

Engage Inspire Enjoy



House Basketball

The House Sports competition has kicked off for the year, with the Year 7 Basketball final being held last week. Congratulations to all students who participated, and well done to Pyrenees House who were the winners, defeating Hopkins in the final.



A Message from our Principal ...

Acting Principal

I will be on leave for the remainder of this term, and to ensure as little disruption as possible to the smooth running of our school and the education that it provides our students, Ellie McDougall has been appointed to the Acting Principal role. Ellie returns to our school from her Education Improvement Leader role based in the Horsham Regional office of the DET. Ellie knows our school very well and I am confident that she will do an outstanding job in the role.

Student Voice

Our school surveys its students regularly to assess their welfare, and where concerns are identified these are closely followed up by our very strong student welfare team. While student welfare is obviously a high priority, so too is their learning. It is very exciting that we are once again conducting the twice yearly Pivot Survey. This survey gives every student the opportunity to provide feedback on their learning including their teachers, the appropriateness of lesson content, the delivery of that content, the level of say they have regarding what is done in their classrooms, as well as many other areas and factors that can influence their level of learning. All teachers receive these results and are strongly encouraged to reflect upon them closely. Student feedback often brings things to the attention of teachers that they may have been completely unaware of, and this can be of invaluable assistance to the effectiveness of their classroom teaching.



Student reports

Our first student reports for the year will be finalised next week and available to parents and students during the following week. Our staff have been encouraged to make use of multiple sources of data to determine the learning levels of all of their students. This enables teachers to provide point of need teaching and also to determine the individual student learning growth that has occurred in their classes. Our student reports are designed to be frequent and brief, but parents are always very welcome to seek greater detail regarding a student's report by making contact with their Year Level Coordinator. All parents are also encouraged to attend our Student/Parent/Teacher conversation sessions.



VCAL Program Wins State Award

This week our school was very excited to hear that our nomination for the state wide VCAL Achievement Awards has been successful. Our school has won an award in the category of **Partner Award – VCAL Partnerships** with Multi Industry Trade Taster. A huge congratulations to our VCAL students and staff. Special thanks to Mr Andrew Reynolds and Mr Andrew Sherwell who were instrumental in submitting the nomination. Our school's achievement will be celebrated at a presentation ceremony being held at Federation Square in Melbourne on Monday 29th April 2019. Proud representatives from our school will be in attendance to receive the award.

Maria Island Walk to Higher Education Information Evening

Thank you to Ms Skewes for organising Tuesday's information evening for students attending this year's Maria Island Trip and their parents. The evening provided the opportunity for both students and their parents to obtain all of the details of the trip and to ask any questions that they may have. Special thanks to Anglicare's David Law for attending and assisting our students and their parents. Anglicare subsidizes our students participating in the trip, which is designed to improve student aspiration levels and encourage them to consider future options which they may otherwise have discounted. The students participating this year are really looking forward to the trip.

Illuminate Program

After a disrupted start to our Illuminate program as a result of the flash flooding and consequent shortage of available rooms, the program is now well underway. Our Literacy Learning Specialist Mr Healey has provided our staff with excellent support to enable them to maximise the impact of the program. Our staff are all very aware that it is every teacher's responsibility to improve student literacy levels, and that by doing so our students will demonstrate improvement in all of their subjects. Mr Healey will be working with both students and staff to ensure that all students involved in the Illuminate program will get the most out of it and maximise the improvement to their literacy levels.

Introduction of Compulsory English Homework

As part of our school's continued focus on improving student learning, we will be implementing a compulsory English homework program. This program will require students to complete a series of short and meaningful tasks each week focusing on foundational English skills for reading, writing and speaking. VCE English classes will focus on content from the current unit and maximizing their exam and School Assessed Coursework (SAC) results. All students will be required to complete homework and return it to their English teacher by due dates set by the classroom teacher. Consequences will result for students not completing the set homework, including lunchtime and after school detentions where appropriate, and during the detention they will be required to complete the set work. Our school is committed to providing students with the best opportunities to maximize their learning and improve their literacy skills. We appreciate your support in helping us to provide your child with the best opportunities to maximize their learning and literacy skills.

