



PCC BULLETIN

TERM 1, WEEK 3
Friday 16 February 2024

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Good afternoon families and carers,

We have had a hot start to the week! With that being said it is a timely reminder to share our college policies, in particular our Extreme Weather and Nature Policy. All our college policies can be found on our webpage: <https://www.pcc.vic.edu.au/page/5/College-Policies->

From time to time the college will also need to enact the Emergency Management Plan. We have many versions to the plan depending on the incident that has occurred. Incidents can include but not limited to are: Fire, Gas Leak, Animal onsite, Community incident, Intruder etc.

Each incident will require a different response. We can be evacuated to the oval, evacuated offsite to the Council Oval or the park on Cornder Way Point Cook. We also have a lockdown procedure. This requires students to remain in their classroom, but also can lead them to be asked to take cover under tables. To prepare our students we will always run practice drills, 1 per term. Families will be informed via a COMPASS push to families if we have implemented a drill. If the evacuation or lock down is real, an sms will be sent to families via COMPASS as soon as we can. This is why it is important that all family details are correct with the College. If you need to change any details, you can do this directly via COMPASS or email the college with your new updated details at point.cook.p9.c0@education.vic.gov.au.

What a positive start to the school year we have had. The last few weeks I have been spending time in our Prep classes reading stories to them. I am so impressed with how settled and engaged our students are already. I look forward to continuing to see their growth throughout the year.

This year we will be having a strong focus on student attendance. Parents are legally required to ensure their child attends school every day and to provide an explanation for their child's absence from school unless an exemption from attendance has been granted or an exception to their attendance applies.

Evidence shows that daily school attendance is important for young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally. Young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health and employment outcomes and enjoy higher incomes.

Whilst it is extremely exciting for families to enjoy holidays during the school term, it can be very disruptive to your child's learning. If you are planning a family holiday, please note students will only have access to work digitally. Students can access COMPASS where work can be uploaded, particularly for secondary school students as well as programs such as Education Perfect and Stile. Junior students will have access to programs such as Athletics and Reading Eggs.

Thank you to the families who have already supported our Easter Raffle which is our first fundraiser for the year. We are asking families to purchase an Easter Egg, Easter toy or basket to help with prizes. Raffle tickets will be sent home soon. The raffle will be drawn on our last day of school at the assembly followed by the easter hat parade.

We are really excited to welcome all our new families to the college this year with a Welcome BBQ on Thursday 22nd February from 4pm- 5pm. New families will have the opportunity to meet our principal team and other families new to the college. Please make sure you have registered your attendance via the link



Kind Regards,
Tracy Peters
 College Principal

COLLEGE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Nominations for the PCC College Council are now open!

There are currently three vacant parent electorates to be appointed for two-year terms between March 2024 – March 2026 and one vacant parent electorate to be appointed for a one-year term between March 2024 - March 2025.

We are seeking four parents who are invested in their child's schooling and those who are interested in helping make our college an even better learning environment for our students!

Please visit the college website via the following link for more information and instructions on how to nominate yourself or someone who you think is worthy: [PCC College Council Nominations](#)

Nominations close strictly on Monday 19 February 2024 at 3:30pm

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the college office on 8348 7100 or via email point.cook.p9.co@education.vic.gov.au.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS

We are thrilled to be running a whole school Easter Raffle again this year for our community!

We need the help of you, our families to make this raffle amazing once again!

We would love for families to make a donation to go towards our prizes. We welcome any easter themed donations which can include easter eggs, baskets, easter toys, books etc. to add to our amazing Easter Raffle Prizes! Any donations can be dropped at the college office before 3:30pm on Friday 15 March 2024.

The raffle will be drawn at our final Term 1 College Assembly on Thursday 28th March on the double basketball courts, followed by our Easter Hat Parade!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the college on 03 8348 7100.



CONSENT & PAYMENT DUE DATES

16 February	F1 Challenge - Wyndham Tech
18 February	Year 4-6 Point Cook District Swimming Carnival
19 February	Werribee Football Club Fitness Testing
29 February	2024 Bali Study Tour Deposit Year 9 Volleyball
7 March	Year 8 Cricket Year 8 Tennis
14 March	Hobsons Bay Swimming Carnival - Year 7-9
19 March	Year 7 Tennis
20 March	Year 9 First Aid Course

STUDENT COLLECTION

Parents/carers are required to call the College office on 03 8348 7100 prior to picking up students early from school. If the person collecting the student is not Adult A or Adult B, the following will occur to ensure the safety of your child/ren:

- ID will be requested and the office staff will confirm the collection with a primary parent before allowing the child/ren to be dismissed.
- An Student Early Collection Form will need to be completed at the office by the person collecting the child/ren.

