



## Dear Parents and Friends

It is great to see the excellent start made by many students to the 2020 school year and the impressive manner in which they are presenting themselves and engaging in their studies. It was also wonderful to see the strong attendance of Years 7 and 12 parents attending this week's House meetings.

Today our Opening School Mass was celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral, with our celebrants, Fathers John Healy, Binh Le, Paul Tru, Greg Trythall and ArchPriest Michael Kalka. Coming together as the Emmanuel community in the magnificent setting of the cathedral, with the wonderful singing and music led by our choir and musicians, was a powerful celebration of God's call to be our best and to respond in love and service to one another - to live life to the full in 2020.

In coming weeks, Hugh Van Cuylenberg will launch the Life to the Full program with our Year 7s. Hugh is the founder of the Resilience Project which focuses on the skills of resilience: G.E.M. – Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness. As Hugh emphasises:

*The aim of the Resilience Project is to help people appreciate what they have, be present and think of others. To practice gratitude, it's about paying attention to things you do have, not the things you don't, which can be a trap for all of us. Mindfulness is all about being present in the moment. We practice empathy by doing kind things for people.*

The College student handbook has a daily section on practicing skills for resilience. The Resilience Project team will address a parent evening later in the year – not to be missed!

At our coming College assembly, Dux for 2019, Sebastian Snopczynski, will be presented with the Brophy Scholarship following his outstanding VCE achievement, with an ATAR ranking of 99.15. The scholarship provides \$1000 per year for the three years of undergraduate studies. Sebastian commences his studies for the Bachelor of Science/Engineering at the University of Melbourne in March.

Best wishes for all success to St Paul's staff and Year 7 students who head off to Camp Portsea next week and to staff and students attending the Year 12 retreat to be conducted the following week at Rutherford Park, Daylesford. The Notre Dame Year 7 camp and Year 12 retreat follow in coming weeks.

Best wishes for this term's interschool competition to our senior ACC teams in Cricket, Volleyball, Tennis and Athletics, and SACCSS teams in Senior Cricket and in Year 10 Premier League: Basketball, Volleyball, Netball, Cricket, and Soccer. Best wishes also to our swimming teams in training for inter-school carnivals to be held later in the term.

We are called to be 'salt of the earth and light to the world' – may the Lord strengthen us for our work of service, justice and peace for our families and the communities of which we are part.

**Christopher Stock**  
Principal



## Campus Leaders

The first day back at school for the students, parents and teachers at both campuses was very exciting. Watching the young men and women of Year 7 arrive at Notre Dame Campus with their mums and/or dads walking in the gate for the first time, full of anticipation and - at times - apprehension, highlighted the special journey we are all about to embark upon. The young men at St Paul's Campus demonstrated their confidence and connection with the College by bowling into the McCoy Hall, many without their parents, and sitting quietly until the morning commenced. They then moved to their homerooms with students they had met at Orientation Day.

We are confident that you will find Emmanuel College to be a supportive community where each student will continue their learning pathway. We look forward to a long and happy association with you, and meeting with you at the various school activities throughout the year. It was also wonderful to meet so many parents who stayed to support their child as they begin this stage of their life journey.

The Year 7 Orientation Days proved to be of great value for the students. As well as tours to familiarise themselves with the campus, they spent time getting to know their new class-mates and teachers, learning about College procedures and how to access the technologies available at the campus. We are certain the two days have been most beneficial in facilitating a smooth start to the year.

### Camps

The venues for camps during this term are as follows:

Year 7 – Portsea	SPC 12-14 February and NDC 4-6 March
Year 12 Retreat – Rutherford Park	SPC 19-21 February and NDC 26–28 February

All families should have already responded to the Care Monkey request for the SPC Year 7 Camp. If this has not been done please give this your urgent attention or contact Ms Sarah Dinan at the College. Further information regarding the other camp/retreats occurring this term will be sent via Care Monkey in coming weeks. Please respond promptly when you receive this alert.

### Canteen

The College canteen is now in full swing. Students can access the canteen before school, at recess and lunch time. Students will be informed of yummy specials via the canteen noticeboards at each campus.

### Student Diary

All students have received their Student Diary. Please ensure you have read and signed the front section to acknowledge you are aware of the expectations and responsibilities of belonging to the Emmanuel College community. It is important that this is done annually because while some things are unchanged, there are always some changes, developments or additions. We ask that all families have signed this section by Friday 14 February.

