

## From the Principal's Desk

A great deal has been happening around the school over the first weeks of term 4.

The beginning of this term spelt the end of secondary schooling for our Year 12 cohort. In many ways this is one of the rites of passage as young people move from the relatively ordered and comfortable environment that schools provide into the broader community. I spoke about this at the final Year 12 assembly and emphasized that our students are well placed to make this transition.



Centre on Wednesday 20 December. Information regarding this event will be forthcoming in the next weeks.

*Michael O'Brien*  
*Principal*

## 2017 Parent Opinion Survey

The results from the recent electronic survey are in! This year we received 53 parent responses.

At this stage there is no comparative data with other schools.

### FISO: Community Engagement in Learning (7 framework factors in total)

<i>General Satisfaction</i>	92%
<i>School pride and confidence</i>	91%
<i>Physical environment</i>	89%
<i>School support</i>	83%
<i>Teacher communication</i>	75%
<i>Parent participation and involvement</i>	60%

### FISO: Excellence in teaching and learning (6 framework factors in total)

<i>Student motivation and support</i>	84%
<i>Effective teaching</i>	82%
<i>Student agency and voice</i>	82%
<i>Confidence and resilience skills</i>	81%
<i>High expectations for success</i>	79%

### FISO: Positive climate for learning (6 framework factors in total)

<i>Positive transitions</i>	92%
<i>Respect for diversity</i>	88%
<i>Promoting positive behaviour</i>	87%
<i>School connectedness</i>	87%
<i>Experience of bullying</i>	85% (this is a positive)
<i>Managing bullying</i>	79%

The survey results provide the school with an insight into what parents think about a range of issues regarding their experience with the school. This data is reviewed and discussed in various forums including school council. Feedback allows us to celebrate what we are doing well and identify areas for further improvement.

## Assistant Principal's News

This year has been another successful year for the college. The Arts Show, Swinnies and Year 12 celebrations were all well attended, a credit to all staff and students.



Over the past two years staff have talked about the notion of respect and how people demonstrate their respect towards a whole range of situations and interactions. I spoke of the respect with which students hold Swinburne Senior and how this respect can readily be demonstrated by their attitude and behavior leading up to and on Celebration Day. Students met our expectations with everyone enjoying the festivities with no willful harm to others or damage to property happening. Our students showed, through their actions, the level of maturity that one would expect from responsible young adults. There was plenty of fun and lots of memorable moments, with plenty of examples of kids being kids. Congratulations to all!

The end of year examination period has begun smoothly with no hiccups at this point in time.

Students undertaking Year 12 with us in 2018 are expected to attend the Transition Program at the college on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 December.

I look forward to seeing our graduating Year 12 students and their families at Valedictory at the Hawthorn Arts

The students are producing a high standard of work and we continue to generate excellent outcomes.

We have great staff at Swinburne Senior Secondary College. Staff at the college have a key role in setting the tone, culture and expectations for our students. At Swinburne Senior Secondary College students who are well prepared, engaged in their learning and take on their responsibilities generally develop into well-rounded individuals.

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.

I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 20 December at 6:30pm at the Hawthorn Arts Centre for the Year 12 Valedictory celebrations.

*Robert Lewkowicz*  
Assistant Principal

### Arts Show 2017

A full house of arts enthusiasts greeted one of our alumni, Zoe Croggon, who had the honour of opening the college's Arts Show on Thursday 19 October.

The evening allowed us to showcase the wonderful, high quality works that students had produced this year. Zoe was incredibly impressed by the works and paid tribute to the creativity and application of our students. She spoke inspirationally about the arts as a career and left an indelible impression on all those present.

Congratulations to all of our Visual and Performing Arts teachers for working long hours to get the show off the ground. Special thanks to Matt Simmons for leading the group to put on such an amazing exhibition.



Congratulations to the following students who received awards in recognition of their outstanding work.

