



TRARALGON COLLEGE NEWS

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RESILIENCE

July 2026

TERM THREE NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 Issue 4



IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

JULY

- 20th-24th Year 10 Work Experience
- 21st Wellington Senior Netball
- 22nd Step Up to Grey Street - Year 8 Excursion
- 24th-25th College Production - Chicago
- 28th Job Skills Expo
- 29th Year 10 Course Counselling
- 30th Year 11 OES Gippsland Plains Rail Trail excursion
- 31st Intermediate/Senior Basketball

AUGUST

- 4th-6th Gippsland Tech School Visits
- 6th Campfire Conversations
- 14th Progress Reports
- 14th Wellington Athletics Carnival
- 17th-21st National Science Week
- 18th-19th STEM H2GP Race Day and New Energy Conference
- 24th-28th Children's Book Week
- 27th Advocacy Day
- 28th Year 12 History Roadshow

SEPTEMBER

- 1st Wellbeing Expo Shakespeare Street
- 7th Student Free Day - Staff Professional Development
- 8th Wellbeing Expo Grey Street

In this newsletter

Upcoming Events
and Important Dates

Message from the
College Principal
featuring Term 2
Highlights

Koorie Connections

Messages from the
Wellbeing Team

Community & Safety
Announcements

MESSAGE FROM THE COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Educating with purpose, leading with passion – a new era at Traralgon College

There is much to celebrate across our college as we begin a new term. Term 2 was another busy and rewarding term, filled with student achievement, community connection, and a wide range of learning opportunities.

We are particularly pleased with our recent school data. Our NAPLAN results demonstrate excellent growth across both literacy and numeracy, reflecting the hard work of our students and the commitment of our staff to improving learning outcomes. Our Attitudes to School Survey data has also improved, with positive shifts in student perceptions and experiences of school. Student voice remains an important part of our improvement work, and we will continue to use this feedback to guide our priorities.



Our community spirit has been on full display. Sports Colours Day brought plenty of colour and enthusiasm to the College while raising funds for the Cancer Care Centre at Latrobe Regional Hospital. Our community also continued its generous support of the 'Give a Damn, Give a Can' initiative, working alongside Rotary and St Vincent de Paul to support local families. Following the passing of Neale Daniher, our SRC is also planning a Term 3 uniform-free day to raise awareness and funds in support of the fight against MND.



Students have enjoyed a broad range of learning and pathway opportunities this term. These have included the Health Camp at Latrobe Regional Hospital, a Year 12 visit to Monash University, and continued excursions to Gippsland Tech School, where students have accessed state-of-the-art technology and explored emerging STEAM and industry pathways.

Our Campfire Conversation and Basket Weaving workshop was another highlight of the term. Bringing together our Koorie students and families, our KESO, Auntie Vera Harrold, Stockdale Road Primary School families, colleagues, and Department of Education representatives, the evening provided an opportunity for cultural learning, meaningful conversation, and a good yarn and feed around the campfire.



The ABC and Blue Edge programs continue to support students in developing leadership, teamwork and resilience while strengthening positive connections with local police.

Our Year 8 Celebration Evening was a wonderful occasion, with students dressed to the nines and enjoying an evening focused on connection and community. We hosted Arts Showcase Evening, another fantastic celebration of student talent, featuring visual art, musical performances, and an exciting preview of our upcoming production of Chicago. The quality and diversity of the work on display reflected the dedication and creativity of both our students and staff.

The breadth of opportunities available to our students continues to demonstrate our commitment to improving learning, strengthening pathways and connections, and ensuring every student can thrive.

One of the other main highlights of the term was an Education Support Staff celebration event where we proudly recognised our Education Support staff and the extraordinary contribution they make across the College every day. It is great privilege to work alongside such committed and passionate individuals on a day to day basis.

Fiona Milkins
College Principal



ANNUAL POLICY REMINDER

ANNUAL REMINDER FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Traralgon College would like to inform parents, carers, and community members that our **Students Using Mobile Phones Policy** has recently been reviewed and approved.

We encourage all families to take a few moments to familiarise themselves with this important policy. It is available on the Traralgon College website under [Policies](#)

Traralgon College prioritises student safety, wellbeing, social skill development and positive student behaviour. As such Traralgon College, in line with the Victorian government take the safe responsible use of digital technologies seriously.

