

## Welcome to the Term 1 Newsletter for 2020

The beginning of each new school year marks the point where everyone can make a fresh start on succeeding with their education. The Senior Campus offers a fresh start for all students and especially for some Year 10 students undertaking Year 11 subjects, Maths & Psychology, as part of the accelerated program.

We also welcome our new International Students cohort. We now have over 50 International students enrolled across the college. Our school provides students with a stimulating, academic, diverse and supportive environment to study in and new place to belong to.

Students are supported by a number of key personnel, Wellbeing Leaders, Pastoral Care teachers and specialist. The teaching focus at the Senior Campus is all about preparing students for higher education, the world of work and life-long learning.

Our continuing students coming into Year 12 will be our School Leaders and we will look to them to maintain and exceed the very high standard of achievements set by students in 2019.

I look forward to meeting our new students and to observing our students experiencing positive progress in 2020. I hope that every student enrolled will fully utilise the opportunities available to them at the Senior Campus and in the education pathways that are presented.

Last but not least congratulations to the 2019 Sunshine College High Achievers. Once again our students excelled in their studies and the majority of students have been secured university /TAFE places.



**Mona Raghdo**  
Senior Campus Principal



Congratulations to the 2019 High Achievers (L-R): Phuong Ivy Lam (Dux), Daniel Pham, Tri Nguyen, Yi Chen



Our alumni scholarship recipients with the Class of '63 representatives (L-R): Zbigniew, Teresa, Kascy, Rosie and Graham



College Dux of Sunshine College 2019, Phoung Lam and College Principal Mr Blunt

### Upcoming Events

**Year 11 Mid Term Testing:** All Year 11 VCE students will undertake Mid-term Tests. These tests will be scheduled in week 7 from March 10 to March 12, 2020. The results of these tests will be included on the End of Term 1 Interim report.

**Term 1 Interim Reports:** Interim Reports for All Year 11 and Year 12 students will be issued on Wednesday March 25, 2020 from 3.00pm to 6.30pm. Senior students will have an early dismissal on this day, 12.45pm, in order to allow staff to prepare for reports distribution.

**Excursions:** Year 11 & 12 Biology and Chemistry students will be visiting ECOLINC where they will complete related practical activities. These excursions are compulsory and all students must attend in order to complete the assessment. Other subjects such as the Arts will also be undertaking practical activities at the Australian Centre for Moving Image Melbourne Museum.

*Note: Students without appropriate parental/carer's consent on the provided consent form cannot be included in any excursions.*

**Pastoral Care Program:** will focus on wellbeing, anti-bullying and respectful relationships as well as study skills.

**Students Engagement and Wellbeing Leaders** will keep you informed of all upcoming events and activities in their columns.

### Student Welfare

A big welcome to all students and parents this term. The Student Welfare Office is located in the Ferguson Building (bottom on the stairs). **Miss Anna Gatto-Turcarolo** is available Monday to Friday to evaluate and assist students in obtaining their uniforms via state relief. Some assistance with textbooks is also available for Term 1 only. Free eye tests covered through Medicare will also be available. Please see flyer in newsletter.

Any student experiencing stress and anxiety issues, or need to talk, Miss Anna can provide emotional and social support and refer to the appropriate services if needed in a safe and supportive environment.



**Anna can be contacted on:**  
**8311 5233**  
**[gatto-turcarolo.anna.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:gatto-turcarolo.anna.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)**

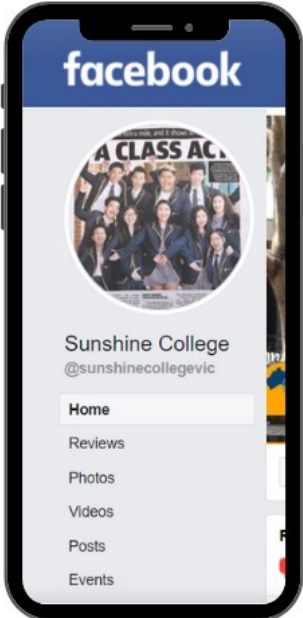
**COMPASS:** Sunshine College is introducing a new student Management tool, COMPASS. This is currently in the implementation stage and will be rolled out to parents/carers during Term 1. Students, parents / Carers will be able to access information including student timetable, notices from teachers, excursions information, activities, attendance records permission notes, parent teacher interview booking facilities and contact details for staff at the college. We hope this will improve communication with parents and give parents / carers the opportunity to keep up to date with student progress.

