

COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Term 2 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff,

As Term 3 draws to a close, there is much to celebrate at Yarra Hills, particularly in the results we have recently received regarding both student learning and students' experience of our school.

NAPLAN results

We are very proud of our 2026 NAPLAN results.

Our students demonstrated very strong learning growth from Year 7 to Year 9 in Reading, Numeracy and Writing, with growth significantly above that seen in neighbouring and similar schools.

Particularly rewarding has been the substantial increase in the number of our students who have exceeded expected learning growth over those two years. This is an important measure for us. While achievement at a single point in time matters, the progress students make while they are at Yarra Hills tells us a great deal about the impact of teaching and learning across the College.

These results reflect the effort of our students, the skill and commitment of our teachers and support staff, and the encouragement and support students receive from their families. Well done to everyone involved.

Attitudes to School Survey

Earlier this year I wrote about the positive feedback we received through the annual Attitudes to School Survey. We now have the opportunity to look more closely at those results, and there is again much to be pleased about.

Last year's positive results have not only been consolidated, but improved upon. Our students' responses are above the Victorian state level across most areas of the survey, and at least in line with the State in every area.



Most importantly, the results tell us that our students feel very positive about their school, their teachers and their learning.

More than **90% of our students** report that their teachers:

- expect them to do their best;
- provide help and respond to their efforts; and
- believe in their ability to succeed.

There are also several areas in which our students are **at least 10 percentage points more positive than students in neighbouring schools and across the State**. These include students reporting that:

- teachers adjust their teaching to help different students learn successfully;
- classrooms provide positive environments for learning;
- teachers make learning interesting, relevant and connected to real-life examples and experiences;
- diversity is respected and valued at our school; and
- Students feel well supported as they prepare for their senior secondary pathway.

These results are important because they reflect the day-to-day experience of our students. They also reinforce our commitment to continuing to improve teaching and learning, relationships and wellbeing across Yarra Hills.

Thank you to our families

I would also like to thank our families for their patience, understanding and support during the industrial action that occurred this term.

We recognise that changes to normal school arrangements can create inconvenience for students and families, and we appreciate the way our community worked with us throughout this period.

Yarra Hills Day

One of my personal highlights of the term was **Yarra Hills Day**.

Now in its third year, it was once again a fantastic celebration of our College and community. It was wonderful to see students and staff across the school involved, and to see the energy, enthusiasm and sense of belonging that the day generates.

Events such as Yarra Hills Day are about much more than the activities themselves. They give students an opportunity to connect with one another and their teachers in different ways, strengthen relationships across the College and contribute to the strong sense of community that we want every student to experience.

I loved being part of the day and am already looking forward to the next one.

As we finish another busy term, I want to thank our students for their efforts, our staff for their commitment, and our families for their continued partnership and support.

I hope everyone enjoys a safe and refreshing term break, and I look forward to seeing our students return for the final term of 2026.

Cam Woods
Acting College Principal

Year 7 Basketball

Our Year 7 boys and girls basketball teams hit the court for Interschool Sport! Both teams put in a fantastic effort, playing some close games and showing plenty of teamwork, skill and determination throughout the day. While they didn't quite make the finals, they should be proud of the way they competed and supported each other. Well done, Year 7s!



Muffin Mining

Our Year 7 Science students went mining for muffins! Students used their muffins to explore different mining methods and investigate the challenges of balancing resource extraction with sustainability. A delicious way to bring the science to life!



Year 8 Geography

Our Year 9 Geography students headed out to the school veggie patch to complete fieldwork as part of their Food Security assessment task. Students created fieldwork sketches, labelled photographs and collected observations to investigate how food can be produced locally and contribute to food security.



Year 8 Soccer

Congratulations to our Year 8 mixed soccer team on an outstanding and successful day of competition.

The team represented the school with pride, displaying excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. Every player contributed to the team's success, with the boys and girls working extremely well together.

The girls deserve special recognition for the way they competed against some particularly tough opponents. They showed tremendous courage, skill and resilience and never took a backward step.