Whilst the Victorian government acknowledges that we live in a technology-rich world where mobile phones are an important communication tool, research has found that mobile phones can be disruptive in classrooms and open to misuse at school. The unregulated presence of mobile phones in classrooms can undermine students' capacity to think, learn, remember, pay attention and regulate emotion.

At recess and lunchtime, opportunities for students to communicate with each other face-to-face or be involved in physical activity are also valued, rather than students being focused on a mobile phone, particularly when they are using it to engage with social media.

This policy acknowledges that technology is increasingly affecting how students learn and communicate. For a small number of students with particular health and wellbeing needs, an exception to the policy may also be granted.

This policy will remove a major distraction from our classrooms, so that teachers can teach, and students can learn in a more focused, positive and supported environment.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

TIPS TO HELP IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE

an excerpt from the Victorian Government

<http://www.vic.gov.au/attendance-and-missing-school>

Setting up good attendance patterns and addressing attendance issues promptly can lead to future success and help your child feel more engaged and connected at school.

Here are some ideas which may assist you in supporting your child to attend school:

- Talk to your child about school and the importance of attending every day. You can ask them how they feel about school, what interests them or if they are having any difficulties. Some problems to look out for include:
 - bullying or cyberbullying
 - feeling isolated at school
 - disliking or feeling disconnected from the school culture or environment
 - falling behind in school work or feeling overwhelmed about keeping up
 - disliking school subjects, choice of subjects, or not feeling challenged by the work
 - finding relationships with teachers or other students at school difficult
 - competing demands on time, such as extracurricular activities
 - not feeling understood and fully accepted by peers or teachers
 - not experiencing cultural acknowledgement and understanding
- Encourage and celebrate good attendance habits with your child, including arriving at school on time every day.
- Set a good example. Show them how you keep to your own commitments.
- Encourage your child to take on hobbies at school that they enjoy such as sports and clubs. This will help them develop positive relationships outside of the classroom setting and can help your child feel part of a group, important to the school, and more motivated.
- Help your child maintain daily routines such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Help them pack their school bag the night before with everything they need.
- Have a set time for breakfast.
- Plan for your child to meet with a friend so they can travel to school together.

Remember, Every day counts.

Act early if you are concerned about your child's attendance and contact their school to discuss how you can work together to support positive attendance.



FROM THE WELLBEING TEAM

Congratulations to Our 2026 Live4Life Crew

We are excited to introduce our Live4Life Crew for 2026!

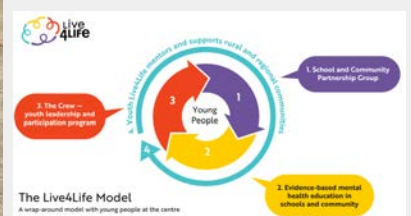
Congratulations to Caleb Hegarty, Jamila Labucana and Blair Beattie (Year 9), who have been selected as our school's Mental Health Ambassadors.

The Live4Life Crew plays an important role in promoting positive mental health and wellbeing across our College.

Throughout the year, Caleb, Jamila and Blair will support the implementation of the teen Mental Health First Aid (tMHFA) program for our Year 8 and Year 10 students and assist our Wellbeing Team with wellbeing expos across both campuses.



