



Thomastown Secondary College

NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 2017

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Celebration Day Oct 19

Yr12 Fancy Dress Oct 23

Yr7 Information Night Nov 9

Yr 7-10 Camp Nov 20-24

Student Report Day Dec 18

2018 Book Collection Jan 25

College Principals Report



Leonie White
Principal

Is it hard to believe that we are already planning transition to 2018. Although we have a final term to complete, our VCE Year 12 students have already commenced their practice exams and are revising for their final exams. Our Year 10 and Year 11 students are making final choices for their VCE subject selection and often with a clear career goal in mind. We understand that these events can create concern for our young people and can also impact on families. Please remember we have a range of support professionals available to talk with you or your son or daughter to help and advise when this happens. This includes, of course, your Home Group teacher, our Student Welfare, Careers

and Special Needs Coordinators and Year Level Coordinators at VCE. If you should have any concerns at all about the decisions being made regarding subject choice or career plans, please contact one of these people to make an appointment.

This year has seen the College continue to build strategic and reciprocal relationships with The University of Melbourne, Latrobe University, our local TAFE colleges, other secondary schools, a range of businesses as well as a number of community agencies. Sometimes it is hard to believe how much our young people do in addition to their classroom work. The University of Melbourne offers a Master of Education at the College in the evenings for teachers and also coordinates our regular astronomy night. Using our newly acquired telescope, students have enjoyed a number of exciting and rewarding evenings studying the universe and observing activities in our galaxy. There are more details about this further on in the newsletter.

Our partnership with RMIT has resulted in a number of our students taking up further study with them this year and current students becoming involved in extended programs during the year. Our new partnership with Latrobe University will see our students involved in a range of extended science and technology learnings both at the College and the university campus. These programs will enrich our current program and complement the exciting work that will become available to students when our new Tech School opens on the Epping Melbourne Polytechnic campus.

We are looking forward to welcoming our 2018 Year 7 students later in Term 4. I have now visited most of our local primary schools to gather all the information necessary to ensure a positive and exciting transition to secondary college. We have had visits from small groups of students this Term but will officially welcome all new Year 7 students on Orientation Day which is December 12th this year.

College Principal Report Continued....

Our student leaders are looking forward to welcoming them to the college and explaining the College expectations and range of opportunities.

If you have a child starting with us in 2018 you will have received a letter outlining the number of events at the College to welcome your child. These events are very important for our new students so please make sure the dates are marked on your calendar. Should you require an earlier opportunity to speak to me about your child individually please don't hesitate to

call and make an appointment. I would love the opportunity to meet with you.

As we move into Term 4 I'd like to encourage all parents to think about becoming actively involved at the College. Your contribution is both valued and important to your child's wellbeing. One way you can do this is through school council. Elections to school council are held at the start of each year so if you're interested in becoming involved, but are not completely clear about what your role and responsibilities will be, please make a time to

speak to me further. There is also training available if you would like to do this. You are welcome to attend meetings during Term 4 to see Council in action and speak to other parents about their role. We would love to have you involved in the important decisions being made for the College and our students.

Hopefully you will be able to spend extra time with your children over the vacation and we look forward to catching up with you early in Term 4.

Leonie White
Principal

“Thomastown has a long history of recognising the importance of pride in one's identity and respect for that of others.”

Interfaith Program

In 2016 Thomastown Secondary College was invited to join ALSaarar College and St Monica's College as part of their student leadership program Interfaith.

The program aims to bring together young people from different cultures, religions and beliefs and through a range of discussions on current events and social challenges build tolerance, respect and understanding.

Thomastown has a long history of recognising the importance of pride in one's identity and respect for that of others. With students from more than 30 different countries speaking more than 50 different languages it is important that culture, religion, and values are celebrated.

The choice of Individual Excellence at a core value supports respect for excellence across a wide range

of skills and attributes through acknowledgement and celebration. This invitation was therefore warmly accepted.

What follows is a reflection from the 2016 participants.

Leonie White
Principal

Interfaith Program - Student Reflection

You wouldn't think that we were all friends just by looking at all of us at the first glance. We're all laughing and expressing who we truly are as individuals. Most think that a group of Catholic, Muslim and secular school students would be far too focused on our differences to get along well. Most would also think that there couldn't possibly be anything that we had in common. In fact, we even surprised ourselves with how quickly we broke down the common misconceptions about each other and formed friendships. We celebrated what made all of us unique, culturally and religiously.



