

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Staff are delighted that students have returned to on-site learning!

The consensus is that the return has been seamless and that students have eagerly re-engaged with face-to-face learning.

I congratulate our students for the mature approach they have taken.

Year 12 VCAL/VCE Students

Most of Year 12 VCAL students have completed their required work and have signed out. We wish them all the best with their individual pathways.

Year 12 VCE students are preparing for final exams which commence on the 10 November.

Staff of Casterton Secondary College have watched, with pride, our Year 12 students grow from tentative Year 7 students to the confident, resilient, courageous young adults they are today. We congratulate them for the strength that they have shown throughout a very challenging 2020 and wish them all the best in the coming years.

I have again included some helpful hints for students and parents/carers.

Hints for students who will be sitting exams:

1. Organise your time

This is crucial: you cannot leave your revision to the day before the exam. This is for two reasons: first, there is just too much material to cover. Second, it is not just memorisation that is required but understanding of subjects. It is important in exams that you show your understanding of the subject material: do not just regurgitate information.

In addition, good preparation can help to reduce stress.

- Make a study schedule now so that you have enough time to revise each subject.
- Make sure your schedule covers all topics and, if possible, allows extra time for difficult subjects.
- Be as detailed as possible: write down the course section or topic rather than the whole subject.
- Set yourself a target topic for each revision session.
- Keep a revision checklist so that you are clear about what you've done, and what you still must do.

2. Organise your materials

- Collect all the material you need to review texts, class notes, reading notes, handouts, and all the completed assessment tasks.
- Identify key topics and ideas from course outlines; assignment topics; readings and questions; practical exercises; and textbooks. Which topics have been emphasised and repeated? These are more likely to be in the exam.
- Before you start your revision for exams draw a concept map showing the key ideas of topics and the relationships between them.

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 off the child, take a step back. This is a stressful time for your child, be organised and keep on top.
- Assist your child in being organised so they are covering the right materials.
- 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 is an option.
- 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.

Communication

At Casterton Secondary College we believe parents/carers are partners in the education of children. Regular two-way communication between parents/carers and school is essential in helping young people achieve their potential.

School staff continue to work hard to promote positive and successful learning environments for students and staff.

It is pleasing that many parents/carers choose to contact the school when they require clarification. These conversations promote the parent/student/ teacher relationship as a useful tool in the student's educational journey.

Details, policy, processes and servicing by the appropriate people are key factors in clearing up any uncertainty and the conversations between home and school are valued.

If something involving your child occurs outside school hours you are asked to contact the police or other services that relate to the incident. I ask that you respect the privacy of school staff by not going to their homes.

The school will deal with matters that occur at school, during school hours, and will continue to provide students with learning related to their safety and wellbeing, including strategies for online/social media safety.

Stay well and keep safe.

Meridith

CSC - WINE WINS GOLD IN 2020

Rob Walker

Casterton Secondary College has achieved a major coup by winning the Best Wine in Show award at the National School Wine Competition recently conducted at the Royal Adelaide Wine Show.

Our exhibit, a 2019 Coonawarra Shiraz picked from Wynns Estate, was judged the best red wine in the competition. This is a particularly noteworthy result, as our competition came from schools and colleges from some of Australia's best known wine regions, including the Barossa Valley and Clare Valley in South Australia. The applied science wine program at Casterton was introduced to encourage students to develop an interest in the chemistry concepts utilised in making wine, such that they would continue with this subject in senior school. We have progressed a long way from hand squeezing a few buckets of grapes and fermenting the juice in four flagons to crafting a top of the show Coonawarra Shiraz. From rudimentary tasting of the juice to careful technical analysis, we have come a long way in a few years. A big thank you to staff members who have been involved in the program.



Meridith Walker, Jake Balzan and Rob Walker, with the gold medal and the winning wine in front

CSC FOOTY TIPPING RESULTS

John Webb

Congratulations Joey McArlein

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.

It certainly was a competition "With a Difference" this year.

