



Issue 15

6 September 2018

DIARY DATES

Tuesday
11 September 2018
P-6 Student LED
Conferences
Year 7-11 Parent Teacher
Interviews

Wednesday
12 September 2018
EISM X-Country

Wednesday
12 September 2018
Maker Day

Thursday
13 September 2018
Primary District
Athletics

Friday
14 September 2018
Valedictory Dinner

Monday
17 September 2018
Primary Footy Day

Tuesday
18 September 2018
Year 7 & 10
Immunisations

Wednesday
19 September 2018
Primary End of Term
Assembly @ 9am

Thursday
20 September 2018
HeART of the Valley

Friday
21 September 2018
End of Term 3

NAPLAN scores have been released for this year. You will be aware that there has been much discussion about the validity of the tests in the last 12 months. Plenty Valley Christian College students have undertaken the tests in Reading, Writing, Grammar & Punctuation and in Numeracy, along with their peers across the nation.

It was pleasing to see that once again, our students have performed at or above the state average in almost all assessment areas, across years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Of course we recognise that these tests are a snapshot of performance on one day for each test and that there are many variables to consider. Additionally, at PVCC we do not drill our students in NAPLAN testing techniques for months on end, rather our philosophy is to prepare students to do the test, but not to elevate it above other learning or assessment opportunities. With this in mind, it is a joy to see that our students have given their best and have achieved admirably.

NAPLAN gives us glimpse into our students' progress and helps teachers to hone our learning and teaching programs to further meet the needs of all students. Next term will see students undertake further standardised testing, exams will roll around again and assessment pieces will fall due. Assessment is an important component of the learning and teaching cycle, whereby we see what student have learned and what they are still working on. We then design learning programs to take them to the next step.

As a school, we value the parent-teacher partnership in the education of children. We thank you for your support at home when you encourage your child to finish their homework, complete that assignment and study for that test!

We look forward to seeing you again soon at Student Led Conferences and Parent Teacher Interviews, where together, we look at assessments and results and take stock of how far students have come and where they are heading to next.

Lily McDonald
Deputy Principal - Learning & Teaching



MEET THE EXECUTIVE - THURSDAY MORNINGS



For the rest of this term the Executive of the College will be available between 8:15 and 8:45 am for 5 minute chats with parents. Any parent is very welcome to drop into the General Office (the old reception area at the top of the drive) without notice.

We would be pleased to hear any ideas you may have to improve our College or answer any questions. If not on the day then we will certainly follow them up.

Mr John Metcalfe, Principal; Mrs Lily McDonald, Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching (curriculum and teachers) and Mr Todd Mahoney, Director Wellbeing (students) will be available to chat with you.

TEACHING POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Download an application form from the College website, by clicking on the links below.

- [Casual Relief Teaching Staff \(Primary and Secondary\)](#)
- [Diploma Qualified Casual Kindergarten Assistants](#)
- [Casual Kindergarten Assistants](#)
- [Casual Kindergarten Teachers](#)

2019 Teaching Vacancies - expression of interest

- [French – Primary and Secondary \(Part Time\)](#)
- [Primary Teacher – Part Time](#)
- [Humanities Teacher – \(ability to teach Geography to VCE will be an advantage\)](#)
- [Business/Legal Studies to VCE – Part Time](#)

CARPARK PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

We have painted new crossings at the northern end of the carparks. Please be aware of children crossing. You should always give way to students at every crossing unless there is a staff member wearing a high visibility vest on duty at the crossing controlling them crossing.

I am aware that there has been some impatience in the carpark of late. I know it does take time to get out in the afternoon. We actually do pretty well moving nearly 800 students out each afternoon onto an extremely busy Yan Yean Road in only 20 minutes.

Exiting from the carpark onto Yan Yean Road runs fairly smoothly until about 3:35 pm when it fills with after school traffic. It is then very busy and slow to exit until the buses leave by 3:45pm.

