

## From the Principal's Desk

At the outset I would like to comment on the extraordinary nature of the term that is coming to a close today. I have been working for the Department of Education and Training for 42 years and I have never experienced a period of time that was so unpredictable and demanding. The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic extended to all members of our school community and has posed significant challenges for us all.



I could not be prouder of the manner in which teachers, support staff, students and parents/carers have responded to the innumerable issues that you faced, came to terms with and eventually conquered. As with everything that we had always taken for granted as being normal, the education world was thrown a curve ball by needing to change from a face to face experience to Remote and Flexible Learning delivery as students, teachers and support staff were required to work from home. Oh yes, and then reverse all of this after six weeks!

During the first five weeks of the term there was a great deal to learn about the use of conferencing technology. Had anyone heard of Webex, Zoom or Google Meet to name a few, before the pandemic? Getting to know how to use them was another matter altogether! Users needed to learn quickly and adapt to this new way of communicating and learning and indeed, we all succeeded.

On returning to face to face learning on Tuesday 26 May I spoke to a large number of students about their experience whilst working from home and how they felt about a return to the classroom. Without exception they were all glad to be back with their friends and teachers. They missed everything that working with others can bring and they even said that they missed their teachers.

Many parents have contacted me to thank everyone at the school for enabling their child's education to continue as well as it could have given the extraordinary circumstances with which we needed to come to terms with. Most importantly they expressed their sincere gratitude that their child had been cared for by each of their teachers.

Moving into next term, students, parents/carers will be able to access semester one reports when they are published on Compass School Manager on Friday 24 July. Please take the time to read through the reports thoroughly. I encourage parents to have a conversation with your child about their performance during semester one. There will be a lot to celebrate as well as some areas requiring improvement.

The recent announcement from VCAA means that students in their final year of schooling are now assured of a pathway to their final examinations in November. This will bring much confidence as our teaching teams adapt to the reduced Unit 4 curriculum, and we build upon the skills our students have developed in transitioning firstly to learning from home, and for the past six weeks, back in the classrooms with their peers. VCAA will release the VCE results for this year on Wednesday 30 December.

Congratulations to all students on reaching the half way mark of the year and I look forward to seeing you, refreshed and eager to face the challenges that semester two will undoubtedly provide.

## Breakfast-on the house

For term 3, students will be able to get a free breakfast at the school canteen between 8:00 and 8:40am. Students will be able to select two items from a wide range of healthy options. We understand that many of our students skip breakfast in a rush to catch trains to get to school. It is hoped that this initiative will set them up for a more productive morning in class.

## Library and Building Funds

Thank you to everyone who was able to make a contribution (tax deductible) to the college's Library and Building Funds. These funds are earmarked to update the school's facilities.

We have plans for a renovation of the library and the ground floor of the three story main building. The library will be opened up to increase its floor space by 30% and a new student services area will require reconfiguring Room 1 and the current Year 11 and 12 Managers' offices and the Careers and Pathways Advisor Office.

The anticipated costings for these works is substantial so it will take some time for the funds to accumulate to the point where the works can be put out to tender.

*Michael O'Brien  
Principal*

### **From the Year 11 Managers' Office**

Well, what a term!

It has been such a strange and wonderful term. The circumstances this year are unprecedented, and we praise the efforts of students who made this time of remote learning work for them. Teachers and mentors worked extremely hard to keep school work flowing out to students, and that meant an easier transition back to school in May.

There will be awards for those students who topped their Unit 1 classes, and we congratulate those students who have excelled in their chosen subjects. Champion Vouchers will go out to those students early in Term 3 with a certificate.

We would like to welcome twelve new students that will be starting at the College in Semester Two. Please make those students welcome and be mindful that they may need assistance around the school in the first few weeks.

For students that have requested subject changes for Semester two these requests have been processed. To check these please go into your Compass page and advance the date forward to Monday 13 July. Students should see the changes to their timetables. Some students have been allocated a new Mentor teacher in Semester Two this is in line with the College policy to match a student with a teacher they have a timetabled class.

The June/July holidays are a good time to recover, rest and come back refreshed for Semester Two. Students are reminded to try to sleep well and eat properly over the break. Try to exercise and enjoy things that make you happy. For those going travelling, please be careful on the roads and be Covid 19-safe.

Have a wonderful break.