Even though the selections were randomly selected by computer this year, the competition still generated a lot of interest in the community and we would like to thank each of the 132 entrants for supporting the competition and our school.

Joey McArlein, with 94 winners finished two clear of Mary Anne Allen and Casterton Central in equal 2nd place with 92 winners.

Half the total pool is distributed to the top tipsters and the remainder of the pool less expenses, goes to the College. Joey will receive 1st prize of \$462 and Mary Anne and Casterton Central each receive \$99. We would also like to thank John Donegan who, with each release of the updated fixture, generated the random computer selections, and Ann Hirst who delivered the results around town each week.

J. Webb



Meridith Walker & John Webb congratulating Joey McArlein

Parent Opinion Survey 2020

WE WANT OUR PARENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our school. The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst all parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All parents have been invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. The Parent Opinion Survey will be open until **Friday 13th November**.

The survey conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. Parents /caregivers have been invited to participate in the survey. The invitation to participate in the survey has been provided with login details on XUNO. These invitations were uploaded onto XUNO in the week beginning October 12. *If you do not have access to an internet enabled device (iPad, Desktop or Laptop, Smartphone), you may contact the school to arrange the use of our equipment.* All responses to the survey are anonymous.

The survey results will be communicated to our school community through our newsletter, XUNO and annual report

Should you have any technical queries regarding the Parent Opinion Survey, please do not hesitate to contact ORIMA Research on 1800 654 585 (toll free), or by email: pos@orima.com

Should you have any participation or survey-related queries, please contact me at the School, or the Department by email: parentopinion.survey@edumail.vic.gov.au

J Webb

AMAZING PE RACE RESULTS

Joey McArlein

Amazing PE Race Concludes: Congratulations Year 9s!

Casterton Secondary College has now concluded the Amazing PE Race.

This race was tight all the way through up until the last leg when the victors tore away from their competition!

The Year 10s came in 5th place with a total of 2,042kms

The Year 8s were followed with an overall of 2,592kms

Next in 3rd were the Staff with their total of 2,885kms

By a whisker in front of the Staff was the Year 7 class on a total of 2,915kms

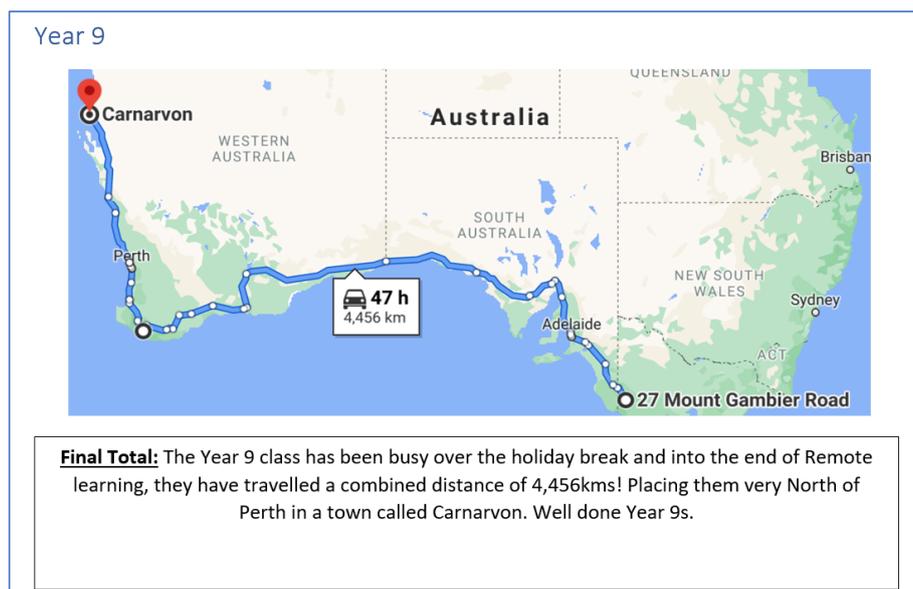
Coming in 1st place was the Year 9 class with a whopping 4,456kms!

