

At Epping Secondary College our relationships and behaviours are guided by the values **RESPECT, COMMITMENT, HONESTY, FAIRNESS AND PERSEVERANCE**

Issue 3

# Online Learning @ ESC

May 2020

## Important Dates

### TERM 2

#### MAY

Continue Remote Learning

Monday 25  
**PUPIL FREE DAY**

Tuesday 26  
**RETURN TO SCHOOL**  
**VCE & VCAL students & Year 10 students attend VCE classes ONLY**

#### JUNE

Y7-10 Continue Remote Learning

Monday 8  
**QUEENS BIRTHDAY**  
**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Tuesday 9  
**Y7-10 return to school**

Friday 12  
**REPORT WRITING DAY**  
**(TBA)**

Friday 26  
**LAST DAY OF TERM 2**



## Principal's Report



### Welcome

I hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy during these uncertain and challenging times. Welcome to all new students and parents. Who would have thought that Term 2 in 2020 would involve such a different learning experience for our students, teachers and parents?

### Remote Learning

Over 1 million students from 2500 Victorian schools commenced their remote learning on Wednesday 15th April 2020. It started off as a challenge with everyone trying to log into their learning management systems at 9 AM. I am extremely proud that all members of our College community have shown a commitment and determination to meet the challenges of these unprecedented times.

Congratulations to all of our students who have embraced their Remote Learning program. You have shown commitment and perseverance and the confidence to seek assistance when required. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the parents/carers for their support with the remote learning.

I acknowledge the commitment of our leaders and teaching staff who have prepared thoroughly during the term break and start of Term 2, to ensure that our transition to remote learning was as smooth as could be hoped for in the circumstances. Our education support staff have supported all aspects of the school community and ensured that service provision for the school has not been severely interrupted. As the leader of the school, I am extremely proud of and I appreciate the incredible workload and tremendous learning they have undertaken to prepare and be ready for such a different Term 2.

I wish to thank everyone for the support you have given us during these challenging times. There is no doubt that being onsite at school without students is very unusual. I look forward to the return of all students when the Department of Education and Training (DET) declares it is permissible to do so. Teaching and learning is such a connective, interactive, stimulating and, at times, difficult experience. There is little doubt, however, that nothing fully replaces that face to face elements of instruction and explanation. Those 'ah-ha' moments of learning can and do happen in a remote environment. We look forward to those moments when we can celebrate with each other within the classroom when more of us are having these 'ah-ha' times with all of our peers.

I encourage all parents to help their children maintain the positive and dedicated approach to their studies that they demonstrated over the initial weeks of this term. However, equally as important as the school work, is looking after the wellbeing of our young people. This has been a constant thread in our communications with our teachers. I hope that when we are able to return to our College, student learning will have been advanced and both the physical and mental health of our students will also be generally positive.

### School Camps

All school camps planned for Term 2 (including the mid-year holidays) have been postponed, as directed by DET. We hope to reschedule these camps later in the year where possible once the school and travel restrictions have been lifted by DET. We will communicate with families as soon as information comes to hand. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

## 2021 Year 7 Enrolments

This is the time of the year we would normally have our Open Night and tours but unfortunately this is not happening this year due to the current situation. We hope to make available video conferencing sessions with prospective parents. Details will be provided on the website.

Enrolling your child, or children, in Year 7 is an important choice. The Department's [findmyschool](https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au) website allows you to locate your designated neighbourhood government school based on your permanent residential address. The website is the official and most up to date source of information on school zone maps.

## What you need to do

1. Read the Department's Placement Policy including the priority order of placement at: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/Pages/placement.aspx](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/Pages/placement.aspx)
2. Locate your designated neighbourhood school or preferred secondary schools using [www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au](https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au)
3. Complete the **Application for Year 7 Placement 2021** form and return to your primary school by **Friday 29 May 2020**. Your child's primary school will advise you how you should return the form.

Year 7 placements are determined by secondary schools and your primary school will notify you of your child's Year 7 placement offer for 2021 on **Wednesday, 19th August, 2020**. If, at any stage, any of your details on your child's Application for Year 7 Placement 2021 form change, you are requested to notify your primary school immediately.

## Fee-paying International students

Fee-paying international students are not required to complete this form. For enrolment in a government school, make an application online at: [www.study.vic.gov.au](https://www.study.vic.gov.au).

## More information

Contact your primary school if you require more information about the application process, Year 6 to Year 7 transition arrangements, or if you require assistance completing the Application for Year 7 Placement 2021 form.

We wish your child well in their transition to Year 7 and trust that secondary schooling will be a richly rewarding experience.

**Mark Quinlan**  
Principal (Acting)

## College Captains



**Victoria Conforto**  
College Captain

My online school experience so far has been... different. As a year 12 student, our workload compared to younger year levels is a lot heavier, which enables us to push ourselves to achieve the best results we can. At school we interact with others, letting stress out by talking face-to-face with our friends and teachers. It is much more difficult to communicate with our peers over the internet, which is a major setback for us. However, our teachers understand this and create fun and engaging ways for us to participate in class while still interacting with each other. Online school is a different experience for all of us and sometimes it's hard to stay motivated and engaged. I take advantage of my breaks stepping away from my desk, having something to eat, walking around, talking to my family, listening to music or even watching some Netflix. I feel this gives my brain a rest from the work, just as our recess and lunch breaks would at school. I've also found that my organisational skills have improved significantly, mainly because if you have a messy desk or work environment, it's going to be very difficult to keep up with everything and not become a stress-head. The main thing to remember is to try to stay positive through this difficult time and remain grateful for what we have. I have taken for granted how important getting out of bed and going to school for 5 days a week is and I'm sure I speak for all year 12 students when I say, we can't wait to go back!



**Chloe Ploughman**  
College Vice  
Captain

Learning remotely was extremely new to everyone and once I heard the news that term two will be conducted online, I must admit I was freaking out a little bit. There was so much uncertainty about SACs and even exams at the end of the year. Week one came around and I had little motivation. Once we had our first classes I realised that the teachers and our coordinators were extremely understanding about the situation we are in. The teachers were available whenever I needed help or just wanted to chat about the work. They understood doing year 12 was enough pressure by itself so they made the adjustment so smooth and easy. The workload was adjusted to this new learning environment making everything that little bit easier. I think I can speak on behalf of the cohort that the extra hour sleep in and not having to travel in the cold Melbourne mornings is definitely a bonus. Not to mention that I can have whatever I like for lunch. Although I miss my friends and school, I know it is important for the future. I am extremely grateful for all my teachers and my coordinators for helping us during this uncertain time.



