the creative process, drawing inspiration for their own work. Maxine mentioned that it was heartening to come across a group of such empathetic and thoughtful young people with so many questions about the world, and our students were buzzing afterward.



Point Cook goes to the NGV and the State Library

The VCE Literature fun doesn't stop there! On the 18th of June, Point Cook Senior's VCE Literature students went to the National Gallery of Victoria and the State Library to learn about literary perspectives and research skills. Highlights of the day included:

- Analysing a range of artworks spanning different genres and styles –including the Guerilla Girls exhibition, a self-portrait of Andy Warhol, the hypnotic two-channel video 'In Pursuit of Venus' by Lisa Reihana and a self-portrait of Ai Wei Wei.
- Hearing our State Library guide recite a Sylvia Plath poem off-by-heart
- Learning how to research academic journal articles like uni students by using the State Library's database

All up, it was a fun, fascinating and educational day. A big thanks to Mr Monteleone and Ms Marie for organising this excursion.



together we are creating a
healthy school

achievement
program





Years 12 Health and Human Development

Year 12 students are working extremely hard to finish up content and begin applying their knowledge in preparation for Year 12 exams. Students can be seen completing an 'inside/outside' circle activity where they share responses with others and give feedback to their peers on how to improve on responses to particular questions.



Emma Carstairs

TEACH THE TEACHER



Creating positive communities through student-led conversation

"Teach the teacher is a program that aims to open dialogue with teachers about ways students can provide constructive feedback and give their voice, enabling this teacher student relationship to become enriched and allow for a better classroom environment.

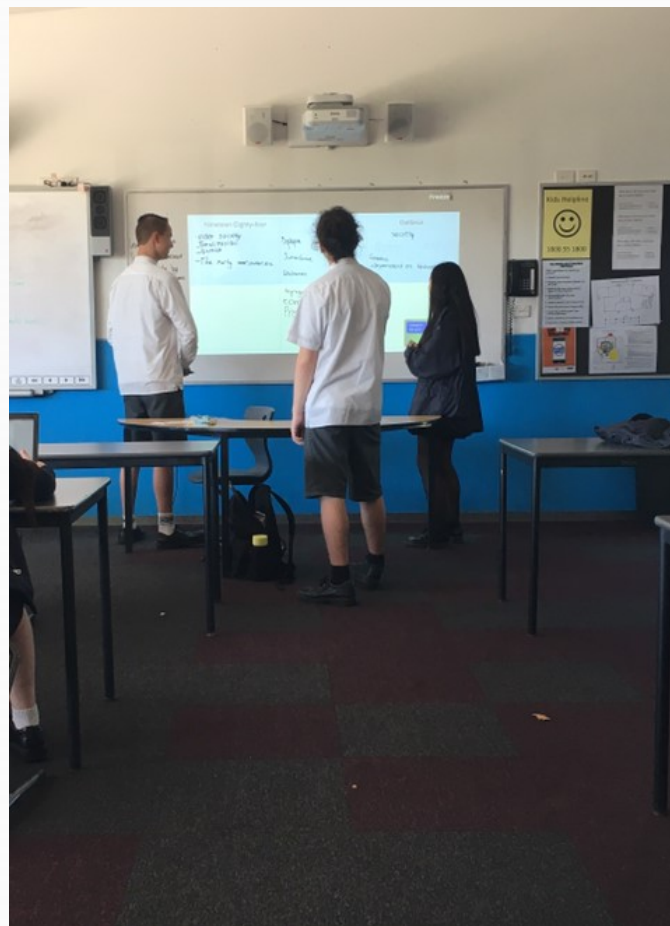
From the start of term two us student leaders have been inquiring different High Impact Teaching Strategies (HITS) that enable students within classrooms throughout Point Cook Senior, and we have engaged with an English learning area meeting, to gain a better understanding about what some teachers throughout the school see as positive feedback and teaching strategies that work within their classrooms. We're now continuing with creating surveys to now understand the strategies students encourage and work with. We will keep you updated!"

Student Leaders

Year 11 English

On Friday the 10th of August in General English, Miss Gruer surprised us with a lesson giving us full initiative to run the entire lesson. A few students volunteered and took on the role of the teacher and engaged the class in a very fun, interesting and unique session that resulted in the whole class actively listening and participating. Overall our class stated unanimously that they all enjoyed this 'different' lesson more than our regular classes. We really hope she does this again!

