

Principal's Report

As we begin the 2020 school year, I would like to welcome back all of our students, parents and the wider school community. We all look forward to a productive year ahead, with students, parents and teachers working together to improve the educational outcomes for all of our students.

A warm welcome is extended to all of our new Year 7 students who are starting secondary school for the first time. We hope you are settling in to your new surroundings and are making as many friends as possible.

Our Year 8 students need to consolidate on all the positive behaviours they exhibited whilst in year 7 in taking that next step.

Our year 9 students will take part in a City Centre Experience. They will spend one week in the city using it as their classroom. They will take part in the Advance Program linking them with their community. It is all designed to make them better life-long learners and to work on their teamwork, leadership and communication skills.

Our year 10 students will focus on the 'world of work' as part of their year 10 Pathways studies. This will equip them with the appropriate skills to start planning for the post compulsory years, whether it be in further education or the world of work.

Every student across Sunshine College has a subject called Pathways. At each year level it has a different focus:

Year 7 — Personal Development

Year 8 — Building Bridges

Year 9 — Connecting to the Community

Year 10 — World of Work



We believe in connecting students with the real world and the community they live in.

We will work hard to improve the teaching and the learning of all students and we seek your support and cooperation in helping us do this. I look forward to a great year.

Andrew Pittrakkou
Sunshine College
North Campus Principal



Pictured (from top): Our newest students in 7A, 7B and 7C.

Welcome to Sunshine College!



School Council

The serving on College Council is a great opportunity. It allows members to support the school in improving its operations and in advocating for the particular group they represent, across the whole of Sunshine College.

College Council meetings are held on the second level of the senior campus, corner of Graham Street and Derby Road. A light dinner is provided at 5:30pm with the meeting commencing at 6pm and depending on the nature of discussions concluding around 7:45pm. Meetings are scheduled mainly on Wednesdays. There is to be a minimum of 8 meetings a year during the school terms, occurring approximately once a month.

Parent Representation

If you are interested in being a part of the Sunshine College Council please contact Emily in the front office or Mr. Pittrakkou ASAP.

Student Representation — Nominations and Election

Students have an opportunity to nominate and be elected as a student representative to school council. Student nominations **open on February 10th and close at 4pm on February 17th. Voting will take place on March 6th.**

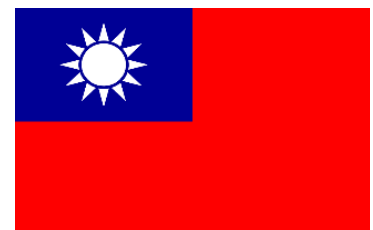
The Department of Education made it mandatory for there to be two student representatives on College Council. Betty Tadesse will be an ongoing student member in 2020 who was elected to council by her peers last year. Student members of College Council will need to organise their own transport to and from meetings and gain parental / guardian approval to join College Council. Agendas and minutes for meetings are sent via email. If there are more nominations for the one position, a ballot will be held to select the representative. Students in all year levels across all campuses (Senior, Ardeer, North) can nominate, but should a successful candidate be from Year 12 their term of office concludes at the end of the year, if they are not in year 12 their term of office is for two years.

Sunshine College Taiwanese Sister School

Sunshine College has established a sister-school relationship with Shiaying Junior High School in Taiwan. Sunshine College has visited Taiwan twice and they have visited Sunshine College four times. We have embraced the culture and education of a different country and found that we have many things in common.

In 2020 we are extremely pleased to welcome members from Shiayang Junior High School (our Sister School) in Taiwan who will be visiting Sunshine College in Term 3. They will be participating in classes with our students to experience schooling in Australia and to soak up some Australian culture. They are keen to participate and learn from our innovative Mathematics and Literacy programs.

Students and staff visited Shiaying Junior High School in 2019 where we explored the culture of Taiwan, sightseeing and visiting schools, spending time in a Taiwanese classrooms. It was a hugely successful visit and we were made to feel very welcome.



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



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

Peer Support

Peer Support classes will be starting soon. Our trained Year 10 Peer Support Leaders work with the Year 7 students and help them settle into Secondary School. Peer Support classes occur during Pathways. The Peer Support Leaders will also be assisting the delivery of Drug Education to Year 7 & 8 students throughout the year.

Sunshine College—North Campus

New Staff

We welcome some new staff members to the North Campus in 2020. Mr. Traficante, Ms. Scott and Ms. Contarino all join us as new teachers to the North Campus of Sunshine College. We also welcome back Ms. Bui, Mr. Lester and Ms. Mei. We welcome them all and wish them all the best.



