



**Year 9
2018**

**Course Selection Handbook for
students undertaking Year 9,
2018**

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INTRODUCTION

At Plenty Valley Christian College, we are committed to providing quality learning in a Christian environment. We also support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including:

- Elected government
- The rule of law
- Equal rights for all before the law
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech and association
- The values of openness and understanding others

Year 9, at PVCC, marks a clear beginning of the more formal aspects of secondary education. It is the first of two years in the middle secondary. These are years where opportunities for a much more varied schooling experience occur. Students are given opportunities to test themselves, find out what really interests them and have their eyes opened to a broader range of experiences and perspectives.

There is an increased emphasis on students taking responsibility for their personal organisation and engagement in the learning process. Students at this developmental stage commonly desire to be treated in a more adult fashion and be given greater freedom and trust. One of our goals is to directly assist students to understand that such freedom and trust require responsibility in equal measure. Our desire is to work with parents toward this goal.

In Year 9 students will undertake a number of Core subjects and will be able to select two from a number of electives in two Elective Blocks, including continuing their language study of Indonesian or French.

Students will have increased exposure to Science and will be placed in one of the Mathematics classes and one of the English classes that best suit their ability level. Students are also exposed to the technology areas, as in Year 8, and in addition are introduced to Civics.

Students undertake examinations at the end of each semester. These are designed to provide experience and preparation for this component of VCE style assessment.

All Year 9 students also undertake the Federal Government's NAPLAN tests during Term 2.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are a number of activities offered to Year 9 students such as Inter-school Sport, concerts and music performance evenings, debating groups, as well as opportunities to help with Primary School sporting activities. Many of these require leadership and students are encouraged to become involved in these activities to help them develop as individuals and as part of a community. The skills developed become very important in future years when we look for students to take more significant leadership roles in the Senior School.

In keeping with our emphasis on providing students with opportunities to broaden their experiences and gain different perspectives, a number of strategic activities are placed throughout the year.

Students will attend a Year Level Camp in Term Four. In 2016, it will be held in Harrietteville in Victoria's northeast. Emphasis is placed on physical activities, the local environment and personal reflections on relationships. An optional Outdoor Education Opportunity is also available to students and occurs late in Terms 1 and 2. This five day camp at Wollangarra, near Licola, involves students experiencing a 2-night 3-day hike in Victoria's 'High Country'. A focus of the camp is to develop a healthy perspective towards the environment.

Formal applications will begin after the Year 9 Parent Information Night.

In the last week of Term Two, our Year 9 students take part in our Student Community Involvement Programme (SCIP) whereby each student assists a voluntary organisation as part of a focus on our role in serving the community.

In second semester, all Year 9 Students will experience a week in the city gaining valuable exposure to the culture and dynamics that are a unique part of a large city such as Melbourne. Through small task-oriented groups, students will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of characteristics that make up city living.

HOMEWORK AND STUDY

At PVCC, our desire is that our students value learning and value homework as an important and integral part of that learning. Homework should not be viewed as an isolated activity unrelated to the learning that is taking place in the various environments on a daily basis.

One of the main goals for Year 9 is to adequately prepare our students for their VCE. An important contribution that we as a community (parents and teachers) make towards this end is to ensure our students have developed the right habits with regard to studying outside of normal class time. There are a number of strategic reasons why homework at PVCC is considered a necessary and valued part of the curriculum.

- In order to perform at a maximal level at VCE, it is recognised that students need to commit significant amounts of time outside of class in order to prepare for the up-coming class, to consolidate ideas and to reinforce concepts.
Homework is an important link to the next lesson!
- Metacognition - the reflective aspect of learning, whereby a student thinks about what brings about success for themselves is a necessary component of success at VCE. In fact it is a necessary component for success in all aspects of life. If we do not reflect, then we are not expecting that we need to change and therefore could be considered un-teachable. A reflective person wants to improve, wants to be renewed, wants to right what is wrong.
Homework provides a time for reflection!
- Learning research indicates that if we do not revisit the new idea presented in class as soon as practicable afterwards and certainly within a 24 hour period it is likely that it will not be retained in long term memory. It should also be reviewed again within a week.
Homework is a tool to re-engage concepts!
- Higher Order thinking takes more time than can be given in class and will only occur as the student reflects on the material presented. Students are asked to probe deeper with their understanding, to analyse the information and to grapple with the morality, ethics and concepts as they relate to their world.
Homework is mind stretching!

