

# CONNECTIONS

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RESPECT  
INCLUSION  
ASPIRATION  
RESILIENCE  
PARTICIPATION

Volume 36 Number 5

02/04/2026

## Attention

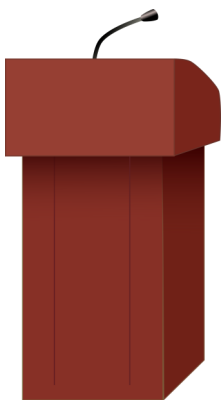
**Please note that School will be finishing at 2:30pm TODAY**

## LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR 2026 – HEAT 2

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March we travelled to Horsham where Shayla was to compete in the next level of the Lions Youth of the Year competition. There were 5 competitors in total from Portland (Bayview), Nhill, Ararat (Marian), Hamilton (Monivae) and Stawell. Shayla was the youngest. The students had to partake in a 30 minute interview, present their 5 minute speech and then 2 x 2 minute impromptu speeches. With the impromptu speeches there was no time allowed to prepare, students had to think on the spot. The topics for the impromptu speeches were: How do you feel about breaking the rules? and how do you define success?

The interview was worth 70% and the speeches were only 30% of the entire mark. Well done to Shayla for standing up and having a go. Shayla displayed all of the school values and represented Stawell Secondary College extremely well. Congratulations.

Mrs Prior



# Middle School News

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY with Mrs Reynolds

This week in the Food Technology room, students celebrated Easter with some fun baking activities.

Year 10 students made traditional hot cross buns, developing their skills while filling the room with wonderful aromas.



Year 7 and Year 9 classes baked and decorated chocolate Easter cupcakes, showing great creativity and enthusiasm.

Well done to all students for their fantastic efforts and delicious results!



# Middle School news

Year 9 Art students have been experimenting with animal patterns to inspire their artwork.

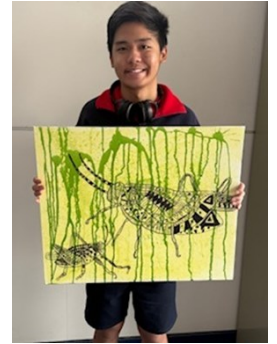


## Displaying our Core Values

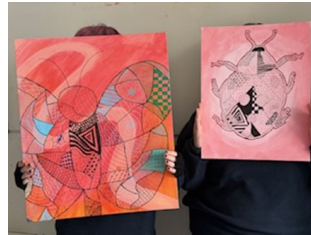
We congratulate the following Middle School students who have been recognised for displaying our school values over the last two weeks.

Year 9: Edward Redford, Faith Hilliard (both weeks), Caitlyn Bell

Year 10: Henry McLean (resilience), Madilyn Deane (aspiration), Shiloh Walls (demonstrating our values), Tom Jess (aspiration)



top row Jasmine, Raine,  
bottom row: Geo, Wil and Jae's artworks)



## From G-Forces to Gamma Rays: Excursion to remember

Year 11 and 12 Physics students swapped their textbooks for safety bars and adventure earlier this term, embarking on a dual-site excursion to [Luna Park Melbourne](#) and the [Australian Synchrotron](#) which provided hands-on deep dive into the VCE curriculum, bridging the gap between theoretical classroom jargons, equations and real-world physical phenomena.

At [Luna Park](#), students "lived the laws of motion" and had some highlighting moment in some of the playgrounds.

**The Enterprise & Supernova:** Students felt the surge of **centripetal force** and calculated **normal forces** while spinning nearly vertical or hanging upside down.

**Coney Drop:** Eager physicists analysed **gravitational potential energy** and the "gut-dropping" sensation of **weightlessness** during rapid vertical accelerations. At the [Australian Synchrotron](#), the focus shifted from mechanical forces to the cutting-edge of **contemporary physics**. Students were mind blown after discovering lots contemporary physics procedures going on there.

**Particle Acceleration:** Learning how electrons are accelerated to near-light speeds to produce light a million times brighter than the sun for groundbreaking answers for long time researches and solving medical problems including cancer.

