



Issue number 11

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## READING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

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 straightforward 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

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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

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*Beauty is around the world,  
In places you would never know,  
Beauty is in a blooming bud,  
A seedling surviving in the cold*

*Beauty is forevermore,  
A spark of light in a world of remorse,  
Beauty is as bright as  
The summer sun shining on the snow*

*Beauty breathes a peaceful song,  
One can't find it without playing along,  
Beauty comes from in within,  
Inside out and outside in*

*Beauty comes from the simple things,  
The way you act, not the way you sing,  
Beauty comes from a peaceful dove,  
Not just being pretty, but with showing love*

*Beauty is a vast topic,  
No one is ugly, but hearts can be rotten,  
Beauty isn't the world you see,  
It's who you are*

*And who you aspire to be.*

*Meenakshi - Year 7*

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY



Are you aware that PVCC library subscribes to 'wheelers books ePlatform'? This is a wonderful online service that provides our students and staff with access to a large digital library. Using ePlatform is easy.

Simply download the ePlatform app for free from one of the following stores:

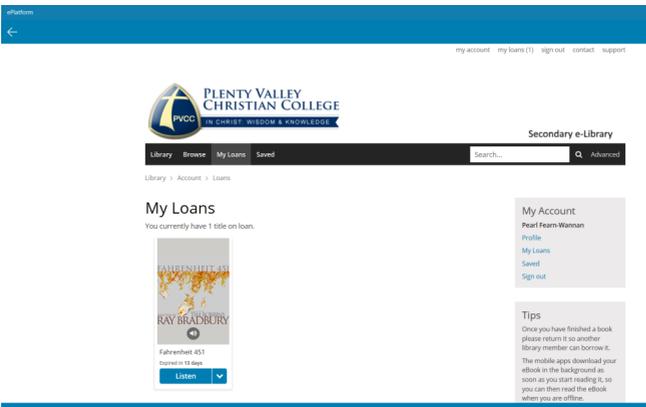


Find our library by starting to type Plenty Valley Christian College;



Select your sub library (Primary or Secondary) and log on using your College username and password.

Now you may browse and borrow an eBook or Audiobook.



**Thursday  
30 July  
Primary &  
Year 12 PTI's**

**Tuesday  
4 August  
VTAC  
Information  
Night**

**Wednesday  
5 August  
Year 10  
Subject  
Selection  
Interviews  
Start**

**Friday  
14 August  
Student Free  
Day**

- ◆ There are over 1,500 titles to choose from and new items are added each week.
- ◆ You borrow a title for 2 weeks at which time it will automatically return itself. No overdues ever again.
- ◆ You can access your title offline on your device.
- ◆ You don't need an internet connection or data to keep reading.
- ◆ Download the app onto your other devices and the title will automatically open to your current place in the story.
- ◆ You can personalize your device to make it easier to read.
- ◆ Go to settings within your title and select your preferences. eg larger font,

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day/night screen or different colour choices for text and background

- ◆ You can reserve titles that are currently unavailable. (There are multiple copies of popular titles)
- ◆ You can reborrow your title if no one else is waiting for it.

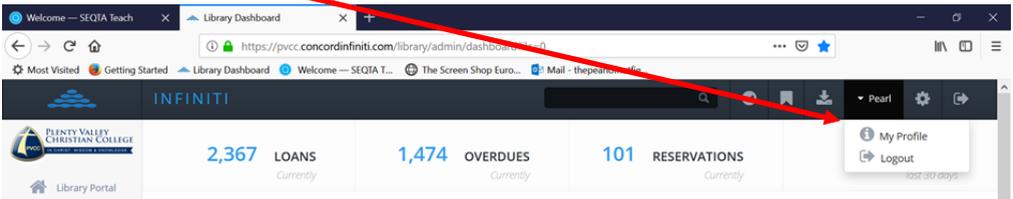
## LIBRARY OVERDUE NOTICES

Last week overdue notices were sent home with the students. You may have noticed that the cost of the items was listed. This is just FYI. We are not asking for you to pay for items if you cannot find them. Our library policy is that students are not generally required to pay for lost items unless they have lost more than three, at which point we believe there needs to be some accountability.

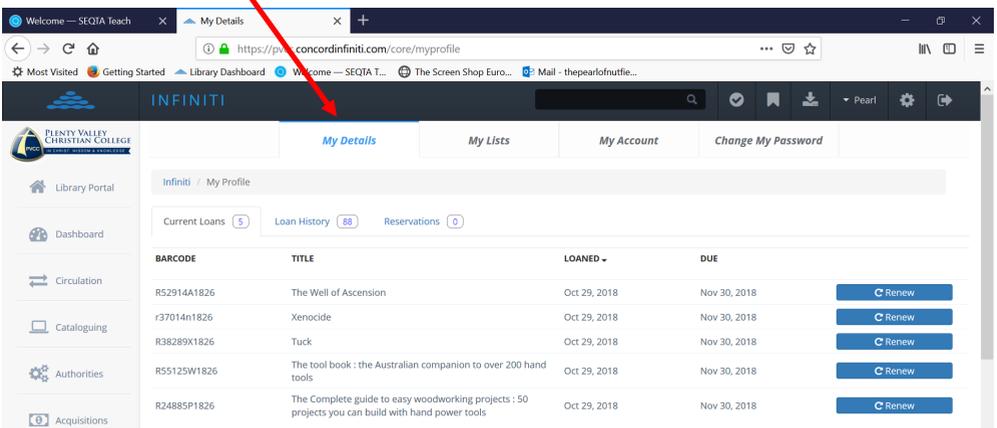
Similarly, we do not issue fines for overdue items. We just send out reminders to parents so they are aware of what items are due to be returned.

