

PENLEIGH AND ESSENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOI

# Altior et Sapientior

**March 2021** 



From the Principal

It is perhaps unsurprising that our first edition of Altior et Sapientior is bursting at the seams with stories of opportunity. Last year, we spent a lot of time lamenting lost opportunities, but also celebrating new and previously unimagined opportunities that emerged from the fog of COVID-19. While life hasn't entirely returned to normal in 2021, we are nevertheless having many conversations that highlight just how grateful we are for the opportunity to be together again as a school community.

The stories shared by students and staff members in this publication celebrate the many and varied opportunities on offer at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School. But more than that, they celebrate the character of the people who make up our community and who create and take these opportunities.

We note the creativity and energy of the performing arts staff who provide wonderful opportunities for our students to communicate, learn and collaborate through drama. We admire the courage of the students who audition for these productions, taking risks and experiencing nervousness, discomfort and challenge. We applaud the resilience of students who don't get a role this time around, but who will try again next time.

We see, also, the qualities of generosity and care on display when our student leaders across a range of year levels, speak about their goals – ideas about inclusion, helping other students feel safe, and serving their community. The same level of care and thoughtfulness is evident when we hear about all that our Camp staff have done to help students feel safe returning to Eildon Camp this year.

As well as seeking out opportunities to celebrate positive examples of culture and character, we also understand that when we are genuine about being our best, we will take opportunities to reflect, and try harder. These moments of reflection are also captured here as we consider how our interactions with the people around us- our verbal and non-verbal language, our behaviour can tell a story about us as individuals and as a community, and whether those stories reflect who we really want to be.

Our theme for this year, '2021: Count me in' demands this of us. It prompts us to reflect on the kind of culture we want to be part of, and how we can take action every day that can shape that culture. It asks us to actively participate in school life, to push ourselves, and to learn more about ourselves and what we can accomplish. It encourages us to approach life with a spirit of endeavour, and a sense of passion, determination and drive.

There is a great sense of optimism and excitement within our community as we have been able to embrace the opportunities that are now available to us again. However, I hope we can also take the chance to reflect on the opportunity we every day have to contribute to an inclusive culture, where everyone feels safe and respected.

Kate Dullard

# **VCE 2020**

The Class of 2020 faced extraordinary challenges in their final year at school, and at every point, they revealed to us what remarkable young people they are. We could not have been more proud of the way they approached the year and the way they supported each other and chose not to dwell on disappointment, but instead, embrace the opportunities that were available.

The VCE results achieved by this cohort confirm all that we know about PEGS students: the boldness, courage, leadership, generosity, willingness to collaborate, care and resilience that we see on display from our students every single day were illustrated in the most unambiguous way. This willingness to take on a challenge and the determination to see it through comes from being part of a strong and proud culture, where you know that when it gets difficult, you feel comfortable asking for support and you trust that there are people around you who will help you through it.

Some highlights of the results from the 2020 cohort include:

- 5% of the cohort achieved ATARs of 99.5 or above, placing them in the top 0.5% in the state
- 25% of the cohort achieved ATARs of 95 or above, placing them in the top 5% in the state
- 45% of the cohort achieved ATARs of 90 or above, placing them in the top 10% in the state
- · Study scores of 50 were achieved on twelve occasions, across six different subjects: Australian and Global Politics, Biology, English, Further Mathematics, Mathematical Methods and Physical Education.
- The median study score was 35 and 23% of study scores were 40 or above.
- The duces were Eric Lee and John Miao, both of whom achieved an ATAR of 99.95, and Jennifer Tran, who achieved an ATAR of 99.85. Martin Nguyen and Jack Radovanovic both achieved an ATAR of 99.9, and Jaidyn Sessa and Jackson Coombs also achieved an ATAR of 99.85.
- · Saskia Paxton achieved two perfect study scores of 50, in English and Australian and Global Politics
- · Isaac Galea was awarded the Moonee Valley Encouragement Award, and was also recognised as the top secondary school student at the Holmesglen Furniture, Joinery, Shopfitting and Glazing Awards

The success of our students in their VCE also led to 93% of students receiving offers in their first or second tertiary course of preference.

These results are outstanding. However, there are many other successes achieved by the 2020 cohort which have not been listed here and cannot be quantified. We hope our students are all proud of what they achieved in 2020, and over many years in their time at PEGS.

#### Kate Dullard













# The power of words

Always drawn to the pleasures of listening, reading and writing, I quietly enjoy the extraordinary impact that well-chosen words can achieve. From novel or sonnet to recipe (who can resist words like 'crispy, golden crunch'?), the combination of well-balanced cadence, prescient imagery and tactful modulation of well-chosen words brings me pure joy.

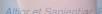
Occasionally, though I am reminded that words also have the power to wreak great harm. When words of hatred, intolerance and prejudice are delivered deliberately and maliciously or even recklessly and thoughtlessly, they cause pain and distress. While there is much to celebrate and to admire in our students, sometimes the words they bestow upon the ears and eyes of their peers are unacceptable.

That's when I wish I could simply erase the harmful jibes; obliterate the scrawled or spoken messages of unkindness and malice and expunge all trace of an intolerant comment. While I can't erase these words; I do commit to continuing to educate our students so they will demand from themselves a higher standard of behaviour and accountability for the wellbeing of others.

In 2021, the year of 'Count me in', it has never been more important that our community join as one to ensure our collective wellbeing. Words have immense potential, both positive and negative, so we all must take responsibility for our choices and 'say no' to language that offends, derides or harms.

We want our students to understand the impact of words. Help them to see the pain that words can cause when, laced with spite and ignorance they are fired off in a text, sent in a Snapchat or served up in the yard. Our students need to count themselves in and step up. It is not acceptable that any student here is the target of slurs or taunts. Not today, not ever. At school, we are continuing to explore more effective ways to call out inappropriate words, to raise awareness, develop empathy and enable all our young people to feel safe and to become the best version of themselves that they can be.

Caroline Horton Andrews Head of Gottliebsen House





### **Return to Eildon**

After a challenging year in 2020 we are thrilled to welcome our students back to Eildon Camp. Our Eildon site is a stunning location with an abundance of Australian flora and fauna and fresh country air, however for a while there, something was missing. Our students!

The Outdoor Education team worked diligently for a safe return by ensuring all government requirements are met. We have systems and protocols in place and, as government advice changes, we remain agile and ready to meet the latest guidelines.

Whether the challenge involves water-based activities, the high ropes course, the climbing wall, hiking or camping we apply our carefully planned protocols and vast knowledge to ensure the safest possible experience.

On a social level, great opportunities exist to develop new relationships and to strengthen and nurture existing ones. Independent and creative thinking features through challenges provided, and student decision making skills are tested. Leadership traits emerge and planning skills come to the fore.

We understand that for some students there may be some apprehension associated with being away from home. Rest assured we care for our students, providing a programme based on our Two Pillars of Understanding, 'Care and Wellbeing' and a 'Culture of Thinking' so that we may nurture even more rounded and resilient young men and women.

Please visit the Eildon Camp page in PEGSpace to view a video about our return to camp.

**Colin Cooper**, Camp Coordinator **Paul Crouch**, Camp Manager





### Leading the way

One of the things that Larkin Centre prides itself on is the opportunities it gives to our students to discover and foster their own leadership abilities. I recently had the opportunity to speak to some of the Larkin Centre students about their thoughts on leadership as they take on positions of responsibility in 2021. Bevan Holder (Year Twelve) noted that the selection process for Triathlon Captain was arduous but he was able to draw upon his experience as a participant in the team over many years. A commitment to turning up early and encouraging the younger members of the squad is critical to being a good leader, Bevan says.

