



Respect
Resilience
Ambition
Community

Acting Principal's Report



Important Dates

- **Friday 26 June 2026**
Year 9 Urban Experience and
Year 10 Work Experience
conclude
Last Day Term 2: 2.25pm finish
- **Monday 13 July 2026**
Term 3 commences
- **Wednesday 15 July 2026**
Year 8 Camp commences
- **Friday 17 July 2026**
Year 8 Camp concludes
- **Thursday 20 August 2026**
Curriculum Day (Student free)

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,

The highlight amongst a busy term of events was the outstanding student performances in *Seussical Jr*, the school's musical production. The dedication of staff and students in rehearsals since the beginning of the year culminated in an entertaining and polished production to rival a Broadway musical. Well done to all involved, and thank you to the parents and staff who supported students and the production.

Mobile phones are an important tool for communication and organisation. For many young people, balancing the benefits of phones with the distractions caused by apps and messages can be difficult. Therefore, to support students to focus on their studies and in-person socialisation at school, and in line with the Department of Education's mobile phone policy, we have made the following changes to our school mobile phone policy:

1. Students will now be allowed to use phones before 9am and after 3:15pm. This enables students to check Compass in the morning to plan their day, and check messages after the school day has finished. In after school activities, such as detentions, phone use is not permitted as usual.
2. Between 9am and 3:15pm, students should not be in possession of their phone. If students bring their phone to school, they should be locked in their locker during the school day. If students are found in possession of a phone during the school day, the phone will be confiscated.

With these changes, we hope that students will demonstrate responsible use of phones at appropriate times and not be distracted by or using phones at inappropriate times. If you need to communicate with your child during the school day, please contact the front office.



Acting Principal's Report

Finally, it is with much sadness that I say goodbye to Sunbury Downs College at the end of this term. I was appointed to cover the principal, Warwick Beynon, for his leave for Semester 1 this year.

From the first week of Term 1, I was impressed with the commitment and capacity of staff, and the respect and diligence of students. The Sunbury community has been incredibly welcoming. Staff at the school have been open to new ideas and committed to providing the best possible educational experiences for students.

Commencing in Term 3, I have accepted a position as permanent principal of Kerang Technical High School. Recently, Mr Beynon applied for an extension to his leave for the remainder of 2026.

I am delighted to announce that Angela Lane, Junior Sub School Assistant Principal, has been appointed to the role of Acting Principal for Semester 2, 2026. This is a wonderful appointment for the SDC community, providing students and staff with stability and continuity. I wish Angela all the best.

Klate McFarlane
Acting Principal



Mr Klate McFarlane | ACTING PRINCIPAL



Production



The 2026 College Production of *Seussical Jr.* delighted audiences across three performances from 11–13 June.

Since the beginning of the year, our talented cast and crew dedicated countless hours to bringing the show to life, attending regular after-school and weekend rehearsals with enthusiasm, commitment and professionalism.

Combining beloved characters and stories from the world of Dr. Seuss, *Seussical Jr.* celebrated the values of resilience, empathy, imagination and the importance of staying true to yourself. The production provided students with an opportunity to develop their confidence, creativity and collaboration skills, while fostering a supportive environment where they could express themselves and form lasting friendships.

We are incredibly proud of the effort, growth and achievements of every student involved. Thank you to everyone who attended the performances, and to the many students, staff, parents and volunteers whose support, encouragement and hard work contributed to the production's success.



Ryan Patterson | PERFORMING ARTS DOMAIN LEADER



Production





Interschool Sport

Year 7 and 8 Interschool Soccer Success

Congratulations to all of our Year 7 and 8 students who represented the school at the interschool soccer competition on 27 May. The students displayed outstanding behaviour, sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the day and were excellent ambassadors for our school.



The Year 7 boys had a fantastic tournament, winning their opening match 5–1 and playing some exceptional soccer throughout the day. They were unlucky to miss out on the final after conceding a late equaliser against Gisborne, who progressed to the final on goal difference. The boys should be extremely proud of their efforts and the determination they showed in every match. The Year 8 girls enjoyed a memorable day, winning the competition and securing their place in the Western Metropolitan finals. After a hard-fought final against Gisborne, the girls held their nerve to claim victory in a thrilling penalty shootout. Their resilience, teamwork and commitment were outstanding.

The Year 7 and 8 girls played in a group pool Western Metropolitan tournament for the next stage at the Grange Reserve, Hoppers Crossing, on 23 June. They faced Altona and won 3-1. They won against Wyndham College 1-0 with a late goal, then lost to Western College 6-0. The girls represented the College with great respect, ambition and a positive mindset. We are very proud of how far they have come!



Roberto Cosner | SPORTS COORDINATOR



Work Related Skills

Students in VCE VM Work Related Skills recently presented their Career & Education Pathway Vision Boards as part of Unit 1: Careers and Learning for the Future. Throughout the term, students explored their personal strengths, skills, interests and future aspirations. They developed SMARTER goals, completed skills audits, researched career and education pathways, and collected evidence of their achievements, including certificates, workplace learning experiences, practical projects and school-based accomplishments.

During their presentations, students shared their future plans, explained how their current skills connect to their career goals, and reflected on the steps they will take to achieve success beyond school. The presentations demonstrated thoughtful planning, self-reflection, and growing confidence in public speaking. Congratulations to all students on their hard work and commitment to planning for their future pathways.

Student Reflection: Elizabeth Sullivan 11D

I enjoyed doing this task, as I have a lot to talk about when it comes to my career in the future. I liked putting my photos together and seeing life in my vision board. I would love to travel and expand on my vision board one day. This task made me reflect on my future that I want for myself. I didn't like the planning that much, but it wasn't horrible, the concept is good and fun to do. I believe everyone should have the time and think about what they want for themselves - this is a good way to be mindful and reflect.



