



PARKDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Newsletter - Monday 24th August 2020

Principal's Report – David Russell

As we end the third week of the stage four restrictions, it is pleasing that the number of new cases and active cases is declining. The experts are saying it is still too early to confidently say we are nearing the end of the second wave. There is still considerable concern that a relaxing of the restrictions that are currently in place could see another wave of infection.

So what does that mean for us as a school community? In reality I cannot say with any conviction. Will we return to onsite learning? Will it be a staggered return? When would this happen? The start of term four? I certainly don't know the answers to any of these questions at the present.

What we can do is continue to provide the remote learning that is currently in place. I know the staff would prefer to be teaching in the classroom with their students but that is just not possible at this point in time. We will continue to provide as much support as we possibly can through this remote learning phase.

As we have done throughout this pandemic we will update you with news concerning school as it comes to hand. I take this opportunity to again ask you to continue doing what we have been asked to do with the restrictions that are in place. Hopefully, we will soon start the slow transition back to where we all want to be in terms of our freedom to move within the community and start the road back to a healthy economy and way of life.

Take care, be safe, stay strong.

David Russell
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES - TERM 3- 2020

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| August | |
| 28th | Curriculum Day |
| September | |
| 3rd | Parent Teacher Interviews via Webex Yr 10-12 |
| 9th | Parent Teacher interviews via Webex Yr 7-9 |

Junior School Report

The Junior School Student Managers have been working hard to ensure that students are attending and engaging in their remote learning. One trend we have seen over the last couple of weeks is a decline in the number of students completing the morning attendance form. Some students are present in classes, but not submitting the form in a timely fashion. The completion of the form is critical to assist us to make sure that our attendance data is accurate. Please remind your child to make sure that this form is uploaded each morning before period one begins.

Staying motivated during this second round of remote learning is beginning to prove challenging for many people. It is important that we adjust our expectations of ourselves and our students and consider the impact that these difficult times are having on everyone. I urge you to attend the parent webinar that is being held this week and hosted by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg on building resilience:

Webinar details - Managing the Coronacoaster

- **When:** Tuesday 25 August
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Duration:** 45-minute presentation followed by 15-minute questions and answers session
- **Format:** online via Webex
- **Cost:** free

How to register

To register and for more information visit the [Managing the Coronacoaster – Tips for building resilient families in the coronavirus era eventbrite page](#).

Managing screen time and gaming is an ongoing challenge that many families face. We are hosting a webinar on Wednesday this week that provides an insight into the motivation for young people to play videos games, an overview the design mechanics that can build compulsive play and highlights supportive strategies that can improve family relationships when gaming has become a point of tension.

Webinar details - GameAware

- **When:** Wednesday 26 August
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Duration:** 60-minute presentation followed by 15-minute questions and answers session
- **Format:** online via Zoom (link to be sent out directly via email)
- **Cost:** free

How to register

To register your interest, email wellbeing@parkdalesc.vic.edu.au and for more information visit gameaware.com.au

At the end of each semester we look at the reports of our students and identify those who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, those who are in the top five percent of their year level. In normal (non-Covid) times we would share their success with their parents at a special breakfast. We are going through the process of identifying our top performers at the moment and I look forward to acknowledging those students at upcoming Junior School year level assemblies and in the next newsletter.

Our Year 8 and 9 students have now completed their subject selections for next year. Unfortunately, we were unable to run our usual face-to-face sessions with our Year 9s, and they did a terrific job engaging in this process remotely. All our Year 9 students participated in 'Morrissy' Assessments in Term Two. These online assessments were completed to provide information to students to assist with their pathway and career planning. Most students then participated in remote feedback sessions and have received hard copies of their reports by mail.

June Sainsbery

Assistant Principal – Junior School & Wellbeing

Parent Teacher Interviews

All parents were notified, via email, on Friday 21st August of Parent Teacher interview dates for Term Three.

Year 10-12 Interviews Thursday 3rd September 9.00am - 4.00pm


Year 7-9 Interviews Wednesday 9th September 9.00am - 4.00pm

Firstly, thank you to our parent community for their patience while we undertook the complex logistics of organising for two days of parent teacher interviews to run online.

