

CONNECTIONS

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21/3/2025



Year 12 Physics Luna Park and Australian Synchrotron Excursion

The Year 12 Physics students of Stawell Secondary College had excursions at Luna Park and Australian Synchrotron both located in the Melbourne Metropolis.

These excursions exposed them to the real-life principles of physics that has been learnt in class and they all got fascinated at **Luna Park** enjoying different rides and learning at the same time.

At the **Australian Synchrotron**, the students were mind blown after discovering that a light produced in there is 1million times brighter than the sun which is used in helping to find solutions to many research questions and solving medical problems including cancer.



At Stawell Secondary College we strongly believe that everyone deserves to be treated with kindness and respect, regardless of cultural background, religious beliefs, gender, etc. **That's why we have a zero tolerance for any form of racism.** This includes comments, slurs, attempted jokes or any other form of harassment. If students are found to be engaging in these behaviours there will be serious consequences including discussions with teachers, caregivers and disciplinary action. We want to ensure that our school remains a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Let's work together to celebrate the differences that make us unique and stand up for one another when we see, hear or witness anyone challenging these values.

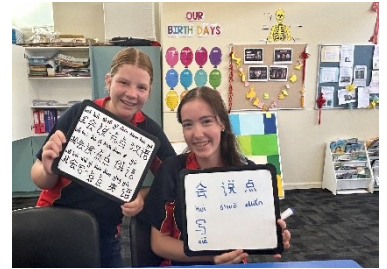
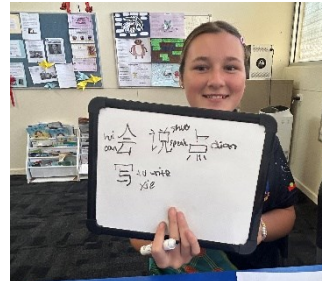
Stawell Secondary College's child safety and wellbeing policies and practices can be found on our school website: www.stawellsc.vic.edu.au. We welcome comments and feedback on these from our school community at any time. Feedback can be made to Murray Hart on 5358 1700.

RESPECT
INCLUSION
ASPIRATION
RESILIENCE
PARTICIPATION

Chinese Program Yearly Plan

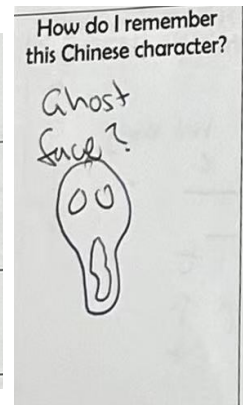
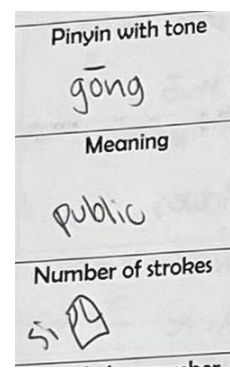
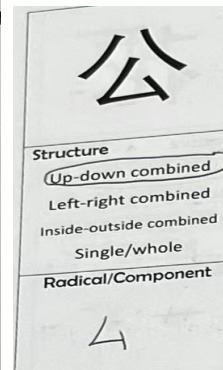
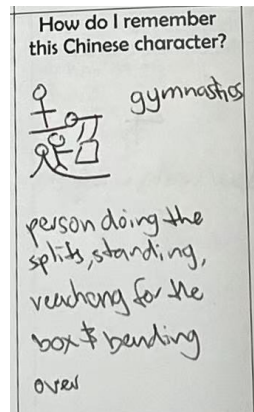
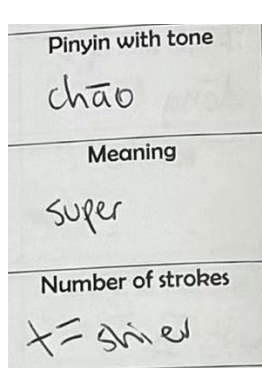
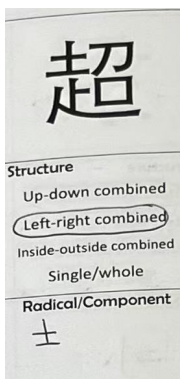
In Chinese classes, we continue to incorporate important study skills into our teaching and learning:

- **Retrieval Practice:** Use a mini whiteboard or a Hanzi writing book to reinforce new words and expressions weekly

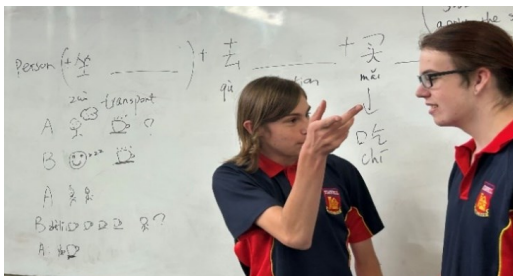


- **Make Associations When Writing Hanzi:** Visualize the characters or create a mini story to enhance memory.

Sample of student work: Can you find Blake Hyslop's Chinese book and find the Hanzi analysis parts and take some photos.



- **Use Visual Cues:** Incorporate visual aids to create sentences, stories or memorize texts.



Kayan and Scott are performing a role play in front of Ms. Ling's masterpiece—a series of visual cues about ... (see if you can figure it out!)



Year 9 students used visual cues to create sentences in class. This is a great scaffolding technique to consolidate their understanding and application of sentence.

Important Note: Our Year 8-9 Chinese Reading - Preliminary Competition will take place during Chinese classes in **Week 9**.

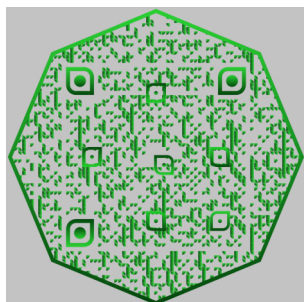
Year 8 students have been practicing the script diligently with each other in class! We encourage all Year 8-9 Chinese language students to participate. Students are welcome to join our lunchtime practice sessions this week and continue practicing at home using the audio PowerPoint sent via XUNO.

Remember: Practice makes perfect!

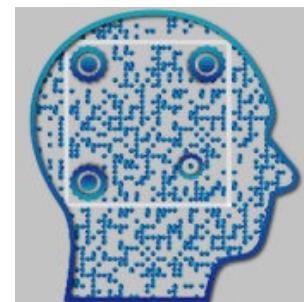
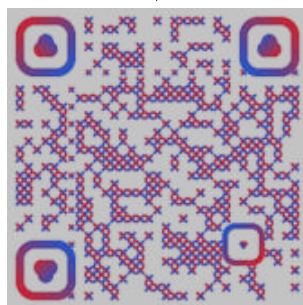


VCE Study Tips

Year 12 VCE students have had a busy week this week both in class and outside of class. Last Wednesday students had some guest speakers from Horsham Headspace come down and discuss stress management and coping strategies with them. They were treated to a Pizza lunch and their 'Study Showbags' during this time as well. The Senior School gave students a 'Study Showbag' to encourage and assist our students who are studying. The Study Showbag consists of pens, pencils, flashcards, post it notes and a digital timer. Please discuss this with them and encourage them to use these items. Research shows the ideal study time is 20 – 25 minutes on and 5 minutes off, which is why we have gifted the students the digital timer.



Sign up for revision lecture here!



Another great tip is developing a Life & School Schedule, feel free to use this QR code.

VCE News

1. Online Revision Session

The school highly recommends that VCE students register for online lectures during the Term 1 break. Please refer to the XUNO messages sent to you and register as soon as possible! These sessions are available to all VCE students studying Units 1–4.

2. Study Skills

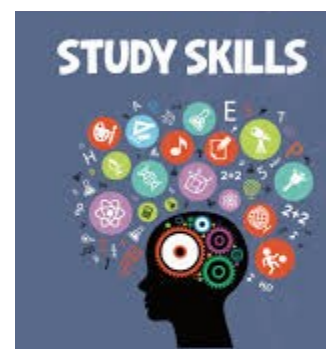
Study skills are essential, especially at the VCE level, where balancing a heavy workload, SAC preparation, and exam revision is crucial. Below are some key study strategies we encourage students to adopt. We also welcome students to share any study tips that have worked for them.

