



Farewell Mr Sawyer

The Student Leadership Team wants to send all of our best wishes and gratitude to Mr Sawyer who has recently retired from the education system after years of service, mainly in a Principal position.

Mr Sawyer cared about us, the students, and that was always at the forefront of his mind. His door was always open and he was more than happy to chat about school, fishing and of course the mighty Hawks.

The student leadership team couldn't have been happier to work with Mr Sawyer over many years. School Captains before us have always enjoyed and felt lucky to report student voice back to him, knowing that he would listen, evaluate and make appropriate changes.

It is with great sadness that we farewell Mr Sawyer from Ararat College, but we know he will always be a part of our community. He leaves behind a wonderful legacy with the positive influence he has given to hundreds of students.

Thank you Mr Sawyer, for your many years of dedication to us, your students.

On behalf of the Student Leadership Team and the students of Ararat college, past and present, we wish you all the best in retirement.

Jack Ward and Bri Hughes



Student Attendance

A reminder to all that students need to log into their mentor groups each day for their attendance to be marked as present. Students who do this will have their attendance counted towards the term 2 attendance raffle and prizes.

A message from the Principal.....

Mr Sawyer

On April 1st Mr Sawyer officially retired from his position as Principal of Ararat College. Mr Sawyer has worked in government education for more than thirty six years, and whilst it will be difficult to acknowledge and celebrate all of his contributions throughout this time, I would like to try to capture some of the highlights of his wonderful career!

Mr Sawyer started his career as a teacher at Stawell Secondary College in 1984 and was promoted into a Leading Teacher position by 1996. In 2001 Mr Sawyer started his journey in principal class positions when he was appointed as Assistant Principal of Stawell Secondary College. In 2005 Mr Sawyer took up the Principal position at Hopetoun Secondary College, during this time he was highly regarded by the community for his dedication to providing a high quality education for students and families. Mr Sawyer was part of a study tour to Canada and the USA in 2006 which investigated virtual schooling, the learning which occurred on this trip then formed the backbone for the development of the Grampians Virtual Learning Network which still operates today. This network ensures that students are provided with a larger variety of VCE subjects which connect to their interests and career pathways, assisting in bridging the gap between metropolitan and rural schools. Mr Sawyer's contribution to this program was highly valued and essential to its effective implementation.

In 2008 Mr Sawyer was appointed as Principal at Ararat College. During this time Geoff worked hard to secure many facility upgrades and building works which increased the capacity for our school to provide the best possible learning environment. This has included our Trade Training Centre, the development of the School Farm site, the refurbishment of the Science Language Centre, Barwick Park and an upgrade to the Administration Building. Mr Sawyer was actively involved in a wide variety of committees and associations, most notably he served as Secretary for the Wimmera Secondary Principals' Association for ten years and completed this role with much distinction. This contribution was recognised in 2016 when he was presented with the 'Brendan Ryan Award for outstanding leadership in the Wimmera Network.' He was also the driving force behind the creation of our local VET cluster which includes Stawell Secondary College, Marian College and Lake Bolac College.

Mr Sawyer readily gave up his time to mentor leading teachers and new principals. He was often required as a panel member for principal selection at schools across the Wimmera, as his wide experience in principal class positions (nineteen years in total) made him well suited to this task. Personally I was fortunate enough to be the recipient of Mr Sawyer's mentorship and support throughout my teaching career, which has shaped the educator into whom I am still developing. Mr Sawyer has a belief in his students and staff and this ensures they are fully supported to reach if not exceed their potential. Many of us will remember Mr Sawyer as a passionate Hawthorn supporter and fisherman – I remember going on the Year 9 camp with Mr Sawyer leading a fishing session with the students.

Mr Sawyer is the embodiment of our school values; respect, responsibility and excellence. He is passionate, diligent and dedicated. Ararat College is indebted to him for his contribution to our school, and government education is a better place for having him a part of it. No words can truly describe the impact Mr Sawyer has had on schools and their communities

throughout his career. I wish you all the best in your retirement Geoff – may there be many fish, Hawthorn premierships (not too many!) and time with your family. I hope you continue to be “living the dream.”

