



Respect

Resilience

Ambition

Community

Principal's Report



Important Dates

2023

- **Monday 13 November**
Year 7 Transition Parent Information Night
- **Tuesday 14 November**
SDC Year 6 -7 Transition
Year 10 SWOT VAC Day
- **Wednesday 15 November**
Year 10 Exams commence
- **Friday 17 November**
Music Night
- **Wednesday 22 November**
Year 10 Exams conclude
- **Thursday 23 November**
Awards Ceremony
- **Friday 24 November**
Last Day Year 11
- **Tuesday 28 November**
Year 8 & 9 Exams commence
- **Friday 1 December**
Year 8 & 9 Exams conclude
- **Monday 4 December**
Year 7—9 Step Up
- **Friday 8 December**
Year 10 Formal

College Absence Line:
9744 0500

A reminder to parents that when your student 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 hope that you and your families are all well. We have welcomed all students and staff back for the commencement of the Term 4 teaching and learning program.

We congratulate the Year 12 class of 2023 on reaching the end of their formal secondary schooling. We extend our support at this time to the cohort and encourage all Year 12 students to continue remaining positive and perform the best they can during their examinations.

College Production – The Little Mermaid

Cast and crew are to be congratulated on the staging of this year's College production – The Little Mermaid at the end of Term 3. Highly entertaining, humorous and a terrific way once again to showcase the amazing talents of students and staff at our College.

I have received very positive feedback from local primary school Principals at a recent meeting whose students' attended matinee shows and also from parents of students who attend our College. Once again a great spectacle, congratulations!



Principal's Report

Year 12 Valedictory Dinner/Celebration Day

Recently we acknowledged the end of the teaching and learning program for Year 12 students. A whole school Celebration Day Assembly with students from all year levels was held and we publicly acknowledged and recognised their achievement. The maturity and understanding demonstrated by all students on this day allowed for us to celebrate and showcase the journey of this cohort in a symbolic way.

A successful Valedictory Dinner/Graduation Night was held at Lakeside Banquet and Reception Centre on Friday 13 November 2023. The graduating class of 2023 received graduation medallions and certificates, with family members enjoying this great occasion.

Sunbury Schools - Numeracy Community of Practice

Mathematics and Numeracy teachers from Sunbury Downs College and Sunbury Primary Schools are collaborating in a community of practice. The aim is to improve teaching capacity in the middle years in the subject area of mathematics and numeracy. Curriculum development, resource sharing, teaching pedagogy and classroom observations are important components of the learning project. Student transitions and school partnership development are also being further strengthened.

Australian Mathematics Competition

The AMC (Australian Maths Competition) results for 2023 have been received by the College. Some great news received from the AMT (Australian Maths Trust). Three of our students have qualified to an invitation only event – the AIMO (Australian Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad) based on their results in the AMC.

This event is a highly challenging, 4-hour problem-solving competition that was conducted in late September. The students are Connor Ferguson (8E), Joel Linard (9E) and Kush Tathed (10E).

Minor Capital Works Building Program – Student Amenity Upgrade

Building works have commenced on the upgrading of the Middle Years and Later Years Student amenities. The works have been divided into two smaller projects – Middle Years (1) and Later Years (2). We anticipate that the first stage will be completed in mid-December 2023 and the second stage will conclude in early February 2024.

Awards Ceremony

Planning and preparations are underway for the annual Awards Ceremony. This will be conducted on Thursday 23 November 2023.

Student Leadership

Congratulations to the recently appointed student **College Captaincy teams for 2024**.

The **Later Years Senior College Captains** are Prisha Maini and David Geissler. The Vice Captains are Declan O'Donovan and Diya Ninan. The new team was introduced to the whole school at the Year 12 Celebration Day Assembly. It was terrific to have parents and family members in the audience at this time to witness the induction process of their children.

The **Middle Years Captains** are Bella Carusso-Chestnut and Julian Cucanic. The Vice Captains are Alexis Bellchambers and Isabelle Mogridge.



Principal's Report

MUSE Evening Wednesday 8 November 2023

The annual MUSE event was held on Wednesday 8 November. This was an opportunity for our Year 12 students to showcase their talents to the broader community. Art works and three-dimensional pieces were on display in our gallery space. I congratulate all students who are contributing to this event and have produced remarkable pieces of work.

Staffing – 2024

The successful candidate for the advertised Leading Teacher position (Year 9 &10 Sub School Leader) is Ms Kylie Middlemast.

We welcome the following ongoing staff to the College for 2024.

