

Welcome back to Term 3 in the Greenways Campus. It was lovely to see our students return from the three-week break refreshed and ready to tackle the term ahead. The term is off to a great start with a wonderful energy around the Campus. The 9B girls and 9F boys have transitioned extremely well from their Learning Journeys Program at the end of Term 2 and 9B shared their experiences with family members at Wednesday's Learning Journeys Presentation evening. It was an entertaining evening with many fantastic memories shared by the girls. We look forward to 9F's presentation evening next week.

This week, Years 9C and 9G commenced their four-week Learning Journey experience and were lucky enough to spend their first week at Shoreham and in the City. It has also been extremely pleasing to see the morning and afternoon Study Sessions well attended. The Café has launched into its student program, with the Year 9E boys cooking up a storm and serving coffee and delicious snacks to the Mentone Grammar Community. I also forgot to mention that rehearsals and final preparations are underway for the performance of FAME. I'm sure you will agree it has been an extremely busy, perhaps frantic, start to the term.



Last week, we unveiled an exciting new program to Greenways students - the **Student Leadership Diploma**. This program is aimed at deepening the learning around our suite of positions of responsibility in senior school, so that students with leadership aspirations can develop tangible skills to give them a head-start for their future. The ability to empower a team, earn respect and lead by example is invaluable to a future leader. The Leadership Diploma challenges students to be outstanding role models and to do so consistently.

# **KEY POINTS:**

This program requires **voluntary participation** from students so we ask you to please have a conversation with your child about whether they would like to explore their leadership aspirations.

Successful completion of the Student Leadership Diploma is mandatory for any students wanting to apply for a leadership opportunity in Years 11 and 12.

The program commences in Year 9 and runs for 1.5 years. Students taking part in the program are provided with a workbook and mentors to help guide them through the activities, workshops and requirements.

Every Year 9 student is required to participate in the first two workshops in Terms 3 & 4 to trial the program before they choose whether to continue.

The Diploma assesses student engagement and conduct across six facets of school life:

## **Academic Attitude and Approach**

This encourages students to manage their learning effectively, showing endeavour and progress.









#### **Cocurricular Program**

Students are encouraged to immerse themselves in the many cocurricular opportunities offered at the School.

#### **House and School Events**

Students will be required to attend and engage in all compulsory School and House events.

#### **Social Service**

The aim is to encourage students to think about the needs of others; to be servant leaders.

## Citizenship

Students will be encouraged to live the School's Values in all that they do.

#### **Leadership Workshops**

The School will offer a number of opportunities for students to learn and practise leadership skills.

Students are challenged to develop their own style of leadership with greater self-awareness and an understanding of differing personalities. They are encouraged to be independent, strategic and critical thinkers, while also being ethical, caring and responsible in their pursuits. Students are required to achieve proficiencies in a comprehensive range of soft skills that closely align with our seven School Values. The program culminates in a qualification called the Student Leadership Diploma which permits students to apply for a Leadership Position in their senior years.

# LEADERSHIP DIPLOMA WORKSHOP

Last Friday, all Year 9s participated in an engaging and challenging Leadership Workshop facilitated by our Deputy Principal - Operations, Mr Jarrod O'Neill. Each student received a Leadership Diploma passport at the beginning of the program and the expectations of the Diploma were unpacked in detail with the students. The passport is an important document which outlines the rules and expectations of the Diploma and assesses student engagement and conduct across **six facets of school life**. Students are required to collect evidence that they have participated in all six facets of school life across the 1.5 years. This evidence includes participation and signatures from organising staff of particular activities and events listed in the Diploma.

The half-day Workshop was focused on developing an awareness of the skills that leaders exhibit and practising these skills with a hands-on approach. It started with 'icebreaker' activities which included verbal and non-verbal tasks. The students were expected to engage with different members of the group and were encouraged to connect with those they had not been involved with in either a classroom, cocurricular activity or social setting. The non-verbal activity involved the entire group managing to cue in birth date order without using any verbal language. They could use hand gestures and body language to achieve the task. It was an extremely interesting activity to observe and all students managed to achieve the result, but in different ways. This was a great segue to discussing that leadership fits no one singular process or set of skills. In contrast, the students learnt that all leaders have very different approaches and attributes and draw on these at different times, depending on the situation.