School Council

Last week we held our School Council AGM via video conferencing. Congratulations to Dave Sanders who will continue in his role as President, congratulations and thank you to Adam Merrick who will be our Vice President and Coralie Whitworth who will continue as Secretary. We have also welcomed a new parent member Emily Toner, two student representatives Natasha Ferguson and Briahna Hughes, community member Jessica Paterson (CEO of the CGLLEN), and staff members Emma Henry and Jodie Simpson. Thank you also to Leanne Hyland, Wade Carmen and Tammie Meehan who have continued in their parent member positions. Doug Tosch, Natalie Dowsett, Mel Fiegert and Tianee Hurst have finished their time on School Council and we thank them for their contribution. Our 2019 Annual Report was endorsed at this meeting and can now be found on our school website.

Remote Learning Update

I would like to thank all families for their continued support in the implementation of our Remote Learning program. We continue to reflect on our practice and make adjustments to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our students in the best way possible. As a result we have made one adjustment to the requirements for Year 7 & 8 (Junior School) – for elective subjects, students will be supplied with one task per fortnight, there is no due date for these tasks and there will be no other activities or announcements uploaded to the Google Classrooms for this subjects. For the purpose of remote learning elective subjects include: Art, Graphics, Technology, Food, Music, Health, IT, Humanities, Textiles and French. As always please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Senior students should be following their timetable and need to work hard to ensure they are completing the required tasks so that they remain on track for their VCAL and VCE completion. I understand a number of our senior students are in the workforce so it is also important that they maintain an appropriate work/school/life balance. Our Senior School Teachers are eager to assist wherever possible, students need only ask for extra support through SMT (xuno) or phoning the school on 5352 4177.

I continue to be impressed by the way in which our whole school community is adapting to the current challenge of learning and working from home. It has been great to see students joining our virtual lessons and check-ins and working hard to complete the tasks that have been set. This week we even started some of our instrumental music lessons via pre-recorded lessons! It is important that we stay motivated and keep working hard to achieve to our potential – a lot of resilience is required. Our welfare team Taylah and Steph are still conducting appointments with students so please contact them if you would like additional support.

I wish everyone a restful weekend with a break from remote learning!

Ellie McDougall
Acting Principal

Farewell Mr Sawyer - Just a few memories...



First Week at
Ararat College
February 2008



Induction of the
College Leaders
2009



Drawing the VCAL
Easter Raffle 2009



Year 7 Public
Speaking
Finals 2008



Visit to the College by
the Hawthorn Football
players 2010



French Week 2009.
Judging the Gateaux
Competition.



2008 VCAL cubby house raffle. Drawn by
Taylah Jamieson. Winner Geoff Sawyer



Visiting student and Gnurad-Gundidj
campus of Alpine School 2009



*Coins for
Kids Cancer
Fundraiser
2011*



*2016 receiving The Brendan Ryan
Wimmera Education Excellence Award*



*Wimmera Field
Days Excursion
2011*



*Fishing lessons
Year 9 Camp
Anglesea 2010*



*Promoting
Legacy Badge
Week 2014*



*Official Opening Barwick Park
Multi Use Facility 2017*



*ANZAC Day Commemoration
Shrine of Remembrance
Melbourne 2018*

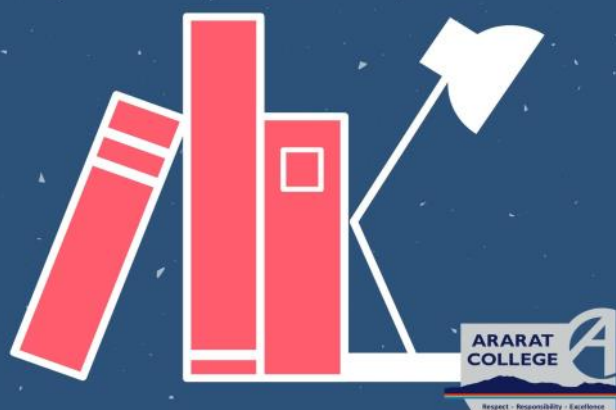


*Year 7 Barista
Training 2018*

LIBRARY ACCESS

IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

We know that many of our keen readers are ready for a change of books ... so the library will now be open by appointment only for one student (or family) at a time. Please email Alison.Jacobse@education.vic.gov.au with your preferred day and time, which will be confirmed with you by return email. Or, if you already know the title of the book you'd like to borrow, you can email that and collect it from the front office."



CONNAR BARRIE
ASHLEY ASHLEY

CAITLIN O'BRIEN
ETHAN FENN

REECE KETTLE
TYRA FLAVELL



CONGRATULATIONS
POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AWARDS

Attend a Virtual Careers Expo

[Torrens University Australia](#) is opening up its virtual event platform to students, teachers, parents, and tertiary education providers across the country for a unique **National Virtual Careers Expo**. More than 60 universities, colleges, and registered training organisations from across the country will be on hand to meet students, showcasing everything their institution has to offer.

