

Principal's Report

A warm welcome to all students and families. As a school community we take pride in creating futures through a caring environment that enhances academic learning, personal growth and well-being for all students and staff.

The first few weeks have been very eventful and rewarding, especially for our Year 7 students who are now successfully settling into new routines and into our school community. They are well on the way to building important relationships and positively connecting with their peers and staff. At the end of this term, they will attend the Year 7 Camp, giving them opportunities to further build their confidence, resilience and life experiences.

Being part of our school community also involves students periodically undertaking various assessments to inform future learnings. They will be challenged to extend their knowledge and skills, both within and beyond the classroom. Students will also learn to develop strategies that can be transferred and applied across the curriculum. Yet they cannot do that alone. Besides the support they receive at school, parents also have an important role in their child's education. We are confident that you will support your children to practise and reinforce their learning at home by encouraging them to read regularly, providing them with a suitable space to work and ensuring they complete their homework.

Being part of our school community also involves that every child should always be prepared for school. They should be dressed in the correct uniform, arrive to school on time each day and bring appropriate books and equipment to every class. It is important that your child does not miss school unless they are genuinely ill. Research shows that students who miss significant periods of school find it very difficult to achieve their full academic potential and consequently discourages

students from enjoying learning in the school environment.

To ensure that you are offering the correct support to your child, we strongly encourage you to constantly monitor your child's progress and attend in conjunction with your child, to all report afternoons. The teachers are here to work with you to achieve the best outcomes for your child. You are also welcome to contact your child's Student Manager or Pastoral Care teacher if you have queries regarding their progress.

At Sunshine College, we take pride in celebrating our students' success. Therefore, without further ado, congratulations to all 2019 Year 12 students for their outstanding achievements. Due to their hard work, parental and school support, our students achieve high ATAR scores and most students continue with tertiary education at either university or TAFE. Well done to all these students and we wish them the very best with their future pathways.

We welcome the following new staff to the Ardeer Campus; Ms S. Blight, Ms C. Pham, Ms. B. Nash, Ms S. Smith, Ms S. Velkumar, Ms K. Yew, Mr H. Mahoney and Mr S. Scammell.

Maria Agapiou
Campus Principal
Sunshine College Ardeer Campus

Leadership Team	
Student Manager Year 7	Mr G. Hatzikostas
Student Manager Year 8	Ms T. Papadimas
Student Manager Year 9	Mr M. Salih
Student Manager Year 10	Ms T. Soldatos
Student Wellbeing Leaders	Ms E. Connor & Ms C. Gilbert
Campus Managers	Mr I. Plessias
Campus Principal	Ms M. Agapiou



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

facebook.com/sunshinecollegevic

Sports News

This term the interschool sports activities will focus on swimming and volleyball. Year 9 and 10 students will have the opportunity to trial for a place in the volleyball teams. All students will have the opportunity to also trial for the Sunshine College swimming team. Parents are always more than welcome to attend to competition days.

On **Thursday 19th March**, all students and staff from the junior campuses will head to Newport Athletics Track to compete in Sunshine College's Annual Athletics Carnival. This is a great day for all students to participate in set sport activities, work as a team and encourage one another.

Results from this day will help us choose students to represent the College at the Keilor Division Athletics later this year, therefore, please encourage your child to be involved in the various sporting events. All students will be expected to attend this day.

Immunisations

Sunshine College is also committed to students' wellbeing. As such, on a yearly basis, we host the Brimbank City Council Health Services team to immunise our Year 7 kids.

This year, the vaccines will be given to students on the morning of **Wednesday 11th March**. As such, **please return completed consent forms** to the general office by Monday 2nd March.

CESF—Health care / concession cards

New parents/families are reminded that holders of a Health Care or Concession Card, must present it to the General Office by the end of February 2020 for photocopying.

Eligible families will have \$225.00 credited to their school account to cover the cost of camps and excursions. Please see Lesley King in the General Office to arrange for this. Late applications will not be accepted.



**NEW
STUDENT
BBQ**

Tuesday 25 February
4pm - 6pm

Year 7 & New Families BBQ

Tuesday 25th of Feb | 4.00pm to 6.00pm

We are having a get together for all Year 7 families and new families to the school on Tuesday 25th February.

