



UPPER YARRA SECONDARY COLLEGE uysc.vic.edu.au

From the Principal's Desk



End of Term 2

For many parents the end of term will feel like it just began, whilst for most teachers the term will feel like it was 20 weeks long! The mid-year holidays will be an opportune time for everyone to take a well-earned break and mentally reset for the second semester.

Taster Day/Course Selections

This week, students will participate in a 'taster' program to try out subjects they might be interested in choosing. Although we still do not have clarity in relation to camps, excursions and large gatherings, we can be assured the next term will be a busy one. Early next term, students in Years 8 to Year 11 will make course selection decisions ready for 2021. Currently we are unable to hold face to face information sessions for parents; however, if restrictions ease we will reinstate the evenings. Should restrictions remain in place, we will experiment with online, virtual or recorded sessions. Similarly, we are waiting to see whether restrictions will be in place for Parent/Student/Teacher conferences.

Learning Intentions

Many parents hear a lot about Learning Intentions in every class (and see them in the newsletter). So why do schools place so much emphasis on them? Research proves that one element of effective teaching and learning is through goal setting. A Learning Intention is the goal of that lesson or series of lessons. The teacher tells the students what they intend to teach (this is usually accompanied by a Success Criteria which is the measure of learning). For students to understand what is expected of them, and what is going to be taught in the lesson, a Learning Intention helps to provide clarity.

Safe Break

This term will conclude at 2:30pm on Friday 26th June. We wish all our families a very safe and enjoyable mid-year break and look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 13th July.

Scott Tully | Principal



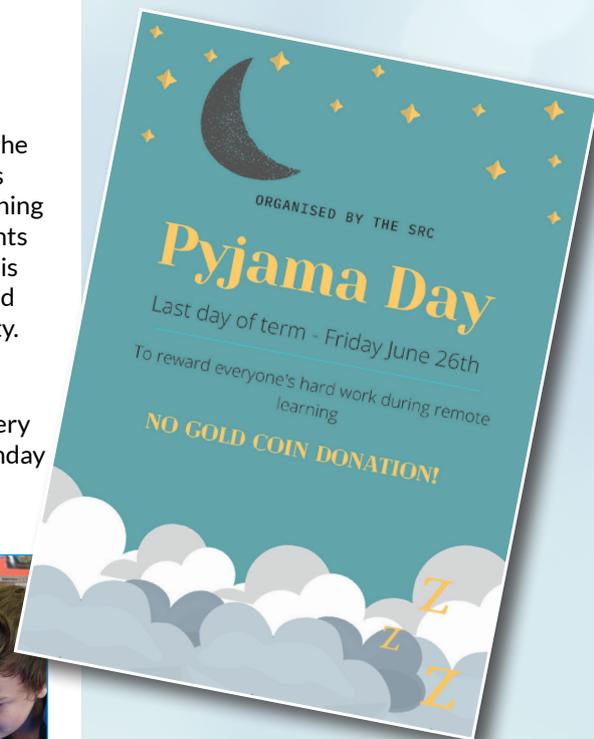
Key Dates

Thursday 25th June
Year 9 & 10 Taster Day
Chromebooks Returned

Friday 26th June
Pyjama Day (No Gold Coin Donation!)
Last Day Term 2
2.30pm Finish

Monday 13th July
First Day Term 3

Wednesday 9th September
GAT



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

...recognising excellence.

RESPECT · RESPONSIBILITY · EXCELLENCE · RESILIENCE



For excellence and resilience in her approach to her schooling each and every day:

DARCIE BALL

Year 7



For continued persistence and application in his subjects on returning to school:

ROBERT MARSHALL

Year 8



For excellent work ethic throughout Remote Learning:

MITCHELL TUCKER

Year 9



For demonstrating excellence and resilience during Remote Learning, and contributing positively during online Support Group:

LUKE ANDERSON

Year 10



For demonstrating responsibility with her studies and being up to date with all school work:

SHARELLE CORBETT

Year 11



For always demonstrating respect towards others and responsibility towards her work:

DEMIRA ROBINSON

Year 12

Agriculture Elective



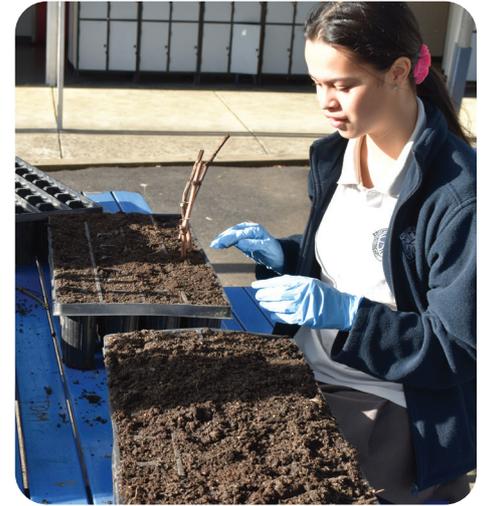
This week students from the Agriculture and Horticulture class completed pruning the vines in preparation for the 2021 Pinot crop. Next year the vineyard will produce grapes for fermenting red wine. The last row took the students 3 hours to complete. Most of the pruning was then collected to be used the next day. Students cut the vines to size, added a hormone gel and propagated over 300 plants. Thanks to the class for the concerted effort.

Marcus Cook | STEAM Learning Specialist



"We used the cuttings from the vineyard and put them in hormone solution to make clones. I learnt how to clone vines. I really enjoyed making the clones and talking to friends. I found it a very relaxing activity."

Taysia Reihana | Yr 10



WELCOME BACK!



Year 9 Outdoor Ed - Camp Cooking



On the 23rd of July, the Year 9 students got creative with the camp cookers known as Trangias. The students came up with some brilliant and innovative ideas to cook on the day, including burgers, carbonara pasta, tacos, salmon and rice and much more.

Although an overcast morning, we were still able to sit outside and take in the magnificent views the school has to offer. Well done to the Year 9 students in Outdoor Education, you have worked hard this semester and learnt some practical skills that can be taken with you outside of the classroom and school.

Ben Blattman | Outdoor & Environmental Studies



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UYSC Rain Gauge Project

Year 7 student Tyler Reid, with the help of our Chaplain Mr Steve Listopad, has organised 5 rain gauges to be installed round the school. Each week he will check the rain gauges and report his findings in the Newsletter.



Here are this week's measurements:

- 25ml behind the Wellbeing team building
- 23ml at the vineyard
- 25ml at the bus loop
- 30ml at the library
- 26ml behind the ICT buildings



Thoughts on Remote Learning



Remote learning has been challenging for me but I know I'm not the only person who struggled with it. It was always good

though getting to have a good sleep in every morning and not having to worry about making myself look so glamorous.

I'm so excited to be back at school as I'm sure many of my peers are to just at least see their face not on a screen that's right in front of me, but them in person right in front of me!

Going back into the classroom will be somewhat productive as I'm sure everyone will just be excited to see their friends and talk all day, even though there's not much to talk about other than, I stayed at home the past 3 months.

It will definitely be good for everyone though going back in class getting help from their teachers instead of messaging them on google hangouts, but most importantly. Not staying home all day, getting out of the house and doing all those fun things with everything slowly and hopefully turning back into a somewhat normal.

I definitely am excited though to be out of my house and go back to school! Never thought I'd say that.

Cooper Allum | Yr 9

Thoughts on Returning to School



Our Year 10 Captains penned some thoughts about returning to school and included some quotes from other Year 10 students.

Tracey Smedley | Wellbeing Coordinator



"I was excited to come back to school after being away for so long. I missed seeing my friends, classmates and teachers.

Although there were parts of Remote Learning I enjoyed, I definitely missed the structure of school and I think I work better in the environment that school provides.

Here's what some other Year 10 students feel about coming back to school."

"I like coming back to school because I get to see my mates and I actually get my work done."

"I missed my friends and it's good to have access to the canteen again."

"It's good to be back because I feel like my work is of a higher standard when I'm at school."

"It's really good to get back into a routine and have a schedule to my day."

Emily Hay | Year 10 Captain



"Coming back to school after a while of distance learning is very exciting for me. It is really nice to see friends again and get back into the routine that I was starting to lose. Though the thoughts of being curled up in blankets all day are enticing, I am ready to get back into work mode."

"It feels quite normal to be back like nothing happened. I miss home schooling because I didn't have to actually go to school but I've also missed my friends."

"I'm excited to be back! I am not as stressed as I was during distance learning. Just ready to learn more and do good."

"I am enjoying being back at school as I have missed my mates and being in a classroom. It is easier to get work done at school but I did like working at my own pace from home too."

"Returning to school has been a lot less stressful than I thought it would be. Teachers have been understanding and helpful so I am thankful for that. I do miss being able to stay in bed all the time but other than that, it has been an easy start."

Kiara Zekas | Year 10 Captain



"I'm so glad that I get to see and have a laugh with my mates again. I've missed being able to see everyone every day and it's good not being cooped up in my bedroom anymore."

