

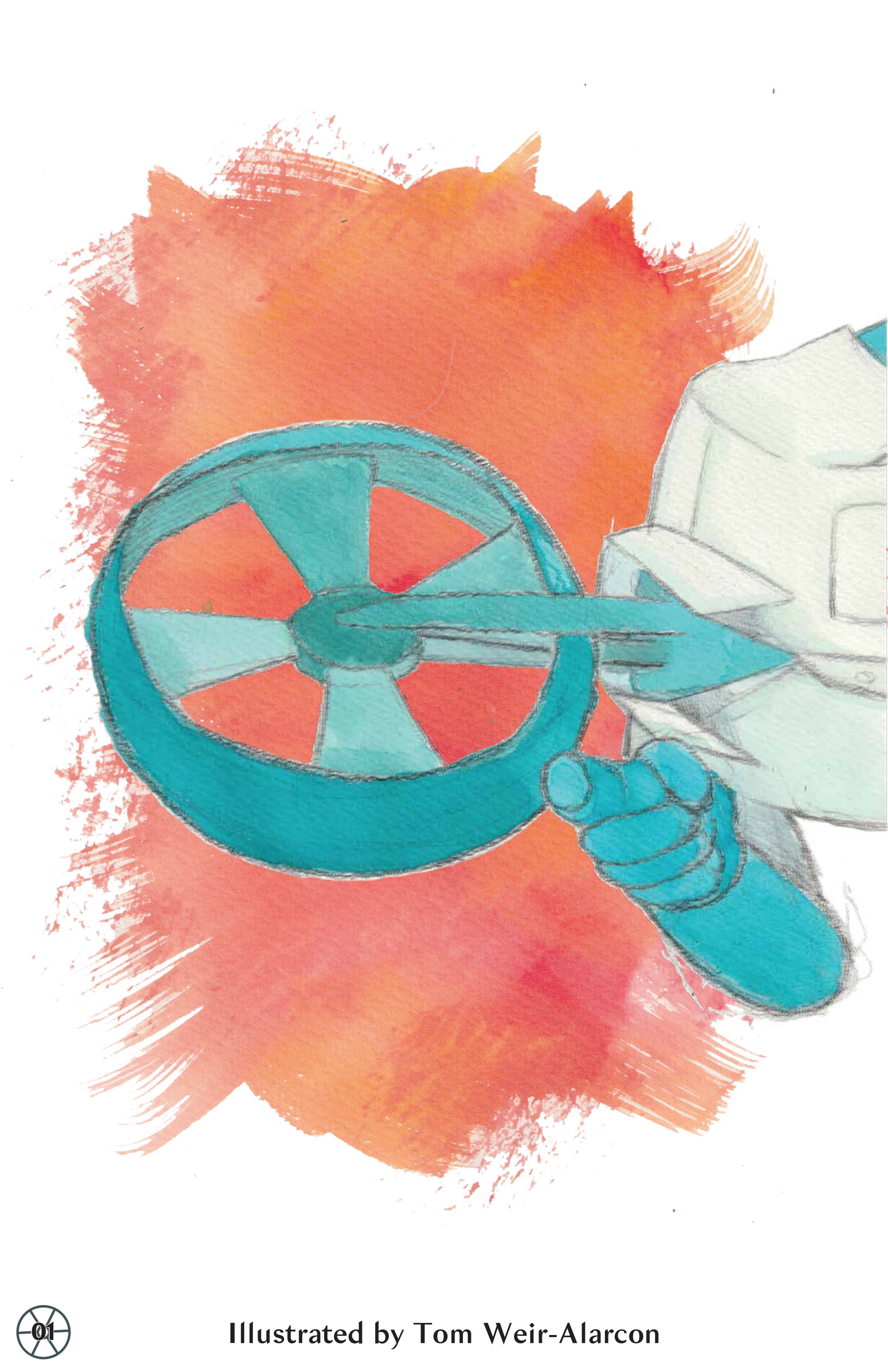


ORWHEEL



Issue 5

July 2023



June-August 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25 2 Week Holidays	26	27	28	29	30	01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
09 End of Holidays	10	11	12	13 Fit2Drive for Y11	14	15
16	17	18 Whole School Assembly	19 Course Counselling Y10-11	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Course Counselling Y9-10	27	28	29
30 Swinburne Uni Open Day	31	01	02 Professional Learning Day STUDENT-FREE	03	04	05 Monash Uni Open Day @ Caulfield + Peninsula
06 Monash Uni Open Day @ Clayton RMIT Open Day @ Bundoora Deakin Open Day @ Warrnambool La Trobe Open Day @ Melb Campus	07	08	09 La Trobe Open Day @ Mildura	10	11	12
13 RMIT Open Day @ City + Brunswick ACU Open Day @ Melbourne	14	15	16	17 Family Science Night	18	19
20 Monash Uni Open Day @ Parkville Uni Melb Open Day Deakin Uni Open Day @ Geelong Vic Uni Open Day @ Footscray Park	21	22	23	24 Division Athletics	25	26 Collarts Open Day La Trobe Open Day @ Shepparton
						27 Deakin Uni Open Day @ Melbourne Burwood Vic Uni Open Day @ City Campus ACU Open Day @ Ballarat

For the complete list of University/Tertiary Education Open Days available, download the extended calendar below:

OPEN DAYS 2023



YEAR 12 SPIRIT WEEK

With Year 12 students on their way later this year, there was no better time to celebrate than on the last week of term with the returning Spirit Week dress-up! Each day, students were given a theme for their costumes, ranging from stellar celebrity idols to the rags of their favourite decade. Let's go through some of the highlights:

Day 1 ~ Celebrities

Kicking off with an interesting prompt, the Year 12 cohort certainly went above my expectations. Of note was Bailey Morgan; who arrived in the splitting image of the Crocodile Hunter heir Robert Irwin, complete with a matching inflatable crocodile. You also had a neighbouring Russel Coight from ___ and Freya Cullen as past Queen Elizabeth II (using a very formidable mask!).

Personal Highlight

Matt Stilton went all out on many costumes that week, but his Eminem clears the pack. Committing to a bleached buzzcut (which he would shave off for that afternoon!) and the baggiest clothes I've ever seen, it was picture perfect!



Day 2 ~ Teachers & Students

A returning classic from last year; students took on the role of teachers while some teachers became students. While there was certainly a number of sub-teacher representatives, Cleo Alberty was brave enough to go as principal Ms Jenni Hodgins (she even borrowed her coat!). Similarly, Isabel Cundy was seen out as Ms Nicole Pallot, walking a, uh, thing that certainly resembled a dog?

Personal Highlight

It would be remiss of me not to mention the efforts of faculty, and both Mr Trickovic and Mr Mooney's attempts to blend in as members of our cohort was certainly that. Fitted with school dresses, jackets, and some of the strangest wigs I've seen, it was an absolute stand-out.



Day 3 ~ Favourite Character

There's nothing better than a good character cosplay, and there were some excellent picks on Wednesday. Aleira Duff came out with a pretty spectacular Spider-Man (sourced from an op shop in a "small child" size), while Caden Kapp and Axel Cox went in as the iconic duo of Goose and Maverick.

Personal Highlight

This was tricky for me to pick out, but I have to admit, it's a split choice between the Bananas in Pyjamas from Ella Donahue and Keira Carter, or Colin McQuinn's Andy Dwyer from Parks and Rec (yknow, uh, Chris Pratt's character?). Both were incredibly unique and fun choices with great execution!

