



PARKDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Newsletter - Monday 3rd June 2019

Principal's Report – David Russell

2019 State Budget

Parkdale Secondary College was announced as one of 44 schools that will receive initial funding to complete planning of a capital works upgrade of teaching facilities. In our location this is replacement of C, M and E Blocks. The first stage of this is to develop the Asset Management Plan in conjunction with the Regional Office and the Victorian Schools Building Authority. This planning work will commence shortly.

Year 9 Camp

A very successful Year 9 Camp was held through the week of 27th May to 31st June. My sincere thanks to all staff who attended. It is a big commitment from staff to attend a camp, be on duty effectively 24 hours a day, organize and run activities from breakfast to lights out at night and be away from families/partners for this time. I am extremely grateful to these staff as without them these wonderful opportunities for students would not be possible. In particular, I thank Ms Brooke Douglas, Ms Courtney Hunt, Mrs Maria Koumoundouros and Mr Dale Towler for their work in organising the camp.

The dangers of headphone/ear buds when walking

I have had a number of members of the public contact the school concerned about student's use of headphones/ear buds when walking to/from school and being unaware of what is happening around them. In particular, students walking out in front of cars and not even reacting to the car horn. This has caused stress for the car drivers and placed student safety in peril. There have been a number of instances across Melbourne where the wearing of these devices has contributed to pedestrians being seriously injured/killed. Please be alert and aware of what is happening around you.

Instrumental Music Soiree

My congratulations to all students who took part in the Instrumental Music Soiree on Thursday 22nd May. It was terrific to see and listen to the students who confidently performed in front of family and friends. In many cases this was a solo performance which takes additional courage and self-confidence to do. It is these events that build the 'can do' attitude that is such an important skill in life. My thanks also to all the instrumental music staff who work tirelessly with these students.

PSC Longest Lunch

The Year 10 Global Kitchen class along with Ms Gabi Skaltsis and Ms Erica Weare put on a lunch to raise money for the cancer society. A delicious pasta dish and pavlova was cooked and served by the students and enjoyed by the staff in attendance.

Exams

The examination period is almost upon us. All year 12 and 11 students will be sitting examinations. All students sitting a Unit 3/4 sequence will also sit the GAT during this time. These examinations are a great preparation for the examinations that students taking VCE will undertake at the end of Year 12. Learning study techniques and what works for the individual and how to handle the inevitable nerves is all part of the learning process. Good habits start now!

David Russell
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES - TERM 2 - 2019

June	
3rd-14th	Year 10 & 11 Exams Commence
10th	Queens Birthday (Public Holiday)
14th	AEP Mid Year Concert
17th-21st	Year 10 Work Experience
17th	Semester 2 Commences
28th	Term 2 Ends
July	
15th	Term 3 Commences

Junior School Report

YEAR 7

At Year 7 assembly last week, students learnt about the significance of National Reconciliation Week. Katrina Amon (Koorie Leader at PSC) facilitated the assembly which was run by our aboriginal students and attended by two elders – Aunty Erica and Uncle Des. The students conducted the flag raising ceremony and explained the different elements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags, as well as provide information to students about the significance of National Reconciliation Week. This was followed up with activities in tutor group during the week.

YEAR 8

Students have been discussing rubbish and the positive effect that everyone can have on reducing the impact on our beaches and marine life. They are currently undertaking a 'take one' initiative (modelled on not for profit organisation 'take three'. This involves picking up at least one piece of rubbish each day and properly disposing of it. If we all work together to reduce waste it will make a difference.

YEAR 9

Year 9 students have returned from camp. Forest Edge Camp, in Neerim East lived up to its reputation this week of being one of the coldest places in Victoria, but this did not dampen the enthusiasm of the students and staff. It was great to see students step out of their comfort zone and set physical challenges for themselves, such as the high ropes and the climbing wall. Students also had the opportunity to do some personal reflection and goal setting around what they want to achieve over the next three years and heard from guest speakers about steps they can take to become the best version of themselves.

Congratulations to Bianca STAMP from 8L for winning the 'Creative Writing Youth Prize' in the recent City of Kingston Art Blitz 2019.



June Sainsbery
Assistant Principal- Junior School

Year 11 Camp

From the 8th to the 10th of May 2019, the Year 11 VCE Geography Class went on camp to complete fieldwork for our current studies on geological hazards, and to also test our hypothesis 'The Kanawinka Geopark was once a geologically hazardous environment, however poses little risk to humans today'.

