

PENLEIGH AND ESSENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Altior et Sapientior

September 2018



# From the Principal



To my mind, Term Three remains the best of terms. I have often referred to it as the *vivace* term. The events of the term are so extensive that a summary is impossible. Instead, in the words of Paul Kelly, “let the part tell the whole”.

Let’s take a weekend from my life this term, starting on Friday 3 August. I hope it tells you about our students and their activity. It is midmorning and our weekly senior management meeting is underway. Some of us are a little tired having spent one or both of the last two nights watching the school’s musical *The Addams Family*. The meeting’s agenda is broad; they’re One School Day arrangements to finalise, preliminary discussions about our 2019 school theme, concerns about the longitudinal comparability of NAPLAN results as well as a review of various school policies.

After school it is straight to Keilor Park to stand in the rain watching the AGSV Hockey grand final. The sidelines are crowded with supporters. Our team played with great spirit and was naturally disappointed by its defeat. Notwithstanding, our captain Riley Manning spoke with great dignity on behalf of his players at the after-match presentation. I shared their despondency but also couldn’t forget the statistic that our Sports Coordinator (boys), Mr Chris Clark, had shared with me earlier in the week – all three of the school’s winter Firsts teams (ie hockey, soccer and football) had finished in the top four during every one of the last sixteen years. This is a feat unmatched by any other AGSV school. After the presentation it was a dash to the Darebin Performing Arts Centre for the third night of the school musical.

Saturday morning commenced with watching the final games for the girls in both our Firsts Netball and Basketball teams in the Keilor East gymnasium. The exuberant barracking of our basketball team and its supporters was overwhelming as this team finished its season with a rare win. Afterwards, I moved to Keilor Park to watch a number of underage teams. It was a reminder that sports success at the school is not confined to our ultimate teams. During this recent winter season, over a dozen other teams at all levels completed their season undefeated in sports, divisions and ages as diverse as boys’ Fourth’s soccer, Junior C netball and boys’ 7A hockey.

On Saturday afternoon I joined hundreds of PEGS supporters at Trinity Grammar for the AGSV football grand final. While Trinity had been undefeated all year and PEGS had finished third and won its way into the grand final via a semifinal victory the previous week, a great game was expected. No one was disappointed. With scores virtually level at three-quarter time and PEGS kicking with the wind in the final quarter, confidence was high. Two early goals to Trinity had us worried. PEGS fought themselves back into the game and a late goal, with only a minute on the clock, saw PEGS win by three points. There was an explosion of emotion after the game. Students, parents, staff and ex-students hugged each other, so pleased for the team and so pleased for its coach, Mr Clay Illman, who had had to wait five seasons to secure his first AGSV premiership. At the game were some players from the school’s 1977 team; the team that had won the school’s first football premiership. They were both pleased for the team but also pleased by their part in the school’s long history in sport.

It was *The Addams Family* again on Saturday night. Backstage after the final curtain call, the cast, musicians and backstage crew were celebrating their work and the incredible entertainment that they have provided over four nights to a total audience that exceeded 2000 people. *The Addams Family* sits well within the school’s growing tradition for musicals. In 2018 it was a great tribute to the work of Ms Jessica Gorlin, Mr Justin Murray, Ms Amanda Rowarth and many others.

It was an early start on Sunday as I joined families and staff at the airport at 7.00 am to welcome students from our sister school, Krida Nusantara, in Indonesia. These students, along with students from Datong High School in Shanghai, spent four weeks at the school, staying with PEGS families. This has been a programme that the school initiated over twenty years ago.

It was back to school on Monday as I helped my Year Eleven Mathematical Methods class prepare for the imminent test of their ability to apply their trigonometric skills. With questions on sound waves, populations in penguin and seal colonies and tidal patterns, they completed this assessment with varying degrees of difficulty and ease. Regardless of their results, which were very good, students remained keen to improve and consolidate their knowledge before their end-of-year examination. They are exemplars of both a growth mindset and the dispositions encouraged by a school with a culture of thinking.

