



# Canberra tour 2021-style

It has been very difficult to decide what to write about for this, the final newsletter of 2021. Not for the reason – that you might be imagining - that nothing of note occurred with COVID restrictions, but on the contrary, because so many extraordinary events did take place that it was difficult to select one.

The event that has caught my eye because it exemplifies the efforts, enthusiasm and engagement of our teachers and students was the virtual tour to Canberra devised by the Junior School girls' Year Six team. When COVID restrictions put an end to the real Canberra trip, the Year Six teachers set themselves a challenge: could they create a Canberra tour that would engross and excite the students - without crossing the border?

Indeed, they could, and they did. More than a series of engaging videos, the tour included hands-on activities that challenged our students and Zoom meetings with experts who shared information about Canberra and its highlights. In addition, students had the opportunity to hear from Hon Bill Shorten MP and Mr Danny Pearson MP. Both came to the school to speak with the girls in person. Students had a ball from the moment they received their boarding passes from their teachers who greeted them in their flight attendant uniforms to the final activities when they designed their own coins under the guidance of the Mint and were then waved off as they got onto their virtual plane. In the photo the girls are creating their own capital city.

The virtual Canberra tour is only one of the activities to further connect the students to their learning and to each other. This has been an extraordinary year with some truly amazing learning activities.

Nina Bilewicz Vice Principal



# Relationships and Accomplishments

Discussions about wellbeing are not new, with Ancient Greek philosophers like Aristotle considering εὐδαιμονίᾶ or *eudaimonia* (translated as 'good spirit', or more commonly 'happiness' or 'wellbeing'), what it is, and how it could be achieved. More recently, positive psychology has promoted a focus on the scientific study of what makes life most worth living. Leading authority Dr Martin Seligman has argued that wellbeing depends on cultivation of the elements of 'PERMA' – Positive emotions, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning and Accomplishments.

The value of Relationships is well known at PEGS, and an important reason why we provide many and varied opportunities for students to make connections within and to their school. Individual classes, Form and House activities, and cocurricular activities like the summer sporting programme all provide a means for connection. Meeting new people in Form groups next year will also support this aim.

The role of Accomplishments is perhaps less obvious, but opportunities to achieve help to develop persistence and resilience and generate a sense of pride and self-worth, leading to greater efficacy and confidence. With the right levels of support, a challenging classroom curriculum and academic competitions provide a vehicle for increased capability and, while it may seem counter intuitive, examinations can actually be a support for wellbeing, reminding students that they have the capacity to 'carry on' even in the face of difficulties.

Wellbeing is not supported by 'less', but by 'more' – positivity, engagement, relationships, meaning and accomplishments – and we look forward to providing opportunities for students to experience more, rather than less, in 2022.

**Anthony Simmons**Head of McNab House

# Counting ourselves in at Gotty House

This year there have been numerous times where the 2021 school theme, 'Count me in' has resonated very strongly at Gottliebsen House. The idea of joining others and being part of something bigger has been seen in the life of our students, notwithstanding the impact of lockdown. Our Year Nine students still managed to compete online in the DAV debating finals, securing a hard won second place. The devotees of musical theatre managed to deliver a fabulous performance of 'Mary Poppins' for one night in August, even as the 'gates' of lockdown swung into position and in a stellar effort, Ryan Pham was awarded third place in Victoria for the Berthe Mouchette French Writing Competition. All the students involved in these had decided to count themselves in and didn't allow any old pandemic to hold them back.

Staff breathed life into the catch cry 'Count me in' by collaborating to bring two successful excursions to the CBD to life, and a great activity day on campus for Year Sevens, while sports staff tailored a short season of after school games for kids who were weary of being stuck indoors.

The people of Gottliebsen House are the heart and soul of our section. Our students are at the core of all we do, and our staff go the extra mile to create opportunities to foster learning, enjoyment and growth. This is what it means to be counted in – to want to join and participate, to take a chance and test the water, to take a gamble and see what happens. In a time of uncertainty worldwide, the integral value of connecting and participating has stood firm - solid, reliable and comforting in this most extraordinary year.

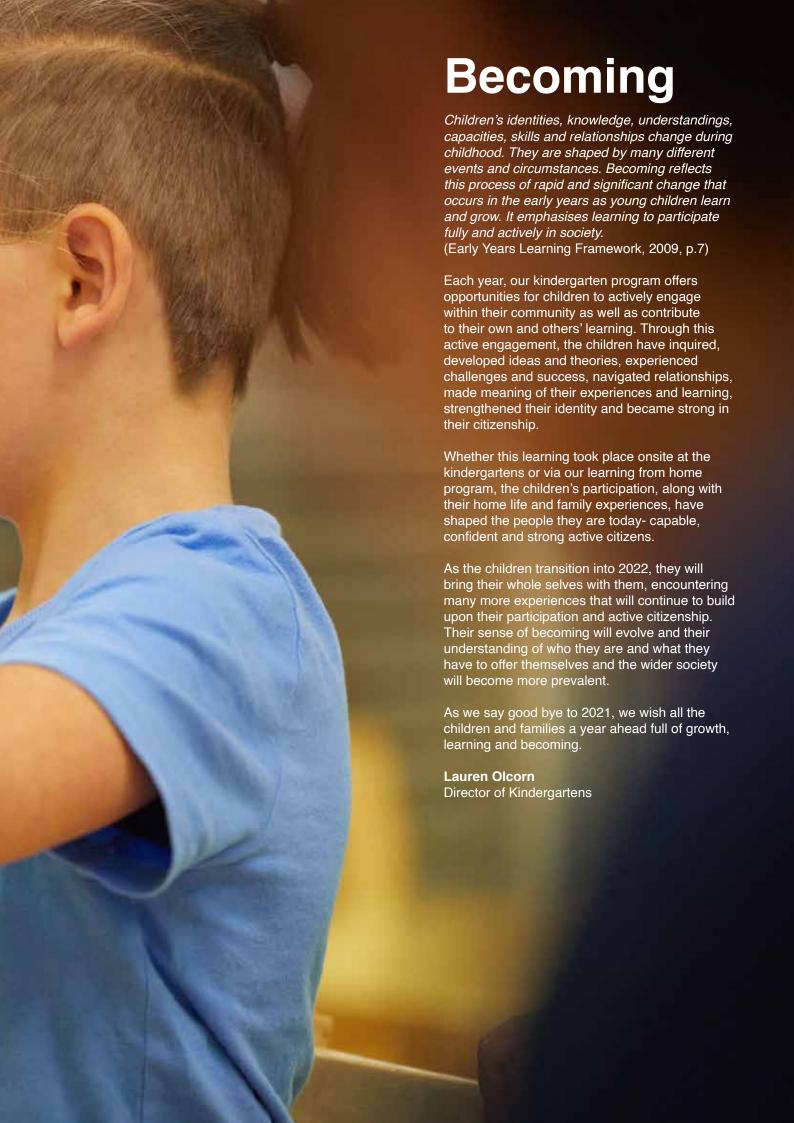
Thank you and best wishes to the entire Gottliebsen House family.

