

House Olympics



Throughout Term 3 Stawell Secondary College is hosting a schoolwide Olympics. Students are being challenged to demonstrate our school values to earn awards and points for their house.

Week one's school value was Participation, throughout the school over 300 positive awards were awarded to students showcasing this value leading to a very close race to gold. Congratulations to everyone for an awesome start!

The current medal tally sees Lonsdale with one gold, Mackenzie with one silver and Black Range with one bronze.

This week our value was aspiration and in week three we will celebrate the inclusive behaviour of our students.



WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CAREGIVERS / GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Our school, with the Department of Education, is conducting our annual survey to find out what parents / caregivers / guardians think of our school. The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of our school, student behaviour, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage all families to participate. Our school will use the anonymous survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improve what we offer for your child/children.

We urge all of our families to participate in this important survey.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open from Monday 29 July 2024 until Friday 30 August 2024.

A letter, with the full survey details, has been posted to you today and an email will be sent to every family on Monday 29 July. Both correspondence will have the log in details. The survey results will be communicated to parents / caregivers / guardians through our Connections newsletter.

Although we are unable to see which families have participated in this anonymous survey, we invite every family who submits the survey to email our Business Manager, Marie McAloon, on

Marie.Mcaloon@education.vic.gov.au stating your Family Name and 'Survey Completed'. All families participating will be entered into a free Raffle with a prize of a \$100 voucher to be spent at any business in Stawell.

If you have any questions about this survey or you require assistance to access the survey, please do not hesitate to contact our Business Manager, Marie McAloon.

Thank you

Murray Hart

Welcome Back & Term 3 start: Welcome back to all students and families to Term 3. We have started with some good news. We welcome Matt Gilroy joining our teaching team. Matt, who had commenced some Casual Relief Teaching work with us, was keen to take up a contract position which we formalised on the first Monday of term. We are grateful for Matt's availability, and I am pleased to report that Matt has settled in well and students are already expressing their delight with Matt as their teacher. We also welcomed Jasmine Jagan, student support, onto our team and Tess Lourey, a pre-service teacher who will be with us for three weeks. Jayde Gore, Mental Health Trainee from One Red Tree will commence with us in week two of the term for two days a week. Finally, we are excited to announce that Christine Powell has been appointed to the position of Disability Inclusion Assistant Coordinator. Christine will continue to support students in our classroom and will work with Dean Greenhalgh to coordinate our Disability Inclusion program. Disability Inclusion is a new initiative from DE as part of the Government's approach to inclusive education. It provides extra support for students with disability in Victorian Government schools.



Talking About Your Generation

On Monday 22 July, the Stawell Entertainment Centre came alive. The highly anticipated documentary, Talking About Your Generation was shared at a premiere event, with the community. The intergenerational project, funded by the Northern Grampians Shire brought together older community members and teenagers, together they made a film. We had ten Year 12 VM students participating and six older community members contributing to the documentaries. Further to this St Arnaud Secondary College were involved with their VM students and locals.

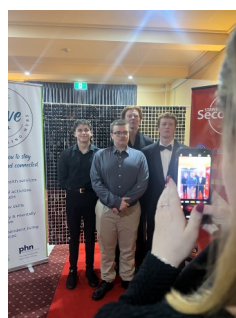
The evening was extremely successful, approximately 150 people attended. The foyer was beautifully decorated with the assistance of Zyggie, Larni and Tegan from the VM team. A red carpet surrounded by fairy lights welcomed the guests. Our VM students went all out to dress up, everyone looked stunning. The documentaries were well received and many have spoken of the connection they felt. That is the power of storytelling, it brings people together. Stawell and the surrounding Grampians were showcased in such spectacular fashion, there was a sense of pride circulating.

There is no doubt that the documentaries were popular and impressive, but what impressed us even more was the diligent way our students conducted themselves through the whole process. From the first meeting of both young and older participants on 19 March, the hard work and dedication began. From there followed seven full day workshops, spread over four months. There were days spent filming hours of footage, MANY HOURS of editing, and through it all, relationships building among the students and their older buddies.

From this experience students have learnt new skills, formed new friendships, and dealt with the frustrations and painstaking art of editing. While speaking about the benefits from our students perspective, their buddies have gained so much from these experiences. The one thing I heard repeatedly is 'our future is in safe hands with these young people'.

Thank you , Mr, Reynolds, Mr Greenhalgh, and Mr Bao for being an integral part of this project. Thanks to Mr. Hart for your support and Gaye Rahley for covering our classes while we were out and about enjoying ourselves.