Time Management & Organization

- Use your study diary to track assessments and deadlines.
- Create a study timetable.
- Set daily and weekly study goals in your student diary.
- Prioritize tasks.

Effective Study Techniques

- Use active recall (e.g., flashcards, self-quizzing) instead of passive reading.
- Summarize key concepts in your own words.
- Apply your knowledge by teaching someone else.



3. On-Site Year 12 VCE Revision Sessions

Some subjects have organized Year 12 VCE revision sessions on-site during the Term 1 holiday. This is a great opportunity to reflect on your knowledge and skills and prepare for upcoming exams. Make sure you attend the sessions provided by your teachers.

NAPLAN 2025

Year 7 & 9 students have been completing their NAPLAN tests. It has been pleasing to see all our students displaying our core values of participation and respect during these tests. They have approached these sessions with a positive attitude. We are looking forward to receiving their results and celebrating their achievements. Families will be receiving hard copies of their child's results in the mail later this year.

School Council Elections

Parent Representative Nominations are required

Are you interested in shaping your child's future education?

Are you interested in developing policies to improve the learning at your school?

Are you interested in promoting student achievement?

Are you interested in how your school looks?

If the answer to any of the above questions is "Yes", please consider nominating for a position on the School Council.

We URGENTLY need your assistance.

Nominations close on Monday 24 March at 5 pm.

Nomination forms are available from the school office or email Marie.Mcaloon@education.vic.gov.au.

School Council meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7pm - excluding school holidays.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT IN MATHEMATICS 7 – 10

Our Year 7 – 10 students will be starting their next unit on Measurement. Students will be building on their skills and will be given opportunities to extend their understanding. Our building works in our school provide an excellent example of how measurement skills can be applied in practical situations. Students will apply their skills and understanding to a design project of their choice – architects and builders in the making!

SCHOOL SAVING BONUS

Have you accessed your \$400 School Saving Bonus for each child?

This once only support for families is very easy to use. This is your opportunity to purchase uniform items from Fosters Mensland at no cost to you. Simply take the code that was emailed to you last year into Fosters Mensland and select your items. If you have misplaced your code, please call the school office on 5358 1700 and the helpful office staff will be able to assist you very easily. Please do not hesitate to contact Marie McAloon, Business Manager, if you need any information or assistance.

Funds that have not been spent by 30 June will revert to your family account to be used for your child's camps or excursions. The opportunity to use the \$400 for uniform or book lists ends 30 June 2025. Funds will rollover on your family account for use in future years if not all spent in 2025.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The most important thing to remember that if you ever have any questions or concerns over any financial matters, related to your child's education, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Business Manager, Marie McAloon on email:

Marie.Mcaloon@education.vic.gov.au or Ph: 03 5358 1700 for assistance.



Breakfast Club

World Gold Council, London have recently given us a Grant of \$15,000 for the provision of food and equipment for the Breakfast Club program that is run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Pictured is Students: Kaleb, Dusty, Tom and Lylah
Stawell Gold Mines Staff member: Steph
School Nurse: Lisa
Breakfast Club helper: Andrew



