

CONNECTIONS

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HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR DETAILS TO GET THE \$400 SCHOOL SAVING BONUS?

In Term 4, 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive the one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus.

The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs, such as school activities and/or school uniforms and textbooks.

This could be a great assistance for families who need to purchase Year 11 and 12 textbooks from the school booklist that will be distributed in the first week of November.

The School Saving Bonus is not available for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

URGENT Actions for parents and carers

Before 18 October 2024, the Department of Education is asking parents and carers to:

- **Complete enrolment:** If your child, or children are changing government school for Term 1 2025, or starting Prep or Year 7 in 2025. For more information.
- **Check your contact information:** Ensure your email address and phone number is up to date with us. You can check this information by contacting us directly.

You can also check your information through the XUNO Portal. Log in to XUNO. Click on School in the top left corner, then click on Contact Details.

You may change any area that is in blue such as your address and your email. Then click on 'Update Details' in the middle of the page.

We need to ensure your contact information is up to date as the Department of Education will email you twice:

- in October, to verify your email address
- in November, with your \$400 School Saving Bonus and access to an online system.

Please check your junk mail regularly to make sure you do not miss an important email.

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus, please see the flyer at the end of Connections.

It is most important that you contact the school and speak with the Business Manager, Marie McAloon, if you have any questions at all on this important initiative.



CLASS OF 2024

Stawell Secondary College
2024 Year 12 Graduation Dinner

TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2024
 6:30PM

STAWELL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
 \$60 PER TICKET

AVAILABLE TO GRADUATING YEAR 12
 STUDENTS AND TWO GUESTS

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE
 GENERAL OFFICE



**Tuning into Teens™
 at headspace**

Want to create a closer, more connected
 relationship with your teen?

Enquire about our **FREE** Tuning into Teens
 program and register your interest TODAY!
 P: 53811543

E: info.headspacehorsham@vt.uniting.org

Next program beginning online Wednesday Oct 23rd 6pm-8pm
Registrations close October 9th

Six session parenting
 program for parents and
 carers of young people.

headspace
 Horsham

Uniting

headspace
 National Youth Mental Health Foundation



RUOK? The
**Conversation
 Convoy** is coming

RUOK?

The convoy can help you to:

- Spot signs of struggles
- Have a conversation that supports family and friends
- Engage in the next steps

'Locals Know Best' workshop

When: Wednesday, October 23

Time: 10am to 11.30am

Where: Stawell Town Hall

Cost: Free

Bookings are essential. Scan the
 QR code to book your place:



Join us for a free
 BBQ and chat with
 the convoy in
 Wesley Carpark
 from noon to
 1.30pm
All welcome!

Transport from St
 Arnaud and Halls Gap
 TBC depending on
 demand





Legacy Public Speaking



After winning the regional finals in August of this year, both Sienna and Shayla had to write another speech based on the values surrounding Legacy.

We travelled to Ballarat to compete in the State Final with nine other competitors from around the state. Sienna spoke about the importance of remembrance and Shayla spoke about the importance of mateship for their five minute prepared speeches. Both students spoke fantastically and did not refer to their palm cards at all! Then all of the competitors were given five minutes to prepare a two minute impromptu speech on an unknown topic. The topic was “Colours”. Stawell Secondary College is extremely proud of Sienna and Shayla for dedicating so much time and effort into this. Even though they didn’t get a placing, they are still winners for standing up and having a go. Well done!

Mrs Prior



Mega Music Day

On Friday 25 August, we hosted students from Phoenix College in Ballarat for the annual Mega Music Day. Music students from both schools spent the day rehearsing a range of pieces in a large band format, where each instrument has a different part to play and pieces together like a jigsaw puzzle of sound. Congratulations to all involved. The concert in the afternoon was a great success.

Laptops for Students - 2025

Students who entered into the Year 7 Laptop program at the start of Year 7 in 2022 are reminded that parents and students may consider replacing this device for 2025.

Devices that are three years old can start to struggle to run the latest software required for many advanced senior classes.

Parents may purchase a laptop from our preferred supplier ‘Learning With Technologies’. The advantage of this is that the laptop has onsite repairs at Stawell Secondary College for all warranty and insurance issues.

Laptops purchased before December will have delivery for mid-January (stock pending) the following year ready for the commencement of Term 1, 2025. Families are welcome to commence the purchase of a new device whenever it is suitable.

Please check the Learning With Technologies to see what devices are recommended for our students.

Portal: <http://stawellsc.orderportal.com.au/>

YEAR 10 FOOD – INDEPENDENT LIVING

Last week the students were given a mystery box containing one meat product and four vegetables including: carrot, onion, peas and beef. They then had one period to find a recipe that included all of those ingredients and write a food order. They were allowed to have pantry items as well. The students did an excellent job in locating a recipe, completing a food order and then producing the meal. There were pastas, pies, bakes and chow mein.

