

St. Arnaud Secondary College Weekly Newsletter

Issue 1

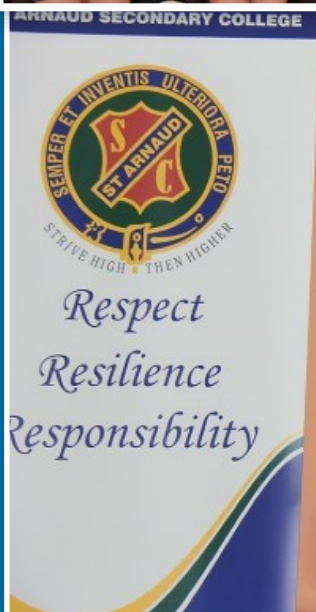
5th February, 2021

Term 1

Week 2

Class
of
2020

Presentation Evening



St. Arnaud Secondary College is a Child Safe School.

Address: Smith St, St Arnaud, Victoria 3478
Postal Address: PO Box 40, St Arnaud 3478
Ph: (03)54951811
Fax: (03) 54952308

Website: www.starnaudsc.vic.edu.au
Email: st.arnaud.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Principal : Tony Hand
Assistant Principal: Vanessa McCormick

Principal's Report

Welcome back to everyone for a new school year. Welcome to all of our new students, including the Year 7 students, their families and to Dr. Barbara Chambers who has joined us to teach mathematics across the year levels. Hopefully this year we will be able to have a smooth and 'normal' year and continue our improvement across the school.

Presentation Night

Last Thursday we held our 2020 Presentation Night. The timing of the night enabled us to formally recognise and farewell our Year 12 students who achieved some very pleasing results. As has been reported in the papers, we were recognised as the equal most improved school in the state over the last four years, raising our median study score from 23 to 29. In relative terms, this put us third out of our closest 8 schools this year. This is due to a combination of factors – our 2020 Year 12 cohort worked hard as a whole to gain some excellent results, and our staff have been diligently working on strategies to help us achieve ongoing improvements and growth over the four years. This is something that we as a school and community should be proud of. I would also like to make special mention of 2020 Captains, Abby Needs and Harry Knights, who hosted the majority of the evening before handing over to Tylah Shields and Tessa Young. The students did an excellent job keeping the night moving and interesting. Well Done!

Victorian Regional Arts Grant

Over the summer holidays we learnt of the success of our application to Victorian Regional Arts for a "Creative Workers in School Grant - Artist in Residence" this year. Cindy O'Sullivan will be primarily working with our younger year levels on theatre and drama over the next six months in our Arts classes, which is a great opportunity for our students.

School for Student Leadership

The year has only just begun, and with it Year 9 students Demi Leach and Adella Burr have headed off to Gnorad-Gundidj to begin their 9 week stay at the School for Student Leadership. The girls will experience a wide range of activities that are purposefully designed to build their leadership and Team Work Skills. We look forward to hearing from them throughout the term.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

This week students have been considering and nominating students for this year's SRC. The SRC has two or three representatives from each year level and the Year 12 College Captains. The SRC is a great forum for student voice in the school and through the College Captains, have a direct link to School Council.

Fire Drill

On Monday this week we held our first Fire Drill at the College. All students and staff were assembled and accounted for in less than 4 minutes, which is not a bad first up effort. We will be conducting a lock down drill in the next few weeks.

Hire Books

On Monday all students were spoken to about the Hire Books that we have introduced this year. The driving factor behind offering Hire Books is to keep costs down for parents as we are aware that text books are very expensive. However, with this comes the responsibility for every student to take good care of their books, particularly the hire books, as we need them to last for four to five years to cover our costs. If books are unreasonably damaged or lost, parents may be charged full price for the books which we would prefer to avoid.

Hats Outside

A reminder that all students are required to be wearing a broad brimmed (or legionnaires) hat when they are outside.

Upcoming dates

Tuesday 9 February - Year 7 Welcome BBQ – all Year 7 parents are encouraged and welcome
Wednesday 10 February – Year 11 and 12 Info night – all students expected to attend.
Monday 15 February – School Leader's Ceremony – 2pm at the Town Hall

Tony Hand
Principal

School for Student Leadership

We wish Demi and Adella Burr all the best at the Gnurad-Gundidj School near Glenormiston.