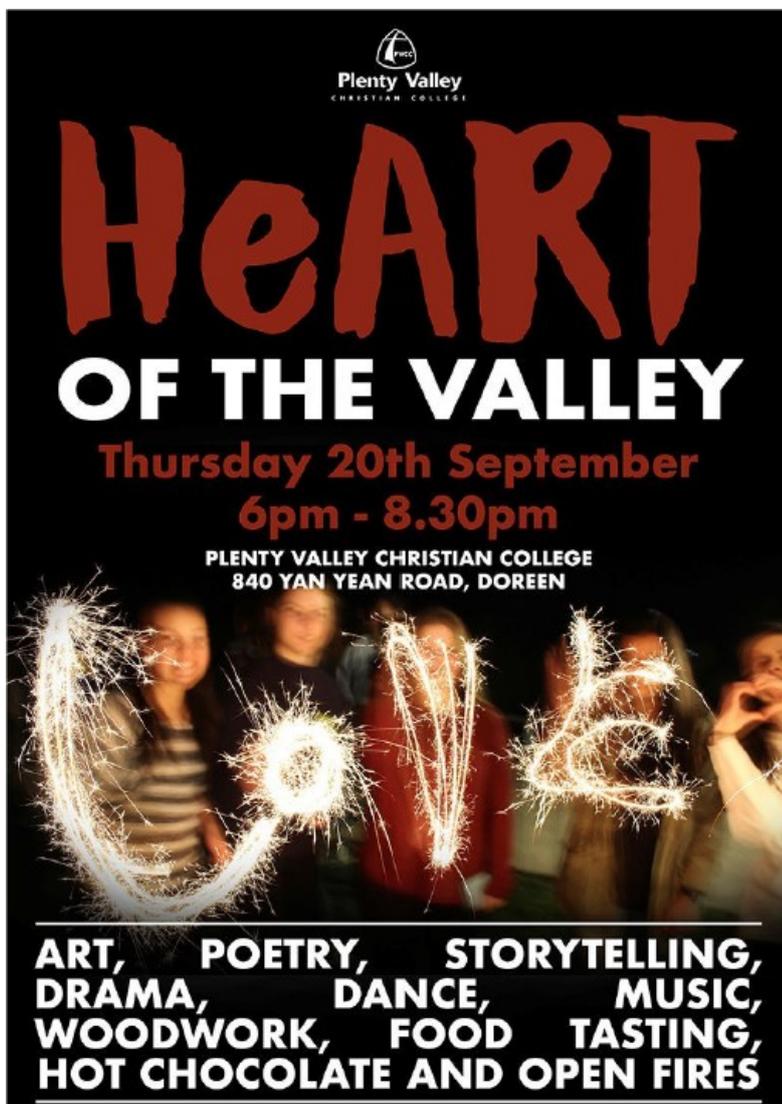
Unfortunately, there is very little we can do about the traffic so we have to work with the circumstances

that we have at the moment.

I suggest that if your children are very good at getting to the carpark quickly then it is worth being there right on time and getting away by 3:35. If your child likes to take a little time collecting gear and chatting to friends at the end of the day perhaps arriving after 3:35 would mean less waiting for you.

Either way please be courteous to other drivers and particularly be watchful for students. Their safety is more important than a few minutes in traffic.

John Metcalfe - Principal



FROM WELFARE

SOCIAL SKILLS/FRIENDSHIP GROUP

We have launched a Social Skills / Friendship group on a Thursday, during lunch time for students in Years 3-6. The focus of this group is to support and build positive social and friendship skills, which they can then utilise within their friendship circle.

Key social skills that will help with friendships include, cooperation, communication, empathy, emotional control, and responsibility. If you feel your child would like to, or would benefit from being part of this group, please have a discussion with your child let one of us know via email.

Rebecca Mathews, Lee Watson, and Celeste Putter



MAKER DAY

A FESTIVAL THAT CELEBRATES CREATIVITY IN OUR COLLEGE!

God created us all different, each one with their own gifts and talents. Here at the College we try to give our students many opportunities to grow and develop in all aspects of their life, especially their creativity! We want to have students who are challenged and engaged in creating, but in a supported and safe space.

