

The Parkmore Pulse

Important Dates

DECEMBER

13TH - CIRCUS CREW INCURSION P-6
13TH - YEAR 6 GRADUATION
18TH - MCG EXCURSION P-6
20TH - CIRCUS SPECTACULAR P-6
21ST - FINAL ASSEMBLY
21ST - DISMISSAL 1.30PM

JANUARY

29TH - STAFF RETURN
30TH - YEARS 1-6 RETURN TO SCHOOL
31ST - PREP STUDENTS BEGIN

SCHOOL TERMS 2019

TERM 1 - 30 JANUARY TO 5 APRIL
TERM 2 - 23 APRIL TO 28 JUNE
TERM 3 - 15 JULY TO 20 SEPTEMBER
TERM 4 - 7 OCTOBER TO 20 DECEMBER



Parkmore PS in the news

This week a team of senior students became 'Santa for a Senior', taking Christmas cards made by our students to Forest Hill Retirement Village residents. They have stirred up quite a media storm, and have appeared on 3AW, Channel 7 news and are to be featured in the Whitehorse Leader. Congratulations to Adrienne Baucke and her team of students for participating in this wonderful event, for representing Parkmore PS so positively, and for your demonstration of a Benefit Mindset. Click on the link below to hear the radio interview:

<https://omny.fm/shows/drive-with-tom-elliott/parkmore-primary-students-deliver-handmade-xmas-ca>

From the Principal

Parents and Friends

This Wednesday evening I enjoyed attending the final Parents and Friends meeting for the year. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Helen G. and her team on raising a significant amount of money to support our school.



This year the funds raised by P&F have helped to buy classroom furniture, and will go towards playground refurbishment planned for the holidays. Of note also is the \$500 raised in the last 18 months through Scholastic Book Club that has gone towards buying new books for the library.

Another significant contribution to the school made by the P&F is their work behind the scenes when organising or supporting school events. Your efforts really contribute to the wonderful community feel that is so evident at Parkmore Primary School. Thanks to all who have contributed to the work of the P&F through the many activities through the year.

P&F are already planning for future meetings and activities throughout 2019. There are some great ideas bubbling away – watch this space for future news!

Principal's Report

More Parkmore PS in the news!

Recently I was invited to write an article for the journal Connect, published by the Australian Council of Educational Research, about Parkmore Primary School's SRC and our great work in providing our students voice and agency over their participation in the school community. You can read this article below or at:

<https://research.acer.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1243&context=connect>

Year 6 Graduation

Last night it was a privilege to participate in our Year 6 graduation. Year 6s, you take such a deep understanding of yourselves as learners and positive mindsets into the future - these are valuable skills that will help you as you make your way through secondary school! I congratulate you all on this important milestone, and wish you all well in the future.

Staffing update

I wish to advise our school community of some changes to staffing at Parkmore Primary School for 2019.

Sadly, Glenn Hallett will be leaving Parkmore at the end of this term. Mr Hallett has been appointed Learning Specialist at Glendale Primary School, a significant promotion. Glenn began his teaching career at Parkmore Primary School, and during his many years here, has become a much loved and respected teacher and literacy leader. We congratulate him on his appointment and wish him well in the future.

This year we also farewell Sam Schrodter. Sam has accepted a teaching position at Scotch College. In the two years that he has been at Parkmore, Sam has been an enthusiastic teacher with a passion for IT – and a marvellous barista! We wish Sam all the best in his new school and thank him for his dedication to the students in his care.

Fiona Edgely will also be leaving us at the end of term. In the time that she has been here, Fiona has organised a highly successful Twilight Sports event. We thank Fiona for her contribution to our community.

I am delighted to announce our new specialist teachers for 2019:

- Michael Ennis – Performing Arts. Michael is a highly experienced and regarded Performing Arts teacher who is dedicated to developing a positive, engaging and creative classroom.
- Jason Webb – P.E. Jason comes to Parkmore with strong curriculum knowledge and a passion for sport and coaching.

Principal's Report

We are currently in the process of appointing a classroom teacher. As we are keen to find someone who is the best fit for our school this can take time. Once the appointment has been made the community will be advised as soon as possible.

Staffing for 2019 currently stands as follows:

Junior Classroom Team

- Clare Simmons
- Simon McIntosh
- Michelle Bamford

Senior Classroom Team

- Cathy Gilbert
- Adrienne Baucke
- *New Teacher*

Specialist Team

- Helen Yang – LOTE and Art
- Michael Ennis – Performing Arts
- Jason Webb – PE

Integration Aides

- Anne Cahill
- Michelle Bamford
- Olivia Leahy

Happy Holidays!

Finally, I would like to wish the entire Parkmore community a wonderful festive season and a safe, fun and relaxing holiday. See you on the 30th January for another great year at Parkmore!

Isobel McLennan

Principal

Parkmore Primary School, Forest Hill, Vic

Mindsets for Student Voice

Students at Parkmore Primary School have a tradition of social action through fundraising, but are now looking to their own school community to make their voices heard.

Parkmore Primary School, in Melbourne's Forest Hill, is a small school with a strong community feel. Teachers value the flexibility that the school's size affords them – the school's pedagogical approach sees teachers working with students across the school, with a real focus on intervention at each student's point of learning. The school is proud in the way in which it prepares its students for life in a 21st century world, providing them with a rigorous academic foundation, but also consciously developing their social and emotional skills through a Positive Education approach that specifically develops personal character strengths, positive relationships and a growth mindset.

This concept of the growth mindset is not static – rather, it is taught explicitly in a variety of contexts to equip students with skills for social development, approaches to domain-specific learning, and, inspired by the work of Professor Leah Waters, as a protective measure against mental illness.

As a new principal at Parkmore Primary School, one of my first contact points was with our **Student Representative Council**. Together with SRC leaders and their families, I attended the **VicSRC Awards**, where Parkmore students were awarded a runners-up prize for **Best Primary School SRC**. I was interested to investigate what made our school SRC so successful, and so attended the next SRC meeting as a special guest to find out more.

The Parkmore SRC is completely student-run, with support from senior classroom teacher **Adrienne Baucke**. The students have their own agenda, and the two school captains chair the meeting. The chairs call out the items to the floor, and students respond. For some items, the opinions of all council members are sought in a round-robin style (with an option to pass), but other items are open to the floor for comment. This makes for a rather informal feel to the proceedings, but the relaxed culture of the meetings is deliberate to ensure



that all participants have a chance to express their opinion. The agenda of each meeting includes:

- A check-in with all members on a student-chosen topic.
- Distribution of tasks for the upcoming assembly. This is run entirely by the students, who ensure everyone has a go at the various roles throughout the term.
- A general discussion of upcoming events.
- The students then break into subcommittees, which are determined by upcoming activities.

The students value the structure of the subcommittees, as they see these as a forum for more shy members of the SRC to practise speaking up and sharing their ideas.

I asked the SRC to respond to the following questions:



December 2018

What are the biggest things you have achieved?

Students reported that their biggest achievements were at many levels. While they identify traditional SRC community fundraising activities as being important to them (for example, raising money through a *'Big Morning Tea'* to support **The Cancer Council**), they have turned their attention also to the needs of their own school community. The students are aware that their actions can make a substantial difference to their learning environment, school facilities and programs. Some of their activities that they have identified as being significant included raising \$2000 through a *'Colour Run'* to buy modern furniture for their classrooms. They apply for school grants, for example, for a new bike shed.

It is when the Parkmore SRC describe their impact on school governance, operations and leadership that this discussion becomes really interesting. The students described their impact on the school as a culture, listing the following as big achievements:

- **Changing the School Uniform Policy.** Inspired by their learnings from the school's *Respectful Relationships* curriculum, they surveyed the student body to find out about how they felt about the school uniform. The students prepared a draft policy that set out changes, including non-gendered descriptions of uniform items and an improved hat choice. This policy was taken to School Council and was ratified; this is something of which the students were particularly proud.
- **Changing the structure of student leadership at the school.** The students had been exploring the concept of leadership, and decided on a model that allowed more opportunities for younger students to participate in positions of responsibility. Interestingly, the students also expressed a desire for students who had demonstrated good leadership to be eligible for roles in the future, recognising the need to have *'the right person for the right job.'* Again, this model was taken to School Council for approval.

What is the purpose of the SRC?

The students began their response to this question by viewing their activities through a lens of how they were benefitting other students at the school, with an emphasis on expressing the importance of how student voice brings new ideas and activities to the school, providing all students with a voice, and making school *'more fun for everyone.'*

Whereas the growth mindset is all about self, and approaching new situations with a willingness to challenge yourself, the benefit mindset is about taking the view that your actions benefit others.

One of the school captains then explained to me the benefit of the SRC to herself and the culture of the school. She described the *'benefit mindset'*, which is the flipside to a **growth mindset**. Whereas the **growth mindset** is all about self, and approaching new situations with a willingness to challenge yourself, the **benefit mindset** is about taking the view that your actions benefit others. In the **benefit mindset**, therefore, you are interested in finding out what

others think, and use that knowledge to improve the school with others in mind, not necessarily yourself as leader.

Reflections: Mind Sets for Growth

The world that our students are learning to navigate can be overwhelming for young minds. By seeking to challenge themselves through a **growth mindset** and facing difficulties with a positive stance, they develop their resilience and creative thinking skills.

When they take these skills and band together, the students deliberately practise a **benefit mindset**. They are able to consider how their voice and agency can affect not just themselves, but their own community and the world beyond.

The number and variety of projects that Parkmore Primary School's SRC engage in ensures the students develop these leadership skills, powered by their thinking and ideas, and dedicated to improving the lives, learning and experiences of others. As principal of Parkmore Primary School, I believe it is vital to continue to provide our students with the opportunity to develop their mindsets for growth, and to have genuine and meaningful forums in which to exercise their voice.

Isobel McLennan, Principal
mclennan.isobel.j@edumail.vic.gov.au



School Captain Report

Graduation Speech

This year has been such a rewarding year. I have been given so many opportunities that have changed me in a positive way. This year well technically last year I got given the role of school captain.

When the last years, school captains first said my name I didn't believe it, literally. It didn't feel quite real yet until I had my first duty the next year. I was still so proud of myself and I knew my family was too. Coming from a small school this still meant so much to me and I didn't want to let anyone down.



Assembly

Assembly was one of the jobs the school captains would have to do, and I was super excited to start. The starting point was a little rocky, we didn't exactly know how to start. I was more thinking they would want it to be like last years but when I heard we could put our own creative spin on the assembly we just powered through it. The 2018 assembly was our own creative speech which happened to be sort of similar each fortnight. We took on the challenge of creating an awesome assembly and we added so many new segments to assembly. We introduced wominjeka which means welcome, to the very first assembly, we added staff member of the week, teacher trivia which was a SRC decision and then just reworded and changed the original segments of assembly. We didn't use last year's template we would make our own from scratch!

Running the SRC meetings

We got to run the meetings with Mrs Baucke typing everything down, behind us, and the meetings from my view were so much fun! We would work together as a team, choose people for assembly roles and go into our committees and have a check in. It was hard choosing people for the role because we wouldn't just choose our friends but so you would have three people wanting to do the role and that was when it got interesting. We wanted to pick a boy with a girl and year 6 with year 3 and 4's just so they could work together and bond.

Opportunities

I have been a part of so many opportunities and I don't like to brag but I will say I'm really proud of myself and how much I have grown from being a school girl learning her abc to being such an accomplished year 6. I am so grateful to have these opportunities to mess up then able to come back again, I love being in a small school where you know everyone and they all know you and what you are capable of and how much you have grown. I am so grateful for experiencing all of this and I would like to thank everyone so much in this room that has helped me grow, teachers, friends, parents you have all impacted my life hugely! I am so excited for the future but there is a part of me where I want to be in this fairy tale forever! There is a quote by Dr Seuss which goes like this "Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened" Thank you.

Mia

School Captain 2018

School Captain Report



Graduation Speech

Everyone says School captain is such a hard role but it's one of the best things anyone could go for. This year has been the best year of primary school even though everyone says it's really hard or you'll never be able to do that because you're not the right person for the job, well to everyone who says that I'll always know that I proved them wrong.

This year being school captain has been the biggest rollercoaster of my life, there has been so many ups and downs but I've recovered those downs so I can be the best possible me for everyone to remember. I'll always remember every single teacher who taught me here, well not at the basketball stadium but at Parkmore primary school the place I call home; every classroom I've been taught in is the place I call home.

When I came to Parkmore from Metung I was extremely nervous and I didn't know anyone but there was one kid who really stood out to me, and that was Quinn. He was always so kind to me and showed me the ways around the school he was a real true friend.

When I transitioned to grade 1 I was really sad to leave my mum for the second time, then I heard this laugh that sounded like a pig and I turned around and it was Vishant sitting on the ground next to Tom laughing their heads off until Mrs Gilbert came into the room. From then on I knew that I would enjoy school forever.

I will always remember year 6 and I will never forget the people I have met since prep and this year. In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies but the silences of our friends.

Ryker
School Captain 2018

Junior School Circus

The JUNIOR SCHOOL have RUN away to the CIRCUS!



Community Relationships



Santa for a Senior



Yesterday Hunter, Tiana, Hailey and Jack visited the Forest Hill Retirement Village to deliver Christmas Cards to 'Seniors' who may be alone at Christmas. All Parkmore students had created a card that included a Christmas message and illustrations. They demonstrated empathy and kindness by writing meaningful and thoughtful messages.

When we arrived at the village we were greeted by the

management and lots of very happy residents. The residents were seated for lunch and our students were introduced and began to hand around cards. As they were handing them out they were followed by Channel 7 cameras who filmed them chatting to residents and reading their cards. The residents were

clearly delighted chatting to the students and asking them questions. They obviously enjoyed the interaction with the students.



Our students really enjoyed the time at the village. On our way back to school they were talking about how nice the residents were and how sad it was for some of them would be alone at Christmas. It certainly helped them appreciate how lucky they were to be spending Christmas with their families and to have the treats and gifts that they do.

The students also experienced many media interactions throughout the day with photographers from the Herald Sun/Leader, Channel 7 News and in the afternoon Tiana was interviewed by 3AW.



We are extremely lucky to have this relationship with **Home Instead Senior Care**. It provides us with the opportunities to bring a little joy to the elderly and gratitude to our students.

Birthdays

December Birthdays

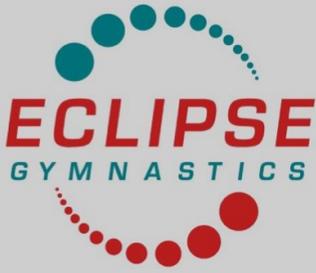
19th Zander C
22nd Hien T
22nd Audrey T
22nd Isabela W
24th Rosha M
26th Bryce H
27th Joshua K
29th Isabella H
30th Wendy L



January Birthdays

8th Harvey G
10th Noah K
12th Hailey M
18th Valerie G
19th Niksa J
21st Cadell V
22nd Liam K
22nd Jonte S
23rd Wael R
24th Ezekiel R
28th Kenzie J

Community Noticeboard



GYMNASTICS CLASSES

eclipsegymnastics.com.au

Foam pit, trampolines, bars,
ropes, beams and more

Handstand, cartwheel, roll, jump,
swing, tumble, balance

Classes for girls and boys from 2 years old

Day time Kindergym classes for 2 - 5 year olds
After school classes for 5 years old and over
Fully heated & air-conditioned facility, highly qualified
staff & small group sizes

Save 20% on your first months tuition
fees when you book into a 2019 class
by Dec. 22nd, 2018. Book now!

New members only. Refundable registration fees apply.

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