



UPPER YARRA
SECONDARY COLLEGE
uysc.vic.edu.au

From the Principal's Desk



Welcome Back!

Welcome to our 120 new Year 7 students and their families, and a big welcome back to the rest of the College! It is so nice to have you all with us.

All our students have started off the year extremely well, (thank you to all our families for ensuring they are in full school uniform and on time with their equipment!). With so much construction over the holidays we were very fortunate to sneak back into the Technology rooms (with a few things still to be done this term!)

We look forward to a very productive year working with all of our families. We encourage attendance at school events and always welcome your feedback. Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Support Group teacher or Year Level Leader in the first instance.

Year 7 Family BBQ and Year 7 Camp

We invite all Year 7 students and their families to a BBQ at the College this **Thursday February 17th at 5.30pm** to meet their child's teachers, see their classroom and meet other parents. There will be a very short presentation due to COVID restrictions to assist families with some of the technical aspects of being a parent of a Year 7 student, Compass and expectations.

More details will be given on the night, however, just a reminder that the Year 7 Camp will soon be upon us and permission and payment are needed to confirm your child's place. The camp is a great place to make new friends and build relationships with our Year 7 staff.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our College Captains for 2022, Emily Hay and Amy Morris College Captains, Ziggy Kneebone and Makayla Peers Vice Captains. We look forward to seeing their input into the school and our community over the coming year.



Key Dates

Thursday 17th February
Year 7 Family BBQ
Year 7 Courtyard 5.30pm

Monday 21st February
School Photo Catch Up Day

Thursday 10th March
Parent/Student/
Teacher Conferences
12.45pm - 7.30pm
Free BBQ All Day

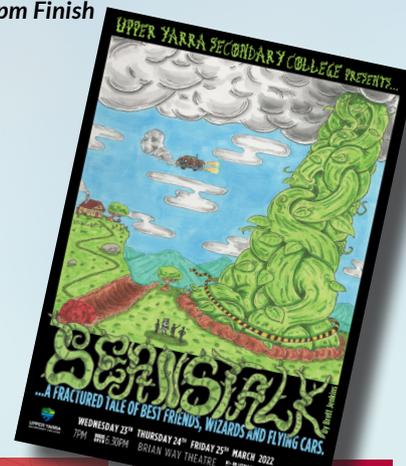
Monday 14^h March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Wednesday 23rd March to
Friday 25th March
School Production 'Beanstalk'
Brian Way Theatre
7.00pm

Friday 1st April
Cross Country

Monday 4th April to
Wednesday 6th April
Year 7 Phillip Island Camp

Monday 8th April
Last Day Term Two
2.30pm Finish



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STUDENTS OF WEEK

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RESPECT · RESPONSIBILITY · EXCELLENCE · RESILIENCE



For an excellent start to UYSC:

WILLIAM SIMMONS

Year 7



For enthusiasm and excellent participation in Literacy:

MARGHERITA MASON

Year 8



For demonstrating responsibility and respect by supporting the school community:

HILL GANNON

Year 9



For his attitude and commitment and for being respectful to staff and peers:

BRODIE FULFORD

Year 10



For his excellent start in English and Psychology:

KOBI ROSTROM

Year 11



For her positive attitude, and helping students through challenging activities on the Summit Camp:

AMY MORRIS

Year 12

Meet the Teacher - Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences will be held at the College on **Thursday March 10th**. It will not only be a chance to meet your child's teachers, but a chance to give them any information that may help them teach your child this semester.

Due to COVID restrictions regarding vaccine mandates and the prevalence of it in the community, we are attempting to meet the needs of all families. This year families will have the option of face to face, virtual or a phone call at a later time.

We hope to see as many families as possible for Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences, there will be a BBQ for most of the day, so feel free to come by and grab a sausage.