Mrs Prior

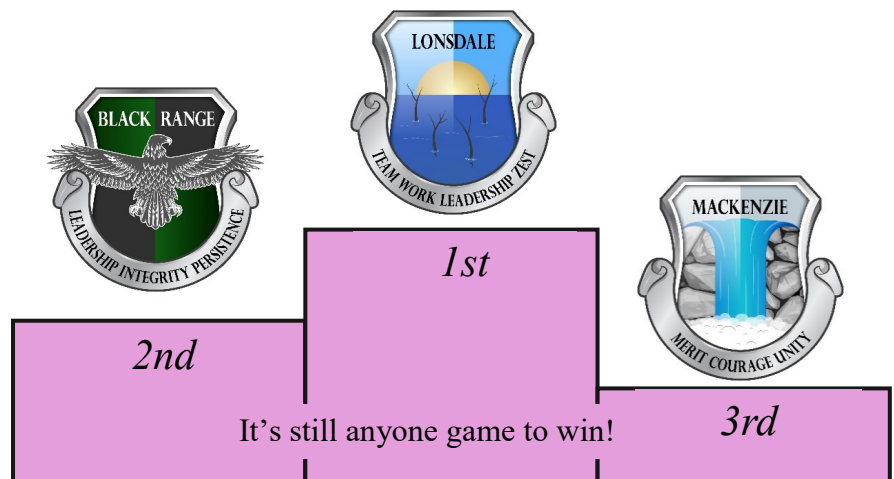


Olympic Wrap-Up

Thank you to everyone for their participation and ongoing support for this year's House Olympics. The results will be finalised over the school holidays and announced at our whole school assembly early in Term 4.

Week 10 had three sets of medals to be awarded – The week 10 medals for Respect, the medals for Friday's charity drive and finally a bonus set of medals awarded to the three students with the most achievements across the whole of Term 3. All these medals will be announced next term, along with the overall winning house.

The standings as of the end of week 9 saw Lonsdale in 1st, Black Range in 2nd and Mackenzie in 3rd.



YEAR 11 ENGLISH

Currently the students are looking at Argument Analysis. This involves learning about persuasive devices and paralinguistic techniques that are included in texts (written, audio and visual). We have been studying different issues currently in the news and then finding the arguments being presented, the persuasive devices used and the effects that these have on the readers. Students will then complete the assessment tasks which include writing an argument language analysis based on either an article or an audio piece and then researching and writing a five minute speech on an issue of their own choosing.

Mrs Prior

Year 10 Sport Education



It is that time of year when our Year 10 Sport Education class have the Grade 5 & 6 students from Stawell Primary School come to Stawell Secondary College and our students put the skills they have learnt in class to the test. The Sport Education program at Stawell Secondary College has been running with the support of Stawell Primary School for over 20 years now. Many students have participated as a young child and then gone on to take the lessons as Year 10 students.

VCE Physical Education

Over the last six weeks year 11 PE VCE students participated in numerous activities such as water aerobics at the Leisure Centre, a session of boogie bounce, pilates session at school, weight training where students made their own personalised workouts, and finally a fartlek session at the running track. These activities have been targeting our skeletal, muscular, respiratory and cardiovascular system.



Photos from China

See Connections next term for a full write up.



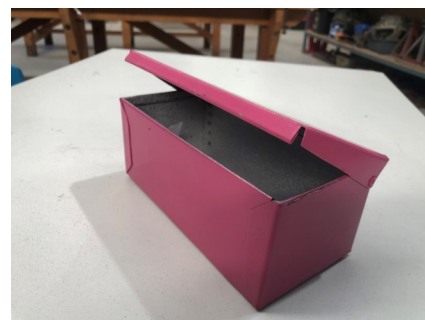


Technology

It has been a very busy time in the Technology Department this year and our students continue to gain skills in a variety of areas.

Our CO2 Dragsters are nearly completed and will be racing the first week of Term 4. Student's have studied aerodynamics and the effects on air friction and drag, to our modern-day machines, such as aircraft and motor vehicles. Resulting in increased fuel economy and in car racing, the difference between coming first or second.

In Metal Technology we have manufactured sheet metal scone cutters that have been a huge success at home. A sheet metal utility box and bolt figures made from scrap items found around the workshop or home has also been popular. This incorporated recycling into our curriculum. Noah Johnston demonstrated his handy work and made a biplane. As extension work for students who finish their work, the famous tin Ned Kelly has made his return into households! Claire Christian asked if it was possible to make a tiered sheet metal birthday cake for her Grandfather. My answer was why not give it a go and see if it is possible! Manufacturing a small windmill as a garden ornament was another choice by students. Several templates were made and then tested to see what makes the most realistic looking rose.



Parent/Carer/Family/Special Guests - Invite to **"Talking About Your Generation"**

On Monday 14 October at 1.30pm in the Stawell Secondary College Assembly Hall, there will a screening of "Talking About Your Generation"- a collection of intergenerational documentaries created by students from St Arnaud Secondary College and Stawell Secondary College, in partnership with local community members and the Northern Grampians Shire Council Thrive 50+ Healthy Ageing Hubs. This work explores a variety of themes in our communities and supports connection across the generations.

