

The Somerville Source

News from Somerville Secondary College



FEBRUARY 18TH 2020: # 01

Contents

Acting Principal Report	1-2
Acting Assistant Principal Report	2
Admin Matters	3
Love Your Library!	4
Student Wellbeing	5
Year 7 Camp 2020!	6-7
Community Messages	8

Welcome back to Term 1. We have already seen a busy start to the year, holding our first whole school assembly, sending the Year 7's off on their first high school camp, students starting their VET and SBAT certificates and preparing for our 2020 Swimming Carnival. We won't be taking our foot off the pedal any time soon as we continue to focus on our learning.

This term we have welcomed six new staff members and feel very lucky to be able learn from them and I encourage you to introduce yourself to them as the opportunity arises. Please join me in welcoming: Mr Doug Pumpa - Ms Melodie Moltzen - Ms Marion Geary - Dr Alexandra Watkins-Dawson - Mr Sam Hu - Mr Zach Cuthbert.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind our community that I will continue to be Acting Principal until the end of Term 1, with Doug Pumpa ably assisting me as Acting Assistant Principal. If you have any questions regarding the Leadership of the college, please do not hesitate to contact me.

FOCUS ON LEARNING

At Somerville Secondary we have a relentless focus on learning. We expect our teachers to plan engaging lessons which ensure that the students are fully aware of what it is they are learning and whether they are successful. In order to support our students learn we must create the right conditions for learning. As a parent/carer you can support us with this by ensuring that your child has the correct equipment, textbooks, diary, lock etc. and also reminding your child to place their phone in their locker as soon as they come to school. This will aid your child to focus on their learning without distraction and also encourage them to speak to others over recess and lunch. We are already enjoying seeing more students engaged in conversation and developing healthy social skills.

Dates To Remember



Wednesday 20th February
Access Monash Mentoring Induction

Monday 24th February
2020 Swimming Carnival Whole School

Tuesday 25th February
Senior Sport

Thursday 5th March
Southern Peninsula Division Swimming

Monday 11th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 12th March- Friday
Wellbeing Week

Wednesday 13th March
Immunisation for Years 7 & 10

Thursday 14th March
Year 8 Sport

ATTENDANCE

It is so important for our students to have a positive start to the school year and build great habits. We value education and as such want every student here every day so that they can achieve their personal best.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day—missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important; We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with falling behind in subject topics and assessment tasks, and lead to fewer subject choices and may impact on achievement in years 11 and 12. (DET)

UNIFORM

Thank you to all of our students who regularly wear our college uniform with pride. It makes me extremely proud to see our students represent our school so well. It is important to also say thank you to our families who support us by washing uniforms and reminding their children to make great decisions before they leave the house.

Please could we ask that parents continue to provide black, traditional school shoes for your child and remind them that they should be wearing a college jumper to school. If you are experiencing some difficulties purchasing uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the college so that we can support you and your child.

(Continued over page.)

Principal Report (Continued)

(From front page.)

Annual privacy reminder

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](#) (CTRL + Click)

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website (http://www.somervillesc.vic.edu.au/images/PDFs/2020/Collection_Statement-secondary_school.pdf

(CTRL + Click)

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

This information also available in nine community languages.

College Board Elections

I would like to publicly thank our 2019/ 2020 College Board for their support, commitment and time over the past year. We are now at a stage where we call for Parent Nominees. I would encourage you to seriously consider joining our College Board, connecting with the College in a different manner and sharing your thoughts about how we can support the needs of your students and make effective decisions as a board. Please see the Information Brochure attached to the Newsletter for further information and collect Nomination Forms from the School Office.

We have the following positions vacant:

Parent member: 4 positions for term of office 2020/2022

The timeline for election has been set as:

All Nomination Forms to be in at the College Office by 4pm on 28th February.

The ballot will remain open until 4pm 11th March.

Katie Johnson

Acting Principal

Acting Assistant Principal Report

What a wonderful start it has been to 2020. It's been fantastic to meet all the students, families and staff at Somerville SC and a huge thank you to everyone for making me feel welcome in my new role as Acting Assistant Principal this term. I'm excited to bring my experiences to this new role but also to learn as much as I can while at SSC. I've already learnt heaps.

The staff at SSC have done an amazing job setting up classes for 2020. As a school we've been focusing on creating an environment that best supports all students across the school. Staff have been working together to make sure classrooms are setup as structured places of learning.

A big focus this year is on ensuring all students know what they are learning and why. And, it's been awesome over the first 3 weeks to be able to walk into classrooms and see teachers and students talking about their learning intentions and success criteria for every subject.

One highlight so far has been all the great conversations I've had with many students, hearing about their hobbies and interests. Another was attending year 7 camp (even if only for a few hours); great to see all their smiling faces, the fun they were having at camp and also how well all the year 7 students have settled into secondary school life.

Students (and parents alike), feel free to drop in, say hello and come and have a chat. If you need a starting topic, some of my favourites are sport, music and travel!