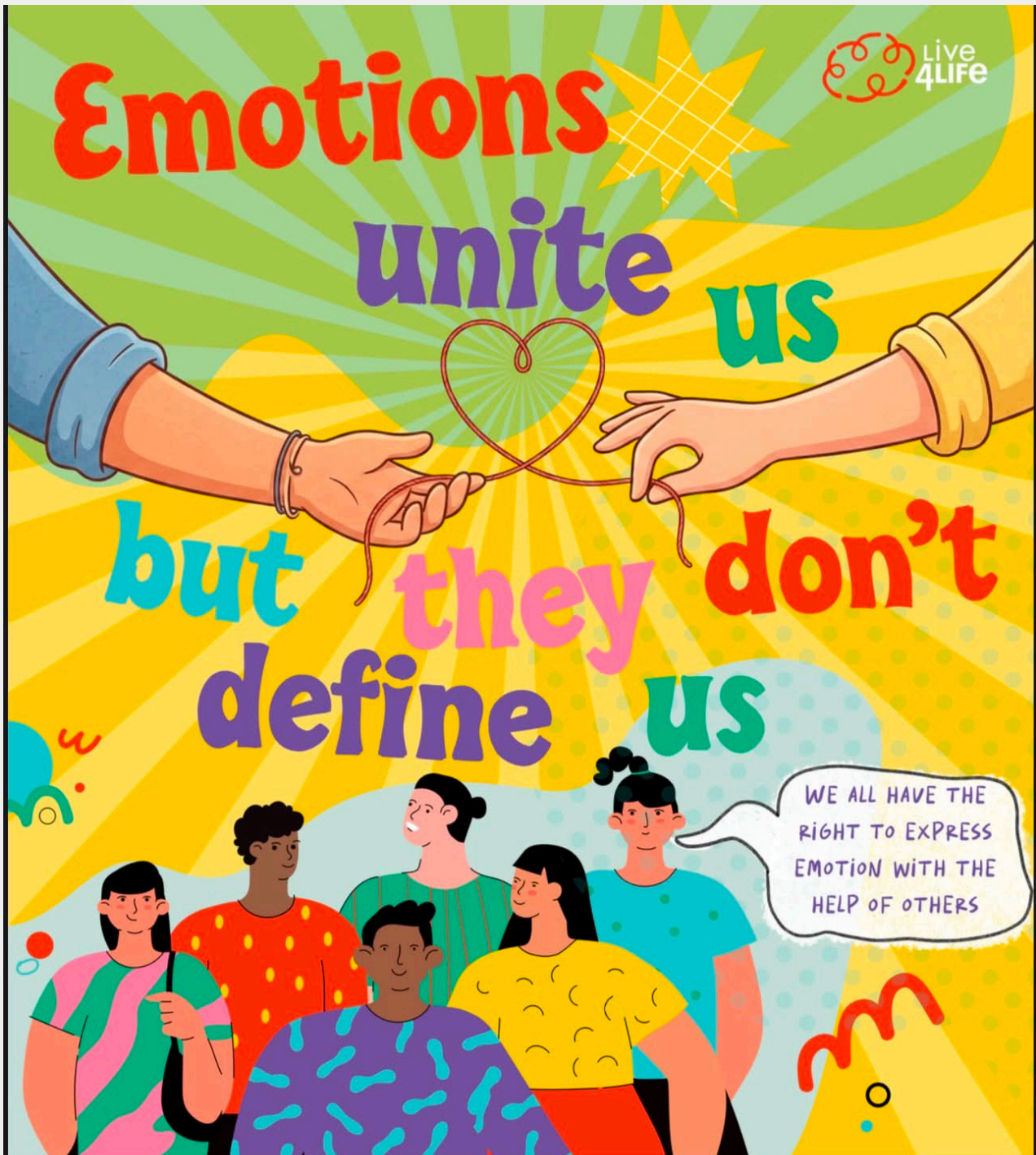
Earlier in the year, our crew attended a regional training day at GPAC, joining student leaders from secondary schools across the Latrobe Valley. The training provided them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to be positive role models, promote mental health awareness and help create a supportive school community where students feel connected and encouraged to seek help when they need it.



Proud Moment for Our Live4Life Crew

Earlier in the year, Traralgon College proudly unveiled the official Latrobe Valley Live4Life promotional poster designed by our Live4Life crew.

Congratulations crew, it looks amazing. Thank you for stepping up as ambassadors for such an important cause and for helping to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing across our school community. We are incredibly proud of the difference you are already making and look forward to seeing the positive impact you'll continue to have throughout the year.



Live4Life Latrobe Valley

Improving youth mental health

Our partners and supporters



FROM THE WELLBEING TEAM

Blue EDGE: BUILDING CONFIDENCE, CONNECTION AND RESILIENCE

Traralgon College is proud to continue its partnership with Blue Light Victoria and Victoria Police through the Blue EDGE (Educate, Develop, Grow, Empower) program.

Now in its fourth year at our College, Blue EDGE provides Year 7 and 9 students with opportunities to build confidence, resilience and important life skills in a supportive environment. Through a combination of physical activity, shared experiences and engaging workshops, students develop teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills while strengthening their connection to school and the wider community.

During Term 2, a group of Year 7 and 8 students participated in the program which consisted of eight two-hour sessions that combined fitness training, team-building activities, breakfast, and interactive workshops focused on personal growth and wellbeing. Students explored topics such as communication, values and strengths, assumptions and stereotypes, mental health, accessing support, and healthy decision-making through creative activities, group discussions, and hands-on experiences. The program was supported by Miss Alexander and Jacinta from the Wellbeing Team, helping students build confidence, resilience, positive relationships, and stronger connections to their community.



FROM THE WELLBEING TEAM

P.A.R.T.Y Program at LRH

Year 11 and 12 students attended Latrobe Regional Health to engage with the P.A.R.T.Y Program, an internationally recognised interactive injury awareness and prevention program.

