

Learn, Think, Perform, Belong  
through  
RESPECT INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY

# VICTORIA POINT STATE HIGH SCHOOL



*Principal Messages*

WEEK 7, TERM 1 2026

## KEY DATES

- Naplan March - **11 - 18<sup>th</sup> March**
- Multicultural week events - **19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of March**
- Year 11 and 12 exam block - **16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March**
- Vikings Cross Country and Colour run - **2<sup>nd</sup> April**
- Good Friday - **3<sup>rd</sup> April**

We are almost to the end of Term 1 and students are heavily involved in demonstrating their learning from the first unit of work. This week students in Years 7 and 9 are also investing time into Naplan. Well done to students who are well prepared in their participation and organisation. Naplan is an important measure of our teaching and learning which is used in conjunction with our whole school results to measure learning.

This week we have welcomed Taichung Dali High School for their third International visit to our school. This is a great opportunity for our students to build global connections and perspectives to other cultures around the world. I thank all the host students and families for their roles - as always doing a stellar job.

On Tuesday our P&C met for the annual general meeting. Congratulations to the 2026 executive team:

President: Madonna Boon

Vice President: Ben Wilkinson and Matt DeCastro

Secretary: Glenn Barlow

Treasurer: Ann-Marie Wilson

I encourage new families to attend as it is a great way to hear what is happening in our school. We have a great representation of parents, staff and students to collectively discuss the ways we can contribute to the school experiences. Watch out for some upcoming parent information sessions by our school based police officer and our new partner Cybernetic Shield (more information below).

## Student Leadership

It was a pleasure to escort our student leadership team to the GRIP leadership conference at Sleeman Complex on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. The focused sessions on developing culture, how to run an event and manage time are very appropriate for the daily lives of our students. We have a strong history of an active student leadership team and the event certainly inspired them to add value to our school. A special mention to Lachlan M for his winning contribution to music and dance for VP against the other many schools in attendance.

## Cybernetic Shield

This year we are excited to partner with our P&C in Cybernetic Shield. Cybernetic Shield is an **online safety and digital wellbeing company** aimed at keeping school staff and students safer online, 24/7 via a 5 Shield Rated Safety Solution. VPSHS has invested into a series of educational cyber safety topics relevant to their year level as well as mental health training for staff. The P&C have invested into the 24/7 support hotline for families to access and seek guidance on any online issue their child may face. Navigating the technical ways teenagers connect and communicate can sometimes be stressful and impactful at all hours of the day. Cybernetic Shield is there to support families at all times and I thank the P&C for valuing a service that benefits the wellbeing of our school community. Further information for families on how to access and sign into the service over the coming week.

## PFS Friday Session 4

In 2026 PFS incorporates the theme of service to others in Years 7 - 10. Students have elected an activity that inspires them to contribute to the experiences of others and in an area they care about. So far we have students visiting VPSS, the construction of a Redland Bay virtual walking tour, crocheting blankets for those in need, earring making to sell and raise money, the school beautification team and the Kokoda Youth Challenge teams who are raising money to compete in the 48km challenge in July.

Students in Year 12 currently have the option to depart at the start of lunch which enables them the choice to study at home. From Term 2 Year 11 students will also have the opportunity to do the same should they be up to date with their work and have the required attendance rate. **Year 11 students and families will be required to complete a survey in the next week as part of the consultation for this change. Please look out for this email in your inbox's.**

## QParents

This year VPSHS has transitioned to QParents for permissions and invoices. The future plan is to include more features of the app to families including the calendar and assessment plan for your child.

We have a small number of families yet to transition to the platform. Please contact the front administration staff who are keen to assist your set up.

## Uniform

This year has been our first year with our new day uniform. Well done to our students for their high levels of pride into their presentation. With the upcoming cooler weather it is encouraged that students be prepared with the school uniform winter jackets or jumper. Formal navy pants can be worn with the formal uniform while the tracksuit pants can be worn with the day uniform polo. If families need support with jumpers over the winter months please contact the front office - 3820 5888.

## Attendance and Leave passes

Education is the most important gift our students receive. Attendance each day is compulsory and builds student knowledge and skills. Our school target is 92% so that interruptions to student learning is minimised. Please refer to the Department's attendance policy for further information. Please reach out to the year level deputy if you need to discuss or require support for any attendance issues.

### 🌐 Attendance

A reminder to families that appointments during school time should be as a last resort as students are expected to be in attendance in school. Should you require a leave pass please use the QParents app so that our phone lines are not tied up. **Requests should be made by 10am on the day the leave pass is requested.** It is not reasonable to expect an admin staff member to locate a student on very short notice unless it is an absolute emergency. In these instances please allow at least 30minutes for your child to attend administration - thank you for your understanding and support of this.

## Mobile Phones – Away for the Day

As part of the Qld Government's 'Away for the Day' mobile device policy students at VPSHS are not permitted their device as soon as they enter the school gate until the bell rings in the afternoon. This statewide policy was introduced to reduce the distraction of devices as well as the negative social behaviours that can come from filming and social media. Across the school there has been a significant reduction in device use, demonstrating the high levels of responsibility from most students. Within the school there are designated purple zones where phones can be accessed for payment or implementing recorded verbal feedback. Students are expected to demonstrate respect, responsibility and integrity in all aspects of the school, including mobile phones. Failure to adhere will be subject to the student code of conduct.

Yours in Education,

*Susan Taylor*

Proud Principal of Victoria Point SHS