



From the Principal's Desk

The school year began very well with an assembly where we welcomed 440 students to the college. I would like to extend a special welcome to the 270 new families who are joining the Swinburne Senior community.



A range of emotions were evident with the most obvious being the raw and palpable joy of people as they embarked on a new phase of their senior education. From all reports the three day Orientation Program met everyone's expectations with students and teachers getting to know one another. There's no doubt that one of the highlights was the traditional first day BBQ on the school lawns. It was heartening to observe new friendships being formed in this wonderful social setting.

With so many new families joining us from such a variety of schools it is extremely important that our community understands how we communicate important information. A great deal of this information is provided to parents, students and teachers through the electronic communication package called **Compass School Manager**.

This package is used in the majority of government secondary colleges so I know that many parents and students will be familiar with it.

There are different levels of access to Compass. Teachers, students and parents each have their own username and password to login to the system. All parents were sent login information in the first week of the school year and I would hope that most have already logged on. If not, I encourage those parents that haven't had the chance to do so to find time in the coming days.

I would expect that parents would check Compass a few times each week to keep up to date with what is happening with their son or daughter. 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 majority of parents took the opportunity to meet their child's Mentor through our Meet the Mentor event on Wednesday 12 February. It was pleasing to see so many parents showing a real interest in their child's education and learning about the way in which we approach these important final years of schooling.

I would like to welcome our new staff to the school. Tameka Carter (Visual Arts), Ariela Nucci (Visual Arts), Becky Hauser (Legal Studies), Maeve Thompson (Psychology), Conan Greenway (Music), Amanda Weber (Business Manager) and Sam Warren (Foods Assistant) have already had an impact in their first few weeks and have well and truly embraced our wonderful culture.

Privacy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#)

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website www.sssc.vic.edu.au

For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#).

School Council

At the close for nominations at 4:00pm on Tuesday 3 March, I had received four nominations for the four parent electorate vacancies. I have much pleasure in declaring the following parents elected to School Council.

Leandra Peluso
Debbi Long
Kate Galati
Liz Bishop

The first meeting of the new School Council will be on Monday 23 March at 5:30pm.

VCE Results 2019

Last year's VCE results were in line with previous years with 96% of eligible students receiving their certificate.

Parents, students, teachers and friends celebrated our students richly deserved results at our Valedictory at the Hawthorn Arts Centre on Wednesday 19 December.

The award recipients for 2019 are:

VCE

Ancient History	James Everard
Art	Serena Holt
Biology	Chiquita Ashley-Barlow Lauren Martin
Business Management	Savarna Chandra (Yr11)
Chemistry	Chiquita Ashley-Barlow Kieran Anderson Lauren Martin
Drama	Fynn Groves
English	Bianca Ciavarella
English Language	Therese Dias
Extended Investigation	Scarlett Cunningham
Food Studies	Samantha Nowell
French	Zinnia Vroland
Further Mathematics	Nina Lewin-McGeorge
Global Politics	Grayson Lowe
Health & Human Development	Alyssa Pogrud
History Revolutions	James Everard
Legal Studies	Grayson Lowe James Everard
Literature	Juno Lee
Mathematical Methods	Hamish Young (Yr11)
Media	Zinnia Vroland
Music Investigation	Sam Boyd
Music Performance	Ignatius Holland
Music Style and Composition	Alex Bikovsky
Philosophy	Bianca Ciavarella
Physics	Meg Hambleton
Product Design and Technology	
Wood	Austin Earle
Industrial	Declan Nendick
Jewellery	Lara Gallo
Fashion	Leah Bellsham
Psychology	Marc Repse
Sociology	Nina Lewin-McGeorge James Everard
Studio Arts	
Mixed media	Therese Dias
Photography	Angela Zanette
Textiles	Bianca Ciavarella
Theatre Studies	Archie McDonald
Visual Communication Design	Claire Pham
Valedictorian	Bianca Ciavarella

Senior VCAL

Literacy	Ethan Barr
Personal Development	Georgia Evans
Work Related Skills	Joshua Day
Dux	Ebony Usher

Last year, 161 of 230 (70.0%) students made an application for tertiary studies through VTAC. This result was a little lower than 2018, 156 of 212 (73.6%)

- 129 students received an offer (92.8%) compared to 128 (89.1%) in 2018

- 10 students (7.2%) did not receive an offer compared to 16 students (10.9%) in 2018

Michael O'Brien

Principal

Assistant Principal's News

Welcome back to the 2020 school year - it has been a good start to the year and students have settled into the college routine well.

