



Acting Principal's Report



SUCCESSFUL
OUTCOMES

RESILIENT
BEHAVIOURS

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

RESPECTFUL
RELATIONSHIPS

AMBITIOUS
EXPECTATIONS

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Dear Sunbury Downs College Community,

'Lean in—Together we learn'

Welcome to the 2019 school year. The students and staff have enjoyed a smooth start to the academic year with students quickly establishing their routines and becoming familiar with their new timetables. The Professional Learning Day for staff on January 29th provided informative and supportive information for all staff in the lead up to all students returning on January 30th. The theme for 2019 is: 'Lean in – Together we Learn'. The Whole School Assembly was a great opportunity to welcome all students back for 2019 and introduce new and returning staff.

Leadership and Positions of Responsibility

I welcome Susan Smith to the position as Acting Assistant Principal (Semester 1). Susan is fulfilling this role whilst I am in the Acting Principal position (Semester 1) whilst Maria Oddo is on secondment at the Department as the Senior Manager Responsible for Strategic Projects for the Learning Specialist Implementation Team. An internal process is underway to appoint a teacher to the position of Leading Teacher – Performance and Development to continue the work of Susan Smith.

I also congratulate the staff who form the leadership team and wish them well for the year.



Principal's Report

New Staff to the College

Mr Chris Conner – ICT Technician
Ms Lauren Jackson – Numeracy Learning Specialist
Mr Brad Little – PE / Health
Mr Tyler Locker – Mathematics / Physics
Mr Amer Ramadan – Mathematics / Physics / IT
Mr Garry Schoof - Systems / Technology
Ms Megan Thomas – English / Psychology
Ms Kate Doran – English
Ms Amanda Carlyle – Wellbeing Coordinator

Returning Staff members to the College

Ms Alice Clifford – Literacy Learning Specialist and English Domain PLC Instructional Leader
Ms Lauren Kyte – Literacy Learning Specialist and English Domain PLC Instructional Leader

VCE Results 2018

The College congratulates the class of 2018 for their excellent VCE results. There were many individual accomplishments - a true display of our College motto 'Confidence to Achieve'. I extend my thanks to the teaching and Education Support staff for their work with the students. The College results as published were outstanding with a VCE Study Median score of 31 and 9.9% of Study Scores 40 or above (additional information below). The College continues to deliver high quality teaching and learning that leads to successful outcomes for our students.

Academic Achievements for the class of 2019

% of study scores of 40 and over	9.9%
Median VCE study score	31
Percentage of VCAL unites completed	73%
Percentage of VET units completed	79%
Students awarded the VCE Baccalaureate	2
Percentage of VCE completions	100%
88% of students who applied for further study received an offer	
65% of students who applied for further study received their first preference	

College Dux for 2018

Congratulations to the College Dux for 2018 Rory Healy – 97.1 ATAR. Rory was presented with a gift at our first College Assembly and spoke to the community about his achievement, future pathway and strategies that he put in place to support his study program. The Rotary Club of Sunbury has invited Rory, his family and representatives from the College to attend the Ron Cook Memorial Scholarship evening where both myself and Rory will have the opportunity to speak to the audience about the VCE achievements at Sunbury Downs College in 2018.





Principal's Report

Year 12 Retreat

The Year 12 Retreat at University College in Parkville was very successful in week 2. Students have provided positive feedback and appreciated the opportunity to work closely with key staff, developed personal goals, and as a collective, discussed how they are going to support each other during the year.

P 'n' G @ SDC –Parents and Guardians at Sunbury Downs College

The first meeting will be held on the 8th March at 9.30am. Parents and Guardians will have the opportunity to meet in an informal setting with myself, and Stephanie Lillywhite, College Council President, to discuss building facilities / curriculum programs.

Modernisation Building Program (Gymnasium / Grand corridor)

Work commenced on January 14 at the College on the Building Modernisation Program. The canteen, PE staff room and student change room areas in the gymnasium precinct have been demolished with materials continuing to be removed from the site. Work is progressing on schedule. Fortnightly site meetings are taking place between the College, Kennedy Nolan Architects, CA Property Group and the VSBA (Victorian Schools Building Authority).

College Council 2019 Nomination and Elections

Sunbury Downs College Council members are united in their work to ensure that we continue to be the secondary school of choice in Sunbury and the broader community.

On behalf of Council I thank the parents, students and staff members for their commitment to the sound governance of Sunbury Downs College in 2018.

An election process including nominations for new College Council members is currently underway for the new College Council Committee 2019.

Kind Regards
Warwick Beynon
Acting Principal



Mr Warwick Beynon |ACTING PRINCIPAL



College Council President

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new and returning families for what promises to be a very full and exciting year.

This is my last newsletter article as I will be vacating my position on Council at the end of the Term. Rules for School Councils are set by the Department of Education and as I no longer have a child enrolled at Sunbury Downs, my service on College Council is coming to an end. The AGM on the 26th March will officially mark my last day on Council and my last day as President of this fantastic school. I wish to thank all those who have served on Council with me, for their dedication and support, and for all those across our College Community who have helped to make my time as President such a fulfilling experience. I have always been immensely proud to be the President of Sunbury Downs and I wish you all the very best for the future.

The new President will be nominated at the AGM on 26 March and I wish them as an amazing a journey as I have had.

