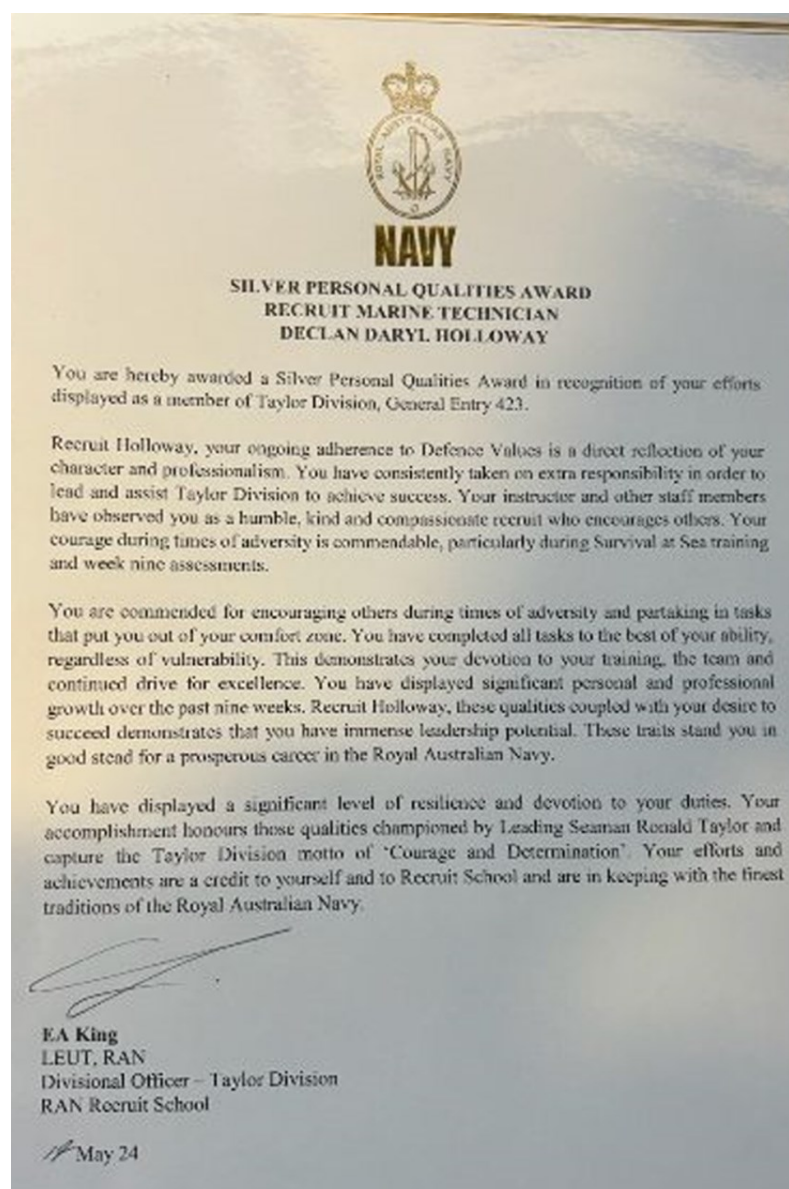


## Celebrating the Wonderful Success of Past Students

Declan Holloway transitioned from Stawell Secondary College during Term 1 to follow a pathway into the Navy. He has just passed the first stage of his Navy enlistment and in doing so he has received a Silver Award. The College is extremely proud of Declan, and we continue to wish him every success through his pathway.



## School Review

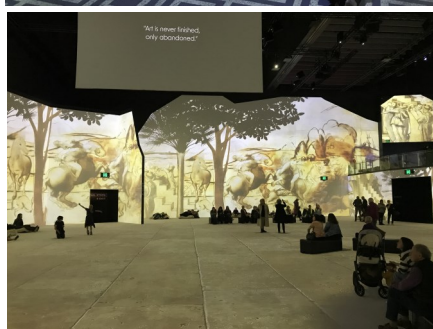
### Stawell Secondary College is focused on improvement

The Review Panel report will be presented at the School Council meeting on Wednesday 22nd May. Highlights and identified improvements include our staff commitment to improving teaching and learning, the school culture around leadership and staff relationships, the establishment of our school values through the embedment of our School Wide Positive Behaviours, student and staff wellbeing, camps program and the recent focus on enhancing student participation in their learning.

