

Wycheproof P-12 College

A State school established in 1876



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Newsletter 11 - Wednesday, November 29

Reflecting on 2023

It has been an amazing year. Returning to our full program has been fabulous. We are very much looking forward to our Presentation Night on Monday, December 11 where we get to celebrate with all our families and recognise impressive student results.

Staffing for 2024 is still yet to be finalised. There is a shortage of teachers throughout Victoria, and we are starting to feel the impact of this in rural schools. Sadly, we will have some staff leaving. We would like to thank Steph Coffey and Laurie Pearse, who will no longer be on staff next year. Hopefully, Laurie will get to sleep in some days and spend other days catching up on projects in the shed. His calming presence will be greatly missed. Laurie has been an engaging teacher for students of all ages, and his legacy will live on in the lives of the young people he has connected with and the various projects he has overseen throughout the school. We are hoping that we will still get to touch base regularly with Steph Coffey (who will be teaching in Birchip) and know that she will continue to 'stir the pot' over various sporting outcomes. Only Paddy comes close to being able to beat Steph at a quiz session. We wish Steph and Laurie and their families all the best. We must also thank our 2023 School Council members for the time they devote to our school, especially Parent Members Brett Thompson (President), Stuart Nicholls (Vice President), Georgina Morrison (Treasurer), Donna Egan and Mel Waters. Catherine Grant and Claire Ison continue to remain on council (as DE Members) and our two Student Members Savannah Nicholls and Keely Allan, along with Whitney Jones our co-opted Community Member.

Thanks also to all our incredible staff for the effort and care they have shown throughout the year. The remarkable outcomes (academic, musical, sporting and social) are reflective of this effort. Merry Christmas to all our school families. We hope you all have a very safe and gregarious holiday season.

There is much to look forward to in 2024.

Christine McKersie - Principal

END OF TERM 4 DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

Fri	1	Year 10s last day Swimming @ pool (Yr 5/6)
Mon	4	Jnr Concert Band extended rehearsal Grandview Lodge visit (Yr 7/8)
Tues	5	P-9 One-Up Day New prep parent info session
Wed	6	P-6 Concert
Thurs	7	Stig Live in the Library Senior Citizens visit (Yr 7/8)
Fri	8	Swimming @ pool (Yr 7-9) PenPal morning tea
Mon	11	Swimming @ pool (Yr 5/6) Presentation Night
Tues-Thurs	12-14	Swimming @ pool (P-9) Year 9 Surf Camp
Tues	12	EOYA - Swan Hill Cinemas (P-8)
Wed	13	Swimming @ Pool (P-9)
Fri	15	EOYA - Aqua Island Moama (P-9)
Mon	18	Pupil Free Day
Tues	19	Pupil Free Day
Wed	20	School's out!!!

SPECIAL NEWSLETTER

~ PRESENTATION NIGHT EDITION ~

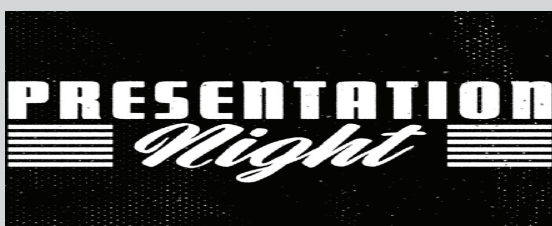
LAST WEEK OF TERM 4



This will be the final newsletter for 2023



WYCHEPROOF P-12 COLLEGE



MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023
DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30PM START
SPORTING COMPLEX
STUDENT AWARDS & MUSICAL ITEMS
LIGHT SUPPER PROVIDED
ALL WELCOME

All students must wear school uniform

Wycheproof P-12 College ~ "Be Your Best"



HUNTER



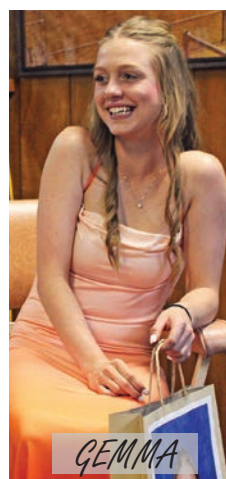
LOUISA



KATE



ALEX



GEMMA

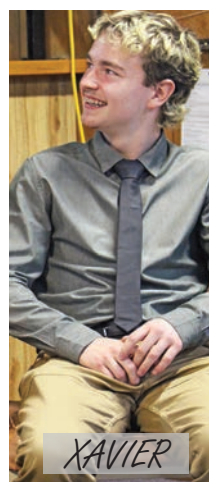


Year 12 Valedictory Dinner

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

School is officially out for Will Allan, Sienna Austin, Alex Brander, Louisa Coles, Hunter Connolly, Charlie Fawcett, Marley Hetherington, Talia Hobson, Gemma Kendray-Gladwin, Xavier McKersie, Spencer Nicholls and Kate Thompson.