Caroline Horton Andrews Head of Gottliebsen House









# Students return to Eildon Camp

Buzz words such as adaptability, communication and organisation are frequently used in Outdoor Education. It's due to the presence of these traits amongst our staff and students that the return to Eildon Camp was so successful.

The Year Three and Four students travelled to camp for their first experience at our amazing facility at Eildon Camp. The focus for students was based on an introduction to the site and the procedures that the students will rely upon in the years ahead.

Using the Australian bush to hone skills such as problem solving, teamwork and negotiating risk has never been so important. Experiential learning is defined as, "the process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience. Knowledge results from the combination of grasping and transforming experience." (Kolb 1984, p. 41)

Included in this introduction to the camp was education about the relationships between the Taungurung people and the land on which the camp is established. This understanding provides a foundation to build and reflect upon on future visits.

We are hoping to see every PEGS student between Year Three and Year Ten back in 2022. The camp truly comes to life with fun, friendship and laughter with students back on site!

As part of our ongoing development, we will continue to attend to 'big picture' elements of Eildon Camp such as sustainable practices, new outdoor learning spaces and enhanced parental online access to students' experiences while they are attending camp.

**The Eildon Camp Team** 





# **Junior Boys visit Sovereign Hill**

Thursday 11 November saw the Junior School boys of Year Five return to Sovereign Hill, Ballarat, for their annual excursion. With 2020's edition cancelled, thankfully the 2021 event came to fruition. The day is a fantastic complement to the learning in class about the impact of gold on the development of modern-day Australia.

The day included three immersive educational experiences. The first was Gold Fever, where the boys joined the 'rush' to One Eye Gully. By re-living the highs and lows of gold fever and role-playing the varied experiences of the diggers, gold buyers and troopers, they experienced the frustration that led to the Eureka Stockade. Next was a venture down Red Hill Mine, descending to witness a re-enacted discovery of the fabulous 'Welcome' nugget. Found in 1858, the 69-kilogram prize is still the second largest gold nugget ever found. Finally, the smelting works to watch a gold pour. The boys were taken through the steps in the smelting process to remove impurities from the gold that has been extracted from the ground.

The remainder of the day was spent trying their hands at gold panning and viewing the attractions of 1850's Ballarat. The boys were captivated by Mr David Graham's expertise with the gold pan. It is no wonder visit has become one of the highlights on the Junior School calendar and everyone is so glad to be able to attend again.

### **Aaron Steel**Year Five Teacher, Junior School (boys)





# **Year Seven news**

The Year Seven boys celebrated the end of their first year at Gotty House with a day of activities on Wednesday 1 December

The rotation of three activities included a visit from Wild Action, an Australian animal display. The boys, accompanied by their Science teachers, had the opportunity to come face-to-face with some interesting characters – insects, turtles, mammals, reptiles and a beautiful owl. The associated scavenger hunt saw the boys discover all sorts of creatures and habitats in the school grounds!

In perhaps a touch of black humour, the boys also participated in lessons on how to treat spider and snake bites. The first aid course was guided by the idea that teenagers heading out and about at Christmas time would not be carrying bandages or other first aid supplies. So what should a boy do if his friend has an accident or is bitten by a snake? This information-packed practical course also included CPR and anaphylaxis training, and gave the students the opportunity to ask many questions. Our Year Seven boys are now ready to go adventuring!

The third element of the day was a creative challenge. With a bag of resources, as well as the furniture in the room, the boys had to construct a roller-coaster with a view to sending a marble for a ride. Team work was at the forefront of successful construction and a great time was had by all.

This was a day to celebrate the achievements of 2021. Students had the opportunity to join their friends in a range of challenges and experiences, something that has been difficult to achieve this year.

#### **Clare Langford**

Year Seven Coordinator, Gottliebsen House

# **Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars**

Year Ten students Máire McEvoy and Adonna Woldeyes have been selected in the University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program - Class of 2023. Applicants are chosen on the basis of their academic achievements, leadership and active citizenship. Both Máire and Adonna have combined their studies with a strong commitment to community service.

A Captain of Park House, Máire has worked with her fellow House leaders during the extraordinary circumstances of remote learning to perform additional duties such as presentation of weekly House meetings remotely and organisation of online activities to boost student wellbeing and to encourage cohesion when students returned to campus. Máire is also Captain of the Keilor Little Athletics Centre.

Adonna has been eager to participate in a breadth of co-curricular and student leadership activities, including public speaking and Social Justice events. She has taken a leadership role in establishing a link with Brave Hearts Ethiopia to provide stationery items for children in need.

Kwong Lee Dow Scholars were officially welcomed to the program at an online event on Wednesday 8 December and will have the opportunity to participate in academic enrichment activities, tasting student-life first hand and building strong peer networks to support their transition to tertiary study in two years' time. We extend congratulations to Máire and Adonna on their selection to this prestigious program.

#### **Helen Dapiran**

Coordinator of Publications and Special Projects



Máire McEvoy



Adonna Woldeyes



# **Bike Education**

The past few years have seen bike riding enjoy quite the resurgence. Many PEGS families have rediscovered the joys of cycling and exploring the outdoors as a recreational pasttime and a great way to maintain their health, wellbeing and fitness during COVID.

It seemed fitting that, upon our Term Four return to school, we would continue to promote this healthy, enjoyable and inexpensive pursuit. The Year Five students donned their helmets and hit the pedals to continue their cycling adventures with the 2021 Bike education program. The program's objective was to foster the boys' enjoyment of riding and to facilitate their understanding of safety measures for themselves and other road users. This was achieved by providing them with valuable tips for bike maintenance, correct fitting of bike helmets and basic cycling skills in all conditions.

During these lessons, the students experienced a variety of simulated situations they could encounter whilst riding. Activities included how to ride individually, in large groups and in pairs; how to safely undertake slow riding and an overview of basic road rules including how to enter a roundabout and how to safely pass parked cars. The navigation of the obstacle course has always been a highlight for Bike Ed participants as they tackled each challenge with enthusiasm and fearlessness.

