



UPPER YARRA SECONDARY COLLEGE uysc.vic.edu.au

From the Principal's Desk



Year 12s Final Days

Congratulations to our incredible Year 12 students! Not only are they celebrating the end of 13 years of schooling (including six years with us), but they've also shown maturity and respect on their Celebration Day. While the media often highlights pranks that go too far, we want to recognize the students who celebrated responsibly. Best of luck to all our students as they enter exams - may your hard work be reflected in your results!

Student Free Day Reminder

Please remember that next **Monday 4th November** is a Student Free Day, with the exception of Year 12 exams. We chose this date to minimise disruption to the learning schedule. Many families enjoy a long weekend during this time, so we wish you all a safe and restful break!

End of Year Program

As the formal school year winds down, we're excited to celebrate our students' achievements! In the coming weeks, we'll host awards ceremonies to recognize excellence and effort, hold transition activities for 2025 and year level celebration days, and finally wrap up the year with a fun and educational End of Year Program. We're looking forward to providing a rewarding conclusion to the year for all students.

Professional Learning Update

This week, our staff were actively engaged in professional learning to ensure that we continue providing top-tier education at Upper Yarra SC. Our support staff participated in sessions focused on fostering positive relationships among students and staff, contributing to a supportive school environment. Meanwhile, our teaching staff explored both the challenges and potential of AI in education (a field evolving rapidly). We're committed to ensuring the safe and positive use of AI in our classrooms.

School Crossing Safety Reminder

The Yarra Ranges Council has requested that we remind everyone about safe driving practices near the school crossing. Recent reports indicate some drivers are approaching the crossing too quickly, leading to sudden braking. Additionally, a few parents and carers have stopped in the middle of the road to drop off students, encouraging unsafe crossings outside the designated area. For everyone's safety, we kindly ask parents and carers to follow road rules and remind students to wait for the crossing supervisor's whistle before crossing. Thank you for helping keep our students safe.

Scott Tully | Principal

Key Dates



Monday 4th November
Student Free Day

Tuesday 5th November
Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

**Friday 15th November to
Thursday 21st November**
Year 11 Exams

**Wednesday 20th November to
Monday 25th November**
Years 7, 8 and 9 Exams

**Friday 22nd November to
Thursday 28th November**
Year 10 Exams

Tuesday 26th November
Year 12 Valedictory

**Monday 2nd December to
Sunday 15th December**
Japan Study Tour

Thursday 5th December
Years 7, 8 and 9 Awards Day

Friday 6th December
Years 10 and 11 Awards Day

Monday 9th December
End of Year Program Begins

Tuesday 10th December
Grade 6 Orientation Day

Thursday 19th December
Last Day of Term 4



SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



For taking responsibility for her education and being supportive of her peers.

RUBY SMITH



For continually demonstrating responsibility and being a supportive classmate.

INA PERRY



For being an exceptional leader, showing initiative and responsibility through her captaincy role.

KATE GARDINER



For his positive contributions to both the College and the wider community.

MCEWAN
BARTON
JOHNSON



For diligently and continuously demonstrating the College values.

KYLE HARVEY



For demonstrating excellence and responsibility in Food Studies.

DES BENSON



Year 12 VCE VM - Blood Drive, River Clean Up, and City Camp



On Friday 20th September Year 12 Vocational Major students attended the Lilydale pop up clinic to make a first time blood donation. The whole experience was both educational and enjoyable.

On Tuesday 8th October students organised a 'River Clean Up' activity. As a part of 'connecting to community' students donned gloves, grabbed bags and collected rubbish from the river banks in the popular tourist areas around Warburton. They also checked and cleaned the fishing line disposal bins. Interestingly, the river banks were quite clean and it was a welcome surprise to see so little litter.

On Wednesday 9th October our Year 12 VM class started our City Camp. On the first day, we participated in a Big Issue classroom session which gave us insight into homelessness, how it starts, and some statistics on how people become homeless. That day we also did an Amazing Race around the city. We split into groups of four and spent three hours completing tasks based on the theme of homelessness around the CBD.

On the second day, we began our day at DFO, shopping and having lunch. We then went to Luna Park and spent four hours there. Afterwards, we made our way to Glen Waverley to have a class dinner at La Porchetta.