Class of 2021

Congratulations to the Class of 2021! When VCE results and Tertiary offers were released, all students applying for tertiary placement were successful! Although some are taking some time off, we are proud of all of our students after a very tough VCE or VCAL 2 years! We all acknowledge 2020 and 2021 was a particularly difficult time for students and especially Year 12 students, however, both the VCE and the VCAL classes did extremely well and should be congratulated.

Scott Tully | Principal

Beanstalk: A Fractured Tale of Best Friends, Wizards & Flying Cars



Tickets are now on sale for Upper Yarra Secondary College's 2021/2022 production!

Due to COVID, we haven't been able to perform a school production since 2019. It has been a gruelling and challenging process that makes us even more excited and revved up to bring you a performance filled with laughter, joy, shock, and hope.

'Follow the adventures of Jack who, after losing his memory in a very, very, convenient accident, marries his childhood best friend, Jill. Together with his loveable pet cow, Patty, Jack adventures up the Beanstalk to prove he has a purpose in life. Let's just hope an obnoxious prince, deranged wizard and local council restrictions don't get in the way...'

Bookings:

<https://compasstix.com/event/825fa1dd-3a96-41f1-98e7-c5915472db29>

Session dates are Wednesday 23rd, Thursday 24th, and Friday 25th February. All sessions commence at 7.00 pm.

Brett Jenkins | School Production

Due to government restrictions, all patrons (over the age of 18 years) must provide proof of vaccination upon entry via QR check in or provide evidence of a medical exemption.

UPPER YARRA SECONDARY COLLEGE PRODUCTION

Beanstalk

...A FRACTURED TALE OF BEST FRIENDS, WIZARDS AND FLYING CARS.

By Brett Jenkins

WEDNESDAY 23RD 7PM
THURSDAY 24TH 8.30PM
FRIDAY 25TH MARCH 2022
BRIAN WAY THEATRE

51-55 LITTLE YARRA ROAD
YARRA JUNCTION 3137

TICKET 312268

\$10



Year 12 Summit Camp 2022



On the 7th of February the Year 12s went to the Summit Camp for 3 days. The Summit Camp is designed to teach us to step out of our comfort zones and take risks through team and solo activities such as snake handling and team obstacle courses. We were able to learn how to apply these experiences into our everyday lives and our last year at high school.

My favourite activities were abseiling and the Monster course.

Amy Morris College Captain 2022



This year's Summit Camp was one of the best camps I've been to. I loved being able to experience unique activities that I normally wouldn't be presented with.

I did so many fun things it's hard to pick a favourite. If I had to pick it would probably be the leap of faith, which involved climbing eight metres up a tower and leaping out to a bar in front of you, with a harness on of course. It was challenging and rewarding, I didn't think I'd be able to do it and afterwards was so excited that I had done it.

We did so many fun, crazy activities including abseiling and holding a snake. I felt like those of us on camp developed a stronger bond with each other and I'm so glad I'll always have these amazing memories with my friends.

Emily Hay College Captain 2022







Swimming Carnival 2022



On Friday the 11th of February, the College made its way to the Healesville Outdoor Pool for the annual Swimming Carnival. A pleasant late summer's day of 25C helped create a wonderful atmosphere from the moment the masses arrived at 36 Don Rd.

It was fantastic to see so many staff and students dressed in house colours, keeping the spirit high. The behaviour of the students was excellent and it was pleasing to see such great sportsmanship on display.

Congratulations to Yuonga, who were the champions this year. I would also like to commend our 2022 age group champions on their fantastic achievement.

Thank you to all staff and students involved with the organisation and operation of the day: a great team effort!

Morgan Clark | Sports Coordinator

VCAL Baristas



The year 12 VCAL class ran the Coffee Cart at the Swimming Carnival. It was great to see the support we had from students and staff.

Kayla, Kori, Chloe, Taysia and Jake worked very hard all day behind the machine. We sold approximately 150 drinks with Iced Chocolates and Iced Coffees being most popular.

