



Issue number 7

May 21, 2020

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## Editorial

When I started teaching in 1981 the first personal computer was introduced to my school. I was the young computer gun on the staff and was very involved in the integration of computers into each of the schools in which I worked. When I went to professional development days, I would ask older wiser coordinators what we should be doing with

our one computer. It was exciting because it could play rudimentary games and could be programmed using the basic language. No one was sure exactly what to do with the computers, but everyone agreed that it was important to have them and that one day computers would change the way we do school.

For nearly 40 years we educators have been talking about computers being a major disruptive influence on education.

In 2019 the vast majority of schools used computers as electronic notebooks, electronic textbooks and a personal research library. In other words, they did all the same things I did when I was a student but in a faster and more convenient way. In 40 years, computers have not changed mainstream education in any significant way.

In 2020, a virus forced us all to make *unprecedented* changes. (Sorry, I had to use the favourite word of the year). Some students have really benefited from working remotely. Others did not like it at all. At Plenty Valley Christian College, we are asking ourselves what are the good innovations we should keep to improve education for all? At the same time, we don't want to lose the important elements of education that are valuable for academic and physical development and interpersonal skills and character development.

When Israel was in exile in Babylon the people could not understand why the Lord let bad things happen to them. They were encouraged with these words from the Lord, "I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for." God always has good plans and good changes for us. We often need to step outside our comfort zone to attain the good.

John Metcalfe - Principal

*"I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out - plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for."* Jeremiah 29:11



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**Actively Steward**, **Nurture Godly Character**.

# Students Returning to Classrooms

We are looking forward to welcoming back our Prep - Year 2, VCE & VCAL students on Tuesday, 26 May.

School starting times remain the same. Changes to finish times for the time being, to ensure parents can leave the property quickly where they can:

- \* Plenty Kids sessions finish at 3:15 pm but children may be collected between 3:10 and 3:15 pm to aid social distancing
- \* Early Years finish at 3:10pm
- \* Junior Years – 3:10pm
- \* Middle Years & Senior Years – 3:20pm

Where parents need to do school pick up, this will need to be done safely, which means adults should stay in their cars (except if your child needs help getting a school bag into the car).

For Early Years, we are developing a special, supervised, safe drop off and pick up behind the EY building (more details to follow), and for everyone else, we are going to trial using the same pick up as normal, but with parents staying in cars.

Buses will run from Tuesday; there may be some adjustments to bus routes. Any changes will be communicated to you.

The canteen will offer a limited menu of pre-prepared food for safety. The Early Years canteen will also be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

It is essential that **ALL** students bring their **own drink bottle** to school as no drinking fountains will be available.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you'd like to check out our YouTube channel, you can hear answers to your most frequently asked questions in short, 3 minute grabs. You'll find them here:

- [Q & A Part 1](#)
- [Q & A Part 2](#)
- [Q & A Part 3](#)
- [Q & A Part 4](#)

Friday,  
22 May

Student &  
Staff Free  
Day

Monday,  
25 May

Student Free  
Day

Tuesday,  
26 May

Prep - Year 2,  
VCE &  
VCAL  
students  
return to  
classroom  
teaching

## NEWS FROM SECONDARY SPORT

It's great that there is light at the end of the tunnel in terms of a return to school!

Looking forward to seeing everyone again in real person!

### KEEP UP YOUR EXERCISE!

In the meantime it is important to keep your steps up and engage in at least some form of physical activity every day so please keep at it!

Here are the two latest issues of our Sports Newsletter with plenty of suggestions for both a mental and physical break from your screen time.

Sports Newsletter Issue 5

Sports Newsletter Issue 6

There is also a free online soccer program with training videos & tips separately offered for girls & boys via the Zoom platform. [See the flyer here!](#)

### SPORT AFTERNOONS WHEN SCHOOL RETURNS

As we make the transition back to onsite learning I was hoping to clarify a number of questions regarding sport afternoons at school.

- **Sport will continue to be offered remotely via Teams until all students have returned to school on 9 June.**
- **Sport will then be compulsory for**
  - ⇒ Senior students starting on Wednesday 10 June (all **Year 10 & 11** students who are timetabled for sport and optional for those keen **Year 12's**)
  - ⇒ All **Year 8/9** students from Thursday 11 June
  - ⇒ All **Year 7** students from Monday 15 June
- Our interschool sporting association EISM has sent out proposed revised winter fixtures for Term 3 so sport time for all year levels will be utilised for team selection in preparation for competition early next term. Modified rules and procedures for selection/trainings and sanitisation of equipment etc. will be in place to minimise risk of infection.
- The resumption of EISM sport competition is obviously dependent on restrictions being relaxed and schools being back to normal in terms of interschool matches taking place from the start of next term. This would include considerations around bus travel, access to indoor venues etc.
- The revised fixtures involve a shortened winter fixture for **Years 10 -12** on Wednesdays and **Year 8/9** students on Thursdays which would run as a 7 week draw in Term 3 (rather than the usual longer winter fixture that would normally span Terms 2 & 3). It also means that matches would go later into Term 3 than usual and training sessions for the Term 4 summer sports would be pushed back a few weeks.

- The usual winter sports will be contested in Term 3 for **Year 8/9** and **Years 10 -12**. (Girls – netball/hockey/basketball/Table Tennis. Boys – football/soccer/basketball/Table Tennis)
- The stand-alone **Year 7** Term 3 season on Mondays stays as previously planned as it remains relatively unaffected. (Girls – netball/hockey. Boys – football/volleyball. Mixed – Table Tennis)

As no drinking fountains will be available at school for hygiene reasons, **ALL STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN DRINK BOTTLE** to school and this **MUST be brought to sport.**

It's been awesome to see the many and varied exercise routines that students & families have been undertaking at home!