Parents/carers/family members/special guests wishing to attend are requested to RSVP by email to stawell.sc@education.vic.gov.au or phone 5358 1700 by Tuesday 8 October 2024.





ASPIRATION



RESPECT



INCLUSION



RESILIENCE



PARTICIPATION

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2024

20/9/24—Last Day of Term 3—Early Dismissal

7/10/24—First Day of Term 4

10/10/24—GWR Track & Field

14/10/24—Talking About Your Generation school screening

23/10/24—VET classes end

23/10/24—Final day of scheduled classes for Year 12 students. Whole school assembly.

17/12/24—Year 12 Graduation Dinner—Tickets on sale now at the General Office



Year 9

Recognising the previous two school values of Resilience and Respect, our students had the opportunity to reflect on their actions from the previous week. A.J. Logan and Kelanee Lovett's actions were a standout; however, other students were acknowledged by means of individual XUNO achievements.

For Year Level awards for students nominated by their teachers, we congratulate Luice Eslao, Lilly Dryburgh, Rhenz Laurente, Tora Crawford, Kazimierz Otuszewski, and Isabell Read.

Congratulations to the efforts and achievements by all out Year 9 students throughout the whole of Term 3 and we wish you a safe and happy Spring break.

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.

Book of the Week

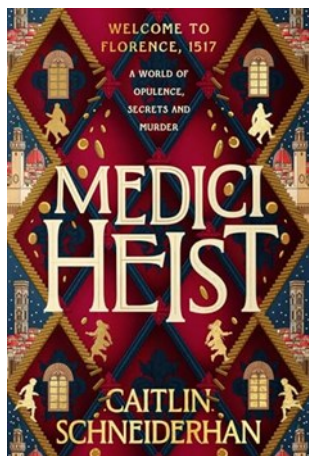
Medici Heist

Author: Caitlin Schneiderhan

Welcome to Florence, 1517, a world of intrigue and opulence, murder and betrayal.

Sharp-witted conwoman Rosa Cellini arrives in the city the same day that the Medici Pope, Leo X, returns to take up the reins of power. This is not a coincidence. The new Pope is extorting a mountain of indulgence money from the people of Florence to bolster his power and standing, and Rosa has a plan to take it back.

To pull off the Renaissance's greatest robbery, she'll recruit a team of highly skilled misfits: Sarra the tinkerer, Khalid the fighter, and Giacomo, the irrepressible master of disguise. But as the authorities draw closer and the Medici's noose pulls tighter around the land, old secrets resurface and tensions in the group start to flare. What began as a robbery could be the key to saving the city itself – if Rosa and company don't destroy each other first.



School Saving Bonus

Information for government school parents and carers

About the School Saving Bonus

The Victorian Government is making life that little bit easier for families by providing a one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus.

This support will help cover the cost of school uniforms, textbooks, and school activities like camps, excursions and sports.

The School Saving Bonus is in addition to existing and continuing means-tested supports for Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) and the Affordable School Uniforms Program.

The School Saving Bonus will be provided to schools and families in Term 4, 2024.

Who receives the School Saving Bonus

The School Saving Bonus is available for parents and carers of all Victorian government school students from Prep to Year 12 in 2025, except for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

Actions for parents and carers

Parents and carers of children who meet the School Saving Bonus eligibility above are required to do the following by **Friday 18 October 2024**:

- **Complete enrolment**
If your child, or children are changing government school for Term 1 2025, or starting Prep or Year 7 in 2025, please complete enrolment. For more information, read about [Enrolling in School](#).
- **Check your contact information**
Ensure your contact information is up to date with your school. You can check this information by contacting your school directly.

Accessing the \$400 School Saving Bonus

You do not need to apply for the School Saving Bonus.

The Department of Education will email you in November 2024 with your \$400 School Saving Bonus. You will be able to access it via an online system.

You can decide how to best use the School Saving Bonus for your family's needs. You can choose how to allocate the \$400 in the online system.

The bonus can be used towards 2025 school costs, which may include:

- camps, trips, excursions and incursions
- swimming and sporting programs
- outdoor education programs
- graduations
- school uniforms
- textbooks.

The bonus can be used at your school's approved textbook or uniform suppliers either in-store or online, or through State Schools' Relief. The list of suppliers may include a school uniform or bookshop. Any amount that you choose to allocate to textbooks and uniforms will be valid until 30 June 2025. It will then transfer to your child's school account for future activities.

Funds will roll over for use in future years if it is not all spent in 2025.

Families with more than one eligible child

Families who have more than one child at the same school can combine their School Saving Bonus payments to use on one child, or for a specific activity. So, for example, a family with 3 children who are all government school students would receive support to the value of \$1,200 and choose how they spend those funds. The School Saving Bonus cannot be combined across different schools.

More information

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus. Translated information will also be available on the School Saving Bonus website in the next few weeks.