

2024



WARRNAMBOOL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

/ EDITION #7



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PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

The middle of term 4 is always an interesting time in the school year. Almost three weeks ago we bid farewell to our incredible year 12s as they rushed through the school to the cheers of students and staff in the guard of honour, and yet we're only now half way through their VCE exams. Year 11s will finish their 2024 classes shortly, but all their hard work is ahead of them as they engage in their own set of exams at school. The yard and corridors start to feel a bit emptier, but there's so much of the school year yet to go and plenty of learning for our younger year levels to engage in. There's a sense of anticipation of school holidays around the corner, but we're actually only half way through term 4.

So much has already happened this term, much of which you'll be able to read about in our newsletter. We continue to be a busy, event filled school that offers so much to the students in our care. Indeed, I've just got back to my office from my lunchtime yard duty and am feeling elevated and inspired after listening to the school soul band playing on our newly minted stage in the undercover area outside the canteen. The clapping and enjoyment from the many students gathered as the audience reminds me of what is amazing about our school as we lift one another up to be at our best.

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE



Dave Clift
Principal



As the weeks roll on in November, the pressure of learning in the classroom will increase. End of year assessments will be due, all year levels will be involved in exams, final pieces of work need to be handed in to achieve 'S' marks for each subject. Please touch base with your child regularly on what assessment and learning tasks are coming up so they are organised in handing these into their teachers on time. The 'pulse' email that was sent out last week to all families should also provide a summary of all upcoming learning tasks that are due this month.

I will be on leave during December for the remainder of the school year, so this will be my last Principal report for 2024. Jen Penn will be acting Principal in my absence and will very capably lead the school through the last few weeks of term 4. I look forward to seeing many of you in the new year when I return to school. Until then, I wish you an excellent end to the school year.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Clift". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Clift - Principal

Warrnambool College was saddened to hear of the recent passing of local businessman and philanthropist Colin McKenna and extends its sympathy to Colin's family and the Midfield Group. Colin was a long-time supporter of Warrnambool College and while he never sought recognition, he gave so much - benefitting our students and in turn the wider community.

His philanthropy has enabled the College to expand its education programs and infrastructure over many years. Colin and the Midfield Group have supported our science department for many years, donating animal tissues and organs for students to dissect, providing our budding scientists with added insight and a hands-on anatomy experience. Nothing was ever too much trouble.

He was also extremely supportive of south-west students from across the region's schools and helped shape many of our students' career pathways. Colin and the Midfield Group have provided countless work experience opportunities, school-based apprenticeships and full-time apprenticeships, with many of our former students going on to gain full-time ongoing employment at the Midfield Group, thanks to the work opportunities they were provided.

While he always remained humble, Colin's contribution to the Warrnambool College community is immeasurable, widely appreciated and is deserving of recognition. Thank you Colin for the role you have played in helping to educate, shape and upskill the region's youth.



DAN LEE
Assistant Principal



END OF SEMESTER LEARNING TASKS

As we enter the final half of term 4 keeping up with assignments, assessments, and deadlines can become challenging for students. Compass, our online learning platform, provides an easy way for you to stay informed about your child's academic activities and support them in managing their learning tasks. We encourage you to regularly check Compass for updates on homework, upcoming assessments, and teacher feedback. This way, you can help your child stay organised and ensure they're meeting key deadlines. By staying connected through Compass, you can support your child's learning journey, celebrate their achievements, and identify any areas where they may need additional encouragement or assistance. The Compass Pulse email will be emailed out of Friday 29th November and Final Reports will be published on Friday 13th December.

ATTENDANCE

We would love to improve attendance in all year levels at Warrnambool College. Regular school attendance is essential for every student's academic and social success. When students attend school consistently, they are more engaged with their learning, participate actively in class discussions, and build strong connections with their peers and teachers. Every day in school is an opportunity to develop new skills, reinforce knowledge, and gain confidence in their abilities. Missing school, even occasionally, can lead to gaps in understanding that may become harder to bridge as the year progresses. Encouraging daily attendance also instils a sense of responsibility and resilience that benefits students well beyond the classroom. Let's work together to support our students' full participation and commitment to their learning—every day counts!

