Wycheproof P-12 College

A State school established in 1876

03 5493 7409 Fax: 03 5493 7506
wycheproof.p12@education.vic.gov.au
www.wychep12.vic.edu.au

Newsletter 11 - December 18, 2025

STUDENTS SHINE AT 2025 PRESENTATION NIGHT

2025 Dux
Keely Allan

ALL THE AWARDS & PHOTOS INSIDE...

Principal's Award
Jewels Barton

Looking back with pride, looking forward with excitement

2025 has been a ripper year. There have been so many positives. Our children continue to shine and there is much to look forward to next year. We must thank all our staff for the energy that they bring to keeping our school calendar so full. Without their efforts our children would not have the amazing experiences that they do. We especially thank Ruchita Sharma and Kaitlin Lewis for being valued members of our school staff and we wish them all the best for the next chapter of their lives and teaching career. Ruch will be moving to Melbourne where she will continue to no doubt win favour with the staff there for her ability to teach within a wide range of curriculum areas and her impressive vegetarian dishes. Kaity will move back to Geelong and no doubt continue to further strengthen her teaching career and carve up the bowling club with her impressive bowling skills. Teaching shortages continue to be a very real issue that impacts many of our rural schools (including Wycheproof P-12 College), and having staff shortages ultimately impacts what programs can be delivered.

Next year we will be celebrating 150 years of education – our **SESQUICENTENNIAL**. We know that small communities like ours can nurture big futures for students in rural schools. We will be having several events throughout the year in recognition of this incredible achievement. Through celebrating these events, we hope to encourage our current students to understand that people from rural schools like ours, go on to achieve some incredible career highlights, interesting lives and are to be admired for the productive lives they lead. In our school, we believe anyone can achieve anything. A good education is about more than simply getting good marks. It is about becoming a positive member of society and succeeding in life. Growing up in a small rural community forces you to learn how to build respectful relationships with others, to be a little bit tough and resilient and to make the most of all opportunities that come your way.

Christine McKersie - **Principal**

Term 1, 2026
DIARY DATES

JANUARY

Tues	27	Staff return to school
Wed	28	Uniform Shop 10am - 2pm
Thurs	29	First day of Term 1 - students

FEBRUARY

Fri	6	House Swimming Sports
Wed	11	School Council Meeting
Mon	24	NCD Swimming - Boort
Tues	25	Morrisby Profiling - Yr 9

MARCH

Wed	4	School Photo Day
Thurs	5	NCD Triathlon - Boort
Mon	9	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tues	10	LMR Swimming - Swan Hill
Wed	18	Parent Teacher Interviews School Council Meeting
Wed-Fri	25-27	Yr 7/8 Queenscliff Camp

Semester 2 Reports, 2025
Will be emailed to families Friday, Dec 19

The 2025 'Bungendore' school magazine is in the process of being printed. One copy per family will be distributed when available.

2025 PRESENTATION NIGHT

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

JEWELS BARTON

Presented by
Ms Christine McKersie

SCHOOL SPORTS AWARD

JESSIE FAWCETT

Presented by Sports Coordinator Mr Chris Duffy

MUSIC AWARDS

RYDER HARRISON

LEEAH CRAWFORD

TESSA SHEAHAN

Presented by 2025 Music Captains Tessa Sheahan & Grace McKersie

VISUAL ARTS AWARD

KAYLAH CARRINGTON

LUCAS DURIE

Presented by
Art Teacher
Mrs Maretta Aurisch

WYCHEPROOF LIONS CLUB EDDIE MOLLOY SCHOLARSHIP - YR 9

ZEKE HARRISON

Presented by Anne Molloy & Club President Stephen Lang

KWONG LEE DOW AWARD (YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM)

GRACE MCKERSIE

Presented by School Council President Mr Brett Thompson

CHINESE AWARDS

ARNAV UTTOLY RANJITH

WILLA LORD

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE AWARDS

LONG TAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP & TEAMWORK

TESSA SHEAHAN & KEELY ALLAN
YR 10 YR 12

FUTURE INNOVATORS

SOPHIE BARRACLOUGH
YR 10

Presented by Mr Paul Connolly

2025 PRESENTATION NIGHT

YEAR 12

2025
ROBERT BEDGGOOD DUX OF WP-12 COLLEGE AWARD

KEELY ALLAN

Presented by School Council President Brett Thompson

YEAR 12

ENDEAVOUR AWARD

WHITNEY JONES

Presented by Wycheproof Op Shop Representative Mary-Anne Duke

YEAR 11

ACADEMIC AWARD

LIBBY THOMPSON

Presented by Principal Ms Christine McKersie on behalf of Charlton & District Bank

YEAR 11

ENDEAVOUR AWARD

JACK COWELL

Presented by Wycheproof Op Shop representative Mary-Anne Duke

Congratulations Keely Allan 2025 Dux of WP-12 College

We congratulate Keely Allan, the 2025 Dux of Wycheproof P-12 College. Keely is the only daughter of Mel Waters and Brian Allan. She aspires to study Business Professional Practice at RMIT in Melbourne.

