



## Principals Report

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**My Principal report today is being written from Melbourne**, where nearly 3000 Principals from across Victoria have been attending the annual Government Schools Conference at the Convention and Exhibition Centre. Mr Webster and I have enjoyed learning with our colleagues over the past two busy days and taking part in workshops that will help to move our school improvement efforts along.

**Hawkesdale P12 College is a school that sets high expectations and provides real opportunities to learn in a safe, supportive and enjoyable learning environment. It's always great to hear from students who have been a part of the life of our school, and to catch up on their successful life journey beyond the school gate.** Over the course of this year we will celebrate some of the stories of our ex-students, and the different pathways that their lives have taken.

**Chloe Matthey graduated from our school in 2020** – the first year of COVID restrictions, and a year of finding all sorts of ways to keep students and families connected and safe.

**Chloe's reflection:** *I attended Hawkesdale P12 for only Years 11 and 12, but in that short time, I made many positive memories, especially in my woodwork class with Mr. Matters. One that stands out is from 2020 during lockdown, when we had to complete our classes using Teams on the computer. Watching Mr. Matters navigate Teams while the rest of the class ended up guiding him through it turned into a true group effort.*



*Through the life experiences I had faced prior to enrolling at Hawkesdale I quickly learnt the importance of leaning on the supportive community of teachers around me to help achieve my goals, something I had never truly experienced before. One of the biggest lessons I took away from my time at our school was that it is okay for the plans you make for your life to change; in the end, things have a way of working out. And, thanks to 2020 lockdowns, I also became quite the professional at using Teams meetings.*

*After graduating in 2020 I then went on to complete my Diploma of Community Services, and whilst studying this I obtained employment at Brophy Family and Youth Services as a youth development coach supporting young people experiencing homelessness. I have since moved teams within the organisation and now I am a senior youth development coach supporting young people experiencing homelessness and also supporting young people who are aging out of care (Kinship, residential or foster care). I am currently completing a Bachelor of Criminology and Psychological Sciences with Deakin University.*

*One simple piece of advice I would give to students today is that it's okay to not have a clear plan for what you want for your future and it is also completely okay if your plan doesn't work out the way you had initially hoped.*

**I'm really proud of Chloe and all that she has achieved** after being a student at our school, and of the good work that she is doing to help young people who are in need of support.

**It has been a busy week of sporting activities for our Year 5-6 students this week.** Rydah and Xavier attended a BioCATS program at GMHBA Stadium on Monday, learning about the maths, science and health that is involved in Australian Rules football. Our Year 5-6 students will be playing in the interschool Moyne Winter Sports carnival today at Victoria Park in Koroit; there is a chance of cool conditions and rain today – perfect for playing netball and football! Our new 22-seater



will be in use once again, and it is remarkable how many times this vehicle has transported our students to events and excursions already this year, saving travel costs for families every time it leaves the school property.

**And well done to Phoenix, Memphis and Tiori** who represented our school so well in the Greater Western Region cross country carnival at Albert Park in Warrnambool this week.

**A reminder to families that the Department of Education recently announced some changes to semester one written reports for government schools across Victoria** following AEU industrial bans earlier this term. Schools will still be providing printed reports for semester one this year as usual, and reports at our school will be distributed in the last week of this term. While student reports will continue to provide important details about student learning attainment and progression points, full descriptive comments will not be included as a result of the timing of term two stop work bans. Families are always welcome to make contact with staff at school to discuss student learning progress at any time, and to discuss the outcomes and learning progression noted in these reports.

**A reminder also to Unit 3 traditional VCE and vocational VM students** that the GAT written exams will be happening at the Lutheran Hall under full exam conditions on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, with practice English exams to follow on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June for our Year 11 and Year 12 traditional VCE students. VCE students who attend TAFE classes on the day of the practice English exam will be able to sit their exams on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June, also under full exam conditions. The General Achievement Test (GAT) is a pen-and-paper test of general knowledge and skills taken by students as a routine part of completing their senior secondary studies, and plays an important role in the quality assurance of VCE assessments as well as providing students with an opportunity to demonstrate that they meet the Victorian Literacy and Numeracy Standards expected at a senior secondary level. Year 9 and 10 English exams will also be held in the week of the GAT exam. More information about end of semester exams will be sent home shortly.



**We are so lucky at our school to have a canteen that is open every day for Break 1 and Break 2, serving home-cooked snacks and meals and making sure that gluten-free food items for staff and students are available as needed.** Leanne and Vanessa do a great job cooking and serving food items and filling lunch orders, and I always appreciate the help that our canteen volunteers provide when they can. Our school was an early adopter of the Breakfast Club program, which is now operating five mornings per week with the assistance of our VCE VM

students. This has been a very successful program for our school in making sure that students have access to toast and Milo and fresh fruit every day once that arrive at school – and I note that this program is about to be rolled out in every government school across Victoria.