Helena Kayalikos (Year Twelve) similarly pointed out that her years of dedication to Drama was crucial to her selection as Leader, as was her willingness to talk to the Year Sevens in the Drama team to let them feel included. Romilly Ferraro (Year Twelve) felt that key ingredients of being Choir Leader are her willingness to lead by example and not to be afraid to make mistakes. Romilly used the words participation, commitment and perseverance to describe her philosophy on inspiring others.

Gevindu Wickramanayake and Athan Vass (both of Year Eleven) are co-Captains of the First Table Tennis team. Long-term members of the squad, they find that their experience helps them empathise with the younger players who are still honing their skills and developing their technique at this level.

Certainly Larkin Centre is helping to mould the leaders of the future and the younger students of PEGS have some very fine role models.

Luke Cashman Year Twelve Coordinator

## **Our Strategic Plan**

While the spectrum of light emitted from a source is usually random and multi directional, the laser harnesses light energy to produce a powerful tool to bore through metal, perform medical procedures, delight us with magical light shows and shine a light in our exploration in space. In a similar manner, our thinking about the future at PEGS is illuminated by multi directional expectations and many exciting ideas. We look to the development of a new Strategic Plan to harness these exciting ideas within our community to produce a high energy tool to guide the future needs of our school and students.

The school is approaching development of a new Strategic Plan with care and anticipation. The next step will include forums to allow parents, teachers and students to provide their input towards focusing our vision for teaching and learning and care and wellbeing at PEGS and refine the ways we can best make these goals a reality.

We hope that a broad range of community involvement will contribute to the success of this important process.

# An invitation to the feast .

One of many striking visuals from the film version of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* is the sumptuous feast provided for students on their first night at Hogwarts. The activities on offer at PEGS could be seen as their own kind of feast, with many and varied opportunities for students to explore different tastes and textures.

In the first month of Term One alone the young women of McNab House sat a general achievement assessment, completed a common writing task, began Maths Enrichment, swam in House swimming trials, played their first matches of a new sporting season, sang in the Choir, auditioned for two different drama productions, began instrumental music lessons, went to Camp, made Chess moves, volunteered for Debating, exercised their muscles in Warrior Women, mentored junior students and raised their voices for Social Justice.

However, a feast is not a feast unless it has diners, and diners must be invited to the table. Formal invitations to participate in the life of PEGS are many, but just as important are the informal actions that our girls take every day. Joyous greetings on the first day of school, shifting slightly to encourage someone to join a group at lunchtime, volunteering for an activity together, and simply acting respectfully in class and in the yard are all signals that invite students to say 'Count me in' to our community and all it has to offer.

Anthony Simmons Head of McNab House



### Leadership at Junior School (girls)

There are a variety of Captains appointed at Year Six each year - House, Class, Music, Netball, Swimming and other sport captains. These leaders were very clear in their articulation of the expectations attendant on their role; that it was not just about the wearing of the badge and presentations at assembly, but the message that they imparted through their daily actions.

Madeleine, a Year Six Class captain, felt strongly about welcoming new students and ensuring no student felt leftout. Celeste, the Dance Captain, said that it was her role to be encouraging, to promote the message that every girl can do their best to improve. Sophie, one of the House Captains for Chaucer said that the most vital aspect of her role was to encourage participation, and Angelina, Swim Captain, said that one of her first actions was to let team members know that it was their endeavour towards a personal best rather than winning that was important.

All of the girls were aware that their selection was predicated on the observed elements of "servant" leadership, such as listening, empathy, persuasion, awareness and positive interaction and that they were voted in by their peer group. As such, they felt the responsibility not only to live up to these expectations, but to exceed them.

There are carnivals, concerts, competitions and Social Service Week to look forward to, and many ideas to bring these to fruition. These remarkable girls are up for the challenge.

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



The promotion of leadership skills is a key facet within Junior School (boys). Teachers and students consistently discuss and model how to stand up for what is right, how to be a good friend and a positive bystander, how to be courageous in one's thinking and how to take the lead in a variety of situations.

Our students demonstrate leadership on a daily basis, including setting a high standard of behaviour, ensuring that their peers have somebody to play and collaborate with, welcoming and supporting new students to the school, participating in programmes such as our Prep and Year Six buddy programme and volunteering to perform in front of an audience.

In addition to this, our Year Six students have the opportunity to demonstrate leadership through a range of formalised positions, including our House Captain and Swimming Captain positions. Our House Captains for 2021 are Bailey Harding and Arian Davis (Bradman), Lachlan Gilbertson and Eli Ravech (Elliott), Roman Yacoub and Samay Nagpal (Reynolds) and Max Mihailidis and Zachary Skalberg (Rose). Our Swimming Captains for 2021 are Tommy Le and Charlie De Fazio.

Within their leadership positions, these boys will guide and support our younger students, encourage their fellow house members, represent the school and demonstrate creative and critical thinking and role model behaviours at all times. Later in the year, further student leadership positions will be announced within the areas of Music and Sport. We know all these boys will do a wonderful job as captains and will inspire us all.

#### Meredith Adams

Deputy Head of Junior School (boys)







### Identity

At PEGS Kindergartens, each child is recognised and valued for who they are and for their active citizenship within our community. Developing a strong sense of identity builds a positive image of self, leading to good decision making and respectful engagement with others and making authentic connections. Giving purpose and meaning to our lives, it is not only vital to each child's sense of belonging within our kindergarten community but also for their ongoing sense of self in the wider world.

Each year in Term One we prioritise the nurturing of relationships within our educational programmes. We support children to make connections with others and invite them to unpack the meaning of friendship. We value each child as a unique individual and encourage peers to listen intently to each other We use these opportunities to observe the children's interactions with others and analyse their understanding of relationships to shape the direction of our programmes.

Through our play-based programme, the children have many opportunities to explore relationships and construct their understanding of themselves as they initiate or join in play, respond to their peers, share resources and ideas, negotiate play spaces, share in humour and advocate for their rights. Our inquiry approach supports the children's exploration of relationships by posing questions, facilitating discussions and encouraging democratic decision making.

This term the children have transitioned smoothly into their cottages. They are making new friendships and connections with their peers, educators and learning environments, supporting them to feel safe, confident and an important part of the PEGS community.

Lauren Olcorn Director of Kindergartens

## **Welcome Preps**

On 1 February the Prep class of 2021 came bravely through the gates, ready for their first day of school. The boys soon settled into their classrooms, getting to know their teachers and meeting new friends. They loved going on a walking tour of the school, where they discovered important places such as the library. Working together, they created classroom expectations to make sure everyone at school is happy and safe and able to thrive in their learning. The kindness they have shown to each other, both in the playground and the classroom, is a beautiful thing to behold.

The classrooms have been buzzing with energy. From stories, to mathematics games, singing, dancing and craft, the Preps are deeply engaged in their learning. Whether it is Art, P.E, Music or Chinese, the boys have dived into all of their specialist subjects with boundless enthusiasm.

When asked what the best part about Prep is, the boys answered:

"Learning and reading books" – Raphael V Prep X "Doing P.E class" – Jack B Prep X

"The playground" – Luka E Prep X

"Painting in art class" – Adem D Prep Y

"Playing with my friends and my buddy" - Isaac C Prep Y

"Playing games" – Rishi V Prep Y

"Learning to write with my teacher" – Xander T Prep Z

- "Playing outside with my friends" Junaid D Prep Z
- "Dance and Drama class" Oliver A Prep Z

Congratulations to the Preps for bringing a big smile to school every day. We are so excited to support you through all of the adventures that lie ahead in your bright futures.