The direction for the school moving forward will be to further enhance our Literacy and Numeracy, student agency and voice, differentiation of teaching and learning in the classroom. The 2014-2028 School Strategic Plan will be developed with yearly targets and milestones embedded to ensure the school continues to enhance all aspects of student learning and outcomes.

# VCE Studio Arts Melbourne trip

VCE Studio Arts students travelled to Melbourne to visit the Leonardo Da Vinci experience at The Lume and also visited the Ian Potter Centre. Students enjoyed the experiences and these will contribute towards their outcomes in this subject.



## Student Illness

A reminder of the need to monitor student illness and respect the need to keep students' home if they have symptoms. A recent outbreak of COVID has limited our teaching capacity and with a shortage of teachers and casual relief teachers it has been difficult to staff a normal timetable at times. For this reason, I alert families that there may be a need to combine small classes or cohorts in the future to ensure we are able to supervise all students. This may include reallocating our Year 7 or 8 cohort into two classes or combining a Year 11 and Year 12 class into one. Families are reassured that the allocated teacher will have the capacity to provide appropriate instruction to ensure the minimal disruption to student learning. Our students and staff support this option instead of informing selected year levels to remain at home during severe staff shortage through illness.

# Chinese Program Report

## 2024 Education Perfect Languages Championship Achievement

From 8 to 14 May, all Chinese Language students had the opportunity to participate in the Education Perfect Languages Championship.

Students have achieved 56 awards, including 31 Credit Awards, 17 Bronze Awards, 6 Silver Awards, 1 Gold Award, and 1 Emerald Award.

We were ranked **7th** in Chinese out of **1018 schools globally**.

212,783 questions were answered by our students, and 77,024 points were earned across the last 7 days.

This is the best result we have ever had since we began participating in the Education Perfect Languages Championship. **You have all made our school proud!**

Special congratulates to the students below who achieved awards:

**Emerald Award:** Claire Scott

**Gold Award:** Blake Hyslop

**Silver Awards:** Leonie Williams, Alex Simpkin, Blake Davidson, Earl Pestijo, Piper Davidson and Noah Harvey

**Bronze Awards:** Claire Christian, Ryder Davidson, Sienna Santuccioni, William Evans, Miles Membrey, Ethan O'Neill, Olivia Hunter, Jasmine O'Neill, Lacey Bertram, Sarah Dean, Brighty Etherton, Shayla Madin, Scott Tulloch, Milla Harrsion, Kendal Clarke, Lexi Gooden and Hamish Morrissey.

**Credit Awards:** Gwen Elliott, Chloe Formosa, Henry Rooke, Deacon Bowen, Zeke Jamieson, Aryan Judge, Jason Arreza, Isaiah Taylor, Caitlyn Bell, Kayan Barnes, Emmett Perry, Blair Sheen, Shiloh Walls, Lylah Slorach, Eva Hurley, Kaylee Wright, Henry Albrecht, Brody Johnson, Clara Thompson, Ruby Nicholson, Noah Johnston, Nate Lyons, Soraya Eckert, Lily Moorfoot, Scarlett Rimon, Tyrone Jamieson, Tayla Sheen, Heidi Kane, Archie Hoffmann, Dylan Jansen Van Vuuren and Caleb Perry.

*Pictures of students who were engaged with questions during the competition:*



Our Chinese Dancing Club students (Hannah Scott, Earl Pestijo, Noah Harvey and Ashlee Marrow) performed a beautiful long fan dance ‘大鱼 (da yu, big fish)’ for our school Open Evening. We are inspired to conduct more performances around our wider school community. More events will come up soon!