It wasn't entirely smooth sailing at first. Meeting with the students from both colleges was quite awkward. Upon reflection, we found that this was mainly due to the subconscious biases that were formed through media portrayal of certain cultures and faiths. We realised that what we see in the media – for example, how they portray minority groups – affected our opinions on each other even if they were unconscious. Interfaith really opened our eyes to the role that the media plays on the way we perceive each other and how majority of the time it is detrimental to our world.



One of the most memorable moments for a lot of the students was not only learning to accept ourselves and others in this world, but also learning to respect those who came before and paved the way for us. During one of our once a term visits, there was an activity that we participated in that really was just heart-moving and mind altering for all the participants. The activity was to lay down hundreds and hundreds of black matchsticks on a mat, in whatever pattern desired, as long as there was a beginning and an end. Pretty mystified at the start, we began to form all sorts of swirls and patterns. After all the matchsticks were laid down, we were then asked to put down nine white match sticks at the end of our creation. As confusing as it was at the time, what came next was profound (revelation). There, laying on the floor are probably thousands of black matchsticks and only nine white matchsticks at the end. There, laying on the floor was Australia's history, each black matchstick representing a generation of aboriginals and the nine white matchsticks representing a generation of the white man. This program really did stimu-

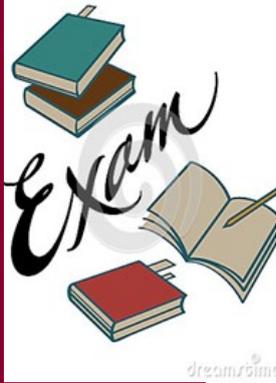
late thought and open our eyes because it really doesn't hit you until you see the bigger picture. We struggle to accept other cultures and yet we still have hardly acknowledged the culture that was here before us.



During the first session, a student questioned one of the supervising teacher saying what really is the point of this program. If we (the students) all got along, faced the same obstacles and had the same solutions then what really is the point of Interfaith? But this is the point exactly. Through this program we were undoubtedly able to grow in all spheres of our life. After each session, we saw the world in a better light. We went from having all the wrong misconceptions about each other to being able to celebrate ourselves as a coherent community. We are humans, we have the power of knowledge so we should use our power and educate youth that all the segregation portrayed in our society is meaningless. We will be the future so we should strive to make our future a better place. We should be proud of who we are and embrace the fact that we are all humans. After all we all bleed red.

“One of the most memorable moments for a lot of the students was not only learning to accept ourselves and others in this world, but also learning to respect those who came before and paved the way for us. “

***Lubna Dakakni
Luisa Taafua
Tiffany Nguyen
Belinda Talevski***



English Exam on
Wednesday 1st
November 2017

**Year 12
Commencement
Program
16th –29th
November 2017**

Countdown to Exams for Year 12 Students

Year 12 students have reached a critical point and they should start planning for their exams. Their first English paper is on Wednesday, 1st November and 23 October will be their last day at school.

Currently, all Year 12 classes are either close to course completion or preparing for their last SAC. Revision will be a focus for the coming weeks. Some teachers will

be running special classes during the term break. Students need to make the most of this coming holiday period and use it as a study period, and not as holidays. They will have plenty of time after the exam period to catch their breath, have a break and consider what next year will bring.

The College encourages students to attend revision lectures as held by exter-

nal providers and also subsidises the cost of these lectures. Students should avail themselves of this opportunity to maximize their performance.

Students should establish a study routine, complete past exam papers and use their teachers as an important resource to clarify their concepts.

Pooja Khanna
VCE Unit Leader

Year 11 Transition

The process of selecting subjects for Year 12 happened during Weeks 4 and 5 this term and concluded on 18 August, 2017.

For Year 11, the College requires all students to be enrolled in 6 different subjects. However when they progress to Year 12 they are only required to do 5 subjects.

Students were encouraged to consult with subject teachers, Home Group teachers and the Career Counsellor together with the Unit Coordinator and Unit Leader before making informed decision of their choices of the 5 subjects they are going to be enrolled in for Year 12 in 2018.

This process is extremely important for the students as part of their VCE Studies to ensure appropriate subjects are selected according to their best interests and academic abilities. Since it is a requirement to have certain sequences in Year 12 study, students will not be allowed to change their preference next year.

It was a pleasure to have all year 11 students participate and submit their subject selection forms in a very timely manner.

