

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

Principal

Mr Andrew Ponsford

Performing Arts Showcase

The Performing Arts Showcase on Thursday 23 November featured students from Years 3-10. Matinee and evening shows on the day revealed highly creditable music and drama performances.

High praise deservedly goes to the enthusiastic cast and crew under the combined direction of Mr Busby and Mr Graham. It is always very rewarding to see students performing with confidence and enthusiasm and the testing music and dramatic performance aspects were admirably approached. Well done!

I take this opportunity to extend particular thanks to both staff members who have taken us to new levels of achievement and a most supportive SCG parent community – the performing arts is an emerging area and without this active encouragement strong growth will not occur.

Visual Arts Exhibition

A wonderful array of artistic talent currently adorns the walls of our Junior School and is a credit to our students and current and past staff – Janes Barnes and Emma Hewett and (previously) Christa Botsman and Karen Murphy.

Guest speaker Michael Schwarz spoke enthusiastically of the level of skill on display and in his remarks commented on the importance of artistic appreciation to the development of the current crop of medical students – a course that he oversees with Melbourne University funds. The importance of the visual arts to our future doctors – an interesting concept! I am sure it has much to do with problem solving, seeing and appreciating different perspectives as well as creativity and the benefits of breadth.

Special congratulations on the following students who were judged our inaugural arts awards recipients:

- Lithum Ratnayake (Year 1) for his Romero Britto inspired Photographic Portrait.
- Tehya Clarke-Oldani (Year 7) for her Architectural Drawing.
- Keon Ulloa (Year 9) for his Pop Art Painting.
- Sasha Gorman (Year 10) for her Self Portrait.

The following is also worthy of consideration – The Arts contribute significantly to 6 of the 10 elements that comprise our Student Centred Vision which itself takes inspiration from the characteristics and qualities viewed as success related life attributes.

Year 6 Graduation

My very best wishes to our Year 6 students and families for this Friday evening that seeks to celebrate the conclusion of their primary education.

2018 VCE school year underway!

Monday 27 November saw the commencement of the 2018 school year for just on 100 of our students with an orientation program over 6 days. The early start to next year has well proven benefits - meeting VCE teachers, commencing studies and setting preparatory work for the upcoming break. If approached in the right way, the strategy provides students will a flying start! My thanks to Ms Rennie, Mrs Baud and the VCE team on this important initiative.

House Swimming Sports

Foundation - Year 2 on Tuesday 28 November

Fun, enjoyment and team were the three things that stood out on my visit to the Melton Waves Swimming pool. Special thanks to Ms Panozzo and Ms Gowdy for an engaging program, to the F-2 teaching staff for their enthusiastic support, to many parents who turned out and to the PFA for the icy poles!

Another significant and important component of the day was the thoughtful and caring leadership shown by our Year 9 and 6 students who so capably facilitated many of the activities – in my conversations with many adults and students this stood out as an important element in the day's success. Well done!

My thanks to many at this very busy time of the year. I look forward to our significant end-of-year events to conclude the 2017 school year next week – the **F-4 Celebration of Learning, commencing at 6pm at the Moonee Valley Racing Club on Thursday 7 December** and the **Years 5-11 Presentation Evening commencing at 6pm at the Moonee Valley Racing Club on Tuesday 5 December.**

Both events are **compulsory for students and require formal school uniform** – the school blazer and appropriate appearance, consistent with our outlined expectations, are givens.

Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School

Ms Louisa Rennie

Senior School Formal Dinner

Thank you to the many students, parents and staff who supported our first Senior School Formal Dinner on Friday evening 17 November. It was a memorable night and as a staff



we felt very fortunate to be able to enjoy the company of our students, see the effort that they each put into their appearance and spend time with

parents at the pre-dinner drinks. Photos will soon be available for download.

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2018 VCE Orientation Program

The 2018 VCE Orientation Program has been progressing well with all 2018 Senior students (Y10 – Y12) participating in their selected VCE subjects for the new calendar year. It has also been a time of us to welcome 11 new students into our Senior school. We will announce our new students in the new calendar year so that they too can be recipients of this information via the newsletter.

2018 Student Leadership

In recent weeks students have reviewed the Student Leadership model for 2018. At Southern Cross Grammar we seek to provide ample and fulfilling leadership opportunities for our students to explore and develop their leadership knowledge and capacity. We aim to develop the leadership potential in our students, in accordance with our student centred vision and aspire to provide opportunity for students to be engaged in the operation of the school, and in contributing to the broader community. Students are encouraged to consider the Leadership opportunities for the 2018 school year and see me for an application form, to be submitted by Monday 5 December 2017. At the commencement of the 2018 year, with the new student leadership body in place, we will continue to develop the Student Leadership model, supporting students to garner feedback and opinion from the student body to shape a model that suits the context and need of our students now and into the future. The model will create opportunities for 6 Prefects, 4 Vice Prefects and 16 Captains across the Junior, Middle and Senior School. Further portfolio appointments will be made in the new year. The model has been designed to strengthen the House system across our school, expanding our focus on House spirit and culture over time.

