

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As I write, our VCE students are coming to the end of their final exams, and are starting to focus on their future directions. Our Senior VCAL students have finished their final projects and are similarly engaging in future pathways. Our Year 12s leave us with our very best wishes and very fond memories. I know they will soon be celebrating their efforts, and I am looking forward to the valedictory dinner on 24 November when students, staff and parents can get together to celebrate the year and reflect on the successes of the class of 2017. It has been my privilege to once again witness the wonderful partnership between the teachers and students at Point Cook Senior in working through Year 12 this year. I would also like to acknowledge the parents and caregivers who have been such an important part of this partnership, and recognise the enormous role they have played in supporting our young people through their final year of schooling.

Of course, our Year 11 students are also completing their exams and the Year 10s are entering their revision period this coming week, with their exams the week after. As well as taking this opportunity to consolidate their year's learning, our students will be able to gain very important practice for the Year 12 exams that most of them will be sitting in the next year or two. Effective decision-making and time-management in an exam situation are skills in themselves, and it is very useful for our young people to start developing these skills from Year 10 onwards. When they reach the high stakes exam process at Year 12, we want them to be ready.

This term has also given us a great opportunity to celebrate a range of student achievements. Many of our students' CAEP projects are coming to fruition at the moment, and the Semester Two Science Fair a few weeks ago was a wonderful showcase of so much quality learning. This year our Annual Arts and Technology Exhibition became "MAD Fest", a longer term celebration of the Arts at Point Cook Senior – including lunchtimes filled with theatre studies monologues, dance performances and a talent show, displays of student artworks at the FOVA Exhibition at the Town Centre, an exhibition of our students' fashion works at the Point Cook Library, and an artist in residence program. The exhibition itself was an enormous success, demonstrating student excellence in Studio Art, Visual Communication and Design, Food Technology, Media, Dance, Wood Technology and Fashion Design.

There has also been some construction in and around the school. You may have noticed the recent emergence of an outdoor volleyball court and a small-scale rugby field. These have been met with significant

approval by the students and are in heavy demand already. Outside the school, the road is currently being dug up and relaid. This was originally scheduled to be happening at the same time as our VCE exams were being held in the gymnasium only metres away from the construction. I would like to thank the Wyndham City Council for their flexibility in re-scheduling this work. I would also like to acknowledge our local state Member of Parliament, Jill Hennessy, whose interest and support as we negotiated this issue was invaluable.

Looking forward, our Year 11 students are commencing their 2018 orientation program, and our Year 10 students will follow suit in a few weeks. This program provides students with the opportunity to experience their chosen subjects, meet many of their teachers and gain an overview of the content and assessment requirements in each course. Students will have the opportunity to commence the work and evaluate whether they have made the correct decisions for their subject choices. They will receive study designs, texts and an essential introduction to their chosen studies. Our students will not only commence their studies but will also be provided with holiday tasks to complete for the start of next year. This will then set them up for a successful experience in their final senior years. These last few weeks are an important time, as a lot of the groundwork for a successful 2018 is being laid now.

Daryn Kruse





Victoria Police visit to talk about staying safe

With school finishing at the end of November for our Year 12s Lyn McVay arranged a visit by two Victoria Police officers to talk to the Year 12 students about staying safe with your mates.

The very engaging presentation covered topics such as safety when you are drinking, digital safety, watching out for your mates, walking away from fights. The police also explained that if charged with an offence it will stay on your record which can impact a young person's future.

The students had many questions and were very interested in both the talk and about the work the Victoria Police do, many stayed behind to talk with the officers during lunchtime.

Year 12 Sleep-Over

On 20 October Year 12 Advisory teachers and a group of Year 12 students took over the Year 12 building for a sleep-over. Early in the evening Mr Hipik and Ms Dimech-Hill brought their kids along and the students played board games and ran around with them having fun. Mr Damschke, Mr Wringe, Mr Ly (karaoke king), Mr Hutchison and Ms Roper stayed for the evening and toddled off to their beds at home around 11pm. Ms McVay was a champion; she stayed awake and alert all night. Ms Cambridge and Mr Weiser were amazing (although sleep deprivation did bring about some quirky ways to pass the time). Mr Dang stayed up and played Celebrity Heads until 5.45am!!! Miss Simpson slept on her blow-up mattress under her doona - waking every few hours to drag a garbage bag around to pick up empty cups and half-eaten junk food like some maniacal street sweeper. The student leaders Tahlia, Amira and Jyothsna helped run activities throughout the night. Graham and Deb from the canteen provided a slap up dinner and returned in the morning to put on breakfast for the weary crew.