**Thomas Cornwall**  
Social Justice  
Captain

At the start of a new term students usually meet friends again after the holidays but this term has been different as everyone logs on at home to do schoolwork. It was a rough transition from classroom learning to online learning and there have been unexpected consequences due to the shift to online learning. The first concern is the amount of homework being completed on top of schoolwork, as all schoolwork is being completed at home it can be quite hard to do extra work in the same environment when an entire school day has been completed in the same seat. Technology also separates the teachers from the students as they cannot gauge their students' progress throughout the lesson, so it is often harder for them to teach. For both student and teacher it can be hard to work with the lack of interaction in the online environment. The online learning however has benefits over traditional classroom learning. Travel times, both between classes and to school have been effectively reduced to zero, a student could (and some have) wake up at 9am and start class first thing in the morning. SACs have continued for some classes and have been modified to be completed online, however other classes are unable to be assessed online and have their assessments delayed. The online environment means that classes are not limited to only their timetabled time and students can work with their teachers outside of normal school time. Perhaps when school resumes the online learning can be kept for extra study outside of school time?

There is a stereotype that teachers can't use technology well and although they have on a few occasions humorously muted themselves on accident without realising, the transition to online learning has been overall rather successful. The coursework has been moved online and academic progress hasn't halted for the majority of subjects making Epping Secondary College's students one of the most productive given the circumstances that we find ourselves in.

## Online Learning



**Natalie Carroll**  
College Captain

Online learning. Not once in our anticipation of 2020 did any of us consider this. Every student can describe this current learning style as 'different', whether that be for the better or worse. For such a massive change in our learning environments, teachers have done an exceptional job of adapting their teaching methods to educate all of their students online and on behalf of every student, I thank them for being so organised. I also thank my peers for being resilient in handling the challenges posed by learning through technology. It is so strange to be walking over to a desk for class on a computer, however, nothing is stopping us from doing our best; we are still able to ask teachers for help and have been gifted access to a wide variety of resources offered to us during these difficult times. I intend to make the most of my learning in isolation. Positive thinking is what everyone is capable of and that's what I am choosing to do every time I sit down in front of my books, regardless of whether there is a laptop or whiteboard in front of me.



**Emily Valeri**  
College Vice  
Captain

As a year 12 VCE student, moving all my classes to remote learning was initially a great challenge. Like many others, I was full of uncertainty, unsure of how my already challenging classes would run, along with upcoming SACs and core tasks. However, after the first week my new routine became my new normal, waking up at 8 am and turning on my laptop at 8.53 to start my day "at school". I follow my normal school timetable of classes and study periods, recess and lunch time breaks and keep a checklist of tasks to complete to help me remain motivated throughout the day. Though I cannot physically see my teachers and talk to them as often as I would when I was at school, they are still within reach, always online and actively responding to any and all questions that I may have with the course work. They have also been understanding in acknowledging the challenges of remote learning and in their own way attempt to reduce the workload of our classes so that our stress levels do not overload. I think a really important thing that I have learnt from remote learning is the importance of peers in the classroom, even though we are not together physically we have still found a way remotely to have fun and enjoy our online classes and support one another. Remote learning has definitely been a challenge but without it, I wouldn't have as much to be grateful for, such as sleeping in for an extra hour, actually enjoying a cup of coffee and of course knowing that when I do go back to school my teachers will finally know how to use technology and we will all be better off for it.



**Lusani Sigwadi**  
Social Justice  
Vice Captain

Remote learning is definitely a new and challenging but rewarding experience. I most definitely like being able to sleep in more and only taking a few steps to my laptop to begin online schooling. It is important to acknowledge and thank how hard our teachers work to ensure we are learning our content without being overly stressed as well as replying quickly to our messages and always checking on our health and wellbeing. I think one of the hardest things about remote learning is maintaining focus while being surrounded by many distractions. However, by placing my phone away from me and fighting the temptation of constantly going through the fridge, being focused is a lot easier. Missing friends is something I think all students are experiencing during remote learning but we will be back to school soon and it is so important to understand that you can always talk to your friends, school captains and teachers if you are having trouble coping with remote learning as we are all going through this together!!



Computer

# Online Learning

## Student Gratitude Messages



Recycle Bin

- I would to express my gratitude to all my teachers. For always replying to my messages and being well organised throughout this stressful time.
- I just want to express gratitude to all my teachers because I feel that every teacher has been doing their best in order for us to keep learning and strive for the best during a very difficult time where more important things are coming up and where education for some is not the biggest priority right now. So thank you to all my teachers for putting in the time to educate us.



Internet Explorer

- I would like to thank ALL of the teachers that have prepared lessons for us as well as dealing with this remote learning very well, setting us students an example of responsibility and persistence.
- I am very grateful for all my teachers who have taken time out of their day to help us all learn from home and are patient with us all as we are all learning new things.



Google Chrome

- All of my teachers helping me when I need it.
- The helpful and supportive teachers.
- I just wanted to say that during this difficult time, you're doing a great job.
- I am understanding our classwork even though it's slightly harder to learn in these circumstances. Thank you for replying to messages with proper answers and providing resources on how to do something as well as making classes interesting!



Mozilla Firefox

- You helping me through this and my parents also helping me with online learning. I'm also thankful that we are all well and healthy during these times.
- For the teachers for helping and being organised and making the remote learning easy and understandable.



Microsoft Office Wo...

- My family understanding how sometimes it can be difficult.
- For being in an accelerated class and being able to learn the things we do.
- For my family and supportive teachers.
- I like how my teacher introduces the lesson and then gives me plenty of class time to do the work.



Microsoft Office Po...

