

The Southern Star

Principal

Mr Andrew Ponsford

Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School

Ms Louisa Rennie

Year 12 Leadership Retreat

Last week, we held our first Leadership Retreat for Year 12 students. The purpose of the Retreat was to:

- Build self-confidence and belief in capacity to achieve personal success
- Build team culture and commitment to each other, to achieve group success
- Self-reflection on hopes and aspirations
- Develop study and time management skills
- Rest, relax and enjoy one another's company prior to the commencement of the year.

We are so incredibly proud of the way our Year 12's participated and engaged in the three day program. They came together as a team and committed to actions that support the unity, growth and success of the Year 12 team. Each of them engaged in the chance to reflect and prepare as individuals, ready to embrace the challenges ahead and experience success.

Senior School Student Diaries

The purpose of the Southern Cross Grammar Student Diary is:

- Organisation:** to assist our students to be well organised, record homework and assessment tasks, reminders and key messages pertinent to their learning and school events.
- Communication:** to support home/school communication. Parents / carers and teachers are encouraged to write notes in the diary, to communicate about the student and school events.
- Information:** to provide our students and their parents / carers with general information about school procedures.

All Senior School students are expected to:

- treat the Student Diary as a professional document
- enter all information with care and accuracy
- carry their diary to all lessons
- enter name and appropriate information on the first page of the diary
- enter accurate timetable information
- enter homework tasks on a daily basis
- enter assignments, due dates, study and revision commitments
- enter whole school events
- enter the Week / Term details at the top of every double page
- ensure that a parent signature is entered at the end of every week
- present the Student Diary to the Homeroom Teacher for checking during Homeroom period on a Monday.

Southern Cross Grammar

An important set-up time of the school year

Parent Teacher Meetings

I take this opportunity to thank many parents for taking the opportunity to attend our Parent Teacher Meetings this week – Monday and Tuesday for Foundation-Year 9 and Wednesday for Years 10-12. The opportunity to put a face to a name, talk about needs and clarify understandings before the school year is well advanced is a very proactive and positive measure. I warmly commend Classroom and Homeroom Teachers for facilitating these meetings which focus on the pastoral needs of our students. There is no doubt that this will pay dividends!

Foundation -Year 12 Information Evening –

Next Tuesday 13 February

A series of staggered meetings will take place next Tuesday evening at the school for parents to gain key general information on our activities for 2018. More detailed information is contained in this newsletter, with an e-reminder to families also imminent. This is a departure from previous formats with all information presented on the same night but at different times. The intention here is to make it easier for our families with more than one child – we are interested to receive your feedback regarding this change to previous arrangements. Details are listed below:

Junior School	F -Year 4	The Learning Hub commencing at 5:30pm.
Middle School	Years 5-9	The VCE Centre, C102 commencing at 6:15pm.
Senior School	Years 10-12	The VCE Centre, C102 commencing at 7:00pm.

We are currently in an important time of building partnerships, consolidating understandings and setting expectations. My best wishes to all concerned – students, staff and parents and carers for ensuring that little is left to chance and that we commence the year strongly and well. My very best wishes for this important work!

2017 School Magazine

This annual publication will be distributed by Homeroom teachers this coming Monday 12 February to all students who were enrolled at SCG in 2017.

Please note:

SCG Newsletter – The Southern Star

I understand that some families did not receive a link to last week's newsletter and Semester 1 Calendar. This was regrettable. Please note that today all families will receive a link to last week's and this week's newsletters, together with the Semester 1 Calendar. Links are also provided to families via Facebook. Failing this, a copy is posted on the School's website each week.

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

Student Leadership

Our Student Leadership body is growing and changing to support the changing needs of our school. The Student Executive Team and the Student Representative Council has now been formed and the next layer of leadership opportunities will be announced to the student body at assembly tomorrow. Southern Cross Grammar has four main portfolios that promote and sustain a positive and vibrant student centred culture. The Portfolios include NGL (New Generation Learning), Sport, Social Justice and the Arts and provide leadership opportunities for students across the school.

Portfolio Captains are recognised as leaders within the school. They exude leadership skills and behaviours that are exemplary. They contribute to a culture that celebrates diversity, inclusivity and collaboration and reflects the world in which we live. Portfolio Captains are here to make a difference. They set out to learn with and from others, to understand themselves better, share their talents and passions and uncover the talents and skills in others.

We have many students in our four houses who have the skills and attributes to be great leaders of these portfolios and all are encouraged to apply. Application forms can be collected from:

- Ms D'Alton Y10 – Y12
- Mrs Macdonald Y5 – Y9
- Mr Wildsmith Y3 – Y4

Applications are due on Monday and appointments will be announced at a Whole School Assembly, next Friday.

