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University Campus Newsletter

Issue 7 · 23 Oct 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.

In this issue



College News



Calendar of Events



Message from our Campus Principal



General Information



Year 11 & 12 News



Community News



College News

Message from the College Principal



G'day everyone, it is great to be back after more than a term away and I would like to thank everyone for their wishes and support whilst I have been on leave. In particular, I would like to thank Matt Jobling and the principal team for their support and their leadership whilst I was away.

The college has completed a review during Term 3 which is always a demanding time and the team, led by Matt who has managed the demands of the term with competence and skill.

I had the privilege of attending this year's Kurnai's Got Talent on Tuesday night in the Drama Room at Morwell Campus. This was an excellent showcase of our emerging talent and an event we all look forward to. This year Kurnai College Council has provided some of the prizes for the winning students in recognition of their outstanding efforts. Our Music Team does a great job organising this popular event which has grown in status and accomplishment since its early beginnings.

Last Thursday I had the pleasure of attending the Gippsland Year 12 Koorie graduation ceremony at the Italian Australian Club. Kurnai was well represented at the event with five graduating Year 12s. This year across Gippsland 26 Indigenous students successfully completed Year 12 which is a huge improvement from several years ago when sometimes the only Year 12 graduates were from Kurnai. Hayden Edwards, an ex-student and member of our Koorie Support Team was the emcee at the event and did a fabulous job. Two of our former students, Anna Solomon, currently working at DFFH and Talia Cooke, currently a second year student studying medicine at Monash University, presented on their educational journey and spoke fondly of the support they received while at Kurnai. This was a very positive event full of optimism and achievement and we congratulate Kian Johnston,

Jenna McLauchlan, Shanique Rohde, Anakin Terrick, and Mikayla Butler-Cooke. Their graduation is also a testimony to the teachers, support staff and their families who have helped them along their journey. Next Friday our Indigenous Support Team will travel to represent us at the Department of Education's Victorian Education Excellence Awards in Melbourne. I know that everyone is grateful for the excellent work that they do and as they have now reached the finals and are down to the top three entries across our state, we congratulate them for their achievement so far and wish them well next week.

Anthony Rodaughan

College Principal

Music News

Monash Medical Orchestra Collaboration:

During the Term 3 holidays current staff, students and Kurnai Alumni performed in collaboration with the Monash Medical Orchestra as a part of the 'Music for the Valley' performance. It was an amazing opportunity to perform with a 90-piece orchestra and jazz ensemble. The concert was held at the Federation University (Churchill Campus) and was well attended by our local community with dignitaries Professor Andrew O'Loughlin, Cr Kellie O' Callaghan & Professor Shane Bullock in attendance. The performance was well received ending in a standing ovation. We were honoured to be given the opportunity and are looking forward to collaborating with Monash University into the future! A most wonderful and entertaining night of music for all!

Student reflections:

The Monash Medical orchestra and Kurnai college performance collaboration rehearsals have been such a great experience. Kurnai students and staff have been granted this spectacular privilege to perform with the Medical orchestra, along with being given the chance to practice and learn new techniques and skills from the medical students. Being able to rehearse with the medical students was so much more than I expected, along with learning new skills and meeting new people I otherwise never would have met. I am so lucky that I have the chance to participate in a professional performance and collaboration as this is something I have always wanted to do.

-Lexie. S

I really enjoyed the Medical orchestra rehearsal and performance and found it to be something great and a great opportunity. I was amazed by the diversity of the campus and

how talented the students were. I had a lovely time performing and rehearsing.

-Jayda. A

I thought the performance and rehearsals were great and such an amazing experience. It's certainly something I never thought I would be able to do. I had such a great time practicing with the Monash students and an even better time performing at the university. I thank Mr. G for organising the collaboration and for giving me the opportunity to perform. I will never forget performing with the medical students and getting to learn new skills and techniques for playing drums. Thank you again to the teachers who made it happen and for the people who made it even better.

- Lucas. C.E

Thank you to Mr. G, Mr. Hopkins, and Ms. Simms for organising the collaboration with Monash university and the amazing people we all got to work with. We are all grateful for the experiences and new skills we gained from performing. This is certainly something all of us will carry with us for the rest of our lives. Thank you again for everything.