During the first week, Year 11 and 12 students participated in our Orientation Program. These sessions focused on exploring learning styles, study and revision habits and evaluating their learning environment at home.

Throughout the year please make sure to visit our website as it contains all important dates including examinations, assessment weeks and parent-teacher evenings. There's so much more on the site, so take the time to explore and familiarize yourself with the information that is provided. Students are encouraged to make good use of the materials provided in the Student Resources page.

I wish all our students success for 2020.

CCTV is coming to Swinburne Senior

After due consideration over the past twelve months, CCTV will be installed at the college during the upcoming Term 1 break.

CCTV is an option that schools can adopt to deter or detect vandalism, graffiti and other unwanted activities on school sites.

There are numerous situations where CCTV has been an effective security deterrent in schools. Some examples are:

- after-hours surveillance
- external and internal surveillance of high-risk rooms or areas
- monitoring of visitor activity into reception or administration areas
- surveillance of areas prone to vandalism
- monitoring of activity in staff car parks
- monitoring of recreational areas
- surveillance of areas where personal property is left (for example, the school library, foyers and locker bays)
- monitoring of entry points to school grounds

CCTV installations in schools must comply with legislative and Department requirements.

Managed by the Department of Education and Training's Incident Support and Operations Centre (ISOC), procedures have been established to ensure that schools planning to install a new or an upgrade of an existing CCTV system meet these requirements.

The main reasons that were considered in deciding to install CCTV included:

- it can deter crime and unwanted activities when it is in an appropriate location with supporting signage
- a reasonable belief that the safety and security of staff and students is at risk
- a reasonable belief that a serious offence is likely to be committed, and other forms of crime prevention have been assessed as unsuitable or unsuccessful
- where the reasons for obtaining CCTV footage substantially outweigh the intrusion on the privacy of those under surveillance.

All CCTV systems in schools require departmental approval before installation. This approval has been granted.

Robert Lewkowicz
Assistant Principal

School Captains

Congratulations to our newly elected 2020 School Captains Declan and Anna.



From the Year 12 Managers' Desk

We are five weeks into Term 1 and the first interim reports are out. We would like to encourage parents to review these reports with your students and book a spot at Parent Teacher interviews coming up on 11 March or 18 March to discuss them further. If your student is at risk in one or more subjects with attendance, SAC or coursework then this could compromise their VCE. It is important that corrective action is taken immediately.

As mentioned before, Wednesday is a good opportunity for students to work on their folios at school, catch up on

missed classes and do redemption, complete missed SACs and, if an incursion or excursion is arranged, attend that to expand their knowledge. The school is open and teachers are available subject to prior arrangement after 12 noon.

Some students have timetabled study periods in their schedule and attendance figures are available on Compass. Please check attendance as study periods are another good opportunity to spend time catching up or getting ahead.

Overall the year has begun well and we are very optimistic about the 2020 Year 12 cohort and are there to support them through this important year.

Gita Menon- Year 12 Manager
Marcus Laging- Assistant Year 12 Manager
Paul Walters- Assistant Year 12 Manager

Tips to Reducing Stress in Year 11 and 12

The last two years of your schooling can be an enjoyable time, but also a very stressful time. It is extremely important that students try to create a balance between their school and personal lives. While we believe that each student must consistently work to improve their skills in their studies, their physical and mental health are just as important. The following are some tips to reduce stress throughout 2020.

Thanks to all parents/carers who attended the Parent Seminar at the College on Tuesday 3rd March.

Managing your stress levels:

1. Take advantage of the opportunities provided during your school days (study periods and Wednesdays) to complete work and chip away at your studies.
2. Try to get ahead with your studies by looking at the course outline of what is coming up next.
3. Complete tasks given to you by your teachers at the soonest possible time after that particular class.
4. Put in time to look up past examinations for your subjects and test yourself on one question a week.
5. Take regular breaks when you study (approximately every hour).
6. Do things that you enjoy and set aside time for yourself each week.
7. Go for a walk and/or do some regular exercise (put this into your weekly timetable).
8. Get plenty of sleep each night (aim for 8-9 hours per evening).
9. Adopt a well-balanced diet.
10. Talk to people about any concerns or worries you have.
11. Set clear goals for yourself each week and reflect on how you went about achieving them at the end of each week.

