



# Peter Lalor Vocational College

## Newsletter *October 2019*

Peter Lalor Vocational College

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College Principal: Rod Sheehan



Assistant Principal: David McKay

### Calendar of Events

#### TERM 4

October 21<sup>st</sup> Information Evening  
6.30pm

October 25<sup>th</sup> Last Day of VET

November 5<sup>th</sup> - Melbourne Cup

November 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 12 Graduation  
Evening. Casa D'Abruzzo

### Finishing Dates:

Intermediate - Friday 29th November

Foundation - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December (with  
signed written consent from Parent or  
Carer)

Year 9 - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
(last two weeks are work experience)

## Principals Report

It has been an incredibly busy year to date. As a school we have had many new programs introduced including the Year 9 level, Wild Engagement Program, VET Allied Health, VET Events Management, VET Business, VET Sport and Recreation and the Performing Arts (Comedy) elective. This is a reflection of the flexibility we have as a college to respond to student needs and student voice. As a college we take great pride in consultation with students and staff to create and design the best possible programs tailored to student needs. It is a credit to all who have contributed to the development.

We are commencing our planning for 2020 and once again anticipating considerable growth. Student enrolment interviews have commenced, and early indicators suggest that the college will grow again at our constant rate of approximately 30%. This will see us with approximately an additional 90 students compared to this year, another 7 teachers and more educational support staff. This growth is a direct reflection of the quality of teaching and learning in the college coupled with our focus on student needs and wellbeing school wide. Should you have friends or family that may be interested in attending the college please encourage them to visit our website for an expression of interest form as places are filling quickly.

Whilst we are planning for 2020, we are still continuing to focus on finishing 2019 strong. I would encourage all students and parents to remain in close contact with teachers to ensure each student is on-track to complete their certificate at their relevant level.



## Principals Report Continued


In a month we will be farewelling our Year 12 students at the graduation who for some have been on a journey at Peter Lalor for the past three years and have seen incredible growth and changes. Last year we had more than 200 people attend, and we will have more this year.

All teachers at the college have been participating in a coaching program to challenge their practice to ensure they are pushing their own development to enhance the impact they have on young people. Rob Hyde (an ex Principal), and his wife Pam (an ex leading teacher with almost 40 years experience in education) have been working with, challenging and developing staff. The results can be seen. The first cycle focused on the way in which questions are used within the teaching and learning environment to ensure each student maximises their learning experience.

Each student that leaves Peter Lalor is told that we are a community and that we remain available to assist them in the future and always welcome them returning to use our expertise and resources. I would like Year 12 students to be reminded of this as they graduate shortly. Additionally, we always welcome our students to visit or contact us to let us know how they are progressing on their journey beyond the college.

**Rod Sheehan**  
**Principal**

## Information Evening & Tours

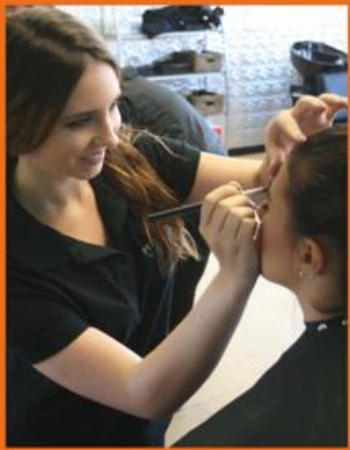


**PETER LALOR**  
VOCATIONAL COLLEGE

### Information Night

Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019  
6.30pm – 7.30pm


Auto	Building & Construction	Childcare	Hair & Beauty
Multimedia	Photography	Hospitality	Horticulture
Bricklaying	Community Services	Telecommunications	Plumbing
Sport & Recreation	Allied Health	Electrotechnology	Cabling
		Business	



**VCAL and VET Courses**  
for Years 10, 11 & 12

**Year 9 Hands-On Learning**

[peter.lalor.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:peter.lalor.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Phone: 9464 0122  
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## Science Week – Year 9

