

CONNECTIONS

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Volume 36 Number 3

06/03/2026

Student Leadership at Stawell Secondary College

Student leadership plays an important role in building a positive, inclusive and engaged school community at Stawell Secondary College. Through leadership opportunities, students develop confidence, responsibility and a strong sense of agency, while supporting positive behaviour, wellbeing and school pride. All student leaders will work alongside the Principal, the School Leadership team and staff to ensure students are provided with the best opportunities to achieve their full potential.

School Captains

- **Sienna Santuccioni & Chloe Formosa**

House Leaders – 2026

- **Black Range House** Captains: Charmaine Lockwood; Alana Graveson.
Vice Captains: Isaiah Taylor; Jett Manns
- **Mackenzie House** Captains: Addison Hutchins; Jack Reading.
Vice Captains: Ador Kongor; Archie Hoffman.
- **Lonsdale House** Captains: Lana Harrison; Kayan Barnes.
Vice Captains: Ayva Mitchell; Declan Seaman.

Bus Captains – 2026

Our Bus Captains support the safety, wellbeing and positive behaviour of all bus travellers:

- **Navarre:** Harper Miller; Soraya Eckert
- **Landsborough:** Hamish Morrissey
- **Marnoo East:** Lilly Reading; William Hodder
- **Marnoo West:** Shayla Madin; Tom Jess
- **Halls Gap:** Addi Hutchins; Tora Crawford
- **Pomonal:** Tyson Field
- **Great Western:** Brody Johnson

Stawell Secondary College community congratulates our **2026 Student Leaders** and thanks them for their commitment to representing their peers and modelling our school 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

School Council Nominations

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers of the Stawell Secondary College community,

Our School Council is now calling for nominations to fill our four Parent/Guardian/Carer vacancies on our Council.

Our School Council is responsible for a wide range of decisions including budgeting, policy development and approvals of the school's strategic plans. However, the most important role is establishing the direction and vision for our school.

School Council is the governing body for the school, a body that can develop a vibrant new outlook for improvements and create an environment conducive to bringing out positive student outcomes. To achieve this, we need **your** help. The College needs a team of parents to work together, with staff and student representatives, to ensure our school becomes one of the best schools in rural Victoria.

If you want to contribute to improving your child's opportunities through School Council, please consider nominating for one of the vacancies. Those parents who become active on a School Council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

A term of office is for two years. Meetings take place at 7 pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at the school, during school terms. No special skills are required. Each parent/guardian/carer brings their own valuable skills, knowledge, and experience to the table.

Please see the self-nomination form attached. Should you wish to nominate please complete the form and return it to the school office by 5 pm Wednesday 11 March 2026.

If you have any questions or require any clarification of this information, please feel free to contact either Dean Greenhalgh or Marie McAloon on 5358 1700.

Form 5: Self-nomination form for school employee member category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a school employee member on the school council of **STAWELL SECONDARY COLLEGE**

Candidate's details

Name:

Residential address:

Personal contact phone (*mobile or landline*):

Personal email:

Gender (optional):

Statement

	Yes (Mark with an x)	No (Mark with an x)
I am an employee of the Department of Education		
I am an employee of the school council		
I am engaged in work at and for the school		

I accept the nomination, and I am prepared to serve as a school employee member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that:

- I am not and have not been insolvent under administration within the last three years
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council
- I have a valid teacher registration that is in force under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* or a Working With Children Clearance that is in force under the *Worker Screening Act 2020*
- I am not subject to a court order that would prohibit me from attending school council meetings in person on school grounds.

Signature of Candidate

Date:

Notes: You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and of candidates on a ballot paper. Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification of whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or- support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

REMINDER: ALL APPLICANTS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE THE SCHOOL WITH A COPY OF THEIR CURRENT HEALTH CARE CARD.

How to apply: Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. A copy of your Centrelink Concession Card will be taken when you return the completed form to school. Applications need to be made by Friday 20 March 2026, however the sooner you apply the sooner you will receive the funds into your account.

