



PENLEIGH AND ESSENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Altior et Sapientior

September 2019





From the Principal

PEGSfest and the final weeks of Term Two were a joyous taster for the vibrancy that has been Term Three. Lunchtime concerts, visual arts exhibitions, drama and dance performances and the Infinity Centre Formal were among the events that marked this period between the examinations and the mid-year holidays. The scene was set for the elation that marks Term Three every year.

There has been McGotty Day when Year Eight students from our two Middle Schools attend each other's classes. We have hosted visits from our sister schools – Datong High School in Shanghai and Krida Nusantara in Bandung. Attending the school camp is one of the unique experiences we give these students. In addition, there's been *Spamalot Young @ Part*, performed over three nights to a thousand audience members as well as the *Sketch Show/ Snapshots* double-bill and the major dance performance item in the following weeks.

One School Day was an extravaganza on the scale of previous years and a significant celebration of the school. The school's farewell of its Year Twelve students is one of the markers of the day. Many of our teams, at a wide range of levels, have performed with distinction at various statewide Maths Games Days. The term ended with the AGSV athletics carnival where the centenary year of the association was launched.

For those interested in school sport, Friday 2 August was a special day as PEGS was hosting two AGSV Grand Finals – boys' soccer and football, one at Keilor Park, the other at Keilor East. While our teams were minor premiers in both competitions, in soccer, our opponents, Camberwell Grammar School, had comprehensively defeated us in the home-and-away game. Our team did not disappoint us. They won 2-1 and gave Mr Cooper a fairy-tale conclusion to his long career as the Firsts Soccer team coach.

I quickly returned to Keilor East, euphoric about the soccer victory but concerned, knowing that our score line in the football was 1.12. The situation got worse in the third-quarter as Assumption College extended its lead to over twenty points. It seemed that our season was in tatters. Our senior players steadied in the last quarter and with some good kicking at goal, PEGS was victorious 9.18 to 9.6. As the siren sounded, hundreds of PEGS students surged across Frank Shann Oval to congratulate the team.

A list of events risks omissions. Instead, sense the variety of the school and see these events as examples. This newsletter contains two articles from younger McNab House students. Both were unprompted; submitted thanks to their initiative. These students talk about music, sport, academics, camp and the midyear examinations. They refer to great opportunities and fantastic times; that the school is a "second home" with a sense of "family". All of the events in the newsletter and the thousands of others that populate the experiences of our students are critical to the rich tapestry that is PEGS.

Tony Larkin



One School Day

From the traditional procession of Year Twelve students and welcome by Mirella Wong (Year Twelve) to the spectacular and glistening finale, One School Day proved a fitting celebration of PEGS in 2019 and a tribute to retiring Principal Mr Tony Larkin. Items included a condensed version of the Junior Musical production, *Spamalot Young@Part*, featuring Mr Larkin as the voice of God, a sparkling performance by the Junior Choir and the One School Day Concert and Senior Choir members and a tribute to Mr Larkin with a spirited Bruce Springsteen medley by the Stage Band and Year Six dancers.

Addresses by Mr Larkin and Mr Bruce Henderson, Chairman of the Board of Directors, urged students to value and embrace the opportunities they were offered as students at PEGS and to hold close the examples set by former students. Prizes were awarded to outstanding students from primary levels to the duxes for 2018.

The finale reminded the audience of the enormous contribution Mr Larkin had made and his exceptional influence on the growth of the school, including a legacy of thinking and wellbeing. In the words of the chorus, we could all join Mr Larkin to declare ... "I was here!"









Welcome to the Larkin Centre

In 2008 the PEGS community watched a new senior school building rise on the southern border of the Keilor East campus. The building was a major component of an exciting restructure of the school across its three campuses as envisioned by its Principal and taken up with the full support of the Board. Observers were impressed by the size of the construction, excited by the exceptional facilities for learning revealed as it grew but, most significantly, fascinated by its unique shape - a distorted mathematical symbol denoting infinity. It seemed apt that when the building opened in 2009, it was officially named the Infinity Centre, offering a gateway to endless possibilities for our senior students.

A decade later we are delighted to welcome a name change at the Infinity Centre. In recognition of the exceptional contribution made by Mr Tony Larkin during more than 40 years at PEGS as a teacher of mathematics, an educational trailblazer and most significantly, during 22 years as its Principal, the Board of Management has announced that the senior school building will be renamed the Larkin Centre. It is truly a legacy of Mr Larkin's vision for the school and its students and it is fitting that the Larkin Centre's unique architectural shape will continue to remind students of the far-sightedness of an esteemed Principal.

Helen Dapiran

Coordinator of Publications and Special Projects



Reflecting for better learning

The six hundred boys at Gottliebsen House have busy school days, packed with thousands of moments where they encounter new concepts, make discoveries, practise freshly minted skills and test their emerging understandings. In the whirl of different subjects, electives and experiences, it is easy to roll from one lesson to the next and for important feedback on the learning to be overlooked or undervalued.

I believe that most, if not all, successful learners routinely reflect on their progress, evaluate the effectiveness of their skills and scrutinise the robustness of their understandings. They show a willingness “to make adjustments to the mix” as they go, depending on what they see.

In this process of reflection, use of feedback is crucial. Be it feedback from teachers, peers or the product of self-reflection, honest scrutiny of “how it’s going” plays a vital role in making sure that the learning is on track.

Many of us are fearful of negative feedback but by making a “friend” of all feedback, learners can implement constructive advice to steer the learning back on course. Reflective learners use feedback to affirm sound approaches but also to spark change; such as deciding to do more practice, attend a support class or meet with a teacher for help.

When teachers provide feedback to students, they hope that the advice will be valued and applied to the next stage of the learning. When this happens, the feedback “feeds forward” into the next part of the learning. Please encourage your son to reflect on his learning and to “make a friend of feedback”.

Caroline Horton Andrews

Head of Gottliebsen House

Reflection on the Holocaust

Following our recent excursion to the Jewish Holocaust Memorial, a guest speaker at the school and our Holocaust display, it was clear to us that an act of such horrible evil should not occur again. To ensure this, the Nobel laureate, Elie Wiesel, cautioned us against inaction in times of distress. He wrote: “Silence encourages the tormentor, not the tormented.”