#### Art

*Best Art Folio*  
*Mixed Media*

Grace Culley  
Timothy Coghlan

#### Painting

Jasper Spearing

#### Media

##### *Video Production*

Carl Kurrajong  
Bethany Whitmore

##### *Photography*

Ella Child

##### *Print*

Zachary Kerslake

#### Product Design and Technology

##### *Industrial Design*

Michael Stockigt

##### *Jewellery*

Grace Culley

##### *Woodwork*

Tig Sterling Clarke

##### *Fashion*

Bethany Whitmore

#### Studio Arts (Textiles)

##### *Best Folio*

Isabelle Mercier  
Emma Farrington

#### Studio Arts

##### *Best Folio*

Elise Marcianti  
Anne-Maree Risby

##### *Illustration*

Orla Mundy

##### *Painting*

Imogen Money

##### *Mixed Media*

Grace Culley

Timothy Coghlan

#### Studio Arts (Photography)

##### *Best Photographic Folio*

Caitlin Bond

##### *Surrealist Photography*

Kiana Waladan

##### *Documentary Photography*

Mia Boccabella

##### *Conceptual Photography*

Jake Lorefice

Harriette Ellis

##### *Portraiture Photography*

Darcy O'Riordan

#### Visual Communication Design

##### *Best Design Folio*

Mia Bamford-Bracher

Gabriel Aharfi

##### *Industrial Design*

Tig Sterling Clarke





### Year 12 Manager's Report

Year 12 students have completed their Unit 4 studies and many are in the midst of the final year examinations. It has been a real pleasure to see the students finish off their work and it was great to everyone dressed up for Celebration Day.



The students this year should give themselves a big congratulations for all their efforts. Year 12 can be a very challenging year both physically and mentally. I wish all those students doing their exams the best of luck and hope they have a good few weeks break before attending Valedictory Evening on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December.

We can't wait to celebrate the class of 2017!

Joel Guye  
Year 12 Student Manager

### Year 11 Managers' Report

As we approach the end of a busy and rewarding year, I thought it would be helpful for your planning to convey some details of end of year dates and arrangements for all Year 11 Swinburne students.

Final Year 11 classes took place on Friday 3 November. Unit 2 examinations began on Wednesday 8 November and will conclude on Friday 17 November.

Many Year 11 students will have one or more external VCAA Units 3 & 4 exams. If this is scheduled for a time which clashes with a Unit 2 examination, the student will have a replacement Unit 2 exam time. An alternative time can be negotiated with the VCE Manager Hugh Glenn if this has not already been done. (Every student undertaking a Unit 3&4 subject has been given a VCE Exam Navigator booklet which contains the exam timetable, VCAA rules and information about how VCE results can be accessed.) On Monday 6 November, all Year 11 students had a study day.

Students are not required to be at school if they do not have a scheduled exam but are welcome to attend to consult with teachers and study with other students. This is a great way to enjoy their study time and build a habit of working whilst at school. Students have been issued with their Unit 2 exam timetables. It is essential that students read the timetable carefully and arrive at the specified venue in ample time for each exam, with all necessary equipment including pens, pencils, erasers, calculators, rulers, etc.

Following the examination period students will be required to attend the Exam Feedback day on Tuesday 21 November. On this day, we have a small assembly and Year 11 Awards will be given to students who have achieved a high level in each study.

**In preparation for the end of the school year, not later than Thursday 30 November all lockers in the Year 11 Centre must have been completely cleared and left in a tidy condition.**

A Transition program will be run on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 December for all Year 12 undertaking Unit 3&4 Studies in 2018 at Swinburne. Students will receive a letter outlining this program during the Year 11 Exam period. Attendance is compulsory for each timetabled session and will provide students with valuable information about their Year 12 year and expectations of their teachers for each subject, including *Holiday Homework*. This should not to be missed.

We wish all our Year 11's the best of luck in exams and a safe and happy Summer holiday.