Jasmine and Adam



GOVHAC WYNDHAM 2018

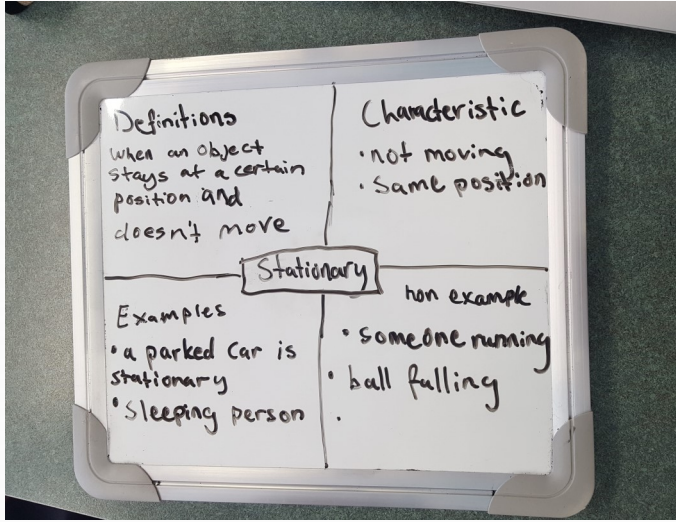
Attention Tech-minded teenagers, Wyndham council is sponsoring a 'hackathon' and you are invited to this community event!"

<https://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/govhack>

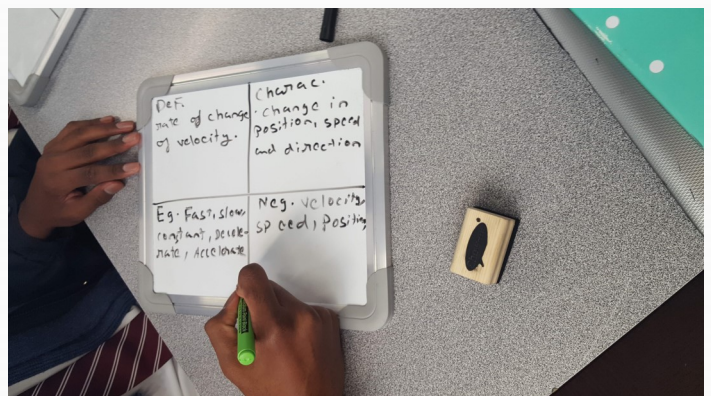
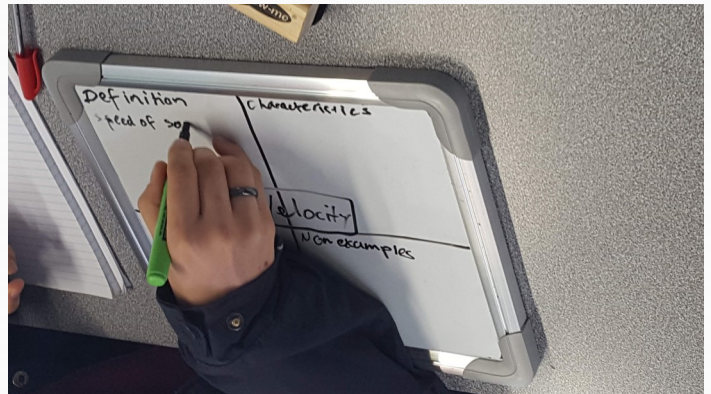
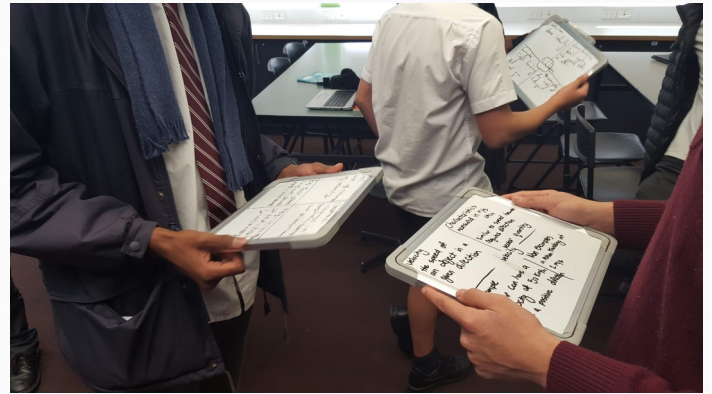


Literacy in Sciences

At Point Cook Senior Secondary College, all teachers implement literacy strategies in the classrooms. This Year 11 Physics class was implementing a literacy strategy called the Frayer Model. Students



have to show knowledge of scientific words by giving a definition, characteristics of the word, examples, and non-examples. The pictures show students walking around and explaining their words to their peers.



