



Kurnai College
PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Morwell Newsletter

Friday 8th May, 2020

KEY DATES

26 Jun END OF TERM 2

13 Jul TERM 3 BEGINS



Michelle Reid
Campus Principal

Message from our Campus Principal

REMOTE LEARNING

As the fourth week of remote learning draws to a close, I would like to pay tribute to all the families who are supporting their students to complete on-line lessons, even though they themselves are struggling to balance working from home or other impacts on their lives at this difficult time. We appreciate the efforts you are making to help us support your children.

I was interested to read the views of Professor John Hattie, an esteemed educator whose work has shaped many of the improvement strategies at Kurnai College, on the impacts of distance learning in Victoria.

While he has not directly studied the impact of extended school closures, he makes the very important point that schools in Australia and America have MUCH longer school days than some other countries. Taking a term (about 10 weeks) out of an Australian school year still gives students more face to face time than students in countries like Finland, Korea and Sweden, all of which outscore Australia in literacy and numeracy tests.

BUILDING UPDATE

While so many other things are grinding to a halt, it is pleasing to see our building project proceeding well. The last of the old classrooms in the courtyard are now gone, the new library has been surveyed, and earth works have started ready for in-ground plumbing to be installed. In the next couple of weeks, we are expecting the slab to be laid and steel starting to be put up.

College Principal
Anthony Rodaughan

Campus Principal
Michelle Reid—Metcalf

School Hours: 8:25am - 2:50pm
Students are supervised from 8:10am - 3:00pm

Morwell Campus

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**Attendance
Hotline**

5132 3711

Year 7 & 8 News

YEAR 7 & 8

We continue to be really proud of the efforts going on at home by our Year 7 and 8's in engaging with their online learning. An area to note though, is that students seem reluctant to send through simple questions to teachers. Think about the classroom – students ask questions all the time; all the little bits of misunderstanding get ironed out that way. It's important that students feel they can do the same thing remotely. Our staff are available through Microsoft Teams chat and calls, and they're available to respond to emails as well. If you don't get a reply and you're concerned it has been missed, you can always contact us for follow up.



TECH SCHOOL VIRTUAL EXCURSION

A number of students took up the opportunity to be involved in a virtual program with the Tech School last week to support the Science curriculum. The Tech School in Morwell is a fantastic resource that we love being involved in. They create engaging programs using high tech equipment that our students may not normally have access to. It is very much appreciated that they have taken the opportunity to create a remote program to offer to our students. Keep an eye out for any more opportunities like this that may arise.

CAMPS

With Year 7 camp now definitely cancelled (refunds for money paid have been allocated to family's accounts), we are looking at opportunities when remote learning is all over. For many years, we ran the Winter Sleepout with Year 7 students but have not done so in the last three or four years. We will be looking to resurrect this event in Term 3 in our new facilities for Year 7 and 8 students. Keep an eye out for more details.

Our Year 8 camp is still planned to go ahead later in the year. This will be a great opportunity for engagement with the outdoors after months of being cooped up inside. More details to come!



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Year 9 News

AROUND THE SCREENS...

This time around, we have focussed on some of the great video diaries students have been completing for photography and project time. Nice composition Izabelle Michelsson and great lockdown humour Kayla Provan!



Kellie Asmussen
Year 9 Team Leader
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WELCOME TO WEEK 4 AND 5!

Gee whiz, how time flies! Week 4 already! It has been great to see over 85 per cent of students in Year 9 engaged in some form of remote learning and also pleasing is the engagement from those who struggle to get to school regularly for various reasons. As we continue to iron out a few IT issues, those who have had trouble either with technology or getting online are gradually increasing the percentage of students engaged with online learning and this is certainly remarkable in the face of such adversity!

IS THIS ONLINE LEARNING REAL LEARNING?

There are some out there who may question whether the tasks that are being assigned to students are at all relevant to what they would normally be learning if they are at school. A considerable amount of time has been devoted to making sure of this. Therefore, what your child is learning now is what your child would be learning if they were in a traditional setting. It is simply the same topic, delivered slightly differently. Therefore, when we return, we will continue on with this learning. So if we return close to the assessment week, the assessment will be based on our online learning. Please communicate this to your child if they are not getting all their online learning tasks completed so when they return, they return confident with the knowledge they have gained while away.

VIRTUAL CAREERS EXPO

Replacing the Careers Expo this year is a Virtual Careers Expo. The online sites give students information about what to expect after secondary schooling and all Year 9 students should be exploring as many careers as possible. They should be aware of what is out there so they can make more informed decisions about their career path when they start to think about commencing Year 10.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance – stay online!

Remember that attendance and engagement with remote learning is as important as attendance and engagement at school. If your child is ill, please continue to use the absence hotline so all staff who teach your child can modify work accordingly to avoid overwhelming them when they return.



