



newsletter

Term 1 , February 2021

From the Principal, Peta Kourbelis

Welcome

On behalf of our staff, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back to a great year. We are excited to see our students returning to school with energy and enthusiasm for learning. For our continuing families, I look forward to working with you again in 2021 to support your child's learning. For families new to Hamilton, I look forward to meeting and working with you as your child settles into our College.

Welcome back to all staff and a special welcome to the following staff who join us for the first time in 2021:

Mr. Mark Mcleod (Arts/ Humanities)
Mr Simon Miller (Chemistry/Science)
Ms Linda Edwards (Principal's PA)
Mr Ben Johnstone (Student Support)
Mr Josh Bradley (Student Support)

Year 12 news

Congratulations to all our 2020 year 12s. Their final results were impressive. Our Dux achieved an ATAR of 99.8%, along with a significant number of students who achieved an ATAR above 90%. We are in fact, very proud of every year 12's achievements.

Many of our graduates have been offered entry to a wide range of university courses, which include: B Engineering, Science, B Engineering (HONS) (Chemical) DBL, B Science (HONS), B Psychological Science, B Medical Science (Vision Science)/M Optometry, B Mathematical Science, B Science (ADVANCED), B. Social Work, B Psychological Science, B Occupational Therapy (HONS), B Medical Science, B Laws, B Ed (SEC)/B Health, B Midwifery, B Dental Surgery, B Arts, (Creative Writing), B Early Child Ed (HONS), B Health Science.

Term One Events

Term one is filled with a range of important events. Thanks to our dedicated middle school team, our year 8s already have experienced a two day camp filled with various team building activities. This was a wonderful way for them to settle into high school and make new friends

We are now all preparing for our Year 8 Acquaintance Night, which will be held on Wednesday 24 February from 5pm – 7pm. Each year I look forward to this event as I have a great opportunity to meet and chat with our new families.

Open Day is also around the corner. It will be held on Wednesday 17 March 2021. We would like to encourage families to join us on the day for a rich and engaging program. Please look for more details on our website in the coming weeks.

Governing Council

I would like to encourage parents and caregivers to consider joining our Governing Council. The council meets two evenings per term. Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 24 February at 6 pm. I would like to welcome and encourage all parents to come along.

If you are interested in joining our Governing Council please complete the nomination form enclosed in this issue of our newsletter (page 6).

Diary Dates

February

16th - Year 12 Parent Night
24th - Year 8 Acquaintance Night
- AGM

March

3rd - School Photos
8th - Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
10th - Sports Day
15th - Year 8 & 10 Immunisations
24th - Governing Council

April

2nd - Good Friday
5th - Easter Monday
9th - Last day of Term 1

Uniform Shop

Monday - Friday 8.30am - 3.00pm

For further assistance please contact the Front Office on 8275 8300

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Middle School

My name is Amanda Furness and I am the Middle School Assistant Principal. I would like to welcome all of our new middle school families and to welcome back all of our returning families. This year is going to be even bigger than the last with more opportunities for your children to be involved in the extra curricula programs, sports, groups and clubs in 2021.

For the Year 8 students, starting their high school journey will be a nerve racking and exciting time. They will be making new friends, finding the balance between seven different subjects and will be developing the skills needed to be more independent in their learning but not without support. Our wonderful Year 8 team will be beside them the whole way. The team includes Emily Shepherd, who will be looking after students in 801, Hannah Mancini, who will be looking after students in 802 and Chrissy Pappas who will be looking after students in 803.

We are all really looking forward to getting to know your children at Year 8 Camp in Week 3 and then meeting you in Week 5 at our annual Year 8 BBQ and Parent/Caregiver information evening.

The Year 9 students have started the year with our wonderful care group teachers: Grantly Saint and Grace Joyce, who are excited to see what amazing things this group will achieve in 2021.