Kurnai's Got Talent

On Tuesday 17th October participants from Morwell, Churchill & University Campuses battled it out at the Kurnai's Got Talent Grand Final. The event went extremely well, and audiences were delighted by the diversity of the performances including musical theatre, dance routines, solo vocalists and band performances. We're very proud of all those who performed and thank them for their contribution and dedication. Kurnai's Got Talent is a great opportunity for students to showcase and refine their performing arts skills in a live and professional setting.

Thank you to everyone that contributed to making Kurnai's got Talent 2023 a hugely successful event!

1st Place: Riley (*University Campus*)

2nd Place: Lucas (*University Campus*)

3rd Place: Chase (*University Campus*)

Participation Medallions:

- Simon (*Morwell Campus*)
- Kara (*Morwell Campus*)

- Madeline (*Churchill Campus*)
- Lexie (*Churchill Campus*)
- Darnell (*Churchill Campus*)
- Toby (*Churchill Campus*)
- Claire (*Churchill Campus*)
- Claire (*Churchill Campus*)
- Kyra (*Churchill Campus*)
- Rory (*Churchill Campus*)
- Dallas (*Churchill Campus*)
- Erin (*Churchill Campus*)

Master of Ceremonies:

- *Jazmine*
- *Kerwin*

Outstanding Koorie Education Finalist

Kurnai College is extremely proud to announce that our Koorie Support Team has been shortlisted for the prestigious Victorian Education Excellence Awards for 2023.

Our Koorie Support Team, consisting of Marina Cooper, Hollie Johnson, Tre Moffatt, and Hayden Edwards have been shortlisted for the Outstanding Koorie Education category for their commitment and dedication to our Indigenous students and their families.

We wish them all the best at the awards ceremony later this month in Melbourne.

All finalist details can be viewed on the Department's website at:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-education-excellence...>



100 Word Story Competition

This year we set our students the challenge of writing a whole story in only 100 words. Any student could enter and there were some outstanding stories submitted. A selection of the better stories will be found in this year's Kurnai Yearbook which will come to all students in late November.

Four stories were outstanding and each of the writers have won themselves a QBD book voucher. The winner students (in alphabetical order) are:

- Flynn Hanson
- Amber Hoggard
- Thomas McKay
- Lachan Savige

They will receive the book vouchers this week.

You can read their stories (and many others) in this year's Kurnai Yearbook.

School Values

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




Excellence
We do the best that we can do



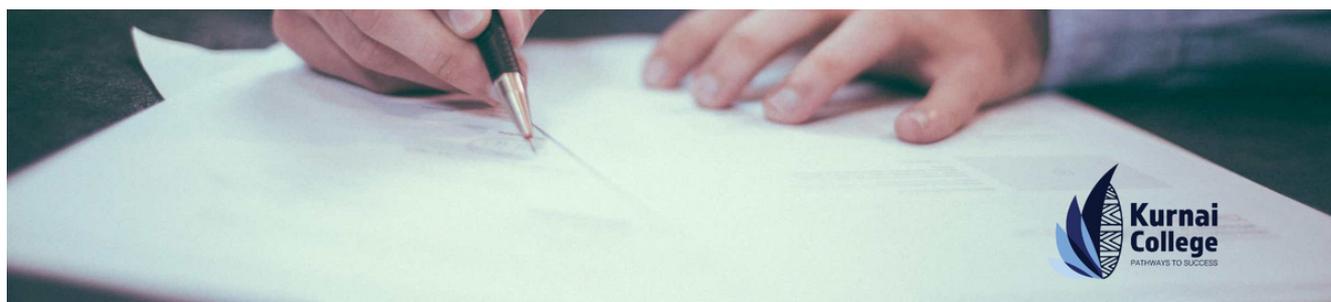

Engagement
We actively participate in our own learning




Work Ethic
We are committed to working hard




Relationships
We value and respect each other



Message from our Campus Principal



12 students have finished their

Wee
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of
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and
our
Year
six years of secondary
education! Well, nearly. Year 12
VCE students will be sitting
their exams starting on
Tuesday 24th October in the
classrooms at the Leisure
Centre. There are also a few
VCE/VM students who have
small parts of their program to

complete which will be done
over the next week or two. But
we won't be seeing them again
as a group until the Year 12
Graduation, to be held at the
Gippsland Performing Arts
Centre in Traralgon on the
evening of Wednesday 15th
November. Please put this date

in your phone if you are the parent/carer of a Year 12 student, because we hope to see you all there.

