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# University Campus Newsletter

Issue 5 · 31 Jul 2023

*Work Ethic | Excellence | Relationships | Engagement*

***Kurnai College acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Land on which we live and work, of the Braiakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.***

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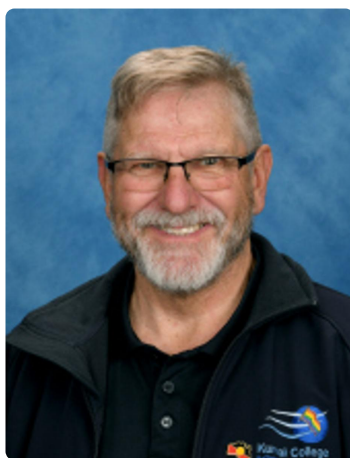
College News



Community News



# Message from our Campus Principal



## Term 3

This newsletter is particularly important if you are a parent of a student in Year 12. Here we are in July and the end of the year still seems like a long way away. But if you are a Year 12 student, either VCE or VCE/VM, you only have 9½ weeks of regular classes (and 10½ before exams start for VCE students).

These 9½ weeks are a particularly hectic time for all students doing Year 12 subjects and it is for this reason that we set up an early Year 12 Parent/Teacher Conversation evening. This will be happening next Thursday, 3rd August, from 3:30 to 7:00 pm at the University Campus. You can now go onto Compass and book times to meet with the relevant teachers.

At these meetings you will be able to get a clearer understanding of the things that your student needs to do so they are best prepared to successfully complete Year 12. Even more importantly, you can help ensure they have all the blocks in place so they are set up to take the next step in their journey. Year 12 is an end but it definitely isn't THE END. There will be lots more to come and Kurnai College is always willing to support students and their families, now and in the future.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday evening.

On Wednesday, 9th August there will be school tours and information sessions for Year 10 students and their parents. Tours will start at 5:00 pm with the information session starting at 6:00 pm. This is an opportunity to have a look at the physical resources at the University Campus, get an understanding of the different education programs running here, and more detailed information about the subjects that will be offered next year. If you have family or friends who are looking at their education options in 2024 please make them aware of the University Campus Information Night.

Finally, congratulations to Paris Ladas and her Theatre Studies students for their outstanding performance of “She Kills Monsters”, presented at the Little Theatre in Traralgon a few Fridays ago. I found out on the following Monday about all the Traralgon support crew who had pulled out at the last minute and the incredible lengths that cast and crew had to go through to get the play onto the stage. Watching the performance I had no idea there were any issues. Well done!!!

**Geoff Block**  
University Campus Principal



# Calendar of Events

## Key Dates

Term 3	
Fri 28 Jul	Senior Formal Masquerade Ball
Wed 2 Aug	VET Sport & Rec Pool Lifeguard Course
Thu 3 Aug	Year 12 Parent Teacher Conversations
Wed 9 Aug	2024 Year 11 & 12 Parent Information Evening
Thu 10 Aug	Sport & Recreation MCG Tour
Mon 4 Sep	Student Free Day
Fri 15 Sep	Last Day of Term 3

Term 4	
Mon 2 Oct	Term 4 Commences
Tue 24 Oct - Wed 15 Nov	Year 12 VCE Exams
Mon 6 Nov	Student Free Day
Tue 7 Nov	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday - College Closed
Wed 15 Nov	Year 12 Graduation - Gippsland Performing Arts Centre
Wed 13 Dec	Gumbuya World Excursion
Fri 15 Dec	College Awards Ceremony

## College Key Contacts

For a full list of College wide key contacts please go to:



**Kurnai College**  
PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

**SENIOR PATHWAYS  
INFORMATION EVENING**  
**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August**  
**5:00pm - 6:00pm School Tours**  
**6:00pm Presentation & Information Booths**  

This information evening will showcase our University Campus and provide an overview of programs available in 2024 for years 11 & 12 VCE & VCE-Vocational Major studies.