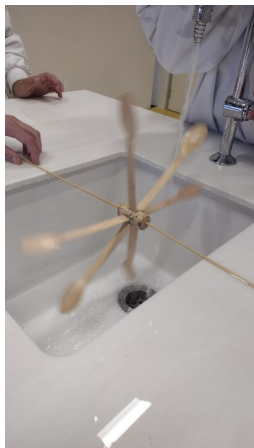
### Student Attitude to School Survey

**Stawell Secondary College values feedback to continue to improve our College.**

A parent/caregiver/guardian information and consent letter from the Department of Education is attached for your review.

This survey provides valuable feedback to support the development of our College and ensure our school continues to provide quality learning and outcomes for all students.

Student feedback is extremely valuable and I encourage you to read the insert and support the school in ensuring all students are provided with the opportunity to give their feedback.



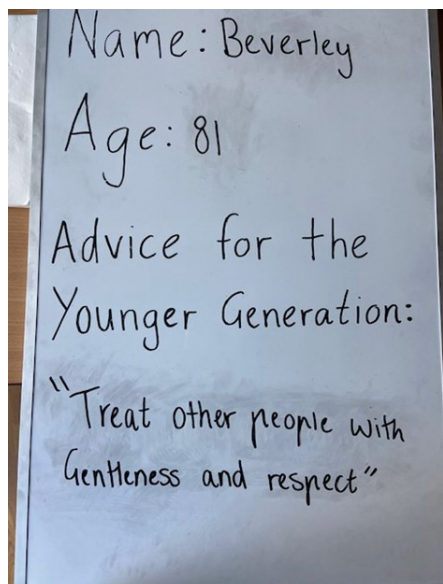
## Year 8 Science

8B students did a water wheel in class to demonstrate the energy changes involved in the action of a water wheel

### School Wide Positive Behaviours

To support our students and to develop a consistent approach towards our values, students are taught lessons which link to a College Value. This week the focus was around Resilience focused on "We seek help and support".

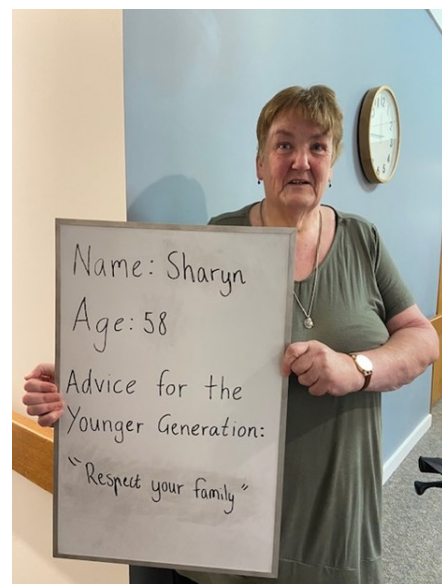
Last week Staff focused on Respect with lessons around "We follow Instructions". These lessons are valuable in developing a consistent understanding of our values for a safe and supportive environment for all Students, Staff and Families.



## Eventide Home Advice

Klancy Repper from our Year 12 VM class has decided for her project this year she would speak with residents at Stawell Eventide Home and ask them for

**Advice for the younger generation**



### Building Program

**Leading towards our building program.**

The School Council is proposing to hold a working bee on Sunday 16th June to prepare for our school building program. There are a number of areas that need cleaning out to provide storage space for reusable items that will be salvaged prior to the demolition of buildings. We have also received a large order of school chairs that require assembling. More details of how you can help will be provided in future Connections. Please save Sunday 16 June working bee in your diaries.

# YEAR 10 FOOD

In both classes this term students have been investigating diet-related diseases. Students were required to choose one disease and complete the following tasks: produce a PowerPoint addressing set questions, present this to the class, make a handout for their classmates, choose a recipe that addressed the diet related disease in a positive manner and then cook the recipe. An example of a diet-related disease and a suitable recipe would be Osteoporosis being a disease of the bones, so a recipe high in calcium would be beneficial. Below are the meals that the students produced in Mrs Priors class. Lekiaha: Curried sausages, Cole: Beef stir fry with bok choy, Ayva: Caesar salad, Lilly: Creamy carbonara with chicken, Addi: Grilled fish with salsa, Ivy: Caesar salad wraps, Deegan: Pizza and Chelsea: Mac 'n' cheese with a twist.

