

## **PRINCIPALS REPORT**

Term 3 has certainly been an unusual term as far as classrooms, staff work areas, sick room etc. goes. Staff and students have shown a high level of resilience and made the most of a challenging situation.

Students have completed the Healthy Minds program for 2022 and it will continue in 2023. Dr Tom Nehmy has praised our students for their positive respectful behaviour and participation and indicated they were a pleasure to work with.

Victorian government schools are required to undergo an audit of their facilities every five years to ensure they are maintained at a high level and are safe. Casterton Secondary College's last audit was in 2012, so we were well overdue.

The initial report indicates there are some areas that need attention. Specialists assessed the stumps, roofs etc. and the department will support the school with the necessary repairs.

All staff completed their CPR/First Aid theory and practical.

Students have been involved in a number of workshops, projects, participated in sporting events, and have gone on excursions linked to their learning. You will find reports in this newsletter.

### **Farewell Mr Jal Nicholl**

We farewell Mr Jal Nicholl who has accepted a position at another school which begins next term. Over the last four years Mr Nicholl has developed positive relationships with students, staff and parents. He has provided his students with quality differentiated learning, always ensuring they achieve successful outcomes and introduced interested students to debating – with some success. Good luck Mr Nicholl and best wishes for future endeavours. Thank you for your commitment and service to the school.

### **Professional Practice Day – Monday 3 October.**

On Monday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> October the school will be closed to students whilst staff are engaged in professional learning related to teaching and learning and the school's goals and future directions.

Students are not required to attend school.

## **Block A Update**

The Victorian Schools Building Authority (VSBA) is working with school and the building contractor JLG to ensure all rooms in Block A are returned to the original excellent condition they were in prior to the work undertaken.

There are a number of defects that need to be repaired, a deep clean of all rooms, heaters, air conditioners, servers, walls, windows etc. And new carpet to be laid in three rooms and a staff work area.

Once the school is satisfied with the quality of the completed works we will move back to Block A. At this stage it looks like the current arrangements will be in place for the first two weeks of Term 4. I will keep you updated.

***Again, I acknowledge our wonderful staff and students for their resilience, optimism and positive attitude during what has been and continues to be a very challenging situation.***

Thanks to staff, students, and parents/carers for your understanding and patience.

## **Active Schools Funding**

Our outdoor gym equipment has been installed and we are now waiting for the soft fall rubber to be poured, followed by the landscaping. Guidelines around the safe use of the equipment have been developed and students will be informed next term. We are also hoping to get a gym instructor to demonstrate how to use the equipment properly and safely.

## **Social Media and Cyber Bullying**

With holidays upon us it is timely to remind students and parents/carers about the dangers of social media and cyber bullying.

Cyber bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, mediums such as mobile phone text messages, emails, phone calls, internet chat rooms, instant messaging, and social networking websites such as Twitter and Facebook. Cyber bullying is a fast growing trend that experts believe is more harmful than typical schoolyard bullying. Nearly all of us can be contacted 24/7 via the internet or our mobile phones. Victims can be reached anytime and anyplace. For many children, home is no longer a refuge from the bullies. "Children can escape threats and abuse in the classroom, only to find text messages, emails and comments from the same tormentors when they arrive home. "Some of the things you can do to stop cyber bullying include:

- **Keep a record** (including time and date) - This may help you (or the police) to find out who is sending the messages.
- **Tell someone** - Talk to someone you trust, a parent, friend, school counsellor or teacher.
- **Contact your phone or internet service provider and report what is happening** - They can help you block messages or calls from certain senders.
- **If messages are threatening or serious get in touch with the police** – Cyberbullying is illegal. You don't need to put up with that!
- **Don't reply to bullying messages** - It'll only get worse if you do. By replying the bully gets what he or she wants. Often if you don't reply the bully will leave you alone.
- **Change your contact details** - Get a new user name for the internet, a new e-mail account, a new mobile phone number and only give them out to your closest friends.

