

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2021!

It was wonderful to welcome students back to school as well as welcoming new students and families to the college. It is also fortunate that we can welcome parents and carers on-site after a long wait due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

The year has started with calm and orderly learning communities across all areas of the college and the secondary students have adapted to the change in access to their outdoor areas due to the demolition of two older buildings.

Staff have participated in professional learning focused on the Berry Street Education Model and are refining mindfulness and brain break practices within daily lessons.

All students are provided with support from experienced staff. This support includes; Assistant Principals, Campus Managers, teachers, wellbeing officers, college nurses, administration and education support staff, maintenance staff, computer technicians, our canteen provider, cleaners and myself. Please continue to communicate with the appropriate teachers, Campus Managers or Assistant Principals via 57711300 or email through the Compass School Manager Portal if you have any queries or concerns around your child's learning.

Student led conferences will be conducted in the last week of term, on Tuesday 30 March, and will be another opportunity for you to discuss your child's learning and set goals for the coming terms.

Please read the important dates and enjoy the articles within this newsletter.

Remember, your child needs to be in class to learn. Please continue to support your child by ensuring that they are at school, healthy, well rested and ready to learn.

Gail Hardman - Executive Principal

Seymour College acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the land and acknowledges and pays respect to their elders, past and present.

OFFICE HOURS: 8am - 4:30pm Monday - Friday

ADDRESS: 29-47 Stewart Street, Seymour.

PHONE: 5771 1300

EMAIL ADDRESS: seymour.co@education.vic.gov.au **WEBSITE:** www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au

IMPORTANT DATES

Bookclub Orders Due
Thursday 18th Feb

Mon 22nd - Wed 24th Feb
Rubicon Camp
Year 7A & 7B

Mon 22nd - Fri 26th Feb
Bogong Camp
Year 9

Wed 24th - Fri 26th Feb
Rubicon Camp
Year 7C & 7D

Friday 5th March
Round Robin
Years 7 - 12

College Council

College Council met last night and we farewelled members who have completed their term of office.

I would like to thank the commitment of Anthony Tennant, Jonathan Parker, Jason Tarran and Bronwyn Arandt who have been dedicated parent members of our College Council. Our staff members, Derek Rimes, Trish Bulluss and Sue Watson terms also expire. Your assistance and support has been invaluable in this role. Once again, the dedication of you all has been significant to our College Council.

It is timely to remind you that the College Council elections are open and I encourage you to speak with Russell Chapman, Michelle Mussett, Tiffany Goodman, Anthony Watson or Georgia Cannizzo, or any of our retiring members and consider nomination for these vacant positions. It is a rewarding and meaningful experience.

Our student members are Kar Ting Chong and Jay Ridd and we thank them for the past year. Their terms expire in March 2022.

There are seven meetings for the year and they fall on Wednesdays and commence at 5:00 pm. Please consider your other commitments and your availability to attend prior to nomination.

College Council Elections

Our College Council elections are being held this month. Councils perform amazing and important work to provide support and governance to schools.

Nominations forms are available from the General Office and I encourage staff and parents to consider nominating for these roles.

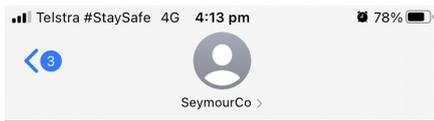
Approximately half the Council term expires each year and I would like to advise that the following positions are vacant:

Staff members: 3 positions
Parent members: 4 positions
Student members: 0 position.

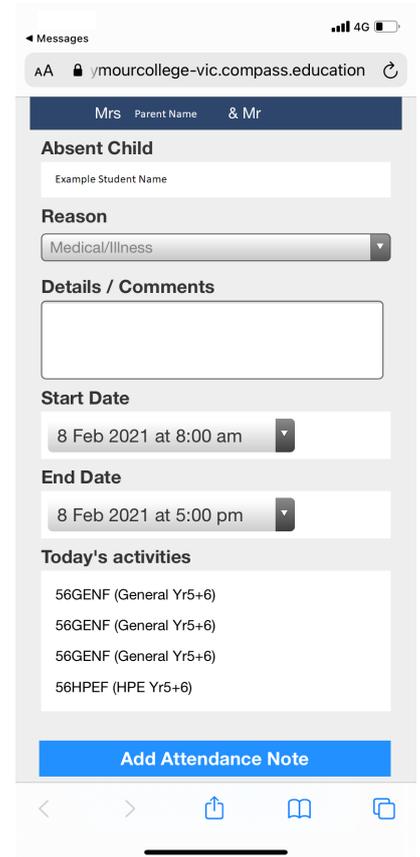
2021 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE

- a) Notice of election and call for nominations – **Thursday 18th February** (forms available at the General Office)
- b) Closing date for nominations – **Thursday 25th February** (by 4:00 pm to the Principal's Executive Assistant's Office)
- c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted – **Friday 26th February (if applicable)**
- d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed – **Monday 1st March**
- e) Close of ballot – **Monday 8th March**
- f) Vote Count – **Tuesday 9th March**
- g) Declaration of poll – **Wednesday 10th March**
- h) Special AGM Council meeting to co-opt Community Members and to elect office bearers (the Principal will preside) – **Wednesday 17th March.**

Gail Hardman – Executive Principal



Seymour College will send a text message to parents/guardians at 10:30am and 3:30pm where there has been an unexplained absence. There is now a link included in the text message that allows parents/guardians to quickly and easily provide a reason for their child's absence.



New Secondary School Nurse

"Hi, I'm Lucy and I'd like to introduce myself as the new secondary school nurse. I have been a nurse for 7 years and a teacher for 3 years and I'm very excited to start this new role. I will be working closely with the wellbeing team, teachers, leadership and school community to deliver health promotion programs on a range of topics, including mental health, sexuality, alcohol and other drugs and diversity. I will also be available to see individual students and small groups to discuss any health and wellbeing concerns. I will be in the school on Mondays and Tuesdays every week. I am super excited to get to know everyone and make a difference to the health and wellbeing of all students!"

Lucy Paisley

PRIVACY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website <https://www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Privacy-Policy-1.pdf>

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

At Seymour College:

"I come to school rested and ready to learn"

FROM THE HEALTH CENTRE

Secondary School vaccinations

The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccinations to Year 7 and Year 10 students. These vaccines provide protection against:

Year 7 students

- Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (pertussis) - one injection
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – two injections spaced by a minimum of 6 months

Year 10 students

- Meningococcal ACWY – one injection

Parents/guardians of Year 7 and Year 10 students should look out for the vaccine consent forms coming home from school with your child. You need to read the information, complete and return the form regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

The Mitchell Shire Council immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. If you do not want your contact details given to the Mitchell Shire Council immunisation service, contact the school by 15th February for year 7 and by 26th February for year 10.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/immunisation-in-secondary-school>

Students who missed school vaccinations in 2020

Some vaccines, due to students in 2020, were not delivered at the intended times due to school closures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic response in Victoria. Some students, now in Year 8 and/or Year 11, may be due to complete their 2020 vaccine program this year to catch-up the missed vaccines. Consent for these vaccines remains valid and you do not need to complete any additional forms.

Local council immunisation services will be relying on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to determine if your child is due for this vaccine and will not administer this vaccine if it has already been delivered by another immunisation provider, as recorded on AIR by the immunisation provider.

Immunisation Dates Seymour College 2021

Year 7 – 10th March and 13th October

Year 10 – 24th May

Year 10 – 24th May

Covid-19

If your child suffers from underlying conditions like hay fever and asthma, students with these conditions should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are **different to or worse than their usual symptoms**.

Please advise the school nurse if your child is being COVID tested.

Headlice in the Primary Campus

The presence of head lice is a very common childhood occurrence in the community. The primary responsibility for the management and treatment of head lice in students belongs with parents.

At Seymour College, the management of head lice infestations is a recurring and challenging matter at times throughout the year. It requires commitment from the whole school community in a concerted effort to treat outbreaks and minimise transmission. Communication and support within the school community can be conducive to minimising future infestations.