We welcome all prospective students and their families to attend and explore the opportunities available.



**University Campus**  
53 Northways Road, Churchill  
Phone: 5132 3800

 [www.facebook.com/kurnaicollege](https://www.facebook.com/kurnaicollege)  
[www.kurnai.co](http://www.kurnai.co)   [kurnai.co@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kurnai.co@education.vic.gov.au)







# College News

## Message from the College Principal



Hi everyone,

Each year at all campuses of Kurnai College we hold a BBQ for students and staff acknowledging and celebrating NAIDOC week. We also hold a major event which is rotated annually between each campus and last Thursday this was held at Churchill Campus with a large crowd of visitors including invited dignitaries, guest speakers, other school groups, and families of our Indigenous students celebrating "For our Elders".

The event commenced with a traditional smoking ceremony led by Tre Moffatt, Hollie Johnson did the Welcome to Country in indigenous language & English followed by students doing an Acknowledgement to Country in English and also Auslan which was an impressive addition to our normal practice.

Our Dedlee Kultya dancers impressed with their presentation of several cultural dances sharing stories and wisdom to help and educate young people.

Highlights of the presentation included past students Crystal Bertoli and Anna Solomon sharing their experience of Kurnai and how it prepared them for opportunities after completing Year 12 and also how influential their elders have been and continue to be in their lives. Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer with Victoria Police, Laurie Marks spoke about the importance of supporting each other and the value of elders in guiding young

people as they grow. Local elder and artist, Helen Treadgold unveiled an impressive artwork that will be proudly displayed by the College.

The audience were invited to visit the new indigenous garden before joining again in the language centre for lunch together. The garden contains indigenous plants that are traditionally used for food and medicinal purposes. Features of the garden included a campfire pit surrounded with seating, totem poles, a wall mural depicting the characters of the Dreamtime story of Tidilick (The Frog), a metal sculpture of Tidilick, and seating painted in the colours of the Aboriginal, and Torres Strait Islander flags. The sun was shining and the whole garden looked fantastic and is a credit to all the many staff and students who have put hours and hours into the redevelopment that can now be enjoyed by others for years to come.

*Matt Jobling*

**Acting College Principal**



## Music News



### **What to Learn a musical instrument?**

For students wanting to learn a musical instrument, we have limited spaces available for brass & woodwind instruments. Please collect an expression of interest form from the general office, or speak to the College Music Coordinator, Mr Chris Gretton to find out more information.

### **V.C.E holiday workshop:**

During the term 2 holidays, we welcomed V.C.E music students from Traralgon College for a combined V.C.E music workshop. The workshop was aimed at refining the students' practical, aural analysis & comprehension skills in preparation for the end of year V.C.E examinations.

### **Kurnai's Got Talent**

Kurnai's Got Talent is a highlight on the calendar and something our staff and students are very excited about. Students wanting to participate in the competition are encouraged to sign-up! Auditions will take place at each campus during lunchtime in weeks 4, 5, and 6 of this term.

- Wednesday 2nd, 9th & 16th August Morwell Campus (music room)
- Thursday 3rd, 10th & 18th August University Campus (hexagon)
- Friday 4th, 11th & 18th August Churchill Campus (music room)

The Kurnai's Got Talent Grand final will be on **Tuesday 15th September from 6-8PM** at the Kurnai Morwell Campus Performing Arts Centre. All are very welcome to come along and support our contestants as they battle it out for the grand final trophy!

### **Primary Schools Tour**

During weeks 6 and 7 of this term our music students from year levels 7-12 will be visiting Churchill, Churchill North, Boolarra, Yinnar, Morwell Park and Morwell Central primary schools. These workshops are fun, informative, and interactive and a great way to develop relationships with our local primary schools. This year our students have been working hard to refine musical repertoire specially targeted at our primary school audiences.

## **Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod**

Students from across the College will be involved in the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod. Students will be competing in a variety of sections from V.C.E solo performance, solo piano, concert band and instrumental ensembles. We wish all our students the very best of luck!