Helen Giles
VM Coordinator



University Open Days 2024

That time of year has rolled around again where the universities are prepping for their 2024 open days. Please see the list of university dates below and go to their respective websites for more information.



Warrnambool—4th August 2024
Geelong—18th August 2024
Burwood—25th August 2024



Melbourne— 4th August 2024
Mildura— 14th August 2024
Bendigo— 25th August 2024



25th August 2024



Melbourne—11th August 2024
Ballarat—25th August 2024



28th July 2024



18th August 2024



11th August 2024

Year 8B and 8C Newspaper Scavenger Hunt

In English recently students participated in a competition to find (and paste) as many newspaper items as they could before other teams did. This helped students familiarise themselves with the layout of newspapers and know where to look for different types of information.

How many of these could you find in a hurry? You could try it out with your family or set a timer for yourself.

Andrea Brooks

Title of newspaper	Date of newspaper	A quote	A major headline
A sentence containing a question mark	A weather report	A picture of an athlete	A cartoon
A travel advertisement	A dental advertisement	A job advertisement	A house for sale
A graph	Channel 9 TV list	A birth announcement	An animal article
Something being given away for free			



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



School Uniform

As we welcome back students to Term 3, we would like to remind students and families of the College Uniform. It is expected that all students follow the College expectations and wear the correct uniform to school. Students that are not in correct uniform will need a note provided, which the coordinators will follow up with. Please refer to the Uniform information below.

Uniform

- Stawell Secondary College school dress.
- Stawell Secondary College tartan skirt or approved navy trousers or approved navy shorts.
- Stawell Secondary College navy and red polo top with logo.
- Stawell Secondary College red jumper with school logo or Stawell Secondary College navy blue polar fleece with school logo or Stawell Secondary College rugby top with school logo.
- Stawell Secondary College navy winter jacket with school logo
- Black or white socks or navy tights.
- Plain Black Shoes or black boots with no visible logo or pattern.

Plain navy scarf, plain navy approved beanie or navy beanie with Stawell Secondary College logo or plain head scarf (school colours)

Sports Uniform

Stawell Secondary College red Sports and Physical Education Polo Shirt with Logo, navy shorts, track pants and sports shoes.

If you have any questions, please ask.



Bike Safety

We wanted to remind students and families around the safety requirements when riding a bike or scooter to school.

Helmets

All Students – whether they are riding a bike or are a passenger – must wear a properly fitting and fastened helmet that meets Australian safety standard AS/NZS2063.

Where to ride

Children can ride on the road, but it may be safer for them to ride on the footpath. Children 12 years or under can ride on footpaths, bike paths, shared paths, and separated footpaths. If you are 13 years or older and you are accompanying a child 12 years or under you can ride with them on a footpath.

Scooter Safety

Helmets

All children – whether they are riding a bike or are a passenger – must wear a properly fitting and fastened helmet that meets Australian safety standard AS/NZS2063.

Where to ride

Scooters can be used on, footpaths, bicycle paths, shared paths, the bicycle side of separated paths, shared zones some low-speed roads. When travelling on a road users must keep as far to the left side of the road as is practicable.



State Cross Country

Congratulations to Jack Reading and Billy Williams who represented Stawell Secondary College at the State Finals of Cross Country last week in Melbourne. Both boys did a wonderful job in some very wet and muddy conditions.



Subject Expo next Monday 29th July

For all current Year 8, 9 & 10 students

1.40pm – 3.25pm Assembly Hall

Parents & Guardians welcome

Current Year 8-10 students will listen to teaching staff present on 2025 subjects



Careers Day 2024

Tuesday was our annual careers day for all students. This year a range of guest speakers attended our College to speak on their various career paths, ranging from Electrical, Plumbing, Victoria Police, Gasons Ararat, Medical students, IT programming to Exercise Physiologist – just to name a few.

Kwong Lee Dow Applications open now - Year 10 Students

Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program – University of Melbourne.

