



Principal's Newsletter Report

Friday 4th September 2026

One of the highlights of this week for me was to check out the fantastic coffee table that was created by Charlie in Year 9-10 woodwork classes with Mr. Hoeksema. The table features a lot of local history, with the blackwood top sourced from a local tree and air-dried at school; an interesting leg design created with salvaged and repurposed timber school window frames; and some unique and carefully crafted joinery to connect the table together. I really admire the perseverance that Charlie has shown in designing, constructing, joining and finishing this piece over the past three terms - really impressive woodworking!



A large number of parents, students and ex-students are playing football and netball finals this weekend for the Hawkesdale-Macarthur Football Netball Club, and we wish our players all the best as they launch into the next finals round at Tatyoon on Saturday. We regularly discuss how our local sporting teams have performed at our Monday Year 5 to 12 assemblies and there have been some entertaining stories across the year about wins, losses, most valuable players and the occasional injury and sporting achievements. I was able to gather as many players as possible from the U17's football team and the U13's netball teams A and B for this photo - it's a big group! Good luck for this weekend!

Congratulations to Mrs Russell and our VM students for their organisation of the Year 11-12 Social on Friday evening of last week. This was a night of dancing, great food, mocktails, games and multiple prizes - and was lots of fun. A particular thanks to the Hawkesdale CWA for their generous sponsorship contribution towards this event.



A priority focus of our current 2025-29 School Strategic Plan is to promote opportunities for involvement in physical activities for all students. Year 4-12 students were asked about their daily involvement in physical activity during the recent Attitudes to School survey, and I was pleased to note that 65% of our students recorded that they are involved in regular exercise, sport or movement for at least five or more days per week; this data is well above other similar and statewide school measures and reflects the best results that we have recorded since 2022 for this aspect of school life. Much effort and resourcing has been placed into promoting physical activity with our students over the past two years. This includes our new multipurpose walking, running, and cycling track, an expanding collection of mountain bikes for cycling activities, successful Active Schools Grants, increased physical education classes for secondary-aged students, a range of physical education incursions and excursions and many opportunities for lunchtime games.

At the senior end of our school, it was pleasing to observe very positive Attitudes to School survey results for Year 10 to 12 students around stimulated learning – the perception that teachers create interest, inspiration and motivation through the learning opportunities and activities that they provide. Our 2026 results also represent our best data in the last four years in this area and were well above measures in all other school settings across the state – a particular thank you to our senior school teachers for their subject teaching expertise!

Please note that Parent-Teacher-Student conversations will be held at school on Thursday 10th of September between 3:45pm and 6pm, and on Friday 11th of September between 9am and 1pm. Conversation bookings can be made within Compass by logging on to the parent portal and following prompts via your child/children's photo icon to select booking times. Please let us know at school if you have any issues accessing the booking system, and we can provide assistance. Classes for all students will happen at school as per normal on Thursday 10th September, but please remember that **Friday 11th September is a pupil-free day** and regular classes will not be held. Students are not required at school on this day unless of course they are attending conversations with their family – which I would encourage.

Our school is currently conducting the annual Parent-Caregiver-Guardian Opinion Survey and is seeking your feedback about our school. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of family perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation. Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school and to target school planning and improvement strategies. Please check your Compass newsfeed for the survey link and PIN number required to access the survey portal, and let me know if you are having trouble accessing the survey at home. An important reminder – only one survey should be completed per household! The survey will be open online from Monday 24th of August and will conclude on Friday 18th of September.

Our hardworking Parents and Friends group have launched their annual pie drive with Clarke's Pies, and there will once again be a wide range of savoury and sweet pies on offer. This event will be a school fundraiser, with all proceeds going towards new playground equipment. A reminder that order forms and money must be returned to the office by Wednesday 9th of September, and orders will be delivered to the school on Wednesday 16th of September.

A big thank you to Parents and Friends members who set up and supervised our annual Father's Day stall today.

There will be lots of happy fathers, grandfathers and special people I'm sure with the gifts that have been purchased for Sunday. A big thanks also to Mr. Gordon and members of the Student Senate team and VM class who assisted in cooking the special persons bacon and egg breakfast this morning to commemorate upcoming Father's Day.



The Spartan online uniform portal has now gone live, and it has been pleasing to see online orders arriving at school for collection. Feel free to contact Bronya in the front office on 55607225 if you would like more information about our transition to Spartan School uniforms this term.

And in finishing, a reminder that our school newsletter will go from being published once a week to once a fortnight from the beginning of Term 4. Newsletters in term four will be published and distributed on the 9th & 23rd of October, 6th & 20th of November and 4th & 17th of December - and will be available in hard copy form at our local post office on these dates.