In order to support all students cope with the high demand of the Year 12 VCE curriculum our College will be organising a two week Year 12 commencement program from

Thursday 16th to Wednesday 29th November, 2017.

All year 11 students intending to do their year 12 study at our college will be required to participate in this compulsory commencement programme.

Pat Lac
Year 11 Co-ordinator



Developing a Growth Mindset at the College

When the entire staff came together in 2015 to discuss our current school strategic plan, we wanted our students to leave the college more resilient and more willing to take on challenges. With this in mind, we developed the Positive Culture and Behaviour program that has been driving many of the school's current initiatives. One such initiative has been the development of a Growth Mindset. In her book, *Mindset: a Psychology for Success*, Carol Dweck describes the continuum between fixed and growth mindsets. Dweck explains that people with a fixed mindset believe that talents and abilities are set in stone and you cannot improve in your ability. On the other hand, people with a growth mindset believe that talents can be developed and that

your abilities are built over time through careful and dedicated effort (Dweck, 2006).

In trying to promote growth-orientated mindset at our college, we initiated a few different strategies. The first, to focus our feedback on the 'the process' rather than on the student themselves. Instead of praising the student on how smart they are, our feedback centres on the actions they take to get there. In turn, this promotes a culture which values persistence and tenacity. Some examples of process feedback are:

- * I can see you using your strategies/tools/notes/etc. Keep it up!
- * I am very proud of you for not giving up, and look what you have to show for it!

- * I admire your persistence and I appreciate your hard work. It will pay off.
- * You are not there yet
- * All that work and effort paid off!

Our next step at the College is to investigate how mistakes can be integrated into our curriculum as signposts for further learning.

For more information on how you can help your child develop a more growth-orientated mindset please follow the link below:

<https://www.mindsetkit.org/growth-mindset-parents>

Dweck, C. S. (2006). *Mindset: The new psychology of success*. New York: Random House.

Ron Brown
Learning Leader

“People with a growth mindset believe that talents can be developed and that your abilities are built over time through careful and dedicated effort”

International Visitors

On Tuesday September 5th our College welcomed three important visitors - Masea Sugahara and Chikako Mise from the University of Tokyo Gakugei as well as Associate Professor Dr Russell Cross from the Melbourne Graduate School of Education.

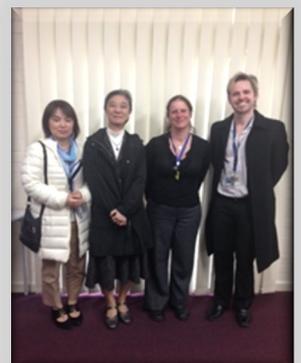
They came to observe the important work our teachers are doing in the classroom to support our English as an Additional Language (EAL) students. Firstly, they visited Emily Morrice's 9/10 Gold Geogra-

phy class. They then met with our Principal, Leonie White, our EAL Coordinator, Natalie Tenney, Emily and April Edwards (an EAL teacher) to share the benefits of using 2nd language strategies in different classes. Our visitors then went and viewed Naomi Russo's Blue Unit 7/8 English class.

The day ended with our staff learning what it was like in Japan for EAL learners, where they do not have Japanese Language schools for migrants and teachers do not adjust

work for different learners (which was surprising fact to learn.) The visitors learnt how teachers and EAL learners interact in an Australian classroom setting and how to make all learners feel included.

Overall, it was a fascinating intercultural exchange for all involved as well as an opportunity for the College to celebrate the great work our teachers do for all our learners at Thomastown Secondary College. Many thanks to Leonie White and April Edwards for making this exchange possible.



Women's Leadership Program



"I gained confidence in myself and really enjoyed meeting new people and talking to successful business women."

The women's leadership program is a program that provides an opportunity for young women to either enhance or develop leadership skills. Nine female students in Year 11 from our college (Salma, Vienna, Luisa, Jessica, Lubna, Katie, Najah, Sara and Tayla) volunteered to be a part of this beneficial program that went for three days (3rd, 18th and 31st of May). Alongside our school (at a company called Stockland) was another group of year 11 female students from Wallan Secondary College. Both schools became acquainted throughout the duration of the program and did all sorts of leadership activities together.

On the first day, we were introduced to the program and discussed the different qualities and attributes in each of our own female idols, whether it was family or just someone that we looked up to in the media.

We had mentors that came in and spoke to us about the different leadership styles. Throughout this day we were also asked to reflect on different ways

we present our own leadership styles and attributes.