Head lice are small, wingless insects that live in the hair on your head and can be challenging to eradicate. They can only survive in human hair, need to feed from the scalp several times a day and can only survive up to two days off the person's head. Though not dangerous, head lice are a common problem for children between the ages of 3 and 11 and have nothing to do with personal hygiene or cleanliness and do not carry disease.

Kirsty Hare RN - Health Centre - School Nurse



Thank you
Parents & Friends
for our new sun
smart hats

Stars
of the
Week



We welcome 11 new students into our Inclusive Education sector this year. We hope our new families will take up the opportunities provided by our college and Our Place to meet people in our community. Xavier Kitch joins our teaching team; Xavier has worked in several special settings in Victoria. He is working with our senior secondary class (SS).



In the first two weeks of school our classes participated in group work activities in our **T.E.A.M.** program. This stands for **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore. As we know teamwork is a life skill and begins at school and carries through to the workplace. We encourage our families to talk to their children about teamwork at home.

During these weeks, our students and staff talk about the expectations for learning; the importance of respecting everyone's right to learn in safe and orderly environments. Our senior students have shared what tools

support them to understand classroom content. Student voice and agency is

important for all our students.



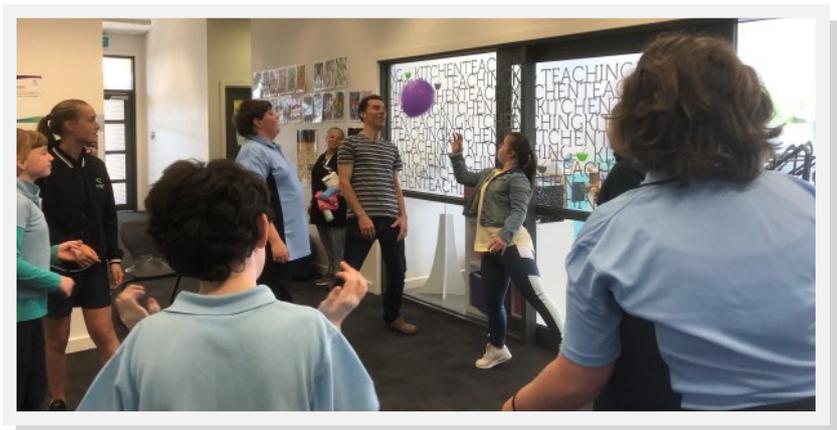
Students who cannot verbalise their needs in words use vocalisations as well as pictures. Staff watch for student's body language as cues to how students feel and cater to their social and emotional needs accordingly. Reading nonverbal communication is also a life skill. We encourage families to chat about what emotions look like and sound like.



Please enjoy some of the photos taken over the past few weeks.



Racheal Broughton
Inclusive Education
Assistant Principal

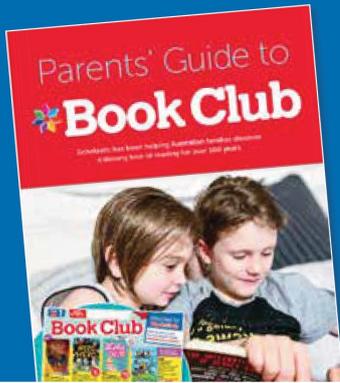


TERM DATES 2021

TERM 1	28th January - 1st April
TERM 2	19th April - 25th June
TERM 3	12th July - 17th September
TERM 4	4th October - 17th December

Learn more about Book Club

scholastic.com.au/parentguide



 SCHOLASTIC

BELL TIMES 2021

(Primary, Secondary & Inclusive Ed)

Period 1	9.00 - 10:15
Period 2	10:20 - 11:35
Break 1	11:35 - 12.05
Period 3	12:05 - 1:20
Break 2	1:20 - 2:00
Period 4	2:00 - 3:15



HATS
\$16
each

Available from the General Office



Discover the convenience
of cashless with QuickCliq

Click. Order. Complete.

Canteens, Uniforms,
Books & more.
No cash. No problem!
Try QuickCliq today!

