A Word from the Principal

This edition of The Year In Review features a new format. Bold and graphic in design we let the “pictures tell the story” in what has been our best year yet.

We started the year with a big agenda, chief of which was our determination to deliver the best possible results for our foundation students as they completed Year 12. You can imagine our excitement when the results were released. Our students achieved a median study score of 31 and over 20 percent of our students performed amongst the top 10 percent of students in the state. This is an outstanding result for our foundation students and it sets a benchmark for future improvement at APC.

Equally important was the establishment of our VCE culture, a culture built around dedication to study and inspiring our students to strive to be the very best they can be. The stage has been set for the class of 2017. We will miss our foundation students and their families. They have led the development of our College and established a culture that will serve future generations of students at APC.

We also wrestled with the challenge of developing our new Bay Street campus. The year began with our Year 9 students housed in a range of facilities across our community. Long lines of students could be seen traipsing from place to place as the new campus was being constructed.

I think we would all agree that it was worth the wait. We have developed a stunning new facility, purpose built for delivering the Year 9 Da Vinci Curriculum. 6 Degrees architects had a brief to create a space that “did not look like a school.” I think they have achieved that with as design that both honours the heritage of the building and our focus on the environment and the arts.

This was also the year in which we achieved accreditation as an IB School. We are only the second government school in Victoria to achieve accreditation at the end of what was a three year verification process. The International Baccalaureate is a good fit for APC with its focus on high level independent learning and its commitment to developing global citizens.

There were also some innovative new programs. The Rowing Academy has been a revelation with over 40 students waking up at dawn simply for the pleasure of rowing on Albert Park Lake. Our teams are excelling in rowing competitions and this program is a real tribute to our parents who have brought this highly demanding program to life.

Another highlight was the introduction of the Liberal Arts Festival. Titled ‘Authors, Poets, Creatives’ we put together a week-long series of activities that promoted a reading culture at APC. Some of Australia’s leading author’s attended the event with John Marsden providing a very insightful opening address.

I hope you enjoy The Year in Review and that it provides you with a window into what has been a very rewarding year.

Steve Cook
Foundation Principal
2016 has been another very busy and fulfilling year for APC, as we continue to grow and to develop our programs and culture. For me, the incredible range of speakers brought together for the inaugural “Authors, Poets, Creatives” festival was a particular highlight.

This year has seen a big focus on establishing our Year 12 program and traditions. I have been extremely impressed with the maturity of our inaugural Year 12 students, who have set a high standard for those that follow.

An exceptional set of NAPLAN and survey results indicates that we are providing an effective and supportive learning environment for our students. This year’s approval to run the International Baccalaureate will diversify our offer for senior students from 2017.

A major milestone of 2016 was the opening of our second campus, in Bay Street, Port Melbourne. The feedback I have received reveals that it has already become a place of great pride for staff, students and parents. Not only has the new campus provided an innovative learning environment for our Year 9 students, but it has also proved to be a memorable venue for our art show, drama performances and community use.

The opening of the Bay Street campus was the culmination of years of work from many people. I would particularly like to thank Dominic Grounds, our Foundation School Council President, and Steve Cook, whose vision, commitment and persistence were crucial to the realisation of this project.

Dominic Grounds retired as a school councillor this year after 6 years of outstanding service. On behalf of the school council, I wish to publicly record our deep gratitude for his wise counsel and dedication to establishing a strong foundation for APC. Thanks too to Michelle Robin, who retired as a councillor after 4 years of significant contributions, including a stint as APC Families President. And we have been fortunate to have two energetic student representatives on school council this year, Campbell Rider and Emma Rossignol, who have greatly enhanced our understanding of the student perspective.

APC Families continues to grow from strength to strength, ably led by new President Sharon Kuhnell. In July we conducted our second Parent Forum, which provided a comprehensive insight into the expectations of our parent and carer community.