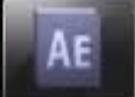
- For the technology I have to remote learn and the roof over my head keeping me safe.
- Having people that can help and support me.
- I love the Webex sessions with my peers and teachers.
- You are really good at explaining things and reply very fast. :)



# Online Learning

## Parent Gratitude Messages

- Congrats to all staff.  
Day one over. Everyone survived.  
There will be teething problems but you're all doing an amazing job.
- Thanks very much to all of you at Epping Secondary for your hard work in setting this up so quickly. It is much appreciated. Not for the first time have I been grateful to have my children educated in Victorian public schools. You make it look easy but I know full well it is not. Thanks again.
- Yesterday was very stressful to say the least but I was so impressed with your 2nd video call and how you helped set up your class. Hopefully with any luck all the teething problems are temporary and this will get easier and feel more normal in the coming weeks.
- Thanks for explaining things to us the parents. Your instructions are very clear and without them I wouldn't have been able to do any of it. I appreciate very much being informed of what's going on and what's expected and the kids appreciate it too.  
Fantastic effort. Thanks again.
- Thanks Sonia, much appreciated. Thanks for your dedication and hard work. Teachers are doing a good job in this crazy climate. Fingers crossed this all goes back to normal soon.
- Hi Antoinette and all teachers. Just a quick thanks for the ongoing communication and effort you're putting into the continued education and general support for parents and students. The resources sent through and activity recommendations are very helpful at this time. I have friends with children in High School across Victoria and unfortunately not all schools have been as well organised and consistent with their communication. I realise you will all be juggling your own personal needs at this time - children, shopping, mental health, support for family and friends. So to switch to a method of teaching so different and keep the normal class timetable mostly running is admirable. Thank you to all teachers.
- Great to see lesson plans on XUNO so we can oversee our son's learning.
- I like the support the teachers are giving our students.
- I believe ESC are doing an exceptional job on delivering remote learning. It is a remarkable effort for all teachers and support staff to provide remote learning in such a short timeframe. Credit to you all on a job well done.



## 8 Tips for Studying at Home Effectively

### Use Your Learning Intentions and Success Criteria

Active studying is as simple as asking questions before, during and after study time. This help to give your study direction and it also helps keep focused and reflect on how to improve for your next study session!

Questions to ask yourself before you study:

- What is my Learning Intention? What am I about to learn?
- What did we learn last lesson? What do I already know about this subject?

Questions to ask yourself while you study:

- How does this information fit into the topic we are learning about?
- Do I understand what I have just read?
- Can I rephrase what I read?
- Are there any key words or ideas that I need to write down? Why are these words and ideas important?

Questions to ask yourself after you study:

- What can I take away from this study session?
- Did I achieve everything in the success criteria?
- What questions do I have for my teacher?



### Study At The Right Time

During isolation it is easy to fall out of normal school study. Try and keep your routine and stick to the school timetable. Your teachers are available during you class time to answer any questions you have around the work and content.

When completing homework try to study when you are most alert, this will help to process and retain the information that you are studying. Every student has his or her own daily highs and lows. Some people work better in the morning compared to the afternoon/ evening and vice versa. Try not to force yourself but to work when your brain is in peak capacity.



### Have A Designated Study Area

Whether it is the kitchen table or the desk in your bedroom, create an area to study that is a designated study zone. This is where you will always work and create consistency in your learning habits. Try to reserve your bed for sleeping and avoid studying in it (it can be all too easy to take a nap!).

Try your hardest to keep your study space clean and organised. Work on one subject at a time, pack up and begin the next. That way you can put all your energy into the work and not looking for the worksheet buried under the math textbook.



### Get Chores Out Of The Way

Whilst at home you probably need to help around the house. Complete all chores before starting school, this will avoid interruptions or being distracted by your incomplete chores. Getting chores out of the way means there is one less thing you have to do after studying.







## Another proud moment with our senior school students

We are quite confident to say that we are a leading school in our varied senior school programs to ensure that we meet the various student needs and their pathways.

As part of our many programs VET plays an integral role. We currently have 136 senior students completing a VET subject – some of these are within the school whilst others are at varied colleges and TAFE facilities.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you feedback we received from one of the VET providers ONTTC, regarding our students studying Building and Construction.

“I just wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some outstanding performances from students at Epping over the last few weeks in their B&C course at ONTTC. They have been on time, engaged, intrinsically motivated, asking great questions and bringing a lot of positive energy to their learning. I have selected a few for special mention from first and second year courses and they deserve to be recognised for the diligent work in these at times challenging learning conditions”.- **T. Pattersen - Building & Construction Teacher ONTTC**

We would like to take this opportunity to say well done to the following students:



**Samir Andeishmand**  
12W



**Jerome Gionta**  
11A



**Bryon Ioannou**  
11W



**Pavlos Nikolaidis**  
11W



**Darcy Ryan**  
11V



**Christian Treloar**  
11W

We are always very proud of receiving such feedback as each time a student is out on work experience, excursion, camp or studying a VET outside the school –they represent our college and our values. We yet again are very proud of our students.



**Antoinette Hooper**  
Assistant Principal (Acting)

# ANZAC Day



I was very fortunate to visit Villers–Bretonneux Australian National Memorial in 2018 with a group of senior students. The Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux is the main memorial to Australian military personnel killed on the Western Front during World War I. The memorial lists 10,773 names of soldiers of the Australian Imperial Force with no known grave who were killed in 1916.

While the challenges of today may seem almost overwhelming, the sacrifices of those who served in wars and conflicts past and present should not be forgotten or overlooked. It is particularly disappointing that the current circumstances have prevented the traditional College focus upon ANZAC Day that is very central to the culture of our school. My ANZAC Day speech was to focus on the “Unknown Soldier”. I have provided my speech on XUNO. Please take the time to read it.



**Mark Quinlan**  
Principal (Acting)

The blood seeped through the sand  
fertilizing the poppies soon to be,  
Six years of blood-drenched horror and  
Hollow-eyes gleaming in young boys’ faces -  
Putting down the guns was something everyone agreed  
every corner of the world  
filled with bloodshed and despair,  
leaving nothing but  
national anthems to blare,  
We stand and remember the lives  
resting beneath the ground,  
forced to fight a battle  
they didn’t deserve to face.  
A minute of silence,  
for those who didn’t hear a single silent sound  
until their final breath,  
this sacrifice we will never be able to repay,  
so to the Anzacs who defended our future, our lives,  
we honour and thank you, each and every day.



**Ala Almoosawi 10L**

# English

## English Writing Competitions

While so many of us are enjoying our homes and local neighbourhoods more, we might find there is time to slow down and write about our experiences. This year, we have new writing competitions for all students.

### 1. Principal's Writing Challenge

- a. Details: All students, from years 7-12 are invited to submit a short story, poem, song or other creative work on any theme or idea. This can include work from SACs and CATs. Closing date for entries is 28th October, but entries are being accepted online from today.
- b. Cash prizes for winning entries will be presented at the Awards night, December 2020.
- c. To submit an entry, email your work as an attachment to [gill-atkinson.ric.w@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:gill-atkinson.ric.w@edumail.vic.gov.au)
- d. If you want to "workshop" an entry, join the Microsoft Teams classroom with your EduPass account and the team code

**by8w3dq**

### 2. Victorian Association for the Teaching of English (VATE) writing competition

Details: Students and teachers are invited to write and submit a short story inspired by the theme **Stories for Strange Times**.