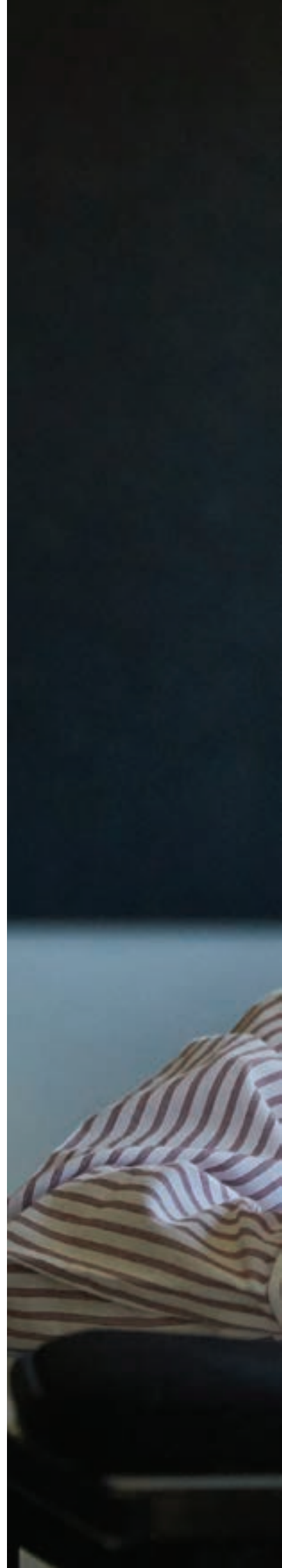
If there are lessons to be taken from the Holocaust, one is certainly that inaction is in fact action and can be a sin in its own right. The apathy of people, who were reasonably aware of the mass murder of Jews, contributed towards these momentous atrocities. It allowed the genocide to continue with no challenge or protest from the people.

It is essential to learn from this that in any human crisis, either similar or dissimilar to the Holocaust, voices need to be heard promoting right over wrong. It is especially important that we do not become accustomed or immune to acts that jeopardise basic human rights, privileges and values.

Silence only encourages acts of evil. To ensure that a mass genocide or other atrocities never happen again, we need to do everything within our capacity, no matter how small or large, to promote love and denounce hate.

Sachin Iyer

Year Ten, Gottliebsen House





Year Three Maths Games Day

On Friday 9 August, eight Year Three students travelled to Derrimut Primary School to compete in the Year Three Maths Games Day sponsored by the Mathematical Association of Victoria.

The students were involved in problem solving activities, cooperative team games and a maths relay with a focus on mental computation.

The problem solving tasks that were presented were engaging and allowed the students to challenge themselves in a supportive and fun environment. The students were able to draw upon their knowledge of mathematical concepts and apply and adapt appropriate strategies to solve a range of problems. The activities required students to demonstrate flexibility and creativity in their thinking. Working in teams, they were encouraged to reflect on their ideas and share their thinking with their peers.

Both PEGS teams were very successful. The teams from the Moonee Ponds campus (Lara Kasalo, Aarshiya Khillan, Princella Lam and Audrey Lo) and Essendon campus (Advik Gourisetty, Julian Nash, Reyansh Virmani and Jack Wilson) finished first and second respectively.

Mary Wade

Mathematics Coordinator, Junior School (girls)





Knowing mathematics

From birth, mathematics is a part of our lives. We need to understand number and measurement to interact effectively with our communities and the wider world.

As Early Years educators, our role is to identify and plan for mathematical exploration with play being the optimal catalyst for these learning opportunities. In the kindergartens, numeracy is embedded in many experiences. Students are encouraged to take part in hands-on experiences in which they inquire, make meaning and construct understanding.

Looking through a mathematical lens, we see a numeracy-rich environment full of possibilities. We see children building with blocks, making decisions about height, width and length, discussing size, navigating different shapes as well as counting out the number of blocks they need to use.

We observe children working with various objects where they are devising patterns, working with the idea of symmetry as well as sorting and classifying objects. The home-corner offers opportunities for children to work with patterns and numbers. This may involve setting a dinner table for two to four people, taking orders and discussing money.

When children have an understanding of mathematical concepts, through meaningful real-life experiences, it embeds the deep and supportive foundations that lead to more formal mathematical learning throughout their lives.

Lauren Olcorn
Director of Kindergartens





Year 7 – Starting . . .

Between starting Middle School, House Events and new classes, Semester One was an exciting time. Navigating classrooms and learning new subjects were certainly a bit different but slowly, yet surely, we settled into the new environment.

Keeping Mr Simmons' words in mind when he told us to "get involved," I joined Senior Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Audacity Choir and the Da Vinci Competition. The ensembles allowed me to perform different genres of music; it was highly enjoyable. These three ensembles were showcased in the first two major concerts along with other performances including a Junior School (girls) assembly.

Da Vinci Competition was a new experience which pushed our knowledge and created new connections with people from different levels and our House. Camp was an eye-opening experience too. It taught patience, resilience and persistence through its many adventurous activities, such as hiking or canoeing.

When the Winter Sport season came around, I trained and played sport on Saturday for the first time. Through a combination of cooperation and skill, our team remained undefeated for most of the season. Examinations marked the end of the semester. It was a somewhat frantic time but it gave us a taste of what lies ahead and how to prepare better for the next examinations.

Starting Year Seven was a great opportunity to make new friends and to meet lots of people. It was a fresh start and a fantastic time.

Louisa Zhu

Year Seven, McNab House

Not just a school

PEGS at the start of Year Seven. A school. Ominous, foreign buildings. Unfamiliar faces. Unfamiliar places. "*At PEGS, we expect you to participate and contribute to our community.*" But how? How can I participate in a community I hardly know? That I'm hardly a part of? How can I contribute to a community when I don't know how it works? When I don't know the people within it?

A sea of people. A maze of classrooms. Will I ever get used to this? Will PEGS ever become familiar to me?

I can answer my questions now, only a year and a half later. Yes, it will become familiar. You can participate and contribute to PEGS. From camp to sport to music to House, your participation and contribution are valued.

