



PENLEIGH AND ESSENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Altior et Sapientior

December 2018





## From the Principal

Term Four passes in a blink of the eye for our senior students with normal classes for students in Years Twelve, Eleven and Ten finishing on Tuesday 23 October, Monday 29 October and Monday 12 November respectively. While the focus tends to be Year Twelve students, with their various valedictory activities, the end of Year Eleven is marked with a special assembly where the 2019 captains of summer sports teams and leaders of music, drama, dance and chess are announced. These events are an enduring tradition at the school and are among the ways that the efforts of our senior students are acknowledged each year.

Each Middle School meets to farewell its Year Ten students. The Middle Schools present the Peter Maher Trophy (to Bradman House in 2019), the Meg Benney Trophy (to Chaucer) and the McMaster Cup (to Chaucer/Reynolds) for the best brother/sister house combination and House leaders for 2019 are also announced.

The school's traditions are not relics of the past; they exist for a reason. An observer at any of these end-of-year events would be amazed by the enthusiasm, goodwill and generosity displayed with every announcement. Traditions exist because they have value and contribute to the offerings for students. False, purposeless traditions do not survive. Our new leaders have many aspirations. They are quick to acknowledge those who have come before them but also express their desire to do more and to achieve more. Like all good custodians of tradition, they respect the past but have their sights on the future.

While these events emphasise the co-curricular component of school life, the school's most serious tradition is its commitment to academic excellence. The end-of-year examinations quickly follow these final assemblies. The examinations are another dynamic tradition offered to all students. Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School will always remain a special place while this particular tradition is savoured by current and future generations of students.

**Tony Larkin**





## Expanded VCE options

Educational research has long promoted the role of student voice in education, contending that students who feel empowered to express their values, opinions and perspectives are more academically motivated and experience a greater sense of self-worth, purpose and engagement at school. The more we can offer students choice, challenges and control over their learning, the greater their motivation and engagement.

This interest in listening to and acting on student preferences and perspectives has seen the introduction of three new subject offerings at VCE level. This year, English Language was introduced for the first time at Year Eleven, and students have enjoyed learning about how language shapes the way we think and view the world and how language works to form personal identity and the identity of others.

In 2019, we will be offering two new subjects: Business Management and Drama. In Business Management, students will have the chance to consider issues related to the management of businesses, such as meeting legal obligations, marketing products and managing the finances and human resources. Drama will allow students to create, perform and analyse dramatic performance. Given the strength of our Drama programme, we are very excited to offer students the chance to formally extend their love of Drama into their VCE years.

All of these subjects are being extended to the Year Twelve level in the subsequent year.

**Kate Dullard**  
Head of Infinity Centre



# STEM Professionals in Schools

Eleven of our emerging Year Eleven science students recently took part in STEM-related research projects, mentored by leading scientists from Monash University, Swinburne University of Technology, The Australian Synchrotron (ANSTO) and The University of Melbourne's Bio21 Institute. The students gave up holiday time to take up placements in research laboratories and they recently presented their findings to an audience of students, teachers, parents and special guests.

At Monash University's School of Earth Sciences, students used the GREB model to simulate climate change in a scenario where the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere was doubled. In the School of Chemistry, students synthesised six novel crystal structures to investigate ambiguous hydrogen bonds. At Bio21, students synthesised peptides used as precursors for cancer treatment and at Swinburne, biological systems were mathematically modelled using MATLAB. Field trips to The Australian Synchrotron and Swinburne's "Factory of the Future" punctuated the students' placements.

Presentation Day was a true celebration of STEM, with keynote speaker, former student and Oxford graduate, Dr James Kwiecinski, inspiring all in attendance with his meta treatment of the notion of success through goal-setting, hard work and persistence: "A mathematical model for success: A biased stochastic walk".

PEGS is grateful to our exceptional STEM Professionals in Schools partners in Assoc Prof Craig Hutton, Dr Dietmar Dommenges, Dr Rohan Dowd, Dr David Turner and Dr Andriy Pototsky.

The student researchers were Jasmine Buckland, Alessandro Cavoli, Darren Chieng, Christopher Do, Douglas Heal, Ali Qadir, Julian Lee, Cassidy Nguyen, Tharushi Sampatha Waduge, William Tran and Mirella Wong.

**Alex Abela**  
Chemistry Teacher, Infinity Centre







## Working together to uncover complexity

Every year groups of teachers across the school work with Dr Ron Ritchhart from Harvard University's Project Zero in peer coaching groups that support collegiality and a collaborative culture to foster improvements in student learning. This year a group of teachers from Prep to Year Four in the Junior School (girls) focused their inquiry on an examination of Maps of Understanding, a visual tool which records the ways students make meaning and understand concepts, and specifically, uncover complexity.

During their discussions the group soon discovered commonality across the year levels. To help students uncover complexity, the teachers focused on the quality of the questions that they use to prompt students, help students to interpret questions and direct students to guide their own thinking.

The question that the teachers tended to ask themselves was: How can we ask better questions to generate robust discussion and deeper understanding and what do the students need to know to participate in learning?

The teachers developed a variety of approaches from helping students unpack the language in a complex question to guiding them to ask deeper questions. With the provision of question stems, and through teachers encouraging the regular use of thinking routines, even the youngest students are empowered with a set of tools that they can use and refine as they move through the school.

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

## Our new Director of Kindergartens

I wish to thank everyone for the warm welcome I have received from the Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School community since I commenced as the Director of Kindergartens at the start of Term Four this year. I am an experienced and passionate early childhood educator and leader with eighteen years of experience in early childhood education. I have had many roles: kindergarten teacher, Director of Early Learning and tertiary facilitator.

I consider myself an active researcher who loves to challenge my own thinking and the thinking of others to provoke new ideas and professional growth. My dedication and passion for early childhood education, research and new ways of thinking have provided me with many opportunities to grow both professionally and personally. I have been fortunate to participate in early childhood studies in Italy and New Zealand as well as across Australia and have authored early childhood journal publications.

Early childhood is an essential time where children develop a strong sense of identity and wellbeing, learning dispositions, attitudes about learning, relationships and the sense that they are part of something that is much bigger than themselves. This is what inspires me to work with children, families and the wider community in advocating for children's rights in regard to participation in high quality early childhood education programmes. I am very honoured to be leading Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School's kindergartens and look forward to the journey we embark on as one community.

**Lauren Olcorn**  
Director of Kindergartens





# Gottliebse House news

## Year Nine camp

The Year Nine Outdoor Education Programme provided a variety of challenging but rewarding activities over five days. The main themes of the camp were trust and confidence and both of those needed to be heavily used in the two main activities: the solo navigation day and the rock climbing/abseiling activity.

Solo navigation required a lot of self-confidence as well as trust in your group as they tried to direct you around the camp property in the correct way. It was very tiring, taking around six hours with minimal breaks. We needed to take responsibility for ourselves and apply the navigation skills learnt the previous day. The next day we went rock climbing in the Cathedral Ranges. Again, we were taught the essential skills earlier in the week. This activity needed a lot of trust between the climber and the people who were belaying for them.

In conclusion, camp was very rewarding and a great addition to the year as it taught me lessons that I would not have learnt elsewhere.