There are three categories available in the competition:

**Years 7-8 students | Years 9-10 students | Teachers**

Entries of no more than 1000 words are due **Monday 1 June 2020** and should be emailed to [education@vate.org.au](mailto:education@vate.org.au).

To view more information about the competition, go to

<https://www.vate.org.au/stories-strange-times>

If you want details on more writing competitions, join the MSTeam.

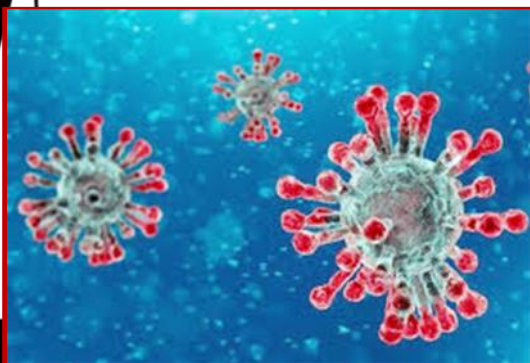


**Ric Gill-Atkinson**  
English Leader

## The Covid Lament

It's been 5 weeks since we have been in quarantine  
and all we do is clean,  
I just want to drink caffeine,  
The days are so long they make me want to scream,  
And before I know it I have gone to the extreme,  
Please let this be over with so I can be with my team...  
Cos' I feel like it's all just a dream!

**Lucas Pontinelli 8C**



# Year 10 Macbeth

Act 1 scene 1



3 witches planning to meet with Macbeth

Act 1 scene 2



King Duncan decides to reward Macbeth with the title Thane of Cawdor

Act 1 scene 3



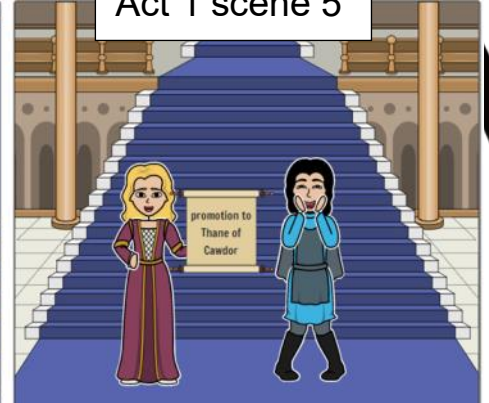
The witches tell Macbeth about their conspiracy

Act 1 scene 4



Duncan announces his son, Malcolm will be the next king of Scotland

Act 1 scene 5



Lady Macbeth reads Macbeth's promotion letter to become Thane of Cawdor

Act 1 scene 6



King Duncan goes to Macbeth's castle and is greeted by Lady Macbeth

Act 1 scene 7



Macbeth leaves the dinner because he's scared by his plan to kill King Duncan



# Year 8 Drama

# HORROR

## In a Newsroom Streaming Live TV with a Psychotic Murderer while a Blackout Occurs

**A**nd so this is sudden. A blackout? We can't run a news program with no power. We'll have to check the power boards, see what's going on. "I'll just go check the power boards, be right back," I say to my co-workers. Huh, never noticed but apparently it's really scary in this corridor when there are no lights on. The long corridor, probably the longest I've ever been in, yet that still doesn't stop me. Apparently what stops me is the sound of 'clanking' and metal close behind me. Not for long though because I shortly proceed to making the long walk to the other side of the corridor. *Where is that damn power board?* So long of a corridor almost as if I'm repeatedly walking the same short hallway over and over and over. Then another clank right behind me, then another and another and another. *My god Ryder, stop being such a baby and get to that dumb power board!* Apparently it's really hard to go down a corridor when there are no lights and a really eerie, out of nowhere metal sound coming from behind you and really terrifying for the pessimistic. Finally, after a long walk, a power board lies on the wall before me. This wall is the end of the corridor though; my paranoia prevents me looking behind me. "Dammit, power refuses to work," I mutter to myself as I try the switches. Then the metal clanking sounds once again sounds in my very ears. "What the hell was that? Who's there?!" Clank, clank, clank suddenly turns into bang, bang, bang. *Seriously, get away!* A dark figure pops out of the metal walls. I'm reluctant to see what it is but only for a little bit. "I'm a weakling," I whisper to myself. It was just a cog wheel. A cog had me scared for my life! It was nothing or so I decided, so I could walk a shorter hallway. 'Patter, patter, patter' is what I hear behind me. *Am I going insane?* This time though, it wasn't a thing, as I soon realise from the small, young, quiet yet disturbing laugh I hear. "Come on Clark, Daymond, this isn't funny!" I'm starting to get annoyed that my co-workers are trying to prank me. I ignore every feeling of suspense that I have and look back again despite the emotion of fear. A man with a pointed metal object in his left hand with horrid, messy, black hair and teeth the shape of a crocodile atop his unearthly smile. This is a human alright, one that looks blood lusting. "Get away!!!!!" I scream as he comes closer, before everything dissipates to black...

"Hey Ryder," Clark shouts from a distance, "you there?" "Come on Clark, let's explore," Daymond next, "what an eerie scream that was, definitely Ryder's scream..."



Jordan Pungatara 8F

## In the Cold

I was walking around the block. The cold night air nipped at my cheeks. The stars were dull tonight, some hiding away. It was calm, quiet and still. Just like always.

"I wonder what I'll do when I get home..." I thought, then winced at the memory of stacked homework waiting to be finished. Honestly, why do I have so much?

A street lamp flickered ahead of me. That's weird... they fixed it the other night. Not thinking much about it, I walked along, the only sound being my footsteps, still contemplating about different things. That's when I heard a rustle in the bushes. My head spun around scanning. A mouse scurried out. "Oh, ha-ha. Thought it was something dangerous," my mind went. I sighed. A puff of air escaped and disappeared. The wind picked up a little. I didn't mind. It became a little stronger. I pulled my jacket up.

But then it started getting to the point where it was less like a gust and more like a hurricane. "W-what's happening?" I was so confused. It got stronger. And stronger! My eyes watered and my arms felt weak. Then it stopped. "Weird!" I pondered. Shivering and paranoid I kept walking, this time in the direction of my house.

What happened lingered in the back of my mind. I tried to stop thinking about it but my mind kept bringing it up. It started to bring the feeling back too. The cold, unwelcoming feeling that pushed its way into my head. I hated it.

