Principal’s Report
Futures Options Expo:
Current Yr 9, Yr 10 and Yr 9 SEAL:
On Monday this week we held our annual Careers Pathways and Electives information night. The College provides a series of supports and information to ensure that each student choose a course for their future that matches their interests and intended career pathway.

During the evening, the information sessions were well attended with parents and students having access to the Expo in S Block where they could access further specific subject, tertiary and vocational information.

The Year 10 and VCE Handbook was made available for student and parent use.

This year we also ran a presentation to all SEAL students and parents. The feedback we have received from our community has been very positive.

I would like to encourage any students or families who missed the event to contact Mr Smith or Ms Alder in regards to the Course Counselling, or Ms McMahon in regards to the SEAL pathways.

Note: Any student considering the VCAL Pathways course should book an interview with Mr Closter and must bring along a completed VCAL Pathways Application in addition to their Subject Selection form.


In this handbook there is information about the Emerald Secondary College and Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority Policy, outlining the different Senior School courses and studies.

Information related to the specific year levels involved in this Expo and presentation was emailed on 19th July to parents. Please refer to that email for more upcoming timelines.

MP’s visit:
This week I have had discussions with Brad Battin to address the safety of our students travelling to and from the College based on parent feedback.

The main focus of this has been on improving the ‘40’ school zone signs to make them more visible.

We also held discussions about reviewing bus transport from the Pakenham/Upper Pakenham areas.

Building Update:
The schematics for the new building have now been finalised and are awaiting approval with the Department of Education. Once this stage has been passed, I will share with the whole community the designs for feedback.

The new designs include the Inclusion Hub, renovations to our technology space, and an internal cafeteria for all our students to use before school, at recess and at lunchtime.

Out of Uniform Day:
On Friday July 22nd we held a free dress day organised by the SRC. The theme for the day was “Footy Colours”. Students were asked to wear something that reflected their footy team ie: jumpers, beanies, scarves.

The money raised from this day will go to the Fight Cancer Foundation.

Students were asked to bring a gold coin donation to support this very worthy cause. We raised $661 which will be sent to help fight the fight against Cancer.

Jodie Doble
Principal
14G VISIT TO QUANTUM:
14G went to Quantum Victoria and were exceptional. They participated in several problem solving activities, which ended in them saving the world from a pandemic. Excellent work 14G, you were a credit to the school. Thanks to Heike Reich for accompanying us as well.  

Jacqui Lee Maths Domain Leader

“For me and the rest of 14G to have the opportunity to visit Quantum was an extraordinary experience. When you hear you’re going on a Maths excursion you don’t expect it to be as fun and engaging as I found this to be. We did activities like use DNA to solve codes and looked at how DNA relates to viruses, pandemics and even storing information like we do online. My favourite part of the day was when we got to solve codes using a cube and its relation to colour, speed and light, we dressed up in some hilarious blue body suits and worked in teams to solve a virus… it was a weird day but amazing all the same”. –Leah Edwards 14G
INCLUSION NEWS!!!
We, in Inclusion, have been very busy looking at best practice and how we can have a direct impact on improving student achievement, engagement and wellbeing. Throughout term two and during the school holidays I visited a number of schools both in Victoria and overseas and attended an array of professional development sessions to enable me to identify with and develop opportunities to maximize student growth.

As a result we have developed a much more streamlined approach to providing students with a personalised Education and Learning plan that is unique to each child. We will be providing Structured Targeted Intervention programs to support our Inclusion students with their Numeracy and Literacy as well as their individual learning needs.

During the month of August, students who do not take part in Japanese classes will be taking part in a Month of Mathletics which is a fun and exciting online learning tool to support students as they work their way through maths puzzles.

The Mathletics program will be ideal for our Inclusion students as it provides structured tasks suitable to each individual level from foundation to Year 12 and will also give us an opportunity to assess their data in order to identify the impact programs like this has.

Each month we intend to focus on a particular area to support the overall learning of our Inclusion students. Our next month will take on a Literacy focus while the next might focus on social and emotional wellbeing.

Each of our targeted sessions, run in conjunction with the Teacher Aide and the Inclusion Leader will maximize the opportunity for the students to achieve growth across many of their subjects.

Homework, for our Inclusion students, will be given on an individualized basis. What this means is that the classroom teacher, along with the Teacher Aide, Inclusion Leader or PSD Coordinator, will ensure that any homework that is given is appropriate for the student and that it is achievable.

We are very aware that homework is very difficult for some of our funded and non-funded students so each student will be treated individually so that they can access the quality education that they deserve.

We believe that these slight adjustments made in or department will assist in the growth of our students’ achievement, engagement and wellbeing and will provide avenues for further improved outcomes in the future.

If you would like any further details or clarification please do not hesitate in contacting me at the College.

Tanya Ryder-Barnes Inclusion Leader

Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians:
In term 2, 9 of our students completed a 3 week set of challenge problems organised by the Australian Mathematics Trust. They were competing with students from all around the country. Our students should be commended as they did the challenge while mostly maintaining excellent growth in their normal maths classes as well.

All students did well. The students achieving a Participation Certificate were:
Emma Crosher (Yr 9), Sean Duguid, Rebecca Graham, Kim Dovan, Jay Williams and James Mann (all Yr 10).

Pictured below are Magnus Bock, Georgia Robinson and James Laverne-Cadby (all Yr 9) who achieved a Credit in the competition. Also pictured is Bailey McCracken, our Year 12 Maths Leader who presented the certificates at the Whole School Assembly.

In term 3 all the students have been joined by several more students (from years 7, 9 and 10), and are competing in a 16 Week Challenge. Good luck to them all. Jacqui Lee - Maths Domain Leader
Science Expo Week at ESC  18 July – 22 July:

Our annual Science Expo was held last week and it showcased elements of all four sciences - Chemistry, Biology, Psychology and Physics. It also saw the launch of a new STEM Robotics and Electronics Club that runs every Friday at lunchtime in E2.

Students participated in many different activities that they may experience as part of their VCE Studies. These included genetic mutation lolly hunt, rockets, reaction balloons and optical illusions. The students who engaged with the sessions had a great time and learned about what to expect to experience in their VCE studies.

Course selection is happening soon so make sure you keep senior sciences in mind.

**Brad Gibbs – Science Domain Leader**
Bookings can be made at the My Place Youth Facility
5-7 Main Street, Pakenham
or contact Council’s Youth Services team on 1800 4 YOUTH

2016 Portsea Camp

It’s here! If your aged 13-16 years call or drop into My Place Youth Facility to secure your place.

Date: Monday 19 to Friday 23 September
Cost: $130 (includes transport and all meals)
Depart: My Place 11.30am on Monday 19 September
Return: My Place 12 noon on Friday 23 September

Check out some of the awesome things to do at camp:
• high ropes
• flying fox
• giant swing
• boating

and so much more ...

Parents/carers will be required to attend an information night on Monday 5 September from 5.30pm – 6.30pm at My Place Youth Facility.

Details available on our website www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/youth
Don’t let finance or transport be a barrier – call for more details.

Bookings can be made at the My Place Youth Facility
5-7 Main Street, Pakenham
or contact Council’s Youth Services team on 1800 4 YOUTH

THE PORTSEA CAMP

Cardinia