YEAR 8 ENGLISH

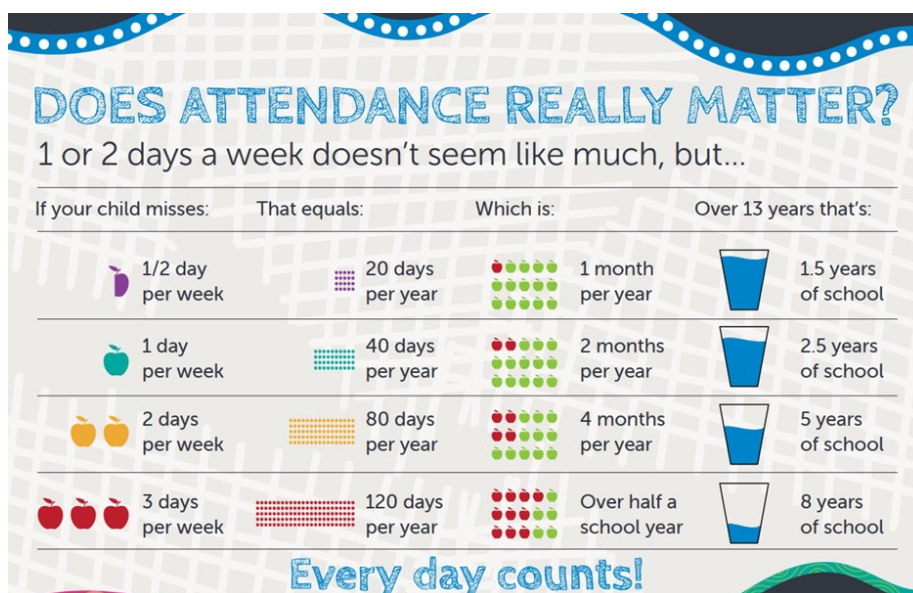
In Year 8 English we are just wrapping up our unit on graphic novels. In this unit students wrote their own adventure stories, which often saw them create unique characters who went up against interesting and challenging obstacles before ultimately prevailing. The students then got to take those stories and turn them into graphic novels, drawing key parts of their stories and bringing them to life with sound effects, speech bubbles and captions.



Senior & Intermediate Volleyball



On Monday 17th February, we took a Senior and an Intermediate team of boys to Horsham to try their hands at volleyball. These teams were made up of Year 9-11 boys. The senior team, with half its players coming from Year 9, were playing against teams made up of mainly Year 12 students. Having only tried volleyball before in PE and in the few training sessions run during lunch in the lead up to the event, the boys put on a great performance against schools whose majority of players play volleyball competitively. While neither team won a match, the improvement from the start of the day to the last couple of games was great to see and the behaviour from all students was impressive also.



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.

Year 10 Work Experience

Last week of Term 2 – 30th June – 4th July

Placements have to be sought and due to Cindy by 23rd April.



Congratulations to the following students:

Natalie Coffey - Year 11 – Eventide Homes - Administration

Austin Tyers – Year 11 – Northern Grampians Shire – Mechanic

Chelsea Walker – Year 11 – Northern Grampians Shire - Civil Construction

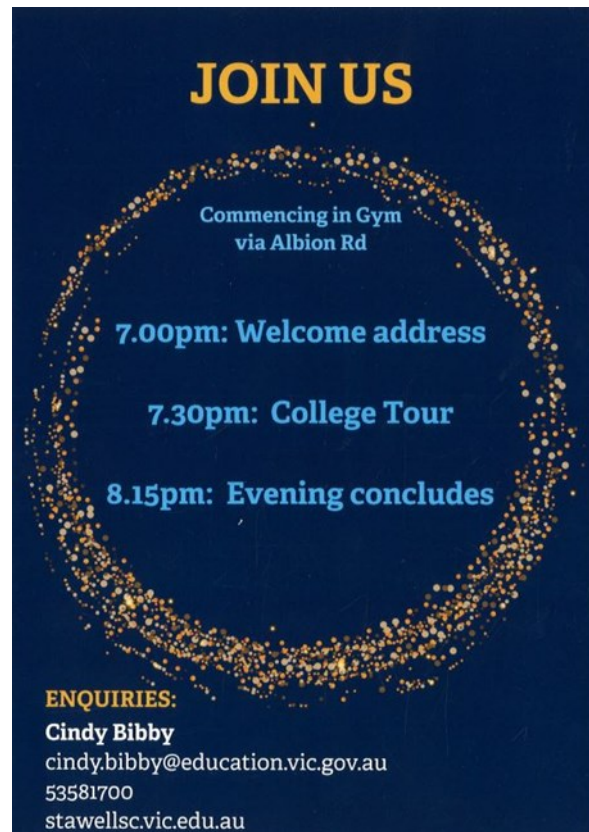
Students are undertaking a School Based Apprenticeship in the above-mentioned pathways.

Year 9 Careers Morrisby Program

Year 9 students participated in the Morrisby Online Careers Program a couple of weeks ago.

This program will determine the student's skills, interest, abilities in relation to possible future career paths and assist in subject selection.

This week all Year 9 students found out their results by speaking to a Careers Practitioner in a 1:1 interview.