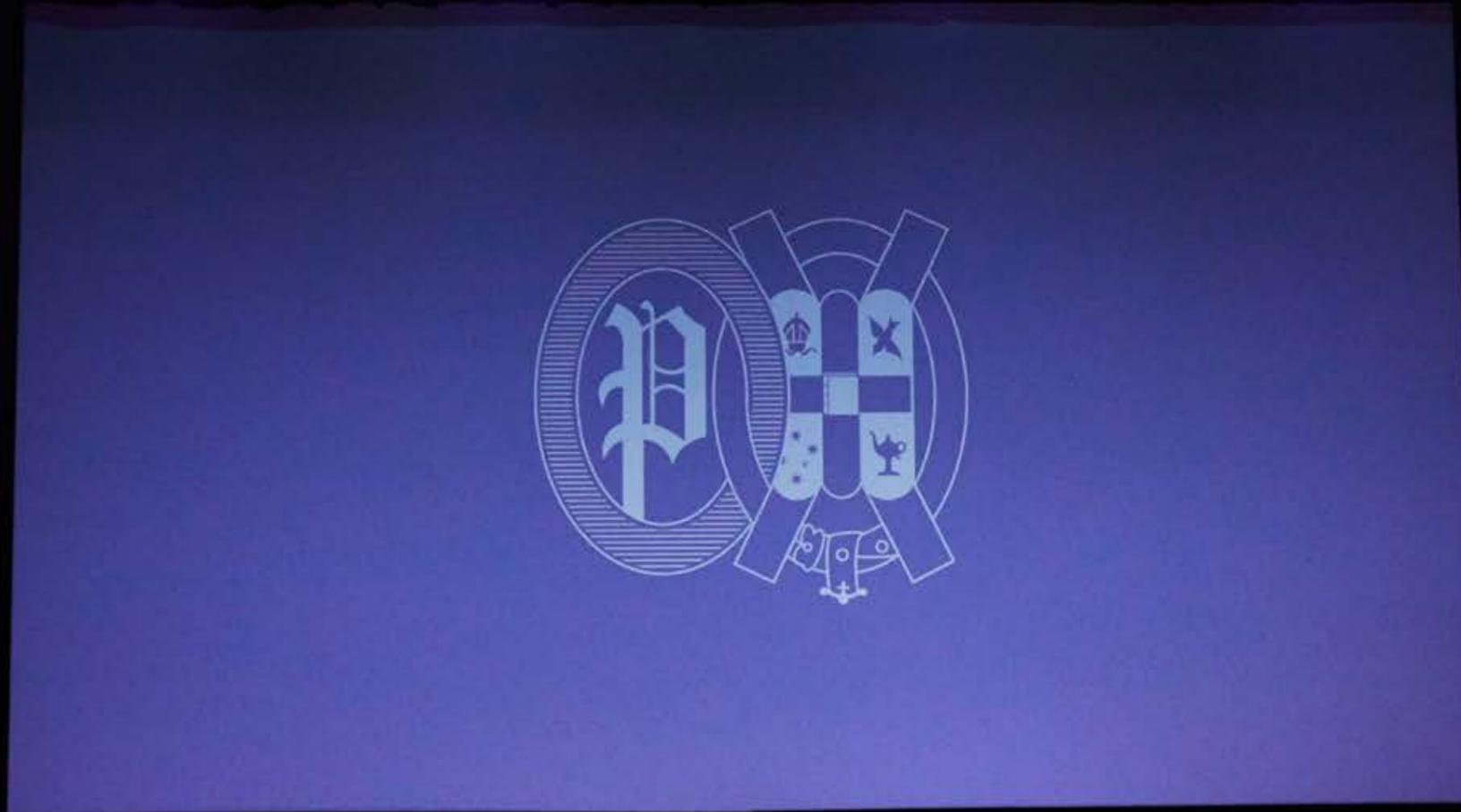
I mention these events because hundreds of our students were involved as they were every week during our *vivace* term as well as the other terms of the year. Active participation is *de rigueur* at PEGS. It is my sincere hope that all of our students get to share in the diverse, invigorating and enjoyable experiences that the school and its teachers offer regularly in class, through our co-curricular programme and at special events.

**Tony Larkin**

# One School Day

Inspired by the school's 2018 theme, the Year of Peace, One School Day proved to be one very special day for students, staff and school families. Commencing with the now traditional parade of Year Twelve students to the acknowledgement of the school community, the programme included stirring musical items for Junior and Senior ensembles, an encore from the school musical *The Addams Family*, and a rousing version of the song 'War' performed by the Stage Band and the Year Six dancers.

At the heart of the event was the presentation of prizes to outstanding student achievers. The Chairman of the Board, Bruce Henderson, and Mr Larkin addressed students, inspiring them to look to the example of previous generations of students to achieve exceptional things. The Year Twelve student speaker, Thomas Mazzei, reminded students that they hold their futures in their hands: 'The only thing we will really ever know is who we are and what drives us. *We'll make our own path, our own choices, and our own mark on the world.*'





## A community built on diversity

Each day, togetherness takes on new meaning at Gottlieb House. Our sense of community both reflects who we are today, and shapes what we stand for.

We take pride in our dynamic, vibrant school community, where all individuals can feel safe and encouraged to express their beliefs and ideas. Our students and teachers represent a broad spectrum of heritage, interests and dreams. This diversity animates our learning and our relationships; our differences make us curious, compassionate and stronger when we stand together.

Distinct personalities and individual preferences play out in classrooms, staffrooms and across the yard, as students and teachers indulge their interests and passions in step with the daily rhythms of the school day. This may mean down-ball at recess for some students, and a grand final on Saturday morning for others. As some choose to ensconce themselves in the library at lunchtime, others pass a soccer ball or perfect a tricky banana kick at goal. Students may chatter in groups near the canteen as others read, or plot checkmate at chess. There are meetings for House competitions, debating or social justice, and melodies floating from the HR Stevens Music Centre are ever-present. Meanwhile, our teachers may gather for soup club or mingle in the yard, chatting with students.

Gottlieb House possesses energy, opportunity and variation. Crucially, it is a place where everyone is welcome, respected and valued. We may all have different personalities and preferences, but our core similarity, founded in mutual respect, means that every individual who contributes to the daily life of Gottlieb House enriches our community, and sustains our values. This is who we are.

**Caroline Horton Andrews**  
Head of Gottlieb House

# Prep to Year Two Sports

In Terms Two to Four, the school offers a variety of sports programmes for our youngest students. The focus is on skill development and teamwork. Boys and girls can choose to be involved in any of the programmes and participants enjoy coming along each week and learning more about the given sport and having fun with their school friends.

Parent participation is an integral part of all programmes and it is terrific to see so many Mums, Dads, grandparents and friends engaging in a fun, skill-based activity with the children.