On our second visit, we identified our own individual strengths and weaknesses. We were introduced to the hedgehog concept which enabled us to observe things we love, things we are good at and link it to a potential future career that we would thoroughly enjoy.

Upon our last visit, we participated in an activity that asked us to make our own personal LinkedIn profiles with the help of our mentors. Through undergoing this activity, we were all individually able to think about who we were as young women, what we've achieved already and what we are aiming to do in the future.

Salma: What I have really enjoyed about this program is that it was an eye-opener for me and I got to experience things that I've never done before. I gained confidence in myself and really enjoyed meeting new people and talking to successful business women. My favourite part was when we were given advice from mentors. They really helped us

understand different leadership roles and which ones best suited our personal attributes and abilities.

Vienna: This program really benefitted me because it encouraged me to get out of my comfort zone and talk in front of people who I didn't know. It enabled me to identify those strengths that will benefit me for the future. The best part of this experience was when we talked to the mentors as they really encouraged me and helped me notice things about myself that I didn't already know. Alongside this benefit, the free lunch was also a massive bonus. I learnt more about myself and developed an awareness of my potential areas of improvement. We would strongly recommend this program to anyone who lacks or wishes to develop new leadership qualities and/or wants to improve self-confidence. And if you already possess these abilities this program really helps extend and develop it. Huge thanks to Pooja for accompanying us during the experience.



Science Technology Engineering Mathematics



In Term 3, the focus in the cross unit STEM class was based on an activity on the topic of 'The Physics of Bridges'.

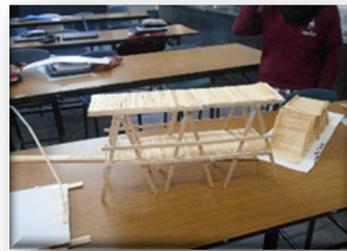
The objective of this activity was to use engineering skills to design, build and test a bridge.

Students' spent 4 weeks to learn how bridges work, design and build their own bridges by using materials such as Popsicle sticks; rubber bands; straws; glue and sticky tape.

Students worked very hard on this activity and their hard work resulted into different types of strong bridges. The bridge was assessed on the basis of its strength and how economical & stylish it was.

Students enjoyed completing this activity and being able to work in teams to share their knowledge and ideas.

Rajwant Kaur
Science Teacher



“Use engineering skills to design, build and test a bridge.”

Astronomy Night Shines

Thomastown Secondary College's Astronomy group meet twice every term depending on the weather.

This term, Astronomy Night was held on the 30th of September. What a great outcome it was with 24 very enthusiastic students and 7 staff in attendance along with a few family members!

Before the event began, we enjoyed our pizza and a nice hot chocolate drink, and later assembled in the courtyard for setting up the telescope.

Despite the rain in the morning, the night was crystal clear.

We were lucky enough to observe the gas rings of Jupiter and Saturn, along with the thousands of impact craters on the Moon. We're thrilled to see the students take such an interest in space!

Julie George
Science Teacher



iTrack Program



“The experience we have had so far with our mentors have been nothing but positive, every session students gain more guidance as they discuss relative topics to do with their futures.”

Nora El-Tonsi
iTrack Co-ordinator



iTrack is a program that gives opportunities for year ten students to discover and explore career paths through the guidance of an online mentor. In order to participate in this program, students who were interested were required to fill in an application that would be reviewed by members of the Smith Family Community. Leading on from the applications, every student was interviewed directly by our iTrack coordinator, Nora, along with Smith Family representatives. From all of the students that had attended an interview, only twenty-one were chosen.

Commencing the program with an induction session, it outlined the basis of iTrack and informed us of the program expectations. Every Friday during session four we have the opportunity to talk to our mentors for an hour, these mentors were specifically matched to each student based on a desired career field. During chat time, they help us explore our options and what we would like to do with our career. This does not only include discussing

career pathways but we also engage in conversations about positive study habits, time management and how to achieve academic excellence. Every mentor part takes in a specialized work industry. From game designing, business management, IT, accounting, engineering and trade, medical, marketing, and writing. The Smith Family goes through every profile to ensure every worker qualifies and meets certain standards, these volunteers dedicate their work time in order to help us.

The experience we have had so far with our mentors have been nothing but positive, every session students gain more guidance as they discuss relative topics to do with their futures. It has been an amazing honour, listening to professionals whom pass down their knowledge and experiences in their specialized fields to us students.