**Xavier Donato**  
Year Nine

## Year Eight

Both Middle Schools initiate special activities for their Year Eight students. In 2018, Year Eight students at Gottliebse House have been completing the Year Eight Simple Skills (or YESS) Certificate. This programme includes learning basic skills such as sewing buttons, tying ties, polishing shoes and shaking hands, with a focus on developing students' independence. Recently, the Discovering Melbourne excursion took place which involved students participating and planning a trip to explore our city.

For Discovering Melbourne, each group explored a different aspect of the city. Some visited historical landmarks and others explored the sports precinct, art galleries or the city's architecture. Students had spent several weeks planning what they should see and how they could work within a budget of \$20 that had to cover expenses such as admission charges and transport costs. Afterwards, we shared our experiences at a Year Eight assembly.

Our group focused on architecture. We traipsed the city grid seeing many buildings with different styles of architecture including Modern (Federation Square), Gothic (Forum Theatre) and Victorian (Royal Arcade). We got to see the inside of some buildings. At the Victorian State Library, with its enormous dome, we saw paintings of Melbourne when it was first being settled, Ned Kelly's armour and old colonial maps.

This year has assisted us to develop important life skills, especially independence. While we enjoyed learning these skills, the highlight of the programme was definitely the Discovering Melbourne excursion.

**Joshua Walker and Timothy Nguyen**  
Year Eight

## Year Seven – Co-curricular opportunities

It is nearly the end of Year Seven. It is a chance to look over what we have done this year and to anticipate next year. While there is a big emphasis on sport at PEGS, there are also many other co-curricular activities for students. Some of these other activities include Chess Club, Conservation Club, Da Vinci Decathlon, debating and public speaking. You can certainly get involved at the school, whether it is the calm of Conservation Club or competitions like Da Vinci Decathlon.

Co-curricular activities have many things to offer. In Chess Club, we had training sessions after school and inter-school tournaments throughout the year. In Conservation Club, we had meetings at recess or lunchtime to talk about how we could improve the environment and increase sustainability. There were 6.00 am starts to catch bandicoots and trap bats and we spent many lunchtimes making possum pouches. These activities have been the icing on the Year Seven cake. I am certain that they will help make Year Eight another enjoyable year.

**Jack Irwin**  
Year Seven





# Better learning

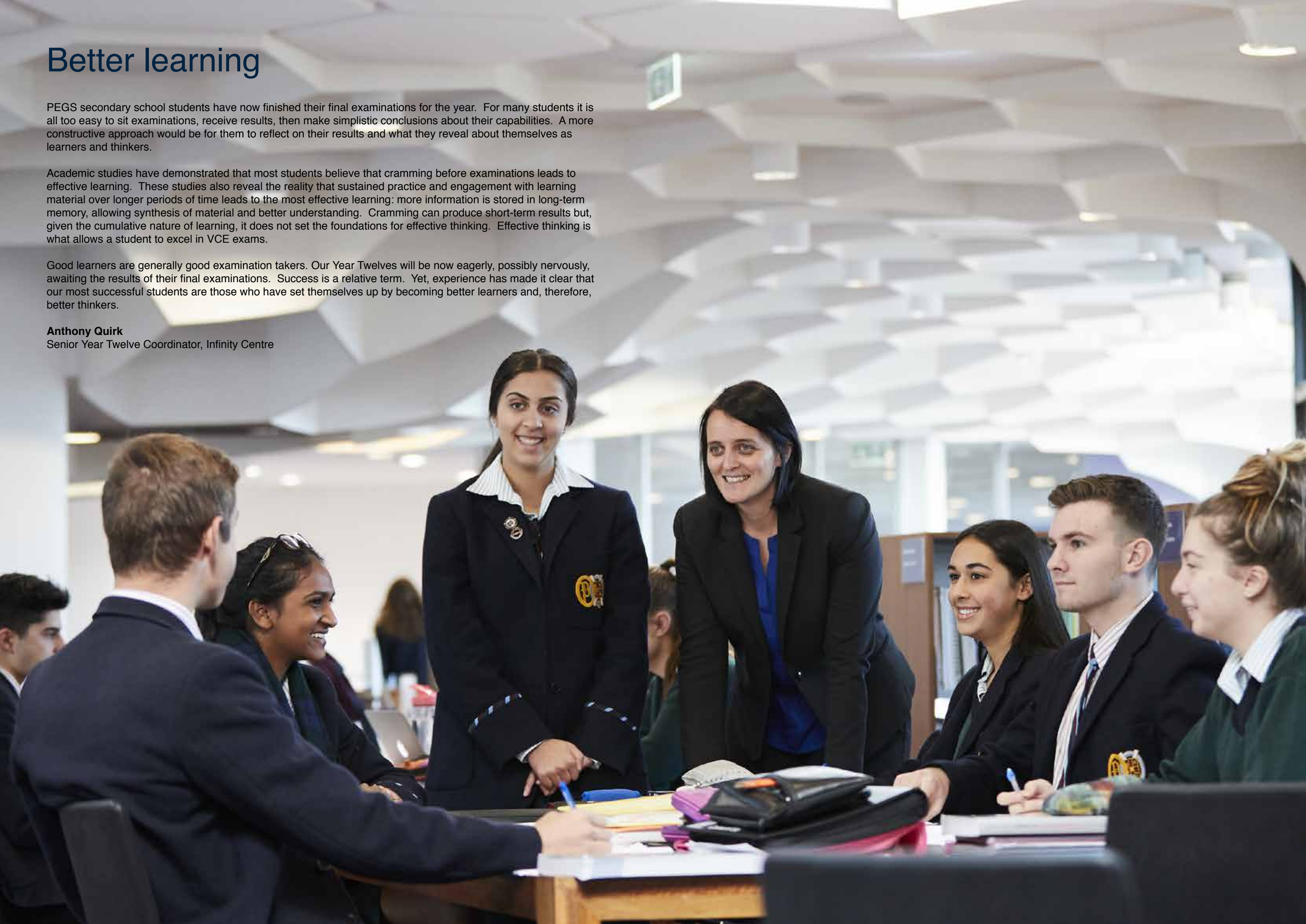
PEGS secondary school students have now finished their final examinations for the year. For many students it is all too easy to sit examinations, receive results, then make simplistic conclusions about their capabilities. A more constructive approach would be for them to reflect on their results and what they reveal about themselves as learners and thinkers.

Academic studies have demonstrated that most students believe that cramming before examinations leads to effective learning. These studies also reveal the reality that sustained practice and engagement with learning material over longer periods of time leads to the most effective learning: more information is stored in long-term memory, allowing synthesis of material and better understanding. Cramming can produce short-term results but, given the cumulative nature of learning, it does not set the foundations for effective thinking. Effective thinking is what allows a student to excel in VCE exams.

Good learners are generally good examination takers. Our Year Twelves will be now eagerly, possibly nervously, awaiting the results of their final examinations. Success is a relative term. Yet, experience has made it clear that our most successful students are those who have set themselves up by becoming better learners and, therefore, better thinkers.

