

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to our new members of staff Vanessa Edwards (Canteen Manager), Claire Endacott (English and VM/VPC), Steph Hines (Music) and Rick Millar (Year 9 PE). We wish them all the best.

Around the School

- The driveway project is slowly edging its way towards completion. We expect the curbing and asphalt to be finished within the next few weeks. Bollards will be installed and the lines for the staff carpark spaces completed.
- The basketball court fence and towers have been removed thanks to Jeff Goodwin and Phil Niewand. The new fence and towers have been ordered. The synpave surfacing may not be completed until Term 4 – depends on weather conditions.
- The new outdoor eating and learning space is almost finished and is looking fabulous! The seating and shade sails have been installed and the irrigation system and plants are in the process of being installed/planted.

Uniform

With the cold weather fast approaching it is timely to remind parents/carers and students of the **revised uniform policy**. We expect all students to wear correct uniform. Please refer to the revised policy, recently sent by John Webb via XUNO, for an outline of the college uniform and accessory policy.

Congratulations to the students who wear the correct uniform daily!

Attendance

Many students have their educational progress severely interrupted by absences which are more often than not, unnecessary, such as appointments in preparation for a social event, buying a new pair of shoes etc.

To reach their potential at school, **students need to attend regularly**. This means a few days off per year due to genuine illness or other very important family issues, not a 9 -day fortnight which accumulates to 20 days absent, 120 periods absent, the equivalent of 4 school weeks absent in a year. How could any student be expected to keep up with work in such circumstances?

Parents/carers have a critical role to play in protecting their child's future. Parents/carers also have a legal responsibility to ensure their children attend school regularly.

Please support the school and your child's learning by arranging dental and doctor's appointments after school or during school holidays. Shopping, helping at home, and visiting relatives may seem important at the time – but not as important as your child's future.

Studies show there is a greater chance of students becoming early school leavers and/or long-term unemployed adults, if they don't attend school regularly.

Should you require support with your child's attendance, or any other issue please contact the relevant sub-school leader immediately.

We can work together to make a difference to your child's future because, **EVERYDAY COUNTS.**

Open Days and Partnership Days are an important opportunity for schools to showcase to the wider community the educational opportunities and facilities that they have to offer to future students. Casterton Secondary College is the only secondary school in Casterton and one that the community can be proud of.

Our school provides a quality education in a picturesque setting with modern facilities where students successfully transition into their preferred pathway whilst being supported to prepare for life beyond school.

On Friday 10 May, Grade 6 primary school students engaged in learning experiences that gave them a "taste" of what it would be like to attend a secondary school.

As always, our students are our best ambassadors, and they never cease to impress with their enthusiasm, dedication and support for their school.

Comments from visitors to the school reaffirms the high level of care and support our students receive to:

- be the very best they can be.
- develop social skills, and positive personal attitudes and values. Mutual respect and positive behaviour underpins our commitment to the achievement of every student.
- become life long learners.
- develop an understanding of the link between their learning, the world in which they live and employment pathways.

I also take this opportunity to thank the parents/carers and students who attended interviews last term. Parent/teacher interviews are vital for building positive relationships between parents and teachers and achieving the best educational outcomes for your children. They help the teachers understand more about your children, and you can also learn how to help and support your children in their learning.

Parents and community members are welcome to see the school in action, see our facilities and learn about the programs that provide opportunities for students to learn through discovery and exploration. Please call the front office to organise a tour.

Meridith

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MUSIC LESSONS are back in school.

Ann Hirst



We are excited to introduce Steph Hines, Steph joined our staff in the position of Music teacher. She is a fantastic addition to our college, and we were very fortunate to acquire a teacher for our students who are interested in learning or fine tuning their skills. It is wonderful to be able to provide these studies for our students. We welcome Steph to our school and to the community, we are sure she will fit in perfectly with both.

*Charli Williams & Sway Hitchcock
with Music teacher, Steph Hines.*

NEW CANTEEN MANAGER

Ann Hirst



The second term has brought a change in the canteen with our new manager Vannessa Edwards. Vannessa has worked extensively in the hospitality industry and hails from Merino, she is looking forward to providing lots of nutritious healthy foods as well as favourite classics for staff and students and also for the Casterton Primary School students who purchase their lunches once a week. Vannessa is very dedicated to creating a positive and inviting atmosphere in the canteen.

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ANZAC DAY

Ann Hirst



In a tribute to the fallen heroes of past, our year 12 captains Chelsea Hulm and Alex Hornibrook participated in the ANZAC day service, solemnly laying a wreath to honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who served. In their actions, Chelsea and Alex demonstrated that the legacy of the ANZACs lives on through the memory and respect of generations to come. As they stood united with their community, they reinforced the message.

