



UPPER YARRA SECONDARY COLLEGE uysc.vic.edu.au



From the Principal's Desk

Year 12 Celebration Day

As many of you may have noticed by our Facebook posts, our Year 12 students looked fantastic and were a credit to themselves and the school with their behaviour on Celebration Day. Their final day of classes after more than thirteen years of formal education is a significant milestone. Despite all the stress school brings, many are about to understand how hard a nine-to-five job can be.

Year 12 Final Exams

Well done to our Year 12 students (and many Year 11 fast-tracking students) who are undertaking their final exams. It has been gratifying to see them so well-prepared and confident. Before and after each exam their teachers are there with words of encouragement and I am sure they are more nervous than their students! With Graduation Evening only a couple of weeks away, it is the "final storm before the calm"!

Years 7-11 Exams

At the conclusion of the VCAA exams, Upper Yarra will continue to hold exams for students across the remainder of the school. Some of the exams are used as a summative assessment to measure learning (and teaching) whilst others are a chance for students to become accustomed to exam styles in preparation for the compulsory VCE exams. As with all assessments, they are simply a measure of a point in time and will form only part of what we know about your child; and obviously a lot less than you will know about your own child.

Improving Communication

Upper Yarra Secondary College is committed to improving our communication and relationship with our parent and family community. Following our successful school review in Term 3, we have decided to include family connections as one of our top three priorities for the next four years. Parents can benefit from being involved in their children's education by getting ideas from school on how to help and support their children, and by learning more about the school's academic program and how it works. Perhaps most importantly, parents benefit by becoming more confident about the value of their school involvement. Parents may also develop a greater appreciation for the important role they play in their children's education.

Reading to Children

Every parent knows the value of reading books to children. Late last year, the Age newspaper published an article stressing the importance of reading to children of all ages and enjoying quality time together.



Key Dates

Wednesday 1st November to
Wednesday 22nd November
Year 12 Exams

Monday 20th November to
Friday 24th November
Year 11 Exams

Monday 27th November to
Friday 1st December
Year 10 Exams

Year 12, 2018 Orientation

Monday 4th December to
Friday 8th December
Year 7 - 9 Exams

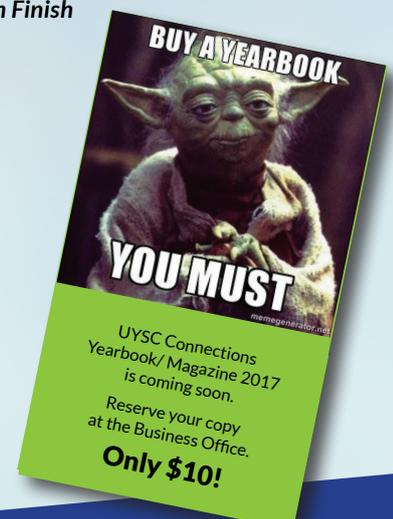
Year 11, 2018 Orientation

Monday 11th December to
Friday 15th December
Tasmania Tour

Tuesday 12th December
Grade 6 Orientation Day

Wednesday 13th December
Evening of Excellence
UYSC Theatre 7.00pm

Friday 22nd December
Last Day Term Four
12pm Finish





"Reading together is still important after children start school," says Professor Bridie Raban, from the University of Melbourne's Graduate School of Education. She makes the point that many parents stop reading to their children after they reach school age and this is a lost opportunity to continue to develop their literacy skills. "Research identifies a clear link between the development of good literacy and numeracy skills at an early age and higher levels of educational achievement, employability, higher earnings and social participation later in life."

Despite the bells and whistles of digital books, 86 % of Australian children preferred a traditional book.

The article provided the following tips:

- Make reading part of the daily routine. Make a bedtime story something to look forward to.
- Read regularly yourself.
- Join a local library.
- Read books on different topics and find themes that interest your children.
- Play word and word association games.
- Talk with your child: it builds communication skills, vocabulary and increases confidence.

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/reading-together-still-important-after-children-start-school-expert-says-20130827-2sntd.html>

Scott Tully | *Principal*

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
...recognising excellence.



For excellence in independent reading:
CHARLI DUNNE
Year 7



For his hard work in Mathematics:
BRODIE LAWTON
Year 8



For outstanding work in Humanities:
MOLLY GREAVES
Year 9



For getting the top result in his Extension Maths test and announcing to the class that doing homework pays off:
COEN LARPENT
Year 10



For showing diligence in her work for all subjects:
XIANN SMITH
Year 11

Year 12 Celebration Day 2017

On Wednesday 25th October, our Year 12 students celebrated their last official day of schooling in marvellous style, including dressing up in a myriad of fantastic costumes, participating in inflatable soccer and colour run, conducting their last whole school assembly and eating a delicious barbeque lunch provided by our VETiS Hospitality students. All involved had a fantastic time. We wish them well for the future and look forward to hearing about their adventures.

Brett Andrews | *Senior School Leader/ Year 12 leader*



RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • EXCELLENCE • RESILIENCE



Year 11 Studio Arts

This term Year 11 students have been working hard on their final artworks for Studio Arts. Each student has been working throughout the semester to plan and create potential directions for their final artwork. Each student has individualised their own artwork through exploring different techniques and processes. They were required to try a variety of different materials to lead them to the material of their choice. Some students have chosen Printmaking, Oil Painting, Ink and Calligraphy, Watercolour, Textiles, Spray Painting and Drawing.