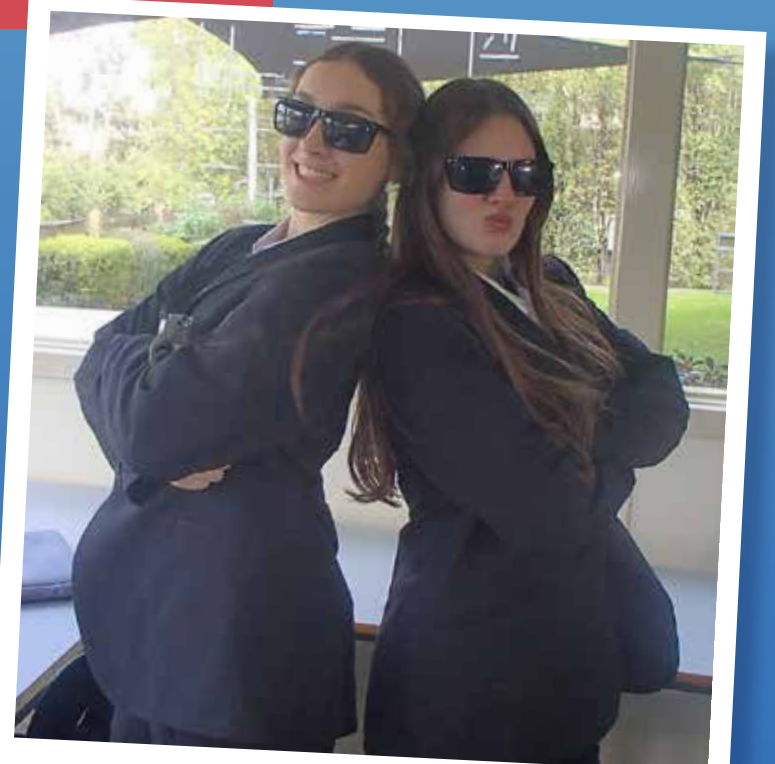


Day 4 ~ Childhood Dream Career

Out of all the prompts here, this one excited me the most. I personally came in as a director, complete with my own clapboard. There were some outlandish dreams, like Molly Nanos's fairy princess. However, I also saw quite a few AFL players, cops, and tradies!

Personal Highlight

Lauren Ralph was an easy sell for me, coming in as a teen idol pop singer. Rocking her own inflatable microphone and glitzed-up makeup, it certainly reminded me of the Katy Perrys and Hannah Montanna's of past (god I already feel old at 17...)



Day 5 ~ Decades

The final prompt for the week was a time for students to take themselves to an era they wished they lived in. We had a very eclectic range of time periods; from Bailey Philpotts 80s disco wear (minus rollerblades) and Isabel Cundy's 60s flower power, all the way to Cat Davis's 19th century throwback. That's not even to mention the boatload of 90s era tracksuits that were strewn across the Pavillion!

Personal Highlight

If I had to choose my favourite final outfit, let alone for the entire week, I'd have to say Casey Mulder's 2000s scene attire took the cake. Featuring an expanse of stripes, belts, and frizzy hair, it was a look so core that it alluded camera footage!



Overall, the week was a fantastic last hurrah for the Year 12 cohort before the crunch of Term 3 and exams. It was great to see the wide cavalcade of creative costumes on display, and how much fun everyone was having!

Written by Tom Weir-Alarcon, with photos from Ms. Heather Park.



Year 11 Business at Frankston City Council

On June 21st, Year 11 Business Management students attended a meeting at the Frankston Council, where they spoke to local business owners and the Mayor Cr Nathan Conroy. Students learnt about business marketing, social responsibility, government support and financial considerations of a range of businesses in the Frankston Council Chambers.

Special thanks for these business owners for giving advice and sharing their experiences with students - Joyie Wood from Gloform, Jeff Rogut from Frankston Business Collective, Erin Morris from Young Folks Digital, Rod Makin from Transcend, Sam Keck from Commonfolk, Tony Burrows from Budget Trucks, and Bernadine Geary from Sk8house.



In the afternoon, students also spoke to the Ash Marton Realty team. We'd like to give another round of thanks to Tiana, Ash, and Lilly for sharing their story with our students.



**Written, as well as photos
provided by Ms. Megan
Dixon**



Model United Nations Australia

written by Kirsten Harkness

On Wednesday 17 May, three senior students, Shae, Kirsten and Cat, made their way up to Monash University Clayton campus to represent Mount Erin in the annual Monash Model United Nations Summit.

Model United Nations summits are a fantastic opportunity where students step into the shoes of United Nations delegates from various countries and take part in a simulation of the UN General Assembly, debating contentious issues of international relevance. This year's topic was 'Zero Hunger'.

Preparations for this event begin long before the day of the summit. For weeks in advance, the group thoroughly researched their assigned country, especially the impacts of malnutrition there and the measures that the country implements to mitigate the effects of hunger. Quite fortunately, the group was assigned Australia as their country, making research somewhat easier!



Photo taken by Ms Sharon McCarthy

The ultimate goal of a UN General Assembly summit is to suggest amendments to a proposed Draft Resolution (for the benefit of your country) and aim to convince other member states to second these amendments, with the ultimate goal of having your changes passed in the Final Resolution Vote. Countries begin by presenting a Position Statement to the assembly (outlining their overall contention and the amendments they wish to make) before the Assembly moves into a Caucus session where countries vie for others support through a (often heated!) debate.



Photo taken by Ms Sharon McCarthy

Ultimately, on the day, amendments, which were in the interests of Team Australia, were successfully passed through the Final Resolution Vote - a pleasing result to round out the day! The team honed their public speaking skills and presented some wonderful arguments throughout the session.

Many thanks are owed to Ms McCarthy for her efforts in helping this session to come to fruition!

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Ms. Megan Dixon

On the 4th of May, year 10 students attended the Holocaust Museum in Elsternwick. They attended two sessions. In the first session, they were given a range of artefacts to decipher and decode related to the holocaust including passports, IDs, photos and newspaper articles.

In the second session, they heard a first-hand account of survival from holocaust survivor Henry Ekert AM. Henry shared his experiences of the Second World War and recounted his memories as an immigrant to Australia after the war.

Henry Ekert AM was born 28th July 1936 in Poland. He emigrated to Australia at as an adolescent. He worked extremely hard to learn English and later attended the University of Melbourne to study medicine. Henry feels privileged to have participated and contributed to the revolutionary improvement in cure rates of all childhood cancers and was the first in Australia to use autologous bone marrow transplantation in leukaemia and lymphomas. His emphasis was on the reduction of morbidity of treatment both short and long term in leukaemia and Hodgkin disease. Henry was also the first in Australia to introduce home treatment of haemophilia and the use of prophylaxis for haemophilia treatment.

"I learnt how important it is to remember history - both good and bad. What Henry had to tell us was important as there aren't many survivors left." Jaelyn, Year 10

"I learnt how Henrys family connections helped them during the war. His fathers friend helped them to survive. It is important to know your neighbours."

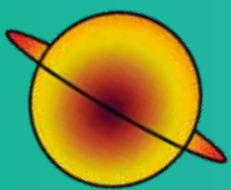
Kira, Year 10

"I learnt Henrys parents used a fake ID to survive and escape persecution."

Jarrood, Year 10

We'd like to thank Henry Ekert and the Australian Holocaust Museum for sharing their stories with our Year 10 students.





