

Respect
Endeavour
Achievement
Pride

YARRA HILLS SECONDARY COLLEGE

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2024

Newsletter

Term 3



Principal's Report



Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff,

Term Three has been another busy term for students and staff of Yarra Hills. A significant focus of the term has been to develop and maintain positive and successful relationships in the classroom to support student learning outcomes. Early in this term our staff worked closely with our Real Schools Expert Facilitator Brenda Quayle, refining our Restorative Practices and the approaches that support these within and outside of classrooms. This also involved direct in-class support, with Brenda leading, assisting or viewing classes at both campuses, to identify best practice approaches and strategies.

Complementing this work is the significant efforts to implement School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) across the college. The success of SWPBS in school settings is measured through student and staff surveys that accurately assess 'fidelity' (how consistently staff apply the SWPBS approaches). This is much more difficult in a secondary setting, with multiple teachers of each student, but I'm proud to report that Yarra Hills was one of only a small number of secondary schools across the state to be awarded an SWPBS 'Blue Award', presented at regional level.

The final piece to this puzzle is 'The Resilience Project', and the work that is being done in Home Groups and Mentor periods, to develop personal skills and attributes to support lifelong learning and health and wellbeing.

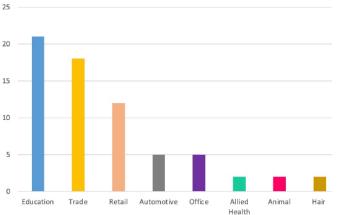
Each of these key initiatives, held together and supported by the curricular and co-curricular opportunities provided during the term, enable us to help our young adults flourish and excel.

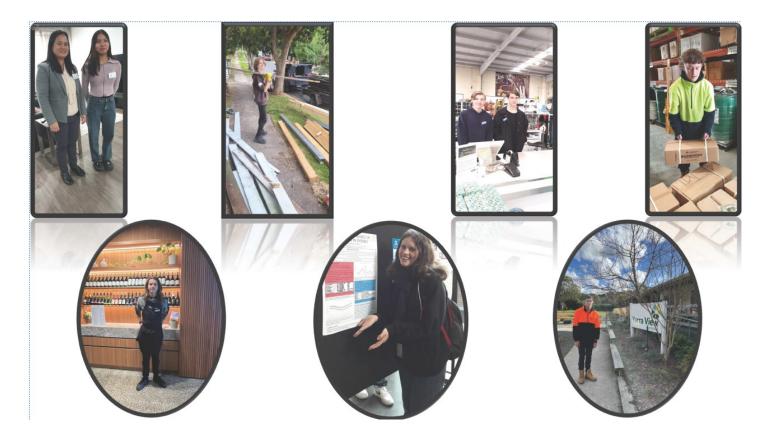
In the following reports you will see the many events and accomplishments for this term.

Year 10 Work Experience—June 24-28

In this week, Year 10 students do not attend school, instead using this time for a placement in a workplace. Year 10 students/ families find their own work experience placements, and staff ¹⁵ visit them on-site during the week to check in.

The graph highlights the different industries that our students found placements in.







Senior Information Night July 23

Our Senior Information Night was held on a Tuesday evening. Families attend a presentation on the senior programs before exploring the Expo, set up in the senior building. As well as staff running booths for subject and program information, there were numerous external vendors supporting the night, including the defence forces, universities, Headstart and training providers. The event was well-attended and families found it useful and informative.

Industries

Farm School for Mooroolbark Campus

Ten students from the Mooroolbark Campus are participating in Farm School's Certificate 1 course in Conservation and Ecosystem Management, following Mt Evelyn students successfully completing the course last Semester.







Alumni Project Launch - August 5

The Alumni Project launch was attended by federal, state and local politicians, principals from local primary schools, our staff, students and community members and school councilors!

On our inaugural Yarra Hills Day we had Alumni Ilsa Evans (author) and Beck Mitchell (ultra-athlete, youth worker, motivational speaker) joined us for an assembly, and for Q&A panels.

All Mt Evelyn students come to the Mooroolbark campus for a whole-college assembly. The Arts Master - Call to Fame talent showcase event was held during an extended recess and a sausage sizzle was provided for all students.

It was a successful event and the panels will now be mounted at Mooroolbark campus.

