

Principal's Report

Term 1 continues to see students involved in many educational events and activities. There have been a number of sports activities, educational excursions and recently our eventful 'Pi for Pie day'.

Serving on College Council is a great opportunity as it allows members to support the school improve operations. The Department of Education made College Council student representation mandatory. As a result of last year's council elections, Betty Tadese will be an ongoing student member in 2020. A position has become available for another student representative to join School Council, hence all students across Sunshine College had the opportunity to self-nominate and be elected for the position. We have great pleasure in announcing Sarah McKenzie Itoh-Ramsay as the successful applicant, who will be able to voice students' views regarding matters that directly affect the future of the College.

As many of you are aware, Sunshine College operates the very successful Literacy and Maths Futures Programs which are continuously refined to optimise student performance. Our teachers continue to partake in professional development workshops delivered by many professionals across Victoria, interstate and overseas. To date, professionals from approximately 100 institutions have visited our school and observed classes to learn more about our programs and offer strategies aimed at improving our students' academic performance.

Our SunLit program has been improving the literacy levels of all students. Many students improve their reading proficiency by at least two levels for every year of study in the program. All students are tested and placed in an appropriate literacy stream.

Our Maths Futures program is just as successful. Students performing at high levels in Mathematics, are able to work on enrichment programs, while students requiring extra support are assisted to improve their numeracy skills. We have a number of students in Years 8, 9 and 10 undertaking VCE Maths Methods.

Furthermore, Sunshine College is an inclusive school, where diversity is valued and welcomed. At our school, students with a linguistic background other than English receive additional support, which in later years allows them to be high achievers. To ensure our students achieve this, we constantly refine our curriculum and delivery practices. We are therefore proud to announce that Sunshine College staff are currently working towards delivering a new, guaranteed and research-based curriculum for our EAL students that target the following skills: reading, listening, speaking, writing and using grammar in context. This new curriculum was designed with our EAL students' needs in mind, by celebrating their cultures and by helping them become proud and high achieving Australians. Learning to live successfully with two or more different cultural identities and become successful in life through their literacy skills are at the core of our curriculum.

We make every effort to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students. Therefore, students are currently completing an anonymous Well Being Survey to help identify potential bullies. This is part of our school's proactive approach to identify bullies and deal with issues, thus helping to eliminate bullying and reinforce our College Policy of 'Zero Tolerance to Bullying'.

Finally, in addition to the great programs operating at our college, new facilities are near completion, which will further increase our expectations regarding student achievements. Parents and guardians are invited to stay informed of all that is happening at Sunshine College and to keep up to date with our new building status, by visiting our [Facebook page](#).

Maria Agapiou
Campus Principal
Sunshine College Ardeer Campus



Keep up to date with Sunshine College news by liking and following our Facebook page:

[facebook.com/sunshinecollegevic](https://www.facebook.com/sunshinecollegevic)



Compass Parent Portal

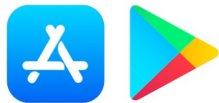
The Sunshine College Compass Parent Portal is an extensive management and communication system, which enables you to keep informed about news and events within the school. At the moment while we introduce this new system, we are only trialling some of the features available to us on this secure online platform.

The features open to you at the moment are:

- Viewing and downloading of reports
- Viewing your child's attendance
- Ability to update your contact details
- Viewing your child's timetable
- Notifications on camps and excursions
- Viewing School Calendar and Newsletter
- News Feed items; there will be some items to view as soon as you log in

To access the Parent Portal via a computer, please visit: <https://sunshine-vic.compass.education>

Alternatively, to be able to access the Parent Portal via any smart device, please go to either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store and install the Compass School Manager app.



On your first sign in, enter "Sunshine College" in school name.

You should receive a letter in the mail by Friday 20th March with log in details. You will be able to change your default password once logged in. Please keep this form in a secure and safe location for future reference.

As with all new systems, if you are experiencing any issues or have any questions, please contact the school's office and we will be more than happy to help you.



Students lining up to recite as many pi digits as they can for a free pie

Pie for π Day

To celebrate International Pi for Pie day, Sunshine College will be holding their inaugural Pi for Pie Day celebration this Thursday 12th March for North students and Friday 13th March for Ardeer students during lunch time. Students will be challenged to give their brain a workout and see how many digits of Pi they can remember! Pi is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter and is celebrated on March 14 as the number begins with 3.14. The number itself has no pattern or repeating sections of numbers and is very difficult to remember.