**Finally, The Festival of Print exhibition at the Glyph Gallery in Port Fairy finishes up this weekend and features a range of spectacular artworks and printmaking techniques from lino cuts to collographs – and also some student pieces created by the Year 9-10 Printmaking elective class.** Ms Regan – and past teacher Britt Gow – were instrumental in curating the exhibition, with examples of their own artworks featured. This is a great exhibition

– feel free to visit the gallery this weekend!

Have a great weekend everyone ...

**Mr Ralph**

**Principal**





**P/1 Week 6**  
**Learning about capacity**





**P/1 Week 6**  
**Learning about capacity**





# Celebrating National Simultaneous Storytime with 2.7 million children around Australia on Wednesday at 12pm

We watched the story "Luna Roo" being read online by the authors of the book. We then watched the illustrator talk about his drawing of Luna Roo.



Well done to Jack, George and Taylah for getting 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in our class Luna Roo colouring competition. Thankyou to the Yr 11 class that judged the entires.



# Year 8 English Update

This term, Year 8 English students are learning how language can be powerful! We started our persuasive podcasting unit learning about the issue of marine debris and the actions people are taking to solve the ocean plastic problem.

We will be going beach-coming next week with ocean advocate Colleen Hughson to hear all about her amazing work with Beach Patrol. This is a citizen science program that monitors and records the marine debris washing up on beaches across the country. Colleen will help us categorise rubbish we collect and explain how Beach Patrol tracks the types of plastic found on our beaches and where it comes from.

Keep an eye out for the fabulous posters around the school students created earlier in the unit when experimenting with writing to persuade an intended audience.

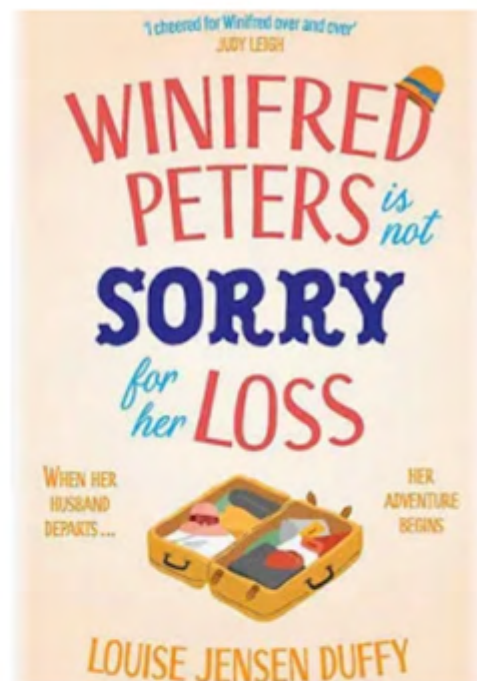


# Hawkesdale Community Book Club

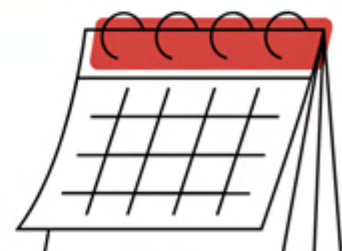
We have chosen two books for our upcoming book club meeting on Wednesday June 24. Come along and join the fun! You don't need to have read both of the books - or even either of them! New members and children are welcome 😊



Join here



Save the date: Wed  
June 24, 5-6pm in the  
college library



Sam at Coffee with the Girls welcomed employers with her delicious coffee while they set up activities for the Year 7 and 8 students. As Mortlake College arrived, Hawkesdale P12 College joined them and students gathered in the gym where assistant principal Paul Webster thanked the employers for attending. Destiny, a student at Hawkesdale, did an Acknowledgement of Country and Sarah spoke about what the NPL does. Sarah encouraged students to be open-minded and to make the most of the opportunities.



***Damien Gleeson from Community Bank Port Fairy & District then spoke about 'choices' and how the Community Bank gives its profits to support the community, such as the Moyne Trades Morning.***

The students formed small groups and took part in four employer-led, hands-on activities. Following the schedule students were free to roam and have a go at other employer-led activities they hadn't tried. This also gave the students time to speak with employers and to ask questions. To finish the event, reflections were shared and industry attendees presented a certificate of appreciation from students.