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

We ask that parents not use the staff car park near the gym for pick up and drop off as this is also the bus interchange for all Warrnambool Schools and is extremely busy before and after school. The most convenient way to drop your children off at school is the 'drop off and pick up zone' outside Administration on Grafton Rd. This avoids driving through the school and getting caught in congestion or waiting for students and staff on the rainbow crossing.

CELEBRATE SUCCESS!

Our Senior Final Assembly will be held at the Lighthouse Theatre from 6pm on Monday 16th December. Our Junior Final Assembly is scheduled for Friday 13th December for a 2:15pm start. Please come along and celebrate our successful high performing students!



YEAR 12 CELEBRATIONS

The Warrnambool College Class of 2024 celebrated the end of 13 years of schooling on October 21. For their final day, students dug out their primary school uniforms for an afternoon water fight and colour run. The next morning they participated in the annual year 12 breakfast and rite of passage, running out the school gates for the final time, cheered on by hundreds of younger students.

The VCE English exam was held on Tuesday 29/10 and students will continue to sit exams for various subjects over the next two weeks. We wish all students sitting exams the very best and know you'll do well because you've put the work in during the year.

All of the Class of 2024's hard work will be recognised and celebrated at a graduation ceremony on November 21 at Warrnambool's Lighthouse Theatre.

KEY DATES TERM 4



**PLEASE TAKE NOTE
OF THE MANY
IMPORTANT KEY
DATES WE HAVE TO
WRAP UP 2024!**

MONDAY NOV. 11

- Year 12 Exams

MONDAY NOV. 18

- Year 11 Exams begin
- Year 12 2025 VM Interviews

WEDNESDAY NOV. 20

- Clontarf Awards Night

THURSDAY NOV. 21

- Year 12 Graduation

MONDAY NOV. 25

- Year 11 Exam catch up day

WEDNESDAY NOV. 27

- Year 12 Headstart lectures

FRIDAY NOV. 29

- Year 11 last day

MONDAY DEC. 2

- Year 10 Exams begin

TUESDAY DEC. 3

- Year 11 VM Headstart Interviews
- Year 7-9 Exams begin

FRIDAY DEC. 6

- STARS Graduation
- Report Cycle #6
- Year 10 last day
- Exam catch up day

MONDAY DEC. 9

- Small Schools
Orientation Day

TUESDAY DEC. 10

- Year 6 Orientation Day

WEDNESDAY DEC. 11

- House Celebration
Afternoon

FRIDAY DEC. 13

- Junior Final Assembly
- Last day of classes 7-9
- Reports published

MONDAY DEC. 16

- Senior Final Assembly

DEC. 16-18

- End of Year Program



FLAGSTAFF

CELEBRATION DAY
A TOUCH OR TONNE OF PINK

At the beginning of Term 4, we held our annual House Celebration Day to support the Leila Rose Foundation, which assists families affected by rare childhood cancers. Our theme 'A touch or tonne of pink' saw the school flooded with pink as all students enjoyed our bake sale, pizza and cold drinks!

The day was a tremendous success, raising approximately \$2,000 for the foundation. A big thanks to our student leaders who did a fantastic job organising the day. The Flagstaff team also thank the amazing generosity of our families who donated to our bake sale, thank you so much! We also recognise and thank the following businesses who contributed to the success of our day, **Woolworths Central, Woolworths East** and **Peppers Pizza**.