Year 10 News

We have survived three weeks of remote learning on-line. Thank you to all the students and parents who have taken up working on-line on Compass and on Microsoft Teams. Please try to read your e-mails a.s.a.p. as teachers are contacting students and parents on a regular basis to keep them informed. Also, please have all students check the calendar in Teams to check for teacher meetings as some teachers are running some classes in these meeting times when the students would normally have that class on their time-table. Thanks so much to all the parents for their support over the past weeks. A few more students have picked up computers from school and are now engaged in their learning. Keep up the great work, WE will get there together.

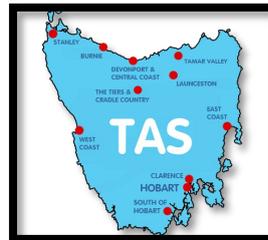
WORK EXPERIENCE

There have been 8 students out on Work Experience over the past two weeks. Two Year 10 students will be out this week on Work Experience. Work Experience for the rest of the Year 10 cohort has been re-scheduled to take place in the last two weeks of Term 3. Great work!



TASMANIA CAMP (7 – 11 September 2020)

This year our Year 10 students will have the opportunity to go to Tasmania in the second last week of Term 3. Please get your deposits into the general office to secure your place on camp. The trip includes travelling over by plane and coming back on the Spirit of Tasmania. We hope this will still go ahead!



ATTENDANCE

With running school on-line, attendance will be covered by the engagement of the students in their on-line class-work i.e. having Learning Tasks completed and up-loaded for teachers to check their progress and engagement.

REMINDERS

- Students will require a device and access to the Internet (please contact us if you need some support).
- Students need to be on-line at 8:35 am please.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Year 10 students please don't hesitate to e-mail us or phone on 51650600

tangi.sheryl.a@edumail.vic.gov.au



Sheryl Tangi
Year 10 Team Leader
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THE YEAR 10 TEAM



Froso Pizzi



Emma Hudson



Angela Thomas



Megan Schwarzenberg



Michelle Reid-Metcalf



CSEF

Due to COVID-19, you may now be eligible for Camps Sports Excursion Fund (CSEF). To be eligible you must be one of the following:

1. a parent/carer (of the relevant student) who is:

- on the first day of term one or the first day of term two an eligible beneficiary of either a Centrelink Health Care Card or a Pensioner Concession Card; or
- an eligible beneficiary of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card; or

2. a temporary foster carer; or

3. the parent/carer of a student who is 16 years or older and who holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card or Disability Support Pension Card).

The parent/carer must submit an application to the school prior to the end of Term 2.

Provided the above conditions are satisfied, the amount payable is:

- \$225 for secondary school students.

If you have already applied for this earlier, you do not need to do anything as you have already received your CSEF; however for those that may now be eligible please contact the school to get your application form in or use the link below before the end of Term 2.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/CSEF-Application-Form-2020.pdf>

COLLEGE UPGRADES

The Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) has recently approved funding for maintenance at our school. These works areas follows:

All Campuses

Gas Upgrade

All Campuses

Electrical Residual Current Devices Upgrade

Churchill Campus

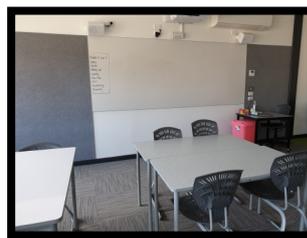
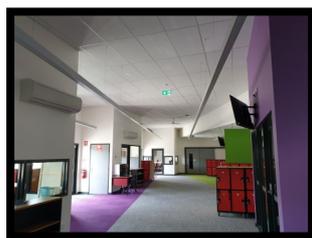
New Fire Service (old service to be made redundant)

We believe these works will be completed by end of Term 2.

Morwell Campus looks a little different now with the demolition of the old B Block.

The new library ground works have commenced with plumbing services currently underway. This project was awarded to Farnham Developments in Warragul who also completed the previous recent works on the Performance Art, Year 9/10, Science and Year 7/8 buildings.

We have a number of ex-students currently working onsite from time to time with various sub-contractors. The new library should be completed by the end of the year.





Latrobe City Council COVID Helpline

Do you have questions about what local support is available to you during COVID-19? Are you caring for someone who needs help? We can help you connect with supports and better understand what is available in our community.

Coronavirus has put additional pressure on individuals and communities and many businesses and organisations are operating differently. We want to hear how you can best be supported during this time and into the future as we work through the challenges. We want to help build a stronger resilient community.

Phone 1300 367 700 and choose option 2, or send us an email COVID19Helpline@latrobe.vic.gov.au

You can leave us a message and we can call you at a time that suits you best.



If you need an interpreter, call TIS National on 131 450 and ask for Latrobe City Council.

For specific advice on Coronavirus and Government information call the National Helpline on 1800 020 080. The line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.