This has helped various students into having an open mind about their future prospects and the work force. From past years, our school has given year ten students this opportunity, which allows

them to find their career paths. As a student who is currently taking part of the iTrack program, I have found it to be a great opportunity worth pursuing.

Before taking part in the iTrack program, I did not have a clear goal to work towards. I was not aware of what other options were available to me and I felt that I had to go through certain career pathways even though I had no interest in them. During the iTrack sessions, I realised that what I was originally trying to achieve was not what I wanted. With my mentor supporting my decision, she assisted me throughout the process of all the changes that needed to be made for me to be able to pursue my dream career. Without being given the chance to be a part of this experience, I would not have developed the confidence to go in the right direction to achieve my dream of becoming a Paediatric Nurse.

Thao Trinh & Kimberley Brown

In the Arts



Thomastown Library has been the host to some of our finest student artworks from years 7 to 10.

Works were varied and included the discovery of new ideas in 'Wearable Art', implying that the work is intended to be accepted as a serious and unique artistic creation and enjoyable to wear. Illustrative designs were fashioned into masks and headpieces.

Rosalie Gascoigne's art techniques

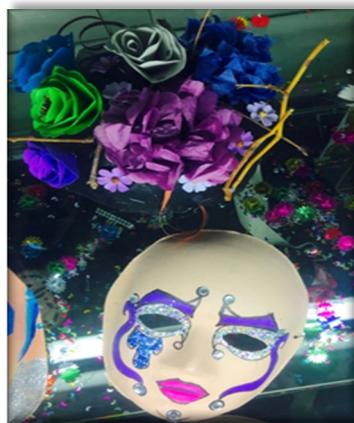
The Year 9 & 10 art class looked at Rosalie Gascoigne's art and techniques to inspire their own compositions when learning to use the Photoshop program.

Gascoigne liked to use found materials: wood, iron and yellow and orange retro-reflective road signs, which flash and glow in the light. This art period was called Flash Art.

Fauvism is an art period studied in our year 7 & 8 art classes. Each student studied one Fauvist artist and created a pastel drawing based on their chosen artist. Fauvism was the first twentieth-century move-

ment in modern art, initially inspired by the examples of Vincent van Gogh and Paul Gauguin. Pure colour was used to communicate the artist's emotional state. Fauvism means, 'Wild Beasts'!

Lena Torikov Creative Arts Co-ordinator



"Illustrative designs were fashioned into masks and headpieces"

CYPHER

On the 16th of May our 9/10 dance class attended the Arts Centre in St Kilda road, Melbourne, to watch the raw celebration of hip hop culture called Cypher.

A Cypher is a safe space for dancers to express and share their moves and express themselves. The performance consisted of three ultra-skilled, world class B Boys who battled it out in the ultimate hip hop ritual. The Cypher started as one large circle but then formed into three smaller circles where we were able to get up close to each dancer.

We started our journey walk-

ing from our school to Thomastown station. We then took a train to Flinders Street station and walked to the Arts Centre. When we arrived, we waited in the foyer for the dancers to warm-up, not long after we were brought back stage to go through to a room where the Cypher was held.



CYPHER—Hip Hop Dancers

We also got to share this experience with two other schools.

The performance was really inspiring for all of us. After the performance, we got a chance to have a Q&A with the dancers and found out things like what sparked their career and how long they have been dancing for. It was really interesting to listen to.

Overall it was a great day and we all enjoyed it and we would like to thank the dancers that taught us about the hip hop culture Cypher and thank you for inspiring us.

Nikki Dimkopoulos & Treasure Williams

Twilight Music and Arts Night



Wednesday
13th September
2017

TSC
Musical
Choir



Proud is how we all felt of our students at Wednesday's Twilight Music & Arts Night. From the performers in the limelight to the students behind the scenes, it takes a great team of both students and staff to ensure this night runs as well as it did.

How could we have predicted the crowds that flooded our Language Centre, despite the cold and rainy night. Under Samia's watchful eye, no one was turned away, even with standing room only. All staff and students were thrilled to see such great support from our families and friends in attending this performance.

The ever popular, K-Pop Dance troupe, opened the night flipping across the reception floor, impressing the slightly nervous crowd, not knowing where to turn, toward the dancers, the art exhibition or the mysteriously dark setting of the promising music performance. Hao Thao and Cecila Tran's tinkling on the keyboard managed to comfort the crowd as they moved

across the performance space.

