# Principal’s Report

## Our Vision
There is a prosperous path for every child. Each journey is theirs to lead. There is a place in which every child can shine.

## Our Mission
Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.

## Our Habits
- Be Proactive: You’re in charge
- Begin With The End in Mind: Have a plan
- Put First Things First: Work first then play
- Think Win-Win: Everyone can win
- Seek First to Understand Then to Be Understood: Listen before you talk
- Synergise: Together is better
- Sharpen the Saw: Balance feels best

## Our Motto
Always Moving Forward

# Welcome Back
It is great to be back at school after the long summer break. The students have settled in well and have been busy creating personal and class goals for the term. They have developed class mission statements and been revising the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.

## New Staff
As our student enrolments continue to increase we have recruited additional new and dynamic educators. Each year the staff becomes more focussed on inspiring the students to achieve their goals and to realise their potential socially, emotionally and academically. Our new teachers are working in the following roles across the school:
- Grade 1: Monique Smith
- Grade 3: Shannon Gallagher
- Grade 4: Rick Milsom
- Visual Arts: Sarah Kardos
- Japanese: Rachael Ellis
- Integration Aides: Andrew Rogerson, Vivia Maurice, Marcel Syrett, Melissa Cox, Kathryn Vaughan-Niven and Paula Milla.

# Mathematics Priority
This year improving student learning in Mathematics is our priority. The staff participated in extensive professional learning over the holidays with Maths expert Michael Ymer. Michael has been hired to work with us throughout the year to develop every teacher as a Mathematics specialist. Our Leading Teacher Teena Muscat is our fulltime Teaching and Learning coach. Caleb Peterson our Assistant Principal is managing the professional development program, working with Teena and Michael to maximise student growth in Mathematics.

## Compass
Our online communication system has been updated and now live. This year the staff will limit emails to parents. Parents will only receive email alerts pertaining to notices requiring parental permission and/or payment for activities. All other notifications and information will be posted on Compass and will be visible when logged in. I would encourage everyone to check Compass at least once a week to remain up-to-date with what is going on in the classroom and across the school.

## Important Dates in Term 1
Late in December a list of Term 1 dates was provided to our Prep parents and posted on Compass. That list is now out-dated as a number of changes have been made. Please check Compass posts and calendar for the latest information.

# Assemblies
Whole-school student-led assemblies will be held on Fridays at 9am in Term 1 weather permitting.

# Family Picnic and Games Night
Everyone is invited to our annual Picnic and Games Night this Friday Feb 5th 6:00-8:00pm. The picnic provides opportunity for our new families to meet the wider school community. It is a BYO event (food, beverages and chairs), though sausages, icy-poles and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Whilst the children play games a local band will provide some light entertainment.

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

| FEBRUARY | 5th | 9am - Whole school assembly | 9.30-10.30am Parent information session | 6-8pm Family Picnic |
| 8th | Meet & Share (parents & teachers) |
| 9th | 6.30-7.30pm School Council Subcommittee meeting |
| 10th | No Prep classes due to 1:1 testing |
| 12th | 9am Whole school assembly | 9.30-10.30am Parent information session |
| 16th | 7.30pm - School Council meeting |
| 17th | No Prep classes due to 1:1 testing |
| 19th | 9am Whole school assembly | 9.30am Morning Tea for parents |
| 22nd | Grade 6 Camp (returning Fri Feb 26) |
| 24th | No Prep classes due to 1:1 testing |
| 26th | 9am Whole school assembly | 12-3pm Leadership Day/Leader In Me showcase |

| MARCH | 4th | 9am Whole school assembly | 9.30-10.30am Parent information session |
| 8th | 6.30-7.30pm School Council meeting | 7.30-8.30pm Parent information session |
| 11th | 9am Whole school assembly | 9.30-10.30am Parent information session |
| 14th | LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY |
Principal’s Report continued ...

Bomb Hoaxes
You may have read in recent news that since students returned to school there has been a wide range of hoax phone calls being made to a seemingly random number of schools in New South Wales, Victoria and Canberra. In each case the school has received a threatening phone call. Although all cases have been a hoax and police are doing the best they can to find those responsible, we are not under estimating the psychological effect that such callous and unnecessary actions can have on the minds of a school community, especially our students.

We would like to take this opportunity to assure parents that we have an emergency management plan in place for such a situation. If the unlikely should occur, students will be assembled on the oval, the authorities will be notified and we will send an e-mail and sms through Compass to inform parents of the situation.

In regards to our communication with students, if such a situation was to occur, we intend to minimise what we tell the students and allow parents to explain as much details as they feel is suitable for their child.

Our thoughts go out to all those effected in our broader education community.

Parent Information and Coffee Sessions
Straight after some Friday assemblies information sessions will be held in the staff room. This will be an opportunity to learn about school processes and priorities in an informal and welcoming atmosphere. Some meetings will be held offsite at Oscar’s Hangout. Our first session will be this Friday Feb 5th and the topic will be Compass. Reminders will be announced at assemblies.

Parent and Teacher Meetings (Meet and Greet)
Appointments to meet with teachers on Monday Feb 15th can be made on Compass. This will be a time to share information about your child with his or her new teacher

Traffic and Parking
I encourage drivers to take extreme care when navigating vehicles around the school at drop-off and pick-up times. Parking across local residents’ driveways is not permitted at any time. There are ample parking spaces in surrounding streets. As in most inner-suburban schools the streets do become congested. By parking the car 100 - 200 metres away from the school gate and walking the children from the car into the school eases congestion and fosters a calmer experience for all.