"I'm glad to be back with my friends, and it's easier to ask teachers for help. But I feel like I was able to do more work at home."

"I can finally do woodwork which is something I was looking forward to doing this term."

"I am excited to see the good vibes that the rest of this term brings."

Amy Morris | Year 10 Captain



"My experience coming back to school has been challenging and getting out of bed before 8:30 has been a challenge but I am glad that I am back.

Being back at school has been great. I have missed having face-to-face learning with my teachers as well as being back in a classroom. Seeing my friends has been great. I missed them through quarantine.

Overall coming back to school has not been the easiest thing but I am glad to be back."

"Coming back to school has been a challenge but also a positive impact on myself. Since being in isolation and having not as much concentration with school work, having the face-to-face support from teachers has been amazing. Seeing my friends has also been something I have missed and am excited to be back at school for."

"I am happy to be back at school as I have missed my friends as well as Mr Sanders and Mr Ferris."

"Coming back to school is a good feeling because things are slowly going back to normal, like being able to go to school, seeing all my friends and all of the teachers and I think that it is really good that we are back."

Makayla Peers | Year 10 Captain



Young Change Agents Finalists!



Congratulations to our "Team Calm in Covid" (Reyd Coshutt, Talei Whiteside, Luke Timoney, Jacinta Tait, Ethan Shepherd and Lachlan Gardner with Mr Marcus Cook), who have been selected by the YCA Coronavirus Challenge to progress to Design Sprint 2. Well done! There were many teams across Victoria who participated in the Design Sprint but the judges felt that our team's idea could make a real difference to people affected by Coronavirus.

Design Sprint 2 will occur in Term 3 and our students will be mentored by Telstra, YCA and Yarra Ranges Tech School to develop their idea further and compete for some wonderful prizes.

Marcus Cook | STEAM Learning Specialist



Year 9 Outdoor Ed - Tarp Survival



During the first week back from isolation and Remote Learning, we could finally get out and be practical again! The Year 9s learnt about some survival techniques and built their own tarp shelters at the College. There were great first-time set ups and good team work in the process.

Well done to the Year 9 Outdoor Ed team. We are looking forward to our Masterchef Trangia competition in the coming weeks.

Ben Blattman | Outdoor & Environmental Studies

Uniform Sale!

A range of dresses and jumpers in various sizes are for sale.

NEW Summer Dresses
\$10

Second-hand Fleece and Woollen Jumpers
\$5

Interested? See Ms Tracey Smedley in the Wellbeing Office.





Mindfulness Meditation



In our introduction to Unit 4 Psychology, we began to study the Nature of Consciousness. This has included learning about what defines Normal Waking Consciousness, as well as what an Altered State of Consciousness is. We discussed how altered states of consciousness can be both natural and induced, and decided to attempt to induce one in class.

Through the use of the Smiling Minds App, we completed a 10-minute Mindfulness Meditation, scanning our body for sensations. By the end of the 10 minutes we all felt very relaxed, and found that we had not felt like it was 10 minutes at all. Some of us even wanted to incorporate mindfulness activities into our everyday lessons to help us stop and find calm in what has been a crazy year.

Maddilyne Hammet | Psychology

Cyber Security Workshop



On Thursday the 21st of May, Year 8 Students participated in a Cyber Security Workshop. This

was presented through the Zoom program as students were still partaking in Remote Learning.

The Year 8s engaged positively with the presenters and were able to speak and type questions and answers. I think students and staff gained many valuable skills and knowledge.

Through a variety of interactive activities, students were led through the skills of creating strong passwords, enabling privacy settings on social media, and understanding just how easily and far things can spread when shared on the internet. Students began to understand the power and the danger of what is shared online.

Amanda Finn | Year 8 Leader

Science News



Year 9 Science



As we return to onsite learning, our Year 9 students have been presented with some new learning experiences during their Science classes. Students have been asked to apply their knowledge of electric circuits, which was studied during Remote Learning, to some hands-on design and problem-solving tasks.

Mr Marcus Cook, our STEAM Learning Specialist, has organised for UYSC to be a pilot school for a new out-reach program offered by the Yarra Rangers Tech School. Through this partnership, we have had access to littleBits, snap-together electronic bits that allow kids to create with technology.

During the class, students join in a number of sessions, led by staff from Yarra Ranges Tech School (YRTS) via video link, learning about the different components of the littleBits systems and how these connect together to produce desired effects. Students are then invited to follow the design process to develop a prototype of a device that will assist a patient in a hospital, in some way. The device designed by students must use the different sensors that are part of the littleBits sets to make it functional. Students brainstorm, plan, design and build a prototype of their invention in small groups. The final step is to pitch their idea to the rest of the class.