Throughout her schooling, Keely has been an exemplary advocate for rural living and has used her voice on numerous occasions to advance the resources of young people living within our area.

In Years 10 and 11, Keely studied Business Management and Physical Education respectively. In Year 12, she completed her VCE pathway by studying English, Psychology, Accounting and General Maths. She was awarded the prestigious Kwong Lee Dow scholarship in 2023 for high achievement from the University of Melbourne.

Keely is an outstanding communicator, adept at adopting different communication styles, which allows her to successfully connect with many diverse groups.

All VCE students satisfactorily completed their VCE certificate at Wycheproof P-12 College in 2025.

Wycheproof P-12 congratulates all its amazing VCE and VCE VM students on their various successes throughout the year and wishes them all the best in the future.

2025 PRESENTATION NIGHT

P/1 ENDEAVOUR AWARD

JEM PELLEGRINO

Presented by P/1 teacher Mrs Nikki Coatsworth

YEAR 2/3/4 ENDEAVOUR AWARD

ASHTON WRIGHT

Presented by 2/3/4 teacher Miss Kaitlin Lewis

YEAR 5/6

Presented by 5/6 teacher Miss Taryn Smith

ENGLISH AWARD
JEWELS BARTON

MATHS AWARD
ARNAV UTTOLY RANJITH

ENDEAVOUR AWARD
CHARLOTTE GRECO

YEAR 7

ACADEMIC AWARD
CHEVY BARTLETT

ENDEAVOUR AWARD
DEAN BENNETT

Presented by Wendy Pollard on behalf of the Wycheproof A&P Society

YEAR 8

ACADEMIC AWARD
EVER HARRISON

ENDEAVOUR AWARD
HARRY HUMPHREYS

Presented by Secondary School Nurse Jacinta Miller

YEAR 9

ACADEMIC AWARD
MITCHELL COATSWORTH

ENDEAVOUR AWARD
JENNA HOGAN

Presented by Mr Paul Connolly on behalf of Wycheproof RSL

YEAR 10

ACADEMIC AWARD
GRACE MCKERSIE

ENDEAVOUR AWARD
LANA FAWCETT

Presented by Mayor Graeme Milne on behalf of Buloke Shire Council

Prep-6 students ready to sing 'We Wish You a Ripper Christmas'

Ms McKersie presents the Principal's Report

2025 PRESENTATION NIGHT

NUTRIEN AG AWARD

MARK AUSTIN

Presented by
NCLLEN CEO Jane Hosking

YR 10 MALLEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

LANA FAWCETT

Presented by
Jade Benham MP - Member for Mildura

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

JESSIE FAWCETT

Presented by SRC Coordinator
Miss Ruchita Sharma

VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS AWARD

LANDON O'HEA

Presented by
NCLLEN CEO Jane Hosking

THE BERNIE SEGGER EXCELLENCE IN COOKERY AWARD

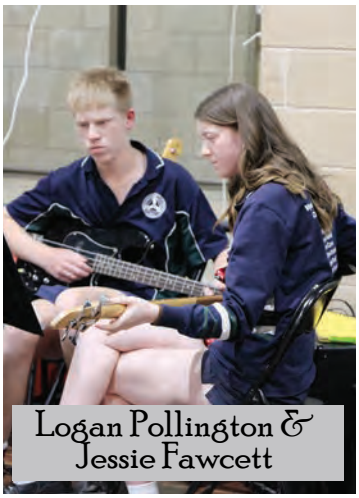
RUBY ISON

Presented by Fiona Hall, VET Cookery teacher, North Central Trade Training Centre

WORKPLACE OF THE YEAR

BULOKE SHIRE COUNCIL

Accepted by Buloke Shire Mayor Graeme Milne



Logan Pollington & Jessie Fawcett

Concert Band

Guest speaker Amara Cowell, 2024 WP-12 Dux

State School Spectacular students perform a dance

2025 School Captains
Keely Allan & Gracie Humphreys

INTRODUCING OUR 2026 PREPS

WP-12 looks forward to welcoming eight new students to the Prep/One classroom next year.
Blair Allan, Lola Durie, Tommy Turner, Paddy Thompson, Frank Brennan, Harriet Cunningham, Harriet Lord and Connor Harrison have already become familiar faces around our school, visiting regularly throughout the year as they prepare for the exciting transition from 4-year-old kindergarten to Prep. We can't wait to see them settle in and begin their big school journey with us in 2026.