*Roy Menegas, Amanda Nunn, Lee Appleton  
Year 11 Managers*

### **Assistant Principal's News**

I would like to thank our learning community of students, staff and parents/guardians for their support during a period of remote learning. All of our staff worked incredibly hard both at school and whilst

working from home to support our students with their education.

Semester One reports will be uploaded on Compass and available to parents on Friday 24 July.

We are at the time of the year where students should be accessing Compass School Manager for daily news feeds regarding different events, online workshops from tertiary institutions which are regularly posted by Amanda McMahon our Careers and Pathways Adviser. Year 12 students should be accessing university websites to learn about scholarships which are available. There is a broad range of scholarships which cater for varying levels of academic achievement. It is worth applying for as many as possible as each year there are quite a few not taken up.

A reminder to all that at this stage Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Wednesday 12 August and advice about bookings will be available through Compass School Manager. If we are unable to provide parents with access to the school site due to the Covid 19 pandemic, alternative arrangements to conduct online interviews will be made. Stay tuned!

### Approving student absences

Many families are taking the option of explaining their child's absences by using Compass. This can be done in advance or retrospectively. Please continue to provide the College with explanations for students' absences, either using Compass, emailing or contacting your Mentor.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing term break.

*Robert Lewkowicz  
Assistant Principal*

### **From the Year 12 Managers' Office**

We are at the end of Semester 1 and Unit 3 is wrapped up. And what a Semester it has been- online leaning, no excursions or incursions, no assemblies and a pandemic. But we have all risen to the challenges that the new normal brought us for both life in and out of school.

The 2020 cohort will be having a modified Year 12 experience- with many of the social events under cloud, VCE exams and the GAT moved to a later date, modified Unit 4 study design and VCE results only being released on December 30.

But the end goal is the same- pass your VCE to the best of your abilities and get set for further tertiary study, work or a gap year.

We ran a virtual Business and Work Ready Week in Mentor this term to provide students with information

about tertiary options and other careers related tips. We are also running short term online hospitality courses in the September holidays and bookings are open through a Trybooking link featured in this edition.

We urge students to use this term break to relax but also consolidate their Unit 3 notes, read ahead for Unit 4 and attend a mid-year exam preparation lecture. We sent some information about free online ATAR Notes lectures through the Compass Newsfeed.

We are also rewarding the top scorers in Unit 3 in each class and they will be receiving either an Access Exam Preparation Lecture voucher (select subjects) or a Champion voucher/guide book.

So stay safe, relax and prepare for Unit 4 over the next two weeks.

*Gita Menon- Year 12 Manager*

*Marcus Laging- Assistant Year 12 Manager*

*Paul Walters- Assistant Year 12 Manager*

### **Swinburne Welcomes a Grand Piano**

Swinburne Senior Secondary College would like to officially welcome a new Yamaha C3X Grand Piano to the Music Department. The purchase of this piano was made possible due to a bequest from a past student, Keith Hone, who attended Swinburne Technical School in the 1940's. The piano will serve as a reminder to everyone who comes through the Music Department of the impact that a school can have on an individual.



This lovely instrument will allow piano students to extend their skill on a professional level instrument and provide further reasons to come and study music at Swinburne. It will also be put to use in the VET Music Industry Class where students will receive invaluable practical skills miking up a grand piano.

*Lee Appleton*

*PITL Music*

### **SRC Update**

Although it has been a challenging term in isolation, the SRC has stuck together to ensure that the Year 12 hoodies and bomber jackets were student designed and delivered in time to be worn for Term 2. Well done to Rose, Oskar and Sarah for their excellent designs, they are really cosy and look great! Now that we are back at school, SRC have been meeting up to discuss future events and initiatives to celebrate and bring the Swinburne community together for Semester 2, so stay tuned!



Another exciting achievement that we managed to orchestrate during isolation was appointing the Year 11 Captains. We interviewed a very high calibre of

applicants for the roles of Year 11 Captains and the passion and insight shown by all candidates was inspiring. After much deliberation, the successful applicants chosen were Tara and Rhiannon. We look forward to the year ahead and are grateful to have such wonderful young leaders within our school community. Tara and Rhiannon would like to introduce themselves to the school:

*Hi everyone! I'm Tara, and I wanted to be Year 11 Captain because representing a school with such individuality is a really special thing, and with that I hoped to foster the supportive, welcoming feel this community already has through our events and initiatives. I'm looking forward to working with my wonderful partner Rhiannon in creating ways to bring us all together, and make this school an even better place very soon :)*

*Hey! My name is Rhiannon, and I'm one of the Year 11 Captains! I wanted to become a captain for Swinburne because I love this school so much and want to do my part and give back to this amazing community. In particular I'm very passionate about mental health, and I hope to continue Swinny's open approach to these issues. I can't wait to work with Tara this year, and I hope we both make a positive impact and help Swinny to be the best it can be!*

On behalf of the SRC we hope everyone has a relaxing break and look forward to representing student voice in Semester 2. We encourage any interested students to come along to our meetings to discuss ideas and future events. All are welcome!