The Bike Ed program was a fantastic way to culminate the school year. For some students it was an introduction to cycling as a recreational pastime, while for others it was an opportunity to enhance and extend their current bikeriding skills.

#### **David Graham**

Year 5-6 Coordinator, Junior School (boys)

# **Junior Maths Success**

The Australian Problem Solving Mathematics Olympiad is an annual competition for outstanding students of mathematics in Years Five and Six. The Junior Division Olympiad is specifically designed to stimulate and challenge students at primary school level. The Olympiad consists of a series of five separate contests from May to September.

This year 43 boys from Years Five and Six entered the Olympiad. A total of 11 boys received an Olympiad High Achiever patch for finishing in the top 25% of all participants. The following boys received an Olympiad High Achievement pin for finishing in the top 10% of all participants:

Year 5: Joshua Bui, Advik Gourisetty, Julian Nash

Year 6: Meth Kaluarachchi, Tommy Le, Justin Luu, Huazhou Zhong

Meth Kaluarachchi achieved the highest score of all PEGS boys and was presented with the Highest Individual Score trophy at assembly.

This year 110 boys from Years Three to Six at the Essendon campus sat the Australian Mathematics competition. Fifty-one of our boys received awards of a distinction and above placing them in the top 20% of all participants.

Alexander Li of Year Three and Zachary Symons of Year Four received the highest possible score in their respective year levels.

The following students were also placed in the top 6% of all participants.

Year 3: Christian Khamly, Jake Larmer,

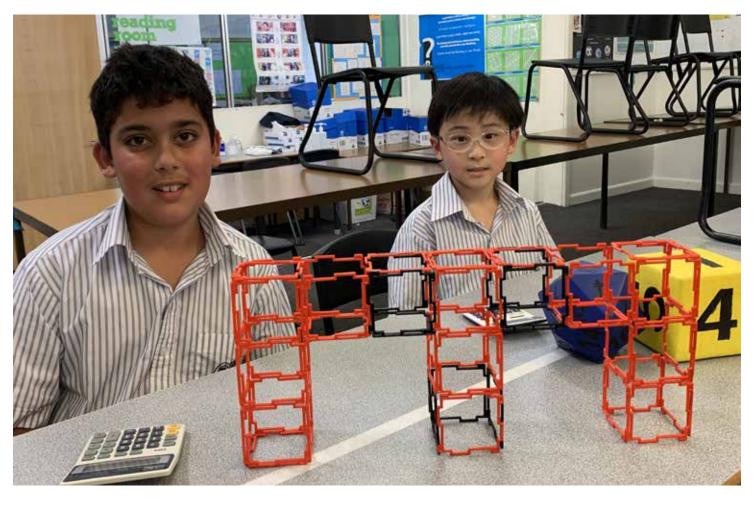
Year 4: Riley Verrall, Dilan Wickramasinghe,

Year 5: Ryan Kow, Julian Nash, Alvin Nguyen,

Year 6: Shiv Iyer, Jacob Yarak, Huazhou Zhong.

#### **Graeme Sharman**

Head of Junior School (boys





# Celebrating Mathematics Achievements

I am excited to announce the results of the fabulous efforts of the Moonee Ponds students in two Mathematics competitions.

The Australian Mathematics Competition is an engaging 30-problem competition, run Australia wide, that demonstrates the importance and relevance of mathematics in students' everyday lives and this year 120 students sat the AMC from Years Three to Six. Forty-one achieved Distinctions and it gives me great pleasure to announce that Rebecca Li, Year Four, to her great credit, won a Best in School with a High Distinction.

Eighteen students in Year Six entered the Mathematics Olympiad problem solving competition. Alannah Lau, Katelyn Luu, Michelle Phang and Catherine Tran achieved in the top 2% of students and Sienna Bailey, Maddie Hateley, Catherine Heywood, Megan Cao, Lucy Nightingale and Ariadne Palmer achieved in the top 10% and gained the school equal tenth place in the competition. Alannah Lau achieved the rare distinction of achieving a perfect score.

In a year when it may have been easier to focus on the deficits, it is indeed thrilling to see the fine results that stem from a considered program in Mathematics, and to celebrate the efforts of our girls.

#### **Christine Hallman**

Head of Junior School (girls)

# Can't Stop the Music!

If there has been one thing we have learnt from our experience of living with COVID-19 it is that you can't stop music students wanting to present their learning to an appreciative audience. Although ensemble rehearsals and most of our concerts have not been possible since March 2020, we have seamlessly moved into the online world to share music with our families and friends.

The new format has seen the introduction of the regular concert series Monday@6. We have held these concerts every couple of weeks and they have been open to any student who wishes to play in a less formal environment. The dress code is somewhat relaxed too as many versions of uniform, casual clothes and even pyjamas have been on show.

Students, staff and parents are able to share the enjoyment and fun at these concerts and it has been wonderful to witness the mixing of older and younger cohorts. To date we have had hundreds of performances with many repeat participants. The concert on 8 November was spilt into two parts as there were more than 20 students on the list.

In addition, many of our usual department concerts have gone ahead online. We have presented four Suzuki concerts for hundreds of concert-starved students and parents. There have also been Woodwind, String, Piano, Percussion, Vocal and VCE Music Performance concerts.

Even after we return to real live performances there will still be a place for continuing with the online concert hall.

Amanda Rowarth
Director of Music

# A City Experience

On 2 December the Year Eight boys departed on a bus and headed to the city of Melbourne. This was an opportunity for the boys to gain some experience of what it is like to explore aspects of the city. For the entire day, the boys were split into groups of twelve, with each group assigned a teacher to accompany them. Each group was allowed to visit any place they chose, within the COVID-19 restrictions.

Arriving at 9:30am and leaving at around 2:00pm, allowed plenty of time for the students to enjoy a full day of fun-filled activities with friends and classmates. Places that were visited included the Queen Victoria Market, MCG, Southbank, Melbourne Central, Federation Square and many others. The students had a lot of freedom and chose the places they wished to visit and explore.

The weather couldn't have been better with the sun shining throughout the whole day. It was a great way to celebrate the end of the examination period and the end of a tough year for all. It was a great day and a well deserved experience for the Year Eight boys.

Lachlan Toussaint Year Eight





# University of Melbourne Maths Competition

In Term Two, a number students from Year Eight to Twelve sat the University of Melbourne School Mathematics Competition. This contest assessed our mathematical ingenuity and insight, as well as our capacity for analysing problems and expressing ourselves coherently and accurately. It broadened our horizons by exposing us to fascinating, challenging questions that wouldn't usually be encountered in school.

