TRARALGON COLLEGE NEWS

Principal's News

Program Restructure – The Middle School

With the year 9's moving to the Grey Street Campus this year we no longer call ourselves the Junior and Senior Campuses as year 9 students are not yet accessing their senior years pathways. The senior secondary reform also makes a clear distinction that year 11 and 12 students are in their senior years of schooling. As a result of these two changes and the rebuild at the Grey Street Campus in 2023 we will organise our College into three distinct sub schools of students. The Junior School catering to Year 7 and 8 students on Shakespeare Street, the Middle School catering to year 9 and 10 students in the new purpose-built Middle School building, and the Senior School catering to year 11 and 12 students in the VCE centre or Grey Street.

The newly formed Middle School will better align to the principles underpinning our curriculum by providing students the opportunity to explore their passion and interest areas in greater depth as well as begin to consider their senior pathways as they move into year 10. To provide plenty of choice our Middle School students will participate in vertical electives. Vertical electives are subjects you choose from each of the key learning areas with students being from year 9 and 10 in each class. In year 9, students will complete core English and Maths with students from their year level, with all other subjects selected from the vertical elective offerings. In year 10, students will complete English and Maths with students from their year level however they will choose the English and Maths best suited to them. All other subjects will be selected from the vertical elective offerings or maybe a VCE or VET subject as an early start subject.



Issue 8 2022

Course Counselling for students currently in year 8 and 9 will begin next week in Advisory classes. In these sessions the change to a Middle School will be explored more fully as well as advice about choosing suitable subjects based on interest and for year 10's possible senior pathways. To support your child through this process please explore the Middle School Handbook at home, identifying the subjects that are best suited to their interests and abilities. If your child is in year 10 also look at the Senior School handbook to consider if your child is suited to begin one VCE subject in year 10 – known as Early Start.

Since the return to onsite learning this year many students have struggled with the requirements of the departments mobile phone ban.

Traralgon College policy for mobile phones and electronic devices is consistent with the department ban during the school day. For the remainder of Term 3 students will be reminded to keep their mobile phones in their lockers. In term 4 we will be applying the policy as it is intended and students will be subject to consequences as stated in our college policy. In this way we are seeking to support students and families as students understand the requirements of returning to onsite learning



Growing together as adaptable, confident, successful learners and citizens

The Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy Support (MYLNS) initiative provides intensive literacy and numeracy teaching support to secondary students to ensure they have the literacy and numeracy skills they need for future work or study. This year in year 8 MYLNS numeracy students have been working on concepts at the students point of need. Teacher led discussions as well as collaborative tasks such as match up problem solving tasks, followed by individual consolidation tasks have featured frequently in our sessions. However, it is the games that students tend to like the best. Games are often used to get students ready for thinking mathematically, reduce Math anxiety and to add an element of fun. In Jenga worms, the idea is that you roll the dice, remove the coloured worm, and then multiply the dice number by the number on the worm. By teaching students' multiplication strategies, the aim is to promote efficient multiplicative thinking rather than additive thinking. Another game is the bug catching game, as the platform spins the bugs are sprung and students catch the bugs in a net. Depending on the multiplication strategy being taught, we can multiply the number on the bug by the target multiplication number. These games feature as a small component of the sessions that may seem like just a bit of fun, but it is very intentional. And I have to say, it is a very enjoyable way to teach and learn.



Year 10 Mathematics students Minee Luke. Charlotte Wilson and Demi Radford take an angle of elevation measurement to the top of the Eucalypt tree on the corner of S-Block. This was part of their Trigonometry Common Assessment task. Using this angle and a premeasured distance from the base of the tree they were able to calculate the height of the tree and complete the assessment task.



E-cigarettes, vaping and teens: Do parents know the dangers?



Parents, carers, schools, and community all play an important role in protecting children and young people from, and educating them about, the harmful effects of smoking and vaping.

Research from the <u>Royal Children's Hospital</u> shows many parents and carers are not aware of the harmful effects or how their views about smoking and vaping can impact the likelihood of a young person taking up smoking or vaping. The Department of Education and Training has collated <u>resources</u> to help you learn more about the health risks of smoking and vaping, and some suggestions about how to talk to your child about vaping, and where to get support.

This includes a video from experts at the Royal





Australian Netball Championships

On Tuesday the 23rd of August, 25 Traralgon College students attended the Australian Netball Championships at GRISS. We had a netball clinic for the first hour to help develop our netball skills. To our surprise two Collingwood Magpies players – Sophie Garbin and Molly Jovic were coaching us for our clinic. We then watched an action packed game between West Coast Fever Reserves and Sydney Swifts Academy. With lots of schools attending it was a fantastic atmosphere, really high level netball and a close finish, with Fever winning by one goal.

Upcoming sports

On Friday the 26th of August we will be attending the Wellington District Athletics with some dedicated students attending even on the student free day. Year 7 and 8 boys basketball will be played on the 8th of September and the year 7 and 8 girls basketball will be played on the 13th of September.



In year 9 English we have been studying the works of William Shakespeare. We have been looking at the language changes that have occurred over time and been translating Shakespearean into modern day English. We have paired this with our reading of the play Romeo and Juliet.



All students have absolutely loved this exposure to the new language and have been really getting involved in making a variety of different products that showcase their understanding of this different language style. They have explored sonnet writing, insulting others using language from back in Shakespearean day and have also examined the impact that death can have on a story. You can see from the smiling faces they absolutely have loved this exposure.

Wellbeing Corner

On Thursday 25th August the college celebrated wear it purple day. Wear it Purple Day is an annual LGBTIQA+ awareness day especially for young people, based in Australia. The students wore purple to support young people form the LGBTIQA+ community.

The college wellbeing team and pride groups were joined by youth space and headspace to help raise awareness and promote diversity and inclusion amongst their peers.





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Events	
General Achievement Test (GAT)	7 September
College Production "Matilda"	9 & 10 September
Debutant Balls	15 & 16 September
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Outdoor Ed	
Year 10 Canoe Skills	1 September
Year 11 OE Day Hike – Mount Erika	5 September
Year 9 Overnight Hike	13 – 14 September

Excursion	
Megamix Girls with Attitude	15 September
Year 10 Literature Hanging Rock	7 October

School Sports	
Wellington Intermediate & Secondary Table Tennis	29 August
Year 7 & 8 Wellington Basketball - Boys	8 September
Year 7 & 8 Wellington Basketball – Girls	13 September

2023 Course Selection Dates	
Year 9 Course selection begins for Year 8 students	29 August
Year 10 Course selection begins for Year 9 students	30 August
Year 9 & 10 Course Selections Due	9 September





The Shakespeare St Book Club has been meeting once a week in the library since term 2 this year and embarked on our first attempt at Shadow Judging with the CBCA Sun Project largely organised by our wonderful librarian James Shortt. Working with the 6 shortlisted books for the Young Readers Award, the students read, journaled and discussed as much as they could and assisted in a creative response project.



As apart of the CBCA program we were lucky enough to have a visit from Katrina Nanestrad; author of one of the shortlisted books, Rabbit Soldier Angel Thief. Katrina took the time to speak with our book club members inspiring them to continue reading and writing, and another hour with our year 7 Like Minds group, discussing her role and process as an author. It was a very special visit and a great experience.

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

RESILIENCE