Part of the day was learning how they worked as part of a team. The 'Brick' Challenge was fun-filled but enabled each student to explore their role as part of a problem-solving activity in a bigger group situation. Each group was given a cement brick, 10 plastic drinking straws, 12 paper clips and a roll of sticky tape. The challenge was to come up a with a solution to balance the weight of the brick between two exam tables using the tools provided. There were many creative solutions. Some inserted the paper clips inside the plastic straws to create a strong support. Others used the sticky tape and adhered the brick to the table – some even cleverly tried to adhere the table legs to the ground. Most importantly, it was interesting for students to recognise their role in the process and whether they directed the process, listened well or collaborated effectively.







One activity involved students identifying well-known leaders and the characteristics they possess in their leadership roles. Who are leaders and what are their qualities? Students were encouraged to look at both the positive and negative aspects of leadership. Students identified with figures such as Jesus, Madonna, Barack Obama, Michael Jordan, Oprah Winfrey, Adolf Hitler and Nelson Mandela. They were able to discuss the characteristics of these strong and influential individuals and identify the traits and skills they possess. The day was tailored to exploring different aspects of leadership. We encourage students and their families to use the following questions in order to reflect on the day:

What is leadership?

What makes a good leader? What is a bad leader?

What are soft skills?

What leadership attributes do I possess?

How well do I listen?

Do my actions influence others?

Do I work well as part of a team?

What can I change to become a better leader?

How well do I communicate with my family and friends?

Do I make decisions and stick to my decision?

# PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT INTERVIEWS

A reminder that Parent-Teacher-Student interviews are being held on Wednesday 7 August, 4pm – 8pm, and Thursday 8 August, 1pm – 8pm. These interviews provide an opportunity to touch base with your child's teachers, review performance and discuss strategies for moving forward in the second half of the year. Students are expected to attend these interviews with their parents and should do so dressed in full school uniform. A reminder also that there are no scheduled classes for ELC-12 students on Thursday 8 August.

Parents will receive an email early next week providing information about how they can book interviews through the MG Parents Online portal (<a href="http://oscar.mentonegrammar.net/#parents">http://oscar.mentonegrammar.net/#parents</a>). Please note that bookings will open from the time you receive the email and will close on Tuesday 6 August. All bookings for Parent-Teacher-Student interviews must be made within this time period.

If you are unsure of your password to access MG Parents Online, then please contact the School's ICT Department via email: <a href="mailto:itassist@mentonegrammar.net">itassist@mentonegrammar.net</a>

# CAMPUS ACTIVITIES TERM 3 IN GREENWAYS

## Wednesday 7 August - Rotational Campus Activity

This afternoon will provide students with the opportunity to undertake 3 of the 8 activities on offer. This afternoon will not only enable students to work on specific skill sets but have a lot of fun and laughs along the way.

- Bubble Soccer
- Archery Warz
- Cartoon Drawing
- Yoga
- Mindfulness 'Be You'
- Wildlife Encounters
- African Drumming
- MasterChef

## Wednesday 14 August - Cadet Training

Students will finalise their cadet kit on this day

## Wednesday 21 August - Greenways Fitness Challenge

Year 9 students will participate in a run that will begin at Mentone Lifesaving Club. All students will make their way to Mordialloc Pier and return to Mentone Lifesaving Club (3.4km each way). Fitness sessions provide students an opportunity to train for the challenge and we encourage all students to try their best and aim to finish the run in the allocated time.





#### Wednesday 28 August - House Cross Country

Students will be taken by bus to Braeside Park at lunchtime. They are required to wear their house top and participate to the best of their ability.

#### Wednesday 4 September - Cadet Briefing/Training

Students will undertake a briefing session on what to take on cadet camp, packing their pack, health and hygiene and how to get the most out of the experience.

## Wednesday 11 September - Values for life - Lead the Way/ Tripod - Hours of Power

The Lead the Way workshop is designed to show that each student influences others by a) making wise choices, b) developing their own unique leadership skills and c) how their actions impact their community. This workshop highlights how skills such as taking initiative, communication, problem-solving, being trustworthy and having goals can make a great leader. Through a variety of interactive activities, games, discussion, stories, multimedia, and video the workshop equips students to extend their own skills and the consider the responsibility they play as a leader in their school and beyond.

The Hours of Power workshop is designed to give students the knowledge and tools needed to connect their current experiences and education to their future. Taking a different approach to traditional 'career tools' and personal brand portfolio development, this workshop covers a range of topics, giving students the key skills and tools needed for success through real-world activation and applications.