The Tallarook Telescope

by Evelyn M



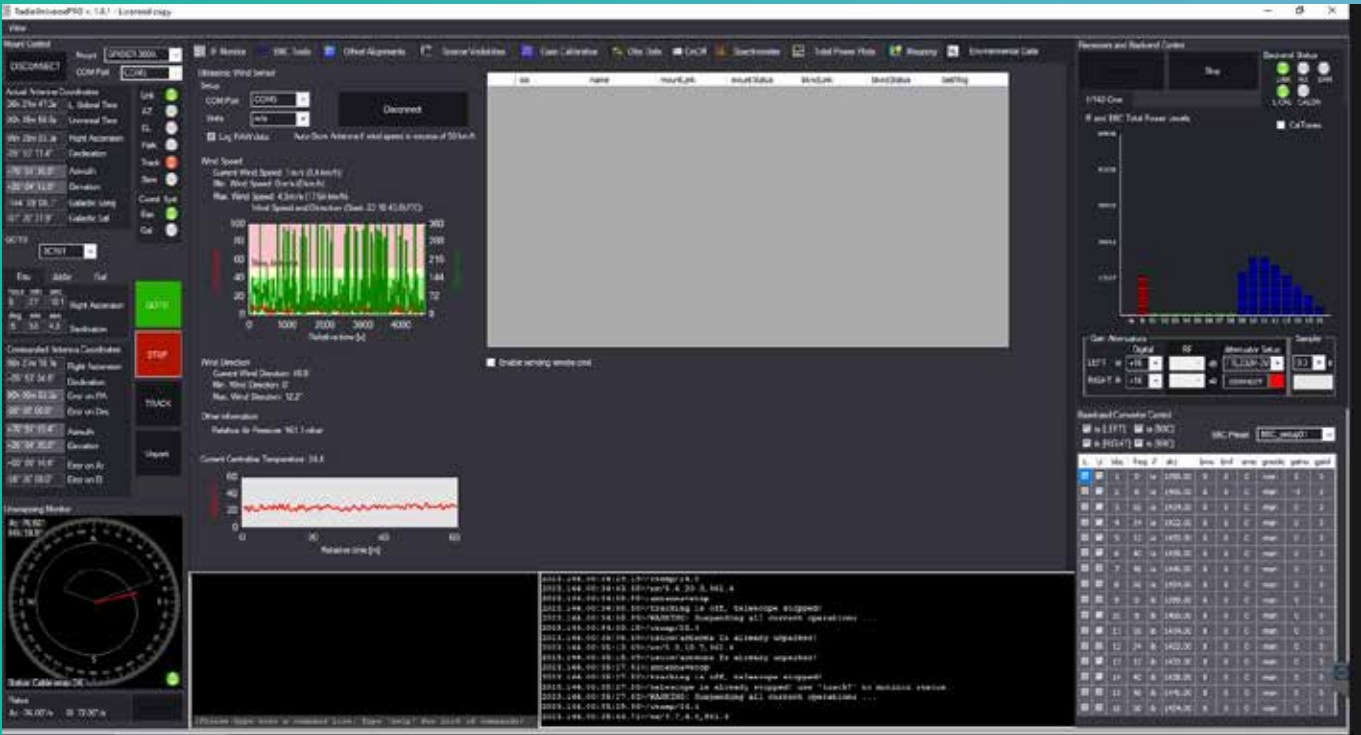
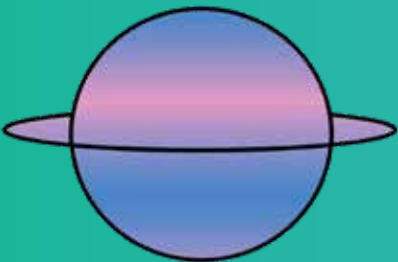
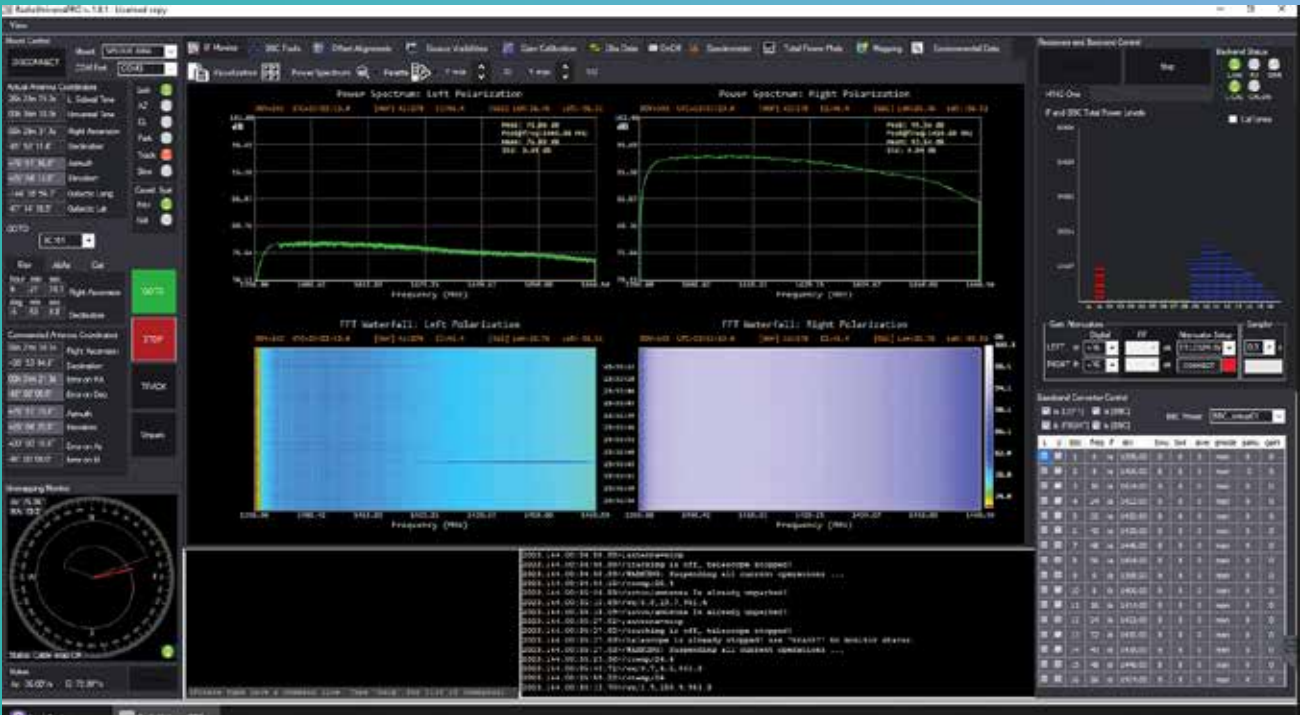
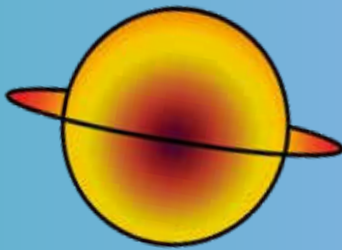
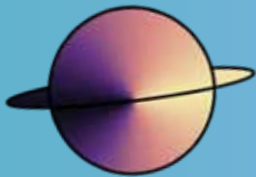
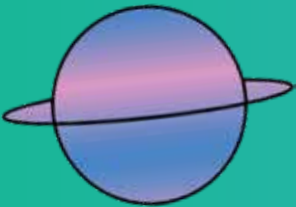
NEWS

As part of the Year 9 Space and Astronomy elective class, some students got to view a radio telescope working.

I was lucky enough to see the telescope at Tallarook in action, as part of the Semester 1 class.

Unfortunately, due to technological troubles, we didn't achieve our end goal, making a heat map. But, on our third try, we were able to move the telescope and lock it on a star.

Here are some images we managed to obtain during our third try at using the telescope!



Photos provided by
Ms. Kristianna
Davis

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

written by Kirsten Harkness

Over the course of Term 2, a group of four Year 11 students had the exciting opportunity to join the Frankston City Council as student representatives in their Climate Sustainability Project. The Council is currently working towards electrifying all Council sites so over the longterm, cleaner energy can be used, to save unnecessary emissions of greenhouse gases. The Council collaborated with consultants from Bridgeford Group as well as the student team to put in place tangible action to contribute to their Net Zero goals.

There were a number of ways in which students got involved over the period of this project. This included an onsite visit to the Council's Civic Centre to have a tour of all of the gas and electrical assets in use as well as for an introductory presentation by Bridgeford Group about the concepts of electrification, Net Zero targets, operational emissions and other key terminology that was vital throughout the project's duration. The initial site visit was certainly a highlight of the experience for all students.

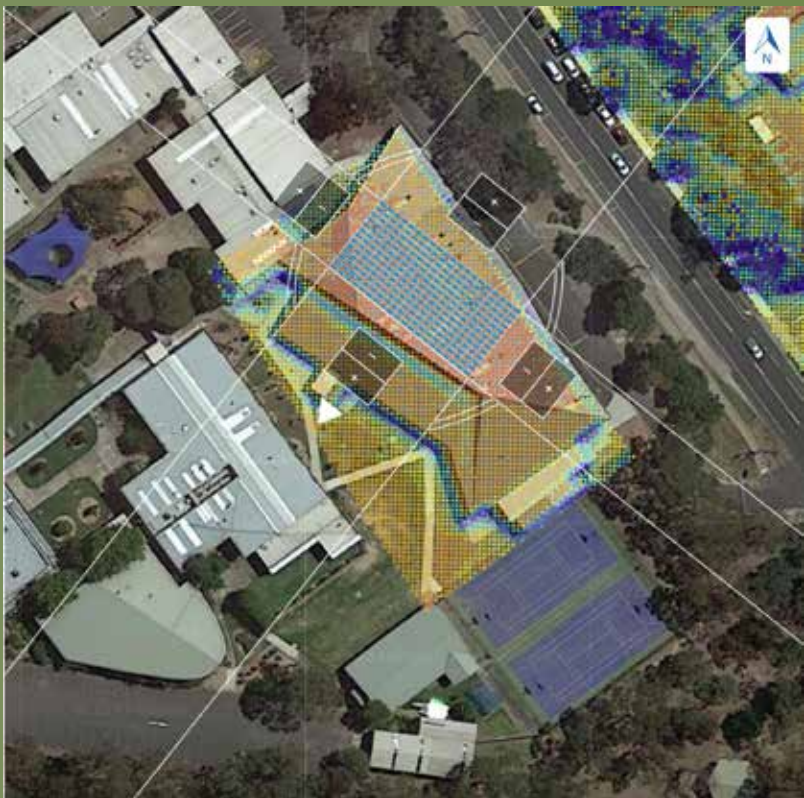
Students also were involved in this project through weekly online meetings with representatives from the Council as well as the team at Bridgeford Group. These meetings allowed the students to further discuss all action taken by the Council in working toward electrification and eventually Net Zero targets. The students were always encouraged to ask any questions that came to mind about the electrification processes being undertaken and Bridgeford Group was fantastic in their explanations and extremely generous with their time. This aspect of the project was also incredibly valuable.