Students took part in hands on activities with local SES, Ambulance Victoria, VicPol, and LRH staff. A highlight was visiting the Emergency Department and ICU areas of the hospital and learning about the consequences of risk-taking behaviours.

The program organiser also provided outstanding feedback about behaviour and engagement of our students throughout the day.



KOORIE CONNECTIONS

NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Throughout NAIDOC Week, students and staff across Traralgon College participated in a range of learning experiences that celebrated and acknowledged the histories, cultures and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We were privileged to welcome Willie and Ella Pepper, who generously shared their knowledge, stories and cultural perspectives with our staff. Their visit provided a valuable opportunity to learn directly from respected First Nations community members and deepen our understanding of Country, culture and community.

In Advisory classes, students explored the importance of valuing First Nations knowledge, reflecting on the impacts of colonisation and considering how we can contribute to greater understanding, respect and reconciliation. Through discussion and shared learning, students were encouraged to think critically about the significance of preserving cultural knowledge and the role we all play in building respectful relationships. The learning also acknowledged the Gunaikurnai People as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we learn and work.



**NAIDOC
WEEK**
50 YEARS
DEADLY
5-12 JULY 2026



KOORIE CONNECTIONS

NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS

In Art, students created works inspired by First Nations symbols as a way of exploring visual storytelling. Using these symbols respectfully, students told the story of a holiday or memorable journey they had experienced, demonstrating their understanding of symbols as a powerful form of communication.

These experiences encouraged students to learn with curiosity, reflect with respect and continue building their understanding of Australia's rich First Nations histories and cultures.



FROM THE ARTS TEAM

Traralgon College Arts Showcase

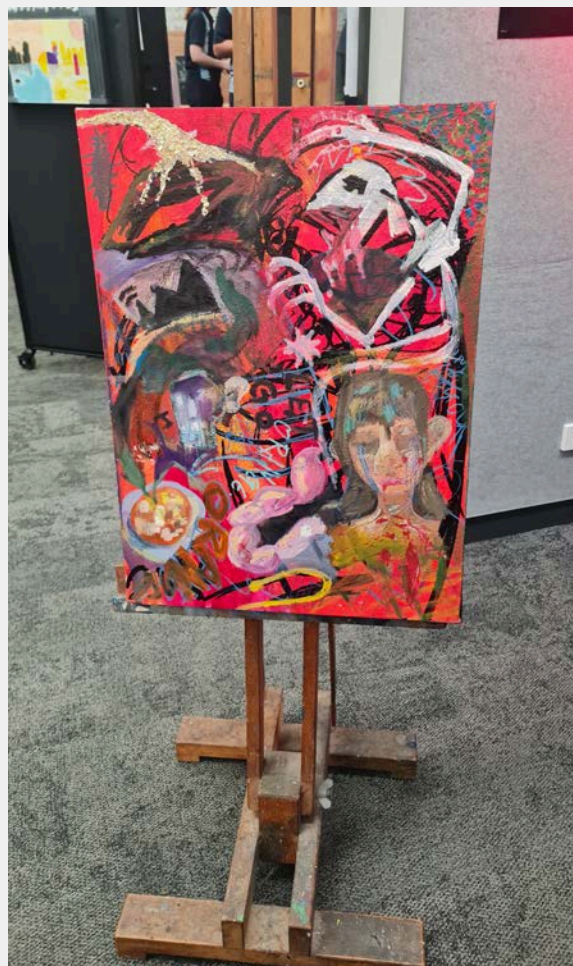
On 9 June, Traralgon College hosted an Arts Showcase celebrating the creativity, talent and hard work of students from across the College.

The evening featured a vibrant visual arts gallery displaying work from our Visual Arts classes, lunchtime clubs and DI programs. The gallery also included a display of Theatre Studies design work, showcasing the creative planning and design processes that support performance-making. Guests were also treated to an impressive collection of Media work, including photography and student film productions that highlighted the diverse skills and creative voices of our students.

Throughout the evening, audiences enjoyed a range of live performances from VCE Music students, performers from our Instrumental Music Program and a special preview from our upcoming production of Chicago: Teen Edition. Students from across the college presented a live rehearsal performance, giving the audience an exciting glimpse of what is to come on July 24th and 25th. The showcase was expertly MC'd by one of our SRC Representatives, whose enthusiasm and professionalism helped make the evening a great success.