Soon a casual and relaxed atmosphere ignited the mood for the evening. Faces were aglow amongst the café style tables as parents watched their children take their places by their instruments and microphones. The Royal J's opened the night with the booming voices of Jessica Nguyen and Sibel Erkekli singing popular songs 'Back to Black' and 'Valerie.' Rhythm Nation, continued to beat its way through the quiet chatter of the crowd. But it's the band, Maj, that demands total silence with the soothing voice of Fay Faatele.

We were all very excited to hear the big debut of the night, Nothing but Treble. With only 5 rehearsals, this wonderful choir and their amazing conductor Sharon Orrock, (not just a wiz in the office), performed a variety of songs, with each student given the opportunity to show their courage and talent with a solo piece. Consisting of mainly year 7 students, we now wait in anticipation of the future of this choir. Watch this space!

Sons of Elements soon took the stage and for many of them, for one last

time, before they graduate from Thomastown Secondary College. Ali Malekizad's soothing voice, serenaded all staff named Maria. Jonathan Tapuala Unasa, perhaps reminded others of their memories as being, 'as sweet as strawberry wine' with his rich velvet rendition of 'Tennessee Whiskey.' Tommy Kim and Ah San Key, continued to impress us with their talented performances.



Chloe Elazar stole the hearts of some, stepping into the demanding drummer's role, replacing the original drummer in the eleventh hour. The show must go on and it will for Chloe as she was recognised for her talent and awarded 7 free lessons with Prestige Performing Arts Academy.

We were delighted to see Jimi Lundy joining us on this special night as he continues to be a great



We look forward in seeing you all in Term 2, 2018 at REFLECTIONS, performed on 4 stages, a new way to experience a visual art journey.

Lena Torikov

Creative & Visual Arts Coordinator

support to the Music and Arts staff.

Our Twilight exhibition once again presents the creative standard of art making amongst our 7 to 12 art students.

This exhibition was highly anticipated and enjoyed by all students, staff and parents. Amongst the many themes addressed in the exhibition are explorations of our city, culture and dominant art influences of our past masters. The work presents a diverse

selection of mediums including painting, drawing, construction, digital media and printmaking.

I am sure that I am not alone in thanking our Music Coordinator, Kylie Villella, for giving so much. Without her selfless time and artistic creativity, our performance would have been silent.

Thank you to all the art staff who have encouraged the creative minds of our students to produce interesting and diverse work.



Sons of Elements

Bunnings Bake Sale



**Royal Children's
Hospital Appeal**

On the 5th of August, forum members from Blue Unit and their forum coordinator ran a Bake Sale at Thomastown Bunnings in order to raise funds for the Royal Children's Hospital.

The students who participated in this bake sale were Dana Ilic, Meryam Fayad, Emily Tsutsulis and Sofia Azizi, with the help of Emily Morrice, the blue unit forum teacher. We had baked goods such as muffins, cupcakes, cookies, brownies, rocky roads,

chocolate truffle balls and fudge slices. Our bake sale was a hit with the prices of our baked goods ranging from 50c to \$2.

Our goal was to raise \$300 and we achieved that goal as we raised a total of \$400, which Leonie kindly offered to double.

Our goal amount to raise for the Royal Children's Hospital was \$1,000. This goal has been surpassed with a Pizza Day fundraiser in term 2, and the Bunning Bake Sale. We have now raised in total \$1,600 for the Royal Children's Hospital. This was well over our

goal and we are proud of these earnings.

All the money we have raised will be put towards the Royal Children's Hospital and their further research.

**Emily Morrice
Blue Unit Forum Teacher**

"I was one of the few students from Victoria to be chosen to be taken on this amazing journey into the business world."

Entrepreneurs Unearthed Program

A couple of weeks ago, my business class was offered an opportunity to pitch business ideas we had to the ABCN in the hope of being accepted into their Entrepreneurs Unearthed Program. Luckily, I was one of the few students from Victoria to be chosen to be taken on this amazing journey into the business world. The day came and we went to the Ernst & Young building on Exhibition Street where the program was held. We walked in and met all the nice and welcoming people running the program. While we were there, we were lucky enough to listen to guest

speakers and learn about how they developed their business and got to the stage that they are at now. We met the CEO of Bounce Inc. and Spencer Porter, a teenager running a successful international consulting business and surprisingly both left their numbers for all the students there to message them if we need advice or any help with our business ideas. We did group activities and had professional mentors to help us progress our ideas and develop them into something more than just an idea. On the last day, we had to pitch our idea to 13 differ-

ent mentors right after each other with no breaks. They were marking us on our tone, body language and information related to our idea. From there only 7 were chosen to go onto the next stage of the program and fortunately I was chosen again as part of the 7 to progress onto the next level, now we will just have to see what the future holds.