I don't think the students will ever forget that crazy night when the Year 12s stayed the night in the 100s building.



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Year 12 Last Week 2017

We farewelled the Class of 2017 in an assembly where all the students had their final roll call. The Year 10s and 11s supported as the countdown to the end of 13 years of school signalled no more classes for our Year 12s.



Year 12 Celebration Day

A day later we got together to head off to Funfields with Advisory teachers dressed up in a Disney theme and students dressed in a wide variety of inventive costumes. Deb and Graham from the canteen met us out at the theme park to cook up a BBQ lunch. Everyone did double duty on the rides and a few brave students even got into the water slides. It was a great day to relax and take photos and laugh with friends before final study for exams.



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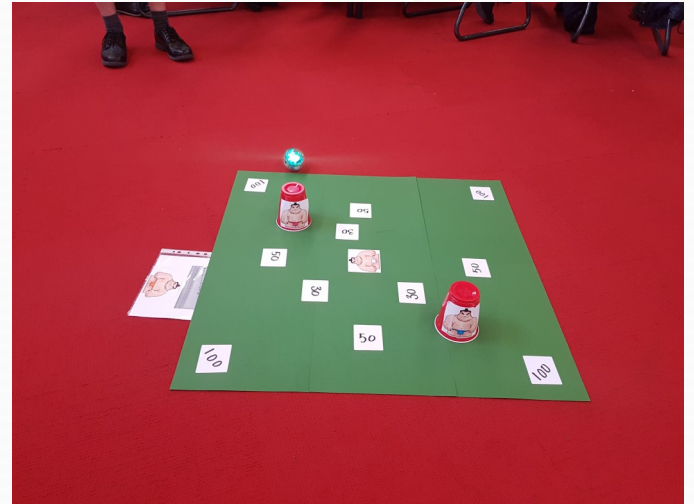
ICT Week

During lunchtime in week 4 students were invited to try out a number of the new technologies we have here at Point Cook Senior. Students were able to immerse themselves into space and haunted houses, and ninja running with the use of Virtual Reality (VR) goggles; they were able to play games of soccer with the makerbots; and conduct water rescues, sumo wrestling and a game of bocce with the Sphero robot spheres. Many had heaps of fun playing around and battling it out against each other.



In the later part of the week we turned to competition time, with a beginner, intermediate and advanced challenge for students to sign up for and compete for canteen vouchers. We started with a challenge of coding a sphero to map out a chosen shape and change colours a number of times throughout. We had squares, triangles and pentagons and a disco of bright colour flashing lights. The winner was Lina Legenhausen. The competitors were convinced to come back to try their luck the next day.

The intermediate challenge was to code the sphero to drive around a corner and then accelerate up a ramp to make the longest jump possible. The students were so inventive in their code and we again had bright lights, much acceleration and fun with working our angles. The longest jump by Bradley Gardner was 32cm past the ramp, pretty impressive with 10cm more than the next competitor. More canteen vouchers were kindly received. Our last and most advanced challenge was to code the sphero through a maze the fastest and without hitting the walls. We had so many participants that we needed to bring in the makerbots as well. The code required an understanding of speed and angles; the participants displayed all with such a willingness to run trial after trial until reaching the desired movements. The persistence and ability to change wrong code and recognise that tweaking their work could make a world of difference, trying to be better every time. The winner for this challenge was Marcus Mifsud.



We are looking at having a 'Makerspace' in our Learning Resource Centre and hope that the students will enjoy this space and feed into with their own wants and interests. Some of the other technology apart from what was listed above will be a raspberry pi computer, makey makey kits, old electronics and much more.



