



Plenty Valley
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
In Christ: Wisdom & Knowledge

COLLEGE CONNECTIONS

Issue 14

17th August, 2017

DIARY DATES

Secondary House
X-Country
BBQ Walk in my Shoes
Friday
18/08/2017

Book Week
Escape to Everywhere
21-25/08/2017

Prep - Yr2 Swimming
Thursday
24/08/2017

Arrowsmith Information
Night
Thursday
24/08/2017

Year 8 Camp
Tuesday - Friday
29/08/17 - 1/09/17

Fathers Day Stall
Tuesday
29/08/2017

Enrolment Applications
Due for 2019
Thursday
31/08/2017

Company GM
Wednesday
6/09/2017

EDITORIAL

Inclusive Learning Communities

What is the real purpose of Christian Education or education full stop? In a world that is often defined by data, standardised tests, VCE results and the like, the true purpose and meaning of Christian education can get lost in this rhetoric. A great man within the CEN movement Dr Ken Dickens sought to understand this premise of inclusive learning communities and I will quote a few excerpts from his paper on this. I believe he skilfully seeks to understand what this concept of inclusivity truly means and should be at the forefront of what we seek for every student.

Ken begins by stating "When I talk about inclusive learning communities, I am not thinking exclusively about inclusion of students with disabilities, although that is certainly part of the picture. Neither am I thinking exclusively about the inclusion of children from Christian homes, although I believe generally that they should be a part of our school communities. What I am talking about is the notion that the learning of every member of our school community is of the **same** importance and because they are equally important, their needs are **different**."

Ken contends that the notion of difference can create a two paced education system. Those that become first class learners, those that fit the system, the mould as it were and those who become second class learners, those that do not fit the paradigm. And what is this paradigm? Could it be that the focus is simply on the prize of tertiary education? The use of the ATAR system reflects the secular trend that Universities are using to create demand, prestige as it were, to entice students into their courses or to institutions that carry more academic weight.

But not all students learn in the same manner. It's wonderful when a school takes courage to design programs that meet the needs of different types of learning. This would include 'hands on', practical learning. The difficulty arises when those programs are seen as lesser or not of value. We can be quick to adhere to the public debate of ATAR scores and success from a worldly perspective. Of course we wish for all students to achieve according to the skills, gifts and abilities that God has given, but perhaps the Christian school also needs to identify that students are to be active in their communities,

using their gifts to bring the Kingdom of God outwards.

The easy answer is to simply measure performance. This can be measured through learning achievements but these aspects can be temporary. Ken puts it this way:

“We need to be careful not to equate learning with performing. Our greatest learning often comes through non-performance and failure. Learning is often messy, staggered and unique to the individual rather than the neat standardisation of performance. An emphasis on performance often draws us back to competitive paradigm where a reduced learning and narrow range of abilities are applauded over the rich diversity of abilities and the tremendous leaps in learning that often go unnoticed. The end of learning is not performing to a prescribed set of criteria. It is changed lives, service and more learning before our primary audience – God”.

Source: Christian Teachers Journal ‘Inclusive Learning Communities’ Dr Ken Dickens 2006.

May God bless and equip us for this important task of Christian education. Please continue to pray for our staff as we choose to follow God’s call and for our teachers to help the students to fulfil their responsibility to learn.

Paul Oldman - Head of Secondary



COMMUNITY NEWS

Our Primary Father’s Day stall is back to being a stall, rather than crafts.



Father’s Day Stall! Tuesday, 29th August

Please bring a bag to take your gift home in.

