



## From the Principal

Newsletter No. 1 February 2017



I am exceptionally pleased to be appointed Principal at Valley View Secondary School. I have been with DECD for 35 years and my background is Secondary Physical Education. I have been a Principal for many years with experience leading a high school, an area school (R-12) and a primary school. These opportunities have given me a very good understanding of how kids learn and how as teachers we

can support your children to be the best they can be.

It is pleasing to read the Valley View Secondary School 'Code of Practice', look at the website and the DVD produced last year all of which make it very clear the schools commitment to provide high quality teaching and learning for all of our students. This of course is underpinned by our core values of Respect, Integrity, Optimism, Responsibility and Support.

My underlying belief is that all students have the right to learn and teachers have the right to teach. My responsibility is to work with all members of our school community to provide a safe and caring environment where your child can learn through quality teaching programmes. We want your child to be successful, enjoy being involved and coming to school to achieve their full potential.

I encourage parents to also be involved in their child's education and of course contact me if you have any questions or issues.

As you are no doubt aware the school experienced an extended evacuation last Thursday due to an external threat. It did turn out to be a hoax however some areas were highlighted to show what we did well and what we could improve on. I must congratulate the majority of our student body who showed great patience and understanding and our staff who handled the situation very professionally.

The Year 8 Parent Acquaintance Night BBQ will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 5:30-6:30pm. I encourage as many parents and caregivers to attend and begin establishment of a strong relationship with the school as we support students to achieve their potential.

I would also like to invite interested parents and caregivers to the first Governing Council meeting in 2017 which is to be held 7:00pm, Wednesday 22<sup>th</sup> February. It is the AGM and at the meeting there will be opportunity for parents seeking involvement in the school to nominate for Governing Council or other roles in the school.

I look forward to my time at Valley View Secondary School.

**Greg Cox**

## Diary Dates

### Term 1

**Thursday February 9**

Year 8 Immunisation

**Friday February 10**

Year 10 Cricket

**Tuesday February 14**

Year 8 Acquaintance Night  
5:30pm – 6:30pm

**Monday February 20—22**

Year 8 Camp

**Wednesday February 22**

Finance Meeting 6:00pm  
AGM Governing Council Meeting  
7:00pm

**Monday February 27**

School Photos

**Thursday March 2**

PLP Big Day In 9:00am – 12:00pm

**Friday March 10**

Sports Day

## Reporting Student Absence

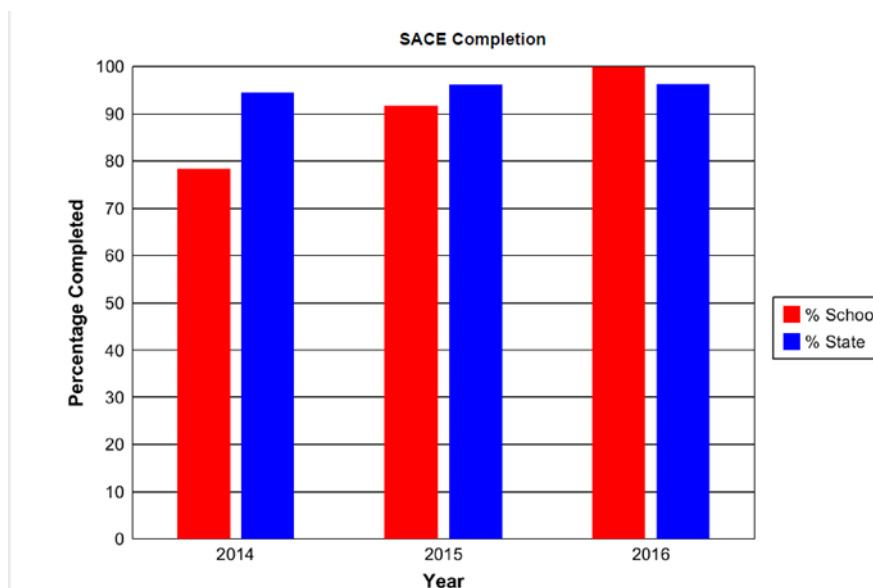
If your child is absent from school please contact Valley View Secondary School on 8360 6111 before 9am to let us know a reason for the absence. If your child is marked unexplained for Homegroup and we have not been notified, a text message will be sent to the first Parent/Caregiver's mobile number as recorded in our student database. This text message can only be replied to within 24 hours before the number is deactivated. Please use the student diary for signing students in late or leaving early from school and please contact the front office to complete an Exemption Form if your child/ren will be absent for more than 5 consecutive days.

## Term Dates—2017

Term 1	30th January—13th April
Term 2	1st May—7th July
Term 3	24th July—29th September
Term 4	16th October—15th December

# 2016 Year 12 Results

The Valley View Secondary School results for Year 12 last year were outstanding. Not only did we have 100% SACE completion putting Valley View Secondary School above the State average (96%) students scored some very high Australian Tertiary Admission Ranks (ATARS) and subsequently received excellent University offers. All students and their extremely hard working teachers should be congratulated on this great achievement. The graph below shows how much we have improved and where we sit in comparison to the rest of the State.



