



# PARKDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Newsletter - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019

## Principal's Report – David Russell

As well as planning for the remainder of the school year, Term Four sees a focus on 2020 as well. Classes are being organised, staffing needs are being finalised and it has been pleasing to see the demand for places at the college have been in keeping with previous years. This is a testament to the programs and opportunities afforded to students at the college and the hard work and dedication of the staff in delivering these.

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October we will farewell all our Year 12 VCE/VCAL students at their final formal assembly. On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October, the Year 12s will celebrate with their families at their Valedictory Dinner. The Year 12's have represented the school exceptionally well. I take this opportunity to wish those students who are taking the upcoming final examinations all the best. My thanks to Mr Michael Tuck, Mr Scott Rumble, Ms Vicki Moragiannis, Mr Jamie Cumming and Ms Sarah Hughes for their work with the Year 12 students over the course of the year.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate our Year 12 VCAL students who have now completed their studies. A number of these students have already commenced apprenticeships or employment as a direct result of their VCAL studies. Others are preparing to continue with TAFE courses. My thanks to all staff involved in the VCAL program. My thanks also to the careers team, Laura Della Fortuna, Carolyn Jenkins, Tracey Seach and Liana Kiriati for their work with the Year 12 students.

A showcase of the VCAL students work will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October commencing at 6.30pm, All are welcome to attend.

The Parkdale Secondary College Art Show will be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October and will be a wonderful celebration of the talented students we have at this school; many pieces of work are tertiary or gallery standard. I congratulate all the students whose work is to be exhibited and to their teachers for their guidance and support throughout the year that has enabled the students to produce these outstanding pieces of work.

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 'Parkdale Does ...The Elements' will be performed in the Performing Arts area. I take this opportunity to thank the music staff for their work with the students and to the students and parents for supporting the music program and encourage everyone to purchase a ticket and enjoy the entertainment.

**David Russell**  
**Principal**

## IMPORTANT DATES - TERM 4 - 2019

<b>October</b>	
<b>14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 8 Rubicon Camp
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	VCAL Expo (6.30pm Start)
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	Art Show Opening Night (7pm-9pm)
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	Art Show (6.30pm-8pm)
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	Parky Does (7pm Start)
<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	Final Day for Year 12 students
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 12 Valedictory Dinner
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 7 Immunisations
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 12 Exams Commence

### Junior School

Welcome to Term Four. I hope everyone had a restful break. It is nice to experience warmer weather and light-filled evenings, although a bit of a shock to the system returning to school on the Monday after daylight saving kicks in!

Forty Year 8 students are off to Rubicon Camp this week, they will be involved in outdoor adventure and team building activities designed to develop confidence and resilience.

This term we have seven weeks until students rollover to the next year level. In week seven there will be some regular classes and other whole year level events happening – further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

Students should take advantage of the coming weeks to ensure that they have completed all set tasks for their subjects and are ready for rollover on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

### UNIFORM POLICY – NEW FOR 2020

All parents and students should familiarise themselves with the changes to the uniform policy that will come into effect from the beginning of 2020. Both the current and new policies can be found on Compass under the 'people' icon (community), 'school documentation' then 'policies'. The main changes are:

- The uniform items are not 'season specific' (students can elect to wear the winter items in summer and summer items in winter – however combinations of summer and winter are not permitted).
- The blazer is now an 'optional outer garment'.
- The sports jacket is also an 'optional outer garment' that can be worn outside only (including to and from school).
- The streamlining of socks. The official sock option for 2020 are current white college sock with Navy, Green & Gold stripe (Bob Stewart) to be worn with shorts/dress/sport uniforms; and navy/black socks/tights to be worn with long pants/skirt.

**June Sainsbery**  
**Assistant Principal- Junior School**

## Senior School

This Friday sees the end of secondary schooling for our Year 12 VCE and VCAL students. The emotions will run the spectrum of excitement to sadness (for parents and staff, as well the students!). Ultimately this day is one of celebration and recognition. We have a fine Year 12 group and we are very proud of their achievements and contributions to the Parkdale community. On Friday a formal school farewell assembly will be held in the morning, followed by the traditional shirt signing and a lunch in the senior centre. Students will then gather at the front of the school for one final year level photograph. Valedictory dinner will be held Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October at Caulfield Racecourse. This formal dinner involves students and parents/carers and is the College equivalent of the Brownlow, with numerous speeches and awards presented on the night. Students have been briefed, and the message clear, that behaviour at all celebrations should be in line with every day Parkdale expectations. We look forward to sharing this time with our students and having a positive end to their time at Parkdale Secondary College.

During the second week of the term break, unit 3/4 practice exams were held in the senior centre. It was great to see students having a trial run at the exams under exam conditions. It is important that students reflect on the experience, not just in terms of the marks received. Factors such as the use of reading time, the order of responding to questions, time allocated to questions, having and using the correct equipment and how much water to drink to maintain hydration but to avoid toilet breaks are all important considerations in exam preparation.