Gifts from \$1

PVCC Parents and Friends

Please contact [Sally Agostino](#) if you can volunteer to help on the stall



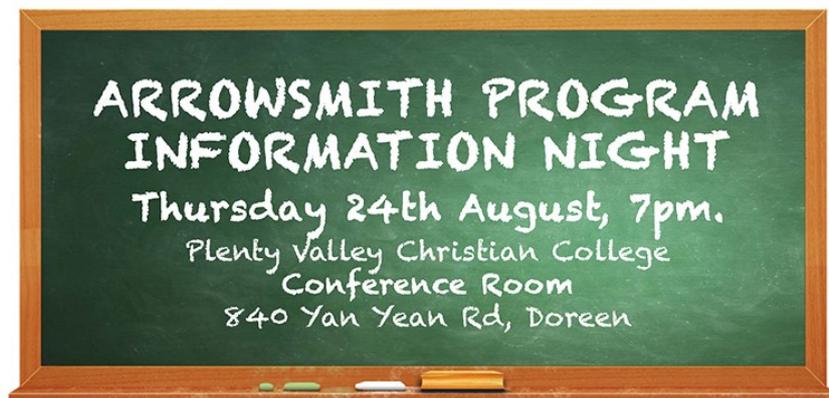
COMPANY MEETING



The next company meeting will be held on **Wednesday 6 September**, 7:30 pm at Plenty Valley Christian College. In room 211 & 212 next to the Multi Purpose Hall.

You can drive and park at the rear of the Multi Purpose Hall by using the bus shelter road that leads to the back of the hall.

All families are welcome to attend. Your attendance at this meeting will count as Parent Participation (3 hours per family).



Founded on neuroscience research, the Arrowsmith Program has over 30 years of experience demonstrating that it is possible for students to strengthen weak cognitive capacities.

The Arrowsmith Program deals with the root causes of the learning disability rather than managing the symptoms. Students become effective learners without having to compensate for their learning disabilities.

ARROWSMITH IS A COGNITIVE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES INCLUDING:

- Reading
- Writing
- Mathematics
- Comprehension
- Logical reasoning
- Executive functioning
- Visual memory
- Auditory memory
- Dyslexia
- Non-verbal learning
- Auditory processing
- Attention

For more information and to RSVP:
Contact Julia Walker via email: julia.walker@pvcc.vic.edu.au
or visit <http://www.pvcc.vic.edu.au/> and follow the Arrowsmith link.



TERM DATES 2018



Term 1

29 January 2018 - 29 March 2018

Term 2

16 April 2018 - 29 June 2018

Term 3

23 July 2018 - 21 September 2018

Term 4

8 October 2018 - 13 December 2018

Teacher Self-Appraisal and Professional Goal Setting



Teachers are professionals who take their jobs very seriously. Sometimes it doesn't always look that way. With up to 27 students in a class with 27 different personalities and educational needs teachers often look like they are juggling rabbits. However behind the exterior there is a real craft to teaching.

One of our mantras at Plenty Valley is *continual improvement*. Not that we are doing a bad job, in fact, there is plenty of evidence to the contrary but we can always improve. Part of that improvement is to reflect on our performance and plan to improve in the areas that aren't as strong as others.

The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers have been developed by Australian and New Zealand governments to establish bench marks against which teachers can measure their performance as part of their reflection (www.aitsl.edu.au/teach/standards).

This year we are formalising this process with mentoring from senior teachers and using outcomes to plan professional development and goal setting. One aspect of this will be observations of each teacher by their mentor teacher.

As a team we realise the honour it is to partner with our families so that together we make Plenty Valley the very best it can be.

John Metcalfe - Principal

All Education Ministers from Commonwealth, state and territory governments have endorsed the implementation of a nationally consistent collection of data on school students with a disability in all Australian schools (government, independent and Catholic).

The nationally consistent approach to data collection provides all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students receiving adjustments because of disability in schools, and the adjustments they are provided to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students.

Plenty Valley Christian College will be taking part in the nationally consistent collection of data (NCCD) during August. If you would like to find out more about the (NCCD) please [click on this link](#) or contact Julia Walker.

Julia.walker@pvcc.vic.edu.au

PRIMARY MUSIC NEWS

Primary Production Tickets - AVAILABLE ONLINE

Ticket Sales are now open for our Primary Productions, Honk Jnr (Years 3 - 6) and There's a Sunflower in My Supper (Prep - Year 2).

