

# 2021



# WARRNAMBOOL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Persistence, Resilience & Mutual Respect

/ EDITION 5



## INSIDE THIS EDITION

[Principal Message](#)

[Assistant Principal Report](#)

[School Information](#)

[House Awards](#)

[House News](#)

[Student Achievement](#)

[Careers & Pathways](#)

## PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

At various points this year it's felt as if we've been operating on two speeds – one speed for remote learning where time can seem to grind to a halt, and one speed for face to face learning where time is going almost too fast given how much we're trying to fit in back at school. And so, it seems that I've just blinked a few times and we've somehow been transported from the start of term 4 to near the end of 2021 classes.

Since being back at school, there's been a series of challenges to overcome. Face masks in warmer weather, longer lessons full of new learning, seeing friends, peers and teachers in the flesh for the first time in months. And amongst it all wondering how long it'll be until we're thrust back into remote learning once again. It's little doubt that many of us are feeling a bit fatigued and frazzled as we hurtle towards the busyness of the end of the school year. Yet, despite all this, I've been extremely proud of all the resilience that's been on display, from staff and students alike as we continue to focus on what counts – each other, our collective wellbeing and all the learning that we can achieve during term 4.

With all the events that have had to be cancelled over the course of the past 20 months, there were plenty of nervous moments leading up to the year 12 graduation this year. And while, for the second year in a row, we weren't able to have all parents and family members joining in for the celebration, it was great that the

EVERY WARRNAMBOOL STUDENT THRIVES



event could go ahead with some family and supporters at the school to cheer on the achievements of our incredible graduating class of 2021. One of the messages shared at the ceremony was “if you can choose between comfort or growth, always pick growth”. To some extent, we haven’t had any choice in the matter since the pandemic hit our shores 20 months ago. But, it’s one thing to say “embrace challenge and growth” and it’s quite another to actually do so. This is exactly what our students have done during these trying times. We’ve been disappointed at what we haven’t been able to do and what’s been taken away from us, but rather than throwing the towel in, there’s been a collective rolling up of the sleeves and digging deep so that we can continue to grow and learn more about ourselves and the world around us. As Principal of this school, I couldn’t be prouder. I know these attributes will hold our students, those graduating and those continuing with us into 2022, in very good stead. A huge congratulations to the class of 2021 – we’re so proud of you and know you’ll be amazing at all that you put effort into in the future.

I thank everyone in our school community for every moment of blood, sweat and tears you’ve expended this year to support of students’ wellbeing and learning. The growth mindset we’ve all had to display is a tremendous model for the impressionable minds of our teenagers as we continue to navigate these tumultuous times. The partnership between school and home has grown stronger over the past year, through necessity and because that is what education must be. I don’t take this sense of shared responsibility for granted and again, I thank you for being the village that is raising the children in our care.

Enjoy the summer break and look for the rays of hope that come with the anticipation of a new year. Until we see each other again shortly, stay safe.

Kind Regards,

**Dave Clift** - Principal



*Dan Lee*  
Assistant Principal



## FINAL EXAMS & ASSESSMENT

We have been pleased with the maturity and effort that students have put into their final exams and assessments. All results will be posted on Compass by December 10th when final assessment and reports are due. Report Cycle#6 for attitude and effort and academic progress reports will be published on December 3rd.

## KEY DATES

Date	Who	Event
Mon 29th & Tues 30th Nov	Year 11	Feedback sessions & Lectures
Wed 1st Dec	Whole School	Pupil Free Day
Fri 3rd Dec	Whole School	Report Cycle#6 Published
Mon 6th – Fri 10th Dec	Whole school	Headstart – 2022 classes
Mon 6th Dec	2022 Year 7 small school students	Country Orientation Day
Tues 7th Dec	Only 2022 Yr 7, 8 & 12 onsite	State-wide Orientation Day
Fri 10th Dec	Year 7-9	Junior Final Assembly in Hall 2:15pm live streamed online for families.
	Year 7-9	Last official day of classes. Lockers to be cleaned out. Library books returned.
	Whole School	End of Semester Reports Published
Mon 13th – Thur 17th Dec	Year 7-9	Optional End of Year Program
Thur 16th Dec	Year 10-12	Senior Final Assembly 2:30pm in Hall. Double vaccinated parents able to attend onsite. Also live streamed.
Fri 17th Dec	Staff	Last day for staff.