Lunchtime Clubs
This week nine teacher-led clubs commenced. The aim is to provide a wide-range of students the opportunity to engage in activities they are passionate about during their break time. Through the Working in Your Element (electives) program and Lunchtime Clubs we are aiming to increase students’ sense of engage and connectedness to the school. We currently have: Japanese; Calm Activities; Art; Computer Gaming; PE; Lego; Chess; Scrapbooking and Glee Club.

School Council and Sub-committees
On Friday Feb 5th the nomination process and an invitation to join sub-committees will be posted on Compass. It would be great to have more parents involved in the Parktone Social Group this year.

Class Representatives
Each year we invite a parent from each class to be a parent rep. If you would like to volunteer please voice your expression of interest to your child’s teacher by the end of next week. Designated reps will be announced shortly after and a more detailed guideline will be provided. Being a rep basically involves:
- Collating a parent contact list and distributing it to parents across the wider grade level e.g. to all the Grade Ones. This list assists parents when organising play-dates.
- Organising one or two social events throughout the year e.g. coffee at a café, a meal at a local venue, so parents may get to know each other better in a social and casual environment.

Our Mindset for the Week
Effective teachers give students a ‘voice’ in their classrooms. Such teachers invite students to talk about what makes learning difficult, what diminishes their motivation, makes them give up, or settle for a minimum effort position. They expose students to an atmosphere of hope.

Kind Regards,

George Danson

Have a great week everyone.

George Danson
Hi Everyone welcome back we hope you had an enjoyable break.

We have a new Menu for Term 1 with a few changes to the Special Day Orders,
Mondays: Sushi is back for this term. Tuesdays; Egg and Bacon Rolls. Wednesdays; Our famous Chicken Tender Wraps with Lettuce and Mayo. Thursdays; We’ve kept Dim Sims as they are a favourite and Fridays will still be our Hot Dog Day.

Fee Free Fridays

Don’t forget to register for On-line ordering at My School Tuck shop.

Due to the changes in the timetable and Lunch now being 30mins earlier all Friday Orders will need to be placed via My School Tuck Shop on-line. It’s the possessing of the cash that takes the longest time and we want to have the lunches ready on time.

We are covering the .33c fee for Friday orders so if you do a direct deposit it will not cost you any extra to place your Friday orders online and bags are included. Give it a go!!
COMMUNITY LINKS

Don’t forget to look at the Community Links section of the Newsletter for some ideas on after school activities for your children. There is always lots of great information on these pages so make sure and have a look.
School Sport Victoria Team Vic Online Registration Process

12 Years and Under

Registration to trial for most SSV 12 Years and Under Team Vic teams to compete in School Sport Australia Championships is done through an online process managed by the School Sport Unit.

Historically, the exceptions are Australian Football, Netball, Soccer and Basketball due to the large number of students that start the trial process in these sports. These sports have traditionally started with nominations through their schools to enable attendance at District trials as the first step. If selected they proceed through to the next stage being Division trials. If selected at Division level a student will move through to Region trials except for basketball where a conference trial is held; and finally a State trial for possible selection in a Team Vic team.

After 18 months of consultation and planning with Region Coordinators and Sport Coordinators across the State, SSV has decided to change the process. Two changes have been made;

1. District trials will no longer be held

2. SSV is implementing an online registration process for the four sports mentioned above across the State from 2016. This is being done for the following reasons;

   • It will ensure all 12 Years and Under registrations to trial are done the same way.

   • It will ensure that regardless of where a child is and in what sector, primary or secondary, the process will be fair and equitable.

   • It will reduce the cost of running trials, allowing District Coordinators to redirect their funds to school based sports that increase participation at a local level.

   • It will ensure the trial process attracts only students capable of performing at a high standard and move away from a ‘come and try’ opportunity.

The Online Registration process will open on Jan 25 and close on March 16 2016

Please be aware of the following;

1. On the SSV website it has been made clear that students need to consult with their Sport Teacher at school to ensure they have the skill level to trial and represent their school.

2. It is imperative that teachers will decide on your child’s capability of representing their school at a state level trial.
3. This discussion with the school Sport Teacher is necessary as all students MUST get the Sport Teacher / Coordinator and Principal signature on their registration form prior to attending a trial.

4. Registration is a NON-REFUNDABLE $25 fee. This fee will be for the cost of hosting the trial and subsequent expenses as well as an administration fee.

5. This Registration is a registration for a Division trial. Confirmation to attend a trial will occur after registration.

6. Once registered, you will receive an email confirming payment and a bar-coded ticket through Eventbrite (the supplier of the registration process software) which will require a Sport Teacher’s signature and the Principal’s signature. This ticket must be handed in to the Division Trial Coordinator on the day.

7. Once registration for Division trials close on March 16 2016, Division Coordinators will email the registered participants and inform them of the time and place of their trial.

Please go to the respective sports - Australian Football, Basketball, Football (Soccer) & Netball - via the Team Vic page of the SSV website for more information on final State dates.

If you require any further information about this process, please contact your school Sports Coordinator / Teacher.

Regards

Jude Maguire
Chief Executive Officer
School Sport Victoria
We are very excited to introduce our new House Coloured Sport T-Shirts which can now be purchased at the PSW store in Cheltenham. Like, with our existing sport t-shirts students are asked to wear them for their weekly PE session and on special sport days such as Athletics Day.

Please do not feel that you must purchase one straight away this is just a courtesy letter to let you know that the design has changed and are available whenever your child grows out of their existing one or you need to get another one.

Thanks,

Teena Muscat