Megan Sloan | VCAL

AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS 2022

13YR



Female
Champion:
Kaylee Archer



Male Champion:
Jace
Savage-
Brennen

14YR



Female Champion:
Jade Bennett



Male Champion:
Ryder Rostron

15YR



Female
Champion:
Mackenzie
Hawkins



Male Champion:
Kade Partel

16YR



Female
Champion:
Jessica Bennett



Male Champion:
Nicholas Berry

17YR



Female
Champion:
Tahli Hird



Male Champion:
Tyson Henry

20YR



Female Champions:
Emily Hay &
Amy Morris



Male
Champion:
Tyler Bert

The overall winning house of the day -

YUONGA!

Yuonga - 970

Acheron - 784

Yarra - 577

Donna - 526



Sustainability Team 2022



The UYSC Sustainability Team has already started meeting again this year. We are a group of UYSC students who

feel passionately about improving the sustainability of our school and working on improving our environmental impact.

The Sustainability Team meets on Wednesdays in D8 and always welcomes new members. This year we are planning events for Clean Up Australia Day, World Environment Day and Earth Hour.

If you are interested or want more information, please contact Ms McGillicuddy at UYSC.

Erin McGillicuddy | Sustainability Team

I have completed all the work in my VET course so far, and have enjoyed measuring the alcohol levels.
**Seth Apps
Yarra Hills**



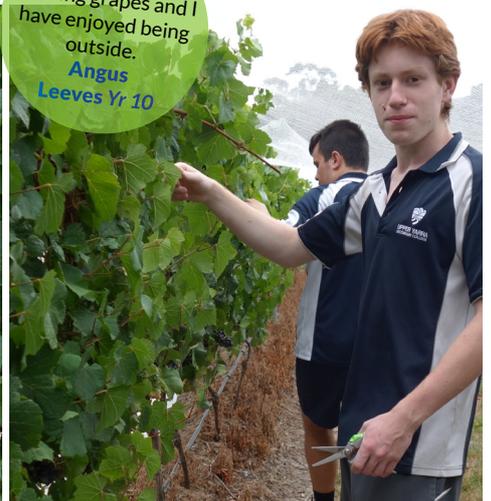
I have completed pruning the green grapes so the good ones come through. I enjoyed tasting the grapes!
**Ruby
Debono Yr 10**



I have completed pruning grapes and I have enjoyed being outside.
**Angus
Leeves Yr 10**



I have completed my research on terroir and pinot. I have enjoyed being outside and learning about how wine is made and how grapes grow in different conditions.
Blair Lawton Yr 12



UYSC Rain Gauge Update



Measurements taken from two different locations throughout the College in the beginning of November:

- Vineyard 00mL
- ICT 75mL
- Vineyard 2mL
- Library not accessible due to construction
- Average = 38.5mL

Tyler Reid | Yr 9
Steve Listopad | Chaplain



VET Wine Industry Operations Class of 2022



Two weeks in and students have worked on the following units/tasks:

- hand-prune vines
- WH&S
- team coordination of vineyard operations
- perform basic tests
- manage pests

Students have removed green grapes and also those affected by birds. When clearing the nets on the 9th of February, six starlings and a hawk were chased out of the newly netted vines! The class is preparing for the annual harvest in 2-3 weeks. A great effort!

Marcus Cook | VET Wine Industry Operations



Wellbeing
About
For Students
For Parents
Self Help

Wellbeing - The Elephant in the Room!



Just when we thought we could exhale, the newest Coronavirus variant Omicron has given us another gut punch. We're about to enter our third year of the pandemic. You don't feel bad because something is wrong with you. You feel bad because it's been bad.

We know how anxiety-provoking it is to again be thrown into the unknown, worrying about health and safety, disruptions to school and work etc. With this renewed uncertainty hitting when we are already exhausted, it's important to remember that as a community we are incredibly resilient. There may be setbacks and it may take time, so please be patient with each other and yourself.

Considering the above and the growing need for families and students to be able to access support, there is a new Wellbeing Tab. This is located on the Upper Yarra Secondary home page. It contains useful links, videos and information. I encourage you to please check it out and we welcome any feedback!

