

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

My experiences today, the second last day of term, reflect quite nicely some of the key elements of the school at this time of year. It is an exciting time in many ways, with some projects finishing up and others just beginning.

I was privileged to spend some of today in our senior VCAL classes. The students were presenting their school improvement projects, and I was struck by the thought that had gone into the original concepts, the level of research, the thoroughness of the proposals and the professionalism of the final presentations. The plans for elaborate gardens, seating areas and recreational grounds were extensive and intelligent. This is typical of the effort and demeanour demonstrated by our Year 12 VCAL students all year. Their community work, their workplace learning and their engagement with peers and staff have all been outstanding. We are enormously proud of all they have achieved this year and the way they have represented the school.

I also had an opportunity to look in on our Unit 3&4 VCE students sitting or preparing for their practice exams — and was pleased to see the level of application to this important time. The practice exams have provided an opportunity for these students to test their current levels of knowledge and technique. The results will provide some very useful feedback to our students on where they are at in the process of preparing to do their best in the upcoming exam period.

Of course, most students undertaking VCE Units 3&4 subjects are now entering a period of intensive revision, and will be using much of the period from now until the exams to fashion and implement a well-organised and effective revision plan. For many, this includes classes and/or revision lectures over this September break period. I would like to wish our year 12 students the best during this period and express my thanks to all staff who I know will be working very hard to support them during this challenging and exciting time.

Today we also received the final proofs for the flyers for our annual Arts and Technology Exhibition (see right). Rebadged MAD Fest, the exhibition will feature works in the areas of Media, Art, Design, Drama and Dance and will be preceded by a week of student activities celebrating creativity and the Arts at Point Cook Senior. The Arts program is an essential element of the curriculum offered at the school, and the Arts

and Technology Exhibition is an important part of that program. I hope you can put Thursday 19 October in your diary and can come to see the wonderful creativity and talent of our students on that afternoon.

And then this evening was the time for our parent-student-teacher interviews. It was great to see so many of our students and their parents take the opportunity to meet with the teachers and discuss progress and next steps. It doesn't matter how well a student is doing in his or her subject areas, there is always room for those "next steps"; and the opportunity for the students, their families and the teachers to reflect on and promote those next steps together is very important. This three-way partnership is so critical to each student's growth and development over his or her time at Point Cook Senior.

In finishing, I would like to wish all our families a happy, healthy and safe September break, and I look forward to seeing all our students return in two weeks' time, ready for another term of learning and growth.

Darryn Kruse





## Battle for Australia

Students in Year 10 had the opportunity to attend the BATTLE FOR AUSTRALIA ceremony held at the Shrine of Remembrance on Wednesday 6 September. The ceremony is always held on the first Wednesday in September to commemorate and remember those who fought in the Pacific campaigns of World War Two.



Two students, Annaliese Gardner and Declan O'Brien, laid a wreath on behalf of Point Cook Senior Secondary College to remember those soldiers who fought during this time. All students listened attentively to readings recounting experiences of those who were bombed whilst living in Darwin and those who fought to defend Milne Bay and the Kokoda Track.

The students who attended consistently demonstrated respect and a compassion for those who participated in World War Two.

It was a very solemn occasion. We had the RAAF marching band, the naval guard from H.M.A.S. Cerberus and a Catafalque Party bearing Lee Enfield 303s (the weapon used by the Australian military during both World Wars). All guests were attentive listeners, and were keen to hear stories from fallen soldiers and those who are still with us. The silence following the last post was deafening, and it was great to see the respect our fellow Australians were willing to pay for those who gave all for the benefit of our great nation. Point Cook Senior asked me to lay a beautiful Australian native wreath to which I was happy to oblige. Many other schools laid wreaths from their schools around the Eternal Flame as well, but it was good to see the students from Point Cook Senior showing utmost respect during the service.

Declan O'Brien





## Fashion

On Tuesday 12 September the Year 12 Fashion and Year 2 VET Applied Fashion students attended the amazingly breathtaking Dior Exhibition at The National Gallery of Victoria. We were inspired by the haute couture garments and were amazed by the level of detail in the designs. It was incredible to see garments that we had only ever seen in magazines, on celebrities and in history books in real life.