## 2022

Mon 24th Jan	ES staff	ES staff return
Fri 28th Jan	Teaching staff	Teaching staff Return
Mon 31st Jan	Whole School	Home Group Interviews – Times TBC
Tues 1st Feb	Whole School	Classes resume
Fri 18th Feb	Whole School	Swimming Carnival
Mon 21st Feb	Whole School	Pupil Free Day



## VACCINATION STATUS

It is DET policy that all visitors and parents must provide proof of COVID vaccination when attending a school site. If a parent or visitor is unable to provide evidence of vaccination then they will be asked to leave the school.

We will not be requesting student's vaccination status for them to attend school, however, students may not be able to attend some camps and excursions in 2022 if they can not prove their vaccination status. This will depend on the requirements of the excursion/camp destination. The usual medical exemptions will apply.

## SCHOOL BUS DATES

The following dates for student bus travel have been confirmed:

- Thursday 16 December – Last day of bus travel for 2021
- Monday 31 January – First day of bus travel for 2022

**Wishing everyone a very**

*Merry Christmas  
and a happy and safe  
New Year.*

**We look forward to welcoming all  
students and families back in 2022.**







On behalf of Warrnambool College, we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and applaud each and every student for their valiant efforts in getting through yet another interrupted and disordered year. Despite spending the large proportion of this year learning from home we have still had many students going above and beyond in displaying the school's values of persistence, resilience and mutual respect.

To celebrate the outstanding contributions of Warrnambool College students from throughout the year, three awards are presented to students who display citizenship, leadership and spirit. In 2021, these awards were awarded to these amazing students.

## HOUSE AWARDS

	Citizenship	Spirit	Leadership
Belfast	Christopher Noll	Alexander Cox	Airlie O'Brien
Childers	Taz Reuel	Arwen Bounds	Daniel Harris & Flynn Rowe
Flagstaff	Georgena Cox	Shekia Karunathathne	Hannah van Zyl
Hopkins	Ben Gilmour	Cassidy Gartland	Harley Power
Logans	Kobi Chatfield	Mikayla Bond	Liam King
Merri	Niamh Howard	Mairead Hewson	Chelsea Darkin

## MERITS

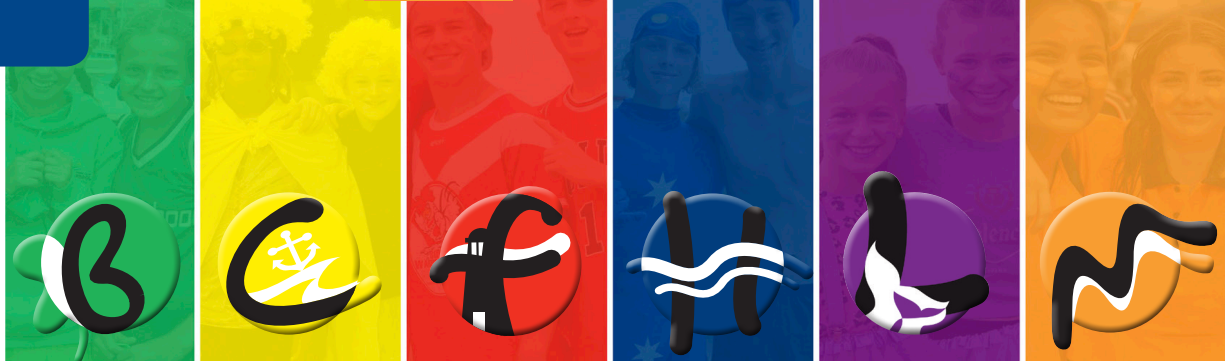
Congratulations to students who have applied themselves diligently across the year and scored either 200+ or 150+ merits. Listed are the top three from each House.\*