The students had fun, but most importantly they were able to demonstrate their understanding of scientific terminology in a challenging VCE subject.

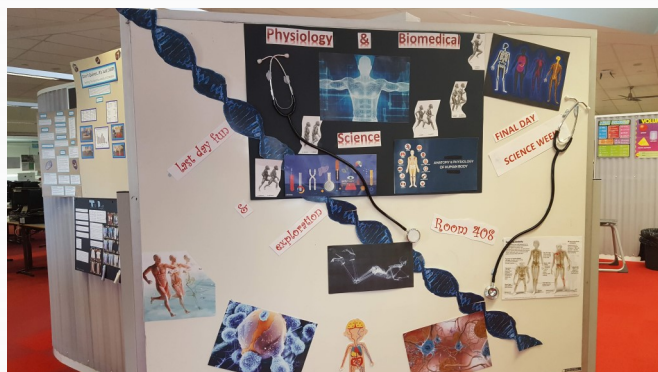
Melissa Chapman, *Learning Specialist*





National Science Week 2018

From August 10th to August 17th the science department organised events for the staff and the students.



During advisories Science activities ranged from levelled quizzes to virtual reality experiences. Across the week the Labs were ablaze with students, teachers and amazing experiences. Each lunch had a theme including; Physics, Cells and Microbiology, Chemical wonders, Chemical reactions, Physiology and Medical.



Thank you to all the science staff and especially to Evan Toma for a wonderful Science Week.



Ms Melissa Chapman, Science Learning Area Leader, Learning Specialist

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Theatre Showcase 2018

Friday August 31st and Saturday September 1st in the Point Cook Senior Theatre Space.

The main cast are the Unit 1-4 Theatre Studies class but as usual others are drawn to our Theatre Family. This year's additions are Goran Margeta (directing his first musical item and our opening to the showcase) Kaitlyn Beeby, Trinity Gardner, Eva Varley, Isaac Orchard and come see what happened to those Bollywood girls in the aftermath of last years Bollywood debacle (spoiler alert they appear as cheerleaders!)

There are always those drawn to the stage and it energises and inspires them. Come along and support them.



Tickets at the front office prior to the show nights and at the door both nights, \$5 adults and \$2 students and children.



Kelli Simpson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator.

VET Applied Fashion Excursion

Every term the VET Applied Fashion and Design Year 1 and Year 2 students venture to Spotlight to purchase the fabric and trims we will need to create our garment designs. Each trip is a fun experience as we discuss the type of fabrics we like and work out how much we will need to buy. It's can also be challenging to work within our set budget and meet the design constraints and job requirements. We always return to class excited to start and looking forward to seeing our design vision come to life.



The Year 1 and 2 Applied Fashion class.

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VTAC IS NOW OPEN!

On the 6th of August, the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre or VTAC applications opened for Year 12 students to start applying for their TAFE, University and other tertiary courses. To assist with the process, our careers coordinator, Mary Dimech-Hill and careers counsellor, Doug Cargeeg have been visiting Year 12 Advisory classes to explain the process and help students enter in their preferences. The VTAC sessions run by Mary and Doug have been highly beneficial and exciting for students as they are now thinking about their lives beyond Year 12. Students will now have to make serious decisions about the courses they want to do, the tertiary institutions they would like to go to and the careers they hope to embark on. The Year 12 team would like to thank Mary and Doug for all their help and support, not only during the VTAC process, but throughout the year.



Careers News Term 3

On July 27 180 Year 12 students visited Deakin University Geelong Waterfront.

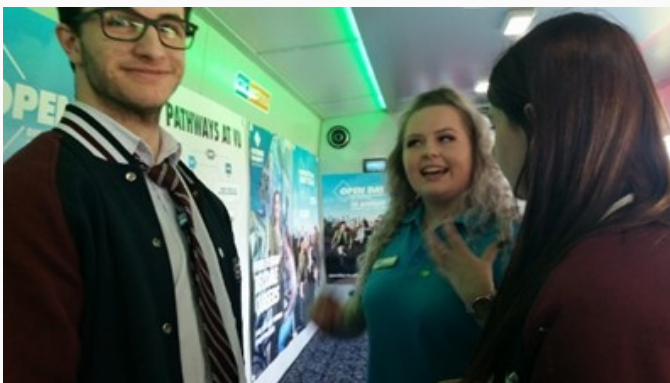
They attended an information session about the University & TAFE course process through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre. Students spent the afternoon speaking to 15 different Universities and TAFE institutions and gathering resources to commence the VTAC application process. Year 12 students are strongly encouraged to attend University Open days to support their course information research.