Mrs Prior



## Staff Professional Learning Day

The day was focused on "Improving outcomes through Student Engagement" with Adam Voight as the Keynote Speaker. Staff learnt a range of strategies and it was pleasing to hear our staff discussing new ideas around strategies and processes that would support their classroom teaching.

# YEAR 11 PSYCHOLOGY

In year 11 Psychology students have been learning about the brain and behaviour. The students had four hands on workshops to participate in during a double lesson including: drawing a brain on a balloon, making a brain out of playdough and labelling the lobes with toothpick flags, colouring in a brain cap and colouring in brain biscuits using food colouring. These activities help with remembering and are fun too.

Mrs Prior



## IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2024

17/5/24—18/5/24—Hanyuqiao Competition  
21/5/24—School Photos  
28/5/24—Student Leadership MS Fundraiser Day  
29/5/24—Year 7 & 10 Immunisations  
7/6/24—Year 7 Humanities & Chinese joint excursion



**Term 2 Parent Support Series**

**Free Parent Webinars**

Join us and Elevate Education for FREE 60-minute webinars designed to help you support your child's studies at home.

**Click here to Register**

*In Term 2 we'll cover:*

1. **How to Get (And Keep) Your Child Motivated**  
- 8<sup>th</sup> May @6:30
2. **How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams**  
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May @6:30
3. **How You Can Support Your Child During Exams**  
- 5<sup>th</sup> June @6:30
4. **Ask Me Anything (Live Q&A)**  
- 19<sup>th</sup> June @6:30





**MS day**

We are holding a day to raise awareness for MS

*What is MS?*  
MS or Multiple Sclerosis is a disease that can potentially leave someone disabled. MS affects the brain and the nervous system. MS causes communication problems your brain and the rest of your body.  
Worldwide almost 1.8 million people have MS. As of now there is no cure for MS.

When is MS day?      BBQ at lunchtime:  
Tuesday 28th May      Sausages for \$2 each

Wear orange or red (gold coin donation)

Wristbands will be available for purchase for \$2 each.

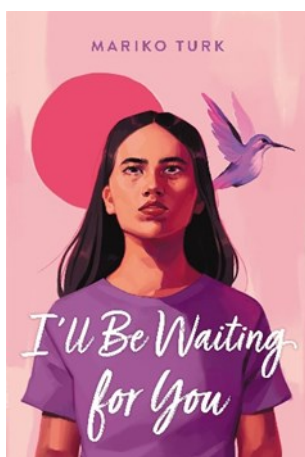
ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE DAY  
WILL GO TOWARDS MS  
AUSTRALIA

NAVIGATING MS  
TOGETHER 2024



This May, there is an MS fundraising event called The May 50k where you can run, walk or ride 50km while raising funds for MS research to find a cure. Please sign up and ask your friends and family to do so as well, as this is a great way to keep fit while raising money to cure this horrible disease. You can sign up on The May 50k website.

Thankyou!



### Book of the Week

I'll Be Waiting For You

Author: Mariko Turk

Natalie and Imogen are inseparable, and wildly different – Imogen is infuriatingly humble and incredibly intelligent, while Natalie is brave, jumping into danger and new adventures. Still, one thing ties them together: their love of the supernatural. Every summer, their vacation at the famously haunted Harlow Hotel.

Then, Imogen suddenly passes away from an undiagnosed heart condition, and Natalie is left to take on the summer before senior year alone.

Without Imogen, Natalie throws herself into her senior project: she plans to spend her summer back at the Harlow Hotel recording fun fake footage. And her plans would be a lot less complicated if Leander, her irritatingly attractive arch rival from school, wasn't working on his senior project at the very same hotel.

But, when strange things start happening at the Harlow, Natalie wonders, could there really be something to these ghosts after all?