We would like to give you and your child's teachers the opportunity to meet one another and talk about school matters. A complimentary barbeque, salads and refreshments will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you.

Advanced LOTE Vietnamese Years 7 & 8

Parents are reminded that we operate an Advanced LOTE Vietnamese subject that is available to Year 7 and 8 students who have a background in Vietnamese Language.

The program will operate at the **Ardeer Campus on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:15pm – 4:30pm**. If you are interested in this program, please contact Ms Bao Le during school hours. Classes commence on Tuesday 11th February at 3.15pm at the Ardeer Campus in the Library.

Water Bombs and Water Fights

Wasting water of any description will not be tolerated. Any student caught offending will be given after school detention for the first offence and repeat offenders will be suspended. Students are advised to wear a hat and bring sunscreen to school during hot weather.

Education Resource Charge

Parents are reminded that the Education Resource Charge is required to be paid to the general office as soon as possible. This charge covers the costs of items such as: art materials, library books, photocopying, class sets, science equipment and materials, sports equipment, computer use, printing school identification cards, school diary, resources used in all subjects and much more.

To assist you further, the Resource Charge may be paid in two instalments. Please contact the office manager Ms King, for further details.



Ms Huynh with last year's Pie for Pi Day Champion, Christian Zeug, who recited 1066 digits of Pi!

Pie for π Day

On **Friday 13th March**, we will be conducting our Pie for Pi (π) day competition, which will be running during lunchtime. Students recite as many digits of Pi as they can.

This is a great and a very exciting event and all students are invited to participate.

Hot Weather Days

Special Arrangements for Days of Extreme Weather Conditions

The well-being 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, therefore, 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 and periods 5&6 will be shortened and students will be dismissed at 2.40pm
- 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 3.10pm
- students whose parents wish them to remain at school until 3.10pm should meet in the Library at the end of Period 6.

Please note that this arrangement will always apply according to the published high temperature for the day, even if the published temperature on that day is not reached.

Peer Support Program

The Year 10 Peer Support Leaders are invaluable to our Year 7's students. They help our younger students to transition effectively into school and make them feel welcome. They also support them throughout the year with various team building activities and guide them on how to become valuable members of the school community.

The programme has so far been a success, with students quickly connecting with each other and working well together to build positive relationships.

Uniform

Once more, parents/guardians are reminded that students are required to be in full school uniform. Students must also wear the correct footwear to school. The uniform supplier will be at the Senior Campus on **Mondays from 3.00pm - 4.00pm** and **Thursdays from 2.00pm - 4.00pm** to sell school uniforms, or at **Double 'C' Jeanery** in Laverton.



Bicycles

Students riding their bikes to and from school are required by law to wear a helmet.

For students not wearing a helmet, their bike will be locked up and a parent/guardian will be expected to collect the bicycle.

Student Lockers

All students are required to have a school combination padlock purchased from the general office for their locker. Locks cost \$20 and can be used by the students until the end of year 12.

Students are expected to use their locker to store their bags and books as bags are not permitted in classrooms. Furthermore, students must not visit their lockers between classes.

Yard Duty Supervision—Before and After School

Sunshine College Ardeer Campus grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.30am until 3.30pm.

School staff are not available to supervise students outside these hours. A staff member is on duty at the front of the school at 8.30am and at the end of the school day until 3.30pm.

Late Arrivals to School

Parents/Guardians, please note that if students arrive late to school without a legitimate note, they will be required to attend detention.

Student Absence

Please phone the general office on 9361 9000 **by 9.00am on the day to notify us of student absence.** A message can also be left on this number the night before or very early that morning. Please leave your child's name and the reason for absence in your message.

Please consult the enclosed **Attendance Policy** for further details.

Mobile Phones, iPods and Electronic Devices

In accordance with the new legislation, Sunshine College will not take responsibility for mobile phones, iPods or other types of portable electronic devices.

There is a secure box in the general office for students to leave their phone for the day if brought to school.

Mobile phone use is not allowed while at school. A new mobile phones policy outlining these requirements will be made available soon.



