

2023

Newsletter

Term 2



Principal's Report

Following the exceptional Campus Open Nights at the end of term one, we have returned to what was another incredibly busy start to term two. While students had an extended long weekend at the end of the school holidays, with ANZAC Day coinciding with the first week back, all staff were back on deck on the Monday for some very important professional learning, planning and curriculum development activities.

ANZAC Day saw both campuses represented at various commemorative services, and the following day, upon the students' return to school, campus assemblies were held at each campus to properly acknowledge and recognise the significance of the occasion.

Since then students have also had an opportunity to attend a number of curricular and co-curricular events, including the Music Camp, held at Portsea.

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences were held last month as a follow up to the Interim Reports and I'm happy to note that parent bookings for these interviews was the strongest we've had in several years, with most staff having an almost full day of conferences. I trust that the conversations held will stand all students in good stead as they focus their efforts on the rest of this school year.

Semester 1 is concluding, with exams for Years 10 and 11 students, the General Achievement Test for Year 12 VCE & VCAL students alike, and final assessments across most subjects. Reports will be available this week.

Year 8s have recently returned from a fantastic, but chilly 4 day camp at Camp Campaspe which is situated near Kyneton.

Year 9s are participating in a 4 day City Experience excursion, which sees them travel by train to the city each day to explore places like The Shrine of Remembrance, MCG Museum and ACMI to name a few.

Year 10s are also getting a taste of life after school with a week's Work Experience.

Open Nights

Both campuses held open nights at the end of Term 1. They followed the format of main presentations, and self-guided tours. Key learning (subject) areas, college-wide programs (such as wellbeing), and facilities were set up throughout the respective campuses. Many students joined the event to support these various activities, and our College Captains opened the presentations.



Our saxophone ensemble played at both nights.



Superhero Day

A Superhero Day was held on April 3, to raise awareness for stamping out bullying



ANZAC Day

Yarra Hills staff and students joined ANZAC Day dawn services across Mt Evelyn, Mooroolbark, Croydon and Lilydale. We had a number of students involved in the ceremony readings or laying of wreaths that included school captains Morry Tlanglian and Finn O'Rourke and Wellbeing Captain Maddy Parr. Both Mooroolbark and Mt Evelyn Campuses held assemblies to acknowledge Australian and New Zealand victims of war and for the recognition of the role of armed forces.



Charlie Knight sings our National Anthem at the Mooroolbark campus service, accompanied by the school band.



Madison Parr, ME Wellbeing Captain, presented a wreath at the Mt Evelyn dawn service on behalf of the College.



Finn O'Rourke, College Captain, presented a wreath at the Mooroolbark midday service on behalf of the college.



Music Camp

Our Music Camp ran at the beginning of May – 3 days of music tutoring and rehearsing for the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Band students at the Portsea Camp. Forty-five students attended and it was, as ever, a successful, rewarding and well-organised experience for all involved.



Experience the Formula 1

Our last day of Term 1 was a special treat for our Koorie students and our Compass Reward Point winning students. 'Deadly Science', a minor sponsor of McLaren allowed two students in Zach Toffoletti and Tyler Sheridan-Waters to formally open the Formula One with Michael Long's 'Long Walk', followed by a meet-and-greet session with the McLaren drivers! Other Yarra Hills students were allowed into Pit Lane for a session with the V8 drivers and to review their cars. An incredible experience for all involved.



Mt Evelyn 'Meeting Place/ Yarning Circle'

We are extremely proud to have welcomed indigenous artist Simone Thomson to the Mt Evelyn grounds to complete artworks for our amphitheater. Representing inclusion through a 'meeting place', students and staff can now be involved in acknowledgement of country ceremonies, and outdoor class sessions





Yarra Hills Vaping Education Sessions

Dana, our school nurse, has been giving great sessions to all of our students about the dangers of vaping/smoking. She discussed all things regarding myths, laws, chemicals inhaled, and the organs affected. Very insightful!!!!

World Team Cup

Yarra Hills Year 11 student, Yassin Hill, has just returned from competing for Australia in the World Team Cup for wheelchair-based tennis players. The event was held in Portugal. The Australian team played off for a place in the final, losing to the eventual winners, the Netherlands, and placed fourth overall.



