



Hawkesdale P12 College Newsletter

No 24 - 7th August 2026

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Upoming Events

Friday 7 th August 2026	Yr 3/4 Basketball-Warrnambool
Monday 10 th August	Glasses for Kids Visit
Thursday 13 th August 2026	Animal Farm Theatre Excursion-Melbourne
Sunday 16 th to Friday 21 st August 2026	Bogong Alpine Winter School
Friday 21 st August 2026	Body Worlds
Monday 17th August 2026	Yr 10 to VCE Information Night. (change of date)
Wednesday 26 th August 2026	Dress-Up Day for Book Week
Friday 28 th August 2026	Yr. 11 & 12 Fomal - 6.30pm to 8.30pm
Tuesday 1 st September 2026	Advance Bike Ride -Skipton
Friday 4 th September	Yr 5/6 Basketball
Wednesday 9th September 2026	Koorie Leadership Day- (new date)
Thursday 10 th September 2026	3.40pm Parent Teacher Interviews
Friday 11 th September 2026	9.00am Parent Teacher Interviews- Student Free Day.
Friday 18 th September 2026	Last Day of Term 3 2026 -Buses Leave at 2.30





Principal Newsletter Report Friday 7th August 2026

Our school has achieved some excellent NAPLAN results this year, and a number of Year 9 Certificates for NAPLAN Achievements were presented to students at our Monday morning assembly this week. Congratulations to Dherk, who achieved high growth and an increase in numeracy proficiency between Year 7 and Year 9, and to Frieda for achieving an exceeding standard and high growth in her reading skills also. Alexander was



recognised for demonstrating an exceeding standard in reading as well as demonstrating high growth in reading and numeracy between Year 7 and Year

9. Congratulations also to Charlie and Zaid, who were awarded certificates for achieving high growth and an increase in their reading proficiency from Year 7 to Year 9. It was wonderful to celebrate learning improvement this week and to remind students that hard work and effort pays off in terms of stretching your literacy and numeracy skills.



Due to proposed AEU Stop Work Action on Wednesday 19th August we will need to shift our annual VCE information evening to Monday 17th August, from 6pm to 8pm in the College Library. I apologise for this change of date but recognise how difficult it would be to manage this event if a strike was to actually go ahead on this day. While this evening is usually attended by Year 10 students and families, Year 9 students and families are also welcome and encouraged to attend - noting that many of our 2026 Year 9 students may choose to take part in TAFE certificate courses or an accelerated VCE subject as Year 10 students in 2027.

This information evening will feature a brief presentation about how VCE works, study expectations, subject options for 2027, a subject expo with VCE teachers, supper at 7pm, and the chance to speak with individual teachers about the VCE subjects that they teach. We will also cover vocational options in VCE, including traineeships and school-based apprenticeships, studying at TAFE, how work placements work for VCE Vocational Major students and the subjects that form the VM curriculum. There is a lot to cover, and staff will be available to answer questions during the evening.

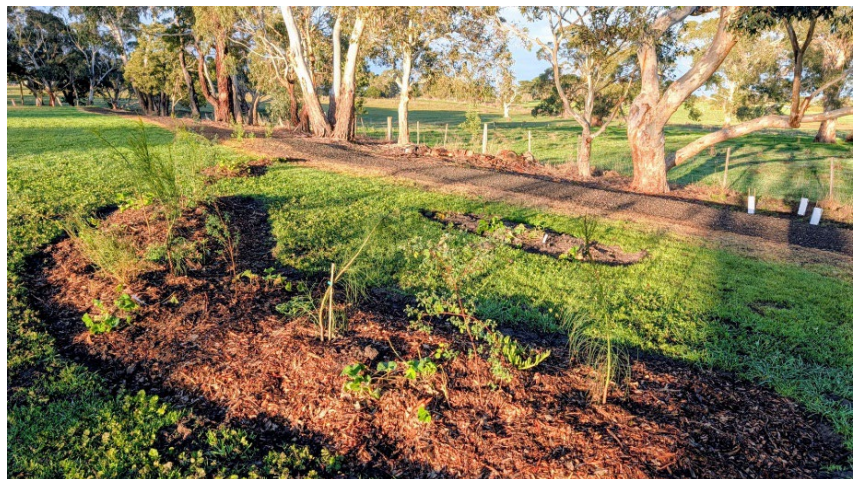
This evening will begin the subject selection process for our 2027 VCE students, and the pathways that they will follow as senior students at our school. **This is an essential information evening for Year 10 families to attend and is optional for Year 9 families with students interested in learning more about TAFE and VCE step-up subjects for 2027** - please contact myself or Mr Webster at school if you have any queries about this evening.