12. Think positively and view set-backs as opportunities to learn and improve.
13. Accept the fact that you will have to do some things that you won't necessarily "enjoy".
14. Be flexible and adapt to sudden changes in your routine.
15. Make sure you take time to laugh.

Joel Guye
School Improvement Manager



Business Management

Year 11 and Year 12 Business Management students learn from industry

Barely five weeks into the curriculum and Year 11 Business Management students have experienced:

- a workshop on financial literacy from Commbank's Start Smart programme
- heard from Amanda Walker- Co Founder of Lord of the Fries on how to start and maintain a successful business and
- Sheryl Thai- ex founder of CupCake Central on challenges faced in launching a start up.



The Year 12 Business Management students visited HoMie- a social enterprise to understand how a for profit business could start with crowd funding and use 100% of its profits to train people in a state of homelessness on Cert III in Retail and place them in various retail jobs for a living.

The best way to learn business is to experience it!

Gita Menon
Business Management Teacher

Parents One on One Support – ReachOut

Did you know that ReachOut Parents offers free and confidential support?

Parents can speak with an experienced specialist to create a personalised action plan over the phone and online.

ReachOut Parents Support can support you with a range of concerns:

- Has your teenager stopped confiding in or being open with you?
- Has your teenager become moody and irritable?
- Is your teenager having difficulties with school, such as low attendance, study stress or peer pressure?

- Is your teenager spending too much time online, especially on social media?

For further information:

<https://parents.au.reachout.com/one-on-one-support>



Personalised one-on-one support at a time that works for you



Free service

Funded by the Australian Federal Government, we are a free service for parents and carers of young Australians.



Anytime, anywhere

Book a session online, and we will call you back at an agreed time.



Private and secure

All the information you provide is encrypted and stored securely.

Mental Health Toolbox



To do any job well you need the correct tools.



Need to restock your mental health toolbox?

Want to learn skills to keep a healthy headspace?

Take advantage of these Wellbeing Workshops @ Headspace Hawthorn

Topics include:

- 05/03 - Communicate with confidence
- 12/03 - Physical activity and sleep
- 19/03 - Manage stress with mindfulness
- 26/03 - Manage emotions

When: Starting next Thursday 5th March: 4 - 5:30pm

Where: Level 1, 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn

Cost: FREE

To Book: Call 90066500 / enquiries@headspacehawthorn.org.au

**Come alone or with friends.
Attend individual workshops or all of them.**

Once completed they can be added to your CV.

Parents / carers please encourage your child to attend

Refer to the flyer below



*Fiona Keech
Adolescent Health Nurse
Secondary School Nursing Program
Department of Education and Training*

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.

Gail, Florence and Judy
General Office

The Boroondara Farmers' Market



Every third and fifth Saturday
of the month, 8:00am - 12:30pm

Join real farmers and gourmet producers selling
the best quality Victorian produce.

Patterson Reserve, Auburn Road, Hawthorn

January 18	May 16 & 30	September 19
February 15 & 29	June 20	October 17 & 31
March 21	July 18	November 21
April 18	August 15 & 29	December 19



Feedback Loops

The Studio Arts class recently visited the Australian Centre for Contemporary art to visit the exhibition *Feedback Loops* which presented six immersive installations that explore the material and digital worlds of our past, present and hypothetical futures. The works explored themes such as mythology, spirituality, animal and human hybrids and referenced popular culture which resonated with a lot of the students' own themes they are exploring this year. Students engaged in discussion around on the practice and processes of artists, how they develop their ideas, thematic concerns and distil ideas into completed artworks to inform their own Studio practice. We also got to complete drawings of the sculptural works to enhance our observational skills.