On our last day in the city, we visited the Melbourne Museum, where we spent two hours learning about different artefacts and fossils. We then headed to Blackburn for the final activity of the camp, which was Bounce. The highlight of Bounce was playing dodgeball, with the whole class versing each other. By the end of the week, we were all exhausted but smiling.

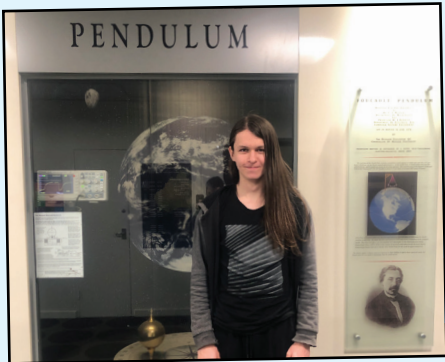
Bronwen Foley VCE VM Leader



Year 11 Formal







Year 10 Work Experience - Mathematician

During the first week of the Term 3 holidays I was lucky enough to do work experience at Monash University.

The program was organised by Burkard Polster and Michelle Strumila, and we worked with them on the first two days. We looked at games like '21 Flags' and had to figure out a mathematically optimal play style. Burkard showed us how to animate using powerpoint and we animated proofs for the Pythagorean Theorem.

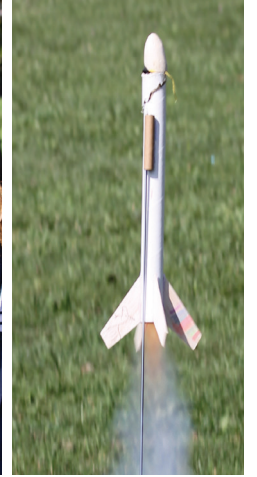
On the third day, two PhD students came in and we did an optimisation task, regarding the placement of truck depots. This involved a lot of coding and algorithms and really challenged me.

The fourth day was my favourite and the one I found the most interesting. A mathematician called Dr Andy Hammerlindl taught us about tessellation and geometry. I found this kind of puzzle and theoretical mathematics extremely compelling. We finished off the day by learning how to use LaTeX on the website Overleaf, a software used to write maths down easily and clearly. We used it to write a proof regarding one of the things we had done during the work experience.

The lunch breaks were a great opportunity to talk to all the people involved, and I learnt a lot about university and potential career paths in mathematics. I got to explore the Monash campus which was really cool, it's such a massive place! It was a very informative and interesting experience and I'm grateful I got to do it. I think anyone who has a keen interest in maths should consider applying, it's an excellent experience.

Steven Berry Year 10

If you're a current Year 9 interested in completing the program in 2025, contact Mr Robinson to be short-listed to apply.



Year 11 Physics - Rockets

Photos by Luka Mackenzie



For one of our assessments in Physics this year, we had to build a rocket in order to prove a hypothesis. For example, one group was trying to prove that the acceleration of the rocket would match their predictions. Mr Gibbs, the Year 11 Physics teacher, had brought some rocket kits for us to assemble.

The process included glueing metal brackets to the engine mounts and fastening them inside the rocket casings. We then had to shape a nose cone out of a small block of wood and attach it to the tube via some string so it would pop off and release the parachute. Mr Gibbs also brought some small rocket engines which we then inserted into their mounts to be fired. We put in an electrical ignitor and then the countdown began. Most of the rockets launched successfully...

...after the third or fourth try, with some going up to 170m high, and some barely reaching 2m. It was a lot of fun and I hope that future students get to have the same experience.

Luka Mackenzie Year 10



Year 11 Geography - Field Trip



The Year 11 Geography class visited Melbourne's CBD and were tourists for the day. Their purpose was to collect primary data on the management strategies to support each location, and the impacts that tourists can bring (both positive and negative). The class spent time at Federation Square, St Paul's Cathedral, the State Library, Chinatown, the Shrine of Remembrance and the Royal Botanic Gardens. What a wonderful day out!

Amanda Finn *Geography*



Year 10 Holocaust Museum Excursion



On Friday 13th of September, Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit the Melbourne Holocaust Museum. We were guided around the museum in small groups, led by volunteers that each had a unique connection to the Holocaust. We participated in an education session where we looked at various primary source artefacts, and finished with meeting a survivor named Andy Factor. He told us his story and answered our questions, which was a highlight for all that attended. After the museum, we went to the Budapest Restaurant and had a delicious two course meal.