Sunshine College—Ardeer Campus

Dates to remember	
Monday 9 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 11 March	Year 7 Immunisations
Friday 13 March	Pie for Pi Day
Thursday 19 March	Athletics Carnival <i>All students will attend Newport Athletics Track</i>
Friday 20 March	Year 9 & 10 students not required at school
Monday 23 March	Year 7 & 8 students not required at school
Wednesday 25—Friday 27 March	Year 7 Camp
Thursday 26 & Friday 27 March	Students dismissed at 2.40pm

Student Drop Off and Carpark Reminder

Parents are reminded that there is a bus zone in operation at the front of the school. Parking is not permitted in this area at any time.

There is also a no parking zone on the north side of the driveway and parking is not permitted in this area either.

Please do not park in the driveway of the neighbouring homes across the school as this is private property.



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**.

Attendance Policy

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Sunshine College is committed to providing the best possible education for all students. It is imperative your child attends school daily. We ask that all parents and guardians read the following school policy in regards to attendance. If you have any queries in regards to the attendance policy, you are welcome to contact your child's Student Manager.

Parents/guardians please note that if students arrive late to school on three occasions without a legitimate note, they will be required to attend after school detention.

Aims

Sunshine College believes that regular school attendance is a major component in students achieving academic success. Through the implementation of this policy Sunshine College aims to work with parents and students to reduce the current level of absences, lateness and early leavers.

It is unacceptable for a student to miss more than 8 days per semester.

Sunshine College aims to:

- encourage full attendance by students
- maintain an adequate, accurate and efficient attendance record keeping system
- identify patterns of student absences
- develop intervention strategies to improve school attendance

Students achieve greater educational outcomes when attending school every day. Sunshine College aims to maximise student learning opportunities and performance by ensuring that all students attend school every day, on time and remain at school for the entire day.

To be successful we need parents, students and Sunshine College to work together to achieve our aims. This policy needs to be communicated to and understood by students, parents and staff on a regular basis.

Responsibilities

Sunshine College

Staff at Sunshine College will:

- keep accurate personal records of student attendance
- monitor targeted students each day
- keep students informed of classes missed and provide adequate assistance for students to catch up on work missed
- encourage students to attend school every day on time
- foster an environment that encourages students to attend school
- accurately mark a class roll for each session
- monitor student attendance and refer lateness to administration
- inform parents/guardians through the Student Management Team regarding unsatisfactory student attendance
- inform parents/guardians via a CASES printout of all absences once a term

Attendance Policy

Parents / Guardians

Parents/Guardians have a legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school every day on time. Parents/Guardians are expected to cooperate by:

- notifying Sunshine College by phoning the relevant campus before 9.00am to report the absence
- confirming the absence in writing by note/medical certificate. Such a note should contain the name of the student, reason and date of absence.
- encouraging students to attend school every day on time
- where possible, arranging doctor, dentist or other appointments out of school hours
- arranging family holidays during school holiday periods

Students

Students have a responsibility to:

- attend school everyday
- report illness that has developed during the day to the front office. The school will contact parents/guardians to arrange early departure from the school due to illness.
- be punctual to every class
- bring in medical certificates, appointment slips or other notes from parents/guardians that explains your absence from school
- sign in at the office when late to school with a note from parent/guardian explaining why you are late
- sign out at the office when leaving school for an appointment with a note explaining why you are leaving school during school hours

School Administration

The School Administration (office staff) will enter any absences in to the official Department of Education attendance log. Parents/Guardians will be informed regarding absences without approval and approval will be sought.

Absences from school can be categorised into the following categories:

- **Absence due to illness/family issue**
These absences need to be verified by a parent/guardian or by doctor's certificate
- **Absence – unapproved**
A student who misses classes without College or Parent/Guardian permission is considered a truant. Unapproved absences that cannot be approved by parent/guardian will lead to student disciplinary action
- **Absence – College approved activity**
Students who are participating in College approved activities will not count as a school absence or a class absence

Sanctions

Failure to attend school on a regular basis will be a considered factor when promoting a student to the next year level of study. This may result in a student repeating the year of study.

Exceptional Circumstances

The school administration will consider exceptional circumstances that prevent a student from attending school.



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 – 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



Contact

Phone: (03) 9361 9000

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

sunshine.vic.edu.au