We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating and reminiscing at their recent Valedictory Dinner. We are very proud of their achievements and look forward to hearing of their successes in the future.



WILL

SPENCER

SIENNA

XAVIER

CHARLIE

TALIA

MARLEY



YOU ARE INVITED TO

THE 2023 P-6

Concert

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
2023 P-6 CONCERT

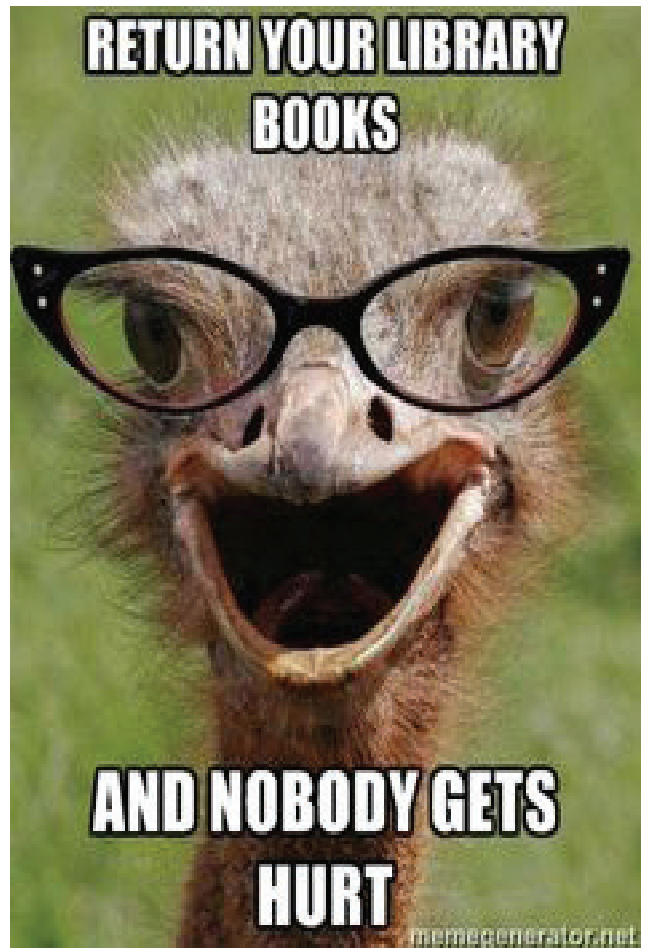
WEDNESDAY 06 1:30PM

DECEMBER 2023

WYCHEPROOF SPORTING
COMPLEX

*** RSVP ***

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS MOST WELCOME!
TO ENSURE ENOUGH SEATING, PLEASE RSVP BY CALLING THE
OFFICE OR BY COMPLETING & RETURNING THE NOTE SENT
HOME WITH STUDENTS THIS WEEK



2024 SCHOOL TERM DATES

Term 1

Thursday, January 30 -
Thursday, March 28

Term 2

Monday, April 15 -
Friday, June 28

Term 3

Monday, July 15 -
Friday, September 20

Term 4

Monday, October 7
Friday, December 20

2024 SCHOOL CAMP PROGRAM

<u>YR LEVEL</u>	<u>ACTIVITY/LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Prep/1	Day excursion - Bendigo	Term 2 or 3
Year 2/3/4	Billabong Ranch - Echuca	Date TBC
Year 5/6	Urban Camp - Melbourne	8/10 - 11/10
Year 7/8	TBA	Term 1 or 2
Year 9	School for Student Leadership Surf Camp	Term 4 Term 4
Year 9/10	Snow Camp	Term 3
Year 10	Work Experience	24/6 - 28/6
Year 11	Work Experience	23/6 - 28/6

2024 PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Please visit our school website www.wycheproof12.vic.edu.au to review the associated expenses for the 2024 school year.

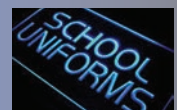
A hard copy of the Parent Payment Arrangements will be distributed to all students on the first day of Term 1, 2024. Please do not make any payments until the beginning of the new school year in 2024.

If you have any questions, please call Cathy to discuss - 5493 7409.

UNIFORM DAY

Uniform day will be held on
Monday, January 29, 2024
from 10am - 2pm

CASH OR
DIRECT DEPOSIT ONLY





P/1/2 Halls Gap adventure & sleepover



"My favourite part was the giraffes because they could put their tongue in their nose." - Ashton

"My favourite part was when we had the glow stick party because we got to swing the glow sticks." - Willa

"My favourite thing was the crocodile because it had spikey scales on its body." - Tyler

"My favourite part was when the deer followed us." - Tex

"My favourite part was when the cheetahs came close up to us and meowed." - Edie

"I liked the disco party because we got to spin the glow sticks and perform." - Cooper

"My favourite part was when we had the glow stick party and pillow fight." - Esse

"My favourite part was when there was a deer following us at the zoo." - Archie



State Athletics Finals



Paige Arnel and Keely Allan attended this year's State Athletics finals in Melbourne after qualifying with an impressive win in the High Jump and a second place finish in the 1500m events respectively at the recent LMR Bendigo event. Paige finished equal 6th in the 17yo High Jump and Keely finished her 1500m event in 9th, with a time of 6min14secs. Well done girls – an incredible effort to make it to the state level. Thank you to Cam Arnel for sharing the driving and supporting duties.