The University Campus is now a little quieter after last Thursday's Celebration Day, with only our Years 11 and 10 students on campus. However, these students are facing a hectic few weeks. Year 11 students need to complete all course work for their current programs before the middle of week 7 with Year 11 VCE exams starting on Thursday 16th November and finishing for Year 11 students on Tuesday 21st November.

Year 11 students who are studying TAFE certificates on Wednesday or Friday may have already finished their course,

but the finish dates vary between different providers and courses. The absolute final date for VET students studying on Wednesday will be 1st November and for students studying on Friday, 10th November. If you have any questions about this, please contact Sarah Pedlow at the University Campus.

The Year 12 Melbourne Prep Camp, 22nd – 24th November, is open to all current Year 11 students, VCE or VCE/VM. Based at Ormond College and at the University of Melbourne, VCE and VCE/VM students will be doing a variety of activities both together and separately. Some of the activities will be at the university, others will at various locations around Melbourne including

Melbourne Zoo, Acmi in Fed Square, Melbourne Museum and the State Library.

And then it is back to school for the early start to 2024 when Headstart begins on Monday 27th November. Headstart runs for two weeks and gives 2024 Years 11 and 12 students a chance to experience the subjects and programs they have selected. Students must understand that the work they are doing during Headstart really does count towards the satisfactory completion of their 2024 subjects and needs to be taken seriously.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact the University Campus on 5132 3800.



Year 11 & 12 News

Mock Interviews

Last Thursday, our VCE VM students participated in a mock interview event, supported by local employers and community organisations. This event was a fantastic opportunity for our senior students to utilise the skills they have learnt during their VCE VM studies by undergoing a mock interview with two employers on a panel. The students were



absolutely buzzing after their interviews, thanks to the employer's kindness and support on the day. This highly beneficial event provided the students with so much confidence and are now ready for the 'real thing' regarding their future job applications. A big thank you to the following employers and organisations who gave up their time to assist our students in this event: Latrobe City, Latrobe Community Health Services, Ambulance Victoria, Baw Baw Llen, Gippswater, Onlineiseasy, PFG Group (Fabrication Rotomoulding), Tequa and the Smith Family.

Inverloch Community Project

Marine litter is one of Australia's most destructive environmental problems. These materials ruin coastal and aquatic habitats and put marine life at risk. Littering on beaches is one significant reason why there's an increasing volume of trash in our oceans. Many people tend to throw away their rubbish anywhere. Litter can travel long distances and disrupt our marine's ecosystem's balance and safety.

Beach litter is something that happens too regularly and is affecting our planet. This issue raised a concern among myself and peers which is why we wanted to help out and make a difference.



For our end of year community projects our group, myself, Bella and Oakleigh, organised a trip to go to the beach for a beach clean up. We gathered around at Inverloch and wandered off into groups collecting as much rubbish we could. Although it was only the one day, any removal of litter is better than none and knowing we could have saved many sea life was such a rewarding experience. I'm hoping that I've convinced the future VM students to go back to help the environment.

Leah Hughes

Year 12 VM Student

Mitchell House VM Excursion

The two students had high ambitions of creating an enriching and meaningful experience between two very different age groups; adolescents and elderly. They also enlisted the help of another VM group who planned and cooked an amazing spread for both the residents and teenagers to enjoy. They all worked together to plan activities so as to ensure a successful afternoon.

The group of 10 Kurnai students headed to Mitchell House, in the first week of Term 4, with a lot of good will and some beautiful treats.

The afternoon was a complete success. Feedback from the residents was phenomenal and the teenagers loved it too.