Students have enjoyed both the new way in which this program has been delivered, as well as experimenting and playing with the littleBits to provide a solution to their design brief.

In our final week of classes, we will continue our exploration of electric circuits, by hosting our annual "Electric Car Grand Prix". Students will use electric motors and recycling materials to build small propeller-powered cars that we will race to determine the ultimate winner.

It is definitely great to be back in the classroom to see the excitement and enthusiasm with which our Year 9s have been responding to these learning activities!

Olga Timoney | Science Domain Leader



Zoology Science – Chicken Imprint Program



In the Year 9 Zoology elective, students learn about adaptations and behaviors in animals. As part of this, students are involved in a major experiment on Chicken Imprinting. The aim of the experiment is to see if they can imprint the chicken onto themselves. The chicken would then believe they were their parents. This imprinting occurs in the first few hours of life. In the natural environment, imprinting acts as an instinct for survival in newborns.

Year 9 students were very excited to care for their chickens and names like Egghead, Dixie Chick, Popcorn and Nugget were being called out across the classroom. Students began imprinting in class and again during lunchtime. They then took the chickens home to continue for the next two weeks. During this time they will be making observations on the chickens and collecting data for their reports. Any Year 8 students who are interested in being a part of the Chicken Imprinting experiment will need to chose Zoology as one of their electives in Year 9.

Year 7 Science Catapults

During Remote Learning Year 7 Science students were studying the topic of Simple Machines and how they can make our everyday life easier. Once back at school the students made catapults to see how they were able to move objects over large distances. Students had to overcome the issues of their catapults breaking under the strain and modifying their designs to gain distance rather than height. This ended with competitions in each homegroup.

Tracey Shallcross | Science



Year 10 Leadership Project - Thank You!



The Year 10 Leadership students undertake a community-based project each year.

This year, as posted on the UYSC Facebook page, students, teachers and their families helped warm the hearts of homeless men through donations of clothing and blankets to the Avalon Centre shelter.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed. These clothes will be delivered in the last week of term.

Mitchel Gray | Health and Physical Education



YEAR 10 LEADERSHIP



UYSC Sanitiser Stations

Year 7 student Taya Hatch shows us how to keep our hands clean at one of the many sanitiser stations located around UYSC.





Welcome Back to the UYSC Library!

We were thrilled to welcome everyone back into the UYSC library for regular book borrowing, games, 3D printing, chess, computing, studying, reading or just chatting!

Look out for our new display on the many wondrous monsters of Fantasy fiction, a 'New!' shelf carrying our most recently acquired titles, and two fancy, cosy red armchairs for you to snuggle into with your favourite book (they've been very popular already)!

Heather Pennington, Phenella Peterson & Alysha Bell | The Library Team



Year 9/10 Food Studies



As we have returned to school we wanted to celebrate this happy event. The students worked through the Design Process to prepare and enjoy a variety of celebration dishes. They worked hard and created a fantastic feast which they shared with some teachers.

Tracy Leicester | Food Studies



Year 10 Coaching - "Learning to run a group fitness class"



The Year 10 Coaching class has been developing fitness classes that are aligned with the Year 8 curriculum. Students were able to teach their plans to the Year 8s, demonstrating excellence and responsibility.

Jessica White | Health and Physical Education



Careers

University Open Days – Going Online

With COVID-19 forcing many institutions to operate online, most university open days are also going online this year.

William Angliss Institute – 1st & 2nd August 2020

Register your interest at: <https://www.angliss.edu.au/study-with-us/meet-us/openday/>

La Trobe University – 2nd August 2020

Register your interest to access information: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/openday>

Deakin University – 16th August 2020

9am-3pm, register to go in the draw to win a \$100 gift card: <https://www.deakin.edu.au/openday>

Webinars about specific study areas are available online at Discover Deakin:

<https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/events/future-student-events>

Federation University – 16th August 2020

Information available at: <https://federation.edu.au/openday>

Melbourne University – 16th August 2020

Register online at: <https://study.unimelb.edu.au/openday>

Collarts – 29th August 2020

Register your interest: <https://www.collarts.edu.au/open-day>

Online Resources Available Now

SAE: <https://study.sae.edu.au/sae-virtual-open-day/>

No set date yet, but register your details to be informed when a date is announced

ACU: <https://www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/register-your-interest>

Monash University: <https://www.monash.edu/open-day>

Victoria University: <https://www.vu.edu.au/open-day-2020/>