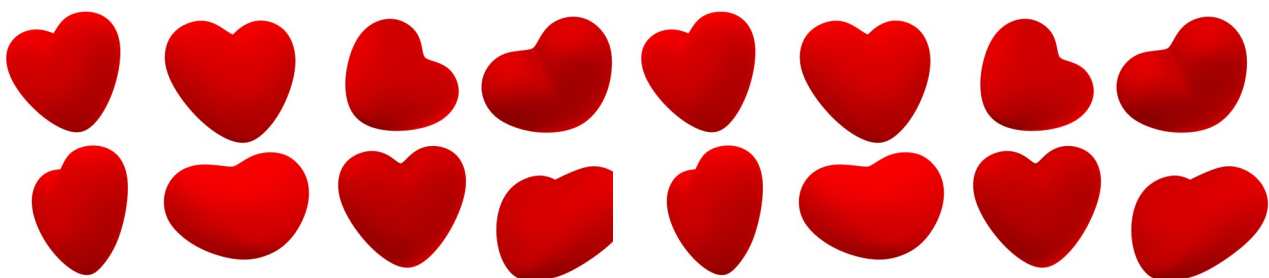
The students will be students of the school for Student Leadership for the whole term, living on campus for the whole time.

Good luck girls and we look forward to hearing about your adventure.



Valentine's Day

On Friday 12th of February, the school captains will once again be hosting a Valentine's themed day. We strongly encourage everyone to get dressed up in red, white and/or pink. There will be prizes for the best-dressed senior (year 11 and 12), intermediate (year 9 and 10) and junior (year 7 and 8) students. There will also be a bake sale held at lunch by the year 12 VCE class for any students that wish to purchase a cupcake or sweet treat for \$2. All the money raised by the bake sale will go back into the school to be used for future leadership opportunities for students.



New Staff

Welcome Dr. Barbara Chambers.

St Arnaud Secondary College would like to warmly welcome our new maths teacher in 2021: Dr Barbara Chambers.

Dr. Chambers comes to the school from the Victorian Virtual School, Maths high-ability program and Monash University, where she researched and lectured in the Department of Banking and Finance. She has worked as a statistical programmer and has written academic papers on consumer finance. Dr. Chambers has also lived and worked in a variety of locations around the world, including the UK, USA and New Zealand.

She is looking forward to being part of a smaller community and enthusing her students about mathematics and statistics. She is also looking forward to sampling the fresh produce of the region and playing tennis at the tennis club.

Dr. Chambers will be teaching classes across the school, with a focus on lifting student engagement and performance in mathematics.



Artist in Residence—Cindy O'Sullivan



This year St. Arnaud Secondary College has been successful in applying for funding to support an artist in residence at the school throughout semester 1, through Regional Arts Victoria.

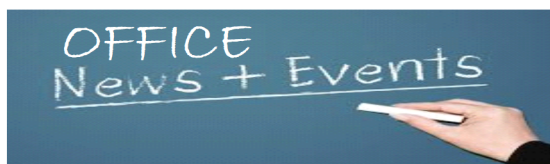
Ms. Cindy O'Sullivan will be working with students at the school with a focus on the performing and dramatic arts.

Cindy has a Graduate Diploma in Education and has much prior experience working in theatre and educational settings. This has included work with St. Arnaud Primary School, St. Patrick's School (St. Arnaud), Marnoo Primary School, as well as other schools and organisations within the region.

Cindy was recently a Creative Artist 2019 at the 'Encounter Schools Project Art Is...' Festival, Horsham, running theatre workshops and presenting with students at the Horsham Performing Arts Centre. She has also worked as Producer on a Digital sound project, Marnoo, assisted family shows to tour with workshops 'Bubble Wrap and Boxes', and 'Fort', was Director at 'The Awakenings' all ability arts festival, Horsham; and a performer with Desert Education, touring a performance and running workshops in remote Aboriginal communities and schools.

Ms. O'Sullivan has developed an engaging program for students to explore the dramatic arts. The workshops will include physical theatre, clowning, shadow play, making sound tracks and ensemble work. Students will be encouraged to find their own voice, instincts and actions to tell stories relevant to their experiences.

Term 2 will see the project put this work together to make an original, fun and entertaining theatre piece. There will be a performance held in June 2021.



Parent Payments and School Charges 2021

St. Arnaud Secondary College Council is committed to providing the best possible learning opportunities for all our students. In order to support our students and parents throughout the year, the College makes available to all students many items and services that are generally funded by parents. The College has introduced a textbook hire scheme, which will financially assist families. .

School Council has approved a policy which levies a range of charges to parents; these are compliant with the DET Policy for Parent Payments. Policies and Parent Payment schedules for each year level are located on the school webpage. <https://www.starnaudsc.vic.edu.au/>

Family Statements with Bpay details will be sent to families.

