

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION "Lest we forget"

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 14th May

Parents & Friends meeting
9:30am

Monday 24th May

Year 10 Immunisations

Tuesday 25th May

Round Robin
Years 7 - 12

Mon 7th - Wed 9th June

Phillip Island Camp
Grades 5/6

Mon 21st & Tues 22nd June

Parent/ Teacher Interviews



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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy two weeks of learning since our last newsletter.

The full college Anzac Day ceremony held on Friday 23rd April was a respectful event which involved many student leaders and representatives laying wreaths, reading poems and reading reflections to all students and staff. My thanks to all staff who contributed to this successful event and Mrs Carroll-Keays for her work in organising the ceremony.

Our senior students have started their new units of study and also had visits by external presenters to further embed their understanding of the VCE requirements and the importance of study habits. Legal students had first hand discussions with a Supreme Court Judge this week as well as meeting with a newly appointed Queen's Counsel. These initiatives have the purpose of inspiring students to consider the opportunities that they could undertake with their future studies.

It is the season for Cross Country events and two events have been completed. The Year 5/6 students completed their course on the senior oval and secondary students travelled to Light Horse Park. Some students also honed their language skills by participating in the Spanish Film Festival this week.

Our dedicated staff have been focused on teaching so that student's learning outcomes increase. Some students are accessing tutors so that they have the opportunity to catch up on any concepts that they may have had difficulties learning during the Covid-19 remote learning period. It is important, as always, to ensure that your child/ren attend school (unless they are ill and you have informed the office or marked this on the Compass Portal). All students need to be in class to learn.

Reports are currently being written by teachers and parent/teacher interviews will occur in the last week of this term, Monday 21st June from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm and Tuesday 22nd June from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will undertake the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (known as NAPLAN). It is essential that if your child is in these year levels they be in attendance on these days. If you do not wish your child to sit the test and have not contacted the school, please contact Mrs Watson on 57711300 as soon as possible.

Mitchell Shire kindergartens are open for enrolments for 2022. If you have a child starting kindergarten next year or know of someone who will, please pop into the Seymour Family and Children's Centre (located on the school grounds in Stewart Street) and talk to the relevant staff.

Thank-you to our current families and welcome to our prospective families for 2022 who attended our Information Night yesterday. It was an opportunity to showcase and explain all that the college has to offer from the first year of primary school to the last year of secondary school.

Special thoughts and best wishes to our wonderful mothers who will be celebrated this Sunday. My thanks to our dedicated band of parents and carers who will provide the Mothers' Day stall for students' tomorrow morning.

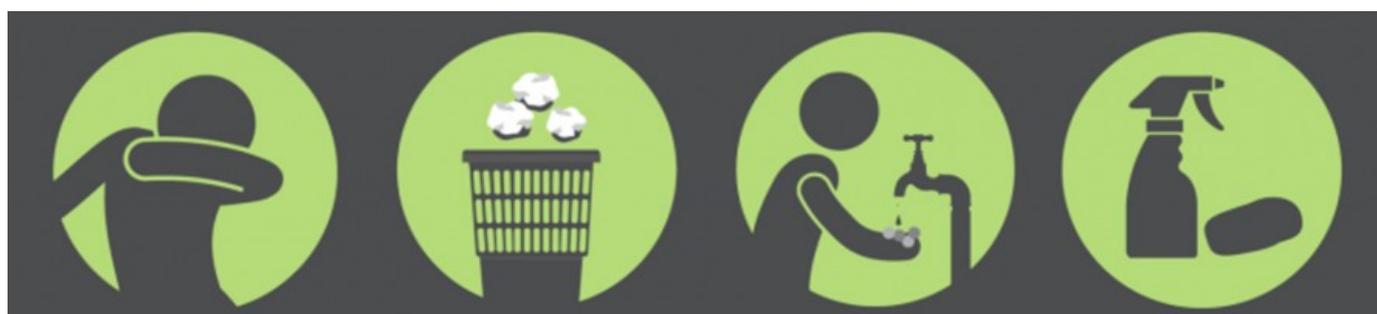
Stay safe.