### **Valley Eisteddfod Thursday 10th August**

Gippsland Performing Arts Centre Traralgon

- Section 539 (Concert Band) 10AM
- Section 545 (Instrumental ensemble) 12:30PM

### **Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod Saturday 12th August**

- Section 546 (Solo) Chase Edwards 9AM
- Section 540 (Instrumental ensemble) 7PM

### **Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod Sunday 20th August**

- Section 421 (Solo) Hayden Semmler 6PM

## **The Kurnai Choir**

This year we are very excited to offer all the students from all campuses the opportunity to participate in the Kurnai Choir. Choir rehearsals are held weekly during lunchtimes at each campus, Rehearsals have been well attended and a great opportunity for students to learn to sing with friends in a fun and inclusive environment. All students are welcome to join - for more information contact Mrs Sims.

## **Monash Medical Orchestra**

This year for the first time we are very excited to be collaborating with the Monash Medical Orchestra. Kurnai Alumni and current staff and students will join forces with the orchestra as a part of their 'Music for the Valley' musical performance on **Saturday 16th of September**. This is a fantastic opportunity for our staff and students to be involved in and we are very much looking forward to performing!





## Sports News

### Regional Athletics

On Friday 28th, our students who placed first in their athletics events traveled to the Joe Carmody Athletics Track in Newborough to compete against other schools in the Wellington Region Athletics Competition. It was a great day out in the sunshine. Congratulations to our athletes who represented the college and good luck to the students who have progressed to the next round.



## School Values

Kurnai College's four pillars underpin all aspects of our work.

**Excellence**  
We do the best  
that we can do

**Engagement**  
We actively participate  
in our own learning

**Work Ethic**  
We are committed to  
working hard

**Relationships**  
We value and respect  
each other





# School News

## Senior Formal

Last week our Year 11 and 12 students had their Senior Formal. The theme of the night was 'Masquerade'. Students dressed in formal attire and we saw a range of intricately designed masks to fit the theme. The Italian club in Morwell was decked out with elaborate decorations for the event. The night was filled with colourful lights, music, dancing, and the students enjoyed a night of celebration in style. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making this a memorable night for our Senior students.



## Theatre Studies



### She Kills Monsters

It's been a busy start to term 3 for our VCE students undertaking Theatre Studies. During the first week of term they performed 'She Kills Monsters' at the Traralgon Art Centre. This performance was part of their VCE Theatre Studies and an opportunity to showcase their hard work and talent. The students spent the majority of their term two busy rehearsing, designing sets, and building props.

The play is a comedic romp into the world of fantasy role-playing games, She Kills Monsters tells the story of Agnes Evans as she leaves her childhood home in Ohio following the death of her teenage sister Tilly. When Agnes finds Tilly's Dungeons & Dragons notebook, however, she stumbles into a journey of discovery and action-packed adventure in the imaginary world that was Tilly's refuge.

Photos from the event captured the excitement on stage and the incredible costumes and props that complimented the performance. Overall, the production was a huge success and those involved should be proud of their work.



### Animal Farm

Then last week, our VCE Theatre Studies students visited Melbourne to watch a performance of 'Animal Farm' by Bloomshed. In which they will be analysing and evaluating the live performance as part of their study requirements.

The group departed early in the morning and arrived at the Northcote Town Hall before the show commenced at 11am. The students enjoyed the play about Farmer Jones who loses



control and the animals of Manor Farm rise up to seize the means of production. After the show, the group grabbed some lunch and made their way back to the station to catch the train home. It was a big day out, but overall, a fantastic experience.





# Important School Information

## Sex & Social Media Webinar - Parents & Carers

Dear Parents,

Please see below for an invitation to a webinar presented by Elephant Ed on Sex & Social Media. *These sessions are for adults only (no students).*

Elephant Ed is a leading sexuality education provider to hundreds of schools around Australia. Elephant Ed's workshops are evidence-based, age-appropriate and mapped to State and National curriculum guidelines. Elephant Ed is endorsed by the eSafety Commissioner as a Trusted eSafety Provider.