Photos taken by Ms Kylie Dwyer

To conclude this project, the students, Bridgeford Group and the Council representatives met at the Civic Centre once again to discuss all findings, plans and achievements. The students prepared a presentation which was given to the CEOs of both the Frankston City Council and of Bridgeford Group, reflecting on their involvement and learnings.

The student team also used their improved understanding of electrification and renewable energies to evaluate closer-to-home applications of this project’s findings. Using solar panel mapping technology (SunSpot) introduced by the Council, the students mapped out the potential feasibility for solar panels being reinstalled at the College. It was found that with the optimal system, Mount Erin could reduce their yearly greenhouse gas emissions by 52%! See below Mount Erin’s personalised solar map as well as some more figures about the financial and environmental benefits of the propose solar system.



System	
\$86,430–\$112,216	Estimated system cost
520.2 m ²	Total PV system area
260 Panels	Number of panels
117,955 kWh	Annual solar energy generated
100.5 kW	System size
3.3–4.2 years	Time to pay back your system
111,108 kg	CO ₂ reduction per year (this is 24.45 × average household greenhouse gas emissions from electricity use)

Images sourced from report by SunSPOT Australia.

Many thanks are owed to Ms Dwyer for her efforts in organising and facilitating student involvement in this project as well as to Ms Yardas for her ongoing support throughout.

IDAHOBIT DAY at Mount Erin

written by Kirsten Harkness

Wednesday June 17 was IDAHOBIT Day, the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, Interphobia and Biphobia. IDAHOBIT day is held annually and aims to raise awareness for the marginalisation faced by those who identify as members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

IDAHOBIT day was first celebrated in 1990 when the World Health Organisation removed homosexuality from its Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems. Since then, the yearly occasion is marked by much support from allies around the world and inclusion of all is prioritised and recognised through such celebrations.

Mount Erin joined many other schools, workplaces and other institutions in celebrating this occasion in Term 2 this year. Students were encouraged to wear bright and colourful socks to celebrate. We also celebrated through the raising of the Pride flag on our flagposts.

However, although IDAHOBIT day is a fantastic way to show support to our LGBTQIA+ peers, it is important to remember that we can show our support as allies every other day too. Pride can always be extended beyond the special occasions that we mark each year.

Here are some simple steps to become a better ally to your LGBTQIA+ peers:

1.

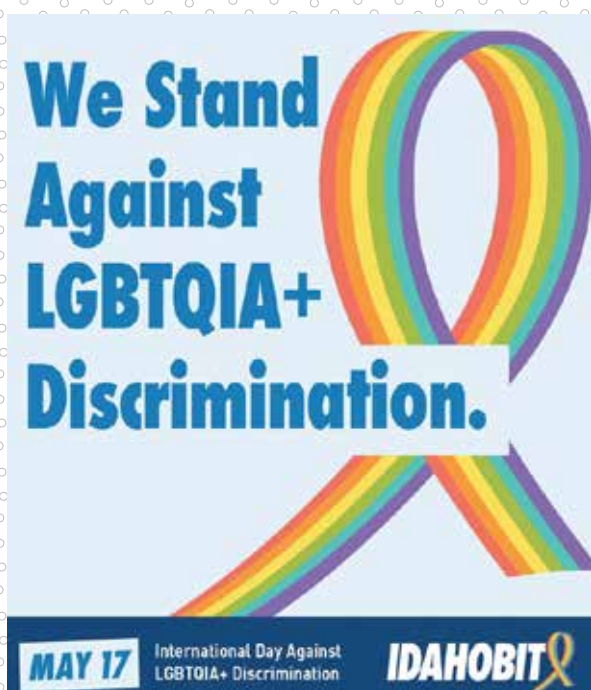
LISTEN AND LEARN: always keep an open mind when LGBTQIA+ people are comfortable in sharing their stories with you. By actively listening with support, you are aiding in amplifying LGBTQIA+ voices. You can also learn a lot and gain a better understanding of LGBTQIA+ issues when you listen.

2.

CALL OUT DISCRIMINATORY BEHAVIOUR: if you hear hurtful language, stereotypes, jokes or see other inappropriate actions carried out toward the LGBTQIA+ community, always speak up if you feel safe to. Standing up against discrimination when you observe it helps those who may not be able to safely stand up for themselves.

3.

RESPECT INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE: when you can, always try to use inclusive language. Simple switches to gender neutral language is a huge step. Instead of 'ladies and gentlemen', try 'guys' or 'everybody' instead. Inclusive language can also include respecting personal pronouns. Instead of assuming someone's pronouns, ask and then try to integrate their preferred pronouns into conversation where possible.



DON'T FORGET!

Mount Erin will be continuing the celebrations later in Term 3 for **Wear It Purple Day**. Wear It Purple Day is on **Friday 25 August** this year and is a day to once again celebrate diversity and inclusion at our school. Students are all encouraged to wear some form of purple accessory to show their support for their LGBTQIA+ friends and peers. We'd love to see you all with a touch of purple!

A PRINCELY TEACHING

Year 9's Medieval Day Experience



On the 20th of June, Year 8 Humanities students took part in a Medieval Day incursion, learning about the lives and practices of people in the middle ages. The day, organised with ancient history educators and instructors from Medieval Education, was spread across 4 sessions.

The first of which was a demonstration of Weapons and Armour. Students were given the chance to hold (and even wear!) authentic medieval props and clothing across multiple eras, while learning about their use and evolution over time.

The next session allowed students to learn about the laws, loopholes, and consequences around medieval Crime and Punishment. Here, the year 8s were taught many of the odd crimes people could be arrested for in the middle ages, such as... playing football? They were then shown the various tools used in torturing or punishing citizens. One lucky student could even be locked in a pillory for the session!

After this came the Tournament session, where students used the knowledge of weaponry they learnt earlier in the day to train as squires! They would then go in a one-on-one duel against a trained fighter to test their skills.

The day was then finished with some Medieval-themed games and a screening of 2001's 'A Knight's Tale'. Overall, it sounds like an interesting experience, but what did the students think?

"I enjoyed the weapons and that girls could be witches. The punishments were interesting."

-Anne and Daisy; Year 8

"I enjoyed the costumes on the day, and watching the medieval film. We learnt about the stocks and types of punishments. The armour was heavy. I felt like I was drowning when wearing it."

-Isabella, Olivia and Sienna; Year 8

"I think that wearing the armor was fully hectic!"

-Kaelyn; Year 8

"I got to hold the biggest sword. It was heavy. I was fascinated by the violence of the weaponry in the Middle Ages."

-Asher and Jayden; Year 8



Written by Tom Weir-Alarcon, photos provided by Ms. Megan Dixon.
Special thanks to Medieval Education for providing the Year 8s with this incursion.

SPORTS REPORT

WITH SPORTS CAPTAIN JOS KITSON



NEWS

Hi, I'm Jos, your Sports Captain for 2023 (shout out to Bailey Plier as well, who's currently injured!) I'll be going over what's been happening in school sports over the last term.

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

Last term, we had a lot of interschool sports days. On the 18th of May, we had the senior boys soccer, where we won 3 of 4 games and came second in the overall competition. The girls netball was also held that day, who managed to score a win for Mount Erin.