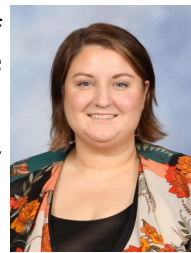
Our Year 10 group have a big year ahead as they begin the SACE journey in Semester 2 and, for some, their first experience of vocational education and training courses. This will be a big challenge, but they are being led by the experienced Desanka Arezina and supported by their care group teachers Mike Eglinton and Adam Lewis.

Finally our Middle School students will also be supported by Malcolm Lobban who looks after international students in years 8 to 10.

I am really looking forward to leading this team in my role as Assistant Principal of the Middle School and working with a range of staff to ensure that all Year 8, 9 and 10 students are supported to achieve excellence in their learning and develop the skills and qualities they need to be successful in their transition to the Senior years of high school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's care group teachers via email, a note or call to the front office. The care group teachers will be able to assist you or direct you to the appropriate person.

I am excited for all the opportunities and experiences our year 8 to 10 students will be able to take part in in 2021.



Year 8 Camp

On the 9th of February in Week 3, our year 8 students embarked on our 2 day Year 8 camp. The camp took place at the beautiful Nunyara in Belair and was an excellent opportunity for students to build new friendships, get to know their care group teachers and build leadership and teamwork skills. Activities led by the experienced Beyond Limits team at the site, included tree climbing, go-karting and obstacle courses as well as the water and teamwork challenges. Students worked in 'tribes' to collect points for their teams for the chance to win the prized reward at the end of the camp. Year 8 camp is an exciting and fun way to start the year and create friendships that last throughout the following years.





YEAR 8 CAMP

2021

Year 8 BBQ and Parent Information Evening!

We would like to invite all Year 8 families to an informal BBQ, **on Wednesday 24 February**, to further welcome you to the Hamilton Secondary College community.

This event will be held from **5:00pm under the rotunda outside the Science building** and will provide an opportunity for you to meet other parents, members of the school leadership team and teaching staff. All food and drinks will be provided. We hope you are able to attend and look forward to meeting with each of you.

If you have any dietary requirements, please call the Front Office on 8275 8300 and speak with Linda Edwards and we will endeavor to cater to your needs.

Senior School

Welcome

Welcome to the Senior School for 2021. My name is Angus Fisher and I am the Senior School Coordinator for Year 11 and 12 students. My role this year will be to support our senior students as they work their way through the final years of their secondary education. To begin, I'd like to introduce the Senior School care group teachers for 2021. The Year 12 caregroup teachers this year are Sarah Livingstone (12.1), Brad Cummins (12.2) and Flora Botting (12.3). Helping out our Year 11's this year will be Kate McElligott (11.1), Rajbir Bhatti (11.2) and Amanda Russell (11 International). These teachers are students' first port of call for any assistance with their study, wellbeing, uniform and attendance issues.

A Great Start...

In the first two weeks senior students hit the ground running. They are now settled into their classes and are well on their way to completing their first assignments and studying for their first tests. During Pathways sessions, students have been focusing on their organisation skills and time management to start the year off. They have made a weekly planner that includes their lessons, homework time and out of school responsibilities. In addition to this, all students in the senior school have also mapped out dates for completion of Term 1 assessment tasks. A very positive start to the year!

Year 12 Parent Information Evening

In Week 4, Year 12 Parents and Students are invited to attend the 2021 Year 12 Parent Information Evening. This evening will give parents the opportunity to gain some valuable information about the structure, expectations and key dates for Year 12 students. Parents will also have the opportunity to speak with teachers and check-in on how their child is progressing so far. The Year 12 Parent Information Night will be on **Tuesday 16th February at 5:30pm in the Mars Briefing Room**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Home Study, Driver's Agreement and Uniform

At the end of Week 2, students were given an introductory letter, hard copy of their timetable, home study form and driver's agreement form to take home to family. The home study form needs to be signed by parents and returned to the front office in order for Year 11 and 12 students to study from home if they have a study lesson during Lesson 5/6.

If students wish to drive their own cars and park within the school grounds, the Driver's Agreement needs to be signed and handed into the front office.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to remind students and parents about the school's uniform policy. The Uniform Shop is located near student services and is open every day for parents and students. Senior students are expected to wear full uniform.