We had a fabulous day and left feeling absolutely inspired!

The Year 12 Fashion class



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## We Value Respect

Point Cook Senior has adopted the Positive Behaviour Support Framework for as the cornerstone for our student wellbeing approach. The Framework is research-based and has as its foremost principle a positive approach to student management.

The first of our value words to promote a positive learning environment is 'respect'. The behaviours that result from respect should be seen in the interactions between students and teaching and support staff in each of their daily interactions. It will be seen through the respectful conversations that are had as the learning takes place in the classroom. It will also be observed in the yard as students are cognisant of each other and are mindful of their interactions. Respect is also a value that is shown towards the tangible aspects of the school — it's buildings, property and also the property of members of the school community.

The behaviour matrix outlines how 'respect' is shown across all of the different contexts within the school. All students and staff use the matrix as our reference point in discussing behavioural expectations.

### Changes at PCSSC

This term the SWPBS posters have been displayed around the yard and in each classroom. They serve as a visible reminder of the values and expectations we have for each other.

Staff have also been recognising the positive behaviours that they observe, by giving students a postcard. If you notice that one of your children has received a postcard, please talk about it with them, as they are likely to be very proud of it.

Thanks to Bethany Carson who designed the SWPBS postcards.





## Respectful Relationships

### Respectful Relationships at Point Cook Senior Secondary College

Point Cook Senior Secondary College has taken a lead role as a Respectful Relationships school. Although respectful relationships have been embedded into the school culture since its inception, the adoption of the Education Department's "Respectful Relationships" initiative strengthens the school's commitment to embedding the teaching of respectful relationships in the curriculum, promoting gender equity, challenging gender stereotypes and supporting members of the school community to combat domestic violence.

### Evidence Based Research

The important role that schools and early childhood settings can play in long-term prevention of family violence was highlighted in the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence. The Royal Commission heard a range of evidence from experts in the field that made clear that for there to be a reduction in rates of violence in the long-term, attitudes and behaviours must change; and schools were identified as being fundamental to this change.

In addition to this, research into the effectiveness of social and emotional learning programs highlighted the impact they can make to improved wellbeing, and to social and academic outcomes for students. Students who participated in rigorously designed programs, such as Respectful Relationships, showed:

- increased positive social behaviour
- improved academic outcomes
- reduced involvement in risk taking behaviour

As a result, Respectful Relationships will be rolled out to all Victorian Government schools over the next three years.

### How will Respectful Relationships be Implemented?

The implementation of Respectful Relationships is a school-wide initiative that involves commitment from all members of the school community and the development of six key domains:

- culture and environment
- support for staff and students
- community partnerships
- teaching and learning
- professional learning strategies
- school leadership commitment

Pilot lessons of the Respectful Relationships curriculum will be implemented through the Advisory program in 2017, with full implementation beginning in 2018. Students will cover topics such as:

- emotional literacy
- personal strengths
- positive coping
- problem-solving
- stress management
- help-seeking
- gender and identity
- positive gender relationships

The college is committed to the teaching and embedding of Respectful Relationships into our ethos as a means of continuously building a culture of respect, equity and community safety.



For full scale diagram please refer to the page at the end.



## THEATRE SHOWCASE 2017

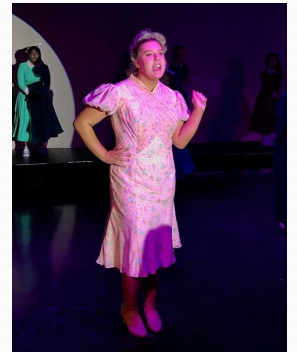
'There's no business like showbusiness like no business I know, everything about it is appealing...There's no people like show people,' And there really was no more amazing group of young people than those that appeared in the Theatre Showcase this year.



The theatre space buzzed all week with rehearsals, last minute costume tweaks, lighting, audio, tears and laughter — and someone gave me a microphone so I got to bark announcements and make impassioned speeches in the lead up to OPENING NIGHT!



