



# VUSC News

Issue 1 · 05 Feb 2021

*Create the Future*

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# Principal's Message



Dear Families,

Welcome back for the beginning of a new school year. I hope you and your family had a great, well rested summer break and like me, are excited by the opportunities that the 2021 school year brings.

On behalf of the College Board, I would like to thank all parents, staff, students and members of the VUSC community for their invaluable support in 2020. It certainly was a very different and challenging year for everyone. As we moved through our changing COVID environment last year, everyone showed resilience, patience and adaptability, and as a result developed new skills and learnt new things!

In Term 4 last year the College undertook a highly successful school review and developed a new four-year **College Strategic Plan**. Our key goals are as follows:

- To improve the learning growth and achievement of every student;
- To empower all students to become confident and self-reliant learners; and
- To improve the wellbeing of all students.

The College is also continuing to refine and implement an updated **School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program** to consolidate our school values and expectations for success.

The College leadership team has developed the **2021 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)**. The plan is aligned to our Strategic Plan goals. It is a detailed plan that outlines the key improvement strategies, targets, actions/activities and success indicators that are set for the year in the lead up to achieving our four-year goals.

The school is certainly off to a positive and settled start, with all Year 8 to 12 students having commenced their 2021 step-up programs at the end of last year, where they met their teachers and had an introduction to all subjects for this year. Other organisational matters such as the allocation of lockers were also attended to at the end of last year, which has helped to minimise disruption to students' classes now. It is hoped that this uninterrupted start will assist students to sharpen their focus on their learning from day one.

**A very special welcome to our new Year 7 students**, who are a delightful group, and to all those students who are new to other year levels, and to their families. We hope that you enjoy your time here at Victoria University Secondary College and that it is rewarding for you both educationally and personally.

As is always the case, we look forward to working together with parents to support our students to reach the levels of achievement they are individually capable of. Again, we invite parents to work together with us to ensure students are meeting the basic requirements necessary for success in their studies. These include:

- Excellent attendance and punctuality
- Bringing the appropriate books and equipment each day
- Using class time effectively
- Completing homework
- Keeping to deadlines for submission of work
- Always putting in maximum effort.

The last point on 'maximum effort' is one that underlies all the others, and it will be explicitly emphasised with the students throughout the year. Of course, the chances of this message being conveyed successfully will be much greater if it is also reinforced at home, so we will be most appreciative if parents too can emphasise the importance of consistent and persistent effort.

A checklist is attached of what parents and carers can do to support their children with their schooling this year:



Parent Checklist.pdf

### **New Staff**

The College is very pleased to welcome the following staff who are joining the teaching and education support teams this year:

Brylee McNamara – Middle School Leader

Jonathan Worthen – English/Humanities

Nathaniel Alexopoulos – PE / Health

Rundi Yang – Chinese / EAL

Peter Hammond – MYLNS & Maths Tutor

Peter Kavadias – Science

Peter Otchere – Youth Worker

Phoebe Moloney – English/Humanities

Tim White – Administration

Also a huge congratulations to Ms Abbey White and partner Matt on the birth of their gorgeous baby Violet on 1st February! We wish Abbey and Matt all the very best as they enter parenthood for the first time.

### **Tutor Learning Initiative**

One of our top priorities for the year is to respond to the disruption of 2020 by working to ensure that all students who need additional assistance to 'catch up' on learning that they may have missed, receive tailored and targeted help through the new Tutor Learning Initiative.

The additional resources made available by the Victorian Government through the significant new funding directed to this program provide us with an unprecedented opportunity to address learning gaps for every individual student.

Tutors are registered teachers who will be a valuable part of our teaching team at VUSC this year. By providing intensive learning support to the students who need it, we will not only ensure that those students are not left behind, but also give classroom teachers the time they need to meet the achievement, engagement and wellbeing needs of all students.

Parents whose children will be supported by tutors will receive a letter with more details. The attached file contains general information for families from the Department of Education.



Tutor Learning Initiative.pdf

The tutors that have joined our VUSC teaching team this year are as follows:

Anthony Cunsolo – English tutor

Berina Pandzo – Maths tutor

Brayden Kelputis – Maths tutor

Charlotte Seago – English tutor

Peter Hammond – Maths tutor

Ebony Underhill – English tutor

Jeanu Sayachack – English tutor

Siaki Kirifi – English tutor

Yan Qu – Maths tutor

Mariam Hussein – English tutor

We welcome and wish our new teaching staff and tutors the very best at Victoria University Secondary College.