#### Natasha Crawford

Prep Coordinator, Junior School (boys)



# **Starting Year Seven**

Year Seven - the year of transition to secondary school. Students at Gottliebsen House and McNab House shared their thoughts about the start to the new school year at a new Campus.

I came from a small primary school, so going to high school was always going to be a huge change. Only my twin sister and one boy in my year would be coming from our tiny school, so I knew basically no one. But then, at recess on the first day, I met seven amazing, welcoming girls who made me feel like I belonged.

A few weeks later came the first day of Chess Club. I didn't know what to do, or say, and when we were told to pair up, I sat alone at my table. But then a boy approached me, a Year Eight who didn't have a partner either. He offered to pair up, and we started talking. By the end of the session, I felt excited and ready for next week.

I knew I would have fun at Swimming meets from the start. I made friends with other girls in both the performance and skills squads, and when we weren't swimming, we were laughing and chatting.

Finally, Write Club arrived. One of my new friends and I both went and I felt at home immediately. Writing was always something I enjoyed, and having my friend there made it all the better.

My first few weeks at PEGS have been some of the best experiences of my life. Whatever comes next, you can be sure to count me in.

#### Lucy Howard

The weeks leading up to starting school this year were filled with endless conversations and questions about starting high school. The only question I had was whether my parents would drive me to school on the first day. I really wanted them to be there. I was petrified about this new experience as I did not go to the Junior School and did not know what to expect.

When the first day of school finally arrived, walking through a crowd of strangers was daunting. At last, the bell rang and I made my way to the classroom where a new chapter of my life would begin. The wait was over!

#### **Oliver Burns**

Starting Year Seven is daunting. It's the start of high school, of a different way of learning and, as some fear, of never-ending homework. However, Year Seven also means new beginnings, new friends, new teachers and new adventures.

Initially, I wondered how different it was going to be from Junior School. Would we still have to sit on the floor? Would our science classes be full of crazy explosions? Most importantly, what would be the canteen options?

Now, four weeks into the first term, I realise that while the next six years of school will be challenging, they will also create many exciting opportunities to share with the rest of the Class of 2026.

#### **Steven Iliopoulos**



### **Junior Girls Celebrate Women in Science**

To celebrate International Day of Women and Girls in Science, a day that recognises the critical role women and girls play in science and technology, guest speakers, Melanie Anderson and Samantha Singh, were invited to speak about their decision to choose a career in engineering. They gave examples of their work that included building bridges, overseeing quality control procedures for a yoghurt company and building a website for a famous cosmetics brand. The girls then worked in teams to solve a hands-on problem and discuss their solutions.

Students today are surrounded by examples of women making their mark in the fields of science, mathematics, engineering and technology. They see female doctors and nurses working on the frontline in our hospitals and listen as the female Chief Health Officers of NSW and Queensland give daily briefings on COVID-19. Many of us wouldn't have known what an epidemiologist did until Professor Catherine Bennett, an epidemiologist from Melbourne's Deakin University, began providing insights on the COVID-19 pandemic on television.

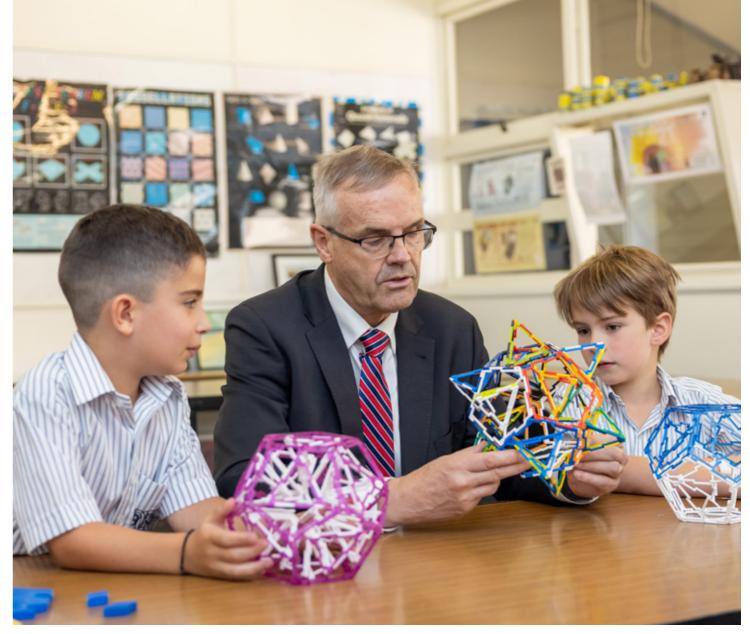
These wonderful examples of women reaching the peak of their chosen professions prove to our girls that they too can aim high and achieve anything with a growth mindset.

After hearing Melanie speak at a similar event last year a student went home and told her mother that she wanted to be an engineer. Who knows? Perhaps this year, someone will want to be an epidemiologist!

#### Lois McLeod

Years Five and Six Coordinator, Junior School (Girls)





### **Peter Maher OAM**

At the recent Australia Day Honours Awards our school community was thrilled that our Junior School (boys) Mathematics Coordinator, Mr Peter Maher, was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his services to education, particularly mathematics.

Mr Maher has been a teacher at PEGS for 46 years and is currently our longest serving staff member. Mr Maher encourages the boys to see the real-life connections of mathematics and is a constant source of inspiration to his students and colleagues. He is the author of many textbooks and his annual parent workshops are always highly engaging and informative.

A lesser-known fact about Mr Maher is that he was the instigator of the current boys' Houses, having sought permission from Sir Donald Bradman, Herb Elliott, Murray Rose and Dick Reynolds to use their names for our Houses. In recognition, the Gottliebsen House House Sport trophy is named the Peter Maher Cup.

Mr Maher's extraordinary impact on the school is witnessed daily as the boys race to his lessons and often want to continue problem solving well beyond the end of the class, having been excited and challenged by their time in the maths room.

The Junior School (boys) staff feel privileged to count Peter as a colleague and a friend. His professionalism, compassion and politeness are only matched by his sharp wit and humility.

#### Graeme Sharman Head of Junior School (boys)



### **9ERS at the Juniors**

For the first weeks of the 9ERS programme, I have taken part in mentoring. Every Wednesday afternoon, we visit the Junior School campus in Moonee Ponds and attend our allocated class. I can remember when I was their age and how excited I was when the 'big girls' came to help us.

I have had a range of classes with the Junior girls, including Music, Physical Education, Mathematics and General Studies. In the year of 'Count me in' it is empowering to see so many young women at work.

The 9ERS programme is one of the highlights of my week and I always look forward to it. In a short amount of time, it has taught me many things. I enjoy working with some of my peers in the classroom, as well as the teachers, to assist the girls with their learning. I especially enjoyed the experiments that were done in General Studies and I look forward to spending more time with them in weeks to come.

Amy Hawking Year Nine





### The best YOU

Our Year Tens have embraced their new role as the leaders of Gottliebsen House by starting 2021 positively. The excitement of being back on site was evident in the Year Level Meeting in our first week. An emphasis on role modelling to our younger students and the impact that this can have on shaping a culture that is inclusive, supportive and positive in nature forms an integral part of Year Ten. Our message around being 'The best YOU' was introduced as an overarching theme with discussion around the importance of 'grit', together with VCE transition, careers and managing wellbeing. Year Ten students have spent time completing surveys and questionnaires to assist them with setting goals for the year and beyond. The results of these surveys will continue to be discussed and explored this year.

