



PARKDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Newsletter - Monday 2nd November 2020

Principal's Report – David Russell

Year 12

We officially, as a school, said good bye to the Year 12 students at a whole school assembly on Friday 30th October. Given the current restrictions, it was different to previous years with only the Year 12 students in the assembly, with the remainder of the student body watching from their classroom via the internet. I congratulate all Year 12 students on reaching this milestone in their education journey. The school captains Heidi Preston and Ollie Walters addressed the school for the final time in their roles. I take this opportunity to thank them for their leadership of, and being outstanding role models for, the student body in 2020. I also thank College Vice Captains Annalise Liapis and Paula Carbonell, Performing Arts Captains Declan Hannaford and Saniya Sarkar, Arts Captains Kailani Walters and Roshan Manokaran, Languages Captain Emilie Buzza, VCAL Captain Amber Rossborough and International Student Captain Stella Phan and Sports Captains Lauren Butcher and Mia Byrne for their contribution to the leadership of the student body. Unfortunately for all concerned their opportunities to lead the student body in these roles has been greatly diminished given the remote learning phase and the restrictions in place.

Final Examinations

A number of students have already started their final examinations, in particular those who study a language, music performance and/or theatre studies have sat their oral/performance assessment prior to the commencement of the main written examinations. The written examination period starts in earnest next week with English and continues for the next three weeks. It has been a pleasure to see the industry of the year 12 students in the study period leading up to the examinations, working together in small groups and seeking the assistance of their dedicated teachers through this time.

Respect for our school grounds and the environment

It is with regret that I am writing this part of my report. Whilst it has been wonderful to see the return of students to on site learning, there has certainly been a downside. I often walk around the school grounds at recess and lunchtime. Over the past week I have been appalled and disappointed by the amount of rubbish that students have dropped in the yard and therefore not using the many bins provided. On many occasions a rubbish bin would be within a couple of steps of students but the effort is not made to place the rubbish in the bin. Other students take time and effort to poke rubbish into gaps, tie it to fences, break containers into numerous pieces and throw them around and others even collect the rubbish, put it into a bag, then leave the bag. The oval/soccer field has become particularly bad. I would not want to instigate a policy of no food on the oval but the continued practice of leaving rubbish on the ground may lead to such restrictions happening. These spaces are for the enjoyment of all. We are all concerned with the environment. By placing the rubbish in the bins provided we will reduce the rubbish that finds its way into our drains and waterways and leave us with an environment which is clean and pleasing to be in.

Bike Helmets

It is terrific to see the number of students who ride bicycles to school each day. It is wonderful way to get some exercise in a sometimes very crowded daily schedule. However, over the past weeks I have noticed an increase in the number of students not wearing helmets when riding their bicycle to and from school. We have also had a number of phone calls from the public regarding students riding bicycles without their helmet on. On a number of occasions they have commented that the helmet is actually dangling from the handlebars. For your own health and safety please wear a helmet and ensure it is properly fastened.

Car Parks and Student Drop Off/Pick Up

Given our return to onsite learning, it is timely for me to again remind parent/carers that the carparks are not to be used for dropping off and picking up students. There has been an increase in this practice on our return. I have previously asked that this not happen for safety reasons of all students. I certainly do not want to go the extreme of having to install gates at the entrances of the carparks to control this practice as has happened at other schools. This would necessitate the diversion of resources away from where they are best used to assist our students. Please arrange alternative locations for drop off/pick up away from the school carparks.

Face masks

I congratulate the students on the way they have accepted the wearing of a face mask when at school. I have observed them arriving at school, in my travels around the school during the day and when they depart at the end of the day following the directive.

However, we have received a number of phone calls from members of the public that our students are not wearing their face mask when further away from the school both in the morning and afternoon. I remind all students that the correct face mask needs to be worn correctly when travelling to, at and from school. This is for the health and safety of not just yourself but others within the community.

David Russell
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES - TERM 4 – 2020

November	
3rd	Melbourne Cup Day (Public Holiday)
9th	VCE Year 12 Exams Commence

Junior School Report

We were very pleased to welcome our Year 8 and 9 students back to face to face teaching last Monday, and by the end of the week they had settled back into the routine smoothly. I would like to congratulate the students for the way they have adapted to following the guidelines and instructions around mask wearing, social distancing and movement around the school.

Due to the inappropriate behaviour of a small minority, the C Wing toilets are being locked during class time. The C Wing toilets are available to students before school and at recess and lunch. If a student needs to use the bathroom during class time, they are required to obtain their teacher's signature in their organiser and use the toilet facilities in first aid.

Mr Russell and I attended a lunch time assembly on Thursday in the theatre. Where we presented our Year 7 and 8 students with formal certificates acknowledging outstanding academic achievement this year.

(Please note that department advice allows for the temporary removal of masks for photos.)