Athletics Sports

Next Friday 28th March is our House Athletics Sports. Students will need to make their own way to North Park where they need to have their name marked off the role by their House Leader. Country buses will drop students directly to North Park and will pick them up there in the afternoon.

Students should wear house colours on the day and should bring a hat with them for between events.

Students will have the option to buy their lunch from the BBQ or will need bring their own. With temperatures expected to reach around 27°C, it is important that everyone remembers to pack water.

The Mayor's Visit



In Year 8 Humanities we've been studying Civics and Citizenship, and after several questions about our local roads and proposed power lines, our teacher reached out to our local council to see if a representative could come and speak to our class. The Mayor herself replied and said she would happily come in and answer our questions. So, on Tuesday 18th March, we welcomed Karen Hyslop. We informed her of what we had been learning about and asked what her role and responsibilities were as Stawell's Mayor.

We were then given the opportunity to ask questions of our own. We had some great questions which comprised of:

- The most challenging thing being mayor
- How do you resolve conflict
- A breakdown of what our rates contribute to
- How does council support youth programs within the community, and
- How we can voice our concerns.

It was great to hear the mayor's responses. It not only consolidated our learning of local politics but gave us a good insight as to how we can become a councillor or one day even Mayor!

Community Events



CKS SWIFTS FNC
COME PLAY AT THE CKS SWIFTS
 OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS TO JOIN THE FUN
 FOOTBALL PROGRAMS FOR AGES 4-17
 NETBALL PROGRAMS FOR AGES 5-13
 (OTHER NETBALL PROGRAMS FULL FOR 2025)

CONTACT
FOOTBALL:
 NAOMI 0438042828
NETBALL:
 EDWINA 0497874962

BEAUFORT FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB PRESENTS
BEAUFORT CAR & TRUCK SHOW
 WITH SPECIAL PERFORMANCE
 JOSHUA BURDON
 LIVE!
 SATURDAY 29th MARCH 2025
 GOLDFIELDS RECREATIONAL RESERVE
 19 PARK ROAD, BEAUFORT / GATES OPEN AT 10AM
 LIVE MUSIC / KIDZONE / SHEARING DEMO / WOOD CHOPPING
 STALLS / FOOD & DRINKS ALL DAY
 PRIZES TO BE WON
ADULTS ENTRY \$10 / KIDS 16-6yrs \$5 / USyrs FREE
\$10 VEHICLES / PRE-ENTRIES WELCOME
Email: beaufortcartruckshow@gmail.com
 GENERAL ENQUIRIES: GEOFF 0401 230 974

Proudly Sponsored by
Kings Scrap Metal Major sponsor PTY LTD
 GRUYÈRE TIPPERS


nab AFL Auskick
JOIN THE FUN AT STAWELL AUSKICK
 Every Friday of School Term 2
 starting Friday 2 May
 4.30pm to 5.30pm at Central Park, Stawell
 For children 5 to 12 years old
 (Must be turning 5 in 2025 to register)
 ** Volunteers needed - No football experience required **

To register or volunteer, scan the QR code or visit
www.playing.com/afl/register/e79751

 f Stawell Auskick



Year 7 Camp



From 3rd March to 5th March, our Year 7 students embarked on an exciting adventure to Halls Gap, staying at the picturesque Silverband Lodge. From the moment they stepped off the bus, students were immersed in a series of exhilarating activities designed to challenge and unite them. Our Year 7 students truly embodied the school values throughout the trip. They aspired to be the best versions of themselves, bravely participating in activities that pushed them outside their comfort zones. Whether it was conquering fears during abseiling or taking the "giant leap of faith" in the high ropes course, each student demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination. A highlight of the camp was the inclusion shown. Students rallied around one another, encouraging each other to face fears and overcome obstacles. It was heartwarming to witness acts of kindness and respect, as they cheered for friends taking on challenges and offered a helping hand to those needing support.

