Plenty Valley CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
In Christ: Wisdom & Knowledge

COLLEGE CONNECTIONS

Issue 16 8 November 2019

COMING UP

Monday
11 November 2019
Primary & Secondary Recital

Wednesday
13 November 2019
4yo & Prep Orientation 2

Tuesday
19 November 2019
Years 3-12 Presentation

Wednesday
20 November 2019
Company General Meeting

Friday
22 November 2019
Secondary Exams Start

Monday - Thursday
25-28 November 2019
Year 5 Camp

Tuesday
26 November 2019
3yo Kinder Orientation

Wednesday
27 November 2019
4yo Kinder & Prep Orientation

Monday
2 December 2019
Year 8-12 Headstart Begins

Thursday
5 December 2019
Year 6 Graduation

Tuesday
10 December 2019
Kinder - Year 7 Orientation

EDITORIAL

My grandfather was born in England and emigrated to Australia in 1914. He immediately joined the Light Horse Brigade. There are many questions that arise from his unusual journey to the military. Many of those questions have no answers because the Metcalfe side of my family did not talk about details of their lives and my, painfully shy, grandfather died before I was born. I began to ask questions of my grandmother prior to her death and although I learned things about her young life my grandfather's motives to move to Australia remain a mystery. Obviously, he could ride a horse well or he would not have been accepted into the Light Horse. That was not usual for an English boy. And why come all the way to Australia by a slow boat only to join the army? We know very little of our relatives in England although the name Metcalfe is relatively common in parts of England and as an old family we have our own coat of arms.

Occasionally I speculate about my grandfather. Was he a son of a noble family escaping to Australia from some terrible scandal in which he was embroiled? Yet, when he arrived he was compelled by duty to return to the other side of the world to fight for his country. Whatever his reasons he landed at Gallipoli with his battalion months later and faced an horrific landing where many of his comrades were killed on the beach. He was wounded by shrapnel from a Turkish shell. That shrapnel was embedded too close to his spine for doctors to operate and he used a walking cane for the rest of his life. Eventually the shrapnel moved and ended his life some 20 years later.

War has always been a terrible thing. A waste of lives and founded in hatred and revenge. Despite that fact that we all know this, we continually see ourselves sliding toward conflict after conflict.

Each time this happens there are young men and women who are prepared to give up safety and comfort to protect and fight for what they believe to be right. They do this despite the potential cost of their lives or their physical health and knowing that their mental health will be affected by the horrors they will necessarily endure. They make a conscious decision to sacrifice themselves so that others do not have to.

Is that the definition of a hero?

Remembrance Day is next Monday. A day when we reflect on the sacrifice of those in war time who were willing to lay down their lives so that we could live in peace and prosperity. At 11am we will remember that the self-sacrifice of our heroes is a reflection of the character they inherited from our heavenly Father.

Now, it is a rare event when someone gives up his life even for the sake of somebody righteous, although for a truly good person one might have the courage to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in that Christ died on our behalf while we are still sinners. Romans 5:7,8

As we thank God for our heroes, we also thank him for his sacrifice.

John Metcalfe - Principal

Presentation Evening

On Tuesday 19 November 2019 we will meet together as a community to celebrate and thank God for this year. We will honour students who have embodied the character and values of Plenty Valley Christian College through awards and performances. We will also farewell our Year 12 students who will have finished their 13 years of schooling.

All families with students in **Years 3 – 12** are strongly encouraged to attend. The program will run for approximately 2 hours and focus on our students.

Please have your students at the stadium at **6:30pm** so that everyone can be seated by 6:45pm. Students should wear **full school uniform**, including the right socks.

We are praying that this year will not be raining so that we can use the ample parking on the oval behind the stadium.

Please be there so we can celebrate together as a community.

Time - 6:30pm Venue – Community Bank Stadium, 129-163 Main Hurstbridge Rd Diamond Creek

COMMUNITY NEWS

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SPRING RECITAL

All families are welcome to attend the recital on **Monday November 11th** to be held at All Saints Anglican Church, Church St, Greensborough.

There is a $5 entry fee per family. A light supper will be provided in between sections.