Please follow the link :

<https://www.pracc.com.au/theatre/upcoming-shows/2017-plenty-valley-christian-college/>

The link is also available on our PVCC website - <https://www.pvcc.vic.edu.au/about/events>

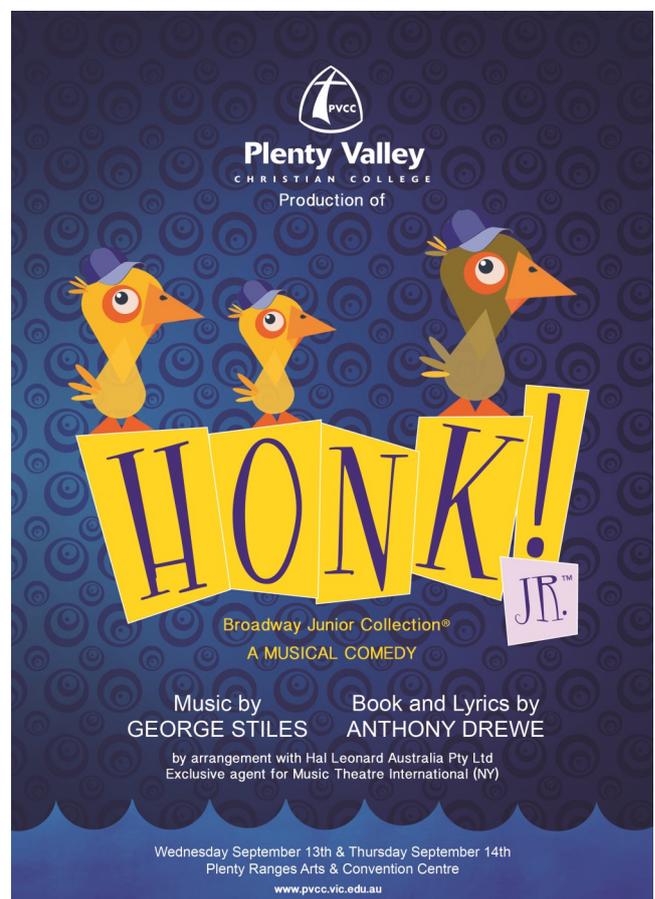
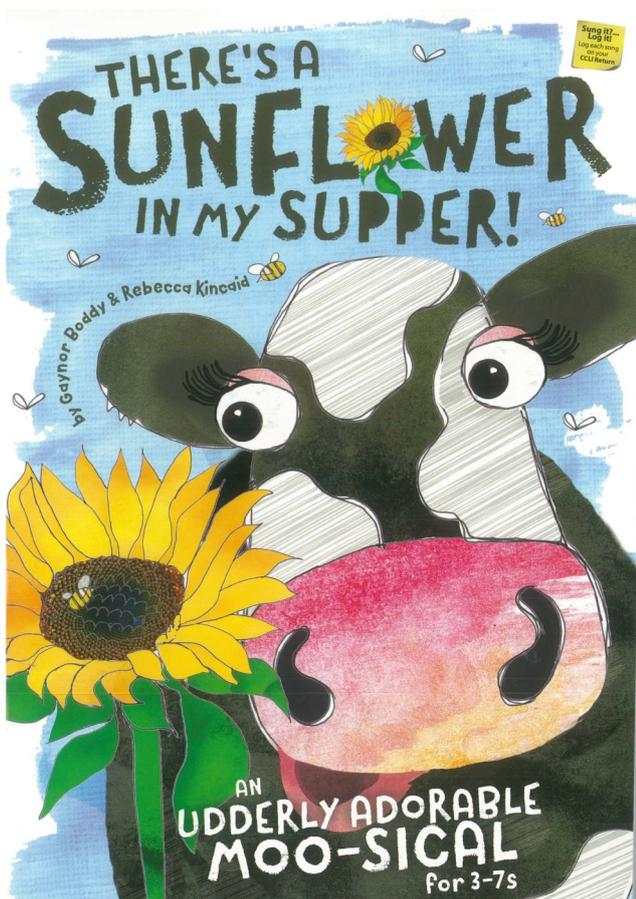
Please note that this year ticket sales are through the venue Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre and there are strictly no refunds or exchanges so please consider your ticketing requirements before purchase. Sales are ONLINE only.

