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2022 Term Dates

- Term 1: 28 Jan to 8 Apr
- Term 2: 26 Apr to 24 Jun
- Term 3: 11 Jul to 16 Sep
- Term 4: 03 Oct to 20 Dec

Campus Contacts

- Rosebud 5986 4623
- Mornington 5977 2976
- Hastings 5979 1398

Absentee Reporting

- Rosebud 0439 554 119
- Mornington 0439 014 666
- Hastings 0437 125 858

Links

- Advance College Web Site
- VCAL FAQ's
- Mornington Peninsula Youth Directory

Message from the Principal

With the end of the year in sight we can look back on 2021 as being a very 'Covid influenced' period not dissimilar to 2020. All staff and students have continued to demonstrate amazing resilience, stamina and flexibility. Lock downs with little notice, 'pivoting' between face to face and remote learning, keeping engaged and supporting their mental health etc have presented many challenges.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff especially the teachers and Education Support Staff. They have taken on a range of challenges and have worked tirelessly to support our students both academically and with their wellbeing.

Our students should be very proud of themselves as they have done really well throughout the year. The way they conducted themselves, their participation and achievements in all curriculum and extra-curriculum areas have been a credit to them, particularly with the challenges of the pandemic. Our Senior VCAL classes finished their year on November 4, with the other classes continuing until December 2.

I was privileged to attend (via Zoom) the Frankston Mornington Peninsula VCAL Awards night where two of our students received an award. The night was 'attended' by more than 250 students, parents, friends and school staff. Congratulations to our two Award winners for a great year's effort.

Unfortunately, we have had to make a difficult decision to temporarily close the Mornington campus until 2023. There are a number of reasons behind this decision but it was mainly due to insufficient enrolments and the new Rosebud campus having a greater capacity. I anticipate that it will re-open in 2023. On the positive side the closure will give us an opportunity to improve the infrastructure / amenities at the site.

For 2022, there will be some changes to our VCAL program in line with the introduction of the new VCE Vocational Specialisation stream and the new Foundation Pathways Certificate replacing VCAL from 2023.

The bushfire season is upon us and it is timely to ensure all of our bushfire policies and procedures are up to date, particularly for our Hastings Campus which is on the Education Department's Bushfire Register. Bushfire evacuation drills will be conducted this Term and also in First Term of 2020. Letters have also been sent to all students' homes with information regarding declared Code Red days. Just a reminder the Hastings Campus (only) will be closed on any declared Code Red day with notice prided at least 24 hours prior.

A few 2021 statistics . . .

Across the school year we have had 63 students enrol with 24 at Rosebud, 18 at Mornington and 21 at Hastings. The gender balance was about 55% female and 45% male students. We had 17 students in Senior level, 21 in Intermediate level and 25 in Foundation level. Student completion rates have been pleasing with 33 achieving their full VCAL certificate and 20 achieving a part Certificate or Statement of Attainment. Most of those who did not finish their VCAL certificate will have the opportunity to do so in 2022.

We are currently taking enrolments for 2022. If parents, guardians or carers would like to find out further information please do not hesitate to call.

On behalf of all at Advance College I wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I look forward to 2022 being as successful as this year has been with even greater opportunities for our students.

Helping More Kids Get Into Sport For The First Time

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program helps young Victorians from families facing barriers to participating in sport and recreation. \$200 Vouchers are on offer to help pay for sporting equipment, uniforms & memberships.

To be eligible for a voucher your child/dependant must be:

- aged 4 to 18 years
- a resident in Victoria
- named on a valid Australian Government Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card (at the time of your application), and
- named on a valid Australian Government Medicare card (at the time of your application).

You can apply for more than one voucher if you have multiple eligible children/dependants.

You must apply separately for each child/dependant.

There are specific dates (claim periods) when you can apply. You must have incurred your expenses within specific dates too.

WHEN YOU INCUR THE EXPENSE	WHEN YOU CAN APPLY (CLAIM PERIOD)
30 July 2021 – 12 November 2021	4 October 2021 – 12 November 2021
12 November 2021 – 15 April 2022	7 March 2022 – 15 April 2022

If you submit your application outside of these dates, it will not be accepted.

To apply or for more information about the program, visit getactivekids@sport.vic.gov.au

Student Spotlight

Rose B. - Rosebud

(Q) When you started at Advance?

(R) February 2019

(Q) What have you most enjoyed about Advance?

(R) Furthering my education and learning, while also having constant support.

(Q) How has Advance helped prepare you for life beyond school?

(R) Advance has taught me real life skills, like how to budget, apply for a rental house and what tax and superannuation are.

(Q) How do you spend their time outside of school?

(R) Outside of school I like spending time with my friends and family, as well as exercising.

(Q) What are your plans for the future?

(R) I am enrolling in a Diploma of Nursing at TAFE next year and in the future I would like to work as a cosmetic nurse and own my own business.