Alison Wishart



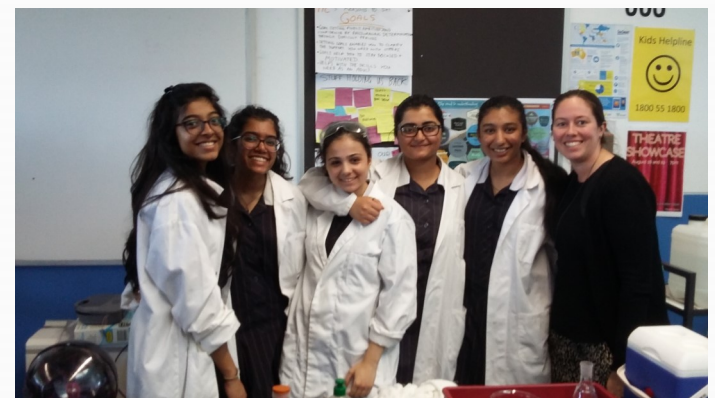
Semester Two Science Fair 2017

On 9 November, PCSSC ran the final Science Fair of the year. There was plenty to get involved with. There were many student displays; our own year 11 students were assisting with science demonstrations. We had plenty of visitors stop by to show their support for the hard work that students put into their displays. Though three projects were the standouts, I would like to congratulate all of the students who tried their best to come up with an idea that challenged their way of looking at the world. Science is a wonderful area of study where you can question the world and figure out the answers yourself.

Our winners this semester thought through their ideas and showed understanding of scientific terminology as well as the scientific method. First place went to Heidi Rasmussen, Zion Mikaere-Kranenburg and Zsofia Murray with their *Don't Quiver, it's Just Liver* experiment. Second place went to Jemi Banson and Leiron Santos for their *Which Everyday Drink can Harm your Teeth* experiment. Third place went to Bradley Gardner and Joss Van Der Westhuizen for Their *How Motion is Affected in a Vacuum* experiment. Every science fair our principal also judges and decides what he thinks to be a deserving project; due to their bold choice and application to everyday life, Laura Wasley, Robyn Epps and Emily Ritter won the Principal Choice award for their project *What is the Best Tampon?*.

Congratulations to you all and thank you for such a wonderful demonstration of your scientific understanding.

Melissa Chapman, Science Learning Area Leader



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Interschool Sport

We had one student represent Point Cook Senior SC at the School Sport Victoria State Athletics Titles on Monday 23 October which was held at Lakeside Stadium in Albert Park.

Kirk Shanahan successfully made it through the Division and the Regional event in the 800m in order to become eligible for competing in this race.

He ran superbly, achieved a Personal Best time of 2.02 and finished in 3rd position, earning a bronze medal.

Kirk has represented the school in a number of sporting events this year and is congratulated on such an amazing achievement and for displaying the school's values at each competition.

Brianna Bunworth

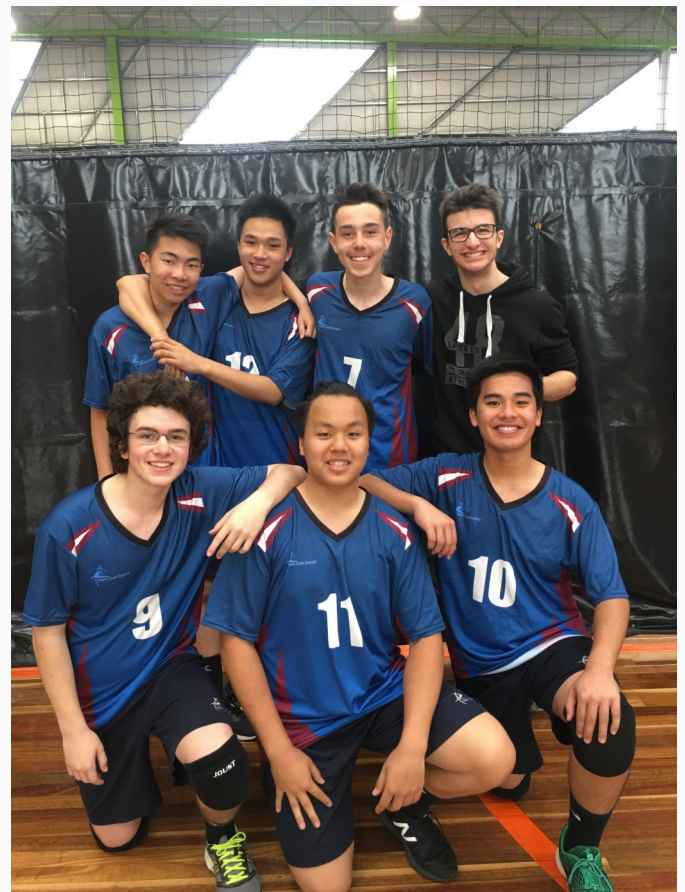


Point Cook Senior Volleyball Team

PCSSC volley played in the Maribyrnong volleyball tournament on the weekend. The team ranked 4th for the tournament with all players performing exceptionally well. Trainings have been running all year during Wednesday and Friday lunch times and with some after school sessions. The players have moved towards trainings focused more on mastering volleyball strategies and moving into back court setting rotations to allow for more offensive attacks during different plays. It was great to see parents, teachers and other students come down to cheer on the team.