The sports offered are:

Term Two	Term Three	Term Four
Football	Basketball	Cricket
Soccer	Netball	Hockey

The sessions are held at different venues at PEGS so families get the chance to visit all of our campuses across the year. Most sports are offered on Saturday mornings and a small number are run on Friday evenings.

The sessions are led by the school's teachers who do a wonderful job at promoting health, fitness, involvement and development.

**Craig McFarlane**  
Head of Junior School (boys)



## A story to share

When I say that recent Thinking Seminar guest, Samuel Johnson shared his insights through the genre of storytelling, the people in the Auditorium on 29 August will immediately agree. Like me, they will recall the carefully chosen, oft-rehearsed words and the meticulously measured rhythmic beat of tales that told of adventure, passion, mental turmoil and of loss. Well known for riding a unicycle around Australia for a year to raise funds and awareness for his cancer beating charity 'Love Your Sister', and for his Gold Logie winning role as Molly Meldrum, Johnson's exquisite stories of the dark times and the best times filled the room like imperious poetry.

Now retired from acting and fully committed to imparting his message of breast health awareness, his message to the PEGS community was about the power of stories but in telling those lyrical and confronting stories, he was also sharing his values and baring his soul. He reflected on the values of hard work and decency and the origin of his love of books inculcated by his father. He quoted the treasured lines of a poem written to him by his mother shortly before her suicide and he spoke with grit and raw emotion of his love for sister Connie, who passed away last year. Carefully structured and beautifully concocted, it was a joy to hear these stories of his life.

His final words consisted of advice to the young people in the room. Johnson halted for a moment before unfurling his wisdom: you can't expect life to be easy because life is hard. It will challenge you and it will test you but if you can learn to persist and to endure then despite the tragedy that will come to your life and to all our lives, we can truly find contentment. As a purveyor of words and a sharer of stories, he reminded us that no matter what happens to us in life, how we choose to respond is up to us. Despite tragedy and heartbreak, grief and despair, we can all write the ending to our own story. He was, quite simply, unforgettable.

**Caroline Horton Andrews**  
Head of McNab House



## High Expectations

High expectations are strongly aligned with high student achievement. Studies have shown that students respond best when the bar is raised. The best learning outcomes are achieved when parental expectations are matched with student goal setting.

Teachers recognise that everyone can learn and that some students require varied entry points and opportunities to support this. Teachers check for prior knowledge and get their students comfortable with the idea of a productive struggle. Vital to the learning process is the teacher's knowledge of students, clarity and explicitness in instruction, and a positive attitude to the possibility that the students may not achieve instant success.

A growth mindset is intrinsic to meeting high expectations, as is the communication of these and frequent and timely feedback. The motivation to engage with learning does become inherent as students experience success.

The curriculum provides fertile ground for creative and critical thinking and many opportunities for students to engage with complex ideas, often in collaborative ways. The open-ended tasks that draw links across many disciplines are accessible to all students without providing a ceiling which limits achievement. This fosters the richness in outcomes for students and allows them to experience academic growth.

**Christine Hallman**  
Head of Junior School (girls)

# 9ers report

Every year the Year Nine students undertake the 9ers programme. It consists of many different activities ranging from cooking to woodwork to self defence to photography and much more. These activities take place in the last two periods of Wednesday or Thursday every week.

Many good life skills and lessons can be learnt while undertaking these activities such as the Y challenge, an activity that places students in a certain public environment whether that is childcare, disability care or elderly care. Childcare was very enjoyable and taught us ways to work with and teach younger children.

The cooking elective allowed students to take control in the kitchen and learn new skills to cook our own food. We learnt different cutting techniques and how to store and prepare our food. We cooked foods such as pasta, pizza and muffins. These skills will be very helpful in the future.

Other electives gave us insights into certain fields of work. The first aid programme was very educational and taught us many important skills that we could take into our future lives and even maybe save someone else's. The wheelchair basketball programme was a positive experience as it gave us an insight on how disabled people within our community still participate in physical activities.

All in all, the 9ers programme is a great educational challenge and experience. It is one of the highlights of Year Nine.

**Jamie Dellas and Luke Infantino**  
Year Nine, Gottliebsen House



## Project Rokit

As a community, we understand the importance of respecting and treating each other fairly. This is why the school has introduced Project Rokit to Year Seven. This group will visit us three times this year to remind us how to treat each other respectfully.

In Week One of this term, we had Matt and Liv come in, share stories and play interactive games. This allowed us to be honest without being judged. We talked about getting up in front of other students, what fears came with that and how we can overcome them. This gave us an insight into how others may feel when doing something challenging in front of peers.

The thing that I enjoyed most was the hands-on activities as they were fun and interesting. We are looking forward to the next session. They will expand on what we learned in the first session and look at different ways to address bullying and end the notion of the passive bystander. I believe that Project Rokit can help the school to be a better community.

**Harrison Pourounidis**  
Year Seven, Gottliebsen House





## McGotty Day

McGotty Day was an opportunity for McNab House girls and Gottliebnsen House boys from Year Eight to come together and spend a day in mixed classes. Half the McNab students went to Gottliebnsen House; the other half stayed at McNab House and were visited by the boys.

The day began with “icebreaker” activities so that we could get to know each other a little better. A trivia contest tested our general knowledge, creating a strong sense of competition between the teams, and later there was a straw tower competition. The winning tower is still standing to this day!