*Tameka Carter*  
*Student Leadership Manager*

### **Year 12 Drama Ensembles**

Year 12 Drama students at Swinburne Senior SC performed their devised ensembles last Friday. The project involved researching the pandemic known as "The Black Death" and its impact on 1300s England, including the economic impact. Many students also included comparisons or allusions to contemporary pandemics, including covid19. We worked on these performances at school in term 1, and online via google classroom in term 2. Trying to rehearse a drama project online has been a challenge none of us could foresee, but students pulled through with some very funny, clever, and poignant performances. The use of musical theatre conventions, epic theatre conventions, and theatre of the absurd conventions was particularly strong. Well done everyone!





Next term students will begin working on their own solos performance. We are crossing our fingers we can perform to parents and friends again, but in case this isn't possible we are looking into live-streaming technology.

*Meiki Apted*

*Drama Teacher*

*Photographs by Claire Congreave (Photography and VCD teacher)*

### **A Year at Swinburne**

In July 2019 a year seemed like a long time, but suddenly the end of my contract is here. It feels very strange to be leaving Swinburne Senior Secondary College, as it feels like home. I have worked here for a year, covering Dannielle Bunker's classes while she was away on family leave, and it has been a terrific experience. I so admire the College's commitment to get to know every student and work so hard to give them the success they can achieve.



As an English teacher with nearly thirty years' experience, I have also been impressed by the professionalism and academic rigour of the English staff. I have felt supported by everyone here.



The picture above shows me with 115 English, on our last day together. I had the pleasure of teaching two Year 11 English groups this year and it was very sad to leave them both. So goodbye and thank you to the students, staff and parents of this wonderful school. It's been an experience I will never forget.

*Alice White*

*English Teacher*



**A new Program @ SSSC**

Commencing Semester 2, SSSC will be offering supportive QUIT sessions for students who want to stop or reduce their tobacco intake.

The accredited program will include the following:

- Reasons to quit smoking or reduce tobacco intake
- How to establish a workable plan
- Strategies on how to stay on track
- External supports.

The confidential sessions are interactive, informative and can be done in small groups or 1:1.

More information will be coming out at the beginning of Semester 2.

*Fiona Keech*

*Secondary School Nurse – D.E.T*

*SSSC – Mondays & Fridays Wellbeing Room 2*

## Business Management Students Go on a Virtual Excursion to Yakult

In a first in this Covid 19 era, Year 12 Business Management students went on a virtual excursion of the Yakult factory looking at various elements of their operations management. They worked through a structured template and the Yakult Education Coordinator answered questions and explained concepts while she took them virtually through every station to explain the efficiencies, quality management strategies, technologies used and waste minimisation practices. This information was then used in their final SAC for Unit 3 as a case study.



While in previous years, students always enjoyed this excursion as it was a long bus ride to Dandenong and they got to taste Yakult, we have had to adapt and thanks to technology, managed to give them a virtual experience to assist with their learning and the SAC.

### Virtual Business and Work Ready Week

Our popular Business and Work Ready Week was amended this year due to Covid 19 and we ran two virtual sessions during Mentor at both Year 11 and Year 12 levels.

In the first session, students got to hear from Amanda McMahon, our Careers Coordinator on the tertiary options available, work ready tips like understanding their young worker rights, filing for tax file numbers, options for a gap year and volunteering and how to book a subsidised short term course in a variety of hospitality programs through iTFE- brochure attached. Bookings are open and will be closed once the seats are filled so go to the Trybooking link and register and pay for the courses. They will run during the September holidays.



## Real skills for the real world

Enjoy training with your friends and gain valuable skills for securing part-time or casual work around your studies

As part of Business and Work Ready Week 2020, iTFE will be providing work-ready short courses held Online, as Virtual classes and hands on sessions at iTFE's Training Centre in North Melbourne.

Select an individual course such as Barista Level 1, Responsible Service of Alcohol, Food Safety Handler Level 1 or 2, Young Job Seeker and Customer Service Essentials programs.