The following tasks are what you can expect to be conducting during homework:

- Pre-reading and summarising material for future classes and submitting notes for feedback.
- Question Preparation - Students prepare a question based on the text read for homework.
- Pre testing ideas/concepts for the next unit or next sub-topic.
- Summary/Precise writing - Students are asked to summarise the key ideas/concepts taught in the lesson.
- Tasks that encourage reflection of the material taught or application of the concepts/skills developed in the lesson.
- Challenging questions in order to engage thinking on the topic.
- Designing their own Assessment Task/Question.
- Specific independent practice at home following guided practice in the classroom.
- Reflecting to improve learning such as post-test reflection.
- Personal Stand or Viewpoint - Students might be asked to make a judgment and give reasons for their judgment. This will often involve parental discussion and input.
- Journal/Reflective writing.
- Projects or Assignments that might require research or thinking that can be done at home.

Year 9 students can expect 1 – 1½ hours of homework each weeknight.

Students are provided with diaries. We expect students in Year 9 to be utilising this resource well in the management of their daily tasks. Parents are asked to monitor their child's progress regularly.

Please refer to this booklet as required, as it contains useful information relevant for the whole year.

YEAR 9 SUBJECT SELECTION 2018

The Year 9 curriculum contains a broad set of compulsory core studies as well as the opportunity to select from a number of elective studies.

CORE STUDIES - (COMPULSORY)

Subject	Periods/week
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Christian Education	2
Geography/History (one semester each)	4
Civics	1
Health and Physical Education	3
Sport	2
TOTAL	24

ELECTIVES – 2 PER SEMESTER

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 1
BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2
Art Explosion French (LOTE) Information Technology Leadership/Duke of Edinburgh Media Studies	Music Wood Technology Drama Food Technology Health Promotion
SEMESTER 2	SEMESTER 2
BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2
Art Explosion Information Technology Leadership/Duke of Edinburgh Media Studies Project Earth	French (LOTE) Food Technology Wood Technology Drama Health Promotion Music

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ENGLISH

INTRODUCTION

Students in Year 9 are grouped according to their specific needs in order to improve their overall communication and literacy skills.

The Year 9 English course is designed to consolidate existing knowledge and skills and to develop the analytical and creative skills needed for Senior English. Students will be required to explore and produce work in a variety of literary genres and forms.

During this year students are expected to critically appraise the language used by, and issues raised in, the media.

The Year 9 curriculum consists of three strands: language, literature and literacy. The strands focus on developing knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating.

COURSE OUTLINE

- **Language** – Students study language structures, devices (eg metaphor, allusion) and how language can be used by writers for specific effects (eg persuasive language in the media).
- **Literature** – Students will read, interpret and critically analyse three texts: a contemporary text, a Shakespearean play and a film text. They will investigate the use of language devices, themes and structures in different text types.
- **Literacy** – Students will investigate and analyse how values and attitudes and beliefs are conveyed in texts. Students will develop awareness of the role context plays in the understanding and interpretation of texts. Students will interpret and create both written and oral texts. Oral texts may be related to literature studied and/or issues, as well as discussion and debates.

HOMEWORK

Students should complete all work not finished in class and should maintain well organised notes to aid with revision of all work covered in class. At least 1½ hours per week should be allocated for this and specific homework tasks and reading.

ASSESSMENT

- **Response to Literature** – A grade will be determined based on the formal essays, creative responses, comprehension exercises and assignments pertaining to the texts studied during the semester.
- **Written Literacy** – A grade will be determined based on creative and expository written pieces during the semester.
- **Oral Literacy** – A grade will be determined based on class participation, as well as formal oral presentations to the class.
- **Language** – A grade will be determined based on the student's ability to use vocabulary appropriate to the various tasks, to spell correctly and to apply the conventions of English grammar to all their written work. Some grammar exercises will also be used in this assessment.
- **Examination** – A percentage score will be given for a 100 minute exam involving a text essay and a response to an opinion piece.

REQUIREMENTS

Students must read widely and should have access to a regular newspaper in order to be aware of current issues being addressed in the media.

MATHEMATICS

INTRODUCTION

Students will be grouped into four classes based on results obtained in Year 8 Mathematics and three courses will be followed; Mainstream, Advanced and Foundation. This arrangement will allow for students to attempt a course appropriate to their capabilities. The three distinct Year 9 Mathematics courses are tailored more specifically to meet the learning needs of students.

MAINSTREAM (2 Classes)

The Mainstream course is designed for the majority of students and will provide a setting in which they will be encouraged to think more deeply about the Mathematics they are learning. No longer will it be sufficient to know how to do things to get the “right” answer, but rather students will be expected to develop a sense of why the Mathematics behaves in a certain way and how it may be affected by changing some of its components. Students will be required to discuss mathematical concepts, learn to write individual and annotated notes, be prepared to question their own understanding and begin taking more responsibility for exploring their preferred approaches to learning.

Year 9 Mainstream and Advanced Course Outline:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| ▪ Measurement | ▪ Quadratic Algebra and Quadratic Graphs |
| ▪ Pythagoras Theorem | ▪ Linear Equations and Graphs |
| ▪ Trigonometry | ▪ Indices and Surds |
| ▪ Algebra | ▪ Probability |
| ▪ Expanding and Factorising | ▪ Statistics |
| ▪ Simultaneous Equations | |

ADVANCED (1 Class)

The Advance course is for the highly able and talented students. It will cover the same material as the Mainstream course, but will be set to stretch the thinking of the students to a higher level. A lot of enrichment and extension will be done in this class. Problem solving and higher order thinking will be prominent in this class.