Chelsea & Alex

LEST WE FORGET

GLENELG DISTRICT FOOTBALL

John Webb

At a recent Glenelg District meeting, a decision was made to change the age groupings for football to Years 7 & 8, Years 9 & 10 and Years 11 & 12. **Casterton Secondary College was not in favour of this change.**

We, like the other schools in our division, (Heywood, Good Shepherd and Bayview) do not have sufficient numbers to field stand-alone teams in the three levels even if every boy in these levels played.

This change also necessitated an extra day being put into an already crowded calendar making it increasingly difficult with other commitments already locked in to justify additional interruptions to our programs.

Regrettably, our leadership team has made the decision to not participate in GD Football this year. The leadership team is recommending that the GD committee investigates ways to accommodate small schools such as us in football competitions in the future.

We are however investigating the possibility of playing a game against the Warrnambool Clontarf Academy, as we have done in the not-too-distant past.

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GLENELG DISTRICT SPORTS, PORTLAND

John Webb

On Friday March 22 our athletics team competed in the Annual Glenelg District Athletics Sports. The event was held at Nelson Park in Portland where we were greeted with pleasant weather and good facilities.

Our students, as usual, were exemplary in their behaviour and participated to the best of their ability. Some of our athletes participated in as many as six events and in some cases were prepared to participate in a higher age group to enable us to fill events.

We had some notable achievements throughout the day.

Brooklyn Mutch (13 years age group): 1st Javelin, 3rd Discus

Annabell Allkin (13 years age group): 4th 200m

Georgia Bailey (13 years age group): 4th Long Jump

Isabella Luers (13 years age group): 3rd 100m Hurdles

Marlee Robbins (14 years age group): 1st 100m Hurdles, 3rd 800m

Chloe Kurzman (14 years age group): 3rd Shot Putt

Elly Needham (15 years age group): 2nd Discus, 3rd Shot Putt

Makayla Rees (15 years age group): 1st 100m Hurdles, 2nd High Jump, 3rd 100m, 3rd Triple Jump, 4th 200m.

Kaitlan Johns (16 years age group): 4th 100m Hurdles

Archie Lane (16 years age group): 1st 1500m, 3rd 100m, 2nd 200m, 4th Long Jump, 4th Triple Jump

Oscar Mutch (16 years age group): 1st Shot Putt, 4th Discus.

Kirby Vise (16 years age group): 3rd Long Jump, 4th Triple Jump, 4th High Jump

Indi Longhurst (17 years age group): 2nd Javelin, 2nd 400m, 3rd Long Jump, 3rd 100m Hurdles, 3rd 100m, 3rd 200m

Sam Patton (17 years age group): 3rd Discus, 4th Javelin.

Dylan Munro (17 years age group): 2nd 100m Hurdles, 4th Triple Jump

Alex Hornibrook (18 - 20 years age group): 3rd 100m Hurdles

Zoe Betinsky (18 - 20 years age group): 1st Shot Putt

In the Age Group Championships Marlee Robbins was 4th overall in the 14 years age group, Makayla Rees, equal 2nd in the 15 years age group, Archie Lane 2nd in the 16 years age group and Indi Longhurst, 2nd in the 17 years age group.

Because of their success at this carnival, six of our students have qualified to compete in the Greater **Western Region Athletics to be held in Ballarat on October 10.**



Congratulations to these students who have qualified for the next level.

—
*Zoe Betinsky, Marlee Robbins,
Makayla Rees, Archie Lane,
Oscar & Brooklyn Mutch*

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HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Carina Barton

Monday 22nd of April was a perfect Autumnal day for our annual house cross country event. The sun shone with temperatures in the low 20s making for fabulous XC conditions.

After much deliberation based around the increase in traffic in the area, we decided to look at containing the course within our own school grounds. With the help of the ever-obliging farm manager Mr Goodwin, we were able to fashion both a 3km and 5 km course through the school yards and farm area. The course was highlighted by pink, yellow and white arrows which directed the students where to run. The course was greeted by much approval from students and staff alike and will only continue to improve with Goody and his trusty tractor continually mowing and levelling out the running track.

The students once again impressed with their attitude and effort running the course. The age group champions were Annabell Allkin, Mitchell Hulm, Marlee Robbins, Jett Lykke, Makayla Rees, Nate Longhurst, Kirby Vise, Archie Lane, Indi Longhurst, Ashley Barker, Phoebe Carlin, and Alex Hornibrook.