Parent Payment Arrangements and Options:

- Parents will be provided with early notification of annual payment requests and reasonable notice will be given for any other payment requests during the year (i.e. excursions, camps)
- The College offers Parents the option to make payment by instalments. Please contact Kerrie Swanton, Business Manager, to make these arrangements.
- Methods of payment are BPAY, cash or cheque.
- Eligible families that receive Camps, Sport & Excursion Funds can allocate these funds for sports travel, camps and excursions only.
- The payment for Optional Items including camps and excursions must be paid by the specified due date prior to departure. Other payments for Optional Items including Food Technology must be paid in week 2 of each Term, or by negotiated instalments.

1:1 Notebook Programs

Notebook User Agreement forms have been sent to families to sign. Upon receipt of the forms Please return the forms to the General Office and the notebook will be issued to the student.. If you have not received Notebook User Agreement forms please contact the General Office.



Year 7 Summit Camp – Deposit \$50.00 and forms due 12th February 2021

Year 7 Summit Camp – Balance \$400.00 due 3rd March 2021

1:1 Notebook Program – Deposit \$100.00 due now. Instalment 1 \$215.00 due 5th March 2021

Food Technology - due now for students undertaking Food Technology in Semester 1

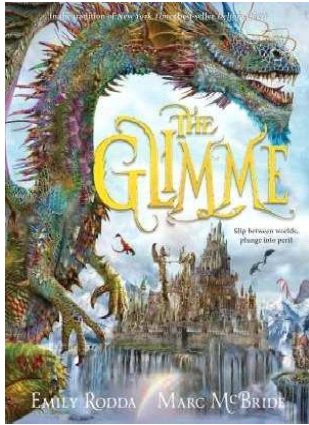
***When making payment via BPay please note the receipt number on the returned permission slip.

All camps and excursions are required to be paid prior to attendance, unless payment plans have been approved.

Business Manager – Kerrie Swanton
Student Administrator – Debbie Hancock
Office Hours: 8.30 am – 4.30pm
Phone 03 5495 1811
Email: st.arnaud.sc@education.vic.gov.au

The G.H. Edwards Library News

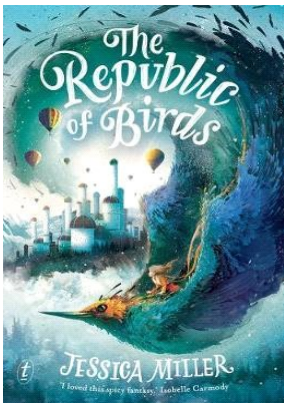
New Books have arrived and are on the shelf for student borrowing.



The Glimme

[Emily Rodda, Andrew Scott](#)

Lone Annie sees dragons in your future ... She sees giants. She sees fire and water. She sees death. Finn's life in the village of Wichant is hard. Only his drawings of the wild coastline, with its dragon-shaped clouds and headlands that look like giants, make him happy. Then the strange housekeeper from a mysterious clifftop mansion sees his talent, buys him for a handful of gold and then reveals to him seven extraordinary paintings. Finn thinks the paintings must be pure fantasy - such amazing scenes and creatures can't be real! He's wrong. Soon he is going to slip through the veil between worlds and plunge into the wonders and perils of the Glimme. From the author of international bestseller Deltora Quest comes a spectacular new adventure.



The Republic Of Birds

[Jessica Miller](#)

Olga loves the stories of the old cartographers and pores over their ancient books and maps, trying to unlock their secrets. Sometimes, she thinks she can even feel through the maps- almost see into them-as if by magic.

But magic is banned in Tsaretsvo, ever since the war with the birds that divided the kingdom, and the powerful magic-wielding Iagas have long been banished. Now, any young girl who shows signs of being an Iaga is whisked away to Bleak Steppe - to a life, so the story goes, of unspeakable punishment. When the bird army kidnaps Olga's sister in a surprise attack on the human kingdom, Olga realises she has to venture into the Republic of Birds to bring her back. But first, she must learn to unlock her magical ability. As her journey takes her into the hidden world of the Iagas and the wilds of the Unmappable Blank, Olga discovers the truth about the war with the birds-and learns just how much is at stake.

Inspired by Russian folklore, The Republic of Birds is a rich middle-grade fantasy adventure for readers of Karen Foxlee, Jessica Townsend and Philip Pullman.

Notices

Our Doctor in Schools Clinic will be available to students every Tuesday. Appointments can be made with Mrs. Chapman. Dr. Ben Ganesan is the clinic's GP and will be available in person every second week and he will be conducting Telehealth sessions on the alternate week.