The teachers are always stunned by the number of students who can manage this feat and the determination of those who strive to recite many digits. Any students who can remember 20 digits of Pi (π) will be awarded with a pie for lunch at a later date! We are looking for campus champions who can remember the most digits of Pi! Students can find their maths teachers for more information. Who will win this year's trophy?

Ms Emmie Keung
Campus Numeracy Leader

Deakin University Year 10 Excursion

Last week all of the Year 10 students attended Deakin University as part of their Pathways program to get an idea of what university life is like. It was an insightful experience which allowed students to get more information and ideas as to what they may wish to study or be employed as in the future.

In the morning, students were given a tour of Deakin University's Geelong Warrn Ponds Campus, which has modern, impressive facilities for all areas of study. On campus, students have everything they need; from accommodation to book shops and merchandise stores, a hair salon, an accredited medical centre with on-campus doctors and nurses, counselling services, a disability resource centre and 24-hour study spaces for students.

Deakin University students assisted us during the day with information about university life, their studies and the set workshop activities which included the following curricular areas: law, engineering, occupational therapy and nursing. Out of those four, students could pick two workshops for the morning session and two for the afternoon session. It was a really good day and students learnt a lot.

Year 10 Student

Western Chances Scholarship Award Ceremony

The Western Chances Scholarship Award Ceremony will be held at Deakin Edge, Federation Square, on Wednesday 18 March from 6.00pm onwards. We are delighted to announce the Hon Julia Gillard will be presenting at the ceremony.

The Hon Julia Gillard will be speaking about the significance of these scholarships and the opportunities they can provide to scholarship recipients.

Ms Tassigiannakis has supported many students with scholarships. Ms Tassigiannakis, some of our school's Western Chances scholarship recipients and other staff will be attending this ceremony. We thank Ms Tassigiannakis for her ongoing work and her assistance to families in regards to this initiative.



Year 10 students at the Deakin University excursion



Student Voice and Leadership

We are delighted to announce the 2020 student leaders and we thank Mr Kristian Raspa for supporting this talented young group of students. So far, student leaders have assisted with the New Families BBQ and they are currently organising Harmony Day activities. We congratulate the following students who will be the 'voice' of our school and will continue to be involved in initiatives to enhance our school's culture and environment.

<i>House Captains</i>
Yellow Captains
Kim Nguyen Francisca Romero Chodiman
Green Captains
Allyza Catapang Jet Loi Quach
Blue Captains
Lillian Keeping Isaac Ahenkora
Red Captains
Lawmte Niang Biak Lawm Selen Ramadan

<i>2020 Student Representative Council</i>	
7A	Surosh Mayan & Blessing Harris
7B	Arif Hussaini & Bemnet Yalew
7C	Bethany Reupena & Cenk Meral
7D	Tyrese Polutele-Garrigos & Benjolan Tunui
7E	Alexander Cameron & Michael Kidane
7F	Kennedy Malloy & Yusuf Yerlitas
8A	Amir Hasani & Amjed Osman
8B	Annika Catapang & Awais Ali
8C	Hezekiah Fifita & Elizabeth Son
8D	Teanna Nguyen
8E	Peter Pham & Lidia Bacic
8F	Tahlia August & Brodie Homersham
9A	Ali Hassab & Sarah Tang
9B	Zahra Shirinia & Jaime Jago
9C	Isabelle Nguyen & Sebastian Foliaki
9D	Yianna Lascaris & Sara Banjanin
9F	Alyssa Phillips & Helen Yemata
10A	Allyza Catapang & Hamed Hassab
10B	Lawmte Niang Biak & Cicillia Deng
10C	Kolove Katoanga & Lillian Keeping
10D	Kim Nguyen & Eve Ciancio
10E	Nadine (Jane) David & Simon Barbara



Student Surveys

Next term, your child will be involved in a student survey, which is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. The Attitudes to School survey is an annual survey for Years 5 to 12 students offered by the Department of Education.

Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's experience at school. All responses to the survey are anonymous. The survey takes approximately 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time. You are welcome to contact your child's home room teacher if you have any queries.