# 2026 MOYNE TRADES TASTER

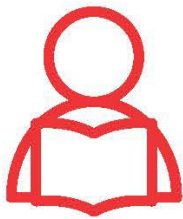
Presented by the Neil Porter Legacy & Mortlake College and Hawkesdale College



HAWKESDALE P12 COLLEGE



## THE NUMBERS



52 Students



16 Businesses



21 Professionals

## SPONSOR

 Bendigo Bank

Community Bank  
Port Fairy &  
District

## INDUSTRY SUPPORT





**NEIL PORTER**  
LEGACY  
COMMUNITY FOR CAREERS

## OUTCOMES & FEEDBACK



### Skills

Students developed skills in many practical activities, including; handling power tools and machinery, analysing water and forensic samples.

*"My favorite subjects is woodwork. I liked screwing the plasterboard on the frame. I want to be a builder when I leave school."* **Student**

*"My favourite activity was fixing the mowers."* **Student**

### Knowledge

Students enhanced their knowledge of practical and trades-based careers available in the region. And their knowledge of study pathways available to them locally.

*"I wasn't really sure what trade meant before today, but now I know there are lots of trade jobs."* **Student**

### Confidence

Students developed confidence in handling machinery and tools, as well as interacting with adults in a simulated work situation.

*"We had heaps of students asking questions. It was especially great to watch the quiet kids work on something and build up the confidence to ask something."* **Trades person**

## OUTCOMES & FEEDBACK

### Connection

Students connected with local businesses and workers.

*"It was lovely to see the respect the students showed to the industry professionals. There was at least 5 boys who came up especially after the event ended and shook hands with the policeman."*

**Organiser**

### Engagement

Students were engaged in practical learning activities.

*"There was a real buzz around the room. I could tell the students really enjoyed the event."*

**Trades person**

*"I did an activity that I didn't think I'd enjoy, but ended up having fun."* **Student**

*"Thanks for providing such a great experience for the students. They particularly liked the hands-on aspect and some of the freebies!!!"* **Teacher**



# BIO CATS

....part of the AFL's Sir Douglas Nicholls round.

On Monday, Rydah, Shannon and I went to the GMHBA stadium for a Koorie Leadership program called Bio Cats. We got to do lots of STEM activities in the new sports museum, and even watched some of the Geelong football players train. They weren't allowed to wear their football boots on the ground, because the grass is too precious!  
Xavier



# BIO CATS

....part of the AFL's Sir Douglas Nicholls round.



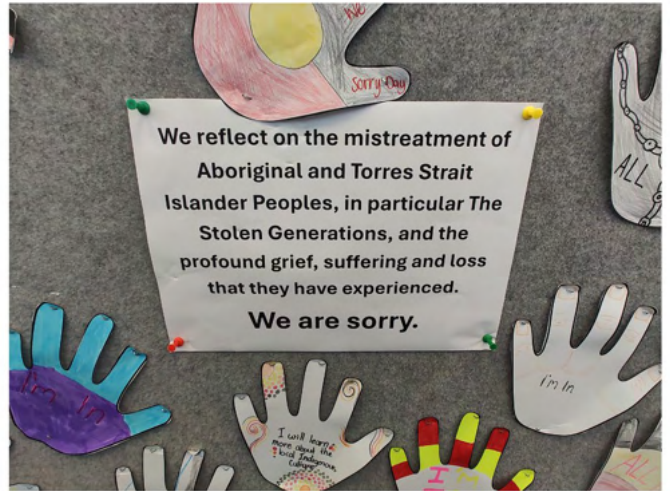
In the Sports museum, we got to do activities like rowing, lego building, rope tying, and sports commentary. We got to look in the new visitors change room, warm up room, plunge pool and ice bath room. We did some group activities and team building with footballs. It was a really good day and it went really quick!

RyDAH



# National Sorry Day

A day of remembrance and commemoration of the Stolen Generations.



This week students reflected on National Sorry Day and identified actions that they can take to support reconciliation.



## Sorry Day May 26th





# School Wide Positive Behaviour Expectations



Next week our behaviour focus is:

## RESPECT IN THE CORRIDORS AND THE YARD

This includes:

- Being friendly and inclusive
- Being considerate of those around you
- Using an inside voice in the corridor
- Walking when inside and keeping hands to self
- Moving safely and only using spaces that are available to be used
- Using school equipment appropriately

Congratulations to the following students for receiving nominations last week:

Marshall, Ben, Memphis, Indiana, Addisyn Hutchins, Zoe, Jasper, Tiori, Loralie, Liana

Please continue to keep an eye out for positive reward notifications outlining that your child is consistently demonstrating our school values.