### **Topics include:**

- Personal Branding
- First Impressions
- Networking
- Interview Skills
- Social Media & Reputation
- Resume & Cover Letters
- Work Experience Preparation
- Digital Platforms e.g. LinkedIn

# SUBJECT SELECTION SUPERMARKET

Students currently in Years 9 & 10, along with their parents, attended the Subject Selection Supermarket on Monday evening to gather information regarding subject choices for 2020. The evening allowed for students and parents to gather information about subject choices offered in Year 10 and VCE. The Senior Subject guide and presentation were also emailed to all families this week to allow for important discussions around subject choices before preferences open. The Senior Subjects guide also features flowcharts for students to consider pathways in subject areas in Year 10 and in preparation for VCE.

A reminder that the subject selection portal will open on Tuesday 30 July and that students will receive an email including a username, password and link to enter their selections. These emails are generated externally, and it is important that students ensure they have space in their inbox to receive this email. If your email inbox is full then this email will bounce. Students are strongly encouraged to check their email inbox and ensure it is not full. The Subject Selection portal will close on Sunday 11 August.

Students and parents are encouraged to seek as much information as possible as they weigh options and consider their courses for 2020 over the coming weeks. Students are encouraged to talk to their mentor, subject teacher or Heads of Faculty if they have questions about certain subjects.

Should you require further information, or clarification or existing information, then please contact Teaching and Learning Office in the first instance.

I can also be contacted via email –  $\underline{\text{kab@mentonegrammar.net}}$  - or via Main Reception on 9584 4211.

Kara Baxter
Head of Teaching and Learning Years 7-12









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# **KEY DATES:**

Monday 29 July 9G Urban Camp BSL

9C Shoreham

9B Group 1 Barista Training/Café Week 1

Tuesday 30 July Cadet Training Day

Wednesday 31 July Years 9-12 Sport Training

Thursday 1 August Australian Mathematics Competition

9F Learning Journeys Presentation Dinner

Saturday 3 August AGSV winter sport

Monday 5 August 9C Dookie

9G First Aid Training

9B Group 2 Barista Training/Cafe Week 1

Athletics Season Launch Function

Tuesday 6 August 9G Shoreham

Greenways Assembly - 9D Caring/Academic Assembly

Wednesday 7 August Year 9 Campus Activity for Afternoon

PST Interviews 4pm - 8pm

Thursday 8 August No scheduled classes ELC - 12

PST Interviews 1pm - 8pm

Saturday 10 August School Tours 9am

Representative Winter Sport

**AGSV Athletics Trials** 

Monday 12 August 9C City

9G Dookie

9F Barista Training/Café Group 1 Week 1

Tuesday 13 August Greenways Assembly – 9E Resilience

Wednesday 14 August Year 9 Campus Cadet Training Afternoon in Greenways

Thursday 15 August Winter Sports Awards Night

Saturday 17 August AGSV Athletics Trials

Monday 19 August 9F Barista Training/Café Group 2 Week 1

9D BSL Urban

Tuesday 20 August Greenways Assembly 9A Service
Wednesday 21 August Year 9 Fitness Challenge afternoon

Thursday 22 August FAME School Production
Friday 23 August FAME School Production
Saturday 24 August FAME School Production
Monday 26 August 9A Café Group 1 Week 2

9D Dookie

Tuesday 27 August Greenways Assembly 9B Endeavour

9C Learning Journeys Dinner

Wednesday 28 August Years 9-12 House Cross Country
Friday 30 August 9A Café Group 1 Market Day

Saturday 31 August AGSV Athletic Trials

Monday 2 September 9A Café Group 2 Week 2

9D First Aid Training

9H Dookie

Tuesday 3 September 9D Shoreham



Greenways Assembly 9C Discipline

9G Learning Journey Dinner

Sport and Cocurricular photo day

Wednesday 4 September Year 9 Cadet Briefing for Afternoon

Friday 6 September 9A Café Group 2 Market Day

Singers Concert 6pm

Monday 9 September 9D City

9H City

9E Café Group 1 Week 2

Tuesday 10 September Greenways Assembly 9G Integrity
Wednesday 11 September Communion Service St Augustine's 8am

**AGSV Combined Athletics** 

Year 9 Campus Activity Afternoon (Tripod Hours of Power/Values for Life)

Friday 13 September 9E Café Group 1 Market Day
Monday 16 September Cadet Camp departs – all Year 9

Friday 20 September Cadet Camp returns

End of Term

