Congratulations Year 9s!

Overall, as a school our combined score was a mammoth 14,890kms! This allowed us to achieve our goal of making it around Australia!

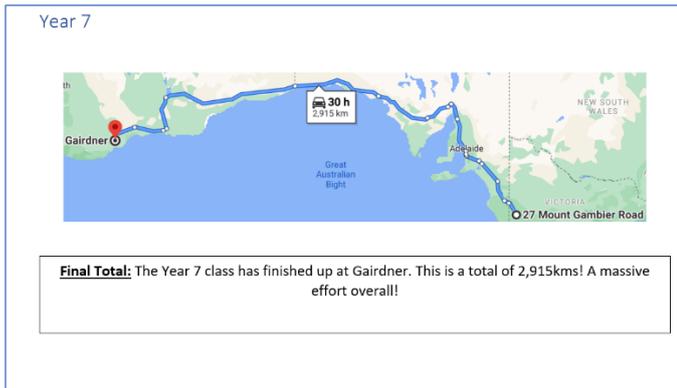
Well done to all Students and Staff in logging their minutes! This was a great motivator for us all to keep regularly active throughout times that can make that motivation difficult to find!

YEAR 9



AMAZING PE RACE RESULTS

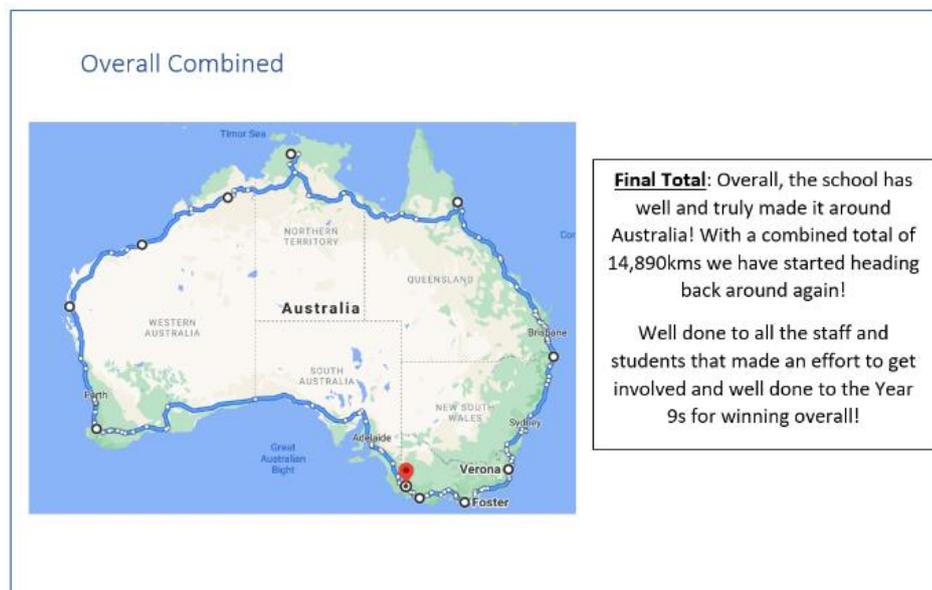
Year 7



Year 8



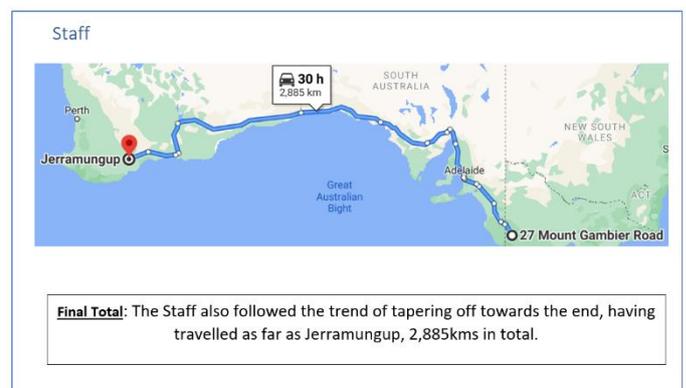
OVERALL COMBINED TOTAL



Year 10



STAFF



FOOD TECH Year 8

Sally French

It was great to have the Year 8 and 9s back in the CSC kitchen this week. After so many weeks at home, the students were keen as mustard to roll up their sleeves, don an apron and get sautéing. This term the Year 8s are looking at nutritious meals. The zucchini beef burgers they created this week incorporated vegetables into the burger patties and were served with salad. The Year 9s served up a delicious fried rice that also had lots of vegetables included in the recipe.