Casey Mayne | Art



DUKE OF Edinburgh Camp

Duke of Ed camp was definitely one to remember. The beautiful site and views of the Mitchell River were breathtaking for the five days we were rafting and hiking. It was especially great to experience it alongside our mates (new and old). The weather was stinking hot, and then raining the next, but it was a great mix that tested our outdoor skills. I would not have changed a thing and would do it all over again.

Jamieson Ritchie 9B



Aquarium News

Spring has certainly arrived in the aquarium. We currently have five species breeding and we are running out of room to house the babies!

We have also had some new species including Raphael Talking Catfish, Long Fin Bristlenose Catfish, Orange Leleupi, Hongi, Maingano and Princess Cichlids.

Mitchell Gray | Middle School Leader



Parasites in Focus

Students conducted laboratory investigations into three areas:

- Veterinary pathology for disease diagnosis
- Parasites as biological control agents
- Cross-Border control: diagnosis of parasitic diseases in tourists



On Thursday the 2nd of November, we went on an excursion into the city for 'Parasites in Focus'. First we had a speech from a marine parasitologist which was informative. Then we did three activities including learning and finding parasites in sheep, experimenting with DNA from a sick person to see what parasite he had and learning about biological control on computers. It was a really good day which I enjoyed and found very interesting.

Madeline Bennett 10A



The Holocaust Excursion

On the 19th of September, the Year 10 Humanities classes went on an excursion to the Jewish Holocaust Centre. There we learnt of the horrors and atrocities inflicted on Jews in that dark time. We all knew of the Holocaust, however we only knew its true meaning after we heard the amazing true story of a Holocaust survivor from the survivor himself. Jack was a survivor and a victim of the atrocities committed during the Holocaust. We all sat in awed silence as Jack spoke of his unspeakable loss, fear, suffering and the close calls that nearly claimed his life. It was hard to believe that all this actually happened to Jack and that he was standing there actually talking to all of us.

We all felt so lucky that we live in a time where we can still see the true survivors of this event and listen to their stories. This was an amazing experience for all of us.

Max Geddes 10C

Zoology Behaviour Project - Semester 2

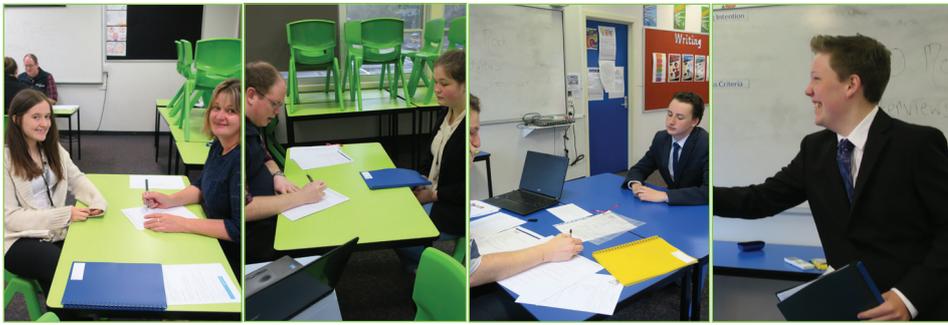


MAFMAD Movie Evening

A massive thank you to Camryn Partel, Ashlee Shotter, Katy Sagar-Gordon, Daniel Rowe, Jana Krslovic and Ms Perie Edmonds for their help preparing, planning and cooking for the evening.

Thank you also to the families that came along and shared in the success of what our students produced. The quality of road safety films this year was outstanding.

Mitchell Gray | Middle School Leader



Mock Interviews

During career classes, students had been busily preparing their Portfolios for their Mock interviews, which were held on Thursday 3rd November. Students are to be congratulated for attending their chosen interview well prepared, groomed and enthusiastic.



"It was a bit scary at first, but once I was in the interview it was fine. It was a good experience."
True Robinson 10A



"Preparing our Resume, Cover Letters and Portfolio means that I now have a good idea of what needs to be done when I go for a real job."
Jai Leermakers 10D



"It felt like a real interview, which I am sure, will help me prepare for future interviews. I am looking forward to receiving the feedback so I can reflect on where I need to improve and where I went well!"
Grace Bray 10B



"I feel my interview went well. It helped me with what I could expect in a real interview."
Josh Wall 10B



"A good experience and worth getting dressed in a suit for!"
Coen Larpent 10D

Primary School Orienteering

On Thursday 26th and Friday 27th October we attended and helped run the Primary School Orienteering Competition at Maroondah Dam.

Our students were outstanding yet again providing superior leadership for UYSC.

These students collated scores and times, assisted with presentations, officiated over results and helped set up and pack up the event. Mr DeVisser was once again amazed by the quality of our leaders.

The students involved were Harry Green, Lachie Harvey, Kai Jenkins, Kai Hatch, Ethan Leeds, Coban Meredith, Crystal Mitchell, Trey Morrissey, Katy Sagar-Gordon, Ashlee Shotter, Alex Stubna and Kyra Sykes.

Mitchell Gray | Middle School Leader



Year 8 News

LEAP Performance

On Wednesday the 1st of November, Gribber Theatre Group came to Upper Yarra to do a performance for all of the year 7 and 8 students. The main aim of the performance was to inform students about options for education after school. The performers wanted everyone to know that university and TAFE are options for everyone. The performance was very engaging and students really enjoyed it.

Erin McGuillicuddy | Year 8 Team