This is an academic enrichment program for high-achieving students in the senior years of secondary school and is designed to offer a first-hand insight into university life, this program helps students to foster study and career aspirations and helps them develop supportive peer networks that carry over to enrolment. Students who are successful in applying for this program may be offered a guaranteed place in an undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne, financial assistance to move to Melbourne, and an overseas study scholarship. Up to 5 Year 10 student from our school can be nominated for this program (via a selection process). If you are interested in applying please message Cindy via XUNO by 23rd August to determine if you meet the entry requirements of the program.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Split n Stawell – Stawell

School Based Apprenticeship or full time

Electrical / Refrigeration



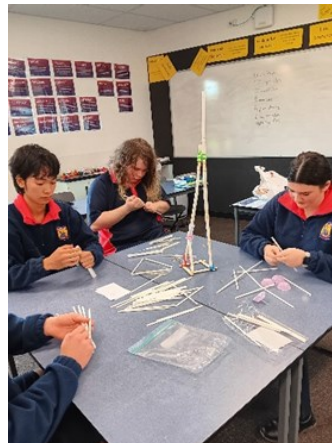
The Stawell Secondary College library is putting together a display of where the College has come from. We have had a Stawell High School hat, tie and blazer donated to the school. These are now on display in the library. If anyone has an old High School tunic, we would love to have it to complete the uniform.

The library also has several High School magazines, dating back to 1916, as well as Stawell Secondary College magazines on display and while we have a few Stawell Technical School magazines, 1955 to 1967, we would like to add more. So, if you have, or know of anyone who has some Technical School magazines that they would like to donate we would be pleased to add them to the display.

Year 11 Psychology

Were students demonstrating group think, deindividuation, social loafing, group polarisation, individual power, obedience or conformity whilst they were building towers in groups in year 11 Psychology? We are studying how people behave in groups and they were tasked with making the tallest free standing tower with random materials including: straws, paper clips, rubber bands, envelopes, patty pans, pipe cleaners etc.

Mrs Prior



Intermediate Basketball

After a mix -up from the bus company and both teams missing their first game, the Years 9 - 10 Intermediate Basketball Teams hit the ground running. Both teams faced some worthy adversaries, that saw our students live the school values of Participation, Resilience and Respect. At no stage did either team drop their heads, and this resilience saw Stawell B win by one point to St. Brigid's College. With each game both Stawell A and B grew in confidence and ensured that everybody on the team had opportunities to score. A massive thank you goes out to Charmaine Lockwood, who played all games and refereed in between her games, not to mention she was the only female playing against Year 9 and 10 Boys. We must also thank Adrian Lockwood who volunteered to referee as well to ensure the day ran smoothly. A massive congratulations to the following students: Max Croft, Tarkyn Currie, Archie Hoffmann, Tyronne Jamieson, Charmaine Lockwood, Jules Lockwood, Nate Lyons, Hamish Morrissey, Arley Perry, Blair Sheen, and Riley Walker.



Year 9

During our only Year level assembly for the term so far, we congratulated Hamish Morrissey, Brody Johnson & Archie Hoffmann, as team members of the Alpha team who reigned supreme in the Term 2 Challenge. Testing their general knowledge each Monday morning with various quiz events, the boys narrowly beat two other teams by only half a point throughout the eleven-week competition. The Term 3 focus will be more based on the use of our school values. We also congratulate Jack Reading for successfully reaching the State Level once again for his Cross Country running ability. Our three students who received Year Level awards, all for their Chinese class, were Leonie Williams (Aspiration), Lacey Bertram (Aspiration), and Brody Johnson (Inclusion).

Chinese Report

chūnjuǎn

To tie in with our Year 8 curriculum 'Food' topic, the Year 8 Chinese classes made 春卷 (spring rolls) during the last week of Term 2.

Caleb: I enjoyed making the spring rolls! It was a fun activity to participate in and I hope we can make them again xie xie!

Jazz: The spring rolls tasted so good, and they were really fun to make! I am very glad we finally got to make them!

Satria: The spring rolls were very good! The thing I liked about them the most was the filling.

Liam: I quite enjoyed making the spring rolls and then eating the spring rolls, they were quite nice and I would like to get the spring roll recipe and the dumplings recipe.

Charlie: I really enjoyed making the spring rolls. My favourite part was definitely eating them because they tasted so good.

Olivia, Ruby and Liv: Our favourite part about making spring rolls was eating them. They were so delicious!

Lexi: Cooking Spring rolls on Wednesday was a great Chinese lesson, my favourite thing was eating them, but I also enjoyed making them. They tasted delicious and I would love to make them again.

Scarlett: My favourite thing about cooking spring rolls was eating them and making them.

Henry: I liked the spring rolls because they tasted super good!

Shayla: My favourite thing about making the spring rolls was eating them. It was also nice to Melissa again!



2025 China Trip Information Night

We had a lot of interest in our 2025 China Trip. Thank you to the students and parents who attended the event. If you missed the Information Night, please contact Ms. Ling Zhao, Head of the Chinese Faculty. Spots are limited.