### **Year 12 VCE Results**

A huge congratulations to our VCE Class of 2020 for their excellent results despite lockdowns and remote and flexible learning. The hard work and dedication of both students and teachers has meant that we have maintained or improved upon most of our previous years' results.

The school has improved its median and mean ATAR (Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank) results significantly from 2019. Our VCE Mean English Study Score is 30.5 (which is above the state) and our VCE Median Study Score improved from 28 in 2019 to 28.5 in 2020. Our aim and goal for 2021 is to continue to improve not only our VCE results but all our students' results over all learning outcomes from Years 7 to 12.

**I am very proud to announce that our Dux of 2020 is Jimmy Truong who achieved an ATAR result of 97.30.**

Our 2nd highest ATAR result was 97.25 and the 3rd highest ATAR result was 94.20. Six students achieved an ATAR in the 90's and there were 16 study scores of 40+. Overall our class of 2020 achieved amazing results. We are extremely proud of all our students for their tenacity, persistence and fantastic efforts last year.

### **College and Junior Campus Captains**

On behalf of the whole school community, I am delighted to announce our College and Junior Campus Captains for 2021.

Congratulations to **Danita Caruso and Emily Kerbage** who have been elected College Captains and to Vice Captains **Regi Cruz and Brooke Moncur**.

At the Junior Campus, congratulations to Captains **Alessandrea Cabuyadao and Evangelia Tzanetos** and Vice Captains **Layla Apimaera and Bibi Asma**.



Each of these students have already shown themselves to be really deserving of these leadership roles, and we look forward to working with them and all our student leaders.



Emily Kerbage



Danita Caruso



Brooke Moncur



Regi Cruz



Alessandra Cabuyadao



Evangelia Tzanetos



Bibi Asma



Layla Apimaera

Thank you to all the students across the school who nominated for leadership roles. We are very lucky to have so many students interested in putting themselves forward. It seems that the SRC will have many willing helpers throughout the year. We would love to see more boys getting involved too!

A further congratulations to Alessandra Cabuyadao for being awarded a Harding Miller Foundation Scholarship! This is an outstanding achievement, well done Alessandra!

### **Changes to Student Absence notifications**

Parents/carers are advised that you will no longer be able add attendance notes on Compass when your child is absent.

There is now an absence hotline and we will also have an absence email address shortly.

If your child will be absent from school for any reason, please call 8312 0243 or email [victoria.university.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:victoria.university.sc@education.vic.gov.au) before 10am that day.

Parents/carers will receive a call from our Attendance Officer if a reason for the absence has not been provided. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter to ensure that all student absences are accounted for.

## **Uniforms**

A reminder to all students and parents/carers that students should be in full summer uniform this term, including the blazer and black leather shoes (no other colours/no boots or sneakers). Please see our full Uniform Policy [here](#).

Families may request assistance with purchasing school uniform from the following organisations:

[Smith Family Learning for Life](#) provides support and financial assistance to help disadvantaged children stay at school. The program runs in select disadvantaged areas.

[A Start in Life](#) provides financial assistance to disadvantaged students and families to ensure they can access the same learning opportunities as their peers. For information phone (02) 9264 3017.

[Opening the Doors Foundation](#) provides education assistance for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in an independent educational institution in Victoria.

[The Queen's Fund](#) Financial assistance with the cost of educational expenses for children. Applications must be completed by a social worker or a community agency that works with you.

[Good Shepherd Micro-finance](#) is a great initiative that has financial programs to assist families on low or limited incomes with educational costs and other expenses. One of their programs is the No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS) which gives access to fair and safe credit up to \$1,200 for essential educational items.

[Saver Plus](#) This is financial education and up to \$500 in matched savings for education costs for individuals and families who have at least some regular income from work. For information phone 1300 610 355.

Second hand uniforms are also bought and sold by local families on the Sustainable School Shop [website](#).

## **Jacaranda e-books**

Once again Jacaranda are our supplier of electronic textbooks this year. Information has been provided on booklists and posted to Compass about how to purchase and access the books. Please ensure your child has all the textbooks they need for a successful start to the year.