If you have any questions please contact Marie McAloon, Business Manager on marie.mcaloon@education.vic.gov.au



YEAR 7 UNIFORM PACK

(If you haven't already applied)

In 2026 every Year 7 government school student who was a recipient of CSEF in 2025 automatically qualifies to receive a uniform pack that is provided through State Schools' Relief. If your child is eligible and you are yet to apply for the package, you can apply for a CSEF Year 7 Uniform Pack by contacting Stawell Secondary College and completing the order form. We also ask that you arrange to have your child's foot measured at the school office.

You will receive a \$85 voucher for Foster's Mensland and a pair of school shoes.

You can call the General Office for more information on 5358 1700.

The most important thing to remember that if you ever have any questions or concerns over any financial matters, related to our 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.



Uniform and Appearance

Stawell Secondary College's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

- 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.
- HOUSE SPORT UNIFORM House-coloured t-shirt borrowed for House Events from House Leader and returned on the day. Sports footwear.



Junior School News

Camp week for our Year 7's next week! Yay!!

We are super excited to be taking 57 students out to Halls Gap for our Year 7 Camp from Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th.

Please note on the Wednesday 11 March all students will complete the writing component of Naplan in the Auditorium from 9:00am until 10:00am.

After this the fun begins and we make our way to Silverband lodge. Please note there is NO program for students who have chosen not to attend the camp. If you have questions or concerns about this please contact the school.

Looking forward to heading out to Halls Gap on Wednesday!!



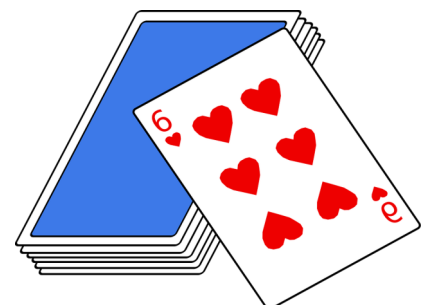
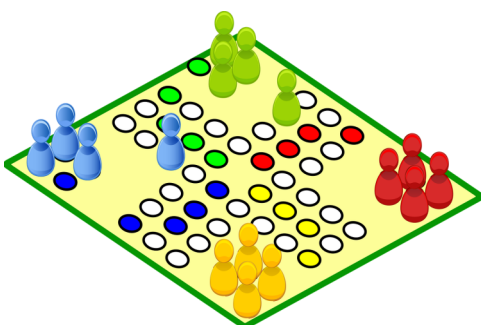
Junior School News!

We have some new additions to our Junior Hub space – card and board games! It has been fantastic to see so many students making the most of them during recess and lunch. The aim of the games is to encourage students to interact with their peers, have a laugh, and enjoy some relaxed time between classes.

These games will be a great addition as we move into Term Two and the weather becomes cooler, when spending time outdoors may be less appealing.

It has also been wonderful to see students showing respect for the space and the games by using them responsibly.

We encourage students to let the Junior Hub Team know if there are any games they would like to add to the collection so others can enjoy them too.



Whats new in Ag View!

We farewelled several classmates at the end of last year and are excited to welcome some new members to our Ag program for 2026. The Ag team has certainly hit the ground running, with a busy and productive start to the year.

Our first excursion took us to Studall at Wallaloo, where students were greeted by shearers working hard in full swing on a very hot day. Students had the opportunity to speak with Sam Reading about wool classing, learning about the detailed process behind classing each fleece and the important step of “skirting” the wool once it has been removed from the sheep and collected from the board.

We were fortunate to have some students offered the chance to try their hand at shearing. It was fantastic to see our students step up and embrace the opportunity. A special mention to Emily Grant, who confidently held the ewe on her own while shearing — an outstanding effort!

Back at school, we have assembled additional garden beds in the vegetable garden beside the VM space. This will allow us to establish a crop plot in town, complementing our existing plot in Kanya. With noticeable differences in rainfall between Stawell and Kanya, this provides a valuable opportunity for students to compare seasonal conditions and crop performance across locations.