- **Keep your username and passwords secret** - Keep your personal information private so it doesn't fall into the hands of someone who'll misuse it.

You can visit **eSafety** which is an Australian Government website that provides resources and practical advice to help young people and parents/carers to safely enjoy the online world. ([www.esafety.gov.au](http://www.esafety.gov.au))

Casterton Secondary College will not tolerate any form of bullying. Students involved in harassment and bullying will face serious consequences in line with the school's and Victorian Departmental policies, guidelines and processes.

### **Year 12 students**

Year 12 students have reached the "business end" of their formal schooling. It is during this time that stress levels will be high for some students, particularly when preparing for exams. It is also a stressful time for parents and families.

At this stage most of the subject material has been covered by teachers. Now it is time to revise and go back over everything they've learned. Year 12 students should have a study timetable.

Below are some helpful hints to support your child (from parenting expert Michael Grose).

#### ***Hints for parents:***

- It is time to focus, remove distractions and try maintaining a normal routine.
- For parents, now is the time to support. Help take the pressure of the child, take a step back. They are stressed, be organised and keep on top.
- If a child is behind, contact the school.
- Clear the clutter, make sure there is a study area setup -clear out a whole room if that's an option.
- Assist your child in getting organised so they're covering the right materials.
- Again, maintaining a normal routine will help take the stress off. Encourage them to continue chores around the house -make sure they eat their dinner!
- Remind them, this is not the be all and end all...to do the best they can.

Every student at the school is receiving a high level of support and are encouraged to communicate with their subject teachers via XUNO if they have questions or need help with anything they don't understand.

On behalf of staff, have a lovely holiday break with your children. Keep safe.

Meridith

## CSC FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION-WINNERS

John Webb

### Congratulations Patrick Hegarty

Now that the AFL home and away season is completed, the Casterton Secondary *College Footy Tipping Competition With A Difference* also comes to a close.

The competition generates a lot of interest in the community, and we would like to thank each of the 138 entrants for supporting the competition and our school.

Patrick Hegarty, with 139 winners was the winner finishing one clear of Peter Dishon (Dish) with Ray Murphy and John Webb (Bucks 5) in equal third place with 134 winners.

Half the total pool is distributed to the top tipsters and the remainder of the pool less expenses, goes to the College.

Patrick will receive \$483, Peter receives \$138, and Ray and John both receive \$34.50.

We would also like to thank John Donegan who spends many hours entering all the selections, and Ann Hirst who delivers the results around town each week.

## MASONIC LODGE DONATION



On Friday August 26, three Casterton members of the Glenelg Masonic Lodge presented a cheque for \$700 for the construction and installation of seating on the front lawn of the College.

Pictured are College Captains Maddy Robinson and Rhys Southern, members of the Masonic Lodge, Geoff Elmes, John Reid and Norm Russell, and Assistant Principal, John Webb.

The college greatly appreciates the generosity of the Glenelg Masonic Lodge.

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## Lake Bolac Artist, working with VCAL on Community project



*Artist Melissa Beaty, Lachlan Humphries, Kais Parsons, Rhys Southern, Ebony Mutch, Shaely Bromage-Charlton & Mathew Mark*



On Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> September our Year 11 and 12 VCAL Personal Development Skills class, travelled to Lake Bolac to visit Parupa Metal Art. Artist, Melissa Beaty, showed us how she creates sculptures, signs and other art works out of various gauges and types of metal. We worked with Melissa to discuss and design ten life size metal sculptures of native animals to place around the Ess Lagoon. Working in conjunction with Greg Burgoyne from the Glenelg Shire Council and the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, the aim of our community project is to improve tourism in our region through a focus on natural resources. We would like to

have lighting installed to make the animals visible in the evenings and produce a QR code to provide information to visitors about each of the animals. These are aspects of the project that we may continue with in term 4 and into next year.