Roy, Amanda and Mike  
Year 11 Managers

## Pike St. Drama Excursion

In the second last week of term 3, the year 11 drama class went to the Arts Centre Melbourne to see Nilaja Sun's latest solo show, *Pike Street*. *Pike St.*, both written and performed by Sun, is a play about the impact of Hurricane Sandy on lower Manhattan, an area of New York where around 50% of people speak languages other than English, and 25% are below the poverty line. The script focusses on the story of Evelyn, a woman living in the Pike Street housing estate. Evelyn is looking after her life-loving elderly father and her profoundly disabled daughter Candice, who was once the highest achieving student in the district. Evelyn also runs errands for a 92-year-old holocaust survivor and studies faith healing while listening to radio broadcasts about the impending hurricane.



Nilaja Sun uses her dynamic and versatile acting skills to realistically and sympathetically portray every single character in the play. This requires her to change her face, her body, and her voice to transform herself from a 10 year old disabled girl to a 94 year old Jewish woman to a drunk Puerto Rican man in his early 70s. For 90 minutes, Nilaja Sun bursts with energy as she transforms seamlessly from character to character.



Nilaja Sun's debut solo show, *No Child*, was a multi-award-winning portrayal of the American public education system. *Pike St.* does not consistently achieve the same dazzling heights of humour, pathos, and suspense as *No Child*, but it is still a captivating and impressive performance.



The year 11 drama class also attended a VCE forum about *Pike St.*, where VCE examiner Sam Mackie highlighted the importance of analysing actors' expressive skills in systematic ways. The drama students will be analysing this play as part of their Unit 2 Drama coursework requirements, and next term they will be performing their own multi-character solo performances.

*Meiki Apted*  
Drama Teacher

## Business and Work Readiness Initiatives

As part of the initiatives conducted during the Business and Work Ready Week in June, the following students have successfully managed to complete their Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) course and their Barista training (which included the Responsible Serving of Food). They are to be congratulated for taking the step towards work readiness and committing their Wednesdays in Term 3 towards this training through the Inner Melbourne VET Cluster. We also managed to offer this training at no cost to students.

RSA certificates were issued to:

Rebecca Alkin	Jake Lorefice
Tyler Maddern	Fenn Murray
Darcy O'Riordan	Lucie Peterson
Bill Ruchel	Crystal Ryan Skinner
Stella Tzevakos	Jordyn Whittaker
Emin Clemans-Dal	Greta Bonson
Jasmina Kuzevska	Elise Marchianti
Harry McDowell	Melanie Gibney
Mietta Manning	

Barista and RSF certificates were issued to:

Hannah Fredericks	Natalya Adams Murillo
Caitlin Bond	Gaia Dubravica
Montana Ellis Lay	Barrie Jorre
Brody Kirvan	Ruby McCumiskey
Naomi Mentiplay	Mehul Sood
Delaney Tite	



Another initiative was the participation of Year 11 Business Management students in the World of Work Summit-a whole day inter school workshop organised by Youth Worker's Centre. Students brainstormed and started the planning for a campaign to fight for fair wages for all ages-abolish youth pay rates. This was followed with a campaign plan that students could work on as a whole school project in 2018 to galvanise support within the school.



*Gita Menon  
Business Management Teacher*

### **Science at Swinburne: The Devil's Advocate and Laboratory Simulation Software**

As part of their Unit 4 Biology class, Year 12 students spent a full day on excursion to the Melbourne Zoo and the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC).

This hands-on course focused on the conservation efforts of Zoo's Victoria and the Molecular Biology techniques used for selecting candidates for captive breeding of the endangered Tasmanian Devil. Students applied their knowledge of laboratory techniques to perform restriction enzyme cutting of DNA and then visualisation of selected genes using Gel Electrophoresis. We also gained access to genomic databases to complete an exercise in Bioinformatics to compare gene sequences between our Tasmanian Devils and candidate genes for selective breeding programs.



