



From the Principal's Desk

Farewell

Friday 23 April will be my last day as principal of Swinburne Senior Secondary College. I have decided to retire after working for the Department of Education and Training for the past 46 years. I consider myself to have been very fortunate to work in three wonderful, but quite different, schools over this time. Two of these schools were in the western suburbs and were considered to be relatively "disadvantaged" compared with others across the State.



My appointment as the principal of Swinburne Senior in 2011 provided me with the opportunity to work in a completely different type of school. Working with only senior students has been incredibly rewarding and I have relished the challenge of the school cohort changing over every two years. Despite the names and faces changing over so quickly, I soon realised that the characteristics of each successive cohort of students were remarkably similar. Our students tend to have a deep social conscience, can be a little rebellious and non-conforming, articulate, free-spirited, creative and friendly. There is no doubt that I will miss the day to day interactions with such wonderful young people.

I am deeply grateful for the amazing support that I have been given by all members of the Swinburne community. I have learnt that Swinburne is much more than a school considering the positive impact that it has on so many young people and their families. I have been touched by the countless messages from parents detailing the "miracle" transformation that has occurred with their young person and their attitude to their schooling and life in general. Miracles in education can and do happen!

There are thousands of students who have graduated over the years and I am confident that their time at "Swinny" has been cherished and they have many fond memories of the friendships that they formed. The culture that has been fostered over many years is quite a special one when looking over the broader education landscape. I will look back on my time here with so many fantastic memories. I'm sure that a cheeky grin will emerge every time I think back on my ten years as principal of such an amazing school.

Robert Lewkowicz will be the acting principal from Monday 26 April to Friday 9 July. The process for appointing the

new substantive principal will take place during term 2 with an expected start date of Monday 12 July.

School Council

The first meeting of the new school council was conducted on Monday 22 March. The Annual General Meeting was also held and I would like to congratulate the following councilors on their election as office bearers.

President:	Kate Galati
Vice-President:	Oriel Flewell-Smith
Treasurer:	Robert Lewkowicz

Oriel Flewell-Smith and Susan Robertson were elected as Community Representatives for 2021.

School Council 2021

Parent Representatives

Kate Galati
 Debbi Long
 Cheryl Lacey
 Rose Lang
 Roberta Steuart

Department of Education and Training Representatives

Michael O'Brien
 Robert Lewkowicz
 Joel Guye
 Glenn Morris
 Mary Gillingham

Student Representatives

Olivia Douglas
 Catherine Gray

Community Representatives

Oriel Flewell-Smith
 Susan Robertson

The college's Annual Report 2020 was presented, discussed and endorsed. A copy is available on the homepage of our website <https://sssc.vic.edu.au/>

Michael O'Brien
Principal

From the Year 11 Managers' Desk

Well, what a term this has been!

It was fabulous to see the enthusiasm on the faces of our current Year 11 cohort, coming out of our harsh Victorian lockdown and getting back into the swing of a normal school term. Students got to know the school environment, their teachers, and their peers. Most have enjoyed free breakfast from our wonderful canteen for term 1, as a Welcome to Swinburne treat. It has been great to get to know our new Year 11 students.

As the Year 11's settle into the school year, it is important to remember the core school values of our school: RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and COMMITMENT. Students have now all signed off their enrolment agreements and are reminded that those values are the foundations on which we have built our school. This term in Mentor, we have looked at Gratitude, International Women's Day, Berry Street Focus Plans and getting to know you activities.



We introduced the Swinburne FUSS (Follow-Up System at Swinburne) last year as a way of monitoring students slipping behind. Congratulations to students who ended up on a Green FUSS, which meant they were up to date with all coursework, attendance and SACs. Any students who found themselves on a Yellow FUSS or a Red FUSS needed to be aware of overdue work, missed classes and missed SACs. Those students are encouraged to chat with their teachers about missed work and aim to do redemptions, to make up for those missed classes.

Subject changes for Unit 2 will happen in May. Students who are looking to change their current subjects can pick up a form at the start of May, from the Year 11 Managers' office, on the ground floor. Changes will only be able to be made if there are spots available in the subject of choice.

To all our year 11 students and families, we say have a safe and wonderful Easter break and we look forward to working with you in Term 2.

*The Year 11 Management Team
Roy, Amanda and Lee*

Six Tips to Help You Study During the Holidays

1. Create a Holiday Schedule

Create a holiday schedule to help you stay on track with your studies. Carve out a specific time to study that works best for you. It might be that you do school work for 1-2 hours each morning or a couple short periods throughout the week. Don't feel bad for allowing yourself some down time, but you will feel better if you have taken some time to do school work before you go and see that movie with your friends.

2. Check Your Subject Timelines

It is important to check your subject timelines regularly to make sure you aren't falling behind. The timelines for your subjects are suggested guides to help you to do some forward planning for Term 2. Keeping track of your timeline is crucial component to helping you study during the holidays. Maybe it's the case that you need to spend some time planning your Term 2 on a calendar.