The Arts Showcase was a night buzzing with creativity, talent and community spirit. It was wonderful to see students sharing their passions and celebrating the outstanding Arts programs available at Traralgon College. The evening also highlighted the strong sense of community that exists within our Arts faculty, with Arts staff, Instrumental Music tutors and support staff working together to provide students with meaningful opportunities to learn, create and perform.

We thank all students, staff and families who supported the event and helped make it such a memorable evening.



FROM THE ARTS TEAM

YEAR 12 ART

Our Year 12 Art students have been hard at work creating impressive pieces that showcase their creativity, skill and personal expression.

We are proud to share a collection of some of their outstanding artworks.



FROM THE ARTS TEAM

ALL THAT JAZZ!

The students at Traralgon College have stepped into the world of Chicago: Teen Edition and invite you to experience the 1920s razzle dazzle with them as they sing and dance their way through a story of jazz and crime. This college production brings together students from across year 7 to 12, who have worked collaboratively to bring this story to the stage. Supported by a live band featuring both staff and students, the performance is a true reflection of Traralgon College's vibrant performing arts program, showcasing the skill and dedication of our students.

Friday 24 July to Saturday 25 July 2026

12pm & 7pm

GPAC Little Theatre

Link for GPAC tickets

https://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/gpac/events/Chicago_Teen_Edition?shem=rimspswouoe – link for GPAC purchasing of tickets



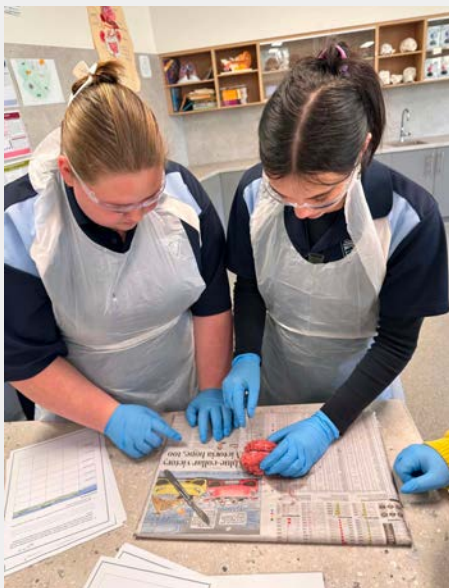
FROM THE SCIENCE TEAM

Our Year 12 Physics students recently put theory into practice with an exciting excursion to the go-kart track at Stony Creek, joining fellow Year 12 Physics students from Lowanna College. The visit provided a hands-on opportunity to investigate Sir Isaac Newton's Laws of Motion, with a particular focus on the forces involved when vehicles travel around corners. By experiencing concepts such as inertia, centripetal force and friction in a real-world setting, students gained a deeper understanding of the physics behind safe and effective cornering. While one of the Lowanna College students claimed victory in the go-kart tournament, meaning the bragging rights stayed with our neighbours this year, our students had a fantastic day of collaborative learning, friendly competition and physics in action.

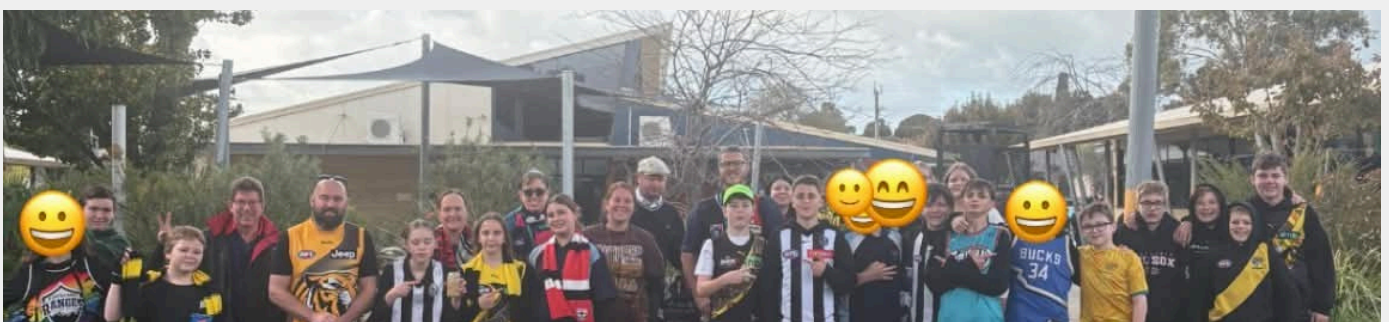


FROM THE PSYCHOLOGY TEAM

Year 11 Psychology students participated in a sheep brain dissection as part of their studies, providing a hands-on opportunity to deepen their understanding of the brain's different regions and functions. Students approached this complex learning experience with curiosity, enthusiasm and maturity, applying their classroom knowledge in a practical setting while developing a greater appreciation of the brain's structure and the important role each region plays in human behaviour and cognition.



