



## SHARING EXPERIENCES

**One of the opportunities of Blended Learning is the opportunity to engage with our College community.**

Last week Year 10 PASS students had the opportunity of hearing from Roman Nikolic, the father of Aleksandra (Current Year 10 student).

Roman is an ex-professional footballer of Red Star Belgrade. Red Star is Serbia's and South-Eastern Europe's most successful Football Club, as well as being supported by 48% of the Serbian population.

Our students greatly appreciated hearing from Roman about his experiences as an athlete and the issues he faced throughout his career and these included:

- Leaving family in Australia at age 14 after being signed on a \$250,000 contract at a time in Australia when professional sporting contracts didn't exist.
- What it was like for him to play regularly in front of 108,000 people
- The life of a professional footballer being regularly followed by the public and the media.
- Being a part of the "Eternal Derby" one sports fiercest rivalries between Red Star Belgrade and Partizan Belgrade.
- Playing with and against the world's best players and teams such as AC Milan, Bayern Munich, Marseille.
- Being a part of the squad that won the 1991 European Cup
- The range of issues he faced throughout his career such as the break out of the War

Roman also provided some great advice to all students about dedication, work ethic, and how to cope with different types of adversity and setbacks in life.

A big thank you to Roman from all Year 10 Students and the PDHPE team for being so generous with his time and sharing his personal experiences. Also a special mention for Roman's daughter Aleksandra (Year 10) in arranging this interview and supporting the learning of her fellow peers.

**Mr Kent Weir**

PDHPE Coordinator

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