Have a great weekend everyone!

**Mr Ralph
Principal**

2026 Yr11 & Yr12 *formal night*



What a great night the Year 11 and 12 had at the 2026 Formal last Friday night! It was an amazing night and thanks to everyone who came along to this year's School Formal. It was a fantastic night of music, photos and celebrating with friends.

Students looked amazing and it was good to see so many people looking their best and having fun. We even had arrivals in a Limo and a Holden FX 1948 model!

A big thank you to the staff, helpers and families who made the night run smoothly. We hope everyone headed home with good memories. – Harrison Rees



In this edition of SchoolTV - Celebrating Father's Day

For many years now, the role of fathers has changed and evolved. During the industrial revolution, fathers were often considered detached and distant due to working long hours in factories. However, today things have changed dramatically with many dads being celebrated for being sensitive, caring and more hands-on.

Recent studies have shown that children benefit greatly from having fathers who are present and interacting in everyday activities. This has transformed the understanding of how fathers shape children's lives from the start, challenging conventional ideas of parenthood and gender.

Research also suggests that fathers influence their sons and daughters in different ways, which is especially true during their transition to adolescence. Engaging in regular physical activities can play a key role in influencing children to learn self-control, face challenges, regulate emotions and take manageable risks.

In this Special Report, fathers will learn about the positive impact they can have on their child's mental health and wellbeing, whilst also ensuring they indulge in a little self-care.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

https://hawkesdalecol.vic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/celebrating-fathers-day





In this edition of SchoolTV - R U OK? DAY

Understanding the growing challenges related to mental health among young people is an important consideration. Anxiety, depression and self-harm - are all causes for concern. Factors like academic pressure, social media, family dynamics, and societal expectations, are contributing to these issues. It's therefore crucial for parents and caregivers to take action early, remove the stigma around discussing mental health, and offer accessible support to address these issues and the wellbeing of their children.

R U OK?Day is an initiative that focuses on preventing suicide by encouraging meaningful personal connections and helping informal support networks to help recognise the signs of distress. We urge all families to take part, emphasising the value of genuine human relationships and reminding everyone to ask the important question, "Are you OK?"

Engaging in R U OK?Day activities goes beyond the classroom; it's a commitment to our students' overall development. By talking openly about mental health, schools create safe spaces where students feel understood, valued, and supported. As parents and caregivers, you can contribute by fostering open conversations, normalising feelings and breaking down mental health stigmas. Participating in R U OK?Day promotes compassion and shows our dedication to the wellbeing of the entire school community, reaffirming that together, we can truly make a difference.

Students from years P-10 will be learning about R U OK? Day in an age appropriate way next week.

This Special Report provides guidance on how to talk to your child about mental health and engage in meaningful discussions. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

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EVERY KM I MOVE STANDS AGAINST FAMILY & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

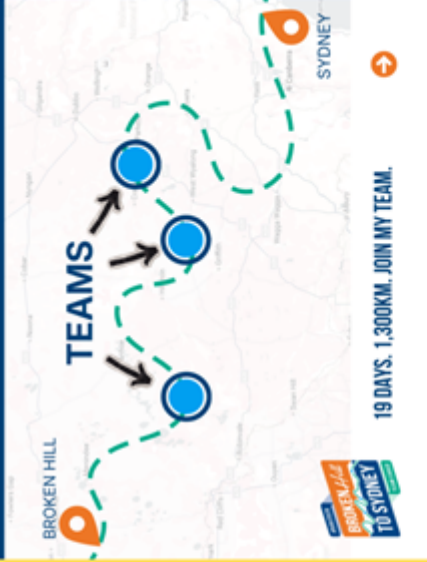


Your streets.
Your park.
Your treadmill.
Walk, jog or run.
Join me in The Chase!

Primary school students entered in the event across Australia will run, walk and move their way across the country as part of the new Broken Hill to Sydney Team Chase: RAD Edition. Using the established RAD Run Club platform, the initiative will help primary school students explore what healthy friendships look like and why confidence, empathy and respect matter.



JOIN ME ON A VIRTUAL CHASE FROM BROKEN HILL TO SYDNEY. EVERY KILOMETRE MOVES AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE.