All Year 8 and 9 students are reminded to please bring an apron and container on prac days.



Zoe Betinsky & Selena Black



Sid Herbert & Jesse Luers



ART, Year 12

Faith Roper

Congratulations to Madi Mutch for completing her Studio Arts portraiture artworks. Madi used the art elements and principles to represent and evoke emotional responses to her portraits. She was influenced by the tragic loss of Kobe Bryant and by the modern portraiture palette knife technique.

Congratulations to Will Stewart for completing his investigations into landscape painting. He was inspired by the artwork of Tom Roberts and Tasmanian panoramic views. Will focussed on developing skills with various textures and art tools to represent the natural environment.



Madi Mutch

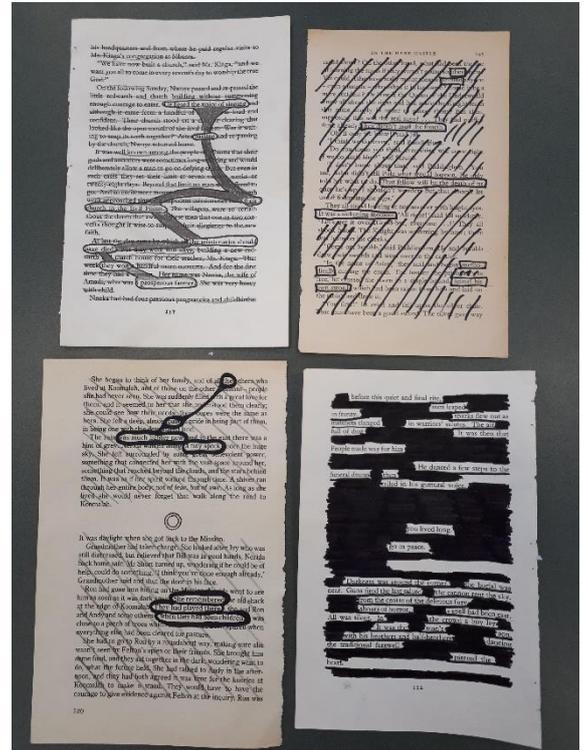
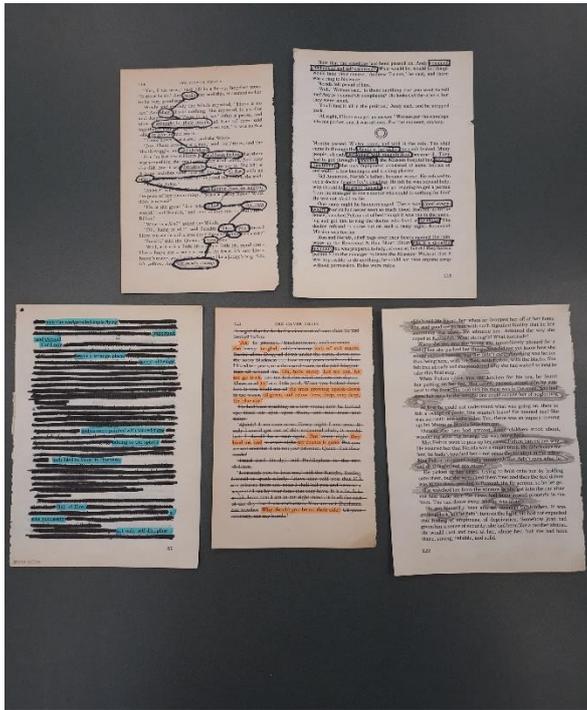


Will Stewart

ENGLISH, Year 9

Sally French

The Year 9s have tried out a different kind of creative writing this week, redacted poetry. Our resident poets used pages from old novels to select words to use in their poems.