Some quotes from residents:

" They don't have to worry about getting old because they can see us enjoying ourselves"

"Yes I thought it was a good day"

"I had a good conversation with one of the young boys and he was quite good"

"That young fella I was talking to was alright , he could sing"

" I think they got as much out of it as we did, yes I think it was a very good day"

"I'll have them back, I thought the ones I met were nice enough"

"Good to see the young ones getting along"

"Oh yes I had a very good time"

"It was a nice informal interaction, everybody looked like they had a good time"

"Yes, it's good helping me with the puzzles"



Some quotes from the teenagers

'Pretty cool, pretty fun.'

'Very well planned day.'

"Was nice singing to them.'

'Happy, really enjoyed.'

'Everyone was in high spirits.'

'I was just very happy there, a really calming place.'

Katrina Bosch, the Leisure and Lifestyle Coordinator was integral to the success of the program. Katrina supported the students wholeheartedly and encouraged their project from the very beginning. Without community support for these projects and a lot of faith in their skills, these VM projects couldn't happen.

Final quote from Katrina encapsulates the overall project;

'Thank you again to Bella and Danielle for thinking of Mitchell House for their Year 12 project and they should get 10/10 for all they did.'

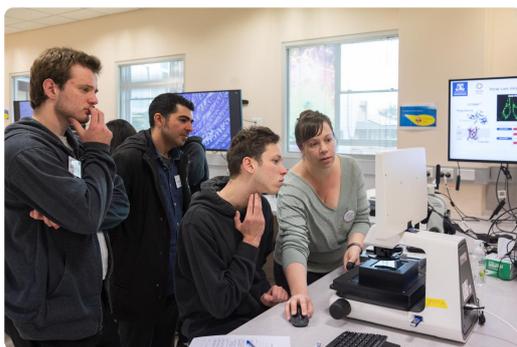
Biomedical Science Day

Students from Kurnai College were among 120 students from across regional and rural Victoria to attend the Annual Biomedical Sciences Day at the University of Melbourne. Local students and their teacher Hamad Sabawi had the exciting opportunity to experience life as a biomedical scientist at the event presented by the University of Melbourne's School of Biomedical Sciences and the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC).

The University's Head of School of Biomedical Sciences, Professor Jennifer Wilkinson-Berka, encouraged the students to think about the science behind what creates, sustains and threatens people's lives in Australia and beyond.

Professor Wilkinson-Berka spoke of the revolutionary work underway at the school, and the Gene Technology Access Centre—including biological processes to better understand human health, computational biology, 3D printing to replace bones, genomics: new tools for cancer treatments, and new vaccines to combat disease.

Professor Wilkinson-Berka encouraged students to apply to the Bachelor of Biomedicine after completing their VCE studies. "When you come to Melbourne, you don't just come to the School of Biomedical Sciences," she said, "You have access to the whole of the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct, a collaboration of hospitals and research institutes that are right on our doorstep, not to mention the diverse range of career opportunities upon completion of your studies."



Students worked alongside researchers in the Gene Technology Access Centre Laboratories to photograph specimens using light, fluorescence and scanning electron microscopes, and had the opportunity to enter the images into their own Under the Microscope Coverslip Competition.

They also took a behind the scenes look at the University's Harry Brookes Allen Museum of Anatomy and Pathology and uncovered real tissue specimens and historical anatomical models, and a tour of the Digital Learning Hub which allowed students to experience how innovative digital technology is used to study the human body.

"The microscope activities were really cool" said student Jay. His teacher Hamad said the students really enjoyed the VR activity and found the Harry Brooks Anatomy Museum so

interesting”.

University students Isabella Gilchrist, 1st year Bachelor of Biomedicine, Karam Matloob, 2nd year Bachelor of Biomedicine, and Ryan Shen, 3rd year Bachelor of Biomedicine, spoke about their courses, the diverse research topics they are pursuing and life on campus and in Melbourne.



The Kurnai College students also learned about Access Melbourne, a program that helps students from rural or regional areas gain entry to undergraduate courses at the university. Each year, 20 per cent of domestic undergraduate places are reserved for Access Melbourne applicants.