RUOK? Day

RUOK? Day was acknowledged on September 11 at our College. Students and staff were asked to wear a 'touch of yellow'. In homegroups, a presentation prompted student discussion on the purpose of RUOK? Day – to meaningfully connect with the people around them and start a conversation with those in their world who may be struggling – and about 4 steps they can take to help:

- 1. Ask R U OK?
- 2. Listen
- 3. Encourage action
- 4. Check in

There was also a lunchtime concert at our Mooroolbark Campus to support the

initiative. A big thank you to our wellbeing team for leading our involvement with RUOK? Day!





Organised by our Student Representative Council, a Sporting Colours Day was held on September 16. It was a fun-filled free dress day with a sporty flair! Students and staff were invited to come dressed in their favourite team gear or athletic wear. As well students enjoyed a sausage sizzle and a 'guess the lolly jar' fundraising activity. All monies raised went towards purchasing sports equipment, ensuring that our students have the best gear for recess and lunchtime fun.

College Concert

Our annual College Concert was held on September 9 at the Karralyka theatre. Our concerts are always of a very

high standard, and this one was





Zealand concert tour. The spectacular, playing selections from Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, and Pirates of the Caribbean. The saxophone ensemble

thrilled with a Bond theme medley, and the vocal group delighted with their rendition of 'Close to You'. Vocal soloists Anneliese, and Liam, impressed with Roberta Flack's 'Killing Me Softly With His Song' and 'Somewhere' from West Side Story respectively. A large and appreciative crowd, including families and friends, staff, students and local dignitaries, showed their appreciation for the musicians, the emcees and Director of Music, Richard O'Toole with many rounds of applause.



particularly so, coming shortly after the 30-hour Music Marathon and just prior to the New Zealand concert tour. The senior, intermediate and junior bands were truly



Yarra Hills Car Show

On Sunday, September 8, our PFA hosted our inaugural Yarra Hills Car Show at our Mooroolbark Campus. The weather was kind and it was an unprecedented success! Hundreds of visitors saw over 200 cars, played slot cars, and enjoyed coffee, ice cream and lunch from food trucks and the PFA's sausage sizzle. Visitors were impressed by the range and quality of cars on display. Display cars vied for prizes, including the Principal's Choice, Student Choice, and Best Alumni Car. A huge thank you to our committed parents, staff and students who took this idea and created an amazing event!



We're creating a Yarra Hills school motto!

Our current college is the culmination of multiple school mergers over the years, and we've had as many as 5 campuses! This has included: Pembroke High School, Pembroke Secondary School, Mooroolbark Technical School, Mooroolbark Secondary College, Mt Evelyn Technical School, and Mt Evelyn Secondary College. We feel it is time to adopt a motto that will serve our students now and in the future, and we are inviting ideas for this from our community.

In this survey, please note your motto suggestion, and why you think it would suit. Go to the survey <u>here</u>: <u>https://</u> <u>www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZPNT2Z</u> or see the school motto post on Compass for this link. Please contact Mooroolbark Campus Principal, Cam Woods (<u>woods.cameron@yarrahills.vic.edu.au</u>) with queries.

Year 12 Disney Dress Up Day

As they head towards the end of their high school studies, and with practice exams just around the corner, our Year 12s had some fun on their Disney Dress Up Day!



Year 7 English

The Yarra Hills Secondary College branch of the **Heneberry Institute for Reanimative Necrobiology** is a world leader the study of various sub-types of *homo zombificus*. With its bright new recruits in 7L, breakthroughs are being made in understanding the cause and behaviour of zombie infections, and policies are being developed to safeguard Australia's population from a catastrophic outbreak.

Each working in their self-chosen departments within the fictional organisation, students have been encouraged to think creatively and critically about potentially hazardous scientific settings, write about safety protocols to prevent accidents, and create short works of fiction following their own strengths and interests.



That isn't to say there haven't been a few 'accidents'.

Employee of day: Wednesday - Amy mistook a vial of mutagen for Gatorade and developed an interesting complexion; still, she's never looked happier!





Employee of the day: Tuesday -Chase locked a containment cell to prevent zombie subjects from escaping, only to find himself still inside.