FOUNDATION (1 Class)

The Foundation course is designed to provide a setting for students who struggle conceptually with mathematical ideas. They will be encouraged to consolidate their understanding of key ideas covered in the past and gain in their confidence as mathematical thinkers. The course covers most of the main ideas from the Mainstream course; however there is a clear distinction in the level of expectation especially in the use of abstract thinking.

In some circumstances it may be necessary to modify a student’s course so that they will be able to develop an understanding of Mathematics in everyday life. These students will be a part of the Foundation Class.

HOMework

Homework will consist of completing exercises begun in class, homework sheets and assignments. Students can expect at least 30 minutes of homework from each lesson. Commitment to a regular homework regime will be crucial for the satisfactory completion of these courses.

ASSESSMENT

- Written skills and analysis tests
- End of semester exams
- Assignments/problem solving exercises
- Homework sheets
- Mangahigh Online Revision

REQUIREMENTS

It is essential that every student brings a scientific calculator to every class from Term 1.

SCIENCE

INTRODUCTION

The Year 9 Science course covers studies in Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Geology and is designed to give students some understanding of how each of these areas relates to their own lives and our society. Students will enhance their understanding of sound scientific methodology and cultivate a more independent approach to evaluating situations, developing solutions and critiquing results. A number of independent learning tasks will be included in the coursework and students are encouraged to take more initiative and responsibility for their own learning. The course provides opportunities for students to consider and contemplate God's role in the scientific processes which govern the world around us. It encourages students to consider biblical principles in relation to ethics and our application of scientific knowledge, and an awareness of stewardship in the way we impact the environment.

COURSE OUTLINE

The following lists the units covered, and includes examples of the topics examined within each area.

SEMESTER 1

- **Control and Co-ordination:**
 - Respiratory and Circulatory Systems
 - Essential Intake
 - Digestion and Excretory Systems
 - Detecting Change
 - Co-ordination and Control
 - Nervous System – fast control
 - Endocrine System – slow control
 - Living warehouses
- **Chemical Reactions:**
 - Rearranging Atoms
 - Matter and Energy
 - Acids and Bases and Acid Rain
 - Combustion Reactions
- **Inside the Atom - Introduction to Atomic Theory:**
 - Chemical Building Blocks
 - Stability and Change: Inside the Nucleus
 - Using Radioactivity

SEMESTER 2

- **Ecosystems:**
 - Introducing Ecosystems
 - Mapping Ecosystems
 - Plant Organisation
 - Plant Responses
 - Photosynthesis
 - Cellular Respiration
 - Sustainable Ecosystems
 - Changes in Populations
- **The Dynamic Earth:**
 - The Earth's Crust
 - Stability and Change
 - Rocks under Pressure
 - Earthquakes and Volcanoes
- **Energy Transmission:**
 - Matter and Energy; Making Waves
 - Sound Waves
 - Hearing Sound
 - The Electromagnetic Spectrum
 - Light Energy
- **Heat and Electricity:**
 - Heat: Energy in Transit
 - Electricity in Transit
 - Light in the Dark
 - Series and Parallel Circuits
 - Scale and Measurement
 - Electricity in Packet
 - Driving on Batteries Resistance

ASSESSMENT

- Practical reports
- Research tasks and class activities
- Homework questions
- Topic tests and Semester exams

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

This course continues on sequentially from Year 8 Christian Education. Students are encouraged to investigate the working out of the Christian faith in their lives in exploring a biblical worldview on issues such as service, community, love and relationships.

COURSE OUTLINE

- The Resurrection of Jesus
- The Viability of Miracles
- The Gospel of Matthew and God's Compassion for the needy
- Community Service
- Love and Relationships

HOMEWORK

A variety of tasks and reports will be set including a Love and Relationships assignment on miracles, Matthew's gospel, Jesus' teaching, a presentation on a social justice issue, and a novel review. There is also a test on the arguments for the resurrection of Jesus at the end of Term 1.

ASSESSMENT

- Workbook tasks
- Resurrection test
- Presentation on a social justice issue
- Love and Relationships: Novel review

The overall grade will comprise:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| ▪ Assignments | 60% |
| ▪ Participation in class / engagement / workbook | 40% |

SCIP

A highlight of this course is a one-week placement in a volunteer organisation of choice. This normally takes place in the last week of Term Two. Students should be considering appropriate placements near their homes, or a parent's workplace or near the home of a friend or relative with whom they could stay. More details will be sent home prior to the mid-year holidays and class time will be spent preparing students for this experience.

