THE PENINSULA SCHOOL

FLOURISH – THE LEARNING PURPOSE
Flourish — The Learning Purpose

Stuart Johnston
Principal

Flourish

Verb: grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as the result of a particularly congenial environment.

Synonyms: grow, thrive, prosper, do well, develop, spring up, bloom, blossom, bear fruit, burst forth.
ENRICHING STUDENTS AS THEY LEARN, GROW AND FLOURISH!
I can be myself and keep reaching for my next goal.’ At The Peninsula School, students learn, grow and flourish. This doesn’t surprise us because developing potential is our purpose; the delightful outcome we expect and get, given the conditions we create and the stimulus we provide. It’s our caring Christian culture, our positive learning environments and engaging personalised learning programs that facilitate growth and foster success. Seeing students enriched and empowered to be their best is worth celebrating. We get to do that often across all sub-schools and disciplines at Peninsula! We look forward to celebrating with you as your child is given the opportunity to flourish through every stage of schooling with us.
‘I wonder if there’s a better way?’
Your child’s success story begins with our expert, dedicated teachers. They make it their business to know, validate, nurture and challenge each girl and boy. As a result, students develop the confidence and ability to rise to challenges and excel. Success breeds success, so we find that once on this positive trajectory, students are highly motivated to keep reaching for and achieving their potential. Groups of students sharing these qualities and attitudes create outstanding learning communities in which belonging, collaboration, mutual respect and encouragement further promote well-rounded growth. Peninsula students enjoy life on campus and are happy because they have the right environment in which to develop the best version of themselves.
‘Look! The school we sponsor in India is right there.’
The School’s friendly culture reflects the Christian values and benefits that flow personally and for the community when students exemplify our motto and ‘Hold Fast That Which Is Good.’ Being spiritually anchored fosters mindfulness and gratitude; it motivates service and the desire to make a positive difference locally and globally. While this inspires our students to aid specific causes, their altruism is also evident in consistently demonstrating the School’s core values of stewardship, integrity and personal excellence. As a result they learn to live responsibly and sustainably, act ethically, advocate for others and achieve high expectations.
SPIRITED

‘I can’t believe we just did that!’
The practice of these traditional values in the School and wider community has perpetuated our reputation as ‘The School with Spirit’. It’s quite fitting because it describes our caring ethos as well as the energy and enthusiasm with which we educate our local and international students. This spirit, evident since our establishment in 1961, grows stronger every day. It’s something people talk about because they experience and appreciate it. Clearly, this same spirit inspires our students and gives them the confidence and capacity to soar.
‘This is so much fun!’
We know it takes positive, resilient and optimistic people to flourish in an increasingly complex and challenging world. That’s why, at The Peninsula School, every student is immersed in a Positive Education program from day one, that equips them with the tools to think, learn and live well. Now, and in the future, we want our students to know how to manage hardship and disappointment and to demonstrate persistence. We also want them to benefit right now from all that building self-awareness and strong interpersonal skills affords. Our purposeful wellbeing strategy fosters cooperation and enhances the friendly environment in which everyone is valued and can thrive.
'My teachers help me to be my best and excel.'
Since students excel in different fields, at different times and in different ways our personalised learning programs bring out the best in every child. Learning that caters for individual interests, abilities and readiness ensures students are always appropriately engaged, supported and challenged. We love where curiosity, inquiry and creativity take our students. It can be a journey to anywhere but there is always rigour, deep thinking, collaboration, problem solving, skill development and mastery along the way. The success of this approach is evident not only in the School’s outstanding VCE results and the range of tertiary study and career pathways our alumni take, but also in the fact that they become lifelong learners.
‘When you’re in one of our teams, you’re part of something special.’
Developing well-rounded students means we equally encourage active, healthy physical living. Keen athletes can grow and showcase their skills in a wide range of sports through the Physical Education program, the Associated Grammar Schools of Victoria competition and House sport. Our outstanding facilities and coaching will certainly give your child the edge they’re after. But students don’t have to be brilliant at competitive sport to enjoy its benefits. Building great camaraderie and School spirit is part of the fun too. Varied experiences provided through dance, camp activities and the Outdoor Education program also provide plenty of scope for students to hone skills, explore interests and develop a healthy lifestyle commitment.
‘I don’t know what it’s going to be yet, it could be anything!’
The world of performing and visual arts at The Peninsula School provides yet another range of opportunities for students to build confidence and excel. Whether learning an instrument, singing, acting, filming, sketching or sculpting, students are encouraged to perfect their craft. There’s something for everyone from the classic to the contemporary. It’s incredibly enjoyable, of course, but there’s also challenges to face; theory to master, rehearsals to attend and skills to develop. It’s at our concerts and art exhibitions that we see the extraordinary product of the learning, creative thought, collaboration and hard work that’s been invested. You won’t want to miss these opportunities to celebrate student expression with us!
‘Everyone’s friendly, smiles and wants you to join in.’
In the course of all this positive activity perhaps students aren’t aware of the social skills they’re practising and improving. It’s not lost on us though because we consider learning to make friends and get along with others to be one of the most important lessons of all. Our coeducational commitment and international student mix facilitates this learning because it mirrors the real world and best prepares boys and girls, local and international students for life in that world. You don’t have to be in the company of our students for long to see how happy they are and to discover their appreciation of diversity.
‘It’s easy to stay focused on your study with all you need right here.’
Our outstanding technology-rich and well-resourced Kindergarten to Year 12 facilities enhance all aspects of your child’s education. They are situated on 35 hectares of parkland, just 50 minutes from Melbourne on the Mornington Peninsula. The campus accommodates our four spacious, discrete sub-schools, extensive sporting facilities, the Chapel, the Science Centre, the Performing Arts Centre, administration buildings and Boarding Houses. The Board’s commitment to upgrading learning spaces to support best teaching and learning practice is a testament to their wise stewardship. The Zammit Senior Centre, a contemporary, pre-tertiary style facility that has enabled us to redefine senior schooling, is an outstanding example of this. A visit to the site is sure to impress.
‘When lots of thinking goes into the mix a great idea can come out.’
Successful infrastructure development and the implementation of our continual school improvement plan has been due, in part, to effective collaboration with community members. We believe that your partnership with us in the education of your child is critical. An integral part of this is a clear and ongoing information exchange. This occurs both formally and informally. While we conduct bi-annual learning dialogues involving students, teachers and parents, your contact and input is always welcome. You can make an appointment to see us, give us a call, stay informed through our website and social media, and join the Peninsula School Parents’ Association (PSPA). Our vibrant community will be the richer for your involvement and support.
‘You get to develop and pursue your own aspirations, whatever they might be.’
The Peninsula School’s culture, learning approach, wellbeing strategy and broad co-curricular program are at the heart of what enables us to help each student develop the knowledge, skills and attributes to achieve his or her aspirations. Whether they are in the physics lab, a language lesson, in a Chapel service, at a leadership meeting, rehearsing or training, on camp or touring overseas, what we’re doing is facilitating their well-rounded education and providing the means to grow their potential. Achieving this equips our graduates with the life skills to enjoy personal and professional lives that are both meaningful and fulfilling. It’s simply what happens when they keep practising what it takes to flourish!
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