

Newsletter

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UPPER YARRA
SECONDARY COLLEGE
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From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 4!

This term is looking as busy as the three previous combined. VCE exams are imminent, the School Production is only days away and students and staff madly scrambling to ensure quality teaching and learning in the classroom. As the weather improves, it is nice to see a spring in the step of so many of our students despite the looming deadlines for work submission.

Year 12 2018

As formal classes for Year 12 draw to a close, the often stressful exam period begins. Our dedicated Year 12s should go into this exam period with confidence in the hard work they have put in over the course of the year. In particular, the school was open in the September holidays as students and staff revised and prepared for the final part of the school year. We wish all our students good luck with their exams and encourage them to have confidence in the learning they have undertaken over the course of the year.

Vineyard

As many of you will have seen or been aware, the construction of our teaching Vineyard is progressing well. Once established we aim to offer Viticulture as a qualification beginning 2020. We invite any interested parents to register with the College Office if you would like to be involved in planting the vines. We anticipate our vines will be ready in the first week of December. If you would like to be involved in the foundation stages of setting up the vineyard, please also register your interest with the Office and we will keep you informed.

Construction 2019

Plans are progressing well for the expected construction of the new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) building which is on schedule to begin construction in Term 2 next year. As designs are finalised, we will make them available for our community to view.

Scott Tully | Principal



Key Dates

Wednesday 24th October
Year 12 Celebration Day

Thursday 25th October and
Friday 26th October
"Game of Tiaras"

Wednesday 31st October
Student Free Day

Wednesday October 31st to
Wednesday November 21st
VCAA Exams

Monday 5th November
Student Free Day

Tuesday 6th November
Melbourne Cup Day

Thursday November 15th
Year 10 Mock Interviews

Tuesday November 20th
Year 12 Valedictory Dinner
7pm - 11pm *Cathie's Lane*

Monday 19th November to
Friday 23rd November
Year 11 Exams

Monday 26th November to
Friday 30th November
Year 10 Exams

Year 12, 2018 Orientation

Monday 3rd December to
Friday 7th December
Year 7 - 9 Exams

Year 11, 2018 Orientation

Monday 10th December to
Friday 14th December
Tasmania Tour

Tuesday 11th December
Grade 6 Orientation Day




Bendigo Bank

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**RESPECTFUL
RELATIONSHIPS**

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

...recognising excellence.

RESPECT · RESPONSIBILITY · EXCELLENCE · RESILIENCE



For an exceptional start to her FLIP enquiry and Term Four.

CAITLYN HALL

Year 7



For showing responsibility in assisting a teacher.

ANDREW JONES

Year 8



For excellent involvement in school activities.:

MEREDITH-LEE ROWLANDS

Year 9



For an outstanding attitude in Mathematics.

HUNTER GRAY

Year 10



For her excellent leadership and organisation of School Pride Week:

MONIQUE LEE

Year 11



For consistent excellence in all subjects:

CAITLYN MUIR

Year 12



A Better Life Experience

Project ABLE

Project ABLE

“Just like everyone else...”



“I highly enjoyed the Project ABLE Disability Workshop as it gave me a better understanding of people with a disability. I also took from the workshop an interest in the disability workforce. The workshop helped me in my current job by offering different ways of going about things with children with a disability.”

Charlie Parker Senior Literacy



“I learnt that having a physical disability does not limit you. I learnt that having mental health problems is a disability. The day was about raising awareness about the disabled community, as well as combining the Year 11 & 12 VCAL classes for group activities. We each rotated to meet, converse and participate in activities with each member of Project ABLE with a different disability - Paraplegic, Cerebral Palsy (affected RHS), OCD and blindness. Each of them spoke about their journey. To me, this was inspiring, but also nerve racking, as I was able to relate heavily to a few of the speakers.”

Gypsy Brewington Senior Literacy



“A group called Project ABLE ran a workshop for our VCAL classes. The people involved in this group have a disability that they live with every single day and they started this group to talk about dealing with people with disabilities and to explain how they are still just like everyone else. I found it interesting that the guy who had a motorbike accident broke 60% of his bones in his body.”