GEOGRAPHY

INTRODUCTION

There are two units of study in the Year 9 curriculum for Geography: Biomes and Food Security and Geographies of Interconnections.

Biomes and Food Security focuses on investigating the role of the biotic environment and its role in food production. The distinctive aspects of biomes, food production and food security are investigated using studies drawn from Australia and across the world.

Geographies of interconnections, focuses on investigating how people, through their choices and actions, are connected to places throughout the world. Particular emphasis is placed on tourism and trade.

By the end of this unit students should be able to:

- Explain the impact of biomes on food production
- Explain how food security is maintained
- Explain potential changes in future food production
- Identify connections between people and places
- Identify the positive and negative impacts of tourism
- Explain how trade connects people and places all over the world
- Identify the main principles of fair trade

COURSE OUTLINE

- Geographical Concepts
- Biomes and Food Security – Biomes, Food Security, Food Insecurity, Food Production
- Geographies of Interconnections – Connections to place. Tourism. Trade. Fairtrade.

HOMEWORK

- Homework tasks
- Any incomplete class work. All class work should be completed and organized to aid revision.
- Research task: Threats to Food Production
- Research task: Sustainable Tourism: World Holiday

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed through an exam, two projects, homework and student workbook. The overall grade will comprise:

- | | |
|------------|-----|
| ▪ Exams | 30% |
| ▪ Projects | 30% |
| ▪ Homework | 20% |
| ▪ Workbook | 20% |

HISTORY

INTRODUCTION

THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD

The Year 9 curriculum provides a study of the history of the making of the modern world from 1750 to 1918. It was a period of industrialisation and rapid change in the ways people lived, worked and thought. It was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and the colonisation of Australia was part of the expansion of European power. The period culminated in World War I, 1914 – 1918, the ‘War to end of Wars’.

COURSE OUTLINE

The main topics covered include:

- The global movements of people from 1750 to 1918
- Colonial settlement and Australia
- World War One and the ANZAC legend

HOMEWORK

This will include completing notes taken in class, working on assessed pieces and revising for tests and examinations.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be required to maintain an accurate record of class notes in their workbook and will be asked to complete a variety of tasks including document studies, oral presentations, analytical reports and research assignments. The weighting of each assessment task is as follows:

- | | |
|------------|-----|
| ▪ Bookwork | 25% |
| ▪ Tests | 25% |
| ▪ Projects | 25% |
| ▪ Exam | 25% |

Contact teacher for further information is Mr Paul Grech

HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

Year 9 Health supports students to refine and apply strategies for maintaining a positive outlook and evaluating behavioural expectations in different leisure, social and online situations. Students learn to critically analyse and apply health information to devise and implement personalized plans for maintain healthy habits. They also propose strategies to support the development of preventive health practices that build and optimize community health and well-being.

COURSE OUTLINE

Staying healthy – Mental and Social Health

- Mental health and well-being
- Body image and the media
- Decision making
- Healthy Relationships
- Sexual health
- First aid

ASSESSMENT

- Bookwork (written work) – content quality and organisation
- Written assignments / Project work – content, quality and organisation

REQUIREMENTS

The following areas will also be reported on:

- Organisation, preparation for class, behaviour, effort and homework. It is expected that each of these four areas be maintained to a very high standard in every class.
- Students are expected to attend and be punctual for every class.

CIVICS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of Civics is to investigate key areas of Australia's political, legal and economic systems that directly impact upon young people in their everyday lives.

COURSE OUTLINE

- The police, teenagers and the courts
- Government and the Australian political system
- The Australian legal system – criminal and civil law
- Structure of the Australian economy and the impact of transnational companies
- Buying and insuring a used car

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Satisfactory completion of three work outcomes
- One assignment relating to each area of study
- One test relating to each area of study

HOMEWORK

Homework for this subject involves the satisfactory completion of class and assignment work, and revision for tests.

ASSESSMENT

- A series of topic tests
- Grading of Learning Outcomes
- Semester exam
- Bookwork

REQUIREMENTS

It would be helpful for students to have access to daily newspapers and the Internet to collect current information relating to the above topics.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

In Year 9 Physical Education students demonstrate leadership, fair play and cooperation across a range of movement and health contexts. They apply decision-making and problem-solving skills when taking action to enhance their own and others' health, safety and well-being. They apply and transfer movement concepts and strategies to new and challenging movement situations. They apply criteria to make judgements about and refine their own and others' specialised movement skills and movement performances. They work collaboratively to design and apply solutions to movement challenges.

COURSE OUTLINE

In Year 9 Physical Education it is planned for students to be exposed to a variety of sports. It is planned that students have the opportunity to develop basic skills in these sports and to participate in game play.