Bianca Fraser *Humanities Domain Leader*



Going to the Holocaust Museum was an interesting and informative experience. We learnt about personal stories which I found really engaging. Meeting a Holocaust survivor was an honour and a privilege that not many other people will have in the future. The food at the restaurant was extremely delicious and I loved it. Overall, it was a great day.

Kaylee Archer *Year 10*



I enjoyed the Holocaust Museum because I thought it was a good way to further understand the events that occurred. My favourite part was when we spoke to the survivor Andy Factor, who moved to Australia just as the Second World War was beginning.

Siobhan O'Connor *Year 10*



Well done to the Term 3 winners of our College Values Awards, who will receive a \$50 gift card for continuously displaying the school values in all of their classes.

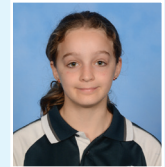
These students either received the most awards during the term for their year level, or they had their name drawn from the ballot box at their year level assemblies.

Congratulations!

Amanda Finn *Year 9 Leader*



Jessica Musgrove
70



Emily Wood
75



Kael Janssen
8A



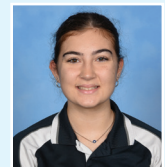
Bella Lim
8A



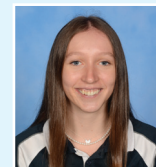
Blake Starostecki-Dyer
9E



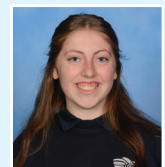
Maddie Kealy
10B



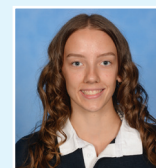
Nicola Marr
10A



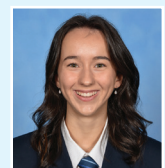
Emily Brown
11A



Ella Dainter-Bevis
11A



Jessica Bennett
12A



Talei Whiteside
12A

UYSC Values Awards - Congratulations!



Year 9 Sisters In Strength



The Year 9 girls were fortunate to experience a program called 'Sisters in Strength'. This activity was aimed at creating an environment for girls to feel safe and empowered in the way they think and move. We got to participate and learn all about heavy weight lifting and how much we can do if we get out of the mindset of disbelief. We then got to hear stories of local women who have overcome so many adversities in their life and learn how they got to where they are today, and how much they've achieved through resilience. Lastly we engaged in a yoga session which was enjoyable and helped us end the day peacefully with a clear mind. This whole program showed me and many others that even though life can be tough, it doesn't mean that it's worth giving up on, it's worth trying and trying again.

Ariel Rowe Year 9



Term 4 After School Maths Class



Come along to 7 Blue from **3:15pm to 4:15pm on Tuesdays** if you want a bit of help with your maths work. One of our maths teachers will be there every week to help you get through homework, tasks you haven't finished, or if you want help to understand a topic you're finding difficult.

Travis Robinson
Mathematics Domain Leader

Year 8 Tree Planting



On Monday 14th October Year 8 Captains led their peers in planting indigenous trees for the Ribbons of Green program. Students planted over 500 grasses, shrubs and trees. This planting increases wildlife corridors and adds to the aesthetics of the school. An excellent effort from all Year 8 students.

Marcus Cook Year 8 Team

It was great to spend a day outdoors, connecting with nature and working together to plant.

Ina Perry Year 8 Vice Captain

I was grateful to participate because I was able to enjoy the sunshine and be with friends doing something different.

Lexi O'Neill Year 8



Year 8 WheelTalk

The bloke that ran the WheelTalk session was amazing. It was good to see lots of different people engaging in physical activity.

Archie Graham Year 8

WheelTalk should get 5 stars because Pete was a legend. It was good to do something different.

Jordan Thornton Year 8

WheelTalk was a good experience, we got to learn about how people with disabilities live and get around.

Heidi Sharp Year 8

WheelTalk was really fun because it was different and we could play basketball using a wheelchair.

Bella Lim Year 8

SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS

RECRUITING NOW

Play an important role in your community. Ensure the safety of children and pedestrians and be a friendly face. Multiple opportunities available in a range of locations.

Flexible work options. Support your community between 8:00am to 9:00am and 3:00pm to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

If you or someone you know is interested in these roles, call us today!