**Bragg Diffraction:** Using specialized equipment to observe the behaviour of electrons in electric and magnetic fields.

By engaging with these world-class facilities, our students have gained invaluable insights into the practical applications of the VCE physics curriculum, effectively synthesising complex theory with real-world scientific innovation.



All VCE students have been provided with access to a range of FREE online lectures available during the Term 1 break. These lectures, offered through ATAR Notes, cover a variety of subjects and are a great opportunity for students to revise key concepts, consolidate their learning, and extend their knowledge. Students are encouraged to explore the available sessions and register using the link below: <https://atarnotes.com/lectures/vic>

For further information, please refer to the flyer and timetable on the next page.

<https://atarnotes.com/lectures/vic>



## VCE Study Tips

### Study Skills: How to Study During a 2-Week Study Break

#### 1. Create a simple weekly plan (don't overpack it)

- Aim for 2-3 subjects per day
  - Rotate subjects across the week
- Include at least one lighter day to recharge

#### 2. Focus on consolidation, not new content

- Review key topics from Term 1
  - Identify weak areas and revisit them
- Build summary notes or mind maps

#### 3. Use active study methods

- Do practice questions / past exams
  - Test yourself (don't just reread notes)
- Teach concepts out loud (great for retention)

#### 4. Study in short, consistent blocks

- 25–30 minutes focus + short breaks
- Aim for 2–3 hours total per day (quality over quantity)

#### 5. Mix subjects to stay fresh

Example:

- Morning: Maths (problem solving)
  - Midday: Chinese vocab / speaking
- Afternoon: Theory subject (notes + questions)

#### 6. Keep a balance

- Sleep well, stay active, and take proper breaks
- A rested brain learns better than an exhausted one
- Take some time off to connect with friends and family.

# Subjects Suitable for Stawell Secondary Include;

Mon 13th Apr

10:00am - 12:00pm ● VCE Chemistry 1&2 Recording Only

10:00am - 12:00pm ● VCE Chemistry 3&4 Recording Only

12:00pm - 1:00pm ● **Aspire Early Offer Program** Live Chat  
★ La Trobe

1:00pm - 3:00pm ● VCE Biology 3&4 Recording Only

1:00pm - 3:00pm ● VCE Biology 1&2 Recording Only

3:00pm - 4:00pm ● **Special Live Session from Macquarie University** Live Chat  
★ Macquarie University

4:00pm - 5:00pm ● How to get Top Marks! Recording Only

4:00pm - 6:00pm ● VCE English 3&4 Recording Only

4:00pm - 6:00pm ● VCE English 1&2 Recording Only

Tue 14th Apr

10:00am - 12:00pm ● VCE Legal Studies 3&4 Recording Only

10:00am - 12:00pm ● VCE General Maths 3&4 Recording Only

10:00am - 12:00pm ● VCE General Maths 1&2 Recording Only

12:00pm - 1:00pm ● **Wonderful Possibilities at Deakin** Recording Only  
★ Deakin University

1:00pm - 3:00pm ● VCE Maths Methods 3&4 Recording Only

1:00pm - 3:00pm ● VCE Maths Methods 1&2 Recording Only

1:00pm - 3:00pm ● VCE HHD 3&4 Recording Only

4:00pm - 6:00pm ● VCE Business Management 3&4 Recording Only

4:00pm - 6:00pm ● VCE Physics 3&4 Recording Only

4:00pm - 6:00pm ● VCE Physics 1&2 Recording Only

Wed 15th Apr

10:00am - 12:00pm ● VCE Psychology 1&2 Recording Only

4:00pm - 5:00pm ● VCE English Frameworks: Writing about protest Recording Only

5:00pm - 6:00pm ● ACE VCE Recording Only

# VCE

## tips for the holidays

### Onsite Exam Revision / Practice Classes (Term 1 Study Break):

- Unit 3 Mathematical Methods
- Unit 3 General Mathematics
- Unit 3 Chinese

Please confirm the date and time of these sessions with your teachers.