Calendar of Events

Key Dates

Term 4	
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
Thurs 16 - Tue 21 Nov	Year 11 VCE Exams
Wed 22 - Fri 24 Nov	Year 12 Preparatory Camp for 2024 Year 12s
Mon 27 Nov - Fri 8 Dec	2024 Head Start
Wed 13 Dec	Gumbuya World Excursion
Fri 15 Dec	College Awards Ceremony

SUPPAUT

LATROBE REGION PARENT/FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE WHO HAVE KIDS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

SuppAUT is a parent-run group that aims to support one another as parents /families of a child/children with Autism. The group is open for all, whether your child is a baby, pre-schooler, school aged - specialist school, mainstream school, home-schooled or is an adult - we all need support and can support each other. We share our own experiences, problems, joys, successes and support each other with a listening ear and understanding.

It is a very informal gathering, sometimes a guest speaker is invited. All parents/carers/family members are welcome and children/siblings are welcome too.

TERM 4, 2023 MEETING DATES

FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER & FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Meetings at Daily Living Disability Services 

7 Rocla Road, Traralgon 10am - 11.30am

ALL WELCOME TO COME FOR A CUPPA, MORNING TEA AND A CHAT IN A RELAXED SETTING

CHRISTMAS BREAK UP-

THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

MEET AT La Porchetta, 17 Seymour St, TRARALGON. 11.30AM FOR LUNCH

Please text RSVP to Louise by 27/11

For more info or enquiries about the group phone/text Louise Varsaci 0414540296 or email varsaci@aussiebb.com.au

Join our group on Facebook - SuppAUT Autism support group for families in Latrobe Valley, Victoria

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"




If you wish to promote your sporting club, community group or non-for-profit organisation in our school newsletter please email kurnai.co@education.vic.gov.au

Dress up in your favourite costume and join in the...

FREE Halloween Fun!

TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER



Winni Wizard

LIVE SHOWS

Mini Wizards: 20 min Show 2.30pm
Wacky Wizards: 40 min Show 4.15pm

Join Winni, the wonderfully wacky wizard, for magical mayhem including songs, wicked dance moves and loads of laughs for all ages!

FREE Activities
2PM TO 5PM

- **SPOOKY ACTIVITY ZONE**
Collect and decorate a FREE goodie bag!
- **TRICK OR TREAT**
Visit stores with a purple "TRICK OR TREAT" sign to receive a treat!
- **SNAP A PHOTO**
with our special 'spooky' guests!

ALL ACTIVITIES LOCATED NEAR COTTON ON MEGA.



*All activities are FREE with no bookings needed. Parental supervision required. Trick or treat and giveaways: 1 per child under 12 years, while stocks last. Mini Wizards show most suitable for preschool ages. Wacky Wizards show most suitable for ages 4+.



Hey kids – would you like to earn some extra pocket money and exercise at the same time? The Express is looking for people to deliver the paper on either a Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday afternoon (after school).

If you are interested we would love to hear from you. Please call our Distribution Manager on 0456 000 541 for further details.

Express
Outside get news for you

*Note: you must be at least 11 years of age
Adult deliverers are welcome*



FREE MORWELL CFA OPEN DAY

**SATURDAY
25TH NOVEMBER
10AM-2PM
26 McDonald St,
Morwell**

FREE Facepainting!
Free Sausage Sizzle!
Station Tours!
Coffee van from 51 Coffee
3 Bears BBQ!
Meet your local fire
firefighters.
Kids activities and water play!
Get up close and see our fire
truck and equipment!
And MORE!!

51 Coffee
Miss Hannah's
Face Painting & Entertainment

Get Active Victoria

Apply for a voucher with Get Active Victoria and present it to your activity provider when you register or pay for your child's membership and

any related uniform equipment. They will reduce the fees up to the value of \$200!

Activity providers include, but are not limited to:



- Auskick – AFL Auskick
- Athletics – Athletics Victoria
- Little Athletics – Little Athletics Victoria
- Cycling – Auscycling
- Basketball – Basketball Victoria
- Cricket – Cricket Victoria
- Girl Guides -Girl Guides Victoria
- Golf – Golf Australia
- Motorcycling – Motorcycling Victoria
- Scouts – Scouts Victoria

Apply for a voucher:

<https://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/apply-for-vouchers>