As the year comes to an end Flagstaff House recognises all the students who participated in extra curricular activities throughout the year and particularly the following students who have participated in sports and musical events in term 4, representing Flagstaff. Well done — **Lily Goodman, Tilly Reid, Kota Randall Reid, Zoe Borthwick, Stella Morgan, Peyton O'Connor, Jemma Pukallus, Sarah Ryan, Jetta Harris, Kamryn Dennis, Ella Forbes, Maebh Kettle, Elcy Klein, Bella MacGregor, Jake Eppingstall, Hunter Howard, Dylan Howard, Ollie Miller, Levi Nolte, and Percy Pappin**. Congratulations and well done for pursuing your passions!

Well done to our Year 12's who enjoyed celebrating their final day of school two weeks ago. Congratulations to those who have already gone onto employment and further education and best of luck to those who are currently completing exams. We know you will all go onto achieve great things.





We'd like to take an opportunity to congratulate our 2025 Childers House Captains, **Jake Goddard** and **Jet Sullivan**. These outstanding young leaders have been dedicated members of the Childers Student Leadership team since they first joined Warrnambool College in Year 7 back in 2020. We are grateful to have them stepping up to lead, following in the footsteps of our remarkable 2024 House Captains, **Brigette Graeser** and **Mariah Drake**.



Childers is also proud to have two exceptional students among Warrnambool College's six School Captains for 2025. Congratulations to **Jake Goddard** and **Saffiyah Gaaney** on their appointments to the school captain team! Both Jake and Saffiyah have a unique opportunity to make meaningful impact at Warrnambool College by representing and being a voice for our students.

Childers House Leader, Rhonda Simmons, extends a heartfelt thank you to our 2025 Student Leaders. We appreciate the dedication of **Liam Gravalin, Edie Clift, Bonnie Moon, Lilly McDowall, Vidhi Jagad, Leila Gibson, Hamish McBain, Phineas Griffin, Coby Duncan, Tian Clift, Beatrix Clift,** and **Isabel McGinness**. We're also grateful to our SRC representatives from Childers: **Jet Sullivan, Noah Clift, Bridget Ruane,** and **Edie Clift**.

With this fantastic team, we're excited for a brilliant 2025! Childers wishes our staff, students, and extended school community a successful and fulfilling end to 2024.



It is the time of the year where our 2025 leadership team have been decided. Congratulations to **Logan Bray** and **Bryanna Willie** on being elected House Captains for Merri. They have been strong leaders in our Merri team across their five years at school so far and we are very lucky that have put their names forward to lead our student leadership team.



We are also very proud of two Merri students who have been elected to be among Warrnambool College's six College Captains for 2025. Congratulations to **Josiah Agnew** and **Alex Primmer**. Both students have proven they have the skills to be effective leaders and will put their best foot forward to support their peers.

A big thank you to our 2025 Student Leadership team **Bryanna Willie, Logan Bray, Josiah Agnew, Alex Primmer, Charlotte Eldridge, Montana Higham, Liam Gaffney-Gray, Patrick Stuart** and **Dendona So** for putting their hands up to support their peers and local charity, Loved and Shared. A big thank you also to **Eliza Morton, Eden Henry** and **Liam Crawford** for their dedication throughout their time on the leadership team.

We're excited for a brilliant 2025 with this fantastic team! Merri wishes our staff, students, and extended school community a successful and fulfilling end to 2024.

PERFORMING ARTS

Our Rock and Soul Bands 'unleashed the sound' at our recent Riff Revolution concert.



RIFF REVOLUTION: UNLEASH THE SOUND

Our fabulous young musicians shone at Riff Revolution: Unleash the Sound in the College Auditorium on October 30. Director of Instrumental music Erin Toulmin congratulated the performers - "You didn't just play; you entertained. Your polished sets and captivating performances brought energy, talent, and artistry that made the night unforgettable!" she said.

A huge thank you to our incredible band managers, Adam, Jacob, Peter, and Alex, for all the hard work behind the scenes. And a special shoutout to college teacher and musician Gault McCluggage for performing and MC'ing the night, adding an unforgettable spark!

