



Respect

Resilience

Ambition

Community

Principal's Report



Important Dates

- **Monday 9 June 2025**
Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 10 June 2025**
Yr 10 & 11 Exams commence
- **Friday 13 June 2025**
Report Writing Day
(Student free)
- **Monday 16 June 2025**
Yr 9 Exams commence
- **Tuesday 17 June 2025**
General Achievement Test
- **Friday 20 June 2025**
Yr 9-11 Exams conclude
- **Monday 30 June 2025**
Year 9 Urban Experience commences
Year 10 Work Experience commences
- **Friday 4 July 2025**
Year 9 Urban Experience concludes
Year 9 Work Experience concludes
Term 2 Ends: 2.25pm finish

College Absence Line:
9744 0500

A reminder to parents that when your child is absent to call the College Absence Line and leave the following information:

- Parent/Carer name
- Student name
- Home Group
- Reason: please give detail of absence
- Phone number

Dear Sunbury Downs College Community,

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate all students and staff for the positive way in which they have returned to school for Term 2. As some of you may have seen, I recently advised the community that I have been granted Long Service Leave which commenced on Monday 19 May, returning Monday 21 July 2025. Assistant Principal Ms Susan Smith has been appointed as the Acting Principal for the College whilst I am on leave. I look forward to learning about the progress being made by students and staff in teaching and learning on my return at the start of Term 3.

Staffing Update

Recently the following staff have been appointed to positions advertised within the College:

- Acting Principal – Ms Susan Smith
- Acting Assistant Principal – Mrs Kylie Middlemast
- Acting Middle Sub School Leading Teacher – Ms Courtney Thorn
- Acting Middle Sub School Leading Teacher/Year 9 Coordinator – Ms Brooke Harty

ANZAC Day Assembly/Community Commemoration Services

During the first week of Term 2 (24 April) we held our 2025 ANZAC Day school assembly in the gymnasium. This is an important whole school event. Acknowledging the sacrifices of others and paying our respects at this time is important for us and the wider school community. Our student leaders represented the College at local community commemorative dawn and mid-morning services for ANZAC Day. I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to the parents of the students who also attended/accompanied their children at this time.



Principal's Report

Curriculum Day

The recent whole school curriculum day on Tuesday 13 May was devoted to further understanding the Disability and Inclusion initiative currently being implemented in all government schools. Additionally, during the day, staff participated in a workshop that provided hands-on practical strategies that can be used by teachers to break up lessons and encourage educationally focussed student movement in the classroom. The Disability and Inclusion initiative has been released gradually throughout the state and our area is the final network to receive information and resources to support this project. There has been considerable change to the processes which determines eligibility for students to receive resources and funding to support their learning.

Open Night/College Tours

On Monday 28 April the College held its 2025 Open Night, offering prospective parents and students the opportunity to visit our College, participate in tours and gather important information about the teaching and learning program offered by our great school. There were approximately 400 guests who attended this event, and we continue to take enquiries from families who were not able to attend. Prior to the Open Night, tours were also held on Thursday 24 April and Thursday 1 May allowing for some families who were not able to attend Open Night to view the College.

Semester One Examination Period

The Semester One examination process for students in Years 9 – 12 will be conducted from Tuesday 10 June – Friday 20 June 2025.

The VCE General Achievement Test is being conducted on Tuesday 17 June 2025.

I look forward to seeing you again in Term 3.

Regards,

Warwick Beynon
Principal



Mr Warwick Beynon | PRINCIPAL



House Athletics Carnival

House Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 15 May, Sunbury Downs College hosted its annual school Athletics Carnival at the newly revamped Boardman Reserve Track. The field events were organised and operated by staff members and assisted by student helpers. The day ended with the Year 12 student cohort performing a lap of the track in costume to signify their final House Athletic Sports. There was plenty of cheering and support from the students across the four houses. The student relay teams took on the staff team, but the staff were just too strong and took out the win.