The culmination of the day was an assembly, which included presentations on the significance of the names McNab and Gottliebnsen at the school. We also heard about the Year Eight programmes running at both sections. And then came the debate between the girls and boys! The topic “It’s a man’s world” created much controversy and discussion. The girls displayed their strong debating skills by successfully arguing for the Affirmative.

The day focused on building a sense of community through activities that were challenging because they required good communication skills, cooperation and effective interaction between the students. We discovered that other people have good ideas and different ways of thinking. The day was a great success. It allowed us to come together as the future VCE Class of 2022.

**Ishani Wijeratne and Minh Tran**  
Year Eight students



## Relationships and learning

Early in Term Three the girls of McNab House gathered together for the annual House Talent Quest.

The afternoon was a showcase of the passions and talents of our students who played, sang, danced and even performed magic tricks, but the highlight of the day was the warmth, support and encouragement the girls shared. Here was a shining example of the sense of community and connectedness at PEGS and how we help each other to adapt to challenges as we become more purposeful, hopeful, active, compassionate, confident and resilient. To be in the auditorium was to feel the joy that makes the PEGS experience come alive.

Research supports what we know intuitively: that the relationships we help to build – between students, and between students and their school – are critical to wellbeing and learning. The Talent Quest is a special day, but it is just one of any number of opportunities students have to make connections with each other, and with their school. In the Middle Schools classroom interactions are complemented by an extensive cocurricular programme, camps, a vibrant House programme, lunchtime clubs and committees, and a form programme that teaches explicitly about making connections.

Wellbeing is an end in itself, and a support for and result of learning. It is nurtured by a strong sense of connectedness. We know that students can learn how to think more effectively, and we know they can learn how to make connections and manage their own wellbeing. The PEGS experience gives them opportunities, and support, to do both.

**Anthony Simmons**  
Head of McNab House

## To Infinity and Beyond



Three questions students at Infinity Centre are encouraged to ask over and over again to guide their decision-making are, “Where am I going?”, “How am I going?” and “Where to next?”. We encourage students to think about where they want to be in a few years’ time, how they are progressing along a pathway to that endpoint and what they might need to do (or stop doing) in order to give themselves the best chance of achieving their goals. This thinking is done independently, in conversations with parents and with the support of teachers and careers advisors.

As well as providing students and parents the chance for individual consultations, the careers department at PEGS runs other events, such as the Tertiary Transition Seminar for recent PEGS graduates about to commence their University studies, and the Next Step Seminar series, which invites parents and students to hear from professionals, students and recent graduates in different industries to develop students’ understanding of the reality of study and work in these industries.

A relatively recent addition to the careers calendar is the Tertiary Courses Expo. This afternoon event is facilitated by PEGS alumni, usually in the third year of their university course, who are studying a range of courses in various institutions. Current students are given the chance to ask questions about the structure of university courses, industry placements, overseas study opportunities, choosing a major and, more generally, university life.

This year’s Expo was well-attended by senior students who are presently making decisions about life beyond PEGS. We hope it helped students to clarify their answers to the three important questions: Where am I going? How am I going? Where to next?

**Kate Dullard**  
Head of Infinity Centre



## Talking about art

Year Ten Art students were asked to discuss and analyse a piece of artwork on display in the Gallery during the recent Art Show. Here are thoughts two students shared.

*The artist has shown that even underneath beautiful skin, graphic ideas need to surface. She conveys this message by flipping the skin inside out and showing how a body can appear to be mutilated and overpowered from the inside....I believe that the images represent mental pain and suffering while they seem to present a perfect image of happiness and wellbeing. I can imagine the pain of moving whilst my limbs and torso are congested with the darkness and anguish of rose thorns. The use of bones and roses reminds me of the grim works of Tim Burton.*

**Lucas Marston**

*Roses have connotations of love, yet these roses are blackened and positioned like tumours. This makes me believe that the love the artist wants to represent is warped, harmful and demanding. Interestingly, the artist has depicted roses covering a skeleton instead of the skin. Perhaps it implies that the effects of toxic love are not always visible but lurk inside. Furthermore, the constricting vines are not wrapped around the heart but are coiling around the bones, suggesting that in unhealthy relationships feelings are not felt in the heart but immobilise and restrain us; maybe it is hard to leave relationships of any kind.*

**Matthew Finlay**

**Artwork by Lauren Frankas, Year Ten McNab House**





# Sri Lanka Tour

On 29 June, ten students and two teachers set out on the adventure of a lifetime. We visited the area of Mannar in Sri Lanka's north-west to observe and support many of the projects sponsored by Bridging Lanka, a not-for-profit organisation linking Australia and Mannar.

We visited the Kulam rehabilitation sites where parks are being created from the encroached ponds originally intended to prevent flooding, a Donkey Assisted Therapy Centre where donkeys are used to aid children and a playground built from community ingenuity and PVC pipes. We were quick to realise the widespread effect of Bridging Lanka's work on the community and its facilities. It was clear that the best way forward was meeting with the community and working through language, cultural and religious barriers. Their work left a lasting impression of true leadership and teamwork. It was overwhelming to be so quickly and warmly welcomed by locals and volunteers; we made friends and heard stories we can never forget.

During our preparation for the trip we discussed why we wanted to go and what we hoped to get out of the visit. All of us wanted personal growth and to do more than just contribute money to a cause. I think we got far more than that out of this trip. We gained independence, friends and a changed perspective of our culture and other cultures. Mannar is certainly in our hearts and our near futures.

