



**PRAHRAN
HIGH
SCHOOL**

CREATIVITY . CURIOSITY . CHALLENGE . CHARACTER
MAKE AN IMPACT

2021 THE PHS NEWS #4

CONTINUING OUR LEARNING ADVENTURE



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The Launch of our Senior School



Recently we hosted our family information session online to launch our Senior School for 2022. I was so pleased to see the majority of our Year 9 families, along with many families from other levels joining the online presentation.

This is a significant and important milestone for us and the feedback we have received from families and students has been encouraging.

As we've worked to develop the very best Senior School model for our community, I've reflected on how much we've grown since I stood in front of many of you at the St Kilda Town Hall, as we launched our new school in 2018. How time has flown.

As a developing school we have come such a long way. We have achieved much in the short time that we've been together. We've also done all that we've managed to do, be and become, in a climate of social, health and civic upheavals, the likes of which most of us have not experienced before.

And now, we launch the next very important steps for our school - the Senior School to begin in 2022. The Senior School is a motivating and exciting time for students. As young people move into the three years of Senior School, they begin to connect the demands of school with the myriad possibilities of the world beyond.

We have intentionally planned a genuine three-year model for our senior students. We believe this will provide our students with the very best opportunities for individual success, individual pathways and a balance of learning rigor and personal wellbeing.

The information session we facilitated is very much the start of our community Senior School conversation, which will now continue in the months and years ahead. As Term 3 begins, our focus moves to a more granular focus on subject content and selection. We will meet every Year 9 student 1:1 with their families to plan their course for 2022. This will take place later in August and starts the personalised approach to pathways we commit to co-planning.

As we've built Prahran High School, we knew that we wanted our Senior School, when we got here, to be a robust, balanced, future-focused and unique three-year model, that is right for learners in 2022. We believe we have those foundations right.

We are at a significant point in history. This was true before 2020 and as the pandemic has ravaged and changed the world, it is certainly true now. This is a time like no other. And, as we make our way through these uncertain times and set our sights on the future, our young people require new and different skills, knowledge and character strengths to enable them to thrive throughout their future. And, thrive they will – with all of our guidance and support.

We live in a world in which automation and artificial intelligence are changing the nature of work forever more; we live in a world in which social media has a pervasive influence on all we do and say – where people are connected online perhaps more than they are in person; we live in a world of seismic geo-political change. And, we live in a world struggling through a global pandemic. Any one of these factors is significant, combined is another level of challenge indeed.



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And, we must never forget that we also live in a world full of opportunity, full of promise and full of hope. It's up to us to embrace this. And embrace the challenge we will at Prahran High School, as we head toward Year 10 and the beginning of Senior School.

The world we live in requires young people to be highly literate and numerate, to be STEAM savvy, to understand how to harness technology for good, to be problem solvers, to be able to collaborate, to be critical and creative thinkers, and to be compassionate – to be good people who understand and embrace what it is to be of positive character.

That is what the future will require of our young people and it is a future that we are doing all we can to prepare them for.

We will have unashamedly high standards and those standards will push our students. We will challenge students with their learning, even more than in Year 9. Our students need this challenge and I know they will rise to what we ask of them.

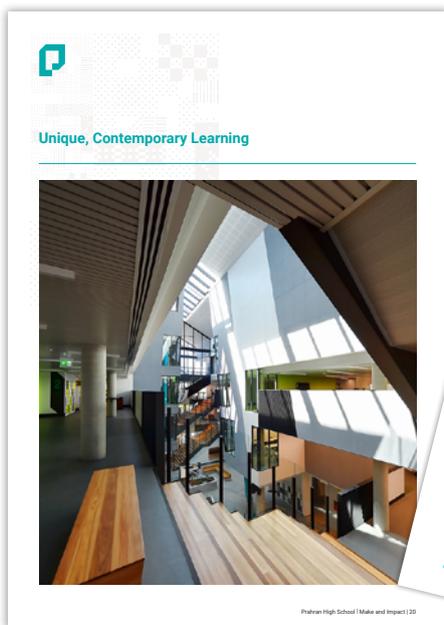
Being the eldest students in our school has brought opportunities our Year 9 students wouldn't have had elsewhere. And it has also meant that they have not yet seen the hard work that goes into Senior School life and success at high school. As we've launched the Senior School, we are encouraging students to start to see this change and to begin to understand that the next three years will be quite different to the last.

As we further this work together, we continue to encourage and welcome your feedback. Already the model is the result of a collaborative effort between staff, students, families, School Council and external experts. Together we create better results and we look forward to your ideas and questions as we proceed.

Please take a few minutes to read this latest edition of The PHS News. There is so much happening around our school, so much achievement and so much positivity. This is a snapshot of life at PHS and I'm proud to share these highlights with you.

I look forward to welcoming students back to school for the beginning of Term 3.

Enjoy the holidays with the family.



**Nathan Chisholm
Foundation Principal**

Teaching and Learning Update

As we reach the end of Term 2, it is an important time to reflect on the teaching and learning progress and growth we have seen in 2021. Throughout the past few weeks we have once again transitioned into a period of remote learning, and once again it was remarkable how well our students adapted to the challenge, displaying resilience and independence in their learning.

Thank-you to our teachers for the outstanding work they have done (again) in continuing learning programs, including adapting final projects and assessments to meet the home environment.

There have been some real highlights in teaching and learning across the semester. Our IMPACT9 program has taken flight, with students pursuing more depth in their learning through a range of Specialisations and working on a range of rich and detailed projects. Currently, students are completing their Passion Projects.

Some of the wide range of projects they have chosen to work on include: writing their first novel, designing and building a go-kart, writing and producing a rap EP, creating and screen-printing a clothing brand, and exploring a personal meditation program. Seeing students working independently and guiding their own learning has been such a positive experience.

In 2021 we have introduced the MYLNS (Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Strategy) and Tutor Learning Initiatives, with groups of students receiving targeted support in literacy and numeracy. Our teachers who are leading these initiatives are doing a great job and students are showing improvement. These teachers are also supporting class teachers to help students in need across the school.

As Nathan explained in his introduction, we have recently presented our Senior School Model 10-12 to the school community, and feedback so far has been positive. We are really proud of the opportunities we will be able to offer, with VCE extension opportunities available across all learning areas, and a range of options and pathways to support all students.

In Term 3, we will begin our subject selection and counselling process, connecting with careers and pathways in an authentic way to help students begin the process of setting their own path.

Across the school, at the time of writing, students are working on their final assessments and teachers are completing end of semester reports. Our final progress report for the semester will be published on the last day of term, while full reports (including Assessment Task summaries, Victorian Curriculum outcomes, and written feedback) will be published after the holidays.

Finally, due to current COVID restrictions, we have had to postpone our planned Showcase of Learning evening. It is so important to us that we open the school and celebrate the learning that students have undertaken, through performances, displays and exhibitions while also providing an informal opportunity to meet with teachers. More details will come as soon as restrictions allow us to start properly planning the event for early Term 3.

James Fidler - Assistant Principal



Year 9 Art, Design and Innovation Specialisations

This term our Year 9 ADI Specialisation students have been working on new topics, diversifying their skills and experiences in different artforms.

In Apprentice to Master our current unit is Portraits in Print. Students are learning drypoint etching, screen printing and monoprinting techniques, selecting one or all of these to create a portrait of someone they admire.

Our Wearable Art students are busy on the sewing machines, making bucket hats and learning the basics of sewing and garment construction. They are also developing a capsule collection for their chosen designer or to meet a design brief, using croquis and iPads.