Gail Hardman - Executive Principal

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

At Seymour College:

“ I make good choices ”



Careers News

Events: Seymour College VCE students are attending the Assumption College Careers Expo this week (Friday 7th May). All of the Victorian universities and a number of TAFEs will be available for students to speak with along with representatives from Independent Tertiary Colleges and industries including Victoria Police, other emergency services and the ADF.

Year 9 and 10 Careers Quick Meet – Careers version of speed dating. The Central Ranges Local Learning and Employment Network (CRLLEN) will be hosting a Careers Quick Meet event for our Year 9 and 10 students on Tuesday 18th May in our Community Arts Centre. Approximately 15 different local industries and businesses will be represented. Students will be placed into small groups and have the opportunity to learn about the skills involved and qualifications needed for each of these industries. It will also be an opportunity for students to introduce themselves to potential employers.

Year 10 Work Experience: This year students will not be allocated one specific week to do their work experience, but will have the opportunity to complete a placement if they would like to and when they are ready. Some Year 10s have already taken up this opportunity. A briefing session will be held at school within the next two weeks to explain how to go about arranging work experience. When students find a suitable employer, they can then get the essential forms signed and arrange a start date with their employer and Sophie Jones, the Year 10 Coordinator. Seymour College staff do not do the work experience arrangements, but I will assist where possible if students want to do a placement and are struggling to find a suitable employer.



Year 9 Morrisby Online. As has been the case for the last two years, our 2021 Year 9 students are encouraged to complete the Morrisby Online careers analysis. To be a part of this, students need to have parent consent and then complete the Morrisby Online Assessment. A detailed report is then generated which provides each student with feedback as to their aptitudes, interests, workstyle, personality and then provides career suggestions. An external Careers Counsellor will then meet with each student (parents are also welcome) and discuss the assessment results. The online tests will be held on the in the week commencing Monday 31st May. The counselling sessions will commence after Monday 2nd August.

Jeremy Linton - Careers and Pathways Coordinator

Industry Champions

On March 29th, the Department of Education held an Industry Champions Event at the Glasshouse in Melbourne, for industries that have been supportive of school students. It was a day to reflect on the value of strong local partnerships between education providers and a variety of industries. Ventia was recognised as part of this event for their industry partnership with Seymour College and other education providers in Seymour. Ventia operates across diverse industries, including property and facilities management, hospitality, transport, utilities and mining and chemical processing and hydrocarbons. Their client at Puckapunyal is the ADF.



Miranda McCulloch, a student from Seymour College VCAL, was invited to speak at the gathering of 350 local industry and education leaders. Miranda was the recipient of a Ventia Sponsored Award and Scholarship 2020. Miranda's first public speaking engagement was a little daunting, however she was excited to be on a live feed and included in such an important event on value of workplace learning and she plans to put her scholarship funds to good use. In the future, Miranda plans to finish Year 12 and pathway to William Angliss to study Hospitality and Tourism.

Stars of the Week



Dear Families,

We will continue to hold our Friday assemblies in the Community Arts Centre this term. We are now delighted to be able to invite families to attend assembly with us, however we must follow the Department of Education and Training COVID safe guidelines. This includes signing in for contact tracing purposes – a table and sign in sheet will be in the foyer, and ensuring we socially distance – which will require people from different households leaving a spare seat between families. We thank you in advance for following these processes so that we can have families attending.

Kind regards,

Sue Watson - Assistant Principal



Seymour College is participating in the Mobilemuster challenge for schools. Prizes will be awarded to the top three collecting schools in each state.