## **Anthony Quirk**

Senior Year Twelve Coordinator, Infinity Centre





# School tours

The school offers an outstanding range of optional overseas tours to supplement the learnings taking place in the classroom so that students can more fully understand the world around them and its diversity and uniqueness. For a number of decades, study tours to China with extended stays with our sister school, Shanghai Datong High School, and home stays in France and Germany have been made available to our students. Other tours like walking the Kokoda Trail, a UK Cricket trip, a World Challenge expedition and a US basketball trip had been added to our repertoire.

In more recent times we have extended the number of overseas tours. Recently, there has been a social justice leadership programme in Sri Lanka, Junior (Years Seven and Eight) and Senior (Years Nine to Eleven) NASA tours to Houston, a cultural experience programme in Italy and additional sports tours have been offered.

Next year we will continue to extend overseas opportunities including a French language-learning programme in New Caledonia, a cultural trip to the United States and additional sports trips will be offered. And, while not overseas, we are also offering music students the chance to participate in Generations in Jazz, Mt Gambier's annual jazz festival.

These tours and trips provide overseas experiences for students where they can challenge themselves while in the care of their teachers. A list of the overseas tours for 2019 will be on the website at the beginning of Term One.

**Nina Bilewicz**  
Vice Principal

# China Tour

The 2018 China Tour involved twenty students from Years Ten and Eleven. The students, all studying Chinese, and some of them, travelling overseas for the first time, made the most of the opportunities that the busy seventeen-day itinerary offered. First stop was the hustle and bustle of cosmopolitan Shanghai to take up residence at Datong High School.

The students were able to ease into the rich Chinese culture by attending many and varied classes and also experiencing a two-night home stay with the families of the students assigned by Datong High to be their buddies. Although nervous at the thought of visiting an unfamiliar host family, many of the students, on reflection, counted this experience as one of the most valuable of the whole trip.

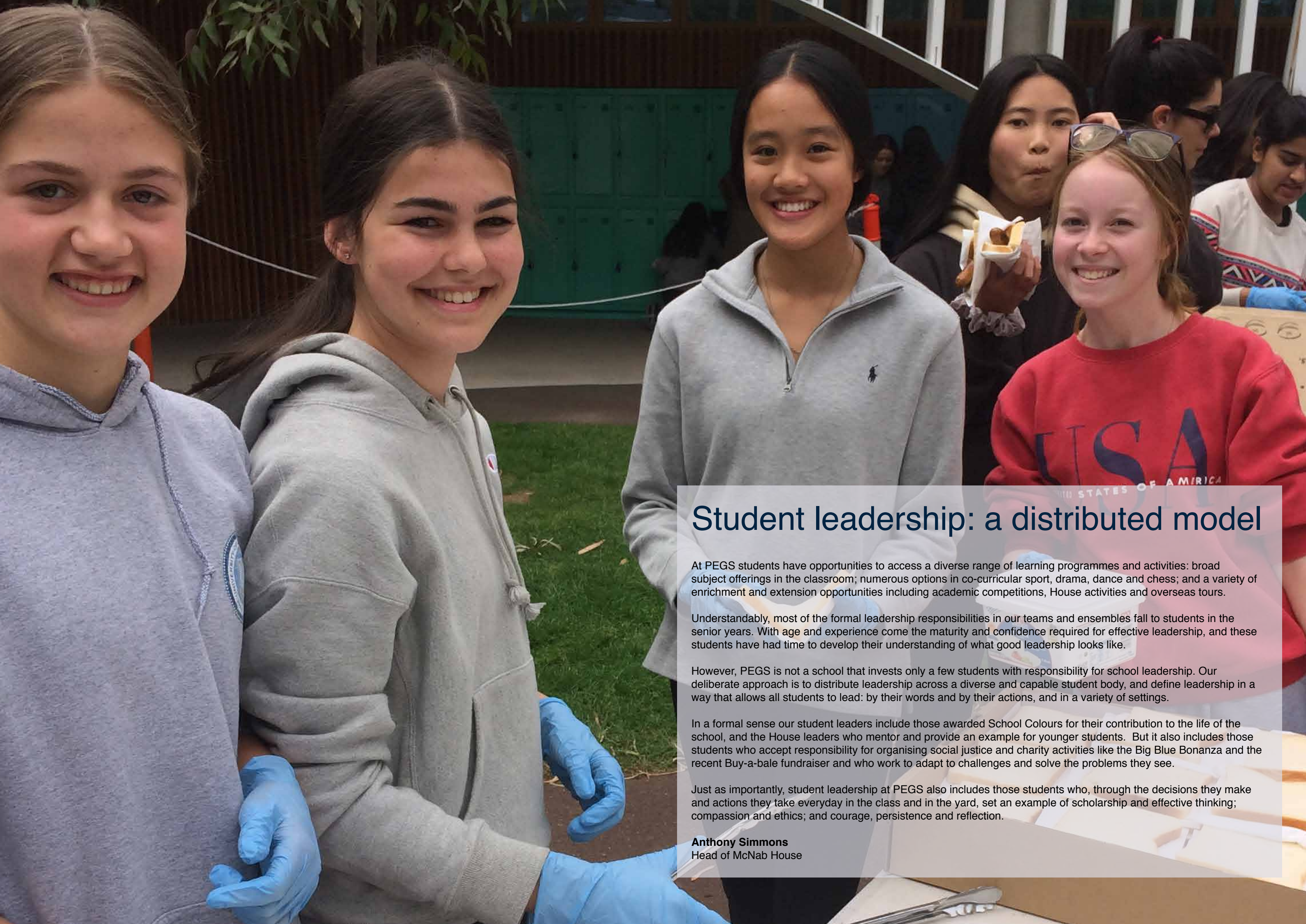
A train ride to Nanjing was followed by another to Xi'an where the highlight was a visit to the excavated tombs of the Terracotta Warriors. It was quickly on to Beijing to visit Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the iconic Mutianyu section of the Great Wall of China.

And so we left China, a land of contrasts - one-minute standing atop one of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World and, the next, speeding along to the next destination in a 300 km/hr "bullet train" – certain that there is still plenty more to see in future visits.

**Dean McCarter**  
Individual Needs Coordinator and participant in the 2018 China tour







## Student leadership: a distributed model

At PEGS students have opportunities to access a diverse range of learning programmes and activities: broad subject offerings in the classroom; numerous options in co-curricular sport, drama, dance and chess; and a variety of enrichment and extension opportunities including academic competitions, House activities and overseas tours.

Understandably, most of the formal leadership responsibilities in our teams and ensembles fall to students in the senior years. With age and experience come the maturity and confidence required for effective leadership, and these students have had time to develop their understanding of what good leadership looks like.

However, PEGS is not a school that invests only a few students with responsibility for school leadership. Our deliberate approach is to distribute leadership across a diverse and capable student body, and define leadership in a way that allows all students to lead: by their words and by their actions, and in a variety of settings.

In a formal sense our student leaders include those awarded School Colours for their contribution to the life of the school, and the House leaders who mentor and provide an example for younger students. But it also includes those students who accept responsibility for organising social justice and charity activities like the Big Blue Bonanza and the recent Buy-a-bale fundraiser and who work to adapt to challenges and solve the problems they see.