Glenelg house had its first win this year, beating a competitive Wannoon house.

Thanks to all staff who marshalled, timed, and recorded. without the commitment of staff being willing to step outside their normal roles and help with sporting events, these events simply would not happen.

Setting up the new course was quite a trial, and I would like to thank Alan Barton and Jeff Goodwin for all their help, along with Mr Webb, Ms Jukes and Mrs Carter for checking the course and their valuable feedback.



AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS

L-R, *Annabell Allkin, Mitchell Hulm, Nate Longhurst, Jett Lykke, Indi Longhurst, Archie Lane, Phoebe Carlin, Alex Hornibrook, Ashley Barker, Kirby Vise, Marlee Robbins, Makayla Rees.*

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HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY SNAPS



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YEAR 8, BUDJ BIM EXCURSION

Claire Kilmartin

All students of Year 8 headed out to our local UNESCO World Heritage site, Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, for a guided tour of the park with a focus on landscape and the Gunditjmarra people. Three culturally significant places (Budj Bim, Kurtonitj and Tae Rak) were visited where students had the opportunity to learn about the volcanic activity in the area and the transformation of the landscape as a result, as well as to view parts of the oldest aquaculture system in existence - eel traps.

Our guide, Steven Lovett, spoke about land management and his personal connection to the area. We were fortunate to be supported by Tania Parker from the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority who joined us on our tour and informed us of her responsibilities as the Senior Waterways Officer. Students learned a great deal about why Budj Bim has become internationally recognised, the different components of the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape and the ways of the Gunditjmarra people.



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SCIENCE

Brett VanAs

The start of Term 2 in science has seen Year 7 students learning about mixtures and separation techniques. Y8 finished off their unit on Light with the dissection of an eye. Year 10 have begun a unit on genetics and have been learning about DNA, including extracting the DNA from a strawberry. Year 12 students have been busy as usual, studying rates of and extent of reactions in Chemistry, while the present topics in Biology are photosynthesis and respiration.



Zander



Emmett & Zoe



Kaleb & Mitchell



Amy & Aaron

GLENELG DISTRICT CROSS-COUNTRY

Ann Hirst



Congratulations to Archie and Indi on their achievement in the District Cross Country amongst strong fields.

Archie Lane who ran a fantastic time, coming home strongly in the 16yr boys' field for first position.



And to Indi Longhurst who, in a tough field came second in the 17yr girls age group.



The College hosted the Glenelg District Cross-Country this year and we mapped out a true cross-country course which started on the school oval, crossing through school farm paddocks, in amongst the vineyard, finally finishing back at the school oval. This track should have kept everyone entertained with the scenery as well as the few rogue kangaroos who seemed to test their time also. Thankyou to the staff who planned out the new track, especially Mrs Barton & Mr Barton, Mrs. Carter, Miss Jukes and Mr. Goodwin and also to those who worked prior to and on the day of the event to ensure its success. **The next stage will be held in Warrnambool on the 27th of May at Albert Park.**

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AGRICULTURE News

Gill Russell

During this semester, there are several projects underway.

Year 9 are in the Aquaculture centre and looking after 50 rainbow trout fingerlings. Each lesson they test the water quality for the fish, which includes temperature, pH, Ammonia, Nitrites, Nitrates and Water Hardness. They discuss why these are important for the rainbow trout. They also weigh and measure the trout once a week to gauge their growth and to calculate the feed requirements of fish.



Year 10 have been looking at soil and have started the process of modifying the cattle yards following the highly informative class we had with yard builder Zac Michau. Zac worked with the year 10 students at the end of last term discussing how the current cattle yard system can be better utilised for classes.

Year 11 students continue to work on their enterprises. One group are growing flowers, for cut flowers and have been trying Resin coasters as a value add to their enterprise. Students are looking at budgets and farm systems in relation to their enterprise and value adding.

Fresh eggs are available for sale in the school also, as the raising on chickens is another enterprise.

½ doz - \$3.50

1 doz - \$6.00



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CAREERS

Delma Fidler

Careers

All students have completed their Career Action Plans and set their goals for 2024. The year 12 students have started their conversations and planning for 2025 and beyond. A comprehensive university application booklet will be sent home providing additional information and an application 'step-by- step' guide.

Year 9

The year nine students are about to participate in the Future Me program that will be conducted by the Deakin University. This program helps the students explore the ever-changing world of work. Students are provided with a range of opportunities to develop their employability skills, including communication. During the second session guest speakers from our community and beyond will be involved in a speed conversation activity with two-three students at a time. This involves the year nines interviewing our guests about their career pathways and choices.