This webinar will include the following key discussion points:

- Relationship between young people and social media
- Knowing the prevalence and impact of sexting
- Sexting and the law
- Strategies to implement if things go wrong
- Strategies for parents and guardians to start open and effective conversations at home

You are required to register in advance for this webinar. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

This webinar is being offered by multiple schools across different dates. Please find the dates, times and relevant registration links below.

Lowanna College

**Monday 21st August, 7:15 - 8:15 pm**

Topic: Pornography

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CymoaHlfTzieEtYpz-B\\_BQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CymoaHlfTzieEtYpz-B_BQ)

## PARENT WEBINAR

# PORNOGRAPHY VS REALITY



ELEPHANT ED IS A LEADING SEXUALITY EDUCATION PROVIDER TO HUNDRES OF SCHOOLS AROUND AUSTRALIA.  
ELEPHANT ED IS ENDORSED BY THE ESAFETY COMMISSIONER AS A TRUSTED ESAFETY PROVIDER.

### CONTENT

- STATISTICS AND PREVALENCE OF EXPOSURE TO PORNOGRAPHY AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE
- IMPACT OF EXPOSURE, INCLUDING KEY DISTORTIONS
- STRATEGIES TO START EFFECTIVE CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

### LOGISTICS

- THIS WEBINAR WILL RUN FOR 60 MINUTES, DELIVERED VIA ZOOM
- CAMERAS AND MICROPHONES WILL BE DISABLED
- DATE: MONDAY 21ST AUGUST, 2023
- TIME: 7:15PM - 8:15PM

### REGISTRATION

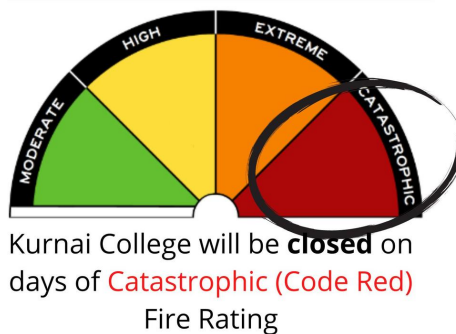
- YOU ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE USING THIS [LINK](#)
- AFTER REGISTERING, YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL CONTAINING A LINK TO JOIN ON THE NIGHT
- THIS LINK IS UNIQUE TO YOU AND CAN'T BE SHARED

HAVE A QUESTION YOU'D LIKE TO ASK IN ADVANCE?  
EMAIL IT TO [INFO@ELEPHANTED.COM.AU](mailto:info@elephanted.com.au) TO BE READ ON THE DAY.

[www.elephanted.com.au](http://www.elephanted.com.au)

[info@elephanted.com.au](mailto:info@elephanted.com.au)

Code Red Fire Danger



A reminder to all families, that on days of **Code Red** in the West & South Gippsland Fire Zone, all campuses will be closed.

This is a change to previous years, and we ask families to be aware of this in preparation to when Summer returns.




## Community News

### Latrobe Community Health

Latrobe

**Priority Primary Care Centre**





**Latrobe PPCC provides free care to people who need urgent care, but not an emergency response.**

No appointment is needed, and treatment will typically be quicker than a hospital emergency department.

**Opening hours:**  
7 days per week, from 7:30am to 11:30pm.

**Address:** 42-44 Fowler Street, Moe  
**Phone number:** 5127 9111  
**Learn more:** Google "Latrobe PPCC"

### Creative Latrobe

**Creative Latrobe**

Bus stops, underpasses, walkways and more around Latrobe City are getting a spruce up with local art!

Share your feedback to make these changes a success.

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
Head to [yoursay.latrobe.vic.gov.au/creativelatrobe](https://yoursay.latrobe.vic.gov.au/creativelatrobe) for more information or to register.

