



THE POINT

Your Community School Promoting Excellence

14 May 2021

Term 2 Weeks 3 & 4 Picnic Point High School Update

Science Term 2 2021

This term Year 10 are focusing on DNA and biotechnology. So far classes have made models of DNA using pipe cleaners or lollies, modelled cell division and extracted DNA from kiwifruit. Later this term, classes will discuss ethical issues associated with genetic engineering and designer babies.

Year 9 are currently focusing on natural and man made disasters. We have started looking at volcanoes and earthquakes with a focus on what causes these to occur within the earth. Some classes made comic strips of a journey to the centre of the earth or news reports about being on location at an erupting volcano. Students have simulated convection currents in the mantle using seaweed or sawdust and are starting to design, build and test earthquake resistant housing designs. We will then be testing their designs in our earthquake simulator consisting of a jelly surface.

Year 8 are busy learning about the environment, ecosystems. They researched and designed ecotourism brochures for somewhere within Australia. More recently they used equipment to sample the abiotic factors in the environment and are currently making complex food chains and webs of the biotic relationships in environments.

Year 7 Science are now building on the scientific skills learnt last term within the context of water including particle movement in matter, the water cycle and separating techniques.

Seniors are busy with their HSC preparation including biology students using microscopes to observe plant diseases.

Science Faculty



Coming up @ PPHS

Social Media

Website:

www.picnicpt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Facebook:

Picnic Point High School Official

Twitter:

@picnicpoinths

WEEK 5	
Monday 17.05	NAPLAN Online P&C Meeting
Tuesday 18.05	NAPLAN Online
Wednesday 19.05	NAPLAN Online Year 11 Camp
Thursday 20.05	NAPLAN Online Year 11 Camp
Friday 21.05	NAPLAN Online Year 11 Camp

WEEK 6	
Monday 24.05	Prefect Election Week
Tuesday 25.05	
Wednesday 26.05	
Thursday 27.05	Scripture Period 1-2 Zone Cross Country Carnival
Friday 28.05	

VET Construction - Mr Burgess & Mr Colbert TAS Faculty

During Term 1 and 2 Year 11 VET Construction students have been working on the first clusters in the Construction course which requires them to work through some information booklets along with practical activities to build their knowledge and skills used within the industry.

The first practical activity involves the construction of an oil stone case which develops students skills with measurements, cutting, chiselling and applying a finish to a product.



Year 11 students then worked through the next cluster activity which again develops more of the skills required within the industry.

This next practical activity involves the construction of a tool box which is initially constructed within certain size constraints and then extended upon and modified to each student's design needs resulting in every tool box being unique once completed.



Year 12 VET Construction students have been working outside on the creation of an outdoor chess game area made from concrete which is being coloured to provide the black and white spaces required. As this is an outdoor activity, the recent weather has not been cooperative; however, this project has been progressing well and is more than half completed at the moment.





Foods of the World Day !

During Week 6 of this term the Year 12 Prefect body is hosting an event to promote the multicultural spirit and sense of harmony in our school by distributing catered food items for free from a range of different cultures such as Greek, Indian, Asian, Australian etc. In order to enjoy these free foods, students will have the opportunity to participate in activities or answer trivia questions on Monday (24 May) and Wednesday (26 May) at lunchtimes in the school hall to receive tickets in exchange for food. (Full ingredient lists will be provided for each food item on the day).

We are very much looking forward to this event !