Just as importantly, student leadership at PEGS also includes those students who, through the decisions they make and actions they take everyday in the class and in the yard, set an example of scholarship and effective thinking; compassion and ethics; and courage, persistence and reflection.

**Anthony Simmons**  
Head of McNab House



# Mathematics at PEGS honoured

On Tuesday 30 October, a contingent of PEGS students, staff and parents met at the Melbourne University Boat Club for the presentation of Australian Mathematic Trust (AMT) awards.

Mr Theo Vlantis was recognised for his wonderful services to the school as the recipient of the Inaugural 2018 Australian Mathematics Trust Teacher Award. The award acknowledges an outstanding contribution by a teacher who has gone above and beyond to support and inspire his school, classes and students. The following citation was read at the presentation:

*Theo Vlantis has taught at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School since 1994. He was originally employed to initiate a Mathematics Enrichment Program. Initially involving groups of students in Years Seven to Ten, Theo quickly established annual Maths camps and introduced the Year Eight Maths Games Day which continues to be an annual event involving around 500 students from across Victoria. He arranged for students to compete in a diverse range of mathematics competitions. Although Theo soon moved to the senior school, the program that he established continues today with high levels of student enthusiasm. Theo extended the enrichment program to Years Eleven and Twelve and groups of senior students remain very active participants in statewide and nationwide competitions. Two students from this era, thanks to Theo's tutelage, have represented Australia in the International Mathematics Olympiad – Sally Zhao (2001, 2002) and Matthew Cheah (2017). The current recipient of The University of Melbourne's Thomas Cherry Prize (Jack Gibney) is another of Theo's students. Theo has committed a sizable proportion of his professional life to the promotion of advanced mathematics study and the cultivation of the talents of his students.*

Jack Gibney (Year Twelve) was also acknowledged on this night, being one of three nominees for the 2018 AMT Inspiring Student Award, and William Cheah was acknowledged as Best in State (Year Seven), despite only being in Year Four. It was a night when mathematics at PEGS was celebrated.

**Kate Dullard**  
Head of Infinity Centre



## Maths Talent Quest Success

2018 was another successful year for Junior School students in the Maths Talent Quest (MTQ).

The MTQ encourages students to investigate and explore mathematics in real life situations. The competition aims to promote an interest in mathematics and foster positive attitudes.

This year more than sixty students from both Junior Schools submitted projects and fourteen of these projects were awarded either a Distinction or High Distinction at the State level.

The three High Distinction entries investigated:

- Facial recognition and measurable differences in appearances - Eric Kolouyan (Year Six)
- Junk Mail: Is it just a big waste? - Isabella McDonough (Year Four)
- Why can't I afford a mobile phone yet? - Sammy Medina Sanna (Year Two).

Sammy Medina Sanna was awarded the National Individual Award for Year Two. Isabella McDonough was awarded the La Trobe University Award. This award is presented to a primary-age girl whose project is creative and presented a challenging mathematical investigation relating to everyday life.

Mr Peter Maher, Mathematics Coordinator, Essendon Campus, was awarded the Outstanding Service Award. Mr Maher has coordinated the MTQ at the Essendon campus for over twenty years and has guided and supported hundreds of students with their MTQ investigations. He is an incredibly deserving recipient of this award.

We congratulate all students who participated in the 2018 MTQ for their enthusiasm for and persistence with their investigations.

**Mary Wade**  
Mathematics Coordinator, Junior School (girls)





# Music in our community

In the latter part of 2018 we shared many of our biggest performance events with our community.

One School Day was a great celebration which allowed the school's musicians to shine and engage the audience. This year the Junior Choir and Junior Concert Band led the singing of the National Anthem and School Song. The Junior Choir also performed *Dreaming In The Sky* accompanied by the Junior String Orchestra. The Stage Band combined with the Junior Dancers to raise the roof with an energetic rendition of the song *War* and the final item, *Sogno di Volare*, was performed by Symphony Orchestra, Senior Choir with a finale of dancers, balloons and streamers.

Another big occasion for our musicians was the Craft Market. Many ensembles played on the stage throughout the day providing live music and a place for weary shoppers to rest. The youngest group was the Suzuki Violin Ensemble, some of whom are as young as four. The largest group was the Concert Band and there were also performances by the Synthesizer, Guitar, Percussion and Jazz Ensembles; Junior Rock Band and Stage Band.

PEGSFest provided the opportunity for our parents, friends and staff to come to many open rehearsals to see and hear how great performances are prepared. Some ensembles provided playing and conducting auditions for our guests! There were also many performances around all sections of the school, including our cocurricular ensembles, Year Nine and Ten classroom ensembles and even a flash mob vocal group at the Middle School canteen!

## Final Performances

This year's musical *The Addams Family* included some of our very best singers, many in lead roles, and a band was made up of seventeen students, supported by only two staff members. Many hours of rehearsal go into preparing the various components of the show and finally to bring it all together in four performances is a great challenge and achievement for our students. Many audience members were astounded at the professional sound coming from the pit and generously praised the band's efforts.

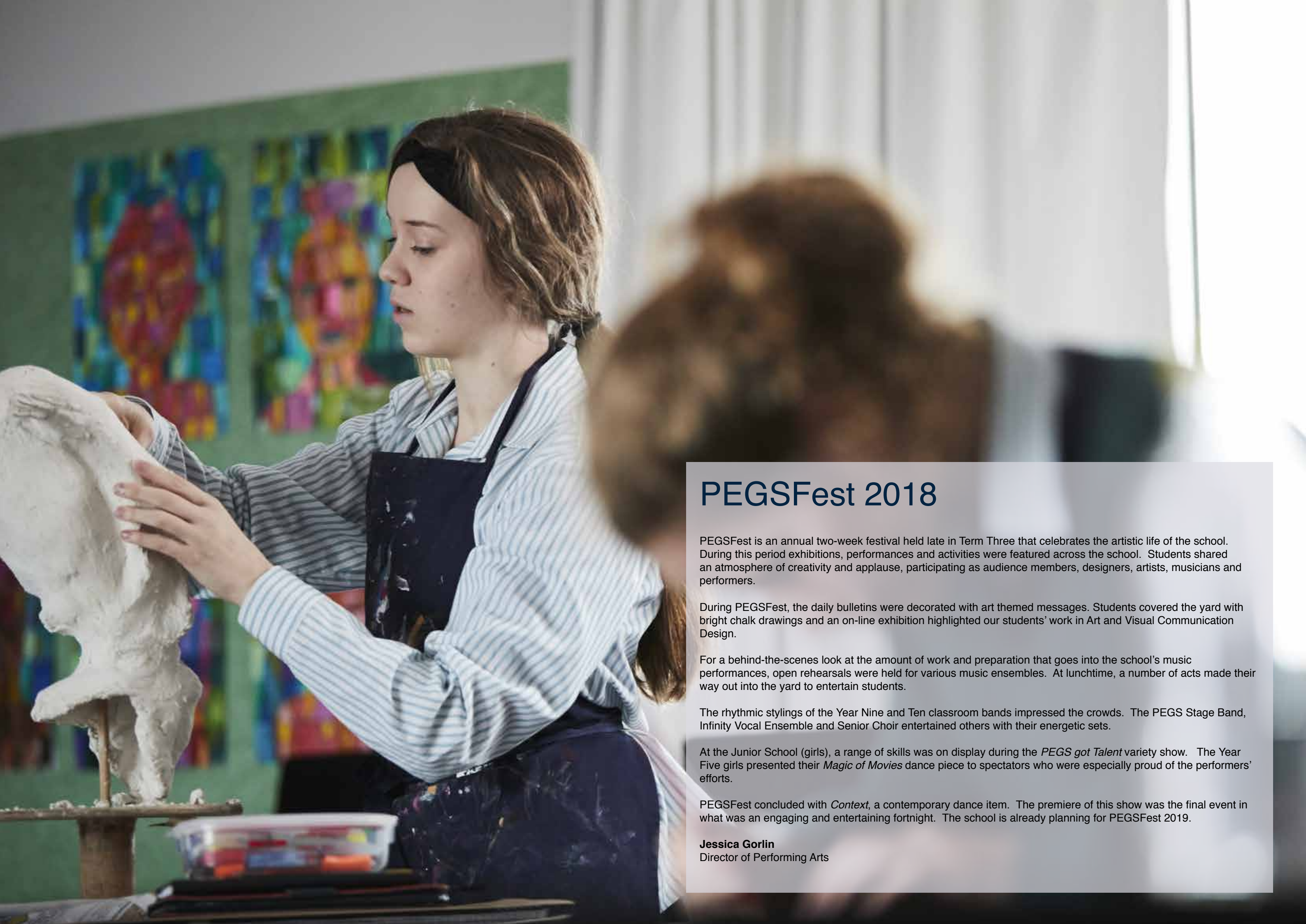
Suzuki Concerts are always enjoyable. Many of these children are performing for the first time and it is wonderful to see and hear their confidence and well-prepared musical playing. We also had two VCE Music Performance recitals where students performed their programme for critique from the panel and a supportive audience of parents and friends. There were some polished performances, especially from the Unit Four musicians, whose final recitals occur before the VCE written examinations.