**Mobile Phones:** In accordance with new DET policy, the use of Mobile phones during school hours is not permitted. Late in term 4, 2019 all Senior students were involved in extensive consultation as part of the policy development process. At the present time Senior campus students are required to hand in their mobile phones to front office upon entering school grounds. Phones are kept safely in the front office for the day.

It is worth noting the majority of students have been extremely co-operative and supportive of the current process and there's been noticeable improvement in outdoor activities, communication and the general interaction between students during break time and no distraction during class time. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

To keep up to date with news at Sunshine College, like and follow our Facebook page:

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



### Year 11 News

Welcome to Year 11 students, parents and caregivers. I look forward to meeting with you at our first report issue this term. In the meantime, I thought it would be useful to share our progress at Senior regarding attendance.

At the end of 2019, our senior school attendance was identified as an area that required improvement. To this end, all Year 12s participated in workshops to help us develop a new Attendance Policy. The policy, in line with department guidelines, was the focus of a Monday assembly and pastoral care time.

Essentially, the students have identified that we should have 100% attendance as our goal. Further, students identified that sickness should be expected but not impact on attendance more than 5%. Therefore, we are encouraging all students to attend school everyday.

When students are sick, a family member or guardian should contact the school to let us know. Notes are required if a phone call is impractical.

Students must catch up all missed work by communicating with their teachers and take responsibility for this. Students are also encouraged to seek help if it is required.

As part of this draft policy, the college will contact home by phone or a letter or both and students may be given a lunchtime detention, afterschool detention or other consequences for unapproved absences.

I would like to thank the many parents and caregivers who have written notes and called the college about attendance. Your support to your student and our college by attempting to make appointments out-of-school hours is important and appreciated.



**Mrs Papageorge**  
*Year 11 Student Engagement  
and Wellbeing Coordinator*

### Year 12 News

In 2019, Sunshine College had its greatest VCE results ever, obtaining a Study Score average of 29.1. This academic success is credit to the hard work put in by students over the year and the dedication of their teachers. As impressive as last year's results were, at Sunshine College we value growth and are already looking to the future to see how we can better those results once again.

For the most part, it is up to our current crop of Year 12 students to rise to the challenge and continue building on the academic growth seen recently. However, as the old adage goes 'Rome wasn't built in a day', nor can academic success. Success starts now, in the creation of good study habits, paving the way for future success. Though this hurdle is seldom tackled alone and we wish to provide our students the support needed to taste success.

To help support our students there will be a strong focus on study skills and student well-being throughout Pastoral Care. To improve the study habits at Sunshine College, the school has contacted TSFX, a leading provider of high quality educational courses, to run a number of workshops targeting the study skills of students and exam preparation techniques. It is hoped, this will help give our students an extra edge and catapult our success.

The well-being of everyone that is part of the Sunshine community is of great importance to us. We want our school to be a supportive environment where mental health is discussed openly and positively. Year 12 is inherently stressful and as such it is important to be aware of your own mental health and that of those around you. I encourage all students and parents to be mindful of this and reach out for support whenever it is needed. The school has dedicated welfare staff, specifically for this purpose. We will also look to work with the school Psychologists, to implement stress management and mental health workshops.

This is an exciting time in the life of a student and I hope we can all work together and continue to build the profile and community of this school. I look forward to sharing the journey with you all.



**Jasper Wolfe**  
*Year 12 Student Engagement  
and Wellbeing Leader*



## Alternate Programme News

A warm welcome to all of our Alternate Programme families. By now, students are well in to their school studies, have just begun their VET programme, or enrolled in a school based traineeship (SBAT).

This year, Year 11 IGS and 1HS as well as Year 12 2GS, students were given the opportunity to choose an SBAT in retail, childcare or warehousing. At the same time the students will be immersing themselves in the world of work because they will be working one day per week. Our students could be placed in a variety of small and large enterprises such as Myer, Target, Big W or Coles.