SPORTS COLOURS DAY





THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Appreciation from the Rotary Club of Traralgon Central.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Traralgon Central, we pass on huge appreciation to your school and parent community for support to Give a Damn. Give a Can. While the club receives wonderful community support, the schools are front and centre, annually contributing over 75% of the total collection; this year we anticipate collecting in excess of 17,000 cans.

GADGAC has been running now in excess of three decades. We frequently hear from parents who recall contributing through their school as children themselves. The canned food collected and distributed from the Traralgon Vinnies Food Bank, lasts the centre about 5 months.

Fifteen schools has been involved ranging in size from large secondary colleges to small bush schools. Special thanks to parents for allowing your children to raid the pantry and to the school co-ordinators, whose spirit of generosity, initiative and community spirit leads to such expansive collections.

Traralgon College has been supporting GADGAC for over three decades. For 2026 the RC of Traralgon Central thank you for your contribution of 69 cans.

Ian Whitehead. Rotary Club of Traralgon Central.



GIVE A DAMN, GIVE A CAN 2026

FROM THE COMMUNITY

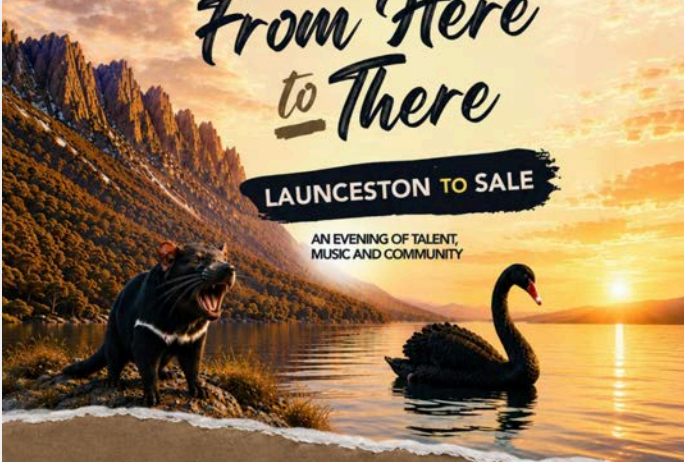


St Patrick's College
LAUNCESTON

From Here to There

LAUNCESTON TO SALE

AN EVENING OF TALENT,
MUSIC AND COMMUNITY



THURSDAY 13 AUGUST AT 7PM
THE WEDGE, SALE

From Here to There is a special evening of music, community and connection, bringing together the talented students of St Patrick's College and the musicians of the Sale City Band. This unique concert celebrates the power of live music and the opportunities that come from bringing young and experienced performers together on stage.

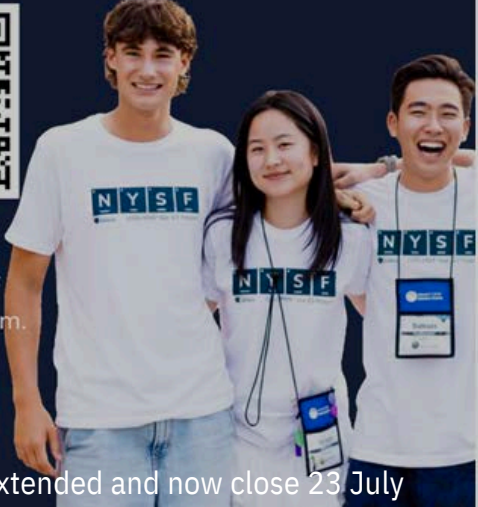
ADULT \$15 | CONCESSION \$10 | CHILD U15 \$5

BOOK: PHONE 5143 3200, WWW.THEWEDGE.COM.AU OR 100 FOSTER ST, SALE



NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM
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YEAR 12 PROGRAM**

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Apply now for
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Year 12 Program.

Applications
close 24 June.