I have been reflecting on what has had the most positive impact in my time with Sunbury Downs College over the past 7+ years as a parent. Without a doubt the two key things are open communication and positive respectful engagement.

Communication between parents and our children's teachers is, I believe, critical to our children's success at school. Establishing and maintaining a relationship with staff lays a foundation for early intervention and support if things are not quite on track, as well as timely and positive feedback. I always made a point of establishing a good relationship and open communication channels with all my children's Home Group Teachers, Classroom Teachers and Coordinators over the years and I can say without a doubt it has had a hugely positive impact on both our children's success and our family's relationship with the school in general.

Open communication goes hand in hand with the other key element which is positive respectful engagement. Everyone wants the same thing - the best outcome for students - and by working in partnership with the school in a positive and respectful way to look for options and solutions where there needs to be changes means a faster and smoother resolution. Additionally, being involved in whatever capacity you can also reinforces to our children that we are invested in their education and their school life and their overall well-being in these challenging teenage years. Attending events such as the Swimming and Athletics carnivals, Parent Information Nights, and Performing Arts nights provide an opportunity for families to be further engaged with school life and connect in a different environment with other members of the Sunbury Downs community.

I wish you all the very best for this year and look forward to watching Sunbury Downs go from strength to strength in the future.

Stephanie Lillywhite
President



Mrs Stephanie Lillywhite | PRESIDENT



New Staff

In 2019, Sunbury Downs College introduced nine new staff to the College. We congratulate them on their appointments and warmly welcome them to our community.

Mr. Bill Black:



Hi everyone, my name is Bill Black and this is my first year at SDC. I am currently teaching Year 12 Legal Studies and Year 7 Humanities. Before teaching I worked as a musician and before that I studied law. Melbourne is my home and I absolutely love it! Outside of school I enjoy spending time with my family, playing music and learning new things. As an educator I am interested in wellbeing and how we teach emotional resilience. I have heard wonderful things about the SDC community and I am excited to be here. Thank you to everyone for making me feel welcome.

Ms Amanda Carlyle:



Hi all, I am a qualified youth worker and have worked with young people for over twenty years. I have spent the past few years working at Victoria University in a Student Services role. Recently I was working with high risk vulnerable young people in a flexible education setting where I provided intensive welfare support to students with high wellbeing and learning needs. I have also worked in a range of youth organisations using outdoor education programs, creative arts and art workshops. I am a passionate and committed advocate for young people and dedicated to student welfare and wellbeing, choosing to work with young people in education settings, and will start a Masters in Teaching (Student Welfare) this year. I have three children and I enjoy painting and the creative arts, motorbike riding, gardening, baking and spending time with my family and friends. I'm very pleased and excited to be able to support Sunbury Downs College students and families in this new role and I look forward to supporting families to ensure better educational outcomes for students.

Mr. Chris Connor:



My name is Chris Connor, I've been at Sunbury Downs College for the last 3 months. I am currently undertaking a traineeship in IT and work as the ICT Helpdesk, being the first line of support for issues with student laptops and offering additional support to staff around the college. This is my first time working in a school environment, my working background ranging from hospitality to warehousing. I've been a Sunbury local for the past 10 years and have always found the community to be very engaging and welcoming, hopefully I can add to those ideals by working with the great kids and staff that make up Sunbury Downs College.

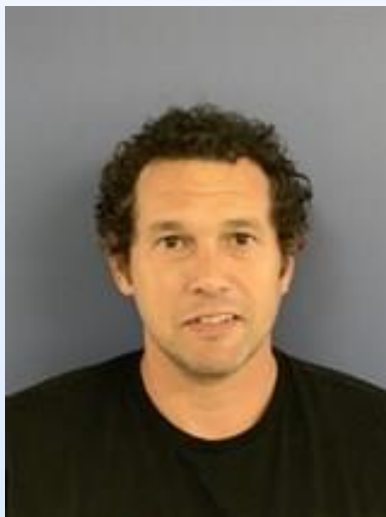
New Staff

Ms. Lauren Jackson:



Hi, my name is Lauren Jackson. I am excited to be joining the Sunbury Downs team as a Numeracy Learning Specialist. As well as teaching Year 8 to 12 Maths I will be focussing on working with staff to develop strategies to improve Numeracy outcomes for all students. For the last 15 years I have been teaching Mathematics at Gisborne Secondary College. My interests outside teaching are Tai Chi, spending time with family and friends and visiting new places – there is always somewhere different to explore!

Mr. Brad Little:



Hi my name is Brad Little and I am the new PE/Health teacher at Sunbury Downs. I grew up in Perth and graduated university there and left the country soon after. Since then I have been travelling the world from my London base where I lived for the last 11 years working as a teacher in behavioural schools. In September 2018 I returned to Australia with my partner and now 18 month old son Kuparr. I am a passionate West Coast Eagles supporter and love Scuba Diving. I look forward to my year at Sunbury Downs College with you all.

Mr. Tyler Locker:



Hello everyone! My name is Tyler Locker, a new member of staff at Sunbury Downs College teaching classes in Mathematics and Physics. My studies in these two areas were completed as part of my Bachelor of Science (Honours) completed at Latrobe University and Gothenburg University, Sweden. Alongside my formal education, I bring multiple years of individual and group tutoring experience with a strong focus on content delivery. My current classes are Year 9 and 10 Mathematics, and Year 10 and 12 Physics. I am incredibly excited to become a part of the Sunbury Downs College family, working together towards helping our students grow both academically, and towards being the adults of the future.