We strongly encourage all students to attend and make the most of these valuable revision opportunities.

### Student Wellbeing and General Support:

- A Headspace session will be available for Year 11 VCE students
- A You thrive session will be available for Year 12 VCE students

Last Friday, VCE students also participated in sessions focused on exam anxiety and coping strategies, as well as an introduction to the You thrive program and the Branch Out mentoring program, which will continue next term.



# Cross Country



On Friday 27 March, the students participated in their Cross Country day. We had a lot of successful runners, with the top six for each age group progressing on to the next level in Term 2. Overall, it was Black Range who dominated the day, with Mackenzie in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Lonsdale in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Age Group Champions:

12-13 Year Olds: Tamika Foster and Nash Santucciono

14 Year Olds: Violet Baum and Jack Sullivan

15 Year Olds: Lylah Slorach and Dusty Wethers

16 Year Olds: Olivia Hunter and Tom Collins

17 Year Olds: Tora Crawford and Tyson Field

18-20 Year Olds: Charmaine Lockwood and Cooper Field

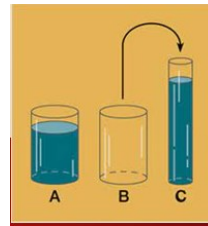
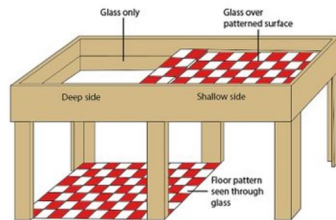


# Year 11 Psychology Term 1 2026

The two classes have been learning about development. Initially nature vs nurture was introduced so students understood the role of genetics and the environment on development. Different theorists have been investigated such as Piaget, Erikson, Ainsworth, Harlow, Gibson and Walk and Bandura covering emotional, cognitive and social development.

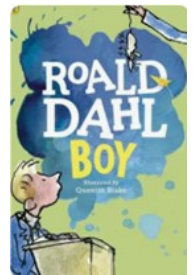
Their first SAC was looking at twin and triplet studies by completing a media analysis on the “Three identical strangers”. Other topics covered include: the biopsychosocial approach, the role of sensitive and critical periods, “Genie” the feral child, cultural norms, the stolen generation, normal and atypical behavior, key science skills (including hypotheses, IV and DV’s and ethics).

Mrs Prior and Mrs McDonald

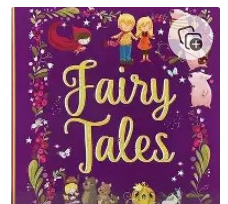


## WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN ENGLISH CLASSROOMS AT STAWELL SECONDARY COLLEGE IN TERM ONE 2026

Year 7 – Students wrote their own autobiography including significant moments from their lives. They read excerpts from “Boy” by Roald Dahl. Currently students are producing a speech from their autobiographies.

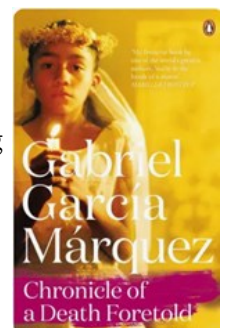


Year 8 – Students have been learning about fairy tales and graphic novels. They then created their own fairy tale (with a twist on a classic) and turned this into a graphic novel.



Year 9 – Students have been learning how to produce narratives and persuasive pieces of writing. They learnt about the narrative plot structure and persuasive techniques.

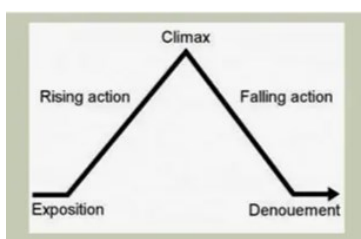
Year 10 – Argument analysis has been the main focus where students learnt how to find important information in a persuasive text and how to present this in an analysis. They are now studying texts for life.



