

The Southern Star

Principal

Mr Andrew Ponsford

Special congratulations to our Year 3-6 Swim Team - Runners Up!

I received some very exciting news late Wednesday afternoon regarding several outstanding individual and team performances at the District Swimming Carnival held on Wednesday 28 February. Ms Panozzo advised that all members performed impressively and are to be warmly congratulated for their attitude and enthusiasm.

The team comprised the following students:

Toby Browne, Sakari Clarke-Oldani, Ashton Dessman, Sophie Fosnaugh, Induni Hendahewa, Yash Jha, Tomislav Kvesic, Jasmine Lim, Lukas Li Rosi, Carmen Magro, Mike Natneal, Kristy Pappaluca, Taylah Roberts, Megan Scott, Luca Spiteri, Jacob Stark, Coen Sykes, Tegan Su, Tyana Su, Elliot Tam, Noah Veljanovski, Saanvi Venkat, Xavier Walker, Josie Woollard, Ted Woollard.

Special congratulations to the following students who were placed first, second or third:

FIRST: Jasmine Lim, Taylah Roberts, Tyana Su and Tegan Su- 11 year old Freestyle relay
Josie Woollard, Saanvi Venkat, Sakari Clarke-Oldani and Kristy Pappaluca - 12/13 year old Freestyle relay
Jasmine Lim - 11 year old 50m Backstroke and 11 year old 50m Freestyle
Tomislav Kvesic - 11 year old 50m Breaststroke and 11 year old 50m Butterfly
Saanvi Venkat - 12/13 year old 50m Butterfly

SECOND: Sophie Fosnaugh, Megan Scott, Ashton Dessman and Elisa Vigniuoli - 9/10 year old Freestyle Relay
Jasmine Lim, Josie Woollard, Saanvi Venkat and Sakari Clarke-Oldani - Open Medley Relay
Jasmine Lim - Open 100m Freestyle
Sakari Clarke-Oldani- 12/13 year old 50m Freestyle and 12/13 year old 50m Butterfly
Xavier Walker- 9/10 year old 50m Butterfly

THIRD: Lukas Li Rosi, Xavier Walker, Ted Woollard and Elliot Tam - 9/10 year old Freestyle Relay
Josie Woollard - 12/13 year old 50m Breaststroke
Carmen Magro - 12/13 year old 50m Backstroke
Tomislav Kvesic - Open 100m Freestyle.

Particular thanks to the PE department for their encouragement and oversight of the program particularly Jade Panozzo, Taylor Moss, Joseph Hedditch, Liam Ogden, Michael Pell and David Wildsmith.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

Grand OPENING

OF THE NEW VCE CENTRE



On behalf of the Chair of the Southern Cross Grammar Board, Troy Heenan, and the Principal of the School, Andrew Ponsford, you are invited to join us for this significant event in the history of our School. The official opening of the new VCE Centre heralds an opportunity to honour the past, celebrate the present and embrace a bright future. We recognise the significant commitment of our whole school community to the personal and academic growth of our students and school.

FRIDAY 16 MARCH
3.00pm–4.15pm

Class Captains

As mentioned last week, we now announce Term 1's class captains. Congratulations on your selection.

Junior School Captains

1SK	Hayley Im	1VT	Kaya Kibar
2LH	Chloe Tam	2KS	Callum Jaensch
3AB	Brandon Lim	3CG	Tameia Veitch
4DM	Chelsea Spagnuolo	4DW	Yasemin Isen

Middle School Captains

5.1	Olivia Skrekovski	5.2	Hannahpreet Kaur
6.1	Leo Xu	6.2	Jake Williams
7.1	Ella Rose	7.2	William Bentley
7.3	Ethan Wedi	8.1	Brandon Dimkovski
8.2	Mason Heenan	8.3	Jacob Pecevski
9.1	Cody Simmons	9.2	Anish Davuluri
9.3	Callum Weir		

The Southern Star

Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School

Ms Louisa Rennie

Student leadership

On Wednesday 28 February, we had the opportunity to greet five principals who were visiting our school. We welcomed them to Southern Cross Grammar, acted as their tour guides for the morning, guiding them through some of our buildings and facilities on their way to a meeting with our Principal. This opportunity provided us with a chance to meet different leaders, and improve our confidence and leadership skills. We were also able to represent our school and talk about different aspects of our school that we are proud of. Overall we thoroughly enjoyed this experience and we hope to get more tasks like this! *Stefan Filippone, Shivaan Bahl, Joanne Vuu, Hannah Merry and Nivethan Nakuladeva*

Technology - self regulation

If your child has a smart phone, tablet, laptop or all three it is likely that social media is a part of their daily routine. One of the challenges with social media sites and apps is that they are often designed to be highly distracting. The social nature of many apps that students use also make them very difficult to shut down or leave completely as it can lead to social anxiety. Have you heard of FOMO? This is the fear of missing out, or experiencing anxiety that an event or activity might be taking place elsewhere that one is not aware of or included in. This can be more acute if "everyone else" is using social media. Banning access or use is not necessarily the right answer and may in fact have a negative impact on your child's study habits. Self-regulation is key, as to is developing trust. High performing students are able to design a study timetable that allows for breaks and time out, relaxation and technology updates. Elevate Education research indicates that high performing students use a bit of will power and determination, as well as self-regulation software to limit or prevent access to social media while they are studying. Try Cold Turkey <https://getcoldturkey.com/>

Monday 5 March: Parent meeting - Elevate Education

We will host a **Senior School Parent meeting in the VCE Centre on Monday 5 March from 6:00pm – 7:45pm** to introduce parents to Elevate Education. Topical and focused, parents will explore explicit ways to support their children to improve study habits, time management, exam preparation, procrastination and technological distractions, motivation, stress and what it means to use effective study strategies. As we know, parents and teacher working together, are able to provide the support and guidance to students, to enable them to achieve their full potential. The meeting will commence at 6:00pm with a briefing on a number of VCE matters and a chance for parents to meet and connect over refreshments. The Elevate Education seminar will begin at 6:45pm. Support materials will be made available to parents who attend the workshop. You can read more about Elevate here: www.elevateeducation.com. The workshop is for parents. Students do not need to attend.

