From the Principal’s Desk

May I extend a very warm welcome to all of our 2014 students and their families. This year we have a cohort of approximately 430 students with 250 beginning with us for the first time. The four day Orientation Program involved students working through a number of workshops, listening to guest speakers and meeting each of their teachers. I hope that every parent has been contacted by your child’s Mentor Teacher during the first week. The Mentor Teacher is the key contact and the “first port of call” for the vast majority of issues that may arise during the year.

It has been a great experience welcoming the new students to Swinburne Senior and the brief conversations that I have had with many of them indicate that we have delivered on their expectations at this point in time. The door to my office is always open and I encourage all students to drop in when going past and introduce themselves.

VCE Results 2013

Our 2013 VCE cohort generally performed above expectations in most of the studies offered at Swinburne Senior. Students achieved VCE Study Scores of 40 or more in Art, Business Management, Drama, Economics, English, Food and Technology, History Revolutions, Legal Studies, Maths Methods, Media, Philosophy, Studio Arts and Sociology.

The College Dux for 2013 was Caitlin Cassidy. Caitlin was extremely dedicated and committed to her studies and had a tremendous work ethic. This year she will be at the University of Melbourne studying Arts.

Overall 123 students applied for a course through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). I am delighted to report that 85% of students who applied received one of their top three preferences. This is a great result and I would like to congratulate all the staff involved in the counselling process and in particular our Careers and Pathways Manager, Emily Barnes.

Students are undertaking courses in the following broad areas:

- Agriculture, Environmental & Related Studies (3 students)
- Architecture and Building (4 students)
- Creative Arts (35 students)
- Education (2 students)
- Engineering & Related Technologies (3 students)
- Health (1 student)
- Information Technology (4 students)
- Management and Commerce (19 students)
- Natural and Physical Sciences (8 students)
- Society and Culture (39 students)

School Council

Help Wanted! This year we have vacancies for all six parent representative positions due to students graduating from the school.

3 vacancies with a term of office from March 2014 to March 2016 (2 years)

3 vacancies with a term of office from March 2014 to March 2015 (1 year)

Nominations for the six parent vacancies on School Council will be taken from Monday 17 February and will close on Monday 24 February at 4:00pm. If you are interested in standing for school council and would like to know more about the role,
responsibilities and meeting times please contact Michael O'Brien on 88624400 or email obrien.michael.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

Assistant Principal's News
Welcome back to the 2014 school year - it has been an excellent start to the year and students have settled into the college routine well.

During the first week Year 11 and 12 students were involved in our Orientation Program. These sessions focused on learning styles, implications for study and revision approaches as well as their learning environment at home. It also incorporated a session on approaches to your VCE by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (Child and Adolescent Psychologist) and a session on Motivation by Tony Wilson (author).

All students were given a student diary containing our Assessment and VCE Policy. Parents should ensure that this Diary is kept for ready reference by your son or daughter. We would also appreciate your support to ensure that your child brings their laptop to all scheduled classes.

Throughout the year please make sure you visit our website as it contains all important information including dates for examinations, assessment details, parent teacher nights, information evenings, Compass login and celebrations.

I wish all the students a happy and successful 2014.

Robert Lewkowicz
Assistant Principal

Welcome to Year 12
I would like to welcome everyone to Swinburne for 2014.

To all the students, new and old, I look forward to seeing you develop your skills and follow your passions throughout the year(s) to come.

I am filled with excitement about the possibilities that lay out before the 2014 cohort. Students that have enrolled at Swinburne for this year have chosen their own courses. Individual courses have been allocated to suit students' strengths, engage their passions and help them on their way to where they want to be.

At Year 12, 230 students have gone through an enrolment interview with their parent or guardian and engaged in a discussion about the future. In the interview students had the opportunity to reflect on their past schooling experiences and on themselves as learners in order to make considered choices about their final year of schooling. I encourage these responsible decisions and will be looking forward to seeing students commit to their studies by honouring their choices.

Classes in Year 12 are very full as we begin 2014. Students wishing to change classes should not feel disappointed if their requests cannot be granted, but should understand it is simply impossible to put another student in the room. Year 12 students will not be able to make subject changes after Tuesday 11th February.

I implore Year 12 students to focus on their studies and 'find their groove' early in the year. Go on to the VCCA website, search each of your subjects' study designs and read the Unit 3 and 4 Outcomes. While you're there, grab a past exam to see what the questions are like.

...It's your choice.