Fast-forward five months later, the award ceremony was conducted via Zoom on Saturday, October 9, by the School of Mathematics and Statistics staff. The top 25 students in the competition receive "Outstanding" awards and the next 25 receive Certificates of Merit. There were several of us who received awards in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Divisions. The presentation was highly enriching and enjoyable, as guest speakers were invited to explore the vital role of mathematics in numerous fields, including computer programming, computational biology and biostatistics. They shared their personal career journeys to discovering their passion and purpose and encouraged us to further our own mathematical studies.

Overall, this experience has taught me to think outside the box and improved my logical reasoning and critical thinking abilities — both of which have real-life applications, far transcending maths. Participating in this competition has been greatly rewarding, and these invaluable skills will stay with me throughout my secondary education and beyond.

#### Ivy Zhang

Year Nine

Award winners were:

#### **Junior Division**

Outstanding: Xavier Hong, Chris Kouroupidis (Year 8)
Merit: Kevin Pho (Year 8)

#### **Intermediate Division**

Merit: Ivy Zhang (Year 9), Kevin Nguyen (Year 10)

#### **Senior Division**

Outstanding: Li Wong (Year 12)

Merit: Ruby Cullen, Zheng Hua, Sandra Sujith (Year 11)





## **Debating success**

This year PEGS Gottliebsen House students in Years Nine and Ten competed against hundreds of teams from all over Victoria in the DAV Schools Competition. Their journey was made more difficult by the unpredictable circumstances, however, our Year Nine team persevered to reach the Grand Final and achieve second place in the state. Mustafa Hamdan, Malindu Wikramanayake, Jaiden Pitigala and James Hately-Williams made up the team and deserve all the praise for the hours of research and practice they devoted to their performances.

Our debate program has benefitted our students' development by providing opportunities for them to speak up on important matters that affect their future. It has encouraged our students to take intellectual risks and even provided graduated students with an opportunity to come back and mentor the junior years by imparting the wisdom gained through years honing their skills.

I am proud to say that I belong to a community that supports and enriches the students' lives with debating and I look forward to the growth of our program.

#### **Natasha Malik**

Debate Coordinator, Gottliebsen House

# **A Passion for Maths**

This year has proven that our Larkin Centre students' passion for maths simply cannot be stopped. Maths opportunities such as those provided by the Australian Mathematics Trust introduces topics and ideas often not covered in the VCE curriculum. Aside from being an eye-opening experience, these competitions are immensely satisfying – particularly when you finally figure out a method to solve a problem – and above all, fun.

Dr Angelo Di Pasquale ran maths extension classes at the Larkin Centre and these were attended by mathsloving students year-round. Additionally, students achieved outstanding results in multiple mathematical and computational competitions and programs throughout the course of 2021.

As 2021 draws to a close, I reflect on all the opportunities and experiences I have had this year. I, like many other Larkin Centre students, eagerly await the new year and I look forward to what it will bring – hopefully more exciting maths papers.

#### Sandra Sujith

Year Eleven

Results achieved by Larkin Centre students of mathematics in 2021.

**Computational and Algorithmic Thinking** 

Distinction: Henry Liu – best PEGS performance, Ruchi Bath-Samarakoon, Zheng Hua, Martin Nguyen, Sandra Sujith, Li Wong (Year 11)

**AMOC Senior Contest** 

The AMOC Senior Contest is a by-invitation event run by the Australian Maths Trust. Around 100 students from all over Australia were invited to compete online.

Sandra Sujith (11) was invited to compete and received a Bronze award

**Australian Informatics Olympiad** 

Students of Specialist Maths and IT, with a knowledge of a programming language and problem-solving skills choose to sit this competition.

Bronze Award: Edwin Li (Year 12), Ruby Cullen (Year 11)

**University of Melbourne Maths Competition (Senior Division)** 

Outstanding Award Li Wong (Year 12)

Merit Award: Ruby Cullen, Zhenghao Hua, Sandra Sujith (Year 11)

**Australian Mathematics Competition Senior Division** 

High Distinction, best PEGS performance: Li Wong (Year 12)

High Distinction: Asel Kumarasinghe , Jack Rhynd, Sandra Sujith, Seliyan Thiveraj (Year 11)

Distinction: Liam Buchanan, Sachin Iyer, Jovita Quach, Uileam Wilson, Vincent Wu (Year 12)

**National Mathematics Summer School** 

Sandra Sujith has been invited to attend the annual maths extension program directed by Associate Professor Norm Do that will run online over the summer break.

# **Finding Myself Through Art**

The last two years posed many different challenges. Art students and others taking a folio subject, lost access to the studio spaces and equipment crucial to our subjects. An impact on me was a loss of motivation to create when I was stuck in the same four walls for months. I realised that I had previously been taking for granted the benefit of having other people around, who all shared the same goal of creating art. As the lockdowns continued, I found myself reflecting on life and myself as a person and who I want to be.

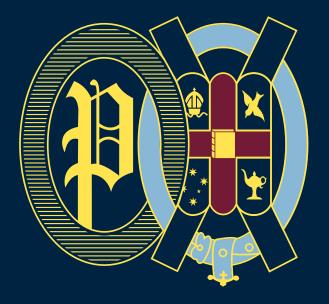
The final artworks I produced this year explored themes of death (vanitas - memento mori). My intention was never to display it negatively, but as an inevitable part of life. Art provided a platform from which I could explore this in a constructive and dynamic manner.

It is with a deep sense of pride that I found out that my artwork 'A nice place to rest' has been accepted into the forthcoming Fireworks Exhibition at the Incinerator Galley - an art and design exhibition of works by VCE students in the City of Moonee Valley. I will be sharing this experience with classmates Amalia Birch, Stephanie Mason, Amy Todd and Sabrina Astuto. To be accepted for the Fireworks Exhibition is an honor and I am thankful for this opportunity to showcase my work. The exhibition is a testament to the hard work and dedication that all creative arts students demonstrate every day.

#### Isabella Roberts

Year Twelve





School Awards

School Awards recognise leadership, dedication and excellence and honour the contribution made by students to the life of the school.

# Principal's Award

The Principal's Award is the highest category of school awards. It honours an ongoing, outstanding and broad contribution to the school by a graduating student who has set the highest standards of commitment to the academic and cocurricular life of the school.

In 2021 ten students are recipients of the Principal's Award. We commend and thank these graduating students for their lengthy and exceptional contribution to the school.