During this final period of the year we also prepared for the Carol Service at St Paul's Cathedral, Carols in Queen's Park, the Junior Christmas Concert and Suzuki Graduations and concerts.

**Amanda Rowarth**  
Director of Music







## PEGSFest 2018

PEGSFest is an annual two-week festival held late in Term Three that celebrates the artistic life of the school. During this period exhibitions, performances and activities were featured across the school. Students shared an atmosphere of creativity and applause, participating as audience members, designers, artists, musicians and performers.

During PGSFest, the daily bulletins were decorated with art themed messages. Students covered the yard with bright chalk drawings and an on-line exhibition highlighted our students' work in Art and Visual Communication Design.

For a behind-the-scenes look at the amount of work and preparation that goes into the school's music performances, open rehearsals were held for various music ensembles. At lunchtime, a number of acts made their way out into the yard to entertain students.

The rhythmic stylings of the Year Nine and Ten classroom bands impressed the crowds. The PGS Stage Band, Infinity Vocal Ensemble and Senior Choir entertained others with their energetic sets.

At the Junior School (girls), a range of skills was on display during the *PEGS got Talent* variety show. The Year Five girls presented their *Magic of Movies* dance piece to spectators who were especially proud of the performers' efforts.

PEGSFest concluded with *Context*, a contemporary dance item. The premiere of this show was the final event in what was an engaging and entertaining fortnight. The school is already planning for PGSFest 2019.

**Jessica Gorlin**  
Director of Performing Arts



# Context

The Dance Company presented *Context* late in Term Three. It was an energetic and intelligent work that was, at the same time, light, joyful and contemporary. The audience was entertained by its transformational approach.

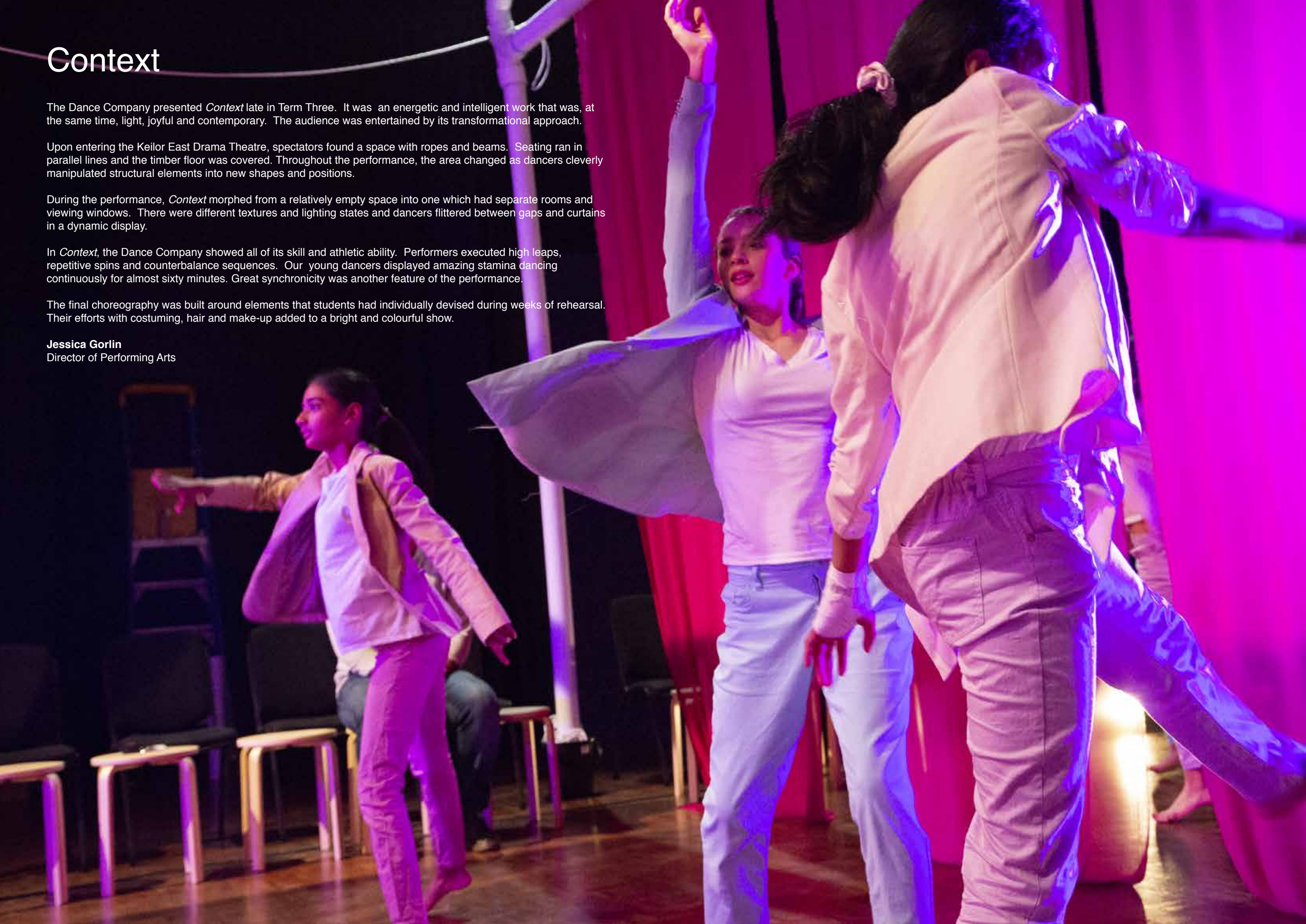
Upon entering the Keilor East Drama Theatre, spectators found a space with ropes and beams. Seating ran in parallel lines and the timber floor was covered. Throughout the performance, the area changed as dancers cleverly manipulated structural elements into new shapes and positions.

