Message from the Principal

Good afternoon everyone,

Welcome Back:

The 2017 school year is now well under way and I have been delighted with the positive energy and feel of the surrounds of our great school. Our students and staff have returned with great enthusiasm for the year ahead and everyone has quickly settled back into school life. During term 4 last year and over the summer period, our staff were involved in extensive performance review and planning for this year. Their efforts have been rewarded with an outstanding start to the new school year.

2016 SACE Results:

Our staff and students are to be congratulated on their excellent SACE results last year. Below is an outline of achievements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATAR – Highest Score</td>
<td>92.80</td>
<td>99.05</td>
<td>83.25</td>
<td>Decline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Offers</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Improve-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACE Completers Studying VET</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VET Units Completed</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>Decrease</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to these results I am very pleased to congratulate the following students who achieved our highest ATAR scores for 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alizarf Wahidi</td>
<td>Tiana Marius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92.80</td>
<td>80.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zulfiqar Ahmadi</td>
<td>Maddison Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78.45</td>
<td>71.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andre Machochi</td>
<td>Gemma Hocking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54.90</td>
<td>67.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrolments:

We have again experienced strong enrolment growth again this year with an actual enrolment now beyond 1000 students and a full time equivalent enrolment of 990 (accounts for part time students). Over the past 2 years our enrolment has grown by more than 250 students and this is an extremely pleasing result for our community. Parent confidence in our school is high and we are achieving fantastic learning outcomes for our students. The reputation of Playford International College is growing and our students speaking proudly of being a student at our school.

2017 School Priorities:

Each year, we identify key improvement priorities that are contained in our 3-year Transformational Plan. Each of our 26 internal departments have developed their own annual improvement plan. A copy of the 2017 Annual Improvement Plan is attached to this newsletter.
New Staff:

I am very pleased to welcome many new staff to our school this year. As enrolments grow, so does our workforce. We take great care in selecting only the best staff to work with your students. To work at Playford International College is a personal choice but to do so, carries great expectation and responsibility for all staff. The learning and wellbeing of your children cannot be compromised.

Our new staff include:

- Mitch Asser
- David Blight
- Carol Bowman
- Lothar Bukojemski
- Shane Hodgson
- Tim Hogan
- Sarah Kirk
- Cheryl Lord
- Kristen Menadue
- Jolene Miller
- Elisa Resce
- Kerryn Schofield
- Dan Shaw
- Claire Solomon
- Dan Stevens
- Ashley Sykes
- Judi Warrick
- Robby Young

Student Attendance:

I must begin by stating that student attendance is first and foremost the responsibility of parents. Whilst it is the primary job of teachers to create a safe and exciting learning environment, it is the job of parents to ensure that their child attends school EVERY DAY without exception.

Last year, average daily attendance for students was 77%. This is well short of the DECD average (above 90%). This rate of attendance means that the average student is only completing 3 terms of schooling per year. By Year 12, a student with 77% attendance has missed a whole year of schooling. It is little wonder that such students find learning difficult, quality employment difficult to achieve and a university pathway virtually impossible to achieve. More often than not, students with poor attendance have difficulty socialising and communicating with others and regularly drop out of school to a potential life of welfare dependency.

In many cases, parents continue to do very little to ensure that their children are attending school every day. Excuses such as Family or Illness are used all too often when instead parents need to enforce attendance at school. This is a serious matter and Improved Student Attendance remains our school's one number one priority. Please review your approach to your child’s attendance at school make it your priority to have them attending every day.

Student Uniform:

Our School Board has implemented a compulsory school uniform for all students as part of its governance policies. Every student is required to attend school daily and dress to comply with the school’s student uniform policy. Students not wearing the appropriate uniform items will be given loan items for the day. In extreme cases, students will be sent home for uniform breaches or removed to an independent learning environment for the school day. By wearing our school uniform, students learn to dress appropriately for the workforce, we eliminate bullying and harassment caused through students wearing brand clothing and we significantly increase school safety by being able to quickly and easily identify non-school members. We have a great looking, functional school uniform and I would hope that our students are proud to wear it as a member of our school. Remember, no uniform, no school.