As noted above the AEU has been granted permission to hold a day of Stop Work Action on Wednesday 19th August; I would anticipate disruption to our usual school operations and learning routines on this day if the strike goes ahead. I am always conscious of the juggling that families need to perform around childcare and work commitments and will let the community know as soon as possible what the impacts of the action will look like at our school. Please note that written comments will once again not be appearing in upcoming VCE interim reports due to this ongoing industrial action.



Our School Council has been examining the need to change our usual uniform supplier and has approved a partnership with Spartan School Uniforms as our new uniform supplier into the future. Uniform purchasing with Spartan will be via an online portal which has been designed for ease of ordering and with measurements for correctly sizing uniform items. We will retain a sizing rack of uniform samples at the College Office, and families and students will be able to try uniform on for correct size before placing an online order if they wish. Purchased uniform can be sent to the college for collection without delivery cost or can be sent to family homes for a small delivery fee, noting that all online orders should arrive within a week of ordering. This is a new approach to managing uniform at our school and is one that many local schools in our region are using. More information about Spartan and online uniform ordering will be shared with families in the near future.

I am really enjoying watching the development of new garden areas alongside our multi-purpose track around the perimeter of the school. New plantings include pigface and casuarina, and a range of fire-resistant indigenous species – with new trackside seating about to be installed also. Our



GreenPrint project has involved students from Prep to Year 12 working in a diverse range of activities from creating insect homes to building nesting boxes, to soil testing and constructing native garden beds.

Have a great weekend, everyone ...

**Mr Ralph
Principal**

2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF
STORIES



22-28 August 2026



BOOK WEEK

dress up day &

special person celebration day

Wednesday 26th August

Students are invited to come to school dressed as one of their favourite book characters

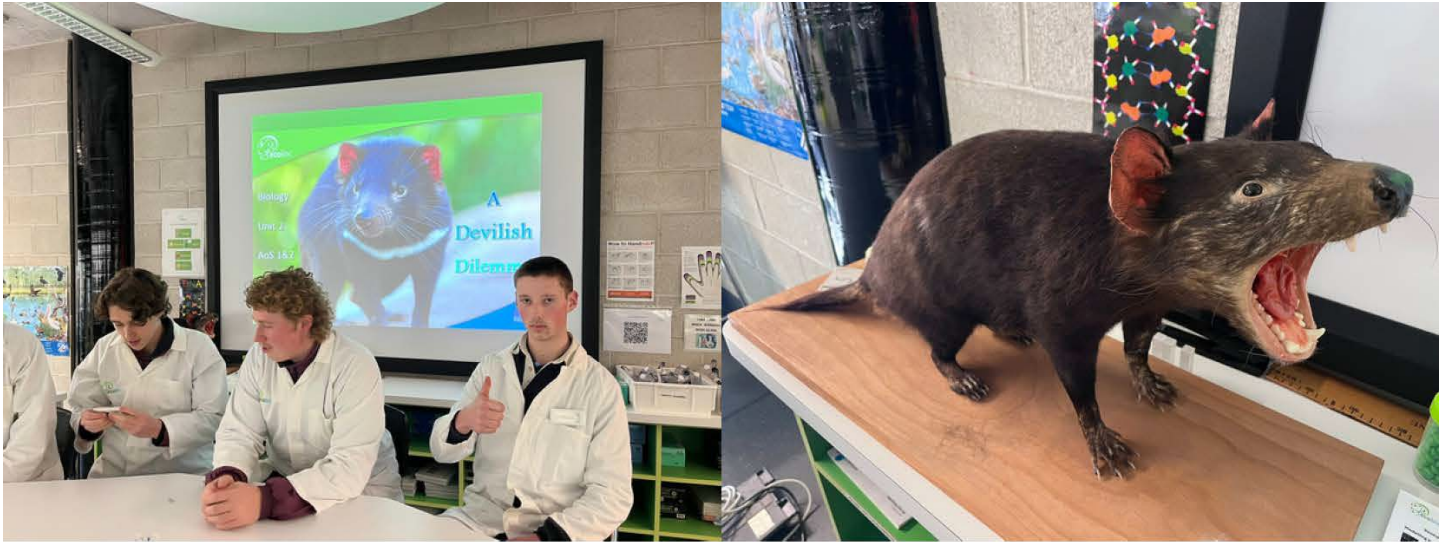
AND

Parents, carers, grandparents, family members and friends are invited to visit classrooms between 10am and 10:50am, followed by a book week parade on the tennis courts at 10:50am