I am genuinely excited to be back, and I hope to make a positive start to the school year. On behalf of the Wellbeing team, we look forward to working alongside our students and families to facilitate a smooth transition for Term 1.

Martine Henderson | Mental Health Practitioner



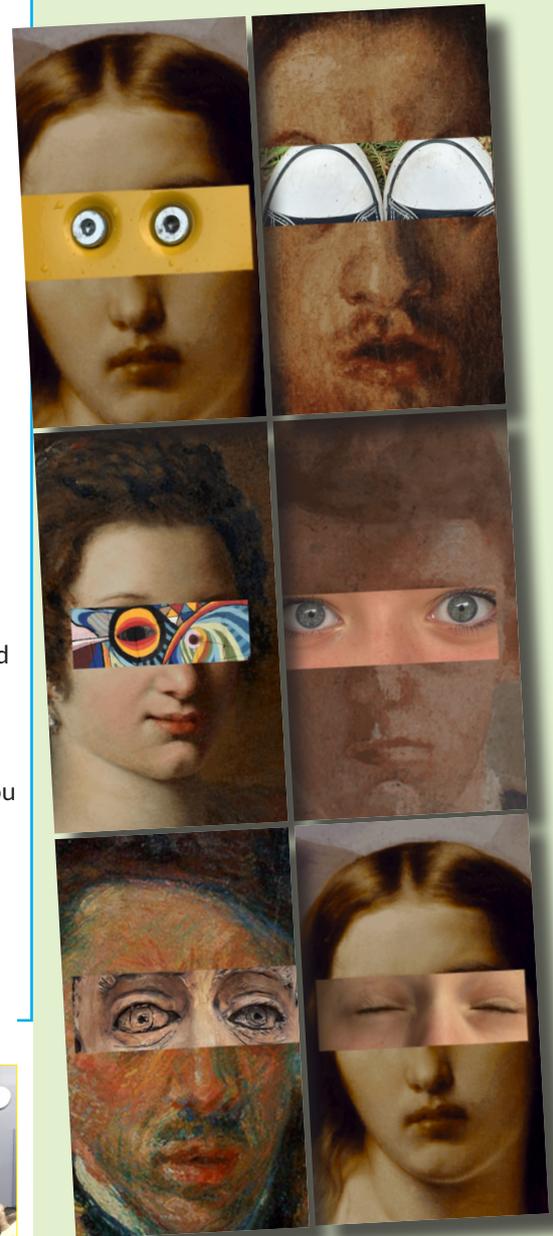
Be Wise - Together We Can End the Coward Punch



This presentation by Ben was very valuable for our Year 9 students at Upper Yarra Secondary College. Students listened intently as Ben shared Pat's story and reflected on the ongoing impacts of social violence on the victim, perpetrator, and wider community. The presentation has also given teachers a powerful story to draw upon when talking with students about violence.

We thank the Pat Cronin Foundation for visiting our school and giving students such a unique learning opportunity. We hope to have the Pat Cronin Foundation back to Upper Yarra Secondary College in the future.

Tracey Smedley | Wellbeing Coordinator



Year 9 Photography



The Year 9 Photography class made a great start to the semester. In class they created Peekaboo Portraits using a filter taken from famous paintings with the eyes missing.

All of their work showed great creativity and many of them thought outside the box.

Laura Molan | Yr9 Photography

UYSC Building Program



There has been a huge amount of activity at the College over the summer break.

The Technology building refurbishment was 95%

completed, allowing us to move in on day one of the new school year. The refurbishment has given us two new Art classrooms (T3 & T4), a new Staff room and refurbished workshops.

Demolition of E block occurred in late January and once all remnants were removed, preparations for landscaping began.

The Canteen has been gutted with services being run in preparation for a complete renovation.

Construction of the two new Art rooms between the Library and Technology will commence following groundworks in that area.

Michael Schultz | Assistant Principal





New Senior School Locker Building

There is a new Senior School locker building being erected at the end of the V rooms.