I am confident that your engagement in this workshop will provide you some strategies to support your child's learning and I would really like to see as many Senior School parents as possible at this event – your support is very much appreciated.

Please RSVP your attendance to: lrennie@scg.vic.edu.au

Deputy Principal and Head of Teaching and Learning

Mrs Julie Baud

I remind families of VCE students that the Student Declaration Letter is to be signed and returned as soon as possible. All students in Years 10 – 12 studying one or more VCE subjects are to return a signed form. As this is a VCAA (Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority) requirement, it is extremely important we receive this signed document **no later than 3.00pm on Monday 5 March**. Students have been reminded of the importance of this on numerous occasions so I urge Year 10-12 parents, as a matter of urgency, to follow this up straight away and ensure the form is returned to the appropriate Homeroom teacher.

The Student Declaration Letter confirms students have received, read and agreed to abide by the VCAA and Southern Cross Grammar rules outlined in the VCE Student Policy Handbook. One important policy is the Attendance Policy that states VCE students must attend a minimum of 80% of classes for each of their subjects per semester. I therefore also urge families to consider very carefully the impact of family holidays during term time as such absences can have a detrimental effect on students' results and their learning, with extended absences potentially influencing the outcome of a VCE unit.

Attendance is also compulsory for all examinations, internal and external, across the school. This includes the Trial Exams for all Year 12 subjects to be held in the third week of the September holiday break from Monday 1 October - Thursday 4 October. So it is also recommended family holidays are not arranged for this holiday break.

Head of Junior School

Ms Romina Pimpini

Every day we encourage our Junior School students to 'live' the SCG Student Centred Vision. Likewise, as staff, we look to improve our practice and develop consistencies in our classroom environments. In 2018 we have continued to work with our Literacy consultant, Jane Plunkett, who this week focused our attention on the importance of building children's vocabulary.

We know this will assist with reading development, as well as skills in writing and comprehension.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCjisy2VZMj8&t=6s>

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

Much of the research suggests that as parents, we tend to *speaks for our children*. Whether it is due to our busy schedules or simply wanting to help them, we are actually limiting their processing of new words and expression by doing so. Ideally, we would allow for children to respond to questions, as well as encourage them to use a varied vocabulary to express their thoughts, ideas and opinions.

How can you help at home?



- When you ask your child a question, **give them time** to respond (we call that *wait time*).
- **Delve deeper** when asking questions about school, eg: *How was school today?* could be extended in to: *Oh! School was good – so what was so good about it?*
- **Seek meaning** of the words your child uses, so they can explain their known vocabulary – this will help them grow in confidence, eg: *what do you mean by living things?*
- **Play verbal word games** with your child while in the car, at home preparing dinner, or even at the dinner table, eg: *what's a word that rhymes with table?* or *how many words can we think of that sound like fork?*

Of course, we know that expanding vocabulary helps our young learners in so many ways, so why not give it a try?

Happy vocab building!



F-6 staff members engaged in targeted professional learning this week, sharing strategies that help build upon children's vocabulary.

Please help us fundraise for some sports equipment that we can share at break times.

Be sure to help Mum or Dad get the shopping done & bring your coupons in to school.



Canteen News

Reminder that the canteen on-line lunch ordering system has changed. Please see the following link to re-register for 2018: <https://myschoolconnect.com.au/thelunchpad>

Safety

Please use the Coles car park on Gourlay Road for adequate parking, ease of access and a healthy attitude to road use for all.



A reminder to all Parents/Carers and drivers of cars: SCG Car Parks are reserved for Staff.

For the safety of all of our students, please do not park in the driveways to drop of your child/ren. This presents a DANGER to all our students, particularly the littlest ones.

LRC News

We have had a great start to the new year in the LRC. Students are in the swing of things borrowing and returning their library books with much excitement.

Overdues

Unfortunately, there are currently a few overdue books from last year. Emails and letters have been sent to all families outlining the details. Please contact me on library@scg.vic.edu.au if you have any queries or concerns.

Contacting

We have received many new books that need contacting. Please email me on library@scg.vic.edu.au if you would be able to help.

STEM news (R Ram)

The Year 10 Engineering elective has been introduced this year as part of STEM initiatives at SCG and the course provides the opportunity for students to exhibit their analytical thinking skills. The students have been designing racers that are powered by mouse traps and then went on to test the performance of the racers by performing various calculations. It was amazing to see the thought process of students being exhibited through assorted designs.



Sports News- CSPSSA Swim Team (Years 3-6)

Well done to all those who participated in the CSPSSA District Swim Competition on Wednesday 28 February. All students displayed perseverance, a high level of skill and support of their peers. Students were justly rewarded for their effort as they received the highest placing Southern Cross Grammar has ever been awarded- runners up. There are more photos on facebook.