I hope everyone enjoys the Cup Day holiday this week.

June Sainsbery
Assistant Principal- Junior School

Senior School Report

Last week saw the final classes for our Year 12 2020 cohort. With the slight relaxing of restrictions, we were able to host a graduation ceremony with all year 12 students together in the Gym and live stream it to the rest of the school in classes. Nothing needs to be said of the challenges that this group of year 12 students faced this year. We are proud of each of them, the way in which they have faced these challenges and were pleased that we were able to celebrate their secondary school years together. A highlight of the ceremony was the year 12 band playing 'Times Like These' by the Foo fighters, with the band in the Gym and the singer, Bodie Gardner, playing bass and singing from the foyer behind a screen. A phenomenal and fitting performance. A video of the ceremony will be made available to Year 12 students and parents shortly. The VCE examinations begin on Tuesday 10th November with the English and English as an Additional Language Examination.

Senior School Report Continued

We wish all students sitting examinations good luck and give our best wishes to our VCAL students, and those not sitting examinations, with their steps beyond the Parkdale school gates.

Year 10 and 11 students have continued to settle well back into the routine of school and all appear to very happy to be back. 2021 subject allocations have been sent home and amendments can be made direct to Mr Tuck at break times or via email. The year 11 examination schedule has been released to students and will occur from Friday 20th November – Thursday 26th November, Year 10 examinations will largely be held in class time and teachers will inform classes when these will be. While it has been a tough year on students, these examinations are important on a number of levels. As always, it gives students a trial run through the process of preparing for, and sitting, formal examinations, but it will also be a key feedback for teachers on student progress and identify individual and cohort gaps that may have developed during the period of remote learning. Stress and anxiety are normal reactions to sitting examinations and students should be reminded that we ask them to try their best and from that, we will all learn and improve. Student reflection is also key, on what has worked well for them and areas in which they need to make improvements.

Michael Tuck
Assistant Principal- Senior School

Maths Report

Mathematics Corner

The Casio Classpad 330/400 calculator is a requirement for the following classes in 2021:

- Year 10 Academic Maths
- Year 11 General Maths
- Year 11 Maths Methods
- Year 11 Specialist Maths
- Year 12 Further Maths
- Year 12 Maths Methods
- Year 12 Specialist Maths

This calculator is available for purchase in the Main office for \$245. This comes with a carrying case and a 2-year warranty. To ensure that we have sufficient stock in the office, please fill in the expression of interest survey by Friday, 13th November.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=tcTJUtieH02N3-ycYw2t0e2T3ETVe7NFp6JV-FCBPAFUMDNCSVFINUEzNE5EQkpCT0w4NFBURzRYVi4u>.

There is another calculator listed on the Year 10-12 booklists (Casio Fx-100). This is a scientific calculator used in Years 7-9 and senior science classes only. If your child has the first edition of this calculator, this is also acceptable.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Erika Frierdich
LAM Maths

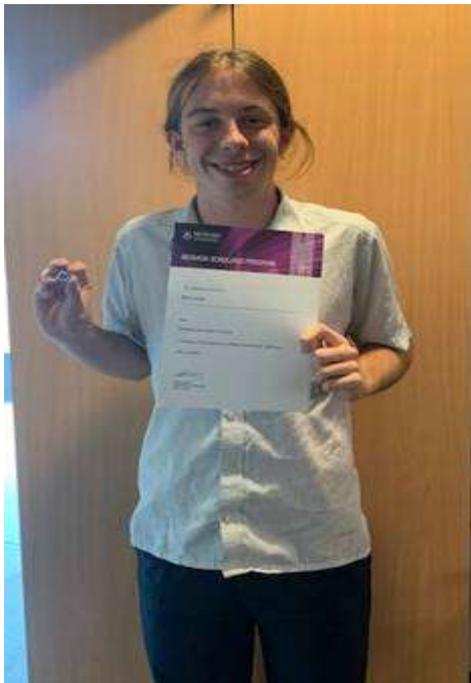
Careers Report

Monash Scholars

Monash Scholars is a prestigious program for high achieving secondary school students. The program is offered by Monash University to give high potential students a unique head start into university life. It provides opportunities for personal and academic development, as well as, giving students the knowledge, skills and confidence to make the right study choices. It also enables them to expand their network of like-minded peers.

Year 10 students, Mia Byrne and Ben Logan prepared and submitted their applications during remote learning and I am pleased to advise that both Mia and Ben have been offered place in the Monash Scholars Class of 2020-2022.

Ben and Mia are pictured below with their certificate and Monash Scholars pin. Congratulations Mia and Ben.



Laura Della Fortuna – Careers Adviser / Learning Specialist: High Abilities

Parents Association News

Hi everyone,

Our Parkdale Secondary College Parents Association usually meets each month to connect with other parents, be updated on what's happening around the school and share valuable family input/feedback to school leadership.

