



A message from the Principal....

Year 12 Progress Reports

On Monday at 4.00pm the last round of progress reports for Year 12 Students will go live on the XUNO parent and student portal. These reports will provide valuable information for families as to where the focus should lie for VCE, VCAL and VET work completion for the end of the year. I would like to remind all families that they are welcome to contact any of our teachers if they would like to discuss these reports further. Students in Year 7-11 will receive their final progress report in the last week of school.

School Uniform Review

This week our Student Leadership Team have met and reviewed the feedback from all students in regard to changes to our current school uniform. The information has been presented to School Council this week and we are looking forward to finalising, by the end of the month, our Uniform Policy for commencement in 2021. I would like to thank all of the students for their valuable feedback throughout this process.

Public Holiday

Just a reminder that Friday October 23rd (tomorrow) is a public holiday for AFL Grand Final Eve. Good luck to all the Richmond and Geelong supporters out there!

Ellie McDougall
Principal

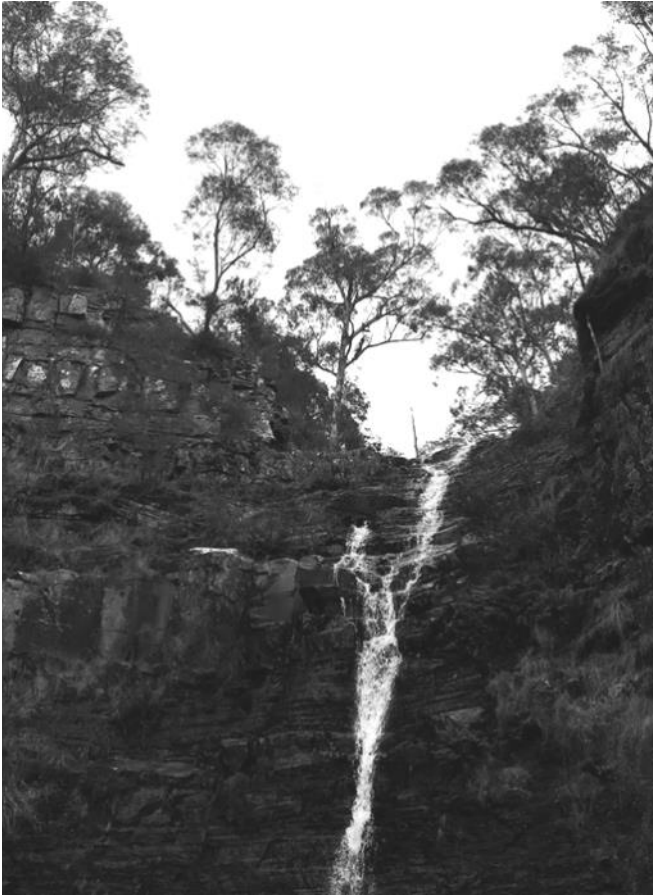


Year 9/10 Design and Photography

Year 9/10 Design and Photography students were challenged to take some black and white photographs of their own choice to demonstrate their knowledge of the style. The students are starting to get really creative with their subject matter and composition which is great to see. Here are some examples of the students work:

Melissa Murnane - Teacher

Ada Keilar



Fyn Smithwick



Olivia McGrath



Caitlin O'Brien

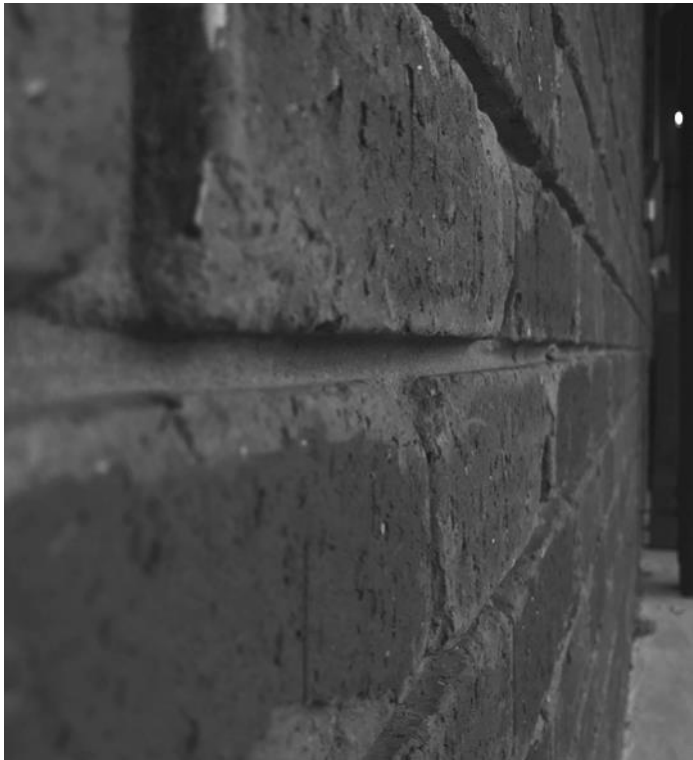


Tash Ferguson



Cain Hope

Jessica Burns



Holly McAdie



Ella McLoughlin



Jake Ferguson



Back at the Farm

During the recent lockdown, the school farm began to resemble the depths of the Amazon Jungle with the rain and the recent sunshine. The past two sessions at the school farm have been reigning it back under control with students weeding the vegetable garden, whipper snipping and mowing everywhere possible. It is a slow process that needs to be redone by the next week, but the students are winning the battle and getting on top of it all.