### Policies and Protocols 2020

#### Mobile Phone/Ear Pods Processes and Procedures

In light of the Government school ban on mobile phones for 2020, it is necessary to clarify the College position on the use of mobile phones. The College does not support a complete ban on mobile phones and recognises the ubiquitous nature of them as a communication device, especially between parents/carers and students. However, the College also recognises the distraction caused in classes and the impact on learning by constant notifications, messages and checking of phones.

As such, students will still have permission to use mobile phones, appropriately and within the College guidelines, before and after school and during recess and lunch, but not during class.

It is recommended that students turn off phones and leave them in lockers during class time. They may be taken to class but must be **TURNED OFF and not be sighted in class.**

Given the use of mobile phones as a safety device, the College prefers not to send students home without a phone. As we aim for a mutually beneficial policy on mobile phones, if a teacher sights a phone in class or a phone is misused, the protocols below are in place for 2020:

- The phone is confiscated, passed on to the Front Office and the incident logged on SIMON.
- A student may collect the phone at the end of the day.
- If future incidents occur, the classroom teacher will confiscate the phone again, issue a Systems Detention (logged on SIMON) and notify parents.
- Ongoing failure to comply with this policy may result in:
  - \* Parent phone call/meeting
  - \* Friday night detention or suspension
  - \* Withdrawal of approval for a student to bring a phone to school

# Campus Leaders

Ear phones/pods continue to be banned at school at all times, except with specific teacher permission, such as during Maths Pathways videos. Students wearing ear pods will immediately be issued with a lunchtime detention and they may also be confiscated as per mobile phones, above.

## Lateness Processes and Procedures

Given the many road works occurring at the moment, we thank students, parents and carers for their efforts to ensure students arrive on time. Over the next few weeks, it may be necessary to adjust your usual routines to ensure a timely arrival. The College recognises the dramatic impact to student outcomes that can occur with frequent lateness and absences. This year, the College is focused on ensuring all students arrive to school on time each day. When students do not arrive on time, the following will occur:

- A lunchtime detention will be issued for lateness, unless for a legitimate reason – **a letter from a parent/carers must be produced**
- Ongoing lateness will result Friday night detentions.
- Parents will be contacted to discuss ongoing lateness.

## Uniform Processes and Procedures

**Please consult the Student Diary for detailed explanation of expectations regarding uniform, including:**

- Appropriate hair styles
- Grooming: Males are to be clean-shaven; no makeup or eyelash extensions
- Piercings - NONE allowed apart from one earring in the lobe; no clear plastic studs, no band-aids.
- Nails – no fake/acrylic nails, no polish. Nails can be removed for \$10-15 without an appointment at any nail salon (of which there are many in Point Cook)

**Where students breach these guidelines, consequences may apply including:**

- detentions
- items confiscated
- student sent home to rectify issue

## Polo Tops/ Sports Uniform

A reminder that students are required to be in the correct polo top; a uniform pass will not be issued for incorrect sports uniform. As outlined in the Student Diary, students are to wear formal uniform and bring alternative clothing to change into for sport or physical education class. A reminder that the old Sport Spray Jacket is no longer part of the College uniform and can no longer be worn. Students must wear the Sport Shell Jacket, if required.

Students are permitted to wear Sports Uniform on days when they have PE classes (or associated classes such as Outdoor Education), for SACCSS Premier League or ACC training and events days. When students are involved in before or after school training or other activities such as Homeroom events, they may wear Sports Uniform, but must change into their normal uniform for the normal school day. Alternatively, they may change into runners for the duration of the activity.

## Uniform Shop

A reminder that our uniform supplier is located at 54 Old Geelong Road, Hoppers Crossing. This location has ample and easy parking and is located between Vic Roads and Spotlight. A reminder that the uniform shop will be open between 1pm and 4pm every Wednesday during the school term at the St Paul's Campus.

## Year 11 and 12 2020 Head Start Program

Please note in your diaries the dates for 2021 Head Start held after the final exams. The VCE Head Start Program will commence on Thursday 19 November 2020 and conclude on Thursday 26 November 2020. Please note that this is a compulsory program and **all students** are required to attend.

## Drop Off and Collection of Students

**NDC** - In order to improve traffic flow at the start and end of the day in Foxwood Drive, the Council has installed No Parking signs on the eastern side of the road. This means that you can still drop off and collect your son or daughter, however you cannot park and leave your vehicle. If you have an appointment or need to visit the office, please park in the College carpark, Dunning Rd or Inverloch Drive.