Angela Youssef



Thomastown Recreational Park

Last year our school was asked by the Whittlesea council to provide input in to the layout of the renovation of the local Thomastown Main Street Reserve. Thus, students within our leadership programs designed their own ideal park and collectively discussed what we would realistically use or what would attract this park to our cohort. The purpose of the inclusion of our school, into the designing of the Main Street Reserve, was so that the whole community would be able to get use out of the park. Giving the students input also allowed them to encourage their peers to use the community facilities.

This year, our school received an invitation from Whittlesea council to go and look at the blueprints of the new park. Two of our students were se-

lected as the ambassadors and were asked to see the progress that has been made with the construction of the park as well as taking publicity shots to promote the park, which were published in the Leader.

As the reopening of the park was around the corner, members of our SRC, Forum and Multicultural dance groups volunteered their time to organise and run the opening day for the park which was held on the 19th of August. The reopening was named "Play on Main" and every member of the community was encouraged to come. Play on Main was extremely successful event, we had our school bands performing throughout the day, our multicultural dancers performing and the rest of our student volunteers running the treas-

ure hunt. We even had students who came down to participate in the soccer tournament, which unfortunately was cancelled but were able to go home with some gift vouchers! All in all, the day had an amazing turnout especially considering the weather and we just wanted to express our gratitude to everyone who happily volunteered for this event. It truly was due to the presence of all the students who supported their peers that made this day a memorable one.

Lubna Dakakni & Luisa Taafua

"The reopening was named "Play on Main" and every member of the community was encouraged to come."



Junior Fun Run



**Alex Rea & Laura
Licevski - Winners**

As part of the Junior City Link Program, all students in Years 7 and 8 participated in a Fun-Run on Friday June 23 to raise money for "Kids Under Cover". Kids Under Cover is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to preventing youth homelessness.

We are proud to announce that our College was able to raise \$1,015, which will be used to build relocatable studio accommodation

and provide education scholarships as a practical and proven early intervention strategy to prevent youth homelessness and keep young people connected to family, community and education.

Congratulations to all of our staff and students for their dedication and hard work in fundraising and participating in our 3 Kilometre Course along the Edgars Creek. Congratula-

tions also to Alex Rea and Laura Licevski who were the boys and girls winners respectively. It was a great event culminating in a BBQ Lunch and the presentation of trophies and prizes. A special thank you to Telly Tilkeridis for preparing and running the BBQ. Hopefully, we can make this an annual event.

Andrew Hills
PE/Health Co-ordinator

Senior Boys Table Tennis

On Thursday, the 10th of August, Michael Lane and the senior table tennis team – I (Yacoub Ibrahim), Ali Al Absawi, Zak Barakat, George Makdesi and Zain Al Khudari made our way to the Coburg Table Tennis Centre to compete in the Northern zone.

We achieved an excellent (6-0) game victory against Gladstone Park, a (5-1) win against Bundoora, but unfortunately lost (1-5) against University High.

Despite our loss, all of the boys worked extremely hard and put in a solid effort to finish as runners-up in the Northern Zone.

Yacoub Ibrahim



Northern Zone
Finalist
Runners Up
Congratulations
on your
achievement!!

Rugby

After some rough weather it was a welcome sign of sunlight that greeted the under 14 boys Rugby 7's team as they left Thomastown to embark on the 90min drive to Moorabbin Rams Rugby Union Football Club. Having to leave 1 team member behind due to injury, the team was still confident they could compete even though majority of the team had not played the shortened form of Rugby Union.

The first game against Hampton Park started fast with Thomastown scoring with passing to open space for one of the speedsters in the team. Moral seemed buoyed by the early success and the team needed to work hard to gain possession of the ball, which they were quickly rewarded with to go up 10 – 0. After halftime the game swiftly changed early in the second half, where the demands of the game started to show. Defence was increasingly difficult and Hampton Park started to gain momentum scoring 2 quick tries.

With 2 minutes left in the match both teams were vying to finish the game and register a win for the first game of the day. Unfortunately for Thomastown the game finished 10 - 12.