The Primary Recital will start at 5:30pm and the Secondary at 7:30pm

This is an opportunity when all our instrumental students and students involved in our band program can participate and receive invaluable performance experience.

ORDER GROUP PHOTOS

Please note that to be eligible for free shipping to the College, all photo orders must be placed prior to Saturday 17 November 2019. A hard copy of these photos are available to view at the main office, should you wish to see what the final product will look like.

COMPANY MEETING

Do you support The Vision and Values of the College and desire to serve our community through an active membership of the PVCE Company?

Then why not join in at the next company meeting on **Wednesday November 20th**, 7:30 pm at Plenty Valley Christian College.

This meeting will be held in rooms 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).

OfficeMax

BOOK LISTS

Booklists are now available via the OfficeMax website. If you prefer to work with a hardcopy these will be available from the College website. Year 7 book lists will be available from Monday, November 11th.

Ordering online is fast, secure and convenient, just visit officemaxschools.com.au and follow these easy steps:

1. Search for our school **Plenty Valley Christian College Years 8-12**
2. Enter our school access code **Winc105**
3. Complete the student's details and select year level.

Review your requirements list and make changes (if required).

PARENT HANDBOOK

Click here to view the Parent Handbook, with some College expectations and other information about the College. Please see below regarding early collection of your child.

EARLY DEPARTURES

Parents sometimes need to take children out of College during the day for medical, dental or other family reasons. In this event the following procedure should be followed to ensure good communication and safety of the child:

1. A note should be sent to the classroom/homegroup teacher, indicating the time the parent wishes to pick up the child and the reason for the early departure. Without a written note the child will not be allowed to leave the classroom. To avoid disruption to classes, students will only be called over the PA system during Recess or Lunch time.
2. If an adult other than the parent is to pick up the child, this should also be clearly indicated. Proof of identity will be required in these circumstances.
3. The adult collecting the child should report to the General Office and request that the child be called to the foyer. Parents should not go to the classroom.
4. Students should be signed out at the office.

Students who wish to leave because they are ill must ask the General Office to contact their parents for them. Students may not call home and arrange to be collected without the assistance of the General Office.

Any student leaving the College during the day, regardless of their age or the reason must be signed out, using the iPads at the General Office. It is important that students notify the General Office if they return to College on the same day. Any student who is to be dismissed into the care of someone other than their parent must bring a note giving their parent's permission for this to take place.

PRIMARY NEWS

Exciting News from the Primary Library; Prizes for our Students at the Whittlesea Show.

Our Years 3-6 students celebrated "Book Week" this year by making their favourite book character in baked modelling clay. We entered a number of them in the Whittlesea Show and the students won 17 prizes between them. Congratulations to all of you.

Thanks to Alanna Bromley for organising and running the activities over Book Week. The primary students really enjoyed interacting with the VCAL students.

Cathy Walsh and Pearl Fearn-Wannan

PRIMARY SPORT

Year 5/6 Summer Sport

Please see below results for each team and in brackets the player of the match:

Round 9: October 25th @ PVCC v Yarrambat – WASHOUT

Round 10: November 1st @ PVCC v Greenhills P.S.

Rounders – Won (Shani L)

Hot Shots Tennis Girls – Won (Sarah Y & Ava G)

Hot Shots Tennis Boys – Won (Lewis N)

Cricket – Won (Hollie J)

Basketball Girls – Won (Olivia G)

Basketball Boys – Won (James S)

Volleyball Girls – Drew (Miray A)

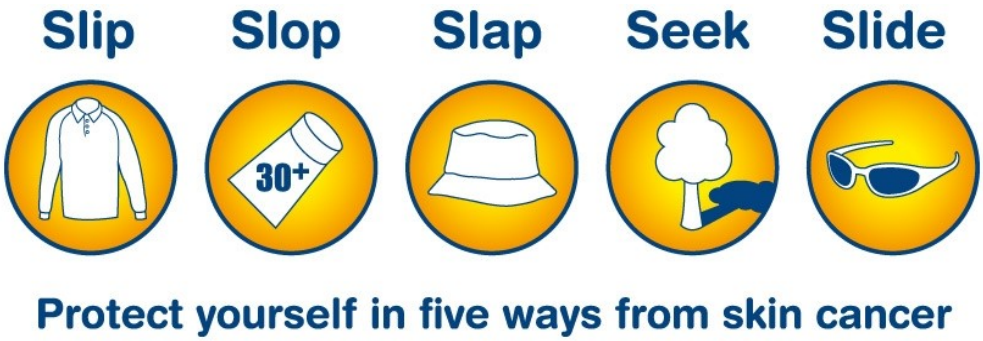
Volleyball Boys – Won (Nic G)