The show had begun with the Theatre Studies class but we quickly added other talented students from throughout the school and further afield. The theatre family came together and with the addition of past students Patrick O'Beirne and Liam Watson as the technical team. We finalised our showcase of short plays, solos and musical theatre pieces into a polished and entertaining show.



**Our Superb Cast:** Eva Varley, Abbey Prendergast, Chloe Thorpe, Zafira Varvarousis, Ada Cardona, Rejah Jowett, Cara Poots, Elena Margeta, Viv Mikita, Sarah Coleiro, Casey van der Reit, Kritika Kausilya Naiker, Danny Huang, Trinity Gardiner, Kaitlyn Beeby, Sarah & Quinn (Miss Simpson's children), Harry Ford, Nick Papaalodoukas.

**Our Special Guests:** Mike Chi (piano), Olivia Margeta (solo)

**Catering:** Graham and Deb from the canteen provided dinner for the cast - thankyou

**Crew helpers:** Thomas Raine (curtains and staging), Emilee Page (follow spot), Griffin - Ms Simpson's middle child (FOH Saturday), Bill Wringe (FOH Friday)

**Thankyous:** Rachel Swaby and Danni Ryan who assisted in the 'Waving Through A Window' item sung by Eva Varley. Many thanks to the teachers of PCSSC who put up with the disruptions that have happened over the course of the production. Darryn Kruse, our Principal, who makes sure resources are allocated to the Arts at PCSSC, and who supports the students in their creative pursuits. Zoe Coppinger – Musical theatre performer/teacher for her guidance. Joe Galea who supports the theatre in maintenance and who climbs up the ladder to position lights. Lidia Boniwell-Lombardero for compiling the program. Zoe White for photocopy expertise. Nick and Kuan for their IT support. Marta for selling tickets at the front office.

And to our wonderful vocal audiences on the Friday and Saturday evenings, and to all the teachers who attended the shows and got to see their students in a new light. There was a star on all the dressing room doors!

Ms Simpson  
Performing Arts



## Breakfast Club

**Where:** Room 312

**When:** Fridays

**Time :** 8.00am – 8.30am

### All welcome

Our Breakfast Program has now been running for 6 years. We have been successful 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 IGA for their support for our Breakfast Program.

### 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 by a parent either entering approval on Compass or contacting the attendance office.



## 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](http://www.pointcooksenior.vic.edu.au) and click on the Compass Portal icon.



### Compass Portal

Click here to login to the Point Cook Senior Compass Portal

or directly go to Compass login

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

## Point Cook Senior Secondary College

Remember me

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

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.



## Year 12 Timeline for 2017

- 9 Oct - 20 Oct** - Special Advisory Activities
- 9 Oct - 24 Oct** - Normal classes for VCE students
- 9 Oct - 24 Oct** - Normal classes for VCAL students
- 20 Oct - 21 Oct** - Sleep over at school from 5pm to 10am
- 24 Oct** - Last day for year 12, Formal Whole School Assembly
- 25 Oct** - Home Study Day for Year 12 Students
- 26 Oct** - Year 12 Celebration Day - Offsite
- 1 Nov** - First VCE Exam - English
- 21 Nov** - Last VCE Exam
- 24 Nov** - Valedictory Dinner
- 15 Dec** - ATAR Scores Released
- 15 Dec - 19 Dec** - Change of Preference Career Counselling by Appointments

## **Valedictory Dinner**

The Valedictory Dinner will be held at Mooney Valley Racecourse on 24 November 2017. The first round of tickets closed on 22 September. The second round is now available for extra tickets. Please contact Ms Lyn McVay or the administration office for more information.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 25 Sept - 6 Oct** Year 12 Holiday classes
- 9 Oct** – Term 4 Commences
- 9 Oct** – Performance Exams Commence
- 9 Oct - 20 Oct** Year 12 Revision lectures after school
- 1 Nov** – Year 12 Exams Commence (English Exam)
- 6 Nov** – Performance Exams Conclude
- 6 Nov - 10 Nov** – Year 11 Exam Revision Week
- 7 Nov** – Melbourne Cup Day
- 13 Nov - 17 Nov** – Year 11 Exam Week
- 20 Nov - 24 Nov** – Year 10 Exam Revision Week
- 20 Nov - 24 Nov** – Year 11 into Year 12 Orientation Week 1
- 27 Nov - 1 Dec** – Year 11 into Year 12 Orientation Week 2
- 27 Nov - 1 Dec** – Year 10 Exam Week
- 4 Dec - 8 Dec** – Year 10 into Year 11 Orientation Week
- 11 Dec - 12 Dec** – Year 9 into Year 10 Transition/Orientation
- 22 Dec** – Last Day of School