We created 'Maker Day' as a time to learn, discover, create and explore new materials and methods. We all do it together, supporting and encouraging one another, in a fun and exciting way! Students from Kinder to Year Six will be joining together for a whole day of creating and making on **Wednesday September 12th**. Please keep an eye out for more information in the next few weeks. [View flyer here.](#)

Tiffany Russon – Early Years & Junior Years Art Teacher

PRIMARY SPORT

Footy Day

Students can wear their favourite footy or sports team colours on Monday 17th of September 2018.



District Athletics

Selected students in Years 3-6 will be participating in District Athletics next Thursday, 13th of September 2018 at Meadowglen Athletics Stadium.



Sally Park - Primary Physical Education & Sport Coordinator

SECONDARY NEWS

NEWS FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

Dates to Diarise in Term 3

- **Year 12 VTAC applications – Open-** Apply throughout September.
Timely Applications close – Thursday September 27 at 5pm.



Download the [latest careers newsletter.](#)

Helen Madden - Careers Counsellor/VET Coordinator

helen.madden@pvcc.vic.edu.au

READING AND EMPATHY

As I watched some students enter the classroom last week, I noticed one student spy a better option, pick up his books, give one glance to his current table partner, and move off to another seat. I was surprised, not at the student's choice of partner, but that he did not recognise the hurt he had just caused.

You see, this student could not empathise with how it felt for his classmate. He did not know what it was like to be rejected in this way. His concern was only for his own gain; to scale the social hierarchy, and his initial seat table-partner held little social capital in his eyes. Instead of having compassion on his first partner and being a friend, he chose to abandon.

While it might be easy to blame the student's age and maturity, it is important to remember that students learn empathy, it is not an innate ability. One major way we learn this critical life-skill is through understanding other people's stories, walking a mile in their shoes, experiencing what they have experienced.



There are two ways to learn empathy: living through difficult situations oneself, or experiencing stories of those who have lived them... and reading fiction helps us to understand others' experiences.

Reading fiction allows the reader into the lived experience of the characters, many of whom face hardships and personal turmoil. It is through this transportation into the lives of storybook characters which enables children to understand what it's like to experience these events and emotions. Good writers paint characters experiences in a way which allows the reader to live that same situation and grow from it.

Even the medical profession has jumped on this idea in its teaching of bedside manner and doctor-patient relationship building. In a medical journal article called 'Reading for Empathy', Professor Herman outlines that medical students who have been actively reading fiction show higher sensitivity in human interactions.

Fundamental in developing positive attitudes to reading and enhancing empathy is good male role models. Studies in the UK have outlined some concerns over fathers' absence in shared reading experiences with their children which then leads to poor literacy results in schools.

Parents who read in front of, beside, with, to, and around children are setting a wonderful example of the crucial role literacy plays in our lives. Better yet, it is a shared experience which strengthens relationships, develops compassion, and is a whole load of fun. Children do not have to be young either. Parents who read their children's set texts for high school English are poised to wrestle with some difficult and compelling moral dilemmas, right alongside their children.

Making time to read with your children is a critical step in building positive experiences around literacy, which, in turn, leads to greater empathy.

Michael Symons

Head of Languages (English)

For links to any articles sited, or more information, please contact me at

Michael.symons@pvcc.vic.edu.au

NEWS FROM SECONDARY SPORT

Year 8/9 Girls' EISM Netball Premiers 2018

The year 8/9 girl's netball team had an exceptional season, being undefeated for most of it. Spirits remained high, where by half way in the season it was realised that the likelihood of being in the Grand Final was highly likely. Surely enough, on Thursday 30th of August, we played a fierce grand final match against Kingswood at Aqualink in Box Hill.



Earlier on in the season, whilst playing our second game against Kingswood, we unfortunately lost due to a depleted team as a result of injuries and students having extracurricular commitments. As a result, the team had their confidence somewhat dented, however they were driven more than ever to get the win over them.

