



# The Southern Star

## Principal

**Mr Andrew Ponsford**

### **Progress Reports**

One of the real benefits of viewing every Report is that you obtain a wonderful pulse check on the 'state of play' and it is very reassuring and uplifting to know that the overwhelming majority of students recorded positive to above expected progress for Term 1. This is indicative of strong efforts and consistency on the part of students and staff.

I also take this opportunity to thank many staff for the substantial work that goes into data collection and collation which lies behind this summative information and for the new visual format. Well done!

I always consider the final two columns first (in the case of the new format) ..... consistency, sustained effort, a good game plan and persistence, results in the maximising of performance in the first two columns. I encourage students to:

- look for trends
- celebrate achievement
- reflect and consider ..... 'how can I improve'.

Small, incremental changes, implemented over time, can and do make a huge difference! The upcoming interviews early in Term 2 will provide important feedback and discussion for continued growth and development.

**As mentioned previously, F-12 Progress Reports are available for collection from the Junior School at the conclusion of TODAY. Those not collected will be posted next week.**

### **Looking Ahead to Term 2 – Some Reminders**

Please note the following with regard to Term 2:

- Term 2 commences at the customary time on Monday 16 April.
- School Photographs will take place on Friday 20 April – the first Friday of Term 2.
- Winter Uniform is compulsory from the start of Term 2.

### **Thank you**

Thank you to many – staff, students and parents for your support of a productive and positive start to the 2018 school year.

On behalf of all staff and the Executive Team, I wish you a restful, enjoyable and positive Easter period and for those fortunate enough to enjoy an extended break, a very rewarding time!

### **Annual General Meeting**

Advance notice is given that the School Company Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on the evening of Monday 23 April 2018.

### **Deputy Principal, Head of Teaching and Learning**

**Mrs Julie Baud**

It has certainly been a very busy term for everyone: parents, students and staff!

The Term 1 Progress Reports are now packaged and ready to be collected from the Junior School Hub from 3.00pm today. A letter will accompany these reports to explain how teachers have reported on each student's 'Knowledge and Understanding', 'Skill Development', 'Readiness for Learning' and 'Social Behaviours'.

It has been very encouraging to hear and read the generally positive feedback teachers have provided. I urge all students to look carefully at their Progress Report and to reflect on how they might improve in the areas that require attention. A "Needs Improvement" will be given for a reason so it will be important to act on this feedback immediately and not fall behind. This is particularly important for the Year 7-12 students who will commence their mid-year exams in the first week of June.

I also encourage students and parents to attend the Student Progress Meetings early in Term 2 as they are an ideal opportunity to reflect on their achievements and to consider some goals for the weeks ahead. Such 'conferences' are a critical component of a student's learning journey and they reinforce those important relationships between the school and the families.

Students studying one or more VCE subjects should utilize the next two weeks wisely. While it is a holiday break, time should be set aside to review the work covered in Term 1, organize notes, complete tasks set by the teachers and prepare for the next term. By doing this, they will be much better prepared for their exams and other assessment tasks to be held early in the term.

All the best to our families for the holidays! I hope you enjoy some quality family time together. I will look forward to seeing the students back at school, refreshed and rested, for the start of another busy term.

### **Head of Middle School**

**Ms Janis Coffey**

**Dream. Believe. Achieve.**

Term 1 has been filled with some impressive achievements of our students in Middle School. I have been impressed overall by the progress students are making as evidenced in their Term 1 Progress Reports. I look forward to students maintaining the same grit and persistence in Term 2 and that they see great success in achieving their academic goals.

Southern Cross Grammar



SOUTHERN CROSS  
GRAMMAR

# The Southern Star

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Teacher feedback, according to Prof John Hattie from the University of Melbourne, is one of the key indicators of impact on student growth. I encourage students to consider the feedback they are receiving and discuss with their families how they might improve in the various areas reported on this term, including: Knowledge and Understanding; Skill Development; Readiness for Learning; and, Social Behaviours. Each of these areas are important for academic success and it is essential that students learn from feedback and make a plan to implement new habits. Setting the goal is the first step, then believing you can do it, is the next step. Remember: Whether you believe you can, or believe you can't, you're probably right! ~ Henry Ford

I would also like to congratulate a select few of Middle School students who were chosen by Melton City Council to participate in the Western Bulldogs Leadership Project. This intensive 6-month program, established by the Western Bulldogs in 2013, provides local young people with hands on opportunities to build capacities in leadership, teamwork, communication, goal setting and resilience and connect contribute and grow as leaders in their community.

Made possible by the generous support of local governments, The Western Bulldogs Leadership Project offers practical and theory based activities designed to enhance participant's capacities in; leadership, teamwork, communication, goal setting, support networks, resilience and community engagement.