Junior Softball & T-ball Clinic Day

Thanks to government Sport School funding, the Year 3 to 6 students will have a 3 week clinic. The Junior school students will be focusing on Strike & Field sports this term, with the Year 3/4 students having a T-Ball clinic and the Year 5/6 students having a Softball clinic.

This is a great opportunity for the students to receive expert coaching from an external instructor and develop a deeper understanding of Strike & Field sports. The clinics will be running in week 4, 6 & 7, within the P.E timetable.

Sally Donaldson - Primary Physical Education & Sport Coordinator



SUNSMART

1. Slip on sun protective clothing – especially when waiting their turn and during breaks

2. Slop on SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen and reapply every 2 hours

3. Slap on a hat

4. Seek shade – especially when waiting their turn

5. Slide on some sunglasses (optional)

Find out more at: https://www.cancercouncil.com.au/cancer-prevention/sun-protection/be-sunsmart/

SECONDARY SPORT NEWS

YEAR 7 GIRLS' GREEN TENNIS TEAM

The Green girls' tennis team is improving every week and defeated Eltham Grey 8 sets to 1 last week at Eltham College.

The Green girls are currently undefeated with 4 wins.
Well done team!

OTHER YEAR 7 RESULTS after Round 4:

Navy girls' tennis - equal 4th
Green boys' Basketball - equal 4th
Green girls' volleyball - 8th
Green mixed table tennis - equal 4th
Navy boys' soccer - 7th
Navy boys' Basketball - 13th

Helen Padget
Head of Secondary Sport

Great News from the Wood Technology Department

Prizes for our Students at the Whittlesea Show.

A number of our Secondary Wood Technology students took up the opportunity to enter their work in the Whittlesea Show this year. It was very exciting to see the following students win awards:

Year 10: Cooper B & Sam S

Year 9: Arielle E, Adelaide R
Harrison S, Christopher R
Joshua R, Jeremy A

Year 8: Micah Y

Congratulations!

Sam Devenish and
Pearl Fearn-Wannan

Reading for Pleasure

Evidence suggests that frequent readers perform better on academic tests. Regardless of the subject, students who are said to be "frequent readers" outperform those who "do not read for enjoyment" in international cognitive testing (according to the PISA Report 2009). Astoundingly, these statistics demonstrated that the academic difference between the two groups was the equivalent of as much as 2 years of schooling.

While it may seem like a straight forward idea, making children read can be a difficult task. At parent-teacher interviews I am regularly asked, "How can I make my child read more?" or the even more pertinent, "How can I make my son read more?"

Here are a few ideas associated with positive reading experiences which might help…

Children inherit many attitudes from parents, and this is no different with reading. Simply seeing a parent reading speaks volumes about the value of reading in your household. Having a shared reading time allows children the time and space to focus on their reading, but also the opportunity to have positive conversations with parents about their books, the issues the characters face, the setting or what the book says about their own life. Indeed, many parents who read their children's school novels have been able to engage in a new avenue of conversation with their child, and speak into the themes and values of the novel being discussed in the classroom.

Also, autonomy in reading increases the likelihood of a positive reading experience. Put simply, if children pick their own books, they tend to read them. Reading comfortable books, rather than those which might stretch them. Many people get pleasure from reading more complex books, though they do this after developing a positive attitude to simpler books. While student choice is a common feature in primary school, more complex books are required at high school which can put students off reading.

While children might gravitate towards magazines, comics, picture books which we might not hold in high literary regard, they are actually forming positive associations with reading. In doing this, they are better equipped to face more difficult reading tasks and have a positive, more resilient attitude to reading more academic texts. Reading for pleasure is crucial to a positive association with reading in general.

Developing a reading culture at home may seem daunting at first, though with time, a habit will form and children will become contented, even excited, about what they are reading.