## PARENT / CAREGIVER / GUARDIAN INFORMATION AND CONSENT LETTER

### 2024 Student Attitudes to School Survey

Dear Parent / Caregiver / Guardian,

This letter is to inform you about the 2024 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), which will be administered to all government school students in Years 4 to 12.

#### About the survey

The AtoSS is a voluntary annual student survey offered by the Department of Education to assist schools and the department to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and will be asking your child about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

ORIMA Research Pty Ltd has been contracted by the department to administer the online survey and will provide support to schools throughout the survey period via a telephone hotline and email.

This year, the survey will be conducted at your school from 6<sup>th</sup> May until 14<sup>th</sup> June.

#### What are the benefits?

Young people enjoy having a say! This survey has been running for nearly 20 years and is invaluable in helping schools understand student views to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience. The survey responses also help the Department of Education understand how student's learning experiences can be improved.

#### What are the risks?

While we do not anticipate many risks of participation, some students may find some of the survey questions personal and sensitive in nature. Should you agree for your child to participate, they are still free to skip questions or to withdraw at any stage if the survey makes them upset or uncomfortable. A teacher will be present during the survey to support students.

The questions are selected from validated survey instruments used in Australia and around the world, are strength-based, and tailored for each year level group.

#### What will my child be asked to do?

Your child will be invited to complete the survey **online during class time** using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child.

Please note:

- Student participation in the survey is voluntary and students may withdraw at any time.
- The survey is available in a variety of different versions to enable all students to participate.
- The survey will take around 20-45 minutes to complete.

#### How is my child's confidentiality protected?

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey from their teacher. The student login is an assigned identifier that will be used by the department to link data for analysis and research purposes only. Identifiable information, such as student name or Victorian Student Number (VSN) is **not** used for linking datasets. Some student demographic data (i.e. year level, gender, age, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status) is derived from department-held

administrative records and is linked to the individual student login ID during survey set up work to support survey administration.

ORIMA Research will only use student personal information for research purposes to facilitate the administration and data collection of the Attitudes to School Survey. To ensure the confidentiality of your child's responses is protected at all times, personally identifiable data will not be recorded in the survey response file that ORIMA Research provides to the department. All data is stored on servers located in Australia and access is restricted to staff who are working on the project.

All information collected about your child will be handled in accordance with the *Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014* (Vic), the *Health Records Act 2001* (Vic) and the *Public Records Act 1973* (Vic), as well as the Department's [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please note that consistent with the above legislation and our policy, there are instances where we may be required by law to share information provided by your child. For example, where there is a threat to your child's health and safety.

### How will results be reported?

Aggregated state-wide survey data will be used to report on initiatives and may also be used in public discussions of issues relating to student engagement and wellbeing. An example of how survey data has been previously used includes reporting levels of student engagement in the Performance Summary in the Annual Report to the School Community.

The survey results will also be reported back to the school in aggregate form throughout the survey period. Data or results about individual students will not be shared with schools. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified. Where there are low numbers of students, the data will be suppressed so that the school cannot view the results for that group.

Your school may share the results of the survey with parents and carers.

#### Options for participation

Participation in this survey is **voluntary**. If you **do not** wish for your child to do the survey, please opt out via email to your school: [stawell.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:stawell.sc@education.vic.gov.au) before the survey commences on **Monday May 27 2024**.

Student personal information will be shared with ORIMA Research to facilitate survey preparations prior to this opt out process. If you opt your child out of participating, then your school will ensure that your child is not provided with access to the survey. Student details will be deleted by ORIMA Research at the conclusion of the survey.

If your school does not receive a Refusal of Consent email before the survey commencement date, as above, this will be taken as your consent for your child to participate in the 2024 Attitudes to School Survey. However, as noted above the survey is voluntary: even with your consent, your child can choose to skip questions or withdraw at any time.

Further information about this survey, including the questions your child will be asked to answer, please visit the department's [survey information page](#).

If you would like more information, please speak to your school, or contact the department at [school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

Department of Education, Victoria