The team was triumphant, completing the entire competition undefeated and earning a place at the Eastern Zone competition.



Well done to everyone on this fantastic achievement. We wish the team the very best at Eastern Zone!

Year 8 Yarra Ranges Tech Visit

On Thursday and Friday of Week 8, the Year 8 students across both campuses attended the Yarra Ranges Tech School to participate in a program exploring renewable futures. Students rotated through three sessions on the day. They learnt how to control smart lights using motion sensors, allowing them to reduce energy usage by automatically turning lights on and off when people entered and left a room. Students worked in groups to design and run a digital future city, planning assets like housing, schools, farms, and factories, as well as upgrades like solar panels, bus stations, and water tanks. Finally, they used infra-red cameras to look at how different materials hold heat and then used this to design and test different house materials for heat retention. It was a great couple of days for all students, with lots of opportunities for hands-on learning and application, which they could then take back to school to use in their current science assessments – designing their own energy efficient houses!

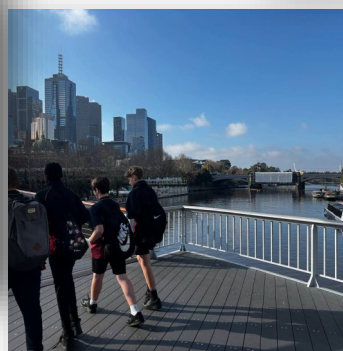
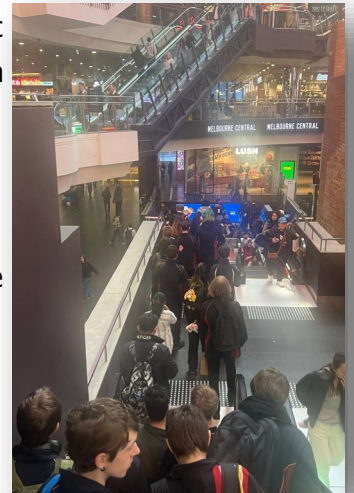


Year 9 City Experience

Year 9 students participated in the City Experience program at the end of Term 2. The program ran for five days, offering students a chance to develop independence, confidence and new skills while exploring the city of Melbourne.

During the program, students travelled on public transport, visited iconic Melbourne landmarks, and participated in structured self-exploration tasks. Some highlights included:

- Visiting the Eureka Skydeck for panoramic views of the city
- Exploring Melbourne Museum and the Queen Victoria Markets
- Taking a tour of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), including the club rooms and locker rooms
- Observing Australia's cinema history at ACMI
- Learning about youth homelessness in Melbourne at CYC Melbourne



Year 9 Wood

Our Year 9 Product Design: Wood class had their first lesson at the start of term 3, and after an introduction to the subject and discussion of the importance of workshop safety, were able to jump straight into their first project. This semester, they've got something

a bit different for their first project – they're building wooden crates for use in the Mount Evelyn Primary School production: Pirates of the Curry Bean!



We started with an analysis and discussion of what Mrs Setford, the production director, needs, the deadline, and what our priorities are when building. Students identified that our major priority is the safety of the primary school students – making sure our crates are sturdy, smooth (no splinters!), and don't have any nails or other hardware sticking out.



Year 10 Work Experience

At the end of last term, our Year 10 students stepped into the world of work through their Work Experience placements. From building sites and childcare centres to dance studios, factories, retail stores, interior design offices and so much more, students gained valuable real-world experience and insight into a wide range of careers.

A huge thank you to all the businesses and organisations that welcomed our students and supported them throughout the week. Your generosity helped make this a rewarding and memorable experience for everyone involved.



Year 11 Formal

Our Year 11 students dressed to impress for their Formal on Friday 14 August at Château Wyuna! From the incredible outfits to plenty of dancing, laughter and good times, it was a fantastic night and a great opportunity for students to celebrate together and make some memories.

A big thank you to our Student Committee for helping make the night happen, and to the staff who worked behind the scenes to organise such a fantastic event!



Year 12 Food Studies

Our Year 12 Food Studies students have been getting hands-on in the kitchen while exploring some big ideas about the future of food.

