

Derrinallum P-12 College

Community Newsletter



EDITION 2

Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Empathy, Support

11th February 2022



Assistant Principal's Report

Attendance Term 1, Week 2: 92.4%

And just like that, Week 2 draws to a close. It has been fantastic to see how quickly students across the school have settled into the new school year and the enthusiasm with which they are approaching their learning.

Welcome back BBQ

We look forward to welcoming families to the College from 3:20pm on Wednesday 16th of February for a Welcome Back BBQ. All teaching staff that work on Wednesdays will be present and we hope that the BBQ provides an opportunity for families to meet or reconnect with staff and other families. The College will provide the BBQ free of charge and a range of lawn games will be available for students and their families to enjoy. We will also have some of the classrooms open for parents to see learning spaces and view student work.

Students whose parents will be attending the event can stay at school rather than go home on the bus. These students will need to provide a note indicating this or we will need to send them on the bus. In line with the Education Department policy all visitors to the school will need to be double vaccinated.

Continued.....

Swimming Sports

As always, Term 1 is shaping up to be packed full of sports, with the College Swimming Sports being the first cab off the rank. The Swimming Sports will be held on 21st of February at the Lismore Swimming Pool. Students have already nominated house captains and registered for events in anticipation of the event. Students are encouraged to come dressed in house colours on the day – Banongill/Larra in red and purple, and Gala/Titanga in light blue and gold. We look forward to seeing parents and families in the crowd supporting students on the day. Parents that enjoy a splash should pack some swimmers for the hotly contested student-teacher-parent relay race at the end of the day.

Learning Specialist

Due to an increase in student numbers the College was able to appoint our first Learning Specialist at the end of last year. Mr Green has hit the ground running in his new role, this week facilitating a staff professional development session on High Impact Teaching Strategies. Amongst other things, Mr Green has been tasked with reviewing and updating the College's Instructional Model. The Instructional Model is the framework teachers use to plan and implement effective lessons. Phase 1 of this project is to review the current model and observe how it is being implemented in classrooms. Starting this week and continuing over the next 5 weeks, Mr Green will visit and observe each teacher in their classroom in order to get a well-rounded view of how the current model is being used. This week he observed Year 12 History, Year 11 Maths Methods and Year 5/6 Numeracy. We look forward to seeing the results of Mr Green's review and will work together as a staff to implement any proposed changes.

Year 11 and 12 camp

This time last week, the Year 11 and 12 students as well as Mr Green, Miss Green and I were returning from camp. The purpose of the camp was for students to reconnect and refocus after the summer break, with students participating in a range of activities that were new, challenging or outside of their comfort zones. A couple of the highlights from the trip were: the group successfully making it to The Pinnacle lookout in the Grampians, watching pairs of students attempting to help each other balance in the crate stack activity, and having Liam teach his teachers how to sail. I'd like to say a massive thank you to Fiona Noone and the other members of the Derrinallum Yacht Club who volunteered their time to plan and facilitate an introduction to sailing for us all.

Specialist rooms in the secondary school

Secondary staff decided to try something new this year and have moved away from having dedicated Year 7/8 and 9/10 rooms. Instead, students now move between rooms depending on the subject that they are learning – with one room being dedicated to English and Humanities, and the other to Maths. We are already seeing the benefits of this change, with a range of subject-specific displays popping up in each room. It has been pleasing to see how quickly students have adapted to the change and the way that they are respecting other users of each space by ensuring that they take all of their personal items with them as they move between rooms. We encourage parents to take a look in these rooms on Wednesday during the Welcome Back BBQ.

Mud kitchen

We would like to pass on our thanks to the Rokewood Men's Shed for donating a mud kitchen for use in our primary playground. Students were quick to notice the new addition in the yard when they returned last week and it has already been put to many creative uses.

Have a great weekend.

Kristy Riley – Acting Assistant Principal



Foundation 2022



My name is Carla.
My favourite thing
is drawing.



My name is Grace.
My favourite thing is to
look at and read books.