The expo will run over two days: Thursday 7 May & Friday 8 May 2020 from 12.00pm to 8.00pm (AEST).

By joining the Virtual Careers Expo, students will be able to –

- Wander through our virtual expo hall featuring more than 50 institutions
- Visit the Webcast Hub to watch seminars and feature presentations from exhibitors
- Download course guides and take a virtual campus tour
- Chat with staff and current students to find out more about each institution

Students are encouraged to register for this innovative event at [Virtual Careers Expo](#)

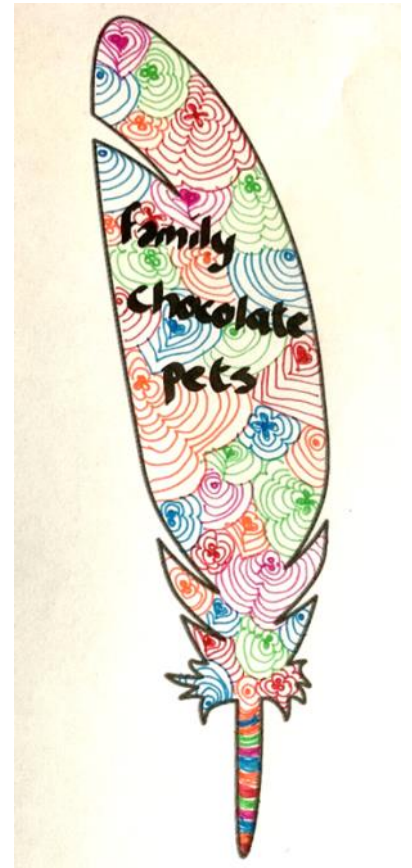
Virtual Careers Expo



Wall of Gratitude

Hi all, as a fun and positive project for **everyone**, I am going to get you all to decorate your own feather and then to send it to me. We will put them all together at school and make them look like the picture below and take photos of you guys in front of it when you return to school!

In your feather you need to write **3 things you're grateful** for, then you need to colour your feather. It does not matter if you go outside the lines as I will have to cut the feathers out anyway.



You may colour your feather in any way you like, if you want to print it out and colour it in you can, then you can either drop it in to the school, scan it and send it to me, or take a photo of it and send the photo to me. You also may use digital technology to make it look effective. I have included a template for you to use if you like (above right)

Let's get the whole school community doing this- students, staff and parents if they wish.

Ms Poole

While we have been away...



There is one member of our school community who is having to adjust to a new way of living with most students learning online from home.

'Hey Hey' the school cat has had to get used to a lot less people around, but rest assured he is still getting ample attention from the students that are present each day. With plenty of cuddles in the school yard and in his daily visit to the classroom, Hey Hey is still living the high life.

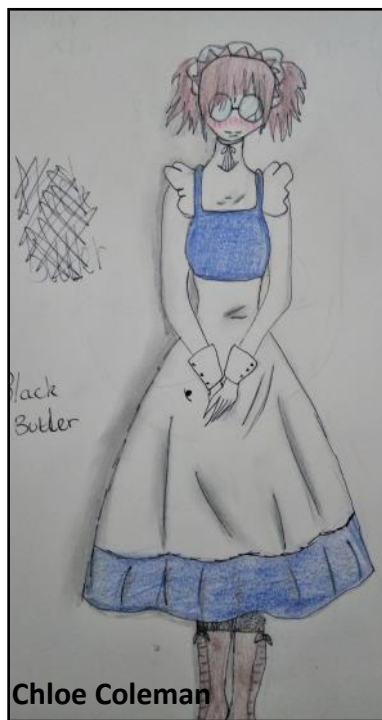
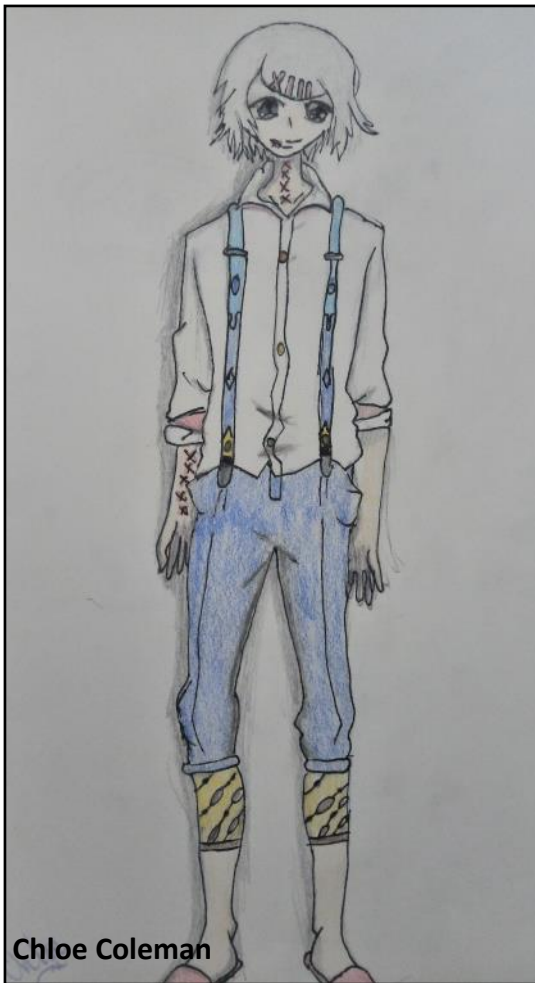