Students took part in a cake bake-off as part of their study of Food Futures, ethics and sustainability, and later put their taste buds to the test in a blind baked bean tasting practical for their Navigating Food Information outcome.

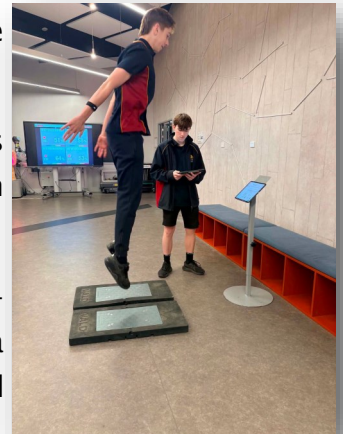


VCE Sports Science

Our VCE PE students visited Yarra Ranges Tech for a Sports Science program, gaining valuable hands-on experience using sports technology.

Students learnt how to set up and use sports technology, conduct fitness testing, collect data and analyse their results in relation to their own personal fitness.

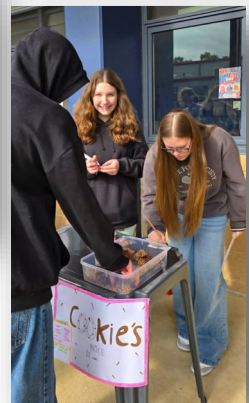
Each student had the opportunity to take on three different roles throughout the activities – participant, coach and data collector – giving them a practical insight into how sports science can be applied in real-world settings.



Yarra Hills Day

What a fantastic Yarra Hills Day!

From the whole-school assembly and student performances to competitions, stalls, activities, food and plenty of school spirit, it was a day that truly celebrated everything that makes our Yarra Hills community so special. A great reminder that together, we are Yarra Hills!



Music Marathon

What happens when you bring together students from Year 7-12, a whole lot of instruments, very little sleep and 30 hours of music? You get an unforgettable Music Marathon!

Braving the cold, our students spent an incredible 30 hours playing instruments, rehearsing, performing, playing games, chatting, laughing and making memories together.

There were drums, saxophones, guitars, flutes and plenty of other instruments filling the school; so much noise that somehow even the most exhausted students managed to fall asleep during rehearsals!

A huge thank you goes to our brave and incredibly supportive parents, who sacrificed sleep and time to help make the event possible, and to our dedicated teachers who supported students throughout the marathon.

And, of course, a special mention to Richard, who kept a watchful eye over the marathon and helped ensured students were all fed, safe and who kept everything rolling.

From energetic performances to exhausted students curled up asleep, the Music Marathon was about so much more than music. It was about connection, creativity, teamwork, laughter and creating memories that our students will remember for years to come.

30 hours. Countless songs. Very little sleep. Plenty of laughs. One amazing Yarra Hills Music Marathon.

Well done to every student who took part, what an incredible achievement!



Our inaugural Book Week Activity Extravaganza went off with a bang! We had competitions matching up staff to their favourite book, scavenger hunts around the school finding Spot the dog, picking if it was Swift or Shakespeare poetry and racing at recess to guess the book from the song. Students were entertained on the Tuesday by a surprise staff dress up. They saw the Lorax skipping around the school with Mary Poppins floating through the yard and Harry Potter zipping around on a Firebolt. A big thank you to all those who participated in each and every activity; there was a buzz all week about books.

We were also lucky to host author Troy Hunter for a Crime Writing workshop with selected students across both campuses 7–9. They walked away with a planned story ready to go. We welcomed the Grade 5 students from Mooroolbark East and Kilsyth South to also learn tips from Troy on how to writing a great crime story.



YHSC Car Show

The 2026 Yarra Hills Car Show was held on Sunday, September 13th. It was a fantastic day, with over 220 cars on display. From classic Australian Holdens and Fords, to '90s Japanese heroes like the Mazda RX7 to modern supercars, the show had something for everybody. The show was well supported by donations from Castrol, Super Cheap Auto, Shannons Insurance, ARB, the Lions Club, Mooroolbark/Croydon Community Bank and Meguiar's, providing prizes for the winning cars in show as well as raffle prizes. Thank you to all who volunteered and helped making it such a success, and we hope to see you in 2027!