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# SCHOOL GIRLS FOOTBALL

Joey McArlein



On the first Wednesday in August, 12 keen young footballers headed over to the annual Senior Girls Football Tournament at Pedrina Park. We had the privilege of merging with Good Shepherd College on the day due to small numbers and a fantastic solution that ended up being. Not only did the girls come out with many wins, they came out with new friendships as well. The newly amalgamated team was a force to be reckoned with, winning all games but one, with a loss to Monivae mid-way through the day. A special mention goes to Ann Hirst fulfilling the important role of team manager and Jess Rentsch (Good Shepherd) as the super coach for the day.



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# FIRST AID COURSE

Ann Hirst



The Year 11 students, some staff and community members attended a Level II First Aid course held at the College, giving all who attended a good knowledge of what to do in an emergency. The College runs the day long event every year to allow anyone who wishes to get a certificate or update a current certificate the opportunity to do so. The Course is run by First Intervention and the instructor Matt travelled up from Melbourne to conduct the course. This is a compulsory component for our year 11 students and is a valuable inclusion on the students' resumé.

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# WORK EXPERIENCE, YR10

Delma Fidler



*Abbey Munro at  
Edgarley Assisted Living*



*Jadeen Townend at  
Sacred Heart Primary School*



*Alex Hornibrook at  
Jono's Sights & Sounds*



*Paul Ferreira at  
Davidson's Engineering*



*Phoebe Carlin at  
Lauren Foster Equine Chiropractic*



After COVID interruptions in 2020 and 2021, the year ten students participated in a very successful work experience program during the week of the 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> of August. Our students had the opportunity to gain valuable insight into a wide range of work environments including equine chiropractic, building, education, hospitality, mechanics, IT, engineering, agriculture, and retail.

The college provide the opportunity for students to participate in work experience so that they can:

- develop their skills
- clarify career pathways
- gain on the job experience
- develop their interpersonal skills

This program relies on the generosity of businesses who are willing to host a student and help them to explore the ever-changing world of work. We are grateful for the time and effort the employers invest our work experience program.

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## **Future Me**

Over a three-week period, the year nine and ten students have participated in a careers program hosted by Deakin University. The students have attended sessions at Casterton Secondary College and in Hamilton at the Performing Arts Centre. Interestingly, several past students helped to present the program to our eager young participants.

The aim of the program was to help develop an understanding of the changing world of work as well as develop employability skills that will be beneficial for years to come.

During day two, in Hamilton the students from Casterton Secondary College joined with students from Mortlake. The students participated in a speed interview activity, where they interviewed volunteers from a variety of industries. The volunteers were instructed not to initiate conversations with the students, which helped encourage the students to be proactive and build their communication skills. Each interview lasted for 10 minutes, and then new groups were formed. It was the careers version of 'speed dating'.

Both Mrs Carter and myself were so impressed with the maturity and participation levels of our students and we were delighted with the feedback. One student stated in front of the entire group "today I learned I could speak in front of people and that made me proud", too.

## **Vocational Major in 2023 (VM)**

Parents / carers and year 10 students have been through a pathway and course selection process over the past month. Those students who have elected to study a VM pathway in 2023 are reminded that they should be working towards securing a placement for next year. All students have updated their resumes. However, this document should be continually updated, in order to provide prospective placement hosts and employers with an accurate account of the student's study, achievements, interests and attributes.

There are two main types of placements for students studying VM.

## **School Based Apprenticeship and Training (SBAT)**

A SBAT offers students the option of combining part-time employment, school and training. The program runs under a contract with an employer and has a training plan registered with the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority. The training must lead to a nationally recognised qualification.

Students either:

- Attend their work placement two days a week and block training at a TAFE as scheduled by their provider.  
OR
- attend their course once a week and work in their placement once a week

## **Structured Work Place Learning (SWPL)**

A SWPL provides students with the opportunity to integrate on-the-job experience with secondary school study. Students undertake a course with an accredited registered training organisation (RTO) one day a week and attend a work placement one day a week.