Innayat Brar Kaile Huang Vinnily Nguyen Caroline Tomasic Jack Brydon Sachin Iyer Connor O'Brien Nathan Fitzpatrick Jamieson Jarvis Krystel Parras

School Colours

Full Colours holders are the leaders within the school community and, through their continued commitment, set a fine example for younger students as well as enjoying the personal rewards to be had from a school experience which establishes a balance between studies and wider interests.

We congratulate the following students who have been awarded Full Colours in 2021 and thank them for their valuable contribution:

Genr 12

Marcus Aiello Soccer
Lucas Alderman Basketball

Rhearne Allan Basketball, Triathlon

Darcy Arkinstall Cricket
Hannah Avsar Triathlon
Rebecca Bain Athletics

Indu Banneyake Touch Football

Jemma Baulch Football

Adam Berry Hockey, Summer Hockey
Katherine Bilic Academic Excellence

Amalia Birch Triathlon

Austin Bishop Contribution to School Sport

Zoe Borrelli Community Leadership, Volleyball

Innayat Brar Public Speaking

Jessica Brown Hockey, Triathlon

Jack Brydon Music Concert Band, Music Stage Band

Aurora Carli Academic Excellence

Kostas Chrisant Soccer
Charlotte Davitt Softball
Victoria Day Volleyball

Simona Di Filippo Netball

Joseph Dimasi Football

George Dioudis Soccer
Ben Dowsett Swimming

Romilly Ferraro Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Nathan Fitzpatrick Public Speaking, Social Justice
Casee Gazelle Contribution to School Sport

Hao Ci Gu Academic Excellence

Roma Heanly Contribution to School Sport

Zara Height Swimming
Bevan Holder Triathlon

Zephyr Hooke Contribution to School Sport

Ella Hough Netball, Volleyball Elsie Howe Touch Football

Gemma Howe Hockey, Swimming, Triathlon

Kaile Huang Cross Country

Josephine Huynh Social Justice

Sachin Iyer Music Guitar Ensemble, Music Stage Band

Jamieson Jarvis Football
Andre Jaycock Football

Noah Juzva Contribution to School Sport

Tea Kastanos Soccer

Helena Kayalicos Performing Arts Drama

Charlee Kemp Netball

Angelique Konstantinou Music Senior Choir Vox Populi Emily Kostandinov Contribution to School Sport

Rachel Koutoulogenis Volleyball

Michael Ktona Football

Krishaal Kumaran Social Justice

Benjamin La Music Chindamo Jazz Combo

Shannon Legudi Community Leadership
Stephanie Leris Contribution to School Life

Jasmine Lim Social Justice
Nicholas Markovski Cricket
Matteo Masiero Soccer

Stephanie Mason Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Angus McAvoy Fencing

Claudia Mihocic Contribution to School Sport

Josh Misiti Contribution to School Sport

Anh Nguyen Cricket, Football

Vinnily Nguyen Contribution to School Sport

Connor O'Brien Social Justice

Patrick Overton Contribution to School Sport

Chloe Phan Social Justice

Maxwell Pickering Performing Arts Drama

Jahn Pilioglou Community Leadership, Triathlon

Georgia Prebble Contribution to School Sport
Abigail Price Contribution to School Sport

Jovita Quach Social Justice
James Read Swimming

Alex Roberts Music Symphony Orchestra

Luke Robinson Basketball

Declan Scott Cricket

Hazal Sen Chess, Community Leadership
Reuben Stathis Contribution to School Sport

Benedict Thomson Football

Caroline Tomasic Music Senior Choir Vox Populi, Music Symphony Orchestra, Social Justice

Ned Tonks Contribution to School Sport

William Tonks Swimming
Shirley Trang Touch Football
Zoe Tsenalidis Soccer, Softball

Ross Vassiliadis Soccer

Georgia Vuckovic Touch Football

Xavier Webb Contribution to School Sport Madeline Weston Music Percussion Ensemble

Laura Woerndle Basketball

Judy Yang Social Justice

Year 11

Amy Avram Swimming

Yi Xiang Ba

Ruchi Bath-Samarakoon

Contribution to School Life

Chris Cheng

Academic Excellence

Ruby Cullen

Academic Excellence

Contribution to School Life

Contribution to School Life

Molly Dale Performing Arts Drama, Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Isaac Day Contribution to School Life

Kaan Elibol Soccer

Isabelle Evans Performing Arts Drama

Molly Failli Basketball Isaac Hang Badminton

Tigerlily Hooke

Zheng Hua

Academic Excellence

Academic Excellence

Hugo Iser-Smith

Aaliya John

Community Leadership

John Karambelas

Contribution to School Life

Stephen Kow Music
Hannah Lambert-Johnston Hockey

Shanice Lim Community Leadership

Thomas Mackenzie Cricket
Tegan Matthews Football
Fionnuala McKeagney-Stubbs Netball

**Brodie McWhinney** 

Benjamin Murphy Contribution to School Sport

Gitaanjali Nair Public Speaking

Quinton Nguyen Community Leadership, Contribution to School Life

Basketball

Timothy Nguyen Contribution to School Life

Vasiliki Papafotiou Soccer

Despina Pavlou Community Leadership
Atticus Paxton Academic Excellence, Music

Joshua Radovanovic Academic Excellence
Ethan Reid Contribution to School Life
Jack Rhynd Academic Excellence, Music

Alexander Sarossy Music Curro Strings, Music Symphony Orchestra

Antonio Sfameni Music

Wil Siafalis-Tsiatsios Performing Arts Drama
Benjamin Sostaric Contribution to School Sport
Nicola Spiliopoulos Community Leadership
Patrick Steward Contribution to School Sport
Cooper Stolz Community Leadership
Seliyan Thivearaj Academic Excellence
Minh Tran Academic Excellence

Lucas Trenkovski Soccer

Athan Vass Table Tennis
Orlando West Swimming

Gevindu Wickramanayake Academic Excellence, Table Tennis

Ishani Wijeratne Academic Excellence

Thomas Williamson Contribution to School Sport
Elshaddai Woldeyes Community Leadership
Louis Yates Academic Excellence

Year 10

Bonnie Autupuna Basketball

Asha Brydon Contribution to School Life

Jack Do Academic Excellence

Tahlia Holloway

Jack Irwin

Community Leadership

Contribution to School Life

Sebastian Italiano Contribution to School Life
Jack Klinkatsis Community Leadership

Mikayla Lawes Touch Football

Myiesha Maunders Chess

Máire McEvoy Academic Excellence

Eadie Milne Contribution to School Life

Joseph Monitto Community Leadership, Contribution to School Life

Kevin Nguyen Academic Excellence

Angelina Nguyen Badminton

Josephine Nguyen Contribution to School Life

Thomas Nightingale Contribution to School Sport

Vincent Nigro Contribution to School Life

Aydin Notaro Tennis

Chloe Petranis Academic Excellence
Trixie Quach Academic Excellence

Ayesha Rashid Community Leadership Laura Stevenson Contribution to School Life Charlotte Sutcliffe Contribution to School Life Cameron Truong Academic Excellence, Music Aishwarya Wijesinghe Community Leadership Katie Wo Contribution to School Life Adonna Woldeyes Academic Excellence Luke Yuan Contribution to School Life

Year 9

Malindu Wickramanayake Community Leadership

Half Colours

Half Colours are the school's second highest award and, again, are normally awarded to senior students.