AND

Visitors, students and staff are invited to a shared morning tea in the library during Break 1 (11:10-11:40am)

Students and staff are invited to bring along a packet or plate of food to share, so we can all contribute to a community morning tea



Year 11 Biology Excursion to Ecolinc

Five students attended the excursion to Bacchus Marsh on Friday 31st September to participate in "A Devilish Dilemma". This program is about Tasmanian devils that have recently been devastated by a bizarre transmissible cancer, Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD). Transmitted by biting, DFTD has spread over almost the whole of Tasmania, reaching the west coast in the last 2 or 3 years. Almost 100% fatal, it has led to a decline of at least 80% of the devil population. However, research using genomics shows that the rate of infection is slowing and it is possible that the tumours are beginning to regress due to mutations in the tumour genome.

Students extracted DNA from the cells of twelve devils and used gel electrophoresis to determine which individuals were homozygous dominant, heterozygous or homozygous recessive for the tumours.



We are very grateful to Shannon for her excellent bus driving skills that allowed us to attend this valuable excursion.

Students were also able to meet and greet some of the animal residents of Ecolinc, including a blue-tongue lizard, a shingleback lizard, children's python, various frogs, stick insects and sleepy sugar gliders.





P/1 Week 4

While learning about the needs of plants and animals, we grew our own wheatgrass from seeds





School Wide Positive Behaviour Expectations



Next week our behaviour focus is
RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN ACTIONS

This includes:

- Being a positive role model
- Not being a bystander and seeking help
- Being kind and inclusive to all
- Respecting the rights of all members of our community
- Staying focused and not distracting others

Congratulations to the following students for
receiving nominations for demonstrating our
school value, Resilience:

Rydah, Svea, Keeley, Loralie, Blade
Jaylah, Shelby S, Rachel, Zahn





In this edition of SchoolTV - ADHD

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a commonly diagnosed neurodevelopmental condition that affects how children regulate attention, impulses and activity levels. While many children can appear restless, distracted or forgetful at times, ADHD involves ongoing patterns that may impact learning, behaviour, organisation and relationships. These challenges can sometimes lead to frustration at home and school, particularly when a child is trying hard but struggling to meet expectations.

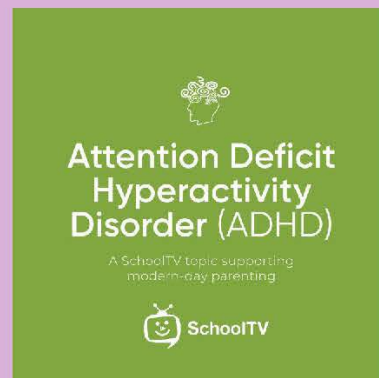
For families, understanding ADHD means recognising that these behaviours are not simply a matter of effort or discipline. ADHD is influenced by a combination of neurological, biological and environmental factors that affect how a child's brain processes information and manages self-control. With the right support, structure and strategies, children with ADHD can develop the skills they need to succeed and thrive.

This edition of SchoolTV explores how families can better understand ADHD and support children to build confidence, strengthen emotional regulation and navigate everyday challenges more successfully.

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 wellbeing team for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the **ADHD** edition of SchoolTV

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



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	\$2.00
Toastie	\$3.50
Party Pies / Sausage Rolls	\$2.00
Homemade Slices / Muffins / Banana Bread	\$2.00
Homemade Biscuits	\$1.50
Truffles	\$0.80
Banana bread - (gluten free) must be pre-ordered	\$2.00
Brunch Pies	\$3.50
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
Meat Pie	\$5.00
(gluten free) Party pies	\$3.50
(gluten free) Sausage rolls	\$4.00
(gluten free) Pie	\$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

Frozen Yoghurt or Icy Poles – break 2 only

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

Chips

Chips (28 g) - Honey Soy or Sea Salt or Salt & Vinegar (gluten free)	\$1.50
Snaps (28 g) (gluten free)	\$1.50