Brandon Thomson Senior Literacy

School Pride Week



SRC would like to thank everyone for participating in School Pride Week. It was awesome to see everyone in their PJs on the Monday, we raised roughly \$250 which helped fund the week. Younga House received 50 house points for collecting the most rubbish. Thursday we had a picnic on the oval and the Aviation students flew drones. The Amazing Race was definitely the highlight of the week and we would like to thank all the teachers. All the points earned throughout the race including bonus points, were added together:

3rd place and best team name 'Hot Dog Jim':

Jack Anderson, Luke Anderson, Bailey Fulford, Hayley Piggott, Kori Gannon, Chloe Gell, Jayden Jones, Conner Ryan, Mathew Galea, Taron Eastham, Kirah Pascoe, Kate Jenkins and Josh During.

2nd place 'I Smell Like Beef':

Jamieson Ritchie, True Robinson, Jazmine Bull, Sarah Boon, Keita Rostron, Jedd Robinson, Nikita Hedges, Justin Robinson and Briani McGuigan.

1st place 'Fish'

Aspen O'Neill, Mitch Saxon, Rex Partel, Jaycob Fry, Tate Nisbet, Mitch Yeoman-Hand, Lachie Piggott, Thomas Bourke and Archie Jenkins

Monique Lee | SRC President

House points and prizes were awarded throughout the week:
 Younga 246 points, Yarra on 226 points,
 Donna on 191 points, Acheron 28 points.

Wacky Socks

- Year 7 Tegan Bresser
- Year 8 Carla Cadle
- Year 9 Sharelle Corbett
- Year 10 Angus Mellet
- Year 11 Meg Huisken
- Year 12 Sally McIntosh
- Teacher Mr Blattman

Loud Party Shirt

- Tyson Reinmuth
- Alastair McIntosh
- Jack Anderson
- Ashlee Shotter
- Jedd Robinson
- Zarah McIntyre
- Ms Mayne, Ms Santoro





District Athletics Competition

On the 4th of September the students who competed really well in the School Athletics Day were invited to attend the next round which was the Regional Athletics.

It was a really fun day. I competed in 3 events: Long Jump, Shot Put and Javelin. I won 3rd in Javelin but didn't do so well in the other events. It was good to see how competitive the next level was in Athletics and how well Upper Yarra Secondary College did against other schools.



Regional Athletics Competition

Friday the 12th of October was a great day for UYSC students at the Regional Athletics Competition!

Congratulations to Thomas Bourke who came 2nd in Triple Jump, Kai Hatch who came 1st in High Jump, 3rd in Long Jump and Triple Jump, Brayden Holland who came 3rd in High Jump and Harry Bray who came 3rd in Discus.



Drought Relief Day

The idea of a Drought Relief Day was inspired by our Year 11 student Livinia Mace. Livinia is a community-minded student who had a strong foresight to raise funds for our struggling farmers. The day was a fantastic collaboration between staff and students with the common goal of FUN!

Activities included a sausage sizzle, face painting, student versus staff basketball game (students won!), Karaoke, guess how many lollies in the jar, won by Hunter Gray, Raffle and the very popular, throw the wet sponge at the teacher, which raised the most funds.

A big thank you to our Year 11 VCAL students who organised the BBQ, slices, pancakes and cupcakes.....YUM. Approximately \$730 was raised!

Congratulations to all involved and we would like to also thank Paige Gaston for her extraordinary entertainment and musical talent and Ms Leicester for her assistance in organisation and for the generations donations for prizes..

[Tracey Smedley | Careers](#)



Fun With Maths!



On Thursday 13th there was a math incursion at the school. At the math incursion there was many activities for us to complete. The activities ranged from figuring out codes to safes to using a torus ring. The day was great fun and everyone enjoyed it. It was all run by a great lad called Geoff, who was very engaging and funny. I would like to thank the people who ran they activities and the math department for running it.

Jarred Harvey 7D



Trees Adventure



On the 9th of October the year 12 VCAL class went on an excursion to adventure trees in Belgrave, it's a collection of high rope courses for different levels of experience, before starting our day at the ropes courses we went to a thousand steps where we explored and had lunch. It was such a fun day and really got us on our feet.

Thomas Steel, Jason Steel Yr 12 VCAL

Wheel Talk

Para-Olympic Gold Medal winning athlete Sam Bramham came and spoke to us about his life as a disabled athlete. He shared some funny stories about growing up with only one leg. We were able to play wheel chair basketball.