We congratulate the following students who have been awarded Half Colours in 2021 and thank them for their significant contribution.

Year 12

Lucas Alderman Football **Darcy Arkinstall** Football Zoe Borrelli Soccer Innayat Brar Music Contribution to School Sport Lucas Cheng Millie Cooke Triathlon Basketball Joseph Di Giovine Contribution to School Sport Finn Dolan Music Stage Band Jack Drew Genevieve Falzon Triathlon Social Justice Thevindee Gamlaxakage Fencing, Public Speaking Steven Gavriel Football Bevan Holder **Christian Houston** Social Justice Football Elsie Howe Volleyball Megan Huynh Thomas Joseph Badminton Soccer **Emily Jurgec** Angelique Konstantinou Public Speaking Zac Kozman Triathlon Krishaal Kumaran Public Speaking Social Justice Stephanie Mason **Robert Massey** Basketball

Gurbani Minhas Music Chinese Orchestra

Anh Nguyen Touch Football

Jordan Noonan Contribution to School Sport

Connor O'Brien Swimming

Bridget Parlato Contribution to School Sport

Umesha Peramuna-Arachchi Public Speaking
Emily Price Touch Football

Jovita Quach Music Synthesizer Ensemble, Public Speaking

Alex Roberts Music Curro Strings

Isabella Roberts Contribution to School Sport

Luke Robinson Football
Alyssa Russo Softball

Anthony Saad Soccer, Table Tennis

Hazal Sen Basketball

Madeleine Sutcliffe Performing Arts Drama
Estelle Thitchener Contribution to School Life
Devinda Yalegama Performing Arts Drama
Patrick Zagarella Contribution to School Sport

Michael Zhang Badminton

Genr 11

Lucy Allen Contribution to School Sport
Christina Anastasiadis Music Senior Choir Vox Populi
Yi Xiang Ba Music Percussion Ensemble

Alexander Bekris Soccer

Max Bisetto Soccer

Renee Chen Music

Chris Cheng Chess

Brooklyn Christy Leahy

Contribution to School Sport

Ruby Cullen

Public Speaking, Social Justice

Molly Dale

Piper Davis

Frank Doolan

Music

Social Justice

Football

Music

Isabelle Evans Social Justice

Catherine Filippone Contribution to School Sport, Music

Starcia Han Contribution to School Life

Desi-Marie Hatzimihalis Music Concert Band

Ross Iliakopoulos Basketball

Hugo Iser-Smith Music Concert Band

Siyoda Jayawardene Contribution to School Life

Aaliya John Music Senior Choir Vox Populi
Emmet Johnson Contribution to School Life

Spencer Jones Contribution to School Sport

Amal Kapadia Music

Jackson Kerr Contribution to School Sport

Charles Lalin Swimming

Sienna Li
Shanice Lim
Music Senior Choir Vox Populi
Marcus Mansour
Music Senior Choir Vox Populi
Jacob May
Contribution to School Sport
Jacqueline Muir
Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Gitaanjali Nair Social Justice
Phung Nguyen Badminton

Luca Nimorakiotakis Contribution to School Sport

Ciara Nolan Netball

Keiya Osumi Contribution to School Sport
Liam Perumal Music Chinese Orchestra
Natasha Pham Contribution to School Sport

Derek Quach Swimming

Emma Rawson Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Matteo Redvers Music

Finn Reilly Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Finn Reilly Triathlon

Jack Rhynd Fencing

Wil Siafalis-Tsiatsios Fencing, Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Radhika Singh Music Concert Band

Lucas Smaragdiou Soccer

Massimo Squillace Performing Arts Drama
Sandra Sujith Contribution to School Life
Hanan Surosh Contribution to School Life

Liana Talevski Music
Alexander Tasevski Soccer

Indra Thomas Contribution to School Sport

Amy Todd Music Senior Choir Vox Populi

Josh Tracy Hockey
Francesca Tran Swimming

Vivien Tran Music Curro Strings, Music Symphony Orchestra

Natasha Van Berkel Soccer

Athan Vass Music Guitar Ensemble

Jonathan Wang Music Chindamo Jazz Combo

Fletcher Ware Football

Gevindu Wickramanayake Public Speaking, Social Justice

Genr 10

Michael Altair House Leadership

Jesse Armstrong Contribution to School Sport

Grace Astell Softball

Alanna Atanasovski Swimming

Alara Bagdadi Cross Country

Jai Balestra Soccer

Nethuli Bandara House Leadership

Emma Conti Contribution to School Life

Ryan Cox Cricket

Jessica D'Souza Contribution to School Life

Josh Davidson House Leadership

Jacques De Marco
Chelsea De Silva
Contribution to School Sport
Duc Huy Du
Contribution to School Sport
Portia Farah
Contribution to School Sport
Rachel Farish
Contribution to School Life
Caitlin Frankas
Contribution to School Life
Megan Gan
Contribution to School Life

Amy Gaylor Football

Shadi Haddad House Leadership

Lachlan Hall Contribution to School Life

Ava Hough Basketball

Kiara Istanto Contribution to School Life
Koby Lack Contribution to School Sport

Maggie Le Hockey

Jesse Maljanek-Smith House Leadership

Aarzu Mavi Community Leadership, Contribution to School Life

Máire McEvoy House Leadership

George Mihailidis Soccer

Lachlan Montebello House Leadership

Kevin Nguyen Contribution to School Sport

Noah O'Donnell Swimming

George Parras House Leadership
Onaya Peiris House Leadership

Chloe Petranis Contribution to School Sport, House Leadership

Henry Pickering

Ayesha Rashid

Jade Reaburn

Jack Read

Contribution to School Sport

Contribution to School Sport

Contribution to School Sport

Yasmin Ritter Music

Sienna Santeufemia Contribution to School Life

Elena Serovski Hockey

Connor Smith

Joshua Thomson

Imogen Webster

Contribution to School Sport

Contribution to School Life

Contribution to School Life

Alexis Xerri House Leadership
Caroline Xie Music, Public Speaking

Elissa Zartaloudis Music

Louie Zhao Contribution to School Life
Danielle Ziegelaar Contribution to School Life