Year Ten students were the first group of students to return to our Eildon Camp since early 2020 and this brought much excitement and anticipation! The Year Ten Camp experience is like no other, in the sense that it focuses largely on leadership and tenacity, with our students exploring further who they are and who they want to be in the future. Whilst our final two form groups were unable to attend their scheduled camp, due to the state-wide lockdown, we hope that they will be able to attend later in the year to enjoy the benefits of this experience.

David Halantas Year Ten Coordinator

## Year Nines and the Uoo Uoos

This term, the students have started their 9ers programme, which allows them to engage in a variety of different real-world experiences where they can learn valuable life skills, such as cooking, first aid, self-defence, and weight training, among others. The students at Gottliebsen House have approached this programme with an excited, open, and enthusiastic attitude, calling the activities "fun and exciting", and commenting that they are "learning important life skills which they can use in real life".

In order to explore and discover Melbourne, the Year Nines are searching for Victorian artist Alexander Knox's Uoo Uoo sculptures. The imaginary Uoo Uoo, created by Knox for the Royal Children's Hospital to celebrate its 150year anniversary, have been randomly placed around Melbourne and the Year Nines have taken to the footpaths in pursuit of them. They are documenting their findings in photographs and videos, in a project that they are hoping will culminate in a fundraising effort to support the Royal Children's Hospital.

#### Aphro Maio Year Nine Coordinator



### **Recycling initiative**

Australians use 130kg of plastic per person each year and unfortunately only 9% of that plastic is recycled. As we all share our planet, it is our responsibility to take care of it. Whether it is riding a bike to school instead of taking a car or making sure to throw rubbish in the bin, these small gestures help to conserve our planet.

Our Social Justice team is part of the 'REDcycle' programme that collects soft plastics to recycle them. The soft plastic is made into furniture for schools and kindergartens.

At the end of every week, a student member of our Social Justice team goes to the staff rooms and collects the soft plastic. The soft plastic is then gathered in a bag and taken to our local Coles or Woolworths for collection.

We hope that this initiative inspires PEGS students and their families to participate in this programme in their own homes.

Keilana Nguyen Year Ten, McNab House



## **Transition talk**

The transition from Gottie House to the Larkin Centre has been eventful to say the least. One of the two hundred and fifty newest residents of the senior school, I wasn't really sure what to expect walking through the arch for the first time.

Being mixed with the girls from McNab House, classes had a novel complexity to them. Moving at an all-new pace, homework was an unclimbable mountain. I felt out of my depth.

But between soccer commitments outside of school and studying for upcoming tests, I've come up with a better, more healthy routine than ever before. I have also been able to find ways to make the best use of my spare periods, alternating between the café, Kirby study area and the silent study room, Sculthorpe.

Now, having settled into my classes, and a few ATs under the belt, I can say with confidence that I've gotten the hang of things. I guess settling in wasn't all that daunting after all.

#### Louis Yates Year Eleven

I'm not going to lie, these first few weeks in the Larkin Centre have been really hard. Since Year Seven, I've been the type of student to constantly promise herself; "I'll knuckle down next year", only to start the new year and repeat the same process. I cannot stress enough the importance of sticking to your word and trying your very best to stay on top of your schoolwork transitioning to Year Eleven.

Once I established a routine that eliminated stress and exhaustion, I could indulge in time for myself and still do the things that I love like playing guitar and catching up with my friends. The most important thing is a steady work-life balance - without it, it's easy to burn out.

The Larkin Centre is all about independence; through communicating with teachers, self-discipline and effective forms of motivation, I can assure you that life will be much easier and that your success will skyrocket. Your final years of school are what you make of them, so trust me, adopt a great mindset from the get-go and everything will work out.

Darcy McGrath Year Eleven



### **Working together for action**

McNab and Gottliebsen Houses collaborated to mark International Women's Day and the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence.

Activities to mark International Women's Day included an interactive and collaborative poster where students wrote down stereotypes they wanted to challenge. This ties into the theme for this year of "choose to challenge". Students at McNab House focused on the empowerment of women by writing positive affirmations for female teachers and students. To help women in the wider community McNab students donated sanitary products to Share the Dignity which helps women experiencing homelessness. Students purchased ribbons and badges to show their support. Over \$400 was donated to the organisation called Sisterworks to help refugee and migrant women find work.

According to statistics from 'Bullying No Way', one in four Australian students from Years Four to Nine has reported being bullied every few weeks or more, and one in five students has reported online bullying within a single year. Our focus has been on empowering students to raise their individual and collective voice against this behaviour, building a community where no one is being discriminated against and everyone feels safe. On Friday19 March students across all campuses discussed bullying, the Bystander Code of Conduct, and made chains symbolising how each person would contribute to the fight against bullying.

We can all do our part by treating everyone with respect and continually improving our PEGS culture.

Luke Yuan, George Parras, Sophia Gibbons, Estelle Millard Year Ten

# **Women's Day Conversations**

At PEGS, we pride ourselves on a vibrant and diverse culture that can only be cultivated through meaningful and open dialogue. The Feminist Collective, a student-led initiative that advocates for both gender-specific and broader social issues, sparked such dialogue on 8 March during our International Women's Day lunchtime panel. The topic of gender representation in our media provided fertile ground for a fruitful and interesting discussion which engaged both students and teachers. Our well-spoken panellists raised issues concerning stereotypes, both overt and covert sexism, the portrayal of gender and its interplay with race, in the books, songs and movies we consume. If we accept that media both reflects and refracts the society it depicts, then it is our collective responsibility to lobby for better moral and ethical standards for consumers to aspire to. By amplifying the voices of women and other marginalised groups onscreen, we can pave the way for a more equitable and inclusive society off it.

Conversations about feminism could not have come at a more prescient time. In the wake of the sexual assault allegations besetting numerous private schools, we must examine our own culture and the mechanisms we have in place to prevent this type of behaviour. Specifically, we must hold men accountable for their actions and actively challenge the bystander mentality that abets sexism and sexual assault. The Feminist Collective alone cannot counteract an internalised culture of toxic masculinity that emboldens men to mistreat women, nor can we alleviate the resultant trauma and anxiety that many schoolgirls will carry with them for the rest of their lives. What we can do, however, is open a conversation, challenge the status quo, and demand better for ourselves and others.

Innnayat Brar Year Twelve



### Service

In 2020 Victoria's Auditor-General tabled a report in to Victoria's Homelessness Response. The report found that each year there are approximately 8600 Victorians who will sleep rough at least once. The report stated that: "People experiencing chronic homelessness or sleeping rough are among the most vulnerable in our community."

For Year Eleven student Shanice Lim and her mother, Cecilia, they did not need a report to tell them that people in their local community needed help, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. They started making home-cooked meals and distributing them on a Tuesday evening to locals experiencing homelessness or sleeping rough. Their regular distribution of meals extended to Christmas hampers, back-packs filled with essential sanitary items and sleeping bags. The pair are now well-known at the Queen Victoria Market. Attendees look forward to individualised care such as gluten-free and vegetarian meals.

When our Principal spoke to senior students at the beginning of the academic year, she asked them to consider how they might approach the school theme of 'Count me in'. Listening to Shanice speak about her service in the community she reflects on what she's learned over the past year: "Everyone, no matter who you are; just wants a normal life. The people we help are super grateful each week. They just want to be seen by everyone in society they do not want to be ignored or left out." Shanice is determined to count everyone in. Her leadership has made hundreds of Victorians feel valued, respected and above all: included.