- Term 1: Minor games: Throwing and catching: Netball, Ultimate Frisbee and Soft-crosse (one or more of these sorts may be run during Term 2 depending on time)
- Term 2: Striking: Badminton
- Term 3: Promoting activity
- Term 4: SEPEP (Sport Education in a Physical Education Programme): Student will facilitate and participate in a round robin and undertake various roles such as coach, captain and umpire.

Please note the above Sports are examples of the sports/activities available for each unit. Due to time and weather constraints it is possible that not all of these Sports will be undertaken within each unit.

At the completion of these units students should be able to:

- Understand that we are beautifully and wonderfully made in God's image.
- Understand the importance and value of physical activity, fitness and sports participation.
- Appreciate that basic fundamental motor skills (kicking, throwing, catching etc) are important for successful sport participation.
- Understand that sports/games have rules that govern how they are played.
- Understand that skill development can occur over time.
- Understand that sports and games require a variety of different strategies and problem-solving skills.
- Understand the importance of spatial awareness and game sense.

ASSESSMENT

- Behaviour/sportsmanship
- Skill
- Effort

Expectations of students:

- Students will be expected to be at class on time.
- Appropriate behaviour and correct uniform must be worn. A hat is compulsory throughout Terms 1 and 4.

REQUIREMENTS

- Positive participation in practical classes is required.
- Non-participation in practical work – a note that is written, dated and signed by parent/guardian is needed to excuse a student from practical work. A medical certificate is required for long term withdrawal from participating in practical activities.
- Uniform – correct and complete sports uniform must be worn for practical sessions.

SPORT

INTRODUCTION

The benefits of teenagers participating in regular physical activity have been well documented. Involvement in a regular team competition develops a range of skills within a particular sport as well as commitment to team-mates and the discipline of playing a particular position. Consequently students will have the opportunity to participate in House Sport in swimming, athletics and cross country events and to represent their school in both summer and winter competitions in the Eastern Independent Schools (Melbourne) Competition. Successful students in the House Swimming and Athletic carnivals will go on to represent Plenty Valley Christian College at the EISM carnivals.

Sport is held on Thursday afternoons (periods 5 and 6) and is a combined Year 8 and 9 programme.

COURSE OUTLINE

Term 1

- Sport Education (preparation for EISM Sports)
- Athletics
- House Swimming Carnival
- EISM Division and Champions Swimming Carnivals
- House Athletics Carnival

Note: the House Swimming and Athletic Carnivals are compulsory attendance events.

Terms 2 and 3

- EISM Division and Champions Athletics Carnivals
- House Cross Country Carnival
- EISM Cross Country Championships
- EISM Competition (winter season)

Sports played in the EISM Winter competition are:

- Boys – Football, Basketball, Soccer, Table Tennis
- Girls – Hockey, Netball, Basketball, Table Tennis

A Development Squad is available for those students who are not selected in competition teams and consists of a variety of school-based and off campus activities.

Term 4

This is the EISM Competition Summer Season. Sports played in the EISM Summer competition are:

- Boys - Cricket, Volleyball, Tennis, Hockey
- Girls - Softball, Volleyball, Tennis, Soccer

A Development Squad is available for those students who are not selected in competition teams and consists of a variety of school-based and off campus activities.

REQUIREMENTS

- Correct college sports uniform must be worn to all lessons/training and matches
- Students will be expected to purchase a small amount of required sports safety equipment and/or uniform for their chosen sport.
- Where possible the college will lend out team sport tops. It is student's responsibility to care for, launder and repair these uniforms. If a sport top is lost the student will be charged a \$50 replacement fee.

ART EXPLOSION

INTRODUCTION

This Arts course is designed to allow students to explore a range of art forms and to extend their artmaking skills while exploring a range of media and art making processes. Art forms include ceramics, printmaking, photography, collage, mixed media and computer aided design as well as painting and drawing. The course allows each participant to extend their practice and explore range of techniques and processes, developing skills and personal style and individual creative expression. Students learn to reflect on their own art works and those of others, discussing, analyzing, interpreting and evaluating art from different cultural and historical backgrounds.

COURSE OUTLINE

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Make and present drawings, illustrations, paintings and prints which explore complex ideas, issues and feelings;
- Demonstrate skills and techniques, using a range of processes, to structure and present art works appropriate to chosen styles and forms;
- Identify, analyze and interpret artworks and discuss responses to these works;
- Demonstrate an informed understanding of the visual arts of different social and cultural groups, enabling them to demonstrate a sense of histories and traditions.

ASSESSMENT

- Developmental Workbook (Visual Arts Diary)
- Folio of Artworks
- Theory

Please note that this is a one semester course.

DIGITAL AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY – ROBOTICS

Introduction

This course has an inquiry focus where students will be asked to solve a real world problem using a range of design and digital technology knowledge and skills. Students will learn about the components of digital systems including hardware, software and networks and their use. They will also learn how data can be represented and structured symbolically. As part of their studies in this course students will assemble a robot and then program their robot to solve a set task. They will need to develop a preliminary specification for a problem or need that has been set, and develop a solution that is optimized for reliability.