Applications extended and now close 23 July



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UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Information for Schools

YOUthrive
VICTORIA
A legacy of Helen Macpherson Smith



University Scholarships (valued at \$40,000) 18 to be awarded across Rural Victoria in 2027

For young rural Victorians wanting to study a Bachelors Degree at university following year 12. The primary selection criteria is need followed by demonstrated leadership capacity or potential, desire to return to rural Victoria after graduation, community service and academic ability.

What is an endorsement?

Youthrive Victoria University Scholarship applications require an endorsement from the student's secondary school. This provides the scholarship panel with supporting information and confirmation of circumstance and need.

How many applications can be endorsed per school?

Each school can endorse up to four (4) worthy applications each year, giving consideration and priority to those whose need is highest. Schools with large year 12 cohorts may apply for further endorsement allocations if necessary. Please email andrew@youthrivevic.org.au

Who can provide endorsements?

Applicants must first consult with their Principal to determine who can provide an endorsement. In the application the student will insert details of the approved endorser.

- The endorser will be sent the required response form.
- The principal will be advised

It is our expectation that the school will monitor the number of endorsed applications.

Gap Year Students

Students returning from a gap year are able to apply for a Youthrive Victoria University Scholarship. They must also be endorsed by their secondary school. This student will count in the 4 allowable applications.

An online information session discussing endorsements will be held on Tuesday 21 July from 3.45-4.15pm.

Please register [here](https://youthrivevic.org.au).

[youthrivevictoria.org.au](https://youthrivevic.org.au)



VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Information for Schools

YOUthrive
VICTORIA
A legacy of Helen Macpherson Smith



Rural Chances Scholarships (valued at \$6,000)

For young rural Victorians who are facing financial or social challenges, who have career aspirations and want to/or are studying at TAFE or undertaking an apprenticeship.

To meet the eligibility criteria applicants will need to:

- Be 16-24 years of age;
- Hold a current Centrelink health care card, or provide evidence of financial hardship;
- Identify a TAFE qualification (Certificate III or above) they would like to enrol in or are enrolled in OR an apprenticeship they would like to undertake;
- Be accountable for the use of scholarship funds;
- Participate in publicity/promotional material and research.

Who can submit references?

This reference is a general personal reference from someone who knows the young person well. This reference should provide details of personal qualities, potential and genuine need. The referee can be a teacher, employer, family friend, family member or someone else who knows them well.

Application Process

Applicants are welcome to apply each year, regardless of previous outcomes. Applications may be submitted in either written or video-recorded format.

Scholarship Value

Rural Chances Scholarships can be used to fund anything that supports a young person's ability to study, including car registration and petrol, rent or accommodation, and materials required for their chosen course, such as textbooks, tools, uniforms, and other essential supplies.

An online information session discussing endorsements will be held on Tuesday 21 July from 3.45-4.15pm.

Please register [here](#).

youthrivevictoria.org.au





Changing the World Through STEM: My Journey from Student to Growing Hearts

Guest Speaker:

Professor Milica Radisic, University of Toronto

Thursday 6th August 2026, 4:30 - 5:30pm
ONLINE FORMAT

Changing the World Through STEM: My Journey from Student to Growing Hearts

Begin your STEM journey and discover how students like you can help shape the future of medicine!

Could we one day grow a living, beating human heart in a laboratory?
And what if new treatments could be developed without the need for animal testing?

Join Professor Milica Radisic, a globally recognised leader in tissue engineering, as she explores how scientists are creating living human tissues from stem cells and developing “organs-on-a-chip.”

Learn how this groundbreaking research is reshaping modern medicine and how a career in STEM can empower you to make a meaningful impact on the world.

Session details:

Date: Thursday 6 August 2026

Time: 4:30 - 5:30pm

Venue: ONLINE (ZOOM WEBINAR)

What You'll Learn

- How researchers grow human tissue in the lab
- What “organs-on-a-chip” are and how they're used
- Study and career pathways into biomedical engineering and STEM
- How these advances are shaping the future of healthcare

Who Should Attend?

High school students and teachers who are interested in science, technology or healthcare!

REGISTER

Scan the
QR code to
secure
your spot



University-level extension opportunities for 2027 senior students

If your child is currently enrolled in Year 11 and doing a unit 3 and 4 subject, this pathway may be for them. The Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES) offers a selection of early university entry subjects as a further extension for students at Traralgon College. Your child can go beyond Year 12 by studying a first-year university subject as part of their final year of VCE.

What is involved

Students can enrol in a Higher Education Studies program and do 2 semester-long subjects (over one year) of a first-year university subject instead of one of their Year 12 VCE subjects.

