

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

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## Important College Dates

### TERM 4

- 5th Oct Term Commencement
- 5th- 9th October Remote Learning
- 12th October Yr 7 Students doing VCE\VET\VCAL return to onsite learning
- 23rd Oct AFL Grand final Public Holiday
- 26th Oct Yr 8—Yr 10 return to onsite learning
- 9th Nov VCE Exams commence
- 18 Dec Last day of Term

It has definitely been a week of surprises. To finally have a plan for the return of students to on-site learning is exciting. However, it needs to acknowledge that for many of our families and staff it is a time of great trepidation. All I can do is reassure you that we are doing this together. We will work together to return to routines that are sorely missed, support and extend student learning, and ensure that our wellbeing is cared for. Please support us with this process, we need you to let us know how we can help best. You have watched and supported your child/ren for months and have such valuable insight into how we can support to have a successful transition back to school. We also ask that you encourage your child to do their best when we complete PAT testing with all students in Years 7 to 10 as this will allow us to build a picture of learning support or extension if required. Lastly, I am asking that staff students and parents share feedback by completing DET opinion surveys. These surveys are always a valuable way of gauging our successes and to identify areas of focus for future improvement but never has this feedback been more important. We must acknowledge the great work of our staff and the tremendous effort of our students and parents since March.

Congratulations to our VCE students on the manner in which they approached the General Assessment Task (GAT) this week. Exams can be stressful enough but the added pressure of strict COVID restrictions such as wearing a mask for three hours and strict social distancing in the examination rooms creates extra stress.

On behalf of the Year 12 students, I would like to thank the Friends of 3095 & Surrounds for the generous gift that they all received this week. Each student on Wednesday received a package of gifts that included chocolate, a pen, face cleanser and scrub, vouchers and a COVID key ring amongst other things. A special touch was a handwritten letter. This wonderful gesture was appreciated by all Year 12 students in the Nillumbik shire. The most special part of their gift was an individually written letter of support and encouragement. The generosity of the Friends of 3095 & Surrounds is amazing.

We look forward to welcoming back our Year 7 students on Monday. While it was no surprise that VCE/VCAL students were returning, the announcement about Year 7s was a real surprise. As you can imagine, a great deal of planning has occurred this week just trying to work out the logistics of half the student population returning and a mix of staff each day. Plans for re-engagement activities are underway, as our Year 7s get to know each other again and re-establish routines.

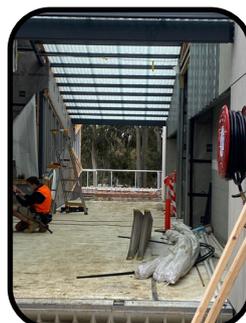
Our focus is also on the return of the remainder of our students in a few weeks. If all goes well that will be on October 26. We cannot wait!

Take care

**Allison Bennett  
Principal**



Progress of our STEM Building



### Statement of Commitment

DVC is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.