It was an extremely fun day and we all loved getting to play and talk to Sam. It really opened our eyes to the issues people face when they have a disability and made us think about making sure everyone feels included.





UYSC Chess Championship 2018

This term the annual UYSC Chess Championship took place over 4 weeks. It was clear that word had spread after last year's championship, as we had contestants from a wide range of classes from year 7-12, and... we even had a contestant come all the way from Germany to compete in this prestigious event.

The format of the championship was a knockout tournament. Each week the number of contestants remaining halved until we were left with the final two combatants. It came down to last year's champion Daniel Chambers against the unknown quantity from Germany, Johannes Hirthe-Decker.

The final was a best of three with each game a 10 minute timed blitz game. After a tense struggle in all three games, incredibly, the pair were locked at 1 win each and one draw by repetition. This meant a grand final replay the following week was required. Both players went away to hone their strategies and came up with new game plans, hoping to undo their rival. The

following week the replay took place in the library, with many onlookers following intently. The tension was palpable, but eventually Johannes emerged the victor, winning 2-0 in front of an enthralled crowd.

After the final, Johannes admitted it had been the one of the most stressful moments of his life, but he was proud to have withstood the pressure. Onlookers were in awe as he played a beautiful knight fork to wrap up the second game and the match.

Congratulations to all who competed in the championship and a special mention to Daniel Chambers, runner-up in the 2018 UYSC Chess Championship.

2018 UYSC Chess Champion: Johannes Hirthe-Decker.

Paul Jefmenko Chess Club Leader

GTAC Excursion

The Year 12 Biology class went to the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC) to investigate how to insert a "Glow in the Dark" Jellyfish gene into bacteria.

The students used restriction digests and gel electrophoresis to determine if the gene for Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) has been successfully inserted into a plasmid.

They then transformed E.coli cells with the recombinant plasmid vector so that they would produce GFP. The students then grew E.coli samples on selective media and they were successful.

Well done Year 12s!

Marcus Cook | Biology





Sport Year 7 Basketball



On Friday 31st of August the Year 7 girls represented our school at the Basketball Round Robin. Throughout the day we all played 5 games. Our school was split into two teams, B1 and B2, and yes, there were jokes about Bananas in Pyjamas. B1 won 3 out of there 5 games and B2 sadly walked away with no wins, but we all had fun. The very last game that each of the teams played was against each other. It was a fun way to end the day and challenge the two teams. Both teams played brilliantly, and I would personally rate the day a success. Everyone tried their hardest and never gave up. Overall, the day was fun and exciting! A special shout out to Miss White, the teacher who trained with us and took us out on the day, also a shout out to Tahlia Bextream and Layne Morrissey for being fantastic coaches.

Ashlyn Hermansen Yr 7



On the 31st of August, the Year 7 boys had three teams go on an interschool Basketball Day. All three teams had a great time competing. The A team went undefeated all the way to the Grand Final. It was a great game from both teams but Monbulk took out the win. Every team had a fantastic time and everyone showed good sportsmanship. Thanks to the coaches and teachers for being able to make this awesome day possible.

Kobi Rostron Yr 7

Wildwater Kayaking Slalom Championship



Congratulations to the Winners - many times over!

Ryan Nicholls-Hughes , Jack Anderson, Luke Anderson, Ky Nicholls-Hughes, Oscar Capes, Tyler Lewellin

"Best Small School"
Upper Yarra Secondary College

Ordered my YEARBOOK

Can finally relax

UYSC Connections Yearbook/ Magazine 2018 is coming soon.

Reserve your copy at the Business Office.

Only \$10!



Ambassadors For Gender Equality and Respect

This year I attended gender equality and respect workshops run by a group of organisations striving for gender equity in the Yarra Ranges. I represented UYSC, with students from Steiner and CIRE. We discussed the importance of gender equity both at school and on a larger scale, identified problems we'd observed within our respective school communities, and came up with solutions. Each school group then set about developing an initiative (or multiple initiatives) to improve gender equity within their school. As the only student from UYSC, I was able to develop my ideas and create an initiative on my own, with support from the facilitators and teachers (especially Ms Rumbold, Ms Sloan, and Mr Schultz).