My name is Alex.
My favourite thing is
to play with friends.



My name is Finn.
My favourite thing is
to play with Riley.



My name is Mia.
My favourite thing
is to play with my
friends.



My name is Olivia.
My favourite thing is
playing babies.



My name is Robert.
My favourite thing
is playing tiggy with
Alex.



My name is Oliver.
My favourite thing is
to play with my cube
and Finn and Riley.



My name is Riley.
My favourite thing
is playing at the
waterpark at home.



My name is Charlotte
My favourite thing is to
play with the marble run.



My name is Jarvis.
My favourite thing
is to go to Lismore
pool.



My name is Jock.
My favourite thing is to
play with my toys.

VCE/VCAL camp

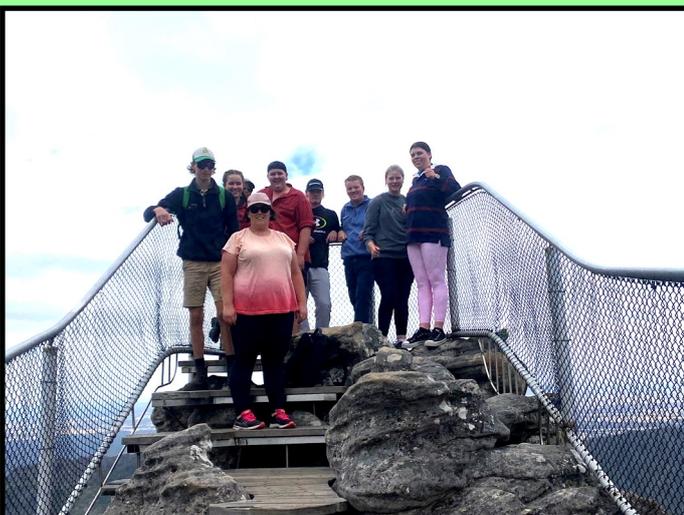
On the 3rd of February, the Year 11 and 12 students went on a camp to Rose Gap. We caught the bus from school to Halls Gap, which took roughly around 1 hr and 30 minutes. Once we got there, we hiked to the Pinnacle which was a nice walk that took about an hour, we spent 10 minutes looking at the view and then headed down.

We then caught the bus to our camp site (Roses Gap). Once we got there, we met the Instructors. After the introductions, we played a game called crate stacking. One team had to stack and climb the crates, while the other team had to stack the crates. We then had an afternoon snack. After our snack we took part in a low ropes course. This course had eight little activities in it, they were all about teamwork and communication. After the activities we had a nice lasagne and salad for dinner. Once we finished, we went to the games room where there were cool games to play and plenty of couches so we could relax. We stayed in there for a few hours until it was dark, we played hide and seek for a few rounds then we all brushed our teeth and headed off to bed.

On Friday we woke up around 7:30am, packed up all our stuff and loaded it into the bus. It was then time for breakfast so we all wandered over to the dining room. Once everyone had finished their breakfast, we jumped on the bus and headed to Deep Lake. When we got there, we were introduced to all the people who run the sailing club. They showed us some parts of the boat and how to set the boat up ready for sailing. Once we were all set up, we went out for a sail and had 2 turns each. After sailing we all helped pack up. By then it was time for us to catch the bus and return to school and head home.

We would like to thank all the teachers involved in planning the camp and those who came along and all the members at the Derrinallum Yacht club.

Lilly and Liam.



VCE/VCAL camp



Staff Profile

Name:

Ashleigh Hunger

What do you teach or do at the school?

I teach the 1/2s and I am also the Wellbeing Team Leader.

What was your favourite subject at school?

English Literature and P.E.

Pets:

I don't have any pets at the moment, but have grown up surrounded by lots of pets and animals on my family's dairy farm in Boorcan.

How long have you been a teacher/worked in schools?

This is my 7th year as a teacher. Previously, I have worked at Terang College and in Darwin.

If you were famous, what would you be famous for?