Student Learning Expectations:

Students develop and learn many skills to assist them to lead a happy and fulfilled life as part of their learning journey from preschool to senior secondary school. Schools provide students with many great learning opportunities both within the classroom and beyond. Ultimately, the end point of schooling is for students to successfully transition into the workforce or achieve the results necessary for them to undertake tertiary education. Any student
not transitioning directly into meaningful employment, vocational or apprenticeship training or university study is significantly at risk of long term unemployment and/or welfare dependency. It is important for every student to focus on their academic achievement as a foundational reason for being at school.

Learning and academic achievement are school priorities that are simply first and foremost. Listening, contributing, attempting, completing, participating and sharing are expectations that we have for every learner in the classroom. This doesn't mean that every student need to be an A grade student. But it does mean that every student needs to try their best, have a go and attempt all work set by subject teachers. These are the ingredients for success and teachers expect all students to turn up for school ready to learn.

New Student Mentor Program:

From this year, every Year 8-12 student has been provided a teacher/leader mentor. Each teacher/leader mentor has up to 12 students in their mentor group and each mentor group is part of a new School House structure. Every School Support Officer is also attached to one of the 8 School Houses. The purpose of the Mentor Groups is to provide every student and their family direct access to a mentor/support teacher. This teacher will stay with the student throughout their schooling at Playford IC and their aim to develop a close relationship with you and your child. Each week, mentor teachers will monitor your child's attendance, uniform, behaviour, relationships with others, wellbeing and academic progress. As the year progresses, you can expect your child's mentor teacher to make regular contact with you. If you require assistance with any school matter, please contact the school and ask to speak with your child's mentor or specific teacher in the first instance.

School Annual General Meeting:

The school's Annual General Meeting will be held at the next School Board meeting at 5pm on Wednesday 29th March (Week 9). Due to building work that is underway, this meeting will be held in the school's staff room. At this meeting, the school's 2016 Annual report will be tabled and an election to appoint representative to the 2017/18 School Board will be held.

All parents are warmly invited to attend the AGM and I would like to use this opportunity to encourage parents to nominate for a position on the School Board. Supporting the improvement work of the school is responsibility of both staff and parents. If you are interested in joining the School Board, please complete and return the attached nomination form to Nicole Bayliss (Secretary) prior to March 29th.

Quote of the Week:

“The only Zen you can find on the tops of mountains is the Zen you bring up there.”

Robert M. Pirsig

Enjoy Term 1 and the year ahead,

Regards,

Rob Knight - Principal
### Message from the Principal Continued

**2017 School Leadership and Specialist Support Staff:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Rob Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal School Operations and Strategic Improvement</td>
<td>Brian Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal Special Interest Music, School Promotions</td>
<td>Janice Leahy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal School IT, International Ed, School Houses</td>
<td>Paul Paris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal – Senior School and SACE Improvement</td>
<td>Tim Kloeden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal – Middle School</td>
<td>Nick Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal – Student Pathways and VET</td>
<td>Neville Hubbard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director – Student Engagement and Wellbeing</td>
<td>Leanne Reynolds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director – Student Support and Intervention</td>
<td>Susan Thomson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director – Curriculum, Teaching and Learning</td>
<td>Matt Krieg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Julie Heddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Data and Operations Manager</td>
<td>Kristen Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Student Services Manager</td>
<td>Marion Furber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Secretary and Client Services Manager</td>
<td>Nicole Bayliss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Aboriginal Education and Support</td>
<td>Nicole Adji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Arts</td>
<td>Belle Stoneham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Communications (English and Language)</td>
<td>Sue Nowak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Global Studies (History and Geography)</td>
<td>Louise Minnie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Flexible Student Learning</td>
<td>Minnie Bal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of iSam (Science and Maths)</td>
<td>Sue Elderfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Personal Development (HPE and Home Economics)</td>
<td>Paul Eckermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Supported Learning</td>
<td>Carol Bowman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Technology</td>
<td>David Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator of Music</td>
<td>Jenna Mittenoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12 Manager</td>
<td>Leah Donnellan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 Manager</td>
<td>Allira Quinton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Manager</td>
<td>Matt Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Manager</td>
<td>Daniela Russo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Manager</td>
<td>Katie Woodrow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Message from the Principal Continued