#### Amanda Maitland-Smith

Year Eleven Coordinator



### **Dorset Elliot Charity Event**

During First Term, Dorset Elliot House had the opportunity to raise money for its chosen charity, the Indigenous Reading Project, which focuses on improving the reading ability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth through donations of books and educational resources. The charity is solely driven by donations from the public with no government funding. This fundraiser was our opportunity to unite PEGS as a community and lend a hand.

Along with our casual clothes day, at lunchtime, students and teachers had the opportunity to compete in a game of dodgeball - in our new gym! Which students wouldn't want to throw balls at teachers - and vice versa?! Thanks to our new facility at the Keilor East campus, we can look forward to countless more events such as this one!

The day was a huge success resulting in a donation of more than \$2,400 to our charity! Considering that support of one child for a year is \$200... our donation will be making a huge difference for these children. This is exactly what our House charities are all about and we're looking forward to seeing what the other House Captains introduce at their respective charity events later this year!

Charlotte Sutcliffe and Joseph Monitto Dorset Elliot House Captains

### **House competition**

What a roller coaster the House competition has already been and the year has only just begun.

As the end of 2020 approached, so did the Christmas assembly. So many late nights, constant emails, nervous laughs and missed lunchtimes went into organising the event - all worth it because by the end of the day, all the girls were smiling and laughing as they joined in and celebrated the Christmas festivities. Ms Kaloudis was a godsend throughout all this and made sure that House was beyond enjoyable for all the girls.

From the first day we hit the ground running as we planned this year's first event – the Athletics Carnival. We worked conscientiously to make it a great day for everyone and to let their abilities shine, only for it to be postponed because of the resented party pooper known as lockdown. But all was not lost - we now have the Swimming Carnival to look forward to.

The Year Sevens (our new best friends) had their swim trials in the second week of term. These girls were genuine speed monsters and it was absolutely mind-blowing to watch. We can't even describe how rewarding it was for us to completely destroy our voices cheering each of them on, and see their faces light up as they finished their race, triumphant of their efforts.

McNab House is bursting with talent, and we can't wait for the girls to experience all that House has to offer!

Onaya Peiris and Sienna Santefeumia Co-Captain and Co-Vice Captain, Dorest House Year Ten





### Junior Musical? COUNT ME IN!

I auditioned for *Spamalot* two years ago and was lucky enough to get a part. I found the experience so magical and amazing, and beneficial in so many ways, that I just had to do it again. The community is awesome and it was so much fun. Seeing it all come together shows what hard work and effort can do. It pays off for sure!

#### **Isabella Palermo** Year Eight

I wanted to try out all sorts of activities that I didn't get the chance to try last year. I auditioned for *Mary Poppins JR* because I wanted a chance to improve my skills and make new connections. There were ten people in my auditioning group, and we all were nervous. In the end, all that mattered was that we had fun. Getting in was exciting for me, and I can't wait for a year of 'counting myself in'!

#### Crystal Du

Year Eight

This year I was curious about peeking around unfamiliar corners to discover what more there is to experience at PEGS. I auditioned with all my best and was pleased to hear that even if I didn't get a main part I could still have a great time. *Mary Poppins JR* allows me to meet new Year Sevens and let them know about the friendly and quirky personality of PEGS. Joining new clubs and events keeps me connected to the school and I'm intrigued by more opportunities to say, 'Count me in'!

#### Coco Hoyle

Year Eight

Since Junior School, I have always been interested in trying new things. While I was afraid of what was ahead of me, I have come to realise that fears soon turned into love and passion.

One of my many experiences of trying new things was when I auditioned for the PEGS Junior Musical, *Monty Python's Spamalot*. I was really afraid. I wanted to get in but I was also afraid that if I won a role I would do a bad job and let the rest of the cast down. I was selected to play Bright Knight 1 and was really disappointed with myself- I wanted to get a lead! Even though I did not have a lead I was still really pleased to be in the cast. All in all, everyone in the cast performed really well and I learned that being in the musical gave me some advantages not only in the academic game but also in the social game. I made many friends that I have kept and it encouraged me to participate in many more groups like the Junior Rock Band, Debate Club and Student Voice. I think these experiences have shaped me into a better person.

So what are you waiting for? After all, this year's theme is 'Count me in'. Participate in social groups in or outside of school, don't be afraid and remember that you should always try your best and let nothing get in the way of achieving success.

**Steven Siafalis-Tsiatsios** Year Nine



### Dance

To accommodate the many dancers in the Year Seven to Twelve Dance programme, activities have shifted from the Drama Theatre to a more spacious area within the Gym. Across that wide floor, students have been stomping, leaping, twirling and sliding to create a variety of complex routines.

Keen to socialise, exercise and learn, the dancers' most recent focus has been on developing synchronicity in their ensemble. In exercises designed to sharpen their spatial and sensory awareness, they have practiced taking delicate movement cues from one another. Other parts of their dancing have been about shared energy and performing confidently with a strong attitude. During their sessions, the students often reflect on their own progress:

Jessica D'Souza: I have definitely developed my ability to memorise choreography quickly. I was never able to do that before. I also now trust people around me, to catch or jump over me. The instructors never forget to tell you something you have done right like 'you had the biggest smile' or the 'most energy', even though they might be correcting you on something else.

Jasmyn Carr: The instructors challenge you and it helps to build your confidence. I am much more able to create my own dance sequences now. I'm more experienced and feel okay presenting my moves.

Ritika Kelkar: The instructors are not strict. They make it fun, but they are serious about what we are doing and have expectations. It is good to be aiming for high benchmarks. I like the challenge.

Jessica Gorlin Director of Performing Arts



## **Music in Term One**

We were all delighted to be back at school to see our students and hear music around us. It is now possible to provide the comprehensive array of learning opportunities we are used to. The most exciting is rehearsing all ensembles as this was the activity that staff and students missed the most last year.

During online learning not a week went by without hundreds of performers of all instruments, year levels and abilities being able to play for an appreciative audience. On a number of occasions several concerts were held simultaneously! Although we are indeed eager to have live concerts again, we will also be continuing to have online performance opportunities.

This year we are trialling a new concert series, Monday@6. Teachers recommend students to play a short piece at an intimate soiree, from 6.00pm on three or four Mondays throughout the term. If a student is recommended their parents will receive a Google Meet code to join us for that particular concert.

The successful concerts held during Term One were the Suzuki Celebration Concert; Piano Concert One; Suzuki Concert One and String Concert One. Term Two leads us into a full programme of performances, including our major concert series. The information about all these dates is on the PEGSpace/Parent Information/Music page.

The fabulous new Essendon Music building has been in use since Term Four 2020. Boys and teachers are thrilled with the beauty and scale of the building. It has provided a much-needed facility and a great resource for our students and community.

Amanda Rowarth Director of Music



### A new school song!

We welcome entries from our school community to compose a new school song. Entries may be from individuals or collaborators.