Haley Gunn | VCE VM TEACHER



Year 8 Food Studies

Semester One concluded on a high note for our Year 8 ACE Food Studies students, who demonstrated excellent practical skills while preparing their energy muffins. Students applied their knowledge of nutrition, food preparation techniques and kitchen safety to produce a range of impressive results.

To finish the session, the students took on the role of 'MasterChef' judges with the assistance of food technology assistant Lorraine, evaluating each other's products and providing constructive feedback on appearance, texture, flavour and overall quality. This activity encouraged critical thinking and reflection while helping students develop confidence in assessing food products.



Throughout the practical lesson, students worked collaboratively in teams. They supported each other and shared responsibilities to achieve successful outcomes. It was both educational and enjoyable to observe how the same recipe could produce different results - highlighting the importance of technique, accuracy and individual creativity in food preparation.



Christine Jajo | TECHNOLOGY DOMAIN LEADER



Year 7 Italian

At Sunbury Downs College, we celebrate language learning.

These Year 7 students have demonstrated the most effort in out-of-class study in Italian.

Ali and Declan (pictured below, left) and Emilia and Jarahyn (pictured below, right) won the awards for Semester 1, 2026. Bravi!



Dominic Simonelli | ITALIAN TEACHER



Head Start



Remi Geara – Certificate III Carpentry

Remi completed the Build 10 Program with Kangan Institute whilst in Year 10 last year, exploring and building skills in trades.

Remi also undertook work experience in a few different industries to find that carpentry was the career that he wanted to pursue.

He completed a work trial during Term 2 this year, and has started his SBAT as a first year carpentry apprentice. Well done, Remi.

Kayden Moore – Certificate III Plumbing

Kayden has worked onsite in his family plumbing business over the past couple of years.

This has led Kayden to know he is keen to become a plumber and to understand the requirements and demands of this industry.

Kayden has also shown consistent positive results at school in attendance and academics to be approved to start his SBAT at the beginning of Year 10. Great work, Kaedan.



**Karen Riley | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - NORTHERN METRO HUB
HEAD START**



IDAHOBIT Day

Sunbury Downs College hosted our annual IDAHOBIT Day event on Friday 15 May.

IDAHOBIT, which stands for the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexphobia and Transphobia, aims to celebrate sexual and gender diversity and raise awareness of the discrimination LGBTQIA+ people still face worldwide.

It was wonderful to see so many staff and students take part and show their support on a day that is so crucial for LGBTQIA+ visibility and advocacy.



Xanthe Rixon-Caruana | YOUTH WORKER

Students displayed their creative flair while making colourful friendship bracelets during a special lunchtime session in the ERC.

Hume Libraries youth librarian Donna Woods hosted the fun-filled activity on Friday 8 May. The popular craft session attracted students from multiple year levels.



During Term 2, a Junior Activities Club held on Wednesdays at lunchtime with Student Services, in collaboration with Hume Youth Services, was also launched.

Students who attended enjoyed playing various board games and card games in the ERC.



Karen Collier | ERC MANAGER



Community News



No more juggling appointments or taking time off work. Smile Patrol is visiting Sunbury Downs College to provide onsite dental care in our mobile dental van — super convenient!

Smile Patrol offers free dental health education for all children. If your child qualifies under the Childcare Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS), they may receive free treatments based on remaining benefits. Ineligible individuals can still receive a free oral health check and educational session.

To sign up please visit: <https://smilepatrol.com.au/consent-form/> and complete the consent form by the deadline 28 August 2026. DON'T MISS OUT!

Paper consent forms will also be available from the Sunbury Downs College front office from Term 3.

Estimated date of visit: Monday October 19th

For more information, please feel free to contact us.

Email: info@smilepatrol.com.au



Community News



ART
COMPETITION
2026

ART ANTHOLOGY

YOUNG PEOPLE'S STORIES OF A LIVEABLE CITY

Like to get creative?

Young people aged 6-24 who live, study or work in Hume are invited to submit a creative art piece reflecting the shared theme of 'A liveable City' to our Art Anthology art competition for 2026.

This could be a poem, short story, drawing, painting, photography, a short 3 -minute video, a fashion design, sculpture or anything creative- it's up to you!

Be considered for a Best creative Award category and win a \$250 Deans Art Supplies voucher!

SUBMISSIONS OPEN APRIL 20 AND CLOSE JULY 31, 2026!



To submit a piece of work
scan the QR code or visit
hume.vic.gov.au/youth

YOUTH
SERVICES

HUME
CITY COUNCIL



Community News

Victoria Police Hume Neighbourhood Policing Forum



VICTORIA POLICE

The Victoria Police Neighbourhood Policing Forum welcomes local services and community members to talk with police about what issues are important in your community.

The forum will explore topics including:

- Current crime trends and crime prevention
- Young people
- Family violence
- Road policing
- Drugs and drug related crime.

The Neighbourhood Policing Forum will be run by a Victoria Police panel and questions will be taken from the audience throughout the event.

Registration is a must.

To attend, please register by sending your details to:

HUME-LAC-OIC@police.vic.gov.au

or scan the QR code.

To submit a question prior to the forum:

[HUME NHP questions](#)

Event details

Date:

Wednesday 15th July 2026

Time:

6:30pm – 9:30pm

(Doors open 6:15pm)

Location:

**Town Hall Broadmeadows
10 Dimboola Road,
Broadmeadows 3047**



**Scan here to
register your
attendance**



Got a question for police?

Scan the QR code to submit
prior to the forum



A SAFE VICTORIA