- Student Transition Manager - Tamika Green
- Student Counsellor (Positive Education Strategy) - Sam Trotter
- Student Counsellor (Protective Behaviours Strategy) - Kimberley Walker
- Student Counsellor (English as a Second Language Students) - Helen Venetsanos
- Student Counsellor (Student Leadership) - Lauren DeBono

- Learning Hub Manager - Camille Tsilibakis
- Student Pathways Manager - Brett Crowhurst
- Curriculum Coach - Chevonne Craker
- Digital Learning Coach - Nathan Cini
- Literacy Improvement Coach - Andrea Williams
- Numeracy Improvement Coach - Rowan Hearne
- Instructional Coach - Gareth Heron
- Speech Pathologist - Catherine Dinos
- School Sport Coordinator - Marni Nicholls
- School Academies Coordinator - Jesse Rogerson

- Barnes House Leader - Rachel Seager
- Freeman House Leader - David Monaghan
- Gillard House Leader - Adam Gribble
- Gillespie House Leader - Simon Deguet
- Jackson House Leader - Karen Nelson
- Mitchell House Leader - Shannon Dessinger
- Tao House Leader - Kirsty Faulkner
- Thomas House Leader - Lisa Train
## 2017 PLAYFORD INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE – ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

| PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SACE                            | 1. Increase SACE completion rates | 2. Increase the % of students achieving A grades | 3. Reduce the % of students achieving E grades | 4. Increase the % of 70+ ATARS | 5. Eliminate all ATARS below 30 | 95% | 10% | <5% | 30% | 0% |
| Year 8-11 Grades                 | 1. Increase the number of A grades in each year | 2. Increase GPA Mean Scores | 20% | 65 |
| NAPLAN                          | 1. Improve Mean Scores in all test areas | 2. Increase the number of students meeting National Min Std to: | 3. Increase Upper Quartile Growth for students to: | 4. Increase the number of Band 9 and 10 students to: | 5% | 90% | 20% | 10% |

| PRIORITY 2: STUDENT WELLBEING |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Attendance                     | 1. Improve student attendance across all Year Levels | 90% |
| Behaviour                      | 1. Reduce Suspensions/Exclusion per year | <200 |
| Positive Education             | 1. Positive Curriculum is fully implemented and reported on | NA |
|                                | 2. Implement a new School House and Student Mentoring program | |

| PRIORITY 3: SCHOOL PROFILE AND PARTNERSHIPS |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Partnerships                                 | 1. Continue to develop strategic partnerships with community and business organisations | NA |
| Marketing                                    | 1. Increase major school external marketing and advertising | |
|                                              | 2. Increase the use of social media platforms for the school | |

| PRIORITY 4: BUILDING CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Teacher Quality                             | 1. Implement Project Based Learning and Action Research across the school | 2. Establish the school’s Professional Excellence Framework using Cognology | 3. Commence Educational Masters, Aspiring Leaders program and a Graduate Certificate in leadership for staff | NA |
PLAYFORD INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
2017/18 SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[full name]</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OF [address]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nominate myself / or [full name]

| OF [address] |  |

To be elected/appointed as a:

- Parent representative of the School Board
- Community representative of the School Board
- Advisory member of the following School Board Support Group/s
  - School/Community Partnerships
  - School Parents Support Group
  - School Promotions and Publicity
  - School Development and Improvement

I bring the following skills, experience or expertise to the nominated role:

I accept the nomination and hereby declare that:

- I am not an undischarged bankrupt and do not receive a benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors
- I have not been convicted of any offence of dishonesty, or of a sexual nature involving a minor, or of violence against a person

I understand that should I be declared bankrupt, receive a benefit of law for the relief of insolvent debtors or be convicted of any of the offences listed, my membership of the Clare High School Governing Council will cease.