She said the concert was about creating a contemporary vibe which was "absolutely achieved" thanks to the students' high energy performances and new state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment. This new equipment was made possible thanks to the generosity of the Gall Family Foundation, the Gwen and Edna Jones Foundation and the Ray and Joyce Uebergang Foundation.

Massive thanks to the above south-west foundations for making this possible. Your support truly helped us reach a new level!



PERFORMING ARTS

Students shine in The Great Gatsby performance.

Audience members were transported to the glamorous world of the 1920s for our presentation of *The Great Gatsby* in September. Director/producer Annie Johnstone said the 30 cast and six crew members, from Years 7 to 12, had worked tirelessly since April, dedicating countless hours to bring the iconic story to life.

“From acting and singing to behind-the-scenes roles in costume design, makeup and stage crew, the students poured their hearts and souls into this production. Watching them come together on stage, bringing this iconic story to life is a testament to their talent and hard work. It’s an absolute pleasure to see them shine,” Ms Johnstone said.

Students in lead roles included **Otis Stretch** as Jay Gatsby, **Henry Rattray** as Nick Carraway, **Beatrix Clift** and **Ella Forbes** as Daisy Buchanan, **Calder Nicolson** as Tom Buchanan, **Penny Morrow** as Jordan Baker and **Cordelia MacInnes** as Myrtle Wilson.

We’re also incredibly grateful to the amazing staff (and former staff) and families who worked tirelessly behind the scenes - your support backstage made this production possible. A special thanks to **Dale Cleves Music** for their support with the supply and installation of our new lighting equipment and PA gear. We couldn’t have pulled off such a professional production without the help of our local community!

A big thank you also to the families who support their students’ passion for the arts through the Performing Arts Academy. Your commitment helps create a thriving environment for our young artists to shine. We’re so appreciative of the philanthropic foundations for their generous financial support which helped to make this production, and many future shows, an unforgettable experience for everyone involved. Thanks also to everyone who came out to support the show—we couldn’t have done it without you!