Year 11 – “The Dry” directed by Robert Connolly has been studied by the students, including looking at film techniques, and then they produced a personal response for their first SAC. Conflict and its costs is now being studied for their framework of ideas.

Year 12 – Students read and analysed the novel “Chronicle of a Death Foretold” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez and then wrote an analytical essay for their first SAC. Protest is now being studied for their framework of ideas.

Mrs Prior



# SSC riders shine at Natimuk



On Saturday 28 March Stawell Secondary students Ruby Hall and Violet Baum represented the College in the inter-school's section of the horse events at Natimuk Show. The hard work put in by the two riders, both members of Stawell Pony Club, was rewarded with outstanding results.



Ruby, who is relatively new to the showing discipline, and her horse Kaz picked up two individual first places and a reserve champion sash in the 'Ridden Galloway' and 'Handy Mount' sections respectively. Violet and her relatively new pony George won both first place and overall champion in both her rider class and ridden pony class. To add to these incredible results, the two riders won first place in the pair of ponies and had even more success in the open division of the show, with Violet being awarded Supreme Champion Rider for the day.

In representing Stawell Secondary College Violet and Ruby demonstrated all five of the school values – participation, aspiration, respect, inclusion and resilience. According to Violet, as well as teaching her resilience and the importance of hard work, competing helps to build her confidence and requires her to maintain a high level of fitness. Both students had a wonderful day doing what they love, building relationships with their horses, trainers and each other.

Congratulations Ruby and Violet!



## The Peter Durance Maths Olympics

Maths Olympics was held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March where over 150 Grade 5 & 6 students attended Stawell Secondary College for a full day of Math activities, ranging from problem solving to a fast paced maths relay.

Students came from all our local primary schools Concongella, Stawell West, St Patrick's, Great Western, Pomonal, Halls Gap and Stawell Primary School.

The overall medal winners for the day were Stawell Primary School. Congratulations.



# Whats new in Ag View!

Over the past two weeks, students have completed a significant amount of bookwork focused on recognising a variety of plants and identifying them through their key characteristics. They also worked on classifying plants into desirable and non-desirable species. This unit of work continued into our final class for the term while students took turns learning to operate a front-end loader. For our final class of the term, students travelled out to Mrs Lang's farm where each student had the opportunity to drive the front-end loader and move hay bales to a different location.

All students performed well, particularly those who had not previously had experience driving a tractor and learning to manage the additional pedals and controls. Students demonstrated excellent respect by carefully listening to instructions and treating the equipment responsibly. A special mention goes to one student who showed plenty of enthusiasm and may have accidentally knocked a few bales over, with one even landing on the fence—so there may be a small repair job on the horizon!

It has been a busy and productive first term. Looking ahead, we have another full term planned for Term 2, with only 23 Ag days remaining for 2026.



# Chinese Program Report

We would like to recognise the following students for their participation and contributions to the Grampians Harmony Festival:

- 1) Chinese Dance Performers: Millie McColl, Ava Parry, Summer Smith and Adalita Soule. They practised intensively over the past two weeks and delivered two beautiful and elegant performances: the Long Fan Dance and the Umbrella Dance.
- 2) Dragon Dance Performers: Scott Stewart and Kayan Barnes. They did a marvellous job with their energetic movements, engaging and exciting the audience.
- 3) Senior Cultural Ambassador: Kayan Barnes. Thank you for your ongoing support of our Chinese cultural events.

Thank you to all students and staff who attended the multicultural event.

Multiculturalism is not only something we learn about, it is something we build through shared experiences and meaningful participation. While we all have our own unique identities, we are equal and connected as one community.



## Year 7–9 Chinese Program:

Students have been engaged in a wide range of class activities, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking, to develop their overall language skills.

Well done to all students who entered the Year 8–9 preliminary reading competition! We are now preparing for the next level of the championships



## VCE Chinese Classes:

Students have adjusted well to our combined class and have demonstrated great resilience and aspiration in striving to reach their full potential. We are extremely proud of their achievements so far.