Employee of the day: Thursday -Ashton had an unfortunate incident with some test equipment designed for zombie neutralization.



But it's not all fun and games. Students have been preparing short film scripts and storyboards in preparation for an excursion to Yarra Ranges Tech School. There, the class will have the opportunity to produce their films using the Tech School's greenscreen, production, and post-production facilities, as well as benefit from the specialist expertise of staff.

New Unform Range



We are excited to announce that, in conjunction with our **incoming uniform supplier PSW**, we have a new range that will be available to purchase from term three. Thank you for your patience and input as we have extensively reviewed the College uniform options and materials over the past 12 months. We really looking forward to this change as there are additional items, including warmer layers or versions, as well as improved materials, styles, colours and cuts.

PSW Location/Contact details:

Unit 8A – 51 Lusher Rd, Croydon (03) 9768 0342 Retail hours: 9am – 4pm Tuesday to Saturday (Mondays from Nov – Feb)

Transition/Changeover timeline (2024/2025 - 2026)

We understand that all students have current uniform, which is likely to still be serviceable in the near future, so we will allow a transition timeline to enable a smooth changeover from old to new uniform. Current (old) uniform have now been removed from sale.

With the expectation that families will <u>begin purchasing the new uniform</u> as students grow out of, or wear out the old uniform, **both old and new versions will be acceptable as correct uniform for the remainder of this year (2024)** and also for the entirety of next year (2025).

From the start of 2026 it will be expected that existing students will have updated to the new uniform items, and any new students will have purchased only the correct (new) uniform.

PE/Sport Uniform: Please note that the PE/Sport uniform is only to be worn during PE or Sport activities and is not acceptable uniform for other times/classes. Students should change into correct school uniform to return to regular classes.

We look forward to starting to see the students in some of this new range!

Join Us For A Laugh - Next Month



Tickets Online Through - TRYBOOKING

KEY DATES			
October			
Monday	7	First day Term 4	ME & MB
Tuesday	8	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Wednesday	9	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Monday	14	Yr 12 Dress Up Like A Childhood Photo Day	ME & MB
Tuesday	15	Yr 12 Future Careers Dress Up Day	ME & MB
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
		BRAVO Friends of Music Meeting 6pm	
Wednesday	16	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Fri—Sat	18-19	Yarra Hills Community Art Show	ME & MB
Monday	21	Yr 12 Altered Uniform Day	ME & MB
Tuesday	22	Music in the Round 7.00pm	ME & MB
Tucsuay		Meter Driving Sessions	ME & MB
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Wednesday	23	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Monday	28	Yr 7 Boys Volleyball Eastern Zone	ME & MB
Tuesday	29	METEC Driving Sessions	ME & MB
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Wednesday	30	VCAA Written Exams Commence	ME & MB
		Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
November			
Monday	4	Professional Practice Day — PUPIL FREE	ME & MB
Tuesday	5	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	ME & MB
Wednesday	6	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Tuesday	12	Grade 6 Literacy & Numeracy Testing A-L	MB
	12	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Wednesday	13	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Thursday	14	Grade 6 Literacy & Numeracy Testing M-Z	ME & MB
Mon - Thurs	18 - 21	Year 10 Exams	ME & MB
Tuesday		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	
	19	· ·	ME & MB
	00	BRAVO Friends of Music Meeting 6pm	
Wednesday	20	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Friday Mon - Fri	22	Corrections Day - PUPIL FREE	ME & MB
	OF Nev	Valedictory Dinner 7pm	ME & MB
2 weeks	25 Nov - 6 Dec	Essentials Program	ME & MB
Tuesday	26	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Wednesday	27	Grade 6 Transition Evening 6pm at MB	ME & MB
		Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
December			
Mon - Fri	2 - 6	Essentials Program	ME & MB
Tuesday	3	Twilight Carols and Family Picnic 7pm	ME & MB
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	ME & MB
Thursday	5	Grade 6 Small Schools Day	ME & MB
Mon - Fri	9 - 13	Promotions Week	ME & MB
Tuesday	10	Grade 6 Orientation Day	ME & MB
,		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB	
Wednesday	11	College Awards Night	ME & MB
Thursday	12	Grade 6 Ready to Learn	ME & MB
Mon - Wed	16 - 18	Summer Program	ME & MB
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