Head of Middle School

Ms Janis Coffey

Ensuring that students have a holistic approach to their education is one of aims in the Middle School at SCG. Balancing emotional, social and academic needs is important for students. At the MS level, the emphasis is on helping students to take responsibility not only of their own learning but also take charge of the other dimensions of their lives. This week MS Homeroom Teachers have been meeting with parents to discuss their child(ren)'s needs and approaches to learning. This is one way that we aim to build strong relationships within our community to serve the needs of our students. On the theme of holistic learning and student responsibility, there are a few important points for both MS students and parents.

Enrichment Program

The SCG Enrichment Program has commenced! Enrichment activities help engage students in areas in which they are passionate and areas in which they wish to grow. There are a number of activities occurring throughout the School, including Robotics Club, Music Ensembles and of course, Academic Support for MS students. On Monday 12 February, there will be a trial session for Chess Club for all Years 1 – 10 students from 3:15pm–4:00pm.

This will give students an opportunity to try out Chess Club and then enroll for the 6 week course starting on Monday 19 February. Parents can enroll their child(ren) directly at Kids Unlimited Parent Zone <http://ku.zone>.

	BEFORE SCHOOL 7:50 – 8:30AM	MS LUNCH 1:05– 1:45PM	JS LUNCH 1:35 – 2:00PM	AFTER SCHOOL 3:15 – 4:00PM
Monday				Chess Club, Y1 – 10 Students, C104
Tuesday	Guitar Ensemble, Selected F-12 Students, B101, Trevor McQuade Fin Strings, Selected F-6 Students, JS Hub, Bridgette Dias		JS Choir, Selected F-4 Students, JS Hub, Patricia McPike	Science Skills, MS Students, B102, (Weeks 3, 5, 7 & 9 only)
Wednesday	String Ensemble, Selected F-9 Students, JS Hub, Samantha Calvert	MS Choir, Selected F – 9 Students, B101, Patricia McPike		Mathematics Academic Support, MS Students, B205 (starts Week 3)
Thursday	Elite String Ensemble, Selected Y3 – 11 Students, JS Hub, Samantha Calvert			Language & Humanities Academic Support, MS Students, B205 (starts Week 2) Robotics Club, Selected MS/ SS Students, B102
Friday	Concerto String Ensemble, Selected Y3 – 11 Students, JS Hub, Samantha Calvert			

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

MS Homework Policy

Homework at the middle years provides students with the opportunity to develop important self-management skills and to help them achieve their academic goals at SCG. Students in MS should be aiming for the right balance of time spent on homework each week. The following recommendation is in place according to the MS Homework Policy:

Year 5	30 minutes
Year 6	40 minutes
Year 7	50 minutes
Year 8	60 minutes
Year 9	70 minutes

In addition, students are recommended to read each night for the duration of approximately 20mins. It could be a great routine to establish in the home for everyone to 'Drop Everything And Read.' A little bit of DEAR time at home could be good for the whole family!

Lost Property

A MS Lost Property bin will be placed under the stairwell in the MS. Any lost property which belongs to MS students, will be placed there for collection. Please ensure that students label their belongings so they can find them easily. It will be students' responsibility to check the lost property bin on a regular basis and retrieve lost items. Items which are not labelled and not collected at the end of a term will be donated to the second hand uniform stock.

Head of Junior School

Ms Romina Pimpini

Our JS *Meet the Teacher* Program was a huge success this week. It was wonderful to meet so many parents and carers, as together, we work to support the learning and growth of your child/ren. Hopefully we will also get to meet other interested families at our Junior School Information Evening next Tuesday 12 February, commencing at 5:30pm, in the Junior School Hub.

The Junior School has come to life this week with many year levels beginning units of learning about living things, habitats and environments. Classrooms are certainly buzzing and plans are being finalised for upcoming excursions and incursions that will enrich learning in this area.

iPads will begin to enhance student learning in the Junior School from Week 3 [next week]. All students are required to supply their own iPad for use during class time. The following iPads are compatible with school requirements:

- iPad Pro
- iPad Mini (Generation 1, 2, 3 or 4)
- iPad Air 2
- iPad Air
- iPad (Generation 2, 3 or 4)

Students are encouraged to use iCloud, Airdrop and have camera capability. The preferred storage option is 32GB or 64GB however, 16GB is still sufficient. These devices will be used under supervision by staff during various learning times and are not to be used during breaks of the day [Recess and Lunchtime]. We thank you for your support in this matter.

While many programs including Fin Strings and ensembles are hosted in the Junior School Learning Hub, we remind family members that walking through the JS building can be a distraction for students and their learning focus. Given this, could I ask that we limit our use of the Reception area as a thoroughfare.

A reminder to all families that any personal items brought to school including drink bottles, lunch boxes, hats and uniform should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Some items that have been found on school grounds are currently held in the JS Office. If not claimed by 24 February, these items will be disposed of for health reasons.

