



SOUTHERN CROSS
GRAMMAR

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

Mr Andrew Ponsford
Principal

A significant commemoration of ANZAC Day

Our school took part in three important events in relation to ANZAC Day yesterday. I offer my sincere thanks and congratulations to staff and students on what I understand was a moving commemoration of ANZAC Day, at our School Assembly. Ms Rennie has provided some highlights of the Assembly in her newsletter column.



Concurrently, Southern Cross Grammar participated in a select group of Melbournians hosted at the MCG for a special service and dinner. The occasion involved three former Victorian premiers together with leading past and present Melbourne identities. Southern Cross Grammar was mentioned in the welcomes and was the only school to participate in this special ANZAC Day commemorative occasion.

In addition to this, 48 Year 6 Southern Cross Grammar students and three staff took part in the Nation's largest ANZAC Day service in Canberra.

The group had the unique experience of attending the 100th anniversary service held at The Australian War Memorial along with an estimated audience of 30 000 people. Ms Coffey has provided an overview of the Year 6 student camp experience in her newsletter column.

Advance arrangements are in place for Southern Cross Grammar to be involved with veterans for Remembrance Day on the 11 November 2018. This day on the international calendar is highly regarded and given our current cultural diversity of 56 cultures and heritages will be significant.

We honour the rich legacy gifted to us and seek to emulate the wonderful qualities and characteristics of the ANZAC's in our day to day activities.



Colour Run Carnival

15 sleeps to go



The School Run4Fun Colour Explosion will be held at SCG on **Friday May 11 starting at 3pm.**

The PFA invites the whole school community to join in for a fun filled afternoon, with carnival games, toys and book stalls, hot food, sweets and treats, as well as the opportunity to win an iPad on the day!

To register for the run students must create a Student Profile Page at www.myprofilepage.com.au where they can keep track of both online fundraising as well as their cash donations.

All students who register will go in the draw to win an iPhone SE, kindly donated by Telstra Watergardens. The class with the most participants in the Junior School will win VIP passes to the disco next term.

So far we have some students who are well on their way to claiming some awesome rewards! Check out our fundraising superstars

Fundraising Superstars

- | |
|----------------------------|
| 1. Alexa and Macey Radburn |
| 2. AJ and Aliyah Hernandez |
| 3. Rose Camilleri |
| 4. Oliver Payton |
| 5. Owen Caruana |



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Mrs Julie Baud
Deputy Principal, Head of Teaching and Learning

Those who have looked at the Term 2 Calendar will understand how hectic the next few weeks are going to be in the Teaching and Learning area! Term 2 is traditionally the busiest in schools and this year is no different.

There are Student Progress Interviews next week and the week after, Incursions and Excursions for many year levels from Foundation through to Years 11 and 12, NAPLAN Testing for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and the first of the Information Nights to start planning for 2019 on Wednesday 23 May for our current Year 9's. There are also exams for Year 7-12 students and ongoing learning tasks to be completed by the Foundation to Year 6 students.

As indicated on the Term 2 Calendar, exams for Years 7-12 commence on Thursday 7 June. An exam schedule will be available for all Middle and Senior School students next week. While this seems many weeks away, the term will disappear rapidly and exams will be upon us before we know it.

For some, it will be the first time a member of the family has participated in Middle/Senior School and VCE exams so a focus on physical and mental health will be important in the lead up. Family support at home is important and can be provided through ensuring students have regular healthy meals, plenty of sleep and exercise and time away from screens. Of utmost importance, is the need for students to have somewhere quiet to complete homework and study and an appropriate, regular weekly routine. If all of these things are in place, students will have a much greater chance of being successful in their academic endeavours.

Ms Louisa Rennie
Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School

ANZAC Day Commemoration Assembly

Our students gathered on Tuesday afternoon for an Assembly to commemorate ANZAC Day. I was proud of the way they dealt with changes to our schedule to accommodate the weather, and the way in which they conducted themselves during the Assembly.

We were fortunate to welcome three guests from the Caroline Springs RSL Club and to hear of their ANZAC experience.

Mr Peter Burquest joined the Australian Army in April 1967 at the age of 18. He served in Vietnam from March 1968 to March 1969 and then again in Malaya (now Malaysia), from 1969 to 1973. Mr Burquest completed his service in 1973.

Mr Shayne Formica was a member of the regular Australian Army from 2002-2007. From 2009-2011 he was an Operations Manager for Supreme Fuels and the role included liaising between the company and military hierarchy. He also served in a private security role in Afghanistan and as a Senior Prison officer for the Dog and Riot squad for corrections Victoria.

