

Wycheproof P-12 College

A State school established in 1876



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www.wychep12.vic.gov.au



Newsletter No. 1 - 2nd February, 2021

Welcome Back to Term 1 – 2021

Despite a somewhat challenging last year (in the history making year that was 2020), our school is celebrating some awesome outcomes. We spent the later part of last year congratulating our students and families for remaining on track in a time when routines changed overnight. All of our Year 12 boys (Angus Connolly, Angus Forrester, Rowan Jones and Andrew Mens) are off and racing and have many of the puzzle pieces in place to become successful in their transition to adult life. I wish many of you could have seen them at our Valedictory Dinner. They were all grown up and great company. As a school we are very proud of them all and it was obvious that their families were as well. This night continues to be a highlight in our school calendar. Andrew Mens obtaining an ATAR Score of 96.65 and the 'percentage of study scores of 40 and over' for our school being 15% puts our school well-placed amongst a growing cohort of successful government schools located outside of metropolitan locations. Rural schools continue to be great places to educate children for many reasons. We are excited that Averyll Loft (Education Support - 1 day), Georga Munro-Foord (Education Support - 5 days – with also a SOCIAL WORKER Role) and Ash Buchanan (2 days – Teacher) will be joining our staff and we look forward to Deb and Barry Crockett re-joining our staff as TUTORS (on a part-time basis). Many staff are part-time. Ebony Watts will be taking maternity leave approximately half-way during the year and John Bath continues to be an invaluable teacher on our staffing profile. We will be busier than ever and as such we ask that you do please come and see us if you have any concerns or your child is unhappy. There are many positives about our school, but the outstanding factor is our students. However, that does not mean we do not need to remind them sometimes about what constitutes respectful behaviours. Please make an appointment though, as every day is extremely busy. This is because ensuring that a quality teaching and learning program is in place is our priority. We are looking forward to taking our students outside more this year and making the most of the amazing natural habitat that we have at the base of the 'World's Smallest Mountain.'

CODE RED DAYS - FIRE WARNING & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

We are a Category 4 School (rating in Emergency Management) which will mean that on a CODE RED DAY our school will be closed. No buses will run. If you remember back to November 2019 – they closed us overnight due to such a rating. Generally we will know a couple of days in advance if this is likely to occur but it will be determined usually by 1pm the day before. No one is to be on-site if that occurs. Even on EXTREME WEATHER DAYS we still need to be very alert as to what is happening. If a CODE RED DAY is declared we may need to get students out quickly if they are on camp, or, we may need to cancel, or even, keep students there an extra day (if they are supposed to be travelling out that day). Of course EXCURSIONS will not take place on a CODE RED DAY and even on an EXTREME WEATHER DAY, we may decide to cancel an excursion. Our

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

Fri	5	Inter-house Swimming Sports
Mo-Fr	8-12	Smile Sqad Dental Van
Tue	16	F2Drive (Yr 11) 9am-1pm
Fri	19	All Schools Swimming Carnival - Swan Hill
Mon	22	NCD Swimming @ St Arnaud
Wed	24	School Photos - morning

MARCH

Thur	4	NCD Triathlon @ Boort
Fri	5	Division Swimming @ Bendigo
Mon	8	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Thur	18	LMR Swimming @ Swan Hill
Fri	26	Casual Clothes Day
Mon-Thur	29/3 - 1/4	Yr 7/8 Camp - Roses Gap

APRIL

Thur	1	Last Day Term 1 - 2:30pm finish
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HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS

TOMORROW - 5TH FEB.

STARTING 9:30AM (Yr 2-12)

Prep/Yr1 later for lunch & a swim

Remember to 'Be Sunsmart!'

BBQ Lunch available.

sausage-\$2* (hamburger-\$3* drink-\$2

Spectators welcome!



climate is changing and becoming hotter and the wind can be very gusty. Notices will also be sent out via SKOOLBAG APP and hopefully there will be enough warning that we can tell students during the day.