**SPC** – Parents are asked not to drive into the grounds to collect or drop off your sons. Please park along the south end of Chambers Road, behind bus bays or the western end of Blackshaws Road. Please be aware that if you park in small side streets there is extreme congestion in trying to move back into the roadway and is an inconvenience for our neighbours. Please be mindful of the safety of our students and advise your child to use the manned crossing or the lights when crossing the road.

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## Campus Leaders

### Bushfire Resources

Students, teachers and other members of our school community may have been directly or indirectly affected by the recent bushfires. We know this will affect everyone differently; given the magnitude of these bushfires, it is likely that some people in our community will be impacted in some way. Some people may lose homes, animals and pets, some may be concerned for family and friends, some may be working in the area fighting fires and supporting those impacted. Our thoughts are with all emergency personnel who may well be exhausted but remain committed.

Depending on individual experiences and ongoing circumstances, adults and children may have heightened levels of concern and anxiety. These reactions are common and may escalate. It is important to remember that families are the main source of comfort, but that school staff can play a pivotal role in supporting and reassuring students. Stability in the school environment will help enhance the sense of safety and capacity to manage emotional responses among students.

To assist in coping during times of crisis, a range of psychological first aid resources and are now available for parents and can be accessed at [https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/parents/resources/?audience%5b%5d=Parents&keywords%5b%5d=bushfire&utm\\_source=Email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=The%20impact%20of%20bushfires%202020](https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/parents/resources/?audience%5b%5d=Parents&keywords%5b%5d=bushfire&utm_source=Email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=The%20impact%20of%20bushfires%202020)

Please contact your child's Homeroom Teacher if you are concerned about their wellbeing.

Each week we attach an informative article from Michael Grose and parenting ideas. This week's article is about working closely with your child's teacher this year. We would encourage you to take a moment and read this informative article. You can also visit their website for more ideas and information to help you raise confident and resilient young people.

Finally, we would like to thank the students, parents and staff at Emmanuel College for the great start to the year, and we are looking forward to your continued support into the future. We also welcome all students new to the College in 2020 and hope their time with us brings friendship, fulfillment and growth.

**David Barr, Chris O'Malley & Kelley Revelman**

## Leader of Mission Integration

On Wednesday 29 January the staff had their opening staff mass with Fr Healy acting as the principal celebrant. It was a wonderful surprise to staff as ten of our current and past students returned to help celebrate the mass. They sung for the staff, read with passion, and handed our twenty new staff members a lit candle which stood at the base of the cross. The symbolism of our students serving our staff to enrich their faith for the year ahead was not lost on anyone. We the staff now look forward to journeying with your children as they grow in their faith throughout the year.

It is with great enthusiasm that we celebrated our Emmanuel College Opening School Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral today. The mass was student focused with well over one hundred students actively involved either as readers, members of the opening or eucharistic procession, singers in the choir, altar servers or those making their public leadership pledge. We appreciate the efforts of so many to make this occasion so special. Fr Healy acted as our principal celebrant for the mass and he was accompanied by Fr Trythall, Fr Tru, Fr Le and ArchPriest Kalka, all of whom created a spiritual experience for our students, teachers and those parents who joined us. Fr Healy's homily focused significantly on our theme for the year, "Let all that you do be done in love" (1Cor 16:14), as he urged as all to seek a life of love for each other and God. During the mass our student leader badges were blessed and our student leaders made their pledge to lead. Our Year 7s, new students and new staff were also blessed as full members of our Emmanuel family.

The students of Emmanuel College have taken significant steps to live out our theme by embracing our St Vinnies Bushfire appeal. Our call is for every student to consider putting aside the money they may spend on a luxury like junk food for one day and instead donate this to the cause. The sacrificial and free gift of love such as this will allow our students to take one further step in becoming fuller versions of their amazing selves. The words of Blessed Chaminade remind us that "Faith must be animated by charity. Faith should not only be a light in the mind, but it should be in the heart as well". May our students live their faith in 2020 by acts of loving generosity.

Peace,  
**Mark Sciberras**



## Winters House Reports

Winters House has got off to a great start. I would like to thank the boys for settling into the year as quickly as they have. A big welcome goes to the Year 7 students of Winters House who have joined us this year. Along with all the teachers, I look forward to working with you and getting to know you this year.