Year 9

Milla Conn

Dilan Egodawatte

Jason Fabiano Sienna Gauci Mustafa Hamda

Mustafa Hamdan

Marsianna Mastrantuono Oliver Neo

Jaiden Pitigala

Isabella Sloan Lachlan Steward

Dylan Tran Malindu Wickramanayake

Ivy Zhang

Hockey

**Cross Country** 

Contribution to School Sport
Contribution to School Life

Public Speaking

Contribution to School Life Contribution to School Life

Public Speaking

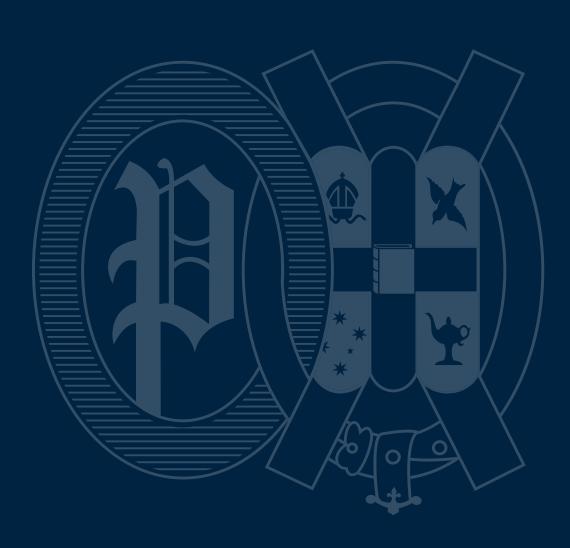
Contribution to School Life Contribution to School Sport

Public Speaking
Public Speaking
Public Speaking

Year 8

Xavier Hong

Chess



# From the Archives Brigid Cooper Archivist

### 150th Celebrations 2021 - 2022

1971 and 1972 - A Snapshot from 50 years ago

1971 and 1972 were years of celebration for both Essendon Grammar School and Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies' College. While still functioning quite separately, administratively the schools were getting closer. It was also a time of looking to the future with the launch of McNab House - a new co-educational campus for Form 5 and Form 6 from both schools from the start of 1973. Land adjoining the schools at Moonee Ponds and Essendon were being purchased and many building programs were undertaken during this time.

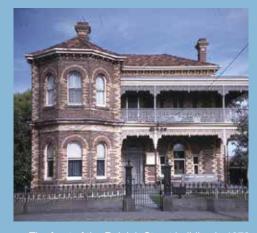
#### **Structure**

and Senior Master (Mr E M Ackroyd / Mr J G M (Jock) McKinlay) and Senior Mistress (Mrs Suzanne Mellor) of McNab House, Master-in-Charge of Middle School (Mr John M Birt), Master-in-Charge of Junior School (Mr R John Bugg), and Mistress-in-Charge of Prep School (Mrs Sadie W Stevens). A Headmistress looked after the whole of Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies' College (Mrs Margarete Klen).

In 1969 the Councils "integrated." They still functioned as separate Councils, but they communicated more with each other. In 1977 one Council was formed, taking members from both existing School Councils, and would later become a Board of Directors/Management.



: The Park Street frontage in 1971 showing the newly opened classroom/library/gym building on the right (PEGS Archives [PH04537])

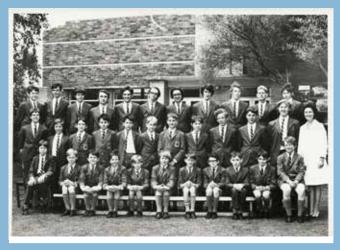


(PEGS Archives [PH04253])

#### **Essendon Grammar School Centenary Celebrations**

Hall on 28 October 1971. The program was led by Music Boys' Association members to attend was also extended.

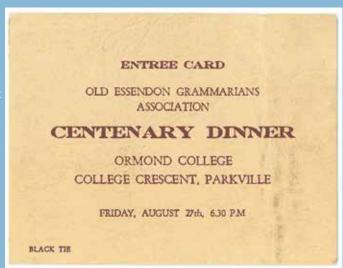
> Boys in Grade 6 and above to attend. Boys may sit with parents, so include them Instrumentalists and Singing Groups will Hall Madrigal Group will join the Choir in selections from H.M.S. Pinafore. No charge, but a fee of 20 cents per seat booking fee.



EGS Choir in 1971 with the Music Director, Mrs Mary Armour (PEGS Archives [PH00231])

Other events included a Centenary Fete on 6 November 1971 at Essendon Grammar Junior School, Raleigh Street, Essendon. The EGS Old Grammarians' Association also held a Centenary Dinner at Ormond College, 27 August. After Toasts to H M The Queen, "Schools That Went Before," "Headmasters, and "Present School" with replies from former Principals Mr C Rodney Woollacott and Dr Frank Shann, and current Principal, Rev H R (Bert) Stevens, the following Menu was served: Menu

- Rock Melon,
- Oysters.
- Creme of Chicken Soup,
- Prime Roast Beef with Yorkshire pudding, green-peas, baby carrots, baked potatoes, horse radish sauce
- Brandied Strawberries
- Cheese Board
- Coffee & Mints



An Entree Card to the Essendon Grammar School's Centenary Dinner, 27 August 1971 (Donor: Jack Gunn [PEGS05234],

#### Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies' College Centenary Celebrations

Penleigh Centenary Celebrations were held through 1971 and 1972. A history book "Splendoured Road from Dorset," written by journalist Lyle Tucker, was launched at Speech Night 1971. A news clipping from the time states: "Copies of "Splendoured Road from Dorset" are obtainable from Penleigh for \$3.50."

The Penleigh Old Collegians' Association held a Garden Party on 27 November 1971. The school then celebrated with a Centenary Weekend, including an Assembly and the Centenary Dinner on Friday 11 February, followed by a Church Service at St John's Presbyterian Church, Essendon, and the unveiling of a plaque and mural on Sunday 13 February.

Penleigh Old Collegians Association's write-up in the Black Watch 1972 describes their busy year.

