



CREATIVITY . CURIOSITY . CHALLENGE . CHARACTER  
MAKE AN IMPACT

PRAHRAN  
HIGH  
SCHOOL

2021 THE PHS NEWS #3

# CONTINUING OUR LEARNING ADVENTURE



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## Principal's Message - Creativity

**At our most recent whole school assembly, I talked about the power of creativity and thinking creatively. Creativity is one of our PHS values and I wanted to remind the students of how truly important this is to us, as learners.**

When I spoke to the students, I shared the following ideas.

*"Your mind is an incredible asset. It's such a powerful machine which just loves to be engaged and to work with and for you. Your brains have been designed to take in lots of different inputs and then to process and make sense of them. That's how we think and how we make sense of the world around us. It's how we learn.*

There are billions of neurons in your brain, which are constantly firing, exchanging bits of information. They assemble what can often start as seemingly unconnected and messy, and turn that into something of real value, something meaningful and consequential. To me this is what we mean when we talk about creativity and creative thinking at Prahran High School.

One of our school values is creativity. We talk about it often, we see it on posters around the school, it's displayed here in our Atrium in huge letters for us all to see. Why? Because it's so important to us as learners. Today I'd like you to think about our value, the disposition, of creativity and how much you're truly embracing your creative powers in your learning at school.

More and more we know that people who have this ability to think creatively, to think outside the box and to see the world in different ways are doing better in assignments, in NAPLAN, in the VCE (when we get there) in student leadership which we also celebrate today too and then in the workplace too. It matters for you and it matters for me. It's important for all of us.

Your mind is the ultimate creativity machine and I invite you to reflect on this today. How much of this power are you tapping into at school? When your mind is full to overflowing with ideas, conundrums and questions, supported by great teachers in a place like this and then given some freedom to explore, your creative powers will fly.

At Prahran High School, I want us to create that perfect combination together, where we unleash the creative potential of each of our minds. I know that at our school we have the collective creative brainpower to do even better, to go that step further and to really become a beacon of what modern Melbourne schools can and should be like in 2021. And, most importantly to ensure that we all contribute positively to our society, a duty which requires more and more creative thinkers all the time.

Together let's always celebrate the extraordinary creative talents in this place, like the incredible work of our Year 9 students that has been happening around our school. There is no better or clearer display of the creative talents of our students than what I'm seeing in Year 9 right now. Some truly amazing work has been happening and we're proud of you.

*Like our creative Year 9 entrepreneurs, to really use the power of your brain and your mind, you actually need to decide to unleash it. You have to choose, you have to engage and truly do your best."*

Each of us will support you and you have to contribute too. That's the compact – students, staff and your families, all working together. We're now well into Term 2, approaching the middle of the year. Now is the time to make it happen.

As you read this latest edition of The PHS News, I invite you to think too about the value and power of creativity in your lives and chat to your kids about why this matters so much.

*"Creativity is intelligence having fun."* - Albert Einstein



Nathan Chisholm  
Foundation Principal

# LEARNING

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## Teaching and Learning Update

Term 2 at PHS is always busy and exciting and we have made a great start in the Teaching and Learning space. One of our highlights was the IMPACT9 Entrepreneurship and Invention Expo, held on Friday 7 May, where students showcased a range of products from across the term and pitched them to the school community.

We've seen spectacular learning happening across all three year levels, with some other highlights from the last few weeks including our Year 7 poetry showcase, the Year 8 HBHM boxing program, and the fabulous artwork demonstrated by students from the Year 9 Art Laboratory Specialisation, which is now on display around the school.

Another major activity we are undertaking at the moment is the development of our **Senior School 10-12 model**. We are aiming to build a genuine 3-year pathway, where students from 10-12 have access to a wide range of VCE subjects, as well as breadth of opportunity, vocational options, and extension pathways into university.

As soon as 2022, all students will have the opportunity to undertake VCE 1-2 subjects. We will be offering these as extension pathways in all areas of the curriculum. To support our exciting 10-12 model, our students will undergo a personalised counselling/pathways mentoring process, which will run during Term 3.

To learn more about our model and the opportunities that are coming in the Senior School at PHS, our first **Senior School Information Evening** will be held on **Thursday 10 June**. More information will come in relation to this, but please mark the date in your calendar.

Another important event at the end of term is our end of semester awards and showcase evening. This semester, it will be held on **Wednesday 23 June, from 3pm - 7:30pm**. As part of their IMPACT9 program, our Year 9 students will be using the day to run an arts and culture festival, and families from across the community are welcome to join us and see the range of displays and activities on offer as part of our first 'Prahran Rising' festival.