With the sad news of the passing of basketball legend Kobe Bryant, Winters have decided that the theme for the year will be 'mamba mentality'. In simple terms, it is the constant desire for self-improvement. As a house, we will refer back to this motto for the remainder of the year and use it as a basis for having the boys set achievable goals that are important to them. Thank you to Elias Stefos for this suggestion.

Finally, I would like to introduce myself. I am a teacher of Maths and Science. This will be my 18th year in the teaching profession. I have had the opportunity to teach in rural Victoria, England and Thailand and I am looking forward to the opportunities and challenges this year will present as the new Winters House Leader. I look forward to getting to know all the boys from 'Green Socks' and seeing them achieve their best.

**Peter Coceani**  
**Winters House Leader SPC**



2020 Year 7 students, Winters House, St Pauls Campus

## Winters House Reports

What a whirlwind start to the year it has been so far! We welcome all our new Year 7s, new students and new House Leader Chris Micallef to Winters House and hope that their first few days at the College has been a smooth one! We would also like to welcome our 2020 Winters leaders; Caitlin Sneyders, Luca Cagliolo and our Winters sports leaders; Emmanuel Burlayan and Gemma Dalziel and thank them for leading the opening House Assembly in prayer and building team spirit! Winters is so fortunate to be a house with unity and pride and we look forward to working with these inspiring leaders throughout entirety of 2020. We would also like to encourage all Year 7 students to apply for leadership roles that are coming up very soon.

2020 is going to be a big year for Winters House and we will be starting with the homeroom competitions with Crab Soccer being the first game up, lets hope all the homerooms bring their A game leading to an exciting competition for all.

GOOOOO WINTERS!!!



**Winters Year 7 students off to their Homerooms for the first time**

**Racheal Schmidt-Sefrim and Chris Micallef**  
**Winters House Leaders NDC**



## McCluskey Homeroom Reports

Being part of Lawson Homeroom is like being a part of a family. Everyone takes part in their job in ensuring that everyone feels comfortable and a part of the Lawson family. Our week is always full of activities. We have a special activity for everyday of the week. Our activities are weekend wrap up Mondays, Gameboy Tuesday, debating Wednesday, quiz Thursday and RNB Fridays. Homeroom is a good way to start your morning by getting prepared or socialising with older peers. All of us at Lawson enjoy our homeroom.

**Sajid Bhatti**  
**Year 10 Student Leader SPC**



**Lawson Homeroom SPC**

It is finally the start of a new year, I believe 2020 will be a great year, a year that will bring new beginning's and a year to reach our goals. In our Homeroom we are very excited to welcome the new Year 7s to our school and welcome them into McCluskey. They have been a bit quiet and shy but now we are all becoming comfortable with one another and we are all becoming friends. On the first day all came into homeroom excited and nervous to start the new year. My homeroom teacher came up with the great idea to give us a seating plan so we would be able to interact and meet new people. We were put into these new table groups to complete a bunch of different games throughout the year. The winning group will get a pizza lunch. I like what we are doing in my homeroom because it gives us the opportunity to interact with our fellow students in homeroom instead of sitting silently. Though homeroom is only a very short part of your day it is good to make friends in your homeroom, because you are with them for all your years at Emmanuel and you can become great friends. I know throughout last year and the start of this year I have made so many great friends in homeroom. It's just nice to have someone you can talk to in the morning about everything. I really encourage people to make friends in their homeroom because they can become long lasting friends, and I encourage everyone to talk to people from different year levels. I am so excited for 2020 and I think everyone from McCluskey and the whole school can agree on that. Let's make 2020 the best!!

**Ben Schaper**  
**Year 9 student NDC**



**McCluskey D Homeroom NDC**

## College Captains Report

With the commencement of not only a new year, but a new decade, brings about a host of new opportunities to work with. Underlying all our initiatives this year will be our duty to encourage all students to live by the College's motto, helping each individual to realise their own unique potential and hence strive to "Live Life to the Full." Gathering as a team for our Leadership camp towards the conclusion of last year allowed us to discuss how best we can serve the College student voice. Recalling our Marianist characteristics, these core values were held at the heart of our decisions to also encourage a sense of community, faith and social justice. In support of this, on 29 January, the Opening Staff Mass was led by the student captains demonstrating our shared faith commitment as a College. It was also a good opportunity to demonstrate our participation and eagerness to become leaders of the Church. To quote Proverbs 23:18 "There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off." This is what we believe in and this is what we hope to achieve. As leaders, our hope and vision for 2020 is to not only lead the College through the year using the Marianist values we share and create a better community within the College but to guide them to the glimmer of hope that exists.