New Staff

Mr. Amer Ramadan:



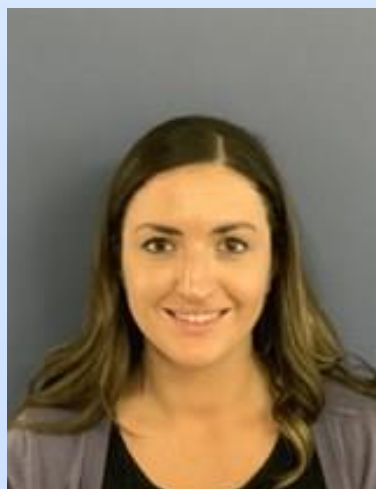
My name is Amer Ramadan and I will be teaching Physics and Mathematics this year. In my free time I like to go fishing, ride around on my motorcycle or fix the everlasting problems I find in my car! Before I became a teacher, I did a degree in Mechanical Engineering at RMIT University, and I used to work as an IT consultant for a few years. If you're confused about what you want to do at university, or if you just want to talk about Physics, say hello!

Mr. Garry Schoof:



Hello, I am the new Technology Woods and Metal teacher at Sunbury Downs Secondary College for 2019. I started teaching in 2003 for Berri Street Foundation at a place called Round About at Lennister Farm in Eltham, Victoria. This program was established for disadvantaged youth who had fallen out of mainstream schooling. In 2006 I started as a Wood teacher at Roxburgh Park College, completing a career change in 2010 at Victoria University. The programs I taught there were mainly Junior Wood, VET Furnishing, Year 10 Metal and VET Engineering. My main interest personally is restoring cars and motorbikes from the 1970's Falcons, Holdens and Hondas.

Ms. Megan Thomas:



My name is Megan Thomas, I've recently completed my Masters of Teaching at Deakin University and I am so excited to be completing my first year of teaching at Sunbury Downs Secondary College in 2019. I completed a 10-week Academic nternship at the College over Term 3 of last year, where I had a great experience working with some amazing teachers and students. When I'm not teaching I love to practice yoga, see live music and hang out with my greyhound; Noodles. I also love to travel and during the Summer holidays I backpacked through Vietnam.



Year 12 Retreat

Our Year 12 Retreat taught us that, through the thick and thin of year 12, *"You'll never walk alone"*. The many speeches cemented our sense of belonging to the cohort, and reminded us that - no matter what happens - we'll always have each other. During the course of the two day trip, we were exposed to the university lifestyle, preparing us for our future years, as well as providing us the valuable experience of life beyond our year 12 school schedules.

Motivational speaker Mr Lorin Nicholson taught us the lessons of never giving up and to *keep moving forward*, even under the most extreme cases. We learnt to take the most of our current situation and how to make the most every moment, because this is our one opportunity and we won't get it back again.

Ms Sonya Karras spoke about the importance of keeping safe, as we transition from our teenage years to our early adult lives. Through heartfelt stories, Sonya was able to make us really understand how our actions could impact, and she helped us to chose and consider how we could create better outcomes.

Our cohort bonded through chillaxing together and finding comfort in each other's company, through the duration of retreat. The cohort got really competitive when completing the *Amazing Race* challenge, which required time management, artistic and navigation skills.

The experience was thoroughly entertaining and many people learned a lot about themselves and about the people who are going to support them throughout the duration of their final year.

On behalf of the cohort we would like to thank Ms Gleeson, Mr Quigley, Mr Taylor, Ms Trione, Ms Ryan, Mr Watson, Mr Beynon, and Mr Gray, for coming along to retreat and reiterating the idea that *"we'll never walk alone"*.

By
Amber Karras 12C



Nadine Gleeson | YEAR 12 COORDINATOR



Middle Years

As it does every year, the first few weeks of Term 1 have flown by and just like that we are already halfway through the Term.

Over the last four weeks, we have seen all our students make an extremely positive start to the 2019 academic year.

Our Year 7 students have begun their secondary school journey and just this week received their laptops and experienced their first College Swimming Carnival. Along with all the excitement that has already been, this week information has been distributed about the fantastic Year 7 Camp, which will be taking place 27 – 29 March, at Lady Northcote, in Glenmore, Victoria.

Students in Year 8 have settled into new Home Groups and new subjects with excitement and enthusiasm. Whether it is Music, Visual Communication Design, Sustainable Living or Digital Technology, Year 8 students have fully embraced these subjects that are providing them with new learning opportunities, exploring their understandings and in many cases sparking new interests.

While our leaders of the Middle Years, the Year 9 students have started laying the foundation for their studies in the Later Years and beyond as they have had their first taste of elective subjects. With a range of elective specific activities, camps, excursions and incursions over the coming months, students will have numerous opportunities to engage fully with the curriculum.

As we move into the second half of Term 1, I would like to draw students attention to Friday 15 March. This is the date our first Grade Point Average (GPA) reports will be published for 2019.

These reports focus on the students work habits, by assessing the following criteria from 0 (Well Below Standard) – 4 (Well Above Standard);

- Participates constructively and remains on task
- Follows instructions and respects others learning
- Is organised and meets deadlines
- Reflects on progress and utilises feedback

I would like to encourage all students to take 5 minutes to reflect and assess where they believe they currently see their GPA score and make a concerted effort to lift that score for each criterion by one.