Results:

1. Evans 2822 points
2. Jackson 2651 points
3. Aitken 2605 points
4. Mitchell 2500 points

Individual Champions:

Under 13 Female Champion	Alexis Smith	Jackson
Under 13 Male Champion	Alexander Henderson	Aitken
Under 14 Female Champion	Summer Pott	Mitchell
Under 14 Male Champion	Pin-Yi Lu	Mitchell
Under 15 Female Champion	Amerie Taylor	Jackson
Under 15 Male Champion	Blake Coetsee	Aitken
Under 16 Female Champion	Toniyah Wilkins Waretin	Jackson
Under 16 Male Champion	Tyler Bromley	Aitken
Under 21 Female Champion	Kitty Sinfield	Evans
Under 21 Male Champion	Rylan McIntosh	Aitken

Students are to be commended on their behaviour on the day. We thank all staff and students that were involved in a successful Athletics Carnival for 2025. Congratulations once again to Evans House on winning. We wish the best of luck to all students that have made the interschool athletics team that will compete later this term.



Susan Aldridge | HOUSE COORDINATOR



Ashley Gillard | HOUSE COORDINATOR



House Athletics Carnival





Open Night

On Monday 28 April 2025, the College hosted its annual Open Night. Prospective families, students and the wider community were invited to discover more about our school and its various subject offerings, programs and initiatives. Student ambassadors were actively involved as tour guides and also in subject area demonstrations, as well as meeting and greeting guests and assisting with general enquiries.

Despite a chilly evening, a large number of family members and prospective 2026 Year 7 students came out to see the wide range of subjects and options available through the College. The evening was capped off with a presentation from key staff and two of our current Year 7 students, Bobby Singh (7F) and Zoe Demetriou (7A), talking about how the transition to Sunbury Downs College has been a positive experience for them.



James Ross | JUNIOR SUB SCHOOL LEADER



Open Night



Year 7 Speech: Bobby Singh



Good evening Grade 6 students and parents.

My name is Bobby Singh and I'm a Year 7 student at Sunbury Downs College. Next year, you'll be taking a huge step forward when you join Sunbury Downs College. We have lots of fun activities that you'll be doing at Sunbury Downs next year like Year 7 Camp, the Swimming Carnival and all sorts of clubs. And it's an excellent time to meet new people, make new friends and find new opportunities.

High school will bring more responsibility — like time management and working independently — and if you're ever scared just know that are really supportive and want to see you do your best and will push you past your limits.

So get ready for an awesome adventure at Sunbury Downs. Thank you. Have a wonderful day.

Bobby Singh 7F



Open Night

Year 7 Speech: Zoe Demetriou

Hi everyone, my name is Zoe Demetriou, and I am currently in Year 7 here at Sunbury Downs College.



This time last year, I was sitting in a primary school classroom completely terrified at the thought of starting high school. The idea of a brand new school, brand new teachers, and being the youngest again was honestly really overwhelming. I remember thinking things like: what if I get lost? What if I don't make any new friends? What if high school is just simply too much. But standing here now, I can tell you it wasn't as scary as I thought.

On my very first day here at Sunbury Downs, I walked in feeling nervous, but I wasn't alone. Every other Year 7 was feeling the exact same way. And the teachers understood how we felt. They made sure we knew where to go, they answered our questions — even the little ones — and they made us feel like we belonged here, which in my opinion made it so much easier to get through the first term.

One of the things that really helped me settle in was how welcoming everyone was. The older students weren't scary at all — in fact, some of them even helped me when I looked a little lost! And I quickly realised that no one expects you to know everything on the first day. Knowing that took a lot of pressure off.

Now that I've completed my first term, I've already started to feel like I'm really a part of this school. I've learned how to get around, how to organise my locker, and how to manage all of the different subjects — and trust me, that felt impossible at first! I've also got to know my teachers, and I've realised that they're not just here to teach us, they actually care about what we're doing. Whether it's helping with schoolwork or just checking in on us, they've been really supportive. I've even started to feel more confident putting my hand up in class and speaking out, which I never thought I'd do so soon. There's a sense of independence and responsibility at high school, but there's also a lot of help if you need it — and that's made a huge difference for me.