We then visited the Margaret Lawrence Gallery to hear an artist talk from Hekate Lilen Iris Hermosilla who has changed her name three times throughout her PhD research in the study of magic. The materialisation of her studies being the exhibition *Altarepistemologies* which utilised magic as a generative methodology within studio practice. Swinny students were invited to engage in a collective act of *Participation Mystique* where they brought an object as an offering to the artist, these objects now being part of the exhibition.



Tameka Carter
VCE Visual Arts Teacher

Midsummer Pride March

Pride was a bright and colourful event that brought the 2020 Swinburne cohort out in style. Rainbows were adorned by all as we joined in the Midsummer Pride Parade.



This was the first year we all had matching shirts, made by Year 12 student Sarah Ring, which gave us a cohesive look in the parade. The weather was perfect and time flew as the Swinburne banner led us in the march. The yells of "Go Swinny!" from the sidelines were met with grins and cheers from the students. Pride was a fun and exciting day that everyone left feeling satisfied and included. Thank you to all the staff who attended: Sam, Elizabeth, Claire, Lachlan, Maddie and Maeve!

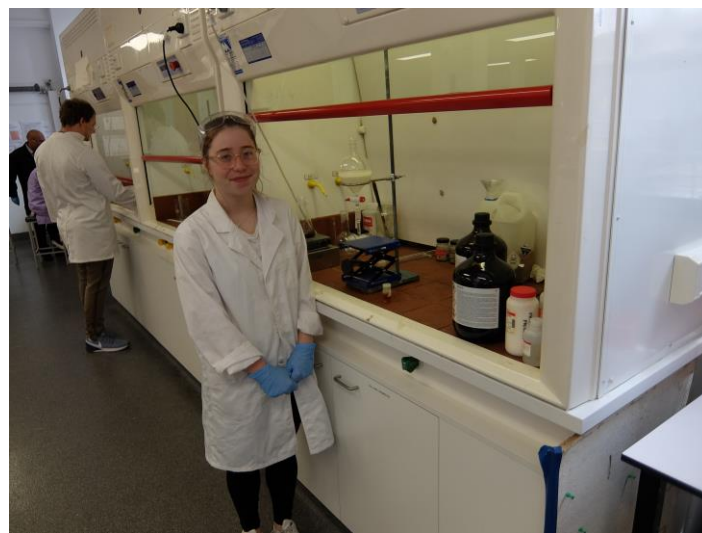
Booker Schwab
Year 12 Student

Chemistry work experience at Swinburne University December 2019

In December 2019, two Swinburne Senior Secondary College students, Chiquita Ashley-Barlow and Nyx (Lauren) Martin, did work experience in the chemistry laboratories at Swinburne University.

Chiquita synthesized biodiesels from used cooking oil in a process known as transesterification. Transesterification is a technique taught as part of the chemistry curriculum, and Chiquita was able to apply her knowledge in the real world.

Chiquita used environmentally sound techniques to recover all solvents used in this process, so minimising chemical waste and protecting the environment from nasty chemicals.



Nyx worked in a different field of chemistry from Chiquita, focusing on the creation of creams used in many consumer products like sunscreen creams, moisturizing creams and medicinal ointments.

This area of chemistry is not formally taught at high school but is important in modern society for creating safe consumer products for human-use.



Nyx tested different formulations to find the right combination of ingredients to get the consistency required for the application needed.

I wish to thank our school for allowing the Year 12 chemistry students a chance to get work experience after their November VCE exams, and would like to thank Swinburne University's chemistry department for giving our students the opportunity to work with them.

Dr Nikolaos Tsiouras
Chemistry Teacher

Numeracy Support – Semester 1 (Study Support and beyond)

First Semester sees Swinburne Senior Secondary College roll out its Numeracy program, with this year's numeracy support teacher being Dr Nikolaos Tsiouras.

Term one sees the identification and scheduling of students into these programs. Dr Nikolaos is trialling a maths brain training activity involving the region in the brain known as Brodmann region or Area 44.

The Brodmann region, or Area 44, has been found to be used in all mathematical calculations. From simple addition/subtraction calculations to more complex Quadratics/Calculus, training this part of the brain will help with numeracy in any human being.

The brain training is simple! Activating the Brodmann region requires four minutes at the start of each mathematics lesson to add a two-digit number to itself, ten times. How quickly this can occur is the real training. Accuracy for all the answers provided is crucial.