The song must:

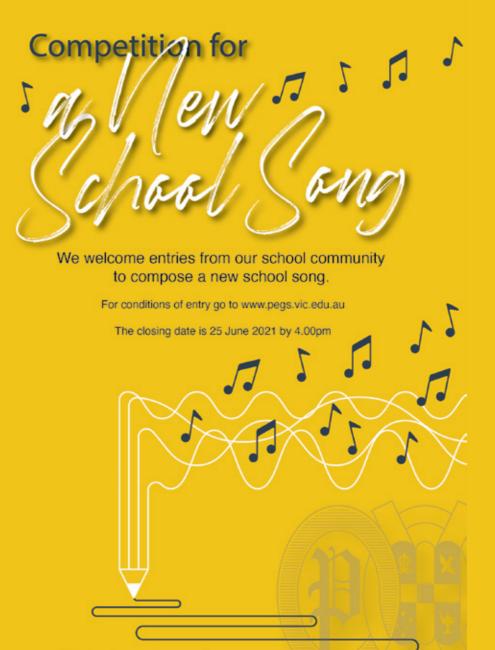
- · Include appropriate lyrics to represent the school's culture
- from C3 to C5
- · Be no more than four minutes in length.

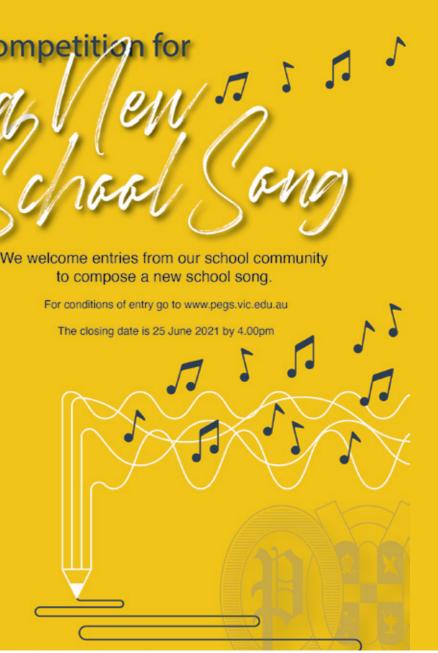
The entry must:

- Be fully notated using a music software package (such as Sibelius)
- Have a full piano accompaniment or orchestral arrangement
- · Include a complete recording of the finished song.

All entries will be judged by the expert panel and their decision will be final.

The closing date is 25 June 2021 by 4pm.







• Include a single unison vocal line suitable for female and male voices. Recommended range of two octaves:



Back Row: Angelina Nguyen, Chloe Hang, Tea Moustis, Starcia Han Front Row: Vinnily Nguyen, Elizabeth Joseph, Phuong Nugyen

### **Badminton Champions**

#PEGSpride was the vibe at the final round of the AGSV/APS Girls Badminton on Saturday 27 March. Two teams face to face at Springers Leisure Centre, both undefeated.

PEGS, ably captained by Vinnily Nguyen, went in as the underdog, however this only spurred them on. The matches were point for point and anyone who thinks that badminton is not a tough game has never seen our girls play.

After the doubles PEGS inched ahead 2-1. The singles were a different matter though. After four of the singles we were down by one and everything rested on how the last two players performed. Phung Nguyen won 21-20 making the match a tie and leaving Chloe Hang the responsibility of bringing the girls homes. The whole team was on the side line cheering her on. She drew a head by three points but then her opponent found a reserve of energy and levelled the score at 18 all. With encouragement and cheers and a steely nerve Chloe dug deep and won her final rubber 18-21 making the 2021 PEGS Girls 1sts Badminton team the first girls PEGS badminton team to win the AGSV/APS competition. The final score was 5/10/281 to 4/10/341

Congratulations to all those who played on the day and to Coach John Lim.

# **Sports highlights**

Present and former PEGS athletes have featured in the news recently.

Current students have achieved some outstanding results in Victorian track and field events this season. Among these are Under 18 competitors, Shehana Wijesundara (Year Eleven) first in Hurdles and second in Long Jump and Hannah Brodie (Year Eleven) first in Discus, and competing at the Under 20 level, Rebecca Bain (Year Twelve), second in 100m sprint. Competing at the Northern Metro Regional Championships, Amy Hawking (Year Nine) was placed first in both Discus and Javelin and second in Shotput (Under 16).

A former Athletics Captain, Linden Hall (Class of 2009) broke the Australian record for 1000m with a run of 2min 35.9 sec at the 2021 Box Hill Burn meeting on 3 March. We are also delighted to report that Linden has qualified for Olympic Games selection. On the same day former PEGS Netball Captain, Liz Watson (Class of 2012) led the Australian Diamonds to victory over the New Zealand Silver Ferns in the second match of the Constellation Cup Netball series.

The PEGS community offers congratulations to these outstanding competitors. We follow the sporting careers of our students, past and present, with interest and pride.

Helen Dapiran Coordinator of Publications



Shehana Wijesundara Year 11



Rebecca Bain Year 12





Hannah Brodie Year 11



Amy Hawking Year 9

















## We're back!

Whilst in Term Four some sports clubs ran at PEGS to keep spirits up during this very testing time, nothing replaces the opportunity to compete against other schools. There is that moment of excitement just before that first cricket ball is bowled or the first tennis ball is served.

Nothing beats that smile when you hit a winning shot on the buzzer in basketball, or chase down the runner holding the touch football, or even when you hit the water after that first dive into the swimming pool, or sprint to the finish line in Park Run. Nothing beats the smiles, laughter, sense of achievement and purpose that comes with playing Saturday sport for PEGS.

After such a long hiatus it was fantastic to see the students embrace Saturday sport with enthusiasm and in some cases relief. While there were some wins and losses on the courts and playing fields, overall, everyone came out a winner by just being able to participate in something that is such an integral part of school life. Students have gained a greater appreciation of how lucky they are to be able to participate in such a programme, regardless of the score at the end of the game, and they are eager to continue playing. We all look forward to Saturday sport continuing in 2021 as a major part of the PEGS experience.

Catherine Lane Director of Sport



### **PEGS Former Students Association** and Business Network

### PEGSHUB

PEGSHUB is the home of PEGS Business, Parent and Former Student Community. The place to connect with businesses, former students, job and careers, sporting clubs and more. PEGSHUB is a dedicated destination for commerce, careers, news and events in an easy-to-use platform that makes it easy to connect for any purpose.

PEGSHUB has replaced the digital PEGS Business Directory publication and Business Memberships are now available for the PEGS Community.

#### **Business Membership**

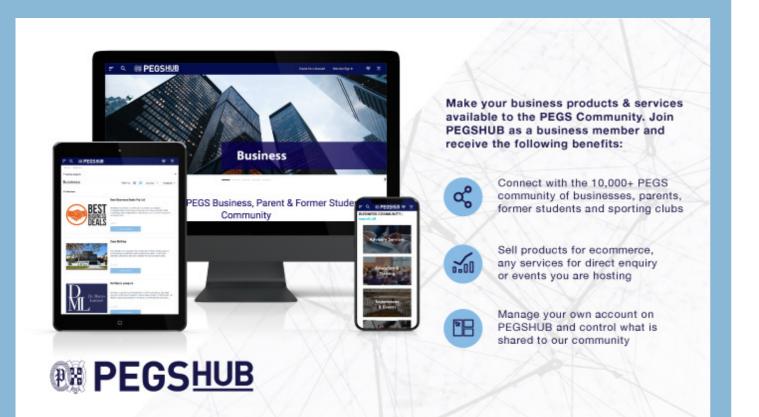
- Promote your business, products ad services to the PEGS Community via your own account.
- · Connect with businesses, former students, jobs and careers, sporting clubs, events and more.

#### Why

- · Reach the PEGS Community online your business will be available to 10,000+ PEGS Former Students and business community of current parents.
- · Promote your business throughout the year.
- Make products, services available and market your business via edm's, social media and on PEGSHUB.