I look forward to catching up with parents at the VCE/VCAL Information Evening and getting to know some of you over the year as your son or daughter's Mentor. Year 12 Mentors will be contacting parents in the first few weeks. I encourage parents to log on to Compass and familiarize yourselves with it. Parents can communicate with Mentors through Compass whilst approving absences and monitoring their son or daughter's progress. If you are having trouble logging on, please contact the student's Mentor.

I wish everyone the best for the coming school year.

Joel Guye
Year 12 Manager

Change of Personal Details
We are currently working through the process of updating our database with personal details. If you have changed any information please forward the changes to our General Office staff, Florence, Gail or Judy.

As this newsletter is distributed electronically via email it is important that we have your current email address recorded accurately.

Compass School Manager
The school is now using a product called Compass School Manager to automate a number of administrative processes. Using our parent portal you will be able to:
- View up-to-date class and school attendance information
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences for your son/daughter
- Download, print and approve upcoming excursions
- Access information regarding upcoming events and news
- Access your child's progress reports
- Book your Parent/Student/Teacher conferences.
A letter explaining how to access Compass School Manager and login details has been sent to all families.

Rob Lewkowicz
Assistant Principal

How to access the SAC/SAT Dates Calendar through Compass School Manager

Step 1. Login to Compass using your username and password which was sent to you via mail.

Step 2. Hover your cursor over the Star on the top toolbar (See picture below).

Step 3. Click on the SAC/SAT Dates menu.

Step 4. You will be asked for a username and password please enter (case sensitive) curric\parent as your username and Access1* as the password (See below).

Step 5. You will arrive at the below screen after you successfully log in. You can navigate through days.

VCE/VCAL Information Evening
Parents, guardians and students are invited to our annual VCE/VCAL Information Evening on Tuesday 18 February. The night will begin at 6.30pm with light refreshments and an opportunity to meet with teachers for informal discussions. From 7pm the formal part of the evening will commence, with presentations from the Principal, Year Level Managers, Welfare Manager and VCE and VCAL Coordinators. The night is an important opportunity for you to learn more about the VCE, VCAL, College Policies and key staff.

We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Hugh Glenn (VCE Manager)
Elizabeth Reardon (VCAL Manager)

Special Exam Arrangement Applications
Students may require Special Exam Arrangements due to a physical or psychological condition or for educational reasons.

VCAA have requested that applications for Special Exam Arrangements for Year 12 exams are submitted by Friday 1 March.

The appropriate documentation needs to be provided to the school so we can make an application for the required arrangements for the Year 12 exams. If a student is in Year 11 but doing a Year 12 subject an application will need to be prepared for that one study.

If you have any questions or think your child may need Special Exam Arrangements please contact Hugh Glenn (VCE Manager) or Anne Munro (Welfare Manager) as soon as possible so a timely application can be made.

Ann Munro
Welfare Manager

VET in School Program
VET classes have now commenced for the year. Most students have successfully attended their first class for the year. Attendance at VET programs is important as students are only allowed 4 absences per year without putting the completion of their course at risk. I remind all parents/guardians that the cut-off date for withdrawal from a VET class is 21 February 2014. VET in Schools has program costs that apply to all VET in Schools courses and withdrawals after the cut-off date will still incur these costs.

Gail Bailey
VET Manager
Welcome to Year 11
The Year 11 Managers extend a warm welcome to all of the parents of Year 11 students. 2014 has started very smoothly and the new students seem to have settled in very well already. Hopefully your son/daughter has reported that they are enjoying their new school and are looking forward to completing their VCE at Swinburne.

By now, you should have received a letter with log on details for Compass School Manager and are now familiarising yourself with its many and varied features. You should have also received either an introductory email or phone call from your son/daughter’s Mentor Teacher. The Mentor Teacher will be taking care of your son/daughter throughout the year and you are encouraged to contact them whenever an issue arises or if you are wanting to check on your child’s progress. To that end the Compass system can be used to email the Mentor Teacher. For more serious matters you can contact one of the Year 11 Managers.

The VCE Information Night on the 18th of February provides an opportunity to meet and have a quick chat with the Mentor Teacher prior to the formal presentation.

Again, welcome to Swinburne, we are confident that your son/daughter will have a very successful and exciting year.

Roy, Mike and Emily
Year 11 Managers

2014 Victorian Public Transport Student Concession Card and Student Pass Application Form
We would like to encourage all students who will need this concession card to travel on public transport to school for 2014 to complete the form and submit it to the general office before the end of the February. It would be greatly appreciated by the office staff if students did this sooner rather than later and not leave it to the last minute.