During the performance, *Context* morphed from a relatively empty space into one which had separate rooms and viewing windows. There were different textures and lighting states and dancers flittered between gaps and curtains in a dynamic display.

In *Context*, the Dance Company showed all of its skill and athletic ability. Performers executed high leaps, repetitive spins and counterbalance sequences. Our young dancers displayed amazing stamina dancing continuously for almost sixty minutes. Great synchronicity was another feature of the performance.

The final choreography was built around elements that students had individually devised during weeks of rehearsal. Their efforts with costuming, hair and make-up added to a bright and colourful show.

**Jessica Gorlin**  
Director of Performing Arts





# Athletics successes

*Desire is the key to motivation, but it's determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal - a commitment to excellence - that will enable you to attain the success you seek.*

Mario Andretti

The 2018 Athletics season has been extremely successful for the school with a number of gold medals being won at the State Championships.

At junior level both James Sarris and Dilan Egodawatte represented the school in the 800m final. In addition, Dilan competed in the state 1500m final. Both boys ran extremely well with James finishing seventh and Dilan becoming our first state champion, in memory, from Junior School boys. Later in the afternoon, Dilan lined up again for the 1500m. A convincing win gave Dilan a second state title.

At the secondary level, Hannah Brodie goes from strength to strength. In October, Hannah attended a training camp at the AIS in Canberra and recently she competed in the Athletics Victoria All Schools State Championships where she won gold in the Under 15 Discus. This qualified her to compete at the National Championships Cairns in December.

In addition, in August, the senior boys competed in the Victorian Relay Championships. Teos Papafotiou, Hamish Neo, Charlie Assaf and Adam Dawton have been very committed to each other and desirous of success together. Together they won the Under 20 4 x 100m Relay.

**Catherine Lane**  
Director of Sport



L-R: Adam Dawton, Charlie Assaf, Hamish Neo and Teos Papafotiou, Victorian Under 20 4X100m Relay Champions

# UN Youth Voice state finals

The United Nations Youth Voice programme is a public speaking competition that asks participants from Years Seven to Ten to propose solutions to pressing global issues, lobby for their consideration and defend their validity.

On Friday 9 November, students of McNab and Gottliebse Houses capped off a successful season of debating and public speaking with a strong showing at the UN Youth Voice state finals.

Ruby Cullen (Year Eight) addressed the growing issue of foreign interference in Western electoral processes. Ruby demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the vulnerabilities of electronic voting infrastructure and made meaningful suggestions as to how they could be addressed. She also proposed specific regulations relating to political donations and social media advertising.

Ruchi Bath-Samarakoon (Year Eight) considered the question of how the international community can more effectively coordinate the processing of asylum seekers. Ruchi's proposal focused on harnessing the power of artificial intelligence to streamline the translation and interpretation of applications for political asylum.

Ruby was declared overall winner of the Junior Division and Ruchi received an honorable mention. Both Ruby and Ruchi have now qualified to attend the UN Youth Voice national finals, which will be held in Perth in 2019. This is a remarkable achievement and a notable testament to the culture of critical thinking fostered at PEGS.

**Christopher Bardsley**  
Public Speaking Coordinator, McNab House



Ruby Cullen



Ruchi Bath-Samarakoon





# From the Archives

Brigid Cooper Archivist

## 2018 - Year of Peace

As you can see from a selection of student writings published in the yearly magazines, The Triune (Essendon Grammar School) and the Black Watch (Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies' College) during the Vietnam War period, young people were concerned about the wider world around them. They were inspired by moon landings, the conflict in Vietnam, the threat of atomic war, the Peace and civil rights movements to express their hopes and fears for the future. Many talk of their desire for peace and their distaste of war and violence. It is interesting to read these messages more than 50 years later.

### EGS Triune 1968

#### Headmaster's Report – Speech Night 1968 – Rev H R (Bert) Stevens

Year 1968 was not a really happy year for schools or students anywhere. There has been great unrest among many student populations, and this unrest has transmitted itself albeit not physically, but at least spiritually to all students. I must confess that I have not been entirely happy with 1968. We have not had the same student riots nor have we had any great troubles, but a feeling of unrest and uneasiness has in many ways pervaded all our lives.



Dress-Up Day 1965 with junior students from both Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies' College and Essendon Grammar School (PEGS Archives [PH04721])

### EGS Triune 1965, p.17

#### The Future – by Anon.

A wine-red river flows through a troubled land  
Through a pock-marked maze of black, charred hills.  
Great towns and cities have come and gone,  
Disappeared as moving sand.  
Why do your warships sail through my waters?  
A great bomb falling through the sky.  
Our fellow creatures burnt, twisted bodies;  
The wrath that ignorance incurs.  
But death need not be brought by atom!

If we destroy nature, we destroy mankind,  
And the chemicals falling on our land and waters  
Beckon mass destruction to come.  
And the ugly highways, the billboard strangling  
vegetation,  
The car wrecks on the heath,  
The dams which silt our rivers,  
All these things bring silent death.  
The factories pour out pollution; can life survive?  
And with the air we breathe?  
This world is one of destruction,  
A world which apathy will not leave.

### Black Watch 1969, p.26-7

#### In Retrospect - by Wendy Fraser, Form VC

Looking back over twenty years, I remember 1969 as one of (if not the most) important year in man's history. It was in this year that the greatest achievement in man's history was accomplished. In 1969, man landed on the moon, fulfilling a dream that for centuries had captivated the thoughts of men all over the world. The moon landing brought with it an awareness of brotherly love through the fact that man (that he was an American was not important) had conquered the moon. This awareness of man as a whole perhaps prompted President Nixon of the United States to attempt to step up efforts for peace in the ridiculous blood-bath called Viet-Nam. Though a dream for many had been fulfilled in the lunar landing, the same year saw the death of North Vietnamese leader Ho-Chi-Minh who did not live to see his dream - the unification of Viet-Nam.

Viet-Nam was not the only tragedy of the International scene - A small country in Africa, called Biafra, declared its independence from Nigeria and caused such misery and starvation to men, women and children in the resulting war that man was to wonder whether the multi-million dollar lunar landing was really worth it, with such poverty and primitiveness existing on earth.

In Australia I remember many things that happened in 1969. The year in Australia was one of tragedy and happiness. One tragedy I remember vividly was the train crash between the Southern Aurora, the pride of Australia's railway, and a goods train, resulting in the loss of a number of lives.