VU Information Day

On August 6 the Victoria University information bus attended Point Cook Senior. Year 12 students were able to gather resources, speak to University representatives and speak with former Point Cook Senior students that are first year University students about their experiences. Many students completed the VU Guaranteed application allowing many Point Cook Senior students to secure an early offer.



Work for the Future

According to the **Foundation for Young Australian's**, the world of work will look vastly different to the world of work you currently experience. Robotics, automation, artificial intelligence, working remotely, and increase in digital work...many things will change - even within the next 10 years.

According to their recent New Work Smarts report, you can expect the following to occur by 2030:

- Automation and globalization will change what we do in every job.
- Within the next 10 years, many jobs will no longer exist
- Workers will spend 100% more time solving problems, 30% more time learning and 77% more time using STEM skills (science, technology, maths, engineering) than the same jobs demand now.

Up & Coming Events

AUGUST

Experience Days, Kangan Institute: Moonee Ponds (17), Richmond (23), <http://bit.ly/2ttNFRp>

11 – 19: National Science Week, www.scienceweek.net.au

21: Monash Information Evenings, Monash University, Sale, <https://bit.ly/2pt8nsT>

23: Pathways Information Evening, Monash University, Caulfield, <http://bit.ly/2uUkn73>

25 & 26: Audition Preparation Workshops, Victorian College of the Arts, The University of Melbourne. Dance (25, 26), Music Theatre (26), <https://bit.ly/2iRelZG>

26: UMAT Medical Interview Preparation Workshops, NIE, www.nie.edu.au

27 August – 2 September: National Skills Week, <http://bit.ly/1twdlAx>

29: Discovery Day, The Hotel School Melbourne, Lonsdale Street campus, <https://bit.ly/2uHVxs9>

SEPTEMBER

6, 13: Inside Monash Seminars, Monash University, Information Technology (6), Engineering (13), <http://bit.ly/2ki2NYw>

8 – 23: Audition Preparation Workshops, Victorian College of the Arts, The University of Melbourne. Shakespeare Monologues (8 & 9), Contemporary Text (15 & 16), Jazz Improvisation (15 & 16), Devised Performance (22 & 23), <https://bit.ly/2iRelZG>

9: Medical Radiations Career Open Day, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, <https://bit.ly/2M1sDgi>

9: Dookie Day, The University of Melbourne, Dookie campus, <https://bit.ly/2vmsBWK>

11, 13: Online Webinars, Monash University, Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science (11), Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)/Master of Pharmacy (13), <https://bit.ly/2vdxFvL>



MORE SWIMMING SUCCESS

Sophia Potter from year 10 has continued her success in the pool this year. She represented the college at numerous competitions earlier in the year with a silver and bronze medal to take home from the State Titles.

Recently, Sophia was part of Team VIC at the School Sports Australia Swimming Championships. She had great results in her individual events and was also selected to compete in two relay events. Her results are as follows:

Individual events

- 15/16 years 100m Breaststroke – 8th (4th in the 15 year old age group)
- 15/16 years 200m Breaststroke – 7th (3rd in the 15 year old age group)

Team relay events

- 15/16 years 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay – 7th
- 15/16 years 4 x 50m Medley Relay – 8th

These results show that Sophia is the 4th & 3rd fastest in her age group for all schools in Australia for the 100m & 200m Breaststroke. This is an amazing achievement and shows the dedication and talent that she holds towards her swimming. This involves getting out of bed in the very early hours of mornings to train before school and occasionally to double up and train in the afternoon as well.

The College would like to congratulate Sophia on such an incredible result and wish her the very best for her future endeavours in the pool.