LMR Hockey - Bendigo

This year we were invited to join in with St Arnaud and Charlton to get a team together for the Intermediate Boys hockey competition to compete in the LMR qualifier in Bendigo. Regular Bendigo hockey competition representatives Eliza Macdonald and Keely Allan put their hands up and had a great day playing with like minded kids in what was perfect Spring weather. Unfortunately they lost two close games on the day, but they did themselves proud and can hold their heads high.



YEAR 10 MOCK INTERVIEWS

Monday, November 13 saw a number of Year 10 students participate in mock interviews. Students were required to complete a resume and cover letter and come to school 'dressed' for their job interview. Pictured are Whitney Jones, who applied for a Junior Food Assistant position, Keely Allan, a law assistant position, and Gracie Humphreys, a stablehand job. Thanks to Angela Poxon – Pathways Coordinator with the NCLLEN and Rory White – Manager of Child and Youth Buloke Shire - for interviewing the students and providing them with this valuable experience.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Wycheproof P12 College's grounds are supervised by school staff from 8.35am until 3.20pm. Outside of these hours, school staff will not be available to supervise students unless special arrangements have been made with school staff.

Students and families are encouraged to regularly read our school policies found on our school website. We thank all our School Council members who spend many hours regularly reviewing our school policies. We invite and welcome feedback relating to these policies and other school procedures.

COMPUTER RETURNS

All students are required to return their laptops ON OR BEFORE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Year 12: ASAP - NOW OVERDUE

Year 11: ASAP - NOW OVERDUE

Year 10: Friday, December 1

Years 5-9: Friday, December 8

***Any students who require their laptops over the holidays for homework, please see Wendy or Mrs Ison**

****Any students who are finishing school earlier than the dates specified above, your computer must be returned before your last day**

Buloke Loddon
TAC L2P
PROGRAM

Mentor Training
Sunday 18 February 2024
at Wycheproof (Venue TBC)



**Would you like to help young people learn to drive?
Do you have at least two hours per fortnight to spare?**

**Are you over 21 years old?
Do you hold a full current driver's licence?**

The Buloke Loddon L2P program matches volunteer driver mentors to young learner drivers to assist them in gaining on the road driving experience in a vehicle that is provided through the program - all we need is your time (and interest).

If you are interested, please email l2p@ncllen.org.au or contact the North Central LLEN on 5491 1144.



Safe holidays = summer fun

The start of the summer holidays, along with Christmas and the New Year, can see us in a flurry and about much more than usual.

It is still a dusty time with thunderstorm asthma a concern. It is important to remember asthma first aid: sit upright, **4 puffs of reliever** into the spacer, **4 breaths from the spacer** and **wait 4 minutes to repeat**; if there is no improvement call 000 for help. See information at <https://asthma.org.au/treatment-diagnosis/asthma-first-aid/>

Slip Slop Slap Seek Slide. Over the summer months you will see an increase in awareness in the media to prevent skin cancer and you will see a lot more of Sid the Seagull singing that well known jingle. Follow this good advice to avoid the sting of sunburn and the problem of developing skin cancer in the future.

Protect yourself in **five ways** from skin cancer



Catching up

At the end of October, we celebrated Halloween and the end of Walk to School month with some great activities on the Saffin Oval. Students who participated and signed in each day on the calendar walked a total of 705 km for the month. This was less than in pre-COVID years but is now a great benchmark to beat next year. Congratulations to Charlotte and Hayley who won a scooter and skateboard plus a helmet each. Prizes and lunchtime fruit salad treat were supplied by the Buloke Shire Council.



Think about it Thursdays

We had a slow start and some interesting shapes were created but they have all come together in a colourful sensory knitted rug. The Year 7 & 8 Thinking Thursday group has donated this magnificent creation to Grandview Lodge Age Care. The Thursday themes for the past two terms were *altruism*, *generosity* and *gratitude*. The students have excelled in displaying these strengths.

Having that important talk

Towards the end of term Year 10 students did an RSE (respect and sexuality education) update and were again

introduced to the Core of Life workshop to discuss relationships, unplanned pregnancy, contraception and consent.