Nominee Signature:  
Date:  
Nominee Contact Phone:  
Home:  
Work:  
Mobile:  
Nominee Contact Email:  
The 2017 school year has started smoothly and we welcome all new students and their families to the school. For continuing students and families, there have been a number of operational changes:

- The lesson, recess, lunch and dismissal times have changed
- The Hot Weather Policy has changed

Supervised study is available each morning from 8:00am–8:45am in the Learning Hub.

Recess is between 10:30am and 10:50 am, with lunch between 12:10pm and 12:40 pm each day.

Dismissal on Mondays and Wednesdays is 2:50 pm and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays is 3:30 pm.

During periods of extreme hot weather (days forecast to reach 40 degrees C or over), the following arrangements apply:

- Dismiss students at the beginning of lunchtime when the estimated maximum temperature for the Elizabeth area, as predicted on The Bureau of Meteorology Website at 8:00 am, is 40 degrees C or above.
- Notify parents/caregivers (SMS and the school website) of arrangements during extreme heat.

Note that bus schedules cannot be changed to suit arrangements during extreme heat.

Students who cannot leave school will report promptly to the Learning Hub at the end of lunchtime and remain supervised until the normal dismissal time.

Year 11 and 12 lessons will continue as normal in order to enhance SACE achievement. These classes will be conducted in the coolest rooms available.

The full policy is available on the school website.

I look forward to a very productive year.

Brian Jordan

It has been a positive start to the new school year with teachers Mr Trotter, Ms Ioannou, Mrs Chand and I welcoming new and returning students to the 2017 school year.

Students have been fully immersed in learning activities and tasks focused around the theme of Communication. This Unit of work encompasses communication of thoughts, feelings, strengths, anti-bullying, how things work, making hypothesis, and making appropriate behaviour choices. As part of this unit of work, Supported Learning students will be running a sausage sizzle on National Bullying No Way! Awareness Day on Friday 17th March.

Swimming has begun for the Middle School classes and Senior School students are attending The City Base Program and The Prospect Centre on various days of the week.

I am very excited to have been appointed Head of Supported Learning and look forward to meeting families and working with your children. I have come from Craigmore High School and have a strong background in Special Education having worked in this area for the past 20 plus years, both here in Australia and overseas.

Carol Bowman
Head of Supported Learning

Thank you to all our families who have either paid their school M&S Fees, or completed a School Card or CentrePay application. If you still need to settle your account with us, please either ring or come in to see Mrs Marion Furber in the Uniform Shop. There are a number of options available for families to pay or settle bills with our school and we are very happy to work with you to accommodate your situation with the following options:

Outright payment by EFT, cash, cheque or credit
School Card
CentrePay
Direct Debit
Time Payment

School uniform and hire of laptops can also be paid via CentrePay or Direct Debit. We also have a layby option for uniform.

If you are unsure about what is available for you, please contact Mrs Marion Furber.

Julie Heddle (Business Manager)
Congratulations to our 2016 Year 12 students who achieved excellent results in their Music studies! Students undertook units from a range of Stage 2 Music subjects that included Solo Performance, Ensemble Performance, Performance Special Study, Musicianship, Individual Study, and Music Technology. Students achieved 100% success rate with 9 A grades, 13 B grades and 1 C grade. My heart-felt congratulations to all Playford IC SIMC and instrumental staff who taught, encouraged and supported our students throughout the year.

It has certainly been a busy start to the year with 5 public performances already undertaken within the first 4 weeks!

Four students performed at the Elizabeth Shopping Centre to promote the exciting Playford Palace Fringe event which is happening the 24th and 25th of February. A large number of people in and around the food court enjoyed the entertainment provided by students Matthew Snelling and Amber Rogers on Sunday February 5, and Peter Moore and Emille Collins on Sunday February 12.

Playford International College Special Interest Music students were again invited to perform at the annual SACE Merit Ceremony at Government House on Tuesday 7 February. Peter Moore on trumpet joined with students from other Special Interest Music Centres to perform the Vice Regal Salute, and the Classical Guitar Ensemble performed for dignitaries and guests.

