



Respect

Resilience

Ambition

Community

## Principal's Report



### Important Dates

**2023**

- **Tuesday 12 December**  
State-wide Year 6-7 Transition Day
- **Wednesday 20 December**  
Last Day of Term 4  
2.25pm finish

Dear Sunbury Downs College Community,

As we near the end of the year, the College is busy planning for 2024. The subject selection and course confirmation process for students is finalised and this completes the planning required to create the 2024 timetable.

The Year 12 end of year examination process has concluded and we conducted a Valedictory ceremony for all graduating Year 12 students at the College to acknowledge each student's achievement.

The annual Academic Awards Assembly has been conducted and we thank the community for coming together publicly to recognise the students. Congratulations to all award winners.

The Year 10 formal was held on Friday 8th December at Luxor Receptions. This is a significant school event and allowed Year 10 students to celebrate and share together the end of the school year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who have organised this event.

We congratulated and publicly thanked two current staff members for their years of service to SDC at the recent Awards Assembly;  
Ms Sue Lake - 35 Years of service to Sunbury Downs College  
Ms Rita Barichievich - 25 Years of service to Sunbury Downs College

### **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



# Principal's Report

## Staffing

At the end of the year there are staff who will be farewelled by the College. We are very grateful for their contribution to our College and wish them well for the future. The staff leaving are:

- Ms Julianne Brown - William Ruthven College
- Mr Venkata Aluri - Rosehill Secondary College
- Mr Christopher Johnson - Bayside Secondary College
- Mr Jim Millman - Victoria University College

## Sub School Structure 2024

The College has planned and put in place a revised Year Level Student Engagement and Wellbeing structure in preparation for 2024. The current Mini School structure has been revised and Sub Schools will replace these and commence operation in Term 1 2024:

- Junior Sub School (Year 7 & 8)
- Middle Sub School (Year 9 & 10)
- Senior Sub School (Year 11 & 12)

Each Sub School has an Assistant Principal and Leading Teacher aligned to the area as well as Year level Coordinators and Home Group teachers.

The Year level coordination teams for 2024 are:

- Year 7 - Ms Kate Plieges and Mr Jack Merzel
- Year 8 - Ms Rachael Williams and Mr Decklan Jessop
- Year 9 - Ms Courtney Thorn and Mr Nathan Snelson
- Year 10 - Ms Courtney Thorn and Ms Himneet Kaur
- Year 11 - Ms Nicollette Plakas
- Year 12 - Ms Tierney Carew

## Strategic Plan School Review

The Strategic Plan School review process has concluded and a new goals and targets for 2024 – 2027 have been drafted for consideration by the leadership team.

**GOAL 1** – Maximise learning growth for all students.

**GOAL 2** – Enhance student engagement and wellbeing.

There were areas for improvement noted, but positive achievements were also acknowledged. The following highlights were discussed:

- Building program(s) which have improved facilities and teaching and learning spaces
- Extensive Extra Curricular offerings which promote community and belonging for students
- Student Services expertise and supports provided to students, staff and parents
- Professional Learning of staff developing capacity and knowledge linked to Positive Behaviours and Trauma Informed Practices, engaging classrooms.



# Principal's Report

## **Year 12 VCE Results**

VCE students received their results on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December. All Year 12 students are to be congratulated on their achievements.

I am pleased to announce that the 2023 College Dux is Lily Morgan achieving an ATAR score of 99.2. This is an extraordinary achievement!

## **Assessment and Reporting**

The end of year assessment and reporting processes are underway, and staff are currently finalising Semester 2 student reports. Reports will be published on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Step Up / Orientation Program**

Step Up and Orientation programs have been implemented by the College to prepare students for their 2024 learning. Tuesday 12 December 2023 the state-wide Grade 6 into Year 7 Transition Day was conducted. Our expected student numbers at Year 7 are 164 for next year.

I would like to thank all members of College community for their support throughout 2023. The College has come a long way this year and 2024 promises to be another terrific year.

Have a great Christmas vacation with friends and family. Above all travel safely and look after each other.

Regards,

Warwick Beynon  
Principal



**Mr Warwick Beynon | PRINCIPAL**



# House Report

Congratulations to the following students on being selected as Middle Years and Later Years House Captains for 2024.

## Aitken

Captain - Ashley Hennessy

Vice Captain - Tyler Anderson



## Evans

Captain - Nathan Richards

Vice Captain - Sonechka Javier



## Mitchell

Captain - Lana Hateley

Vice Captain - Isabelle Mogridge



## Jackson

Captain - Eliza Lee

Vice Captain - Amerie Taylor



I look forward to working with these students in 2024.