A big thankyou to Taneka Day who has made sure Hey Hey is well fed and has plenty of food every day. To quote one teacher "Hey Hey is a model student".

Year 7 - Remote Learning

Our Amazing Isolation Artists

Building on our studies of the proportions of the human face from Term 1, during report period two, Year 7 Art students are studying figure drawing and the proportion of the human body. Here is a selection of work as sent through. Well done .



Food Studies from home



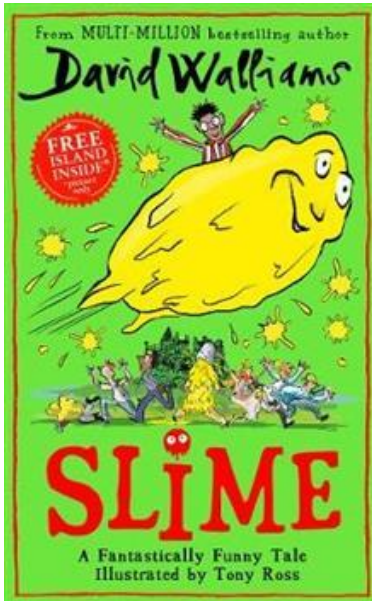
This week Year 7 Food Studies have been challenged to cook Pizza. They could design their own flavourings. If they could access the ingredients, they were also to make their own base.

Here are some examples that have been sent through to share.



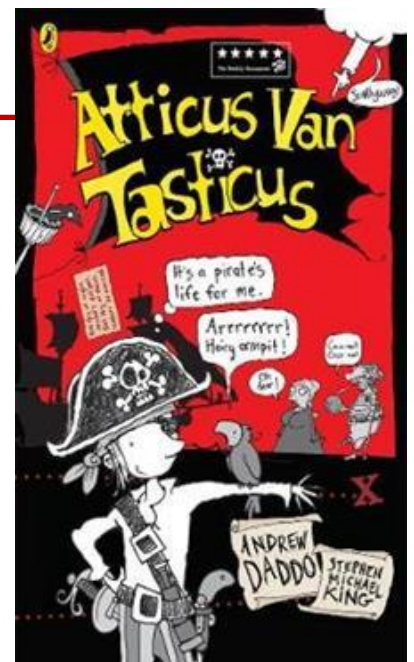
In need of a laugh ?

These novels by popular authors are available for borrowing in the library. And are sure to bring a smile to your face.



The new children's book from No. 1 bestselling author David Walliams - a fantastically funny tale illustrated by artistic genius, Tony Ross. WELCOME TO THE ISLE OF MULCH... This little island is home to a large number of horrible grown-ups. The school, the local park, the toy shop and even the island's ice-cream van are all run by awful adults who like nothing more than making children miserable. And the island is owned by the most awful one of all - Aunt Greta Greed! Something needs to be done about them. But who could be brave enough? Meet Ned - an extraordinary boy with a special power. SLIMEPOWER!

