



Point Cook Senior

TERM 3 Newsletter

**MADE FOR THE COMMUNITY,
BY THE STUDENTS**



6th Edition
18th September 2020

address: Cnr Boardwalk Boulevard & Bergamot Drive, Point Cook, Vic, 3030
postal: PO Box 6520, Point Cook, Vic, 3030

Principal's Report

Respect Effort Responsibility

School Vision: Every student will be supported through high quality teaching and learning practices in achieving successful outcomes and a pathway of their choice.

Strive for Success – Attend Today Achieve Tomorrow

Dear parents and carers,

On behalf of our school, I want to say a big thank you to all our students, parents and carers for your continued resilience and support during Term 3. I know remote and flexible learning has not always been easy, but through our collective efforts, our students have continued to make valuable progress in their learning.

You can be confident that our school will support any student who has fallen behind to catch up. Term 4 is important for every Victorian student, and our teachers will strive to deliver high-quality learning for everyone. Whether we're teaching remotely or face-to-face, our focus for Term 4 is on making sure that every student is supported in their wellbeing, learning and transition needs. The Victorian Government has outlined the staged return to on-site schooling as part of its gradual roadmap towards reopening.

TERM 4 ON-SITE SCHOOLING ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Subject to the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has released a staged approach for students to return to on-site schooling.

The purpose of the plan is to get students back in the classroom as soon and as safely as possible without putting at risk all that has been achieved through the period of restrictions to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

To achieve both these aims, the return to onsite learning needs to be staged, just as the easing of all other restrictions is staged. There are two reasons for this.

The first is that in metropolitan Melbourne, health authorities need to monitor the impact of students and parents beginning to move across the city again before schools move to a full return. Having one million students return to school all at once could compromise the ability to monitor this impact

The second reason is that VCE students must return in week one of Term 4 and must be able to complete the three-hour General Achievement Test (GAT) that week. In order to ensure the focus is on these students and the appropriate safety measures are in place, this means no other students can be on-site on our secondary or P-12 campuses the week before the GAT.

This is the best way to ensure the ongoing safety of the whole community.

Principal's Report (cont.)

FOR OUR SCHOOL, THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS APPLY:

Please see Compass for a timetable and further information.

5–9 October (first week of Term 4)

- remote and flexible learning will continue for all students
- VCE and VCAL students can only attend on-site for essential assessments, including the General Achievement Test (GAT) on Wednesday 7 October, English SAC on Thursday 8 October and the Further Maths SAC on Friday 9 October.
- on-site supervision for children of permitted workers and vulnerable students will continue to be provided, consistent with existing guidelines.

From 12 October (second week of Term 4)

- Year 11 and 12 students will attend on-site schooling full time.
- Year 10 students enrolled in a VCE or VCAL program will attend for those units only remote and flexible learning will continue for all students in Year 10 (except Year 10 students studying VCE and VCAL units)
- All VET programs will resume.
- on-site supervision will remain available for students in Year 10 who are the children of permitted workers and vulnerable students.

This will continue until a date is set for the return of all students to on-site learning, based on health advice.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

The Term 3 remote and flexible learning arrangements were put in place to significantly reduce the movement of more than one million students and their families across Victoria, to help slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Thanks to you and your family for contributing to this on behalf of our school community.

As on-site schooling resumes, we will continue to have in place strong measures to protect the health and safety of students, staff, families and the community. This includes staggering start and finish times, restricting parent access to school grounds and continued emphasis on hand hygiene and physical distancing where possible.

*together we are creating a
healthy school*

achievement
program



Principal's Report

Whether your child is, or children are, returning to face-to-face learning or will be continuing with remote and flexible learning, please be assured we will be focused on three key priorities in Term 4:

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Our highest priority will be the wellbeing, particularly the mental health, of every student and member of staff. This means effectively mobilising all available resources to support our most vulnerable students and enabling staff to access the relevant support services.

LEARNING AND EXCELLENCE

Some of our students have thrived in the remote and flexible learning environment, others have maintained their learning progress, and some have fallen behind, despite their best efforts and those of their families and teachers. Our priority will be supporting both those who need it to catch up and those who have progressed to continue to extend their learning.

TRANSITIONS

We will make every effort to ensure successful transitions for children moving from kindergarten into Prep, the Grade 6s moving into Year 7, and the Year 12s moving into employment or further education and training.