Christine McKersie - Principal

Wycheproof P-12 College ~ "Be Your Best"

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - 2021.

Every year at this time, School Council membership comes up for nomination (and if necessary) election/re-election and this year we are seeking five parent members to join our School Council after our first meeting on the 3rd February. We would sincerely like to thank **Donna Egan, Stuart Nicholls, Lynlee Matheson, Maggie Daykin and Roy Daykin** for their support, advice and direction over the past few years and hope that they will consider re-nominating. **Georgina Morrison** (in the Community Member Category) may like to consider nominating in the parent category or could possibly be co-opted again in the Community Member Category. Only one DET position is needed to be filled/or re-nomination – **Cathy Grant** (her two year term has finished). There is also a student membership open to any secondary student who would like to join. If there are more nominations than positions there will be a requirement to have an election. Council is an important body of the school organisation and is responsible for the operations of the school.

EVENT

2021 DATE

a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Thursday 4th Feb
b)	Closing date for nomination	4pm Thursday 25th February
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominations will be posted	Friday 26th February
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed (if needed – that is more nominations received than positions vacant)	On or before Thursday 4th March
e)	Close of ballot	Thursday 11th March
f)	Vote count (will only occur if needed)	Friday 12th March
g)	Declaration of ballot (will only occur if needed)	Monday 15th March
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt Community Member (the principal will preside)	Wednesday 17th March
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Wednesday 17th March

School Council Elections – Information for Parents

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO? All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL? There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR ALL MEMBERS IS TWO YEARS. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT? Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED? The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL? No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION? The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections (if there is one that occurs at our school – that is, if the number of nominations outnumbers the number of vacancies).

Contact the principal for further information.

Christine McKersie - Principal

2021 Student Leadership Team



SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Jack Arnel
& Amelia Ison



SRC PRESIDENT

Lilly Pritchard



CALDER HOUSE CAPTAINS

Taya Bartram
& Joe Coles



BROADWAY HOUSE CAPTAINS

Ella Sheahan &
James Ison



MUSIC CAPTAINS

Joe Coles, Hayley Matheson & Kate Thompson



YR 9/10 CLASS CAPTAINS

Isabelle Mulquiny & Hunter Connolly



YR 7/8 CLASS CAPTAINS

Jacob Harrison &
Savannah Nicholls



YR 5/6 CLASS CAPTAINS

Dakota Connolly &
Tessa Sheahan



YR 2/3/4 CLASS CAPTAINS

Ever Harrison &
Ludah Harrison



P/1 CLASS CAPTAINS

Kayley McLeod &
Leeah Crawford

2021 New Faces Welcome



Esse Coles



Neive Cotton



Daisy Buchanan



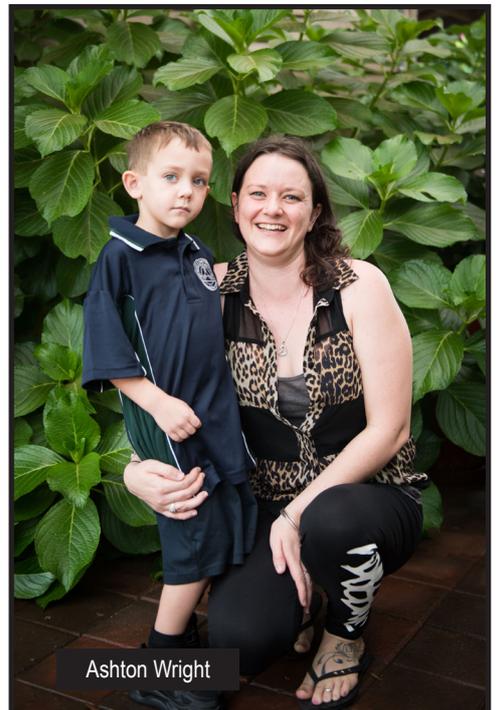
Archie Harrison



Tyler Harrison



Edie Pellegrino



Ashton Wright

The Class of 2033 began their school journey on Friday 29th January. There are 7 students in Prep at Wycheproof P-12 College this year and they were all ready for an exciting day and a fun year of learning with Mrs Coatsworth, despite the 'far from ideal' weather.