In closing, I would like to extend my profound thanks to all the staff, parents, carers and students who have contributed in a multitude of ways to making APC the best possible place for local secondary students in 2016.

Mark Sheppard
APC School Council President
Foundation College Captains

It's an important year for Albert Park College. The graduation of our foundation cohort represents a milestone for this school, which has successfully supported us throughout our secondary schooling. For all of us who are graduating, it's very emotional to be leaving the place we've spent the better part of the last six years.

Watching the growth of this school, and being a crucial part of its early development, has involved a significant emotional investment on our part. This isn't just the school we attended — it's also the school we helped to create. It's a meaningful thing to belong to a group that has had such a unique and valuable experience, and it's easy to forget that being here, at the end of year 12, having established a brand new school, is already an enormous success in itself.

Seeing the continual change and expansion of the school is really encouraging. For those who have been a part of the Albert Park College community since its inception, there truly is something remarkable about seeing a school go so quickly from such a small beginning — it was still under construction in 2010 — to a fully-attended college with a vibrant student body and even a new campus.

APC has always been dedicated to improving itself and offering new opportunities to its students, and we hope that this will be a core principle of the school that continues to guide it well into the future. In fact, for the first time two students were appointed to the school council this year, reflecting the importance of student voice and involvement in the ongoing development of Albert Park College.

The genuine sense of community here has always been outstanding. It's a unique and valuable thing that has always been the basis of the success of our school, from the Art Show to the annual Vaudeville evening. We hope this tradition lasts even as the school community grows larger and perhaps less immediately close. Albert Park College should always be a place that celebrates diversity and respects individuals, especially in an increasingly tense and polarised society.

Above all, Albert Park College has proven the ability of public schooling to provide an exceptional standard of education. Unfortunately, world-class public education is not something that can ever be taken for granted, and it's certainly a right that any student of APC should always be prepared to advocate and stand up for.

It has been an absolute pleasure working with and getting to know everyone over the past six years at APC. We hope that you too have had an equally amazing experience, and that you leave with as many fond memories from your time at high school — memories that you will keep long into adulthood.

Ava Thornley & Campbell Rider
2016 College Captains
Create

Vaudeville
Dance Show
Annual Music Show
Songwriter Week
Art Show
Studio Arts at the NGV
The Walking Neighbourhood
Art Centre Master class
Film Festival
Viktor & Rolf at the NGV
Battle of the Bands
School production
Science Week

Lead

Market Day
Open Day
Student Leadership Presentation
Community Forum – Future Directions
APC Conference
IB Accreditation
Bay St Campus Fundraising
Bay St Campus Opening
New Campus Life
Authors Poets Creatives
Parent/Student Hike
Year 12 Breakfast
Senior Exams
Presentation Evening
Year 12 Formal

Inspire

Albert Restaurant
NYC Create Tour 2016
Senior Snow Camp
Year 10 Bronze Medallion Camp
Word Challenge Borneo
Teachers in Nepal
French Tour New Caledonia
Rowing Academy
Athletics
Swimming Sports
French Excellence
Great Victorian Bike Ride
Year 7 Camp
Year 8 Camp
Year 9 Land and Water Camp
Year 10 Lord Somers Camp
Mind and body day
Multicultural Day

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On Wednesday 27th April, 48 of APC’s VCE Business Management students transformed the school courtyard into an exciting, energy filled space. The courtyard was home to 12 small businesses for the day. Waffles, milkshakes, nutella donuts, ice-cream, corn chips and dips, homemade baked goods, hot chips, dim-sims, sausages, and more were a few of the amazing, delicious products being sold to students and staff on the day.
On Thursday 28th April we held our Open Day, which was a great success. The annual Open Day aims to showcase the college and the outstanding work of our students. It is a fantastic opportunity for current and prospective families to get an inside look at the work we do at APC.