Back left to right: Danny Huang, Terry Vong, Joel McIsaac, Jake Jonus

Front left to right: Adam Coustley, Theodor Nguyen and Leiron Santos (Captain).





Collecting For A Cause

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (more commonly referred to as the RSPCA) is a non-government community based organisation dedicated to promoting the proper care and treatment of animals throughout the country, as well as seeking justice for those who have been abused or neglected. Thanks to public donations and fundraising initiatives, the organisation is able to do several wonderful things. This includes providing vital health care to sick and injured wildlife as well as rehabilitating neglected pets that are often then put up for adoption and offered a second chance at life.

On **17 November**, Point Cook Senior Secondary College will not only be celebrating and acknowledging this work, but donating numerous items to the Burwood East RSPCA Animal Shelter. The items collected will help the staff comfort and care for the animals presently in their custody as well as those that may eventually reside there.

Items that we will happily accept from both students and teachers include the following: **face washers, pillowcases, kitty litter, collars, blankets, laundry detergent, towels, pet beds, pet friendly treats, leads, newspaper, pet bowls, toys, baby bottles, sheets, baby gates, puppy pee pads, and cages or crates.**

Anything beyond this will, unfortunately, have to be turned away.

Apart from this, students attending advisory classes will also be taking part in some related activities to share statistics and facts, but most importantly, raise awareness for such an important cause. This will include the viewing of a short, information-filled video, a word search and a kahoot.

Monetary donations, although not welcomed on the day, can be made to the RSPCA via the following website:

<https://www.rspca.org.au/>

Thank you in advance for contributing to what we are sure will be a wonderful day!

Heidi Rasmussen & Jacinta Shipp



Homestays Needed



In February 2018, Point Cook Senior Secondary College will be hosting seventeen year 10 students and two staff members from Gimhae Sunam High School, which is in the Republic of South Korea.

The students and staff from Gimhae Sunam High School will be with us for one week from Friday 20 February – Thursday 26 February. We are seeking homestay families.

Homestay families would be required to provide:

- Accommodation for the week
- Three meals per day: breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Some transport to drop off and pick up meeting places
- Involvement in some activities during the evening

Homestay families will receive a payment of \$300 per student to assist with costs.

Over the weekend, the visiting students have an organised program that involves a Great Ocean Road beach tour and a Melbourne City Experience trip. Host families are not required to participate in these activities.

If you would like to host a visiting student, please contact Olga Verbitckaia at Point Cook Senior Secondary College on 9395 9271.

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MAD FEST 2017

This year marks the inaugural Media, Arts, Design, Dance and Drama festival at Point Cook Senior. Our focus this year was on participation in art making. There were Year 12 students performing their wonderful Drama and Theatre monologues, a high energy recital of the Year 10 Dance pieces and the incredible student led school talent show, as well as the Arts/Technology exhibition. A special thank-you is owed to the Arts & Technology team and the MAD Fest student crew who assisted all week: Blanca Padros-Quintana, Miranda Allan and Kye Simpson.



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Point Cook Library Exhibition

During MAD FEST Ms Kennedy's Year 12 'Product Design & Technology: Fashion' students exhibited their final garments at the Point Cook Library. The exhibition ran for a fortnight and was extremely well received by the local community. Congratulations to Georgia Kazakis, Vivien Mikita, Zafira Varvarousis, Linika Chhour and Casey Van der Riet.



FOVA

Media and Visual Communication Design students showcased their works in the the annual student art show at Stockland Point Cook, FOVA. The exhibition celebrated the artistic capabilities of local pre-schools, kindergartens, primary and secondary schools from 25 October to 1 November.





