



Issue number 12

13 August 2020

EDITORIAL

Schools in Lockdown Level 4 look very different to normal. Today is one of my days onsite at school and it is an empty place. All students and teachers working at school are in the Early Years Building and I am in my office, on call, should there be an emergency.

It seems this week is a fragile time for many of us. Yesterday's spike in cases knocked the wind out of the hope we were just starting to tentatively grow. We needed that hope. After the disappointment of complacency pushing us back into Level 3, then those measures not working like they did in Lockdown 1.0, we were pushed into the harsher Level 4. Fortunately, it seems that yesterday may have been a glitch on the downward trend. I pray so.

I have been constantly amazed at the amount of work it takes to move teaching from face to face to remote mode. Our staff are putting in huge amounts of time in their preparation. On Friday, they will have a preparation day to help them get ready for teaching remotely for the rest of the term. Because the new teaching mode takes so much concentration and energy, staff have little energy and time to dedicate to extra preparation. Tomorrow will be a welcome opportunity for our teaching staff. I am proud of the way they have performed in situations they did not sign up for when they became teachers.

Of course, the big changes for students have also had significant impact. While there are a few who love learning remotely, and more for who it is going better this time, there are also a few who find it incredibly difficult. Parents also continue to struggle to work from home and supervise their children.

Please know that staff are very aware of the extra pressures you are facing, as many of them are experiencing the same parent/worker balance. We want to help, so can I urge you to communicate with your child's teachers. We continually tweak the work and the delivery to make it as accessible as possible for students and their supervising adults, and to get the balance of moving forward with learning without creating unreasonable expectations. We have a wellbeing team who are following up on students that are really struggling.

The College is also walking the line of keeping it functioning into the future with financially supporting families now. Like governments, it is about balancing the *now* burden with the *later* burden. If your family is experiencing significant family financial strain please talk it through with our Business Manager, Peter Bain. The Board have made a number of strategies available to support families if needed.

Recently I read Chapter 14 of the Gospel of John and these words

Because we are Christ's Image Bearers, we:
Learn Courageously

jumped out at me as a message for these times.

I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you. ... Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. ... Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:18,27

No matter what it feels like. God's got this.

John Metcalfe

Principal



PVCC PRAYER GROUP

This Thursday, 13 August at 7:30pm we are scheduled for a prayer meeting via Zoom. Join the PVCC PPG Facebook group to get the details. Now seems a critical time in our community to fortify and protect, so I would encourage everyone to be there.

Chris Griffin



FROM THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS

Lightening the Lockdown Load is a free webinar for parents on Wednesday 19 August at 8pm by Dr. Justin Coulsen. He is one of Australia's most trusted parenting specialists, well known parenting author and international speaker. He has also appeared on The Project, TODAY show, Studio 10 and several radio stations around the nation.

We highly recommend attending the webinar. If you are unable to attend, the recording of the session will be emailed to everyone who have registered.

Celeste Putter - School Psychologist

<https://www.happyfamilies.com.au/freebies/lightening-the-lockdown-load/>



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

"The Age" Subscription is Now Available to All PVCC Students and Staff.

We now have a full subscription to the online edition of "The Age" available to every staff member and student at PVCC. It spans from 2006 to the current day, every newspaper. "The Age" Library Edition delivers a fully searchable digital replica experience from a trusted newspaper of record. You are able to search, save, email and print articles that you select. You only require your College login details.

Secondary students go to Portal Pages – Secondary Student Links and it is at the bottom of the screen.

Primary students go Portal Pages – Primary: Quicklinks and it is on the bottom right hand corner of the screen

It is pretty amazing. I hope you enjoy perusing.

Pearl Fearn-Wannan

Librarian

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PRIMARY SPORT

Plenty Valley Christian College primary students have rallied together to continue its participation in the Jump Rope for Heart program at home. This is a fundraising initiative that the school has been participating in for many years. I encourage all primary students to sign up for the program and get skipping and try and raise some money, it is an awesome way to keep fit and contribute to something awesome whilst at home.