Congratulations Jagger Govic Y10

Jagger competed in his seventh consecutive Victorian State BMX Championships recently where he made three State finals and received three State plates and rankings across three classes which places him third, eighth and sixth in the State. Jagger has also competed interstate receiving a ranking of seventh in the ACT and fifth and eighth in South Australia in his two racing groups. His last ranking of the competitive season placed him second in the State. He is ranked fourth in Australia in the Old School Retro class where he competed in Queensland earlier in the year at the Australian BMX Championships. All of these achievements now see him travel to Bunbury, Western Australia for his 7th Australian BMX Championships in March 2018. Congratulations Jagger for these significant accomplishments!



2018 Senior School Homeroom teachers

I am delighted to announce our Senior School Staff Team for 2018. We are fortunate to have the skills, wisdom and expertise of current staff and look forward to welcoming new staff to strengthen our Team and the pastoral and academic support we are able to provide our senior students.

Year 10.1	Ms Lydia Brkic and Ms Shirley Wu
Year 10.2	Mr Paolo Familiar and Ms Trish Vu
Year 11.1	Ms Lauren Smith and Ms Kirsten Vincent
Year 11.2	Mr Richard Watkins and Ms Sophie McCreadie
Year 12.1	Mr Tarik Kendjer and Ms Victoria D'Alton

Head of Middle School

Ms Janis Coffey

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending." ~ C.S. Lewis

As the 2017 academic year begins to draw to a close, exams results get calculated and student reports are finalised, we reflect back at the year that has been. C.S. Lewis' quote rings true for me at this time of year. Perhaps there might have been things we would have done better, perhaps we are disappointed with a result or see goals that we in fact did not achieve. However, the end of one thing is also the beginning of something else. While 2017 is nearly over, the academic year brings new possibilities and fresh starts. It is a time to think about how we build on what we did achieve this year, grand or small. It is an opportunity to look forward and cultivate optimism for a new year of success.

Next week, we will begin to prepare for the 2018 academic year in Middle School with our Orientation Day on Wednesday 6th December. All students in Middle School, current and new to the school, will meet with the year level homeroom teachers and spend time together as they look forward to the next stage of their academic career at SCG.

It is my great pleasure to announce the following Homeroom Teachers in Middle School for 2018.

Year 5

- 5.1 Lorraine Macdonald
- 5.2 Shannon Galloway

Year 6

- 6.1 Trudy Trounson
- 6.2 Andrea Clarry

Year 7

- 7.1 Taylor Moss, Emma Hewett
- 7.2 Gabrielle Robinson, Howard Lacey
- 7.3 Casey Ferris, Megan Unthank

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Year 8

- 8.1 Judith Gowdy, Joshua Newman
- 8.2 Michael Pell, Jacqui Filonenko
- 8.3 Jade Panozzo, Sarah Bagci

Year 9

- 9.1 Jane Barnes, Joseph Hedditch
- 9.2 Lincoln Busby, Rebecca Boulton
- 9.3 Stella Wang, Rajnesh Ram

I look forward to an exciting Orientation session next week and wish all of the MS students a successful introduction to the new year ahead.

Head of Junior School

Ms Romina Pimpini

As we commence the *home-stretch* to the end of year in the Junior School, we enjoyed some time at our House Activities Day around the pools at Melton Waves Leisure Centre.



What a fun day the F-2s had! The various stations provided time in the water, negotiating an obstacle course and teamwork strategies using a parachute.

A big thanks to Ms Panozzo, Ms Gowdy and Ms Moss for their organisation of the day's events, as well as the PFA for our cooling juice-bursts to finish the day.

2018 Foundation to Year 4 Teachers

Foundation

- Ms Amelia Busby
- Ms Rozie McKerrow

Year 1

- Mrs Suzan Kibar
- Mrs Michelle Evans and Ms Vicky Temuskos

Year 2

- Mrs Lauren Hedditch
- Ms Kirsten Smart

Year 3

- Mr Chris Gauci
- Ms Amy Bickford

Year 4

- Mr Damien Morrison
- Mr David Wildsmith

2018 School Fees

Please find listed below the 2018 fees as set by the Southern Cross Grammar School Board.