As one expert has observed: "Students who read independently become better readers, score higher on achievement tests in all subject areas, and have greater content knowledge than those who do not." (Cullinan, 2000).

Some strategies to developing a positive reading culture at home:

* Read where you child will see - Let your child see your own enjoyment of, and need for, reading
* Set aside a 20 minute timeslot each night to read – either individually or together in the same space
* Allow your child to choose reading material they like (novels, picture books, newspapers, comics, graphic novels, magazines, video game e-zines, etc…)
* Read a book together – express what it means to you, what you liked, didn't like, etc…
* Talk about what you have read recently and why you read it
* Read your child's school texts – this opens up wonderful avenues for conversation, and allows you to help them when they struggle (yes, this applies to textbooks too)

Students who are able to enjoy and engage in reading are setting themselves up for future academic success. Whether they're reading about Pokemon or politics, what matters is that they're reading and enjoying it.

Michael Symons
Head of Languages

Cullinan, B. E. (2000). Independent reading and school achievement. School Library Media Research, 3, 1-23. Retrieved from http://www.ala.org/aasl/pubs/slr OECD (2010), PISA 2009 Results: A Teacher's Guide to PISA Reading Literacy

FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

- Very late VTAC applications - 1 November to 6 December

The Careers Newsletter will be available fortnightly with lots of important information on courses, events and opportunities for career exploration as well as important dates for VCE students.

CLICK HERE TO READ.

Our Careers website has a wide range of information for all ages and stages in the career journey. Find it at: www.careers.pvcc.vic.edu.au

I am more than happy to assist students and parents. Please call the school or email me at helen.madden@pvcc.vic.edu.au to make an appointment.

Helen Madden - Careers Practitioner/VET Coordinator

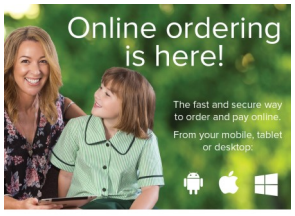
CANTEEN

Have a look at the canteen menu online - **CLICK HERE**

Flexischools App

Fliexischools have now released an app on both Android and iOS which makes the process easier than before. Just search for: 'flexischools' in the app stores.

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.flexischools&hl=en



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

All work in the Canteen can be counted towards Parent Participation Time.

Dads 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.

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

UNIFORM SHOP

Shop Hours Term 4:

Mondays	12:00pm - 4:00pm
Tuesdays	8:00am - 2:00pm
Thursdays	12:00pm - 5:00pm

PLEASE NOTE!

We will be open on Saturday, November 9th from 9:30am - 12:30pm

The shop will be open on Orientation Day,

Tuesday December 10th 8:00am - 4:00pm

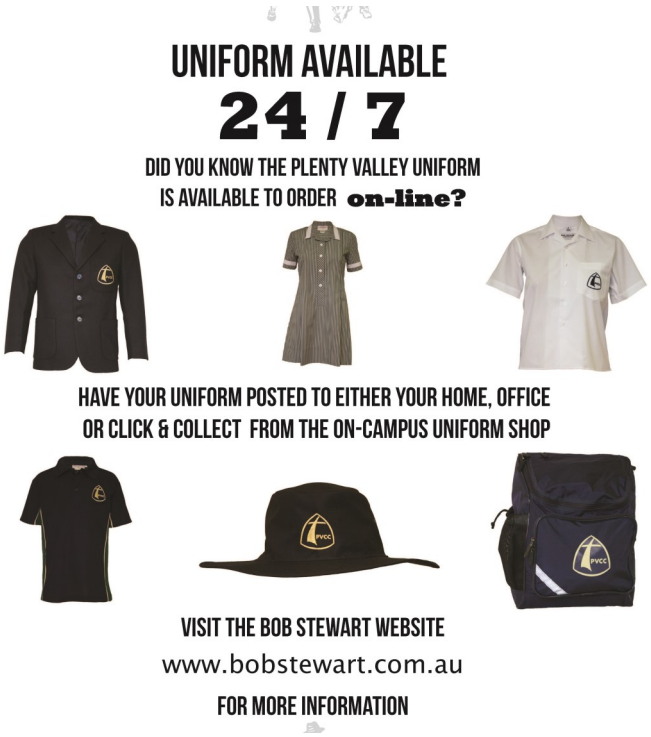
Last day of trade for 2019 - December 10th 2019

Extended trading hours in January 2020 - click here

The **uniform price list** and uniform policy are available on the College Website.