The new area will be for all Senior School students, and will allow more room for the increasing number of them.

The new locker area will allow more students access to lockers, clear more room for students to move to their classes on time, and free up the current locker area for studying and talking.

Courtesy of Panorama Plumbing and Building services.

Taysia Reihana & Jake Wiffen Yr 12

We interviewed both students and staff to see why they were excited about this project.

"I am looking forward to seeing some new space in the school." Jake

"More spacious." Dale

"Opening up the rest of the V area for more student access." Mr Freeman

"I'm really excited for the locker area to be done." George

"I am looking forward to having more space." Bridie

"I'm super keen for the locker area to be done." Jasper

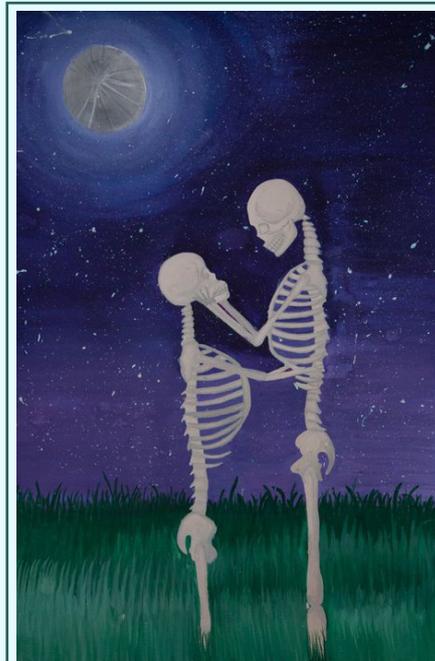
"I want you to have the open space." Mr Tully

"That it's opening up the area so it looks nice to use." Mr Fay

"The area having more space." Alison

"More room and more space for students to study." Miss Owen

Kori Gannon, Chloe Gell & Kayla Mercuri Yr 12



YAE Project Youth Art Exhibition

Year 12 student, Maeryn Bird, was the winner of the People's Choice Award and also won 1st Prize in the Cansons Awards in this Project which has been exhibiting at YAVA in Healesville.



Congratulations Maeryn!

CHEFS OF THE WEEK



Year 10 Employment Pathways - EP Program

We have started our exciting new development to help our Year 10 students into their future employment.

We currently have 20 students enrolled in the program and they are undertaking a modified curriculum on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays at UYSC designed to meet their current individual needs and their emerging needs as they seek employment from 2023 onwards.

On Wednesdays they are undertaking a VET course and on Thursdays they undertake a work placement. This gives the students a broad spectrum of learning and experience and provides them with an ideal preparation for an apprenticeship or career of their choice.

The students have made a good start to the year and many have thrived in an environment that reinforces to them that UYSC is a place filled with passionate staff that are keen to meet students' needs and give them the best start possible in their adult life. Even Mr Tully is hands on, teaching Art with the students for Term 1.

Mitchell Gray | *Employment Pathways*



Year 9 Science - The Brain and Nervous System



Students in Year 9 Science have started this year learning about the nervous system and their brains. So far, they've been learning about the different parts of the brain and their different functions. Part of this has meant completing some practical experiments that tested their memory, thinking speed, and hand-eye coordination.

Today, students completed experiments on mirror drawing - tracing a star while only able to see the reflection of their hand and the paper in a mirror, measuring how long it took them and how many mistakes they made. They quickly discovered it was much harder than they first expected but enjoyed the challenge!

Claire Baillie | *Yr 9 Science*



Chess Club

Chess Club has made a great start to 2022, moving to an outdoor space to accommodate the limited indoor space in the library this year. Challenge a friend to a game of chess at lunchtime each Wednesday!

Paul Jefimenko | *Chess Master*

Percussion Lessons

Percussion/ drum kit lessons are available on Fridays.

Please see Mr Easton in the Music Department on Fridays or Mr Conway for more information.