The challenge starts NOW and ends on the 30th June. We are asking everyone to search their homes, garages and sheds for any old mobile phones and accessories (chargers, headphones etc) and help our school to recycle the most mobilephones in Victoria! There is an estimated 5 million old or broken mobile phones going to waste across Australia.

There will be a collection box at the school office. Let's help our school make a big difference.

Child Safety Standards – we are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This is our primary focus of our care and decision-making. Seymour College community has zero tolerance for child abuse.

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.

Inclusive Education

When days are cold and gloomy the warm smiles of our Inclusive Education students brighten our day. During each lesson, the students are encouraged to reflect on their learning. In some of our rooms this could be through smiles, laughs or vocalisations. In other rooms reflections can be goal making, reading work to others, or providing an opinion on what was learned. Sometimes students choose not to attend to tasks that they deem tricky; staff support these individuals by breaking tasks into achievable chunks. Our teachers incorporate the student's favourite items, subjects, and characters into the lesson to capture the attention of the learners.

Racheal Broughton - Assistant Principal



Queens Counsel visits Year 11 & 12 Legal Studies

Recently Year 11 & 12 Legal Studies were visited by Patrick Wheelan QC, a Barrister who operates mainly in the Supreme court. He has been given the title of Queens Counsel (QC), a title given by the Governor General acting under the queen meaning he is a Senior Counsel. He gave an overview of the current year 12 course of Civil Law and how it relates to his career. He also gave an insight of what life is like as a Barrister and the possibility of student careers in Law. We had the opportunity to ask questions and he gave many wonderful answers. We also had the opportunity to try on his

Barrister Robes, which was taken up by multiple students. As he is a Senior Counsel, his robes are

made of silk to show his status in the court.

Seymour College students are incredibly lucky to have been given this opportunity, and are exceedingly grateful for his visit.

by Elizabeth Harmes





The F12C & D enjoying their AFL AUSKICK session



Year 9 NAPLAN certificates of achievement

A new feature of the NAPLAN assessment is being launched this year, with the award of Year 9 Certificates of Achievement.

The new certificates aim to celebrate and recognise the importance of both excellence and learning growth.

Beginning in 2021, Year 9 students who achieve outstanding results or who significantly improve their results in NAPLAN tests will receive a NAPLAN Certificate of Achievement.

The certificates will be awarded for two categories of achievement:

- Category one: the achievement of excellence through getting a result in the top band for reading or numeracy, or both.
- Category two: the achievement of outstanding learning growth through improve by two or more bands between the NAPLAN Year 7 and Year 9 tests for reading or numeracy, or both.

For more information about the new certificate and measures for learning growth, refer to [Year 9 NAPLAN certificates of achievement](#) on the Department's website.

Face masks

Face masks continue to be one of the most important ways we can help slow the spread of COVID-19 in the community. To ensure public health directions are being followed, students aged 12 years and over **must** wear a face mask when on public transport, school buses and when in taxis or ride share vehicles – unless they have a [lawful exemption](#).

Face masks continue to be **recommended** for visitors and secondary school students when physical distancing cannot be maintained at school.

Children aged 12 and over who are attending primary school do not need to wear a face mask at school.



Cyber Safety:

What does Cyberbullying look like?

Cyberbullying behaviour might include:

- abusive texts and emails
- hurtful messages, images or videos
- imitating others online
- excluding others online
- humiliating others online
- spreading nasty online gossip and chat
- creating fake accounts to trick someone or humiliate them

How common is it?

- In the 12 months to June 2017:
- 1 in 5 Australian young people reported being socially excluded, threatened or abused online
- 55% sought help from their parents, 28% from their friends; 38% blocked the offending social media account; 12% reported it to the website or platform
- 1 in 5 Australian young people (15% of kids, 24% of teens) admitted behaving in a negative way to a peer online — such as calling them names, deliberately excluding them, or spreading lies or rumours. Of these, more than 90% had had a negative online experience themselves.

Statistics provided from eSafety Commissioner website:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/cyberbullying>

What can I do?