Boost to Music Department

Thank you to Head of Music David Thompson for his organisation of the purchase of new state of the art sound and recording equipment. Our school has been waiting for the arrival of this equipment for some time and we are very excited about its arrival and it being set up and ready for use. With the addition of the new equipment our school now has one of the best sound and recording studios outside of Melbourne. This will provide our current and future students with outstanding musical opportunities.



Student Attendance

School attendance is vital if students are to achieve their full education potential. Parental support to ensure that students attend school is vital as high numbers of student absences can impact dramatically on their future health, welfare and employment prospects. At our school all teachers are required to mark their class rolls every lesson. This information becomes immediately available to our office staff, who try very hard to ensure that our student attendance information is as accurate as possible. Despite our best efforts to encourage all students to attend school regularly and not to absent themselves for non-genuine reasons, we still have too many students missing too much school without a good reason.

School Photos

Thank you to all parents for assisting our efforts to get all students into correct school uniform for yesterday's school photos. School photos provide an important and historical record of students attending our school, and are also of invaluable assistance to new staff and casual relief teachers to put names to faces. It was very pleasing to once again receive positive feedback from the photographers regarding the level of cooperation provided by our students during the taking of both form group and individual photos.

School Council

Congratulations to Natalie Dowsett and Wade Carman on their election to our school council as parent representatives for the next two years. They will be joining other parent representatives Tianee Hurst, Tammie Meehan, Melissa Fiegert, Leanne Hyland and Doug Tosch and co-opted community member David Sanders.

Geoff Sawyer
Principal



Get excited everyone!

AC News takes yet another step.

This Friday the AC News team will launch Ararat College's first News Website coinciding with their second year anniversary.

Starts at lunch, (1:00pm).

In the Trade Trading Centre.

Come along. Get to know who makes this news possible. Snacks and coffee are provided, supplied by Café Production students.



Instagram

@acnews_

Website- www.acnews.cf

This Week in ... Maths

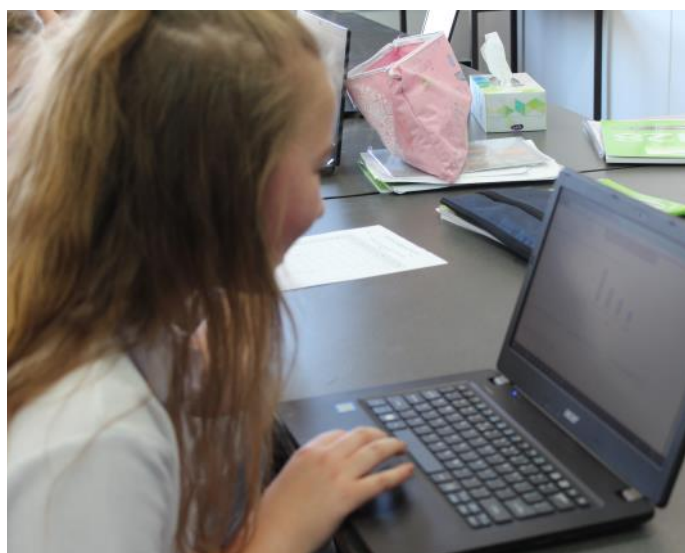


Ararat College is now using Maths Pathways for students in Years 7-10. For those new to the school or not familiar with the program, here is an outline of what students do in Maths.

The Maths Pathways program works on two week cycles. During each cycle students who are in Years 7 and 8 are required to complete at least six modules and Years 9 and 10 are to complete at least eight modules. These modules are chosen by students with guidance from their Maths teacher based on their current level of Mathematics. The modules are online, however, students are required to complete the working out and answers in their books. Students are required to self-manage the completion of the required amount of modules and this will usually require the completion of at least one module for homework each week.

In several lessons during a cycle, mini-lessons are held for small groups of students. These are run by our Maths Helpers as well as classroom teachers. These mini-lessons allow the groups to focus on areas of difficulty in the curriculum.

One lesson in the cycle is devoted to a RICH task that is designed to improve students' problem solving skills and promote team work.