Students also participated in another farm visit focused on biosecurity practices. They demonstrated correct cleaning procedures by washing down the school bus and tractors, reinforcing the importance of maintaining clean vehicles and machinery when moving between farming properties to minimise the spread of weeds.



VCE NEWS

We have commenced our online Master Classes to extend students' knowledge in their Year 12 subjects. These sessions are scheduled during Friday Period 4 Study Skills sessions. Over the past two weeks, students have participated in Physics and Chemistry sessions, with this week's session focusing on Biology. We hope students are able to utilise these external resources to further strengthen their key knowledge and skills.

The Unit 3 English lectures have received very positive feedback from students, reflecting strong engagement and the value of targeted academic extension.

Earlier this week, Unit 1 & 3 Physics students attended an excursion to Luna Park, providing valuable real-world applications of their learning and reinforcing key physics concepts in an engaging context.

Chinese after-school classes have also commenced. In addition, an increasing number of students are choosing to stay after school for study. We strongly encourage students to make use of the Senior Hub space for independent study or to form productive study groups.

VCE Study Tips

Study Skills Spotlight: Spaced Repetition

One of the key strategies we are reinforcing with students is **spaced repetition**, which aligns with research on the *Forgetting Curve*. Research shows that without review, we forget a significant portion of new learning within days. However, each time we revisit and actively retrieve information, the memory trace becomes stronger.

Instead of cramming, students are encouraged to:

- Review content the day after learning it
- Revisit it again 3–4 days later
- Review again the following week

Continue revising at increasing intervals

Small, consistent revision sessions are far more effective than long, last-minute study blocks.

Consistency builds confidence, competence and long-term retention.

SAC Dates for the next two weeks:

Unit 3 English SAC1:10/03 – 13/03

Unit 3 Systems Portfolio Section 2:10/3 – 13/03

Unit 3 Art Making and Exhibiting Portfolio Section 2: 10/03 – 13/03

Unit 3 Physics: 11/03

Unit 3 HHD: 13/3

Unit 1 English SAC1:10/03 – 13/03

Unit 1 Physics: 11/03

Unit 3 Legal Studies SAC 1B: 16/03

Unit 3 Chemistry SAC 1: 19/03

Unit 1 Specialist Maths SAC 2: 17/03

Unit 1 Chemistry SAC 1: 19/03



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.

All Year 9 students will find out their results by speaking to a Careers Practitioner in a 1:1 interview on the 16th & 17th March.

Each Year 9 student and parent/carer will be notified of the interview time, via Compass, as per below. These interviews will be conducted during school hours and parents/carers are welcome to attend but not essential.

If any parents/carers wish to attend these interviews please email Cindy Bibby so I am aware, in case I need to move the interview time for some reason.

My Career Insights

Discover, Develop, Drive



NAME:

Your Morrisby Profile Unpack Interview details:

Day:

Time:

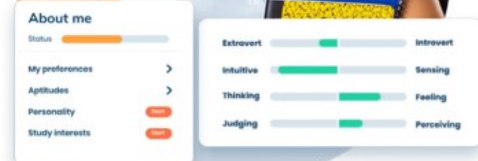
Location:



Access Morrisby here or via app.morrisby.com/login

What to expect:

- 30-minute career chat with a qualified career consultant
- Discover your strengths, interests and personality
- Explore careers and subjects you might be interested in
- Learn how to use Morrisby for life!
- Complete a 2-minute feedback survey



Employment Opportunities

School Based Apprenticeship – Parks & Gardens

Northern Grampians Shire – Stawell

School Based Apprenticeship – Civil Construction

Northern Grampians Shire - Stawell

Full time Apprenticeship – Landscaping

Northern Grampians Shire - Stawell

STAWELL LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR 2026

On Thursday 26 February Shayla Madin and Kayan Barnes competed in this competition at the Stawell Bowling club. The students were to prepare and present a 5 minute speech on a topic of their own choosing, be involved in a 30-40 minute interview and then present two x 2 minute impromptu speeches on unseen topics with no preparation time.