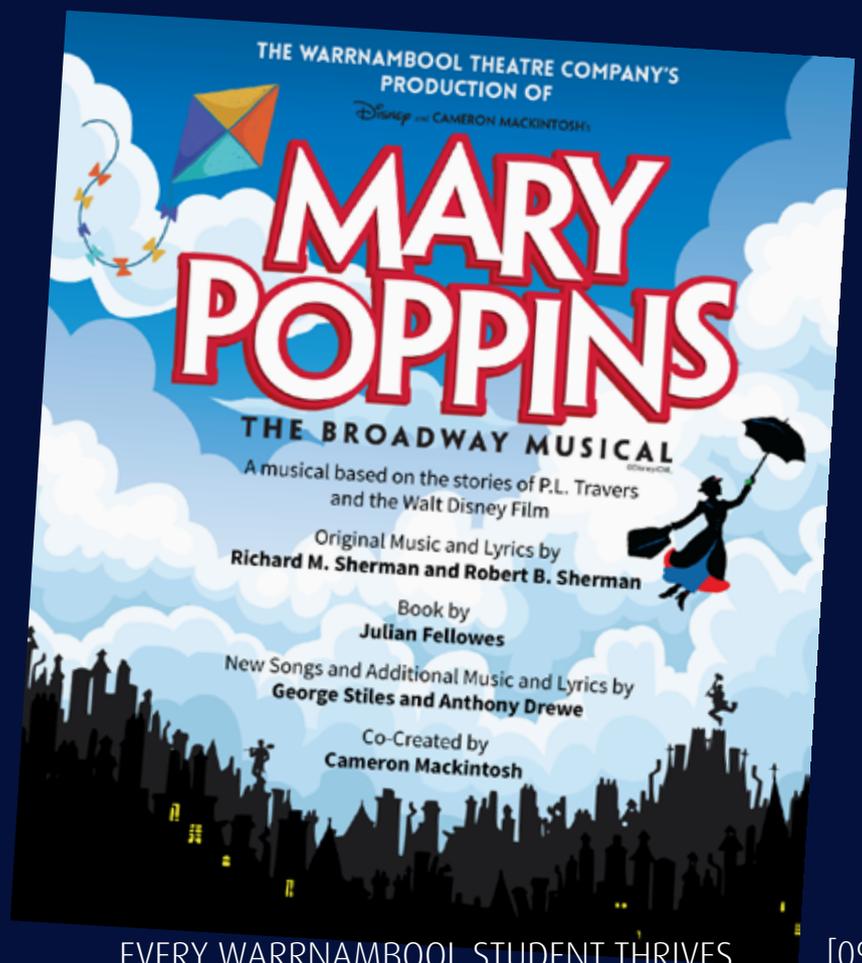




Back L-R: Jillian Gundermann (staff), Kerry Cheeseman (staff), Otis Stretch, Penny Morrow, Calder Nicolson, Dave Clift (staff)
 Middle L-R: Sophie Dennis, Millie Lee (alumni), Danielle Gladman (staff)
 Front L-R: Lily Cheeseman, Mabel Albers, Tyler Brown, Amelie Gleeson (alumni), Arwen Bounds (alumni)
 Front of stage: Beatrix Clift

The Warrnambool Theatre Company performed 'Mary Poppins' the musical to a total audience of almost 4,000 people in the Lighthouse Theatre during the September school holidays. The performances were incredibly well received and Mary Poppins proved to be the most successful show ever put on by a local theatre company in Warrnambool.

It was great to see Warrnambool College so well represented, with members of the cast, orchestra, backstage and directorial team all coming from our great school. We look forward to seeing this incredible talent on the stage again in the near future!



SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS

Working with students and families to improve positive behaviour expectations of our students.



At Warrnambool College the SWPBS team meet regularly to discuss how we can improve positive behaviour expectations of our students. We collect data, formulate plans and liaise with our school community to support our students to make positive choices. As a school we agree to meet the expected academic and behaviour expectations at all times to ensure we are safe, respectful, kind, ready to learn and committed to learning.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

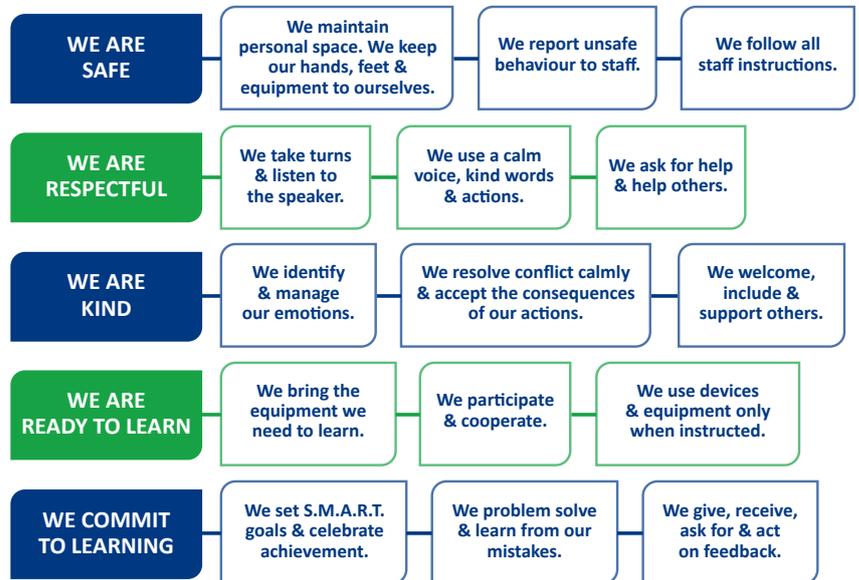
AS A POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SCHOOL, OUR COMMITMENT REVOLVES AROUND INCLUSIVITY, ACCESSIBILITY, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION, CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY, AND ADVOCACY FOR POSITIVE GENDER ROLES.