QuickCliq is an innovative online ordering system trusted by over 700 schools and thousands of parents across Australia. QuickCliq is a cashless solution that helps you manage your children's canteen orders, uniforms, books and even school fees from the comfort of your home or office.

Want to know the best thing about QuickCliq? It was designed by parents, for parents, so it's easy to use and incredibly intuitive!

Why you will love using QuickCliq



One Family, One Account

You will have one unique and secure login to manage all your children's orders, even if they attend different schools. QuickCliq saves you time and gives you complete visibility over your family's needs.



Cashless

Tired of scrounging around for loose change every morning before your kids run off to school? With QuickCliq, lunch money is a thing of the past.



Healthy Alternative

We're giving control back to you over your children's diets. By ordering their lunch ahead of time, you can ensure they are eating healthy and balanced meals.



Mobile Friendly

QuickCliq was designed with mobile access in mind. Simply login to add credit and order, all from the convenience of your smartphone or tablet.



Plan Ahead

We understand that ordering every week can be a hassle. Now you can order up to a month in advance, helping you to save time and budget for the month ahead.



Easy Set Up

QuickCliq is free to set up and easy to use. Simply login, add credit to your QuickCliq wallet and you're good to go.



Local Support

Something not working? No need to worry, simply phone our local call centre, from 7:30am - 4pm, Monday to Friday.

Keen to try QuickCliq?

2019 is a year of rapid-growth for us. If we haven't yet reached your child's school, please get in touch and we'll ensure you can access all of QuickCliq's benefits shortly.

Questions?

Call: 1300 11 66 37

Email: sales@quickcliq.com.au



LEARN TO SWIM

50% discount on Learn to Swim 10 week program until the 30 June 2021

To be eligible residents must:

- Hold a valid Health Care Card
- Not already enrolled in the Learn to Swim program
- Be a parent / guardian of a registered child

Strictly limited to the first 200 enrolments
50% balance must be paid upfront
Program is non-refundable

\$84.15*

All ages and levels welcome!

*Price after discount applied. Proudly funded by Department of Health and Human Services CASI initiative

For more information or to discuss payment options please contact:
Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre 5735 1500
Kilmore Leisure Centre 5734 0600



SEYMOUR JUNIOR FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

P.O. BOX 8043
SEYMOUR. VIC. 3660
ABN 9378537310

Young women with a desire to be the next AFLW star like Chloe Molloy can do so by contacting the coach of the Seymour Youth Girls U/18 team. The season gets underway in April, and we are seeking young female footballers to join the Seymour team.

If you are aged between 13 - 18 and have the desire to try AFL, please make the call and we will answer any questions you may have.

Call Stuart on 0418552016 to discover more!

TENNIS 4 TEENS



Tennis Victoria has been successful in gaining funding through VicHealth to develop a program that encourages youth aged between 12-17 years to be active in a non-competitive/social environment, known as Tennis 4 Teens.

Tennis 4 Teens is a non-competitive, stress-free, fun, social program that offers participants activities both on and off court. Tennis 4 Teens is a program designed by teens, for teens and has the following values at its core

- Youth have a "say" in the activities conducted in a session
- Social element pre and/or post on court play
- Flexible i.e. drop in/out/Pay As You Go
- 1 - 1 1/2 hours per session (including all social activities)

Where and When?

Seymour Tennis Complex Wednesday 4:30pm - 6:00pm Contact - Les Hind

For more information and videos on the program please access: www.tennis4teens.com.au

Become a foster carer

A little of your time can change an entire life

Attend an info session

Thu 25 Feb 6.30pm: online via Zoom

Thu 4 Mar 6.30pm: 110 Wyndham St, Shepparton

Email hume FosterCare@berrystreet.org.au to register

We need more foster carers in our community. If you are over 21, have a spare bedroom and can provide a safe, nurturing home environment - we would love to hear from you.

As a foster carer, you could make a huge difference to a child or young person in need.

For more information please call 03 5822 8100 or visit berrystreet.org.au

BERRY STREET



FRIDAY NIGHTS | 6.00PM
12TH FEB TO 26TH MARCH

BROADFORD T-BALL
\$2 PER CHILD • PER SESSION

Boys & Girls
Ages
5-10

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED • NO SIGN UPS!
JUST TURN UP AND HAVE SOME FUN!