Looking forward to meeting more members of this wonderful community over the coming weeks.

Doug Pampa

Assistant Principal

Attendance Hotline. 59-731098

Somerville Secondary College values its partnership with Parents in providing your children with an education that will help them to move into successful careers and open the door for a range of opportunities. This success is dependent on a consistent attendance record. Missing out on assignments, support, problem solving and important information on subjects impacts on students and often it is difficult to catch up. We urge parents to also support us with attendance by ensuring that if there is reason that keeps your child at home, you contact the absence hotline on 59-731098 or email studentabsence@somerville.vic.edu.au

If the absence is for more than a couple of days, teachers can email work to your child to support them while they are away from school.



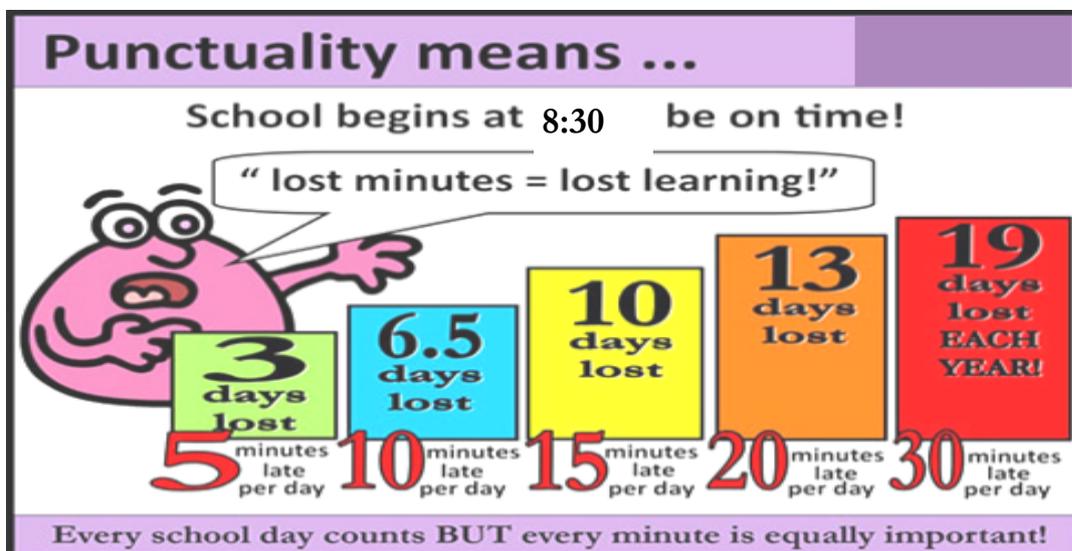
If you are unable to pay your College fees in full, we are more than happy to discuss the option of a payment plan. By doing this you can make regular payments (weekly, fortnightly or monthly) at a cost that is affordable to you. It is advisable that you sign up to a payment plan as soon as possible to ensure that your payments can be spread over a longer period of time, making them more affordable to you.

We have various options available:

1. Centrepay—If you receive a family allowance or pension payments from Centrelink every fortnight, you can elect to have an amount deducted from your payment. This payment will come to us every fortnight. There are no fees involved for you.
2. Credit/Debit Card—We will deduct the agreed amount through our EFTPOS facilities here at the College. All you need to do is provide your card number, expiry date and complete the Authority Form and we will do the rest.



If you would like to commence a payment plan, please feel free to call the College and speak with one of our Admin staff who can go through the options with you. Phone: 5973 1000



Love Your Library!

Welcome to 2020 and all the fiction that's fit to read!

I have just binge-watched a new Netflix series called 'Locke & Key'. It is based on a series of books which are based on a manga type cartoon series. The format is mature, while the story content is sort of PG. It all works well with this mix. Some parts were very dark, other parts were quite light-hearted. I guess the balance is what holds our interest.

Anyway - the books are coming to our Library very soon!

Welcome to all our Year 7 Students! They have been enjoying camp at San Remo - the weather rallied and there was a heap of fun things to do.

All our students from years 7 to 10 are in the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge for 2020. As Literacy / Numeracy is a continuing focus for our College. The Reading Challenge quest to read fifteen books between February and September is aligned with our expectations in reading.

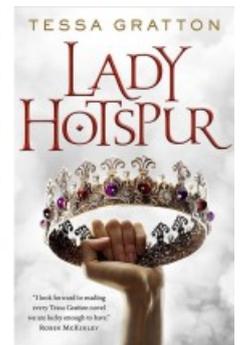
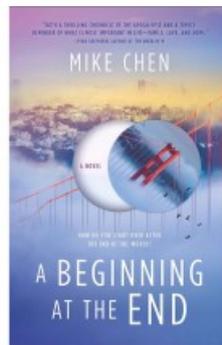
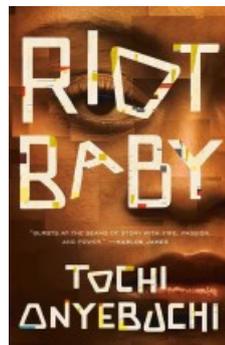
This number equates to three books a term and two in each holiday. This is an achievable goal for children and adolescents around the state and helps them experience success. I would like to reach out to all families and ask you support your children in this endeavor. Being comfortable and confident with Literacy and Numeracy in their school years will prove to be advantageous throughout their whole life.