If I could be famous, I'd want it to be for curing a disease!

What is your favourite thing about our school?

The people – staff, students, parents and wider school community – they are incredibly friendly, welcoming and caring. I'm so excited to be a part of the Derri crew!





Conveyance Allowance Program

The conveyance allowance is a contribution towards transport costs and is not intended to cover the full cost of transporting children to and from school.

The conveyance allowance may be available to students attending government or non-government schools and:

- travelling by public transport or by private car, motorbike or bus, and
- whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus provided under the School Bus Program
- travel 4.8km or more from the home gate to the designated bus stop (Multi-Mode application) and attend the nearest appropriate school/campus

Prior to submitting the applications, schools must check all information in the application is accurate. SCAS will then assess, based on the information in the application, whether the student satisfies the eligibility criteria established by the Minister for Education and Training.

Responsibilities of parents/carers

Parents/carers wanting to apply for a conveyance allowance must:

- **request a conveyance allowance application from the school**
- estimate travel distances using an online mapping tool. Be aware public domain tools may not provide the shortest practicable route between home and the school/campus attended but give a good indication
- fill in, verify, and lodge the conveyance allowance application form with the school
- notify the school within 7 days if the student's residential or travel circumstances change

Eligibility/Not Eligible:

- If you transport your child/children **4.8km** or more to/from your nearest approved bus stop to your front gate (Multi Mode application), you are **eligible** for the conveyance allowance.
- If you transport your child to/from your front gate to nearest approved bus stop and the distance is less than **4.8km**, you are **not eligible** for the conveyance allowance
- If your child/children are not attending the closest government school or nearest appropriate school (non-government school) you are **not eligible** for the conveyance allowance
- If you live in the Derrinallum township and catch the bus at the bus stop situated outside the Kindergarten, you are **not eligible** for the conveyance allowance
- Kindergarten students are **not eligible** for the conveyance allowance

SCAS will not accept applications that are inaccurate or do not meet their specific criteria. We understand that sometimes, filling in forms can be confusing. If you have any questions about the Conveyance Allowance Program or need assistance in ascertaining your eligibility to apply, please contact Gaye Robinson-Marks at the College on 03 55976625.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected school employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected student member category, with two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.

FACT SHEET 4. INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN SEEKING ELECTION TO SCHOOL COUNCIL

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. School councils are legal entities that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Orders and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For all schools with a student cohort of Year 7 and above, there are several possible categories of school council membership:

A mandated elected parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Parents and Guardians of children attending the school are eligible for membership in this category.

A mandated elected school employee member category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically a member of this category.

A mandated elected student member category (two positions) – members of this category are enrolled at the school and in Year 7 or above.

An optional community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or expertise. DET employees are not eligible to be a Community member.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

HOW LONG IS THE TERM OF OFFICE?

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS STUDENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Students have a unique perspective on learning, teaching and schooling. Electing Student members onto school council allows all students to have a say in the future direction of their school and ensures student input into decision making.

Student representation on secondary school councils will assist in the development of students' skills, including leadership skills, and communication skills.

DOES MY CHILD NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them in order to perform their duties as a councillor.

Student members are encouraged to attend the Department's free, face-to-face school council training, using the Improving School Governance modules to support them to undertake their role. Training is also available online.

Derrinallum P-12 College

A little school with BIG ideas for learning



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Now taking enrolments

Teamwork Respect Integrity Empathy Support

Calendar of Events - Term 1 - 2022

Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8
14th February	21st February Swimming Carnival	28th February	7th March Triathlon	14th March Labour Day—Public Holiday	21st March
15th February	22nd February	1st March Learning Conversations	8th March	15th March	22nd March
16th February School Council Family BBQ	23rd February	2nd March	9th March	16th March School Council	23rd March Investiture of Student Leaders
17th February	24th February	3rd March	10th March	17th March	24th March
18th February	25th February	4th March Midwest Swimming	11th March	18th March GWR	25th March