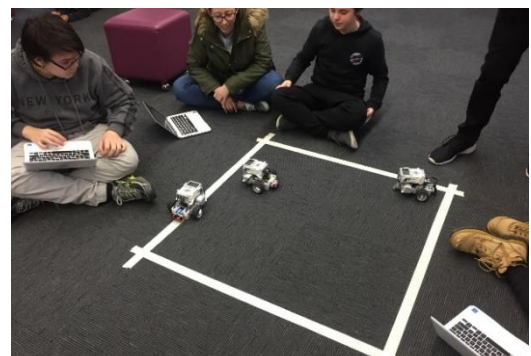


In recognition of science week, students spent the later part of the term developing their skills through STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths) activities. Coding skills were introduced using Lego EV3 devices. Here, with the support of specialists from Melbourne University, students were able to program a vehicle to perform tasks against a set sequence. Some of the sequences included moving in a square, adjusting sensor sensitivity to maintain a presence within a set location, and developing processes to interact with other EV3 devices.

Students also heard from a chief engineer from the Ford Motor Company. Students were able to gain a clearer understanding on the design process of a motor vehicle, including the stages of development, testing, and eventual product release. A question and answer session included opportunities for students to gain knowledge on the recruitment process within the Ford Motor Company, including advice for aspiring mechanical engineers interested in joining the profession.

The theme continued with a tour of Museum Victoria's - Road to Zero Campaign. Here students were introduced to the link between vehicles, physics and technology. Technology allowed students an opportunity to explore the evolution of the motor vehicle and potential trends for the future. Students also participated in a Virtual Reality simulator aimed at calculating stopping distances based on a varying range of road conditions and weather.

**Marco Nicolazzo**  
**Classroom Teacher**





## *Reflections from the students 9A*

### **Overfishing-Art Project**

In year 9 we have been doing a 'Kindness Project' where we looked at how we can be kind to ourselves, other people and the environment. In art we found an environment issue to do with overfishing in the ocean. We made paper mache fish that we will use as an art display. We have also learnt about the problem of overfishing and how to reduce the effects of this. The next step will be to paint our fish and set up our display.

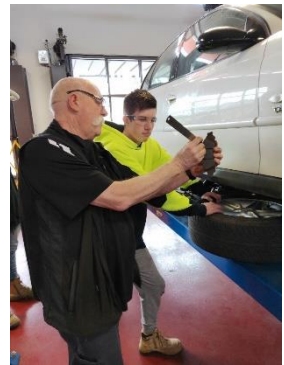
**Mikayla**



### **Automotive Sessions**

The past couple of weeks the Year 9s have been walking down to ONTTC to have classes in Automotive and fixing and taking apart cars. We have worked on a Holden Commodore and Mitsubishi Hatchback, both underneath and inside them. We have been learning how to fix and handle cars. Thank you Ralph.

**Emily**



### **Curiosity Project**

Our Curiosity Project is about what someone really likes and enjoys in their everyday life. We are writing an information report on our chosen topic and sharing our knowledge with everyone else. I have chosen to focus on basketball because it is my favourite sport which I play on the weekends when I'm bored, or would like something fun to do. Something I have learnt is the history and how the sport of basketball and the NBA was born.

**Dylan Y**



### **Preparing For Work**

One of the things we have been working on in Gabby's class is what we need to do to get a job. We have updated our resumes, talked about different fields of work, and discussed how to present ourselves appropriately for a job interview. Next week we are going to have fake interviews to practice what we should say. At the moment we are getting ready for work experience.

**Mathew and Connor**

### **Starting At A New School**

I started at Peter Lalor Vocational College this term. It was kind of nerve wracking even though I knew a few people, but then I made more friends and now I feel at home here. My favourite activity every week is the curiosity project. I have been investigating IT (Integrated Technologies).