Year 10 and 11 students will receive 2020 subject allocations this week. Once received, adjustments can be made by seeing Mr Tuck. Changes will only be made if it works within the constraints of the blocking and if there is available space. Parent/carer consent is required for any change to be finalised.

**Michael Tuck**  
**Assistant Principal- Senior School**

## Year 11 VCAL

“On the 31<sup>st</sup> of October the Year 11 VCAL class are going to the FareShare kitchen in Abbotsford. During our visit we will learn about hunger in our communities, food waste and food rescue. We will also assist in the kitchen cooking and packing the cooked food.

FareShare is in need of food donations. If anyone in the school community could donate Pasta (Short), dried chickpeas, lentils, flour, rice, tinned tomatoes, tinned legumes and any other canned food, it would be greatly appreciated as it is going to a good cause.

The donation box is outside the General Office.”

Brad Loughton & Max Goodchild- Year 11 VCAL

**Katrina Amon**  
**Koorie Leader**

**Reminder!**

**Enrol Now! Don't miss out - get enrolled now enrolments, close soon.**

Join one or more of our extra-curricular student enhancement programs in 2020. AEP Dance, Instrumental Music, AEP Music, ESP, STEP and WIN. For further information and to enrol now, go to the Parkdale Secondary College website and select "student enhancement".

**Programs**

PARKDALE  
SECONDARY COLLEGE

**AEP**

Arts Enhancement Pathway (AEP)

- Dance
- Music



Elite Sports Pathway  
(ESP)



Instrumental Music

**STEP**  
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY  
ENGINEERING PATHWAY

Science, Technology, Engineering Pathway (STEP)



Writing is Necessary (WIN)

**Tim Thompson**  
Engagement/Enhancement Coordinator

## From the Library- Part Two - What happens in a reading lesson?

### What happens when the students come to the Library?

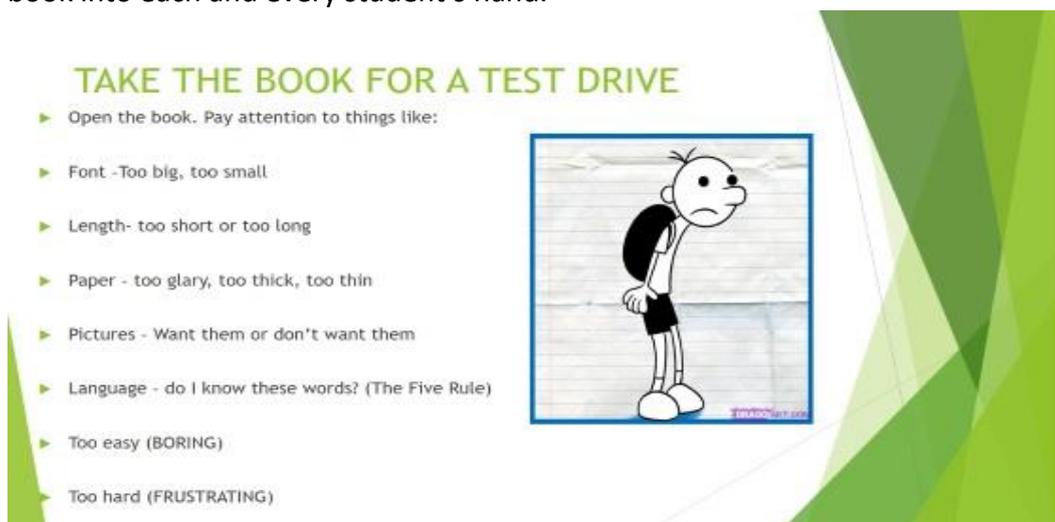
Our expectation is that all students will come to a reading session **ready to read**, book selection happens outside of the session times. The primary focus of the class is the development of strong independent reading and the ability to demonstrate excellent reading comprehension.

Coming in **ready to read** also trains the students in the complex art of book selection. They have to learn about themselves as readers: what their interests are, what they are capable of reading and how to independently use the catalogue and locate a book in a large library.

### What is discussed in a reading conversation?

#### The Beginning

Once a fortnight each student has a conversation with a Teacher Librarian or English teacher. We begin by assessing student engagement in reading and explicitly checking the book is **Just Right**. We make an assessment based on the demonstrated level of reading progress made over the two week cycle. A student can like the idea of reading a book but sometimes the book does not match either their reading ability or meet their expectations. We encourage readers to test drive books and to swap to another title if the book is not enjoyable. As Teacher Librarians this is where we often step in and hand select a number of titles that the student may like to select from. We use the student's past reading history, information about their interests and reading data such as PatR or NAPLAN level to help guide us. Our goal is to put a **Just Right** book into each and every student's hand.