Course Outline

- Component ID test
- Dance
- Code samples
- Solve maze
- Dance evaluation
- Maze evaluation

Homework

- Revision on new concepts and skills taught in class
- Students will be encouraged to undertake additional research outside of class and trial a range of different options to solve aspects of the problem they need to solve.

Assessment

Students will be assessed several times throughout the course with all assessment leading towards a final task at the end of the course. Most assessments are done in pairs, and peer review will form part of their final evaluation.

DRAMA

INTRODUCTION

The joy inherent in imagining, creating and expressing ideas and emotions is both a quality of God's character and a gift to man. In Year 9 Drama, students are given the opportunity to develop their performance skills through the study of Melodrama and Commedia De'Ilarte as well as other theatre styles. Practically working through different theatrical techniques will enrich the students' understanding of both verbal and non-verbal communication. Practical classes also encourage the development of students' confidence and positive relationships between their classmates.

This elective is suitable for students who are interested in the performing arts as a future career choice; who are comfortable in using their voice and body as a medium of self-expression and who enjoy engaging with an audience, or anyone who wants to gain confidence and enjoys working with others.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Development of performance skills particular to a specific theatre style
- Play building
- Performance analysis

HOMEWORK

The journal must be kept up to date. Extra rehearsal and the memorisation of lines for performances will also need to be done at home.

ASSESSMENT

- Drama Journal – analysis tasks
- Active participation in weekly practical classes
- Group performance pieces/script writing

REQUIREMENTS

All students will be expected to participate actively in all workshops and to ensure their interaction with classmates is constructive and positive.

FOOD & TECHNOLOGY (SEM 1 & 2)

Food, Health & Culture

INTRODUCTION

At Plenty Valley Christian College the study of food is undertaken from a Christian perspective. Efforts are made to introduce the students to a Christian philosophy and understanding of the importance of food and its preparation. This is done from a perspective of the needs of humans and the ways in which people relate to each other.

The Food and Technology elective runs each semester, comprising a double practical and single theory lesson each week. Students will become familiar with using different ingredients and a range of different preparation and cooking techniques during the practical lessons, while also considering the importance of time management.

COURSE OUTLINE

In Year 9 Food and Technology students are introduced to the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating and the roles of the five food groups in consumption and food preparation. Theoretical concepts are applied to practical classes where students produce a range of products and complete a series of evaluation questions to extend their knowledge of cooking terminology and processes, equipment and ingredient function and safe work practices. Students then study the diverse cultural origins of food. They identify dietary characteristics unique to Australia and examine how cultures have influenced the cuisine of Australian society. Students investigate the cuisine of another country and, in practical classes, are provided with opportunities to produce and taste foods from a broad range of cultures.

FOCUS TOPICS

- The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating
- Food preparation and cooking skills
- Hygiene and safety in the kitchen
- Cultural origins of food

ASSESSMENT

- Assignment work (x2)
- Production skills and evaluation reports; students are regularly assessed on their performance throughout cooking classes.

REQUIREMENTS

Students should have a keen interest in food and nutrition and be prepared to work on the theoretical aspects of the course as well as the food production. Students are required to bring a container to every practical class to take their food home in. It is essential for students to participate in all activities and co-operate with other students in the class.

Please note that this is a one semester course.

HEALTH PROMOTION AND NUTRITION

INTRODUCTION

This course will explore the role of a healthy diet in maintaining wellbeing and reducing the risk of a range of lifestyle diseases such as cardiovascular disease and Cancer. As Christian educators we are motivated to give the students an opportunity to make informed decisions given their ever-increasing awareness of God's work and hand in their lives. Nutrition is the one aspect of our lives that technology has not improved. In fact with an increase in technology we have seen a decline in the nutrient value of foods. In Australia, we have been blessed with a range of nutritious food options and the role of this course is to equip students with the skills to help them make the best choices. This unit will explore each of the key food groups and their role in promoting health. Students will investigate a wide range of nutrients in each food group, including their food sources and functions.

Students will evaluate a number of common foods and assess their nutrient value and they will explore what a healthy diet might look like. The unit will conclude with students assessing different diets and health promotion campaigns that are designed to encourage healthy eating and they will use this information to assist them to develop their own media campaign to target healthy eating among youth.