The highlight of the day was to see the students ‘in action’. It was lovely to see Create students working away on various projects, and the delicious treats being whipped up by the food students were very well received!
Student Leadership Presentation

On Thursday the 5th of May Albert Park College held a student leadership celebration evening to formally introduce and celebrate our 2016 student leadership group. Many student leaders had the chance to share some of the work they have done so far this year and further hone their public speaking skills in front of two hundred students, teachers, parents and guests.
The APC Community Forum, held on Tuesday 19th July, was a space to discuss future directions for the College. Many insights were gained from the evening. Thank you to all who attended.
On Sunday 14th and Monday 15th of August, all teaching and support staff attended the Albert Park College conference in the beautiful coastal town of Inverloch. The annual conference supplements the ongoing professional learning undertaken each week at the college, and delivers the latest education research on best learning and teaching strategies.
This year we launched the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at Albert Park College. This is an exciting new initiative for students commencing Year 11 in 2017. The International Baccalaureate (IB) is an internationally recognised alternative to the VCE and operates at more than 2,500 schools across 147 countries worldwide. The IB is something we are proud to be associated with.
We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of our generous donors, who have helped us to develop a truly ground-breaking education space. Big thanks to Whybin\TBWA who came up with the concept for the online crowdfunding campaign which showcased a number of student animated illustrations and assisted with the production.
On Thursday 4th August some 300 guests, as partners and donors of the new 40 Bay St campus, gathered together to celebrate and explore the new campus. Guests were lead through the campus by Year 9 student leaders as hospitality students served refreshments. Albert Park College wishes to personally thank our partners and donors for their ongoing support. Without your assistance our Da Vinci dream would not have been possible!
Year 9 students and staff have settled into 40 Bay Street with aplomb, enjoying the stunning new facilities, and engaging with the architectural spaces and innovating activities including talks from local environmental scientist Clare Grandison, representatives from the Sea Shepard, Innovative Tech and Engineers Without Borders.
Albert Park College’s inaugural Liberal Arts Festival, ‘Authors Poets Creatives’, was nothing short of a profound success! It ran over two days, the 29th and 30th of July, and consisted of insightful presentations and workshops by authors Alice Pung and John Marsden as well as a vast and intriguing array of guest speakers including Dennis Glover, Catherine Pacart, Sue Neales and more. This was all supported by several student speakers who presented their own work on the Friday evening, and many others who participated in the Open Mic event on Saturday.

-Oscar Pearce
Parent/Student Hike

On Saturday the 30th of April, 72 APC Parents and Students embarked on a huge adventure in the Victorian High Country to Craigs Hut, near Mount Stirling and Mt Buller. Big thank you to everyone for making it such a wonderful hike. I look forward to running another one next year!

– James Wallace Smith
On Wednesday October 19th, we recognised the work of our Foundation Year 12 students, as their families and teachers came together for the Albert Park College Year 12 Celebration Breakfast. The breakfast was a wonderful occasion for the College, allowing us the opportunity to honour the contributions and experiences of the graduating year, and to thank the families of our students, who have supported them throughout their schooling.
Senior Exams

2016 marked the first time a cohort of Year 12 students completed their final external assessments at Albert Park College. A culmination of six years of hard work and preparation, the exams were a reflection of the academic achievements of our Foundation students. The college’s Bay St and Danks St campuses, alongside the Gatehouse at Princes Pier, played host to our VCE students and exam supervisors who demonstrated a commitment to do their very best. The College is immensely proud of the efforts of all students completing exams in 2016!
On November 23rd we were thrilled to hold our inaugural Presentation Evening at the St Kilda Town Hall, in celebration of our graduating class of 2016. This evening was a first for the College, an opportunity to formally recognize the academic achievements of our Foundation students.