**TAKE THE BOOK FOR A TEST DRIVE**

- ▶ Open the book. Pay attention to things like:
- ▶ Font - Too big, too small
- ▶ Length- too short or too long
- ▶ Paper - too glary, too thick, too thin
- ▶ Pictures - Want them or don't want them
- ▶ Language - do I know these words? (The Five Rule)
- ▶ Too easy (BORING)
- ▶ Too hard (FRUSTRATING)

The graphic includes a cartoon character of a boy with a backpack looking at a book. The background is green with geometric shapes.

#### *How to find a Just Right Book*

### Reading Success Sheets – improving student comprehension

The **Reading Success Sheet** structures our conversations with students and provides a framework which students can use outside of the reading program to improve and develop their reading comprehension. We begin by asking the students to describe the main characters and setting. We model a questioning and curious mind set and encourage students to do the same. We call this **active reading**, which is the ability to read deeply, to make predictions, remember the main details of the story, make connections, and be able to infer and to find answers to questions. These skills are key to reading comprehension and we encourage our students to use them whenever they read. They can be used in every subject and are fundamental to note taking, summarizing, synthesising of information and the development of deep understanding. We discuss the events that trigger the story and how the main character is involved or impacted by these. As the student reads further into the book we talk about the important events that drive story forward and get students to describe the problem or issues that need to be resolved. As they get closer to the end of the book we look at how the problem is resolved. We wrap up the conversation by looking into the big ideas and lessons the story leaves them with and discuss the thoughts and feelings they have about the book.

## Welcome to Your Library at Parkdale Secondary College

We are finding, as the year progresses, that students are becoming better and more confident in taking part in these one on one discussions. They look forward to sharing their reading experience and can now use the framework, provided by the reading success sheets, to have insightful conversations. We encourage you to spend time talking to your son or daughter about their reading, like us you might be surprised by the lessons they have learned and the big ideas they have come away with.

**Pauline White and Sue Flavin**  
**Teacher Librarians**

## Year 10 Japanese Excursion

“In the middle of Term Three, the Year 10 Japanese students went on a Japanese excursion to the city as part of the new topic, which focused on directions and locations. We caught a train to Flinders Street Station in the morning. We walked around and took photos of the shops and attractions around the city to put into a Powerpoint when we got back to school. We had lunch at Yoyogi which is a Japanese restaurant, where we had to use chopsticks, which was difficult for some students. It was an interesting cultural experience. All students enjoyed their delicious Japanese meals. Afterwards, we went to Sofitel Melbourne on Collins Street and watched a Japanese Anime movie called Okko’s Inn. Many students from schools all over Victoria were also there to see the movie. The movie was very engaging, and we learnt more about Japanese customs and hospitality at a Japanese Inn. After the movie finished, we caught a train home and reflected on a great and interesting day. Each student put a Powerpoint together, including some interesting places we saw in the city and described them using new expressions, grammar and vocabulary we learned in class. It was an excellent cultural and language experience.”

Anna Begkli 10M



**Lakshmi Weeraratne**  
**LAM Languages**

## Year 10 Textiles

During the term 3 holidays Daisy Mortlock (Year 10 Textile student) took the initiative to take part in Kangan Institute's Fashion Camp. Daisy attended a three day workshop that taught her various aspects of the Textile Industry, new and emerging technologies used in production, and marketing strategies. Experiences such as these equip attendees with deeper knowledge in the Fashion Industry, along with providing great insight into how certain courses are run. During her time Daisy designed and produced a laser cut design, digitally printed her design onto a tote bag, and created a collage based on a specific theme. I am certain Daisy will manage to transfer her new skills and knowledge that she has learnt from Fashion Camp into her Textile classes.



**Amy Dallas**  
Textiles Teacher

## Parents Association

### PARENTS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Hello everyone,

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th October at 7.00pm in the College Staff Room. We'd love to see you if you can make it 😊

### RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFITS

PSC Parents' Association, while not a fundraising body, like to support the school community whenever we can. Thanks to the Ritchies Community Benefit Program we are able to fund a weekly fruit box in the Senior Centre for students to have a healthy snack while studying after school.

For this to continue we need your support!!

## Parents Association Continued

If you or your friends/family shop at ANY Ritchies in Victoria, NSW or Queensland and use a community benefit card/tag linked to Parkdale Secondary College, Ritchies donate money back to our school.

If you would like to support Parkdale SC and don't already have a CB card/tag please collect one next time you shop at any Ritchies store and nominate Parkdale Secondary College.

### 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](http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au)

Here is our current stock list..

[www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/stocktake/parkdale-secondary-college](http://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](http://www.parkdalesc.vic.edu.au/index.php?option=com_zoo&view=item&layout=item&Itemid=122)

### Meeting dates for your diary:

October 16th            November 13th

December 4th – Christmas breakup

**Nicole Moffat- PA**

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