



**Emerald**  
Secondary College

Dear Parent / Guardian,

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, Year 9 students participated in the launch of the Connect Program for 2018. As the Connect Leader I had the privilege of providing an overview of the program to students and introduced our guest speaker Declan Fay, who entertained us with his stories and real life experiences.

The aim of the Connect Program is to develop connected, confident and resilient learners that, understand the 'real world', make the most of opportunities both within and outside school, engage with our community and experience the world of work.

The Connect Program also aims to improve the connection to school for Year 9 students by engaging students with activities that connect them to their community, increase awareness of future options and develop personal and social skills.

This year classes run every Tuesday periods 3 – 6. There are a number of themes that are covered during the year including 'Personal' knowing yourself, your strengths and challenges (term one), careers and the world of work (term 2 which includes participating in mock interviews), community group projects (terms 3 and 4). Participation in our City Experience program will occur on 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August

Further information will be provided concerning specific events and excursions throughout the year. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in Workplace visits, 'Try a Trade', Lysterfield Park, and Mock Interviews during semester one. Parental consent must be given for students to attend these events. Please ensure that your contact details, including email address are up to date so that information can reach you promptly.

The cost of the Connect Program is \$165. Parents are provided with a number of payment options, please refer to accounts department at the college for details. Costs associated with the program cover all student excursions, incursions, guest speakers, city experience and other activities. This one off payment ensures that parents are not asked for fees connected to this program during the year.

Thank you to those parents who have already paid the Connect Program fee. If you have not paid please do so as soon as possible to ensure your child's full participation in this program. The college's expectation is that all Year 9 students participate fully in the program

To keep up with Connect photos and reports, please 'like' the Emerald Secondary College Facebook page. There you will find photos of the many Connect activities that will take place throughout the year, including our launch on Tuesday. Information will also be provided regularly in the college newsletter.

Feel free to contact me should you have any queries regarding the Connect Program. I can be contacted on 59685388 or feel free to email me on [Mosca.franca.f@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Mosca.franca.f@edumail.vic.gov.au). Emails will be responded to promptly.

Franca Mosca  
Connect Leader

Jodie Doble  
Principal