Throughout 2020, as one College, with two campuses and a community full of ideas, we warmly welcome the Year 7s and all new students in Years 8-12. We understand that there are many new and exciting opportunities available for all students that we hope they will avail themselves of. As Leaders and with our wider student body we will be there to support students when challenges arise and ensure they are pointed in the right direction to have additional support from staff if needed. Overall, we are excited for the year ahead, and can't wait to serve the College.

**Rhea Chatterji, Aaron Sta Maria, George Limperis**  
**College Captains**

## Sports News

We would like to Welcome back all students for the new year. 2020 is now upon us and it looks to be an exciting year ahead. As your Sport Captains for 2020 we aspire to bring you all a great opportunity to get involved and can't wait to see what the year holds for us as a school. With some amazing accomplishments last year, we look to go one better and strive for more, so I encourage you all to get involved in ACC this year no matter what sport or event it is. Looking to the year ahead there are some very exciting opportunities that are arising with the senior ACC kicking off on Wednesday 5 February with Cricket, Tennis and Volleyball as the sports on offer for the students to take part in. If you want to get involved you can speak to Mr Robertson for senior Cricket, Mr Velardo for senior Tennis or Mr Shiell for senior Volleyball. With last year's Swimming Carnival being cancelled due to poor weather, the students looking to swim and earn points for their house along with a potential place on the ACC swimming team will head down to Bayfit on Thursday 6 February, where they will compete for the school's swimming championship. The ACC swimming squad will then be chosen from the best swimmers on the day who will then get the chance to represent the school at the ACC Swimming Carnival on Thursday 27 February, at MSAC. Also coming up we have our annual school Athletics Carnival in week 6 on Thursday 5 March, a great opportunity for students to represent their house and impress as we look for students to proudly represent the school at the ACC athletics competition later this term. With so much coming up we encourage you all to get involved as it is a great experience. We can't wait to see you all out there in the pool or on the track. We wish you the best of luck for the new year and can't wait for what lies ahead!

**Elias Stefos & Connor Brown**  
**College Sports Captains SPC**



**Senior SPC Cricket Team**



**Senior SPC Volleyball Team**



# Sports News

Welcome back, especially to new parents and students to Emmanuel College.

The range of activities that the Careers Department offers aims to assist students to develop an awareness of self and an attentiveness to opportunities related to their interests and skills. The purpose of this is to encourage all students to make an effective decision in their transition to a range of possible post-secondary school pathways.

## Year 12 News

Over the course of this year all Year 12 students are given the opportunity to have a minimum of 2 Career Counselling sessions - one in Term 1 and another in Term 3. The aim of these counselling sessions is to assist students make an effective transition to a post-secondary school pathway for 2021, whether that be university, TAFE, apprenticeship, employment, or taking a GAP year. Parents / Guardians are encouraged to assist by taking an active role by engaging in regular conversations with your son/daughter about post-secondary pathways and accompanying them to Careers Expos and to university or TAFE Open Days are important.

The Careers Department will regularly disseminate information in the school newsletter, 'Student Notices' on SIMON, Year 12 assemblies and student e-mail to keep students and families up-to-date with programs on offer both in and outside of the school.

The Careers Counsellors are here to assist and encourage parents and guardians to contact their respective campus Careers Department to have any questions or concerns attended to.

## Year 10 Work Experience – 22 to 26 June

Emmanuel College encourages all students to commence the journey of making connections between their interests and skills, their academic program, and post-school pathways. To this end, work experience is a precursor and as such an integral part of the Year 10 program. Work experience in this instance allows students to start thinking about possible career pathways, where getting some hands-on experience may assist students to make an informed decision. Students are strongly encouraged to hand in their 'Work Experience Arrangement' form (and 'Travel and Accommodation' form if applicable) by Week 4, Term 1. Whilst the Careers Counsellor can assist a student find a suitable placement, the responsibility of finding a suitable placement falls on students and families.