95 year old Mr Allan Godfrey captured the hearts of many students with his brief comments about his pride for our country and his wish for our students – that they live a happy and full life, and that they do not experience war. Mr Godfrey fought in the Second World War in Borneo, New Guinea and Malaysia.





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During the Assembly, I shared the following reflection with our students on life, legacy and leadership;

"John Monash is considered one of the war's outstanding commanders. Monash was born in Melbourne on 27 June 1865. Monash was known to have said: "...equip yourself for life, not solely for your own benefit but for the benefit of the whole community."

He entered university at the age of 16 but stopped his studies after two years due to financial hardship. He began work on the Princess Bridge to pay the bills, the first step in a very successful engineering career.

He never lost his desire to study. By the age of 30, he had gained his Bachelor of Arts and a Masters in Science (Civil Engineering) and had qualified as a municipal surveyor, an engineer of water supply and a patent attorney. He went on to become a Doctor of Laws (Melb), Doctor of Engineering (Melb), Doctor of Civil Law (Oxford) and Doctor of Laws (Cambridge).

As a soldier he rose through the ranks, and in 1914, the First World War broke out. He was among the first under fire at Gallipoli and was the only Australian brigade commander among the original troops not killed or

evacuated as wounded.

By 1918, he was in charge of the entire Australian Corps. In this same year King George V knighted him on the battlefield for his role in the Battle of Hamel Hill. Of this Battle, Monash wrote: *"the operation is a striking example of the success which invariably results from careful preparation and coordinated action: and will serve as a model and the standard of the fighting efficiency of the Australian corps"*.

Monash remained in command through the victorious battles in the last months of the war. He was an innovative leader who earned high praise from many leading political and military figures. Many historians consider him to be the foremost Allied military commander of the First World War.

Upon his return to Australia, Sir John Monash was a pillar of Melbourne society, recognised for his contributions to the community.

He was the natural spokesperson for returned soldiers and in 1925 he began leading the annual ANZAC Day march.

He was appointed Vice-Chancellor of Melbourne University in 1923, and president of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science from 1924-26.



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Sir John Monash died of heart disease in Melbourne on 8 October 1931, aged 66. He was given a state funeral attended by over 250,000 mourners. He leaves a legacy as a scholar and a man of action. He was a man who sought, above all, to use his education and abilities for the benefit of the community.

He was a man who used education to turn his natural talent into ability, allowing him to realise his daring ambitions. The motto of Monash University, named after John Monash is "I am still learning", and it captures the essence of his approach to life.

I encourage all of you to reflect on Sir John Monash, the life he led, the example he set for others and I am hopeful that today, on the eve of ANZAC Day, almost a century after some of his more public victories, you are able to connect with his vision and intent to live out his full potential in service to others."

At the end of the Assembly, students voluntarily chose to approach our ANZAC guests and offer quiet words of thanks and gratitude. This gentle mark of respect did not go unnoticed, I thank our students for their sincerity. We are very proud of you.



Student Progress Interviews

Thank you to the many parents who have secured interviews with us next week. We are looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's academic and wellbeing progress. Student Progress Interviews are a time for a three way conversation, with your child as the central focus.

Interviews begin from 3:20pm in the Middle School and Senior School buildings, with the final interview for the evening scheduled to occur at 7:50pm.

Interviews are 10 minutes in total and parents and staff alike are asked to be punctual, to allow for a smooth process. Staff have a brief dinner break scheduled into their evening, but this has been staggered so that there are many staff available and interviews may occur continuously across the evening.

We have had in excess of 450 parents log in and secure more than 1550 interviews with staff. This is an excellent response from our school community and testament to our shared values of working together for the benefit of your children.

Student Progress Interviews provide opportunity for parents to learn about their children's progress in school and for teachers to gain insights into their students' home and community lives. Consider the opportunity as a time for three-way conversation.

Parent perspectives on student strengths and needs and out-of-school learning experiences can help us as teachers to shape our teaching methodology to suit student need. Our efforts to better understand your child's aspirations will encourage them to share openly and build trust.

Teachers will commonly praise students on their effort, behaviour and potential. This is encouraging and a necessary aspect of the learning interaction that occurs between teacher and student. But remember, praise alone is not sufficient, feedback is critical and our students need both.

We value the unique gifts and talents that our students exhibit and we have high expectations for students to achieve success, both academically and personally, in school and in life.

We are looking forward to meeting with you on Monday 30 April, Wednesday 2 May and Wednesday 9 May. If you have not been able to secure a time to meet with your child's teacher(s), please send them an email to arrange an alternate time.

Mother's Day Breakfast

Senior School mums have been cordially invited to join us for a Senior School Mother's Day breakfast on Friday 11 May. To be held in the VCE Centre Lounge from 8:00am – 9:00am, the purpose of the event is to celebrate the importance of mum's and positive female role models in the lives of our Senior School students.