After a great start to the day, confidence continued going in to the next game with Westall. Having a reputation as a tough

side, Thomastown were eager to get underway and progress from their game earlier in the day. Thomastown started to get on the offensive early with brilliant interaction of play and passing. As a result Thomastown crossed the line only to be denied by a determined Westall player. The tide then changed with Westall starting to dominate possession and coming up with the spoils. Halftime saw a score line in favour of Westall at 16 - 0. Thomastown then showed some resilience to claw their way back into the game and start to play an expansive game that paid dividends. 16 - 5 instilled some belief in the side that the game could well be in reach. Dominating the second half with their toughness and skill around the ruck saw Thomastown get close but come up with another loss. The final score, 16 – 10.

The team feeling a little dejected from the last game were eager to finish the day with a strong performance against Lalor. In front of a growing crowd, Thomastown got into their work picking up where they left off in the last game. Dominating the contest at the ruck and playing an aggressive style, Thomastown went into a lead with an outstanding team try that put pressure on their opposition. With the score at 7 -5 to Thomastown and an exciting display of union, the crowd was increasingly eager

to see more points scored. Thomastown quickly obliged with another try after halftime, but then had to try and ward off mounting pressure from the Lalor team. With a lapse in defence the scores were then 14 – 12 our boys with 2 minutes to play.

An intense 2 minutes ensued with both teams battling to finish the day on a high note. With the last seconds of the game drawing closer and the result looking favourable for Thomastown. Lalor mounted a desperate attack on the line. With both teams feeling the affects of a long day but neither side wanting to relent, the last minutes displayed the most exciting passage of the competition. However, after regulation time Lalor scored a try to make the final score 17 – 14.

With a long journey back to school the team were happy and elated to have played their first Rugby 7's competition and even more satisfied to put on 3 great performances.

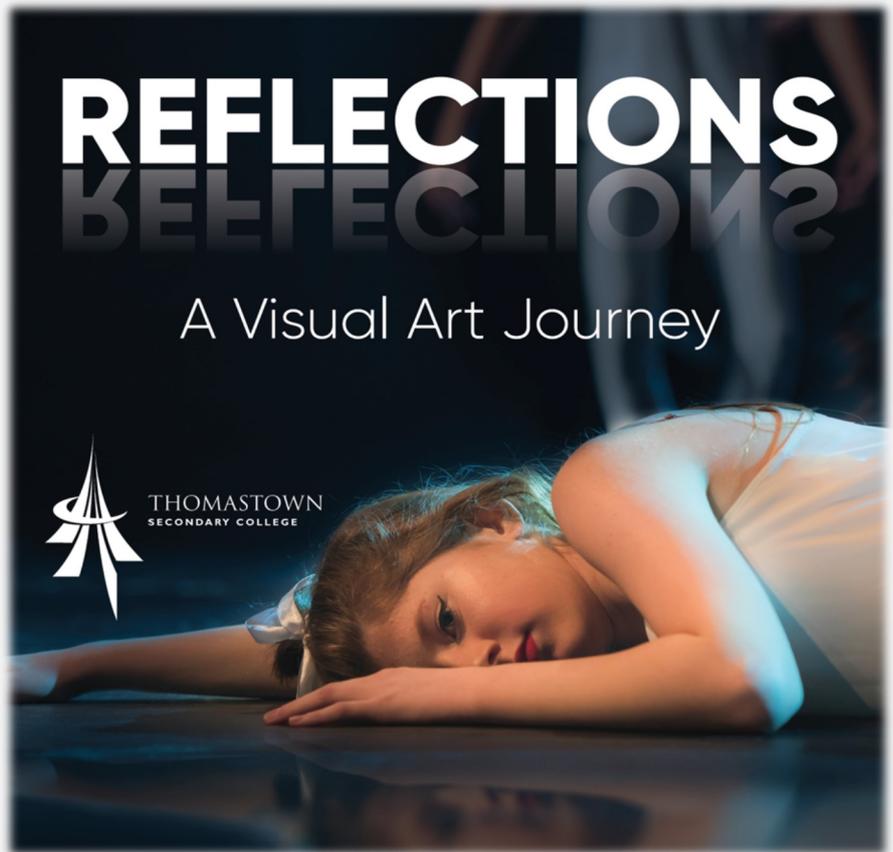
Ricky Johnson
Rugby Coach



“With the score at 7-5 to Thomastown and an exciting display of union, the crowd was increasingly eager to see more points scored.”

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