What I've loved most about my time here so far is that I've been given the chance to try new things — clubs, subjects, sports — and I've found out more about what I enjoy and what I'm good at. I've become more confident with myself and I've loved every second of this experience. I've even made new friends who share my interests, and managed to become closer to people I already knew.

So to any Year 6 student out there who's feeling nervous about high school — I've been there. It's totally normal. But I promise you, it gets better. And making friends, becoming closer to your teachers, is easy! Sunbury Downs isn't just a school — it's a community. And if I can go from being terrified to actually loving coming to school each day, then I know you can too.

Thank you everyone! Have a lovely night!

Zoe Demetriou 7A



Interschool Soccer

On Friday 9 May, the Senior Boys Soccer Team travelled to Aintree North Recreation Reserve to play against the other schools in our district.

In the first game against Melton Christian College we lost 1-3. The second game, after an hour's rest, was against Kurunjang. Everyone came out firing and we won the game 5-1.



The last game against Gisborne was a tight contest to begin with. It was all tied up at half time at 1-1. However, unfortunately Gisborne prevailed to win 3-1. It was a great day had by all.

Caden Simpson 12A



Roberto Cosner | SPORTS COORDINATOR



Year 11 Careers Expo

On Friday 2 May, our Year 11 students spent the day in the CBD exploring their careers and pathways options. Firstly, they attended the VCE and Careers Expo which was held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Students had two hours to explore the venue and have discussions with exhibitors such as universities, TAFEs, Registered Training Organisations, Apprenticeship companies, the Defence Force, Victoria Police and many more. Students had the opportunity to listen to a range of seminars relating to careers and pathways. From here, they then walked to RMIT where the students participated in a Game Show Quiz, followed by a presentation specific to RMIT courses in both higher education and also VET.



Melanie Hatch | CAREERS COORDINATOR



Year 10 Careers Expo

In the second week of Term 2, Year 10 students had a chance to visit Victoria University where we had a presentation explaining the different courses and career paths VU offers. What stood out to me during our visit was the different types of floors they had for different types of classes and courses, such as a floor designated to the medical students.

While at the Careers Expo, I had a few discussions with different universities like Deakin University, where they discussed what subjects and courses they offer at their university.

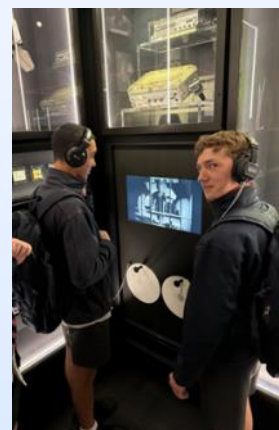
Alma Santa Maria 10D



Abbi Smith | CAREERS COORDINATOR

ACMI Excursion

Year 9 students went to ACMI, an art exhibition of screen culture, on 30 April. We visited two exhibitions, The Story of the Moving Image and Future Fictions. I was really surprised that there were actual props like the Hollywood suit of Black Panther and a costume worn by Björk (an Icelandic singer-songwriter and composer). There were countless displays of exemplary items and images from iconic shows, movies and video games. There were models of old video cameras and exhibits on an assortment of animation styles, such as stop motion (frame by frame), optical illusions, and claymation. It had plenty of pop culture references that were up to date with a mixture of classics that almost anybody could recognise, making the exhibition a fun and enjoyable learning experience.



Some of the highlights included beloved games by Big Ant Studios, including Untitled Goose Game, Cult of the Lamb and Unpacking. Other exhibits included sets from The Story of a Snail (a stop motion movie) and original sketches and brainstorming from various games. There were lots of interactive areas where you could practise adding sound effects to clips from movies. ACMI is highly recommended for anybody who hasn't visited yet. Afterwards, we went to Melbourne Central for lunch before heading to the train station and back home. Overall it was a fun day and we all really enjoyed it!

Darcy Baird 9D and Molly Rose Greenhalgh 9D



Nicholas Giugni | ENGLISH TEACHER



Year 11 Food Studies

Year 11 Food Studies students are studying food in contemporary Australia and completed a practical that involved them comparing convenience boxed and home made fajitas.