Comforting, joyful buildings. Happy memories. Friends filling the corridors. And suddenly PEGS isn't just a school anymore. PEGS isn't *just* a community. PEGS is a second home for students and teachers. PEGS is a family.

Trixie Quach

Year Eight, McNab House



Shine the Light

To continue to develop student wellbeing at the Junior School (boys), we have introduced a new segment in assembly called Shine the Light. This segment aims to promote and highlight positive behaviours that have been observed by staff and students and provides the opportunity for students to be celebrated by our whole community. Each week, a few students are highlighted and parents are invited along to hear about their son's achievements.

The behaviours that have been recognised include showing leadership, initiative, responsibility and the qualities of being a good friend. For example, in Term Two, Connor Borg (Prep) and Christopher Hadchiti (Prep) were recognised for showing compassion and care towards a fellow student who needed support. Without being asked, both Connor and Christopher went out of their way to assist their friend and ensured that he felt better. In addition, Declan Egan (Year 6) and Lekith Movva (Year 6) demonstrated excellent leadership skills when looking after younger students, showing patience, compassion and care.

Staff, students and parents have whole-heartedly supported this initiative and it is a wonderful way to celebrate all the positive things our students do on a daily basis. We look forward to shining the light on many more students as the year progresses.

Meredith Adams

Deputy Head of Junior School (boys)

100 Days of Prep

The boys were brimming with enthusiasm, anticipating an exhilarating day, as they stepped through the sparkling, silver streamers into the Prep classrooms for the one hundredth time.

Each boy had prepared a "100 day" project over the holidays. There had been, for example, world maps with 100 flags and T-shirts with 100 pom poms. The talent and inventiveness of the boys were showcased at the assembly that coincided with the day. They delighted Mr Sharman with their anecdotes, especially when one boy commented that his favourite thing about school was our assemblies.

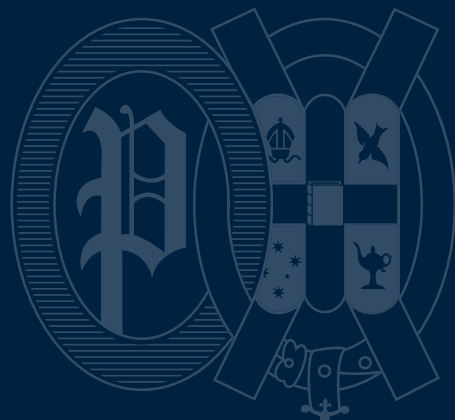
Afterwards, our Prep students rotated through their three classrooms. Each Prep teacher provided the opportunity for the boys to apply their artistic, engineering or physical talents. In Prep X, the boys used strategy, creativity and coordination to develop a variety of constructions using 100 cups. In Prep Y, the boys were involved in skipping, balancing, juggling, spinning plates and jumping while counting up to and down from 100. In Prep Z, the boys created 100 crowns from an array of collage materials (eg feathers, jewels, pom poms).

The 2019 Preps are now 100 days more creative and resourceful, 100 days more persistent and resilient, 100 days more curious and reflective, 100 days more purposeful and strategic, 100 days more compassionate and ethical and, undoubtedly, 100 days more confident and independent.

The boys left school for the one hundredth time with a rainbow ribbon pinned to their lapels. Everything augurs well for the wonderful educational experiences yet to come.

Sandi Whillas

Prep and Year One Coordinator, Junior School (boys)



Coding

Coding is occurring across the school. The students at the Junior School (boys) have been exploring coding to enhance their problem-solving, creativity, critical thinking and collaborative skills.

Prep and Year One boys have been introduced to coding by completing simple directional tasks not involving devices. Afterward, they explore simple coding commands using a range of resources.

Year Two and Three students integrated coding into Mathematics and General Studies classes. Year Two students developed code to trace the perimeter of shapes whilst Year Three students created animations by coding a simple program on their iPads. They also sequenced their codes to demonstrate their understanding of liquids changing into solids.

Year Four students use Spheros to explore distance and speed. They estimated how far their Sphero would roll at a set speed. In Year Five, our students applied their knowledge of angles to code Spheros through mazes. They worked in teams, brainstorming the best way to sequence their Sphero, and debug the code when confronted with problems.

Coding has become so popular that there is now a lunchtime Coding Club for students in Years Five and Six who are interested in furthering their skills or simply having more fun with coding.

Andrew Schulz

Year Two and Three Coordinator, Junior School (boys)





New gymnasium at Keilor East

Work on an extension to the Keilor East gymnasium commenced early in Term Three. The extension will provide the following facilities:

- two additional netball/basketball courts
- additional changeroom facilities
- sports administration office
- fitness room (with gymnasium equipment)
- multipurpose room (suitable for table tennis, aerobics, etc)
- two classrooms
- team meeting room
- sport storage areas
- social and viewing space with kitchen and servery overlooking Frank Shann Oval
- space for drama activities
- assembly seating for up to 2000 people.

It is anticipated that the project will be complete by the end of 2020. Meanwhile, some disruption to the main road through the campus should be anticipated at times of peak work. The school has already realigned its intra-campus road away from the construction area and provided alternative parking for its staff.

The school's sport and Physical Education staff are eagerly anticipating the completion of this building.

Tony Larkin



AGSV centenary

The AGSV celebrates its centenary of boys' sport in 2020. In addition, the AGSV/APS girls' sport competition is having its twentieth anniversary. The celebrations kick off at the Athletics carnival in September 2019. These are wonderful milestones in our sporting history and we look forward to celebrating them over the next year.

The past hundred years have witnessed an evolution for both the boys' and girls' programmes. At the school, sixteen hundred students now play for PEGS in 247 teams over nineteen different sports. Over the past four years alone we have expanded the programme, setting new benchmarks for inclusion, by introducing initiatives such as fencing, AFLW and women's cricket. This year we will be trialling the Park Run as another summer option.

The programme continues to work towards offering experiences that will lead to life-long participation in sport. We hope that the 2020 centenary celebrations are memorable and enjoyable for everyone and are the beginning of another hundred years of extraordinary sporting history.