The clinic nurse Kylie Kirk will be on site every week.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of this free service.



Smile Squad Dental team are visiting our school the week of 15th Feb until 19th Feb. if you would like your child to see the dental team please fill in the consent form and return. If you require a new consent form please contact Mrs. Chapman.



Immunisations

The Year 7 and Year 10 Immunisations are next Wednesday 10th of February. All consent forms need to be returned prior to this day.



The Return of Power Hour

Throughout 2021, St. Arnaud Secondary College will be providing Power Hour sessions on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm.

Power Hour is a dedicated block of time after school for students to undertake private study or homework.

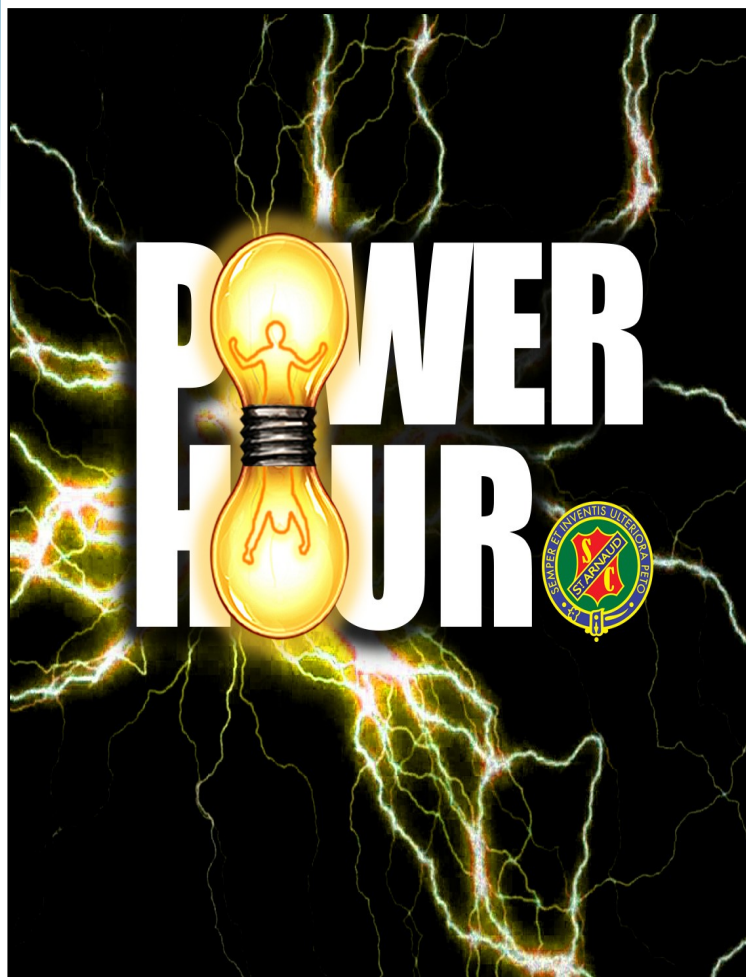
Teachers and school staff will attend these sessions in order to support student learning.

Students who are accelerating at Year 10 and 11 are expected to attend at least one of these sessions per week.

Students from all year levels are encouraged to attend so that they can continue to 'strive high, then higher'.

Where? School Library

When? Wednesday & Thursday, 3:30-4:30 pm



Calendar 2021



Term 1			Semester 1 - 2021
February	Fri	5	House Swimming Sports
	Tues	9	Year 7 BBQ—6-7pm
	Wed	10	Immunisations Years 7 & 10 Year 11 & 12 Information Evening 6pm-7.30pm
	Mon	15	Student Leaders Ceremony—Town Hall 2pm-3pm
	Mon	22	NCD Swimming—St. Arnaud
	Tues	23	Year 12 Lit Excursion—Hanging Rock
March	Thurs	4	NCD Triathlon—Boort
	Mon	8	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
	Tues	9	Year 7 Summit Camp Year 12 OED Excursion—Halls Gap
	Wed	10	Year 7 Summit Camp
	Thurs	11	Year 7 Summit Camp
	Fri	12	Year 7 Summit Camp
	Wed	17	2022 Year 7 Information Evening—6-7pm
	Thurs	18	LMR Swimming—Swan Hill
	Mon	22	School Photos
	Mon	29	Parent—Teacher Interviews 9am-7pm Year 11 & 12 Classes Running
	Wed	31	House Aths—tbc
April	Thurs	1	End of Term 2.30pm Dismissal
	Mon	19	School Resumes