The program is a flexible learning model with options for online and in-person lessons, where students can balance their studies at their school as part of their overall VCE program.

The university subjects are fully subsidised – no cost to students.

Refer to [Centre for Higher Education Studies – Higher Education Studies](#) for the course handbooks with full details about the 39 subjects available through CHES, and recordings of previous information sessions.

VCE subjects available through CHES

In addition, CHES offers select VCE subjects that may interest students undertaking years 10, 11 or 12 in 2027 if these are unavailable at our school. These subjects are:

- Algorithmics: units 3 and 4
- Classical Studies: units 1 and 2
- English Language: units 1 to 4
- Extended Investigation: units 3 and 4
- Philosophy: units 1 and 2
- Specialist Mathematics: units 1 to 4.

How to apply

The first step for an application is for interested students and their parents or guardians to speak to Assistant Principal Daniel King, as applications require school approval. If you feel your child is a suitable candidate or if you need further information, please speak with us.

CHES enrolment applications close on Friday 21 August 2026. To confirm eligibility for the university subjects, refer to [Centre for Higher Education Studies – Higher Education Studies](#).

For enquiries directly to the Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES):

- phone: 03 9063 1170
- ches@education.vic.gov.au
- <https://ches.vic.edu.au>



Students Using Mobile Phones Policy

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Traralgon College's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones, wireless headphones and other wearable devices during school hours based on section 5.2.1(2)(b) of the Education and Training Reform Act 2006.

RATIONALE

Traralgon College prioritises student safety, wellbeing, social skill development and positive student behaviour. As such Traralgon College, in line with the Victorian government take the safe responsible use of digital technologies seriously.

Whilst the Victorian government acknowledges that we live in a technology-rich world where mobile phones are an important communication tool, research has found that mobile phones can be disruptive in classrooms and open to misuse at school. The unregulated presence of mobile phones in classrooms can undermine students' capacity to think, learn, remember, pay attention and regulate emotion.

At recess and lunchtime, opportunities for students to communicate with each other face-to-face or be involved in physical activity are also valued, rather than students being focused on a mobile phone, particularly when they are using it to engage with social media.

This policy acknowledges that technology is increasingly affecting how students learn and communicate. For a small number of students with particular health and wellbeing needs, an exception to the policy may also be granted.

This policy will remove a major distraction from our classrooms, so that teachers can teach, and students can learn in a more focused, positive and supported environment.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Traralgon College and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones, wireless headphones and other wearable devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.



POLICY

Traralgon College understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone, wireless headphones and other wearable devices to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Traralgon College:

- ☐ Students who choose to bring mobile phones and wireless headphones to school must have them switched off and securely stored in their locker during school hours
- ☐ Students are permitted to have wearable devices with them during school hours only if notifications are switched off and are not used as a mobile phone.
- ☐ Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- ☐ When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Traralgon College during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Traralgon College are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Traralgon College does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to the Department's [Personal Goods policy](#).

Where students bring a mobile phone, wireless headphones and other wearable devices to school Traralgon College will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Traralgon College students are required to store their phones and wireless headphones in their lockers.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Traralgon College may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing Student Engagement: Behaviour and Inclusion policy and our Safe and Orderly Learning Environment (SOLE) processes.

At Traralgon College inappropriate use of mobile phones is any use during school hours, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- ☐ in any way that disrupts the learning of self and others



- ☐ to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- ☐ to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- ☐ to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- ☐ to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- ☐ during exams and assessments

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- ☐ may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - o Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - o Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- ☐ can be granted by the principal, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning or Education Plan

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	Individual Education Plan

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation



Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Traralgon College will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- ☐ Travelling to and from school
- ☐ Laptop devices
- ☐ Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. structured workplace learning and / or work experience
- ☐ Students who are undertaking external VET

RELATED LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- ☐ Traralgon College - Student Engagement: Behaviour and Inclusion policy, SWPBS Code of Conduct, Safe and Orderly Learning Environment (SOLE)
- ☐ Education and Training and Reform Act 2006 (Vic)
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/departments/legislation/Pages/act2006.aspx>
- ☐ Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)
<https://www.eoc.vic.gov.au/the-law/equal-opportunity-act>
- ☐ Reporting and Managing Emergencies and Incidents
- ☐ Mobile Phones – Department Policy
- ☐ Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items
- ☐ Personal Goods – Department policy

APPROVAL AND REVIEW

Policy last reviewed	June 2026
Approved by	College Principal June 2026
Next scheduled review date	June 2030