Gail, Florence and Judy
General Office

Canteen
The college canteen has a new operator this year and they are keen to get plenty of business. A coffee machine has been purchased with regular size drinks being sold for just $3.00. Jazz is heading up the operation and is very keen for students to pop over and have a look at what they have on offer.

Jazz is seeking feedback from students about what they would like to see being prepared and sold. Please take some time to check it out!

Farewell Geoff Loader
Geoff Loader began at Swinburne Technical School in January 1980. Over the years he has taught many subjects such as English, Social Studies, Outdoor Education, Australian Studies, Legal Studies, Business Management, VCAL (Senior Language and Personal Development).

Geoff has also carried out many other roles within the school and education in general. These roles include Year 12 Manager, Year 11 Manager, Year 10 Manager, Curriculum Manager and Team Manager of the State Schoolboys 15 and under football team (both Country and Metropolitan). He has been coach and manager of school sporting teams as well as a fine mentor teacher.

As you can see Geoff has had many experiences with the school community and has guided thousands of students into their future lives. We wish Geoff good health and much happiness in his retirement. I am sure that he will spend quality time with his wife, Karen, and son, Xavier. Thanks for everything Geoff.

Study Support: Getting motivated for a new school year
If you’re having some trouble getting motivated with the new school year you’re probably not alone! But procrastination is never your friend! Create a study timetable and stick to it - make a weekly study timetable that allocates a time dedicated for each subject. Try to make the most of Wednesdays and your free study blocks. Make a list that prioritises the work and study you have to do and then cross out what you have done! Remember that you will always feel less stressed when you are on top of your work and you make it more manageable. And you can always start with something small to get into the study mood!

Study Support is available in the library every school day including Wednesdays. We offer support with organisation, time management, SAC and exam preparation, maths, essay writing, comprehension and reading skills. If you would like some help or
advice please drop in and see Rachel Baxendale or any of the Study Support staff.

Careers
Jackie Love and Annelyn Bolle are the new Careers and Pathways Counsellors. Jackie is working with Year 11 and Annelyn with Year 12 students. They are located in the Careers Centre, located on the ground floor adjacent to the VCE Common Room. Students can visit during their study periods or other times by appointment.

Breaking The Cycle – Making Changes
Anglicare is running a group for family members or carers whose adolescent is abusive and/or violent at home.

Do you feel threatened, frightened or controlled by your son/daughter? Do other family members, particularly younger siblings feel scared? Do you feel you are walking on eggshells? Do you feel that you are no longer in charge? Do you feel isolated and alone? Would you like to find ways to help you son/daughter become more responsible and respectful?

If any of these questions apply to you, this group may be for you.

Groups for 2014 (8 weeks)
- Wednesday 5th Feb – 26th March (evening)
- Thursday 31st July – 18th Sept (daytime)
- Wednesday 8th Oct – 26th Nov (evening)

Anglicare have been running these groups for 15 years with very positive feedback.

Bookings are essential

Venue: 7-11 Shipley St Box Hill
Time: Evening 6.30-8.30pm, Daytime 10-12pm
Cost: $50 individual or $80 couple (negotiable)

Contact: Meridian Intake at Anglicare 9896 6322

Distance Education in 2014
If you wish to do a course through Distance Education in VCE Unit 1/2 or 3/4, come and see me in the Humanities staffroom. As the Distance Education Coordinator for Swinburne Senior Secondary College, I will help you enrol and then supervise your SAC submissions and be the liaison between Distance Education Victoria and Victorian School of Language educators and yourselves.


If you wish to do a language through the Victorian School of Languages, I will enrol you online.

Applications should be submitted before 14 February after which the enrolment process is subject to approval as a late entry.

I can be contacted on email through menon.gita.s@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Gita Menon
Distance Education Coordinator

Purchasing School Photos
Parents who want to purchase school photos need to go to the purchasing link on their Compass School Manager home page when they log in. Parents can also be directed to the following link if they cannot access it through their home page.


Compass Photos offers both traditional printed and digital/downloadable photographs.

If you wish to order/pay using an alternate payment method, please request a payment form from the General Office. Payment forms were provided to students as their photograph was taken. If you need an additional payment form, you can pick one up from the General Office after photo day.

JOIN US IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Drama & Musical Theatre for young people

Convenient classes in your local area

CALL 93841644

For more information and enrolment guides Please visit http://www.compass.vic.au
Lattitude Global Volunteering

Five of our graduating 2013 students have successfully applied for positions volunteering overseas. The names of our former students, their destinations and placement type are listed below.