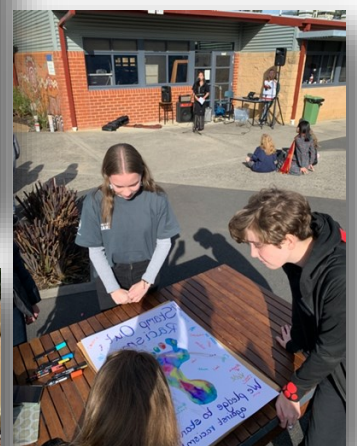
School Review

We have completed our School Review. As well as engaging council members, 'challenge partners' and our School Education Improvement Leader (SEIL), it has been quite an operational feat on the ground to meet the needs of the review. We have had to ensure that panel members have time with student focus groups, staff focus groups, individual staff, and a parent meeting. We're proud that, all told, over 50 students were involved in focus groups and provided valuable feedback and insights to the panel.



Multicultural Day

This year's Multicultural Day was eagerly anticipated after the success of last year's inaugural day. It lived up to the hype and, again, the drumming workshop, performances and pledges were central. The lunch break was extended to accommodate activities, and canteens at each campuses changed their menu offerings to include foods from other countries and cultures.





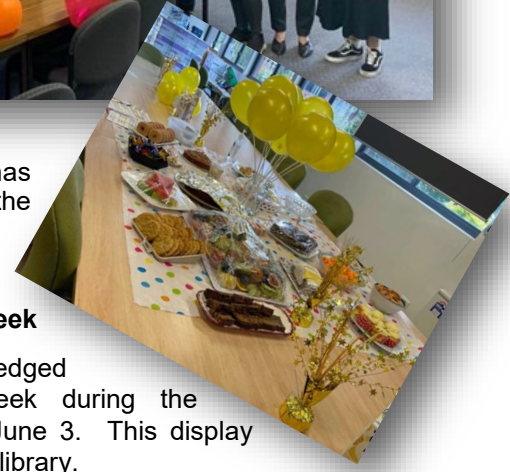
IDAHOBIT

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia was acknowledged by staff on both campuses on May 17



Biggest Morning Tea

Biggest Morning Tea is a Cancer Council community initiative that Yarra Hills has been participating in for years. It raises funds for cancer research and supporting the impacts of cancer.



Reconciliation Week

Teachers acknowledged Reconciliation Week during the week of May 27-June 3. This display was located in the library.

VCAL/VM Expo

On May 30 and 31, on our respective campuses, our Year 11 and 12 Vocational Major and VCAL students presented an Expo to all Year 7-10 students. The senior students had been preparing for this from the outset of their Semester 1 studies. Their aim was to inform, promote and showcase to younger students the career paths in their chosen industry, which included infographics, clothing, tools and information. The expo project proved to be a stroke of genius from our Careers Coordinator, Nikky Waterson – the senior students engaged with it really well, and did a great job, with junior students having a valuable experience



Year 8 Camp

Wow, what an awesome week! Chilly but full of fun and exciting activities. The year 8 camp this year was to Campaspe Downs, about 15 minutes from Kyneton. We participated in many activities like the huge flying fox over the lake, canoeing, raft building, orienteering, team building challenges, archery, abseiling and the giant swing. The early mornings were interesting, as students were snug in their beds, but to wake up to the Wiggles "Wake up Jeff" was all part of the excitement. Breaky on all three days was delicious, and prepared the students for a full day of adventure. With just a two hour break in the middle of the day, allowing an hour for lunch and an hour of relaxing time, we were on the go until dinner. Meals were plentiful and fruit was abundant. The cabins situated on the lake were comfortable with individual heating, and trust me, kids slept well after hours of physical activities. (teachers too!!). The night time activities were just as exciting, with a "round the world" scavenger hunt, a water balloon saviour challenge, and the highlight for me was the bonfire on the third night with lots of marshmallows and treats to enjoy. We were lucky with the rain, although it was cold, we didn't get too wet. All students were polite and respectful, and the sunshine came out the last day for us to enjoy. All in all, a great camp creating lots of memories for students and teachers alike.

Sandra Lombardi
ME Yr 7 Co-ordinator



Years 10 and 11 Exams

In the week June 5-9, Year 10 students had their introduction to formal exam sitting with semester exams in English, maths, science and humanities. Year 11 VCE academic students sat exams in requisite subjects.