Travis Easton | *Instrumental Music*

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The Start of Year 7



The Class of 2027 have started their schooling journey in a very positive and enthusiastic manner. Everyone has settled into life at UYSC well, despite the school looking very different to what they remembered from Orientation last year. Lockers have been organised, books and equipment brought to class and the uniform and mask-wearing has been fantastic. Students have been helping each other find classes around the school and all the teachers are very impressed with students' behaviour.

Laura Molan | Year 7 Team

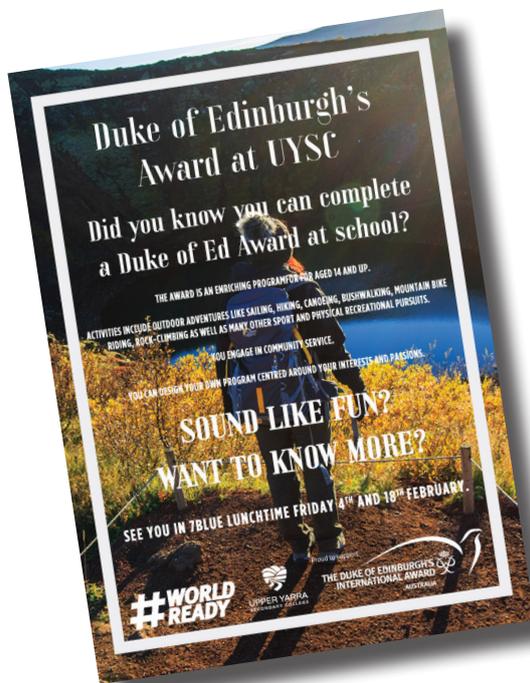
"I remember my first day in Year 7. I wish I could say I was confident, but unfortunately, I wasn't. Truth be told, I was a nervous wreck. There were many things I was scared of. I was scared of being late, not fitting in, and a plethora of other things, but all the teachers welcomed me with open arms. I am so grateful I came to Upper Yarra Secondary College. I love it here."

Kyra Cathie Yr 7

"Coming to Upper Yarra was a dream for me. I was so excited to come and meet my class once again. I enjoy their company and the teachers are amazing. Everyone is so nice and it is such a big difference to primary school. It's about what you put in. I know for sure Upper Yarra was the right choice for me and I know it will live up to its amazing expectations."

Darcy Caldwell Yr 7





Duke of Edinburgh Award at UYSC



Did you know you can complete a Duke of Ed Award at school?

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an internationally recognised award that helps empower young Australians. It is used to explore their full potential and find their purpose, passion and place in the world.

Students will learn a skill, improve their physical wellbeing, volunteer in their community and experience an adventurous journey. The journey may include rock climbing, hiking, canoeing etc. The program is designed so students choose each of the components and each individual will have their own tailored pathway to completing the award.

The Award is an enriching program for for ages 14 and up.

Sound like fun? Want to know more?

Meeting at lunchtime in the 7Blue room on Friday the 18th of February.

All enquiries, contact Ben Blattman, Duke of Ed Coordinator.

Ben Blattman | Duke of Ed Coordinator



After School Maths Class

Students who would like some help with their Maths work are given the opportunity to come to an optional class on Thursdays at 3.15.

Here are some students working hard to improve their knowledge and skills in a friendly and supportive environment.

Many who regularly attend have formed friendships. They often help each other and encourage other less enthusiastic students to attend. Students range in age and maths level are all assisted by teachers at their level.

Paul Jefimenko | Mathematics

After School English Class



After-school English class is each **Tuesday 3.15 - 4.15** in room 7B. Please come along if you would like a space to complete your English homework and some extra help from an English teacher.

Joanne Cogan | English Domain Leader

After School Maths Class

After school Maths is every **Thursday 3.15 to 4.30** in the 7B room for students who would like extra help outside of their Maths classes with a variety of Maths teachers. All students are welcome and are expected to work quietly and respectfully.

Paul Jefimenko | Mathematics



Library News

"A library's a library, no matter how small."