Congratulations to all musicians who performed so well and proudly represented our college at this event.

Amber, Peter and Emille also presented a 40 minute set at ‘A Night on the Green at The Grove’ at Elizabeth Grove PS on Wednesday 15 February, and on Monday 20 February Peter Moore and Sharni Carter provided music for Playford IC Mentor Acquaintance night.

Special Interest Music students will also be presenting a range of performances throughout Saturday 25 February from 12.30pm – 4.00pm for the Playford Palace Fringe event at the Civic Centre.

We look forward to an exciting performance-rich year with the expansion of established ensembles and the development of a range of performance groups that will continue to showcase the diverse and exceptional talents of our music students.

Janice Leahy
Deputy Principal
Head of Music/Promotions

Calendar Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 5th</td>
<td>Playford Fringe</td>
<td>Elizabeth Shopping Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>SACE Merit Ceremony</td>
<td>Government House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Playford Fringe</td>
<td>Elizabeth Shopping Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>A Day On The Green at The Grove</td>
<td>Elizabeth Grove PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Mentor Acquaintance Night</td>
<td>Playford IC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Combined SIMC’s Choral rehearsal</td>
<td>Woodville HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>DECD RTO Performance</td>
<td>Adelaide Oval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At the Special Interest Music Centre we are well under way with Instrumental Lessons, Ensemble Rehearsals and Performances.

The Special Interest Music Centre consists of 6 classroom staff in 2017:

Janice Leahy  Deputy Principal / Head of Music
Jenna Miltenoff                Music Coordinator
Rachel Seager
Nicole Trenbirth
Nick Birch
Richard Satchell
Judi Warrick  Music SSO

Instrumental Music Staff

Instrumental Lessons at Playford IC SIMC are taught by DECD Instrumental Music staff and HPI Music staff.

We extend a warm welcome to Lothar Bukojemski, Kerryn Schofield, David Blight, Tim Hogan and Iarla Bastians who are appointed to Playford International College as our Music Focus School staff.

Instrumental Music Staff for 2017 are:

Lothar Bukojemski  Classical Guitar
Tim Hogan               Modern Guitar
Ray Smith               Electric Guitar
Shaun Duncan           Bass Guitar
Scott Meggs            Drums/Percussion
Kerryn Schofield       Flute
Sonia Samain           Clarinet & Saxophone
Adrienne Meikle        Trumpet & Trombone
Cecilia McCormack      Voice
David  Blight          Voice
Iarla Bastians         Violin & Cello
Adrienne Meikle        Trumpet/Trombone
Ian Matear             Trumpet/Trombone
Alan Turner            Piano

Special Interest Music Ensembles have started up for 2017 and are directed by PIC, IMS and HPI Music staff.

Ensemble rehearsals are run at various times throughout the week as outlined below:

Stage Band
Janice Leahy                               Thursday 8.00am & Friday 3.30pm

Wind Ensemble
Nicole Trenbirth                                                   Wednesday 8.00am

Classical Guitar Ensemble
Lothar Bukojemski                                                   Thursday 11.30am

Vocal Ensemble
Rachel Seager & Nick Birch        Monday 8.00am & Friday 8.00am

Electric Guitar Ensemble
Jenna Miltenoff Tuesday 8.00am

Sax Ensemble
Nicole Trenbirth                                                Wednesday lunchtime

We are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and looking forward to seeing you all at our many performances throughout 2017.

Janice Leahy
Head of Music
A warm welcome back to all Middle School students! 2016 was a very successful year academically for our Year 8-10 students. Compared to 2015, we had over 1000 more A and B grades recorded across the year. This resulted in an average GPA rise of at least 2.0 for each year level. Pleasing too was the significant drop-off in Student Behaviour Management incidents towards the end of the year. 2017 has started well and it is pleasing to see Middle School students well-engaged in their learning and managing social conflict in a responsible and mature manner.

Our Middle School Seminar Series began in Week 3 with the Year 8 Cohort. These Seminars run every 2-3 weeks for each year level and contain a variety of essential learning for Years 8-10 students. These include positive education, violence and drug awareness, career pathways information, bullying and harassment awareness, developing powerful learning dispositions and online protective behaviour.