As the evening unfolded one common theme emerged; that APC has indeed become something very special. Highlights and recollections of the past six years brought tears and laughter, and it was with both joy and sadness that we bid farewell to our Foundation students.
On Friday the 10th of June Year 12 students and their partners, along with APC staff, attended the first APC Year 12 Formal. It was a night of great food and great company, with our students looking glamorous and enjoying the opportunity to dance the night away! Together, we celebrated the milestone of Year 12, and a wonderful time was had by all.
Vaudeville

These are the moments that I will remember when I reflect on my time at APC. Vaudeville is so much fun. So. Much. Fun. I basically rolled on stage this year, and I had a blast. I will forever remember those who were involved, and I can’t wait to come back next year and be completely blown away.

-Eric Loong
Participating in the Dance Show has given us all the amazing opportunity to choreograph a number of different routines, stemming from our own ideas as well as having provided us with the chance to explore our creativity, practice our technique, and build new friendships between people of different year levels. It was such a great opportunity to form new friendships and connect the junior and senior dancers of APC. All together it was an incredible experience, and one that we are very grateful to be part of.

– Mackenzie Selleck & Bella Tolhurst
Held on the last Tuesday of Term Two, the Annual Music Show included a range of performance pieces from Bach to the Family Guy Theme Song. It was a fantastic evening featuring an approximate total of 15 acts from the numerous ensembles of Albert Park including both senior and junior contemporary bands.

-Hayley Trinca
Songwriter Week

Lily Ward and myself wanted to further display the talents of APC’s musicians and as a result, Songwriter Week was created and celebrated from August 8-12th. Each lunch time, music students performed a set of original pieces in the courtyard. It was such an excellent display of original music and I’m sure we will only hear more of such performances in the future.

– Hayley Trinca
This year we were delighted to welcome artists and photographers to our Annual Art Show at the new Bay Street Campus. They spent the afternoon working with some of our students, sharing their knowledge and skills.

Mercedes Benz Melbourne became an Art Show sponsor for the first time in 2016 and were generous enough to lend us a Mercedes ‘canvas’ upon which to create.

Overall as our Art Show grows each year, we are reminded of the huge part our community play in its success. Hopefully you enjoyed the event as much as we did!
On Tuesday March 8th the Year 11 Studio Arts class attended the Andy Warhol & Ai Weiwei exhibition at the NGV International. “I enjoyed the freedom you had to walk around and look at a wide majority of artists’ work, which would then inspire you to create something different.”

-Kristopher Dervenis
The Walking Neighbourhood

During the fourth and the fifth of June our students took the lead and provided an audience the experience of life through their eyes, as they guided groups on a tour of Melbourne’s Arts Precinct. In a series of short walks, they took groups from the Art Centre on an exploration of the places that they thought were most important to them and their selected issue. Each walk was one-of-a-kind and was carefully curated for participants to learn, reflect, create or explore.
This year a selection of APC’s finest design students had the opportunity to work with a number of designated specialist in the following fields: stage lighting, sound design and composition, costume design and set design. During this collaboration, students have learnt about the art of designing for the stage and will create artwork to be exhibited alongside the Arts Centre’s ‘Stage Presence’ exhibition.

– Dean Gourley
We had some amazing entries this year so with amazing support for our brilliant filmmakers. All work was of a very high standard, our judges were very impressed, and amongst these pieces were some truly amazing films. Some of the highlights included Jordan Benjamin’s Short Term which won Best Picture and Ellen Waite, Staci Barr’s Mad As They Come which won the Teacher’s Choice Award.
On Thursday the 20th of October, a group of Year 7 students attended a special media preview of the Viktor and Rolf Exhibition at the NGV. They were the first young people to see the Atelier Viktor&Rolf for Kids part of the exhibition, which is an interactive space designed especially for children and families. In this space, the students created beautiful neck collars and cuffs inspired by the designers’ work. I think it is fair to say that APC may have some budding designers to watch out for!
When setting up on the morning of Battle of the Bands, Mr Gourley’s excitement was contagious. The stage was set up, and all the necessary instruments, stands, cables, and cords were finally in place. Chairs and benches surrounded the stage and it was clear that the crowd were in for a special event at APC. We were blown away by our massive audience, ranging from Year 7s to Year 12s, who filled the courtyard. Congratulations to all involved and the winners of APCs Battle of the Bands 2016, Trampoline Death Machine!
Six months ago, the Year Ten Theatre Studies class set out to devise an original full length play to be staged in November at the new Bay Street Campus. The play invited the audience back to 1949 and took them through the events of a fateful evening.