**Charlotte MacArthur**  
Year Ten, McNab House



# Kokoda Tour

After months of training and preparation, on Monday 2 July, a touring party of nineteen Year Eleven students and three staff departed Melbourne for Papua New Guinea to walk the Kokoda Track. Arriving in Port Moresby to 33°C and 85% humidity, the students soon realised that their adventure of a lifetime was about to begin.

After visiting the Bomana War Cemetery where we paid our respects to the fallen Australian service men and women who fought on the track, and to put into perspective what we were about to face, we travelled to Owers Corner. With backpacks on and water bottles filled we were finally on the iconic Kokoda Track.

Over eight days, the students and staff walked between five and eleven hours per day to cover the 97 km of the track. To quote our Trek Master, Puksi, "You can achieve anything if you put your mind to it" and "It's only a mountain, you can do it".

With a daily routine of waking at 4.45 am, dressing in our wet, damp and at times smelly trekking gear, a real highlight of the morning was participating in a traditional Buna war cry that we would use as motivation to prepare ourselves for the challenges that lay ahead.

Walking through thick jungle canopies, crossing numerous rivers and streams and traversing through mud and more mud, we all finally passed through the famous Kokoda arches to celebrate this major achievement of walking the Kokoda Track.

**Russell Dow**  
Deputy Head of McNab House



# Music News

Our final concerts in Term Two were the Junior School Concert on Wednesday 13 June and the second major concert on Monday 25 June. Both were held in the HR Stevens Music Centre auditorium to full houses. The audiences were entertained before and after the concerts with music from some of our chamber ensembles.

The concerts presented a wide variety of music. The Junior School performers evoked the excitement of secret agents, Batman, the beauty of nature and a peaceful world. The Junior School Choir even sang one song in Hungarian! As usual, the Suzuki ensemble delighted everyone.

The second major concert contained some very well-known pieces from the *New World Symphony* of Dvořák and the famous *Pavane* by Fauré. Some beautiful choral singing from the choir left us in a peaceful mood with their final item, *A Gaelic Blessing*.

Members of the Chinese Orchestra were honoured guest performers at an event held at the Melbourne Town Hall on Sunday 22 July to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of Chinese immigration to Australia. The Federation of Chinese Associations was commemorating the first recorded Chinese immigrant and celebrating Australia's multiculturalism.

Youth in Concert, formerly the HR Stevens Memorial Concert, took place on Sunday 29 July at the Deepdene Uniting Church. Tiara Tubman (Year Six) played works by Mozart and Beethoven on the piano and Jack Brydon (Year Nine) performed Brahms on the clarinet, ably accompanied by Mrs Juliana Frazer. Jahn Pilioglou (Year Nine), Lucas Rosinsky and Angelo Vasilakakos (both Year Eleven), who make up our boys' Vocal Trio, impressed with three songs, accompanied by Lucas on guitar.

We were made very welcome by the Stevens family and Mr Stuart Shearman, a former PEGS Junior Music Coordinator. We were proud to participate in this concert which honours a former Principal of our school.

**Amanda Rowarth**  
Director of Music



# The Addams Family

During the first week of August, *The Addams Family* senior musical production was performed to sell-out crowds. The show was described as “tremendous”, “wonderful”, “fantastic” and “awesome in every facet”. It involved over sixty enthusiastic student actors, band members and backstage crew. These dedicated students delivered a high-quality, entertaining performance and the praise they received was well-deserved.

Presented with a complex script and score, the students met the challenges of the show with a winning attitude. They carefully researched and studied their parts and contributed their own inventiveness and creativity to the rehearsal process.

Each “ancestor” in *The Addams Family* chorus was responsible for designing the back story for his or her own character. Their work created an impressive visual spectacle for the audience, and energised the stage.

Crowds enjoyed riotously funny lines delivered by Gomez, Morticia, Wednesday, Pugsley and the rest of the Addams clan. Student performers expertly presented classic ballads, pop-rock songs and Latin beats. The dance numbers were big and colourful with spectacular costumes on show.

Behind the scenes, staff was impressed by the support and goodwill the cast extended to one another. Students from different year levels united as one, instantly welcoming their band and backstage crew.

*The Addams Family* wrapped with teary goodbyes, especially for the Year Twelve performers, who after refining their dramatic talents on the PEGS stage over many years, took their final bows washed in applause. What a way to go!

**Jessica Gorlin**  
Director of Performing Arts



# Our First XVIII triumphs

Our First XVIII started its 2018 campaign strongly with four straight wins before meeting the also undefeated Trinity Grammar. It was not our day and we went down 8.11-59 to 4.9-33. However, the team quickly picked themselves up, showing Mentone Grammar that they were still a force within the competition. It was another reversal when Assumption College defeated us 11.11-77 to 8.9-57 at Kilmore.

This defeat forced us to a semi-final encounter back at Assumption College several weeks later. We were definitely the underdogs. Our coach, Mr Clay Illman, and his assistant, Mr Adam Marcon, steadied the team, confident that they could win despite hundreds of Assumption supporters on the sideline. While down by seven points at half-time, PEGS scored five goals in the third quarter to win 14.6-90 to 9.7-61.