Jiangsu Principals visit PCSSC

On Wednesday 8 November, four Principals from Jiangsu Province China visited Point Cook Senior Secondary as part of an educational tour to learn more about Victorian schools. One of the principals was from a senior secondary college like PCSSC, two were from high schools and one was from a primary school. They met with our Principal Darryn Kruse and Assistant Principal Chris Mooney and spent the day learning about the college, the PCSSC teaching and learning cycle, School Wide Positive Behaviours Support, the Advisory structure and our curriculum and programs. They were impressed by the amount of choices students had within the curriculum, asking many questions about design and technology subjects and the performing arts which are not always offered as subject choices in China.

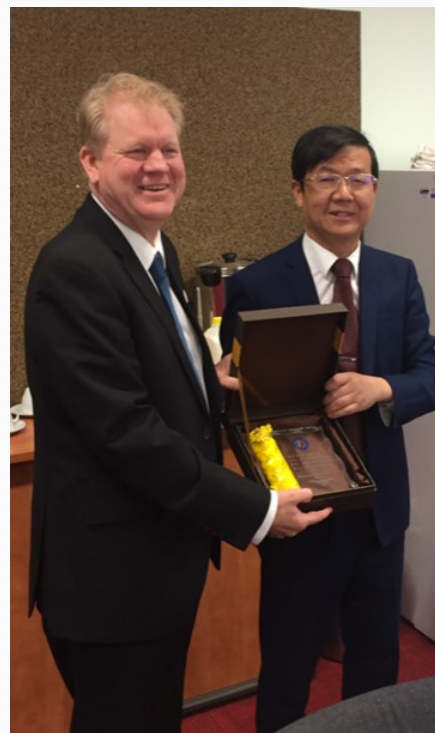
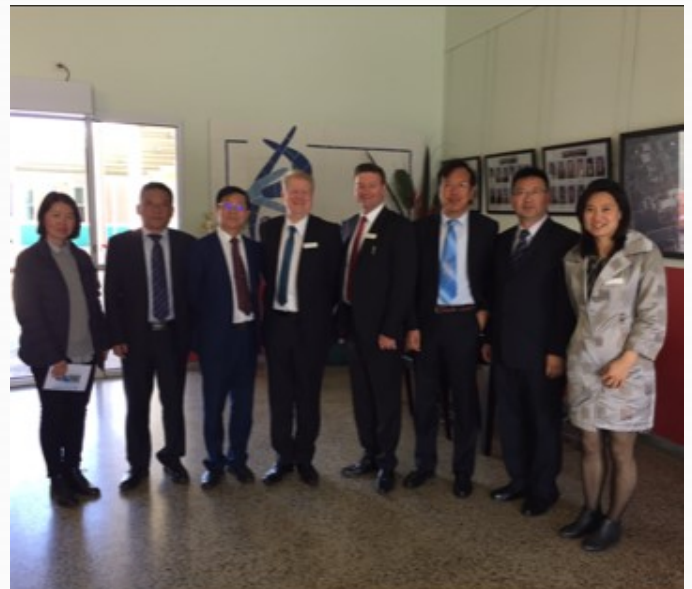


During the tour of PCSSC they commented that in their schools in China they have 3000 students and classes of 50 students are usual with students sitting in very formal seating arrangements, so they were also amazed to see classes of 25, with students working collaboratively in groups, and so many of our students using laptops in their learning. They were especially interested in the student leader speeches at the year 11 assembly and the election process that was going to follow to select student leaders for 2018.

I was asked why we have so many flags hanging from the LRC ceiling and they were surprised to learn how many different countries

PCSSC students come from and the cultures that our students represent, commenting that it must create a rich learning environment for everyone inside and outside of classrooms with such diversity.

At the end of their visit they expressed an interest in developing closer ties with PCSSC and exploring the possibility of creating a relationship that may enable us to have staff and students travel to Jiangsu in China and for us to host staff and students from China. Before leaving they presented us with a commemorative plaque featuring a yellow dragon that is now on display on the bookshelf behind Karen in the Office.





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.

IMPORTANT DATES

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

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.

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HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

To find out more and join your School's APYF Community Service Project simply complete the "Expression of Interest" slip and return it to the Project Leader (teacher at your school) who will invite interested students and parents to attend an information meeting where a detailed explanation of the program will be given by APYF staff.

YOU can make a difference!

Get involved in an APYF Community Project TODAY!

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM APYF COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

For more detailed information, please complete and return this slip to the Project Leader (teacher) at your school.