I decided to hold a workshop for UYSC teachers to highlight the importance of gender equity and discuss issues in our school and how to combat them. I put together a student group which met to develop this idea and turned it into a real workshop. We held our session for the teachers and it was a great success! Our focus was on student input, and teachers informed me that hearing from students directly was interesting and helpful. I think we're well on our way to achieving gender equity at UYSC!

Hannah Mahoney Yr 12

Year 9 Resilience and Challenge Day



Year 9s went to Britannia Park for a day focusing on resilience, teamwork and challenging ourselves. We started the day by splitting into two groups. My group first worked with Headspace. We focused on learning how we can keep a healthy mind and stay mentally happy. We talked about the things that keep us feeling okay and relaxed like, listening to music, drawing or watching T.V. After a small break, groups switched activities.

My group now worked with Ms Knowles on teamwork. We played games in smaller groups. In one game each group had a red and a green card. After a few seconds each group would hold up a card and some would lose money and some would gain money. In the end we figured out that if we all held up our green cards, every group would win money. We had a barbecue lunch, then we got into groups of five to begin the Amazing Race. Each group did activities, where every group member needed to participate. The activities could be physical like the rock climbing or an obstacle course, or more brainy like Sudoku or a word search. The day was very enjoyable and we had a great time working together and completing the challenges.

Jennifer Morris Yr 9

Duke of Edinburgh - Trees Adventure



On the 5th of September, we drove the bus to Trees Adventure. There were 4 different levels, green was the easiest, blue, red and black which was the hardest. There was a 17m drop on one of the re courses which was really scary. After 2 hours of tree climbing, we packed up and went to the 1000 steps Kokoda Memorial Trail. We walked up the stairs which was exhausting but the way down was worse. It was a great place with the wildlife. It felt really good to get to the top of the walk and an accomplishment for me. This was a great experience and a big shout out to Jessica Foley and Mr. Blattman.

Ziggy Kneebone Yr 8



Lardner Park - Aviation



At Lardner Park, all of us had to take off and land at a single point, this required us to communicate well so we didn't land at the same time.

I learnt... that communicating is important to success and that watching your battery level is important so you don't run out while waiting for others to land.

I enjoyed... seeing a special type of drone. The drone has the ability to take off vertically, then, in mid-flight rotate its engines to become a plane and fly around.

Jamin Hamnett Yr 11



We taxied around an area to choose where we were going to stay and fly. All of us had to communicate and orientate around one landing mat, notifying each other of what we were doing.

I learnt... taxi-flying at knee height and how to communicate my movements in the air to nearby pilots.

I enjoyed... seeing the new Ball Drone and the VTOL Plane drone and being provided with a new experience.

Robert Jones Yr 11



At Lardner Park we all learnt how to use a shared landing and take-off zone by communicating with each other so we did not crash into each other. We had to communicate with each other with taking off. Taxi behind everyone to drive towards the landing area and continue to talk to each other until I have taken my drone away.

I learnt... about driving around in a shared area with others operating around me.

I enjoyed... Seeing Beyond Visual Line of Sight drone being in operation with a roll cage around it which allowed it to crash into things without damage being caused.

Harry Bray Yr 12



At Lardner Park I flew the drone and went through three batteries. I gained approximately 50 minutes of flight time. I was able to see the first VTOL drone in Australia.

I learnt... that when you use an unfamiliar drone it is important to check the settings to make sure everything is right.

I enjoyed... seeing the VTOL drone and the small drone in the roll cage.

Bradley Cole Yr 11



Alpine School Campus School for Student Leadership



'Alpine School for Student Leadership



"...an amazing opportunity."

Year 9 students Kira Ellis, Blake Olcorn, Matilda Paterson and I, Josh Pitts attended the Alpine School for Student Leadership Dinner Plain, Mount Hotham. While at the Alpine School we learnt a lot about ourselves. We completed team-building challenges building a bridge across an almost frozen creek, learnt to ski both Downhill and Cross-Country and went camping. The Alpine School was an amazing and we feel so lucky to have had this opportunity.

If any students are offered the opportunity to go to one of the campuses, whether it be Alpine, Snowy River or Gnrud Gundij, then take it because it was one of the best experiences of our lives.

Josh Pitts Yr 9