<b>Food Safety Handler Level 1</b> SITXFSAA001 Use hygienic practices for food safety Available for commencement upon enrolment Venue: Online/Moodle - Self paced course Cost: \$40pp	<b>Barista Coffee Level 1</b> Wednesday September 23 or Wednesday September 29 - 9am-1pm Venue: iTFE 112 Peel St, North Melbourne Cost: \$90pp (limited to 8 participants per session)
<b>Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA)</b> Wednesday August 12 - 9am-1pm Venue: Virtual Classroom/Zoom session Cost: \$43pp (limited to 25 participants)	<b>Young Job Seeker</b> Wednesday August 5 - 9am-11am Venue: Virtual Classroom/Zoom session Cost: \$27.20pp (limited to 25 participants)
<b>Food Safety Supervisor</b> Wednesday 11 September 8.45am-4.30pm Available for commencement upon enrolment Venue: Online/Moodle - Self paced course Cost: \$65pp	<b>Customer Service Essentials</b> Wednesday August 19 - 9am-11am Venue: Virtual Classroom/Zoom session Cost: \$27.20pp (limited to 25 participants)

Each participant must provide their Unique Student Identifier (USI number) to enrol in these courses.

To apply for a USI number go to: [usi.gov.au](http://usi.gov.au)

Contact: Amanda McMahon Careers and Pathways Advisor at [amanda.mcmahon@sscc.vic.edu.au](mailto:amanda.mcmahon@sscc.vic.edu.au) or on 8862 4411

Remember to book early through the TryBooking Link below as limited spaces are available  
<https://www.trybooking.com/BJXWH>

1300 659 557  
[itfe.edu.au](http://itfe.edu.au)

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In the second session, students got to attend live webinars from RMIT, La Trobe University, Melbourne University, Kangan TAFE and Deakin University and ask questions from their coordinators on course offerings and pre requisites. This information will be useful as we begin applications in Mentor for tertiary places through VTAC in August this year.

Bookings to meet Amanda McMahon in Careers can be made through Compass and recommended to make informed choices about tertiary applications.





*Gita Menon*  
*Business Management Teacher*

### **Senior VCAL Travel Itinerary**

Senior VCAL students spent the second half of Term 2 creating a detailed travel itinerary. Each student picked a region of the world that they would like to travel to and began their research on that area. Students were required to plan a 6 week holiday with a budget of \$10,000 that needed to cover travel costs, accommodation and activities.

Nyah Dennis planned her trip to Europe and came in just under budget. While at first Nyah had spent more than she had, she made some adjustments to her accommodations in order to have enough spending money for her trip. (See image on the next page)

Students did an amazing job coordinating all the elements of this task and many hope to take a similar trip one day in the future.