**Brennan**

### **Carpentry Sessions With Marco**

During the past couple of weeks we have been heading down to ONTTC to recycle old crates and turn them into plant boxes as a part of our carpentry project. We have been learning how to measure, cut, make guide holes and join pieces of wood.

**Riley**

### **Kindness Project**

We have been learning ways to be kind to ourselves and others. We have also learnt about ways to be kind to the environment. I have enjoyed it. We have made origami hearts and put them up around the school for anyone who needs some 'love', aka anyone who wants to feel like they matter.

**Zoe**





## Outdoor Education VCAL Elective Term 3

The students in the Outdoor Education Elective have had an extremely busy and fun filled term! The students have participated in a range of different hands on outdoor related excursions and completed a number of pieces of work that will contribute to their VCAL outcomes across the Literacy, Numeracy and Work Related Skills Strands.

So far this term the students have attended Sailing School (featuring a free dolphin show!), Cross Country Alpine Skiing, Kayak Paddleball, Orienteering, 1000 Steps Hiking, Treetops High Ropes Course and Indoor Rock Climbing. The students have stepped out of their comfort zones and reflected not only on their participation, but challenged themselves at every turn whilst learning about sustainability and our natural environment. They have worked hard and have shown a real maturity and respect for the people they have been involved with this term and we cannot wait to top it all off with a five day Camp to round out the Elective. The students will be involved in a three day hiking/canoeing/mountain biking expedition which focuses on the development and strengthening of their leadership skills, including their communication, self-management, problem solving and ability to collaborate and negotiate in an unfamiliar environment.



**Tahnee McGoldrick**  
VCAL Teacher





## Hoddles Grid – Foundation C

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August, Foundation C went on an excursion to the City. Throughout this term we have been learning all about the Melbourne CBD. On this excursion we had to navigate our way to different locations within Hoddle's Grid. We were put into groups with one map and a booklet of our tasks and the different locations we had to visit.



After getting off the train at Flinders Street Station, we went off in our groups to start our journey around Hoddle's Grid. Every group had different locations they needed to visit whilst everyone's location was still based inside the Hoddle's Grid. We were all allocated roles which included a photographer, leader, time keeper and detective. The photographer had to take photos of each location we visited to provide evidence that we were there. The time keeper had to track our time and help the detective write down the start and finish times of each location, while the detective had to answer questions provided for each location. The leader was in charge of the map and navigating our way to each location.

Our leader directed the way to each location which included Degraeves Street, which is a lane way with many cultural restaurants. At every location we needed to provide evidence that we could take with us so we collected a brochure from a store that was located in that laneway. Our next location was the Immigration Museum which we walked to. We took our photo and went inside to ask the front desk what was on display as that was a question we needed to fill out. After finishing up at the Immigration Museum our next destination was the Victoria Police Museum. Our leader then believed our best route to get there would be by a tram so we all jumped on the tram. We got off at Southern Cross Station and walked to the World Trade Centre where the Victoria Police Museum was located. We all decided that we wanted to go in and donated a gold coin for our entry. We saw many criminal files such as Ned Kelly, Squizzy Taylor and we also saw many Police weaponry from centuries ago. We learnt a lot of history about the police force and there was also an exhibition



regarding the ten years since Black Saturday. The Victoria Police Museum was the best location we visited as we learnt a lot of information and we were all interested in it. Our next locations were Southern Cross Station, Supreme Court and the Bourke Street Mall information booth.

Overall, the excursion to Hoddle's Grid was an amazing experience and we all learnt how to navigate around the city whilst also learning new things about different locations. We all worked really well with our team and used many skills including teamwork, communication, problem solving and leadership. This experience will really help us in the future when wanting to get around the city.

**Katia R**  
**Foundation Student**



## Foundation Performing Arts - Comedy

Laughter is often considered the best medicine, that said, this term in Foundation Performing Arts, the students have been focusing on Comedy. Throughout the unit, students have been introduced to a variety of different Comedy genres and styles such as Character Comedy, Improvised Comedy, Physical Comedy, Internet humour, stand up and many more. Together, we explored what makes us laugh as individuals and defined an 'Australian' sense of humour, while also having a go at creating some of our own comedy.