Of particular note are Zachary Treimanis who scored a 97 ATAR and Homa Iqbal 90.2. 64% of Valley View Secondary School applicants received University offers that were their first preference, 22% 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7% Foundation Studies. Some impressive offers were, Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Criminology.

## VVSS Sports Day—Friday 10th March

Welcome to all the new students and families!! As usual we have our VVSS Sports Day coming up in Term 1. This year it will be on Friday 10th March on Golding Oval which is directly next to the school's northern area. Students will be involved in a range of athletic events and some fun events too! Parents are more than welcome to attend and even assist on the day if you like, just contact the school and ask for me. Everyone looks forward to the event from Year 8's to Seniors and it's a great fun and active day for all involved.

See you there!!

**Mr Miller**  
**PE/Sports Co-ordinator**



# VVSS Homework Expectations

## Developing Positive Work Ethic and Successful students.

To be successful at secondary school students must undertake school work at home in addition to their contact time in lessons. "Homework" is essentially about developing in students a good work ethic. Success at study generally requires hard work and commitment – but most of all it takes a time commitment and good study habits at home. It is important for students to develop these habits early to help them prepare especially for the senior school years.

I ask all parents and caregivers to support their child by helping them set up a routine each night for doing homework, including a quiet place where they will be able to concentrate. Please make it a habit to check your child's diary each night, not only to see what homework is set but also as a valuable means of communication between yourself and teachers.

All students at VVSS are expected to:  
write the homework task in their diary  
do homework set by the teacher

All teachers at VVSS are expected to:  
set appropriate homework tasks and enter the tasks in Daymap  
ensure students write the homework details in their diaries  
check that the homework has been completed

Caregivers are asked to support students in planning and completing homework

## HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

<b>Year 8</b>	3 subjects per night Subjects that have a double lesson on any given day set homework 10-15 mins per subject Total of 30 – 45 minutes per night
<b>Year 9</b>	3 subjects per night Subjects that have a double lesson on any given day set homework 15-20 mins per subject Total of 45 – 60 minutes per night
<b>Year 10</b>	3 subjects per night Subjects that have a double lesson on any given day set homework 20-25 mins per subject Total of 60 – 75 minutes per night
<b>Year 11 &amp; 12</b>	Due dates will influence which subjects require further study each night <b><u>GUIDE</u></b> Minimum of 3 subjects per night 30 - 50 mins per subject Total of 1 ½ - 2 ½ hours per night plus supervised study time at school For students wanting an ATAR then 2 ½ - 3 ½ hours per night

**Ms Sue Dobrowolski**  
Deputy Principal



# DECD Child Wellbeing Practitioner—Linda Brennan

My name is Linda, and I am pleased to introduce myself as the DECD Child Wellbeing Practitioner for Valley View Secondary School.

I will be working part-time, (2 days per week), in this role, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

My role is to provide support to families in the school community and referral to other services if desired by the family.

I am available to support with any parenting concerns that you have.

These may include behaviour, emotional / mental health or around difficulties that you or your family are experiencing.

My professional experience includes working in health, acute and community for over 30 years. Qualifications include Social Work and Nursing: Master of Social Work, Registered Nurse, Registered Midwife, Community Child Health Nurse, Graduate Diploma Social Science: Health Counselling and Mental Health Nurse.

I am looking forward to being part of and working with the school community. If you would like to make contact with me, please phone Valley View Secondary School 8360 6111 and leave a message for me to give you a call.

Other handy contacts to support families / students are:

Parent Helpline – Child and Family Health Service – for families with 0-12 year old health / behaviour parenting concerns – 1300 364 100

Uniting Communities – Therapeutic Youth Services – 8202 5060

Centacare – 8210 8200

Anglicare – 8305 9200


Kids Helpline – 1800 551 800

Lifeline – 131 114

Your GP



## Community News



### Who's in Charge?

Does your child hurt, intimidate or abuse you?  
Do you feel you are losing control?  
Want to handle conflict better?

**Reclaim respect and calm in your family!**

The *Who's in Charge?* group is an 8 week program for parents or carers of young people (8 to 18) who are beyond control, violent or defiant. **This is a Free Program**

The group aims to:

- Provide a supportive environment to share experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame which most parents feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop individual strategies for managing your child's behaviour
- Help understanding of power in relationships and feel less stressed
- Explore ways of increasing safety and well-being

**DATE AND LOCATION**  
Next Group: **Friday 10 February 2017, 930am-12 noon**  
At: **Klemzig Community Hall – 242 North East Road, Klemzig.**

An initiative of: Reconnect City Port Adelaide Enfield, Junction Community Centre

**Enquires and Referrals:**  
Trevor Cresswell; 8405 6862 or Kay Buckley; 8341 1334

More info on the topic of violence to parents at  
[www.eddiegallagher.id.au](http://www.eddiegallagher.id.au)



Keep your kids smiling

Dental care is **FREE** for most school children and ALL preschool children at the School Dental Service.

All children aged 0-17 are welcome.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic

visit [www.sadental.sa.gov.au](http://www.sadental.sa.gov.au) or call us now on 8222 8222.



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and Child Development

International Education Services

Department for Education and Child Development  
T/A South Australian Government Schools CRICOS Provider Number: 00018A