Catherine Lane
Director of Sport



Final Thinking Seminar 2019

The final Thinking Seminar for 2019 featured Walkley award-winning journalist and author Leigh Sales. The host of 'The 7.30 Report' reminisced about her experiences interviewing prominent world figures including Hillary Clinton and Condoleezza Rice, and shared stories from her recent book 'Any Ordinary Day'. Through these stories she illustrated the lessons to be learned from a life of adventurous engagement with challenging situations.

In describing her own nervousness and feelings of imposter syndrome, and her determination to overcome these feelings through preparation and the support of those around her, she provided a model for becoming a more courageous thinker.

Those fortunate enough to be in attendance experienced her warmth and humour, and learned much about how thinking can shape action, achievement and growth.

We look forward to next year's programme of exciting thinkers to provide us again with models of what good thinking can look like.

Nina Bilewicz
Vice Principal



Eat Up at IC

Can you imagine what it would be like going to school having had no breakfast and knowing that you've got nothing for lunch? That's the sad reality for many school-age children in Australia. But with the help of the charity organisation Eat Up, PEGS students decided to do something about it.

In late July more than fifty Infinity Centre students gave up spare time with the goal of making 1100 cheese sandwiches in an hour. These would go to the one in eight Australian kids who would otherwise go without school lunches. We started up a production line of sandwich makers and wrappers, assisted by people providing ingredients and transporting sandwiches from makers to wrappers and from wrappers to crates. This efficient system meant we made a total of 1250 sandwiches in approximately 30 minutes. We walked away knowing we had made a real and tangible difference in many young people's lives.

Eat Up has produced around 250,000 sandwiches since 2013, working with schools, businesses and organising events. By simply providing lunch, the initiative has helped increase school attendance for many teenagers, assisting not only their health but also their education. For many of us, it is difficult to understand what it would be like to go to school without lunch nor with money to buy it, but Eat Up's sandwich making event showed us how easy it can be to make someone's life better.

Charlotte MacArthur

Year Eleven

Cooking up a storm

Stephanie Goetz (Class of 2018) has been cooking up a storm since finishing school. Stephanie's interest in becoming a chef saw her apply for a work experience placement with the RACV City Club in September during Year Twelve. This led to her being employed by the RACV Club in December and she started her apprenticeship in January.

Stephanie, along with another teammate, competed in the Nestle Golden Chef's Hat award regional final at the beginning of July. The pair was victorious. They will now represent Victoria in the National Final in Sydney in September where they will be given four hours to prepare, cook and present a three-course meal.

Winning the regional final gave Stephanie the opportunity to apply for the Australian Team for the Shanghai International Young Chef Cup. Stephanie's application was successful and she will now represent Australia in this competition in China in November.

Stephanie has expressed her thanks to our careers team for the support and guidance that has helped her to break into this competitive industry. Her persistence and courage in seeking out opportunities to challenge herself is to be admired.

Kate Dullard

Head of Infinity Centre

Eddie's Backpacks

Kids going into emergency foster care often arrive with nothing, or very few belongings. Eddie's Backpacks is a programme created by one of our teachers, Mr Darrell Cruse, in 2013, which gives kids entering foster homes a backpack full of items relevant to their needs. The backpacks include items such as books, stationery, toys, sanitary items and nightlights.

The Infinity Centre Social Justice team have been proud to support Eddie's Backpacks. After we were introduced to this programme at one of our meetings, the Social Justice team, with the support of Mr Cruse and Mrs Sue Lenz, discussed ways to support this project. Fortunately, we were able to secure a \$1500 grant from Bendigo Bank to boost our contributions.

We are currently planning to purchase items suitable for kids with special needs. This allows all kids to have something that they could call their own. The Social Justice team hopes to make a difference to kids who go into foster care by helping them feel more comfortable in any house they visit.

Heruni Bibile

Year Eleven



Dance and Drama

The Junior School girls love Dance and Drama. They scamper to Limerock Hall ready to immerse themselves in dance activities that range from ballet to contemporary to indigenous and they throw themselves into a range of drama techniques which create character, mood and atmosphere. Collaboration and personal voice are celebrated with girls feeling enabled through creative and improvisational dance sequences.

Dance is often plagued by issues of body image, in girls particularly, but these are negated through positive language. The focus is on posture, carriage and movement. No tights and tutus are required.

Recently, the Year Five girls performed their dance *Homage to Cats* for several audiences. The Year Six performance, *iCan iCon*, had its debut in the final week of Term Two. Both of these performances were workshopped and developed in weekly classes with their teachers. The performances incorporated all of the girls in costumes designed and prepared by themselves. The result was an experience enjoyed by all.

Christine Hallman
Head of Junior School (girls)

PEGSFest



PEGSFest is a two-week celebration of the artistic life of the school. This year the foci for the visual arts were colour and creativity with paintings, sculpture, photography, ceramics and graphic design on show. Students visited exhibitions in the Gallery at the Keilor East campus or online. Art classes spilled out into the yard where they decorated and drew.

As well as student artwork to enjoy, there were live music performances at lunchtime. We danced to the upbeat rhythms of the Stage Band and several student groups impressed us by playing well-rehearsed rock ballads. Various ensembles performed in front of enthusiastic crowds and their powerful brass and jazz sounds added a bright atmosphere to the outdoor areas.

Dance and Drama were also part of the celebration. At the Junior School (girls), Year Six students performed *iCan iCon*. It was a clever play that compared wasteful, narcissistic celebrities with iconic inventors and famous people who do good in the world. The piece encouraged audiences to adopt a 'can do' attitude and set positive goals for the future.

In a condensed version of the well-known musical, Grade Five gave us *Homage to Cats*. As flexible felines, the costumed students crawled and slid around the stage. Supportive audiences marvelled at their fast, athletic dance moves and strong voices.

Jessica Gorlin

Head of Performing Arts



A new look

Updates to our school uniform strengthen the bonds between Sections of the school. Navy jumpers and navy striped shirts will now become items of uniform for all students and the school tie will be worn by all students on formal occasions and become an optional item of the formal uniform on other occasions. Parents are reminded that students may choose to wear either the new or old versions of the uniform until the end of 2021 but not a combination of items from both.

The new uniform requirements are listed below. Items must be purchased from Noone Imagewear and can be purchased in person or online. The blazer, shirts, jumper, trousers and shorts are available in female and male fit options.