We know some families are worried that their child may have to repeat a year due to the disruptions of coronavirus (COVID-19). There is little evidence to support the benefits of repeating a year to catch up. Instead, schools will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs.

Parents, families and carers can be confident that the best option for almost every child is to stay with their peer group, whether that is moving from kindergarten into Prep, or moving from Grade 6 into Year 7 at secondary school, or students moving up any year level in between.

Our school, working with you, has shown it can be flexible and adaptable in responding to the challenges of coronavirus (COVID-19) and will continue to meet student needs as we look towards the end of the 2020 school year and ahead to 2021.

**Kind regards,
Christopher Mooney
Principal**

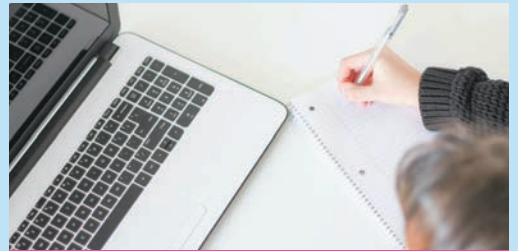


12-25

FREE

Ready, Set, JOB!

Join us for a series of FREE employment-themed workshops designed to get your application to the top of the pile!



WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

LinkedIn WORKSHOP

1 to 2.30pm on Zoom

Do you want to learn how you can promote yourself on LinkedIn?

Westside FReeZA presents a free workshop designed to help young professionals develop their online profiles to help them break into their relevant industry.

Registration essential

RESUMÉ WRITING WORKSHOP

1 to 2pm on Zoom

Get stuck writing your resume? Don't know where to start or if your current resume is hitting the mark? Employers are telling us that they want resumes that are personalised. Come along and learn some tips and tricks on how to secure an interview by marketing your skills and structuring your resume.

Registration essential

COVER LETTER WRITING WORKSHOP

1 to 2pm on Zoom

When attempting a cover letter, do you wonder 'where do I start?' or 'what do I say?' In this workshop, you will learn three steps to writing a cover letter that will make the process easy and enable employers to understand what you have to offer.

Registration essential

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AT

www.hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram



An Update From the LRC

Hi there,

We hope that all of you reading this are keeping safe and well during this difficult time.

Hopefully, even in lock-down, you've discovered ways to find an inspiring read.

Perhaps you've taken advantage of the free e-memberships being offered by Wyndham City libraries, or perhaps you've borrowed an ebook or audiobook via the school's subscription to the Wheelers ePlatform. If not, why not give these ideas a try?

Also, we've been adding many new fiction titles and graphic novels to our library collection over the past few months.

Here are many of them:

- **'Aurora Burning'** by Amie Kaufman & Jay Kristoff
- **'Batman: Year One'** by Frank Miller & David Mazzucchelli
- The **Thrawn Trilogy** by Timothy Zahn
- **'The Last Paper Crane'** by Kerry Drewery & Natsko Seki
- **'Metal Fish, Falling Snow'** by Cath Moore
- **'The Lost Soul Atlas'** by Zana Fraillon
- **'Stars Like Us'** by Frances Chapman
- **'When Rain Turns To Snow'** by Jane Godwin
- **'Vertigo'** by Lynd Ward
- **'The F Team'** by Rawah Arja
- **'The Erasure Initiative'** by Lili Wilkinson
- **'Remind Why I'm Here'** by Kat Colmer
- **'Brasswitch and Bot'** by Gareth Ward
- **'The Great Godden'** by Meg Rosoff
- **'Tribal Lore's'** by Archimede Fusillo
- **'The Fire Star'** by A.L. Tait
- **'Spotlight'** by Solli Raphael
- **'Of Boys And Boats'** by Ian Trevaskis
- **'Indigo Owl'** by Charlie Archbold
- **'Rebel Gods'** by William Kostakis
- **'Where We Begin'** by Christie Nieman
- **'When This Bell Rings'** by Allison Rushby
- **'Fighting Words'** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- **'You Were Made For Me'** by Jenna Guillaume
- **'The History Of Mischief'** by Rebecca Higgie
- **'Soldier Boys'** by Dean Hughes
- **'Swagger'** by Carl Deuker



For more library news, please see our regular posts on the official school Facebook page as well as our revamped Instagram page ([PCSSCLRC](#)).