We understand there will be challenges on both sides, with teachers and parents conducting these interviews from their homes.

Please read the information below carefully to ensure you understand how the online process will work.

Bookings:

Interviews are booked on Compass  Conferences. Detailed instructions were attached to the email. Bookings can be made with year-long and semester two subject teachers only.

When booking interviews please be aware teachers for Semester Two subjects will have only taught your child in an online environment for a few weeks, so their feedback may be limited at this time.

Interviews:

Interviews will be held on the Webex platform. This is the Department of Education preferred platform. Parents do not need to log in or download any programs.

Parents will be sent a link. This link will take them directly to the teacher's interview waiting room.

As per our usual expectations, where possible, students are required to attend the interview with their parents. These days will be designated as catch up days for students, no online lessons will be scheduled.

At the arranged time teachers will invite parents and students into their 'room' for the interview.

Each interview time slot will be 5 minutes.

Considerations:

Where possible it is best to leave a gap between interview bookings to allow time to log out of one interview and in to the next.

Due to the reduced number of time slots in this format, it may not be possible to arrange an interview with all of your child's teachers. If you have concerns regarding your child's progress, please contact the teacher via email to arrange a mutually agreeable time and method to discuss this with you.

Online protocols and privacy are important for all, therefore we ask that parents and student:

- Are dressed appropriately for the interview.
- Have organized a quiet space, as free from interruptions as possible. Are seated in front of a neutral wall or use a virtual background to ensure privacy.
- Stick to the 5 minute timeframe of the interview to ensure all interviews can run on time.
- Ensure conversations are respectful, productive and have a focus on the student.
- Do not record the interview (Parkdale Secondary College ICT Acceptable Use Policy)

Please contact the school if you require support with the booking and interview process

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| Parent Log on details | Attn: Krystle Sherborne parkdale.sc@education.vic.gov.au |
| Compass Parent Teacher Conference bookings | Attn: Carolyn Evans parkdale.sc@education.vic.gov.au |
| Support with IT | helpdesk@parkdalesc.vic.edu.au |

Kind regards,

Melissa Treverton

Assistant Principal – Accountability

Year 7 Textiles

To begin our remote learning experience, Year 7 Textile students were introduced to the concept sustainability. Students have viewed the documentary *War on Waste*, with the topic focus - *Fast Fashion*. Students were given a great insight into the impacts fast fashion has on the environment, and learnt ways to make more sustainable choices with items of clothing. To encourage sustainable choices with clothing, students were asked to select a member of their family to style (by using only what they had in their wardrobe). Students had fun with the task with a variety of outfits for various members of the family. Thank you to all that got involved.



Kailey Scott
Textiles/Art Teacher

Food News

Year 8 Food Specialisation students have been learning all about Vegetables and Meat, Nutrition and Ethics in relation to food. This week's focus has been on hamburgers.

These can be made with meat or plant based patties and stacked full of delicious vegetables. The bun can be fun, using lettuce leaves or roasted slices of sweet potato or crumbed cauliflower!

Are burgers on the weekly menu in your house this week? Ask your Yr 8 student to share with you what they have learnt.



Year 9 Food around the world students have been taking their virtual taste buds on a tour of Australian Indigenous flavours, the historical origins of Chocolate and the process of dairy food production. They have explored Greek Pastitsio making and this week are savouring the delights of Spanish Cuisine.

The traditional Potato Tortilla is an inexpensive, nutritious, and easy meal that can be enjoyed for lunch or dinner.