Susan Aldridge | HOUSE COORDINATOR



# Robotics Competition

On Friday 10 November, the SDC Robotics team competed in the REAL Robotics day. There were 16 teams competing on the day. The objective was to design and program a LEGO spike prime robot to complete a series of missions. These could involve:

- moving objects to specified places on the mat
- pushing levers up
- Pulling rings to move objects etc.

Each mission had a particular level of difficulty and different points associated with it.

Part 1 – Round 2 competition: <https://youtu.be/IfGgilD05jE>

Part 2 – Practice round: <https://youtu.be/GvGwTiep2UA>

Our team achieved 195 points on the day, with the winning team getting 220 points so it was very close. Unfortunately for us, some of our missions didn't quite work as well as they did in practice. However, all of the students put in a great deal of effort and had fun on the day.

Thank you to everyone who supported the team, it was greatly appreciated.



**Lauren Jackson** | LEARNING SPECIALIST (NUMERACY)



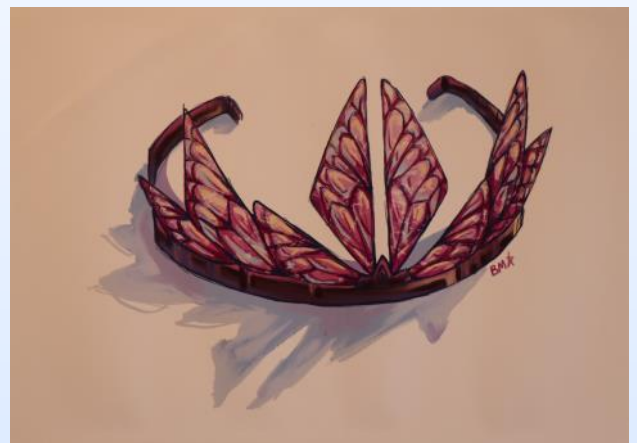
# MUSE

On the Wednesday 8 November the Year 12 Visual Communication Design students exhibited their work in the annual Art and Design end of year exhibition – MUSE.

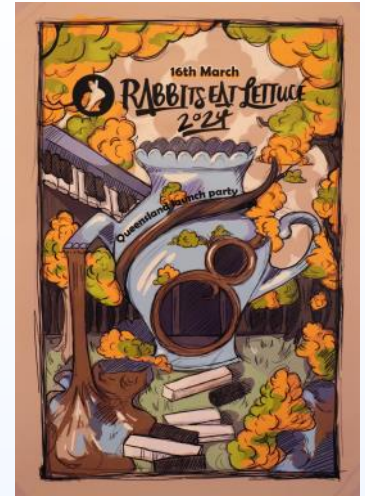
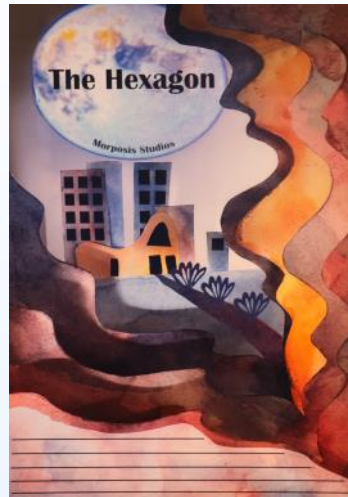
This year, the Visual Communication Design students alongside their teacher Ms Terese Crea worked tirelessly and diligently to design solutions to problems that they have identified by thinking outside the box and utilising their creativity to its full potential.

Alongside the Year 12 work, a selection of artworks by the art and design teachers was on display. This was an opportunity for the viewers to enjoy the different aesthetics and styles that each staff member brings into our community and highlight the ways it enriches our students' experiences.

Family and friends of students were able to enjoy tips about being a creative individual from our guest speaker, artist Ms Louise Meuwissen, who shared her journey as an artist and a creative person.



**Raneen Wardy | ART AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION**





# Movember

Thank you to all staff who participated in, and supported our annual Movember efforts. Your support raised much needed funds and discussion about several important health issues, namely mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer research and education, and testicular cancer research and education.

Should you wish to donate, please access the following link:

<https://movember.com/t/sunbury-downs-college?mc=5>



**Riedwaan Nassiep** | LATER YEARS MINI-SCHOOL LEADER (Acting)



# Community News

## International Day of People with Disability Festival

Featuring 'The Birds' by BoilOver Performance Ensemble and  
'Momentum' by the Women's Circus  
plus workshops, stalls and roving entertainment

Saturday 2 December 2023 - doors open 10am  
Hume Global Learning Centre, 44 Macedon Street, Sunbury

Tickets free -  
[www.linktr.ee/sunburycobaw](http://www.linktr.ee/sunburycobaw) or QR



BOIL OVER...

women's circus



Photo by Matt Gleeson