From the Principal’s Desk

How quickly this time of year has come around. Over the past weeks the entire school has been buzzing with students completing their coursework for their various subjects and preparing for their examinations. Currently our Year 12 students are entering the final few weeks of their formal examinations and they will have a few anxious weeks to wait before their results are made available on Monday 15 December.

Graduating Year 12’s celebrated their final day of formal schooling with a well-organized event in the school grounds on Tuesday 21 July. Please read the article below for more details. I look forward to welcoming every one of our Year 12 students and their family members back for their Valedictory Evening on Wednesday 17 December.

Year 11 students are sitting their end of year examinations over the next two weeks. These examinations provide a perfect opportunity for students to model the practice that will be required when then get to this point in 2015 as final year students. I would like to think that students will follow their teachers’ advice and take the time to prepare as well as they possibly can and make good use of this opportunity.

Peer Review
The panel day for our Peer Review will be held on Monday 1 December. The day will involve key personnel from the school meeting with an independent reviewer, Graeme Seamer, and two current principals. The panel will review all elements of the school’s operations over the past four years and will evaluate our progress against goals that were set back in 2011. A Self-Evaluation of our performance will be used to guide the discussion. The findings of the review will inform the school’s new strategic plan for 2015-2018.

Building Project Update
When this project began in July I would have thought that I’d be reporting how the works had improved the lives of everyone at Swinburne by now. However, as will be the way with these type of projects, we are still eagerly awaiting the completion of the works. With the onset of Year 12 examinations work has been suspended with the practical completion date now expected to be the end of November. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone for their patience, goodwill and understanding.

Michael O’Brien
Principal
Assistant Principal’s News

This year has been another successful year for the college. The formal dinner, the Year 12 celebrations and the Arts show and Open day were amongst the highlights.

Students are producing a high standard of work and we continue to generate excellent outcomes across all areas of study.

We have great staff at Swinburne Senior Secondary College. It’s the staff that set the tone, set the culture and set the expectations for the students.

At Swinburne Senior Secondary College students who are well prepared, engaged in their learning every lesson and take on their responsibilities develop into well rounded individuals.

I would like to see all Year 12 students at the Valedictory Evening on Wednesday 17 December. The event will be held at the Hawthorn Arts Centre on Burwood Road Hawthorn (the old town hall) and commences at 6:15pm for a 7:00pm start.

All students in Year 11 will be commencing their exams on Monday 10 November. If students require support and assistance from their teachers they should contact them via Compass School Manager. Success will require students to set high expectations for their performance, to study hard and to take pride in their work.

The Year 12 exams have started and it is smooth sailing to date. I wish all the students the best of luck for rest of the exams.

Robert Lewkowicz
Assistant Principal

The legal studies excursion to the Metropolitan Remand Centre

On Tuesday 6 August, the year 11 Legal studies class went on an excursion to the Metropolitan Remand Centre. Located near St. Albans, the bus ride took about forty-five minutes before we finally reached our destination. This was not a problem as many students had come prepared with a variety of tasty snacks to share around. It also gave us all some time to exchange our ideas on what we might find and explore any questions that we might have had.

When we arrived there we had to go through a rigorous security screening process which involved a full body scan and as well as several checkpoint screenings until we finally made our way into the visitors’ centre located in the main compound.

In the visitors’ centre we were welcomed with some tea and coffee. There was a full-scale plastic map of a prison cell on the floor which gave the students an insight into the cramped conditions these prisoners spend up to 12 hours per day in.

The prisoners finally arrived in the welcome centre and we split into two groups so that we could have a chat to them about life in the remand centre. The students were able to engage in a free dialogue which allowed them to ask any questions of the prisoners. There were many fascinating points raised from lessons learned on the inside to the workings of the criminal legal system.

Over all it was a great day which was well enjoyed by all of the students, and most importantly it gave them a unique insight into this particular aspect of the legal system.

Marcus Laging
Year 11 Legal Studies teacher

Do you know that you can do VCE subjects through Distance Education?

If you want to do a subject that we do not offer or have a timetable clash, you can do selected subjects through Distance Education Victoria (DECV) or languages other than English (LOTE) through the Victorian School of Languages (VSL).


Go to [https://www.vsl.vic.edu.au/indexz.php](https://www.vsl.vic.edu.au/indexz.php) to check what LOTE subjects you can do through the Victorian School of Languages. You can choose to do it through Distance Education or through weekly classes at a Centre. Then meet your Year level Manager and the school will help you enrol. A dedicated Distance Education Coordinator can assist in the liaison between you and DECV or VSL and administer your SACs at school.

Gita Menon
Distance Education Coordinator
The Careers Centre News
The Year 12 final school day theme “What I want to be when I grow up” allowed students to relive childhood fantasies or show their modern career choice. It was a fun day that allowed individual extravagance in choices while showing each person’s different, unintentional, perspective on careers. The theme itself illustrated how we start our career choices early in life and we move our choices through a spectrum of careers based on our peers’ experiences and dreams to a modern choice for our modern experience.