This was a challenging competition to say the least. Shayla chose to present her prepared speech on “the power of small acts” and Kayan’s speech was on “morals in a musical”. Both students are fantastic public speakers in their own way: Kayan is theatrical and the audience were drawn in by his enthusiasm and Shayla is passionate and speaks from the heart.

The speech had to go for 5 minutes exactly! The two impromptu topics that both students were required to speak about were:

1. Imagine you are a time traveler and can go anywhere. Where would you go and why?

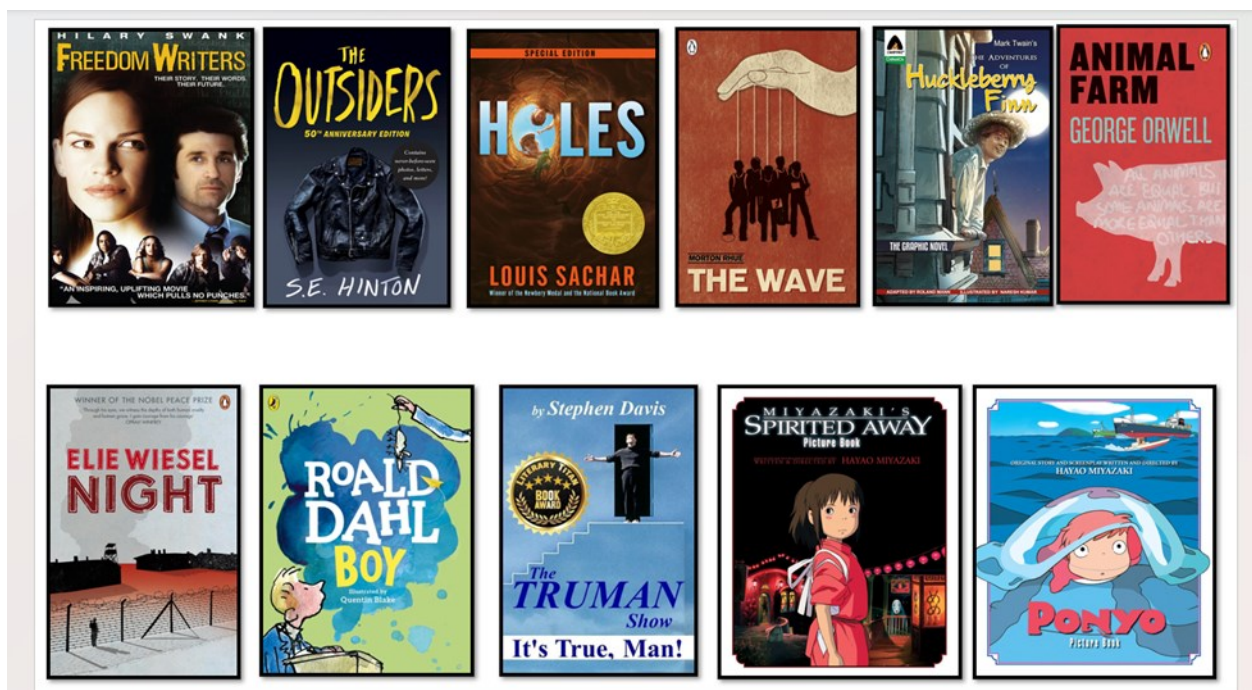
2. There are many different people in the world. Why is being different important?

Both Shayla and Kayan made Stawell Secondary College very proud by displaying all of our school values. They demonstrated aspiration and participation by choosing to be involved in the competition and spending time outside of school preparing, inclusion by supporting each other 100%, resilience by completing the two impromptu speeches and having to make up their speeches on the spot and respect by always being considerate and mature in front of the Lions members. Shayla came first and Kayan came second. Shayla will now go onto the next heat which is in Horsham on Sunday 22 March. Regardless of the results, you are both winners.