Share these goals with your parents and teachers so that they can support you in achieving these goals, as ultimately positive work habits will set you in good stead for future studies and life beyond school.



Dwayne Stojcevski | MIDDLE YEARS MINI SCHOOL LEADER

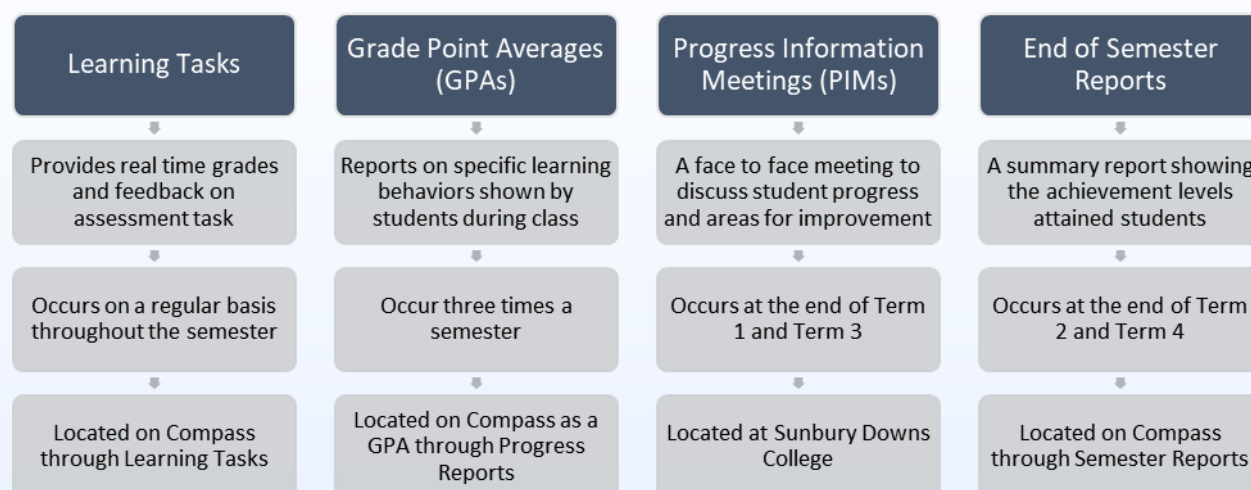


Assessment & Reporting

Assessment & Reporting

Reporting Structure in 2019

At Sunbury Downs College, parents and students are kept fully informed of student progress throughout the academic year through Compass Learning Tasks, Grade Point Average (GPA) reports, Progress information Meetings (PIMs) and Semester Reports.



Reporting Dates in 2019

Please note these important reporting dates.

Date & Time	Event
15 March 4:30pm	Term 1 GPAs
1 April 11:00am - 7:00pm	Progress Information Meetings
24 May 4:30pm	Term 2 Grade GPAs
28 June 4:30pm	Semester 1 Reports
2 August 4:30pm	Term 3 GPAs (Unit 3/4 and Senior VCAL Only)
12 August 4:00pm - 6:00pm	Progress Information Meetings (Unit 3/4 and Senior VCAL Only)
31 August 4:30pm	Term 3 GPAs
16 September 11:00am - 7:00pm	Progress Information Meetings
25 October 4:30pm	Term 4 GPAs (Year 10 & 11 Only)
15 November 4:30pm	Term 4 GPAs (Year 7, 8 & 9 Only)
19 December 4:30pm	Semester 2 Reports



Assessment & Reporting

Continuous Reporting through Compass Learning Tasks

Sunbury Downs College reports continuously throughout the Semester through Compass Learning Tasks. Parents and students are reminded to regularly check Learning Tasks to monitor student academic progress. A letter explaining how to check Learning Tasks has been published and distributed on Compass as a Newsfeed item.

The benefits of Continuous Reporting includes:

- Students and parents will have continuous access to academic progress and feedback – students will know where they are going, how they are going and how they are going to get there.
- Students will have the opportunity to reflect on their progress.
- Parents will be informed of progress (strengths and actions for future improvement) on a regular basis rather than waiting until the end of semester to receive important information.

VCE Assessment Schedules

All VCE Students have now received an Assessment Calendar with the dates of School Assessed Coursework (SACs) and School Assessed Tasks (SATs). The Assessment Calendar is also available as a newsfeed item on Compass.

This calendar has been created to support students in their preparation and study for Assessment Tasks. Parents are strongly encouraged to check this calendar so they are aware of busy study periods for their child.

Progress Information Meetings (PIMs)

Progress information Meetings will be held at the College on **Monday 1 April**. These meetings provide an opportunity for students, parents and teachers to discuss the Learning Tasks, GPAs, class work and current academic progress. Meeting with subject teachers will allow students to reflect upon their achievements and set goals for continued learning. Timetabled classes do not occur on these days and it is expected that all students attend meetings with their subject teachers. Progress Information Meetings are not a Pupil Free Day.

Details on the PIMs day and booking procedures will be distributed closer to the date.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 7 and 9. Students will complete tests in reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The NAPLAN tests are being held on 14 – 16 May.