Congratulations to Year 9 students, Alvina Ahsan, Flynn Coakley and Ruben Boermans on their acceptance into the program. I wish you the very best of luck as you commence the program this evening!

Joanne Vu, Year 9 student, has also been selected by the Melton City Council to participate in the Youth Action Council. I wish Joanne the best of luck in this initiative as she represents her fellow youth. I am sure you will represent the School with integrity and sound leadership.

I would also like to acknowledge another notable achievement in Middle School. Year 7 student, Danidu Aluthjage, and his team won first place at the Manchester City Abu Dhabi Cup 2018 (under 12s division). What an amazing achievement, Danidu! This is evidence that hard work, lots of practice and a bucket-load of passion can see you achieving your dreams!

Dream. Believe. Achieve. I look forward to Term 2 with all of you!



## Chess Club Update – Term 2 Enrolment is NOW OPEN

Parents, please sign your child(ren) up for Term 2 Chess Club on Mondays after school through the following link.

The link is :

[https://ku.zone/explore?school\\_id=10835&booking\\_id=1734](https://ku.zone/explore?school_id=10835&booking_id=1734)

## Head of Junior School

### Ms Romina Pimpini

Gourlay Road and the school surrounds have been a sea of colour this past week, as we really got in to the swing of a House event.

The Ride2School Day 2018 initiative was adopted broadly by so many families, whereby students rode bikes, scooted or walked their way to school.

We had toots of support from cars, cheers from neighbouring schools and even Dads and Mums jogging along to keep up with the pedal power! Passers-by commented on how *alive* our School was, which makes us very proud

Congratulations to everyone who took part and earned House points for this event. The points tally on the day was:

BETA .....	352
ALPHA.....	307
GAMMA.....	304
DELTA .....	145

*Students from F-9, together with Staff and family members pedaled, and puffed their way to SCG on Ride2School Day 2018!*

*Congratulations everyone*



What a wonderful way to end our first term of 2018!

We will commence Term 2 with a Junior School Assembly on Monday 16 April, commencing at 8:45am in the Junior School Hub.

Here's hoping an array of parents, carers and family members will join us on this special morning.

Wishing all our Junior School families the enjoyment of some quality family time over the term break. If you are travelling, please say safe, and be sure to return with a suite of memories to share. If you are having a stay-cation, hopefully some quiet time for children might be in the cards – this can be quite therapeutic and help re-charge after a busy term at school.



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We have had an amazing response from our families with regards to the Coles Sports for School 2018 vouchers.

Thank you to every shopper,  
and even the docket dropper-off-er,  
As we now look to collect some treats,  
That will supplement our sport equipment,  
How Neat!



### School Photo Day 2018

**Friday 20th April** is our School Photos Day. By now, your child/ren should have brought home their personalised Photo Order envelopes. All students will be photographed, both individually and as a member of their Homeroom. Given this, it is expected that students are dressed proudly in their full formal uniform on this occasion.

Further detailed information will be communicated via email to all families prior to our Photo Day.

Please mark this important date in your calendar and diary so that everyone is best-prepared.

### Sports News

#### Miss Jade Panozzo

Well done to the following students who represented Southern Cross Grammar at the Regional Swim Championships in Geelong on Tuesday. The team comprised of:



- Sakari Clarke-Oldani
- Taylah Roberts
- Saanvi Venkat
- Jasmine Lim
- Josie Woollard
- Tyana Su
- Tegan Su

All students should be extremely proud of their efforts and the way they represented our school. Previous to this year we have only ever had one student progress through to this level. A special congratulations to Jasmine Lim who has made the state team after recording a PB of 32.22sec in 50m Freestyle. Jasmine also finished in third place in the 50m Backstroke.



### Music News

#### Mr Robert Graham

#### Lunchtime Music Concert

Last Thursday, our students were treated to a lunchtime music concert, organised by our VCE/VET Music students and Sound Production Team.

Selected music students from years 8-11 prepared a number of ensemble and solo performances which were showcased to an enthusiastic audience.

This was a fun and positive experience for all involved and a wonderful conclusion to the music program for Term 1. Our music students forward to the events that will occur in Term 2, including Semester 1 Music Recitals.



### Brass and Woodwind Program Update

Our Woodwind teacher, Miss Jacqueline Wong and our Brass teacher, Mr Adrian Perger have been impressed by the progress of students participating in the middle school wind program.



In Term 1, students developed the fundamental skills of learning a wind instrument and began to play their first notes. Students have been learning a range of songs which they are now starting to perform together in an ensemble setting. We all look forward to the music that these groups will be producing in Term 2!

If you wish for your child to enroll in music lessons on a brass or woodwind instrument, there are a range of options including private lessons and group lessons at a reduced cost. Please contact the Music Department for more information, [music@scg.vic.edu.au](mailto:music@scg.vic.edu.au)