The School's aim is to raise \$3000 by the end of term. I encourage parents to get involved and help their kids raise funds. There are awesome prizes to win for students who reach certain fundraising targets. In the first 2 weeks of the program we have successfully raised over \$2500 as a school.

<https://www.jumprope.org.au/fundraising/schools/plenty-valley-christian-college>

I want to give an Honourable mention to Estelle G in Year 1 who is currently our top fundraiser raising almost \$1000. I also want to give a special mention to James B and Kensi D who have raised over \$200. This is an outstanding effort by these 3 students.

I also want to say thank you to all the students that have signed up and congratulate you on your efforts thus far in these uncertain times.

Josiah Garisto—Primary PE & Sport Coordinator



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB



To find the catalogue, go to:

<https://scholastic.com.au/media/5667/bc-620.pdf>

Once you've made your selections, you can order through the LOOP page:

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>

Go to LOOP to place your order as normal by: 4 September 2020

Unfortunately as we are unable to receive the orders back to our school, you will need to have your order delivered to your home address for a fee of \$5.99.

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SECONDARY SPORT

EISM STRUCTURE UPDATE

The EISM is presently undergoing a restructure in terms of divisions for the 21 member schools for 2021.

Plenty Valley will participate in the North-East Conference of the Eastern Division.

The plan is for Eastern Division to feature the two Conference Grand Finals followed by a Division Grand Final the following week for the two Eastern Conference winners.

Central Division	Eastern Division	
	North-East Conference	South-East Conference
Aquinas (1653)	Billanook (567)	Knox (350)
Donvale (757)	Eltham (409)	King David (315)
Emmaus (1324)	Rudolf Steiner (246)	Bialik (447)
Luther (1187)	Nunawading (171)	Oakleigh (372)
Mount Lilydale (1447)	Oxley (492)	Huntingtower (537)
Mount Scopus (664)	Plenty Valley (433)	Kilvington (494)
Tintern (563)	Alphington (347)	Kingswood (418)

ADVANTAGES OF RESTRUCTURE

- Reduced travel time within each Division / Conference is envisaged due to closer proximity of schools
- Gender neutral sports where boys & girls will play all sports offered
- 7 schools per Division / Conference allows for competition integrity in fixturing where all schools play each other once
- Central Division to cater for the 7 largest schools (by student numbers)

So looking forward to interschool sport again! Keep up your exercise routines.

Helen Padget

Head of Secondary Sport



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FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

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 (more information to follow).
- Year 12 VTAC timely applications open – Monday August 3rd.
- LATROBE ASPIRE applications close 31st August.
- 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

Helen Madden - Careers Practitioner/VET Coordinator

Careers Newsletter Issue 9

COMMUNITY ADVERTISEMENTS

Volunteer for Nillumbik Unplugged

As part of National Student Volunteer Week, Nillumbik Youth are offering young, enthusiastic and innovative volunteers the opportunity to join Nillumbik Unplugged. Unplugged is the Nillumbik FReeZA committee, and we create, organise and deliver events for young people in the community!

As a member of the Unplugged Committee, you'll help create, organise and deliver live music gigs, dance parties, cultural events, workshops, podcasts and recreational activities, including skate and BMX events. You'll also gain real life experience from mentors within the industry. If you want to learn more about how to put on livestreamed events, sound engineering or anything else event related, we want you to be involved in Nillumbik Unplugged!

If you're interested in becoming an Unplugged committee member or would like to know more, you can email the Youth Development Officer

Nicola.Clutton@Nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Whittlesea
**Community
Connections**
Making a positive difference everyday



We are here to help

To better respond to community needs and keep everyone safe we are working by phone and home delivering food and material aid



9401 6644

for anyone experiencing hardship, needing information or support

Response line open Monday to Friday 9–1pm



9401 6655

for anyone needing free legal assistance

Legal line open Monday to Friday 9–5pm



0473 019 831

if you would like to volunteer or you feel isolated and would like a phone friend to keep you connected

Volunteer line open Monday to Friday 9–5pm or email friendlyconnections@whittleseacc.org.au

whittleseacc.org.au