The verdict was that home made came out on top, with 5 stars from all students.



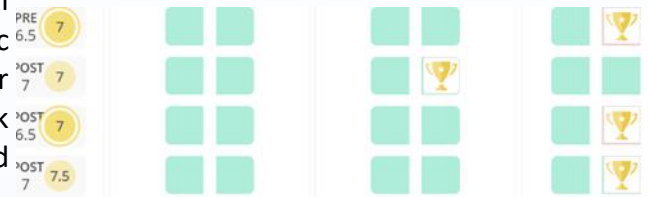
Jessica Mazur | TECHNOLOGY DOMAIN LEADER



Mathematics & Numeracy

Essential Assessment: Year 7 and 8

All Year 7 and 8 classes have been using Essential Assessment. Students complete pre-tests for each topic so that teachers can clearly see where to focus their teaching to address learning gaps. Students then work through their individual 'My Numeracy' tasks to build their understanding as they go through the topic.



Maths Olympiad: Year 7 and 8



57 students are competing in the Australian Problem Solving Maths Olympiad (APSMO) this year. They have just completed round 1 of 4 Olympiads. Each round has 5 questions to attempt. If students can get even one question right they are doing a great job!

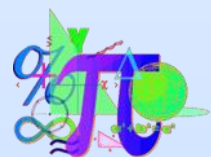
The leader board after Round 1 is shown below:

4 correct	Margaret Rout			
3 correct	Joshua Ninan			
2 correct	Jude Barbary Aurora Davidson Devansh Farwah	Alexander Henderson Teddy Roberts Logan Waldon	Max Oliver Janani Prabhu	Cindy Qu Izzy Stanford Ross
1 correct	Matias Avila Harriet Banchemo Indigo Boccabella Fletcher Cook-Lee Heidi Jensen Pushkal Taluri	Jasleen Jhally Michalis Markotsis Ned Martin Axle Murray Brent Olinars Jack Stephan Khyath Trivedi	Charlotte Barre Whitford James Butler Eric Hill Maddie Ingram Eddy Uili Reed Young	Jannat Mangat Akbar Mirza Ali Kiki Sacco Imogen Smith Morris Aedan Wansi

The questions are very different to content covered in class. This competition encourages students to apply what they know to solve unfamiliar problems. Students should always go over the different solution strategies after each round to continue learning new skills. Keep aiming high everyone!

Afterschool Maths Homework Club: Mondays 3:30pm – 4:30pm Room 4A

All are welcome. Attendance is particularly important for anyone who has received coursework letters and needs assistance to meet due dates.



Lauren Jackson | LEARNING SPECIALIST (Numeracy)



Tyler Locker | MATHEMATICS DOMAIN LEADER



ANZAC Day Assembly



Today, I want to share the story of my great grandfather, Ivan George McBean, and reflect on what ANZAC Day means to me. Ivan was born in Beulah, Victoria, on the 24th of August, 1923. At just 19 years old, he enlisted from Katherine in the Northern Territory and served as a Private in the Australian Army from 1942 to 1945. He was stationed in Darwin during a time when Australia faced some of its darkest days in World War II.

In February 1942, Darwin was bombed in what became known as the Battle of Darwin, the largest single attack ever launched by a foreign power on Australian soil. Japanese air raids continued for months, with a total of 97 attacks on Northern Australia. Ivan, like many others, endured intense conditions: extreme heat, poor sanitation, limited food, and the constant threat of enemy air strikes. Illnesses like dysentery, dengue fever and malaria were common. Yet through all of this, he continued to serve with strength and courage, earning the Defence Medal, War Medal, and the Australian Service Medal.

ANZAC Day, to me, is a day of deep respect and reflection. It's not just about one battle or one war, it's about honouring every Australian and New Zealander who has served, suffered and sacrificed in all conflicts. We wear red poppies to remember them, a symbol born from the battlefields of France and Belgium, where these flowers were the first to bloom after the devastation.

