



PARKDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Newsletter - Monday 16th November 2020

Principal's Report – David Russell

Final Examinations

The Year 12 students have now commenced the examination period. This includes those who have sat an oral and/or performance assessment prior to the commencement of the main written examination period in music performance, languages, and theatre studies. In the coming weeks Year 11 and Year 10 students start their internal examinations. This gives these students great practice at sitting this type of assessment in preparation for Year 12. Of course we are looking forward to the Year 12 results which will be released on Thursday December 30th.

Capital Works

The planning for the construction of a new building for teaching and learning is continuing. We are currently entering the design and development phase of the process. The basic plans have been agreed. A two storey building will be built where the western half of C block currently sits. This is an exciting project and we are looking forward to the finalising of the plans. As part of this process we are also looking at the construction of outdoor hardcourts which will also be a welcome addition to the facilities of the school.

Curriculum Day – Thursday 19th November

It is compulsory that all DET schools undertake Cultural Understanding and Safety Training (CUST). This was booked in by the college in November 2019 to occur on Thursday this week as one of our curriculum days. Therefore, there will be no classes on this day.

Planning for 2021

We have currently advertised for a number of teaching positions for 2021 and we are hoping to attract a field of excellent candidates to complete our staffing. I hope to announce all new staffing appointments for 2021 in the next newsletter.

Buses

A reminder to student that they need to 'tap on' when they board the bus. It is an interesting conversation I have with the PTV and bus companies when they talk about the figures they have for patronage and what I physically see each day. This bus service is not free. It only exists because we say there is a need. Those students not 'tapping on' are actually jeopardising the provision of the services we have.

The Dingley bus service is always the most used of the bus runs. There are two buses that are provided. The second bus can sometimes have very few passengers as students crowd onto the first bus. In these current times and also in the future I ask students to spread themselves between the two buses. Yes, on occasion it may mean waiting a couple of extra minutes but commonsense should prevail.

Principal's Report Continued

Respect

This is one of the school values. It relates to respect for others, property and yourself. Since the return to onsite learning there has been a number of incidents of damage to school property. Some of these would have been avoidable if care and thought had been taken. At other times there have been acts of deliberate destruction. Fencing has been damaged, soap holders in toilets broken off walls, holes punched in ceilings etc. These are deliberate acts. I am at a loss as to why someone would do this to school property. Again, this is being perpetrated by a small minority of students but I appeal to all students to call out those who are involved in the damage of property. I am sure that it would not be tolerated in your home. In addition, despite my commentary in the last newsletter there has been little improvement in the rubbish in the grounds. This is disappointing. I again ask that students use the bins provided for the disposal of their rubbish.

David Russell
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES - TERM 4 – 2020

November	
19th	Curriculum Day. Staff will participate in the Cultural Understanding and Safety Training (CUST). This mandated training forms part of the DET 'Marrung' initiative and is delivered by DET Koorie Engagement Support Officers.
27th	Transition Day. All students will participate in preparatory activities in readiness for 'Rollover' into 2021 classes.
30th	Rollover commences. Students move to their 2021 year level and class groupings.
December	
8th (TBC)	Grade 6 Orientation Day for all students starting in Year 7 next year. No scheduled classes for PSC students (enabling COVID-19 safe practices).
11th	Last day of scheduled classes for all students.
14th-17th	Alternative Learning Area program provided for students in Year 8 – 10 (2021).
18th	Curriculum Day
January 2021	
28th	Year 7, 11 & 12 VCE/ Year 12 VCAL students return.
29th	Year 8, 9 & 10 Including Year 10 & 11 VCAL students return.

Junior School Report

Transition Day – Friday 27th November

There will be no formal classes on this day and students will be participating in a range of activities to celebrate the end of year 7/8/9 classes and to prepare them for 8/9/10 classes prior to moving to Rollover on Monday 30th November. From this day students will have two weeks of learning in their 2021 classes. This enables students to get a head start on their learning and allows for a smooth start at the beginning of next year.

Junior School Report Continued

Diagnostic Testing

All Junior School students will undertake three diagnostic assessments, in maths, reading comprehension and writing over the next couple of weeks. These assessments will assist teachers in their planning for 2021.

Year 9 students celebrated NAIDOC Week with Koorie Day on Wednesday 11th November. The activities for the day included:

- Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country by Steve Parker, livestreamed from 'The Gathering Place' in Mordialloc.
- Cultural presentation from Katrina Amon and Fiona James.
- Uncle Ron Murray, Storyteller and didgeridoo man.
- Uncle Kutcha Edwards, Storyteller, singer, songwriter and a member of the Stolen Generation.

I would like to thank Katrina Amon and Fiona James for their organisation of the day and for enabling our students to further develop their knowledge and understanding of Koorie history and culture. Our students are very lucky to have such passionate teachers.

June Sainsbery

Assistant Principal- Junior School

Senior School Report

VCE unit 3/4 examinations are underway in the Senior Centre under a COVIDSafe plan. This effectively meant that we have greater physical distancing and, as such, the whole Senior Centre has been utilised for the initial large examinations. As we move to the smaller examinations (in terms of student enrolments) we will only be using the silent (SOS) side of the Senior Centre. All reports from the examinations have so far been positive and students are congratulated on their positive approach in trying circumstances. The class of 2020 graduation ceremony video will be distributed to students and parents/carers via a YouTube channel this week.