Ms. Mei

Ms. Bui

Mr. Traficante

Ms. Scott

Ms. Contarino

Mr. Lester

Year 7 and New Students Getting to Know You BBQ

Tuesday 25th of Feb | 4.00pm to 6.00pm

On Tuesday the 25th of February, Year 7 students and new students to Sunshine College and their parents are invited to the North Campus Hall for a 'Getting to Know You BBQ'.

Parents are encouraged to turn up to meet other parents and to meet the 2020 teachers. We thank all parents in advance for their attendance and we hope that this is the start of a wonderful relationship between the school and you.

New Buildings

We have great programs already running at Sunshine College achieving outstanding results. Our current buildings are aged but the programs delivered are of the highest standard. With new facilities we will be able to deliver even greater outcomes using modern teaching facilities.

We are very excited that the construction of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Building at the North Campus is now complete and has been fully operational for the last 6 months. Our Gym/Hall has undergone a modernisation of facilities. The North Campus is part of a staged rebuilding program and has had the Preliminary Master Plan approved.



New STEM building now open



Sunshine College North Campus Preliminary Master Plan

School Ambassadors

As parents and students aligned to this school I would like all students and parents to be positive ambassadors for Sunshine College.

If you know we are doing a good job spread the news. Tell people what a great school your child attends and talk to others about the programs we offer. If you are not happy about any aspect please contact **Andrew Pitrakkou** directly.

Books and Uniform

A reminder to all parents and students, that school uniform should be worn every day. The uniform can only be purchased from the Senior Campus (Graham St. Sunshine) on Mondays between 3pm and 4pm and Thursdays between 2pm and 4pm or at **Double 'C' Jeanery** in Laverton.



Our students look fantastic in full uniform and are taking great pride in their appearance. The school council of Sunshine College has endorsed a College Uniform Policy which stipulates the standard of dress and appearance our students must display at all times. This has been sent home to you.

All students should have all of their text books at this stage. If any parent is experiencing difficulty obtaining these necessary items please contact **Ms. Hui**.

SunLit

The school runs a whole school approach to literacy. As a school we believe every child has room for improvement. All students are tested and placed in the appropriate literacy level. The SunLit (Sunshine Literacy) program is achieving great results.

The Sunshine College Literacy has received great recognition and praise from many schools and government departments from all over Australia. The State Government commissioned the production of a DVD to showcase the success of the program to other schools. Many teachers from schools throughout Australia have visited Sunshine College to view the program in operation.

Lateness and Absences

Parents and guardians are reminded that students should be at school before the commencement of period 1.

If a student is late to school a note explaining the lateness is required. If a child turns up late without a note and acceptable explanation a detention will be issued. Parents will be notified if the lateness persists.

If a child is absent from school a note or a phone message is required explaining the absence.

Helping Your Child

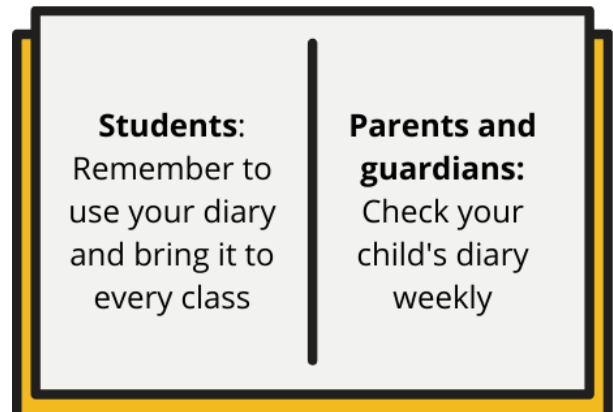
As parents you have an enormous role to play ensuring your child experiences success at school. Please check their diaries on a regular basis and use this as a communication tool between yourself and the teacher.

Insist that they do some form of homework each night even if they have told you that they have no set homework for the night.

Ask your child to read on a regular basis. Keeping up with the world current affairs and issues gives students an insight into the world they live in and interact and gives them that worldly knowledge.

Checking your child's work on a regular basis gives you a clear indication of where your child is currently at in regards to their academic performance.

As a school we will do all these things but we ask you to support us to create better learners. Valuing learning and education as a pathway to life must be encouraged at all times.



Pathways & Pastoral Care Teachers for 2020

Each class has been assigned a pastoral care teacher who will look after the social and educational development of each student. Please feel free to contact your child's pastoral care teacher with any concerns. Over the next few weeks pastoral care teachers will call parents to introduce themselves.

Your Pastoral Care Teachers will complete Pastoral Care Activities throughout the year with you and there may be various year level excursions. Your Pathways teacher is your Pastoral Care Teacher. Jenni Albrecht, our school nurse will also be running workshops with classes.