Our CirKidz Year 7-8 Transition Program is continuing this term on Tuesday afternoons. A small group of our Year 8 students who participated as Year 7s in 2016 are continuing to develop, refine and master a range of circus skills. Students have commented on how this program has improved their ability to develop resilience, perseverance and patience; essential skills for successful academic achievement.

Every Wednesday, 18 Year 10 students from Barnes and Gillespie house are participating in the Youth Opportunities Positive Empowerment Program at the Playford Civic Centre. The Youth Opportunities Program was successfully implemented in 2016 with a noticeable positive impact on student confidence and resilience. In 2017, all Year 10 students will have the opportunity to participate in the program with an aim to develop leadership, improve communication, foster perseverance and develop successful mindsets. I strongly encourage all Year 10 students to apply for the Youth Opportunities Program this year.

Finally, you and your child are encouraged to contact any of our Middle School Team for assistance if required. This year our team is;

Assistant Principal (Middle School)  Nick Birch
Year 8 Manager    Katie Woodrow
Year 9 Manager    Daniela Russo
Year 10 Manager    Matt Taylor
Middle School/Transition Manager Tamika Green

Our core aim is to improve the engagement, wellbeing and academic achievement of all our Middle School students. We look forward to working with you and your child to achieve these goals.

Nick Birch

Assistant Principal (Middle School)

Over the last 18 months staff and students at our school have been exploring the different elements of Project Based Learning, with a long term view of having a large majority of our teaching staff, using this teaching pedagogy, to best help support students to thrive.

A travelling party of 7 were lucky enough to visit the USA late last year to visit High Tech High, the global leaders in Project Based Learning. This was an overwhelming and extremely beneficial study tour, with numerous key lessons learnt. Staff at Playford IC are now actively participating in the key learnings from the study tour, as we endeavour to keep developing units of work that engage and inspire students to perform at their best.

Early signs in regards to the improvement of grades and the engagement levels of students in classes has been very encouraging. Students and teachers are now working towards co-designing units and projects, with strong links to the community and the very deliberate use of outside experts and industry leaders.

Our students here are capable of amazing things and they will continue to be stretched and supported to achieve. Stay posted for information in regards to an end of semester exhibition of learning, coming up at the end of Term 2. It will be a great night of celebrating some of the amazing work of students and staff at Playford International College.

Matt Krieg – Director of Curriculum
Vist our website to subscribe to our eNews

Senior School Report

It has been very busy start to what shapes up as an exciting year for seniors at Playford International College. All year 11 and 12 students have settled nicely into their new classes and surroundings, which has already created an industrious atmosphere in the Senior Centre, both during lessons and break times. It has been great getting to know the Year 11s as they start their SACE journey and, in particular, the number of students undertaking VET this year as part of their studies is amazing.

What’s news?

Senior Seminar Series

Students have acclimatised quickly to the new look school timetable and are making the most of class and study time. One new feature to this year’s timetable is the ‘Senior Seminar Series’, which is facilitated by Assistant Principal, Tim Kloeden. The aim of these weekly sessions is to:

• Notify the seniors of any important messages, upcoming events, pathway opportunities etc.

• Actively participate in workshops that focus of ‘growth mindsets’. Topics covered so far include; Make attitude a choice, define what success means to you, what is the agreed price to achieve success? Finally, perfecting the art of deliberate practice.

• Present any student awards – On Wednesday 15/2/2017 Year 11 student, Jessica Hann, was presented with the 2017 ‘Healthy Development Adelaide (HAD)’ scholarship. This scholarship recognises one senior student aspiring to study health or education at university and financially supports them with the materials required to be successful throughout the SACE.

