



SOUTHERN CROSS  
GRAMMAR

# THE SOUTHERN STAR

Thursday 21 March 2019- Edition 293

Principal: Mr Andrew Ponsford

**Mr Andrew Ponsford**  
Principal

## Thank you, congratulations and well done!

As a mark of respect and show of support and appreciation, I attended last night's Parents and Friends Meeting.

What struck me about this small band of loyal supporters was their enthusiasm and commitment for our young school and their generosity of spirit.

There are various supporters that walk alongside our students as they undertake the education experience – teachers, parents and carers come immediately to mind ..... but this group do this voluntarily for the benefit of all. Our school is all the richer for this selfless sense of service.

The evening was special in another way – as it saw the stepping down of Hannah Radburn as PFA Chairperson and the passing of the baton to Sarah Payton.

For three years Hannah has provided wonderful leadership and literally led from the front! In 2016 she took over from another of our wonderful contributors in Leonie Harrison. Hannah's period of service will be remembered for the following outstanding events as well as coordinating our annual Junior School Discos, Mothers and Fathers Day stall and Parent Nights:

- the planting of over 400 plants
- the purchase of new Play equipment as part of our 5th Birthday celebrations
- Outdoor Movie Night
- Art Exhibition
- Family Fun night
- The Colour Run
- 5c Drive

I also take this opportunity to thank the following members of our wonderful PFA; Jo Camilleri, Paula Clark, Dianna Perre, Gary Cambell, Leonie Harrison, Chad Bandara, Tamara Camilleri, Irene Zammit, Michelle Vietch and all those who have volunteered their time to help at events.

*'It takes the village to educate a child'* - our students our school is only as strong as this commitment.

Please seriously consider the benefits for you and the school and become an active member of our SCG community.

## Harmony Day

Today, 21 March, is celebrated as Harmony Day. Taking a tour of prospective families around our school the atmosphere, thought, fun and effort that went into the activities undertaken was quite inspirational.

Our visitors and I went away with a glowing feeling!

## Congratulations!

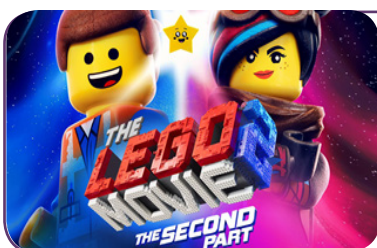
Special congratulations to Ms Samantha Calvert (Music – Head of Strings) who will be a mum for the first time toward the end of the 2019 school year. Sam will take Maternity Leave during Term 4.

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

As learning is at the centre of everything we do, it is important we consider how our students learn if we are to ensure they are going to learn effectively and be successful. Every student learns differently. They have preferred ways to absorb, processes, comprehend and retain information.

Throughout my career I have had many parents ask me "How should my son/daughter study for tests, SACs and exams?" They always add: "He/she doesn't know how to study."

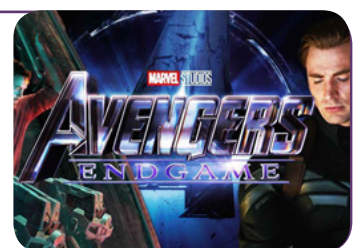
Ideally, preferred modes of learning (Visual, Auditory, Reading and Writing, Kinesthetic) should influence how students revise information and prepare for assessment tasks. If they choose appropriate strategies that suit them, this can increase their confidence and motivation and ultimately their chances of success.



**LAST CHANCE TO SECURE YOUR TICKETS TO:**

THE LEGO MOVIE - The second Part  
and  
THE AVENGERS - Endgame

[BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)





Therefore, I hope the following ideas will be helpful for parents with the same question.

Students who prefer to learn visually should use images, maps, charts, diagrams and graphic organisers to organise their notes when doing revision for assessment tasks.



Auditory learners can revise more effectively through discussing the work covered with their teachers and friends, by asking questions, by recording notes and playing them back and by the repetitive reciting of course content.