CAREERS NEWS-Year 10

Delma Fidler

Just a reminder to parents/guardians of current year 10 students who have elected to study a VCAL pathway in 2021, the process of securing a placement should be well underway. Once an employer agrees to host a student, the paperwork can commence. Mrs Fidler is happy to discuss placements with employers and parents/guardians if clarification is required.

YEAR 12s

Renae Newell

The year is coming to an end for our Year 12's. What a year we have all had, but what a tough year to be studying Year 12. We are very proud of these students and the resilience they have shown. They have grown as young adults and I know they will face any challenge put forward to them. Their journey now is coming to an end at Casterton Secondary College, but I know a new chapter is opening to these students and I hope they grasp it tightly, make good choices and enjoy every moment. I wish all of them good luck and best wishes on their exams and future endeavours.

BOOKWEEK AT CSC

Delma Fidler

The week of the 17th - 23rd of October is book week. Every year a theme accompanies the event. This year the Children's Book Council of Australia 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds' as their theme. Consequently, the Resource Centre has been into a habitat that hosts a colourful bookworm through the rafters. Thanks to Mr Rathmell's laser cutter, dragons adorn the front desk as 'Dragons in Literature' display which features on the Jabberwocky and Toothless and all the between.

Students from years 7-10 participate in the project program every morning. During the their writing prompts have incorporated the book-week. Year 7 and 8 students wrote on themes that were about curious creatures and the yr. 9 and 10 student's prompts were based around wild minds. These writing tasks will be on display in the Resource Centre and a judging panel will award prizes, the prize-winners will be included in the next newsletter. Furthermore, Mr Rathmell's year 7 IT students have also been working on illustrating a front cover of a curious creature book and are in the process of producing some very creative pieces of work. These will also feature in the display, as will student's crafty critters that are scheduled to be made during the next week or two.



decided on transformed sprawling skill on our part of a information dragons in writing past week, themes of



for this year's CBCA young adult readers on display and encourage our students check them out and take a book home.

Just a reminder that we have introduced a self-circulation process in the Resource Centre. Students can borrow a book using their new ID card. However, this process will not work if the student has any overdue books. Prior to our next book audit, we are encouraging both parents/guardians and students to look to see if they have any overdue books at home.

We must not forget the importance of celebrating book week and its prime objective of encouraging people to read and enjoy the process of being immersed in a book. We have the shortlisted novels



SCIENCE, Year 10

Brett Van As

In Science, Year 10 students have been studying Physics and more specifically Energy. Here they are pictured investigating the relationship between elastic potential energy as it transforms into kinetic energy. Students were able to identify the independent variable as the distance the rubber band was stretched and the dependent variable as the distance the rubber band travelled. Each trial was repeated 3 times, averages were calculated and then results graphed.



Clockwise from top left-Shaely & Ivy, Kais & Ashley, and Will

BAA of Soap Great gift idea for Christmas

Annalee McKinnon

The year 11 BAA of Soap students are back into soap production mode. Remember Christmas is just around the corner. Pop up to the front office to have a smell of the soap on offer. Currently, we have Black Raspberry and Vanilla, Rose Petals, Pure Musk, Pomegranate, Coconut and Mango, Watermelon and Lemonade. By Thursday we will also have Lavender, Orange and Peach and Banana-Rama.

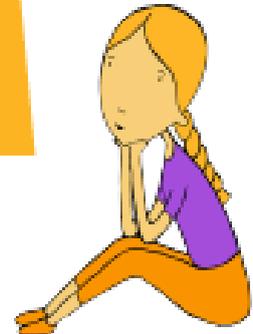


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Sexting



For people under 18, non-consensual sexting is illegal and penalties can be very serious.