Furthermore, the Department of Education is making available for all year nine students a personal online career discovery tool (Morrisby Online) which provides objective and relevant information about the student and the opportunities available. Your child will receive a confidential profile generated through the online career discovery tool. The online profile will be completed on the 23rd of May. Please return the consent forms sent home with you child last week. Students will be provided with a report and a 1:1 career feedback interview in term three. There is an opportunity for the Parent/Guardian to join the session with the qualified Careers Consultant and your child, more information to come.

Year 10 updates

They have also been busy participating in various activities and planning for future events:

- Completed a resume.
- Achieved a safe@work certificate.
- Completed a Career Profile.
- Completed their Career Action Plan.
- Attended a year 10 information evening, with their parents and or guardians.
- Will attend a Taster Day in Hamilton on the 25th of June. (forms and information to be sent home shortly)

Students have secured a placement for the first of their two work experience blocks, which is scheduled for the 27th -31st of May. During the upcoming weeks a copy of the relevant paperwork will be sent to parents and employers for their records. Students will also contact their employer the week before placement to confirm the details specific to their placement. Where practical, a staff member will visit the workplace.

Placement visits

Last term employers were contacted via phone and were asked to evaluate student progress and suggest areas for improvement, as well as discussing their strengths. Overall, some very pleasing feedback. Towards the end of this term staff members will ring employers to arrange an onsite visit.

Open Days are held throughout the year. Sometimes they are University or TAFE focussed other times they are facility focused, they can be online, or campus based. Please check the websites for further information and registrations. As more dates become available details will be sent out on XUNO.

<https://vtac.edu.au/opendays.html>

<https://www.uac.edu.au/future-applicants/open-days>

<https://www.utas.edu.au/about/events/open-day>

<https://www.uwa.edu.au/seek-wisdom/seekers-space/student-life/getting-started-at-uwa/2023/03/Getting-to-UWA-Open-Day-2023>

<https://unisa.edu.au/opendays/>

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/study/events-key-dates/open-days>

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/study/events-key-dates/open-days>

Open Day preparation:

1. Make a list of courses or study areas you're interested in.
2. Register if asked to do so.
3. Check out campus maps to plan your route around the event – and find out what your best transport options in and out are.
4. Figure out your logistics and read the online info carefully: when you register.
5. Create your game plan!
6. Prepare a list of questions for teachers, students and admissions staff who'll be there on the day.



Many thanks to Paul and Linda from Paul Murphy Chimney Sweep who have joined the list of employers hosting a structured workplace student in 2024. Brody Winters, is thoroughly enjoying his time in this placement and according to Brody is “learning so much every week.” This includes the refurbishment of wood heaters.



Pictured is the one of the fireboxes Brody has been working on.

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Grade 6 PARTNERSHIP DAY

Carina Barton

Students from Casterton Primary, Sacred Heart Primary, Coleraine Primary, St Joseph's Coleraine, Hamilton North Primary and Good Shepherd Primary attended our grade six partnership day on May 10th, 2024.

Thirty-five students joined us here at Casterton Secondary College and participated in a variety of classes, including Humanities, Art, Mathematics, Food Technology, Science, Woodwork, English and Agriculture.

The day was a great success largely due to the impeccable behaviour of all the grade six students, the year 10 helpers and the staff who willingly gave their time to create enjoyable, informative lessons and lunch for our visitors.

Thank-you to all the primary schools who continue to provide great support for our partnership days.

We are looking forward to hosting the grade five partnership day on the 7th of June 2024.



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How to support a family member



This factsheet provides some tips to help you when someone in your family has a mental health problem. It touches on important things to remember about young people and how to find help if you're worried about the person's safety.

Use the QR code to access this [information](#)

This health content is brought to you by Doctors in Secondary School (DiSS).

For further discussions about this topic, or to make an appointment please contact the DiSS GP and Nurse at your school.

<https://goshare.realtimehealth.com/LsVyELFCWmxWK9fYUzC4zUbkiNoUzHGrgpSct3cJ>

KEUPT WEEKEND AT YOUTH HQ



- ✓ FREE FOOD & BEVERAGES
- ✓ CINEMA SESSIONS
- ✓ GOLF SIMULATOR
- ✓ AND MUCH MUCH MORE
- ✓ LIVE DJ
- ✓ SMOOTHIE BIKE
- ✓ FREE ACTIVITIES

128B HENTY ST - OPEN SATURDAY 11AM TO LATE
FREE ENTRY - GUARANTEED FUN - EVERYONE WELCOME