SACE Merit Ceremony

Students who achieved an A+ with merit in 2016 were invited to attend the SACE Merit Ceremony on Tuesday 7 February 2017. The ceremony, in its twenty-ninth year, saw 996 students awarded with 1,302 subject merits for outstanding achievement in SACE Stage 2 subjects. Subject merits are awarded to students who gain an overall subject grade of A+ and demonstrate exceptional achievement in that subject. Current year 12 student, Elizabeta Brkic (pictured below), achieved an A+ for her studies in Workplace Practices in 2016. This acknowledgement of academic excellence is the first of its kind by a Playford International College student since the new-SACE was introduced in 2007. It was a wonderful event with many students across the state being honoured. His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le AC, the Governor of South Australia and the Hon. Jay Weatherill MP, Premier of South Australia were special guests on the day and along with a host of other esteemed guests assisted with the presentations.

Wishing all the seniors the best of luck in 2017.

Mr Kloeden
(Assistant Principal: Senior School & SACE Improvement)
Learning Hub Report

The Learning Hub is off to a great start in this year. The open space learning environment has already been host to a variety of events, classes and presentations which truly display our school's enthusiasm for learning and sharing.

We encourage all teachers to display student work in the Learning Hub, this is a shared community area of the school and a great place to show off what’s going on. If you don’t want to display your precious originals, just let one of us know and we’ll be happy to colour copy or photograph your items to safely display. Additionally, please consider the Learning Hub for your next class Expo, you can use the Learning Hub as a pop-up museum and host viewings by other classes and staff.

The Learning Hub tutoring program is also running daily throughout all lessons, through the hard work of dedicated SSO and Teacher tutoring team. Students are booked into the Learning Hub by their classroom teacher, in order to receive additional support in achieving a C grade or higher for an individual assessment task. The class teacher works closely with the tutoring team, providing a plan for each individual student, this team support goes a long way in building skills and confidence required for successful learning.

What's happening in the Learning Hub in 2017?

• Individual and small group tutoring offered during each lesson
• Supervised study before school daily
• Supervised study every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon
• An updated book collection filled with current bestselling & award winning YA fiction
• Popular graphic novels and Manga
• Up to date and engaging Non-fiction resources
• 21st century audio visual presentation equipment for groups
• Computers for research and creation
• Flexible class learning areas ‘Maker Spaces’ – promoting and supporting projects across the school
• Cross curricular class displays
• Lunchtime games and friends
• Learning Hub team activities for students
• Presentations by guest speakers, students and teachers
• Students learning and sharing through class expos and pop up museums
• And much..much..more..!

Camille Tsilibakis – Learning Hub Manager
2017 Swimming Carnival Results

The second annual Playford International College Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 14th February. Fortunately it was perfect weather for students to swim, have fun, socialise, meet new people and show their competitiveness in the pool. There was fantastic school spirit with students supporting their houses by getting in the pool, dressing up in their house colours, and supporting their peers. Individual awards winners for outstanding performances on the day were: Year 8 boy winners Braeden Booth and Blake Raferty, Year 8 girl winners Phoenix Kulpie and Taylor Mercer, Year 9 boy winners Wayne Prior and Noah Kanikula, Year 9 girl winner Rachel Henderson, Year 10 boy winner Dwight Raferty, Year 10 girl winner Paige Fewings, Senior boy winner Farell Pawadi, Senior girl winners Carissa Nicholson and Meg-Smith Atkinson.

The winning house was Barnes, with Freeman second and Jackson and Mitchell equal third. Congratulations to all staff and students who helped make this a fantastic PIC event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barnes</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeman</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillard</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillespie</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tao</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aboriginal Education

Welcome to the new team!

Our Aboriginal Education Team has grown this year to cater to our growing number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enrolments. We welcomed three new ASETOs to our school including Jolene Miller, Robbie Young and Dan Shaw. We also welcomed our new Aboriginal Education teacher, Josh Young to the team. Nick Gillard remains with us for student tuition and support with the SAASTA program and Nicole Adji remains as Head of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education.

We begin our second year of the SAASTA program for our senior students and have started our new ‘SAASTA Connect’ program for years 8 and 9 students. Our Year 12s will have access to a Year 12 mentor in our Aboriginal Education room every Friday morning to assist with training and pathways as well as successful transition to study and work in 2018.

We have many events and programs on offer for students at our school this year so look out for our Ab Ed Newsletter for details. If you have any queries about how our department can assist you or concerns regarding your child’s schooling please do not hesitate to contact one of us at the school.