Gabby Drum  India  Teacher
Rachel Austin  Vanuatu  Teacher
Aliya Murray  India  Teacher
Lizzie Saunders  UK  Caring Assistant
Kate Hughes  Vietnam  Sports Coach

Places for the 2015 program are now being sought and cover a wide range of placements in Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia/Pacific. For further information visit: www.ypwb.org.au/partners/lattitude and or see Jackie or Annelyn in the Careers Centre.

The South Yarra Football Club

Under 19 Players Wanted
South Yarra Football Club, within the Southern Football League, is developing an under 18’s team.

If you are between 16 and 18 ½ then South Yarra Football Club is looking for you and your mates. If you have played football previously or not it does not matter.

South Yarra FC is situated within the heart of Camberwell/East Hawthorn @Fritsch Holzer Reserve, Camberwell Road, East Hawthorn (Mel.45 G12)

If you’re interested please contact: Bruce Hill (President) 0417015387 or Andrew Elborough 0439316546.
You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter @SthYarraFC
## Important Dates 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Semester 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 28th January</td>
<td>School Teachers start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 29th January</td>
<td>All students commence with assembles &amp; initial Orientation Activities. Student ID photos from 11am onwards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 30th January – Monday 3rd February</td>
<td>Orientation Program continues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4th February</td>
<td>Normal classes commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5th February</td>
<td>VETIS Program begins this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7th February</td>
<td>VCE/VCAL Information Evening – 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th March</td>
<td>Labour Day – Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Wednesday 19th March</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Reporting Conferences: 3.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26th March</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Reporting Conferences: 3.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4th April</td>
<td>Term 1 finishes at 2.30pm</td>
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<td><strong>Term 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd April</td>
<td>All students – Term 2 classes commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day – Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6th May</td>
<td>College Information Evening for prospective students – 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20th May</td>
<td>Winter Sports Round Robin Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21st – Saturday 24th May</td>
<td>College Play Season – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3rd June</td>
<td>Year 11 and 12 Musib Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6th June</td>
<td>Last Day Semester 1 Work – All VCE Units 1 &amp; 3 work due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday – Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th June</td>
<td>Mid Year Practice Exam for Year 12 English/Literature/English Language/EAL – 10am No classes for Year 11 students unless they are undertaking one of the English studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11th June</td>
<td>General Achievement Test (GAT) NOTE: 11th – 12th June no normal classes operate for Yrs. 11 &amp; 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 12th June</td>
<td>Student Free Day (Curriculum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13th June</td>
<td>Student Free Day (Report Writing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16th June</td>
<td>Semester 2 begins for all VCE/VCAL students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th June</td>
<td>Careers Night – 6pm start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27th June</td>
<td>Term 2 finishes at 2.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14th July</td>
<td>All students commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd July</td>
<td>Formal/Social evening – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6th August</td>
<td>Australian Language Certificate 2 (French)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 7th August</td>
<td>Australian Language Certificate 3 (French)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th August</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Reporting Conferences: 3.30pm – 8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th September</td>
<td>Music Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th September</td>
<td>Music Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th September</td>
<td>Term 3 finishes at 2.30pm</td>
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<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6th October</td>
<td>All students commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6th October – Sunday 2nd Nov.</td>
<td>Performance and Languages Oral Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th October</td>
<td>Year 12 English/EAL – practice exam – 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15th October</td>
<td>Year 12 Literature/English Language practice exam – 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 16th October</td>
<td>Arts Show Opening 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 19th October</td>
<td>College Open Day &amp; Arts Show 12.00pm – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th October</td>
<td>Swinnies: Media Awards. 7pm – The Cottage Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th October</td>
<td>Year 12 students final formal lessons – All Unit 4 work due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21st October</td>
<td>OCAF Written Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21st October</td>
<td>Year 12 students Last Day celebrations. Year 11 students do not attend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd – Tuesday 28th October</td>
<td>Year 12 Home Study Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 29th Oct. – Friday 21st Nov.</td>
<td>Year 12 October/November Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 31st October</td>
<td>Last Day Year 11 Semester 2 Work – All Unit 2 work due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd November</td>
<td>Year 11 Normal classes as scheduled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th November</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day – Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th November – Friday 7th Nov.</td>
<td>Year 11 Classroom Revision sessions – normal timetable operates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7th November</td>
<td>Year 11 students finish formal lessons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th November</td>
<td>Year 11 Exam Study Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11th – Wednesday 19th November</td>
<td>Year 11 November Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th November</td>
<td>Exam Review for all Year 11 classes and BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 8th December</td>
<td>Year 12 Transition Program this week – details TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th December</td>
<td>Year 11 Student Reports published on Compass School Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17th December</td>
<td>Year 12 Valedictory – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th December</td>
<td>Term 4 finishes</td>
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