Another street light flickered in the distance. And another. "Huh... guess I'll have to report that." I shivered.

It was quiet again. Not a sound to be heard. In fact, you could hear a pin drop. But... it was unsettling. Uncomfortable. Unordinary, if you will. It was strange, because it's always quiet around these parts. I felt so chilly. Why? Why did this feel weird? Why did this feel unfamiliar?

A high pitched scream interrupted my thoughts. It pierced my ears and made my skin crawl. It was so cold. The adrenaline kicked in and my heart became a drum, pounding violently. My breaths started becoming shaky and uneven and my eyes opened wide. There it was again. "Ugh! That's so creepy! I hate that!" My head screamed. This time it was closer. I walked faster, trying to not care. Once again, a squeal emerged from the darkness.

But this time, it was right behind me.

I froze. Reality hit me and I went to keep walking. However, my legs weren't lifting. Forcing my legs to move, twitch or just... anything! They just weren't working. I couldn't move.

It was like someone took control of my system. Someone. Someone. Someone. Or...something.

A cold whisper blew down my neck. Icy fingers ran down my spine, causing me to jerk forward and gasp for air. My entire back was so cold.

Time stopped as I turned around. That was probably the worst decision I ever made. For what awaited me, was a psychotic, blood-thirsty ghost.

Dirty rags covered pale white skin with tangled hair made of raven feathers, with bright yellow eyes that made your mind melt. It bore a sinister smile, begging me to cry. For a few seconds it was just this spirit reaching out to me. For a few seconds it was just icy wind surrounded us as we stared at each other.

For a few moments, it was just me standing in absolute fear.

The ghost opened its mouth revealing its razor sharp teeth. Time unfroze and I ran. I ran for my life, scared. "DON'T RUN FROM ME. DON'T YOU RUN!" it screeched. I didn't know what was happening. I didn't know where I was going.

"YOU CAN'T RUN."

Ignoring whatever it was saying, I continued to escape. I felt it behind me. I pushed my legs forward. It kept screeching, like I'd stop. Chills brushed against my skin.

"YOU KNOW. YOU CAN'T ESCAPE. YOU KNOW."

The words it spat made me weaker. My legs were so tired. My breaths were short and choppy. I couldn't think straight.

It was freezing. My chest tightened. I felt like I was slowing down. I kept going. Trying.

Geez! When was it this cold? More lamps shook and the leaves danced to the melody of my fear. It was as if- "AAAAAHHHH!" I screamed. The ghost grabbed me. Its fingers grew into crystals, piercing through my skin. Tears rolled down my face as blood poured out. They tightened on my face. My arms and legs slowly numbed. I tried and tried to break free, paining myself as I ripped my skin against its claws.

It laughed. And it wasn't a warm one. This laugh made me feel helpless. It was horrid and disgusting. Why? Why was it so cold? Bitter ice consumed my body.

### Breaking news: Body frozen in a cocoon of ice found by local park – New mystery?

*"Good morning folks. I'm Sarah Bennet. Today we have found a body covered in ice by a house. The corpse has been transported for thawing a few hours ago. We have news from forensics. They found holes in the victim's arms and frostbite all around the body. They examined the organs, surprised when they were all found frozen and shrivelled. We are still unsure of what happened and how they died. A truly peculiar sight. We will get back to you later."*

Woo, I finished work for today. I had stayed at the office a little longer than usual, so it was quite late. I'd better head home.

I was walking around the block. The cold night air nipped at my cheeks. The stars were dull tonight, some hiding away. It was calm, quiet and still. Just like always.



Ira Samson  
8F

# Art of Isolation

Hello school community! Mr Kaska and I were going a little crazy in isolation on the holidays so we decided to get creative and recreate a famous painting. You've probably seen these types of projects on social media. It was fun to do so I thought it might be a good project for my yr 9 Community Craft students. They created some awesome work and surprised me with their attention to detail.

The National Gallery of Victoria has also invited the public to have a go at recreating an artwork from their collection so I thought I'd share that with you in case you might like to try it with your family at home for a bit of fun. #betweenartandquarantine or

<https://www.facebook.com/177176991162/posts/10158190505591163/?d=n>

This is Mr Kaska and my recreation attempt.....the original artwork, "The Wine Glass" by Johannes Vermeer, oil on canvas, 1660.

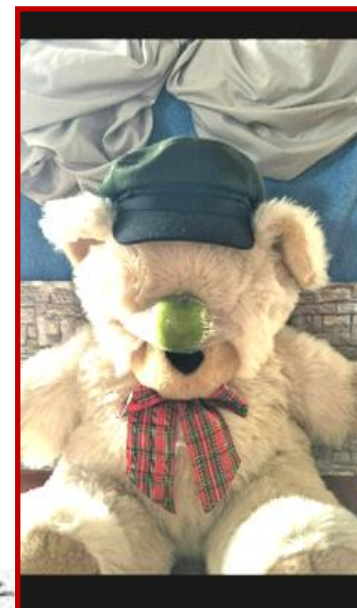
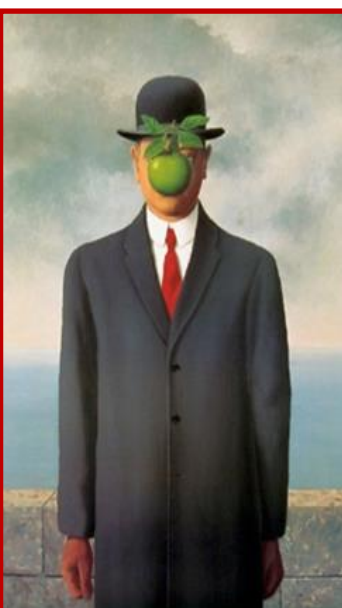
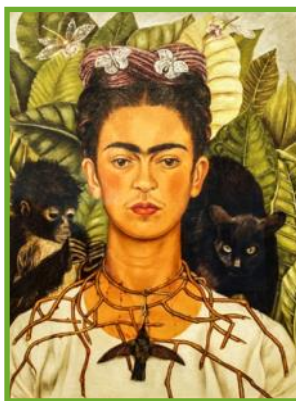
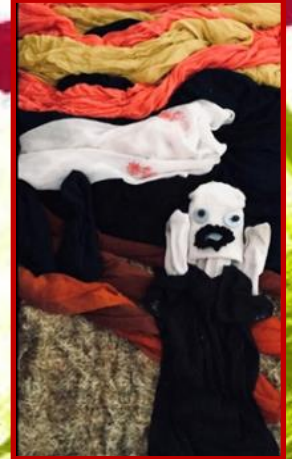


If you do recreate an artwork with your family I would love to see them. You can send them via Xuno messages. Have fun!