Drep Class - 2021



Archie Tyler Ashton Mrs Coatsworth Edie Daisy Esse Neive



Jessie Fawcett joins the Yr 7/8 classroom with Miss Fawcett as her Form teacher. Jessie completed her primary years at the Nullawil Primary School and is the 6th child of Simone & Colin Fawcett's to attend Wycheproof P-12 College for high school. Welcome Jessie!

WYCHEPROOF P-12 COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter is available fortnightly on Thursdays, via internet (visit www.wychep12.vic.edu.au), through the Skoolbag App, or hard copy from the newsagency.

Next Edition...
Thursday, 18th February, 2021

Joining the team of Staff in 2021...
Mr Buchanan,
Georga Munro-Ford
& Averyll Loft.



2021 Lions Youth of the Year
7pm
Thursday, 25th February
Lions Club Rooms
ALL WELCOME



On Tuesday 2nd February, past student Andrew Mens (also Dux of Wycheproof P-12 College and School Captain in 2020), spoke to the Year 9- 12 students around 'Tips for success completing VCE'. Andrew mentioned the importance of trying your best, completing practice exams, so that nothing during the end of year exam surprises you, have a routine for completing homework and study, the importance of physical exercise and ensure a bit of fun and relaxation at the same time. Andrew stressed the importance of paying attention in class and taking on board the feedback that your teachers give you. Andrew used Edrolo (an online resource developed for VCE subjects) as a revision tool and an opportunity to go back to topics to go over and make sure that the knowledge sinks in. His advice for students before a school year starts is to have December off, then read your English novels, watch a movie if required for school and complete any tasks set by teachers. Andrew worked at EWHS and played hockey during Year 11 and 12 and is to commence his course at RMIT (Bendigo campus) next week in a Bachelor of Applied Science (Aviation), a course partnership between Qantas and RMIT. All the best Andrew!!



2021 School captains Jack Arnel & Amelia Ison with Andrew Mens.



Wycheproof Narraport Demons

Netball Training

with Suzanna

13&Under + 16&Under

starts next week Tuesday 9th February

Fitness - Tuesdays 5:00pm

Skills - Thursdays 5:00pm

New players welcome!



Wednesday

24th

February



FOOD ALLERGY SYMPTOMS

- RASH
- SWELLING OR ITCHING
- NAUSEA
- VOMITING
- DIARRHEA
- BREATHING PROBLEMS
- WHEEZING

Just a reminder that we have a number of students in our school who have allergic reactions to foods (mostly nuts, fish and eggs). We do not ban nuts (according to our policy) but we do ask students to be aware of triggers for allergic reactions in other children and how to respond to an anaphylaxis reaction. It is also important that students do not share food.

- 2020 -
Year 9
Surf Camp



ABOVE (L-R):
Instructor, W Allan, X McKersie,
C Fawcett, S Nicholls, A Brander, H Connolly

The last week of term 4 was one of the highlights on the 2020 Year 9 calendar. Torquay bound, six excited students, Mr Duffy & Mr Plumridge grabbed their bathers and towels, jumped in the bus and headed off on the end of year adventure. They enjoyed some mountain bike riding, indoor rock climbing as well as surf lessons.



VCE



VCE Food Studies began cooking on their first day back at school. Hayley Matheson (far left) made Confetti cupcakes with chocolate icing, Louisa Coles (left) made Confetti and chocolate cupcakes) and Alex Brander made Choc chip cupcakes (above).



First general assembly 2021.



Ms McKersie welcomed all staff and students back to school for 2021 at a whole school assembly on Friday 29th January.