Year 9 Chinese Camp

Lacey: On Thursday, 27th June, the Year 9 Chinese class went on a camp to Melbourne. After a three-hour drive into the city, we arrived at the camp where we would be spending the night. We took our bags up to our level, then began the short walk into Chinatown for a delicious dumpling lunch. Once lunch was eaten, we went to the Victorian University Confucius Institute for some workshops. We participated in Kung Fu, Chinese dragon dancing, and Chinese calligraphy lessons. After the workshops, we had a large dinner and then headed to karaoke. Once the singing was done, we went back to the campsite to settle in for the night.

Friday had an early start, followed by breakfast and a short drive to Box Hill. We began with a little bit of shopping before heading off for more workshops. We learned how to play simple songs on a guzheng (Chinese string instrument) and some Chinese drums, then did some tie-dye. We then arrived at Haidilao Hot Pot restaurant for lunch, followed by more shopping. After a long and exciting trip, we all climbed into the bus, with the drive home involving even more karaoke. I enjoyed everything especially the hot pot and Karaoke.

Brody: I enjoyed the fancy restaurant and Chinese ink literature.

Noah: 我最喜欢Karaoke! (I love karaoke the most!)

Kayan: I really liked all the singing, the food and the string instrument.

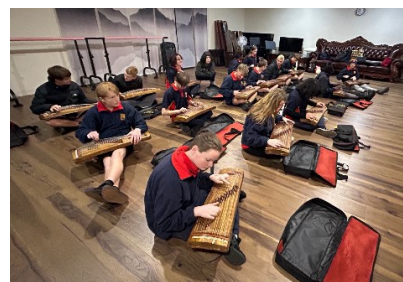
Heidi: 我最喜欢火锅和舞龙。 (My favourite was the hot pot and dragon dance.)

Leonie: My highlights of Year 9 Camp were the karaoke, walking around the city, shopping, the rooms, and the traditional instrument and all the activities at that place.

Isaiah: I really enjoyed eating hot pot and going shopping in box hill.

Blake: I liked eating all the Chinese food and activities at Victoria University.

Earl: 我最喜欢Karaoke和火锅。 (My favourite was karaoke and hot pot.)



IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2024

31/7/24—China Trip Pre-Departure Briefing
2/8/24—Legacy Public Speaking Competition
12/8/24—Staff Professional Development Day—PUPIL FREE
21/8/24—Music Winter Concert
3/9/24—23/9/24—2024 China Trip
20/9/24—Last Day of Term 3
7/10/24—First Day of Term 4



Acknowledgement of Country

Stawell Secondary College is located in the lands of the Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali people and we acknowledge the land which we learn, work and live.

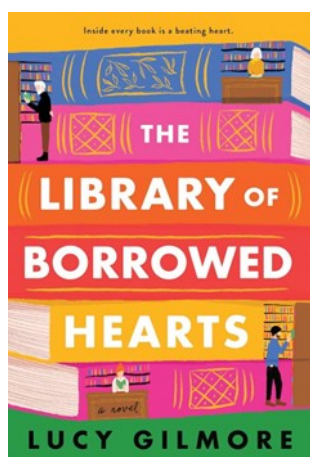
We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our College Community.

Staff Wellbeing: As with all great teams, wellbeing is an important aspect of our work environment. While student wellbeing is a major focus of our day-to-day routine, staff wellbeing and connectedness is also an important focus. In the last week of term, we held a wellbeing afternoon with an activity called “story time” and another activity which involved a sporting game. This was then followed with dinner at Barney’s. All activities were well attended, and staff shared the ups and downs of term 2 as well as their holiday aspirations.

Book of the Week

The Library Of Borrowed Hearts

Author: Lucy Gilmore



Chloe Sampson has been struggling: to take care of her three younger siblings, to find herself, and to make ends meet. She’s just about at the end of her rope when she stumbles across a rare, old book at the library where she works – only to be shocked when her cranky hermit of a neighbour swoops in and offers to buy it for an exorbitant price. Intrigued, Chloe takes a closer look and discovers notes scribbled in the margins between two young lovers from back when the book was new.

Unable to resist following the clues left behind, Chloe is delighted to realise this isn’t the only old book filled with romantic marginalia. But as she falls deeper into a breathless literary scavenger hunt, she’s only left with questions: What happened to the tragic lovers who corresponded in the margins? And what does it have to do with the sad old man next door, who only now has begun to open his home and heart to Chloe and her siblings?

In a romantic tale that spans the decades, Chloe discovers that there’s much more to her curmudgeonly neighbour than meets the eye. And in allowing herself to accept the unexpected friendship he offers, she’ll learn that sometimes the stories most worth telling begin in the unlikeliest of places.