Following this was intermediate boys football on the 26th of May, where they won 2 out of 3 games, coming in third overall. Later on the 13th, the senior boys and girls basketball was held. The boys came close to winning their comp with 4 games, while the girls won 1 game.

On the 16th of June, the Year 8 netball girls played their matches, with the year 7 girls following on the 19th of June. While neither team won any games, they played a great game and had a great time.

Coming up, we'll be seeing the next round of intermediate sport on the 30th of August, with Year 7 sport following up on the 11th of September and Year 8 sport on the 13th. The sports on offer are basketball, hockey, table tennis, and futsal. If you're interested in signing up, please complete the google form on compass or email Ms. Hosking. I hope to see many of you signing up for some great days of sport!

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country also took place throughout last term. We had our division cross country on the 1st of June. Blue House won out with 15 points, followed by Yellow House with 13 points, Green House with 12, and Red House's first athletics loss with 7 points. Here are the champions from each year level on the day:

Year 7 Male	<i>Archie Forshaw</i>
Female	<i>Abbey Oliver</i>
Year 8 Male	<i>Harpa Cargill</i>
Female	<i>Kayla Ralph</i>
Year 9 Male	<i>Caleb Baxter</i>
Year 10 Male	<i>Thomas Simmons</i>
Seniors Male	<i>Bailey Plier</i>



CROSS COUNTRY CONTINUED

NEWS

An additional 3 students made it to the next round:

- Abbey Oliver - Year 7 - 10th Place*
- Archie Forshaw - Year 7 - 15th Place*
- Jarrold Oliver - Year 10 - 15th Place*

The eligible students made their way to regional cross country on the 22nd of June and ranked as the following:

- Abbey Oliver - 22nd out of 99*
- Archie Forshaw - 79th out of 108*
- Jarrold Oliver - 66th out of 72*

Congratulations to these three, who not only got through to the next round, but performed excellently against the competition!

Coming up after this will be the division athletics on the 24th of August. Good luck to any students taking part!



UPCOMING SCHEDULE



- Division Athletics - 24th of August*
- Intermediate Sport - 30th of August*
- Year 7 Sport - 11th of September*
- Year 8 Sport - 13th of September*



**Mount Erin College
is proud to present:**

FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT



PLUS!
Heaps of other fun
experiments and displays
run by the fabulous
Mount Erin Science
Department and
students!

**So join us at Mount Erin
College on the 17th of August
4 to 5.30pm! We are looking
forward to seeing you all for**

SCIENCE WEEK!





YELLOW HOUSE UPDATE

Yellow House has had a fantastic start to term 3 with many students returning with renewed focus for their studies. Last term, Yellow House excelled in many events including finishing 2nd to Red House in the athletics carnival! It was so close and we are in a strong position to take the Athletics Cup from Red House in 2024. Yellow House also finished 2nd in the division stages of cross country, with 3 Yellow house students being awarded as year level champions. Congratulations to Abbey Oliver of year 7, Caleb Baxter of year 9 and Bailey Plier of year 12. With Abbey and Caleb also making their way to district cross country alongside Jarrod Oliver of Year 10, we're happy to see such fantastic performance from our sports students. Well done to all students involved. Additionally, Yellow House Staff put on some good costumes for Year 12 spirit week, dressing up as some of their students and favourite fictional characters. Our Year 12s were certainly happy to see this effort put in, and were even inspired to make their own efforts.

Congratulations again to our ASPIRE award winners from Term 2, there were many bronze and silver award winners but special commendations to our GOLD ASPIRE Winners:

Lily NOBLE
Abby OWEN
Kailee ROSS
Karma STRONACH
Jayde DOHERTY
Ryder KEAYS
Thomas NICHOLAS
Imogen O'CONNOR-BYRNE

Kody SYMONDS
Sujin CAMPBELL
Evelyn MARSHALL
Matilda BARKER
Amy BURTON
Jaxon HARRIS
Ayla JOHNSTON
Autumn STUBBINS

Isabel CASAL
Isobel CASTLES
Madelyn LEVY
Brayden ORLANDO-MITCHELL
Adam TURNER
Jack WALKER
Aleria DUFF
Freya CULLEN

- Yellow House Leadership Team

NOW, LET'S MEET THE YELLOW HOUSE TEAM



ALERIA DUFF - HOUSE CAPTAIN

I'm enjoying year 12 and excited for what the future holds but also sad to leave. This year is absolutely flying by. This year my subjects include, biology, english, maths, health and business. I'm hoping to go on after school to study veterinary science at university or nursing to do cosmetic injectables. My aim for this year is just to try my best and have fun while doing it.



MR MATT BAKER - HOUSE LEADER

My teaching specialties range from Biology to Physical Education and have taught a range of junior and senior classes in my last 7 years at the college. Since my very first graduate year I have been in some form of student management role as I value positive relationships with students and their families and being a part of their journey of growth and success. I have a passion for students excelling in their studies and have been a past VCAA Exam Assessor for Biology.



MR BEN PHILLIPS - ASSISANT LEADER

After finishing school, I had some difficulty finding my space within the workforce. While I had an interest in media and history, my degree was boring me and I didn't think I had the patience or organisation to step into the classroom. After attending Uni part-time, travelling and working casually in television production, I eventually went back to the classroom as a CRT. Here, I found confidence in front of the class and soon found myself working at the school I attended as a student. Since then I have taught across a range of subjects and domains, including Art, English, PE, Literacy, ICT, Humanities, VCAL and within my greatest strength and passion: Media. Since starting at MEC, I have been struck by the creativity and natural eye of large sections of the cohort, and have been inspired and entertained by my daily conversations with students across all year levels.



MRS JACKIE MELLING - ASSISTANT LEADER

I have been working at Mount Erin for six and a half years. I have taught a range of subjects in my time, but most predominantly I have been teaching Humanities and Sociology. I have been coordinating for most of my time at Mount Erin, including years 10 and 11 and the last few years I have been a Yellow House Assistant. It has been great to get to know all of the yellow house students and families well. It is rewarding to see students succeed in their goals and fulfill their academic potential.



MRS HEATHER PARK - HOUSE SUPPORT OFFICER

I joined the Yellow House Team at the start of 2023 having spent the last 5 years working at Mt Eliza Secondary College as an Integration Aide and working in Administration. I have enjoyed getting to know the students of Yellow House and I promise that I will know all your names by the end of the Year!

SCHOOL NEWS

ROUND-UP

NEWS

THE GAT

On June 16th, the Year 12 cohort, as well as accelerated Year 11 VCE students, participated in VCAA's annual General Achievement Testing, also known as the GAT. Acting as an alternate scoring method for VCE exams and VM assessments, the two part test covered a variety of topics; from writing and literacy, to maths and humanities. For their 5 hour effort (and war over barbeques and smart-benches), students were rewarded with sandwiches and donuts. Great work to all who attempted it!



MID-YEAR EXAMS

At the end of last term, the Year 10s and 11s participated in their mid-year exams. Lasting from May 31st to June 8th, students undertook tests for all of their current electives and subjects. This is their first of two exam periods, with another at the end of the year done to prepare students for their final exams in Year 12.

NEW UNIFORM

At the June 22nd House Assemblies, it was announced that the school would once again be partnering with Beleza to expand their uniform range, now including a specially designed puffer jacket (seen right).

Retailing at \$80, the jackets are available now from the Beleza website or your local Beleza location.



ORTWELL's University Open Day Survival Guide

Written by Tom Weir-Alarcon

NON-FICTION

Chances are if you're in Year 11 or 12 this year, you've already heard our careers team talk to death about it, but it bears repeating: If you're thinking of going to university, or pursue any kind of tertiary education, you need to attend an open day. Multiple even! It's the easiest way to experience the campus, not only in terms of what courses they provide, but also the setting and community. You get the chance to talk to all kinds of students and faculty to see if it's the place for you. This isn't even mentioning the food and fun activities they hold on the day!

That being said, getting to all of this can be an absolute pain. From the crowds and traffic to the tight timetables and sprints across campus, these universities don't make it easy for you to make the most of your day there. Take it from me, someone who not only attended *three* different open days across *four* campuses, but also multiple tours, course seminars, work showcases, and one too many over-priced food stalls. It's a *lot* to juggle. So, whether you've been to one before, or looking to avoid some first time pitfalls, allow me to take you through the dos and don'ts of university open days.

