

Thursday I November 2018 - Edition 279

Principal: Mr Andrew Ponsford

Mr Andrew Ponsford Principal

Food for thought

A turtle was sunning itself at a waterhole when two elephants came down for a drink. The first elephant looked closely at the turtle, then kicked it right across the waterhole.

'That's Terry, the same turtle that bit me on the trunk here thirty years ago,' he explained to his companion.

'How did you remember his name?' said the second elephant.

'Turtle recall,' responded the first elephant.

Now, I am not blessed with turtle—sorry, total, recall but I do remember this.

The legendary Vince Lombardi, the great coach of the Green Bay Packers during their glory days, was becoming exasperated by his team's poor playing and commented that success was a matter of solid foundations, appealing to his players to 'get back to the basics'. This message is a good one as we enter the season of testing and trials. Get back to the basics by:

- Knowing what to study.
- Having a good study routine.
- Having the right environment.
- Ensuring good food, rest and hydration.
- Doing light exercise.
- Good organisation—well-maintained summary notes and diagrams/charts.
- Asking for (early) help early on.
- Being proactive and not leaving things to the last minute.

Ms Romina Pimpini Head of Junior School (F – 4)

Positive Community Connection

Last night we held a Parent Forum entitled Positive Communication at SCG attended by a group of parents from across the sections of our School. This core group provided important feedback about current communication strategies at SCG and began work towards planning for improvement as we grow.



The SCG Colour Explosion is sure to be a blast, It doesn't really matter if you walk, or run really fast. For getting together is our simple priority, As we strengthen our sense of connection here at SCG! (See page 4 for details)

Parents looked at communication from the various 'lenses' in a school; Student, Parents and Staff using various Thinking Routines in the Hub. We thank them for their time and valued input as we look to establish consistent protocols and processes across our broadening School population. Particular thanks go to Ms Trudy Trounson and Ms Rozie McKerrow for their help and support.

Mrs Julie Baud Deputy Principal Head of Teaching and Learning (F – 12)

Unit 3/4 Students and VCAA Exams

Yesterday was a milestone for the school as our first cohort of Year 12 students completed the first external VCE exam on site! An exciting time for the school.The students walked out of the 3-hour English exam at 12.15 pm relieved and smiling; quite happy with the questions on the paper. Let's hope their mood is reflected in their results.

These exams continue most days for the next 3 weeks so we wish our Year 12 students and Year 11 students completing a Unit 3/4 subject, all the best and hope they are able to navigate their way through this period with relative ease. Before long, it will all be behind them and they will be contemplating a lot more seriously how they will utilise



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the next phase of their lives. Families are reminded that when these exams are in progress, it will be necessary to be quiet when entering and exiting the school through the gate near the VCE Centre. Large clearly-labelled signs will provide details around this and extra staff will be on duty, particularly when there is a late exam (3.00 pm - 5.15 pm) that cuts across school dismissal time.

Year 10 - 11 Exams

The Year 11 exams commence on Thursday 8 November with classes concluding tomorrow afternoon whereas Year 10 students commence their exam period tomorrow with the Health exam in Period 4. Year 10 - 11 students have the option of studying at home or at school during exams as a supervised study room will be available. Wednesday 7 November is an exam preparation day for all Year 10 and 11 students.

Year 7 - 9 Exams

The Year 7 - 9 exams are in Week 7 from Wednesday 21 November to Friday 23 November and are compulsory for all students. Teachers will assist students with the preparation for exams during classes, but parents are also encouraged to provide support at home. This can be done in a number of ways, for example, by ensuring students have a quiet space to work, plenty of sleep, a healthy diet, regular meals, exercise and a homework and study routine.

Ms Louisa Rennie Head of Senior School (10 – 12)

Introducing the SCG Alumni Association

At our inaugural Valedictory Ceremony, the SCG Alumni Association was introduced as the next thread to weave through our school tapestry. In recognition of the Class of 2018 being the first cohort of Year 12 students to graduate from Southern Cross Grammar, all Valedictorians received a 3-year membership to the SCG Alumni Association. The purpose of the SCG Alumni Association is to:

- Connect alumni and friends of SCG, promoting interaction through organised events and programs.
- Link former students and staff with the school community and each other; promote interaction among former students and staff members; and to promote activities that create an alumni community.
- Recognise alumni, their achievements and their contributions.