## 2027 China Trip:

The 2027 China Trip is now open to our current Year 8 students if you are interested in this amazing opportunity! Details will be shared with students and parents this week—please stay tuned!

Thank you, everyone, for a wonderful term. We look forward to our learning in Term 2.

## Year 10 Work Experience

Second last week of Term 2: 15<sup>th</sup> – 19th June  
Placements have to be sought and due to Cindy by 22<sup>nd</sup> April.



Congratulations to  
Ryder Davidson – Year 10 –who is undertaking a School Based Apprenticeship in  
Landscaping with Northern Grampians Shire.



Grade 5 & 6 students and parents are invited to our

# OPEN EVENING 2026

**WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY - 7PM**

Stawell Secondary College....your next step

## JOIN US

Commencing in Auditorium  
via Albion Rd

**7.00pm: Welcome address**

**7.30pm: College Tour**

**9.00pm: Evening concludes**  
(Can leave earlier during tour if you wish)

**ENQUIRIES:**  
**Cindy Bibby**  
cindy.bibby@education.vic.gov.au  
53581700  
stawellsc.vic.edu.au

# Excursion to Halls Gap

Thank you to Tarnee at Budja for organising such a meaningful and engaging day of activities.

We began with a yarning circle, where students explored questions centred on self-discovery and reflection.

Throughout the day, students participated in a traditional art practice, creating stories on bark. They carefully prepared the bark by sanding it in the beautiful garden setting before painting. Each piece represented a place, person, or thing that makes them feel safe, or a creative story expressed through symbols.

We also took a short 15-minute walk on Country to collect sticks for damper making, allowing time for mindfulness and connection with nature.



Students thoroughly enjoyed making damper and sharing it with soup for lunch.

We concluded the day with a final yarning circle, where students reflected on their experiences and shared something positive from the day.



## YARNING CIRCLE




**HORSHAM**  
Rural City Council

**A SAFE PLACE TO BE HEARD & TO RESPOND**  
HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GOOLUM GOOLUM & BARENGI GADJIN LAND COUNCIL ARE HOLDING A YARNING CIRCLE. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL LOCAL ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY TO TALK WITH COUNCILLORS AND HRCC STAFF.

**HRCC WANT TO HEAR THE GOOD, THE BAD AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026**  
5:30pm - 6:30pm  
Dalki Guli Hub, 36 Hamilton Street, Horsham  
Finger food, coffee & tea provided  
For any questions please contact John Gorton on 0417 665 159

**MEET WITH YOUR COUNCILLORS!**





**Horsham, Dalki Guli Hub**  
**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
**11am - 2pm**

Activity for this week is  
**Easter-themed arts and crafts**

Contact Kym 0447 846 250 or Christine 0417 511 890  
to register for catering & transport options

## 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**



## CALLING LOCAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ARTISTS!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A LOCAL ARTIST TO DESIGN A NEW LOGO AND ARTWORK FOR AN EXCITING NEW PROJECT COMING TO GOOLUM GOOLUM!

NGARRANG GULIWIL (TO KNOW POISON) IS A NEW UPCOMING PROJECT TO HELP EDUCATE MOB ON ALCOHOL USE AND ITS POTENTIAL AFFECTS.

YOUR ARTWORK WILL BE THE VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THIS PROJECT AND SHOULD HIGHLIGHT:

- STRENGTH
- DETERMINATION
- LEARNING
- GROWTH
- CHANGE
- RESILIENCE


THE SELECTED ARTIST DESIGN WILL RECEIVE A \$500 GIFT CARD

If you are interested in designing a piece of art for this project please contact Emily Vettos on 0447 858 260 or [emily.vettos@goolumgoolum.org.au](mailto:emily.vettos@goolumgoolum.org.au)






Local Drug Action Team Program



GOOLUM GOOLUM ABORIGINAL CO-OP

# YOUTH DROP IN

FOR 12 - 18 YEAR OLDS




FREE MONTHLY PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL MOB TO HANG OUT, PLAY GAMES, HOMEWORK HELP AND PLENTY MORE FUN ACTIVITIES!