All other Non SBAT students who are studying VET **must have found a Friday work placement by 28th February**. Please remember this is the condition upon enrolling at Sunshine College.

I cannot wait to visit all the students on work-placement (SBAT and VET). It is a positive and enjoyable experience for both myself and students alike, because I see a young person who is responsible and willing to learn new skills.

### First fundraising activity: Valentine Cupcakes

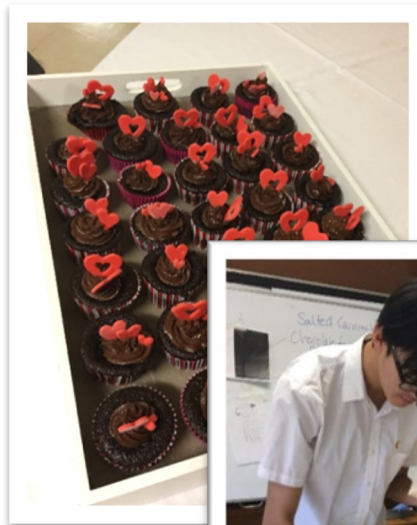
1HS students are the first class this year to plan and organise an activity. They thought of celebrating an early Valentine's Day treat for everyone. The planning and organising began with deliberating what flavour cupcake to make, followed with discussing pricing, packaging, advertising, when to make the cupcakes, food hygiene, setting up the stall, roles for each person and decorating the area.

Within the first 10 minutes of recess, all the cupcakes sold out. Chocolate mud cupcakes with frosted icing and red love hearts for decoration were a winner.

The year has just begun and I cannot wait to see what is going to develop throughout the year.



**Ms Alison Mitchinson**  
VCAL Student Engagement  
and Wellbeing Coordinator



## Managed Individual Pathways

### School-based traineeships

This year, over 30 students in Years 11 and 12 will be undertaking school-based traineeships (SBATs) in Retail and Early Childhood Education and Care.

These students will work in retail or child care on Tuesdays (Year 11) or Thursdays (Year 12). This allows them to gain valuable work-related skills while completing VCE or Alternate Pathways. They will also complete a Certificate III in either Retail Services or Early Childhood Education and Care. Classes for retail students will run on Fridays at the Senior Campus beginning 21st February. Classes for Child Care students will be on Fridays at TMG College in the city.

Three students are also undertaking SBATs in Warehousing through Mambourin in Derrimut. These students began their SBAT during the summer school holidays and are all progressing well.

### 2019 student destinations

Congratulations to the class of 2019. Most are continuing with their education, either at university or TAFE. These students have secured places at all of Melbourne's universities, including The University of Melbourne, Monash University, RMIT, Latrobe, Australian Catholic University and Victoria University. They will be studying courses including Business and Commerce, Engineering, Science, Information Technology and Nursing.



**Mr Gordon Cameron**  
College Pathways Leader

## VET News

It's been a hectic start in terms of enrolments and Vocational Education and Training (VET) at the Senior Campus.

2020 has seen a surge in enrolments, it seems Sunshine College has become a school of choice. To date the Senior Campus has had 25 applications to enrol and 19 of these have been accepted. Most students have enrolled in our Year 11 VCE course with three into Year 12 VCE and 2 into our Building Individual Pathways program.

Our enrolments in VET have changed in response to our changed programs for our Year 11 students. The change to a VCE pass program from our previous VCAL course has seen a lot of these students take up a school based apprenticeship or traineeship (SBAT) in place of a VET program.

Popular VET programs for Sunshine College students in 2020 include:

- Plumbing
- Allied Health
- Kitchen Operations
- Building and Construction
- Automotive
- Beauty
- Business



**Peter Gittins**  
Senior Campus Manager



### 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](http://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**.





student eyecare



# Free Eye Tests

Covered through Medicare

## 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 – Senior 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/H8VZaBaMmYAtyJqY6>

## Don't miss out

For more info, please visit [www.studenteyecare.com.au](http://www.studenteyecare.com.au)

(03) 8644 7012



**Sunshine College**

*Creating futures*

### Contact

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