Each year, when I hear the Last Post played, it feels personal. It reminds me of my great grandfather, and all those like him, who didn't ask for recognition but gave so much. ANZAC Day is a promise that we will never forget their duty, their courage, or the lives they led, both during and after the war. Lest we forget.
Ella Wallis 11C



VCE-VM Excursion

Our Year 12 VCE-Vocational Major students took part in an excursion on 24 March to Social Fair in Coburg, where they participated in a challenging wall climbing experience. The activity tested their personal physical and mental resilience as they worked through different techniques and supported one another, showing teamwork to push past their limits and motivate one another.

A key highlight of the day was seeing students overcome their fear of heights. With encouragement from their peers and instructors, several students who were initially hesitant managed to climb higher than they expected. The experience helped build confidence and reinforced the importance of perseverance and teamwork — skills that extend far beyond this activity and support students as they become young adults in the real world. One of the most challenging tasks was the 'Leap of Faith', where students had to climb a platform and jump to grab a suspended bar. Some were reluctant at first, but with steady encouragement, they faced their fears and gave it a go. The sense of achievement afterwards was clear, as students reflected on how stepping outside their comfort zone led to success.



The VM Team are so proud of how the students displayed different strengths, and how they supported and motivated each other!



Jaclyn Demetriou | MATHEMATICS TEACHER



VCE-VM Excursion



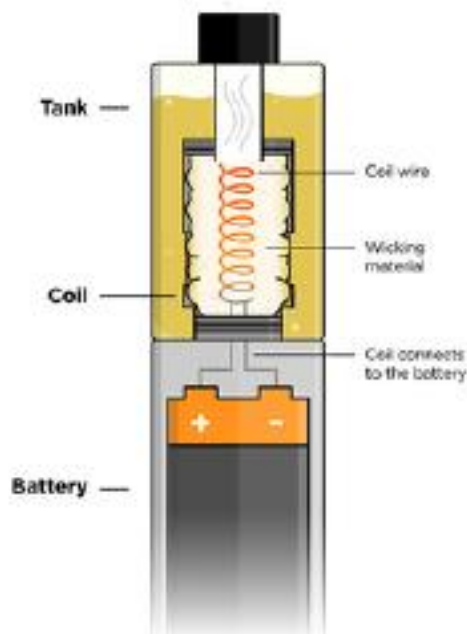


Vaping Prevention

Escape the Vape

What is a vape?

Vapes, or e-cigarettes, are battery operated devices that use a coil to heat an e-liquid into an aerosol. This aerosol is then inhaled into the lungs & airways and delivered into the bloodstream.





Staff v Student Volleyball

All the Year 12 students came together on March 28 to take on the highly competitive teaching staff. Almost every student from Year 12 was in the gym and if not actively playing, they were either cheering or helping score.

In the end, the teachers came out on top winning two out of the three sets meaning they were the eventual winners. The Year 12s would like to say a big thank you to all of the staff who helped get this lunchtime battle together, and a special thank you to Mr Watson for pushing to have volleyball played as the first of many sports this year.

Caden Simpson 12A

While not winners (this time round), the Year 12 students displayed our College Values of Resilience and Community while coming together for the Year 12 Staff versus Student Volleyball game! It was a terrific way to end Term 1 with students and teachers from all Domains showing their athletic ability, while students from all cohorts cheered and enjoyed the event. Thank you to all the staff and students who organised the event.

Nicollette Plakas - Year 12 Coordinator



Nicollette Plakas | YEAR 12 COORDINATOR



Student Services

Wellbeing Programs

Glitter Club: This term Sunbury Downs College is welcoming back our Glitter Club! Glitter Club provides an inclusive space for our LGBTQIA+ students and allies to connect, share experiences and find support. This group strongly encourages self-expression, friendship and a sense of belonging. Glitter Club will be running weekly from Tuesday 20 May at lunchtime in Room 1B.



Breakfast Club: The Breakfast Club runs from the Dulap Wilum Community Hub next to Sunbury Downs College from 8am-8.45am every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. What we eat plays a big role in our physical and mental wellbeing, so we encourage students to visit the Breakfast Club to ensure that they are starting their day full, nourished and ready to take on the day.



Peta Bleazby | STUDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR