My Melbourne Unit
Year 9, Term 3 2016

Including a week long Melbourne Experience
Tuesday 30th August – Monday 5th September

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This term we are undertaking a unit of work titled “My Melbourne”. It will require students to select one area of interest to them and investigate, research and present their findings.

The 6 areas of investigation focusing on Melbourne include:

1. Indigenous History and Multiculturalism
2. Social Issues
3. Architecture
4. Sport
5. Art and Culture
6. Natural Environment

This is an academic and personal development-learning program for all Year 9 students that uses the City of Melbourne as a classroom. The program includes five days in the city of Melbourne, a research project into one aspect of Melbourne and a formal presentation of work.

What is “My Melbourne”?*

“My Melbourne” will allow students to investigate one aspect of Melbourne. We will be using the learning model known as ‘Challenge Based Learning.’ Challenge Based Learning begins with a big idea and cascades to the following: the essential question, the challenge; guiding questions, activities, and resources; determining and articulating outcomes; taking action; assessment; and publishing findings and sharing with the world. Reflection and informative assessment are an important part of the process at every stage as they reinforce learning and prepare students for what is coming next.

Overview - Challenge Based Learning

Stage 1: From Big Idea to the Challenge
Stage 2: Setting the Foundation for the Solution
Stage 3: Identifying Possible Answers
Stage 4: Implementation and Evaluation
Stage 5: Publishing Results and Reflections

We will be holding a Year 9 Neighborhood Open Day on 14th September 2016. We welcome all parents, grandparents and friends to come to school and help us celebrate the student’s learning and presentations. More information closer to the date will be circulated for your convenience.

Why the Melbourne Experience?

The “My Melbourne” unit has been developed to support students personal development and showcase their own learning style, personal interest, independence and growing maturity. It is also designed to allow students to learn about our city, its precincts, history and orientation. Year 9 students are continuing to develop independence from their parents and teachers while developing more complex relationships with their peers. Brain research suggests that adolescents’ everyday experiences play a prominent role in shaping the development of the brain and that they need repeated opportunities to demonstrate and refine their personal development skills, including:

- Their ability to complete work independently,
- To make decisions and take actions that are appropriate in the context,
- To take responsibility for themselves and their peers,
- To solve real life problems and to make connections between themselves and the world around them.

*The Melbourne Experience has been designed to provide students with this opportunity.
Melbourne Experience Program Overview

The core Melbourne Experience program will consist of five daylong excursions into the city.

The main five days of Melbourne Experience include:

- **Day 1:** Focus on Melbourne CBD exploration: All students will go to Eureka Skydeck 88, investigate 4 different city precincts: these could include China Town, Theatre District, Financial District or City Lanes ways. Today is all about orientating ourselves in our city, moving around on the free public transport and exploring.

- **Day 2:** Focus on the history of Melbourne. Using ‘The Golden Mile History App’ produced by Museum Victoria – Students will follow the app to some of the 45 key locations in our city, listen to the videos, stories and insights at each location while taking in the beauty around them. They will move along the Golden Mile in groups using a pre set plan they have developed in the lead up to Melbourne Experience.

- **Day 3:** Students will attend two set excursions. In the morning they will attend an excursion based on their Big Idea of investigation. In the afternoon they will attend an excursion with their Pathways teachers.

- **Day 4:** Students will meet in the city and using pre planned and approved itineraries, students will use this day to collect evidence for their major assignment. They will be in groups to support each other.

- **Day 5:** Melbourne Amazing Race, our version of the Amazing Race! There are some great prizes up for grabs! Students will receive riddles, questions or challenges to complete in and around the city. The team who accumulates the most points wins! This is all about team work, work together and you may just win!

In preparation for Melbourne Experience, students will participate in tasks, assessments and skill development programs during the term, to ensure students are fully aware of expectations, understandings, tasks and protocols expected while in the city.

**Program details**

**eBook:**
Students will be working from a specially developed eBook that they will download from the College 5-9 Blog. You can also download this eBook and follow their progress, ask questions about their work and get involved in their learning. When downloading it does need to be loaded into your iBook app. Students who do not have an iPad will be supplied a hard copy.

**Key dates:**

Melbourne Experience will take place from Tuesday 30th August – Monday 5th September

and

Year 9 Neighborhood Open Day on Wednesday 14th September 2016.

**Permission and costs:**

A formal permission form, including costs, is attached to this form. The cost of this weeklong experience is $30. **This cost does not include the cost of transport, food or additional experiences the students may participate in while in the city (see below).** Any concerns related to the cost of the experience should be directed to David Simpson as soon as possible.

**Travel:**

Students will be expected to meet PCC staff in the city at set location. This will change each day depending on what activity they are participating in. Times and locations will be confirmed in the week prior to Melbourne Experience via a letter home for your reference. Staff will be on the train from William’s Landing train station each day, however students will officially check in when they arrive in the city. In addition students will be dismissed from Flinders Street Station each day. Students will require a Myki card with enough credit for the 5 days.

**Please note:** students will be dismissed from Flinders Street train station and they **will not** be back in Point Cook in time to meet younger siblings at the end of the school day. It is anticipated that students will arrive back in Point Cook between 3.00 and 4.00pm. Alternate arrangements may be needed for your family for these 5 days.

**If students wish to stay in the city or get picked up by parents this is to be pre organised with parents/guardians and is the responsibility of families to manage and know were their child is after dismissal each day.**

**Lunch:**

While students can bring their lunch from home, there will be opportunities for students to purchase lunch each day in the city. This is the choice of each individual family.

**Students unable to attend:**

*Melbourne Experience* is core learning this term and it is expected that all students will be participating. This is a major element in their learning in term 3 and your child’s participation and achievement will be reported on in the Semester report. Students unable to attend will be provided with a Melbourne Experience task at Point Cook to complete at school during the 5 days. They will participate in all other related activities.
Uniform:
As this is a school event full school uniform must be worn, including while travelling to and from the city.

Communication:
Communication when in the City is a key consideration in the development of this program. Students with mobile phones will register their numbers with the teachers and be given the school mobile phone number to contact if required. Students will always be in groups and we will work to ensure that students without phones are partnered with students who have phones. Communication expectations will be clear and part of the program prior to visiting the City. We will also be using social media each day for students to check in with, ask questions or seek assistance. We will use private messages and students with permission may post to @MrSimpsonY9PCC. You can also follow us throughout the term via searching us on Twitter.

Timing of Melbourne Experience:
This program has been developed and implemented in Semester 2 for a number of reasons. It supports decision-making and self-awareness, which are key requirements for students transition to senior secondary education next year. It emphasizes personal learning, responsibility and trust. It incorporates individual, small group and large group work. We believe that this is the optimal time to provide students with this experience.

Please follow the progress of the students via twitter and investigating the eBook yourself. It is a very exciting program and we hope you will enjoy watching your child’s progress and growth.

If you have any questions please contact David Simpson or Bern Cronin at the College.

Thank you,

David Simpson
Year 9 Teacher
Email - davidsimpson@pcc.vic.edu.au
Twitter - @MrSimpsonY9PCC.

Ms. Bern Cronin
Assistant Principal Years 5 to 9
Phone - 8348 7100

@MrSimpsonY9PCC.
Dear Parents/Guardians,

Below is a brief overview of our 5 days in Melbourne. The cost of this program will be $30 per student to cover the cost of excursions and programs we will be taking part in while in the city.

We will send out another note closer to the date to confirm details and update any changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Meeting time and location</th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Afternoon</th>
<th>Dismissal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 30th</td>
<td>Williams Landing by 8.30am</td>
<td>All: Eureka Skydeck 88 – Observation Deck</td>
<td>All: Melbourne Precinct exploration</td>
<td>Flinders Street Station at 3pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>August 31st</td>
<td>Immigration Museum between 9.00am and 9.30am</td>
<td>All: History of Melbourne - Golden Mile App investigation</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Federation Square (9:00am)</td>
<td>Big Idea Excursion 1: Multiculturalism &amp; Indigenous History - Melbourne Aboriginal Tour</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: L.O.T.E. - Lunch and City Trail</td>
<td>Flinders Street Station @ approximately 3pm</td>
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<td>Salvation Army: 69 Bourke Street, Melbourne @ 10am</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Photography - See iconic landmarks, city laneway and explore through the lens of a camera</td>
<td>Flinders Street Station @ approximately 3pm</td>
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<td>Federation Square (9:00am)</td>
<td>Big Idea Excursion 3: Architecture - Melbourne Architecture Tour</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Theatre and Dance - Arts Centre tour</td>
<td>Flinders Street Station @ approximately 2.30pm</td>
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<td>The Angel statue, on the Yarra River, 300 meters from Federation Square (9:00am)</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Iron Chef - Food Tour</td>
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<td>Federation Square (9:00am)</td>
<td>Big Idea Excursion 5: Art And Culture - Melbourne Multicultural Schools Tour</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Art History &amp; Advanced Drawing - Ian Potter Centre and Hosier Lane</td>
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<td>Federation Square (9:00am)</td>
<td>Big Idea Excursion 6: Natural Environment - Parks and Waterways tour</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Marine Biology - Melbourne Aquarium behind the scenes tour</td>
<td>Flinders Street Station @ approximately 3pm</td>
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<td>T-assy Brownie Cafe, 365 Flinders St Between 8am and 10am</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Fitness and Wellbeing - MCG tour and Sports Museum</td>
<td>Pathways Excursion: Fitness and Wellbeing - MCG tour and Sports Museum</td>
<td>Flinders Street Station @ approximately 3.30pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>September 2nd</td>
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<td>All: Independent Investigations using pre planned and approved itinerary.</td>
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<td>Steps at Federation Square between 7pm and 4pm</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>September 5th</td>
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<td>Steps at Federation Square. Dismissal approximately 3pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Time Out cafe, Federation Square between 8.30am and 9am</td>
<td>All: Melbourne Amazing Race. Return back Federation Square by 2pm. Presentations at 2.15pm!</td>
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Save the date:
Year 9 Neighborhood Open Day on 14th September 2016.
You are invited to attend our Open Day to see all of the students work, hear their learning journey and help us celebrate their learning.

I understand that my child will:
• Be required to use a Myki card during Melbourne Experience with appropriate credit to travel each day by train
• Be spending time in Melbourne CBD
• They are expected to travel to the city independently. Ensuring they meet at the correct meeting location and at the correct time each day is their responsibility.
• They will travel home each day independently after being dismissed from Flinders Street Station or Federation Square.
• They will be working in small groups to achieve pre set goals on some days, with check in’s via social media, mobile phones and face to face with staff. I understand staff will not always be with my child, but will be easily contactable and available around the city if required.

In the event that my child does not demonstrate the Point Cook College values while participating in these activities that I will be contacted and will be required to pick up my child from their location.

Thank you,

David Simpson
Year 9 Teacher
Email - davidsimpson@pcc.vic.edu.au
Twitter - @MrSimpsonY9PCC

Ms. Bern Cronin
Assistant Principal Years 5 to 9
Phone - 8348 7100

www.pcc.vic.edu.au
Melbourne Experience Permission note
Tuesday 30th August – Monday 5th September

Please return this page and payment by Monday 25th August to assist us in confirming bookings.

Melbourne Experience will be held between Tuesday 30th August and Monday 5th September. Please read through the below information with your child and fill in accordingly.

I have enclosed $30.00 payment to cover the costs of the all excursions. This does not include transport costs or food and additional activities each student may wish to partake in.

I understand that my child:

• Will be spending 5 days in Melbourne CBD.
• Is expected to travel to the city independently, ensuring they meet at the correct meeting location and at the correct time each day is their responsibility.
• Will travel home each day independently after being dismissed from Flinders Street Station or Federation Square.
• I am aware after dismissal Point Cook College and staff are no longer supervising my child and it is the parents/guardians responsibility to be aware of their child’s movements.
• Will be working in small groups to achieve pre set goals on some days, with check ins via social media, mobile phones and face to face with staff. Staff will not always be with my child, but will be easily contactable and available around the city if required.

Student Acknowledgement:
I, _____________________________________________, agree to participate in Melbourne Experience ensuring I follow the below expectations:

• Represent the College as expected, following our school Values at all times.
• Act responsibly and as a mature individual.
• Check in as required via phone or social media.
• Follow all instructions given by staff and inform staff ASAP if my plans change or if I get into trouble.
• Participate in all activities to the best of my ability.

I understand the expectations in regards to my participation, my research project and my behaviour. I acknowledge that if I am not able to follow these expectations I may be asked to stay at the College.

Student’s mobile number is ____________________________.

Signature (Student) ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Parent Permission:
I give permission for my child ______________________ in 9__ to attend Melbourne Experience between Tuesday 30th August and Monday 5th September.

In the event of illness or injury to my child whilst on this excursion I authorise the teacher in charge of my child, if unable to contact me or it is otherwise impractical to contact me, to consent to my child receiving such medical or surgical attention as may be deemed necessary by a medical practitioner.

Relevant medical information:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

My contact telephone number for the week is: ____________________________

Name of Parent/Guardian (Please Print) ____________________________

Signature (Parent/Guardian) ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

On Wednesday 14th September we are holding an Open Day for all parents, families, Year 5 to Year 8 students and staff. We would love if you could make the time to come in and see all of our amazing work that will be on display. More specific details of this day will be available closer to the date. Could you please indicate if you are interested in attending to assist our planning for the day: (Please tick)

☐ Yes, I am interested in attending the Open Day
☐ No, unfortunately I will not be able to attend

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