I remember such happy occasions as the first snow fall Melbourne had experienced for eighteen years - and the first one I had seen in my life. Tiny, white flakes drifted from the sky bringing with them one of the coldest Springs since weather was recorded in Australia. From a snow fall to the pop world and the arrival of controversial rhythm and blues singer Mick Jagger sticks out of my memory like a bright light. Jagger was going to play Ned Kelly in a film about the bushranger's life. However, discussions over Jagger's suitability for the part soon gave way to other choice topics, among them the Federal Treasurer's controversial budget, giving aid to private schools while neglecting the need for aid on the side of the government schools.

All these items, from the futuristic lunar landing, to the barbarity that was Biafra still shine vivid in my memory and guaranteed a prominent place for 1969 in the history books.

### Black Watch 1969, p.22

#### If I had Three Wishes - by Susan Kirby, Grade 6

If I had three wishes my first wish would be that the war in Vietnam would stop, and everyone would make friends.

My second wish would be that all the starving people throughout the world would have food and clothing. My last wish would be that every one in the world had good health and no one would be poor.

### The Triune 1976

#### War - Gregor Evans, Form 1

Aeroplane engines start to ebb,  
I wonder what I can hear?  
Then I find out it's the time I dread,  
War is very near.

My Dad is going to join the army,  
I feel very sad,  
Then I think, "He is serving his country"  
And then I don't feel so bad.

Danger is just around the bend,  
The guns begin to roar,  
I hope it will soon end,  
Gee? I hate war.

At last the war is over,  
And those who did fall,  
The total is many dead,  
And they died to save us all.

### EGS Triune 1969

#### Pax Christi – by A Pogmore, Form 5 Commerce

Another bullet flew today,  
Another child was killed;  
Another hole was dug today,  
Another grave was filled.

Another time; another place;  
A Saviour crucified,  
Christ, Redeemer of our race,  
For those who kill, he died.

Another day shall dawn sometime,  
I lift my prayer to God;  
When man shall cease his senseless crime,  
Making not war, but love.



# PEGS Business Network

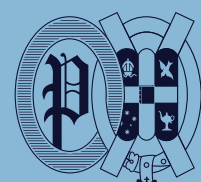
The PEGS Business Network held its End of Year Celebration event on Friday 16 November at The Bank on Collins. Always a popular event to finish the year, over 80 attendees enjoyed a casual and social event of networking, connecting and meeting old and new faces.

A big thank you to our partners Essendon BMW and Hodges Real Estate Ascot Value who hosted the event which included some great business card draw prizes.

With 2019 upon us, the PEGS Business Network is excited to announce a new event calendar and new initiatives that will continue to provide parents, former students and current students with opportunities within our business community.

On behalf of the PEGS Business Network Committee, thank you to everyone who has been involved in 2018 and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

**Jordan Leask**  
Head of PEGS Business Network



# PEGS BUSINESS NETWORK

# Former Students' Association News

## Alumni Spotlight Stefan Galbo, Class of 2006

Stefan Galbo is a member of the PEGS Business Network Committee and holds a position in Corporate Finance & Advisory at accounting and business advisory firm, PKF Melbourne.

*What have you been doing since leaving PEGS in 2006?*

Whilst working part time as a data analyst at an investment research provider I completed a Bachelor of Business (Professional Accountancy) at RMIT University. I held full time positions at mid-tier accountancy firms whilst continuing my studies, completing a Graduate Diploma of Chartered Accounting with Chartered Accountant Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) and a Graduate Diploma of Applied Finance (Corporate Finance) at Kaplan as well as becoming an Accredited Business Valuation Specialist with CAANZ.

The past 12 years haven't just been all work and study. I have volunteered my time with the Footys4all charity and several professional networks, travelled frequently throughout Europe and more recently the USA and spent a few seasons playing football at Old Essendon Grammar, now PEGS FC, which was a great way to stay involved with the PEGS community.

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

The co-curricular opportunities were certainly a highlight for me. PEGS provided me with opportunities outside of academic studies through sport and importantly language and culture.

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

The PEGS BN is a professional network of PEGS alumni as well as current and former parents focused on connecting and engaging business professionals within the PEGS community as well as mentoring young PEGS alumni.

It was certainly something of interest to me both to stay connected with the PEGS community and to continue to develop my own professional network. Over my professional career I've found that it is the development of professional relationships that are most important in business and when you have a common connection, such as through PEGS, this only helps to strengthen those professional relationships.

It's exciting at how quickly the PEGS BN has developed and I would encourage PEGS alumni as well as current and former parents to join and attend our future events.

*Tell us about PKF Melbourne?*

PKF Melbourne is a full service accountancy and advisory provider and the ninth largest accountancy network in Australia as well as having over 400 international offices. Our Corporate Finance team is focused on merger and acquisition services, valuations and transaction support services.

As part of the PKF Corporate Finance team I provide corporate advisory services to both private and public market participants with a focus on valuations, mergers and acquisitions, divestments and business sales and growth acceleration strategy.

At PKF Melbourne we have a group of PEGS alumni with associations back as far as the current PKF Australia CEO

(Class of 1969) and it would be great to add more PEGS alumni to the growing PKF Melbourne office.

*What's your favourite memory of PEGS?*

Whenever I'm with former classmates we always have a "remember that time" moment when we reminisce about memories from the classroom and times in the yard, at Camp, Saturday morning sport and even the popular Year 9 RAMEC programme.

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

Three fundamental pieces of advice for the transition from student life to professional life that worked for me are the following:  
Maintain a mixed and balanced lifestyle, take time away from your studies and find an interest that lets you unwind either through exercise, reading or some other activity.

Try to develop practical experience early in your career. There is no substitute for practical experience so whatever your career aspirations or interests, find yourself part time or casual work in that field to complement your studies. Your academic qualifications are there to validate your practical expertise.

Finally, you're never too young to build and develop professional relationships and networks.

*What do you do in your spare time?*

Spending time with family and friends is always a priority. I also focus on staying active through boxing and cycling. This helps me unwind and keep a clear mind. I'm currently in that age bracket where spare time is quickly filled with weddings, christenings and 30th birthday celebrations but I like to find time to get out of Melbourne with my wife and friends.





## Senior Coach re-signs

PEGS Football Club is pleased to announce that Senior Coach Dane Pound has re-signed for the next two seasons and will again lead the club in 2019. A former PEGS student (Class of 2002), Dane joined PEGS FC as a senior player in 2011 and won a Reserves Premiership as a player in 2014. Dane led the club to the D-Section Preliminary Final in his first season as Senior Coach in 2016, before orchestrating arguably the greatest Grand Final comeback in VAFA history to win the D-Section Premiership in 2017. With PEGS down by 57 points to St Mary's Salesian in the second quarter, PEGS kicked 15 goals to 3 to run out 11 point winners. That year Dane was awarded VAFA Coach of the Year.

With many injuries to players and other members heading overseas in 2018, PEGS FC had an inconsistent year but one that saw a lot of positives within its group of younger players. Dane is excited to continue with the club and sees an exciting future ahead with the club boasting a crop of young and talented former students, including Max Philpot, Harrison Wade, Scott Whillas and Tom McConville, to join a strong mix of experienced talent.

Dane is highly respected amongst the PEGS community and has shown amazing commitment to his players, the club, the school and leading PEGS football into the future.