Mrs Prior



TEXTS STUDIED FROM YEARS 7 – 10 IN ENGLISH AT STAWELL SECONDARY COLLEGE 2026



Chinese Program Report

Chinese New Year Celebrations Raise \$710 for The Cottage

Our school community has once again demonstrated the power of cultural celebration and collective generosity, raising an impressive \$710 for The Cottage through our Chinese New Year Staff Banquet and Dumpling Stall. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who supported the celebrations. Your enthusiasm, generosity, and community spirit made these events a wonderful success.



A special acknowledgement goes to the many staff and students who contributed to the festivities. In particular, our Year 9 and VCE Chinese Language students, along with our Chinese Dancing students, played a significant role in preparing the staff banquet, making hundreds of dumplings, running cultural activities, and delivering vibrant dance performances.

Their dedication, teamwork, and pride in sharing their culture were truly commendable. Beyond the fundraising achievement, the celebrations provided meaningful opportunities for students to engage in authentic cultural learning.

Through hands-on experiences and performance, students strengthened their understanding of Chinese traditions while developing confidence, collaboration skills, and a deeper sense of community connection.

We hope the festivities have further inspired students' passion for language learning and fostered an appreciation for service and giving back to others. Thank you all for celebrating with us and for supporting our wider community. The Chinese Faculty wishes you all a prosperous New Year!



Photo credit: Henry Dalkin, Stawell Times News

Middle School News

A group of Middle School students took the initiative to form a committee to make proposals about the use of their locker space during breaks. The committee met with the Middle School Team for lunch last Friday to table their proposal. This proposal was accepted by the team. The committee presented their proposal to the Middle School cohort in our assembly on Monday. We congratulate Olivia Hunter, Shayla Madin, Rhenz Enriquez, Xyrus Gragasin, Soraya Eckert, Will Evans, Lylah Slorach and Jasmine Dickson for showing aspiration and taking on this initiative.



In our weekly assembly, our students had the opportunity to help run the assembly by sharing the important announcement. Congratulations to Ryder Davidson, Jordan Lockwood, Ryan Skurrie, Archie Ross and Liam Nicholson for your participation.



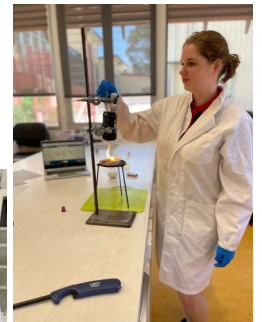
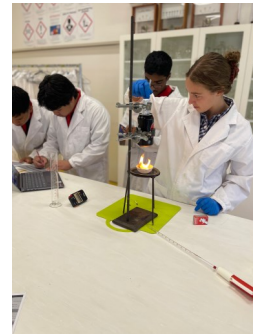
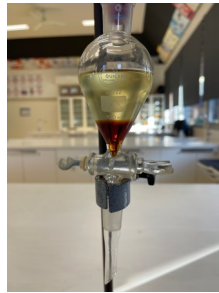
Each week we celebrate students who have displayed our school values throughout the week.

Congratulations to this week's recipients:
Year 9: Riley Norman, Lhanz De Leon
Year 10: Ryder Sullivan, Noah Johnston



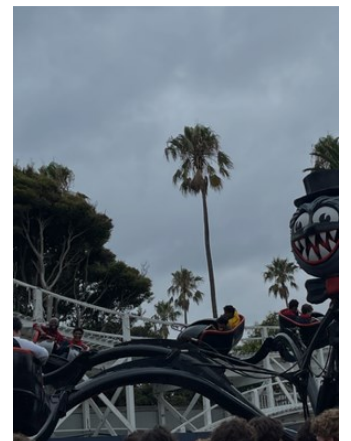
Senior Science

Year 11 and 12 science has got off to a strong start. The chemistry students made their own biodiesel which they then tested the energy content.



Luna Park Physics Day


The physics students attended the Luna Park Physics Day and visited the Australian Synchrotron, exploring motion, gravity and how particle accelerators are used.





STAWELL SECONDARY
COLLEGE
40TH

PRESENTATION BALL



Saturday 14th March
7:30pm

Stawell Entertainment Centre

\$10 Balcony tickets available
SSC main office

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE 2026

A conveyance allowance may be paid to parents who drive their children more than 4.8km to the nearest pick up point of a free country bus service or their nearest school, where no bus service is available.