For advice we recommend that Parents go the eSafety Commissioners website:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/big-issues/cyberbullying>

This website has information and advice for young people and parents:

- Cyberbullying
- Be an Upstander – not a bystander
- Good habits start young

Signs to watch for

Young people may not always tell their parents or who they live with, concerns about cyberbullying.

Signs that the Young Person may be experiencing issues on-line are:

- being upset after using the internet or their mobile phone
- changes in personality, becoming more withdrawn, anxious, sad or angry
- appearing more lonely or distressed
- unexpected changes in friendship groups
- a decline in their school work

- changes in their sleep patterns
- avoidance of school or clubs
- a decline in their physical health
- becoming secretive about their online activities and mobile phone use

What is Seymour College doing to support Students and Families?

Schools and teachers play a vital role in promoting the social and emotional development and wellbeing of Australian children and young people. This includes protecting students from cyberbullying and giving them the skills to deal with bullying experiences.

Our school is providing students with access to safety programs supported by Victoria Police and the school nurse. The Victoria Police Youth Resource Officer will be presenting a program this year called 'ThinkUKnow', which will include cyberbullying education.

Our School would recommend if Students are experiencing issues during school time via the learning platforms to report this to their classroom teacher or their Home Room Teacher. If issues are occurring via social media, Seymour College would suggest Families speak to Victoria Police or go the eSafety Commissioner website where you can make a complaint about cyberbullying. The eSafety Commissioner can take action to get serious cyberbullying material removed, and provide advice, support and assistance. Please see the link to: eSafety Commissioner Website: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/report/cyberbullying>

Students requiring additional support can access the Wellbeing team at our school. Students and Families can self refer by contacting the school or can be referred by their Classroom Teacher or Home Room Teacher.

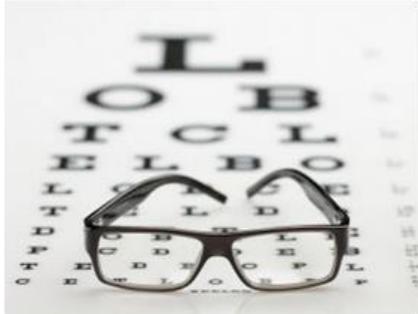
For additional support Seymour College and the eSafety Commissioner advise Families and Students access:

Kids Helpline

Aimed for Students aged: 5 to 25 year olds. All issues. Confidential phone counselling available all day, every day. Online chat available 8am to 12am EST daily. Phone number: 1800 55 1800 and Online chat available: <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

Headspace

Aimed for Students aged 12 to 25 year olds. All issues. Phone counselling available all day, every day. Online chat available 9am to 1am EST daily. Phone Number: 1800 650 890 and online chat available: <https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/>



**GET YOUR
EYE'S TESTED
TODAY!**

OPTOMETRIST

is visiting Seymour

- Friday 21st May, 2021 -

This is a Closing the Gap initiative for
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
who have not had their eyes tested in the past year.

WHERE: Goranwarrabul House
(Corner of Callen & Bretonneux Streets, Seymour)

TIME: 9:30am *until* 4:15pm

Please bring your Medicare Care / Pension Card / Health Care Card
(*please note that non-concession card holders can attend too)

To make an appointment time please contact

Rebecca on: Mob. 0459 802 873
Email: rwelsh@taungurung.com.au

Variety Zoo Day



Save the Date!

Schools and families with children who are sick, disadvantaged or have additional needs are invited to attend our next inclusive Variety kids event.

Tuesday 22 June 2021

9am - 5pm all day access, with Variety activities from 10am - 2pm

Melbourne Zoo - Elliott Ave, Parkville VIC 3052

This is a **FREE** event. Registrations can be made from Tuesday 25 May 2021.



Activities on the day,
Variety Liberty Swing
and quiet
spaces



Proudly supported by

**MELBOURNE
ZOO**