There will also be performances, exhibitions and displays of student learning from each year level, the opportunity to meet and talk informally with teachers and students about learning, and from 6pm, our mid-year awards presentations.

Finally, just a reminder that our mid-term progress report will be coming our very soon, while full semester reports will be distributed at the end of Term 2. As always, if you have any questions about teaching and learning, please let me know.

James Fidler - **Assistant Principal**



## Community Involvement

Over the past few weeks we have had two significant parent events at Prahran High School. On Wednesday 5 May we hosted Star Health who presented information about their Tuning Into Teens Program, which is running free to PHS families. It revolves around emotion coaching, provides support on building the relationship with your teenager, and will be delivered via webinars in June. You can register for these here: <http://bit.ly/TinTWebinar> or by calling Star Health on 0413 836 465.

We have also hosted John Hendry OAM over two days in May. John comes to PHS with huge experience in building positive school cultures and he continues to work with various community organisations and peak bodies, including Parents Victoria.

John spent time with all of our students doing workshops on the essential elements of relationships - **trust, forgiveness, integrity, hope and compassion**. He then talked with parents as well, and shared how to use this framework to connect within families.

John's work is foundational in our approach to working with young people and families in our school. We are so grateful to have him as a trusted partner and friend to our school. We have included an article he recommends here:

### School Uniform

We have seen a significant improvement in students wearing their uniforms with pride. Thank you for your efforts in this, and I ask you to continue insisting that your child/ren wears their correct uniform, on the correct days. As the winter months bring cooler weather, please ensure students have the necessary jumpers, blazers, track pants and shell jackets.

Students should not be wearing hoodies or non-PHS branded items to school. If you need help in acquiring these items, please let the office know.

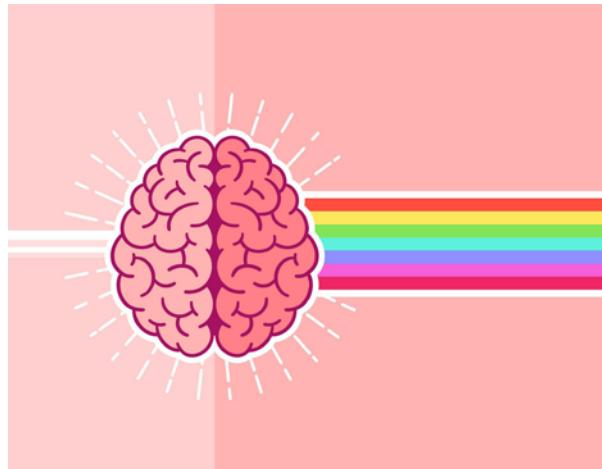
If students have been reminded repeatedly and the uniform doesn't improve, they may be sent home from school to change.

### Ride Safe to School

Finally, a reminder of the importance of cycling and riding safely to school. Incorporating exercise into the daily routine is a great way of establishing healthy habits for life, and we love seeing how many of our students use environmentally friendly transport methods to come to school. If your child goes to school on a bike, scooter or skateboard, please remind them:

- Ride on the left
- Give way to pedestrians
- Wear a helmet and use a bell
- Be courteous of other pavement users - slow down

Shannan Roberts - **Assistant Principal**



# LIBRARY

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## Library Leadership Committee

We have recently been appointed as the Library Leadership Committee for 2021. Our role is to consult on the library resources, help organise bookish events throughout the year and promote a reading culture within the school. We will also seek feedback from other students on how to improve the library and assist with keeping the space running successfully.

Our first event for the year was to celebrate Library & Information Week, which was held this week all around Australia. The theme this year was "Adventures in Space and Time" so we planned a Blind Date with a Sci-Fi Book at lunchtime on Wednesday. Students came along to borrow a book in the genre... but they didn't know what it was until they unwrapped it! We handpicked every book so we could guarantee they wouldn't be able to put it down! It was a chance to try reading something new and unexpected.

We have also started a new pinboard display which includes a list of the Top 10 Most Popular Books in the PHS library for each month, as well as some recent book recommendations from us. Check out this month's display which has some great suggestions from Poppy & Lucie. Plus, the most popular books surprised us a bit, in a good way! The pinboard is near the conference room door in the library.

