

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

Principal

Mr Andrew Ponsford

Year 2 Sleepover

Thank you to all involved in preparing the students so successfully for this activity – as an early arriver Friday morning, it was very reassuring indeed to see our students so positive and engaged. Two things were



obvious – they were having a great time and they were so impressively independent in the way in which they were packing up, eating breakfast and preparing for the day ahead.



Special thanks to staff who oversaw the event – Lauren Hedditch, Kirsten Smart and volunteers – Damien Morrison and Romina Pimpini.

Year 1 Dinner

Congratulations to students and staff on a successful Year 1 dinner.

In the immediate term the above is all about preparing our students successfully for camp in Year 3 and Year 4, but I would also say for a **successful future** – it is about the qualities, skills and characteristics that we encourage now in our young people, such as independence, leadership, problem solving, teamwork and resilience that are frequently the strongest determiners of future success at school and beyond.



These behaviours become habits and our habits repeated over and over become our qualities and characteristics!

Parents and Friends association:

Trivia Night (Saturday 28 October) and Focus Meeting (Thursday 16 November)

The first of two significant SCG community events occurs this Saturday 28 October 2017, the PFA Trivia Night at 7pm in the Southern Cross Grammar (JS Learning Hub) 2-20 Lancefield Drive, Caroline Springs. My thanks to Hannah Radburn and friends for this initiative which has at its heart, fundraising and fun! I wish all a great night!

Please do keep aside Thursday 16 November for the first of our focus meetings, providing an important night of information, reflection and discussion around the theme of responsible use of technology and social media. Drinks and nibbles to commence at 6:30pm with a 7:00pm start. Further details to be provided closer to the time.

Passion Day – tomorrow, Friday 27 October - F-Y9

One of the most important attributes of a successful school environment is the presence of passion – inspired teachers lead to inspired learning. As many in our community would know the Passion Principle is one of the 4 key principles that drives our teaching and learning theory.

The day seeks to remind us all of the importance of this element and I wish all a successful conclusion to this week through this event.

Music Recitals

Mr R Graham

Music Recitals are scheduled next week in the Junior School Learning Hub and will feature performances from students enrolled in our Private Music Program. Recitals will commence at 4pm and all members of the school community are invited to attend.

Tuesday 31 October:

Piano, Guitar, Drums and Flute
Students of Mr Yong, Mr McQuade and Mr Thomas

Wednesday 1 November:

Voice and Brass
Students of Mrs McPike and Mr Perger

Thursday 2 November:

Piano, Violin and Viola
Students of Mrs Elizabeth Vincent



Recent upgrade to plants outside the Junior School entrance.

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Head of Middle School

Ms Janis Coffey

Finding Your Element

To Praise or Not to Praise...that is the question!

We all love our children dearly. We want them to feel good about themselves and to be confident individuals. So is it any wonder that we freely offer praise to our children?

“You’re so smart!”

“You’re the most amazing son in the world!”

“You couldn’t be any more perfect!”

Sound like you? Of course, as parents it’s hard not to feel this way about our children and surely it’s ok to let your child know how great you think they are. But what kind of praise is good praise? And, what is the purpose of praise? Comments like the ones above may indeed impact on a child’s self-esteem. The Macquarie dictionary defines self-esteem as one’s favourable opinion of oneself. But, is that *all* we want for our children? Do we just want them to feel good about themselves? I think it would be more accurate to say that we also want them to competently resolve conflict, take risks and bounce back from adversity. In order to do that, children need to develop a strong sense of self-efficacy which is the belief you have in your ability to overcome or deal with the challenges that life presents. People who have a sense of self-efficacy will face challenges or adversities with a growth mindset. They might say to themselves, “I might not win this race, but if I practice hard, I’ll do better than last time.” The type of praise we give our children will either help them develop a *fixed* or *growth mindset*. Carol Dweck, one of the world’s leading researchers in the field of Positive Psychology and Motivation theory, defines a fixed mindset as one where you believe that your talents, abilities and level of intelligence are set.

You can see how a child might wonder why they didn’t do well on a test if they are always told how smart they are. The aim is to build self-efficacy not just self-esteem. To learn more about mindsets, visit: <http://mindsetonline.com/index.html>



Deputy Principal—Head of Teaching and Learning

Mrs Julie Baud

It is an exciting time as our senior students prepare to sit for the school’s first external VCAA (Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority) exams next week. We wish them all the best and trust their hard work and the wonderful support of their teachers will pay off in the end. Good luck to the Year 11’s!

The rest of the school is also conscious of the upcoming exam period for Year 7-11 students that commences with the English exams on Friday 10 November. Our teachers are assisting students with their preparation in class, but this should be complemented by additional study at home. A little bit of study each night can do wonders! So, it would be beneficial if parents could encourage this over the next few weeks.