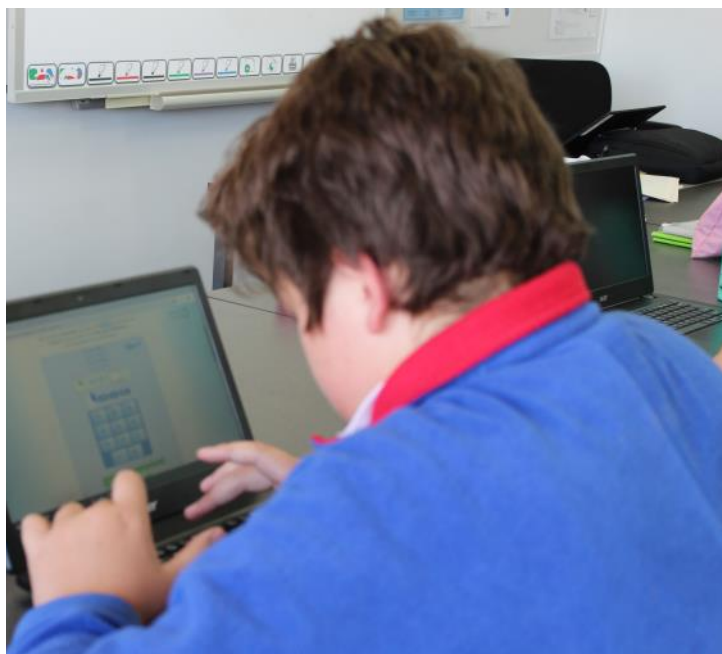
At the end of each cycle students complete a test. Each test is individualised for the student and consists of two parts – the paper test and the online test. Once the test is completed students are given a chance to reflect on their answers and fix any mistakes made. Every student is aiming to achieve a minimum 100% growth for each test – equivalent to three mastered modules. Classroom teachers hold feedback interviews with each student to discuss test results, areas of improvement and to set learning goals for the next test cycle.

I would strongly encourage all parents to access the parent portal on your child's Maths Pathways dashboard. An email address can be entered to receive a notification every time your child has a test result to view. You will need to ask your child for their password in order to login. The websites for each class are listed below:

7 Blue	https://7mathsblue-ararat.mpclass.com
7 Green	https://7mathsgreen-ararat.mpclass.com
7 Red	https://7mathsred-ararat.mpclass.com
8 Blue	https://8mathsblue-ararat.mpclass.com
8 Green	https://8mathsgreen-ararat.mpclass.com
9/10 A	https://matpa-ararat.mpclass.com
9/10 B	https://matpb-ararat.mpclass.com
9/10 C	https://matpc-ararat.mpclass.com
9/10 D	https://matpd-ararat.mpclass.com
9/10 E	https://matpe-ararat.mpclass.com

If you have any further questions regarding your child's report or the Maths Pathway program I would encourage you to attend the upcoming Conversations Night/Day with your child's teacher.

Katrina Pace
Maths Coordinator



GRATITUDE



We are 7 times more likely to think of a negative than a positive and we are so easily seduced by the negative. If we have a negative experience it takes 7 positives to get us back up to where we were.

ACTIVITY

- When you record 3 things/moments you are grateful for every single day, after 21 days your brain begins to rewire and starts to scan the world for the positives.
- If you do this for 42 days, levels of depression and anxiety decrease as levels of wellbeing and happiness increase.

At the end of everyday write down...

3 things you are grateful for!

OR

3 moments you are grateful for!

OR

3 people you are grateful for!

TRY IT!!!

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/>

The Ararat College Wellbeing Team

AC Reads

Student Book Review

ALL THE BRIGHT PLACES

MADISON HEWITT | BOOK AUTHOR: JENNIFER NIVEN



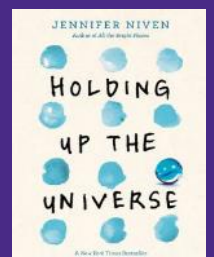
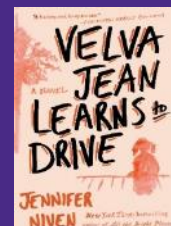
All the Bright Places is a book written by Jennifer Niven following two characters named Theodore Finch and Violet Markey.

The story differentiates between the two in their journey of life. Violet's view is focused on college and dealing with her sister's death, until she meets Finch.

Finch's point of view is focused on him staying alive, dealing with mental boundaries that make life hard for him.

The book was released in 2015 and in my opinion it's her best work yet. It's the perfect balance of sad and exciting.

Jennifer has released other books that include 'holding up the universe' about a girl named Libby Stout, or the 'Velva Jean' series about a girl living before WWII.