Senior Boys Soccer

After comprehensively defeating both Williamstown and Bayside and progressing to the Regional Finals, the Senior Boys Football team went to play the best schools in the West on the 31st of July at Grange Reserve. With a lot of effort being put on the training pitch in the interim, they were ready and raring to go on the day and drew with North Geelong Secondary in the opening game. The side's commitment was exemplified by a flowing move that ended with a Ben Korare pigeon from outside the box to cement Point Cook Senior as genuine contenders on the day. With the game against Melton Secondary needing a win by a solitary goal progression was in our own hands. A nervous game of many opportunities ensued, with another unfortunate goalkeeper injury forced the stoic central defender Hassan into goals. The calming influence of Mabior Deng and Bilal Hoblos allowed the team to control possession towards the end, sealing their ticket into the final against Strathmore Secondary. Down on players but embodying the school values of effort and responsibility, the boys went down 2-0 as they were unable to put away their chances and conceded two scrappy goals. At the end of a gruelling three months of preparation and commitment, the team showed our neighbouring schools not only the football talent we possess, but the values that Point Cook Senior represents as they never gave up on themselves or each other as a team. I want to thank the exiting Year 12 players for their leadership this year as well as the Year 11 players stepping up into the senior team. I am sure that you will be great guides to the Year 10 players coming through next year.

Special mention to Year 12 Sam Hazelden who sustained an unfortunate injury after a stellar performance at the end of the first round. The team wishes you a strong and quick recovery.

Antony Monteleone
Football team coach





Past Student News



Firstly, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this not so interesting biography of my post-schooling (cue laughter). My name is Amina and I am a former 'Class of 2014' student!

Honestly, I do not even know where to begin. It has been a pretty crazy 4 years after graduating from Point Cook Senior. I started as a year 10 student, not having a set idea of what I wanted to pursue in the future. I did a few different

subjects, waiting for some epiphany which, ironically, did not happen as easily as I hoped.

In year 10, I selected a VCE subject, which was a pretty ambitious move. Which then led to doing a year 12 subject in year 11. It was a great decision to make. I also volunteered to help the year 12 theatre production of 'Scissors'. And believe it or not... This was my epiphany!

Year 11, I took on more Art subjects as I wanted to pursue a career in Theatre. I've always had a love for production, so I continued this throughout year 12.

Now looking back, 4 years later, I have taken different paths than my, so-called, epiphany made me believe. I did a year of Theatre Arts at University, after that I did a year in Criminal Justice and a year and a half in Forensic Science. Within the years of studying, I had experience in assistant managing and managing a retail store, which is something I am quite proud of. However, it is very different to what I would thought I would be doing.

My passions still lie within Production and Film, however, due to a recent epiphany (I seem to have a lot of these) I am currently exploring a new path, a Full Time Army Recruit. I will hopefully be joining the force sometime next year and ready to serve our beautiful country. That will be a story for another time!

Enough of my incredibly interesting bio (cue laughter). I would just like to thank all the staff at Point Cook Senior, for not only being wonderful teachers and mentors but a fun-filled second family.

Good luck to all future students! You will not regret the school choice you have made. I know I don't!

Amina Sofic
Class of 2014

Genes for Jeans

Staff and students don double denim for a great cause!

On 3 August the Student Leaders organised an 'out of uniform' day to raise funds for the Children's Medical Research Institute. Staff and students were eager participants making generous donations and donning jeans, double denim and in notable cases, triple denim. We raised \$650 on the day and are very proud of the hard work of the student leaders, particularly Kaitlyn Beeby, Environment Leader who spearheaded the event.

For more information on the event or to donate, see <https://www.jeansforgenes.org.au>



Learning Resource Centre

Over the school holidays we finalised the Learn Resource Centre refurbishment to close off the three back spaces. This means we now officially have a Digital Hub for the robotics club, a conference room where staff and students are able to hold official meetings and a new classroom space. We also got new benches with power outlets for students to charge their devices during breaks while still completing work. This was a long project organised and followed through by our Assistant Principal Shaun Sleep, ICT Manager Nick Hogan and Library Assistant Zoe-Maree White.





Breakfast Club - All Welcome

Where: Room 312

When: Fridays

Time : 8.00am - 8.30am

Our Breakfast Program has now been running for 8 years. We have been beneficial in supporting those students in need and also developing relationships between staff and students. The program also improves student wellbeing, supporting their outcomes. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a free breakfast and a fun and enjoyable environment to start their school day.



Point Cook Senior Secondary College would also like to sincerely thank the YPA Estate Agent Point Cook for their support towards our Breakfast Program.