Belfast	Lucas Milich	Jasmine Mehmi	Akira Earnshaw
Childers	Zoe Holdway	Hazel Ward	Noah Clift
Flagstaff	Marshall Sloane	Noah Crispe	Aria Kershaw
Hopkins	Elsa Tutt	Hiru Henakarlalage	Taneisha Stockley
Logans	Keela Adams	Oona O'Brien	Ellie Christoforou
Merri	Charlie Miller	Lucy Dodson	Mairead Hewson

## YEAR LEVEL MERIT LEADERS \*

	Belfast	Childers	Flagstaff	Hopkins	Logans	Merri
Yr 7	Lucas Milich	Zoe Holdway	Marshall Sloane	Elsa Tutt	Keela Adams	Charlie Miller
Yr 8	Louis Beaton	Safiyyah Gainey	Layla Kearns	Maya Van der starre	Charlotte Newton	Joel Arms
Yr 9	Mia Mills	Tamika Mitchem	Kasey-Lee Asbury	Chelsea Redmond	Alice Cann	Joshua McDonald
Yr 10	Akira Earnshaw	Taz Reuel	Zali Westmore	William Twaddle	Hannah Rooke	Isabella Waterfall
Yr 11	Hudson Harris	Jem Twitt	Jasmine Prakash	Tom Lynch	Mikayla Bond	Darcy Lynch
Yr 12	Airlie O'Brien	Duncan Ward Adam Crowe-Owen	Ebony Bushell	Tristan Stockley	Liam King	Niamh Howard

\*At time of publication



## FLAGSTAFF

The Flagstaff celebration day was held on Oct 29 and was brilliantly supported by Warrnambool College students and staff. We sold out of all our hot food and the limited edition showbags were snapped up within the first 5 minutes of first break! We were so pleased to donate over \$1500 to our charity partner Red Cross. On behalf of Flagstaff and Red Cross, a huge thanks to all who supported our Flagstaff celebration day!

## HOPKINS

Hopkins would like to thank families for their amazing support throughout the year. Although the year has been difficult for many, it has been made that little bit easier with the terrific relationships that have been formed between Hopkins House and home. Students have shown an amazing ability to persist through the tough times and come through the other side and it's been great to have everyone back on site and finishing off the year on the best note possible. There is still a lot of exciting things ahead for the remainder of 2021 with Headstart next week and the opportunity of welcoming our incoming Year 7 families with Orientation. Our new look student leadership team has been busily working behind the scenes to make this day as positive as possible, as well as planning lots of new and exciting things for Hopkins in 2022.



## LOGANS

This term has been a very busy one in Logans Land with the student leaders running the annual Christmas food share drive, the students placed collection bins in each house and promoted this cause to help those in need with some well sought after perishables. The students were able to collect a significant amount that will be provided to the Warrnambool Food Share for allocation across the region. Thank you to all those that have supported Logans this term and all of 2021.

## MERRI

Over the course of the last two years, we have certainly learnt how to adapt and 'pivot' to the ever-changing pandemic restrictions. However, we were not alone. Our friends in the Taksenkangbloung village, Cambodia have also experienced similar restrictions with staff at the community centre having to adapt to cater for the needs of the community. At the end of July, the Taksenkangbloung community centre had to close but soon pivoted to sourcing, storing and distributing rice to feed families across the village. With many parents out of work due to the pandemic this was a much-appreciated lifeline. Now, as we all make a slow return to "normal" life, the Taksenkangbloung village has been running a worksheets program to prepare students for returning to face-to-face programs. Thankfully, despite the turmoil of COVID, enthusiasm for learning is high with over 140 students regularly attending daily English and kindergarten classes. The Merri Community look forward to continuing our relationship with the Taksenkangbloung Community in to 2022 and beyond.