THE IDEAL TRAVEL PACK

- Backpack/reasonably sized bag
- Campus maps (digital or physical)
- Packed lunch
- Notepad and pen
- Digital calendar/event book
- Water bottle
- Myki/train card

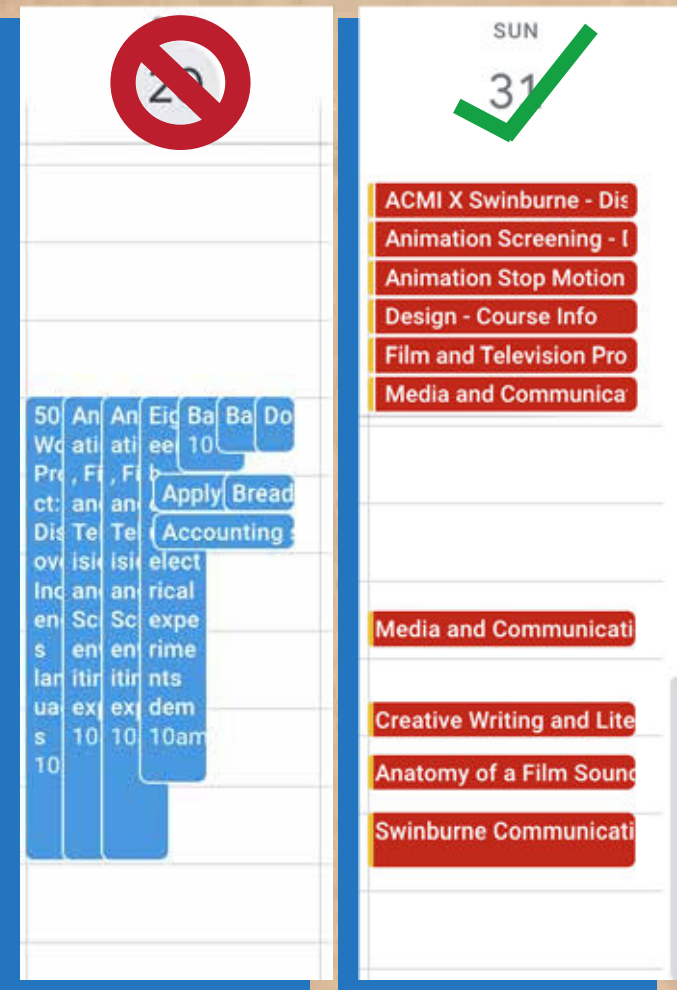


1. Research Universities Online

Fairly obvious, but the first thing you should do is actually look into what universities you plan to attend. Most universities have a wealth of information on their websites, including detailed descriptions of each undergraduate courses they provide on their website, as well as any entry requirements or course fees. Be sure to have a look through some interesting options to help you decide what you'd like to learn about on your open day.

More importantly for this guide, however, is access to Open Day information, including dates and registration. While it may seem pointless, registering gives you access to a full list of the events and activities on offer. Keep in mind that while they'll occur across July through August, some Open Days will overlap with each other. As such, it's worth putting thought into which universities will take the highest priority for your needs, and which have additional events you can attend later in the year.

2. Schedule Your Events in a Calendar



After you've had a look at some of the events on offer, its time to plan out your visits. Some universities allow you to create event timetables to export to your virtual calendar, which can be convenient as it is *messy*. Point of advice, export every event *except* the all-day exhibits, then add them afterwards as either untimed events (like right) or when you think would be convenient for you to drop in and look.

But you might ask, is it really worthwhile setting up a calendar, especially when you're going to be moving around so much and likely changing plans? I don't know why you'd question my infinite wisdom, but yes, it is worthwhile. Last year, I found putting everything in the calendar made me realise that I wouldn't have time to see everything. In saying that, your best option is to select a few key seminars or timely events across the day, leaving room for lunch, a rest, or to explore any all day exhibits.

3. Bring Your Own Lunch

Now look, I've been making a point of getting the most out of your visit to campus, and food is definitely no exception. Many of the universities I've visited offer a wide array of independent food vendors that are at least worth looking into. Hell, one of my favourite moments on my University of Melbourne tour was eating from **Carte Crepes**! But you also have to remember, crepes are not all you're here for; and if you have a whole list of talks or events to get to on the day, it's not a great idea for you to be waiting too long for your food. This is especially the case for food trucks, which often have the largest crowds and preparation time. While the cooks can tell you when your food might be ready, they can't guarantee any specific time while working on fifteen orders at once! I walked in late to one of my panels after waiting for truck food, and believe me, you do not want to be the idiot chomping on overpriced nachos on the floor.



Go somewhere to eat if it's cheap and you have a lot of time between events, otherwise just bring a sandwich for a quick bite.

4. Plan Out Your Public Transport Route

When it comes to each of the major universities, transport can range from being incredibly simple and quick to a task of Sisyphean proportions. I'll say out front that you shouldn't rely on driving to each campus, as getting a parking spot can be an absolute nightmare in the city. Instead, focus all your travel into public transport, and as most of Victoria's universities are traversed through the Flinders train line, you'll be specifically looking into what trams you need to take afterwards. Swinburne, as well as the two Melbourne and RMIT city campuses, aren't direct from the Flinders line.



Before hopping off the platform at Flinders Street, make sure you know the tram number that will take you to your campus, as well as what time they leave and an idea of what direction they'll be going in. This seems like reasonable thinking, but you'd be surprised at the number of times my trips into the city with friends have turned into disasters because none of us looked at a tram schedule.

The main exception to this is Monash's Clayton campus, which I implore you, *make sure you can drive there*. While Monash does offer shuttle buses from Frankston Station and other Monash campuses, its location out in Mornington makes using regular public transport a complete headache. In short, make sure you know what routes you'll be taking, and keep some sort of map on you to ensure you get there on time.

5. Ask Questions!

This is probably the advice you'll see most often when it comes to Open Day guides. And they're absolutely right to include this, especially when it's so *easily* forgotten. Seeing the sights of the campus is nice and all (I won't lie, the architecture at even the worst university campuses are *insane*), but there's absolutely no point if you don't learn what you need to about the place. Whether you're attending a seminar, on a tour, in the weeds of faculty expos, or on the toilet (okay maybe not the toilet), you should be asking people questions. The faculty there will be more than happy to tell you what's what. But if you're anything like the complete sweaty, awkward mess I was last year and have no idea what to ask, here's some starters:

"Hi, can you tell me what this is about?"

"Is there anything you tell me about this course?"

"What do the work requirements/timeline for this subject look like?"

"What would I need to succeed in this course?"

"Are there any scholarships offered from this faculty/college?"

"How does the course structure here work?"

UNIVERSITY HOTSPOTS: University of Melbourne

NON-FICTION



Open Day on August 20th across all campuses

The Two City Campuses

UniMelb’s art-based campus is located near the NGV in Southbank, and is about 20 minutes from the core Parkville campus. If you’re interested in courses at both, or just to look at some of the studio facilities, I’d recommend splitting your day up between the two at around lunch.

Best Food Spot at Uni

As stated earlier, *Carte Crepes* is an absolute requirement during any visit to UniMelb. I’d personally recommend getting a Lemon and Sugar crepe for \$3.80, or the Honey, Banana and Cinnamon for \$7.

Public Transport

You’re in Melbourne, the big CBD. There’s public transport everywhere, from buses to trains and trams. If you need to get to another campus, or need to make your way home, there’s plenty of options besides walking (and even then, most things are close enough to do so).

Notable Locations

The Parkville campus is host to a wide array of facilities for sports and recreation, such as the Sports Precinct at Tin Alley. The central University Oval is surrounded by a cavalcade of specialised courts, a sports centre and gym, not to mention their access to various fitness programs. It’s also impossible to miss the Old Quadrangle, but make sure to step indoors for a look at one of the University’s many gallery spaces!

Libraries

Not including the nearby City Library and State Library Victoria, UniMelb also has the *Baillieu Library* at the Parkville campus, with a wide collection of research books in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Additionally, the *Architecture, Building and Planning Library* is also located in the Melbourne School of Design building at Parkville, along with 10 other libraries off-campus accessible to students.