Further information about NAPLAN can be found at <https://www.nap.edu.au/docs/default-source/default-document-library/naplan-on-paper-information-brochure-for-parents-and-carers.pdf?sfvrsn=2>



Courtney Ryan | LEADING TEACHER—FEEDBACK, ASSESSMENT & REPORTING



Learning Support

Sunbury Downs College student Natalee Wood back at school after stroke

Jessica Coates, Sunbury Leader - February 1, 2019 5:58pm



Natalee Wood suffered a brain aneurysm rupture, which lead to a grade five stroke. Picture: Rob Leeson

By all medical predictions, 18-year-old Natalee Wood shouldn't have gone back to school this week.

The Sunbury Downs College student was at home one Saturday morning in late 2017 when she suffered a grade five bleed brain aneurysm rupture, which lead to a severe stroke.

Through more than six months in hospital, 12 operations and intensive rehab, Ms Wood had to learn to walk and talk again, though she still has paralysis on the left side of her body.

Last week, she returned to the classroom to begin her last year of school.

After having her stroke, paramedics arrived in minutes and within 15 minutes of leaving Sunbury she was on an operating table at Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Ms Wood said she loved defying the expectations of her doctors and nurses.

"It feels awesome. I love doing it," she said. "My goal at the moment is to get to graduation and to finish school."



Natalee Wood suffered a brain aneurysm rupture, which lead to a grade five stroke. Pictured with her mother, Michelle.



Learning Support

After school finishes Ms Wood said she wanted to go to Deakin University and study a double degree of nursing and midwifery.

A driving force for recovery was neurosurgeon Dr Bhadu Kavar and the nursing team at Royal Melbourne Hospital.

“The best thing is the feeling when I go into hospital and my doctors and my neurosurgeons and nurses cry because I’m doing so well,” Ms Wood said.

Mum Michelle Wood said the family wouldn’t have been able to get through it without the support of their community.

“We’ve been overwhelmed with the community support. People have helped. The school community have helped make it possible for Natalee to go back to school,” she said.

“A lot of the teachers have checked on her, the Sunbury Scouts, the softball club and people we don’t even know. They’ve just come out of the woodwork.”

After four months at home, the proud mum said her daughter worked hard every day — but the real healing had only just began.

“Some days are harder than others, but she turns around and says she can’t change it, ‘I’ll work. I’ll make it work. I’ll find a way to get through it,’” she said.

“She’s had to fight every single day.”

jessica.coates@news.com.au



Thanks to our paramedics and one neurosurgeon Natalee Wood has returned to school to finish year 12. Picture: Rob Leeson



Nadia Cucanic | LEARNING SUPPORT COORDINATOR



Sunbury Lions Club

Sunbury Lions Youth of the Year



We are regularly told that 'the youth of today' are disinterested in the world around them and don't take responsibility for the global problems they will soon inherit. On Monday 18 February, two Sunbury Downs College students, Amber Karras (12C) and Daniel Saliba (12C), stepped up to the lectern, proving that this perception could not be further from the truth. Each took their turn to speak with fervour and grace on topics close to their hearts. Amber implored us not to baulk at the prospect of the terror and hate gripping the world, wisely helping us to appreciate the little daily acts that will bring about a more harmonious world. Daniel provided listeners a cautionary tale on authoritarianism overseas, warning of the risk to democracies like our own should we fail to counteract misinformation and "fake news" head on.

As well as sitting extensive interviews with the panel, Amber and Daniel were required to speak impromptu for two minutes on topics as diverse as 'Who would be your ideal mentor?' and 'What really makes you angry?' -- for anyone intimidated by public speaking (most of us), I'm sure you can imagine how daunting this would have been! Our students represented the College with pride and courage alongside competitors from Sunbury and Salesian Colleges. They also displayed great generosity of spirit in congratulating and supporting the overall winner from Salesian. I could not help but think that the world is going to be in very safe hands with students such as our own soon to take the reins. Congratulations again, Amber and Daniel!



Alexander Eastwood | PUBLIC SPEAKING & DEBATING COORDINATOR



Safer Internet Day was celebrated at SDC on Tuesday 5 February as well as in more than 140 other countries around the world this year. The global theme for 2019 was 'Together for a better internet'. This recognises that every one of us, regardless of our age, experience or expertise, has a unique and important role to play in contributing toward an online environment that we can all share and enjoy. The theme was extended to include the 4R's which are the most important skills Australians need to create a safer, more positive online environment incorporating respect, responsibility, reasoning and resilience.

For more advice on eSafety visit



<https://esafety.gov.au/>



Christine Jajo | eLEARNING COORDINATOR



Swimming Carnival

House Report

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome students, parents and staff to the House Program for 2019.

We would like congratulate the following students for their selection as Captains for 2019



	Aitken	Evans	Mitchell	Jackson
House Master	Mr Alexander Eastwood	Ms Jacqui Demetriou	Mr Oliver Taylor	Ms Nadine Gleeson
Later Years Captain	Patrick Attard	Shelby Holter	Nathan Crossland	Tara Kelly
Middle Years Captain	Serena Biewer	Jesse Ramsay	Chelsea Egan	Anh Vo

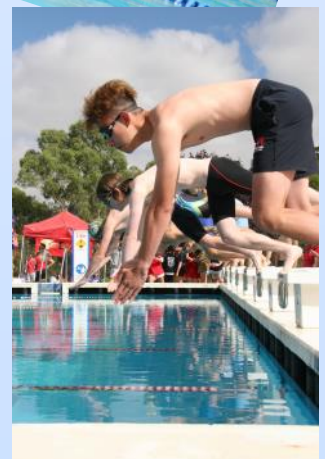
Our first major event for the year was the school Swimming Carnival last Friday 22 February. Many students enthusiastically participated in a variety of events including 50m events for backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle along with relay events. There were also 100m events for the stronger swimmers in combined age groups. Many of our less confident swimmers had great fun participating in the wading, kickboard and noodle events. The volleyball competitions throughout the day were very enjoyable with points contributing to the totals for the day. While spectators were treated to a fancy dress parade and a dance off lead by team House Captains.