I look forward to working with our Year 11 and 12 students this year as they strive to achieve their goals. If students or parents have any questions regarding subjects, uniform, attendance or any other matters, please feel free to email or call care group teachers or speak to me directly.



Angus Fisher
Senior School Coordinator



STEM

Our STEM classes this year are off to a flying start – especially in Year 9 where students have been investigating how Newton's Laws of Motion apply to rocketry. Students have been applying the principles they are learning to create effective rocket designs.

In Year 8, students are exploring accuracy and precision in robotic movement, trying to understand why, often, a robot will not behave exactly as intended. Students are exploring what variables can be tweaked so that the robot will behave as expected. Students are also exploring the power of gear configurations to simplify machines and keep them moving.

Our Year 10 STEM lessons are very topical, with students applying their knowledge of Science, Maths and Computer Science to model the spread of viruses among humans. Students have gained an appreciation of the random outcomes that occur among a given population by calculating percentages and observing the effect of chance and probability. Students are using this information to determine a vaccination strategy that minimises the number of people affected by a disease. Students have had several interesting discussions around the COVID-19 pandemic, and the modelling exercises have helped visualise how governments and health agencies are managing the pandemic situation.

Caroline Johnstone
Assistant Principal: STEM & Learning Technologies



VET

Welcome to our 2021 VET students!

2020 to say the least was a challenging year and also a very successful year for our VET graduates and we are looking forward to an exciting 2021. VET courses commenced in Week 2 for Hamilton secondary students, regional secondary students and adult students at Hamilton Secondary College.

2021 sees the continued interest in Vocation Education and Training (VET) courses for Secondary students.

Results from the VET programs that we deliver have been consistently high and the quality of our programs and Trainers is well recognised outside of the schools by employers. Hence, Hamilton Secondary College attracts students into our VET courses from a number of Government and private schools.

We would like to congratulate Pouya Maleki and Matthew Kirley on gaining part time employment at the 'Adelaide Pavilion through completing our 'Coffee and Beverages' short course last year.

For more information please contact Ms Desanka Arezina our VET Coordinator or Rod Yon, Assistant Principal.



Student Success



"My name is Kyle and I graduated from Hamilton Secondary College in 2020. As the global pandemic, known as COVID-19, swept the world there was a lot of uncertainty that the class of 2020 had to face. We had to adjust to new ways of working outside of the traditional classroom setting, make a commitment together to stay resilient and support each-other throughout the way. It was an honour to receive the SACE Merit in Research Project A as it is the pinnacle of my academic success which signifies my dedication and commitment to hard work and excellence. I want to thank Hamilton for teaching me the qualities that I need for community life, citizenship and work."

Kind regards,
Kyle

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS FOR RECEIVING A SACE MERIT CERTIFICATE

Isabella Galluccio - Maths Essentials **A+**
Minh Dai Luong - Research Project A **A+**
Rahul Rajendra Kumar - Research Project A **A+**
Sam Potter - Physics **A+**
Kyle Daija - Research Project A **A+**

AGM Nomination

Governing Council Nomination Form

Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 24 February 2021 at 6.00 pm

Please return this nomination form to Linda Edwards, front reception, by Tuesday 23 February.

I, (full name) of (address)
phone number

Nominate

..... (full name) of (address)
phone number

to be elected as a member of the Governing Council.

I, (full name) of (address)
phone number

accept this nomination and hereby declare that

- I have not been declared 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 Governing Council will cease.

Signed: (nominee)

Dated:

College Info

School Photos will be taken at our school on:

Wednesday 3rd March

Parents can send the money to the school in the self-sealed envelope supplied however **On-Line Ordering**, where parents are now able to select their preferred package online makes it much easier for our parent community.

Placing your child's order online is the safest and easiest way to order school photos. Just enter the shootkey printed on your child's envelope and make your selection! If you are having a Sibling photo taken, do the same with the shootkey printed on that envelope (envelopes available from schools front office) and you're done. It really is that easy!