Call HOBAN Recruitment on 9325 3200 **HOBAN**



Summer Artwork

Year 7 student Yahni Fox has created an artwork around the theme Summer, that will be displayed in the Yarra Centre outside the creche. Her artwork was created mostly through the use of acrylic paints and resin for the waves.

Term 4 After School English Class



After-school English class is now each **Thursday 3.15 - 4.15pm** in the Library.

We encourage you to attend if you would like a quiet place to complete your English work or need some additional support from an English teacher. Students from all year levels are welcome!

Lisa Vanderkolk
English Domain Leader



Year 12 Drama - Solo Performance Exams



On Monday 14th October, the Year 12 Drama class attended 'The Round' Performing Arts Centre in Nunawading to complete their Solo Performance Examination. Each student had a time slot throughout the day in which they performed in front of 3 assessors. They all came out feeling both happy with how they performed, and relieved. I was extremely proud of the efforts they put into building such great characters over the semester.

Tessa Kinsella Drama



Year 9 Community Project



In Term 2, I attended the Gnurad Gundidj School for Student Leadership with Jaia Bell, Henri Morrissey and Angus Anderson. While at Gnurad we planned a community project which involved organising a clean up event back in our local community. On Tuesday the 22nd of October, half of 9A and all of 9C went to the Little Yarra River in Yarra Junction during our Connect@9 lesson to pick up rubbish with supplies we ordered from Clean Up Australia. Our next clean up event is happening with 9F and 9D in a couple of weeks time.

Kate Gardiner Year 9 Vice Captain

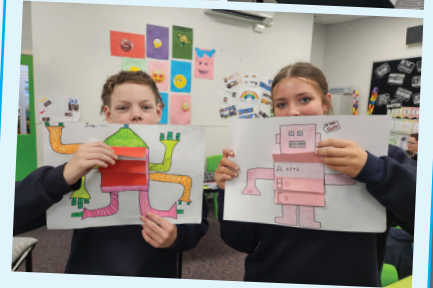
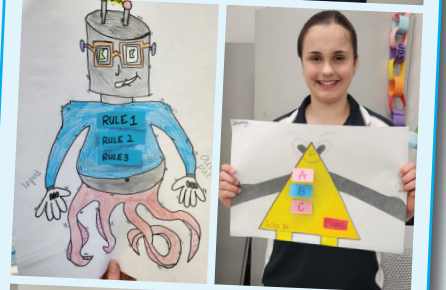
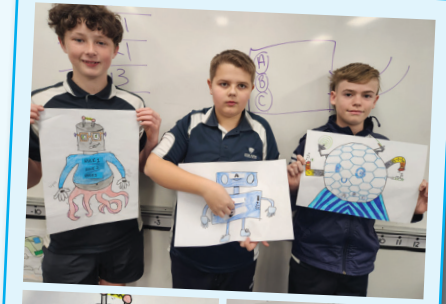


Year 7 Rookie Band Workshop



Levi Whitten, Gracie Hughes, Anastasia Ridolfi, Mia Coster, A'isha Strbac, Sam Woodbridge, James McKibben and Hamish McKibben participated in the NEVR regional Rookie Band workshop. Schools from the Northern and Eastern suburbs worked together on three pieces, which they performed at the end of the day. It was great to see everyone having a go, and it is an invaluable experience for them as young musicians.

Kellie Woollard Instrumental Music Coordinator



Year 7 Maths - Function Machines



Students designed their own 'function machines' to transform numbers. Each machine had different functions (rules) to change numbers. Students then used input-output tables to guess the functions of each other's machines.

Jessica Stovold Maths



Premiers' Reading Challenge 2024

Congratulations to our top five readers who completed the Premiers Reading Challenge and more! A'isha Strbac Year 7, 68 books, Piper Elsegood Year 7, 65 books, Elizabeth Benson Year 8, 54 books, James McKibben Year 7, 52 books, Trinity Peterson Year 7, 42 books.

At UYSC the challenge was to read and record 25 books between March and September. Well done to all participants: Kira Baker, Isabelle Benson, Sadie Bentley, Grace Carey, Izaeyah Collins, Wyatt Corcoran, Dash Dickson, Ruby Georgiev, Padraic Feeley Haynes, Ethan Johnson, Matilda Kite, Jordan Madigan, Hamish McKibben, Kaleb Van Meeuwen, Joshua Rice, Cara Stewart, Izabella Shotter, and Mahala Turnbull.