We are looking forward to this event and the opportunity to hear from our guest speaker, Elizabeth Langdon, Deputy Commissioner of the Victorian Public Sector Commission. Elizabeth has had a very successful career and has kindly



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agreed to share her insights with our senior students, to aid them in their preparations for their future career and workplace aspirations.

Janis Coffey
Head of Middle School

ANZAC Day Service in the Nation's Capital

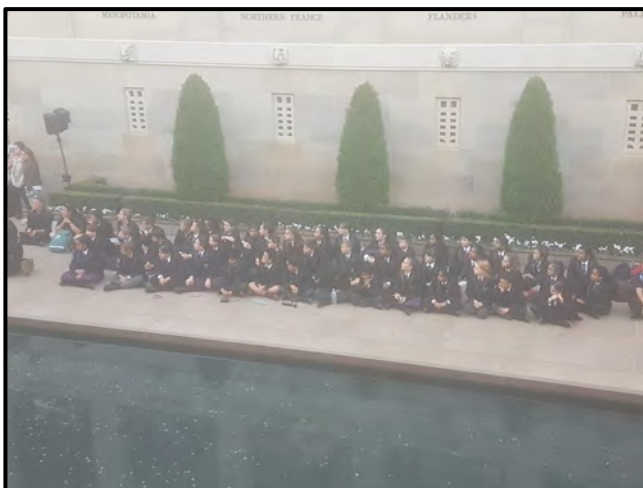
This week the Year 6 students are in Canberra where they have visited the Australian Institute of Sports, Parliament House and the Australian War Memorial. Yesterday I was delighted to have attended the Dawn Service with the students.

It was early to bed on Tuesday night for a 4:00am sharp wake up call. The students dressed in SCG school uniform (with a few layers underneath for warmth!) and we headed off in the dark to the ANZAC Day event.

It was a moving service with stories from military officers, the Head of the RSL in Canberra and most notably Colonel Susan Neuhaus who delivered the ANZAC Day address.

This was the first time in history that a woman has delivered the address at this event and Colonel Neuhaus focused on the often untold stories of women in war. She recounted a story about a group of nurses in World War I who lost their lives on the shore of Bangka Island off the Coast of Sumatra. Matron Irene Drummond called out to her fellow nurses, "Chin up girls! I'm proud of you and I love you!"

Matron Vivian Bullwinkle, who survived the ordeal, later gave evidence at the War Crimes Tribunal. I can see so many strengths in the story of these women. Firstly, I see 'bravery'. It takes courage to stand up for what is right and to speak up for others when they may not have a voice. I also see 'love'.



These women had more than teamwork and collaboration, they cared for each other deeply as fellow humans. When we look after one another, help others' achieve and do their best, it results in having real camaraderie. We can learn so much from these stories of the past. And from this learning, create a better future for ourselves and for future generations.

Ms Pimpini
Head of Junior School

As Term 2 gathers momentum, we look to instill habits in our students in their daily routines.

Whether it be in the classroom, the playground or through activities they undertake, our students are engaged in various forms of learning, particularly with their peers and others.

Through this, school looks to build skills that are both academic, as well as social. Some may include;

- ◆ Daily routines in the classroom, with regards to personal belongings,
- ◆ Reading stamina (the number of minutes a child can read without stopping)
- ◆ Various problem-solving skills in areas of Mathematics, Art and Science
- ◆ Social skills surrounding etiquette when eating, playing, sharing and speaking with each other.



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There is much research with positive findings around the importance and impact of parental involvement with children's learning.

You might want to check out:

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/>



Other tips and shared ideas from our teachers include:

REINFORCING LEARNING AT HOME

These suggestions may assist your child's learning & engage all family members:

- **Have a discussion about the day** ~ and give 'wait time' for a response
- **Listen to reading** ~ ask questions about a story, article or images you see
- **Encourage independence** ~ organisation, packing of bag
- **Schedule** screen /electronics time
- **Promote** healthy eating habits
- **Encourage real-world learning** ~ shopping, cooking, current affairs
- **Have fun** outside

*Remember that LIFE is not just about 'the test'
Be sure to always give your*

PERSONAL BEST!



A reminder to all drivers that on-site car parks are for Staff.

Reversing in to driveways or 'dropping off' over driveways is illegal and fines may be incurred.

We have been advised by the Melton City Council that parking inspectors will be in attendance around our school precinct.

Please utilise appropriate parking space, particular at Coles on Gourlay Road.

Safe use of our roads and parking will benefit everyone, especially our students.