Earlier in the term, we attended an excursion to The Arts Centre to undertake a Comedy Crash Course. Comedian Xavier Michelides guided the students through a series of activities and assisted them with creating their own comedic craft. Some students showed a great deal of personal growth and success as they were pushed out of their comfort zones when asked to share their work and perform in front of their peers.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August, some students attended an excursion to the Malthouse to watch 'Australian Realness'. This was an exciting opportunity for students to experience live theatre – a first for many. The performance challenged us to question the way we view class in society. Students were completely immersed as they watched the story unfold from their front row seats. There were moments of laughter and moments of surprise and by the time the actors took their final bow, we were left completely baffled trying to decode what we had just watched!

"Ummm Kathrine, what the heck did I just watch...!? (laughs) no, but seriously, what does it all mean!?" – Blake 10C

In PDS, students have brainstormed ideas on how they can 'share the laughs' through their PDS project. After some reflection, they created a 'joke wall,' complete with dad jokes, riddles and a teacher lookalike section. If you're ever visiting, I invite you, no, I strongly encourage you to have a look, and have a laugh! It's located just outside the Learning Hub!

**Kathrine Polak**  
Teacher

## 2019 VCAL Graduation

### 2019 VCAL Graduation

We are excited to announce the details of our VCAL Graduation. This year we will be celebrating our student's achievements at Casa D'Abruzzo Club with a three course meal and entertainment.

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 14 November, 2019	<b>Time:</b>	6.30pm – 9.30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Casa D'Abruzzo Club, 55 O'Herns Road, Epping		
<b>Cost:</b>	No cost for graduation students	\$25 per additional ticket (11 years plus)	
	\$15 per child (5-10 years old)	Children under 5 are free	

Please complete a confirmation slip and return it with payment to the front office as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Belinda Batty on 9464 0122.



## Attendance Awards



## Congratulations

Alysha and Rachel are presented with their Senior VCAL completion certificates. Well Done.





## Foundation Hospitality

This term in Year 10 Hospitality we will have cooked a variety of meals in the PLVC commercial kitchen. Our meals have included some student favourites such as chicken parmigiana, chocolate cakes and penne with freshly made pesto.

The barista bus visited our school again this term and the students learnt how to make a variety of Italian style coffees including latte, flat white, short macchiato and cappuccino. The students each had a brand new coffee machine to work on and even practiced their coffee art...producing some beautiful results!

On our Multicultural Melbourne excursion, we visited the Immigration museum and then Chinatown for a shared meal. At the museum we saw exhibitions about different cultures, and learnt about the arrival of these cultures to Melbourne. At Chinatown we ate a traditional Chinese meal including dumplings, fried rice, spring onion pancakes and fried chicken...some of us even learnt how to use chopsticks. The leftover food was kindly packed into take away containers, and 2 students offered it to homeless people in the city.

In the classroom we have covered a lot of numeracy this term. We have looked at shapes, through images, sketches, by using Lego and building paper planes. We have also looked at financial literacy, where we researched products offered by banks, built an understanding around budgeting and the difference between credit and debit, as well as working out discounts and change.

It's been a big term and we have had some very positive outcomes in the classroom, the kitchen and even on the streets of Melbourne!