Visit www.pegshub.com.au to view all the membership options available.

For further information on PEGSHUB, please contact Lisa Leask, PEGS FSA Business Network Coordinator - 03 9016 2180 or lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au.



### Alumni Spotlight Jacqueline Comery, Class of 1988

Jacqueline is co-founder and Managing Director of SkadiNu. A Chartered Environmental Engineer with over 17 years' experience across private industry, consulting and government, Jacque leads and works with multidisciplinary teams across national scale engineering, infrastructure and projects. More recently Jacque led a team of expeditioners as the Station Leader for two of Australia's Antarctic Stations.

#### What have you been doing since leaving PEGS in 1988?

After graduating with Melbourne University in 1991 with an Arts degree, I spent five years working in the ski fields of Australia and Canada. I returned to Deakin University in 1998 as a mature aged student graduating in 2004 with First class honors and winning the Incitec Pivot prize for best Environmental Thesis.

I worked with professional services firm GHD, as an Environmental Engineer, followed by a sabbatical in 2012 to scuba dive and sail a small yacht from Thailand to Indonesia. From 2015-2019 I worked for the Australian Antarctic Division in technical roles including Station Leader for Antarctic Winters at Casey and Macquarie Island Stations. I have now started my own company SkadiNu, and continue to work part time with GHD.

During your time as a student at PEGS, what did you like most? The many opportunities offered to us.

Was there anyone who inspired you? Ms Purdy, my Year Nine science teacher.

#### Tell us about SkadiNu?

SkadiNu is a consultancy with capabilities in strategic thinking, applied physical sciences, supported by our team of multidisciplinary PhD scientists, engineers, and analysts. SkadiNu was born out of a desire to package up science innovations driven from academia and make them accessible to clients.

#### What is your biggest professional accomplishment?

My biggest accomplishment has been agility. Being able to change course to make the best of opportunities as they have presented. Always leave the door open for future achievements in whatever direction they may arise.

What do you do in your spare time? Swim, enjoy the Tassie beach, get into the great outdoors, cherish time with my family.

#### What's your favourite memory of PEGS?

Eating my chicken noodle soup in my Mickey Mouse Flask in Mrs Cooper's Year One class. and the day I met my new friend, Jodi Thurgood in Year Three.

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

Forget the pressure to have it all figured out by graduation day. It's ok to change course throughout your life, and career. I sure did!



### **2021** Events

### **PEGS Business Network Functions**

Meet the Principal, Future of PEGS I The Changing Workforce + Future

#### of Employment and Leadership

Location: Hyatt Place Melbourne Essendon Fields English Street, Essendon Fields, Victoria 3041, Australia Date: Friday May 7, 2021

Time: 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

in 2020 as PEGS Principal, a challenging year to say the least. Listen to Kate share the future of PEGS, her vision for the future and employment and career opportunities for school leavers. Also joining us as our guest presenter is Lisa Lawry, current Board member, current parent and former student, General Manager - People and Culture at Essendon FC. Listen to Lisa share her knowledge on the changing workforce, the future of employment and

#### For further information or to book please visit www.pegshub.com.au or contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator, Lisa Leask on 03 9016 2181 / lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au.

#### **FSA** Reunions

10 Year Reunion – Class of 2010 - TBC

10 Year Reunion – Class of 2011 - TBC

20 Year Reunion - Class of 2000 and 2001 - Penny Young, 22 Young Street, Moonee Ponds - 7.30pm, Saturday 2 October 2021

**30 Year Reunion** – Class of 1990 and 1991 – Garden State Hotel, 101 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, 12noon – 5pm,

#### Reunion: Class of 1960

On 22 January members of the Class of 1960 attended a mini luncheon reunion at Jack Rabbit restaurant in Bellarine on the Bellarine Peninsula. The attendees were: Robert and Sue Ward, Greg Brown, Robert and Barbara Gottliebsen, John Welsh, Geoff and Setsuko Stevens. Ed and Joan Richards were not able to make it. We intend to lunch together from time to time. Some of us have been meeting together for lunch at our home in Ocean Grove over more than twenty years. It has been great to keep in contact. If other members of the Class of 1960 wish to get together, please contact Geoff Stevens on 0411 800 745 or gnstevens2@bigpond.com

#### PEGSHUB

#### LinkedIn:

PEGS Business Network's specific purpose is to connect former PEGS students, creating business opportunities for all members while also keeping them 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

#### Honours

Peter Maher (PEGS Staff 1976 to current) received OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) in the General Division in the Australia Day Honours 2021 "For service to education, particularly to mathematics."

#### **Deaths**

Wallace Henry CRELLIN (EGS 1943-1948; 1948 Dux of School, School Captain, Captain First IX Cricket 1948, First XVIII Football) on 21 January 2021, aged 89

Margery Missen (nee Daniel) (Penleigh 1941-1942, Boarder) 1996 Royal Historical Society of Victoria Award of

### PEGS Golf Day 2020

The Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School Golf Day was held on Monday, 21 December 2020 at the Northern Golf Course in Glenroy.

Eighty-eight participants including school suppliers, staff, current and former students enjoyed a great day. The overall winners of the Ambrose competition on a count back were Brent West, Dan Riley, James Lavender and Andrew Gardiner. Runners up were Richard Bell, Richard Brown, Justin Noonan and Brandon Ellis. Third place went to Chris Barkla, Thomas Chrystie, Jim Davis and Danny Marash. The highlight of the day was a hole in one from current PEGS teacher, Scott O'Keefe.

A thank you to the businesses and school suppliers for the support and respective donations that help to make the event possible. These included:

Acost Security

Pink Noise Audio

Stantec Australia

Webber Design

Sladen Legal

Surveyors

- · Premier Office National
- Reflex Technology Group
- National Australia Bank
- Grant Thornton
- Konica Minolta
- Noone Imagewear
- · Ryan Bros. Bus Service
- McCorkell Constructions
- Polytan Asia Pacific

The proceeds from the day (\$7,000) go towards the School's Financial Hardship Fund.

Special thanks for organising the event and for helping on the day to Courtney Chambers, Harry Fisher and Victoria Pitliangas.

#### **Mina Pitliangas** Director of Finance



- 13 Concepts
- Garnet Electrical
- Calder Cleaning
- Rider Levett Bucknall Kastoria Bus Lines
- A Grade Cleaning Supplies
- McBride Charles Ryan Architects
- Glenroy Bakery
- Grimbos Building Surveyors
- Ambassador Airconditioning
- Floreancig Smith Building

First Place Team: Brent West, Dan Riley, James Lavender, Andrew Gardiner

### From the Archives Brigid Cooper Archivist PEGS 150th Celebrations 2021 - 2022

It is hard to believe that our School could possibly be 150 years old. 1871 and 1872 are very significant dates for PEGS. 1871 saw the establishment of our Foundation girls' school, Dorset House Ladies' School, then in 1872 our Foundation boys' school, Carlton College. Through name changes and amalgamations, we built today's Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School.

So, what else was happening in Australia and around the world in 1871 and 1872? Here is a short list of interesting events. How many have you heard of?