In Art Laboratory we have been exploring the concept of Art and Biology through sculptural hybrid creatures, using Patricia Piccinini as our guiding artist. While Learning@Home we created the armature out of foil which we are now wrapping skin-like Sculpey plasticine to create detail.

In amongst all of this we were lucky to squeeze in a trip to the NGV and the Melbourne Museum, looking at how the VCE students approached Art, Studio Art and Viscom. This was an inspiring and informative day for our students before they decide if they will pursue one of these subjects in 2022.

Lara Karasavvidis - ADI Leader



Year 9 English Project

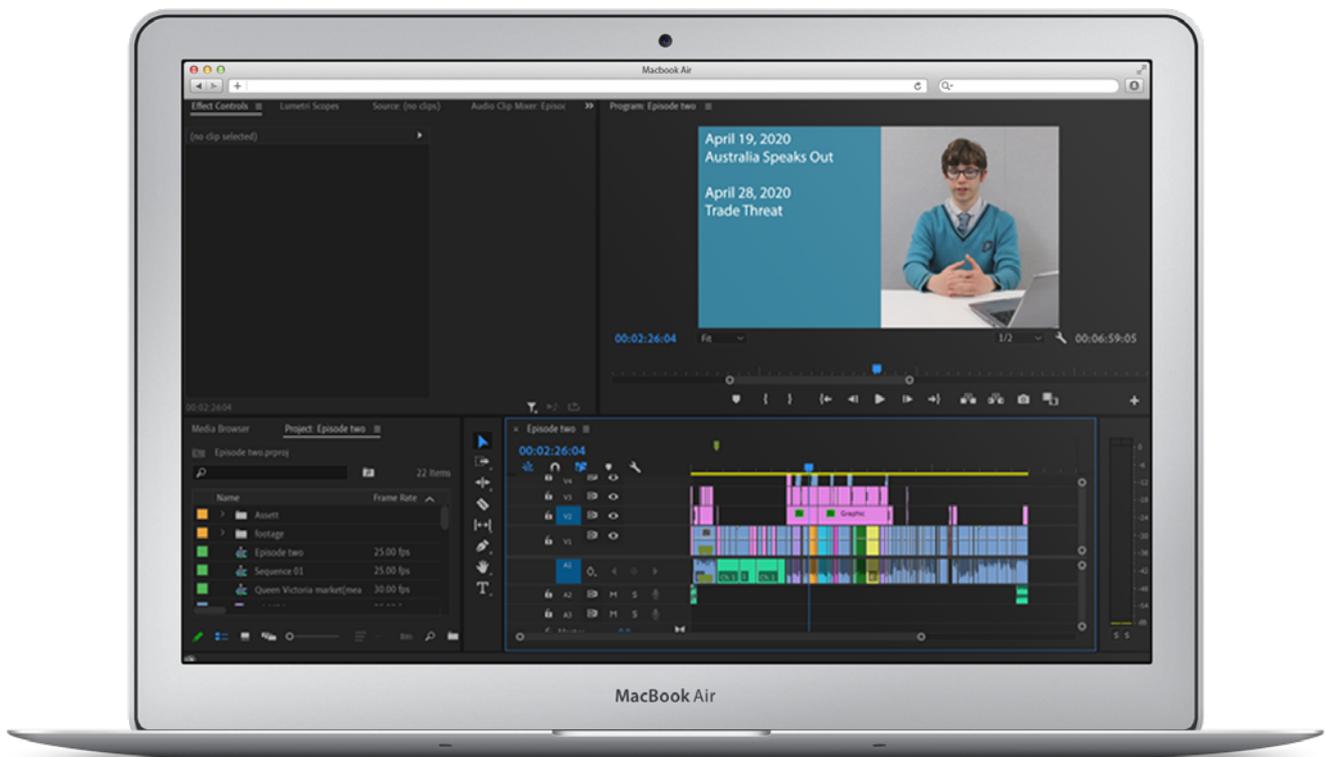
Most of us consume video media daily designed to be scrolled through, uncritically. Platforms utilise autoplay and algorithm based 'curation' to lull us into sacrificing thoughtful choices for instant gratification.