The Formal Uniform

These items are required:

- Blazer
- Long sleeve shirt
- Tie - a compulsory item of the uniform for formal occasions and optional on other occasions
- Trousers – regulation navy as supplied by Noone Imagewear

OR

- Shorts winterweight (Year 5 - 6) – regulation navy as supplied by Noone Imagewear

OR

- Skirt (Year 5 – Year 12)

OR

- Tunic (Prep – Year 6)

AND

- Navy socks - long to be worn with the tunic, or
- Navy sock – long with skirt (Prep – 6), or
- Navy socks - long or navy tights to be worn with the skirt (Year 5 – 12), or
- Navy socks – long with PEGS bands to be worn with winterweight shorts, or
- Navy socks - short to be worn with trousers (Prep – Year 6), or
- Navy socks - mid length with strip to be worn with trousers (Year 7 – 12).

AND

- Plain black leather lace-up shoes, or
 - Black leather shoes with Velcro tab (optional for Prep - Year 2).
- NOTE: Sports shoes are not acceptable.

AND

- PEGS School bag

AND

- Yellow Raincoat – Junior Schools

Additional optional items

- Jumper
- Vest
- Beanie
- Woollen scarf
- Black Belt
- Navy hair ribbons and headbands
- Sunglasses – Cancer Council Victoria approved

The Summer Uniform

Select from the following items:

- Short sleeve shirt
- Blazer
- Shorts – regulation navy as supplied by Noone Imagewear
- Trousers– regulation navy as supplied by Noone Imagewear
- Dress
- Skirt
- Jumper
- Vest

AND

- White socks - short (above ankle) to be worn with the dress (Prep – Year 6), or
- White socks - long or short or navy tights to be worn with the dress or skirt (Year 7 – 12), or
- Navy socks - short to be worn with shorts or trousers (Prep – Year 6), or
- Navy socks - mid length with stripe to be worn with shorts or trousers (Year 7 – 12).

AND

- Plain black leather lace-up shoes, or
 - Black leather shoes with Velcro tab (optional for Prep - Year 2).
- NOTE: Sports shoes are not acceptable.

AND

- PEGS School bag

AND

- PEGS Sunsmart hat

AND

- Yellow Raincoat – Junior campuses

Additional optional items

- Jacket to be worn over track suit (Prep – Year 4 only)
- Black belt
- Navy hair ribbons and headbands
- Sunglasses - Cancer Council Victoria approved





Kokoda Tour 2019

To walk the Kokoda Track students need physical fitness, mental toughness, the ability to be a team player, a sense of humour and sheer determination. After months of preparation, the touring party of fifteen Year Eleven students and three staff flew into Papua New Guinea to walk the iconic Kokoda Track.

Backpacks on, boots securely laced and water bottles filled, we were finally on our way. After the first big climb, with sweat dripping from our brows, and gasping for air, we soon realised that this was going to be relentless. And so, it went for eight days, climbing and traversing the 97 kilometres from Owers' Corner to Kokoda.

With the daily routine of waking at 4.30 am, dressing in our damp and smelly trekking gear, we would commence each day with a traditional Buna war cry. Walking through thick jungle canopies, crossing numerous rivers and wading through mud, and more mud, became a distant memory when we finally passed through the famous Kokoda arches at the end of the track.

One of the many highlights of the tour was getting to know the local guides and porters. Affectionately known as "Buna Boys", the students were given the opportunity to learn about Papuan culture and traditions through their interactions with the guides.

Of special significance was the opportunity for the students to learn some Pidgin English. This was embraced enthusiastically by the students and, in doing so, they developed an even better connection with the guides and local villagers making this an even more memorable tour.

Russell Dow

Deputy Head of McNab House, PNG-Kokoda Tour Coordinator



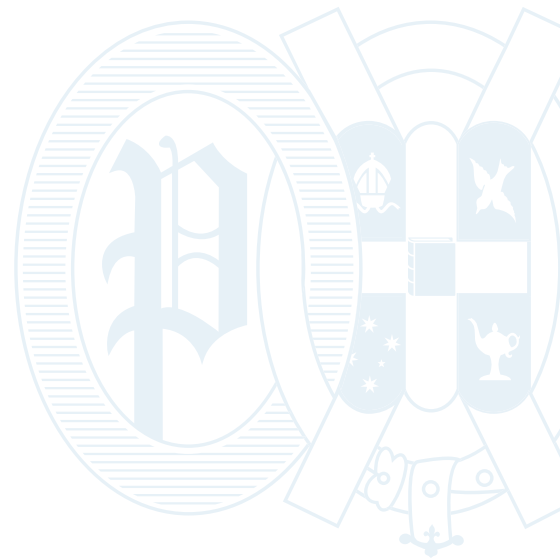
AGSV soccer premiership

It was a near perfect day at Keilor Park on Friday 2 August for the AGSV soccer Grand Final against Camberwell Grammar School. It was the final game for the season, the final game for our Year Twelve students and the final time that this year's team would play together. In addition, it was the final time that Mr Colin Cooper would coach our First Soccer team after twenty-five extraordinary seasons as senior soccer coach.

It was a tense Grand Final. Camberwell Grammar had got the better of us on their home turf during the home-and-away season. One goal apiece inside the first ten minutes provided ample excitement. Both sides traded blows all game, however, an exceptional late header from Birhan Elibol gave us a 2-1 win. Our victorious captains, Oscar Bales and William Moustis, raised the cup aloft in front of an adoring home crowd.