All Families need to lodge a new application.

Students who are attending Stawell Secondary College for the first time must meet the following guidelines.

To be eligible for the Conveyance Allowance students must be:

1. Attending their nearest Government school.
2. Living further than 4.8km from either the school or the nearest pick up point of a free country bus.

Please contact the school office for an application form. All eligible families must complete and return the form to the school by 27 February 2026.

If you require further information, please contact Mrs Marie McAloon at the College.

If you have any questions on all other Bus matters, please contact Georgia Byron on 5358 1700.



STUDENT TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

VICTORIA
State Government

COUNTRY BUS TRAVELLERS:

Registering your child to take the country bus for 2026.
https://studenttravelassistance.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/?c__tab=register
As of January 1st 2026, The student transport assistance portal will be introducing free travel for all students aged 17 and under. As a result, ineligible travellers approved for the School Bus Program will no longer be required to pay a term fare.
If you are having any trouble with registering or renewing applications, please contact Georgia Byron by emailing georgia.byron2@education.vic.gov.au or calling 5358 1700, or the School Bus Management System on 1800 338 663 or schoolbus@education.vic.gov.au.

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



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



INCLUSION



RESILIENCE



PARTICIPATION

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2026

9/3/26 - Labor Day Public Holiday

11/3/26 - 13/3/26 - Year 7 Camp

14/3/26 - Presentation Ball

25/3/26—School Council Annual General Meeting 7 pm

27/3/26 - Cross Country

2/4/26 - Final Day of Term— EARLIER FINISH TIME 2:30PM



Attention: LOST PROPERTY.

We are starting to get a collection of jewellery handed in and still have some lost property from the Swimming sports. If you think these items could be yours please come and see us at the School office.



Book of the Week

Red Star Rebels
Author: Amie Kaufman

Eight hours to stop an explosion...

Eight hours to fall in love.

It's 2067, and the Graves family has transformed Mars from a lifeless rock into a chaotic patchwork of settlements. You can buy a one-way ticket to a new life – if you're rich.

Enter Hunter Graves, handsome, ambitious, and with spectacularly bad timing. He shows up at the United Nations base just as an emergency evacuation sends everyone scurrying for safety. And he's left behind. Uh-oh. Also stranded: Cleo, a sharp-tongued stowaway with no intention of dying today, and even less patience for overconfident trust fund boys.

But the enemy of your enemy is the jerk who might just help you survive, so here we are.

Now, Hunter and Cleo have one shot to stop a deadly explosion, escape alive, and deal with the inconvenient fact that they're falling for each other.

The clock is ticking.



Rupanyup FNC

Rupanyup Football Netball Club are seeking junior players across all grades for the 2026 Season

Rupanyup is a family-friendly, welcoming, and inclusive club; we pride ourselves on giving all kids the opportunity to play the sports they love, and to develop their skills and confidence in a nurturing environment.

We have strong female participation in our football program and welcome girls to play in our junior football competition up to and including Under 14s (15-year-olds can also play in this). We also welcome boys to play netball, up to and including 13 & Under

Age groups and competitions we offer:

Football	Netball:
Auskick	Net Set Go
Under 8s	Mods (10-11)
Under 11s	13 & Under
Under 14s	15 & Under
Under 17s	17 & Under

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in this opportunity, and we can discuss how we can help make it happen.

Alex Matthews - RFNC Secretary 0448888293 rfcsecretary@outlook.com



PROUD | COMMITTED | PASSIONATE



DISCO



6th of March
St. Arnaud Perry Room

6-9PM

GRAMPIANS YOUTH EVENTS

Join St. Arnaud GYE in the St. Arnaud Perry Room, (Front of the Council), on the 6th of March for a fun Disco! There will be music, games, vibes, and FREE FOOD! Feel free to dress up and get ready to Disco!

For ages: **12-25 YEARS**

**THIS IS A SMOKE, VAPE, ALCOHOL
& DRUG FREE EVENT**