Dylan, Luca, Javan, Amelie,  
Ruby, Yael, Poppy & Lucie



# IMPACT9

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## IMPACT9

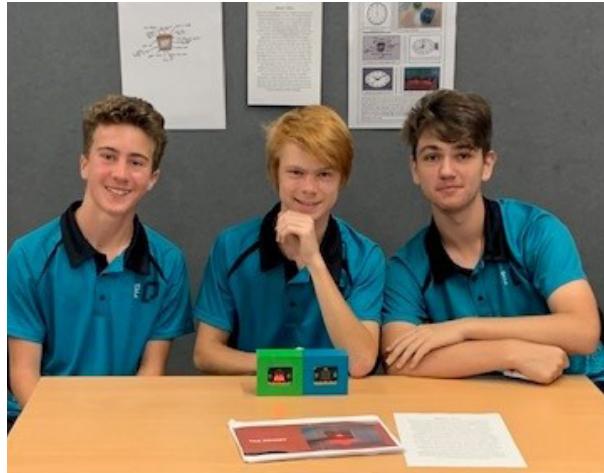
Last Friday, our Year 9 students presented their IMPACT 9 inventions and innovations projects to the school community. We were lucky to have PHS parents (and design industry experts) Ingrid Langtry and Yelena Beylin Perry to provide feedback to the students on their projects.

Both Ingrid and Yelena commended the students on their level of effort, creativity and design thinking. The Year 9 students' innovative solutions to problems that they had identified at school and in the community, are a testament to their creativity and critical thinking skills which is ever more important to develop in our young learners.

Year 7 and 8 students attended the exhibition, along with parents of our Year 9 students, and voted for the 'People's Choice' award. We're very pleased to announce the winners as Natasha (9D), Claudia (9D), and Lily (9C) who devised, designed, and coded a student 'Check-In System/Kiosk' that allows students to easily see their class timetable and session locations – an important invention, as students cannot use their phones during school time, to see their Compass timetables. Well done Natasha, Claudia and Lily, and to all students on completing their second IMPACT9 project.

Students now turn their attention to devising and running their own festival – **Prahran Rising** – which will be held at PHS on the evening of 23 June. More details to come.

Chris Bush - **IMPACT9 Leader**



# FOOD FOR LIFE

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## Food for Life – Commis Chef

**Our Food for Life and Commis Chef students have been busy preparing and demonstrating a variety of skills and techniques in producing their dishes this semester.**

Students in Year 7 have been learning about safe food preparation practices, the importance of knife safety and how to accurately measure ingredients. They also have an understanding about procedural texts and have practiced interpreting these texts when following and reading through their recipes to produce their dishes. They have also been able to effectively evaluate the success of their dishes.

Students in Year 8 have been exploring what food sustainability is, and how they as consumers can make sustainable food choices. They have recently completed an assessment on food waste where they researched and identified the impacts food waste has on the environment, the economy, and society. They continue to explore topics about seafood sustainability, cattle and poultry farming. Students have produced a variety of dishes this term: chicken gyoza, Thai fish cakes and pumpkin soup. Understanding the environmental impacts, work, and resources required to bring food from the farm to the table.



In Commis Chef students have spent the first term learning how to prepare different types of baked goods and have examined the effects of different types of leavening ingredients and aeration methods and the ways they impact their products. In Term Two students have been able to build on their knowledge and have learnt new techniques and applications to prepare and produce savoury goods.

Last week students made a rough pastry from scratch to produce a savoury chicken pie. They have also learned how to make and roll pasta. Next week students will be producing homemade sauce and gnocchi. Their skills continue to develop and grow on weekly basis.

Karen Richards - **Food for Life**



## Art, Design & Innovation

In Year 8 Art, Design & Innovation this term, students have been exploring photography. First, the Year 8 students looked at the anatomy of a camera and were very lucky to have some staff and students bring in a few older camera styles to examine.

Then, students learnt how to analyse photographs using the correct terminology, before jumping into taking some photographs. For the practical activities, students have explored many different subject matters, including flatlay photography, representing the art elements and principles in a photograph, using mirrors and glass to warp reality, and creating costumes to photograph inspired by the Australian photographer Gerwyn Davies.

Next, students will be working on an individual focus for their photography folios and we can't wait to see the students' final artworks!

Amarinda Long - Art, Design and Innovation



# CLUBS

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## A Learning Place Just for Girls

### Thursday Morning 8am Homework Club

Each Thursday morning at 8am, a determined group of girls meet together on level 3 to share the news of their week.

Homework Club is a place where our PHS girls come to catch up on any missed homework and revise any work they found challenging. In Homework Club, girls are actively supporting each other in their learning and building genuine friendships and connections across all year levels.