Joshua Toy

Coordinator of Sport (boys)





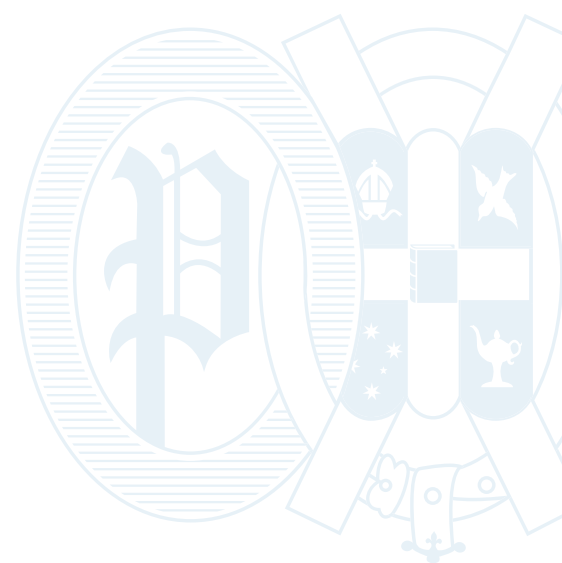
AGSV football

Grand Final

Friday 2 August saw what should be described as a fantastic example of school football as PEGS and Assumption College competed for the title of AGSV Premiers for 2019. The PEGS team, ably lead by Harrison Minton-Connell and Samuel Beckinsale, and under the tutelage of Mr Clay Illman and Mr Adam Marcon, was able to grind out an amazing win, considering what seemed like an unimaginable score line for most of the match. PEGS kicked randomly during the first half. Our half-time score was 1.12 18.

Relentless pressure and the desire to deny any PEGS player a free possession was clear from the Assumption players. Our boys responded with an equal commitment to tight and hard football as the game progressed. With so many boys suffering fatigue as the game wore on, PEGS was able to hold steady and finish off with four final-quarter goals to record a come-from-behind victory. The final score was PEGS 9.18 72 and Assumption College 9.6 60. The after-match scenes were amazing as players and supporters celebrated PEGS now as back-to back AGSV Premiers!

Joshua Toy
Coordinator of Sport (boys)







Spamalot Young @ Part

One of the catchiest tunes from the *Spamalot* musical is *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life*. It was a line of advice we never needed to give to the fifty cast members; they remained cheerful and positive throughout the rehearsal period.

Young performers from Years Six to Eight kept their smiles on even while learning lines and dance routines. They met the challenges of producing a musical with willingness and commitment. Audiences could see how proud they were to be presenting their work and how much they enjoyed the entertaining and funny script.

Our performers aptly handled the comedic moments. Patsy banged his coconuts, the French taunted King Arthur and the Killer Rabbit was a killer. The actors landed lines with excellent timing and were rewarded with giggles and guffaws from the crowd.

The appearance from The Knights of Ni turned the mood. Tim the Enchanter and Brother Maynard gave stern and serious warnings. We were also cautioned by the Voice of God, played by none other than our Principal, Mr Tony Larkin.

While our students basked in this well-deserved recognition of their efforts, most would agree, the friendships formed while being part of an ensemble cast were the most cherished element of the experience.

Those involved in *Spamalot* were supportive of each other and will remember what it was like to be part of a happy group as much as they will remember the fun and colour of the show.

Jessica Gorlin
Director of Performing Arts



Junior music

The Junior Piano and Strings Concert provided a very friendly atmosphere for some of our youngest and least experienced musicians. For some, it was their first concert performance. These young players were courageous enough to perform on stage in front of a large audience. Some of the experienced children demonstrated advanced skills on their instruments. The audience was impressed.

The Junior Choir has participated in the Victorian Schools' Music Festival. They deserve our congratulations as their fine performance was rewarded with a Silver Award. They sang before an adjudicator and also attended a choral workshop.

Amanda Rowarth
Director of Music



Secondary music

During the last few weeks of Term Two, three of our major concerts were held in the HR Stevens Music Centre auditorium. More than 450 students performed for enthusiastic audiences at the Junior Concert and two Senior Concerts which featured the Senior Choir - Vox Populi, Chinese Orchestra, Stage Band, Guitar Ensemble and Concert Band. The performance by the Chinese Orchestra was particularly well-received as the surprise soloist was our former, much loved, conductor Mr Shen Pangeng. Before and after each concert parents and friends enjoyed the convivial atmosphere in the foyer, complete with refreshments and music from smaller ensembles.

The first concert featuring chamber music was held on Wednesday 24 July. Eleven groups performed a variety of musical styles. Chamber music is performed without a conductor and all musical direction came from the players. The evening concluded with a staff item, which included Antonio Sfameni (Year Nine). The audience was delighting by the musicality of our staff performers.

On Wednesday 7 August, the Hua Shan Concert Band, from Xi'an in China, visited us to share in a musical experience with Australian students. They joined our Concert Band to rehearse together and perform a short concert for parents and friends. The combined band was directed, in turn, by conductors from both schools. While communication posed some difficulties, the sharing of music was a force for common understanding and friendship.

Amanda Rowarth
Director of Music





Snap Shots VII + *Larkin' Around: PEGS* Sketch Show 2019

Earlier this term the PEGS Drama department was proud to present a double bill comprising six short student created works - *Snap Shots VII* - and the ninth iteration of the PEGS *Sketch Show*, which this year, in a cheeky homage to our retiring Principal, was entitled '*Larkin' Around*'.

Snap Shots served up an eclectic mix of styles and genres, from Madeline Weston's screwball comedy 'The Fashion Crimes Division' to Krystel Parras and Steven Gavriel's clever comedy of confusion 'The Perfect Shot' to 'Verdad Eterna', Lucas Marston's abstract take on the birth of language and violence. Oscar LoMoro and Romilly Ferraro explored some of the more serious pitfalls of adolescence in 'Silent Love' and 'Jesse' respectively, while Elizabeth Dobell-Hall's fourth-wall-breaking, comic-book take on the arrival of the four horsemen of the apocalypse was hilariously quirky. There really was something for everyone.

The evening concluded with *Larkin' Around*, the ninth PEGS *Sketch Show*. Ten Year Eleven and Twelve students had spent the previous six months writing, editing and improvising to create over 200 sketches, which they whittled down to 35, then fashioned into an hour's worth of comedy. Highlights included a song about chopping up carrots, an ode to silent letters, and a sketch on the perils of dating while owning a possessive cat. The season was hugely successful and very well received by three full houses.

Justin Murray
Coordinator of Dance and Drama





Boarding at Penleigh in the 1930s



The Boarders from 1936 in the front garden at Park Street (Donor: McKinnon Family [PH07723])

PEGS Archives has been fortunate to receive a number of interesting items with Penleigh Presbyterian Girls' School connections from Joyce McKinnon (née Banks) via her daughter, Christine. Although Joyce spent only two years as a boarder at Penleigh, you can see from her memories that it had a very big impact on the rest of her life.