This unit will be an excellent introduction to Units 1 and 2 Health and Human Development and Units 1 and 2 Physical Education.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Factors impacting on food selection
- Nutrients their food sources and function
- The role of nutrition in protecting against lifestyle diseases
- Analysis of food models
- Development of dietary advice to promote the health of youth.
- Analysis of a range of different diets and theories
- Evaluation of local nutrition related services available to young people
- The proposal and development of a new nutrition strategy to promote healthy eating

ASSESSMENT

- Bookwork (written work) – content quality, completion and accuracy
- Written assignments / Project work
- Test

REQUIREMENTS

- Students will also receive marks for the work completed in class, so it is vital that students keep up-to-date with all work and keep organized class notes.
- Students will be expected to complete weekly homework tasks and readings
- Students are expected to attend and be punctual for every class and catch up on any work that they miss due to absence.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

Year 9 Information Technology is designed to build on students' skills begun in early secondary. It will develop their understanding of the range of technology applications in our society. Students will be introduced to web page building skills.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Mail merge
- Spreadsheets
- Databases
- Copyright and Piracy
- Web page building

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students should be able to complete a spreadsheet using formulas and simple formatting.
- Students should be able to create a database using Access and be able to use it to find out simple information.
- Students should be able to use the Internet to research the topic of Copyright and Piracy and write a personal response to the issue.
- Students will learn to create a website according to standard web design rules.

HOMEWORK

- Completion of theory work and unfinished class work.
- Revision and preparation for tests.

ASSESSMENT

Students must complete all of the four learning outcomes to a satisfactory standard. They will complete both practical and theory based tests.

LEADERSHIP/DUKE OF EDINBURGH

INTRODUCTION

The heart behind the “Leadership/Duke of Edinburgh” program is to each and equip young people in interesting and fun ways with invaluable leadership and community skills from a Biblical perspective. This is not only through theory but by learning from other people’s lives and applying their skills through practical experiences by meeting needs in the community. It is aimed that students explore what it means to “live a life that counts” along with attaining/partially attaining qualifications and awards along the way including the Bronze duke of Edinburgh Award or the Plenty Valley Christian College Leadership Course. Here, students also have the opportunity to participate in an overnight trip together and develop various skills. It is aimed that students develop an understanding of what a leader skills and undertake activities to further develop their leadership skills. Grading is based on initiative, focus and consistency.

COURSE OUTLINE

- *What is Leadership?*
- *What makes an effective leader?*
- *Biblical leadership, is there a difference?*
- *Duke of Edinburgh Award Sections:*

Service

- *To develop and encourage a sense of community spirit and responsibility to others*
- Displays: selflessness, maturity, generosity, care, community minded, responsibility to others. Students will have opportunity to undertake activities that contribute to their accreditation of the Duke of Edinburgh award.

Skill

- *To encourage the development of personal interests and practical skills*
- Displays: diverse interests, motivation, curiosity, an ability to learn and improve, goal orientated.

Physical Recreation

- *To encourage participation in physical recreation and improve fitness*
- Displays: teamwork, motivation, energy, resilience, healthy and active lifestyle, commitment to new challenges.

Adventurous Journey

- *To encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery*
- Displays: planning and organisation, leadership, endurance, determination, individual and team responsibility.

HOMEWORK

Students should complete all work not finished in class and should maintain well organised notes to aid with revision of all work covered in class. Students will also need to work on their sections of the Duke of Edinburgh Award out of class for their accreditation.

ASSESSMENT

- Focus, Initiative, consistency. These grades are based on theoretical and practical applications.
- *Leadership Duke of Edinburgh section achievements* - These include the various facets involved with achieving the Duke of Edinburgh Award including learning a new skill, being involved in community service, organising an adventurous journey and participating in physical recreation. Please see section details under “course outline”.

Please note that this is a semester-based course.

LOTE – FRENCH

INTRODUCTION

Students with ability or interest in a foreign language are strongly encouraged to undertake the study of French. Students will have the opportunity to develop contacts with Francophone speakers and use what they are learning in a very practical way of exchange. A major focus of the classes is on oral proficiency - students will be able to talk what they learn. Classes are very interactive and role play is extremely important.

There are many positive advantages to be had apart from French language skills;

- Increased cultural awareness,
- Travel and career opportunities,
- Better understanding of the structure of the English language, and
- Bonus marks for the VCE ATAR score.

COURSE OUTLINE

Topics covered include:

- Aussies in France
- Clothes and Fashion
- Sport
- Food and healthy lifestyle
- Travel

EXCURSIONS

- National Gallery and/or Melbourne Film Festival and/or Melbourne French Festival
- Possible trip to Vanuatu (mid-September)

HOMEWORK

Homework will include:

- Vocabulary, grammar and creative extension writing work
- Project work

ASSESSMENT

- Regular vocabulary learning, grammar and creative writing work, language games, speaking and listening exercises.
- Projects include film study of Joan of Arc, a PowerPoint presentation on Aussies in France during the Wars, a French hero of choice, a scrapbook-type presentation on past fads and fashions and a mock sports report.
- A live performance of a comedy scene of a clothing boutique, fashion show or doctor's clinic.
- Ongoing testing and examinations each semester.