### **Breakfast Club “Grab and Go”**

Breakfast Club will run at both campuses every Monday commencing next Monday Feb 8th from 8.30-8.45am. There will be fresh apples and non-perishable foods available such as cereal, muesli, baked beans, fruit cups and long life milk. All welcome!

#### ***Locations:***

Senior Campus Breakfast Club in A9

Junior Campus Breakfast Club outside the SWB Office.

### **Lunchtime Activities**

The College will be providing lunch time activities each day at both campuses this year.

There will be board games every day which will be supervised by staff, as well as lunch time sports. Please check Compass or see your Coordinator/PE Teacher for more details.

### **Homework Club**

Homework club will run at the Junior Campus this year in the Library after school every day during term except Wednesdays.

### **College Yearbook**

One of the highlights of each year is the publication of our College yearbook. Once again, it did not disappoint. Congratulations to Ms Anita Stanley on producing a creative and entertaining snapshot of our 2020 year. The yearbook captured well the interesting year we had. Students will receive a copy of the yearbook at an upcoming year level assembly.

### **VUSC Music CD**

A reminder that the CD produced by our wonderful music students and staff last year in lieu of the Annual Concert is for sale at the general office for \$10. I highly recommend it!

### **Open House**

Our Open House will be held on Monday 15 March at the Junior Campus. This is a great opportunity for prospective parents and students to see our classes in action and hear about the rich program of learning and extra curricular activities that we offer. Mr Dowie and Ms McNamara will be visiting local primary schools with information for Grade 5 and 6 students over the next few weeks.

There will be morning tours at 9.20am and 10.30am and an evening session including interactive tours from 6.00pm. **Due to density limits, all families must pre-book to attend the Open House evening or a school tour [here](#). Please bring your face mask!**



## Privacy Reminder

Families are reminded that our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent/carer personal information for standard school operations or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy. Please take the time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website [here](#) and attached below. For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information also available in nine community languages.



Privacy Collection Statement VUSC.pdf

## Mobile Phone Policy

A reminder to students who bring a mobile phone to school that they must have it switched off and stored in their locker from the first bell to the last bell of the day. Families may ring the school office if they need a message given to their child. The College Board has approved the policy which is attached below. Students and their parents will also be required to sign the Student Mobile Phone and Computer Use Agreement this term, which sets out the school's guidelines regarding appropriate use of these devices and our school internet.



Mobile Phones – Student Use Policy.pdf

## Reminders from the Office

- Students are reminded that sunscreen is available at the general office all year round in line with our Sun Protection Policy.
- Families are reminded that FREE stationery boxes are still available when you pay your child's Essential Items in full. The boxes contain all stationery as required on the booklist.
- [Please ensure the school has your current address and contact details](#) in case of emergency. These can be updated on Compass or contact the office.

## Insurance and Ambulance Cover for Students

Parents/carers are reminded that the Department (and the College) does not provide personal accident insurance, personal property insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents/carers are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for their child/ren, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage. Parents/carers can

purchase insurance policies and ambulance cover from commercial insurers if they wish for their child/ren.

### **Finally**

While it is great news that all schools have returned to on-site learning, it is critical that we all remain vigilant in maintaining a COVID-Safe environment. Actions such as staying home when unwell, performing regular hand hygiene, and maintaining physical distance and wearing masks in class are simple measures, but are of the utmost importance.

That said, it is exciting to once again allow all students and staff to experience the full richness of school, particularly those aspects that were so difficult to maintain through last year, including participation in performing arts, sport, practical activities in science and technology, school performances, camps and excursions.

We learnt a lot about what Victoria's education system is capable of last year, as VUSC successfully innovated and adapted like never before. The lessons learned from 2020, combined with parents' help and support, will stand us in great stead for the year ahead. Thank you also for your excellent support in ensuring that your sons or daughters have been well prepared for the start of the year. We have had such a positive start, and this is in part due to your efforts, especially with books, equipment, devices and uniform.

If you have any concerns or questions about how your child has settled in, please do not hesitate to contact their Year Level Co-ordinator.

I wish you all well for the year ahead and look forward to working with you.