The students performed exceptionally on the evening, the months of intensive rehearsal and character development well and truly paid off. Many audience members noted the professionalism in which the whole cast and crew brought to the evening, presenting an impressive student devised production.
Albert Park College was happy to celebrate National Science Week with this year’s theme being Drones, Droids and Robots! Students were able to participate in a range of activities from watching battlebots and science displays, to creating their own robots. We had a range of guest speakers and demonstrations and ended the week with a competitive trivia match.
On September and October, the Year 10 Food Technology students put on the annual ALbert Restaurant nights. The 10 week project required students to design a fine dining restaurant experience to showcase their culinary skills and knowledge. The APC kitchens were transformed into a professional kitchen, where the executive chefs lead their team in producing beautiful dishes. The drama space was transformed into an elegant dining space with live music and bar.
In June of 2016, a group of year 10-12 students from APC embarked on an artistic tour of the sprawling island cityscape of Manhattan, New York. The NYC Create tour provided us with many incredibly unique experiences. Our jam-packed itinerary meant that we could delve deep into the culture of the city. We saw and interacted with art in its many forms, and managed to cater to everyone’s diverse interests.

- Dimitra Lambrellis, Daniel Bird and Tomas Barnes.
In August, 32 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 and four teachers travelled to Mount Hotham for five days of skiing and snowboarding. Each morning students participated in lessons with expert instructors who skilled skiers and snowboarders up to improve their technique and confidence to take on more challenging runs.
As part of the Year 10 Physical Education elective, 22 students travelled to Anglesea for a four-day camp, aiming to attain their Bronze Medallion in lifesaving. Students stayed at the Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club, and under the supervision of their teachers and lifesaving instructors, were trained and assessed in areas such as first aid, CPR, surf skills, rescues and the run-swim-run. All 22 students passed the assessment and received the Bronze Medallion, with some students having already patrolled at local clubs Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and at Anglesea.
The whole trip was incredible, we learnt a lot about leadership, the environment, language and culture and being at the Sun Bear centre was a great experience, we enjoyed every minute of it. Overall we embarked on a journey that included a three-day hike, white water rafting, and time with the Borneo Sun Bear Conservation centre.
During the March school holidays a group of 12 Albert Park College teachers set out on an incredible expedition to Nepal. The trip was an amazing experience and there was never a dull moment. It was a real testament to the positive culture that we have developed amongst staff at APC. The group was amazing and the trip really was an absolute experience of a lifetime.
French Immersion Tour New Caledonia

Students and parents alike studied French every morning and then put their language skills into practice on the streets of Nouméa: getting directions, ordering meals, chatting to locals and learning about indigenous and colonial culture in Nouméa.
In only its second season, the APC rowing programme has grown to include a total of 40 athletes, male and female, from Year 8 through to Year 10. Riding high on the back of last season’s strong regatta performances, the club has moved to new premises on Albert Park lake and purchased two new racing boats. Coach Virginia Lee is looking forward to the dedication and commitment shown by the rowers to produce more of the same this year.
APC held their annual Athletics Carnival on Tuesday the 23rd of August at Lakeside Stadium. It was a fantastic day and Melbourne turned it on with some beautiful weather. Flannery took out the event yet again, with Freeman in 2nd and Winton in third place. Well done to everyone who attended the carnival and participated in events to represent their house.