Nicole Adji
Head of ATSI Education
Welcome back. I hope you and your family had a great break and are renewed for the New Year.

The 2017 Wellbeing Team:
Leanne Polkinghorne (Director of Engagement and Wellbeing)
Sam Trotter (Student Counsellor)
Helen Venetsanos (NESB Manager & Student Counsellor)
Kim Walker (Student Counsellor)
Bekk Sellars (Pastoral Care Worker)
Emily Richichi (Child Wellbeing Practitioner)
Rocco Luppino (Psychologist)

We are offering a new service, In-School Psychology. If your child would like to access this service, book a meeting with a Student Counsellor today. To book a meeting, please speak to Student Services.

Attendance:
Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!

At Playford International College, we are committed to providing high quality learning, creating safe and caring environments which promote equity and diversity.

To be successful at school, students should attend regularly and participate in educational programs.

“There is a clear link between getting a year 12 certificate (or equivalent qualification) and improved social and economic outcomes for all young people.” Australian Government, Department of Education and Training

We believe that:

- Young people suffer academically if they miss school
- Chronic absences are a warning sign that a student maybe disengage from school
- Attendance is a shared responsibility between the school, parents/caregivers, students and community

What can families do to support a young person to attend school?

- Avoid vacations and doctor’s appointments which require a young person to miss school
- Set homework and bedtime routine (8 ½ to 9 ½ hours per night on average). When the lights go out, so do the mobile phones, computers and video games.
- Turn to the school for help – ask to talk to your young person’s Mentor Teacher.

Students have a responsibility too:

- School is your first and most important job
- Students who attend school regularly are more like to complete year 12 and find good jobs
- School only gets harder when you stay at home too much

Uniform:

Playford International College is committed to creating a safe and supportive learning environment by developing a sense of pride.

It is an expectation that all students enrolled at Playford International College will wear the full school uniform in an appropriate manner.

We believe that a school uniform assists students to:

- have a sense of pride in presenting a positive image when representing the school.
- be readily identifiable from outsiders who enter the school grounds and promotes safety and security.

Stock is available from the school. It is some time necessary to pre-order some styles and sizes.

Clothing is on display and can be tried on in the Uniform Shop.

Uniform Shop Open Hours:

8:30am - 2.50pm Monday & Wednesday
8:30am - 3.30pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

For enquiries about school uniforms, please ring 8255 7566.

Any students out of uniform are expected to borrow a loan item for the day.

All exemptions must be submitted in writing to Leanne Polkinghorne, Director of Engagement and Wellbeing for approval.

Leanne Polkinghorne
Director of Engagement and Wellbeing
A new Music Hub Program is being offered to primary schools in the Northern DECD region.

**The Adelaide North Primary Music Hub Program**

The program is being run at Playford International College and is open to students who attend a Northern DECD Primary School and are in Year 4-7.

**Key Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th March</td>
<td>Sports Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 31st March</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13th April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14th April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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</table>

**Instruments**

- Woodwind – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone
- Brass – Trumpet, Trombone
- Strings – Violin, Cello
- Percussion – Drums, Percussion
- Guitars – Classical Guitar

**Hire of Instruments**

- $80 per year

**All students attend**

- Playford International College Music Centre every Tuesday for 1 ½ hours
- Students are expected to participate in all aspects of the program

1. ½ hr Instrumental Lesson
2. ½ hr Practical Theory Lesson
3. ½ hr Ensemble Rehearsal

**All Lessons are delivered by**

- DECD teachers
- Playford IC Music Staff and Instrumental Music Staff

**Practical Theory includes**

- Theory, History, Listening, Keyboard, Aural, Music Technology and Choir

**Instruments**

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Strings
- Percussion
- Guitars

**Special Interest Music Centre**

Students are expected to participate in all aspects of the program. The program is open to students who attend a Northern DECD Primary School and are in Year 4-7.

**Key Dates**

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- Thursday 13th April – Last Day of Term 1
- Friday 31st March – Pupil Free Day
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