- Support current students' academic, personal and career aspirations through alumni engagement in mentoring/guest speaking.
- Foster alumni interaction with the School community and prospective students and families.
- Encourage current student success through the Alumni Award.
- Raise funds and subscribe to any local or other charities/social concerns as agreed by the Committee.
- Encourage and promote the opportunities provided to students and families of SCG.

Good alumni relationships bring many benefits to our school and membership is not exclusive to old scholars.

Parents, friends and community members are welcome to join our Alumni Association and encouraged to submit an application form via the website: <u>SCG Alumni Membership Form</u>

Year 10 – 12 Presentation Evening

All students from Year 10 - 12 will join together on Thursday 22 November for the SCG Senior School End of Year Presentation Evening.

As this is considered part of our core program, all students are expected to attend. Up to four guests per student are warmly invited to attend the evening and share in the celebration of the 2018 school year.

The evening will be celebrated at the Moonee Valley Racecourse and formalities will commence promptly at 6:00pm. As a result, we ask that families arrive no later than 5.45pm, in order to be seated prior to the scheduled commencement time. Students will be seated with their peers, while parents, family members and guests will be seated centrally to enjoy the evening.

Students will need to wear their formal summer uniform, including blazers, which are compulsory for all students. To ensure consistency of appearance, we request that jumpers are left at home. Male students are required to wear their short-sleeved shirt, tie and shorts with their shirts tucked in and their top button done up.

Further details, including access to the venue and options for parking will be provided closer to the date of the event. We look forward to your attendance and I encourage you to direct any questions regarding the event to your child's Homeroom Teacher.



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Ms Romina Pimpini Head of Junior School (F – 4)

Buzz, buzz, buzzing around is happening in the Junior School this week. Students of 2LH (below right) led an assembly presentation to help all our Junior School students prepare for their Swimming Program from 12 - 16 November. Plans are well underway for a jampacked few weeks ahead, including;

- F 2 House Sports on Friday during the school day.
- The PFA Colour Explosion on Friday afternoon.
- Year 3 & 4 Camp to Nillahcootie next week.
- SCG Remembrance Day Assembly, Friday 9 November, 8:45 am.
- Year F 3 Swimming Program 12 16 November.
- Year F 2 Swimming Carnival 20 November.
- Step Up Day in preparation for 2019.
- Our annual Celebration of Learning evening on Tuesday 4 December at Moonee Valley.

As you can see, this list is exhaustive. We hope parents, carers and family members will be able to support our Junior School students in their attendance and preparedness for all events and programs we are planning. After all, this is the strength of our SCG community!

Reminder: School Hats for Term 4

As per our School uniform policy, hats are to be worn in Term 4. No hat = no play, out in the sun today. Help your child be Sun Smart when at school, and pack their hat in their bag—that's cool! Mr Rajnesh Ram Learning Area Leader - Science, STEM and Computing

Bursary science awards success

In the Science Talent Search's Photography category, Ramandeep Singh attained a major bursary and Callum Weir and Alex Banovski attained minor bursaries.

By Ramandeep Singh, Callum Weir and Alex Banovski (below left)

'On the 29th of October, Callum Weir, Ramandeep Singh and Alex Banovski joined Mr Ram on a trip to the "Science Talent Search" presentation day at La Trobe University.

On this day, we showed our projects to the rest of the students attending in the Union Hall.

It was an incredible sight to see, a room filled with people all with the same passion, science.

After exhibiting our projects and meeting our sponsors, we had our photos taken with other students whose bursaries were sponsored by the same company.

Leaving the Union Hall, we travelled around the university before going to the Eastern Lecture centre to listen to a speech from some special guests before receiving our medallions and bursary checks.

Concluding the day, we had all realised that science can bring together crowds of people with the same desire, to use science to make the world a better place.'





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Colour

We are on the countdown to the 2018 Colour Explosion and here is all of the information you need to ensure you have an awesome time:

- *BYO a change of clothes including a WHITE T-Shirt
- *We recommend a hat and sunscreen
- * Colour Explosion Sunglasses will be on sale for \$2 each
- *Wrist Bands are \$1 each

Remember:

This is a FUN-draiser so bring lots of gold coins, fun and your appetite!



Schedule of Events:

- 3:10pm change into your Colour Explosion Clothing (we recommend a white t-shirt and shorts) - face painting, stalls and our games area will be open
- 4:00pm Running will commence
 - Groups will be called with 20 minute slots to complete as many laps as they can and get as much colour splashed on them as possible!