In preparation for this excursion and for topics in our new Unit 4 Biology study design, we also completed a 30 day pilot study of the latest in laboratory simulation software using "Labster". This online platform allows students to experience the tools and techniques of advanced Molecular Biology concepts in a 3D, interactive environment. The results from this in-class experiment have been positive and we will be utilising the software for both year levels during the 2018 school year."

Follow the links below for more information on future excursions and online platforms used in Biology here at Swinburne.

GTAC: <https://www.gtac.edu.au/>  
Labster: <https://www.labster.com/>

*Jory Clark  
Biology Teacher*

### **Senior VCAL Camp**

Our senior VCAL students set off down the Princes Highway and the Great Ocean Road to attend an end of year camp in Lorne on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 November. The camp was an opportunity to put the skills that they had developed over the year into practice! New skills were also developed as many had their first surfing lesson with Go Ride A Wave.



*Belinda Alexandrovics*  
VCAL Manager

### **Celebration Day**

At Swinburne, we recognise that while our year 12 students are celebrating the end of two or maybe three years with us, they are also celebrating the last day of 13+ years of schooling. That's a significant milestone, and we do everything we can to make it special.

This year, the day began with platters of pastries and fresh fruit shared in final mentor groups, a photobooth, and autograph booklets, where students could ask their friends and teachers to write messages.

A special final assembly followed. This was beautifully hosted by College Captains Caitlin and Tish, who gave out awards for the best mullet, the best romance, the lankiest, and the kindest. Harrison Green and his band rocked it with an original song, and a cover of Greenday's "Time of Your Life", while Drama student Luke McCaughey captivated the crowd with a heartwarming spoken word piece about who we thought we'd be as children, and who we are now. With childhood photographs of current year 12 students playing, emotions – and nostalgia – were running high.

The theme of the day was "Favourite Fictional Character", and students looked amazing dressed as characters from films, television, books, and popular culture.



Principal Michael O'Brien was the White Rabbit, year 11 managers Amanda Roy and Mike were 3 bright M&Ms, and Maddie, Nick, and Elana came as Dorothy, the Tinman, and the Lion. Not one to buy into mainstream culture, I came dressed as *Rosie the Rivetter*, a character invented by the wartime propaganda machine to encourage women to enter the workforce while their husbands were away. She was so successful that women didn't want to give up their

A moving tribute for Angus Emerson, who tragically passed away earlier this year, was conducted by his classmates on the Thursday evening.

Everyone had a great time, although the Lorne weather could have been a little brighter!

jobs when the men returned. What a hero! About three people knew who I was.



The day ended with a jumping castle, a BBQ, and some mellow tunes. Vegie skewers, salads, cold drinks and sausages were the order of the day. The sun was shining, everyone looked awesome, and, unlike my old school, *no one was egged*. This is so much better than many schools around Victoria, where the final day of school can be spoiled some pretty hurtful and disruptive behaviour.

We are so proud of the warmth, humour, respect, and sincerity of our year 12s. We will miss them very much and wish them all the very best for their futures.

*Meiki Apted*  
*SRC Manager*

### **Swinfest**

The idea for *Swinfest* was to turn Swinburne Senior Secondary College into a festival, just for one lunchtime. The VCAL students set up savoury food stalls and sweet treats, the music students provided live outdoor music on the lawn (including one *very* beautiful Amy Winehouse cover), and in the Cottage Theatre there was a variety show.



The variety show was MC'd by Elena Kirchbaum, a circus and side-show artist who loves bringing audiences together to celebrate live art. Dressed as a circus ringmaster, Ele juggled balls, clubs, and axes; warmed the crowd up; and gave each student a hearty welcome. The first student to perform was Guillaume Gentil, who drew from his Musical Theatre background to serenade us. He has a beautiful voice. Luke McCaughey followed with an 11 minute spoken word piece by Australian songwriter Tim Minchin, 2/3 scathing tirade about alternative medicine, 1/3 ode to science and the majesty of the natural world. Luke's comic timing was outstanding and he had so much presence in this role.