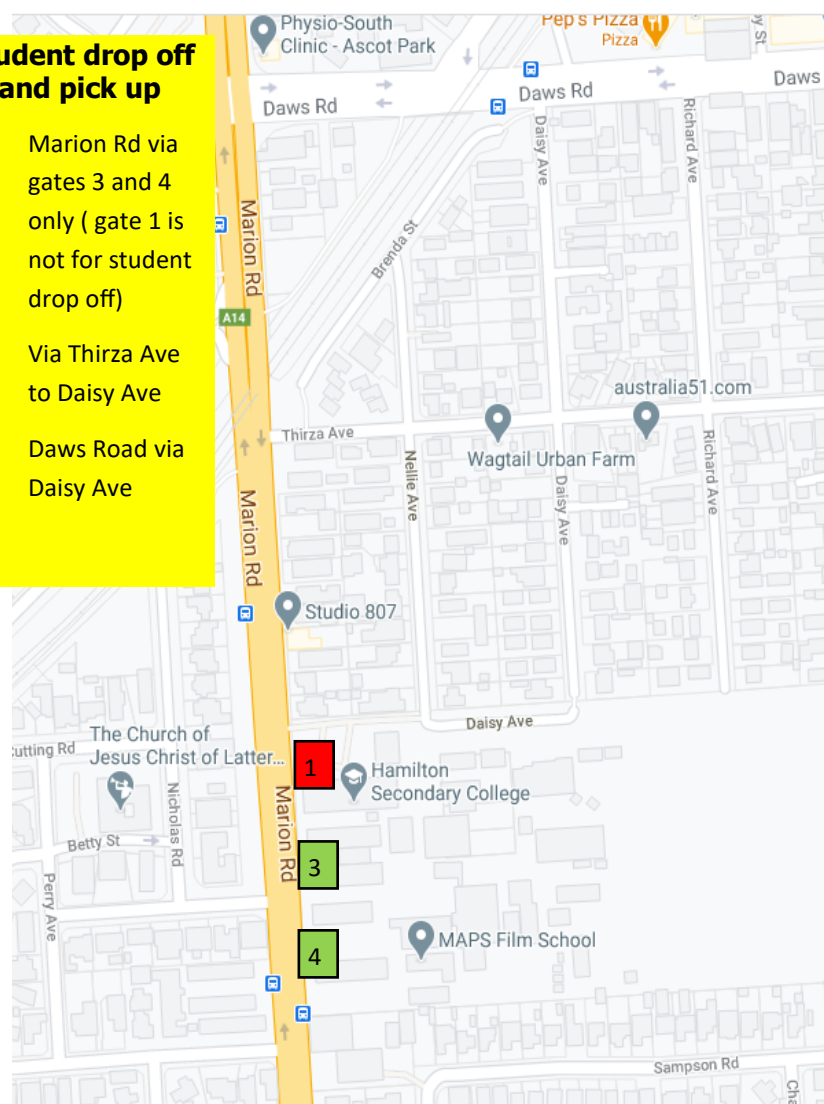
The range of options available to you online has increased. As well as the option to download a Low Resolution image for a smart-phone, parents will now have the option to purchase a High Resolution Digital Download of their child.

An added incentive for our families is that MSP now offers a 10% discount for all orders above \$90.00 a family. To receive this discount online, your orders must be placed in one transaction. If you are paying with cash, please total your order amount, then apply your discount and place the correct money in the self-seal envelope.



Student drop off and pick up

- ◇ Marion Rd via gates 3 and 4 only (gate 1 is not for student drop off)
- ◇ Via Thirza Ave to Daisy Ave
- ◇ Daws Road via Daisy Ave



HAMILTON SECONDARY COLLEGE

Open Day

17 March 2021

Open Day Principal Tours by appointment:
Prospective Year 7 students - 9:30am to 10:30 am
Prospective Year 8 students - 11:30 am to 12:30pm

Open Evening College Tours by appointment at:
4:30pm, 5:30pm and 6:30pm

For more information and to book a tour, please call 8275 8300

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