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# Year 12 holiday classes

Term 3, 2017

## Week 1

Day/date	Time/place	Subject	Teachers/Presenters
Mon 25 Sept	9:30 - 12:30 Rm 314	PY034	Connect Education
	1:30 - 4:30 Rm 314	BI034	Connect Education
Tues 26 Sept	9:30 - 12:30 Rm 314	LS034	Connect Education
	1:30 - 4:30 Rm 314	MA074	Connect Education
Wed 27 Sept	9:30 - 12:30 Rm 314	CH034	Connect Education
	1:30 - 4:30 Rm 314	MA114	Connect Education
Thur 28 Sept	9:30 - 12:30 Rm 314	MA094	Connect Education
	1:30 - 4:30 Rm 314	PH034	Connect Education
	10:00 - 12:30 Rm 102	IT034	AWI
	10:00 - 3:00 Rm 103	HI134	NMA
	1:00 - 3:30 Rm 105	PE034	DRY JCR
Fri 29 Sept	Public holiday		

## Week 2

Day/date	Time/place	Subject	Teachers/Presenters
Mon 2 Oct	10:00 - 2:00 Rm 103	PH034	TMU
Tues 3 Oct	10:00 - 1:00 Rm 803	BI034	SSC OBA
Wed 4 Oct	10:00 - 1:00 Rm 103	LI034	CLA
Thur 5 Oct	9:00 - 12:00 Rm 105	EN014	JDA
	9:00 - 12:00 Rm 101	EN094	MAA
Fri 6 Oct	10:00 - 12:00 Theatre	TS034/DR034	KSI

Media: All students are encouraged to attend an Australian Teachers of Media exam revision lecture - tickets available at this link: <http://atomvic.org/pd/vce-media-units-34-exam-revision-seminars-students/>

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# Year 12 revision lectures

Term 4, 2017

## Week 1

Day/date	Time/place	Subject	Teachers/Presenters
Mon 9 Oct			
Tues 10 Oct	3:30 - 5:00 Rm TBA	HH034	ADA ECA
	3:30 - 4:30 Rm TBA	EN014	MAA
Wed 11 Oct	3:30 - 5:00 Theatre	EN014	Connect Education
Thu 12 Oct	3:10 - 4:30 Rm TBA	LS034	IHA
	3:10 - 4:30 Rm TBA	FY034	ASP
Fri 13 Oct	3:10 - 4:30 Rm 803	PE034	DRY JCR
Sat 14 Oct	2:00 - 3:30 Swinburne University ATC building Burwood Rd, Hawthorn	VC034	Visual Communication Victoria
Sun 15 Oct	10:00 - 4:00 Monash University Caulfield Campus	LI034	CLA and various

## Week 2

Day/date	Time/place	Subject	Teachers/Presenters
Mon 16 Oct			
Tues 17 Oct	3:20 - 5:30 Theatre	MA074	DDA KMC CLY PWE
Wed 18 Oct	3:20 - 5:00 Rm TBA	AC034	KRO
	3:20 - 5:00 Rm 105	EN014	JDA
	3:15 - 4:15 Rm 103	HI134	NMA
Thur 19 Oct	3:20 - 5:00 Rm TBA	BM034	KRO LSZ AJO
Fri 20 Oct			

Tuesday 24th October - Ross Huggard English revision lecture commencing at 3:15 - \$7 on Compass



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# MAD FEST

MEDIA  
ART  
DESIGN  
DRAMA  
DANCE

THURSDAY 19 OCT  
4:30 - 7:00 PM

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EXHIBITION  
OPENING

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