E-books and Audiobooks

We have an online subscription for eBooks and audiobooks aimed at Australian high school students through wheelers eplatform. Students can borrow ebooks and audiobooks from the online platform pointcooksenior.wheelers.co or they can download the ePlatform app for their apple or android phone (preferably over Wi-Fi to minimise data charges)

Students can login to the platform with the same log in they use for Compass.

Overdue and lost books

We are halfway through term 3 and there a few items overdue. Could parents please check with their student/s for overdue items. Should there be an item overdue that has been misplaced you can come into the school and pay a fee for the current value of a replacement copy.

An email of student overdue items was sent out this week to the main family contact email address.

We appreciate your help in keeping our collection available for all.

Zoe-Maree White
Library

2019 Leadership

Are you a student who demonstrates our school values of Respect, Effort and Responsibility?

Are you interested in joining the leadership team in 2019?

During Term Four there will be:

- An election for next year's school captains!
- Applications Open for Year 11 and Year 12 Student Leaders
- Captain interviews for Achievement, International, Social Justice, Communications and School Environment

Watch this space or see Ms Newman for more information – or drop in to the Lunchtime Student Leaders meetings held in room 505!



Compass Portal

Just a brief reminder that the majority of our communications with parents at PCSSC are made through the Compass Parent Portal. All parents have a portal account that provides access to reports, attendance information, absence requests and approvals, school photo ordering, teacher email contact, booking for parent-teacher interviews, calendar of events, excursion consent/permissions and news items to keep you update with what is going on.

If you are a CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund) recipient, please contact the school before consenting to any event so that we can adjust the costing.

To access your account:

go to the College's homepage www.pointcooksenior.vic.edu.au and click on the Compass Portal icon.

or directly go to Compass login:



Compass Portal

Click here to login to the Point Cook Senior
Compass Portal

<https://pointcooksenior.vic.jdlf.com.au/Login.aspx>

If you are having trouble accessing your account, click on the "**Can't access your account**" and follow the prompts to access it using your username, email address or mobile number. If you need guidance on how to navigate the Compass Portal, please contact the school.

Point Cook Senior Secondary College



Sign in

Remember me

[Can't access your account?](#)



ATTENDANCE

Student attendance information is available on Compass, including the option to approve absences and input requests to leave early for an appointment. Students are required to provide a medical certificate when absent from a VCE class or assessment.

Late Arrival to School - Students are requested to use Compass card to sign in at Kiosk at the front of the school. Students who do not have cards can report to the attendance office.

Early Leave - Parent approval is required for any student requesting to leave early. This can be done either by parent entering approval on Compass or contacting the attendance office.

Volunteer needed to help out at the college

An Invitation to Parents/Guardians. If you have time to volunteer in our College Library for few hours during the week, please phone Julie on 9395 9271. All volunteers will need to obtain a "working with children's check". The school can assist you with this process.

CUBBY HOUSES FOR SALE



Two cubby houses cost \$600 each.
Built by Building and Construction students,
dismantled and packed ready to collect.
If interested please call Julie George
on 9395 9271

IMPORTANT DATES

Term 3:

23 Aug – Curriculum Day

24 Aug – Y9 into Y10 Course Selection Forms Due

17 - 21 Sep – Year 12 Practice Exams

20 Sep – Parent/Teacher Interviews evening

21 Sep – Parent/Teacher Interviews morning

21 Sep – Term 3 Ends

08 Oct – Term 4 Commences

31 Oct – Year 12 Exams Commence (English)

06 Nov – Melbourne Cup Day

05 - 09 Nov – Year 11 Revision Week

12 - 16 Nov – Year 11 Exam Week

12 - 16 Nov – Year 10 Revision Week

21 Nov – Year 12 Exams Conclude

19 - 23 Nov – Year 10 Exam Week

19 - 23 Nov – Year 11 into Year 12 Orientation Week One

22 Nov – Year 12 Valedictory

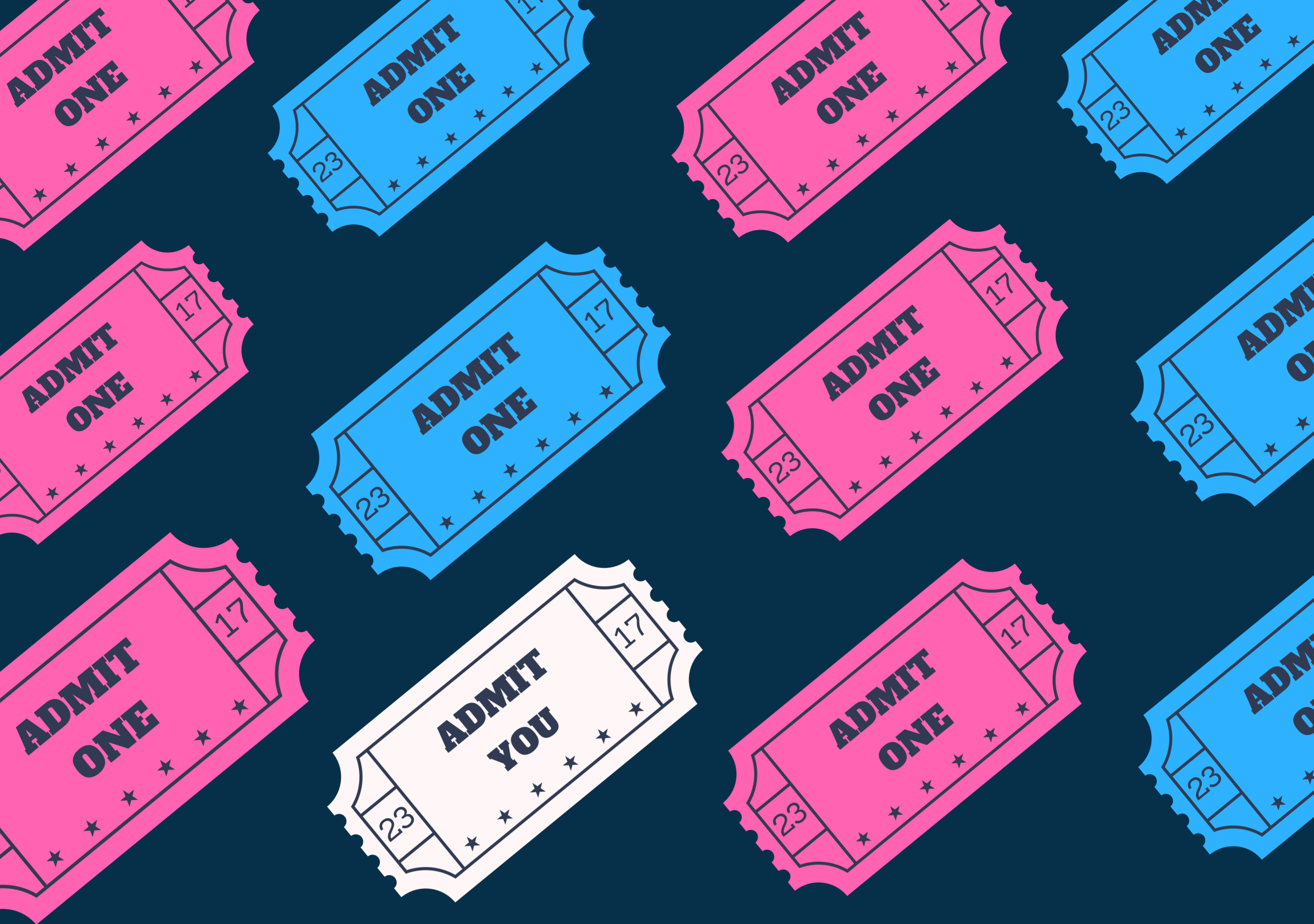
26 - 30 Nov – Year 11 into Year 12 Orientation Week Two

26 - 30 Nov – Year 10 Work Experience Week

03 - 07 Dec – Year 10 into Year 11 Orientation Week

10 - 11 Dec – Year 9 into Year 10 Transition/Orientation

21 Dec – Last Day of School



POINT COOK SENIOR PRESENTS

THEATRE SHOWCASE 2018

FRIDAY AUGUST 31 7PM

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1 7PM

TICKETS \$5/\$2 FRONT OFFICE



LOVE DRUNK

*Best mates, David, Luke and Lee, head to a party on a Saturday night.
By Sunday, their lives have changed forever.*

This fast paced, action packed performance explores some of the real issues facing young adults today. Features rapping, break dancing & loads of laughs.

When: **Tuesday 28 August 6:30pm (food from 5.30pm)**

Where: **Hoppers Crossing Youth Centre, 86 Derrimut Rd, Hoppers Crossing**

Cost: **Free**

Age: **14+ due to themes explored**

This funded project is a free community event, including light refreshments.

Proudly supported by:



Australian Government

Catalyst—Australian Arts and Culture Fund



Dance • Theatre • Film • Youth Projects