3. Get Out of the House

Studying at home can be quite distracting during the holidays, especially if you have a large family. So pack up your laptop and head out to your nearest cafe for a chai latte and some quality study time. You'll be less distracted and more relaxed when you return home after a solid study session.

4. Reward Yourself

Use some positive reinforcement and reward yourself each time you accomplish something. Give yourself a reward for after you complete a chapter, for example. Knowing what goodies await you ahead, will motivate you to persevere in accomplishing your tasks.

5. Study with Friends

Students who study at least once a week in a study group with other students are more likely to have a better understanding of the course materials, ask good questions, and be more engaged in discussions. Collaborating with others and being around good company is one of the biggest factors to relieving stress and building motivation. Meet up with some friends to discuss that book you are studying in English over lunch.

6. Stay Inspired

Keep yourself motivated by reading your favourite blogs, finding inspirational boards on Pinterest, visiting galleries or seeing a music gig. Let's face it. Having to study during the holidays may not seem very appealing, but with clever strategies, you can stay on track while still enjoying the perks of not having to come to school every day for two weeks.

As usual, the big picture ideas are simple: have a plan, stay motivated and avoid distractions. Otherwise, enjoy your holidays!

Joel Guye
School Improvement Manager

Breakfast Club @ Boroondara Youth Services

The Senior VCAL class recently visited Boroondara Youth Serves for our very first 'Breakfast Club'. Students were able to meet the team down at BYS who are there to support students in the local area and enjoy a nice breakfast to start the week off. The highlight though was meeting *Risky* the lizard (pictured), who lives down at BYS. We would like to make it a regular thing to head down, connect with local services, and make sure we have the most important meal of the day.



Maddie Cole
VCAL Personal Development Skills Teacher

Senior VCAL Camp

On the first day of camp, Wednesday 3 March, we started our trip with the grocery shopping when we got to the Torquay Foreshore Caravan Park. Our first task was to find our cabins put our stuff away. We then went on a nature walk along the coastline. That night we played *Capture the Flag* as part of a teamwork activity. Belinda was able to capture the flag! For the Wednesday night dinner the group cooked a BBQ and prepared a delicious salad. We enjoyed eating dinner outside whilst enjoying a beautiful sunset. In the evening we had a games night, where we could go to different cabins and play board games and cards!

On the second day of camp, we woke up, had breakfast and then we walked to the beach for our surfing session. Some students were able to get up on the board and ride the waves. After surfing we were very hungry and had salad sandwiches for lunch. Later in the afternoon we met *Possum Pete* who took us to the beach to see the natural rockpools. Unfortunately the tide was in, so we couldn't walk through the rockpools. In the evening we had the *Annual Cabin Crawl* - where each cabin hosts the class with a themed event.





My highlights of the camp were the nature walk, seeing the rockpools and the cabin crawl.

Everyone who went to camp had a great time; we enjoyed everything! Overall it was an amazing and incredible experience!

We were very tired and exhausted from camp when we got back to school on Friday 5 March and we all looked forward to a well-deserved rest.

Ash Ranasinghe
Senior VCAL

CHANCES Scholars

Helen Worlidge and Michael Hills from CHANCES Scholarships attended the college to present certificates and badges to our two CHANCES Scholars. Brianna and Casey are completing their VCE this year and enjoyed the opportunity to share their aspirations with Helen and Michael. These scholarships are awarded to students following a selection process around a set of criteria. The scholarships can continue throughout tertiary education.



Kate Foster
CHANCES Scholarships Ambassador

Future's So Bright Youth Conference

The Year 11 Business Management students attended a whole day conference at the Hawthorn Arts Centre arranged by Business Victoria and the Boroondara Council for School Students to inspire entrepreneurship and innovation.

They got to hear the entrepreneurial journeys including challenges faced by some famous entrepreneurs including CEO and co-founder of "Who Gives a Crap", Simon Griffiths, Carlton AFLW star and Australian super welterweight boxing champion, Tayla Harris and former Executive Director and CTO at Lonely Planet, Entrepreneur in Residence at Victoria University, Gus Balbontim.

The sessions were interactive with Q&A sessions and our students also got to interact with students from other schools.

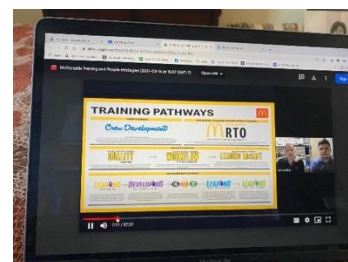
The icing on the cake was that Ryan Holmes from SSSC won the lucky draw prize of an iPad Air.



Spurred on by this practical insight, students will soon begin actively working on their next area of study-Creating Business Plans for various ventures. Students will work in teams with their work culminating on Market Day, 31 May. Watch this space for photos in the next edition.

McDonald's HR guide our students on training and performance management strategies

Year 12 Business Management students had a virtual excursion with the McDonald's Training and People team on HR strategies. These strategies are related to training and development, career advancement, performance management and termination management. The strategies are implemented at McDonald's franchises and Head Office. This topic developed from the case study for the area of study on managing employees. It provided students with an insight into how various motivational strategies are applied in the workplace.