Yarra Hills
SECONDARY COLLEGE



REIMAGINED *Arts Night*

📅 Wednesday 7th October

🕒 5:30pm – 7:30pm

★ Welcome & awards 6:00pm

Mooroolbark Campus

📍 Performing Arts Centre
16 Reay Road, Mooroolbark
VIC 3138



Finger food
and drinks
provided

A celebration of
student artwork and
performance

KEY DATES Term 3 2026

October		
Monday	5	First Day Term 4
Tuesday	6	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wednesday	7	Reimagined Art Show 5.30-7.30pm MB Campus
		Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Friday	9	Year 7 Sport
Tuesday	13	Year 8 Sport
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wednesday	14	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Sun-Sat	18-24	Year 10 Sydney Experience
Tuesday	20	Year 12 Last Day
		BRAVO Music in the Round 8.30pm
Wednesday	21	Year 12 Celebration Day
		Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Tuesday	27	Year 10 METEC Driver Education
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wednesday	28	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
November		
Monday	2	PUPIL FREE DAY
Tuesday	3	MELBOURNE CUP DAY
Wednesday	4	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Tuesday	10	Year 10 METEC Driver Education
		Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wednesday	11	Remembrance Day
		Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Mon - Wed	16-18	Year 10 Exams
Mon - Fri	16-20	Year 11 Exams
Tuesday	17	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wednesday	18	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Mon - Fri	23-27	Year 9 Exams
		Essentials Week 1
Tuesday	24	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wednesday	25	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Friday	27	Corrections Day - PUPIL FREE
		Valedictory Dinner
Mon - Fri	30 - 4	Essentials Week 2
		Promotions Week
December		
Tuesday	1	Senior Concert Band Rehearsal 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Wed - Fri	2-4	Year 8 Surf & Climb Adventure Camp - Phillip Island
Wednesday	2	Junior Concert Band Rehearsal 3:15pm - 4:30pm
Mon - Fri	7 - 11	Summer Program
Wednesday	9	College Awards Night
Monday	14	Twilight Carols and Family Picnic



MyTime Mt Evelyn

Why MyTime?

MyTime is for parents and carers of a child with a disability, chronic medical condition or other additional needs including developmental delay.

Unwind and share experiences with others who understand

FIND US AT:
Yarra Ranges SDS, Early Years Building
20 Burdap Drive
Thursdays, Weekly 9.30am – 11.30am

CONTACT:
Shaana Teitel - Facilitator
Email: shaanat@mytimevic.com.au
Mobile: 0403 588 322


Supporting parents of children with disabilities

mytime.net.au

MyTime term plan

mytime.net.au
Thursdays, weekly 9.30am-11.30am

DATES	GROUP ACTIVITY	CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY
15 October 2026	Carer Week Celebration: Messages and Morning Tea	Outside Fun
22 October 2026	Mindful colouring	Puzzles and Colouring
29 October 2026	Morning Tea and Catch Up	Ball Play
5 November 2026	Guest speaker: Jacinta from Interchange Outer East	Sensory Play
12 November 2026	Morning Tea and Catch Up	Art and Craft
19 November 2026	Self care activity	Bubbles
26 November 2026	Bunnings DIY project	Playdough
3 December 2026	End of year celebration	Painting

 It's support for you
  It's free to join
  Professional support
  Pre-school aged children are welcome



Yarra Ranges Council

Carers Concert

Join us for Carers Concert 2026, a special afternoon celebrating the vital contributions of carers across Yarra Ranges.

Enjoy live performances by the Uke Believers & Single Malt Sundays, connect with community services and supports, and celebrate the people who care for others every day.

This event is **free**, welcoming and inclusive, open to people of all ages and abilities. Registrations are essential.

Scan to Register



When: Thursday, 1 October 2026
Time: 2pm-4pm
Where: Mooroolbark Community Centre, 125 Brice Avenue, Mooroolbark
Light refreshments provided

 **1300 368 333**