~o0o~

>> Yr 5/6 students arranged numbers in order to reflect the ATAR score of the 2020 College Dux, Andrew Mens. Due to COVID, the 2020 Dux could not be announced as usual on Presentation night.

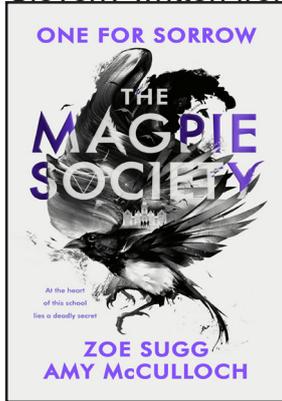


The Magpie Society: One for Sorrow

by *Zoe Sugg and Amy McCulloch*

Tragedy strikes an elite boarding school in the English countryside when the school's brightest student is found murdered, just as new student Audrey arrives from America.

Cleverly written from the view of two roommates, their differing points of view and different experiences add to the air of mystery that surrounds the case and the school. This story leaves you guessing the whole way through and readers will be hanging for book 2! Best suited 15+

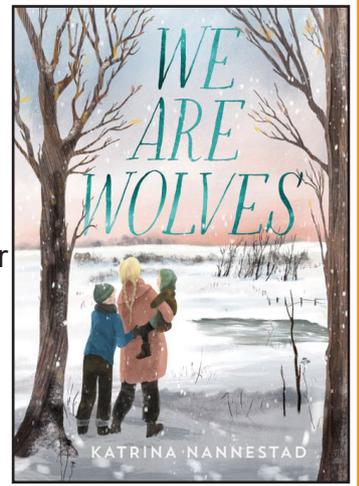


We are Wolves

by *Katrina Nannestad*

An incredibly moving story told through the eyes of eleven year old Liesl, who tries to keep her promise to her mother to protect her younger brother and sister when they are forced to flee their home in Germany after the Russian Army invades their country.

A frightening, captivating and compulsive read, this brilliantly written story will enthrall readers from 10-100 years.



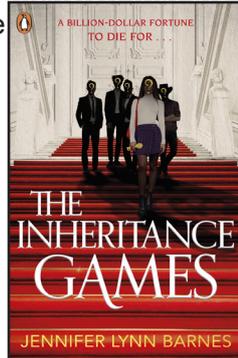
BOOKS
aren't just made of
WORDS...
they're also filled with
PLACES
to visit and
PEOPLE
to meet.

The Inheritance Games

by *Jennifer Lynn Barnes*

Avery is a normal teenage girl, living with her stepsister and just hoping to survive high school. That is, until she finds out that a billionaire that she doesn't know has left her his entire fortune. The only catch – she must live in his mansion with the relatives he left out of his inheritance for one year.

A wonderful addictive thriller for ages 14+ that is full of plot twists. The characters and storyline grab you from page one, and there is no putting this book down until you get to the end, when you will be eagerly awaiting the sequel!



The Wizards of Once

by *Cressida Cowell*

From the author of How to Train Your Dragon Your Dragon comes an exciting high-

adventure fantasy series set in an ancient, magical time, full of Wizards, Warriors, Giants and Sprites. This is the story of a young boy Wizard and a young girl Warrior who have been taught since birth to hate each other like poison; and the thrilling tale of what happens when their two worlds collide. Perfect for boys and girls aged 9+ who love fantasy adventure.



Christine McKersie (Principal), Andrew Mens, Claire Ison (Asst. Principal)



Wycheproof P-12 College

2020

Year 12

R Bedgood

Dux Award

Andrew Mens

Wycheproof P-12 College ~ "Be Your Best"

ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the school's Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's Privacy Policy, found on our website; www.wychep12.vic.edu.au

2021 School Term Dates

Term 1	(Staff) 27th Jan - 1st April (Students) 29th Jan - 1st April
Term 2	19th April - 25th June
Term 3	12th July - 17th September
Term 4	4th October - 17th December

WYCHEPROOF TENNIS CLUB

SOCIAL TENNIS

When?