The exam timetable is included below. Parents should note that Year 10 and 11 students have the option of studying at home or at school during this time, while those in Years 7-9 will have timetabled classes when they are not doing an exam or a supervised study session. Year 7-9 Homeroom teachers will provide their students with a timetable for this week well in advance so they can arrive at school prepared for each day.

EXAM TIMETABLE, FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER – FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2017

D5 - FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER	D6 – MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER	D7 – TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER	D8 – WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER	D9 – THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER	D10 - FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER
8.30am Y7-Y9 Classes as per the timetable 11.00am Remembrance Day Assembly, F-Y11	8.30am 1/2 Biology 1/2 Health & Human Development Y9 Mathematics	8.30am 1/2 Accounting 1/2 Chemistry 1/2 Computing Y8 Mathematics	8.30am 1/2 Business Management Y7 Science	8.30am Y10 Core Mathematics Y10 Intro to Maths Methods Pt 1 Y11 Gen Maths Pt 1 Y11 Maths Methods Pt 1	8.30am Y7 Mathematics Y9 Humanities
11.20am RECESS Years F-Y11	11.30am CLASSES/ SUPERVISED STUDY Y7-Y11 students at school	11.30am CLASSES/ SUPERVISED STUDY Y7-Y11 students at school	11.30am CLASSES/ SUPERVISED STUDY Y7-Y11 students at school	11.30am CLASSES/ SUPERVISED STUDY Y7-Y11 students at school	11.30am CLASSES/ SUPERVISED STUDY Y7-Y9 students at school
11.45am F-Y6 Classes as per the timetable Y7-Y11 English exams	12.50pm Y8 Humanities Y10 Science	12.50pm 1/2 Media 1/2 Psychology 1/2 Physics 1/2 VET Sport & Recreation	12.50pm Y10 Humanities Y9 Science	12.50pm Y10 Intro to Maths Methods Pt 2 Y11 General Maths Part 2 Y11 Maths Methods Part 2	12.50pm Y8 Science

*Y7-9 students will have timetabled classes when they are not doing exams or supervised study.

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Head of Junior School

Ms Romina Pimpini

As we continue to highlight various aspects of our Student Centered Vision in the Junior School, recent events in F-Y4 have focused on;

- Understanding yourself
- Being responsible
- Taking risks
- Being a problem solver.



Our Year 2s recently 'camped out' at school with the annual Year 2 Sleepover. Students established their sleeping area, personally organised their belongings and took part in an array of camp-style activities, including erecting a tent!



They also served their own meals, problem-solved their way through webs and packed for their departure without fuss.

Congratulations to Mrs Hedditch, Ms Smart and Mr Morrison on providing such a unique experience for all!

Similarly, Year 1s had their Dinner event on Wednesday evening. Students organised themselves after school in their casual wear to take part in tower building using pasta and marshmallows, Treasure Hunting for survival, as well as some super dance moves in the JS Hub. They were treated to a scrumptious dinner made by Mrs Radburn and sat at the Year 1 'dinner table' offering an opportunity to dine with new friends. What an exciting program Mrs Kibar and Ms Farrugia provided everyone!



We are certain that being involved in such events and activities will assist in building the independence and resilience our students require, both in the classroom and beyond.

While Fin Strings and ensembles are hosted in the Junior School Learning Hub of a morning, we remind students and family members of the need for quiet and respect in the JS building. Noise can be a distraction for students and their musical learning focus.

Where possible, please schedule appointments for your child outside of school hours. Interruptions to the learning program can effect children's continuity in skill development, as well as the classroom environment, for both them and their teachers.

Be sure to discuss pick up arrangements with your child each school day so they are aware of *who* may be collecting them or *where* if a change of routine is imminent.



Passion Day – Miss Smart (NGL Coordinator)



Passionate Pablo is really looking forward to seeing F-Y9 students dressed up in their aspired occupations for tomorrow's Passion Day event. Remember that there are prizes for the best dressed! Along with the multi-age Passion Buddy Projects occurring in the morning and a shared assembly in the afternoon (2:30pm JS grassed area), it should be a day full of wonderful learning experiences where we can all 'learn from each other'. Parents are more than welcome to attend the assembly.

Science Talent Search Winner Mr R Ram

Congratulations to Elaf Elsheikh, who won a bursary for her entry in the photography category of the Science Talent Search. Science Talent Search is one of the oldest running programs for Victorian schools and every year thousands of students take part in the competition. Elaf was presented with her bursary during an award ceremony at La Trobe University recently.



PFA—Uniform Shop

Preloved Blazers for sale : The PFA uniform shop has limited numbers of preloved SCG Blazers available for sale. If you have a student entering grade 3 in 2018 that requires



a blazer or just needs a bigger size we recommend you visit the uniform shop before the end of term to avoid missing out or register your interest. If you know you'll have a blazer become available for sale at the end of term 4 and would like to list it's availability we'd also like to hear from you. Please contact pfa@scg.vic.edu.au