### Antonia Babic



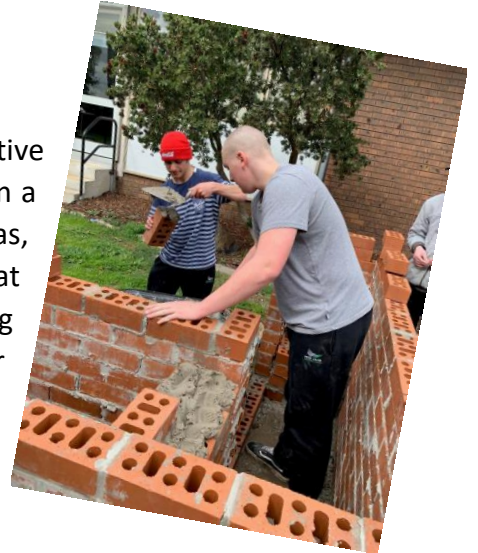


## Trade Elective Term 3



During Term 3 Trade Elective students have been involved in a number of activities, such as, building the second BBQ at PLVC and doing landscaping tasks at ONTTC and Lalor Community Garden.

**Jamie Gray**  
VCAL Teacher



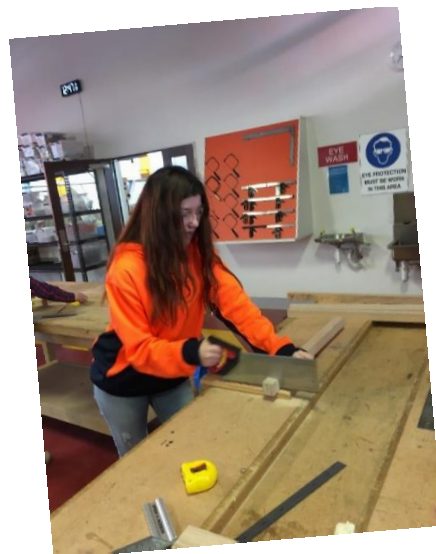


## ONTTC News

The PLVC Year 9 students have been busy at ONTTC over the past few weeks learning new skills in Woodwork, Plumbing and Automotive. They have been engaged in their studies and enjoying the challenges of developing new life skills.

The Woodwork students have been building a hardwood bar stool which involves accuracy, developing hand and power tool skills, vocabulary and taking pride in their work. The Automotive students have been changing tyres, checking brakes and learning other basic car maintenance skills. They will begin the Plumbing component over the next couple of weeks.

**Adrian Konieczny**  
**ONTTC Manager**





## Local Support Needed

As part of our students VCAL studies students engage in a VET qualification, some of these include building and construction trades, automotive, hair and beauty, office administration, business services, and community service. We encourage our students to engage in a work placement that is directly linked to their VET qualification. Please contact Amanda Vella on 9464 0122 if you wish to discuss this further.

**Local Business Owners and Industry Professionals**  
**SUPPORT OUR VCAL STUDENTS!**



Year 10, 11 and 12 students are looking for employers in various industries.  
Are you able to offer 1 day a week for work placement?  
Contact: Amanda Vella  
Peter Lalor Vocational College  
Phone: 9464 0122  
Email: [peter.lalor.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:peter.lalor.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
[www.peterlalor.vic.edu.au](http://www.peterlalor.vic.edu.au)  
**\*\*Please Share\*\***

## Free Flu Shots

It's not too late to have your flu shot and Council are still offering FREE flu vaccine for all children up until the age of 18 years. The vaccine is available at all public sessions and no appointments are necessary. Check out their website to find a convenient session for you to attend. [www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/immunisation).





## *Mobile Phone Policy – Term 1 2020*

As you may be aware, the Victorian government has announced a new mobile phone policy that will require students to switch their phones off and securely store them away during the school day.

The policy is designed to support teaching and learning in an environment that is free from unnecessary distractions, disruptions and student inattention caused by the urge to check their phones. At recess and lunch times, students will be better-placed to communicate with each other face to face and/or be involved in activities rather than being focused on a device or on social media.

The school is currently working on our own mobile phone policy that will implement the Government's announcement in a way that reflects the needs of our own community. Additional information regarding the policy is available on the Department of Education and Training's website.

If you have any questions, please contact Belinda Batty on 9464 0122.

**Belinda Batty**  
**Senior VCAL and VET Coordinator**