Year 6 'Class of 2025'

We are incredibly proud to celebrate our graduating Year 6 students: Bella Pollington, Tory Pollington, Muhira Tony Lourdsnathan, Jewels Barton, Mason Barton, Riley Beattie, Daniel Greco and Arnav Uttoly Ranjith.
At last week's P-6 Christmas Concert, students were formally recognised with certificates and a special gift presented by Miss Smith.
To our Year 6s - congratulations! As summed up by Miss Smith, you've grown into confident, capable young people and have been an absolute joy to teach. We wish you all the best as you take your next steps into secondary school - keep being the awesome people you are!

Lions Club of Wycheproof

CHRISTMAS EVE IN CENTENARY PARK

Wednesday December 24th from 5pm

FREE
Sausage sizzle from 6pm

Santa arriving around 7.15pm

Tea, Coffee, Christmas Pudding & Custard available

Lions Christmas Stocking (sponsored by Excel Farms)
$2.00 each OR 3 for $5.00

WycheAlive christmas lights competition awards

Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year

JOIN THE BULOKE YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP!

BULOKE SHIRE COUNCIL

APPLICATIONS FOR 2026 ARE NOW OPEN!

We are looking for anyone aged 15-24 who wants to:

- Advise the Buloke Shire Council on current and emerging issues affecting young people.
- Provide a platform for young people to advocate on priorities that are important to their lives.
- Represent and promote the voice of young people in the shire.
- Shape Youth - Focused Programs/Events

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: 5PM 19TH DECEMBER 2025

MORE INFORMATION:

If you have any questions, please call or text our Youth Project Officer - Torri

0498 574 911
TTillig@buloke.vic.gov.au

REGISTER HERE!!

Paint your own SKATEBOARD DECK

27 JANUARY, 2026
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

WYCHEPROOF COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

$ 50 **AGES 10+**

5493 7455

CONTACT US

REGISTER IN ADVANCE DON'T MISS OUT!

what will you create?

The Prep/One class in costume, ready to perform

Athena & Scottie

Adeline & Sadie

Athena, Scottie & Alex

Flynn, Jayden, Adeline, Sadie & Jem

P-6 Christmas Concert

Year 2/3/4 class

Tyler and Henry

Cooper, Tex & Henry

Kayley

Year 5/6 performance

Riley

Charlotte & Leeah

Ryder

Arnav & Daniel

Mason

P-6 Christmas Concert

Year 5/6 'Battle of the Bands'

Year 5/6 'Battle of the Bands'

Edie, Essie, Ivy & Willa

Enda with Dad and Mum - Shaun & Kate

Concert band performance

ACTIVITY WEEK FUN!!!

Above: Prep-4s settle in for Zootopia 2 at the Swan Hill Cinemas.
Below: Prep-4s have a blast at the FitnessWorx incursion.

Years 5-8 pizza-making activity.
Top: Ludah & Jewels
Middle: Danny, Daniel & Ryder
Bottom: Riley & Dean

Surf's Up for Yr 9s!

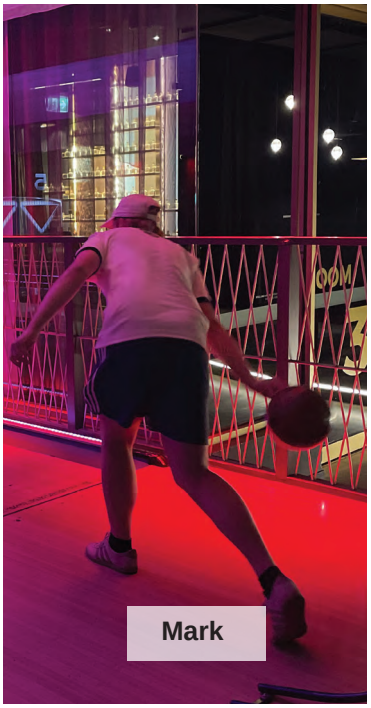
Year 9 students Harlan, Kelly, Jenna, Mitchell, Logan, Priya, Desmond, Morgan and Zeke ready for their first surf lesson on Tuesday.