Most of our functions this year have been involved with the Centenary. The first was our Garden Party last November to which we had a tremendous attendance with Old Collegians from early 1900's when the school was known as Ascot Vale Girls' High up to present day times. Our special guest was of course Miss Muriel Limerock. The Centenary Dinner also was extremely successful and the Church Service with luncheon afterwards had a very large attendance. Our last Centenary celebration was the Annual Ball at Stardust where 16 debutantes were presented to Prof. Anderson, Theological Principal of Ormond College. Other activities this year have included a Car Trial (hilarious) and Picnic, a film night with Len Moncur and skating and Badminton nights which produced no champions but lots of giggles.



: An Invitation Card to the Penleigh Old Collegians' Association Centenary Garden Party, 27 November 1971 (Donor: Alva Anderson (née Muir) [PEGS04470])



Centenary Garden Party, 27 November 1971 - Miss Muriel Limerock, the Oldest Old Girl in attendance (name unknown), Elsa Jopson; Background: Mrs Klen, Principal (Donor: Gwen Hocking (née Moncur) [PH04811])

#### **Development of Early Learning Centres**

Building on new research into the best preparation for school, Rev H R (Bert) Stevens and his wife Mrs Sadie Stevens were champions of the school's new Early Learning Centres. We see the extension of this program today with our Kindergarten Cottages 49, 51 and 53.

#### **McNab House**

The other bold educational experiment was McNab House. In 1972 most Form 5 and Form 6 subjects for both boys and girls were at the Essendon Grammar School's East Keilor Campus. The girls were still moving back and forth by taxi between East Keilor and Moonee Ponds. By 1973 the first stage of the new McNab buildings was finished, and all Form 5 and Form 6 classes were then held there, and in the Middle School Boys Science Laboratories. Here is an excerpt from The Black Watch 1972:

"Penleigh has extended its educational activities and opportunities in the last decade and now proposes to extend still further. As from the beginning of 1973 the young ladies of Forms 5 and 6 will join with the young gentlemen of Essendon Grammar School 5th and 6th forms in a new fifth and sixth form venture called McNab House.

McNab House is so named because it honours two McNab families closely associated with Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies' College and Essendon Grammar School. Mr Duncan McNab has been a Councillor of Penleigh since Penleigh was purchased by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. Miss Joan McNab was a student at Penleigh and is presently President of the Old Collegians Association. Mr Francis McNab, father of Miss Joan McNab and his son Mr Finlay McNab have together had 50 years association with Essendon Grammar School as Councillors and as a student.

The idea of McNab House is to make the transition easier for the student from the stricter discipline of the secondary school to the freer discipline of work, Institute of University and to teach students to work with other students as well as for themselves

The complex which has begun with a large building containing a Coffee room, Resource room and Lecture theatre as well as classrooms could ultimately develop into a fully organised centre with its own science labs, et.



Students inspecting progress on the new McNab House with the Senior Master, Mr Jock McKinlay, and Senior Mistress, Mrs Suzanne Mellor, 1972 (PEGS Archives [PH04004])

### A tribute to Mrs Jean McNab (née Stewart)

Most of us can only imagine making it to 100 years old. In 2019 PEGS congratulated Jean McNab on reaching 100. We were pretty confident she was our oldest former student. To make absolutely sure, Jean kept going and reached 102! Our thoughts are with the McNab family who have lost this strong, community-minded woman

Jean Stewart started in Kindergarten at Penleigh Presbyterian Girls' School in 1924. By 1933 she was in Form Vb, studying at Intermediate level. She was a member of the Basketball Team and had taken on leadership roles as Probationer, and as the Secretary of the Christian Union. Unfortunately, due to her father's ill health, she needed to leave school at age 15 and help support her family financially.

But this wasn't the end of her association with the school. Her husband, Finlay McNab, also a former student, joined the Essendon Grammar School Council in 1948, many years before their own sons, Stewart, Alastair and Ian started attending. While Finlay continued on school Councils and Boards until 1988, Jean was busy with the Essendon Grammar School Ladies' Social Club, and the affectionately known "Old Mums" (Old Essendon Grammarians' Mothers' Group). These organisations were an important social network for parents and also raised an enormous amount of funds which were all given to the school for often essential facilities and services that otherwise could not have been provided. The "Old Mums" was active for 40 years and is a tribute to the friendships made at the Essendon Grammar School gate.

Jean saw her children and grandchildren carry on the traditions of the School. Her son, Stewart says "and even in the last six months of her life was asking me how was the School and McNab House and reflected on her time as a student at Penleigh all those years ago." The PEGS Community thanks Jean and her family for a lifetime of support.



Jean Stewart (far right) picnicking with her Class VA in Belgrave in 1931 (Donor: McNab Family [PH04046])



Jean and Finlay McNab with their sons at Woolley Street, Essendon (Donor: McNab Family)



Jean McNab surrounded by her family in 2019 (Donor: McNab Family)

# 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, jobs 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.



# 2022 Events

#### **PEGS Business Network Functions**

Mental Health, Wellbeing, Culture and Leadership

Date: Date to be announced in 2022

Time: 7am – 9am

Venue: RACV Club, Level 2 Club Pavilion, 501 Bourke St, Melbourne

Guest Presenter: Paul Roos

#### **FSA Reunions**

The following reunions are to be held in 2022. Dates to be advised.

10 Year Reunion - Class of 2010

10 Year Reunion - Class of 2011

10 Year Reunion - Class of 2012

20 Year Reunion - Combined Classes of 2000 & 2001

20 Year Reunion - Class of 2002

30 Year Reunion - Combined Classes of 1990 & 1991

30 Year Reunion - Class of 1992

Don't forget to visit <u>www.pegshub.com.au</u> and register your most up to date contact details to ensure you do not miss out on any reunion details!

#### **PEGSHUB**

Visit www.pegshub.com.au to subscribe and join PEGSHUB

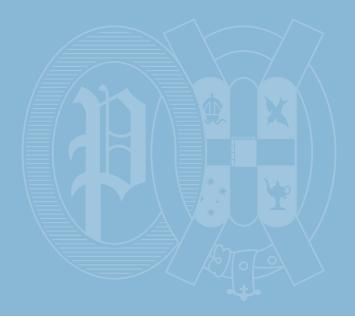
#### LinkedIn:

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.







## 2022 Dates for the Diary

Term dates 2022

**Term One** 

Tuesday 1 February - Friday 8 April

**Term Two** 

Wednesday 27 April - Friday 24 June

Term Three

Tuesday 12 July - Friday 9 September

**Term Four** 

Monday 3 October – Wednesday 7 December



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