If you require a family member or close friend to collect your child/ren regularly, please contact the office to add this person as an emergency contact.

Please call the college on with enough notice for the administration staff to inform the child to collect their belongings and come to the office. Students cannot be collected during recess and lunchtime due to safety risks associated with students accessing classrooms without supervision. Collection during recess and lunch also causes significant interruption for students on the alternate timetable who are in class, learning.

The times students are not to be collected are listed below for your reference:

- PREP-YEAR 4 - Recess: 11:10am - 11:30am - Lunch: 1:10pm - 2:10pm
- YEAR 5-YEAR 9 - Recess: 10:20am - 10:40am - Lunch: 12:20pm - 1:20pm

We understand that emergencies and unforeseen circumstances do arise, and of course we will be able to accommodate these situations when they occur.

If you have any questions in regard to the above process, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 03 8348 7100.

KIDSROAR

KidsROAR Australia is committed to the prevention of abuse on children and adults through education on Personal Safety.

KidsROAR are conducting a FREE online information session on Wednesday 21st February, 2024 at 7.30PM on how parents and carers can equip children to increase their protective factors and help prevent child abuse in our community.

The session is designed for parents and carers of children 12 years old and under and includes the following topics:

- Introducing Protective Behaviours
- Statistics on abuse
- Information on offenders and the grooming process
- What children learn in a KidsROAR session
- Post session information and a list of Support Services
- Q&A opportunity at the end of presentation

The content of this session is not suitable for children and they request that children are not present throughout.

If you are interested in attending the session, please sign up via the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WYLC7QV>

NEW FAMILIES BBQ

We are hosting a BBQ for our new families!

If you and your children are new to Point Cook College, we invite you to join us on Thursday 22 Feb for a BBQ.

For more information and to book your spot, click the following link: <https://compasstix.com/e/hhgy9ijugk>

JOIN US AT OUR NEW FAMILIES

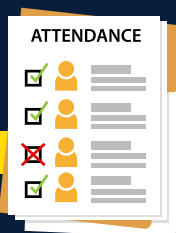
BBQ



DATE: THURSDAY 22 FEB
TIME: 4PM - 5PM
LOCATION: AGORA

BOOK YOUR SPOT USING THE LINK PROVIDED

[HTTPS://COMPASSTIX.COM/E/HHGY9IJUGK](https://compasstix.com/e/hhgy9ijugk)



EVERY DAY COUNTS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR CHILD IS THERE

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

GETTING IN EARLY

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

IN VICTORIA SCHOOL IS COMPULSORY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6-17 YEARS OLD

STUDENT ABSENCES

The main reasons for absence are:

- **Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and developing good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.
- **Family holidays** - It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure that you talk to your child's school in advance, and work with them to develop an absence learning plan.
- **Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.
- **School refusal** - School refusing children will experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school.

BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR ONE DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING 1.5 YEARS OVER 13 YEARS OF SCHOOL

If your child is away for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind: **Inform the school**

Speak with your child's classroom teacher and find out what work they need to do to keep up. Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible. Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parent/s. If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

TOP ATTENDANCE TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support
- Remember that every day counts
- There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term
- Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

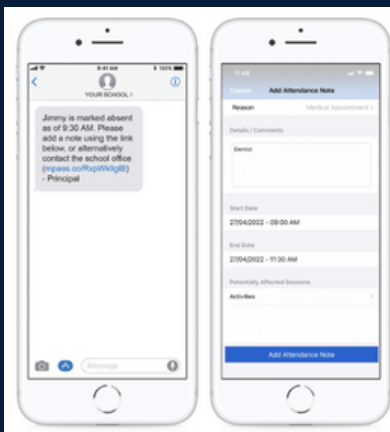
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/studentmanagement/attendance/Pages/improveattendance.aspx>

HOW DO I ADD AN ATTENDANCE NOTE?