**Ms Kaskamanidis**



Year 9 Community Crafts class created these ones! I think they are fabulous....



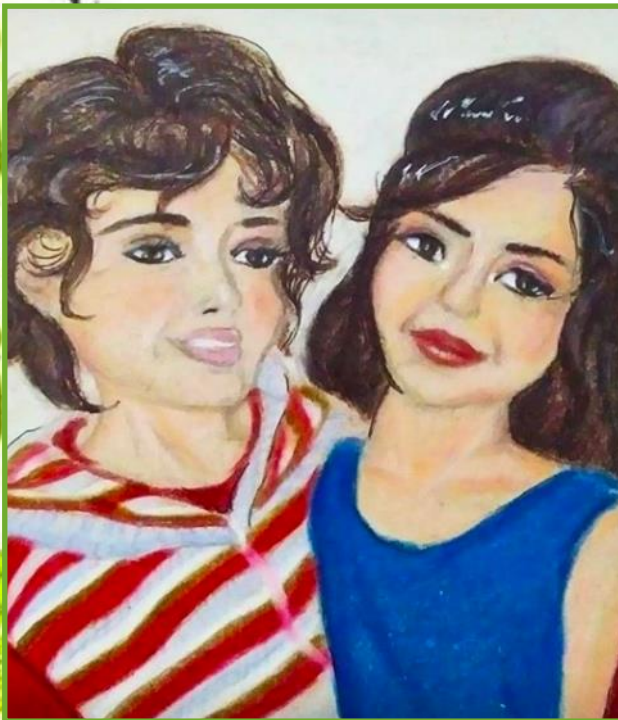
# Art of Isolation



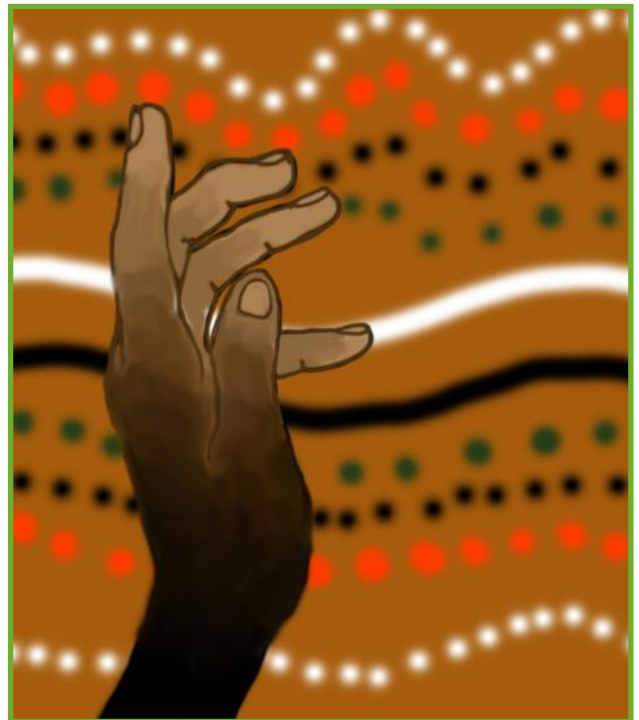
Chelsea Gatovski Year 7



Jordyn Bower Year 11



Huda Mousawi Year 11



Esther Stark Year 9

# Art of Isolation



Alicia Geremia Year 7



Laviyan Doski Year 8



Noora Al Aboudi Year 11



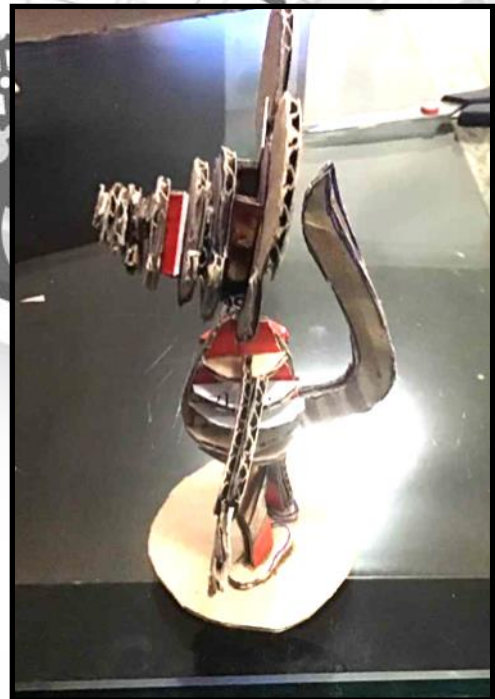
Roya Al-Asadi Year 10

# TECHNOLOGY



Meet **Raouf 8B** (aka Brocky - very excitable student) – it took several messages but when the penny did finally drop, Raouf sent a video back in under two hours.

Tipping now we can't get him out of the garage. Raouf has now been instructed to make an even bigger mega sized and faster one so be careful as you drive around the streets of Epping!



Next was **Divjot 7E** who smashed out 5 weeks of lesson plans (including theory) in one weekend to a 100/100 standard.

Divjot is now working on painting the Sydney Harbour Bridge - already enrolled in year 9 art electives and making more cardboard animals to keep Mickey company.