We're always happy for feedback about our collection and any book suggestions you have for us.

Please take care and stay safe.

Alumni Program News

While this term's harsh lock-down has laid some well-made alumni session plans to rest, we have managed to keep the Ourschool alumni engine running.

A total of nine interviews with 10 alumni were recorded and posted on the [school's website](#), serving as a great adjunct to the existing careers program. All parents and students are welcome to view the videos.

Although we've had to put off until term 4 a number of planned alumni sessions (STEM careers for our Years 10, 11 and 12; and Year 12 preparation tips for our Year 11s), we are hopeful they will proceed in term 4. Our alumni are keen to reschedule.

Last week Point Cook Senior students and parents, along with more than 500 others from our 18-partnered schools, linked up to a Livestream Q&A with alumni working at Peter Mac Cancer Clinic. Our students gained insights into the many health and medical-related careers, as well as the key attributes needed to work in this sector.

The session was recorded, and you can request the link and password by emailing us at pointcooksenior@vic.edu.au.

The next Livestream Q&A, scheduled for October 9, will focus on the business, accounting and corporate industries, featuring alumni working at KPMG. We will be again promoting this through Compass and our Advisory teachers, so please keep an eye out.

We continue to grow our alumni database, with more than 140 alumni now registered with us, and lots of offers coming from alumni wanting to be involved and give back to their school.

Ourschool hosted a live Q&A with alumni working at Peter Mac Cancer Centre. The recording is available on request.



Virtual Y @ YMCA

The Stage 4 restrictions are difficult for all of us, but the amendment to the physical activity duration from one hour to two hours each day is a welcome one.

For your ongoing Health & Wellbeing, it is important to take part in physical activity each day.

Simply [click here](#) to access a variety of activities, games and challenges for individuals and for the whole family.

Also, check out Virtual Y by YMCA. Virtual Y offers you **free access** to exclusive fitness videos, nutritious recipes, wellbeing advice, family activities and our Youth Hub.

On Virtual Y, you'll be able to access exclusive fitness, nutrition, wellbeing, family and youth content. From keeping fit through workouts and training at home; learning all about nutrition with our delicious recipes and Healthy Living Magazine; looking after your wellbeing with mindfulness practices; learning with your family with home activities; to engaging with the youth community through our [Youth Hub](#).

Key Careers Dates

The following are important dates for Year 12 students. Please ensure that you keep these dates in mind and write them down in your reminders, calendar or other frequented location.

- **September 25th** - ACU Guarantee Applications Close
- **5pm September 30th** - VTAC Timely Applications Close
- **October 9** - VU Guarantee- Applications Close
- **5pm October 9** - SEAS & VTAC Scholarships Close



FOSTER CARE INFORMATION NIGHT

Ever thought about fostering children or young people?

Anglicare Victoria is looking for people who have a place in their heart for a child in need of a safe home. Care can be short term or long term. Training, support & reimbursement provided.

Foster Care Information Session:

Thursday 15th October (via Zoom) | 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Anglicare North West Region

Come along to find out more & have your questions answered.

CALL US on 9396 7400 or carer.info@anglicarevic.org.au

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE. . . AND YOUR OWN!



03 9396 7400 | anglicarevic.org.au

Year 12 PDS

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

During the month of September, Mr McDonald's PDS Class will be running 5 separate social media campaigns to raise awareness and funds for some selected global issues along with improving wellbeing.