Our Library looks a little different this year. All the computers have moved into the class next door to bring the Library back to a place where books live and flourish. Many students commented on the change and many have been in at recess and lunch to use it for quiet school work or one-on-one tutoring sessions with teachers. It feels academic in here again and there is a wonderful sense of calm about it all. (Very happy Library Manager!).

Until the next Newsletter - I encourage everyone to enjoy a good book!

Sue Curran

Library Manager



Student Wellbeing

Introduction to wellbeing team for 2020

Therese Hall- Wellbeing Coordinator (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Eryka Rhodes- School Counsellor (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and every second Monday)

Elicia Clarke- Mental Health Practitioner (Thursday)

Patrick Burn- Adolescent Health Nurse (Thursday and Friday)

The wellbeing office is located in building 3 where the wellbeing team are situated.

There is also a brand new wellbeing room in 3G.

Wellbeing weeks 2020

Term 1

2nd-3rd of March

Theme- Safe Environment

Term 2

18th-22nd of May

Theme- Careers

Term 3

17th-22nd August

Theme- Mental Health

Term 4

9th-14th of November

Theme- Physical and oral health

Rainbow Chat Room

Rainbow Chat Room will run on a Thursday at lunch time. This group is a safe space for all students. Within Rainbow Chat Room we share stories with one another, engage in fun activities, watch videos and organise wellbeing weeks. Anyone is welcome to join at any time, however all must follow the below guidelines which were put together by students:

Within Rainbow Chat Room we promise to:

- Listen to others
- Allow others to voice their opinions and thoughts
- Encourage others
- Keep it a safe and supportive space
- Keep it PG rated
- Engage in activities

10 Ways to Boost Your Energy Instantly

1. Stay Hydrated

Being dehydrated can lead to fatigue, crankiness, and foginess



2. Walk Around the Block

Even a short walk can get your endorphins flowing



3. Spend time in the Sun

A few minutes in the light can brighten your day



4. Sip Tea

For energy without a crash



5. Eat More Mini Meals

Eating good food frequently keeps your energy up



6. Take a Tech Break

A few minutes away from the gadgets can give you a boost



Patrick Burn | Secondary School Nurse | School Nursing Program |

Year 7 Camp 2020



...And here is what some of our Year 7 Students thought of their camp experience.

My two highlights are flying fox and San Remo because I felt like I was actually flying on the flying fox and San Remo because it was amazing seeing stingray and pelicans
From Lucas

My top favourite things at camp were...

Going on the giant swing and then watching Kobe go on it.

Going surfing on the first day then going on the night walk to the bowling place and watching Kobe win.

Going on the giant swing and shouting, making everyone laugh so much.

Playing 8 ball pool with a lot of my mates and most of the time I won.

Making a lot of new friends and making lots of memories.
From Jake

I was amazed how we were able to go to camp and have lots of fun at the activities and able to make some more friends I especially liked the giant swing. As soon as I pulled the rope that disconnected me so I could swing my stomach dropped and came back up then two swings in I let go and made myself go upside down. Same with the flying fox I went 'no hander' and upside down low ropes, disco, playing in the pool, playing pool, ping pong and also the delicious foods.
From Aaron

I don't think that I could put down only one highlight so I think I will put it down as a list:

Surfing - I absolutely loved Surfing and the waves were so great, even though there was little swell. It was a little awkward trying to carry the surfboards up the stairs it could not possibly taint the great experience.

Giant Swing -It wasn't one of the largest but it was still amazing especially because I went upside down no hands.

Night walks -They were so relaxing and it helped to reconnect with the environment.

Trampolines - The trampolines were made with a different material that is a bit more flexible due to this you bounce really high.

Low Ropes Course - I absolutely loved it as even though there are lots of Low Ropes Courses at different camps it isn't often that we get to do them and they are always fun.

Amazing Things - I loved all of the interesting things at Amazing Things though it would have been nice if we spent some more time inside instead of playing Mini Golf.
From Trenton.

SOMERVILLE MARKET

At St Andrews Church
Every 2nd Saturday of the month
(14th March)
8:30 am—12:30 pm

Support your local stallholders
Inquiries: 59776980 (Graeme)

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**

Reminder: **Crib Point Community Market** will be held on Saturday, March 14th
- 9am to 1pm

Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt for kids.

INDOOR & OUTDOOR STALLS , Devonshire teas, plants, candles, -bric-a-brac, & lots more.

Where: Crib Point Community House
7 Park Rd, Crib Point VIC 3919
New stall holders are welcome.

market@cpch.org.au