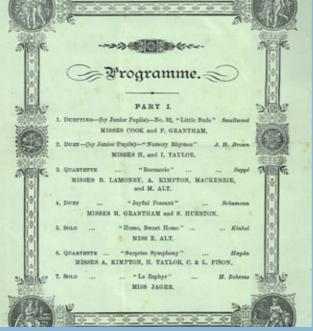
- in Europe the Franco-Prussian War was coming to an end;
- Empire of Japan was undergoing major changes through the Meiji Restoration, including the introduction of universal public schools;
- the premiere of Giuseppe Verdi's opera Aida was held in Cairo, Eqypt;
- Australia became more connected to the rest of world when the London–Australia telegraph cable was brought ashore at Darwin, and the Australian Overland Telegraph Line was completed;
- · Claude Monet began painting Impression, soleil *levant,* the painting that would give a name to the artistic movement Impressionism, at Le Havre, France:
- in defiance of the law, American suffragist Susan B. Anthony votes for the first time. She is served an arrest warrant, and in the subsequent trial is fined \$100, which she never pays;
- · Victoria becomes the first state to introduce compulsory, free and secular education for all children aged 6 to 15 with the Education Act 1872;
- New Zealand The New Zealand Wars end after 17 years, with the conclusion of Te Kooti's War;
- · Victoria Woodhull became the first woman nominated for President of the United States, although she was a year too young to qualify and her name was not on the ballot.

#### What do we know about our Foundation Schools?

In 1871 Mrs Elizabeth Tulloch started a girls' school in Moonee Ponds. She called it Dorset House Ladies' School, after the English county of her birth. Apart from a photograph of Elizabeth Tulloch herself, there do not seem to be any photographs of the school or the students. Starting in Mount Alexander Road, the School was moved over the years from Puckle Street, the Masonic Hall in Maribyrnong Road, to Chaucer Street, before the Limerock Sisters purchased the current Park Street site in 1922. By this time the school had had several names, including Ascot Vale Girls' High School, Penleigh Girls' School, then Penleigh Presbyterian Girls' School.



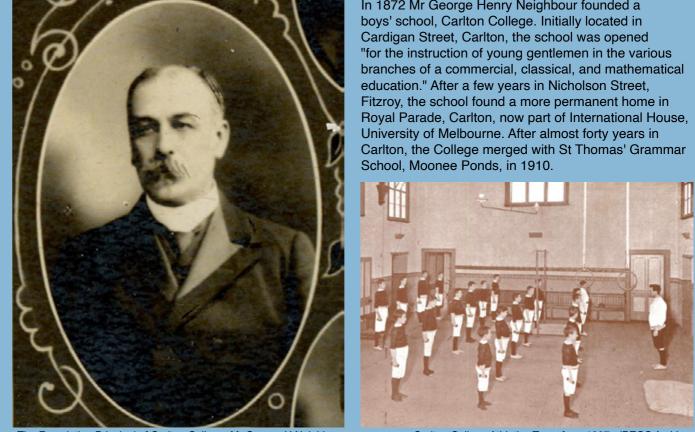
The founder and Principal of Dorset House Ladies' School, Mrs Elizabeth Tulloch. (PEGS Archives [PH05358])



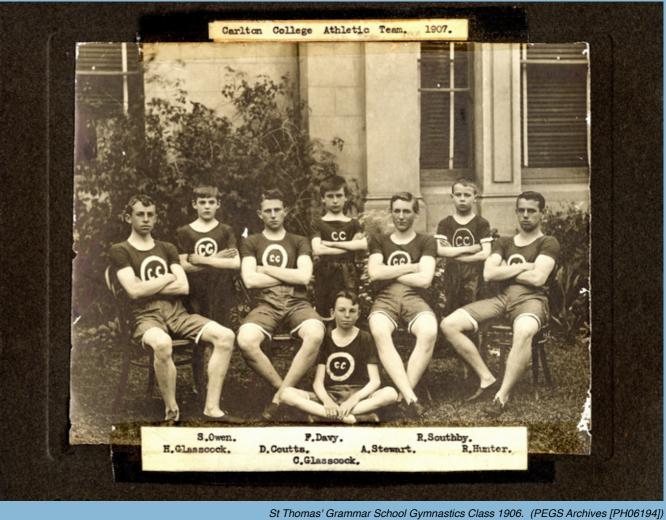
1886 Concert and Distribution of Prizes programme from Dorset House Ladies' School. (PEGS Archives [PEGS03239]



Ascot Vale Girls' High School students playing badminton at their newly build school in Chaucer Street, Moonee Ponds, in 1912. (PEGS Archives [PH4615])



The Foundation Principal of Carlton College, Mr George H Neighbour. (PEGS Archives [PH04602])



In 1872 Mr George Henry Neighbour founded a

Carlton College Athletics Team from 1907. (PEGS Archives [PH000951)

## FoPEGS News

#### **Celebrating PEGS community**

Welcome to the members of the school community who have joined the Friends of PEGS Fundraising Committee this year. Your commitment is greatly appreciated. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the current committee members, the PEGS leadership team, the school and class level representatives who work diligently in the background to make FoPEGS social events possible.

10 MA

FoPEGS Committee members volunteer their time to support the building and strengthening of bonds within the school community. FoPEGS understands 'It takes a community to raise a child' and we endeavour to offer social events to connect and celebrate our school community.

We acknowledge that this year our social events may look a little different to ensure we are able to celebrate our school community in a safe way. I assure you and your family that, with the support of the PEGS leadership team, all our events will be planned in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines.

#### **FoPEGS Events Calendar 2021**

Thursday 13 May - Mother's Day Stall at Junior School (girls)

Friday 14 May - Mother's Day Stall at Junior School (boys)

Saturday 19 June - Trivia Night

Saturday 9 October - Annual Craft Market

Friday 26 November - Ladies Lunch

On behalf of the FoPEGS Committee we look forward to your contribution of time and/or sponsorship. For further information on how you can contribute to FoPEGS social events or become a committee member please call FoPEGS Coordinator, Lyn LoMoro on 9016 2183 or email: Lyn.Lomoro@pegs.vic.edu.au

Suzanne Startseff President, FoPEGS



Elle

### 2021 Dates for the Diary

#### April

20 April – Term Two begins

- 22 April Guitar Concert
- 29 April Thinking Seminar One 30 April – Big Blue Bonanza (LC)

#### May

3 May – Suzuki Concert Two 6, 7, 8 May – Brave New World Drama Production 13 May – Brass Concert 21 May – Concert One 24 May – Concert Two 25 May – Thinking Seminar Two 26 May – Concert Three

#### June

3 June – Concert Four
8 June – Concert Five
15 June – PEGSFest commences
17 June – Concert Six
21 June – Concert Seven
25 June – Term Two ends

#### July

- 13 July Term Three begins 25 July – Winter Dance Showcase 26 July – Suzuki Concert Three
- 28 July Junior String and Piano Concert

#### August

3 August – Synthesizer and Composition Concert
5, 6, 7 August – Mary Poppins Jr Musical Production
9 August – Percussion Concert
12 August – Woodwind Concert
19, 20, 21 August – Sketch Show/ Snapshots
24 August – Vocal Concert
25 August – Thinking Seminar Three
26 August – Chamber Concert
30 August – Suzuki Concert Four

#### September

2 September – One School Day 8 September – Concerto Concert 10 September – Term Three ends

#### October

4 October – Term Four begins
6 October – VCE Visual Arts Viewing
9 October – Craft Market
11 October – Piano Concert Three
14 October – String Concert Three
19 October – Valedictory Dinner
25 October – Suzuki Concert Five

#### November

15 November – Suzuki Concert Six: Break-up and Graduation Concert 29 November – Junior Christmas Concert

#### December

1 December – Carol Service 7 December – Transition Day 8 December – Term Four ends

Contact details: newsletter@pegs.vic.edu.au