Accommodation/Student Living Tours

UniMelb provides 3 accommodations on campus, along with an additional 11 colleges; all of which are open for drop in tours for most of the open day. The main difference between the two residences is that the university accommodations are tailored to Melbourne students exclusively as hotel rooms, whereas the colleges has more shared facilities. College-wise, I’d recommend looking into *Ormond College*, which has a wide variety of community facilities and that Hogwarts dining hall you’ve maybe dreamt about for about \$34,387 annually.



Monash University

Open Day on August 5th at Caulfield and Peninsula, 6th for Clayton, 20th for Parkville

Campuses

Unlike UniMelb, Monash has its campuses in very seperate locations. With Clayton as the central hub for the Arts and Sciences, Caulfield’s campus is primarily centred around Art and Design, Parkville on Biomed and Health, while Peninsula’s is on Nursing, Business and Education.

Libraries

Monash has 8 libraries that are accessible to all students, with the *Matheson Library* for humanities, the *Law Library* and the *Hargrave-Andrew Library* for science and technology being located at the Clayton campus. Not only that, but 2 libraries are located at the institute’s Malaysian and Indonesian campuses overseas.



Notable Locations

The highlight of the Peninsula campus is one that many students might be familiar with: the George Jenkins Theatre, a 426-seat hall-host to a variety of plays, events, and presentations (including our Awards Night!). Looking over at Caulfield, the Monash University Museum of Art is host to a wide array of exhibitions, from student works to community collaborations. At Parkville, the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS) is one of the leading pharmacy research institutes in the world, and runs a variety of projects into various areas of medicine. Finally, Clayton’s expansive gardens are a beacon of flora that provide a calming walk through nature.



Public Transport

As stated earlier, transport to Monash is a bit tricky. Buses are most common across all campuses, with shuttle buses sent to Clayton between each one. However, its usually easier to get a train for the Caulfield or Parkville campuses.

Best Food Spot at Uni

Monash has a great variety of restaurants across each of their campuses, from the *Upper Deck Cafe* in Peninsula, to *Sip n’ Bite Kebabs* in Caulfield. However, if you’re looking for the most bizarre choice for the middle of winter, you can’t go wrong for *Neptune’s Seafood Catch*. For \$12, you can get yourself a Burger Box with salad, and a lot of strange looks for eating at a Fish and Chips shop in August.

Accommodation/Student Living Tours

Out of all the institutions listed here today, Monash is the most reliant on off-campus accomodation, with only two facilities each at Peninsula and Clayton. These come in the form of the campus’s Residential Village and Studio Apartments; the former at Clayton acting as more of a college experience while Peninsula’s takes on a shared housing environment. The cheapest standard room option for both hangs around the \$265-280 weekly range. Meanwhile, the studio apartments are all \$333.20 per week. Of course, all bills are covered in the weekly fee across all accomodation options.



Best Food Spots at Uni

Being so close to Glenferrie Rd in Hawthorn, there’s certainly a lot of great food spots off campus. That doesn’t stop them from having places to eat on campus however, with *Cafe Gomez* being of particular interest. Their food isn’t too expensive either, with a large coffee costing \$4.50, or a combo with breakfast for \$8.50.

Campuses

Swinburne’s main campus (and the focus of the Open Day) is very much at Hawthorn, however there’s two additional campuses in Victoria: Croydon, focused on trades training and youth apprenticeships, and Wantirna, based around practical learning. The institute has also made a home in Malaysia for any students looking to study abroad.

Libraries

Swinburne has 3 libraries across its Hawthorn, Croydon, and Wantirna campuses, each with shared access to a wide, online catalogue. Additionally, they also offer late access to computers through LateLab, with the Hawthorn campus’s being available 24/7.

Swinburne University of Technology

Open Day on July 30th



Public Transport

Swinburne is a very special case for public transport, as not only can you get to the campus by bus, train, or tram, but the Glenferrie train station in particular spits you out straight inside the campus. Greatly beneficial for extremely late arrivals.

Recommended Event

Unfortunately, my favourite seminar last year (Anatomy of a Film Soundtrack w Dan Golding) won’t see a return this year, but there’s still plenty of cool events to see. Such as the School of Design’s GradX showcase in AMDC 507/509, featuring what many of the graduating students have been working on in the course and on the job, and the Student Films screenings in 24G103.

Accommodation/Student Living Tours

While not as expansive as other institutions (Hawthorn’s campus was once a local TAFE centre after all), Swinburne still offers students accommodation on campus. Starting with college rooms at \$310 a week, while these may be single bedroom living spaces, the cost includes both bills and the social areas of the college. Stepping up from that, the shared apartment facilities have a range of bedroom sizes, with the double-bedroom starting from \$299 per week including bills. Finally, the studio apartments allow you to live by yourself with bathroom and kitchen for \$358 per week.



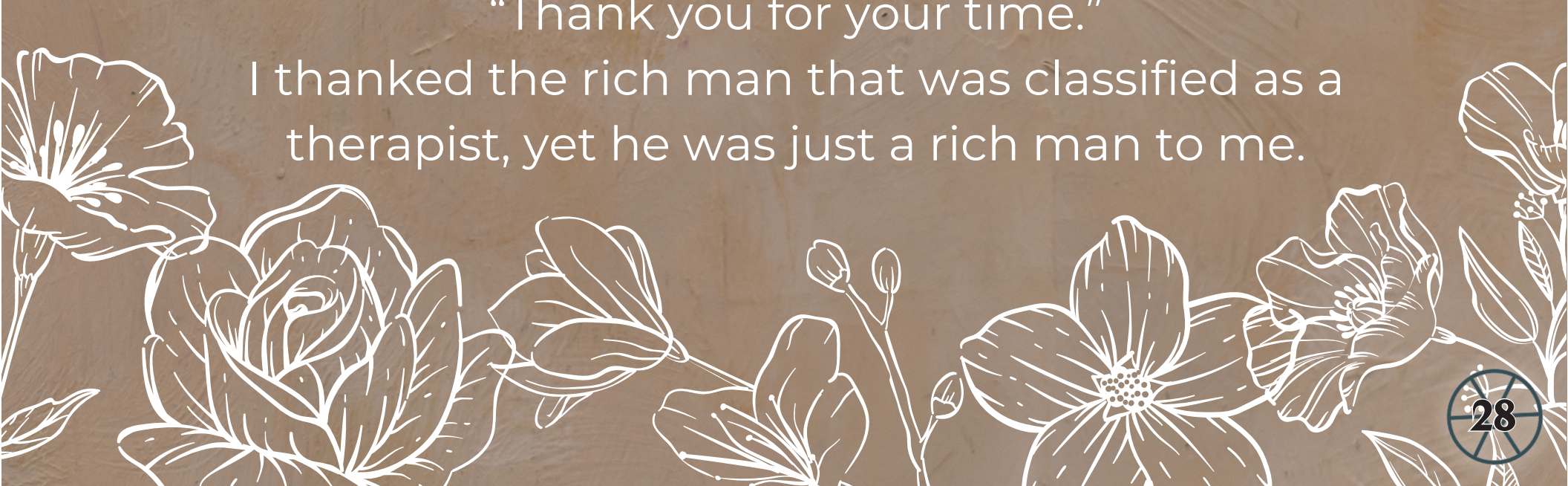
Final Disclaimer

As of July 26th 2023, the National Tertiary Education Union of Victoria (NTEU Vic) have declared protests for University Open Days, calling out unfair work and pay conditions for staff (especially on Open Days!). These will mainly be from staff at Monash, Melbourne, La Trobe, Victoria, Swinburne, RMIT, and Victoria. As such, please keep in mind that some events may not run ahead as planned, and there’ll be some transport congestion.



ONEIRODYNIA

BY JENNIFER KREYTS



I stared at the man before me.

Clean tailored suit, slick back hair, soft lips, heavy gold sagging his skin down - a man grown on wealth. A deep 'hummm' escaping his throat that was protected with more gold.

"However, it made you stronger. You need to be more optimistic."

His words struck something that caused a cat to catch my tongue, a mouse trap snapped over it, maybe it was sewn down to my teeth.

Maybe it was because I was a child when it happened.

Maybe it was because it haunted my nightmares for years. Maybe it was because it was a nightmare. Maybe it was because the only thing that should have made me stronger was vegetables and milk. Maybe it was because I needed safety at that age. Maybe it was because I'm over-exaggerating.

That's it.

Just a dumb, over-exaggerating girl.