Throughout the camp, students engaged in a variety of activities that not only tested their physical abilities but also stimulated their minds. During abseiling, students felt their "Spidey senses" tingle as they descended the rocky cliffs, learning to trust themselves and their safety gear. Xander Bowen described the experience, stating, "We then started a little hike up a rock to do our abseiling, which was roughly 15 meters. After we arrived at the top, some people got a bit freaked out but others were eager to go down the rock and have some fun." The high ropes course featured a thrilling "giant leap of faith," where participants had to rely on their balance and courage, pushing past personal limits. From the Chautauqua Peaks, students shared awe-inspiring views and bonded over the shared experience of adventure. The hike through the stunning landscape became a memorable highlight for many. Jamie Simpkin described the experience, noting, "For the first half of the hike, we were in the shade of the mountain, and it was pretty fun. We crossed a river on the way there, and it was so clear that you could see plants at the bottom. There were lots of wallabies, and one was so close to the path that Bradley almost stepped on it! Then we got to the other side of the mountain and out of the shadows, and the sun was really hot. We kept going up the mountain, and eventually, we got to the top. The view was breathtaking and totally worth it." Sailing on Lake Bellfield allowed them to collaborate as they navigated the challenges of teamwork and communication while getting a chance to cool off from the heat. The students had a blast making and ultimately sinking their rafts.

In addition to physical challenges, students tackled lateral thinking puzzles designed to emphasise the importance of communication, listening, and teamwork. These engaging tasks encouraged students to embrace challenges, showcasing their problem-solving skills, creativity, and, most importantly, their resilience when faced with setbacks. Notably, these challenges provided a platform for new leaders to emerge within the class. Haylei Mitchell, in particular, stood out as she guided her group through a task they had struggled with repeatedly, demonstrating her ability to inspire and motivate her peers. The design of these challenges allowed for opportunities to fail and learn, reinforcing the idea that perseverance is key to success.

The most significant takeaway from the Year 7 camp was the chance for students to forge new friendships and strengthen existing ones. Facing fears and conquering challenges together created lasting memories and a strong sense of community. We returned with not only tales of adventure but also a deeper understanding of each other. Thank you to all the staff at Silverband Lodge, and Stawell Secondary College who made this memorable trip possible!





ASPIRATION



RESPECT



INCLUSION



RESILIENCE



PARTICIPATION

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2025

28/3/25—House Athletics Carnival
4/4/25—Last Day of Term 1
22/4/25—First Day of Term 2
25/4/25—ANZAC Day Public Holiday
28/4/25—House Cross Country



Easter Library Competition

Guess the number of Easter Eggs in the jar.

The jar of Easter Eggs, and entry forms will be in the library and the winner will be the student who is first to guess the correct number of eggs. If no one guesses the correct number, the winner will be the first student who has the closest guess.

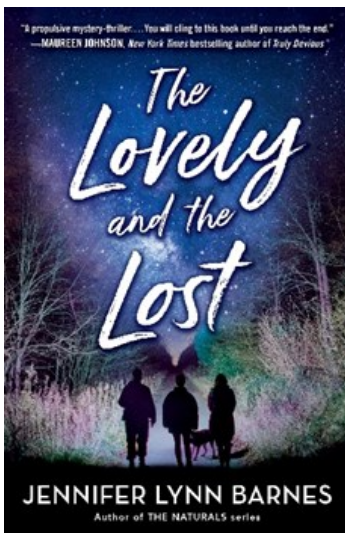
1st Prize: The jar of Easter Eggs.

Entry is free to all students.

Students may submit up to 2 entries per day.

Entry forms must be filled in correctly to be eligible to enter.

Competition begins: Wednesday 19th March and ends on Tuesday 1st April. The winner will be announced on Wednesday 2nd April. Prize to be collected from the library.



Book of the Week

The Lovely and the Lost
Author: Jennifer Lynn Barnes

A Forgotten Past

Kira vividly remembers the moment Cady Bennett and one of her search and rescue dogs found her as a child, living alone in the wild, with no memories of her life before. Years later, now adopted into the Bennett family, Kira has spent most of her life training in search and rescue herself.

A Missing Girl

So, when Cady's estranged father appears with news of a missing child out in the wilderness, Kira vows to bring the girl home.

A Dark Secret

As the search intensifies, danger mounts and long-buried secrets begin to come to light. To find one missing child, Kira will have to question everything she thinks she knows.