What is 'sexting'?

'Sexting', commonly known amongst young people as sharing a nude or a naked selfie, is the sharing of a sexually explicit picture or video via mobile phones, instant messaging apps, and/or social media sites. With modern technology this can be done instantly, but it can have serious and lasting consequences.

What are the possible social consequences of 'sexting'?

Once digital images are sent, they are no longer private and you have lost control of them. You can't get them back. They can resurface again when least expected. They can be published and found by anyone, including friends, family members, complete strangers, and sexual predators. Images can be used to exploit, bully and harass individuals and they can also be used as a form of blackmail known as 'sexortion.'

What are the possible legal consequences of 'sexting'?

A naked or sexually explicit picture or video of a person under the age of 18 years is by legal definition child exploitation material and the making, transmission and possession of such images can result in serious criminal charges.

To ensure that young people under the age of 18 years who engage in consensual 'sexting' are not treated at law the same way as a child sex offender, there have been amendments to the law in Victoria to protect young people from criminal charges in certain circumstances. These are:

1. There is no threat, fear, coercion, threat to share or sharing of the image.
2. Not more than two years age difference between the teens.
3. No adult involved.
4. No other criminal act is depicted in the image.

If these four things are present, it means that police can use an educative response rather than the criminal justice system.

Once a person turns 18, the exceptions listed above no longer apply, even if the person obtained the image when they were under 18 years of age. Penalties for the making, possessing and/or transmission of child exploitation material are very serious and can result in imprisonment and registration on the sex offenders register.

There are also two other offences related to this behavior: Distribute an Intimate Image and Threaten to Distribute an Intimate Image. These offences are applicable to everyone, not just young people. This is where an Intimate Image is shared or threatened to be shared without the consent of the person depicted in the image.

Sexting

What are the reasons for 'sexting'?

Young people are naturally curious and interested in exploring sexuality. They are also exposed to a wide range of sexual imagery in songs, video clips, movies, advertising and online. This can normalise the behaviour and promote the idea that sexual behaviour has no repercussions and many young people see it as a normal part of the flirting and dating process. We are now seeing this behaviour occur in primary schools. Unfortunately the reality is more complicated and young people often only become aware of this after the event.

In Australia we know that 1 in 3 young people aged 14 – 17 years have had some experience with sexting. Teens were also three times more likely to be asked for a nude than to actually send one. Over half of all these requests to send a nude came from someone the child/teen did not know in real life.

Talk with your child

Regularly talk with your children about their experiences. Ask them what they have seen or done, and if they have had any problems.

Reinforce that nothing is so bad that they can't talk to you about it. Ensure them they know they can tell you when they have any problems, if they see something that they know is wrong, or anything that upsets them. Let them know they can tell you about a friend's behaviour.

Children often fear telling a parent an issue as they think this will result in their technology being confiscated. Don't threaten to disconnect your child—this will only lead them to hide problems from you.

What do I do if I find explicit images of my child?

- Take a deep breath and try to remain calm.
- Find a quiet place and talk to them about your concerns and allow them time to respond.
- Ascertain what has happened and who else may be involved. Who were the images sent to? Where are the images now? Who may have them? Were they pressured to send the pics?
- If posted to a social media site, report the images to the site for removal.
- Consider a report to the eSafety Commissioner via the Image Based Abuse Portal www.esafety.gov.au
- Make an appointment to speak to someone at your child's school such as a counsellor, teacher, or principal, and let them know what has occurred.
- Be aware that in some instances, police may need to be involved and schools have certain obligations in relation to the reporting of incidents. Please don't withhold information from the school because you are concerned about police involvement. Police are very well placed to deal with these issues and have tools to minimise the impact.
- If you believe that the 'sexting' is a result of your child being the victim of an online sexual predator rather than adolescent naivety, notify the police immediately.

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U/12S AND
U/14S

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ANY QUESTIONS VIA THE
FACEBOOK PAGE