*Elaine Hazim*

*College Principal*

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## **Child Safety at VUSC**

Victoria University Secondary College is a child safe organisation committed to protecting students from all forms of abuse.

Our College has stringent protocols in place and endeavours at all times to be fully compliant with the Child Safe Standards set out under Ministerial Order 870.

Our College has the following documents and policies in place to achieve compliance with the Standards. All of these documents are available for downloading on our website or contact the school for a copy.

1. Commitment to Child Safety
2. Child Safety Policy
3. Child Safety Code of Conduct
4. Child Protection Policy and Procedures



## Important Dates

### **Year 1 VET classes begin**

Tuesday 2 February

### **Year 2 VET classes begin**

Thursday 4 February

### **Year 12 Student Success Information Evening**

6.00pm Senior Campus Gym

Monday 8 February

*Year 12 students and their families are invited to attend the Success Information Evening to gain a deeper understanding of how to best succeed in their final year of schooling. Parents will be given strategies on how to best support their child including motivation techniques, stress management, common issues and how to overcome them, information about good study habits and the difference between homework and study.*

**Staff Professional Development Day (student free day)**

Wednesday 10 February

*The College Board has approved this day as a student free day. Teachers will be analysing student data and determining how they can best support each student throughout the year. The general offices will be open.*

**School Photos Day**

Friday 12 February

*Photos forms will be given out during home group. Please return them as soon as possible. If students are absent, there will be a catch up day on Wednesday 17 February.*

*Instructions for parents on how to order via Compass are here:*

*<https://www.compass.education/guide#photos>.*

**Year 7 Meet the Teachers / Student Success Evening**

6.00pm Junior Campus

Monday 15 February

*Year 7 students and their families are invited to attend the Junior Campus at 6.00pm. This informal evening gives parents the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and ask any questions they may have about their child's schooling.*

*Staff will also discuss with students and their families how to prepare for secondary schooling and provide strategies for success. Parents will be given strategies on how to best support their child including motivation techniques, stress management, common issues and how to overcome them, information about good study habits and the difference between homework and study.*

**Year 8 & 9 Student Success Evening**

6.00pm Junior Campus

Monday 22 February

**Labour Day Public Holiday (school closed)**

Monday 8 March

**Staff Professional Development Day (student free day)**

Tuesday 9 March

To view a full calendar, please click [here](#).



# New Bell Times 2021

Please note the new bell times for 2021 in the attachment below. The College Board has approved these changes to allow for longer and more meaningful Home Group sessions twice per week. Teachers will deliver lessons during Home Group relating to health and wellbeing, positive behaviours and respectful relationships.

School buses will run according to these new bell times.



Bell Times 2021.pdf





# Reading at VUSC

## **Information for parents and guardians of Years 7-9 students who are new to our College**

Year 7-9 students at VUSC take part in reading for 10 minutes at the beginning of every lesson in all subjects except Mathematics. All teachers ensure students are engaged in the reading of fiction or non-fiction texts during this time. Our Enhanced Literacy teachers will specifically support students in selecting 'Just Right books'; books which are just challenging enough for your child. They will discover the types of books, fiction and non-fiction, which interest students and ensure that students have access to these.

There are also class texts which students will be expected to read in preparation for English classes. English teachers will set specific tasks on these set texts.

In Term 1, students will be studying the following texts:

- Year 7 students are starting with *The Midnight Zoo*
- Year 8 will be studying the film *The Giver*, but will also have short dystopian texts to analyse.
- Year 9 will be studying *Homeland Calling*, and Year 9 Deep Learning will be studying *Macbeth*.

You can encourage your children to read these texts, in addition to their own reading selections.

## What is Enhanced Literacy?

**Students will be working in the following four streams in their Enhanced Literacy classes:**

- Enhanced Literacy (The majority of students will be in the standard Enhanced Literacy classes)
- English as an Additional Language (Students who have moved from another country to Australia and have been enrolled in an Australian school for 7 or less years/International students who need additional support to improve their reading skills)
- Literature (This class is targeted at students who are above their reading level)
- Multi Literacy (This program is targeted at students who need additional support in reading, so they can establish skills at their expected level).

Literacy Enhancement classes have one reading lesson per fortnight in the library which is focused on building students' reading comprehension skills, and growing their awareness of the range of books/genres available to them. Teachers will also use these sessions to track the reading progress of their students through their reading/writing journals.