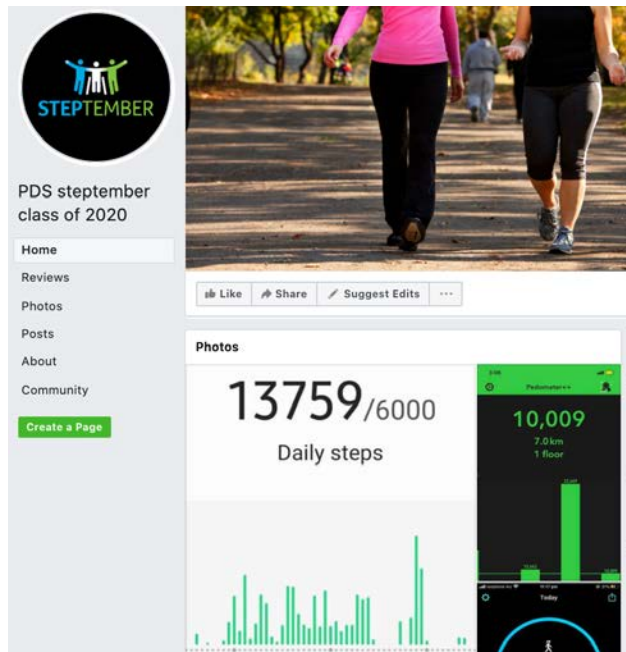
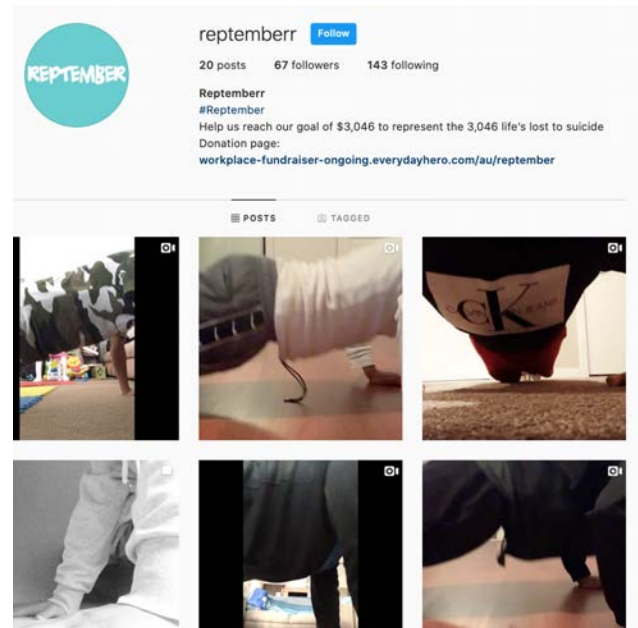
Students have created a little write up for each project below and keep a look out on your socials for them!

"Reptember" is about spreading awareness about suicide, our project is to do push-ups every day for this month and hopefully spread awareness around the community.

Our goal is to complete 3046 push-ups to represent the lives lost last year to suicide in Australia in 2019.

We have partnered up with the [Beyond Blue Foundation](#) and they have kindly provided us with a [donation page](#) and are sharing our push ups and our cause on Instagram.

- Shayan, Jerry, Sam, Mickey



"September" is a project to encourage exercise and raise awareness for cerebral palsy.

By going outside every day for the month of September completing 10,000 steps (per day) we will benefit our own health and well-being by being active daily.

We will be making regular updates on social media platforms to spread the campaign for others to join and to gain an understanding of cerebral palsy.

We are also aiming to pick up rubbish while we walk, which will help us to make a huge difference our local community's cleanliness.

- Sediq, Bailey, Jordan, Liv, Tyler

Year 12 PDS

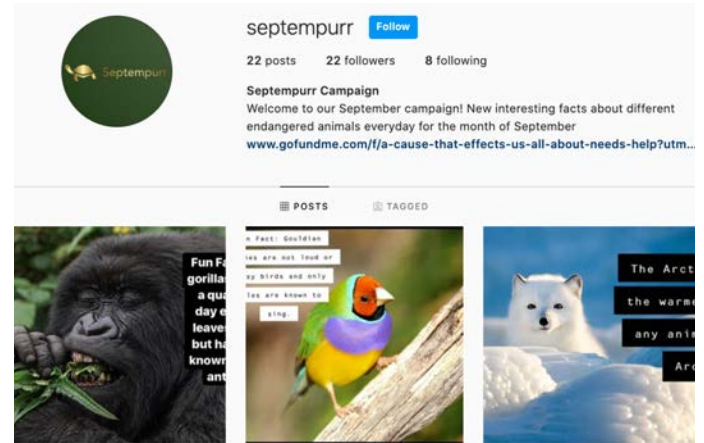
SEPTEMBER SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

The **"Septempurr"** campaign aims to spread awareness and insight about endangered animals whilst also trying to improve people's days with cute animal facts. We are doing this by posting daily during the month of September with facts that are interesting yet educational.

We are also aiming to **raise \$350** to go towards the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Their mission is to stop the decline and deterioration of threatened plants and animals.