In securing a suitable work experience placement, students should:

- use contacts, such as parents, friends, neighbours, extended family members, and even teachers to find a suitable placement,
- look online to find a job/career of interest,
- look up specific companies or businesses that may assist in an area of interest,
- make a phone call or go into the workplace to introduce themselves in person,
- ask your Careers Counsellor to assist you to make a phone call and or to use the school phone,
- collect another 'Work Experience Arrangement' form from the Careers office if they need to,
- Ensure that they complete all sections of the 'Work Experience Arrangement' form, and

**Once completed, the Work Experience Arrangement form must be returned to Student Services or to their Careers Leader no later than Week 4, Term 1.**

## Tax File Number

Year 12 students are reminded that they **cannot** enrol in a CSP (Commonwealth Supported Place) university course next year without a Tax File Number (TFN). Students who do not have one are reminded to apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

To apply and also to find out about participating Post Offices, please visit:

<https://auspost.com.au/id-and-document-services/apply-for-a-tax-file-number>

**Please note there are a number of scam sites exist so if applying for a TFN, please only use the above website.**

**Prue Warne & Sol DiMaggio**  
Careers Leaders

## Maths News

### STEM opportunities at Mobil Refinery Open Day

Mobil Refinery are offering a special release of FREE tickets to the Open day.

As a part of our 70th Anniversary Celebrations the Mobil Altona Refinery would like to offer you a unique opportunity to come and see what goes on behind the gates of the refinery.

Sunday 23 February 2020

10:00am -- 3:00pm

Cnr Kororoit Creek Road & Millers Road, Altona

This is a family event with the STEM Squad bringing their toys for you to try, interactive technical and community displays, as well as food stalls, a jumping castle, dunk tank and video games to play on the big screen. Some of the recipients of the Bright Futures grants will also be there showing how they've used their money to enhance their pupils engagement with STEM.

We are offering General Admission tickets, and limited Bus Tours that actually go into the refinery.

If you would like to attend this free event please book ASAP. Tickets are expected to sell out, and have not yet been released to the general public.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BHNAI>

**Matilda Myers**

**Learning Leader Maths**

## Host Family/ies Wanted



Emmanuel College has been successful in its application for an **Italian Language Assistant** and is currently seeking expressions of interest from College families who would be interested in hosting our assistant from **24 April for 4 weeks**.

The college is very excited about hosting the assistant who we are sure will be an asset to Italian classes for the remainder of the year.

Our assistant is a female who has completed a university degree and who has an interest in learning English and experiencing life in Australia.

This is a fantastic opportunity for families, especially those with children who are currently learning Italian. If you would like more information or are interested in hosting, please contact Eva Davoli by email ([edavoli@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:edavoli@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au)) or phone (03) 8325 5100.

**Eva Davoli**

**Learning Leader Languages**

# Careers News

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**Prue Warne & Sol Di Maggio**  
Careers Leaders



## International Trips at Emmanuel College—Then and Now



**1994 - USA**

**2002 - Italy**



**2012 - Turkey**



**2017 - Japan**



## Calendar Term 1 Weeks 3A & 4B

11 February	NDC Year 8 Medieval Day—Group 1 NDC Year 8 STEM Project @ Healesville Sanctuary Group A,B,C,D NDC SACCSS Senior Cricket Rd 1v Salesian @ Dunnings Road NDC SACCSS Senior Netball Rd 1v Salesian @ Dunnings Road
12 February	SPC Year 7 Camp departs to Portsea SPC ACC Senior Cricket & Volleyball EMM v DLS SPC ACC Senior Tennis SBE v EMM SPC Year 9 RE Project Day @ City NDC Year 8 Medieval Day—Group 2 NDC Year 8 STEM Project @ Healesville Sanctuary Group E, F, G,H NDC Year 7 Swimming Carnival @ Werribee
13 February	SPC Years on Camp @ Portsea NDC Year 7 Premier League Rd 1 MACK x EMC
14 February	SPC Year 7s return from Camp @ Portsea
18 February	NDC Year 8 Medieval Day NDC SACCSS Senior Cricket Rd 2 Thomas Carr @ Dunnings Road
19 February	SPC Year 12 retreat departs SPC ACC Senior Cricket, Tennis & Volleyball BYE NDC Year 12 English Film Text @ ACMI
20 February	SPC Year 12 retreat NDC House Athletics Carnival NDC Year 10 Premier League Rd 2 CCCC v EMC
21 February	Year 7 Resilience Project SPC Year 12 retreat returns NDC SACCSS Senior Netball Rd 2 CRC Sydenham v EMC



LIFE TO THE FULL

**Emmanuel  
College**

St Paul's Campus  
423 Blackshaws Rd  
Altona North VIC 3025

Notre Dame Campus  
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## Community Notices



For Thursdays in Lent, from 7.30 to 8.30 pm there will a Lenten Reflection offered.