The most pleasing aspect of the carnival was the contribution of many students organising, leading and assisting with activities throughout the day. We would especially like to thank the Technical Crew for their organisation of sound equipment, set up and constant monitoring throughout the day. Also, Mr Josh Traum, who led our announcing for the day, calling events, encouraging students and contributing to the positive atmosphere of the carnival. Mr Dwayne Stojcevski's VETiS Sport & Recreation class did a fantastic job running the "non-swimmer" events in the small pool. Ms Sue Lake and her team organized the Student Leadership BBQ on the day. Ms Jayne Duffy also ran a bake sale with the support of some students in the Production. There were many other students who assisted staff in their duties for the day and we thank them for their efforts.





Swimming Carnival





Swimming Carnival

Results for the day are as follows:

AGE GROUP RESULTS

Age Group	Female Champion	Male Champion
12-13 year old	Carissa Greaves	Angel Vujasinovic
14 year old	Alisha Clarkson	Ethan Hennessy
15 year old	Serena Biewer	James Wilcox
16 year old	Serena O'Rorke	Ben Attard
17-20 year old	Lauren Ashford	Patrick Attard

OVERALL RESULTS

Place	House	Points
1 st	Aitken	1556
2 nd	Evans	1275
3 rd	Mitchell	873
4 th	Jackson	872

Just a reminder that our next House event is our School Athletics Carnival Tuesday 30 April at a new venue, Melton Athletics Track.



Susan Aldridge | HOUSE COORDINATOR



Brooke Laidley | HOUSE COORDINATOR



College Council Elections

College Council Elections – March 2019

Each year Sunbury Downs Colleges undertakes an election process for the College Council composition. We will be looking for **nominations** from 1st March 2019. Please carefully read the information below:

[What is a School Council and what does it do?](#)

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Order and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

[Who is on the School Council?](#)

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. DET employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school
- A mandated elected DET employee member category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members
- An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is a fourth category of membership:

A mandated elected Student member category, 2 positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

[Why is parent membership so important?](#)

Parents on School Councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

[Do I need special experience to be on School council?](#)

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, Councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.



College Council Elections

[Code of conduct for School Councillors](#)

School Councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act* 2004. School councillors must abide by the *Code of Conduct – Employees* issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** (be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty)
- **act in good faith** in the best interests of the school (work cooperatively with other Councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds)
- **act fairly and impartially** (consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self interest)
- **use information appropriately** (respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available)
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** (accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school)
- **use the position appropriately** (not use the position as a Councillor to gain an advantage)
- **act in a financially responsible manner** (observe all the above principles when making financial decisions)
- **comply with relevant legislation and policies** (know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law)
- **demonstrate leadership and stewardship** (set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable).

[Indemnity for School Council members](#)

School Councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the Councillor in good faith in:

- the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a Councillor, or
- the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a Council.

In other words, School Councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by Council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

[How can you become involved?](#)

The most obvious way is to vote in the School Council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the School Council
encouraging another person to stand for election.



College Council Elections

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All School Council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent Member Category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for Parent membership of the School Council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the Principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on Council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Consider standing for election to School Council this year.

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.



Jenny Corbett | EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



Careers

YEAR 10 STUDENTS – WORK EXPERIENCE

Work Experience placements need to be finalised this term so all Work Experience Arrangement Forms are signed by all parties and the OHS testing is completed. The dates are Monday 24 June-Friday 28 June.

We encourage parents to help support their teenager for Work Experience, either within their work environment or family friends. All Year 10 students are required to do a Work Experience placement including VCAL.

All students must be 15 years of age when they commence their Work Experience placement. If you need further assistance please don't hesitate to contact me.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE – WORK EXPERIENCE

The UOM Faculty of Science applications are now open. Applications must be completed by 1st March, 2019 on line. Areas of Interest: Astrophysics, Bio21, Biology, Geology, Climate and Weather, Engineering Research, Geography, Mathematics and Statistics, Information Technology, Nanoscale Imaging, Particle Physics.

Students will be asked two questions:

1. Which areas of science you prefer, and why
2. Why you would like to participate in the Work Experience program hosted by the Faculty of Science

YOUTH MAYOR & YOUTH DEPUTY MAYOR WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Hume Youth Services is offering two Year 10 students an exciting opportunity to be the Youth Mayor and Youth Deputy Mayor during Victorian Youth Week (5 to 14 April, 2018). The one week Work Experience will include attending a Council meeting and events with the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor. Students will also work alongside the Youth Services team to undertake community engagement during Youth Week. Students will have a great opportunity to see what it truly means to be Mayor and Deputy Mayor and how the decisions that the Council make affect the whole municipality.

Applications will close on Monday 4 March. More information or to apply please visit www.hume.vic.gov.au/Youthmayor

YEAR 12 – UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE- HANSEN SCHOLARSHIP

Students interested in attending UOM in 2020:

The University of Melbourne's new flagship equity scholarship opens for applications on 1 March.

