



## Parents and Friends Committee Meeting 1 May 2019

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Meeting Opened:</b>           | 7:30pm  |
| <b>Present:</b>                  | Chris Black , April Hampson, Jade Smith, Sharron Miller, Mandy Jewell   |
| <b>Apologies:</b>                | Naomi Bartlett , Elinor Allen, Sharron Clover   |
| <b>Correspondence in:</b>        | Financial Report  |
| <b>Correspondence Out:</b>       | Nil   |
| <b>Welcome:</b>                  | Chris Black, announced a reduced content meeting, moving agenda items to next meeting where more parent discussion could take place |
| <b>Opening Prayer:</b>           | Chris Black   |
| <b>Previous Meeting Minutes:</b> | April Hampson, approved by Mandy Jewel, seconded by Sharon Miller   |
| <b>Treasurer Report:</b>         | \$12,570.39   |

**Guest Speaker:** **Jade Smith, Middle School Curriculum Leader, Cranbourne**

Jade accepted her position at St. Peter's College from the beginning of 2019 after spending her years since graduating university at Lavalla College. The change was necessitated by her husband's redundancy in late 2018 and subsequent securing of employment in metropolitan Melbourne. This also saw them having to sell their new dream home. Jade and her husband are now building their new dream home in Torradin. Jade made a conscious decision to spend her teaching rounds, while studying, at different types of schools, so she could get a real life feel for the different education processes at both Government schools and Private schools. She found herself drawn to Catholic Education due to their strong Pastoral Care Programs. During her previous employment Jade undertook a number of roles and taught over a number of Key learning Areas. Jade is passionate about Curriculum and as such her role with us is ideal, and she is really looking forward to the challenge it offers.

**Parents Role in Subject Selection handout attached**

**Principal Report:** **Chris Black**

Harmony Day, Mitch Rabot Staff V Students Cricket Match, annual event once again won by the staff! SIS Big Night Performing Arts Evening was once again a wonderful for our students as well as those in our neighbouring Secondary Colleges. Stations of the Cross goes from strength to strength each year, and this year saw a big step up in the effort and quality of the students performances at both CRA and CLN Campuses. Well done to all the musicians, choir members and actors. Parent & Teachers Interviews were well attended at both campuses, and the College continues to emphasise the importance of parent involvement in the schooling of their children. Term 2 has stated off as busy as ever, with ANZAC Liturgies held at both CRA and CLN campuses. These are put together by the VCAL students who involve the whole College, staff & students, and also the local aged care community. Students spend time over morning tea or lunch with their invited guests talking about their experiences of war and the ANZAC spirit.

**General Business:**

P&F Support of Solomon Islands Fundraising. Sale of Raffle tickets & Trivia Night table sales

**Closing Prayer:** Chris Black

**Meeting Closed:** 8.15 pm

**Next meeting:**

29 May 2019, Clyde North Campus

**2019 dates:**

|             |                    |  |
|-------------|--------------------|--|
| Tue 28 May  | 6.00 pm            | Yr 7 2021 Information Evening Clyde North Campus   |
| Wed 29 May  | 6.15 pm            | Solomon Islands Fundraising Mtg                    |
| Wed 29 May  | 7.15 pm            | P&F Meeting  |
| Thur 30 May | 6.00 pm            | Yr 7 2021 Information Evening Cranbourne Campus    |
| Tue 25 June |                    | St. Peter's Day BBQ lunch                          |
| Wed 17 July | 6.15 pm            | Solomon Islands Fundraising Mtg                    |
| Wed 17 July | 7.15 pm            | P&F Meeting  |
| Fri 2 Aug   | 7.00 pm            | Solomon Islands Trivia & Silent Auction Evening    |
| Wed 28 Aug  | 7.15 pm            | P&F Meeting  |
| Wed 16 Oct  | 7.00 pm            | Gr 6 Family Orientation Evening Cranbourne Campus  |
| Tue 29 Oct  | 7.00 pm            | Gr 6 Family Orientation Evening Clyde North Campus |
| Wed 6 Nov   | 7.15 pm            | P&F Meeting  |
| Wed 11 Dec  | 7.15 pm            | P&F Meeting  |
| Tue 3 Dec   | 6.30 pm            | SPC Presentation Night                             |
| Tue 3 Dec   | 8.50 am to 9.30 am | Yr 7 2020 Orientation Day                          |

To highlight the importance of subject selection and how you can help your child. The overall message I want to convey is that we want to keep doors open, and not close them.

I remember during Year 8 I was deep into my 'emo' phase and I had my heart set on becoming a producer and wanting to be the next Billie Joe Armstrong in an all-female Green Day band as my side gig. I loved music. I still do. I kept on with Music in Year 10 as well as through my VCE, but with the help of my parents and my careers advisor, I kept my options open by ensuring that I had Maths and Science and in my subject list. While Year 8 me would turn up her nose at the idea of Maths outside of counting rest bars and demisemiquavers, Year 12 me would have been up a certain type of creek in her pursuit of a teaching career if I didn't have Maths as part of my pathway.

Given that Subject Selection starts in August, it is important that these conversations begin sooner rather than later, to ensure your child is making an informed decision, and not one based on what their friends are doing or because they forgot to bring their forms home until the day before they're due.

Why is this important? Well, while employment trends may slightly sway between the time your child begins Year 7 and completes Year 12, the overall trend for the last ten years has been consistent with the findings above. This means that it is important that your child is selecting a range of subjects that they enjoy, as well as subjects that will keep their options open.

For example, a student feels fairly confident that they want to eventually undertake a Bachelor of Nursing, most Universities are after a Study Score of at least 30 in English at the conclusion of VCE. Now, given that English is a mandatory VCE subject, that means that *the Nursing door is open*. However, if a student wants to drop Mathematics all together, that means that they are essentially *closing the door* to a Bachelor of Education at a number of institutions. While this proves a point for VCE subject selection, we have to recognise that success in the senior year levels begins with a strong grounding with the basics of the junior and middle years. For this reason, encourage your child to choose subjects that they identify as stepping stones on their career pathway - and not just art and sport because they're more 'fun'.

# Parent Involvement with Subject Selection

## 1. Ask Questions

- a. What are you interested in?
- b. What are you good at?
- c. What brings me joy?
- d. Do you enjoy working in teams or by yourself?
- e. What do you aspire to do?
- f. Who do you aspire to be like?



## 2. Explore Potential Careers

- a. Look at jobs available in those particular areas of interest
  - i. <https://myfuture.edu.au/bullseyes> - click on a subject that your child is interested in and see a variety of career options in that field.
- b. Seek out and talk to people who work in that field. What is involved 'day to day'? What do these people like/dislike about their job?
- c. Draw up a potential career pathway - look at how to get from where you are now, and where you wants to be in the future.
- d. Where can this job lead me?

## 3. Get Specific

- a. What qualifications are needed for this job?
- b. How likely is it that you will find paid employment?
- c. If you need to go to University, what subjects are prerequisites for this course?
- d. If you want to go into a trade, what subjects will help you on your way? When should you begin an apprenticeship? Or a traineeship?
- e. What personal qualities are required for this career choice?

### Other resources:

Pages 4-6 of the VTAC Guide for Year 10's offer a couple of great worksheets to help narrow down potential career pathways. These will work for Year 7 through to Year 10.

[http://www.vtac.edu.au/files/pdf/publications/2018\\_year\\_10\\_guide.pdf](http://www.vtac.edu.au/files/pdf/publications/2018_year_10_guide.pdf)

University course search engine - use this to help draft a pathway to a future career

<https://delta.vtac.edu.au/CourseSearch/searchguide.htm>

### Hard Facts:

According to a study conducted by the Federal Government, 120,000 students graduated University in 2018 and just under ¾ had gained employment within four months.

Only 52.2% of Creative Arts graduates were sitting in full-time employment, while tourism, hospitality, personal services, and sport and recreation in a similar percentile bracket with only 59.6% employed full-time.

Those who studied Medicine only sit at 94.9% full-time employment - proving that even if you're a doctor, you aren't guaranteed a full-time job!

Areas of study with strong job prospects included dentistry (86.8%), veterinary science (84.7%), rehabilitation (89.3%) and engineering (83.1%), whereas students with generalist degrees such as Arts or Liberal Studies struggled to find full-time employment in the short term. (Brown, 2019; Robinson, 2019)

### References:

Robinson, N. (2019). *Most university graduates get a job within months but some courses do better than others*. [online] ABC News. Available at: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-01-11/australian-job-prospects-for-university-graduates/10706216> [Accessed 25 Apr. 2019].

Brown, R. (2019). *New data reveals sunny outlook for engineering graduates' job prospects - Create*. [online] Create. Available at: <https://www.createdigital.org.au/new-data-outlook-engineering-graduates-job/> [Accessed 25 Apr. 2019].

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[http://www.vtac.edu.au/files/pdf/publications/2018\\_year\\_10\\_guide.pdf](http://www.vtac.edu.au/files/pdf/publications/2018_year_10_guide.pdf)

University course search engine

<https://delta.vtac.edu.au/CourseSearch/searchguide.htm>