“The Christian Foundation for the Care of Creation” is the general theme for the reflections.

(Based on writings of Pope Francis in “Laudato Si”)

The first session will be on 27 February. The topic : **“The unity of the human family.”**

### **St Joseph’s By The Sea**

16 Esplanade,

Williamstown. 3016

03 9397 6012 or 03 9397 9344

[Admin.sjbtsw@sosj.org.au](mailto:Admin.sjbtsw@sosj.org.au)

### **YOUTH IN WYNDHAM**

Youth Services presents WaterFest! Have a fun night at the pool with your friends.

Friday 7th February - 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Werribee Outdoor Pool - 220 Watton St, Werribee

Entry: \$10

- FREE Sausage Sizzle, fairy floss and snow cones
- Giant Slip n Slide
- Moonlight Cinema Screening: Sponge Bob (Rated G)
- Games

For young people aged 8 and above.

NOTE: 8 - 11 years must have parent/guardian attend with them.

Safe and secure event. Smoke, drug and alcohol free. No pass outs. Management reserves the right to refuse entry.

For more information contact Hayley or Jamie at Youth Services on 8734 1355

or email [YouthInWyndham@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:YouthInWyndham@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Web: <https://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/whats-on/waterfest>



## INSIGHTS

### Working closely with your child's teacher this year



*In my work as a presenter and educator I've visited hundreds of schools, spoken with hundreds of school leaders and worked with many educational innovators and researchers at the forefront of modern education. These people and experiences have given me valuable insights into what makes great schools tick.*

Strong parent-teacher relationships are one of the hallmarks of all great schools. They're a major contributor to student success. The research into schooling across the Western world reveals that positive parent-teacher partnerships are a more significant factor in student success than parent income levels or social status.

However, parent-teacher relationships require effort and energy from both parties if they are going to really benefit children and young people.

#### Way to help form strong bonds with your child's teachers this year:

##### **Knowing (building affinity)**

Know – the first element – requires you to be both proactive and patient. *Proactive because you need to be willing to meet and work at maintaining relationships. Patient because it may take some time to build a working relationship.* For your partnership to be meaningful and successful you need to meet with your children's teacher(s) with the goal of forming a respectful professional relationship. Share your aspirations for your child and be willing to build the teacher's knowledge about your family.

Get to know your child's teachers' aspirations and gain an understanding of their approach and the focus they have for this particular year group. Also commit to continuing to know what's going on in the life of your child's classrooms as well as the life of the school on an ongoing basis.

##### **Supporting (building trust)**

Children need to know that you are fully behind what their teachers are trying to achieve if they are going to commit fully to learning. The best way to support your child's teacher is to trust their knowledge, professionalism and experience. Avoid the temptation to question the expertise of teachers in front of students, particularly when the teachers use methods that you are unfamiliar with. Initiate conversations with teachers around methodology to give them the chance to explain the approach they are taking.

##### **Participating (building links to student learning)**

Participation – the third element – takes into account the level of parent engagement in student learning. There's a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent engagement in student learning and their educational success. If you want your child to improve his learning, take an interest in what he is doing. Follow school and teacher guidelines about helping at home and attend as many conferences, meetings and events involving your child as possible. This simple strategy has a significant, long-term impact.

## **Communicating (building relationships)**

Life's not always smooth sailing for kids of any age. Family circumstances change. Friends move away. Illness happens. Mental health challenges can hit anyone at any time. These changes affect learning. Keep teachers up to date with significant changes or difficulties that your child or young person experiences so they can accommodate your child's emotional and learning needs at school.

## **Advocating (building loyalty)**

Advocacy – the last element – means that you talk teachers and your school up rather than tear them down among children and the wider community. Teachers hold very public positions and generally work hard to build good reputations both within their school and their wider education community. Consider a teacher's reputation among the community and also with children when you discuss educational matters with others.

Building parent-teacher relationships doesn't just happen. They take good will from both sides, a commitment to setting aside the time necessary to support the home-based learning tasks that are expected, and a willingness to communicate both concerns and commendations through the correct channels.

Parent-teacher relationships – long may they prosper!



### **Michael Grose**

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.