Ms Kate Plieger (English/Humanities)

Ms Olivia Migani (Arts)

The following staff are leaving the College.

Ms Julianne Brown (end of year)

Ms Casey Ferris (23 October 2023)

Mr Peter Clarke (7 November 2023)

Mr Christopher Connor (1 November 2023)

Workforce planning and preparation continues in readiness for the 2024 academic year. Additional information regarding successful appointments to positions of responsibility will be communicated at the in due course.

Please continue to take care.

Regards,

Warwick Beynon
Principal



Mr Warwick Beynon | PRINCIPAL



Year 7 Science

On Friday 8 September the Year 7 students took part in an incursion about Endangered Species to support their work in Science.

The students were able to see, touch and hold rare and endangered Australian species. They also learned about conservation efforts and how we can all help conserve and protect their future.

Our Year 7 students are commended on their excellent behaviour, upholding the Colleges values throughout the incursion. They asked some excellent questions and had a great time!



Courtney Thorn | YEAR 7 COORDINATOR



Year 8

Sunbury Downs College enthusiastically welcomed the **No Bull Movement** to engage with our Year 8 students, providing a compelling anti-bullying presentation that explored essential topics of personal value, building strong friendships, combatting bullying and sparking positive change within our school and community. This session featured a DJ - Icebreakers and inspirational speakers who delivered thought-provoking content. The aim was to empower students with the skills to identify and navigate various challenges, while helping them recognise how their choices, friendships and self-esteem can profoundly influence their life journey. The event left both students and staff feeling empowered, armed with invaluable strategies for self-belief.



Katherine Norris | STUDENT WELLBEING COORDINATOR



Footy Day

On Friday 15 September Footy Day was held, being one of the most anticipated days on the SDC calendar every year and this year did not disappoint. The infamous Staff vs Year 12s footy match, supported by the sausage sizzle and perfect weather, was an attention grabber as always. Students flocked to the oval to get a boundary line spot in the hopes to get the best view of the match. The excitement and roar of the crowd created the perfect stage and atmosphere for teachers and students alike.

This was short lived for the students though, as the teachers comfortably took out the win 72-20, through sheer ambition and professional collaboration. A clear best on ground performance from Alex Ritchie, with a match high 3 goals and an attempt at an EPL volley special, saw the teachers victorious for another year and solidifying his spot in the side (and teaching position).

Jack Merzel and Anthony Bongiovanni were also named as the best for the teachers.

After the match some hopeful Year 7s came and asked for autographs from a few of their teacher idols, while also stating that they will beat the teachers when they are in Year 12, re-instating the wishful thinking of future Year 12 students for years to come.





Footy Day



Nathan Snelson | HEALTH & PE TEACHER



Year 7 & 8 Rugby

Year 7 and 8 boys attended a rugby gala day at Haines Drive Reserve Wyndham Vale on Tuesday the 17th of October. The boys played in four games against other schools in the western region. Winning their last match of the day with excellent resilience, courage and determination shown throughout the day they represented the school extremely well and should be very proud of their efforts.



Decklan Jessop | HEALTH & PE TEACHER



Year 7 & 8 Basketball

On Monday 9 October, students in Year 7 and 8 competed in the Interschool Basketball tournament held at Cobblebank Stadium Melton. Students played in a group pool, playing three games winning two and drawing one making it a tight finish on percentage and progressing to the grand final. The team unfortunately lost the final but played well as a team, representing our school with **Respect, Community** and **Ambition** values. Students had lots of fun and kept their heads held high throughout the day. Sunbury Downs College is very proud of their achievements.



Decklan Jessop | HEALTH & PE TEACHER



Production

On Thursday 14 and Friday 15 September, Sunbury Downs College presented our 2023 musical production of The Little Mermaid which showcased the many talents of our students. It was a unique experience for the Sunbury Downs Community to enjoy this amazing performance. Well done to all involved from our staff to the talented students whose dedication, hard work and perseverance was outstanding.





Year 9 Camp

On Wednesday 18 October our Year 9 students attended an Outdoor Education Camp returning on Friday 20 October 2023. The camp was held at the Rubicon Outdoors Centre—Thornton Campus.



Decklan Jessop | HEALTH & PE TEACHER



Year 10 Geography

On Wednesday 25 October the Year 10 Geography class went on an excursion to Fisherman's Bend. We went to several different urban parks looked at and assessed their wellness, functionality, value, green coverage, biodiversity, and condition. Westgate Park was a massive, already well-established park near the industrial zone of Fishermans Bend. We then went to the South Melbourne Markets and tried some interesting foods. With the rain getting ever heavier, we then pushed on to the recently developed Kirrip Park, and Buckhurst St Linear Park, which has only just began developing. Overall, we had a good experience despite the bad weather and learnt much about green spaces in urban areas.