These are conversations that we can't just leave until the middle teenage years. Dr Justin Coulson has online resources and advice to assist parents. He recommends to start early, for example, with babies and toddlers:

- Start small - use correct terms for the body at bath time/when getting dressed
- Practise saying words you may find uncomfortable until they are just comfortable (vagina, penis, vulva)
- Let your toddler know it's ok to say "no" to any touch that makes them feel uncomfortable

As they get older, you can:

- Model respect for personal space
- Teach body boundaries
- Encourage questions and open communication
- Help them identify trusted adults

Conversations teenage years:

- Parents get excited to talk with them - it's a privilege! Teens it is great that parents are talking with you too!
- Choose your time wisely
- Get a clear picture of current understanding of consent
- Establish what true consent actually is
- Invite them into the conversation.

This week is Respect Week and students in Years 7 & 8 listened to Chanel Contos talk about Affirmative Consent. The laws around sexual consent have changed in Victoria and there is new curriculum for the mandatory teaching of affirmative consent in Victorian Schools. There are many resources for students and parents around safety and sexual health in the Health Hub and on reputable websites online.

Health and mental health support at school

The Secondary School Nurse program is available to all secondary students and you don't need a referral. The school nurse is part of the Wellbeing Team to support student health and wellbeing. Call in to the Health Hub office for a confidential chat.

Chantel White is our school's Mental Health Practitioner. For referrals to Chantel, students can talk to members of the school Wellbeing Team or their teacher.

headspace Swan Hill provides a service to students at Wycheproof P-12 College. To link in with headspace phone (03) 4010 7100, or to make a referral <https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/swan-hill/>

Support services & helplines

- ✓ Parentline 132289
- ✓ headspace call back 1800 650 890 or eheadspace www.headspace.org.au
- ✓ Autism Connect helpline 1300 308 699 or webchat www.amaze.org.au
- ✓ Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Star Students



**WEEK
6**

**TERM
4**

4

Year 3/4
Jewels Barton
For always making a great effort

Year 5/6
Chevy Bartlett
Always putting 100% effort into her work

Prep/1/2
Archie Harrison
Attention to detail in his artwork



**WEEK
9**

Year 3/4
Riley Beattie
For being a great leader in music

Prep/1/2
Willa Lord
Excellent effort and attention to detail

Year 5/6
Chevy Bartlett
Completing work to a high standard



ROVING SHOPPING NIGHT

The annual Wycheproof Roving Shopping Night will be held on Friday, December 1. Come along for a fun night of shopping, supporting local traders and the chance to win some great prizes. Starting at 6pm - entry is \$20 per person. Bookings: 5493 7455

CHRISTMAS MOVIE & GAMES NIGHT

The Wycheproof Youth Group is hosting a fun night for children of all ages Friday, December 1. Starting at 5.45pm - 9pm (duration of Roving Shopping Night event) at the Senior Citizens room. \$15 per child. Snacks, entertainment and supervision provided. Bookings: 5493 7455.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Melbourne Grammar School Orchestra will perform at the Shire Hall on Saturday, December 9. Be taken on a classical music journey including Rachmaninov's challenging Piano Concerto No. 2 and Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite. Tickets are \$12.50 per adult and children are free. Tickets can be pre-purchased at www.trybooking.com/CMMGB

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

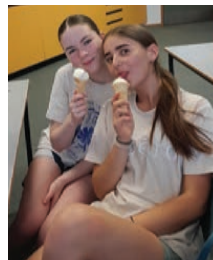
East Wimmera Health Service currently has a range of job opportunities available for secondary college students looking for work over the school holidays or considering a long-term role. Positions include: admin, maintenance, kitchen assistant and cleaner. No experience necessary. Email your resume to applications@ewhs.org.au or call 5477 2177 for more information

VICSWIM 2024

Enrolments for VICSWIM Summer Kidz Program will open soon. This low-cost program is held at the Wycheproof Swimming Pool over 4-5 days during the school holidays to teach swimming and water safety to children from 4 years of age. Find out more at vicswim.com.au

GET ACTIVE PROGRAM

Round 7 of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program is now open! The program provides financial support (up to \$200 per eligible child) to cover membership/registration fees to help get more kids involved in sport and recreation activities. Visit www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers for more info.



Year 7/8 stargazing night

The Mallee sky is typically free from cloud and on most nights we are able to celebrate what a magnificent view we have of the Milky Way. But, of course, because we wanted to see stars (on the night of Thursday, November 23), it was not possible to see one star. Not even the moon was clearly visible!

So instead we had a social evening and celebrated a great year of learning. We were able to call in on the Prep/1/2 sleepover (there was a dance party in the Multi-Purpose Room) and they all looked like they were having a great time.

We are very fortunate that usually in Nullawil and Wycheproof you can see many stars and so we will have to rely on our memories when discussing what space phenomena we typically see in the night sky in the southern hemisphere.