## 100 Celebration

On Monday, we celebrated 100 nights of reading as a group. We played multiple games to review word reading including human word building, I have who has? and pass the parcel word edition. Some of these games will be added to our collection of games we play to review our learning. It was fun!



friendship



crunchy



nightmare



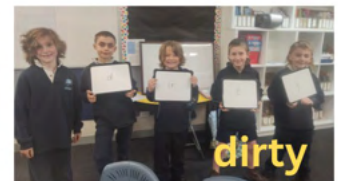
earthworm



charming



breadboard



dirty



Way to go crew!  
Mrs Dart



## A SPECIAL REPORT: NICOTINE ADDICTION

Vaping and nicotine use are becoming increasingly visible in the lives of young people, with many children exposed to it well before adolescence through social media, advertising, gaming culture and peer conversations. What can often begin as curiosity or experimentation may quickly develop into nicotine dependence due to the highly addictive nature of these products.

Many young people are unaware of the impact nicotine can have on brain development, emotional regulation, concentration and overall wellbeing. For families, early and ongoing conversations can play an important role in helping children and teens build critical thinking skills, resist social pressures and make informed choices.

This edition of SchoolTV explores nicotine addiction, the risks associated with vaping and practical ways to support young people through this growing challenge.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the **Nicotine Addiction** edition of SchoolTV

<https://hawkesdalecol.vic.schooltv.me/newsletter/nicotine-addiction-au>



# Travel Freeeeeeee

From 1 January 2026, all young people under 18 travel free on all Victorian public transport (trains, trams, and buses) across the state using a \$5 Youth myki card. For more information visit this link:

<https://transport.vic.gov.au/tickets-and-myki/>



## INFORMATION DAY

## TARRONE Battery Energy Storage System (TBESS)

Come along and meet the project development team, ask questions and learn about the Tarrone Battery Energy Storage System (TBESS).

-  [Willatook Community Hall](#)
-  [June 10 2026 2pm - 7pm](#)
-  <https://www.globalpower-generationaustralia.com.au/our-projects/tarrone-batte>
-  [tarronebess@globalpower-generation.com.au](mailto:tarronebess@globalpower-generation.com.au)
-  [0428 867 646](tel:0428867646)

## Canteen Menu – 2026

Mini Chicken Wrap -	\$2.50
Chicken Mini Muffin Pizza	\$2.00
Ham, Cheese Mini Muffin Pizza	\$2.00
Ham, Cheese, Pineapple Mini Muffin Pizza	\$2.00
Egg and Bacon Muffin	\$3.50
Hash Browns	\$1.00
Sweet Chilli Chicken Tender Toastie	\$2.00
Party Pies / Sausage Rolls	\$2.00
Homemade Slices / Muffins / Banana Bread	\$1.50
Homemade Biscuits	\$0.80
Truffles	\$2.00
Banana bread - (gluten free) must be pre-ordered	\$3.50
Brunch Pies	\$6.50
Angel Bay Light Beef Burgers with Salad - must be pre ordered	\$6.50
85gm Canteen Approved Chicken Burger with Salad- must be pre ordered	\$6.50
Salad Roll or Sandwich with or without Meat	\$6.50
Salad Tubs with or without Meat	\$6.50
Sandwiches - selected fillings eg: egg & lettuce / ham & pickles (must be pre ordered)	\$3.50
Veggie Burger with lettuce, tomato, beetroot, cheese, mayo on a wholemeal roll	\$6.50
Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap - with lettuce, tomato, mayo and cheese – must be pre ordered	\$6.50
Dino Nuggets & Wedges	\$4.50
<b>Meat Pie</b> (gluten free) Party pies	\$5.00
(gluten free) Sausage rolls	\$3.50
(gluten free) Pie	\$4.00
	\$8.00

*While canteen staff will take all reasonable precautions to prevent the cross-contact of gluten free and gluten containing food products, it is important to be aware that we cannot guarantee that any item prepared and served from our canteen is going to be completely free of allergens.*

## Drinks

Water – 600 ml	\$2.00
Nippy's Milk – 250 ml – Strawberry, Honeycomb, Chocolate, Coffee	\$2.50
Fresha Juice – 250 ml - Apple or Apple & Blackcurrant or Orange	\$2.50
Nippy's Milk – 375 ml – Strawberry, Honeycomb, Chocolate, Coffee, Banana	\$3.70
Fresha Juice – 500 ml - Apple & Blackcurrant or Orange	\$3.70
<b>Frozen Yoghurt or Icy Poles – break 2 only</b>	
Lemonade Icy Poles (gluten free)	\$1.60
Zooper Dooper – Maximum of 2 – Temp must be over 25°C	\$0.50
Dixie Cups (gluten free)	\$2.50
Frozen Yoghurt	\$2.50
<b>Chips</b>	
Chips (28 g) - Honey Soy or Sea Salt or Salt & Vinegar (gluten free)	\$1.50
Snaps (28 g) (gluten free)	\$1.50