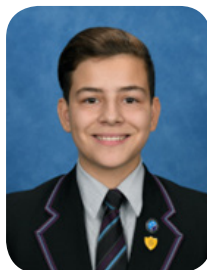
Other students find they are more successful if they write and rewrite their notes, read extensively and rewrite the main ideas in another way when preparing for assessments.

A fourth group of learners (Kinesthetic) revise best through using real life examples and case studies to help them understand the work better and through utilising pictures and photographs to help them remember the work. These learners tend to be “hands on” learners.

**Ms Louisa Rennie**  
**Head of Senior School (10-12)**

**Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship**

At the end of 2018, Liam Giacchi was accepted into the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program, delivered by the University of Melbourne. The Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program is an academic enrichment program designed to support high achieving Victorian VCE Year 11 and Year 12 students.



Liam has participated in some learning experiences and has generously offered to share some of the benefits with his peers. Thank you Liam!

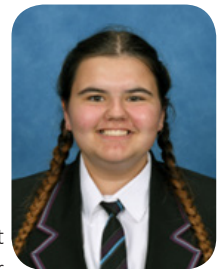
“Participating in the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program is a huge honour for me as I am not only able to make connections with other VCE students but I also have the exciting opportunity of experiencing university life. As part of the program I have been able to participate in a range of activities to become better prepared for my future studies and career. I have also been fortunate enough to learn many tips and tricks from past students on how to approach

VCE studies with success. I found this information to be really beneficial and would like to share it with all of the students at SCG. So if you are interested in ways to prepare yourself for VCE, some study notes re attached to this newsletter. Hope you find it useful- I’ll try my best to keep you updated on other tips when I attend the next information session at the University of Melbourne.”

*Liam Giacchi Year 11*

**World’s Greatest Shave**

Every day 35 Australians are diagnosed with leukaemia, a form of cancer which affects the blood and can be devastating to the many people who suffer with this debilitating disease. SCG’s very own Alyssa Kishta, from homeroom 10.2, along with Kiani Ulloa as announced in last weeks newsletter, has set out to raise money for people suffering from leukaemia via the World’s Greatest Shave. The World’s Greatest Shave is a charity which aims to give people living with blood cancer the emotional and practical support they need. Alyssa will be coming into school with purple hair in the final week of the term, and to show her support for the World’s Greatest Shave and its work, she will be raising money to donate to this cause. You can support Alyssa’s noble efforts, and people suffering with leukaemia, by donating to her [online account](#)



**Ms Janis Coffey**  
**Head of Middle School (5 - 9)**

**Harmony Day – A Celebration of Diversity**

Last week I wrote about the planning and preparation for a day of celebration of diversity, Harmony Day, celebrated today across Australia. This day comes as an important reminder, after recent world events last week rocked our neighboring nation, New Zealand, that we are one. We stand together as one community, diverse in culture, and united by our values. Our Student Centred Vision articulates our belief and commitment to being ethical, compassionate and socially responsible global citizens. On a day like today where we actively celebrate our acceptance of one another’s differences and the beauty that our diversity brings to our community, we can see these values come to life. The Middle School students marked this day with a cultural marketplace showcasing foods from around the world, a poster competition focused on themes of diversity, and a drumming circle, celebrating the sounds of African music.



Congratulations to the following students who won today's Poster Competition – prizes can be collected tomorrow!

- Junior School: Vaishu Goli, Anton La and Tameia Veitch from Year 4.2
- Middle School: Zoe Chetcuti and Trinh Chu from Year 5.1
- A Special Mention to Year 8.2 for Best Teamwork

Thank you to everyone who participated in today's celebration. What a wonderful and diverse community we are!



## Climate Change Advocate, Mia Cook (Year 5)

This week one of our Year 5 students writes her reflection on her participation in the School Strike 4 Climate event last week. I commend Mia for her passion and willingness to make a difference to the environment and better protect our earth for future generations. Well done, Mia!