Entering an Attendance Note

- 1 From the Compass home screen (or from your student's profile), click the **Add Attendance Note** item.
- 2 From the pop-up window
 - ➔ Select the reason
 - ➔ Enter a brief description of the absence
 - ➔ Select the start and finish time
 - ➔ Click the 'Save' button




Where possible, attendance notes should be entered prior to the absence/lateness occurring.



SMS Link

If your child is marked as absent without prior approval you will receive a message containing a link. When you follow the link, you will have the opportunity to explain the absence.


The link will expire after you have clicked it, meaning that it cannot be used to explain unapproved absences in the future. Instead, you will receive another message containing a new link, allowing you to repeat the process.


come find your awesome

**POINT COOK P-9 COLLEGE
AUSKICK/SUPERKICK CENTRE**

Starting Wednesday
February 28th
3.20pm-4.20pm



play.afl/auskick




Auskick:

Dates: 28/2-27/3 (5 weeks)

Ages: 5-12

Time: Wednesdays 3:20-4:20

Price: \$50

Pack inclusion: Ball, pump and cards

Registration: <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/68facc>

Superkick:

Dates: 28/2-27/3 (5 weeks)

Ages: 8-12

Time Wednesdays 3:20-4.20

Price: \$50

Pack inclusion: Superkick Footy

Registration:

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/4bd377>

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

NICK MANDUCA Maths Teacher



Q1 how do you enjoy your time at pcc

I'm loving it, it's a good school, everyone's nice and the staff are very welcoming.

Q2 How would your high school teachers describe you from when you were at school and why?

My teachers would say I lose focus a lot and I am very sporty.

Q3 If you can do another job what would it be and why?

I would stay as a teacher because I have tried other jobs and enjoy this one the most

Q4 Where's the most memorable place you have visited?

Whistler, in British Columbia was my most memorable experience.

Q5 If you could choose any animal to be your coworker, which animal would you choose and why?

I would want to work with a Grizzly Bear because they are big, scary and cuddly.

Q6 What's something that not many people know about you?

I didn't grow up in Melbourne, I grew up in New South Wales.

Q7 Top 3 things on your bucket list?

Watch Bournemouth live in the Premier League

See Carlton win a grand final

See the Northern Lights in Finland

Q8 What made you become a teacher?

I was a sporting coach first, so I took an interest in a team oriented goal which brought me to teaching

Q9 What is your dream job?

Being a Teacher is my dream job.

Q10 If you were a superhero, what would your superpower be and how would you use it in this job?

I would want teleportation and telepathy because it makes any job easier.



TERM 1

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Feb-19	Feb-20	Feb-21	Feb-22	Feb-23
WEEK 4	P-4 Assembly 8:50am-9:30am	The Man Cave Year 9 Flourish Girls Year 4-6 Point Cook District Swim Carnival	Werribee Football Club Fitness Testing Bully Zero - Understanding Bullying Program	New Families BBQ	
	Feb-26	Feb-27	Feb-28	Feb-29	Mar-1
WEEK 5		Project Rokit - Connect Y7 Project Rokit - Connect Y8	Year 7 Camp		
	Mar-4	Mar-5	Mar-6	Mar-7	Mar-8
WEEK 6	Year 9 Volleyball				
	Mar-11	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14	Mar-15
WEEK 7	Labour Day Public Holiday		Year 8 Cricket Year 8 Volleyball Year 8 Tennis	NAPLAN	
	Mar-18	Mar-19	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22
WEEK 8	Hobsons Bay Swim Carnival		NAPLAN		Parent Teacher Interviews
	Mar-25	Mar-26	Mar-27	Mar-28	Mar-29
WEEK 9	NAPLAN	Year 7 Tennis	Year 9 First Aid Course	Last Day of Term - 2:30pm Finish	Good Friday
	P-4 Assembly 8:50am-9:30am				

TERM 2

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Apr-15	Apr-16	Apr-17	Apr-18	Apr-19
WEEK 1	First Day Term 2	My Career Insights Profiling			
	Apr-22	Apr-23	Apr-24	Apr-25	Apr-26
WEEK 2			ANZAC Day Ceremony	ANZAC Day Public Holiday	PP DAY (Student Free Day)
	Apr-29	Apr-30	May-1	May-2	May-3
WEEK 3	Year 7 Immunisations				