Both options provide students with the opportunity to:

- enhance skill development
- apply practical industry knowledge

- undertake assessments related to units of competency
- enhance employment opportunities

Students in year 11 should be proactive and be securing a placement for 2023. This may be in the same workplace as this year or in a new workplace.

There is paperwork associated with both SWPL and SBAT placements. Therefore, it is important to be actively speaking to potential employers.

## **VCE**

### Key Dates

<b>Course applications</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
Timely applications	1 August (9am)	29 September (5pm)
Late applications	29 September (5.15pm)	4 November (5pm)
Very late applications	4 November (5.15pm)	2 December (5pm)
January applications	4 January 2023 (10am)	17 January 2023 (5pm)

<b>Special Entry Access Schemes (SEAS) And Scholarships</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
SEAS applications and supporting documentation	1 August (9am)	7 October (5pm)

<https://www.satac.edu.au/satac-key-dates>

<https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/tisc-calendar-current.tisc>



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## PLANT ENTERPRISE, Yr 11 & 12 Agriculture & Horticulture

*Annalee McKinnon*

Students from Year 11 and 12 Agricultural and Horticultural studies have been working on their Plant/Fungi enterprises. Students are required to plan and implement an enterprise that will run over the semester. As part of the enterprise students need to determine growing requirements of the plant chosen, plan and implement a production timeline, identify potential threats, develop opportunities for marketing and selling produce.

Sophie and Marissa have chosen to grow Microgreens. Ebony and Ebany are growing button mushrooms and hope to grow oyster mushrooms next semester. Amber, Ashley and Ivy are growing and drying herbs, including make different herb mixes and rubs. Selena and Ella are also growing herbs but for scented bags. The enterprises are well under way and will be in full swing the start of next term.



*Ashley Hornibrook, Amber Spratling & Ivy Stewart*

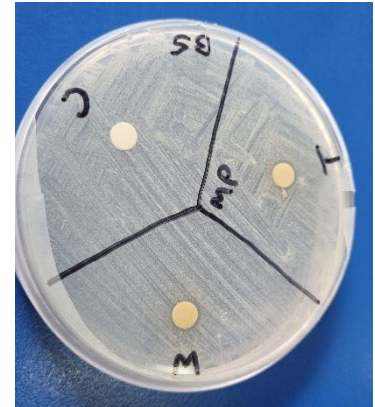
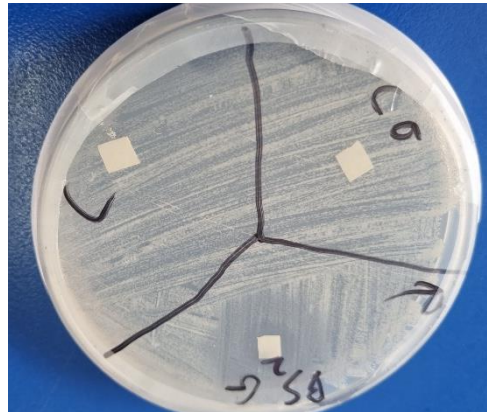
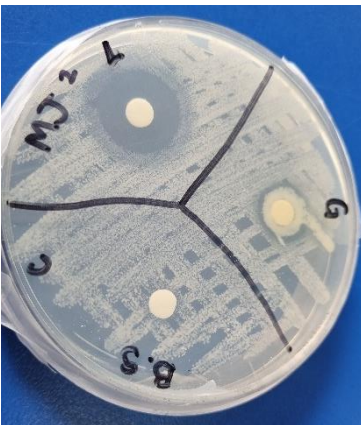
## VCE BIOLOGY

Brett VanAs

In Science Y12 students in Biology and Chemistry have been doing the SAC's of their final outcome, a student designed investigation.

In Chemistry, Arpita is pictured investigating whether a calibration factor can be used in an open system to calculate the energy value of foods.

Our Biology students chose to investigate the anti-biotic properties of food stuffs commonly believed to have medicinal benefits. They are pictured preparing an extract of their item and swabbing agar plates with bacterial cultures ready to insert the extract.