Parking

Use of the School Crossing has increased already this year – it is great to see so many students and family members taking advantage of the weather and some exercise. SCG parents and carers are kindly reminded that parking across the St George Preca driveway is a legal offence.



Similarly, parking across or in private driveways of local residents is to be avoided.

Students Leaving Early

We wish to remind parents when collecting students for appointments within school hours, they are to be collected from JS Reception. Notification to the Homeroom Teacher and to admin@scg.vic.edu.au is also requested.

Sport News

Nominations for the Big 4 TeamVic trials are currently open with the cut off day for endorsement being Friday 16 February 2018. School Sport Victoria (SSV) provides opportunities for talented children to compete a series of trials towards the ultimate goal of achieving selection in a Victorian Representative Team. These trials are open for students turning 10, 11 or 12 years of age in 2018 who excel (state or national level) in one of the following sports: Basketball, Netball, Football (Soccer) or Australian Rules Football. Southern Cross Grammar is required to endorse the students based on the child's athleticism, skill level and behaviour. If you would like more information please contact jpanozzo@scg.vic.edu.au.

The Southern Star

Southern Cross Grammar

PFA—School Banking 2018

Welcome to another year of School Banking at SCG. Banking starts next week and is undertaken every Tuesday. Please let us know if you require a new deposit book to replace any that may have become damaged or missing over the break. A new range of rewards are available in 2018 along with another fantastic major prize. This year a family trip to Hawaii could be won by a student that makes 15 deposits by the end of Term 3. Further information will be sent home next week to registered school bankers. New students to SCG with existing School Bank accounts can send along their banking as normal. If you'd like to register your student please send a note to the Homeroom Teacher so an information flyer can be sent home. Foundation students will receive an information pack.

I also wanted to confirm that Commonwealth Banking have confirmed that they can visit here for an end-of-day stall next Tuesday, as well as be present when we have parents for the JS information evening, commencing at 5:30pm that same day, in the JS Hub.

PFA MEETING - WEDNESDAY 14 FEB - 7pm

Junior School Learning Hub.

Our first Parents and Friends Association meeting will be held next Wednesday. All are welcome to attend. An agenda will be circulated early next week. Come along and share in some light refreshments and find out more about what the PFA does and how you can help.

School Company Membership

Southern Cross Grammar is a company limited by guarantee to which individuals can join as company members for an annual \$10 fee.

Becoming a company member entitles you to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will be held early in Term 2. Along with the School Board the AGM is attended by the Principal, Corporate Services Manager and representatives of our external auditor team from BDO Australia.

The AGM provides an opportunity to hear firsthand about the school's financial results and to ask questions of the Board.

In the weeks leading up to the AGM company members will be asked to nominate fellow company members for election to fill vacancies on the School Board. When required elections are held at the AGM with only company members eligible to vote on these important appointments.

Company membership application forms are available from the School Reception located in the Junior School as well as online on the school's website www.scg.vic.edu.au by navigating to Information \ About Us \ School Board.

2019 Enrolment Program

Mrs Danielle Andrews—Registrar

Please note that in mid-February we commence our interviews for Foundation 2019 placements. Year 7 interviews will commence in Term 2. Strong interest is evident and therefore it is important that sibling applications for 2019 are held by the School at this point. If you know of any interested family friends, applications need to be received immediately to avoid disappointment.

Music News

Miss Calvert

Congratulations to the following students on their most recent Violin Examinations:

Dan Mai – Grade 8	A (Honors)
Lily Pham – Grade 5	A+ (High Distinction)
Alex Fu – Grade 2	A+ (High Distinction)
Elisa Vigniuoli—Grade 2	A+ (High Distinction)
Lana Sapcanin– Grade 2	A+ (High Distinction)
Henry Pham – Grade 2	A+ (High Distinction)
Veronica Kaszkiel – Grade 5	A (Honors)
Sophie Fosnaugh – Grade 1	A (Honors)
Liam Gauci – Grade 1	A+ (High Distinction)
Alyssa Daulo – Grade 1	A (Honors)
Menara Ranatunga – Grade 2	A (Honors)
Aimee Vukoja – Preliminary	A+ (High Distinction)

We are so proud of all our 'string students' for their outstanding efforts!

Mr Robert Graham

Welcome to all of the students who commenced private music lessons at the school this week. It has been wonderful to see so many new students enroll in the program in 2018.