"We stayed at Port Fairy Youth Hostel for three days, although the weather was not the best, we still managed to visit several fieldwork sites around the Kanawinka Geopark including, Tower Hill, Mt. Eccles, Byaduk Caves, Mt. Napier, Mt. Rouse and the Penshurst Volcano Discovery Centre. A highlight was climbing into the Byaduk Caves, which is actually an old lava tube, and exploring while bats were flying everywhere around us!

Since we are a shy class, one of the best parts about camp was bonding with new and different people. Many new friendships were made, and existing ones were strengthened in such a small amount of time. Hopefully now our geography class won't be so quiet!

Now that we are back at school and have completed our fieldwork, we are in the process of writing our fieldwork reports using all the primary data and information we were able to collect over the three days we were away.

We would like to thank Ms Quarrier for organising this camp, guiding us around the various sites and sharing her knowledge with us, and Mrs McClean for being a great bus driver!"

Antonia Abela, Laura Smith and Emilie Buzza



Kristeen Quarrier Teacher

Welcome to Your Library at Parkdale Secondary College

Developing a Reading Habit at Home

In our previous newsletter articles we have spoken about various aspects of the Reading Program at Parkdale Secondary College. One of our areas of focus is having students read in a sustained, silent and deep manner during their weekly lesson in the library. We ask students to continue this practice, each day at home, so as to become strong independent readers.

We know many of our students have had well established reading habits in Primary School, however, as they reach the teenage years reading often begins to take a back seat to gaming and other online activities. To provide a balance to the screen time, as suggested in the previous article, we encourage you talk to your child about rekindling the reading habit.

During reading lessons we speak to students about how this habit might look and suggest that it is best to tie it into their bedtime routine, especially at this time of year when the nights are so long and cold. Reading in bed each night is a positive habit to encourage and provides the perfect quiet, warm and cosy place to relax and enjoy the story. Ideally students should read for a minimum of 20 minutes each day. This will allow for meaningful engagement with the story and like all things practiced improve reading skills and comprehension. We encourage you to think about how you can achieve this for each of the children in your family.

Why not use the wintery weather as the time to make a change for the better in your family? Curling up with a book, a warm drink, relaxing and reading.... What could be better?

Pauline White and Sue Flavin Teacher- Librarian

Public Art Installation

Parkdale Secondary College's students had the privilege of being part Kingston Council's public arts installation. Local artist Shane McGrath presented an interesting display in tribute to Rick Springfield and his song 'Jesse's Girl' where our own student's formed a marching band and performed the famous song in a route around the local area which included Rick's parent's old house! The performance and the art installation was a massive success and was the highlight of the whole public art event.



Instrumental Music Soiree

It was another great night of students showcasing their talents this year. The night began with the Guitar, Percussion and String ensembles entertaining the audience with their best tunes. This was followed by a 'choose your own adventure' where students were split into different rooms in the department to perform as soloists or in small groups. Parents could walk around to different rooms to watch the performers. This was a tremendous success, particularly for the beginners who performed in front of an audience for the first time after learning an instruments for just four months.



Dimitri Willenberg
LAM Performing Arts

KINGSTON DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY Y

On Wednesday 22nd May, 60 students represented Parkdale SC at Karkarook Park for the Kingston Division Cross Country Competition. In sunny conditions our amazing students placed 1st in three out of ten races, as well as two 2nd's and a 3rd place also. Our 14 Year boys also won the team pennant with six of our students finishing in the top fifteen. Good luck to those students mentioned below, who finished in the top fifteen and will now compete at the SMR round at Ballam Park, Frankston on 17th June.

12-13 YEARS

- 1st Billy Jackson
- 5th Kosta Mandikos
- 14th Dylan Atkinson
- 15th Jo Jo Punvaree
- 4th Charlotte Hughes
- 14th Amelie Mudie
- 15th Coby McCarthy

14 YEARS

- 2nd Harvey Johnston
- 7th Anthony Makrakis
- 8th Dylan Gillespie
- 10th Zach Jeanes
- 12th Jack Davis
- 15th Ryan Gillespie
- 1st Liv McKie
- 3rd Zoe McCurdy
- 12th Louanna Daniels

15 YEARS

- 2nd Tristan Price

16 YEARS

- 1st Matthew Emmanouil
- 9th Brodie MacFarlane
- 4th Holly Tysoe

17-20 YEARS

- 10th Steph McKie



Vanessa Leslie
Carnivals Coordinator

Year 8 Softball

The Year 8 girls softball finished 2nd at SMR.
Well done girls.