Welcome Back to the UYSC Library! The library is open, now squeezed cozily into a classroom (D7), and the Computer Lab is in D6 next to a temporary IT Office. While the space is small, it is nice to be so close to the Year 7 area and the Year 10s. We are quite impressed with how we managed to fit all the books into such a small space and want to thank everyone who helped at the end of last year - we couldn't have done it without you! Our turtles - Oki "Protector" and Tani "Glorious Soldier" made the move quite happily and have certainly not lost their appetites.

It has been wonderful to see so many students enthusiastic about finding the right book to read. We have enjoyed getting to know our new Year 7s, setting up their devices and introducing them to our ever-expanding book collection. They already know a lot about books, and we hope we can keep up with the demand! It's also great to see so many students at recess and lunchtime coming in to sit and read (there are a couple of seats!), look at the books, or take part in lunchtime activities. What a positive start to 2022!

We look forward to another exciting year in the Library. See you soon.

Breathe in.

The Library Team



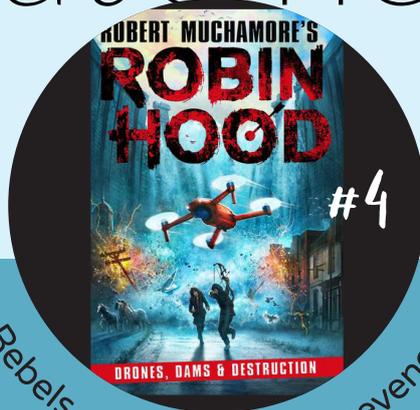
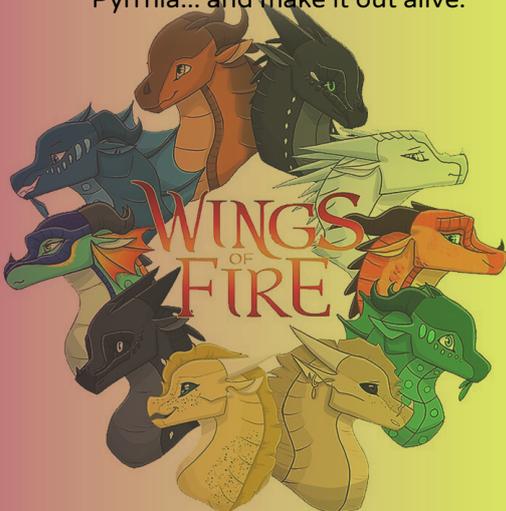
What's new?!



Fantasy, dragons, graphic novel

"Buried secrets, deadly surprises..."

The Dragonets of Destiny must finally bring the epic war to an end, reconcile the seven tribes, and choose the next queen of Pyrrhia... and make it out alive.



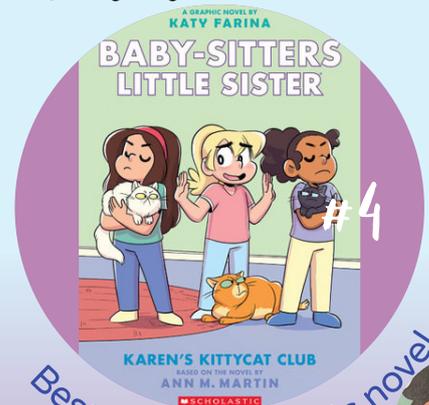
Rebels, riots, robberies, revengeets

"The legend you know! But not as you've seen him before..."

Robin and Marion join in an audacious plan to scupper their oppressors, but the the Sheriff has her response prepared - and it's ferocious.

Have they bitten off more they can chew this time?

ROBIN HOOD



Best friends, graphic novel

"Will anyone want to hire Karen?!"

Karen's best friend Hannie just got an adorable new kitten. Their neighbour Amanda has a cat, too, and Karen has grumpy old Boo-Boo. Karen wants to start a Kittycat Club! Karen can't baby-sit like her big sister Kristy... but she can cat-sit!

Will anyone want to hire Karen?