The game was a nail biting one to watch to say the least, where each team was scoring goal for goal on each centre pass! The girls never lost their tenacity and strength however, with the first quarter ending in a draw 8-8, the second PVCC getting up, 6 - 4 and the third ending in another draw, 10-10. With a strong defence, PVCC intercepted the ball on numerous occasions to bring the ball back down our way for our mid courters and shooters to shine. It was in the 4th quarter where the PVCC girls really turned it on, showing who was the better team, blitzing the quarter with an 11 – 5 win. Overall the final score being PVCC 35 – Kingswood 27!

Montana as GA came out with best and fairest for the game, but all girls were stars on the court, never giving up and showing such positivity and encouragement to all team mates throughout the entire match. Congratulations to a brilliant game and an overall fantastic season. It was a pleasure coaching you all and I wish you nothing but the best in your netball endeavours.

Michelle Irving (HPE Teacher and Year 8/9 Netball coach)

YEAR 8/9 EISM GIRLS' HOCKEY RUNNERS' UP 2018



The Yr 8/9 hockey team enjoyed a great winter season finishing second on the ladder to Kingswood who were one of only two teams to defeat us.

In the round matches Kingswood beat us 5-2 but the Grand Final at Eltham College was a different story.

Our girls took a while to settle into the game and found themselves down 2-0 at half time. The team rallied well however, to outscore Kingswood in the 2nd half and really put them under serious pressure. Unfortunately we ended up going down 2-1 after a very competitive 2nd half. Our captain Inge was Plenty Valley's MVP for the Grand Final as chosen by the Kingswood coach.

This team was a lovely group to coach and they improved solidly throughout the season.

We look forward to going one step further next year!

Helen Padget (coach)

SECONDARY HOUSE XC CARNIVAL 2018

The secondary House XC Carnival was held on Friday 31st August and the forecast inclement weather for the most part went around us. Plenty Valley is fortunate to have the perfect venue for a XC carnival and our property certainly delivered a testing course as usual for all runners.

All girls + U13 & U14 boys ran the 3km course (2km loop + 1km loop) and the U15/U16 & Open boys ran a 2km loop twice.

Congratulations to the following winners in each gender age group

Open – Ben & Lara

U16 – Bailey & Jenna

U15 – Jack & Inge

U14 – Ryan & Alexandra

U13 – Isaac & Nikola

The individual XC Champion awards will be presented following results in next weeks' EISM XC Carnival (Wednesday 12th September at Ruffey Lake Park in Doncaster)

The top 10 runners in each gender age group have been invited to compete at this high standard XC event.

Watch this space for the winning house for the secondary XC Carnival!

Many thanks to all the student runners, staff & parent helpers who all make this College community event possible.

Helen Padget

Head of Secondary Sport



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.

[CANTEEN ROSTER - CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

Contact Wendy or Denise in the Canteen if you can help.

Have a look at the NEW canteen menu online - [CLICK HERE](#)

CANTEEN MENU AMENDMENTS

- * Sausage rolls will now be available every day of the week
- * Vegetarian and Ham & Cheese Focaccias will be available both Thursdays and Fridays
- * Hot Chicken rolls will also be available both Thursdays and Fridays



Our school now has a great online ordering system called Flexischools.

As well as being convenient for parents, online orders are faster and easier to process - so it helps to simplify everyone's day!



**CASH FREE,
HASSLE FREE**



**PAY ANYWHERE,
ANYTIME**



**SAFE &
SECURE**

Take advantage of this convenient new service. Go to flexischools.com.au and click **register**.



REGISTER









- 1 Go to www.flexischools.com.au and select the **REGISTER** option and enter your email address.
- 2 You will be sent a registration email. Click on the link in the email to complete the registration.
- 3 Fill in your details on the Registration Form and click "submit".
- 4 Add your students, select their school and class.

ORDER









- 1 Go to www.flexischools.com.au and select the **LOGIN** option. Click on "Start an order" for your student.
- 2 Select the service you wish to purchase from. You can also set up orders in advance.
- 3 Add each of your items. Extras and options will appear where relevant to the item.
- 4 Select your payment option. Pay for the one order or "top up" your account. Complete payment to place order.