Students at the Year 12 Valedictory Evening will receive a Careers Portfolio which will present, in detail, the content that has been provided during the year as well as information which will assist in the post-secondary schooling journey.

I am available at the school till midday on Friday 19 December 2014 and by email when the first Round offers are published Monday 17 January 2015. Details will be in the Careers Portfolio Valedictory Booklet.

An objective and calm response might be just what you need. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Annelyn Bolle
Year 12 Career /Pathway Advisor

VTAC update: Last Minute Careers Reminders to Year 12 students.
1. If you have not yet paid your Application Processing Fee, ensure you do so as soon as possible so as not to forget. The closing date is Monday 22 December
2. VCE Change of preference (CoP) opens Thursday 25 November (9am) and closes Monday 22 December(12noon)
3. It is important for you to check your emails and SMS as you may receive correspondence both from VTAC and the school.
4. ATAR released online Monday 15 December 7.00am 2014
5. Round 1 Offers Monday 19 January 2015
6. Access www.vtac.edu.au for all dates, changing of preferences and issues pertaining to the VTAC process.

Online process:
imvc.com.au → Quick links > VETiS Student login
Register for a first time

I am available during school hours for any assistance with this process.

Gail Bailey
VETiS Manager

The Year 11 Report
As the school year draws to a close it is a great opportunity to reflect on the events that have marked 2014. Our Year 11’s took up their opportunities through their involvement in a wide range of school events. These provided many highlights and included the Fun Day, Open Day and Art Show, the Formal at Leonda, the Music concerts and the Drama production. Not only did this group display a high standard of talent, but most importantly they have given the school community an insight into what we can look forward to in 2015.

The students’ involvement in the SRC was fantastic with so many projects undertaken with great success. Having spent this year working as a leadership group and observing the environment that they have created, we look forward to their fresh ideas and work in 2015.
On the academic front, our students embraced the school’s initiative to raise the level of attendance and engagement. To the credit of so many of our students, they made productive use of the Wednesday study day to catch up on coursework and assessment. This also included “redeeming” missed classtime and putting the finishing touches on their art work. The end of semester exams in November will give our students the opportunity to refine and execute their exam preparation skills in the lead up to their final year of study. It is expected that this group of Year 11 students will approach the exam period seriously and the experience gained will serve them well in Year 12.

On behalf of the Year 11 Managers, the Mentor teachers and Year 11 teachers we look forward to continuing your journey at Swinburne with you and congratulate you for your efforts and achievements in 2014.

Roy, Michael, Emily
Year 11 Managers

Last Day Year 12 Celebrations
Our Year 12 students celebrated their last day of formal secondary education on Tuesday 21 July in style. The theme for the day was “What do I want to be when I grow up?” It was great to see everyone getting into the spirit of the occasion with so many colourful and creative costumes. The event was a fitting finale for students before taking on the preparation for their end of year examinations.

Once again we were entertained by four marvelous camels who won over the hearts of everyone who made the most of the opportunity to take a ride with them.

There were many highlights throughout the day but there was no doubt that the combined staff-student bands provided the audience with a great selection of music.

Robyn Returns
Staff were treated to a surprise morning tea by one of Swinburne’s favourite friends, Robyn our past canteen operator. It was great to catch up with all of her news over the past twelve months. Robyn reports that she is fit and healthy and has been enjoying her retirement. She wanted to pass on her best wishes to all members of the Swinburne community.
105 Years of Service
Three of our teachers were awarded with 35 year service certificates at a ceremony provided by the DEECD North Eastern Victoria Region. Ian Penhalluirak, Anne Munro and Param Parhar have served the Education Department with distinction for 105 years. Of course they’re not that old with each contributing just 35 years! Everyone at Swinburne is justifiably proud of their service and longevity, in what is becoming an increasingly tough industry. The event enabled them to mix with similarly experienced teachers and reminisce about the “good old days”.

![Image of the teachers receiving their certificates](image.jpg)
LIBRARY SECOND-HAND BOOK SALE

WANT TO SELL YOUR TEXTBOOKS?
- LEAVE THEM WITH ELANA IN THE LIBRARY WHEN YOU FINISH YOUR EXAMS
- BOOKS SHOULD BE IN REASONABLE CONDITION
- BOOKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER WEDNESDAY 19 NOV

NEED TO BUY TEXTBOOKS?
- MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER–FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER
  9AM–12:30PM; 1PM–3PM IN THE LIBRARY
- CASH ONLY

- A LIST OF BOOKS THAT CAN BE SOLD IS UP IN THE GENERAL OFFICE, STUDENT LOUNGE, LIBRARY AND COLLEGE WEBSITE
- MONEY TO BE COLLECTED IN 2015 BY FRIDAY 27 FEB
- UNSOLD BOOKS MUST BE COLLECTED BY FRIDAY 27 FEB