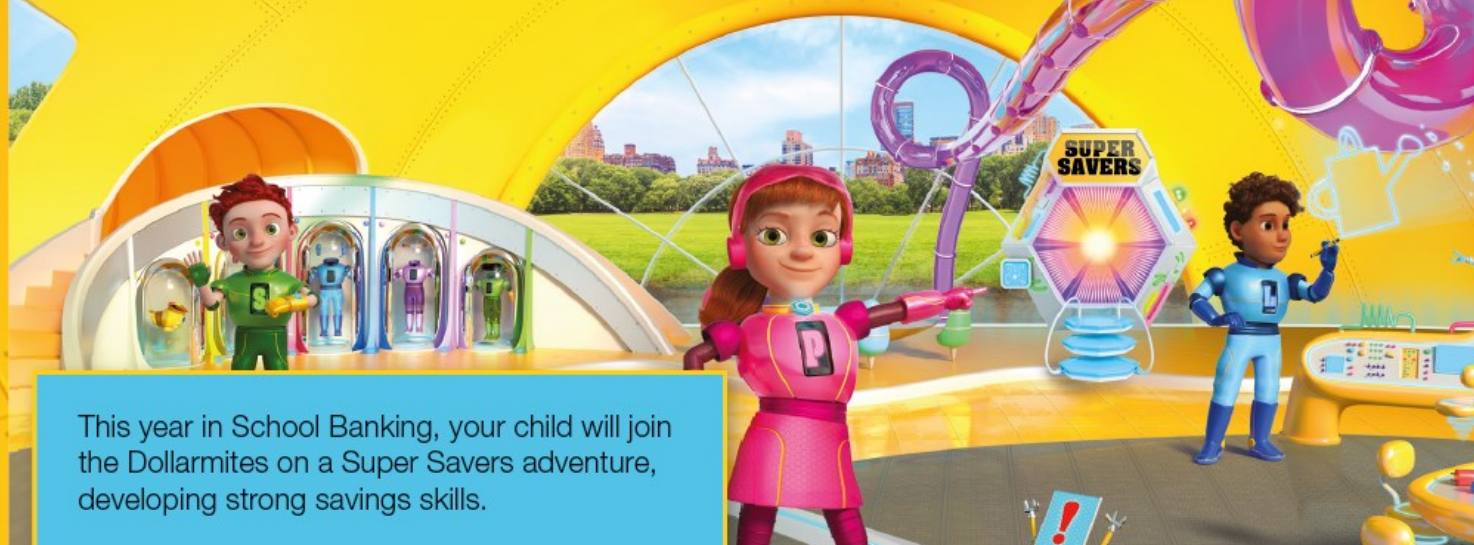
This week our year 6's and 7's participated in a classroom Brass and Woodwind program that will run for the semester. We welcome our new woodwind tutor, Miss Jacqueline Wong who will teach saxophone, clarinet and flute alongside Mr Adrian Perger who will be taking trumpet and trombone lessons.

If you are interested in enrolling in our music program, we offer private and group lessons (for a reduced price) on a number of instruments. For more information, contact the Music Department, music@scg.vic.edu.au.



Get ready for a Super Savers adventure with School Banking.

CAN



This year in School Banking, your child will join the Dollarmites on a Super Savers adventure, developing strong savings skills.

School Banking encourages children to learn the value of saving and rewards those who demonstrate a regular savings behaviour.

New Super Savers reward items.

Introducing an exciting new range of reward items with two released every term.

Available in Term 1:

- Twister Power Handball
- Secret Scratch Notepad.

Your child can redeem one of these rewards, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.



Remember, with the CommBank Youth app, it's easy for your child to monitor the Dollarmites tokens they earn when making School Banking deposits and track their savings. Available to download from the App Store on any iOS9+ device.



A chance to win a family trip to Hawaii.



Students who truly are Super Savers will have the chance to win a family trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, staying 7 nights at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort, plus AU\$2,000 spending money.

To enter, students simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3 2018, and they will automatically enter the Super Savers Grand Prize Competition.

To find out more about School Banking, or explore fun activity sheets for your child, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things you should know: The 'Super Savers Grand Prize Competition' (Promotion) is conducted by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (ABN 48 123 123 124) of Level 3C, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. The Promotion starts at 9am AEST on 22/01/18 and closes at 11:59pm AEST on 29/09/18. Entry is open to Australian residents aged 4-13 years only who have made 15 separate School Banking deposits into their CommBank 'Youthsaver' account during the Promotion period. Eligible entrants will be automatically entered into the draw. Maximum 1 entry/person. The first eligible entry randomly drawn will win a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, USA for two adults and up to three children (aged 17 years and under), including 7 nights accommodation and \$2,000 AUD spending money, valued at \$17,666 AUD. Terms and conditions apply. The draw will take place at 12pm AEST on 10/10/18 at the address above. The winner will be notified by telephone and email, and will be published online at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and in The Australian on 17/10/18. Winner must claim the prize by 5pm AEST on 15/01/19 or the prize will be redrawn. The prize will be awarded to the winner's nominated parent or guardian. Conditions apply to accepting the prize. Full terms and conditions available from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking Authorised under NSW Permit No: LTPS/17/18318, ACT Permit No: ACT TP 17/01989 and SA Permit No: T17/1878.