UNIFORM SHOP

Shop Hours for Term 3

Tuesdays

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

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

LOST PROPERTY

Please mark all uniform items with a permanent marker. Named uniform items may be collected at the general office.

Lost property are also included on the Notices tab in SEQTA Engage.



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CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
In Christ: Wisdom & Knowledge

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Doreen Victoria 3754

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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.



TENNIS LESSONS
WHITTLESEA TENNIS CLUB
74 LAUREL STREET, WHITTLESEA

WE SPECIALIZE IN LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS

TERM 3 SPECIAL OFFER!
NEW STUDENTS RECEIVE A
30% DISCOUNT
AND A NEW RACKET FOR
FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
TEL: 0425 831 666
WEB: WWW.TOPLINETENNIS.COM
EMAIL: INFO@TOPLINETENNIS.COM

TOPLINE TENNIS ANZ HOT SPOTS tennis

messy PLAY

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM:

- Learn fun ways to support your child's development
- Positive behavioral support
- Sensory play, music, early literacy & numeracy, movement, communication, social skills, independence

* PARENTS MUST BE INVOLVED IN SESSION

WHEN: WEDNESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER
THURSDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
WEDNESDAY 3RD OCTOBER
THURSDAY 4TH OCTOBER

TIME: 12PM - 1PM

AGE: 2-3 YEARS OLD

LOCATION: SOUTH MORANG

COST: \$58* PER SESSION (4 SESSIONS IN TOTAL)

* ALL SESSIONS TO BE PAID UPFRONT PRIOR
COST MAY VARY DEPENDING ON FUNDING

REGISTER:

Lize Roos
Director/Occupational Therapist
Building Blocks Therapy
0400 514 424
info@buildingblockstherapy.com.au



www.buildingblockstherapy.com.au

Bus, meet train.

From Sunday 26 August we're changing the Plenty Valley bus network, connecting you to three new stations on the Mernda Line.

Click Here to view the brochure and map



Dyson's

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA **PT**

JOIN THE FUN

PLAY CRICKET AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB AND LEARN NEW SKILLS WHILE PLAYING AUSTRALIA'S FAVOURITE SPORT



JUNIOR BLASTERS

AGES 5-7 | 60 MINS

- Learn new skills including catching, throwing and teamwork
- Make new friends or organise a group to learn together
- Wear the colours of your favourite Big Bash heroes in a personalised t-shirt
- All equipment supplied, parents join in the fun

SIGN UP NOW TO GET YOUR JUNIOR BLASTERS PACK!

Includes a t-shirt with your name on it and bucket hat in your choice of Big Bash team colour, but it's all, personalised four stickers, sheet & progression tracker.



MASTER BLASTERS

AGES 7-10 | 90 MINS

- For kids with basic cricket skills
- Every kid gets a chance to bat, bowl and field
- Wear the colours of your favourite Big Bash heroes in your choice of coloured plunger cap
- Make new friends or organise a group to play together
- All equipment supplied, parents join the fun

SIGN UP NOW TO GET YOUR MASTER BLASTERS PACK!

Includes a plunger cap, your choice of Big Bash team colour & progression tracker.



JUNIOR CRICKET

AGES 8-17 | 2-4 HOURS

- Play junior cricket at your local club
- Short, action-packed games
- Enhanced game formats allowing for greater skill development
- Develop teamwork in a fun and competitive environment
- Join an existing team or join with a group of friends

SIGN UP NOW TO ALL-GIRLS LEAGUES

JOIN THE FUN AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB
REGISTER AT PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY Woodwards cricket



BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR

INSIDE OUT

SPRING INTO HOLIDAYS

Fresh school holiday activities.

Cooking with Jamie Oliver's Learn Your Fruit and Veg, make a kite, plant a greenhouse, decorate yoga mats, and build a Lego masterpiece. Something for every child. BOOK NOW.