*Maddie Cole*  
*VCAL Personal Development Skills*

### **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*

Date	Location & Accommodation	Transport Include costs	Activities Include costs
1/1/2021 Friday	Fly from Melbourne <u>Australia</u> to Santorini , Greece.	Flight one way \$1,046	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breakfast at airport (\$19)</li> </ul>
3/1 - 8/1 Sun - Fri	Santorini - Mykonos  Accommodation \$99 per night. (4 nights, \$396)	Ferry - \$79	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free breakfast at hotel</li> <li>City tour \$20</li> <li>Ancient Thera (free)</li> <li>Dinner - Mykonos Restaurant bar \$54</li> </ul>
8/1 - 12/1 Fri - Tues	Mykonos- Rome Italy  Accommodation- Hotel Colosseum \$70 per night. (4 nights, \$280)	Fly - \$201 Public Transport \$5.50 Taxi - \$35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free breakfast at hotel</li> <li><u>Cascada de Marinka</u> (public transport and walk to)</li> <li>(Public transport and walk to <u>Pozo Azul</u>)</li> <li><u>Finca la Candelaria</u> (Taxi)</li> <li>Dinner at Ambrosia Rooftop Restaurant &amp; Bar - \$68</li> </ul>
12/1 - 15/1 Tues - Fri	Rome, <u>Italy</u> - Florence, Italy  Accommodation - Palazzo <u>Castri 1874</u> \$65 per night (3 nights, \$195)	Train - \$60 Taxi - \$29 Taxi - \$38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Free breakfast at hotel</li> <li>- Cathedral of <u>santa maria de fiore</u> (Taxi)</li> <li>- Uffizi gallery (Taxi)</li> <li>Money spent on shopping \$105</li> </ul>
15/1 - 16/1 <u>Fri</u> - <u>Sat</u>	Florence, <u>Italy</u> - Cinque Terre, Italy . Accommodation - <u>Villino</u> Wanda \$100 per night. (1 night, \$100)	Train - \$49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free breakfast at hotel</li> </ul>
16/1 - 19/1 Sat - Tues	Cinque Terre, Italy - Nice, France  Accommodation - <u>Hôtel La</u> Villa Nice Victor Hugo \$105 per night (3 nights, \$315)	Train - \$60  Taxi - \$53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free breakfast at hotel</li> <li>Public transport to The Promenade des <u>Anglais</u> get taxi home</li> <li>Explore around Nice, France.</li> <li>Money spent on purchases \$218</li> </ul>
19/1 - 24/1 Tues - Sun	Nice, France - Milan, Italy  Accommodation - Hotel Lancaster \$101 per night (5 nights, \$505)	Train - \$40  Public transport - \$4.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free breakfast at hotel</li> <li>Public transport and then walk to Galleria <u>vittorio Emanuele II</u> (High end shopping centre)</li> <li>Explore around and <u>visit Duomo di Milano</u></li> <li>Money spent on purchases \$619</li> </ul>
24/1 - 28/1 Sun - Fri	Milan, Italy - Munich, Germany  Accommodation - Hotel Cocoon <u>Hauptbahnhof</u> \$103 per night (4 nights, \$412)	Train - \$55 Taxi - \$13 x2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get a taxi to Train station and explore around Munich <u>germany</u>.</li> <li>Try <u>bavarian</u> food for lunch (<u>apparently</u> it's amazing in <u>munich</u>, Germany)</li> <li>Money spent on purchases \$43</li> </ul>



28/1 - 2/2 Fri - Tues	Munich, Germany - Berlin Germany  Accommodation - Titanic Comfort Mitte Berlin \$87 per night (5 nights, \$435)	Train - \$58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise to see the world famous Berlin Opera and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra (\$189)</li> <li>Dinner at Restaurant Facil (\$80)</li> <li>Money spent on purchases -\$527</li> </ul>
2/2 - 4/2 Tues - Thurs	Berlin, Germany - Amsterdam, Netherlands  Accommodation - Hotel van de Vijzel \$108 per night (2 nights, \$216)	Train - \$60  Taxi - \$40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxi to famous dutch markets</li> <li>Explore around</li> <li>Go to lunch (\$21)</li> <li>Money spent on purchases - \$250</li> </ul>
4/2 - 6/2 Thurs - Sat	Amsterdam, Netherlands - Brussels Belgium  Accommodation - Saint-Nicholas Hotel \$94 per night (2 nights, \$190)	Train - \$84  Taxi - \$32 X2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free Wifi and breakfast</li> <li>Explore around and go to Rijksmuseum</li> <li>Taxi to the area where the Canals of Amsterdam is.</li> <li>Money spent on purchases - \$412</li> </ul>
6/2 - 8/2 Sat - Mon	Brussels, Belgium - Madrid, Spain  Accommodation - Hotel Soho Boutique Opera \$92 per night (2 nights, \$184)	Fly - \$260  Taxi - \$14 X2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free wifi</li> <li>Get Taxi to the main part of Madrid and wander around.</li> <li>Go to night market</li> <li>Try traditional spanish cuisine.</li> <li>Have a few relaxing hours at the hotel 's Spa.</li> <li>Money spent on purchases - \$298</li> </ul>
8/2 - 11/2 Mon - Thurs	Madrid, Spain - Barcelona, Spain  Accommodation - Novotel Barcelona City \$82 per night (3 nights, \$246)	Train - \$86  Taxi - \$24 X2  Taxi - \$70	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rooftop pool</li> <li>Hotel is at a great location and near public transit.</li> <li>Walk to the train station and get a train to the area where the La Sagrada Familia is.</li> <li>Taxi to Park Güell</li> <li>Go for Dinner at Viana Barcelona - \$60</li> </ul>
11/2 - Thursday	Barcelona, Spain - Melbourne Australia	Fly - \$904	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxi to Airport</li> </ul>
<b>Total Cost</b>  \$9,998.5	<b>Total Accommodation Cost</b> \$3,474	<b>Total Travel Cost</b> \$3,482.5	<b>Total Activity Cost</b> \$3,042