Theo Panetta 10A

On Wednesday 25 October the Year 10 Geography students went on an excursion to Fisherman's Bend in South Melbourne to learn about the green spaces in the area. The students visited Westgate Park where they learnt about the about the facilities and some went on a search to find a Tawny Frogmouth, unfortunately, the students were unsuccessful.

After the team left Westgate Park they visited South Melbourne Market to get some food then on the way to Kirrip and Buckhurst St linear park the class got rained and hailed on. Showing resilience, the class made it back to the station and made it through the excursion even though it was one of the rainiest days in October.

Bella Jackson 10E



Jules Brown | TRANSITION LEADER/GEOGRAPHY AND HUMANITIES



Maths & Numeracy

Maths Olympiad 2023:

The Maths Olympiad results are in. Students had to solve 5 questions in 4 rounds to gain a maximum of 20 points. The questions were challenging, so all students who managed to get even one correct answer have done an amazing job.



Three students from Year 8 achieved in the top 10% of all competitors across Australia. Congratulations to Ben, Connor and Kingston from 8E. All three boys received a top 10% badge and Ben also received a trophy for gaining first place with an awesome score of 16 out of 20 correct answers. Well done boys!

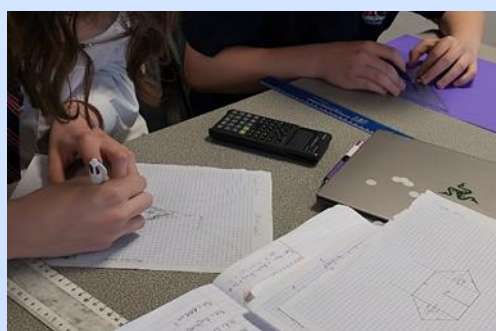
Certificates will be presented to students at Year level assemblies and in classes.

	Name	Points
Top 10%	Ben Reynolds	16
	Connor Ferguson	15
	Kingston Bonett	14
Year 7 - 1 st	Jacob Bernales	8
Year 7 equal 2 nd	Amaya Wanigarathna	6
	Tiriki Patten	
	Jungmin Seo	
	Alvan Thong	
	Jake Thomas	
Special Encouragement Award	Savannah Pott	
	Alvan Thong	



In our classes:

8E students have been exploring Total Surface Area by designing and constructing prisms





Maths & Numeracy



Hands-on learning is always helpful to understand the concepts in mathematics.

Year 8 to 10 exam preparation

To be successful in mathematics, you need not only to read, attend class, and study, but you must practice the skills as often as you can. Mathematics is not a subject you learn by watching; you must DO mathematics to LEARN mathematics.

Key steps to revise for assessments: Do your revision tasks and

1. Practice - redo questions you have done before. Cover up the working out and see if you can remember all the steps. Use worked examples from your index book or textbook to help you.
2. Draw diagrams. It's often useful to draw a picture or use models to help understand a question. Use the space available to do this.
3. Know your vocabulary. Many maths words have different meanings to their normal English word definition. eg. volume, net, simplify, difference.
4. Show your working out. It's expected that working out is done for all questions, including multiple choice. There is space provided to write next to the question, use it.
5. Read questions carefully. Highlight key words and instructions. Read to the end of the sentence (eg. write your answer to 2 decimal places). Re-read the question again after you have done a calculation to see if you have answered the question asked.
6. Know how to use your calculator, and bring it to each class and assessment.

Helpful websites to practice maths:

www.mathisfun.com

<https://au.ixl.com/maths>

If you have any questions regarding mathematics or numeracy please contact us.



Lauren Jackson | LEARNING SPECIALIST (NUMERACY)



Himneet Kaur | MATHEMATICS DOMAIN LEADER



Community News

EQUAL THE CONTEST

When the rules exclude you, rewrite them

**Film Screenings and
Panel Discussions**



Sunbury - Tuesday 28 November

Sunbury Global Learning Centre
44 Macedon Street

Kyneton - Monday 4 December

Kyneton Mechanics Institute
81 Mollison Street

6pm – 8:30pm | Light catering provided

Register (essential): www.surveymonkey.com/r/equalthecontest



Panel discussions facilitated by local women's health organisations

Panels include filmmaker and player Mitch Nivalis