Friday Nights at 6pm starting on the 5th of February
Teams?

Mixed teams of 4: 2 females and 2 males.
Casual Fill-ins welcome

How?

3x 30-minute matches. All finished by 7:30pm.

Cost?

\$100 per team for the full 4 week event or \$25 per person. Club Members half price.

The Kids?

Kids welcome! G rated movies will be played in the club house

Food & Drink?

Bar will be open and a BBQ will be available

Wycheproof & District Tennis Club will adhere to all Tennis Victoria Covid Regulations

NOTICES HOME

Prep - Yr 12

Re: Student Details Check
From: Admin - Due ASAP
~***~

Prep - Yr 12

Re: Student Consent Form
From: Admin - Due ASAP
~***~

Yr 3 - Yr 12

Re: Instrumental Music Program 2021
From: Jan Elder - Due 01/02/2021
~***~

Yr 7/8

Re: 'That Sugar Film' permission
From: Miss McLennan - Due 26/2/2021
~***~

Prep - Yr 4

Re: Swimming Program
From: Miss Fawcett
~***~

Yr 7 & Yr 10

Re: Secondary School Vaccination Program
From: Admin - Due ASAP
~***~

Students interested in Swimming

Re: All School Swimming Carnival - 19/02/21
From: Suzi Thompson
~***~

Yr 5 & Yr 9

Re: Computer Agreement
From: Wendy Pollard - Due ASAP
~***~

Prep - Yr 12

Re: Parent Contribution Invoices
From: Cathy Grant - Due ASAP

Just a friendly reminder...



Lost Property



Please be sure to check our

***Lost Property items.** All unclaimed items will be donated to the Op Shop next week. We have.....*

* Jumpers
* Polo shirts
* Sports singlet

* Waterbottles
* Lunch containers
* Balls

Welcome back to school

What a busy day is the first day back, with classes and a lot to remember; things we have forgotten and new things we have learned. We have been lucky

that—through our community’s great efforts in wearing masks and keeping hands clean and social distancing—we are able to return to school, considering that students in many countries student are still learning from home.

So remember to wash your hands, use hand sanitiser, cough into your elbow, socially distance and stay home if unwell.

Congratulations to our new Year 12 students and all who are doing VCE subjects. The wellbeing team members are all here to support students to achieve their goals. We also welcomed 13 students to Year 7, an exciting time for them as they embark on their secondary school career and have so much before them.

Wellbeing garden

I am pleased to report that the worms are doing well despite a few hot days and the holidays. Worm tea has significantly boosted tomato production. We welcomed Prep and Year 1 students on Monday who inspected the worms and picked ripe cherry tomatoes, beans, and peas to take home.

Students also visited the *Harvest Garden* to pick corn and look at the ripening cantaloupe and watermelons and of course to meet the hens; Agnes, Patricia, Judy, Whitney, Saber and Biggie.

Each student took home a small bag of vegetables they had picked.

Building resilience

The ‘*Think About It*’ activity for Years 7 & 8 will be held each Thursday. As usual our first activity is to do the VIA Character Strengths Youth questionnaire for young people age 11 to 17, which is from Harvard University in the USA. The survey is a snapshot of the moment and following the survey students receive a report listing their top 25 strengths. The survey is also interesting for adults to do to know their character strengths. For more information see www.viacharacter.org.

As the ‘*Think About It*’ activity is linked to Mr Connolly’s English class, this year we have a workbook, ‘*The Everyday Resilience Journal*’ from www.michellemitchell.org. The journal is a space for students to write down thoughts, inspirations and difficulties, and to read about ideas helpful for getting through life’s ups and downs.

This complements the work done by the current Year 8 class who worked through the online *Bite Back* program last year. Students are encouraged to revisit the Mindfulness meditation section of the *Bite Back* program and include one of those audio soundbites into their daily routine.