The GAT

The GAT is the General Achievement Test. Students undertaking any Year 12 courses are required to sit this test. For VCAL students, it is a single sitting, and for VCE academic students, there are two sittings. Section A assesses literacy and numeracy skills; and Section B assesses skills in English, mathematics, science, technology, the arts and humanities, with a focus on critical and creative thinking skills. The GAT's purpose is, broadly, quality assurance of VCE assessments. We undertook the GAT on Thursday, June 15. Our wellbeing team started things off for students with eggs and bacon sandwiches, and the Year 12 teaching team chimed in with a sausage sizzle between sittings.

Year 10 Social

The tradition continues, with the Year 10 Social being held at Chateau Wyuna in the evening of Friday, June 9. All went well, and there was good support for this from the Year 10 students and families.



David Hodgett Visit

State MP for Croydon, David Hodgett, visited our Mooroolbark Campus year 7 LEAP class to talk about persuasive language, strategies and techniques.

VCE Drama

Last Friday the VCE Drama students presented their captivating ensemble performances for assessment, to an audience of senior students. The three performances were inspired by the indigenous children's Lullaby 'Titji'. The themes of sleep, dreaming, circle of life, and metamorphosis were just a few among those which were explored.



Drivers Education

Mooroolbark Campus Year 10 Drivers Ed students enjoyed a day out at METEC, where they learnt the basics of car control as part of their Drivers' Education elective.

Collaborative Indigenous Program

Students involved in our Collaborative Indigenous Program have completed a program of five days at Yarra Ranges Tech School. Students are led through a creative process, and artistic and technology-based methods, to express their totem, dreaming or identity. This culminates with the annual Koorie Student Program Showcase at the tech school. Special guest Aunty Joy Murphy-Wandin was blown away by the students' dedication to tell their own story!



Facilities and Maintenance

Improvements at the Mt Evelyn campus: Synthetic grass has been added to the amphitheatre area as part of the indigenous-focused rejuvenation project.

Shade sails: The shade sails at the Mooroolbark campus are now complete!



Mt Evelyn decals: David Watt from Mt Evelyn's Bendigo Bank visited us as we installed a plaque to acknowledge their significant funding contribution.

KEY DATES

July			
Monday	10	Curriculum Day—Pupil Free	ME & MB
Tuesday	11	Term 3 classes commence	ME & MB
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	12	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	13	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Friday	14	Career Expo	ME & MB
Tuesday	18	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	19	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	20	Eastern Zone Snr Boys Soccer	ME & MB
Tuesday	25	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	26	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	27	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Friday	28	Yr 9 & 10 Eastern Zone Badminton	ME
August			
Tuesday	1	Rewards Points Excursion—Laser Tag	ME & MB
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	2	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	3	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Tuesday	8	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	9	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	10	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Tuesday	15	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	16	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	17	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Tuesday	22	Wear it Purple Day	ME & MB
Thurs—Fri	24-25	Music Marathon	ME & MB
Tuesday	29	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	30	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	31	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
September			
Monday	4	College Concert—Karralyka	
Tuesday	5	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	6	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	7	Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Tuesday	12	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm—4.30pm	ME & MB
Wednesday	13	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Thursday	14	RUOK? Day	ME & MB
		Intermediate Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm-4.30pm	ME & MB
Friday	15	Last Day Term 2—2.30 dismissal	ME & MB

**FREE
EVENT**

Please join us for a special screening of

2040



From Director Damon Gameau (That Sugar Film) comes a hybrid feature documentary that looks to the future, but is vitally important NOW!

Thursday 6 July at 7pm
Mt Evelyn Community House and Reading Room
50 Wray Crescent, Mt Evelyn
To book: www.mtevelynch.com.au
or call 03 9736 1177

www.whatsyour2040.com

#JointheRegeneration #WhatsYour2040 /2040Film @2040film @2040Film



HANGOUT MONDAY & THURSDAY

3PM - 5PM

OPEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12-25

**YARRA RANGES COMMUNITY YOUTH SPACE
(FORMER LILYDALE YOUTH HUB)
5/9 CLARKE ST, LILYDALE**

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