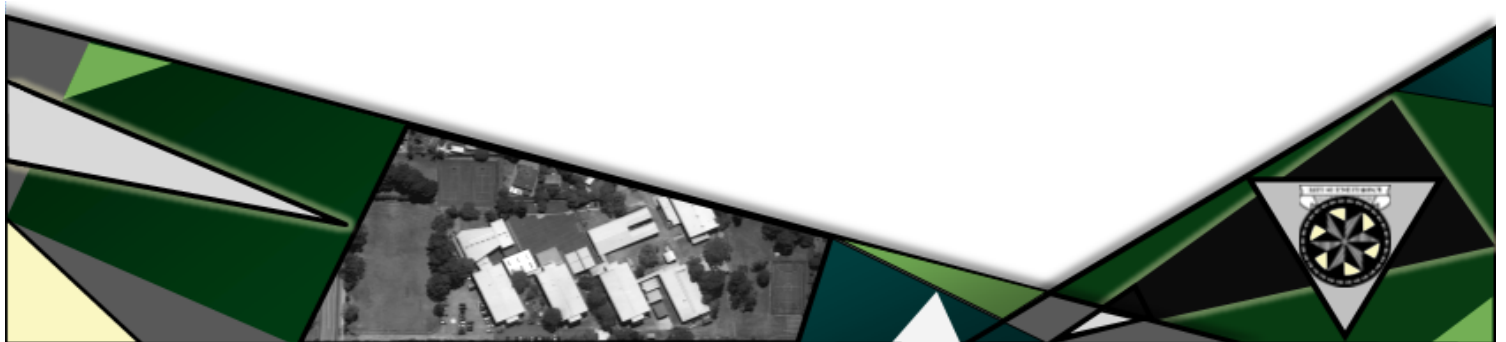
Year 12 Prefects 2021



School Cross Country

Picnic Point High School's annual School Cross Country was held on Tuesday, 11 May. The day saw the weather changing as quick as our runners, throwing a last minute obstacle to our course. Luckily this did not deter our students and we witnessed some very athletic runners who made the event look easy. We have a staggering 75 students attending the Zone Carnival on 27 May. Congratulations to all staff and students who highlighted our school values Respect, Responsibility and Participation.

Mr Silburn
Sports Coordinator



E-Cigarettes

What you need to know as parents.



If you, or a parent you know, is concerned about the risks of electronic cigarette use in teenagers, the following information provides you with the facts.

WHAT ARE E-CIGARETTES?

Also known as cuvies, stigs and vapes an e-cigarette is in simple terms a device that heats a flavoured liquid (popular flavours include: strawberry, watermelon, peach and creme brulee) to an aerosol which can be inhaled. The device can be disposable (often allowing for up to 600 inhalations) or it can be reusable by refilling the device with e-liquid or a pod (containing e-liquid). Recent data shows an increase in use of e-cigarettes over the past three years, with one in five students aged 16–17, trying e-cigarettes.

HOW DO THEY WORK?

E-cigarettes produce an aerosol by using a battery to heat a liquid. This liquid is sometimes called “e-juice,” “e-liquid,” “vape juice,” or “vape liquid.” The liquid used in e-cigarettes is made up of flavours, chemicals and often contains nicotine.

Users inhale e-cigarette aerosol into their lungs. Bystanders can also breathe in this aerosol when the user exhales it into the air.

WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?

E-cigarettes come in a variety of shapes and sizes. They can be as small as a USB and even look like one, they can also look like pens, highlighters or cigarettes.



WHY ARE THEY UNSAFE/RISKY/DANGEROUS?

E-cigarette liquid is made up of different chemicals. These chemicals can include:

- Nicotine (although illegal without a prescription in Australia, many disposable devices that youth are using contain nicotine.)
- Flavorings such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to a serious lung disease
- Volatile organic compounds
- Cancer-causing chemicals
- Heavy metals such as nickel, tin, and lead

Studies have also shown that kids who use e-cigarettes are more likely than their peers to go on to smoke cigarettes.

Effects of nicotine on youth:

- Nicotine can harm the developing teenage brain.¹ The brain keeps developing until about age 25.
- Using nicotine as a teenager can harm the parts of the brain that control attention, learning, mood, and impulse control.¹
- Each time a new memory is created or a new skill is learned, stronger connections – or synapses – are built between brain cells. Young people’s brains build synapses faster than adult brains. Nicotine changes the way these synapses are formed.
- Using nicotine as a teenager may also increase risk for future addiction to other drugs.¹

WHAT CAN I DO AS A PARENT?

The KEY is talking about e-cigarettes with your child, preparing yourself with the facts and role modelling with a smoke and e-cigarette free environment. KEY considerations for talking about e-cigarettes:

K: Know the facts or where to find them from a reputable source

E: Engage on the topic in a relaxed and easy way. Use the cues around you, a note home from the school, a person using a device, a story on the news as the way into the conversation and the way to keep talking about it ongoing.

Y: You know your child, communicate with them in ways that work for you and allow you to provide them with the right information to make healthy decisions.

Important note – if you are concerned that your child may be experiencing nicotine withdrawal please speak to your pediatrician or doctor.

For advice on existing evidence based methods to quit call the Quitline on 13 7848 or find online support here: www.cancerCouncil.com.au/cancer-prevention/smoking/quitting-smoking/

More information on e-cigarettes can be found here:

www.cancerCouncil.com.au/cancer-prevention/smoking/electronic-cigarettes/