Name

Address

Phone

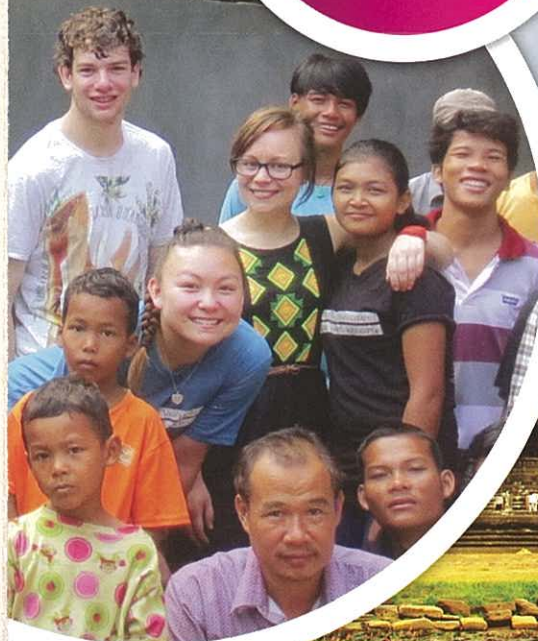
Email

School

Year Level/
Class Group

Parent's
Signature

"We cannot
build our future
without helping
others to
build theirs"



APYF

Asia Pacific Youth Foundation

CAMBODIA

Make a difference!
Get involved in an APYF
Community Service Project.

03 9830 4877
www.apyfoundation.org

PO Box 1492, Camberwell
East VIC 3126

info@apyfoundation.org

ABN: 77 165 619 698

You CAN make a difference!
Get involved in an APYF
Community Project TODAY!

ABOUT APYF

APYF is a Non Profit Foundation, working within poor and disadvantaged communities in the Asia-Pacific region.

APYF Community Projects are part of our long term Programs, supporting local communities to break the poverty cycle, develop sustainable practices and to provide the opportunity of education for all young people.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Cambodia's population is 15 million.
- 80% are living in rural areas.
- 50% of the population live on \$2.00 a day or less.
- More than 40% do not have access to safe drinking water.

WHAT CAN I DO?

You could be helping to build a new classroom at a Primary School, a Kindergarten playground, or developing part of an eco-farm marine conservation reserve.

You can get involved in teaching English, sports, health and hygiene, music or taking part in building a bigger project in a school or village.

APYF Community Projects vary in type and scale to suit the group participating! You **CAN** make an immediate and lasting difference in the lives of these communities!

SAMPLE APYF COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

DAY 1

- Arrive at the Project location.
- After lunch, there will be a Project and Orientation Workshop where the Project will be explained in full detail as well as your duties during your stay.
- Now it's time to meet the locals.
- You'll be working with your APYF Project Leader and the local villagers on the project selected for your school team. Translators will make communicating with the local children and villagers not only an easy task, but loads of fun too.
- Let the work begin.

DAY 2 through to DAY 5

- Gradually, you'll start to see the fruits of your labour, as the project begins to take shape.

DAY 6

- At last! Today we finish the project and hand over the site to the Village Elders and the children. Great job. Great fun too.
- Tonight will be our farewell dinner, a local feast.

DAY 7: Depart the Village

- Say Goodbye to your new friends! Farewell the local villagers and the happy excited children.



HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE KEY SAFETY ISSUES IN YOUR COMMUNITY



Police in Wyndham are hosting public forums to gather insight and information about the safety issues affecting the community. This is an opportunity for you to share your concerns directly with local police to help create a safer, stronger Wyndham.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| • Encore Events Centre | 29 November 2017 | 6pm-8.30pm |
| • Wayaperri House | 07 December 2017 | 6pm-8.30pm |
| • Point Cook Senior Secondary School | 13 December 2017 | 6pm-8.30pm |

FREE DINNER AND MOVIE TICKETS FOR PEOPLE TO REGISTER AND ATTEND

To register your interest visit www.wyndhamsafetyforum.eventbrite.com.au

Unable to attend? Contribute to the conversation today at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/communitysafetynetworks>

In partnership with:



VICTORIA POLICE



Helping Hand

Day

**FREE Clothes, Toys and
Food Hampers given away.**

**Saturday 2nd December
9am - 12noon**

St Cook Senior Secondary College
Corner Boardwalk Boulevard and Bergamot Drive



1800 RESPECT

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC
FAMILY VIOLENCE **COUNSELLING** SERVICE

1800 737 732