## QUICK BITES



Students farewell Teacher, Mr Jal Nicholl on his last day at school.



Students got the opportunity to get their teeth checked with the School Dental Van.

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## Year 11 Subject Information Expo

Jo McKenzie



The year 10 students participated in a subject expo for their 2023 classes. The students were presented with a snapshot of twenty subjects by the respective teachers. Some included Physics, Psychology, Agriculture & Horticulture, Literature, Health and Human Development and Mathematics. The students then did their course selections for their preferences. The subject expo has then been followed with individual student meetings with their guardians, Renae Newell the Senior Years Leader, and John Webb the Assistant Principal. This meeting focuses on the student's goals and an individualised pathway through the senior school to achieve their goals.

## Grade 6 Partnership Day

Carina Barton

After many attempts at scheduling our partnership days, due to what has been a difficult few years for us all, we were finally able to welcome grade six students to our school on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of September. Students from Casterton Primary School, Sacred Heart Primary School, Coleraine Primary School, St Joseph's School and Hawkesdale P-12 School, were involved in a variety of classes including Science, English, Maths, Physical Education, Art, and Woodwork. Thank-you to all the participating schools for continuing to support us. We know from the positive feedback we receive, that the students enjoy discovering what Casterton Secondary College can provide for their further education. Thanks to the staff and the Casterton Secondary College students who helped to make the day such a success, and of course a big thank-you to all the grade 6 students for their boundless enthusiasm.

Our grade 5 day is scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup>, State-wide orientation day for December 13<sup>th</sup> and grade 4 day on December 14<sup>th</sup>



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# SHOOTING NEWS

Joey McArlein

## NOORAT SHOOT

A group of keen clay target shooters headed to Noorat Gun Club to compete. A great day was had, even with the cold and windy conditions. Although the students didn't come home with any medals, they showed off their shooting skills in competition consistently. The most successful shooter on the leader board was Dylan Munro, placing 4<sup>th</sup> overall in the Senior Boys age group. A massive thanks goes to Warren Lindner for his pointers in clay target shooting and transportation of the guns. This is an important job as without it, no shoots would be possible.



*Kaleb Sneddon, Myles Black, Jack Wombwell, Jedd Rhook & Blake Kurzman*

## HAMILTON SHOOT



Well done to Amber Spratling on her performance as our sole student to represent CSC at the GD Senior Shoot in Hamilton the past Monday. Amber did our school proud, coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in her division. She shot 12/25 and 11/25 to finish with a great performance of 23/50 for the day. Well done again Amber!

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## COMMUNITY NOTICES

Entry by gold  
coin donation



Afternoon tea provided



Featuring Guest Artists



Prize hamper raffle



The Casterton Vice-Regal Band presents  
“Keeping the Beat”

Sunday September 18th, 2 pm, Casterton Town Hall.

Sponsored by



### FREE FOR KIDS 14-18

- Open: 3:30pm- 5pm every Wednesday
- Supervised
- Firstly, they require an assessment with a PT which is \$70 (Parents must attend the assessment if the child is under 16)

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October 16-22, 2022

## YOUNG CARERS

A Young Carer is someone aged 25 or under who provides care for a family member affected by disability, chronic or mental illness, addiction, or frail age.

Did you know?

- It's estimated that 1 in 10 young people in Australia are carers
- There are approximately 2 to 3 Young Carers in every Australian classroom.

Are you a young carer?

- Do you have a family member with an illness, disability, or addiction?
- Do you rarely get time to do things that you enjoy (like hang out with your friends) because you're helping out at home?

In celebration of **Carer's Week 2022**, Carer Connect and Barwon Health Carer Support are offering young carers the opportunity to see a movie of their choice for free.

To register please contact Barwon Health Carer Support on 4215 7600 or email [cs.events@barwonhealth.org.au](mailto:cs.events@barwonhealth.org.au) – quote "Carers Week- young carer" and include full name and phone number in the email.