– Daniel Marks
Congratulations on everybody’s achievements at the annual Albert Park College swim carnival held at MSAC on Thursday the 3rd of March. It was really great to see everyone in an amazing team spirit cheering on their house or participating in various events, even if they weren’t the best swimmer. As always the novelty races were a hilarious event to watch with everyone giving it their best shot, and of course having heaps of fun.
Throughout the year our students have been immersed in a range of French linguistic and cultural milieus. From the French Film Festival and the National Gallery of Victoria’s Degas Exhibition to the Alliance Française poetry competition (pictured) and the Association of French Teachers in Victoria Concours Lycéens. Among many other competition finalists, special mention must go to Leon Fricker, Yr11, who took out 3rd and 1st prizes respectively in the above competitions. Thanks to French Captains Emma Launder, Alexandra McFarlane and Margot Petrie for their support of and enthusiasm for French studies at APC.
From Halls Gap to Geelong, the 9 day ride was quite an experience. Averaging about 70km a day, the GVBR was definitely challenging, but also rewarding. After many days of riding, the countless kilometres of up and down were what killed me. The idea of a rest day the next day was what pushed many people over the final hills.

For the final 5km of the GVBR, the APC group all rode together in a sea of yellow, arriving to a cheering crowd of family and friends. The Great Vic was truly a rewarding experience and I will definitely be looking forward to it in 2017.

- Conor Segeth
At the start of December the Year 7s at APC embarked on an amazing journey to their four day school camp. Some of us went to Anglesea and others Torquay. The weather was just perfect for a camp containing a 2 day hike and two more days of sleeping in tents in a caravan park doing activities that were extremely fun and also challenging.

Camp was a great experience and we all learnt so much about life skills and teamwork along the way. The Groups and their leaders turned out great and it was such a thrilling camp that we were so fortunate to get to attend.
Year 8 camp was an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all students involved and the experiential nature of the camp meant that students learnt hands-on about living in the bush. Students had the opportunity to be involved in personal, group and environmental challenges throughout the week, as well as a chance to put into practice the outdoor skills learnt in the Leadership Program.
Late in November the two classes of Land and Water students embarked on their end of year experiential camp. Despite the poor weather, the students had a fantastic time participating in a number of activities from white water kayaking, rock climbing, abseiling, caving and completing the ‘Challenge Valley’ adventure course. Students were challenged both physically and mentally and were exposed to new experiences that pushed them outside of their comfort zones. Overall the camp was a great success and I wish to thank all of the students for making it such an enjoyable time.

– Jess Tobin
In the second week of October over 100 Year 10 students and six teachers travelled down to Lord Somers Camp on the Mornington Peninsula. One of the real highlights of the week was the enthusiastic participation of all students in the range of activities and in the daily routines of running the camp. It was great to see students catching waves, paddling upstream and making amazing cups of espresso coffee for their thirsty teachers. Also impressive was the way in which APC students took our positive school culture down to Somers and supported each other to get the most out of the Lord Somers experience.
After a 4 o’clock wake up call we got to look at the nearby CBD in a way we had never done before. The Queen Victoria Market was waiting for us, smelling of fresh vegetables, luxurious cheeses and of course, fish guts. In groups of 2-5 we set off on a scavenger hunt that took us all throughout the market. Back at school, everyone took part in two gentle activities; the first tai chi and the second yoga. All the year 7’s had the chance to get in touch with their subconscious mind and find inner peace after the fun but frantic treasure hunt.

– Melisand Box
On Friday, the 2nd of December, we celebrated our fifth ‘Multicultural Day’ here at APC. The past four years have all been very successful and this year was no exception. This year we had activities like African and Japanese drumming, Bollywood Dancing, Karate, Tai Chi, Yoga, French, Italian and Colombian Cooking. Students also learnt The Haka and played Kabadi amongst lots of other activities. We also ate French crepes and Italian Pizza at lunchtime. One class even got to go to DOC Pizza, which was a wonderful experience.