The VCAL crew have also been busy painting balustrades, building shelving and preparing areas for paths and garden furniture. These maintenance activities will prepare the facility for the long Christmas break and will ensure our new facility will remain in good condition for many years to come. It will also allow us to concentrate on new projects at the start of next year.



As part of the forward planning for next year, we had an information session conducted by local apiarist Judy Leggett. Judy came to the farm to discuss the possible viability of keeping bees at the school farm and our options to do this successfully.

We would like to thank Judy for taking the time to share with us her knowledge and expertise from her many years of working with bees.



Parent Opinion Survey

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 behaviour, 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 will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 12th October** to **Friday 13th November**.

The survey will be 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.

The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

The survey will be available through the Xuno Parent Portal. Details on how to register and log into the Portal are included in this newsletter. Please do not hesitate to contact the college office if you need any assistance with this process.

From the Science Department

Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series - Science

Congratulations to the year 10 students who were selected for the Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series for Science. This month, high-achieving year 10s from around the state contributed to research on the Coronavirus genome using bioinformatics software from the Gene Technology Access Centre in Melbourne. Students completed modules during the holidays before attending the workshop online. Congratulations on a great effort to Amy Clarke, Jackson Hyland, Joe Jennings, Holly McAdie, and Tash Ferguson.

Ms Gaylard
Science Teacher

The winners of the annual CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia) Book of the Year awards have been announced. Both of these novels are available for borrowing from the library.

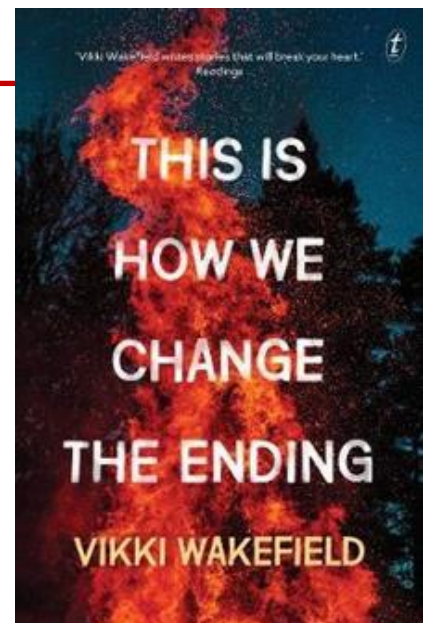


Book of the Year - Younger Readers Category

When a Manly school sets out to bring a country class to the city for a beach visit, three very different kids find each other and themselves. Noah is fearless in the surf. Being at the beach makes him feel free. So where does his courage go when his best mate pushes him around? Lottie loves collecting facts about bugs, but she wishes her dad would stop filling their lonely house with junk. She doesn't know what to do about it. Jack wants to be a cricket star, but first he has to get to school and look after his little sister. Especially if he wants to go on the class trip and see the ocean for the first time.

Book of the Year - Older Readers Category

Sixteen year-old Nate McKee is doing his best to be invisible. He's worried about a lot of things - how his dad treats Nance and his twin half brothers; the hydro crop growing in his bedroom; the way his friend Merrick always drags him into fights. And he has never forgiven his mother for leaving. But none of it is his fight, right? He's just waiting for his time. Nate hangs out at Youth Works, the local youth centre threatened with closure, and fills his notebooks with the things he can't say. But when some of his pages are stolen and his words are graffitied on the wall of the centre, Nate realises he has allies. He might be able to make a difference, change his life, and claim his future. Or can he?



October 2020

Week 4	Monday	26	Student Reports - Year 12 only
	Tuesday	27	
	Wednesday	28	Year 7 and 10 Immunisations
	Thursday	29	
	Friday	30	Last Day of Classes - Year 12

November 2020

Week 5	Monday	2	Year 12 Farewell Breakfast and Assembly
	Tuesday	3	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
	Wednesday	4	
	Thursday	5	Year 11 Oaks Day Luncheon
	Friday	6	
Week 6	Monday	9	
	Tuesday	10	Year 12 VCE Exams Begin
	Wednesday	11	
	Thursday	12	
	Friday	13	
Week 7	Monday	16	Step Up Program Week Year 12 2021 Start
	Tuesday	17	
	Wednesday	18	
	Thursday	19	
	Friday	20	Step Up Program Week Year 12 2021 Finish
Week 8	Monday	23	
	Tuesday	24	
	Wednesday	25	
	Thursday	26	
	Friday	27	

Ararat College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

Ararat College acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country throughout Victoria. We pay our respects to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and emerging.