PEGS now faced the still undefeated Trinity Grammar in the grand final. Again, the underdogs, the team was not daunted. Our co-captains Sam Graham and Riley Macdonald were exemplary in keeping the boys calm and focused. Everyone anticipated an epic battle. The score seesawed back and forth with nothing in it at any point in the game. With two minutes to go and thanks to a Lucas Failli hand-pass from a large pack, Ben Williamson threaded the ball through the goals and PEGS had won its twelfth football premiership, and first since 2013, with the scores being 9.14-68 to 10.5-65.

**Catherine Lane**  
Director of Sport



## “Young gun” edges closer to the big time

Matthew Woerndle (Year Eleven) has been making noise for some time as our No 1 player in our back-to-back Premiership winning Firsts tennis team. However, as the sun set on another summer season, Matthew returned to quietly building momentum towards his dream of making it on the ATP tour. This dream might be closer to reality, given that his name recently appeared on an indicative ITF World Rankings list. While he will begin at the bottom of the mountain at approximately 2500 in the world, he will be one of the youngest in the world to even appear on this list.

Age certainly has not been a barrier to his progress. He made his debut in the prestigious Tennis Victoria Premier league in 2017 at the Royal South Yarra Club and is playing there again this year. In between he has competed at both Under 16 and Under 18 National Championships, won a senior Australian Money Tournament and will next holidays compete in a “Futures” event in Cairns.

We look forward to him being united again with Marcus Stathos (Year Eleven) in the upcoming Firsts Tennis season, a partnership yet to concede a set in two and a half seasons of AGSV play. The team is chasing an unprecedented third straight AGSV crown.

**Chris Clark**  
Sports Coordinator (boys)

# From the Archives

Brigid Cooper Archivist

## 2018 - Year of Peace

Imagine you are a 10 year old student at Penleigh Presbyterian Girls' School or Essendon Grammar School in 1945. For most of your life your country has been part of a world war. Perhaps you have to stay full-time at the school as a Boarder because members of your own family have been away for many years as soldiers or nurses in this war. Now imagine how the 12 August, an otherwise ordinary school day, is transformed by the news that World War II has ended.

From the boys:

### Day by Day

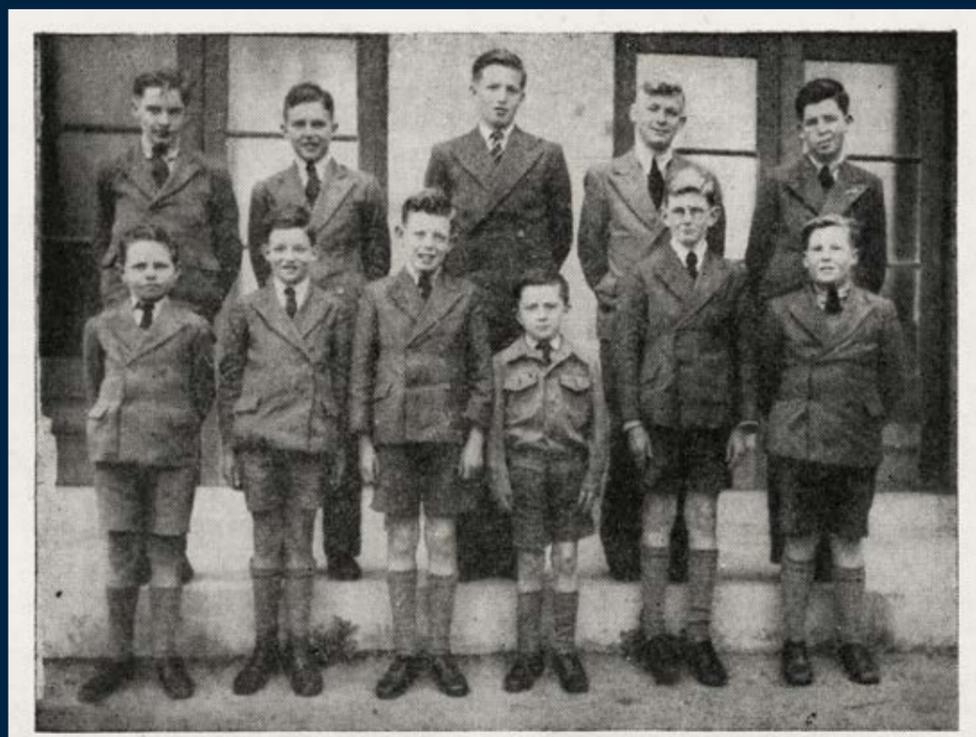
*August 15th - There was great excitement when the School assembled to hear the news of Japan's capitulation. A service of thanksgiving was held immediately, and the School dispersed to celebrate two V-P holidays.*

*September 19th - News had been coming through lately of P.O.W.'s in the islands and S.E. Asia. Among those reported safe were Flt. Lt. Jack Macalister and Cpl. Mervyn Duckett, both Old Boys of the School. We were delighted, too, to hear that Mr Rogers, father of Leslie Rogers, had been located. All the news was not good news, however, and those who knew him were deeply grieved to hear of the death on Ambon of Pte. Ross Milburn. A special service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving was held this morning.*

*November 1st - Mr Rogers, father of Les, and an ex-P.O.W., was the Guest of Honour at Morning Assembly. He was accompanied by Mrs Rogers, whose wonderful services to the Mothers' Club has been greatly appreciated.*

*It was announced in this morning's papers that Lieut. Kenneth Newton, A.I.F., has been awarded the Military Cross. I think there is little need to say how we at the School felt about it. Every E.G.S. boy feels that he knows you personally, and all shared the thrill of pride when the announcement was made at Morning Assembly.*