# TECHNOLOGY

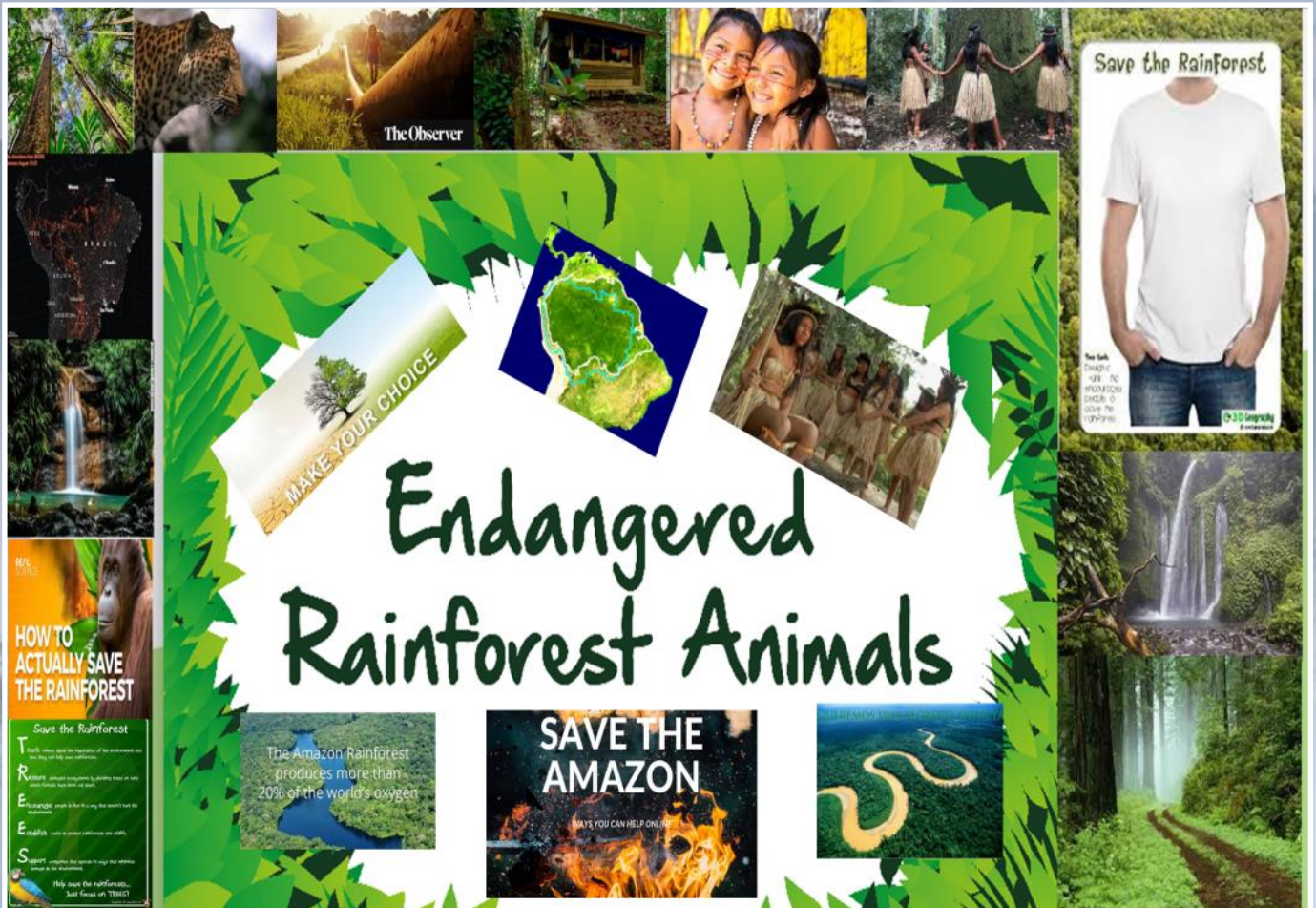


And finally we have **Olivia 8D** (aka “THE GRAND PENGUIN”) – Olivia’s new name has come about from completing this challenge so effortlessly, smoothly and quickly, it’s been like introducing a penguin to water for the very first time. The word GRAND was also thrown in as last time I spoke with Olivia she was in a zoom chat with several leading F1 Grand Prix racing engineers with some new designs for them!



# Personal Development

## Amazon Rainforest



Mazen Saadoun 11Y

# Save The Amazon Forest!



**The rainforest is being destroyed by climate change and the deforestation of the beautiful forest that is home to amazing animals and plants. There are also tribes that still live in the Amazon Rainforest. You can help save the Amazon Rainforest by searching 'Save the Amazon Rainforest Charity', clicking on any website and donating to save the dying rainforest. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**



**Tahlia Wallace 11Y**



## Year 7 Jokes

Kas AWESOME!! I'm so excited, and I just can't hide it. I'm about to lose control but I think I like it!!:):)

Today, my son asked, "Can I have a book mark?" and I burst into tears. 11 years old and he still doesn't know my name is Brian.

When a dad drives past a graveyard: Did you know that's a popular cemetery? Yep, people are just dying to get in there!

**DAD:** I was just listening to the radio on my way in to town, apparently an actress just killed herself.

**MOM:** Oh my! Who!?

**DAD:** Uh, I can't remember... I think her name was Reese something?

**MOM:** WITHERSPOON!!!!!!????????

**DAD:** No, it was with a knife...

Today an old lady at the bank told me to check her balance, so I pushed her over.

My wife tried to unlatch our daughter's car seat with one hand and said, "How do one armed mothers do it?" Without missing a beat I replied, "Single handedly."

What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down? It gets toad away.



May 2020

# Year 7 Jokes

What's the best thing about Switzerland. I don't know but the flag is a big plus.

Why can't you hear a pterodactyl go to the bathroom? Because the pee is silent.

Justice is a dish to be served cold, if it were served warm it would be just-water.

Why did the bike fall over?  
Because it was too tires.

Did you hear the rumour about butter? Well, I'm not going to spread it!

Did you hear about the guy who lost his entire left side? He's alright now.:

I kept wondering why the frizby was getting bigger and bigger and then it hit me:)

"Dad, can you put the cat out?"  
"I didn't know it was on fire."

# COMPETITION



Attention masterminds! Here are a wide variety of competitions you can enter based on a wide range of subjects. All are free to enter with prizes of cash and/or publication. If any interest you, put your brilliant mind to work and keep busy during these difficult times.

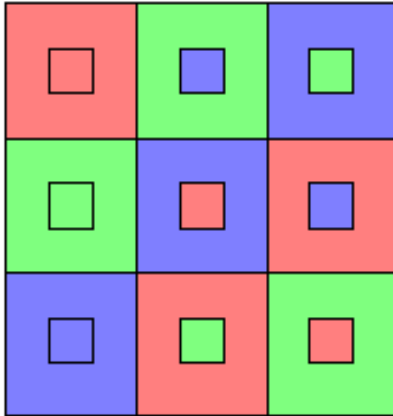
- Staying home 500 word short story:  
<https://www.hammondhousepublishing.com/staying-home>
- The Big Issue fiction edition (writing):  
<https://www.thebigissue.org.au/news/2020/03/04/fiction-submissions-now-open/>
- International Poetry Writing competition:  
<https://www.ipswichpoetryfeast.com.au/writing-competition/>
- School Poetry & Short Story Writing competition:  
<https://www.write4fun.net/competitions/67>
- Ocean Awareness Contest (Visual Art/ Performing Art/ Writing):  
<https://bowseat.org/programs/ocean-awareness-contest/overview/>
- UNSW Student Science Journal/Writing Prize (Year 7-10):  
<https://careerswithstem.com.au/bragg-student-science-prize-curriculum-links/>
- OzKids drawing/painting/ indigenous/ computer art competition:  
<http://www.ozkids.com.au/gallery.php>
- Literature Program:  
<http://www.ozkids.com.au/>



**Natalie Carroll**  
School Captain

## Greco-Latin Squares

Below is an example of a Greco-Latin Square. There are outside squares and inside squares. Every row and column has all 3 colours and no combination of outside and inside square is repeated (for example there is only one that has red outside and green inside).