*Please note that this is a **whole year course** that would need to be selected in **Elective Block 2** for **Semester 2**. A minimum of eight students is needed for this class to run.*

MEDIA STUDIES

INTRODUCTION

This course investigates the various elements of a film or television production and discusses the way in which each element conveys meaning to the audience. Students are encouraged to examine the elements of a production, becoming conscious of their effect on the overall production, and to demonstrate this growing understanding in their own filming projects. Particular attention is given to analysing films which have underlying Biblical allegorical themes and allusions.

We also study the influence of the media in our society and how it can influence us personally.

COURSE OUTLINE

- The elements of the film/television production:
Casting; costuming; music/sound effects; technical codes; time; lighting; dialogue etc.
- Film and television genre
- Video exercises
- Film analysis
- Media production

HOMEWORK

Much of the class time in this course is spent on practical production techniques, so that the majority of the homework will be spent on the completion of written assignments. Some television viewing of a particular program is required. Notebooks must be kept up to date.

ASSESSMENT

- Media Notebook
- Folio
- Various Class Assignments
- Media Production

MUSIC (SEM 1)

INTRODUCTION

Music enriches life and can be used to encourage teamwork and individuality, creativity and discipline, and provides a vehicle for the development of expression, self-esteem and achievement. Music is intensely personal, yet it can be shared universally. It can draw us into the very presence of God.

Year 9 Music at PVCC is designed for vocal or instrumental music students to nurture their gift and further develop skills across a wide range of activities. This course provides a firm foundation for music studies at a higher level and accommodates students from a range of previous experience in both their practical and theoretical studies.

COURSE OUTLINE

Instrumental/Vocal Music Tuition – Students are to receive individual instrument/voice lessons either at PVCC or externally.

Group performance – Participate in weekly rehearsals and subsequent performances of a PVCC ensemble such as Flute Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Jazz Band, Christian Band, a Rock Band, or performance in the College Musical (even years).

Music Technology – Learn to create and record original music including movie sound tracks using MIDI, and Audio via the use of music technology.

Music Theory and Aural Comprehension – Learn the language of music through the development of written and aural skills during regular class activities.

Music Appreciation – Examine types of music and the role music has had in various times, cultures and places.

Christian music – Perform contemporary Christian music as a class band.

HOMEWORK

- Daily practice of instrument/voice

ASSESSMENT

- Prepare and present two solo instrumental or vocal items for the class.
- Regular attendance at ensemble rehearsals and participation in performances.
- Completion of set aural and theory exercises in addition to formal assessments such as tests.
- Create original compositions using Music Technology.

Please note that this is a one semester course.

PROJECT EARTH (SEM 2)

INTRODUCTION

- Is there any point in worrying about the environment if God is in control?
- Can the earth's man made problems really be fixed?
- How do we best manage the earth's resources?
- Is it fair to exploit the world's resources for economic gain?
- What does sustainability really mean?

In Project Earth, students explore a biblical worldview of Creation and gain a greater understanding of the earth through studies in Environmental Science, Geography and Ecology. They look at many of the environmental issues facing the world today, as well as those relevant to our local community. Students will be expected to develop an appreciation and rationale for good stewardship and an increased knowledge of appropriate land management practices. This includes taking a closer look at natural resources in our local area including the school site and the surrounding areas and exploring the concept that land needs to be actively managed, even so called natural environments in the urban/rural interface.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Exploring the concept of sustainability and appropriate land use.
- Local and national environmental issues of the day.
- Global environmental issues, plus research assignment based on one specific chosen issue.
- Exploration and research of what the school site might have looked like 300 years ago.
- Site analysis for invasive species. Mainly focused on weeds. Collection and identification. Development of land management strategies for weed and erosion control.
- Wetland analysis on school site. Visual and scientific identification of plants and other life-forms in and around the dams. Use of microscopes and species keys for identification.
- Local bird and mammal identification.
- Practical work on school grounds.
- Project on bees and their importance in the environment.

ASSESSMENT

- Notes/Reflection
- Research task(s) and assignments related to course content
- Involvement with environmental projects

TECHNOLOGY (WOOD)

INTRODUCTION

The subject of Technology offers an opportunity to commit to values and standards and to exhibit care and concern for one's peers. Safety issues are also a concern, so a spirit of cooperation is encouraged, where students can learn to watch out for one another's safety as well as their own. This course is essentially a practical subject with an introduction to advanced joinery and complex processes using power tools and static machines. Students will be introduced to the processes involved in the marking out and also the cutting of dovetail joints using a finger jig. Students will also be introduced to the techniques of mounting hinges, working with timber boards, and time management. These skills will be used in making projects such as a carpenter's tool box.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Practical skills.
- Sheet metal fabrication techniques.
- Cold working of solid steel sections.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Production of a metal tool box.
- Fabrication of one or two of a range of solid steel models.

HOMEWORK

Homework is completed as required or as directed by the teacher depending on the design requirements and/or work rate.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is negotiated with each student after the completion of each object or at the end of the semester.