- Keane, Mikey, Samiyah, Luis, Em



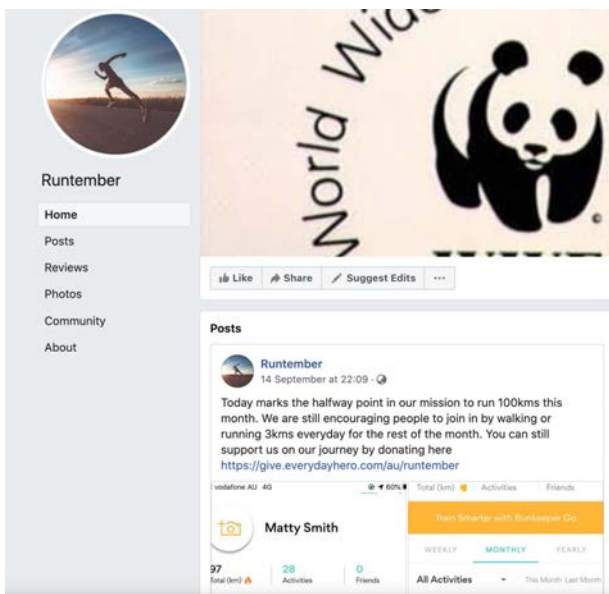
"Runtember" is a challenge to run 100km in the month of September in an attempt to raise money and awareness for the WWF.

We have 30 days to reach our goal which we are doing to help our physical and mental wellbeing and hopefully encourage others to do the same.

You can support us on our mission to run 100kms this month by sponsoring us and donating at [here](#).

We challenge you to get out of your house and walk or run 3km every day for the rest of the month.

- Matty S, Matt N, Leon, Christian, Rameka



Action for Happiness is a campaign that strives for positivity in all communities.

"Self-Care September" was one of their monthly projects that my group raised awareness for by sharing the calendar on our social media platforms and demonstrating each daily task.

This spread positivity for self-esteem through the remote learning/lockdown period.

- Kasey, Fili, Francoise



Year 12 WRS

CHRISTIE JANEVSKI SHARES HER TEAM'S WRS GARDEN PROJECT

I have enjoyed the term 3 Senior Work-Related Skills.

We were allocated \$15,000 to design an electronic garden using a variety of online programs, make a diorama depicting the design and to stick to the allocated budget.

We then had to present it, and the winning group could have their garden made in the school. The brief was to work in a group; research supplies and compare prices using a variety of garden suppliers and put together a PowerPoint Presentation.

We also had a professional landscaper attend our online class to provide possible ideas.

My group in particular decided to go with Sarah's design because we thought it was laid out perfectly for the school behind the 100s building with great ideas to create a great garden space.

I learnt so many things through this project, including understanding to use design tools, the concept of teamwork (even though we communicated online), collaboration and time management by prioritising and delegating tasks that needed more time.

Furthermore, we thought of innovating new ideas, budgeting and most importantly working together as a team.



I believe that my group and I have gained great teamwork skills by learning and understanding the importance of team effort, thus we now can create a sustainable garden not only in a visual sense but that we could even grow our product which benefits the environment.

Overall, I thought this was a fantastic experience. We presented our group report via a Google Meet and our teacher, Mary Dimech-Hill, was pretty impressed with our efforts!

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THE BREAKFAST everyone is welcome CLUB

Our Breakfast Program has been supporting students in need for 9 years now!

Not only does our program provide students with a fulfilling breakfast to start their day with, but it also improves student wellbeing, supporting their outcomes.

Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a free breakfast and a carefree environment to start their school day.



Join us and build positive relationships with staff and students!

Where? Room 312

When? Fridays 8:00am - 8:30am

REMINDERS

KEY DATES TERM 4

18 Sept	Term 3 Ends	16-20 Nov	Year 11 - Year 12 Orientation (VCE & VCAL)
05 Oct	Term 4 Commences	23-27 Nov	Year 11 - Year 12 Orientation (VCE) Year 10 Revision Week
05-09 Oct	Year 12 Practice Exams	30 Nov-4 Dec	Year 10 Exam Week
7 Oct	GAT (General Achievement Test)	03-04 Dec	Year 9 - Year 10 Orientation
30 Oct	Year 12 Celebration Day	07-11 Dec	Year 10 - Year 11 Orientation Week
02-06 Nov	Year 11 Revision Week	18 Dec	Last Day of School
03 Nov	Melbourne Cup Day		
09 Nov	Year 12 Exams Begin		
09-13 Nov	Year 11 Exam Week Year 11 VCAL Journeys		

Please note that due to COVID-19, these dates are likely to change.