Excerpt from *The Triune* 1945



Essendon Grammar School Boarders in 1945 (Photo: *The Triune* 1945 [PH06515])



War-time Boarders at Penleigh, 1943 (Donor: Maree Matthews (née Crutch) [PH04713])

From the girls:

### Peace Day

*When it was officially announced that peace had been declared, a series of cheers sounded in the various classrooms of Penleigh. A crowd of excited people then gathered in the House for a small service. For a time everybody became serious and thoughtful, and tears found their way into many eyes. Perhaps it was because many realized the true significance of the word, Peace, and the seriousness of its meaning. This was more so among the Seniors than the Juniors, for the Seniors had known a world at peace - the Juniors had been almost too young to remember such a world, but some did know Peace meant fathers would soon be home again.*

*When the bell for recess sounded, everybody hurried out of class, and went down to the basketball field. Soon a huge circle had been formed, and we were singing any and every song of which we could think.*

*The bell to denote the end of recess did not ring - consequently more cheers and shouts were heard. Gradually the circle broke up, and the day girls drifted home, until only the boarders remained. We determined that we too would celebrate, and so, armed with an old tin dish and the school bell, we paraded around the grounds singing once again all the songs we knew - but our fun was yet to come. The next day, with the help of Miss Elma, a bonfire was built. At approximately eight o'clock an excited group of boarders went hurriedly down to the basketball field, and Mr. Williams lit the bonfire for us, while we stood about anxiously awaiting the result. Soon the red and blue flames leaped into the air and made an enchanting picture against the dark of night. The junior boarders and some young children from round about watched in amazement - for it was the first bonfire many had ever seen. We then formed a circle and sang camp songs until the flames finally disappeared. Then, jubilant, we turned to the house to a special supper of ice-cream.*

*Peace Day created a very vivid picture in many hearts, both young and old, and August 15th, 1945, will remain one of those memories never to be forgotten.*

Excerpt from *The Penleigh Record*, 1945, p.9

# PEGS Business Network



It was another successful gathering of the PEGS Business community on a chilly morning at ZINC, Federation Square beside the Yarra River on Friday 27 July. A great mix of younger former students, business owners, current parents and some older former students enjoyed an informative and entertaining morning as we heard from two sensational guest speakers.

Andrew Gardiner presented on the current and future trends around superannuation, property and the economy and provided many insights into considerations for our future. Questions from the floor provided for some interesting debate.

The Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Sally Capp, gave an entertaining insight into her vision for Melbourne and provided some key focus areas to accommodate a growing population, what this means for business and how to continue establishing Melbourne as a leading global destination.

We thank Sally and Andrew for their insights and role as part of the PEGS Business Network, and our MC for the morning, former student Brent West.

Our final event for 2018 will be announced shortly.

Jordan Leask  
Head of PEGS Business Network



# PEGS BUSINESS NETWORK

# Former Students' Association News

## Alumni Spotlight Hamish Jones, Class of 2000

Hamish Jones is a committee member on the PEGS Business Network and is the Managing Director at Best Business Deals, a telecommunications company providing office phone, internet and mobile solutions to businesses across Australia

*What have you been doing since leaving PEGS in 2000?*

I started at Melbourne University in 2001 but decided I didn't want to be an Accountant. I have since completed a Master's degree in Public Relations and an MBA. I've been running businesses in the Telecommunications and Digital Marketing industries since 2004. I am a Rotarian, active in local politics and have served for many years on the Board of the Melbourne Mustangs Ice Hockey Club which plays in the Australian Ice Hockey League. (The most amusing thing about this is my lack of skating ability.)

*During your time as a student at PEGS, what did you like most?*

Along with hanging out with the lifelong friends I made, I definitely enjoyed the extracurricular activities, music and debating. I played the saxophone in Stage Band and Concert Band and was Leader of the Stage Band in Year Twelve.

*Was there anyone who inspired you?*

All our teachers were great at challenging us and I think I needed that little extra push occasionally. It has been nostalgic to learn that Tony Larkin is to retire soon as he was Principal through most of my time at the school. He had a positive influence on my life— always encouraging me to do better.

*Tell us about the PEGS Business Network and what drove you to be involved?*

As a business owner, networking is an important aspect of my personal and business growth. The school network has been a positive influence on my life and it's an avenue to stay connected with the school and, in the future as we grow, give back to the school community. It's great to catch up with alumni at events but also meet parents of current students. We have a two year old son Angus and we are definitely looking at enrolling him at PEGS.

*Tell us about Best Business Deals?*

We are a telecommunications service provider for businesses. We provide solutions for businesses across their office phone, internet and mobile needs. We also build websites and help customers with many of their other communications needs.

*What's your favourite memory of PEGS?*

There are WAY too many to pick just one. It was great fun to catch up at the 10 year reunion and reconnect with classmates that I hadn't kept in regular contact with. It's a scary thought that we are much closer to our 20 year reunion date than the 10 year reunion now so many years' past.

*What advice would you give to young PEGS alumni?*

Don't underestimate the importance of your network and keeping in touch with peers. The contacts, the relationships and the friendships you develop are invaluable throughout your life.

*What do you do in your spare time?*

Spare time? What's that?

No, seriously, I love watching sport and spending time with my family.