First impressions

In 1936 I took a 'Hanson Cab' to travel from Essendon Station to Penleigh at 83 Park Street, not that we had to, but it seemed the thing to do. On arrival in the front entrance hall I looked around at the wonderful Chinese furniture and ornaments, I was in awe. My father, a Presbyterian Minister, was stationed in the country so, as there was no high school, I was privileged to be able to be a boarder at Penleigh, sometimes going home on the train at weekends and holidays.

Food

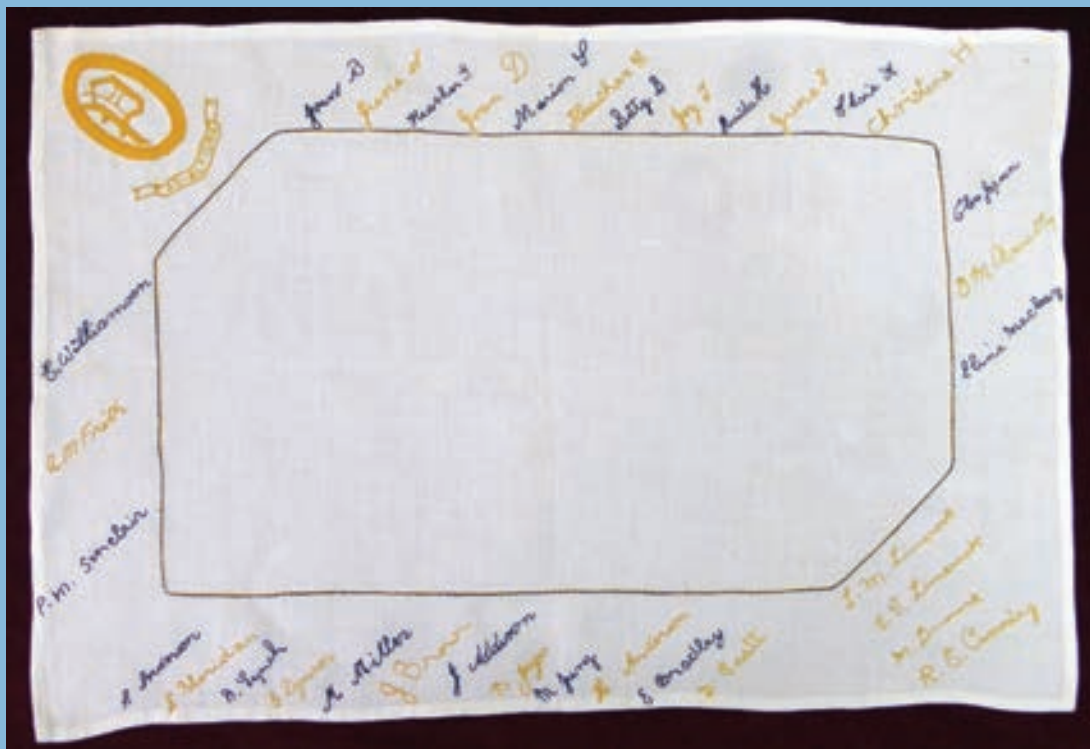
Meals were taken in the large dining room on the right-hand side of the entrance. At the sound of the brass gong we filed into the dining room, standing quietly behind our chairs awaiting the appearance of the Principal, Miss Limerock. Miss Limerock sat, after which we were permitted to sit, grace was said, and serviettes unfolded. Miss Limerock would serve from large dishes covered with silver lids and pass the served plates to Miss Elma Limerock at the other end of the huge table.



Joyce Banks in her new Penleigh Presbyterian Girls' School uniform (Donor: McKinnon Family [PH07713])

Rules and rituals

Getting out and about



A hand-embroidered placemat with the names of Penleigh students and teachers made by Joyce Banks circa 1937 (Donor: McKinnon Family (PEGS06065))

PEGS Business Network

Event 2:

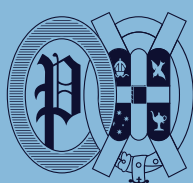
Health, Wellbeing and Elite Performance

Health, wellbeing and their influence on performance is a popular topic today and at our second event which was held at the RACV Club on Friday 19 July, members of the PEGS business community heard all about it from guest speaker Ricky Langford, one of Australia's leading experts. Our guests enjoyed the topic, opportunities for networking and the delicious lunch provided.

Big thanks to Essendon BMW as our presenting partner, to our guest speaker and all attendees.

Jordan Leask

Head of PEGS Business Network



PEGS BUSINESS NETWORK

Event 3: End of Year Celebration

Proudly Supported by Essendon BMW

DATE: Thursday 21 November 2019

TIME: 6.00pm

VENUE: Penny Young, PEGS Business Directory Partner, 22 Young Street, Moonee Ponds, 3039.

COST: \$30 per person includes food and beverages.

To celebrate the end of 2019, the PEGS Business Network is hosting its End of Year Celebration Cocktail Event.

For more details contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator Lisa Leask on 9016 2181 or lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au.

2019 PEGS Business Directory

The newly re-launched Business Directory is an annual digital publication that provides a platform for businesses and business people in the PEGS Community to promote their products and services.

In 2019 we were pleased to formally re-launch the directory. It will be shared by over 10,000 members of the PEGS Community, through social media and our network of parents, families and former students.

We are excited to see this service grow and continue to support businesses and individuals in the PEGS Business Network.

You can view the 2019 PEGS Business Directory at: <https://ap.ptly.com/vic/pegs/#pegsbusinessnetworkdirectory2019>



PEGS Business Network Jobs Board

The PEGS Business Network seeks to provide employment and career opportunities to former and current students and is pleased to announce the launch of the PEGS Jobs Board linking job seekers with opportunities within the PEGS Business Network and community.

The Jobs Board is now available to all former students, current parents and current students seeking to access jobs or to post job opportunities.

There are a number of former students, including recent school leavers, who are seeking employment. Employers wishing to advertise for staff within the PEGS community can submit entries and job opportunities can be viewed at: <https://ap.ptly.com/vic/pegs/#jobsboard>

For any enquiries please contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator Lisa Leask on 9016 2181 or lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au.