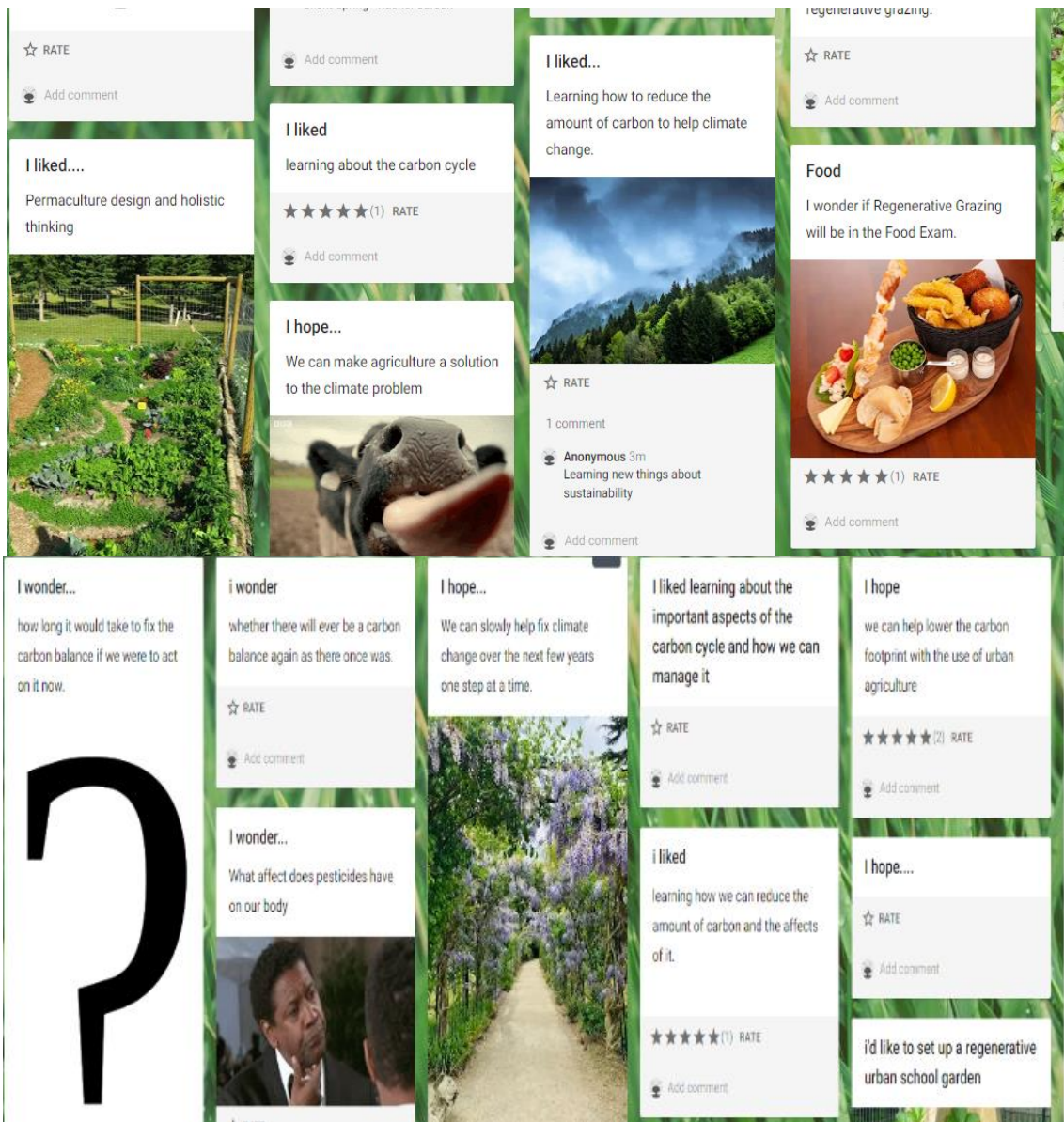


Food News Continued

A highlight has been that in VCE Food Studies we hosted our first ever, virtual excursion to CERES. Here are some images from our experience.

Judith and 20 others logged into the excursion

At the end of the session students could comment on what they liked, hoped and wondered.



Celebrate **WEAR IT PURPLE** Day

August 24th – 31st

You can:
Wear it,
Create it,
Cook it
& then
Share it!



PRIZES TO BE WON

email your Purple photo to:
wellbeing@parkdalesc.vic.edu.au

WE ARE THE

CHANGE

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

**Why
we wear
it purple!**

Our Purpose:

Wear it Purple strives to foster inclusive environments, supportive, empowering, & safe for rainbow young people.

We will collate your photos and celebrate them as a collage