If at any point in time you would like to know what your child has on loan or if they have any overdues you can get them to logon to Seqta and open the library portal. Go to the top right hand side of the screen and drop down from the name.

Select My Profile;



Select My Details;



You will now see listed all items on loan.



## SECONDARY SPORT UPDATE

Hello Plenty Valley CC community

I hope that you are all fit & well!

Stay strong, make good use of your down-time & keep connected.

### Sport during lockdown

**All secondary students** – Remote sport options are still offered during this lockdown.

There will be a couple of general activity & sporting options posted on Teams each week including XC training tips.

**Interested students can also contact me directly** should they like some ideas for their physical activity. Please email me on [helen.padget@pvcc.vic.edu.au](mailto:helen.padget@pvcc.vic.edu.au)

### EISM Sport & Carnivals

**Interschool sport friendlies** – it is still hoped that any remaining matches in the proposed EISM Term 3 fixtures can be played as social matches once we get back to school.

**EISM Athletics carnivals** – all athletics carnivals have now been cancelled for 2020 as the high numbers of participants make them not feasible with Covid restrictions.

**EISM XC carnival** - This carnival has now been postponed from early September in Term 3 and could be held early in Term 4 for a reduced number of participants from each school. It is also a possibility that the EISM XC may be run over a virtual course. (The House XC carnival is postponed too unfortunately.)

Helen Padget

Head of Secondary Sport



## FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

This term is a very busy term for all students. Please see below for some important dates for this term. This week's newsletter has information on upcoming online events, industry employment trends and helpful career and course links.

Don't forget to check out the "[Calendar of Events](#)" on our School Careers Website.

### Dates to Diarise In Term 3

- Year 11 (2021) Final subject selection interviews – via MS Teams - August (booking details will be sent on Monday August 3<sup>rd</sup>.)
- Year 12 VTAC timely applications open – Monday August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Year 12 – VTAC Parents information session – via ZOOM – Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup> – 7.00 p.m.
- LATROBE ASPIRE applications close August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ACU – Community Achievement Program applications close August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- SEAS/Scholarship applications open in August - October

I am more than happy to assist students and parents. I can be contacted at :

[helen.madden@pvcc.vic.edu.au](mailto:helen.madden@pvcc.vic.edu.au)

Helen Madden - Careers Practitioner/VET Coordinator

## Careers Newsletter Issue 8

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### Uniform Shop

We will be open on **Saturdays** from 9:30am – 2:30pm during Term 3.

Web orders can be collected during our Saturday open hours.

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**

## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact Julia Walker, [Julia.walker@pvcc.vic.edu.au](mailto:Julia.walker@pvcc.vic.edu.au) at school.

## COMMUNITY ADVERTISEMENTS

*Protect yourself, your family  
and your community.*

# Drive-through COVID-19 TESTING!



**Where:** Waterview Recreation Reserve,  
Waterview Drive, Mernda

**When:** Daily 7 days a week\*

**Time:** 9:30am - 4:30pm daily  
(No need to book, just drive up)

\*Length of testing period will be based on demand.

- > No cost to you.
- > Open to all Mernda residence and surrounds and people living and working in hotspots.
- > Testing for under 5 year olds available.
- > You do not need to have symptoms to get tested.
- > Please remember to bring your Medicare card or photo ID.
- > Short waiting times\*.

For further details contact DPV Health

**Call: 1300 234 263** (push 1 for Medical)  
or visit [www.dpvhealth.org.au](http://www.dpvhealth.org.au)

\*Based on past testing days.



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## Learn at Home

Don't put your studies on hold when you can learn at home! Learn from the comfort of your own home using our easy-to-use remote learning tools.

Experience live discussions and access our virtual classrooms using your computer, laptop or mobile device.

Ring PRACE on 9462 6077 or visit our website: <https://prace.vic.edu.au/learn-at-home/>

## Family Learning Support Program



Brotherhood of St Laurence  
Working for an Australia free of poverty

Providing support for your school-aged child and family.

### We can help your child

- Enjoy learning at home and school
- Be a confident learner
- Be a successful learner
- Reach their goals



### We can help you

- Build confidence to support your child's learning at home and at school
- Communicate with your child's teacher and school
- Explore your own education options and employment aspirations

The Family Learning Support Program (FLSP) is a new service available to children and families. From **July – December 2020** we will work with families and schools to promote positive education experiences for you and your children. We appreciate that your children may need a bit more support during COVID-19.

If you think this would help your family, please contact the Family Learning Support Team at:



**Fitzroy** – Michael - 0490 856 583  
**Mernda** – Gitta - 0490 856 582  
**Frankston** – Laura - 0490 856 585

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