YEAR LEVEL	TUITION FEE	COMPOSITE FEE
Foundation	\$8,340	\$450
Year 1	\$8,340	\$450
Year 2	\$8,340	\$450
Year 3	\$8,750	\$950
Year 4	\$8,750	\$950
Year 5	\$9,100	\$1,150
Year 6	\$9,100	\$1,350
Year 7	\$10,370	\$1,350
Year 8	\$10,370	\$1,350
Year 9	\$10,370	\$1,550
Year 10	\$11,650	\$750
Year 11	\$11,650	\$750
Year 12	\$11,650	\$750

The average tuition fee increase on the 2017 rates is 2.95% which is below the annual Education sector inflation rate of 3.10%.

From 2018 the school will not charge an additional camp fee for camps at Year 3 to Year 8 nor the Year 9 Melbourne camp, these charges have been incorporated into the Composite Fee shown above. An additional fee will be invoiced for other camps, these charges will be advised to closer to the date of the respective camps.

The School continues to offer a range of payment options, including Direct Debit, Direct Transfer, Cash (at ANZ branches), Cheque and Credit Card. Details of these are shown on your Tuition Invoice Statement which will be emailed to all families in the coming weeks.

Performing Arts

Mr Robert Graham

Congratulations to our Music and Performing Arts students on last week's showcase. The success of the evening was a true reflection of the hard work and dedication of our musicians and cast throughout the year.



Thank you to the parents and school community for showing your support by attending this sold out event!



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Y4 Art Excursion

Ms Emma Hewett

The students were taken on a guided tour of the current exhibition at the gallery and given a tour on What is Art by one of the gallery's Education Officers. Programs were designed around Victorian Curriculum to foster a deeper appreciation of art through critical and creative thinking.



Students voted in the Incinerator Art Award: Art for Social Change competition. They were given plants

for our school from artist Heather Hesterman and her exhibit on landscapes displaced through rail and mining. Overall it was a good experience of a local art gallery, enjoyed by the Year 4's.

Chinese First 100 Words

Ms Jing Shang

In Week 5 this term, students from Y3 to Y7 participated in the Chinese First 100 Words House Competition. This is our fifth year of successfully running of the competition.

Competition results are:

First: Gamma Second: Alpha
Third: Beta Fourth: Delta

Individual top five results (full marks is 300):

Zara Woollard (7.3) 298 points
Tomislav Kvesic (4.1) 267 points
Alexander Fu (3.1) 266 points
Josie Woollard (5.2) 236 points
Ella Abbott (7.3) 205 points

Congratulations to all students who participated in the competition!

Medieval Day

Kayla Jones and Tomai Laspas

Last Friday 24 November, all the Year 8 students participated in a medieval day. On that day, three medieval experts came to our school to teach us about life during the medieval ages. To start the day we played a variety of different games that were played by the medieval people. The games included were; Kubb, Tiers, Ring the Kettle and more. Our favourite game we played was Tiers because it involved quick thinking and physical activity.



Next we learnt about medieval warfare and weapons. Robert, one of the medievalists, taught us all about weapons, techniques and armour. He even showed us a few tricks about fighting and told some stories about his experiences. Some students were lucky enough to engage in a sword fight with each other using rubber swords while the others cheered them on.

After recess we were taught about the clothing and fashion during medieval times. We were presented with different clothing from the different social classes and how they were made. After lunch we had lots of fun forming a line while dancing and listening to the instruments of the medieval ages. For the last part of the day we played a fun game of shield wall which everyone was excited about. Overall, the day was one of the most enjoyable days we've had this year. Everyone participated with enthusiasm and enjoyed it immensely.

PFA

2017 Colour Fun Run

A huge thank you to the members of our School Community who joined us last Friday for our first ever Colour Run. It was a fun filled afternoon and with your help and fundraising efforts we raised over \$7000 for our school! We hope to have all the prizes here by the end of term so keep an eye out for more information about collecting your rewards.



We would also like to thank our Sponsors for supporting this event, Telstra Business Centre Essendon, Telstra Store Watergardens, Magical Smiles Dental, Kumon Caroline Springs North, One to One Printing and Bianco Beauty and Spa.

Summer Sausage Sizzle!

On Tuesday 5 December the PFA will be running a Summer Sausage Sizzle at lunch time to celebrate the end of the year! Students will be able to purchase a Sausage in bread for \$2. There will be halal and vegan options available.

Learning Resources Centre

Mrs Dina Lira

Thank you to all who have returned overdue books. There are still many overdue books, so please ensure they are returned to school promptly to avoid replacement fees.

All books currently on loan are due back by **4 December 2017**