Plenty Valley Christian College

840 Yan Yean Road DOREEN VIC 3754
0412 146 340 (07:00 -18:30)

Monday, 24 September
Sports Sensation
Make sure you've tightened your laces as we'll be getting active in a day where everyone's a sports superstar.
Full Fee: \$64.60

club based

Monday, 01 October
At The Movies: Smallfoot at ...
We're off to the movies to see the cool new flick Smallfoot.
Note: Please arrive by 8:45am.
Full Fee: \$92.15

excursion

Tuesday, 25 September
Kite-Tastic
Catch the breeze when you build, decorate and fly your very own working kite.
Full Fee: \$80.10

incursion

Tuesday, 02 October
Build-A-Farm
Build your very own LEGO-compatible farms from your choice of two special kits.
Full Fee: \$81.10

incursion

Wednesday, 26 September
Zen Kids
Take relaxation to a whole new level when we design our very own yoga mats and make calming wind chimes.
Full Fee: \$80.60

incursion

Wednesday, 03 October
You're The Star
Today we'll be celebrating everyone's secret talents - no matter what they are!
Full Fee: \$64.60

club based

Thursday, 27 September
Creative Sensation
Today we'll be making sensational arts and crafts. What will you make?
Full Fee: \$64.60

club based

Thursday, 04 October
My Green Garden
Grow your very own vegetable garden with a greenhouse that you have built yourself.
Full Fee: \$81.10

incursion

Friday, 28 September
No Program

no program

Friday, 05 October
Learn Your Fruit And Veg
Jamie Oliver's Learn Your Fruit and Veg Program aims to inspire and teach children what seasonal food is, how to prepare it, and importantly, what it can do for their bodies.
Full Fee: \$84.60

incursion



Daily Requirements: Children must bring their own healthy snack and lunch (no nut products or food that requires heating please), wet weather gear, art smock and suitable clothing for an active and sunsmart day.

Something for every child.

campastralia.com.au/holidayclubs

R U OK?™

A conversation could change a life.

R U OK is a charity designed to inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with people around them and support anyone struggling with life. R U OK's vision is a world where we're all connected and are protected from suicide. Their mission is to inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with people around them and support anyone struggling with life.

<https://youtu.be/r3qE6vkbGJ4>

How to ask...

1. Ask R U OK?

- Be relaxed, friendly and concerned in your approach.
- Help them open up by asking questions like "How are you going?" or "What's been happening?"
- Mention specific things that have made you concerned for them, like "You seem less chatty than usual. How are you going?"



1. Ask



2. Listen without judgement

Take what they say seriously and don't interrupt or rush the conversation.

- Don't judge their experiences or reactions but acknowledge that things seem tough for them.
- If they need time to think, sit patiently with the silence.
- Encourage them to explain: "How are you feeling about that?" or "How long have you felt that way?"
- Show that you've listened to them by repeating back what you've heard and ask if you have understood them properly.



2. Listen

3. Encourage action

- Ask: "What have you done in the past to manage similar situations?"
- Ask: "How would you like me to support you?"
- Ask: "What's something you can do for yourself right now? Something that's enjoyable or relaxing?"
- If they've been feeling really down for more than 2 weeks, encourage them to see a health professional. You could say "It might be useful to link in with someone who can support you. I'm happy to assist you to find the right person to talk to."
- Be positive about the role of professionals in getting through tough times.



3. Encourage action

If they do not want to talk, don't criticise them. Instead ask them if there is someone else they may rather talk to, or let them know to call you if/when they want to talk.

NEED EXPERT HELP? If you feel that someone has been really low for more than 2 weeks or is at risk, contact a professional as soon as you can. Some conversations are too big for family and friends to take on alone.

4. Check in

- Pop a reminder in your diary to call them in a couple of weeks. If they're really struggling, follow up with them sooner.
- You can say "I've been thinking of you and wanted to know how you've been going since we last chatted."
- As if they have found a better way to manage the situation. If they haven't done anything, don't judge them. They might just need someone to listen to them for the moment.
- Stay in touch and be there for them. Genuine care and concern can make a real difference.