Former Students' Association News

Alumni Spotlight Aaron Hornlimann, Class of 2004

Entrepreneur and technologist Aaron Hornlimann has been a driving force for some of the most notable innovations to self-service and automation. To date more than 100 million people have used systems and technologies developed under Aaron's leadership. In 2015 Aaron was one of 35 Australians to be recognised for their contribution to innovation and he was inducted into the Enterprising Australians exhibition at the Australian Science and Technology Centre, Canberra.

What have you been doing since leaving PEGS in 2004?

Straight out of PEGS I started my first business. It went horribly wrong but it was a chance for me to learn how never to give up. Since then I have been involved in several ventures. My most recent is Elenium Automation, a company trying to make passenger experience at airports as seamless as possible, using technologies such as artificial intelligence, voice recognition and sophisticated hardware which we build in Australia.

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

I liked being part of the debating team. This is where I started to build the important skill of mounting a strong, considered argument. I use this skill everyday with customers and investors. The debating team really helped me build my confidence.

Was there anyone who inspired you?

My mum and dad both had their own businesses and that showed me the sense of accomplishment in building something. From a technology point of view Star Trek still inspires me!

Tell us about your notable innovations to self-service and automation?

My first innovation to be widely used was an airline boarding system that used computer vision to read an SMS text to validate the passenger. This was before everyone had a smart phone and it enabled most people to board a flight even using an old-style flip phone. Now we are working on technology to get rid of bag tags and self-services devices that use voice recognition in noisy environments like an airport.

What is your biggest professional accomplishment?

Building a team of engineers who invent technologies used by millions of people every year.

What's your favorite memory of PEGS?

I fondly remember the teachers at PEGS. They were very supportive and allowed me to explore my interests. A wonderful example is Mr Griffeth, a Graphic Design teacher who spent many lunchtimes with me talking about the possibility of artificial intelligence.

What advice would you give to young PEGS alumni?

Be resilient. If you have that mindset most problems can be resolved.

What do you do in your spare time?

When I am not working, I am dreaming about what to build next so I don't really differentiate between work and spare time. If it wasn't for my husband I don't think I'd turn my mind to taking a holiday or make time to try and relax. I'm sure I'd burn out without Peter.



10 Year Reunion Class of 2009

Saturday 27 July saw us, the Class of 2009, celebrate our ten year reunion. Sometimes school reunions can be a daunting event and the question arises, do I, or don't I attend? I am thankful and happy to report that many of the class of 2009 did attend our reunion and that an amazing night was had by all. From the moment people arrived the atmosphere in the room was warm and buzzing - lots of chatting, laughing and reminiscing on old times. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces and watch people catching up and reconnecting with former classmates.

The event was due to finish at 11:30pm, however many of us were enjoying catching up with what life has been like over the last ten years and we decided that we should all continue the ten year reunion at a nearby bar until the early hours of the morning. Everyone who attended had a fabulous time and on their behalf, my fellow committee members, Adam Bonvino and Peter Huynh, I would like to thank the school and the Former Students' Association for organising the event for us.

As many people mentioned on the night, we are already looking forward to the twenty year reunion of the Class of 2009!

Elyse Schweitzer



FSA Functions 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

Private Functions

Golden Girls' Luncheons -

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

13 November 2019

PEGS Business Network Functions

End of Year Celebration Event

Date: Thursday 21 November 2019

Time: 6.00pm – 9.00pm

Venue: Penny Young, PEGS Business Directory Partner, 22 Young Street, Moonee Ponds

Cost: \$30 per person includes food and beverages.

For further information please contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator, Lisa Leask, on 03 9016 2181 or 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

Honours

Eric Bana [Class of 1986] received AM (Member of the Order of Australia in the General Division) in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2019 "for significant service to the performing arts, and to charitable organisations."

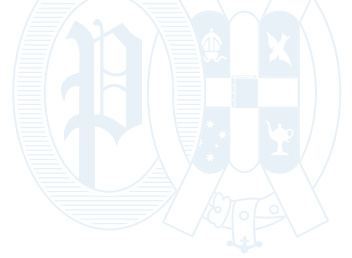
Professor Malcolm Ross Sim (EGS 1971) received AM (Member of the Order of Australia in the General Division) in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2019 "for significant service to occupational and environmental medicine."

Associate Professor Georgia Armat Paxton (PEGS Parent) received an OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) in the General Division "for service to community health, and to refugees."

Marjorie Elizabeth Quinn (past PEGS parent) received an OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) in the General Division "for service to the community, to social welfare organisations, and to education."

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

Friends of PEGS News



Trivia and Comedy Night

On Saturday 15 June the Friends of PEGS held its first Trivia and Comedy Night at the Coburg Town Hall. With over 200 guests in attendance, most of them dressed in their favourite 80's attire, it was an amazing evening of fun and enjoyed by all.

Our Quizmasters took Trivia to the next level with their highly interactive and energetic quiz show. An additional highlight of the evening was the hilarious performance by guest comedian Dave O'Neil.

We wish to thank everyone who attended this year's event. All funds raised from the night will contribute to upgrading the playground equipment at the Essendon and Moonee Ponds campuses.

John Antonopoulos
President, FoPEGs





Friends of PEGS

Craft Market 2019

Saturday 12 October

10am to 4pm

Essendon Campus
Raleigh Street, Essendon

New exciting carnival rides
Homemade cakes and slices

White elephant stall

Competitions and games

Art and craft stalls

Face painting

Animal farm

Musical and dance performances

Food stalls

Art gallery and much more

For more information and stallholder bookings
contact Lyn LoMoro 9016 2183 lyn.lomoro@pegs.vic.edu.au



2019 Dates for the Diary

October

- 7 October – Term Four begins
- 10 October – Piano Concert Three
- 12 October – Annual Craft Market
- 15 October – VCE Music Recitals (Units 1 and 2)
- 17 October – String Concert Three
- 22 October – Valedictory Dinner
- 28 October – Suzuki Concert Five

November

- 7 November - Suzuki Kindergarten and Graduation Concert
- 18 November – Suzuki Concert Six and Break-up

December

- 2 December – Junior Christmas Concert
- 9 December – Carol Service
- 11 December – Term Four ends