Our direct number is: **9036 7354**

Lydia Ross



LOST PROPERTY

Please mark all uniform items with a permanent marker. Named uniform items may be collected at the general office. Named items will be listed on the Notices through the Seqta portal.

Plenty Valley Christian College
In Christ: Wisdom & Knowledge

www.pvcc.vic.edu.au
840 Yan Yean Road
Doreen Victoria 3754
P: (03) 9717 7400
F: (03) 9717 7475

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.

Why choose PRACE?

- WE OFFER AN INDUSTRY DRIVEN, DYNAMIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WITH GUEST SPEAKERS, WORKSHOPS AND EXCURSIONS RELEVANT TO THE CURRENT EDUCATION SUPPORT SECTOR.
- OUR COURSE INCLUDES SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT ELECTIVES DESIRED IN THIS SECTOR, EG. "*PROVIDE SUPPORT TO STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER*". THIS UNIT COULD BE THE POINT OF DIFFERENCE IN SECURING EMPLOYMENT.
- IT TAKES MORE THAN A QUALIFICATION TO SECURE A JOB. SPEAK TO US ABOUT REAL EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES ACHIEVED BY PRACE GRADUATES.
- "FREE" TAFE COURSES ARE NOT FREE; THEY COME WITH SERVICE & MATERIALS FEES. COMPARE OUR FEES & GREAT VALUE FOR CONCESSION CARD HOLDERS.

CHC30213
CERTIFICATE III IN EDUCATION SUPPORT

This qualification will give you the skills and knowledge to provide assistance and support to teachers and students in a range of educational settings. This includes Primary, Secondary & Special Development Schools & areas of early childhood education.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Education assistants/teacher aides
- Support workers (working with children with disabilities)

COURSE DETAILS:

DATES: Fri. 14 Feb. 2020 — 4 Sept. 2020
DURATION: 24 sessions, 2 workshops + 100 hr placement
TIME: 9.15am to 3.15pm
VENUE: Merrilands Community Centre

Changing lives through education

PRACE
Merrilands Community Centre
35 Sturdee Street, Reservoir 3073
9462 6077 | www.prace.vic.edu.au

PRACE
NATIONALLY RECOGNISED TRAINING
TOID 4036

YPRL

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Reading Dog Volunteer

We are currently seeking compassionate and enthusiastic volunteer owner/handler teams for the Doggy Tales program at YPRL. Do you have an interest in giving back to your local community and helping others? If yes, please consider submitting and expression of interest for this position.

The Doggy Tales program is a successful literacy program for children at YPRL. Doggy Tales improves children's reading and communication skills by employing a powerful method - reading to a dog. Doggy Tales are accredited companion animals who volunteer with their owner/handler as a team.

We are currently seeking compassionate and enthusiastic volunteer owner/handler teams for the Doggy Tales program across the following locations:

- Diamond Valley Library
- Ivanhoe Library
- Watsonia Library
- 4 x relief dog teams across each of our LGA's (Nillumbik, Banyule and Whittlesea).

This is a wonderful opportunity if:

- you are passionate about literacy development
- own a dog that possesses excellent temperament and obedience
- you are looking to give back to the community in meaningful ways

Ideal commitment for the volunteer role is in an ongoing capacity, for approximately two - 1 hour sessions per month. Doggy Tales runs after school hours usually starting at 3:30pm or 4:30pm. Possible expansion to weekends is being considered, depending on availability.

Please visit https://www.yprl.vic.gov.au/volunteering-for-yprl/ to submit your Expression of Interest for this role, or speak with one of the staff in branch about the opportunity.

EOI's for this opportunity will close COB, Monday, 25 November.

If you have any questions about the position, please email volunteers@yprl.vic.gov.au or contact 9088 3441.

Banyule | City of Whittlesea | Nillumbik | Yarra Plenty Regional Library | www.yprl.vic.gov.au