Class	Homeroom / Pathways Teacher	Assistant Homeroom Teacher
7A	Ms. STINGAS	Ms. D'AMBROSIO SCOTT
7B	Ms. HUI	Mr. STAVROU
7C	Ms. BUI	Ms. BARKER
8A	Ms. CONTARINO	Mr. LESTER
8B	Ms. MEI	Mr. TRAFICANTE
9A	Mr. NERI	Mr. QUINN
9B	Ms. KAUR	Ms. REID
10A	Ms. KYRIS	Mr. PITRAKKOU
10B	Ms. McMAHON	Mr. BARRETT

Year 7 Camp Sunnystones

Wednesday 25—Friday 27 March

Year 7 students will be going on a camp to Sunnystones near Bacchus Marsh. It will be a three day camp starting on Wednesday the 25th of March and finishing on Friday the 27th of March.

Students take part in team building exercises and will use it to build relationships as they get to know each other. Further details will be distributed in the coming weeks.



A previous Year 7 group enjoying archery at Sunny Stones

Asthma Management Plan & Anaphylaxis

Sunshine College is an Asthma Friendly School. All students with Asthma must hand in a copy of their up to date Asthma Management Plan to the office ASAP.

If your child is anaphylactic and requires special care, we require a Management Plan and an Epi-Pen to be kept at the front of the school. Please inform the school if your child has any other medical conditions.



Attendance at School

In Victoria, education is compulsory for children aged between 6 and 17. When children are enrolled, it is expected they will attend school every day of each term. Your child must attend school every day.

A poor pattern of attendance places students at risk of not achieving their educational, social and psychological potential and disadvantages them in the quality of choices they are able to make in later life situations.

Sunshine College, in consultation with representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development – Victoria, have developed an Attendance Policy which is aimed at guiding teachers, parents and students in setting guidelines relating to the regular attendance of students to school.

We would like to work with you on ensuring that your child attends school every day. Your child should only be absent from school if they are medically unfit to attend with a medical certificate.

Advanced LOTE Vietnamese Year 7 & 8

Sunshine College runs specialised Advanced LOTE Vietnamese Program for year 7 and 8 students at the North and Ardeer/West Campuses to be held at the Ardeer Campus.

A letter has been sent home explaining this program. If you have any concerns or queries about the program please contact the school for further information.

Hot Weather Days

Special Arrangements for Days of Extreme Weather Conditions

The wellbeing and welfare of our students is always our greatest priority. On days of extremely high temperatures during summer, we may vary our teaching program to suit the conditions. However, it can still be quite uncomfortable for students in the classroom. We know that parents share our concerns because we often receive calls requesting permission for students to be dismissed early on very hot days. This can be difficult to manage, so the college has introduced the following policy:

On days when the forecast high temperature for the day is 35 or higher (forecast in the morning on radio or morning TV) lunchtime will be shortened by 30 minutes and **students will be dismissed at 2.40pm**. A text message will be sent out as a reminder to parents.

If there is no one at home to supervise students at this earlier time, staff will be on duty at school to supervise until the normal finishing time of 3.10. Students whose parents wish them to remain at school until 3.10 should meet in the Library at the end of Period 6.

it's not okay
to be away

Year 7

Immunisations:

Friday 20 March

The Brimbank Council Health Clinic will visit the North Campus on Friday the 20th of March to immunise the year 7 students.

If your child is absent on this day please contact the Brimbank Council to arrange the necessary immunisations.

You need to bring back your completed Parent Permission Forms.



student eyecare



Free Eye Tests

Covered through Medicare

Being Prepared

Coming to school on time and in full uniform, arriving to classes punctually, bringing diaries, books and equipment to class are all good habits to follow. Taking care of school property is taking pride in your school.

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 – North 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/rFITJqikoacDed3K8>

Don't miss out

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

(03) 8644 7012



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**.



Key Dates to Remember

Monday 9 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 10 March	Year 10 Deakin Excursion
Friday 13 March	Pie for Pi Day
	Year 10 EcoLinc Excursion
Thursday 19 March	Athletics Carnival at Newport Athletics Track
Friday 20 March	Year 7 Immunisations
	Year 9 & Year 10 Students stay home
Monday 23 March	Year 7 & Year 8 Students stay home
Wednesday 25 March— Friday 27 March	Year 7 Camp
Thursday 26 & Friday 27 March	Students dismissed at 2.40pm

Change of Details

If you have changed your address, phone number since your child started or medical details regarding your child have changed, please let the office know so we can update our records



Contact

Phone: (03) 8311 5200
 North Campus: Northumberland Rd, SUNSHINE NORTH, 3020
 sunshine.sc.north.sunshine@edumail.vic.gov.au
 This email is to be used for absences, medical certificates, BPay alerts and general enquiries.