Year 10 and 11 students have settled back into routine nicely, with students especially happy to be allowed access to lockers. 2021 subject allocations have been emailed home and students have been making changes to their study program over the past week. If you have any queries relating to 2021 subject allocations, or wish to discuss a potential subject change, please contact Mr Tuck.

Transition day will occur on Friday 27th November. On this day 2021 senior school students will take part in 2021 student leader elections, have key information shared with them and listen to a guest speaker. It is an important day in 'setting the scene' for the New Year and we look forward to delivering this under COVIDSafe restrictions, with sessions being streamed to classes where required.

Michael Tuck

Assistant Principal- Senior School

ADMINISTRATION

There is a lot happening in the office at the moment. Please take the time to read the following information relating to the 2021 school year and student information.

Just a reminder to families, that parents are not able to access the College unless they have an appointment. This includes dropping off forgotten lunches, and laptops. Please ensure that your student is prepared for the day with a full bottle of water, lunch, a charged laptop and any other items your child will need for the day.

2021 Student Information Packages

Please go through the Student Information Package and make any amendments to your details and return to the office. It is vital that our records are up to date with correct contact numbers, and email addresses.

Lamont Books

Online ordering is open for purchasing 2021 books. Orders placed before 14th December will qualify for Free Delivery (please see booklist for further information). Orders can still be placed after this date, but will incur a delivery fee. Please note, that there is no longer an option to collect books from the College as there has been previously.

www.lamontbooks.com.au

2021 Fee Information

We apologise for the delay in getting this information sent out to families. We have had to make a few last minute changes, and expect these to now be sent out early this week.

Camps, Sport and Excursion Fund

Information regarding the 2021 CSEF applications were sent to families with their 2021 student packages. If you hold a current and valid Healthcare or Pension Card you are encouraged to apply. If you are eligible, please ensure you contact the office before making any payments for Fees. Please complete the form and submit a copy of your card via email or at the office.

Lockers

In line with Department Policy, students are required to secure their mobile phones in their lockers during the day. If your child needs a new lock, these can be purchased from the office for \$16.50.

Compass

Compass is our main way of communicating with families. Please ensure you regularly login to Compass. If you have forgotten your Compass Username or Password, you can contact the office who can provide you your details or reset your password.

Nicole Kingsbury
Business Manager

Homework Club

Homework Club is running in Term Four for all year levels.
We have tutors to support students across a broad range of subjects.
Homework Club runs each Thursday after school until 4.15pm in the Library.
We hope to see you there!

Denise Toomey
Teacher

Music

This has been quite a year in the music department. We were challenged to our limits with trying to maintain a thriving department while we were restricted from performances, rehearsals and even lessons face to face.

But the team worked really hard to find solutions during this pandemic and managed to keep the music going.

Like most departments, we chose to take our musical journey online! Over the year we have had online lessons, video projects, and virtual concerts. Most recent of which was our spectacular Virtual End of Year Concert: "A Journey Through the Decades."

The team have worked tirelessly to provide a highly engaging virtual concert to ensure the students had a platform to express their musicality and to showcase what they have learned despite the limitations this year.

If you would like to see this amazing concert you can view it here:

Songs of the 70's: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbeJbjDcqRQ>

Songs of the 80's: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Tdpe-Kq5ETTvmHR8I8H7Cic0hiyZPBM/view?usp=sharing>

Songs of the 90's : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmJHC4zdJ6k>

Songs of the 2000's: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKnztpS4YuA>

Songs of the 2010's: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayqvbclM6mc>

Kaela Raku and Dimitri Willenberg
Performing Arts

ESTD **BOB STEWART** 1925
Our family serving you since 1925

*Avoid the queues
& Book your
Uniform fitting
Online*



**Bob Stewart are offering
30 minute uniform fitting
appointments for the months of
November & December**



1. To book, go to www.bobstewart.com.au and click on your school's page.
2. Select the link: **"BOOK AN APPOINTMENT"**
3. Pick a date & time and complete the steps as outlined on the booking page. You will receive an email confirmation once the appointment is booked.



In accordance with government regulations, Covid-19 safety plans will be in place. We recommend limiting the number of family members attending where possible. Please arrive 5 min before your scheduled appointment time.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

KINGSTON
YOUTH SERVICES



SHARON WITT

Author • Speaker • Educator

FREE ONLINE ZOOM SESSION

WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER

7pm-8pm



Kingston Youth Services are excited to welcome guest speaker Sharon Witt to present at our upcoming online parent information night.

Sharon has been immersed in the teen world for over three decades in her role as a Secondary teacher, Author and Presenter to adolescents and their parents around the country. She is a regular media commentator on issues impacting young people, parenting and educational issues

Topics covered:

- Practical strategies on how to build resilient young people
- How to help your young person manage their well being
- When to seek additional support for your child's mental health

Registrations are essential

- This event is for the City of Kingston community – live, work or study.
- Targeted for parents/carers of young people aged 12-25.
- Questions? Courtney McGill 1300 369 436 courtney.mcgill@kingston.vic.gov.au
- Register online: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-online-parent-information-night-sharon-witt-tickets-127957559505>