Gita Menon
Business Management Teacher

VCE Unit 1 Biology Biodiversity Excursion

On Wednesday March 24th the two Year 11 Biology classes braved the rain and the early morning travel to explore the Nangak Tamboree Wildlife Sanctuary at La Trobe University.



Students were taken on a guided walking tour of the over 30 hectare sanctuary, treated along the way to the sights and sounds of native and protected species of birds and animals. The focus of the tour was to understand the role of the River Red Gum eucalyptus tree as a keystone species within this ecosystem, providing shelter, food, nutrients and stability to this reclaimed land. The oldest tree to have survived the clearing of the land upon settlement is now believed to be over 400 years old and was an impressive site sitting pride of place next to the man-made lake.



To get their hands dirty, students also explored the abundance of invertebrate insect species within one of the sanctuary's many wetlands. Armed in some very fashionable waders and with nets in hands, some students entered into the wetland ponds to search for hidden bugs and critters hiding amongst the reeds. The groups then

used their microscopy skills to sort and classify the many creatures they had unearthed from the depths.

On behalf of Jory and Emily (Unit 1 Biology teachers) thank you to all those students who attended and engaged so well with tour guides and your peers, well done!

*Jory Clark and Emily Barnes
Biology Teachers*

Ballarat International Foto Biennale

Congratulations to last year's Studio Art Photography students Abby Hambleton, Anneke Morris, Chloe Lewis-Col and Jack Jowett whose work has been selected for exhibition in the Mass Isolation students exhibition at the Ballarat International Foto Biennale!



Above: Chloe Lewis-Col: Train Station

Their work will be displayed as part of the 2021 Ballarat international Foto Biennale from 28 August - 24 October and appear alongside the incredible photographic art of the Mass Isolation Australia project lead by BIFB throughout 2020. This exhibition will run alongside other exhibitions meaning students will be listed as artists amongst world-renowned artists such as Linda McCartney.

Only 29 students from 7 secondary schools across the state were selected to be in this exciting exhibition so we are extremely proud of their efforts!

*Matt Simmons
Visual Arts Teacher*

Term 1 Drama Report

On March 10th, our year 11 and 12 Drama students went to the Fairfield Amplitheatre to view *Two Gents*. *Two gents* is a *Commedia Dell'Arte* style performance of Shakespeare's "Two Gentlemen of Verona". The play has been re-contextualised into 1920s Hollywood, and it explores themes of friendship, young love, gender roles, and the abuse and objectification of women. After the performance, the Year 12 students stayed behind to ask questions of the cast and crew.

The following week, the year 12 Drama class went to the Arts Centre Melbourne to watch 2020 students perform their A+ solos. Performances were all original, written by the students themselves, but based on well-known films and social events. Class favourites included Mary Poppins (imagining that she stepped in to the Kardashian family and had to help them solve their problems), The Gangster (a spaghetti Western) and The Stage Parent (a musical theatre style performance about a stage parent who gate-crashes a director's dinner).



After 2020, it's such a relief to be able to see live theatre again. We came away inspired and filled with ideas for our own ensemble and solo performances this year.

Meiki Apted
Drama Teacher



COMPASS
School Manager

The information provided through Compass School Manager can be used to initiate discussions about the

progress of your child at Swinburne. We suggest that you access the site weekly, as information is most valuable when accessed on a regular basis.

Your logon is unique to you and enables you to access and act on information including:

- Processing parent payments, including approving and paying for upcoming activities.
- View up-to-date class and school attendance information.
- Access progress reports.
- Book parent/student/teacher conferences.
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences.
- Download student reports.
- Update your registered email and mobile number (used for SMS alerts) details.
- Access information regarding school events and news.
- Order school photo packs.
- Order your child's replacement/lost school ID card (Compass student identity card).

If have not yet received your Compass login details please contact the school.

Compass Portal: <https://sssc-vic.compass.education>

Steve Annetta
Network 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.

Gail, Florence and Judy
General Office



First, third
and fifth
Saturday of
every month.

Boroondara Farmers Market

Home to fresh, local, seasonal and artisan goods from Victoria's best farmers and producers.

See overleaf for upcoming market dates.

Boroondara Farmers Market

Shop in a community, reduce your food miles and support small Victorian primary producers. Bring the kids and your four-footed friends – everyone's welcome!

Upcoming markets	
March 20	April 3 & 17
May 1, 15 & 29	June 5 & 19

Where: Patterson Reserve, 484 Auburn Road, Hawthorn

When: 8am to 12.30pm

Cost: \$2 entry fee. Your \$2 donation is used to fund various activities and projects of the Rotary Club of Glenferrie. The Rotary Club of Glenferrie is a strong supporter of the local community, providing funds for the Chances Scholarship project of the Boroondara Cares Foundation, and to the Boroondara Family Network.

More information:

www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/markets or call 9278 4444.

If you are interested in becoming a stallholder, email farmersmarket@glenferrierotary.org.au