On Friday 15 March, my brother and I attended the School Strike for Climate at the Old Treasury Building in Melbourne. The strike's purpose was to push the government to do more about climate change, as well as to spread awareness on what the potentially disastrous effects of climate change would be, if immediate action isn't taken.

This school strike meant a lot to me for many reasons. It showed that every person has a powerful voice, no matter how small you might be or how young you are. Children together have the ability to do great things; even change the world. Climate change is occurring right now - it is the children who should want to protect the earth, as this is our future. To me, it is important to stand up for what you believe in and have the voice to show that what you are fighting for matters.

The school strike shall definitely be a memory that shall stay with me for a very long time. Just as Robert Swan said, "The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it".

*Mia Cook Year 6*





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

Student goal setting is known to make a difference to student success and achievement. Our Personal Goal Plans (PGP) linked to the Student Centred Vision will do just that!

These documents will be coming home this week, and we ask parents and carers to discuss the goals with your child/ren. It is important that they understand the goal they have set and can articulate how they might achieve it.

If you have any questions about your child’s PGP, be sure to discuss this with their teacher. Keeping these lines of communication open and strong is paramount to students feeling supported and able to take risks to develop themselves, both in the classroom and beyond.

**HARMONY DAY in the Junior School**

We celebrate Harmony Day to engage in conversations and respect helping others. This helps us think about children around the world and the necessity for all of us to work together to ensure a happy and healthy life.



Harmony Day is celebrated annually on 1 March in Australia. Harmony Day began in 1999 coinciding with the United Nations international day for the elimination of racial discrimination. Each year, it is marked by people coming together and participating in local activities.

Communities themselves decide how they would like to come together to mark the occasion; some having morning teas, others organise a fair and some celebrate by dressing in national costumes.

Since 1999 a wide variety of groups including sports organisations, community groups, local government churches, schools and businesses have staged more than 55,000 Harmony Day events.

In the Junior School, we added to the list of these events and celebrated Harmony Day today. We worked in mixed groupings from Foundation to Year 4 and the oldest students (thanks Year 4s!) led the way with a few different activities including;

- A hand of identity
- Colouring a Dove of Peace
- Preparing a Harmony Day message.

We had such fun working together and sharing ideas.

A big thanks to our teachers and Mrs Hedditch for getting us involved in something as a Junior School ‘family’ once again.

We cannot wait to continue our week of sharing great memories as we have our Ride 2 School Day tomorrow and an assembly to bring it all together on Friday morning.

*Ruby Spiteri & the Social Justice Captains – Year 4*





### Only 1 sleep to go ~ get your PEDAL POWER ON!

Ride 2 School for Years F-9 provides an opportunity for students to partake in an inclusive House event.

Join your friends, meet at Coles Express for the group pick-ups at 8.00am or 8.15am on Friday morning and have a fit-time sharing the ride to school.

Points will be awarded for each student who:

- Rides their bike or scooter to their allocated House gate
- Rides or scoots safely wearing a helmet
- Wears a House Colour t-shirt with their PE uniform on the day



We hope everybody will join in for some fun!

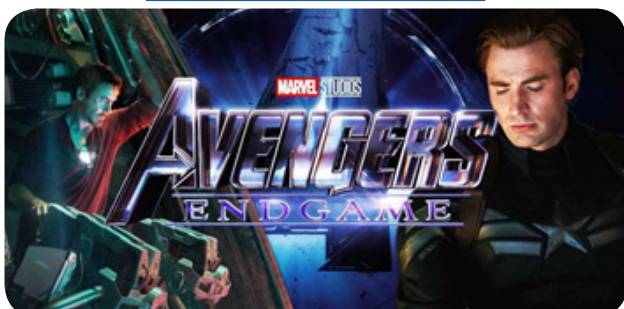
### Parent and Friends Committee

#### Let's go to the movies fundraiser.

There are still tickets available for this Sunday 24 March screening of The Lego Movie at Hoyts Watergardens. So its not to late if you haven't booked seats yet!