Students health

A reminder to return health forms including:

- Immunisation forms for Year 7 and Year 10 students.
- Asthma care and action plans signed by your doctor.
- Medical condition care plans, so that in case of becoming ill students can be well looked after.

Next week you will see the orange Smile Squad van at school as we welcome staff from the school dental service. Forms are available for any students who haven’t been to the dental service. This is a great opportunity to check that teeth and gums are in tip top condition, or to fix any problems.

Wellbeing Classrooms

An aim for 2021 is to keep the google classrooms up to date. If students or parents would like any particular resources shared on the site please contact me, as these Google classrooms are a great way to distribute all sorts of information and activities useful for students and parents.

Wellbeing classroom codes: Primary School **kye5y7s** and Secondary School **y26jj3s**.

Support services & helplines

- ✓ Parentline 132289
- ✓ Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- ✓ DET parent resources at www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/

♥ - Your
donation
is greatly
appreciated

Mrs Brown is looking
for jewellery donations
including Bracelets,
necklaces, earrings etc to
embellish a mosaic heart
for Primary School Art
Students.



Skoolbag App.

The Skoolbag App is used for communication between the school and parents/carers. All parents/carers are advised to download this **FREE** App onto their mobile device. Simply search for our school **WYCHEPROOF P-12 COLLEGE** in either the App Store or the Google Play Store and click on the link to download.

(And don't forget to select/update the correct Year Level for your child/ren)

Notifications and information available from the App include,

- * Activities and dates for the school calendar
- * Reminders
- * Cancellations of activities/events
- * Up to date times for students returning from excursions
- * Parents/Carers can advise of student absence



2021 YEAR LEVEL COORDINATORS

P/1/2	MRS. NIKKI COATSWORTH
YR 3/4	MRS. AMY BOTHERAS
YR 5/6	MRS. KYLIE BROWN
YR 7/8	MISS SUZANNA FAWCETT
YR 9/10	MISS SIOBHAN MCLENNAN
YR 11/12	MRS. CLAIRE ISON

PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS 2021

Family accounts for parent contributions have been sent home with students.

It is preferred that payments be made by Friday, 26th February, 2021.

Payments can be made via BPAY, Cheque or Cash.

Please contact the school if you have any questions in regard to Parent Payments or if you wish to arrange a Payment Plan.

Students (Yrs 5-12) and Staff are encouraged to join the 'FIT FEBRUARY' challenge.

LOG YOUR EXERCISE ON THE STRAVA APP
(ALL activities MUST be logged on STRAVA to go into the end of month Prize Draw)

All participants go into a draw to win the end of challenge prize
Every 5 exercise sessions = 1 chance in the draw

Please see Mr Duffy for any queries.



WYCHEPROOF TENNIS CLUB: 2021 Tournament - Labour Day Weekend, 6th - 8th March. \$2000 in trophies to be won.
Enquiries: Ph) 0436 362 962 or email HELLO@WYCHEPROOFTENNISCLUB.COM.AU.

WYCHEPROOF COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE: Ph: 5493 7455 - e: mwrc@bigpond.net.au - 280 Broadway.

Casual Swim Group: Monday & Friday 9am - 10am. Wednesday 7:30am - 8:30am. Cost - \$6 per session or \$54/4 weeks.

Toddler Time @ Wyche Pool: Tuesday 9th, 16th, & 23rd February, 2-3pm. Gold coin donation per session (per child 0-5yrs).

To register for swimming, please contact Wycheproof Community Resource Centre.

Morning Yoga: 6:30 - 7:30am. Mondays from 1st February. 6 week block. Wycheproof Shire Hall Supper Room.

Tutor: Averyll Loft. For more information contact WCRC.

WYCHEPROOF NARRAPORT NETBALL: Junior training begins twice weekly next Tuesday (9th February). Fitness sessions on Tuesdays and Skills session on Thursdays. 5pm @ Netball courts with Suzanna Fawcett. New players welcome!