"I suppose so,"

I chipped off from my seat, my tongue licking my chipped tooth.

"Thank you for your time."

I thanked the rich man that was classified as a therapist, yet he was just a rich man to me.



WHISPERS OF A POEM

JUNO R O D E R

Within the depths of a forgotten forest,
Where shadows dance and secrets lie,
Resides a poem about a love so pure,
But hidden beneath a sinister guise.

Curious lines on weathered paper,
Curves of a careful hand,
It tells me a story of a lost bond,
And a love that refused to withstand.

The poem reads;
A single teardrop on parchment smudging the lines.

'By fate, the cruel arbiter of time,
Unleashed its arrow, shattered dreams sublime.
You slipped away, a whisper in the night,
Leaving me stranded in this starless plight.'

'Yet in the darkest night, a glimmer gleams,
A flicker of your love, like starlight beams.
You live on in the whispers of the breeze,
In gentle poems carried by the trees.'

In the depths of sorrow's embrace, I dwell,
A heart undone, where anguish gently swells.
I wander through the corridors of grief,
As memories, like specters, seek relief,
On the pages of the poems carried by the trees.

Undercurrent

Written by Joshua D

CREATIVE

As the hunters gathered their thoughts, the chamber’s atmosphere seemed to shift, as if responding to the emotional turbulence within. Faint whispers echoed through the chamber, carried on a breeze that seemed to emerge from hidden recesses. The whispers grew in intensity, drawing the hunter’s attention towards a concealed passage, previously unnoticed.

The corridor led them deeper into the temple, its dimly lit path winding through cryptic symbols and ancient carvings. Their footsteps echoed softly, mingling with the whispers that continued to envelop them.

After what felt like an eternity, the corridor widened into a vast chamber, bathed in an otherworldly glow. The ethereal light emanated from an enchanting pool at the center, its shimmering waters captivating the hunters’ attention. The surface of the pool rippled with an unseen energy, drawing them closer, as if inviting them to delve into its depths.



Mira surveyed the chamber with a careful eye. Her gaze landed on a series of inscriptions etched along the chamber walls, each bearing a cryptic message that hinted at the pool’s true nature. She approached the closest inscription, her finger tracing the ancient symbols.

Amaia, drawn by an inexplicable force, stepped closer to the pool, her eyes fixed on its mesmerizing surface. She could feel the pulsating energy radiating from within, a mix of mysticism and untapped potential. Amaia couldn’t help but wonder what secrets this enigmatic pool held.

The whispers in the chamber grew louder, their words hinting at the trials and revelations that awaited them. It was clear that the mysteries of the pool were calling out to be unraveled.

Mira carefully traced the intricate symbols, her mind racing to unlock their meaning. Each stroke of her finger brought her closer to understanding the pool’s purpose and the role it played in their mission.

Amaia could no longer resist the pull of the shimmering waters. She stepped closer, her hand hovering above the surface, feeling the subtle currents of magic that swirled within. A tingling sensation coursed through her veins, heightening her senses and filling her with a mix of anticipation and unease.

As Mira pieced together the inscriptions, she discovered fragments of a forgotten prophecy, cryptically foretelling a path towards doom and desolation. Mira’s eyes widened as the inscriptions coalesced into a cohesive message, their hidden meaning unveiling itself.

The whispers in the chamber grew stronger, urging them to take the plunge and unravel the mysteries that awaited them in the pool’s depths.

Mira turned back to the other two, who were both now standing above the water’s rippling surface, “Orion, Amaia, stand back!”

But as Mira called out, a sudden change overcame the tranquil scene. The whispers transformed into a cacophony of chilling voices, filled with anguish and despair. The once enchanting glow of the pool turned ominous, casting a sinister pallor over the chamber.



Orion and Amaia, locked in a trance-like state, turned their gaze back to Mira. Their eyes, once filled with trust and camaraderie, now mirrored the darkness that swirled within the pool. Their faces contorted into expressions of pure malice, as if possessed by a malevolent force.



Before Mira could react, the water surged forth with a supernatural force, enveloping both Orion and Amaia. They thrashed and struggled, their cries for help muffled by the suffocating embrace of the water.

Mira, desperate to save her friends, lunged forward, reaching out her hand, but it was futile. The water's grip tightened, dragging her friends deeper into its depths. As Mira scrambled backwards to get away from the water, her hands kept on slipping on the now damp floor.

A tendril amassed from the surface of the water, ripples travelling down its surface. With a swift and relentless motion, the tendril shot forward, wrapping itself around Mira's ankle. She let out a cry of pain and terror as she was forcefully yanked toward the edge of the pool.

Mira's heart pounded in her chest, her mind racing with panic. She frantically reached out, grasping at anything within her reach, but her fingers found no purchase on the smooth stone floor. The water surged again, pulling Mira deep beneath the surface.



The pressure intensified, crushing her bones and squeezing the air from her lungs. She gasped for breath, her vision blurring as darkness encroached on her consciousness. As the crushing pressure took its toll, Mira's consciousness faded, lost in the depths of the watery abyss.

Angiospermae

Jennifer Kreyts

I love her like flowers love the sun,
Freckles scattered across *her* cheeks like sunflower
seeds,
The scene of them dancing with *her* smile every day I
rerun,
The world may be full of weeds,
Yet *she* is a flower,
And I love *her* like flowers love the sun,
A rose of which the symbolisation succeeds,
Her red tinted cheeks let me know this phase has
begun,
A phase of adoration and needs,
Needs for *her*,
Because I love *her* like flowers love the sun,
And the most beautiful part is I wasn't even looking
when I found *her* leads,
Those blue carnation eyes sparkling when
conversations begun,
As feelings begun spontaneous bleeds,
Like water bleeds for a flower,
My feelings bled for *her* because I love *her* like flower
loves love the sun,
And in an endless field of flowers I will always pick *her*,
Because I won.



From The Principal's Desk...

Written by Mrs. Jenni Hodgins

Over my years of being involved with schools (both as a student and educator), I have become aware that Term 3 is often the most difficult for many reasons. The weather is cold, the days are short, many of us are hit by a cold or flu and it's easy to just feel tired and unmotivated. For our Year 12 students, they may be feeling the pinch and pressure as their studies are rapidly coming to an end. This is why, at our whole school assembly earlier in the term I raised these issues and discussed ways that we can help ourselves and others. Our college values of respect, responsibility and especially resilience can be heavily relied up on during these times.

Resilience is the ability to adapt to pressures or challenges and recover quickly. Its ok to feel challenged, to struggle with something or not understand how to address a problem, but using our resilience will help us find ways to learn how to overcome these. "Try and fail, but never fail to try."

We can show respect and responsibility by being empathetic and supportive to those around us who may be finding things tough. Seeking help is courageous and the college has many ways to provide help. Being kind to others is a very powerful action and can have huge impacts. Simple ways this can be done is by using our manners, saying please and thank you and showing gratitude for others.

I was recently introduced to Visible Wellbeing- a wellbeing approach designed by award winning and internationally acclaimed psychology researcher, Professor Lea Waters that combines the science of wellbeing with the science of learning. The Visible Wellbeing toolkit provides a multitude of strategies that support the development of resilience and mental health by making wellbeing visible. One strategy that I shared with the school at the first assembly was Brief Emotional Uplifts. These are small and simple interactions between people that show positivity and gratitude. By smiling at someone and saying "hello," or showing gratitude to them by saying thank you or providing a compliment can enhance their positive emotions and help them to feel happier. The additional bonus is that you also gain the same feeling.

I challenged the students and staff to try these strategies and feel the contagious nature of being positive. This article is a timely reminder!

So far this term our MEC students have been very busy. Our Music department has been regularly visiting the palliative care unit at Peninsula Health to perform. Our senior VCAL students have been meeting with residents from the Village Baxter to plan some upcoming activities (watch this space!). A number of our senior students and SALT students have been engaging with the local Frankston Council to learn about and discuss improving sustainability. Thank you to all of the students and staff involved in these activities.

As much as I love seeing our students engaging so actively with our local community and am excited about two upcoming opportunities where we are welcoming our community into the school. Our fantastic science domain, expertly led by Mrs Cara Myers, is holding a Family Science Night on Thursday 17th August 4pm - 5.30pm. The second event is later in the year, November 25th, where we are welcoming all past students and staff to attend the MEC Alumni Open Day to tour the college. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events.