Twenty exceptional students from around Australia will be chosen in the first intake for our most generous scholarship to date, starting their undergraduate studies at Melbourne in 2020.

The program brings together an unrivalled package of benefits for high-achieving students who may otherwise struggle financially to access higher education.

It offers free accommodation, living allowances, funds for an international exchange, internship or voluntary opportunity, plus a tailored enrichment program including academic orientation, study skills, mentoring and cultural activities.

<https://scholarships.unimelb.edu.au/hansen>

Opens the 1 Mar and closes 21 March



Careers

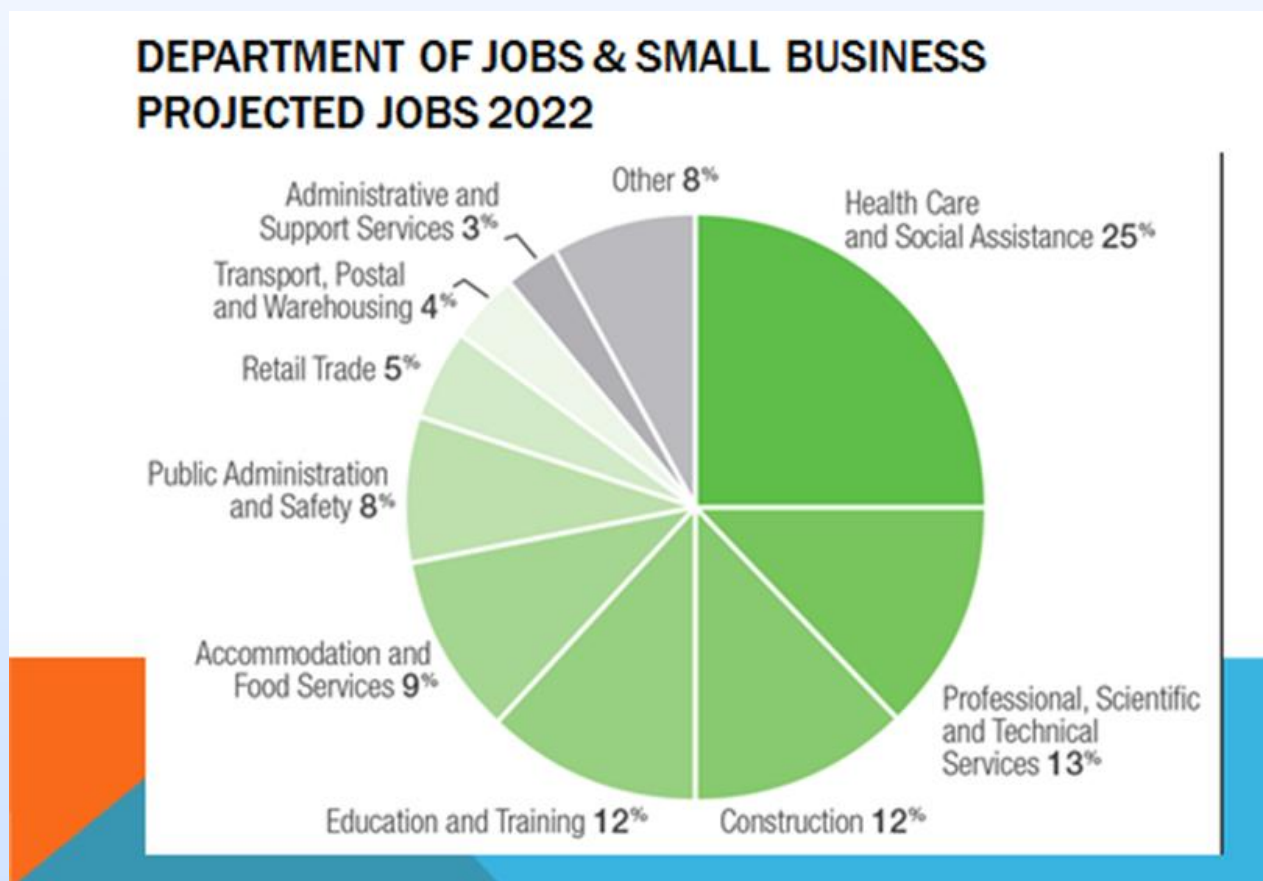
JOB OUTLOOK

Will I be employed after my course?

Job Outlook makes it easy to find and understand career information.

Use the career profiles on Job Outlook to learn about the future outlook, pay, main tasks, and physical and other demands of careers that interest you. Find out about the skills, knowledge and abilities you may need to get and keep a job. When you are ready to take action, follow links to job vacancies and related courses. If you are not sure what sort of work you want to do or are considering a career change, the Career Quiz can help you to think about your work preferences and to get ideas for careers you can aim for.

Job Outlook provides a simple snapshot of the industries and careers that are likely to be in demand in 5 years. This can be useful information when you are thinking about future study and career options.





Careers

CAREER ADVISORY SERVICE FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS

The Department has engaged the Career Education Association of Victoria, which will be working with Career Analysts Pty Ltd, to deliver the Career Advisory Service for all Year 9 students in Victorian government schools.

About the service

Starting in Term 1 2019, all Year 9 students will be offered the Morrisby Online Career Diagnostic Assessment. This will take under two hours, and should be conducted in school time – typically in class groups or larger. Students with additional needs will be considered on an individual basis.