The Year 9s headed off to Anglesea for the action-packed Surf Camp this week. Over three big days, students threw themselves into the adventure - catching waves during surfing lessons, tackling trails on mountain bikes, and taking on the rock climbing wall. A delicious Thai dinner was another highlight for students. Surf Camp is always a fun and exciting way to wrap up the school year!

VCE VM Melbourne excursion

Olivia, Mark, Leyland, Landon & James

James & Paddy



Mark

On Monday 10th November, the VCE Vocational Major class travelled to Melbourne on the V/Line train from Bendigo. As part of their Numeracy studies they had worked out a budget, timetable and public transport schedule for the day. The whole day went smoothly and we all had fun at ten pin bowling (Olivia and Mark the champions), arcade activities and Holey Moley mini-golf. There may have been some teachers and students snoring on the train trip home.

- Mrs Beattie

Happy holidays

As we wind up another year I would like to express the heartiest of congratulations to all graduating students. Your hard work and dedication have paid off. You have demonstrated and are now taking fundamental character traits of bravery and love of learning into your future. We also have Year 6 students transitioning to secondary school and although it seems the move is just across the library, they will find the joys and challenges including self directed learning and testing ideas very new. Best wishes to all students for a safe and happy summer holiday.

Your safety online

Just last week, the new laws around social media for those aged under 16 years came into effect. There has been a lot of discussion about these new rules and some of the reasoning behind them seems to have been lost. For most of the past 10 years across the globe research into social media and adolescents has shown many issues from mental health distress to bullying and self-harm affecting 1-in-5 teens.

Just as we have laws requiring us to wear seatbelts in cars and obey road rules, because of the high number of road deaths in the 70s, the social media law has come about because some teenager deaths have been linked to the actions of people social media platforms.

There are still many ways to enjoy being online including gaming groups and 'safer' platforms to set up chat groups among friends. There are many safe places teenagers can meet in our community. During summer there is the local pool, other places are the 'Drop in' group that meets at the Senior Citizens Centre for games, and the Wycheproof branch of the Buloke Library at the Wycheproof Community Resource Centre a great space to relax and meet friends. Why not take the chance to revitalise the Wycheproof Youth Group and get involved in planning activities.

Pen pals

The Year 2, 3 &4 class were in the kitchen last Thursday afternoon making delicious scones for the Pen Pal Morning Tea. Thank you to Miss Lewis and Trudy for organising. Some of the scones were very dainty and others were café size; but they all tasted fantastic. On Friday we welcomed pen pals Judy Noonan, Clare Keane, Len Storey and Mancel (Mick) Giddings, who are from the original group that started in 2020, and newbies Elvira Tierney and Kate Fawcett. Students were congratulated on their letter writing skills which we saw improve markedly letter after letter. Thank you to all pen pals who made this project possible.

Health Action Plans

The summer holidays are a great time to catch up on those annual jobs including updating medial advice plans for asthma, anaphylaxis or other conditions. The Education Department requires schools to have health support plans for all student with a health or medical diagnosis. Letter have been sent home. If you did not receive information, please contact the school office.

Sun Smart

Sun protection is important whenever we are outside. Remember Slip on long sleeves, Slop on sunscreen, Slap on a hat, Seek shade and Slide on sunglasses.

Wellbeing team: 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 employed by the Department of Education and is in your school 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 Wellbeing Team or their teacher.

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

Support services & helplines

- Autism Connect helpline 1300 308 699 or webchat www.amaze.org.au
- Kids Helpline 1800 551 800
- Parent Portal https://service.vic.gov.au/find-services/family-and-child click the link Parenting support Victoria

VICSWIM SUMMER KIDZ PROGRAM

VICSwim is coming to the Wycheproof Swimming Pool in January. Head to www.vicswim.com.au to enrol your child/children. Cost is $35 for 5 lessons.

MAURITA'S SWIM SCHOOL

Will be running from Monday, January 5th to Friday, January 16th at the Birchip Swimming Pool. Bookings to Carol - 0417854232.

STATIONERY OFFER - WYCHEPROOF NEWSAGENCY

Stationery lists dropped off at the Wycheproof Newsagency by December 30 — with at least half of the listed items to be supplied — will receive a 20% discount on the total value of those items. See Sue-Anne for more information.

FINGER PUPPET WORKSHOP

Wycheproof Community Resource Centre is hosting a school holiday finger puppet workshop for children aged 3 - 10 on Monday, January 19th. $15 per child.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CRAFT SESSION

Wycheproof Community Resource Centre's Friday Craft Group would like to invite all school aged children to a come and try session on Friday, January 16th at 10am. You will learn how to knit a little mouse. Call (03) 54937455 for more information.