With regular training at the start of each mathematics lesson, the students should become quicker and quicker in calculating numbers in their heads – no need to use an electronic calculator or a smartphone.

When students have mastered accurately providing 10 answers to this activity, the next level is to increase the challenge to 20 answers.

I look forward in keeping you informed on the progress of this initiative.

If you want to discuss anything numeracy related, please contact me by email at nick.tsipouras@sssc.vic.edu.au.

Dr Nikolaos Tsipouras
Chemistry and Mathematics Teacher

Untitled



Lily WALZL-HEARITY, *Untitled* (2019), scanned digital ink jet print from solarised silver gelatin print

The artistic talent of Year 11 and 12 visual art students from Swinburne Senior Secondary College will be showcased in the group exhibition, *Untitled* at the Town

Hall Gallery in Hawthorn. Featuring a broad range of mediums, including photography, printmaking, drawing, painting and time-based media, *Untitled* celebrates the emerging practice of the young adults studying at SSSC. Each student brings their own perspective and creative approach to explore themes such as nostalgia, memories, childhood, surrealism and the self. The artworks, selected by student curators in collaboration with the Town Hall Gallery, are on display from 17th March to 12th April.

Swinburne Senior extends a warm invitation to all to attend the official exhibition opening on Saturday 21st March, 2pm – 4pm.

Matt Simmons
Professional Improvement Team Leader
Visual Arts

Year 11 and 12 Cycle 1 Progress Reports and Parent/Teacher Conferences

Students' Cycle 1 Progress Reports have been published and are now available to view via Compass School Manager. These reports have been created to help students maintain steady progress and identify any areas of their studies that need improving.

Below is a guide to help Parents and Carers better understand the descriptors in the Cycle 1 Progress Reports.

To satisfy the requirements of a Unit 1 or Unit 3 subject, the student must demonstrate engagement with their course of study and the knowledge and skills outlined for each Outcome.

	SACs/SATs	Attendance	Coursework
Satisfactory	The student has completed their SAC/SAT on time to a satisfactory level.	Above 85%.	The student has completed all the required coursework by the due date.
Some Concern	The SAC/SAT has been completed but there are some issues with the task that need to be addressed.	Below 85%. The student has planned to redeem their absences or has completed significant redemption.	The student has submitted the coursework, but may have done so after the due date or to a minimum standard. The student has handed in most of the coursework, but not all of it.
At Risk	The SAC/SAT may not have been completed by the due date, but the student has made arrangements to redeem with the teacher.	Below 85%. The student has not planned or completed any redemption.	The student has only partially completed some of their coursework.
Not Satisfactory	The student has not completed the SAC/SAT by the due date and is yet to arrange a time to redeem with the teacher.	Attendance is well below 85%.	The student has completed very little to no coursework for the subject.

The following descriptors indicate the students' approach to their learning in each of their subjects.

	Approach to Learning	Knowledge and Skills
Good	The student has demonstrated a strong work ethic, are punctual and engaged in their class. The student comes prepared for class and completes work at home.	The student has demonstrated strong knowledge and skills in the subject.
Acceptable	The student is mostly engaged in their classes. They complete some work outside of class.	The student is satisfying the requirements of their subject, demonstrating the knowledge and skills required to a reasonable standard.
Needs Attention	The student is disengaged in class, may arrive late regularly and needs reminding about completing work on time. They may be falling behind in their class.	The student has demonstrated some of the knowledge and skills for the subject. There are areas of their learning that need improving.

<p>Not Acceptable</p>	<p>The student is consistently late, unprepared and disengaged in class. The student may be falling so behind in their class that they are at risk of not satisfying the requirements.</p>	<p>The student has not demonstrated the knowledge and skills required in their subject for satisfactory completion.</p>
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We encourage all Students, Parents and Carers to reflect on the progress reports and make plans to improve on the areas identified.

Please log onto Compass to book appointments for Parent/Teacher Conferences. At the conferences Parents and Carers will be able to receive more subject-specific detail regarding their student's progress.

The conferences run over two evenings:

Wednesday 11th March: 3:30PM – 7:30PM

Wednesday 18th March: 3:30PM – 7:30PM

We hope to see you at the conferences!

Joel Guye
School Improvement Manager