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



*Eliza McLauchlan and  
Anthea Rafferty*

It was an excitement packed night as students, parents, teachers and supporters walked the red carpet as part of the Port Fairy Adventure Film Festival. **Year 12 Media students** were given the opportunity to showcase their amazing creative work on the big screen. Under the theme 'Through the Teenage Lens' students explored a variety of film genres including: action sci-fi, crime, mystery, documentary, and poignant narrative. The result was an entertaining and thought-provoking display of young creative film making.

Congratulations to all students who embraced the opportunity to screen their media product in a theatre. Special congratulations to **Shaw McLeod** - Best Director Award, **Ollie Annett** - Best Grit Award, **Paris Nagorcka** - Best Documentary and **Eliza McLauchlan** for Best Fictional Narrative and 'Best of the Fest' Award.

We wish to thank Athena & Leon Morton, Beau Miles, and all who attended for their support and encouragement. Special mention to Anthea Rafferty for her tireless commitment to the arts and in working so hard to provide such unique opportunities for her students.



A massive congratulations to **Ben Gilmour** who is the very deserving recipient of a 2021 Deakin University Young Influencer Award. The Award recognises 'outstanding contributions to community, willingness to help, academic results and strong leaders who are helping to bring about change for the betterment of others'. This accolade also comes with a \$5000 scholarship to study at Deakin in 2023 where Ben plans to graduate with a Bachelor of Commerce and possibly one day have his own business. A fantastic achievement – Well done Ben!



### DRAMA WORKSHOPS

This term the Year 9 Drama group participated in a one hour workshop with **Joachim Matchoss**. Joachim conducts theatre workshops both nationally and internationally. He ran this workshop for us free of charge via connections with Judy Lumsden's theatre studies network. The students were brilliantly receptive, respectful and engaged in the whole experience. It was really wonderful and hopefully many of these students will immerse themselves in future theatrical experiences.



Kerry Cheeseman  
& Sarah McIlroy

Find us in the Careers  
& Pathway Office



## ATAR RESULT RELEASE

From 7am on Thursday 16th Dec. results for Units 3/4 studies and ATARs will be available to those with a paid VTAC account, or online and via the app by registering at **[www.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au](http://www.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au)**

The senior school team will be available onsite on the day, and via phone and email the following day for anyone who would like to talk about their results and for help with the 'What Now?!'...

We encourage you to **remember that a number is only part of the equation.** You decide what the rest looks like and what the outcome is.

## 2022 VET COURSE UPDATE

VET Course confirmations are still underway and students are being informed as soon as possible. Many courses are full, and some are oversubscribed so not all will be successful. If you do not get into your VET course you will need to replace the elective with another Thursday Period 3 & 4 subject. Please see your house team for support with this. **IMPORTANT:** As VET courses do not start until Feb 10th 2022, in Headstart there will be NO VET CLASSES, but an information session in Period 3 is being organised and details will be posted on Compass shortly. Parent approval will be required which will exempt your student from Period 4 or you can nominate that they can be allocated private study at school.

## CHANGE OF PREFERENCE & FIRST ROUND OFFERS

Once ATARs are released students have until 20 December (4pm) to change Uni course preferences via their VTAC account. Help is available through your Uni or by talking to the Senior School team on Thurs. 16th December.

First round offers will be emailed on 14th January and available in your VTAC account from 2pm the same day. You can only receive one offer per round and you can change your preferences between each round. If you get an offer, the general advice is to accept it! But support will be available to you through school – more details to come. Watch the schools Facebook page for more info. VTAC website has HEAPS of helpful videos on this, simply Google it!

## STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING (SWL) 2022

Are you a Yr 11 or 12 VCAL student next year? Then you need to have already found, or be looking for, your Wednesday Structured Work Placement host employer. If you need help sourcing this please see Sarah McIlroy ASAP for advice on how to secure this over the summer so you are all set for Week 1 in February. Remember, SWL is a compulsory part of your VCAL program and casual work shifts on these days do not satisfy this requirement.

We both want to say a huge congratulations and thank you to all students who popped in throughout the year for a chat, some guidance and info on anything and everything. We LOVE getting to know you all, and helping in any small way that we can.

**Kerry & Sarah**  
Careers & Pathways Team