The learning focus in Literacy Enhancement is on expanding vocabulary and improving reading comprehension. This is a year long course. Students will learn the skills that are demanded in reading, comprehending and responding to texts; this may be a mini lesson or a number of lessons depending on the area of learning. Critical reading strategies will also be explicitly taught with a variety of texts from a variety of genres, both fictional and non-fictional, so that students are well equipped to read and understand any type of text, in readiness for senior school and their future pathway.

**How can parents support their children at home?**

Students are expected to read for at least half an hour each night, and they can choose the books they read as long as they have selected a 'Just Right Book'; a book which is of interest and appropriately challenging to the student's reading level. As previously mentioned, they will also need time at home to read the class texts set for English.

Students will also participate in the *Premier's Reading Challenge*, a state-wide challenge which asks students to read a range of books throughout the year. Students will be asked to read the following amounts of books (many students will read more) throughout the year to complete the Reading Challenge:

- Year 7 - 15 books

- Year 8 - 18 books
- Year 9 - 20 books

Booklists and more information can be found at:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/default.aspx?Redirect=2>

Our librarian, Mr Kelvin Gallagher, will communicate with parents when it is time to enroll for the Premier's Reading Challenge. This usually occurs in March.

### **What are the benefits of reading?**

Students who read:

- Less than 1 min/day read 8,000 words/year
- 4.6 mins/day read 282,000 words/year
- 20 mins/day read 1.8 million words/year

Students who read more than 20 minutes a day have a greater chance of accessing learning across all subject areas, and successfully developing as academic learners. The words and ideas encountered when reading become background knowledge for other subjects.

Questions about Literacy Enhancement can be forwarded to Ms Athena Vass, Literacy leader at [athena.vass@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:athena.vass@education.vic.gov.au).



# Athlete Development Program

The Athlete Development Program is for those students who play regular competitive sport.

It provides students the opportunity to improve their physical fitness and sporting skills through a year long sports development program. The program includes topics such as goal setting, time management and nutrition to better equip student athletes with the tools they require to reach their full potential.

Program hours are as follows:

**Junior Campus - Tuesday 7:30am to 8:30am & Thursday 7:30am to 8:30am**

**Senior Campus - Tuesday 3:15pm to 4:15pm & Friday 7:30am to 8:30am**

The program costs **\$100 for new students** and **\$40 for those students who were part of the program in 2020**. The cost will include:

- Training top
- Training shorts (additional \$15 or students may wear their own black shorts)
- Individualised yoga mat and drink bottle
- Opportunity to engage with elite athletes and sporting professionals



- Access to the college's gymnasium including weights, boxing and circuit rooms
- Ticket to end of year sports presentation night.

If this sounds something you are interested in please join the training sessions at your respective campus. There will be a free trial period until **Friday 26th February**. To provide a COVID safe environment please make sure to bring a drink bottle and a towel.

Regards,

Mr. Singh & Mr. Adam



# Doctors in Schools is back

## Doctors in Schools returns 8th February

Dr Bal and Nurse Jess from IPC Health will be visiting the Senior Campus each Monday from 10am until 2pm from Monday 8th February.

Unfortunately no walk-ins are allowed until further notice due to density limits.

Students may make an appointment via Kim - her office is next to the Campus Principal's office (Ms Atzarakis). Alternatively, you can email [kimberley.charles@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kimberley.charles@education.vic.gov.au) or



let your teacher know that you would like to make an appointment with the doctor.

COVID safe practices will take place such as temperature checks upon arrival and a number of questions at the door prior to your appointment. Please bring your face mask!

Appointment times are available as follows each Monday:

Appointment 1 - Period 2 - 10:30am - 11:30am

Appointment 2 - Lunch - 11:35am - 12:15pm

Appointment 3 - Period 3 - 12:30pm - 1:30pm



Doctors in schools poster.pdf





# Scholarships available now

Students in years 4 to 12 can now apply for a share of scholarship funding from a range of philanthropic organisations.

More than 140 scholarships, ranging in value from \$600 to \$30,000, are available to Year 12 students undertaking further study in 2020. Recipients are able to use their scholarships to pay for iPads/computers, tertiary fees, and accommodation.