We have secured a screening of Avengers End Game on Thursday 25 April, however, if we have not sold enough tickets by this Sunday we will have to cancel this screening, as the venue requires 30 days notice for cancellation. Head to Try Booking to secure your seats today for what will be a fun filled family event!

[BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)



### 2019 PFA Committee

At last night's PFA meeting the following positions were confirmed for 2019.

- Chairperson – Sarah Payton
- Vice Chair – Hannah Radburn
- Treasurer – Paula Cark
- Secretary – Dianna Perre

All members of our SCG community are invited and welcome to get involved in the PFA – for more information on how you can help, email [pfa@scg.vic.edu.au](mailto:pfa@scg.vic.edu.au)

### Ms Cynthia Dossinis

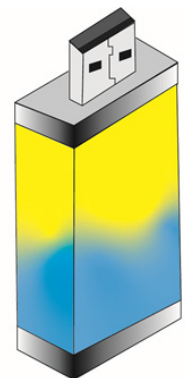
#### Learning Area Leader - Creative Arts (F -12)

#### Year 11 Visual Communication Design

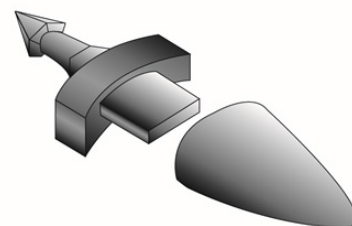
Students undertook the design process and created drawings for different purposes using a range of drawing methods, media and materials. Their final designs were created on Adobe Illustrator. Using gradients they were able to demonstrate form and surface textures.



THE SWIRLBER USB CREATED BY PHILIP BOERMANS



LIQUID SAND USB CREATED BY MARYAM ABU NAEEM



EXCALIBUR USB CREATED BY PHI-LONG HOANG

# Kwong Lee Dow Information Session

## 5 simple ways to cut down on study and maximise VCE marks

### Strategy 1: Take advantage of any opportunity to get ahead and stay ahead

By addressing course material in advance (eg: during school holidays) it can help you save huge amounts of time on homework and achieve higher SAC and examination marks.

#### WHY

- It is easier to understand information and difficult concepts that you have gone over before and heard for the second time
- You will spend less time completing homework and preparing for tests and exams as you will be able to grasp concepts more easily
- It will help reduce stress levels and your confidence will increase

### Strategy 2: Start working through past exam papers as soon as possible

It has been well documented that the more examination papers a student works through, the higher their examination marks will be.

#### WHY

- By working through past papers asap you will avoid running out of time to complete them before the final exams
  - There are many valuable resources that you can use such as Checkpoints, as it groups past VCAA questions by topic.
  - Other resources that I would recommend include: A + notes, Connect Education, Neap and ATAR notes. Some great VCAA exam companies are Heffernan, Insight, MAV, Neap, STAV and of course don't forget to go through the VCAA exams and pay special attention to the examination reports.
- If you start exam questions early you will get a clearer indication on the areas that you need to pay more attention to.
- Working through past papers early will also reduce stress levels closer to exams.

### Strategy 3: Don't waste time writing too many summary notes

Your text book has most of the information that you need to learn so don't get too caught up with writing too many notes. A better option would be to form a study group and allocate research work to different members of your group and then share the information.

#### WHY

- Writing notes is time consuming and greatly reduces your time to learn other materials, work through resources and do extra questions and practice papers.

“It is the actual learning and working through exam questions that has the biggest impact on examination marks – not writing and re-writing materials”

#### **Strategy 4: Keep learned knowledge alive – revise, revise and revise**

Revise as much as possible throughout the year so that you are not trying to relearn a huge amount of content before exams.