1750, when times were tough and teeth were rotten... As part of an ancient family tradition - as a birthday gift from his rich Grandnan, Atticus Van Tasticus chooses a pirate ship, a choice that will change the course of history - well, OK - his story, at least. Instead of going to school or down a coal mine, Atticus pulls together a rag-tag bunch misfits - OOPS - a tough, brilliant crew, and sets out to wreak havoc - AHEM - live a piratin' life. With almost nothing, Atticus has a heart for adventure and beauty and danger. Where any minute might be your last, and your next minute could be your best. (If only they could get off the dock...)



RESOURCE GUIDE

Mental Health Information



Headspace

headspace.org.au/covid-19/



Beyond Blue

coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au/

Online / Phone Counselling



eHeadspace

headspace.org.au/eheadspace/



Kids Helpline

kidshelpline.com.au/
or call 1800 55 1800



Parentline

Search Parentline into google
or call 13 22 89



Lifeline

lifeline.org.au or call 13 11 14

Local Supports



Ararat Community Relief Centre

For help or advice call 5355 0980



Private Rental Assistance Program

For information call 1800 825 955

For more information, further support or assistance in accessing these services please contact Taylah Jamieson on 5352 4177 or email taylah.jamieson@education.vic.gov.au

Have your circumstances changed?

In light of the recent events related to the Covid 19 pandemic, there may be families who have applied for Centrelink benefits and may now be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). If you now have a healthcare card that is valid from the **14th April 2020**, you may be able to apply.

CSEF payment

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

If you believe you are eligible to apply for this funding or need further information please do not hesitate to contact the college office 53524177.

Please note that CSEF program for 2020 closes on **26th June 2020**. Applications must have been processed by this date.

Stories from the forefront of conservation

Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear from some of the
state's leaders in cultural burning and threatened species!



Renowned Fire Elder
Dave Wandin



Royal Botanic Garden's
Orchid Scientist
Noushka Reiter



Zoos Victoria's Threatened
Species Biologist
Dan Harley



Trust for Nature's
Ben Cullen

A great education webinar for home
schoolers and anyone interested in
what's being done to look after
our native plants and animals.

**JOIN HERE FOR FREE
ON ZOOM!**

Meeting ID: 867 1532 6920
Password: 031995

Queries Ben Cullen: benc@tfn.org.au, M: 0407 044 821

7 May 2020, 12 noon – 1.30pm

Pyrenees House Presents

Photography Competition

Junior Section Year 7 - 9
Senior Section Year 10 - 12
(A4 size please)

Please send photos to Mrs McAdie:
melissam@araratcc.vic.edu.au

Categories

Landscapes and Nature

Portrait

Black and white

Good luck !



WHO TO CONTACT IF...



MY CHILD IS HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH THE WORK

Subject Teacher
Sub School Coordinator



I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE ABOUT MY STUDENTS WELLBEING

Wellbeing Team
Sub School Coordinator
Sub School Leader



MY STUDENT IS HAVING ISSUES WITH TECHNOLOGY

Principal Class
Sub School Coordinator
Sub School Leader
IT Technician at school



I HAVE A QUESTION IN RELATION TO FEES OR MY FAMILY NEEDS SUPPORT

Contact the College Office



MY STUDENT HAS WITNESSED INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR ONLINE

Classroom Teacher
Sub School Coordinator
Sub School Leader



I JUST HAVE A GENERAL QUESTION

- Contact your Childs Sub School Coordinator or Sub School Leader



staff CONTACTS

PRINCIPAL CLASS

Ellie McDougall - Acting Principal
ellie.mcdougall@education.vic.gov.au

Emma Henry - Acting Assistant Principal
emma.henry@education.vic.gov.au

YEAR 7 & 8

Ben Krol - Sub School Coordinator
Benjamin.Krol@education.vic.gov.au

Angela Ettles - Sub School Leader
Angela.Ettles@education.vic.gov.au

VCE & VCAL

Melissa Murnane - Sub School Leader
Melissa.Murnane@education.vic.gov.au

Andrew Sherwell - Careers Coordinator
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YEAR 9 & 10

Janine Poole - Sub School Coordinator
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Kriss Ellis - Sub School Leader
Kriss.Ellis@education.vic.gov.au

WELLBEING TEAM

Taylah Jamieson - Youth Worker
Taylah.Jamieson@education.vic.gov.au

Steph Carroll - Counsellor
Steph.Carroll@education.vic.gov.au

Leo Cowey - School Nurse
cowey.leonie.m1@edumail.vic.gov.au

THE COLLEGE

Front Office
(03) 5352 4177

Kevin Bowles - IT Support
ararat.sc@education.vic.gov.au



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.