A reminder that students do not require a ticket, HOWEVER Prep-2 students who wish to sit in the auditorium to watch Honk Jnr will require a ticket to be purchased.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Bettina McMurray - Primary Music

bettina.mcmurray@pvcc.vic.edu.au



BOOK WEEK: Escape to Everywhere

NEXT week is Book Week!



The theme for this year is **Escape to Everywhere**. Books are like escape hatches and portals that allow us to escape to places real and imaginary, backwards and forwards in time, to walk in other people's shoes and provide us with experiences we may never have in our real lives.

What a fabulous theme to have in the year of our Primary productions!

To show the world how much the College values the importance of reading, our Book Week celebrations include EVERYONE in the college Dropping Everything And Reading (DEAR) at **12.30 on Tuesday, August 22nd**. If students wish, they can bring along something to cuddle or snuggle up in as they read.



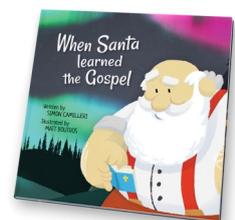
Local Christian author, **Simon Camilleri** will be visiting, on Wednesday August 23rd, to share about his first published children's book, "[When Santa Learned the Gospel](#)".

Simon's original book is a wonderful way to share the Jesus' message of grace with friends and family this coming Christmas. Simon will be doing readings for the students, talking about the book's message and sharing the process he went through to get it published. He will be available to answer the student's questions. We are so excited to be hosting Simon at our school. It promises to be a great way of inspiring the students to use their creative gifts to share the gospel!

Parents, you will have the opportunity to meet and hear Simon in a session just for you – in the Library on **Wednesday morning at 9am** (after Primary classes start). He will have books available for order or purchase (\$20) on the day.

We have a fun and creative term ahead celebrating story, performance ... and books!

Angela Harridge (for the Library Team)



NEWS FROM THE ENGLISH FACULTY

Congratulations to **Zach Andrews** of 8S who received second prize for a poem entered in the Woorilla Poetry Prize competition on the weekend! His poem was a reponse to Kit Wright's famous poem 'The Magic Box' and was written in English class as part of a focus on poetry writing. There were more than 300 entrants in the combined youth and adult sections, from all around Australia. He was asked to read his poem to the audience and received the award from the Mayor of Cardinia and the judge of the competition, Australian poet Judith Rodriguez.

The Magic Box
by Zach Andrews

I will put in the box:

Icy secrets from the mountains whispery heights,
A split acorn from an ancient, wise oak, spilling its wisdom for all to read and see,
Jars of salt from the ocean mist, rising up to scent the sky.



I will put in the box:

The paint box of a lonely sunrise, looking over an uninhabited paradise
Boxes of earth from a rainforest, filled with the soil of untrodden paths,
A tuft of down from an eagles' mighty underwing, drifting over its windswept domain.



I will put in the box:

A slice from the shadow of a pale yellow crescent moon,
A giant's hoard from the dark, musty caves of time,
Drops from a hidden brook, being delivered to places unknown to humanity.



I will put in the box:

The fragile rays of the ivory sphere, peeking through the unrelenting clouds on a fragile
wintery morn,
The leaves that decide to break their hold on their master and float down to rest,
A jewel from the crown of a grey stone King, eyeing its peaceful kingdom from its impen-
etrable fortress.



My box is fashioned from:

Treasures of the past -
With tragedies for the lid, and triumphs for the corers,
Its hinges are the secrets preserved by the Earth.



I shall open my box and read of tales long forgotten, adventures untold, and quests to be had.

I shall open my box and gaze at the spectacles of this world.
I will hide my box and leave a map for some lucky traveller to unearth, and
treasure the mysteries that I once discovered.



NEWS FROM THE SECONDARY SPORT

The **House Cross Country Carnival on Friday, 18th August** will be combined with the ‘Walk in my Shoes’ event BBQ at lunchtime.