Unfortunately due to Covid Pandemic restrictions, we are still unable to meet as normal, but have kept in touch through email and our Facebook group. We are hoping to get together before the end of the year – perhaps at an outside venue 😊

Parents Association News Continued

NEED TO BUY OR SELL BOOKS AND UNIFORMS?

Sustainable School Shop could be your answer! This excellent service is where College families can buy and sell second-hand uniforms and books. It has up to date booklist information and is easy to navigate.

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

Here is the Introduction Letter and User Guide...

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

RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Ritchies has a new set up for their program! An app and digital card to make it even easier 😊
Details on the link below..

<https://www.ritchies.com.au/loyalty>

Please keep supporting our Ritchies Community Benefit Program. Link your community benefit card/tag to Parkdale Secondary College at ANY Ritchies in Victoria, NSW or Queensland.

Wishing you and your families the best – stay safe and well. And happy holidays.

Cheers,

Nicole Moffat

nmoffat@optusnet.com.au

Wellbeing Report

Dear Parents/Carers,

Farewell remote learning! The Wellbeing Team and I were certainly very happy last week seeing all of the students back at school. For the most part, we have seen students settle back into the routine of school well and we look forward to continuing in our efforts to support them all in the weeks to come.

Students who are however struggling in their return to school, or those who are in need of extra support at this time, are now able to access free counselling through FamilyLife's Heartlinks service. I wanted to highlight this service as they are currently providing free counselling to school aged children that does not require a GP referral or Mental Health Plan. Anyone is able to refer a young person to Heartlinks for support regardless of their circumstances. For further information about this service, please see the flyer attached to the end of the newsletter.

I also wanted highlight that Bayside Youth Services and BGKLEN are offering workshops on the topic of stress and anxiety for young people aged 14-17. Further information about these workshops can also be found in a flyer attached to the end of the newsletter.

Sincerely,



*Transforming
lives for stronger
communities*

FREE counselling for school aged children

It is normal for children to feel afraid or overwhelmed during these uncertain times and some stress and anxiety is to be expected.

However, if you know a child who is finding the enforced adjustments to their lifestyle difficult or have concerns about returning to school, the Heartlinks counselling team is here to support them.

This service is aimed at school aged children, without a mental health diagnosis, who will benefit from a brief period of therapeutic support, generally three to six sessions, to assist them to overcome stress or anxiety resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to funding provided by the Australian Government under the South Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (SEMPHN), Heartlinks of Family Life is able to provide these services, **FREE** of charge to children within the SEMPHN catchment.

Who can access the service?

A child attending school (excluding pre-school) or living within the following local government areas can access the service: Bayside, Glen Eira, Stonnington, Port Phillip, Dandenong, Casey, Cardinia, Kingston, Frankston and Mornington Peninsula. Priority access will be given to children aged 12 and under.

How can you access the service?

Anyone can make a referral to the service by contacting the SEMPHN Access and Referral Team.

A GP referral is not required.

Phone: 1800 802 363 (8.30am-4.30pm weekdays) and ask about the "Family Life Covid-19 Program".

Or refer directly by accessing the SEMPHN referral [form](#).

Note - in the Presenting Issues section of the form write "Family Life Covid-19 Program" along with any presenting issues.

For more information about the SEMPHN Access and Referral team or to access the referral form go to www.semphn.org.au/resources/access

Who is providing the service?

Heartlinks of Family Life has been providing trauma informed, quality counselling services to children, parents and families in the Bayside and Mornington Peninsula areas since 2015. All Heartlinks' counsellors use child-focussed and trauma informed therapeutic practices and always consider the issues and the individual in the context of their environment, experiences and family.

How are the services provided?

During the pandemic restrictions, all counselling will be provided via a secure, online, telehealth (video) platform or over the phone. Face to Face counselling will recommence once it is legal and safe to do so. Heartlinks has consulting suites in Sandringham and Frankston.

Face to Face counselling will be re-implemented once it is legal and safe to do so. Heartlinks has consulting suites in Sandringham and Frankston.

Want more information: visit us at heartlinks.com.au

Email us at heartlinks@familylife.com.au or call (03) 8599 5488

Facebook: facebook.com/heartlinksau **Instagram:** instagram.com/heartlinksau



Free
workshops

ANXIETY & STRESS

Anxiety and stress management workshop for teens

Topics covered

- The difference between stress and anxiety
- How stress or anxiety affects our brains
- How to manage your own stress
- Self-care and why it's important
- The benefits of mindfulness
- A variety of strategies for your toolkit

Limited places. Registrations essential
bayside.vic.gov.au/youth



WORKSHOP DATES

Monday 2 November
3.45pm – 5pm

Tuesday 10 November
3.45pm – 5pm

Wednesday 18 November
3.45pm – 5pm

Thursday 26 November
3.45pm – 5pm