Reflections

Life as a graduating year 12 student in the midst of a pandemic!

Advance College - Hastings Campus



By Lily M. (Senior VCAL student, Hastings Campus)

After finishing up at a mainstream school in 2019, I was beyond excited to start my next chapter as a Senior VCAL student at Advance College. I started in late December 2019 in the kick-start program, where I got a taste of what school life was going to be like at Advance.

I can tell you that I loved it from my first impression and made me glad I chose this pathway. I felt like I belonged somewhere at a place where people cared about your health and wellbeing.

Not long into the start of 2020 the world had changed. This saw a change in the way school would be delivered, and let me tell you I was not a fan of it...

That change was online learning from home. A lot of challenges and emotions came from this change as it was hard to adapt to school life at home. I found it hard to focus and get work done as I needed to be in a school environment. We finally got to go back mid-year, but it didn't last long which saw us go back to online learning. I told myself I would try to attempt and do online learning, which I did and it made me proud of how hard I worked and the effort I put in.

As time went on, lockdown was taking its toll, I started losing all motivation and hope of passing and achieving anything. But something changed and from all the hard work of Victorians, COVID19 eased in Victoria.

I finally got my licence, which took a lot of time and effort, I finally got back to work and making money again and being around people that made me happy.

Going back to school and being in a classroom felt like winning the lottery. I told myself I would put 110% effort in finishing all my work so I could pass and feel like I had accomplished something. I set out to achieve that goal, and now, I write this letter today, as a graduating year 12 student, class of 2020.

It is crazy to think 13 years of schooling is done, and I am so grateful for all the support I have received from teachers, peers and family to get me to where I am today.

At times I questioned why a virus and why 2020? But I learnt along the way, that you can't change things that're out of your hands, sometimes you just have to accept a situation and make the best out of it. I learnt to be patient, because good things come to those who wait. It made me realise how important people are and you can't take them for granted.

Although 2020 wasn't the year I planned, it definitely was a year of change, acceptance and patience. Which has made me see life differently. I move on now, to go and complete my Diploma in Early Childhood and continue my part time job at the carwash.

I have been fortunate enough to secure a job at the new Beachwood Early Learning Childcare Centre.

Thank you to everyone at Advance College who made the year fun and a year never to forget.

Lily M.

Teaching Australian Students that Respect Matters

Respect Matters Program

New online resources are now available to help school students learn about safe, healthy and respectful relationships, including issues around consent and peer pressure.

More than 350 videos, digital stories, podcasts and other materials are available free to teachers, students and families through *The Good Society* website, <https://www.thegoodsociety.gov.au/> as part of the *Respect Matters* program.

The *Respect Matters* program has been developed in conjunction with Our Watch, the eSafety Commissioner and the Foundation for Young Australians, as well as parent, community and principals' groups.

Important Dates

Thursday, Nov 4	Last day for Senior VCAL students
Thursday, Dec 2	Last day for Foundation, Intermediate VCAL students
Tuesday, Dec 14	Last day for all ACE staff
Monday, Jan 10	Rosebud site opens
Monday, Jan 24	All ACE staff return
Monday, Jan 31	All VCAL students commence

Life Skills

Prepare students for learning with a simple breathing exercise led by Julie, a Life Skills Group teacher. Click on the link below. (& skip the ad)

<https://youtu.be/H0uVRohv0-Y>





COMING TO VICTORIAN SCHOOLS FROM TERM 1, 2022

1 in 5 Australian girls aged 16 to 18 miss school due to severe period pain.

The Periods, Pain and Endometriosis Program (PPEP Talk®) is an initiative of the Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia (PPFA), funded by the Federal Government Department of Health. Co-funding is sought from each state and territory.

A curriculum-linked health and wellbeing education program for all students in Year 10, PPEP Talk® is an Australian program presented in Secondary Schools across Government, Catholic and Independent sectors. The program offers the latest in modern knowledge and the new neuroscience of pain to Australian teens.

PPEP Talk® addresses the first priority of the National Action Plan for Endometriosis- education and awareness. It plays a critical role in informing and educating students to recognise and identify when symptoms are normal, simple ways to improve symptoms, and how to look for further help, allowing them to fulfil their potential.



The **FREE** program includes:

- a one-hour positive, fun, educational and interactive program discussing period pain, pelvic pain and endometriosis.
- tailored sessions for girls, boys, special education, and culturally diverse students. The program is inclusive of age, culture, and gender and is medically responsible.
- an opportunity for individual students to discuss their personal pain circumstances with a medically trained educator following the presentation
- the provision of a book on Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain to each school for their library
- sustainable knowledge, including a guide to further resources, information and services for students and their families to use if pain is distressing



If you would like PPEP Talk® at your school, email us at ppeptalkvic@pelvicpain.org.au or call us on 08 8291 7923 for more information.