Since two students pulled out the day before the festival, year 11 drama and theatre students Olliver Van Toor, Eliza Watson, and Emma Farrington jumped in to perform a short theatre sports skit, improvised on the spot according

to audience instructions. This takes a lot of confidence, and an ability to think quickly on your feet, and I was very proud of all of them. For the final act, I harnessed my inner Mr G and performed a hip-hop duet with Ben Riskin. The dance piece was choreographed by Ben's friend Aisha Aly, who taught me to drop and dab. As a result of this performance I now have a lot of street cred. I mean, I don't want to blow my own whistle or anything, but *dabbing*? I'm very cool now.

It was great to bring everyone together and to take this chance to relax before the final burst of preparing VCE and VCAL assignments, and studying for exams.



Big thanks to all the students who performed, as well as to Nick Taylor for coordinating music, Elizabeth Reardon and Sarah Wall for coordinating VCAL stalls, Elle for MCing, and all the staff and students who came along to listen, watch, eat, cheer, heckle, and laugh at me dabbing.

*Meiki Apted*  
SRC Manager

### Same Sex Marriage Postal Survey

The SRC, together with the Rainbow Connection Club, have been strongly involved in promoting equality and awareness of same sex rights issues. First, the SRC focussed on making sure that everyone over the age of 18 was enrolled to vote. There were posters and announcements, and students could sign up in the library at lunchtime with the help of the teacher on duty.

Once the postal vote began, Year 11 Captain George Olczak-Messig designed and made a colourful postal box in the school so that students could post their sealed envelopes, which were promptly taken to the local post office.



Results will be announced on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November. Thanks to everyone who had a say in this issue. It's really important to so many people.

*Meiki Apted*  
SRC Manager

### Drama Camp at Wilson's Prom!

The year 12 Drama class went to Wilson's Prom in the first week of the September school holidays. The focus of the camp was to take some time out in nature to work on the solo performances that they would be presenting to VCAA examiners in the first week of term 4. Belinda lead a range of indoor and outdoor drama games and warm ups aimed at building students confidence levels and expressive skills, and divided students into three groups to work intensively one-on-one with a teacher. The teachers were Belinda and Meiki from Swinburne, and Belinda's former drama student Adelaide who attended Swinburne SSC in the late 90s and is now a dance teacher and professional dancer and musician. Drama examiners love big, over the top characters and clever transitions so Belinda focussed on helping students make their characters and transitions more non-naturalistic. A number of students were doing performance pieces about the circus, so Meiki focussed on helping students to add physical theatre and circus skills to their performances. Meanwhile, Adelaide used her experience as a dancer to add grace and musicality to students work. She also helped them with their accents and poise.



Everyone worked very hard, but there was also plenty of time to appreciate the beauty of Wilson's Prom. Students walked up mountains and along rivers and oceans, found birds' nests, and some learned to identify different types of native trees. There was also time for fun: after a concert showcasing all the students work over the weekend, there was a talent quest, red bull, and cake.



Everyone worked hard and had something to show by the time of the concert. It was a lovely group and Belinda, Meiki, and Adelaide really enjoyed our time working with them. Huge congratulations and thanks to Belinda for organising such a wonderful camp with beautiful food and great people in a spectacular environment.

*Meiki Apted*  
*Drama Teacher*

# Library Second-hand Textbook Sale

## WANT TO SELL YOUR TEXTBOOKS?

- Bring your books to the library when you finish your exams
- Books should be in reasonable condition
- Books will not be accepted after Wednesday 22 November
- **Check the school website for a list of books that can be sold to make sure your books are eligible for sale**

## NEED TO BUY TEXTBOOKS?

- Friday 24 November – Friday 1 December  
9am-12:30pm, 1:30-3pm in the Library
- Cash only
- **Money to be collected in 2018 by Thursday 29 March**
- **Unsold books to be collected by Thursday 29 March 2018**