WE ASPIRE TO EMPOWER EVERY STUDENT, FOSTERING THEIR SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, CULTURAL, AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS THROUGH ENCOURAGEMENT, CONTINUOUS TEACHING, AND SUPPORTIVE GUIDANCE.

THIS SHARED RESPONSIBILITY IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT EMBRACED BY ALL.



BEHAVIOUR & ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS



NON-CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS



WE FOLLOW THE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS IN ALL WARRNAMBOOL COLLEGE SPACES.

We are ready to READ & EXPLORE in the LIBRARY & INDOOR SPACES

We are ready to PURCHASE in the CANTEN

We are ready to BE ACTIVE & SAFE in the GYM

ATTENDANCE

ALL YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



WHAT TIME DO I NEED TO BE AT SCHOOL?

Students are expected to arrive by 8:55am when the music starts indicating that it's time to make your way to Homeroom. We suggest students arrive before this time, to ensure they have placed their bags and mobile phone in their lockers and organised their books for the first two lessons. Remember to observe the behaviour expectations of the areas of the school.



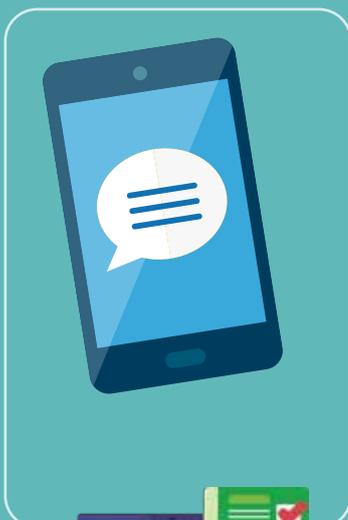
WHAT IF I'M LATE?

Students who arrive after 9am will need to go to the front office to sign in. Alternatively Parents/Carers can approve lateness on Compass prior to arrival. Please avoid being late as you will miss the important messages delivered during Homeroom.



WHAT IF I NEED TO LEAVE EARLY?

Bring a note signed by your Parent/Carer to the office at the time you need to leave to be signed out. Alternatively Parents/Carers can approve departure/absences on Compass or present in person to sign out a student. Students who leave without consent will be deemed absent without approval and potential consequences will be put in place.



WHAT IF I AM ABSENT FROM SCHOOL?

Parents/Carers are legally required to explain why a student is absent. This should be completed on Compass prior to the start of the school day. Text messages will be sent to Parents/Carers when a student is absent from Homegroup and/or Period 1. Absences can also be approved by calling the front office and choosing your House Office from the main menu.

If a student is going to be absent for an extended period of time due to medical reasons or a family holiday, Parents/Carers should contact their House Office to inform of the dates and students can speak with their teachers to collect work.



DO YOU NEED HELP ACCESSING COMPASS?

Contact our General office or your House office on 5564 4444, to seek assistance.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS: SCHOOL SUCCESS STARTS WITH ATTENDANCE



Warrnambool College Uniform

SHIRTS & POLOS

- White polo shirt w/ College logo
- long or short sleeve
- Navy-blue polo shirt w/ College logo
- Navy-blue & green Sports polo w/ College logo

Students may wear a plain white or navy-blue long sleeve top under their polo/jumper.

PANTS/SHORTS

- Plain navy-blue track pants (no large logos)
- Navy-blue track pants w/ College logo
- Navy-blue & green Sports shorts w/ College logo
- Plain navy-blue shorts (no large logos)
- Dark grey melange trousers
- Dark grey melange shorts

No skins/leggings or grey/black tracksuits or yoga pants are permitted.

SKIRT/DRESS

- Green, blue & white checked pleated skirt
- Navy-blue & white check fabric dress

SKORTS

- Plain navy-blue skorts (no large logos)

OUTERWEAR

- Striped rugby jumper w/ College logo
- Navy-blue soft-shell jacket w/ College logo (optional)
- Navy-blue puffer jacket w/ College logo (optional)

Black or non-school jackets/hooded jumpers are not permitted.