Sports News

Volleyball

On the 2nd March, the boys and girls Intermediate volleyball teams represented the College in the Keilor Division Volleyball Competition. Both teams performed extremely well and showcased their amazing talent and teamwork on the day which resulted in some extremely close games which were fantastic to watch.

The year 9/10 girls had the closest taste of victory, winning all of their games in straight sets to take them to the grand final on the day but unfortunately lost to Copperfield College at the last hurdle. Congratulations to all students involved on the day!

Other sports this term: Keilor Division Swimming Competition.

Ms Maree Papanthassiou
College Sports Leader



Lateness & Absences

Parents and guardians are reminded that it is a legal requirement for students to attend school until a certain age. All students should be at school by **8:40am** each day. If a student is late to school, a note explaining lateness is required on arrival. If a child is absent from school, a phone call to the school on the day of absence, or a note/medical certificate is also required. Students, who are not in class by 8:50am each day and do not have a valid explanation, will be given detention. If lateness or absenteeism continues, parents/guardians will be requested to meet with school staff to discuss this matter.

Energy Drinks

We hope parents and guardians can support us in encouraging students to develop healthy eating habits. This includes asking your children not to consume energy drinks such as 'V', 'Red Bull', etc. Energy drinks contain high levels of caffeine and sugar which are detrimental to students' health and wellbeing, causing them to become hyperactive, feel ill, hinder their performance in classes and, or affect their sleeping pattern. We thank you for your understanding regarding this matter.

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund

Parents are reminded that if you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for the CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and extracurricular activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between students' backgrounds and their achievements. The annual CSEF amount per student is \$225 for secondary school students. To apply, contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the CSEF website. Applications close shortly.

Harmony Day

On Friday 27th March we will be celebrating Harmony Day. Harmony Day is a celebration of diversity, differences and cultural awareness which promotes the idea that everyone belongs. On this day, students will wear an orange accessory with their college uniform and will participate in a number of activities relating to this day.



Protect yourself and your family

Wash your hands regularly

-  **1** Wet your hands.
-  **2** Put soap on your hands.
-  **3** Rub the soap over all parts of your hands for at least 20 seconds.
-  **4** Rinse your hands under running water.
-  **5** Dry your hands thoroughly with disposable paper towel or hand dryer.

Stay germ free and healthy

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Protect yourself and your family

Cover your cough and sneeze

-  **1** **COVER** your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
-  **2** Put your used tissue in the rubbish **BIN**.
-  **3** If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, **NOT YOUR HANDS**.
-  **4** **WASH** your hands with soap and running water. Dry your hands thoroughly with a disposable paper towel or hand dryer.

Stay germ free and healthy

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Haven't had your eyes tested in a while?

According to the **Optometry Association of Australia**, every person should get their eyes checked at least once every two years.

Full eye tests will be conducted at **Sunshine College – Ardeer/West Campus**

At least **1 in every 6** students have vision issues that go undetected.

Typical symptoms that go undetected are **quick loss of concentration, reading avoidance, blurry vision, tired eyes and headaches.**

All students are given a detailed report at the end of their eye tests.

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/FXYKfWz9aeJ2qW64A>

Don't miss out

For more info, please visit www.studenteyecare.com.au

(03) 8644 7012

Dates to Remember	
Wednesday 18 March	Western Chances Scholarship Award Ceremony— Deakin Edge at Federation Square
Friday 20 March	Staff Professional Practice Day—Year 9 & 10 students are not required at school
Monday 23 March	Staff Professional Practice Day—Year 7 & 8 students are not required at school
Thursday 26 March	Students dismissed at 2.40pm
Friday 27 March	Harmony Day Celebration
Friday 27 March	Last day of Term 1—Students dismissed at 2.40pm



Child Safety

Our community values of **Growth, Relationships, Learning and Wellbeing** are underpinned by an understanding that **Child Safety** is a paramount responsibility of the school community. Sunshine College has a number of guiding **policies** regarding **Child Safety** on our web site located at www.sunshine.vic.edu.au

Please take some time to make yourself aware of these and contact the school should you have any concerns regarding **Child Safety**.



Contact

Phone: (03) 9361 9000

Ardeer Campus: Corner of Glengala Road & Allison Street, Ardeer VIC 3022

sunshine.vic.edu.au