More than 100 scholarships, ranging in value from \$300 to \$1000, are available to students in years 4 to 11. Previous recipients have used their scholarships to purchase textbooks, school uniforms, and computers.

## **Apply for scholarships**

Applications for all scholarships are now open.

To explore the scholarships available and for information on how to apply, see: [Student scholarships](#)

Students are encouraged to identify and apply for all scholarships where they meet the criteria. **Applications close 28th February 2021.**



# eSafety's free webinar series

## Safer Internet Day is Tuesday 9th February

As part of our school's eSmart accreditation WE ARE eSMART we always maintain a continuous focus on teaching and encouraging our students to enact positive, respectful and responsible online behaviours. The link below takes you to some free webinars for parents that explore the latest research about how you can help your child develop the skills to be safer online.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

The Term 1 webinar topic is eSafety's guide to cyberbullying and online drama. This will be offered five times over the term.

Attached is eSafety's 2021 webinar schedule and information on how to register.



eSafety Webinar series - Schedule 2021.pdf



# Community and Wellbeing News

## Tuning in to Teens

Brimbank Youth Services are running a free program for parents and carers of young people aged 10 to 18 years old. Their seven-week Tuning in to Teens program teaches parents how to help their teen develop emotional intelligence.

### Register your interest now for Term 1

When: Wednesdays 6-8pm, 10 February—24 March 2021

Where: Online via Zoom

For more information: <https://brimbankyouth.com/programs/tuning-in-to-teens/>



Tuning in to Teens flyer.pdf

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## Happy 2021 from the Student Wellbeing Team

***Student Wellbeing are here for the students to empower and inspire them to create their own “future, their communities' future and the global future” (VUSC Vision).***

Happy 2021 – it's the International Year of Peace and Trust, a time to:

- *Acknowledge* that peace and trust entail accepting differences and having the ability to listen to, recognize, respect and appreciate others, as well as living in a peaceful and united way;
- *Recognise also* that peace not only is the absence of conflict, but also requires a positive, dynamic participatory process where dialogue is encouraged and conflicts are resolved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.

For all of us, let's hope that 2021 also gives us all a renewed sense of inner peace (peace of mind, serenity and calmness, often attributed to self-love and acceptance). Our team have put together just some of the resources that you and your families may want to look at, with suggestions about strategies to create and maintain **inner peace**:



Inner Peace activities and resources for 2021.pdf

## Student Wellbeing

At Victoria University Secondary College, we believe that students are best able to engage in their education and meet their life goals when they are feeling safe and supported. All staff are committed to each and every students' health and wellbeing.

The college is also committed to providing students with access to targeted Student Wellbeing services.

## Student Wellbeing Team members

- |                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Randa Flifel     | Student Engagement Coordinator  |
| • Gail Inniss      | Student Wellbeing Manager       |
| • Harry Lee        | Youth Worker (Junior Campus)    |
| • Peter Otchere    | Youth Worker (Senior Campus)    |
| • Mary Papaioannou | Student Wellbeing Administrator |

Our team is passionate about youth reform and student advocacy. Students may access qualified counsellors/social workers in our Student Wellbeing Team through family, teacher, or self-referrals. There is a designated Student Wellbeing room at our Junior and Senior campuses. These rooms are open every day before and after school and during lunchtime and recess. More information about the [support services](#) offered by our team is available at our College website.

We look forward to working with you and the students.

**Student Wellbeing Team**





# Parenting Ideas

## Our school is a Parenting Ideas School

Parenting Ideas was founded by Michael Grose, author of nine parenting books and parenting educator to over 1500 Australian schools.

Parenting Ideas features up-to-date research, timely advice and inspiration, providing parenting strategies on everything from sibling rivalry, teen health and creating resilience in kids, for children of all ages.

Parents and guardians can view articles published regularly on this page and access free webinar vouchers valued at \$39.



Being an askable parent.pdf



The power of sorry.pdf



Modelling self-kindness.pdf



Managing the mother load.pdf



Building deep emotional connections with kids.pdf



Webinar Voucher 24 March - Communication with Teenage Boys.pdf



Webinar Voucher 23 June - Connecting with Teenage Daughters.pdf



# Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities for their child.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$225 for eligible secondary school students . Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please visit the school office with your concession card and ask for an application form. The concession card must list your child's name.

You can find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.