##### *WHY*

- It is less time consuming to spend short periods of time revising materials rather than re-learning a huge amount of material before examinations
- Reduces stress and helps you become better prepared and more confident before exams

#### **Strategy 5: Manage procrastination**

Research suggests that 75% of students consider themselves to be procrastinators, with 50% doing so regularly at a level that is considered a problem.

Try to manage procrastination as it only adds more time to tasks, ultimately adding to an already heavy workload.

##### *WHY*

- The longer you take to do a task, the more information you forget and therefore more time is required to complete the task in the end.

#### **Conclusion**

Good luck and remember you don't have to be academically gifted to get top marks. Hundreds of students achieve high ATARs by implementing a structured and organised study plan. In other words, it's not always about how long you study for but how effective the study is.

Most importantly it's not the end result that counts but rather the journey one takes to get there...so enjoy every moment and make the most of the opportunities that come your way!

# Cross Country Carnival 27 March 2019

## Cross Country distances

F – Y2 students: approximately 200m - 800m run, based on their year level(s), inside the school grounds. See attached map.

Y3- Y12 students: 1 x 1500m lap of the streets surrounding Southern Cross Grammar. See attached map.

## Parent assistance / attendance

The safety of all students is paramount. For the event to run smoothly we would be delighted to have parent helpers to assist with student supervision on the course as well as at the fun / novelty events throughout the day. If you are interested in supporting this whole school event, parent volunteers are required 20 minutes prior to the session commencement times listed below.

Volunteers must also have an up-to-date Working with Children's Check.

If you are willing to assist please reply to this email – confirm that you have a valid Working with Children's Check and which session you are available for.

Parents are welcome to come along, support and engage in the festivities of the Cross Country Carnival.

## Uniform expectations

All students are encouraged to show their house colours on the day in the way of a house colour t-shirt and streamers, along with the full PE uniform. All students are expected to wear sunscreen and a hat.

Hair, face and / or body paint is not permitted.

## Agenda

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Y7 – Y12 Cross Country Carnival</b> |  |
| 9:00 – 9:30am                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y7 – Y9 cross country run</li> <li>• Y10 – Y12 novelty events</li> </ul>  |
| 9:30am – 10:00am                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y7 – Y9 novelty events</li> <li>• Y10 – Y12 cross country run</li> </ul>  |
| 10:05am                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and close of Y7- Y12 Carnival</li> </ul>                     |
| <b>Y3 – Y6 Cross Country Carnival</b>  |  |
| 12noon – 12:30pm                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y3 – Y4 cross country run</li> <li>• Y5 – Y6 novelty events</li> </ul>    |
| 12:30pm – 1:00pm                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y3 – Y4 novelty events</li> <li>• Y5 – Y6 cross country run</li> </ul>    |
| 1:05pm                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and close of Y3 – Y6 Carnival</li> </ul>                     |
| <b>F – Y2 Cross Country Carnival</b>   |  |
| 2:00pm – 2:30pm                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation Cross Country run</li> <li>• Y1 – Y2 novelty events</li> </ul> |
| 2:30pm – 3:00pm                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation novelty events</li> <li>• Y1 – Y2 Cross Country run</li> </ul> |
| 3:05pm                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and close of F-2 Carnival</li> </ul>                         |



## Foundation – Year 2 Course



## Years 3 – 12 Course



# Let's go to the Movies!

After the success of our movie events in 2018 we have **three exclusive preview screenings** at HOYTS Watergardens, to offer the SCG Community. There are still tickets available for this weekends screening of The Lego Movie!

Sunday 24 March 10am



Thursday 25 April 3.30pm



Sunday 23 June 10am



Tickets must be purchased in advance as there will be no sales at the venue.

You can purchase tickets to one or all of the films, as well as drink and food packages via the try booking link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=466864&>

Last year's event sold out fast so get in quick to secure your seats, and be one of the first to see three of the biggest titles this year!



We hope to see you and your family there!

[pfa@scg.vic.edu.au](mailto:pfa@scg.vic.edu.au)