DID YOU KNOW, SOME OF YOUR TEACHERS AND EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF HERE AT SCHOOL HAVE JOINED MY TEAM IN THE 2026 RUN AGAINST VIOLENCE (RAD) CHALLENGE? YOU TOO CAN JOIN IN WITH THE FUN & THE THRILL OF THE CHASE TO VIRTUALLY GET FROM BROKEN HILL TO SYDNEY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. JOIN YOUR TEACHERS AND ES STAFF AS THEY RUN & WALK ON THE SCHOOL TRACK DURING BREAK TIMES TO CLOCK UP THEIR KILOMETRES AND HELP GET OUR TEAM **'WHEEZE THE PEOPLE' TO SYDNEY**. CHALLENGE STARTS AUG. 30TH AND ENDS 17TH SEPT. SEE MRS QUINLAN FOR MORE DETAILS AND YOUR ENTRY IN THE KIDS CHALLENGE!

PARTICIPANT

RUN AGAINST VIOLENCE

BROKEN Hill TO SYDNEY

SUPPORTER

Staff participants
Mrs Quinlan Lachy,
Mrs Davey,
Ms Cakebread & baby Harry
Sam Young, Mr Prentice,
Mrs Dart
Mr Webb





HAWKESDALE
P12 COLLEGE

Online Uniform Service

www.spartanschoolworld.com.au

WELCOME TO SPARTAN SCHOOL WORLD



The Hawkesdale P-12 College
uniform range is now available
online at:

www.spartanschoolworld.com.au

Select Hawkesdale P-12 College from
the

"FIND MY SCHOOL" list of schools.

Place your order.

Choose weekly delivery to
school or home/private address.

State School Relief Vouchers

Orders using State School Relief Vouchers will need to
be placed by phone. Please call our Customer Service
line. You will need to provide details of your required
items/sizes and have your voucher details ready.
Free Call: 1800 815 557

SHIPPING OPTIONS

School Delivery - Free
Weekly during school terms.
Orders received by Tuesday
will be despatched on
Wednesday

Please allow 4 - 5 days for
delivery after despatch of
your order.

Postage to private address
\$12.50 per order.

An order confirmation email
will be sent once your order is
processed.

Contact Us:
onlineorders@spartanss.com.au
Customer Service

1800 815 557

VICTORIAN SCHOOLS END OF TERM UNIFORM DELIVERY INFORMATION



TERM 3 BREAK
2026

8 SEPT

FINAL ORDERS

need to be placed by Tuesday 8th Sept

11 SEPT

FINAL DELIVERY TO SCHOOL FOR TERM 3

Friday 11th Sept (approx ETA)

There is no uniform delivery to school in the last week of term.

BREAK

HOLIDAY BREAK

orders placed during the break will be
held for despatch when school reopens

9 OCT

FIRST DELIVERY TO SCHOOL FOR TERM 4

Friday 9th Oct (approx ETA)

During the Holidays

SPARTAN SCHOOL WORLD STORES
Trading as normal

HOME DELIVERY
Available as normal

CLICK & COLLECT
Available as normal

Need Help? Please contact us at:
onlineorders@spartanss.com.au



**WE ARE
NOW OPEN FOR
REGISTRATIONS**

Join us for

**SEASON
2026-27**

REGISTER TODAY

DATE OPEN
LITTLE ATHLETICS

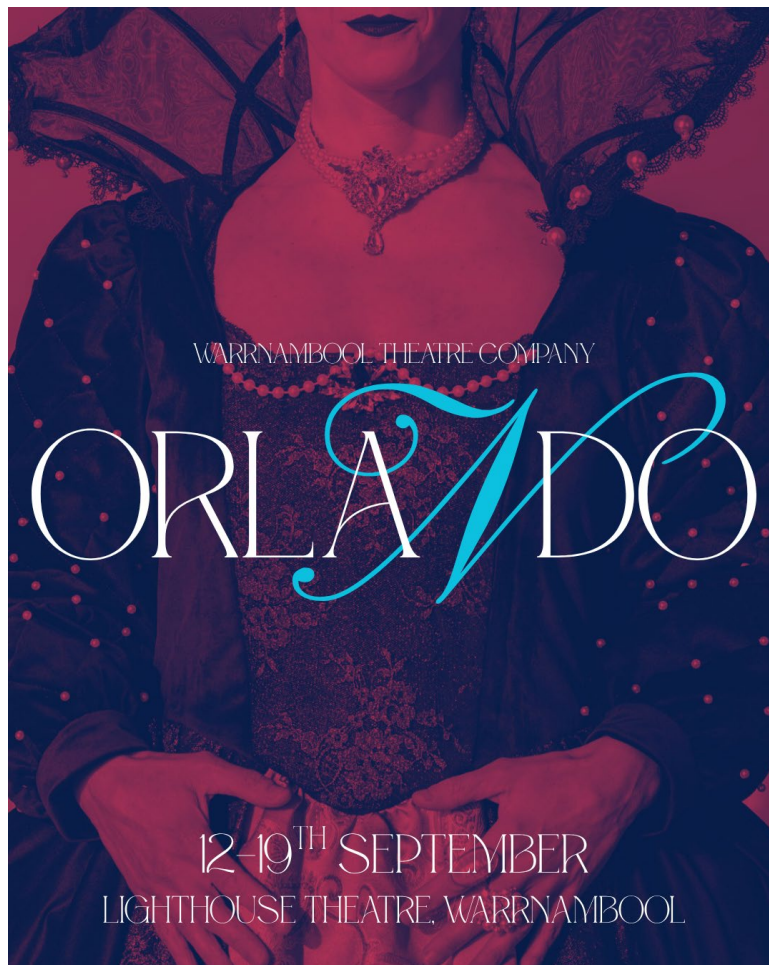
Fridays 4:30pm
9th Oct 2026 - 19th Feb 2027
(excludes school holidays)