# 10 Year Reunion Class of 2008

Saturday 28 July 2018

"This is surreal...has it really been ten years?!" So were the words of many of our former classmates of 2008, when we entered The Leveson in North Melbourne on Saturday 29 July to mark a decade since leaving PEGS.

With Facebook's popularity, and our efforts to stay connected, we felt excitement at having the Class of 2008 back together in the one room at the one time rather than a burning curiosity to find out what others had been up to in the past ten years. Needless to say, there were still many travel stories and career highlights to share, marriages to be celebrated and news of babies on the way!

Any awkwardness quickly evaporated and while we danced, laughed, and felt nostalgic as we watched our Year Twelve video play, the night passed all too quickly. Old photos also prompted many exclamations of how stylish everyone looked and how comfortable we now appeared compared with our awkward teenage selves. It was also a delight to chat with a few of our past teachers who had joined our celebrations, and to fill them in on our life adventures since leaving school.

A huge thank you to my fellow committee members, Melanie Hycenko, Jack Grant, Derek Stewart and Josh Pound, for rallying the troops and ensuring a great turn-out of over 83 members. We thank Lisa Leask and the Former Students Association for organising these events. Whilst we don't want to wish the years away, if our 20 year reunion is as enjoyable as this one, then bring it on.

**Melanie Scully**  
Class of 2008



## FSA Functions 2018

40 Year Reunion – Saturday 20 October 2018

Golf Day – Monday 17 December 2018

For more information on these events, or to assist with your upcoming reunion, please email [fsa@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:fsa@pegs.vic.edu.au)

### Private Functions

**Golden Girls' Luncheons - 14 November**

Botanical Hotel, 169 Domain Road, South Yarra at 11:30 am. Contact Judith Ross on 0417 538 335

**Penleigh Class of 1963 Lunch**

Saturday - 17 November

The Kent Hotel, 370 Rathdowne St, Carlton North, at 12.30 pm. Contact Helen Dapiran on 0412 471151 for more information.

### PEGS Business Network Functions

Our final event for 2018 will be announced shortly.

For further information please contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator, Lisa Leask on 03 9016 2181 / [lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au).

### LinkedIn:

PEGS Business Network's specific purpose is to connect former PEGS students and Alumni in business, creating business opportunities for all members while also keeping in touch with and contributing to the greater PEGS Community.

To request membership, please login to LinkedIn and search for 'PEGS Business Network'

### Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, please search for **PEGS Former Students' Association** and **PEGS Business Network** and 'like' our pages.

## Announcements

### Deaths

**Jacob Martins Taurins** [Class of 1985], brother of Emily Gilbert [Class of 1988], uncle of Amy-Jane [Class of 2020] and Daisy Gilbert [Class of 2021], on 3 July 2018, aged 50.

**Beverley Lorraine Bunting (née Cunningham)** (Penleigh 1943-1951, Head Prefect), mother of Robyn [Class of 1981] and Kimberley [Class of 1983], grandmother of Nicholas [Class of 2012], Zoe [Class of 2015] and Alexandra Pantelis [Class of 2017], on 7 July 2018, aged 84.

If you have any information you'd like to share, please send an email to Lisa Leask at [lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au)

## Friends of PEGS News

### Annual Craft Market

FoPEGS Annual Craft Market, on Saturday 13 October, is fast approaching. Expect carnival rides, musical performances, ponies, food vans, ice-cream, fairy floss, popcorn, competitions and games, a traditional bear hunt, art and craft stalls, White Elephant Stall and much more. So **SAVE THE DATE!**

The Annual Craft Market is one of the main events on the FoPEGS calendar and one when our whole school community unites on one campus. We are hoping for good weather, however, we also need you, your family and friends to support us by **VOLUNTEERING**, as little as one hour either on Friday 12 October after 4pm or Saturday 13 October between 7am and 4pm. If you are able to assist contact your class rep or jump on to Volunteer Spot at <http://signup.com/go/ngAwovP>.

If you enjoy baking this is your opportunity to share your skill by donating some goodies to the Cake Stall. By popular demand the White Elephant Stall returns. During spring cleaning this year remember to put aside your good quality preloved items to donate to this stall.

The committee is looking forward to sharing this special event with the school community. See you there!

**Suzanne Startseff**

FoPEGS Vice President

Craft Market Co-ordinator



## Ladies Lunch

Approaching the end of the year and the start of the festive season, the Ladies Lunch on Friday 30 November is to be held this year at a new venue, the Hyatt Events Centre at Essendon Fields. The event will include a three course meal and beverages, and will be accompanied by great silent auctions and public auctions, conducted with the assistance of Lou Rendina from Rendina Real Estate.

Friends of PEGS are certain the occasion will prove to be a fantastic day out and we look forward to your support.

**Cherie Fox**

FoPEGS Committee Member

Ladies Lunch Event Co-ordinator

# 2018 Dates for the Diary

## October

- 8 October – Term Four begins
- 9, 10 October – VCE Art/VCD/Media Show
- 13 October – Annual Craft Market
- 17 October – VCE Music Concert (Yr 11)
- 18 October – Piano Concert Two
- 22 October – String Concert Two
- 23 October – Valedictory Dinner
- 29 October – Suzuki Concert Five

## November

- 26 November – Junior Christmas Concert
- 28 November – Suzuki Concert Six and Break-up

## December

- 10 December – Carol Service
- 12 December – Term Four ends

Contact details: [newsletter@pegs.vic.edu.a](mailto:newsletter@pegs.vic.edu.a)