The urge to 'switch off' our brains has been so widely accepted into the mainstream that you see "chillax" brandished on Kmart pillows and people happily describing their weekends as "bingeing" content. In this reality, learning to deconstruct and create video offers opportunity to be critical and creative to encounter video through shot choices, writing, edits, assets and publishing.

Creating 5 minutes of content in 7 days, a group of Year 9 students have taken on the challenge – thinking deeply about the content they create and the effect it will have on the audience. So far we have produced three fantastic episodes. Tune in to the channel to discover the fruits of our labour.

Ethan R - Year 9

Isabella Turnbull - English Learning Area Co-Leader



News from the Kitchen

Our Year 8 Food for Life students and Year 9 Commis Chef students have done an amazing job producing their design tasks this week.

Year 8 students had a design brief in which they were required to research and produce a seasonal fruit dessert that would be suitable to put on a menu at a local restaurant. Students planned and prepared while learning at home so that when they returned to site they were able to get straight into the kitchen to produce their designs. Students made everything from parfaits to tarts, pancakes to biscuits, and slices. They did an excellent job showcasing their creativity and culinary flair.

For the Year 9 Commis Chef students' design brief, they were required to research, produce, and create a workplan for an Indian curry. The smells coming from our kitchen on Thursday afternoon were incredible! Students utilised a variety of different spices and herbs to produce their traditional dishes. They did an excellent job rising to the challenge and produced some delicious curries that they were very proud of.

Karen Richards - Food for Life Leader



2021 Parent Payments Reminder

Thank you to all families who have already paid your 2021 Parent Payments. We appreciate your support and your timely response to invoices.

Our Parent Payments arrangements support the delivery and implementation of our high-quality and engaging educational programs that we offer at Prahran High School. Schools do not receive government funding for everything that we provide to your child. We are only able to do all that we do at our school, with the support of families through payment of Charges.

These parent charges are used to fund such things as: curriculum programs, dishes cooked in Food for Life, some year level incursions, products built in Product Design and Technology, **the student diary we are about to launch for students**, special wellbeing days and many other vital services to support the learning and engagement of our students.

Each year when this information about school charges is sent home, we also note the voluntary, tax-deductible Building Fund, Library Fund and Voluntary Contribution Fund. These are voluntary contributions and can be claimed as tax-deductions.

We are proud of the excellent school that we are building together. It is a collaborative community effort and we are grateful for your support. We do also make every effort to ensure any additional costs to families are affordable and kept to a minimum.

Natalie Smolarek - **Business Manager**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 25 June

End Term 2

Students dismissed at 2:30pm

Wednesday 28 July

Semester 1 Learning Showcase (6:00 – 7:00pm)

Thursday 5 – Saturday 7 August

The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon

Monday 9 August – Friday 13 August

Year 9 Senior School Course Counselling Week

Friday 17 September

End Term 3

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](#).



**MIDDLE YEARS & STONNINGTON YOUTH SERVICES
PRESENT AS PART OF VICTORIAN YOUTH WEEK**

[YOUTH CREATE]

STONNINGTON ART EXHIBITION!

**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE CREATIVITY
OF LOCAL YOUNG PEOPLE AND
TO VOTE ON YOUR FAVOURITE ARTWORK**

**GOING LIVE AT 5PM ON
FRIDAY 2ND OF JULY**

**TUNE IN VIA THE STONNINGTON YOUTH SERVICES
INSTAGRAM PAGE:**

@stonningtonyouthservices

**ALL AGES. DRUG, ALCOHOL
AND SMOKE FREE EVENT**



MAKE YOUR
OWN:



WORKSHOP!



WITH LUCY JANE

Date: Tuesday 29th June

Time: 1-3pm

Register: youth@stonnington.vic.gov.au