Sue Fitzgerald
Senior Sport Coordinator

Year 8 French Gastronomy

Year 8 French teachers are working on French food during Term 2 and have chosen to focus on madeleines, a traditional tea biscuit which is an institution in France.

Year 8 G, 8D and 8F students had to research about History of this biscuit, the ingredients and the recipe. They discovered one story in particular when a humble servant called Madeleine, in the North-East of France, a region called La Lorraine, gave her name to the biscuit.

The students also learnt that you need a special mould like a shell shape to get the particular bump of the Madeleine. Finally, they welcomed Marie- Emilie Etevenard, a French native speaker, who made delicious “madeleines au citron” (lemon madeleines) for them.

Annie Haddad
French Teacher

Wellbeing

Chilln’ with the Chap – Exam Stress

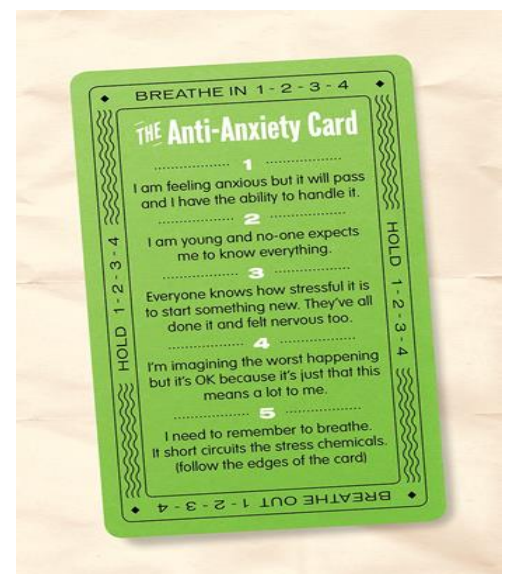
When this communication goes out, it will be week one of two weeks of exams for the years 10 and 11s.

Who’s stressed? Well it won’t just be the students. Somehow the stress seems to carry over to the parents and loved ones. I’ve definitely been in the firing line of stress in my house!

The picture to the right is a photo of the anti-anxiety card developed and distributed by the BGKLEN (Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston Local Learning & Employment Network). We have a stack of them in wellbeing and we give them out to students who are finding it hard to cope with school or anything else. It is a great little reminder and tool for keeping calm when all else seems chaotic.

It’s good to remind ourselves as adults and students that we don’t always have it together, but we can keep perspective on how we view what is happening around us.

Exam time IS stressful, however, when we plan our time and study, we can succeed in a calm way.



Wellbeing Continued

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

Are you interested in the wellbeing of your children? Do you enjoy meeting with others and being part of a dynamic team? Do you have skills in fundraising or event running? Are you a parent looking for a way to give back to the community through your school environment?

The Chaplaincy Support Committee are looking for interested parents or friends of the school, to be involved with their fundraising and support of the Chaplain. If this sounds like you, then please contact Susan parkin.susan.e@edumail.vic.gov.au for more info.

Thank you,

Susan Parkin (Chaplain)

Parents Association

PARENTS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Hello everyone,

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th June at 7.00pm in the College Staff Room. We'd love to see you if you can make it 😊

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped out at our **Election BBQ**. We had lots of fun and raised over \$900! This means we're able to support Homework Club with some fruit each week which is great.



WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN IS BACK!!!!

Woolworths Earn and Learn is up and running through to 25th June. Whenever you shop at Woolworths you will receive a sticker for every \$10 you spend. Simply attach the stickers to the sticker sheet and once the sheet is full either drop it into a collection box marked Parkdale Secondary College at Woolworths Thrift Park, Dingley or drop it into the collection box at the school reception. Partially filled sheets or loose stickers are also fine.

Remember to ask your family, friends and neighbours. If they shop at Woolworths and don't want their stickers, we would love to have them.

UNIFORM SHOP

The College is now using the online service Sustainable School Shop to enable parents to buy and sell second hand uniform items.

Click here to register and start buying or selling! www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

Here is our current stock list..

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/stocktake/parkdale-secondary-college

Please see the Introduction Letter and User Guide for further information and guidance.

http://www.parkdalesc.vic.edu.au/index.php?option=com_zoo&view=item&layout=item&Itemid=122

Meeting dates for your diary:

June 12th

August 14th September 11th

October 16th November 13th

December 4th – Christmas breakup

Nicole Moffat

PA President

nmoffat@optusnet.com.au