Following the assessment, both students and their parents will be encouraged to consider the information and answer some questions in preparation for a one-on-one career counselling session. This will be conducted by a qualified, external career practitioner, and will be carried out during school hours and on school premises. The discussions will include short-term specific subject choices as well as training, higher education and employment pathways and options.

Written interview notes summarising the counselling session and any action points will be provided to the school.

The outcome of this process will be to improve the quality and understanding of pathways for Year 9 students.



Diane Bouras | CAREERS COORDINATOR



The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccines to Year 7 and 10 students. These vaccines provide protection against:

Meningococcal A,C,W,Y – one dose for Year 10 students

The Hume City Council immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 28 February 2019 if you do not want your contact details given to the Hume City Council immunisation service.

Additionally, the Commonwealth government is funding vaccinations for all children under 20 years of age who missed any scheduled vaccines, including a catch up program for Meningococcal ACWY vaccine for adolescents aged 15-19 years of age who have not already received the vaccine in school. If students have missed vaccines, either in childhood or adolescence, and require catch-up vaccines, they should speak with their immunisation provider. (ie. local council or GP).



Dr. Jennifer L. Smith

Michelle Hartwell | HEALTH, WELLBEING & SPECIALIST SERVICES BRANCH SECONDARY SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM



Student Services

Firstly we would like to welcome Ms Amanda Carlyle to our Student Services team. Amanda is our new Wellbeing Coordinator. Amanda brings a lot of passion and experience to help support our students, staff and families.

Student support groups:

Please contact Students Services or Year Level Coordinators if you want to know more about our groups.

GO Girls:

Our girls group focuses on building self-esteem, confidences, social connections and healthy relationships for Years 7-9. It is run in conjunction with HUME Youth Services.

Loss and Grief. Good Grief Seasons for Growth Programme:

Seasons for Growth is a successful education programme that recognises changes faced by young people through the experience of loss by death, separation and divorce. Based on research that supports the focus on self-esteem, managing feelings, problem solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

Health update:

Please insure that the school has been provided with a current up to date copy of your child's asthma and anaphylaxis care plans. All plans must be signed by a health care professional, the school must be provided a COLOUR copy. If you are unsure if your child's care plan is current at the school please contact Wendy at the front desk.

National day of action against bullying and violence: 15/3/19

Is an initiative of all Australian education authorities to encourage the school community to stand together and stamp out bullying and violence. Bullying. NO WAY.

Harmony day: 21/3/19

Harmony Day is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home - from the traditional owners.

Teeth On Wheels: 29/4/19

Teeth On Wheels will be coming back to SDC this year. Teeth on wheels provide a service where the dentist comes to the school. With help from the government, Medicare has a child dental benefits schedule that provides access to benefits for basic dental services for children aged 2 – 17 years of age. Teeth on wheels will check eligibility for children and be in contact with you. Every student will be sent home with consent form next week. The consent form must be completed and returned to the school or can be completed on line : <https://teethonwheels.com.au/consent-forms/consent-eform/> Teeth On Wheels visit the school every 6 months for follow up.



Amanda Carlyle | WELLBEING
COORDINATOR



Michelle Hartwell | HEALTH, WELLBEING &
SPECIALIST SERVICES BRANCH SECONDARY
SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM



Nicholas Livingston | YOUTH / HEALTH
WORKER



Community News



PLAYERS WANTED 2019 SEASON

U/11's, U/13's, U/15's YOUTH GIRLS
& SENIOR WOMEN'S TEAM

SUNBURY FNC IS CURRENTLY SEEKING INTEREST FROM PLAYERS TO JOIN OUR **UNDER 11's, UNDER 13's & UNDER 15's YOUTH GIRLS SIDE** IN ADDITION TO OUR **SENIOR WOMEN'S TEAM**

WE CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN THE ESSENDON DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE (EDFL), WHERE WE ARE FIELDING 6 FEMALE TEAMS IN 2019 & WE ARE WANTING **YOU** TO BE A PART OF IT

SUNBURY FNC IS THE LONGEST RUNNING FEMALE FOOTBALL CLUB IN SUNBURY AND WE ARE KEEN TO HAVE **YOU** JOIN US AND CONTINUE OUR GROWTH IN 2019 & BEYOND

THE COACH CONTACT DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

UNDER 11's- MATT TREMELLEN (0447 600 408)

UNDER 13's- MICHELLE TAYLOR (0403 204 503)

UNDER 15's- MATT ELLIS (0410 620 239)

SENIOR WOMEN- PHIL LITHGOW (0409 399 115)



INSTAGRAM- sunburylions_womensaf



FACEBOOK- Sunbury Lions Women's & Youth Girls Football Club



WEB PAGE- www.sunburyfnc.com.au



SUNBURY FNC PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:





Community News



Alannah & Madeline
Foundation



Victorian
Responsible
Gambling
Foundation

Gaming: Keep calm and continue parenting

FREE WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

Video games are more enticing to young people than ever before. There are thousands of games vying for their attention, and they can play them anywhere, anytime.

Help your children navigate the gaming world in a positive way

Join us at this free workshop to gain a better understanding of gaming and what you need to be aware of as a parent.

DATE: 27 MARCH AT 7PM

LOCATION: SUNBURY COLLEGE

HOW TO REGISTER: Email: hoey.cecilia.ma
edumail.vic.gov.au
or call 9744-1066