Ararat College VCAL 2018 Shiraz



\$15 per bottle

Limit 6 per customer

Available strictly from **February 18 – March 29**

Purchase at Ararat College

Pre Orders to reynolds.andrew.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

From the 18th of February to the 29th of March (6 weeks only), the wine which the VCAL students and teachers have put a lot of time and dedication into will finally be for sale. It will be available from the front office. The price per bottle will be \$15 and each person may purchase up to six bottles.

KFC[®]



ARARAT KFC

CASUAL POSITIONS

**Are you 15 years of age or older and
looking for casual work?**

We have just the job you are looking for
KFC offers you full training, flexible hours and your own
income while you are still attending school!!

Recruiting Now
Apply online at
careers.kfc.com.au



2019 NOMINATIONS OPEN

For more information please visit westernbulldogs.com.au/leadership



NOMINATIONS CLOSE Tuesday 12th March



Willaura Health Care

OUTDOOR MARKET



East Grampians
Health Service

Sunday 3rd March 2019

10am - 2pm

Willaura Hospital Grounds



- Local Producers
- Children's toys
- Homewares
- Cards
- Local artists
- Jewellery
- Giftware
- Condiments
- Art & craft
- Goatmilk Soaps & Skincare
- Olive oil
- Clothing
- Plants
- Handmade Chocolate
- Wool products
- Fresh Fruit Icecream
- Soy candles
- Metal Art Display
- **Coffee & cakes**
- Lions Club BBQ
- Children's activities
- Bamboozle Circus Acts
- Music
- Variety of food vendors & more



Immerse yourself in handmade regional produce from artisans in the gardens of the Willaura Hospital.

Charity event – All money raised goes to the Willaura Auxiliary East Grampians Health Service

Willaura, surrounded by fertile farmland, lies about 34 kilometres south of Ararat on the south-eastern edge of the Grampians in Victoria's Western district

willauramarket.com

facebook.com/willauraoutdoormarket



We thank our following sponsors and supporters of the market



ARE YOU KEEN TO PLAY NETBALL?

Ararat Eagles have spots available for
Junior and Senior netballers

Come along on Wednesday nights for an
informal training session and game play



COME AND TRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
JUNIORS 4:30PM
SENIORS 6-7PM

AT THE ARARAT NETBALL COURTS
(ALEXANDRA OVAL)



For more information/enquiries
Contact Emma on 0400 053 660



ARARAT EAGLES FNC



**EGHS MURRAY TO MOYNE CYCLE RELAY
TEAMS PRESENT**

TRIVIA NIGHT

Wizards, Witches, Goths and Ghouls

FRIDAY MARCH 15 | 7PM FOR 7.15PM START
NURSING EDUCATION STUDENT TRAINING ROOM – NEST
(REAR OF PATRICIA HINCHEY CENTRE)

Tables of 8 – \$20 per head
BYO Drinks and Nibbles – Supper provided

Best dressed individual and table | Prizes | Buy an answer |
Raffle

Table bookings to Jodie Holwell by Monday March 11
5352 9387 or jodie.holwell@eghs.net.au

Proceeds to EGHS Dialysis Unit treatment chair replacement
project.



Calendar Term 1

(Week 6)	Monday	4	
March	Tuesday	5	School Spec Rehearsal Ballarat Black Ranges Swimming - Warracknabeal
	Wednesday	6	VCAL Excursion - Wimmera Field Days
	Thursday	7	
	Friday	8	
(Week 7)	Monday	11	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
	Tuesday	12	
	Wednesday	13	School of Student Leadership - Information Evening Parents of Year 9 students
	Thursday	14	9/10 Forensic Science Excursion - GTAC
	Friday	15	Year 7 Immunisation
(Week 8)	Monday	18	
	Tuesday	19	
	Wednesday	20	Year 9/10 Outdoor Ed Camp
	Thursday	21	Year 9/10 Outdoor Ed Camp Parent / Student / Teacher Conversations Evening
	Friday	22	Year 9/10 Outdoor Ed Camp Parent / Student / Teacher Conversations Morning
(Week 9)	Monday	25	
	Tuesday	26	
	Wednesday	27	
	Thursday	28	School Social
	Friday	29	Maria Island Hike

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.