SHOES

- Traditional black leather polishable shoes
- Appropriate runners may also be worn

HATS

- Warrnambool College bucket hat
- Warrnambool College beanie

Peaked caps are not permitted.

SCARF

- Navy blue, white or green scarf

SPP UNIFORM

We strongly encourage you to purchase a minimum of the following items:

SHIRTS/POLOS

- 1 x SPP Dress polo (to be worn to school and to formal events)
- 2 x SPP Training tops

Students may wear a plain white or navy-blue long sleeve top under their polo/jumper.

PANTS/SHORTS

- Plain navy-blue track pants (no large logos)
- Navy-blue track pants w/ College logo
- Navy-blue & green Sports shorts w/ inner compression & College logo

No skins/leggings or grey/black tracksuits or yoga pants are permitted.

OUTERWEAR

- As per Warrnambool College uniform outlined above.

Black or non-school jackets/hooded jumpers are not permitted.





NOV - DEC 2024

FREE SURF PROGRAM

for young people aged 14 - 25

STOKED is a gnarly 6-week SURF THERAPY program for young people aged 14 to 25 yrs. Riding the waves of life can be stressful. Our program is for anyone who would like to SURF, meet NEW PEOPLE and improve their WELLBEING.

Each week we get together to yarn about all things life! - Then we hit the waves for some good times - Finished with some delicious tucker with the crew, yeeeow!

MONDAYS 4:30 - 7:30PM

MONDAY 04 NOVEMBER

MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER

MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER

MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER

MONDAY 02 DECEMBER

MONDAY 09 DECEMBER



TO FIND OUT HOW TO APPLY OR VOLUNTEER SCAN CODE OR VISIT brophy.org.au/stoked



6-WEEK PROGRAM

YARN - SURF - EAT

Location:

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

PERTOBE RD
WARRNAMBOOL

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The program involves a crew of amazing mentors, local surfers, ocean lovers and other local legends who want to join in and connect with young people.



Today's Carers, Tomorrow's Future



MacKillop
Family
Services

mackillop.org.au/fostercare

MacKillop Family Services is calling on Warrnambool to understand the need for local foster carers and highlighting the positive impact foster carers make to children's lives.

Foster carers provide care for children temporarily unable to live at home. People like Rachael and Matthew Buck, who have provided respite and emergency care to over 100 children and young people.

See their story here: www.mackillop.org.au/theirstory

If you would like more information ring Tendai in MacKillop's Warrnambool office on 0418 640 587 or visit www.mackillop.org.au/fostercare



Empower confidence.



Because parenting doesn't come with instructions

Modern-day parenting can be challenging. Like never before, parents are seeking clear, fact-based solutions. SchoolTV delivers credible and current information from wellbeing experts via a unique digital platform. Browse through the resource library and find practical strategies on a variety of topics that address the challenges of raising happy, resilient young people in our ever-changing world.

A resource to support modern-day parenting

- A unique digital platform designed to support parents, caregivers and educators
- Watch video interviews with leading AU, NZ and international wellbeing specialists
- Browse the library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and videos
- Access to a series of mental health topics such as cybersafety, anxiety, screen time, positive parenting and many more
- Discover new topics every month and access an archive of past topics 24/7

Explore SchoolTV today!



CREDIBLE INFORMATION • PRACTICAL STRATEGIES • TRUSTED SOURCES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF



Warrnambool
COLLEGE

Country

We, the staff and students of Warrnambool College, acknowledge that we are learning on the traditional lands of the Peek Whurrong people of the Maar Nation.

We pay our deepest respects to their Elders; past, present and emerging and to their continuing connection to the lands and waterways.

We also extend that respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who gather here.

We stand side by side with our First Nations people and commit to building a brighter future together.



Artwork by Hannah O'Brien. This artwork was created as part of the Indigenous Perspectives Project. Thanks to Mel Steffensen author of our new Acknowledgment to Country.