Port Fairy Showgrounds

Ages 5-16
All children born in 2021
are eligible to register

\$135 per child
Free 2 week trial
for new members

Register online:
<https://lavic.com.au/membership/>



WARRNAMBOOL THEATRE COMPANY

ORLANDO

12-19TH SEPTEMBER
LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE, WARRNAMBOOL



Dear Parents and carers,

Our Parents & Friends group is excited to launch our annual Pie drive. We have partnered with Clarke's pies again who offer a wide range of savoury and sweet delights!

Get on board with this fundraiser as we continue to fundraise for our new playground equipment.

Order forms and money must be returned to the office by Wednesday 9th September.

Orders will be delivered to the school on Wednesday 16th September. Please ensure you are able to collect your order on that day or make alternative arrangements.

Thank You,
Hawkesdale P12 College Parents & Friends



CLARKE'S PIES



Pie Drive Order

CLARKE'S PIES



Organisation: **HAWKESDALE P12 COLLEGE PARENTS CLUB** Name/Contact No: _____ Student: _____

Products:	Price:	Quantity Required:	Total:
Individual Products:			
Pies			
Original Beef (Square)	\$5		
Premium Beef (Round)	\$5		
Steak & Curry	\$5		
Steak & Onion	\$5		
Steak & Bacon	\$5		
Steak & Mushroom	\$5		
Steak & Pepper	\$5		
Steak & Cheese	\$5		
Chicken & Vegetable	\$5		
Shepherds Plus (Potato)	\$5		
Pizza Pie	\$5		
Egg, Bacon and Cheese	\$5		
Chunky Beef Pie	\$6		
Lamb, Rosemary and Garlic	\$6		
Chicken Satay	\$6		
Fruit Pies			
Apple Pie	\$5		
Apricot Pie	\$5		
Pasties			
Traditional Pasties	\$5		
Old Style Pasties	\$5		
Vegetarian Pasties	\$5		
Sausage Rolls			
Sausage Rolls	\$4		
Cheese and Bacon Rolls	\$4		
Spinach & Ricotta Rolls	\$5		
Sub-Total:			

Products:	Price:	Quantity Required:	Total:
Family Sized Products:			
Original Beef	\$16		
Steak & Curry	\$16		
Steak & Onion	\$16		
Steak & Bacon	\$16		
Steak & Mushroom	\$16		
Steak & Pepper	\$16		
Chicken & Vegetable	\$16		
Shepherds Plus (Potato)	\$16		
Apple	\$16		
Apricot	\$16		
Pastie	\$16		
Vegetarian Pastie	\$16		
Party Sized Products:			
Party Pie	\$2		
Party Pastie	\$2		
Party Sausage Roll	\$2		
Party Quiche	\$2		
Slices			
Vanilla Slice	\$4		
Apple Slice	\$4		
Jelly Slice	\$4		
Caramel Slice	\$4		
Hedgehog Slice	\$4		
Continental Slice	\$4		
Peppermint Slice	\$4		
Cherry Ripe Slice	\$4		
Lemon Slice	\$4		
Chocolate Brownie Slice	\$4		
Sub-Total:			

All products will be delivered fresh on the day of pick-up, so it is a great opportunity to stock up your freezer.

Pies must be collected on the day otherwise please make alternative arrangements. We are unable to store orders at the school.

Please return orders and money to the office by
WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

Orders will be available for pick-up on **WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER**
AT 3.20PM

Payment can be made by
cash/efpos
Card number _____

Expiry Date _____
Name on Card _____

Total amount included: _____