## Honoured in Mongolia

The Former Students Association acknowledges the outstanding achievement of former student, Dr Kym Jansen (Class of 1984), and parent of Riley Bult (Class of 2015) and Erin Bult (Class of 2017). Dr Jansen is one of four doctors to have been awarded the Mongolian Silver Friendship Medal in a private audience with the Mongolian President in July 2018 for their contribution to health care in Mongolia.

As stated in Australian Medicine - August 2018

*The medal is the highest honour bestowed upon a foreign citizen by the Mongolian Government, and is solely given to foreigners who have contributed to strengthening the collaboration between their country and Mongolia through their work.*

*These amazing doctors have been visiting Mongolia annually for the past 10 years.*

*The group initially concentrated on promoting minimally invasive gynaecological surgery but recently expanded their role to encompass all aspects of women's health, including anaesthetic care. The affiliation has seen rapid advances in surgical, anaesthetic and obstetric care.*

*The group has recently formed the Mongolian Australian Medical Affiliation (MAMA) – Women's Health and plan to continue their collaboration.*

## 20 Year Reunion Class of 1998

### Saturday 25 August 2018

Cheers to 20 years!

In a world of social media where we know everything about one another, what more could possibly be learnt by attending our 20 year school reunion? On Saturday 25 August, 76 members of the Class of '98 sought to find out. It was our chance to explore beyond the 'show reel' we present online, and uncover the 'behind the scenes'.

It was an absolute joy to be able to reminisce with old friends over memories; memories which I can now appreciate become more precious and valuable to us over time. Since last seeing one another we've commonly experienced the best and worst that life has to offer; there's been love, loss, marriage, separation, children, re-locations and career achievements.

Although our faces may have changed (ok, aged), looking into the eyes of the 76 individuals with whom I shared such an important time of my young life, I was transported me right back to the PEGS Keilor East campus from which we graduated in '98.

The evening seemed to fly by as fast as the last 20 years have done and we left each other with promises to catch up again. In another 10 years.

**Ingrid Nicolaides**





# 30 Year Reunion Class of 1988

Saturday 8 September 2018

On a chilly Saturday spring evening about 65 of the PEGS Class of '88 gathered for our 30 year reunion. It was a night to rekindle friendships, test the memory and to see who else was going to show up!

Two of our number travelled back from overseas just to see everyone – while photos from 'mini reunions' of others who couldn't make it because they were overseas - were posted to the Class of '88 Facebook group along with messages to old friends.

For those that were there, it took a measure of courage to face the fact that we are the age our parents were when they were paying those school fees (none of us had any real appreciation back then). Speaking of courage – a special shout out to teacher Alan Shipp for coming along (we mustn't have been that bad after all).

It was a virtual and a real event. Always a little anxiety-inducing, mostly the nerves dissipated as each person realised they really did recognise at least a few people when they walked in the door to The Coburg Boot Factory – and 'the vibe of the thing' took over. That 'vibe' was the warmth of a group that shares memories of a time and place where we formed important, intense friendships and understandings of whom and how we wanted to be.

2018 found us all a bit kinder and wiser than we were back then, having weathered a few of life's ups and downs. We remembered those of us who are no longer with us, and treasured the chance to recognise in each other that the Class of '88 spark is alive and kicking.

**Alicia Kokocinski**



# 40 Year Reunion Class of 1978

Saturday 20 October 2018

Hot on the heels of the Caulfield Cup, 70 trusty souls repaired to the Leveson Hotel in North Melbourne to celebrate the splendour of our youth from 40 years before. Conversations, laughs and mimicry all brought back the atmosphere of life for the students of PEGS 1978. Friendships forged from the time were counterpoised with new experiences to talk with students we may not have known so well. Many identified surprising overlaps and links that had occurred since school, whether through friends, children, or work activities. The warmth among the attendees was sincere with a number kicking on well into the night; some things never change! Many of the attendees, as well as some unable to attend, resolved that ten years was too long between get-togethers and expressed the hope that with the use of Facebook we could meet every five years.

Thanks to the committee consisting of Karen Landgren, Judith Glazner, Kylie Harding, and John Reece, and congratulations to the stupendous achievement of Principal Tony Larkin who commenced his long tenure at PEGS 40 years ago as a Year Twelve Maths teacher. Finally, a big "thank you" to the Former Students' Association team, including Lisa Leask, Leigh Philpot, and Anthony Simpson for your support.

**Andrew Cope**





## FSA Functions 2019

**AGM** – Monday 18 March 2019

**10 Year Reunion** – Saturday 27 July 2019

**20 Year Reunion** – Saturday 24 August 2019

**30 Year Reunion** – Saturday 7 September 2019

**40 Year Reunion** – Saturday 19 October 2019

**Golf Day** – Monday 16 December 2019

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

2019 Dates – 13 March, 10 July and 13 November

**Class of 1969 – 50 Year Reunion**

**Saturday 4 May 2019**

Contact Ian McLeod (EGS) on 0419 593 303 or [ian051@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ian051@optusnet.com.au) or Christine Angus (Penleigh) on [chrisangusmail@gmail.com](mailto:chrisangusmail@gmail.com) for more information.

## PEGS Business Network Functions

There will be four major events for the PEGS Business Network in 2019. Dates will be confirmed in early 2019.

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

**Diana Nganchau Nguyen** [Class of 2014], sister of Andy [Class of 2013] and Britney (current student), on 15 September 2018, aged 21.

**Peter Pierce** (PEGS Staff 1988 - 1997), husband of Rae Pierce (PEGS Principal 1988 – 1997), father of Catherine [Class of 1997], on 4 September 2018, aged 68.

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

Friends of PEGS held its Annual Craft Market at the Essendon campus on Saturday 13 October 2018. It was a glorious sunny day with lots of music from the school ensembles, wonderful performances by the junior classes, delicious food and drink options, a variety of arts and crafts on sale from our many stall holders as well as exciting rides that kept everyone entertained.

A huge thank you to the committee members, parent volunteers, school staff and the maintenance team whose tireless efforts and commitment make it such an exceptional event every year.

A special thank you to Vice President, Suzanne Startseff, who goes above and beyond to make sure the day runs smoothly every year. An amazing effort once again.

All funds raised at this event contribute to the purchase of equipment to be used by students across all campuses.



## Raffle Prize winners:

First Prize - Zuanyi Mo  
Second Prize - Anna Marsh  
Third Prize - S Haigh  
Fourth Prize - Kristie Falzon  
Fifth Prize - Rose Christou  
Sixth Prize - Nhon Yeung

Teddy Bear Hunt Prize Winner – Julian Nash

Lolly Jar Lucky Guess Winner – Savanna Yacoub









# 2019 Dates for the Diary

## Term One

Tuesday 29 January - Friday 5 April

## Term Two

Tuesday 29 April - Friday 28 June

## Term Three

Tuesday 16 July - Friday 13 September

## Term Four

Monday 7 October - Wednesday 11 December

## Former Students' Association

18 March - Annual General Meeting

27 July - 10 Year Reunion

24 August - 20 Year Reunion

7 September - 30 Year Reunion

19 October - 40 Year Reunion

16 December - Golf Day

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