We ask that you stay updated through Compass reminders.

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program



RESPECT
EFFORT
RESPONSIBILITY

REMINDERS

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance information is available on Compass, including the option to approve absences and input requests to leave early for an appointment.

Late Arrival To School

Students are requested to use the Compass card to sign in at the Compass 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 having parents enter approval on Compass or contacting the attendance office.

Students are required to provide a medical certificate when absent from a VCE class or assessment

***Attend Today,
Achieve Tomorrow***



Majority of our communication 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 updated 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:

1. go to the College's homepage: www.pointcooksenior.vic.edu.au

2. click on the Compass Portal icon.

OR directly go to Compass login: pointcooksenior-vic.compass.education/

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 or see the 'Compass Help' page on the school website.



Community health centres

Information, referral, counselling and support groups

cohealth 9377 7100
(North/West/CBD) cohealth.org.au

Djerriwarrh Health 5367 2000
(Bacchus Marsh, Melton djhs.org.au
Caroline Springs)

IPC Health 9296 1200
(Brimbank, ipchealth.com.au
Wyndham, Hobsons Bay)

Income support

Ring Centrelink on **136 150** and ask for an appointment with a social worker

Emergency accommodation

Crisis Contact Centre **1800 627 727**

Yarra Community Housing **1800 825 955**

Melbourne Youth Support **9614 3688**

Support for victims/survivors of sexual assault

WestCASA 9687 5811

CASA House 9635 3610

Victims of Crime 1800 819 817

Support for men who want to change their behaviour

Men's Referral Service 1300 766 491

MensLine Australia 1300 789 978

LifeWorks 1300 543 396

Other useful services

WIRE 1300 134 130

Kids HelpLine 1800 551 800

Parentline 13 22 89

Relationships Australia 8311 9222



Women's Health West

P 9689 9588

E info@whwest.org.au

W www.whwest.org.au

Current as at July 2016

Life without family violence



English

If you need an interpreter

First ring the Telephone Interpreter Service

13 14 50 (24 hours)

24 HOUR

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

POLICE - 000

SAFE STEPS FAMILY VIOLENCE RESPONSE CENTRE

1800 015 188

SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS AND COUNSELLING LINE

1800 806 292

These services may be able to help you

Family violence support services

Women's Health West provides information, counselling, crisis and court support for women and children affected by family violence

P: 9689 9588

W: whwest.org.au

inTouch Multicultural Centre Against

Family Violence supports women from diverse backgrounds who are experiencing family violence

P: 1800 755 988

W: intouch.asn.au

Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal

Women's Services provides support for Aboriginal women in relation to family violence

P: 9482 5744

W: emhaws.org.au

Community legal services

communitylaw.org.au

Brimbank 8312 2000

Flemington/Kensington 9376 4355

Footscray 9689 8444

Melbourne 9328 1885

Melton 9747 5240

Moonee Valley 9376 7929

Werribee 9749 7720

Magistrates courts

Broadmeadows 9221 8900

Melbourne 9628 7777

Sunshine 9300 6200

Werribee 9974 9300

Other legal services

Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service

1800 105 303

Women's Legal Service **8622 0600**

Court Network **1800 681 614**

RE-CYCLE YOUR CYCLE



Bicycle Donations Needed

**DO YOU HAVE AN OLD,
UNWANTED BICYCLE YOU
NO LONGER NEED OR USE?**

Preserve the environment and donate it to the **West Metro Community Work Team's Fix the Cycle Program!**

In the program young offenders are taught to repair, refurbish and overhaul old and disused bikes. Once completed, **the bicycles are donated to community members who most benefit** from a sustainable method of free private transport, such as teenagers coming from disadvantaged backgrounds and refugee families who are newly settled in Australia.

**For donations contact
the CW Team on:
1300 389 518**

**Westmetro.communitywork
@justice.vic.gov.au**





Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

-  laptops & tablets
-  lessons & activities
-  uniforms & shoes
-  books & supplies
-  sports fees & gear
-  camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*



Contact

your local Saver Plus Coordinator

Phone or SMS

your name and postcode to 1300 610 355

Email

WerribeeSP@thesmithfamily.com.au

Online

saverplus.org.au

Find us on Facebook 



* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.