Contact: Kristy - 0408 350 616



EVERY DAY COUNTS

SAME-DAY NOTIFICATION OF UNEXPLAINED STUDENT ABSENCES

FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS/CARERS

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify their school as soon as possible **on the day of absence** using one of the following methods:

1. **Online:** log the absence directly using Compass School Manager - <http://seymourcollege-vic.compass.education> Contact the general office if you require your parent/carer account password.
2. **Telephone:** the school office on 03 5771 1300 and let the staff know your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.
3. **Email:** the school at Seymour.co@edumail.vic.gov.au and provide the staff with your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.
4. **Reply SMS:** Access the one-time link from a Compass SMS to enter details of the absence. SMS messages are sent at 10:30am and 3:30pm.

Notifying the school of your child's absence either prior to, or on the day that they will be away, helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and will fulfil your legal responsibility.

Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?

Schools need to know when and why a child is absent and you need to know if your child isn't at school.

From the end of Term 2 2018, all Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

This system also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

What is your responsibility?

You are legally required to ensure your child attends school every day or you must provide an explanation for their absence. You should let the school know in advance of any upcoming absences or let them know in the morning if your child won't be at school. In order for schools to implement the same day notification requirement, it's essential that you provide the school with your most up-to-date contact details.

Generally one notification will be sent per family. Should there be circumstances that require both parents and carers to be notified, please contact the school to make the necessary arrangements.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

What is the school's responsibility?

The school must notify you of an unexplained absence in relation to your child as soon as practicable on the same day.

Seymour College will let you know through Compass SMS, and in the Compass Parent Portal. If you can't be reached because the school does not have your correct contact details (i.e. changed phone number, SMS/email failure notification received etc.), the school will attempt to make contact with any emergency contact/s nominated on your child's file held by the school. Where possible, this contact will be made on the same day of the unexplained absence.

Where can I learn more about the process for managing student absences?

A copy of the *Attendance Policy* which outlines the school's processes and procedures for monitoring, recording and following-up of student absences can be found on the Seymour College website at www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au under About Us: College Policies.

BALANCING LOVE & DISCIPLINE

It is very common these days for fathers to be taking a much more active role in family life. Mothers are also finding that there are more demands on their time from a financial point of view. Fathers who find themselves more involved in the parenting part of family life may also find themselves wishing for more options for dealing with the day to day issues that arise in the home.

This course is suitable for all parents who would like to meet with others to explore ways to increase their options in dealing with the various issues that parents experience while supporting and nurturing their partners and children of all ages.

Some of the topics that have been helpful in previous groups include:

- Communication
- Teaching life skills
- Issues of discipline
- What is normal for kids?
- Confronting unacceptable behaviour
- How to help your child when they are anxious, angry or upset

Discovering that others are experiencing problems almost identical to your own somehow seems to lighten your load.

Helpful, done it twice and taken away different strategies each time

8 SESSION COURSE

Tuesday 16 February til 30 March 2021

10am-12:30pm or 5:30pm-8pm

FamilyCare offices, 64 High St, Seymour

NO COST

New participants welcome up to session 4 for information or to book call 0357 354 600

Group will be run in line with current COVID guidelines





APPLY ONLINE

The Air Force Cadets are now RECRUITING!

FROM 01 OCTOBER 2020
TO 31 MARCH 2021

airforcecadets.gov.au

#airforcecadets

The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) is a youth oriented organisation that is administered and actively supported by the Royal Australian Air Force. The AAFC will teach you valuable life skills and will help you develop qualities including leadership, self-reliance, confidence, teamwork and communication. Some activities undertaken by the AAFC include flying, fieldcraft, adventure training, firearms safety training, drill and ceremonial, service knowledge, aeromodelling, navigation and gliding.

419SQN Shepparton will hold a virtual information night on Saturday 27 February 2021. To register your interest or to receive a virtual information pack please contact co.419sqn@airforcecadets.gov.au 0481111305.

To be eligible to enrol you must be between 12 -15.