The cross country is compulsory for **ALL STUDENTS**. A medical certificate and a note from a parent must be given if a student cannot participate in this whole secondary school event. The event is **NOT** optional for VCE students.

Students need to make sure they know what age group they are running in on the day. House age group lists will be displayed on the gym noticeboard. Age is taken as at 1st Jan 2017.

All girls and U13 & U14 boys will run a 3km route around the school property and the U15, U16 & Open boys will run 4km.

The Start/Finish area will be on the new oval .

EISM XC CARNIVAL

This full day interschool event is on Wednesday, 13th September at Ruffey Lake Park in Doncaster. The top 8-10 placegetters in each age group at our House XC will qualify to compete against the 12 other Central Division schools.

Please encourage your son / daughter to do some running training over the next few weeks! Or it could be a family activity!

Helen Padget - Head of Secondary Sport

helen.padget@pvcc.vic.edu.au

NEWS FROM CAREERS

- **University / TAFE Open Days 2017** – throughout August
- **Year 12 VTAC applications** – throughout August and September

WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITY FOR 2018

Any Year 9 (Year 10 - 2018) students who may be interested in a Career in the Police Force, Applications are now open to apply to do a work experience placement next year. Please come and see me if you are interested.

View the latest [newsletter here](#).



Helen Madden - Careers Advisor

Shop Hours:

Tuesday, 22nd August 8:00am - 2:00pm

Tuesday, 29th August 8:00am - 2:00pm

The uniform price list and uniform policy are available on the [College Website.](#)

Our direct number is: 9036 7354

Lydia Ross

Please mark all uniform items with a permanent marker.

All named items are kept at the general office for collection.



UNIFORM AVAILABLE 24 / 7

DID YOU KNOW THE PLENTY VALLEY UNIFORM IS AVAILABLE TO ORDER *on-line?*



HAVE YOUR UNIFORM POSTED TO EITHER YOUR HOME, OFFICE OR CLICK & COLLECT FROM THE ON-CAMPUS UNIFORM SHOP



**VISIT THE BOB STEWART WEBSITE
www.bobstewart.com.au**

FOR MORE INFORMATION



CANTEEN

All work in the Canteen can be counted towards Parent Participation Time. Dad and grandparents are most welcome too!

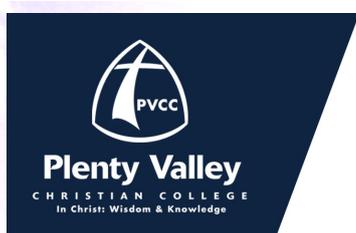
NOTE: Due to Health Regulations, space and safety reasons, we are unable to accommodate any children in the Canteen.

You can view the **Canteen Price List** and **Canteen Roster** on the

[College website](#).



Wendy/Denise



www.pvcc.vic.edu.au

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VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Plenty Valley Christian College is to be a learning community with the creative and responsive mind and spirit of Christ.

Find us on the web: www.pvcc.vic.edu.au





ROADRUNNER JUNIOR BASEBALL



For boys and girls aged 8-12 years

Starts Wednesday October 11th
at Glenauburn Park in Lower Plenty

Learn more and register

-  www.research.baseball.com.au
-  bailargeon_aj@hotmail.com
-  AJ on 0423 782 970



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FOR MORE INFORMATION
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AN EVENT BY YOUTH FOR YOUTH

Kingdom Come

FRIDAY AUGUST 25 2017

LOCATION: MARANATHA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
104-108 REEMA BLVD, E-HILLS, VIC
PICKUP AND DROP OFF FROM VENUE

VILLAGE OPEN FROM 6PM
MAIN EVENT 7:30PM
CLOSE: 10PM

FREE ENTRY

JUMPING CASTLES & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
SAUSAGE SIZZLE, FAIRY FLOSS AND POPCORN FOR SALE

MORE DETAILS: FACEBOOK OR WWW.KINGDOMCOMECONF.WIXSITE.COM/2017