

### Dear Fitzroy High School Community

School Council (SC) and its subcommittees met twice during Term 3 providing a long list of items to report so I will try to describe these briefly. Please contact me or the school council subcommittee convenors if you would like further information.

### Masterplan Subcommittee Reports

- a. A **Biodiversity Audit Report** funded by City of Yarra was received providing a map of the school biota and recommendations for a number of planting options to improve the biodiversity of the grounds. This included ideas such as a woodland corridor, new coppice on the eastern side of the school as well as other precincts for biodiversity action. SC approved a recommendation to commission a **Planting Plan** in conjunction with FHS interested parties.
- b. On **National Tree Planting Day** year 7 students planted over 200 plants including 4 large trees at the front of the school. This day was a big success and we thank all involved.
- c. The **bike hoops** donated by the City of Yarra will be installed on the Eastern side of Building A.
- d. **Education for Sustainability (EfS):**
  - Our involvement in the Foundation for Young Australians **"inspired citizens"** project is an excel with an EfS focus - have a look at their fabulous website SAVE <https://www.savingaustraliasvaluableenvironment.org/>
  - EfS themed **films** are being shown at lunchtimes
  - Students are continuing to enter EfS data to assist the **Resource Smart - AuSSI Vic Program**
  - A meeting is planned with the Merri Creek Management committee to discuss a possible future partnership involving the **stewardship of an area of land**.
- e. Local residents approached us requesting that we allow them to install and help maintain a **communal composting area** on the school grounds. SC has approved this in principle. The residents are awaiting approval of a community grant.

### Education Subcommittee Reports

- a. SC approved a recommendation to develop a process around reviewing the FHS strategic vision for **LOTE**. It is the intention that this will involve the school community.
- b. Josephine Territi ( Maths 7-10 PLC Leader/Scarlet 10) presented an evaluation of the **Maths Pathways** trial this year at the August SC meeting. This software provides a platform for maths teaching and learning see website <https://www.mathspathway.com/> . SC approved the use of this program for years 7 to 10 in 2018. Each student is required to have subscription instead of a text book and this will be added to the 2018 Parent Payment charges for those year levels.

### Community Subcommittee Reports

- a. We are investigating the possibility of setting up a **FHS Alumni**. Please contact me if you are experienced in this area and would like to get involved.
- b. In line with our Canteen Policy, we sent out a **Canteen survey** for students and staff and gratefully received over 180 responses. We have started evaluating the data and have met with the canteen company management. We will report the outcome to the school community before the end of term.

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- c. **Volunteering at FHS** -. A launch date and general invitation to become involved with the Friends of Fitzroy High will be announced asap - we are currently trying to tie this in with an end of year Music event which will all be announced through Compass when confirmed. Meanwhile if you are interested in being involved in the administration of this group please contact me.

### **Voluntary Contributions**

We continue to receive small donations into our voluntary contributions funds for which we thank you. Our funds are: Building Fund (with tax deductibility status), Library Fund (with tax deductibility status), Scholarships Fund, Health & Wellbeing Fund and Performance Fund. So far this year we have used these funds to install the automatic doors, issue a number of scholarships, subscribe to Enhance TV and are currently investigating sprung flooring for the performance classroom and a stage for the music room.

### **Other SC Matters**

In September I had the pleasure of attending the **Senior VCAL OCAV Oral History Project Exhibition** opening with residents of the Old Colonists' Association of Victoria, Rushall Park, Rushall Crescent Nth. Fitzroy. This was initiated by a resident who approached FHS and our amazing Scarlet teachers were able to incorporate the idea into a VCAL program. It was a delightful and at times emotional occasion where speeches were given, stories were shared and clear evidence of valued new connections in our community. Again FHS students made us all proud and we gratefully thank the residents of Rushall Park for their time and involvement. The posters created are installed off the main corridor from the main entrance. I encourage all interested to read these stories.

At our September meeting of SC Pauline Rice took us all on a tour of the recent **Year 9 poetry exhibition**. I am sure the year 9 parents and students are as overwhelmed by the talent of our students as we are. We thanked the very proud Pauline for showing this to us.

This month I will have the honour of attending the **Year 12 Valedictory Dinner** where students and their families along with teachers gather and spend the evening recognising the contribution and achievements of the graduating students. Mindful that they will soon be sitting exams and or handing in final pieces of work and making choices about their future, I hope they relax and enjoy the evening whilst reflecting on their many accomplishments. I wish them all the best and thank the students and their families for their valued contribution to FHS.

Best regards

Kath Boyer

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**Fitzroy High School**

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