Our teaching and learning takes place cooperatively. Two weeks ago, I was asked to hand over my whiteboard marker to the Year 9 girls, so they could teach the Year 8 girls how to multiply fractions. I listened on delighted as the older students reassured their younger peers that the Maths test will be fine. Last week Year 8 girls were finding a news item for a Year 7 student to report on as part of her homework; the story chosen a giant moth found in a Queensland school.

There are many examples of this collective collaboration and it is joyful!

Each week we share muffins, sometimes also hot chocolates but more importantly we are building a culture of shared learning. If you're a PHS girl, please join us to learn and reflect and don't forget to bring your homework!

Cressida Crossley - Learning Tutor



## Congratulations Sam, and good luck!

Sam from 8B recently competed in the Bayside Southern Regional Golf Tournament at East Wood Golf Club and he has made it through to the State Finals – an incredible achievement!

Sam finished 4th overall and shot a round of 42 over 9 holes. Sam will now represent PHS in the State Finals at Gardeners Run Golf Club on the 28th of May.

Well done Sam. We wish you all the best for the State Finals.

Prahran High Theatre proudly presents...

THE  
**BROTHERS  
GRIMM  
SPECTACULATHON**

BY **Don Zolidis**

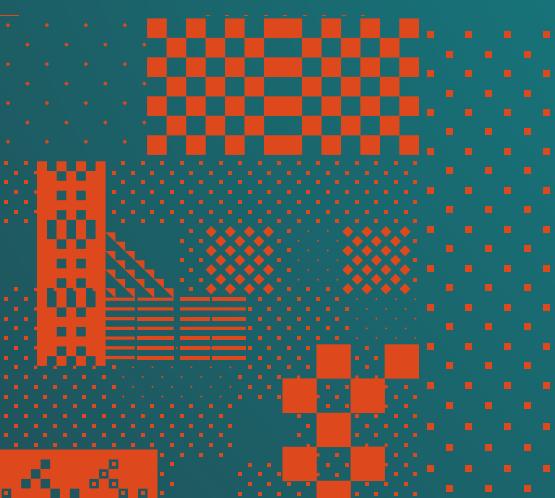
3rd, 4th and 5th of June 2021

@7pm in the

**Prahran High School Theatre**

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL, ON BEHALF OF PLAYSCRIPTS, INC.

**directed by  
Andrew Byrne**



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 10 June**

Year 9 – 10 Family Information Evening (6:00 – 7:00pm)

**Wednesday 23 June**

Semester 1 Learning Showcase (3:00 – 7:30pm)

**Friday 25 June**

End Term 2

Students dismissed at 2:30pm



## Privacy Statement

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our [website](#).

**The Body Project Australia is a group-based program for young women that has been delivered worldwide. The program aims to help participants challenge societal messages that focus on an ideal body, and to start to engage in strategies to improve their relationship with their own body.**

**Is this program for me?** This program is for young women aged 14 to 18 who identify as having body dissatisfaction (you have negative thoughts and/or feelings about your body).

The program takes place over 4 weekly sessions, delivered in person in a small group of young women (max 12pp). Free to join!

This is an interactive program in a friendly, small group setting. You can expect a combination of education, reflection and discussion within the group. At the end of each session you will be given an activity to complete in real life. These activities will be discussed together the following week.

**WHEN:**

- Week 1 - Wednesday 2nd June 4-5:30pm
- Week 2 - Wednesday 9th June 4-5:30pm
- Week 3 - Wednesday 16th June 4-5:30pm
- Week 4 - Wednesday 23rd June 4-5:30pm

**WHERE:** Chris Gahan Centre, 50 Grattan Street, Prahran 3181

**Need help?**  
[www.eatingdisorders.org.au](http://www.eatingdisorders.org.au)

## Want to feel more comfortable in your body?

Many young people experience negative thoughts and feelings about their body.

Messages from friends, family and social media can intensify negative body image, making it difficult for young people to feel confident in who they are and engage in activities they enjoy.

Negative body image is a risk factor for developing an eating disorder, meaning it is important for young people to get support when body image concerns are arising.

Understanding and improving body image can have a positive impact on self-esteem, mood, anxiety, physical health, social wellbeing and life satisfaction.

## Sign up online!

<https://bpa-june-2021.eventbrite.com.au>



Questions? Contact Rosie at [education@eatingdisorders.org.au](mailto:education@eatingdisorders.org.au)