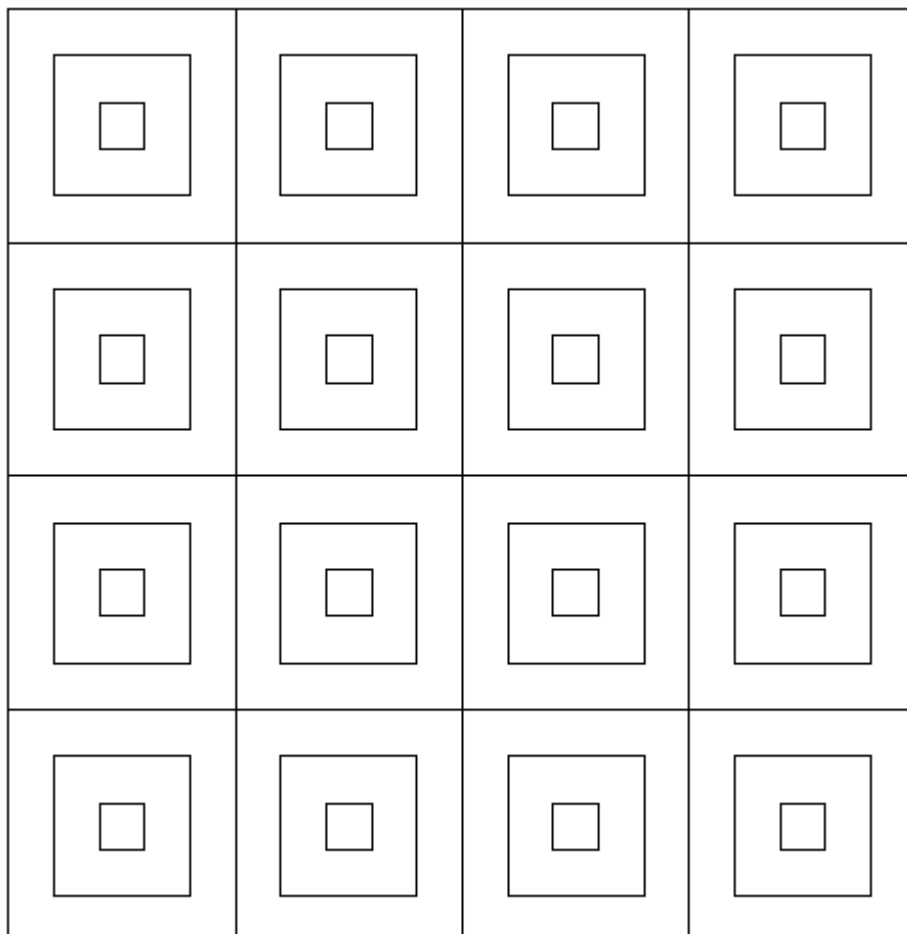


This is a branch of maths called “Combinatorics”. Leonard Euler thought a 10x10 triple was impossible but he was proved wrong! (This is a bit like discovering Einstein got his physics wrong). It was one of the first uses of a computer to solve a problem. The mathematicians were nicknamed the “Euler Spoilers” (that does rhyme). The last of the Euler Spoilers passed away this week aged 103.

You probably know Euler from the “Seven Bridges of Konigsberg” problem, which is in most textbooks and also the number “e” (which is almost as famous as  $\pi$ ).

It is possible to make a triple Greco-Latin Square for a 4x4 triple (without using a computer).

- 1) Every row and column has 4 different colours.
- 2) No combination of inside, middle and outside squares is repeated.
- 3) You can be creative – the 4 inside colours, the 4 middles colours and the 4 outside colours do not have to be the same 4 colours.



# Wellbeing Report

## CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

## PROTECT



All organisations that work with children and young people are required to meet Child Safe Standards. At Epping Secondary College, we are committed to the safety and wellbeing of students. The Child Safe Standards are embedded into everyday practices and policies.

There are seven Child Safe Standards, plus a Principle of inclusion.

- **Standard 1:** Strategies to embed and Organisational culture of child safety
- **Standard 2:** A child safety policy or a statement of commitment to child safety
- **Standard 3:** A child safety code of conduct
- **Standard 4:** Screening, supervision, training and other Human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse
- **Standard 5:** Procedures for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse
- **Standard 6:** Strategies to identify and reduce or remove the risks of child abuse
- **Standard 7:** Strategies to promote child participation and empowerment

Further information on Child Safe Standards policies is available on the Epping Secondary College website.



**Leanne Halsall**  
**Child Safety Officer**  
**Student Wellbeing Coordinator**

## **LEARNING INTENTIONS & SUCCESS CRITERIA**

### **Before**

- What am I about to learn?
- What do I already know about this subject?

### **During**

- How does this information fit into the topic we are learning about?
- Can I rephrase what I read?
- Are there any key words or ideas that I need to write down?

### **After**

- What can I take away from this study session?
- Did I achieve everything in the success criteria?
- What questions do I have for my teacher?



## **THE STUDY ZONE**

### **What does your desk look like?**

- Only have equipment needed for that subject on your desk.
- Make sure you are comfortable and that it is a desk - not your bed!
- Keep your study zone / desk consistent so you train your brain into healthystudy habits.

**Ensuring you get the most out of your remote learning.**

# **TIPS FOR AT-HOME STUDY**

## **TIMETABLES, BELLS & SCHEDULES**

Plan your day around your classes

- Did you plan for a break?
- Have you prepared your healthy snacks?
- Have you completed your chores?
- Do you have a timer to keep you on track during class time?
- Are you following the school timetable?



## **WORK. REST. PLAY**

### **The Essentials**

- Provide time for yourself each day
  - Ensure you get 8 hours rest
  - Eat healthy meals and at the right time
- Study from the same spot every day (not your bed!)
- Complete homework at the right time for you.