Stay safe and active!

Helen Padget

Head of Secondary Sport



## FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

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.

This week's newsletter has information on upcoming online events, industry employment trends and helpful career and course links.

Also the Year 10 students have now completed the Morrisby Career Testing and will receive their results next week in their Work Studies classes. Please let me know if you have any queries about any of this information.

I can be contacted at : [helen.madden@pvcc.vic.edu.au](mailto:helen.madden@pvcc.vic.edu.au)

**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](http://www.careers.pvcc.vic.edu.au)

I am more than happy to assist students and parents.

**Helen Madden - Careers Practitioner/VET Coordinator**

Careers Newsletter Issue 4

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## Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will reopen on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**. Our hours on that day will be 10:00am – 4:00pm.

We will also be open on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** from 9:00am – 12:30pm and APPOINTMENTS ONLY between 1:00 pm and 4:00pm.

Appointments for the Saturday afternoon can be booked by calling us on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May on **9036 7354**.

### PAYMENTS

If at all possible, we would appreciate payment by card instead of cash.

### WEB ORDERS

We can still post these to you (postal charge applicable) or you can do a web order on **CLICK AND COLLECT**. The CLICK AND COLLECT Web orders can be collected from the ELC . We will message you on your mobile to let you know when your web order is ready for collection. Please do not message us back as this is only a notification service.

### SOCIAL DISTANCING AND HAND SANITISING

Hand sanitiser must be used as you enter and exit the store.

We now have a limit of four(4) customers at one time in the store and only 2 change rooms in operation. NO SELF SERVICE PLEASE, we are more than happy to pick whatever you need. Please wait outside of the uniform shop until you are called. There will not be a numbering system in place .

One (1) customer equal: 1 adult Or 1 student Or 1 baby Or 1 toddler

Parents, if possible please bring only the student who needs to purchase uniform into the shop.

We thank you all for your understanding and patience.

Lydia and Cheryl

Please go to [www.bobstewart.com.au](http://www.bobstewart.com.au) to place your order.

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

Our direct number is: **9036 7354**

## 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](http://www.bobstewart.com.au)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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# CAMP AUSTRALIA

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE IS OPEN



### With Winter fast approaching, here's some ways to have fun indoors.

Needing some help coming up with ideas on what to do with the children this winter?

At Camp Australia, we're experts at having fun, regardless of what's happening with the weather. Rain, hail or shine we always have fun, engaging and enriching activities on offer for all ages of children to participate in!

#### Here are a few wet weather activities to keep out of the rain:

1. Cook up a storm! Have everyone pick a different ingredient and get creative in the kitchen with funky stir-fries, bakes and treats.
2. Make a jigsaw puzzle out of magazine pictures, postcards or photos. Glue the pictures onto cardboard and when the glue is dry, cut it into puzzle shapes. Then piece it back together!
3. Create a board game – let the children come up with the rules and teach their friends how to play.
4. Turn on the music, turn off the lights and have a disco or you could even have a dancing competition.
5. Dress ups! Who doesn't love dressing up as their favourite superhero, or TV character? Your children could even write their very own scripts and put on a dramatic performance for the family.

Our OSHC service is open and operating for those that need our care. For families who require care, childcare will be provided free of charge until 30th June as per the Federal Government's announcement on the 2nd April. Whilst care is free, we still need to know if you are coming. We ask that you get your bookings in as soon as you can.

**It's FREE to Register.** (and if you want to use OSHC, you first need to register).

Register at [pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login](https://pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login). Once registered, it's easy to make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

#### Visit our blog for helpful information and fun activities.

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families. This month we are focusing on all things COVID-19. We talk about how to adjust to the changes you've made in your household, including fun activity ideas to entertain your child at home.

Visit the blog here: <https://campaustralia.com.au/blog>

[www.campaustralia.com.au](https://www.campaustralia.com.au)



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# COMMUNITY ADVERTISEMENTS

**FREE SOCCER PROGRAM**

Starting Thursday 21 May

Thursdays:  
 4 - 5:15 pm Girls (15-25s)  
 5:15 - 6:30 pm Boys (15-25s)

Using Zoom online during Covid-19 restriction



Access training videos and tips from Melissa Barbieri, Goalkeeper for Melbourne City FC and former Matildas captain!

Banyule Community Health wellbeing visits.

To register contact  
 Ruwee at: rruwee@whittleseacc.org.au (03) 9401 6666  
 Dean at: DMarandou@whittleseacc.org.au 0473 019 831



## Young Women's Leadership Program



- Talk about women's issues, gender equity and feminism
- Connect with other young women
- Feel empowered to be a leader
- Challenge gender norms
- Learn about women's health and mental health.

FREE ONLINE program for young women aged between 15-20 years

Mondays 4pm to 6pm, 1 June to 3 August 2020

To book your place follow the link <https://Baseline.as.me/YWLP>



Contact Holly 0418914979 or email [baseline@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:baseline@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



Limited places. Bookings essential. Excludes school holidays. All activities are supervised by Councils Youth Services staff.

## EDUCATION SUPPORT

In RESERVOIR

**CHANGE IN DATES**

### BECOME A TEACHER'S AIDE

**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. 29 May 2020 — 12 Feb. 2021  
**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](http://www.prace.vic.edu.au)



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