4:00PM - 6:00PM  
WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026,  
STAWELL HUB  
STAWELLVIC 3380

ALL SNACKS AND DRINKS PROVIDED

- PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION REQUIRED  
\*FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER YOUTH ONLY

PLEASE CONTACT HOLLY ON:  
0408 294 585 OR REGAN ON:  
0428 801 474 FOR 2026


During April for Get Off Ya Moom month Goolum Goolum are hosting Ripe2Train Boxing Sessions for 12-18 year olds.


Session Dates & Times

- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April - 4pm
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April - 4pm
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - 4pm
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April - 4pm

- Sessions are 60 mins
- all equipment provided
- fun games
- support technique

Contact Kym 0447 846 250 to secure a limited spot and for transport options.





## MENS HEALTH DAY

WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

HORSHAM ANGLING CLUB

10AM -1PM

BBQ LUNCH

Come and hear from Dr Hunchak and enjoy a day of activities, meat raffle and give aways. Health screenings.



RSVP by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> for catering and & transport PH 5381 6330

KIDS WELCOME WITH FATHERS

GET OFF YA MOOM!

MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER TO RECEIVE YOUR GOYM PACK!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE GOOLUM GOOLUM WEBSITE - WHAT'S HAPPENING PAGE  
[WWW.GOOLUMGOOLUM.ORG.AU/CAMPAIGNS](http://WWW.GOOLUMGOOLUM.ORG.AU/CAMPAIGNS)



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



INCLUSION



RESILIENCE



PARTICIPATION

## **IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2026**

**02/4/26 - Final Day of Term— EARLIER FINISH TIME 2:30PM**

**20/4/26 - School returns, First day Term 2**

**24/04/26 - School Athletics**

**01/05/26 - School Photos**



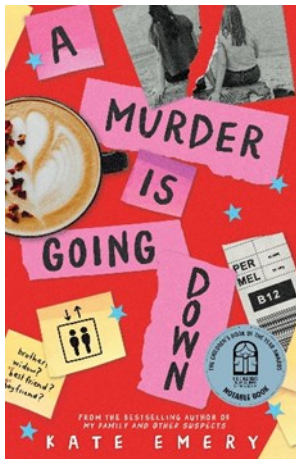
**We hope everyone has a happy and safe holidays and we look forward to seeing you all ready for Term 2!**



### **Book of the Week**

**A Murder Is Going Down**

**Author: Kate Emery**



‘This is what happens when you put a pair of unemployed teenagers in charge of a murder investigation. What we lack in investigative skills we make up for in free time.’

Heidi’s meant to be having the time of her life on exchange in Switzerland, but instead she’s cold, alone and on an involuntary dairy-free diet. So when she hears the news of her brother Felix’s death, she’s quick to jump on the first plane home to Perth.

To be completely honest, Felix wasn’t that much of a brother, so Heidi’s not that sad – but she’s not exactly happy either. Thanks to an epic betrayal by her (ex) best friend and (ex) boyfriend, Heidi has absolutely nothing to do and no one to talk to. No one, that is, except Patrick, the wisecracking younger brother of Felix’s widow, who convinces Heidi that they need to investigate her brother’s mysterious demise.

Can Heidi and Patrick get to the bottom of Felix’s death – and do they really want to?

# Moyston EASTER MARKET 2026

**SATURDAY APRIL 4TH, 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM**

A vibrant celebration with 80+ market stalls including local artisans, hand crafted items, produce, and bric n brac in a lively and festive atmosphere.

Location: Moyston Oval (Ararat-Halls Gap Rd)

Entry: gold coin donation (benefiting Moyston community improvement)



## *Featuring:*

### **Market stalls**

John Vanderwaal Long Kick Competition @ 11am

### **Free Live Music**

Rosies Kitchen - Devonshire Teas

**Grow Your Own Giant Pumpkin Competition**

Car display

Entertainment - Fair Dinkum Fauna



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**ACE RADIO**

