



Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

Pyramid Hill College is a Child Safe School



Newsletter
August 12th, 2022

Diary 2022

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Principal's News

Lions Club Junior Public Speaking Zone Final



Public speaking can be a terrifying experience for many people, however on Sunday in Cohuna at the Zone Final of the Lions Club Junior Public Speaking Competition Thomas Hercott and Elsie Poole looked very much at home as they wowed the crowd with their confidence and poise.

Thomas had the crowd wincing as he shared in detail the facts discovered through extensive research into the life of the notorious Jack the Ripper. Thomas delivered his speech confidently and used humour as a tool to successfully engage the crowd. Elsie chose Sydney as a favourite place to visit and she was very persuasive as to why we should all visit Sydney. Elsie projected her voice well and spoke very clearly. The information that she shared was well researched and written.

Congratulations to Thomas and Elsie for being such fine competitors and terrific ambassadors for Pyramid Hill. Although Thomas and Elsie did not progress to the district level of the final, they have certainly made us very proud.

Thanks to the teachers, families, Pyramid Hill Lions Club and community members who have supported Thomas and Elsie throughout this competition.

School Review

Last Tuesday the Review Panel conducted their fieldwork day, which included forums with students, parents and staff. A huge thank you to all who contributed to these field work activities, the Review Panel were extremely impressed with the insight of all participants and the manner in which all contributed. Next Wednesday we have our final day with the Review Panel which will involve taking all the information gathered into account and setting our strategic plan for the next four years.

Reminder



Term 3

Music Lessons

Payments are now due and payable to the office or by direct deposit.

Pyramid Hill College Values

Respect:

We are respectful of self, others and the environment. (we are thoughtful of our words and actions.)

Learn:

We are learners who strive for excellence. (We challenge ourselves to do our best.)

Community:

We are community minded and embrace diversity. (We foster a sense of community and belonging for all.)

Pyramid Hill College

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2022 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents/caregivers/guardians think of our school. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. We encourage all families to participate in this survey. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 15th August to Friday, 16th September.**

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, Simplified Chinese, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

Last year we used the survey results when planning the curriculum, extra curricular activities and special programs. We also used the survey results when reflecting and improving our learning and teaching practices.

An invitation and instructions on how to participate will be distributed to all families on Compass. If any parents need assistance accessing Compass please phone the school to make an appointment. We are only too happy to assist you through this process.

Advanced Energy Tech Excursion

In Community Connections on Thursday Year 9 headed out to tour the Advanced Energy Tech demonstration site! Fair to say we were all incredibly impressed with the innovative technology used to develop energy and carbon from waste, in an environmentally friendly way. The students were certainly inspired as they asked many questions and gained so much knowledge. Thanks for sharing your business journey with us Drew! We can't wait to see your dream become a reality in the very near future



**Pyramid Hill College
is a "Child Safe" School.**

**We are committed to the safety,
participation and empowerment
of all children**

Book Week 2022

Theme: "Dreaming with your eyes open."

Date: Tuesday 23rd August

Dress as your favourite book character.

The day will commence as follows:

11.30 am- Walk down the street.

(Pre-school & St Pats join us)

12.30 pm- Back to school- winners announced

1.00 pm- BBQ Lunch & Play time



MATES

Our MATES night was a huge success and lots of fun. Thank you to everyone who came along. Special thanks to Allarah, Ellesha and Maria for the activities and Wendy and the Year 9's for the magnificent food! Our Year 9/10 students at PHC are incredibly fortunate to be so well supported by their community mentors and we can't thank them enough.



New Staff

Over the past few weeks we have been delighted to welcome two new staff members to our team.

Mrs Hannah Kanyi is working as an English tutor and is assisting a range of students through the Tutor Learning Initiative. Mrs Kanyi is an English teacher so we are very fortunate to have her expertise in this area

Last week we welcomed Mr Ben Guy who will be teaching Year 4-10 Art. Mr Guy has worked in the Arts area for many years. Previously he has worked at the National Gallery of Victoria, Art Encounters and the Melbourne Studio of Art. Mr Guy has also ran many adult learning programs and student holiday programs.

Both Mrs Kanyi and Mr Guy have such an amazing wealth of experience that they are very keen to share with our community.

Covid-19

Face masks

It is strongly recommended by the Victorian Department of Health that face masks are worn in indoor settings, with face masks mandatory for those aged 8 and over who are household contacts and attending school. This is because the wearing of masks is effective in reducing the transmission of COVID-19.

What does this mean in practice for schools?

It is the department's expectation that, through to the end of winter, students aged 8 and over and staff will wear masks when in class, except where removing a mask is necessary for clear communication or when a particular activity requires the removal of a mask.

Wearing masks is a simple step we can all take this winter to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases and ensure our schools are as safe as possible.

Exemptions for testing and isolation

The period of time when someone is considered a recently confirmed case and therefore exempt from testing and isolation requirements has been reduced from the previous 12 weeks to 4 weeks.

This means that staff and children who are household contacts of people with COVID-19 are now required to undertake the testing and isolation requirements from 4 weeks after completing isolation with COVID-19. Previously, this exemption period was 12 weeks.

After the 4-week exemption period, students and staff members who are a household contact of a new COVID-19 case, must follow the rules for household contacts, including reporting this to their school.

As part of this they must take 5 rapid antigen tests (RATs) over 7 days and receive negative test results and wear a face mask (if over 8 years old) in indoor spaces.

Year F-6 News

Workers of the Week



Olivia Scott: working independently and finding facts about camels. Olivia also received the Year 6 award for staying focussed and on task in class.

Ruby Roberts: enthusiasm towards Auslan, eagerness to share signs and fantastic skills. Ruby also received another award for learning her alphabet letters, sounds and green words.

Kerenza Archbold: helping others and trying hard with her artwork.

Tyler Manton: extra effort into the presentation of his information poster.

Jasper Mutugi (Year 6 award) being friendly and inclusive to all.

Classroom Cup

Congratulations to the Year 6 class on winning the Classroom Cup for this week.



Soccer Clinics

Thank you to Mr McCann for organising the Soccer clinics on Monday. The students had great fun playing games learning how to dribble the ball and shoot for goals. The students have been very lucky with the clinics we have had over the past few weeks.



Book Week- Tuesday 23rd August

Book Week is fast approaching us and I hope everyone is getting their book character costumes ready for the day. There will be a BBQ lunch on the day and the orders need to be in by Friday 19th August. We encourage parents to attend the parade and the BBQ lunch. Hope to see everyone there.

Lots on in the next few weeks

There is lots on in the next few weeks so please keep an eye on compass and the newsletter, so students know what they need for school.

School Vision Statement

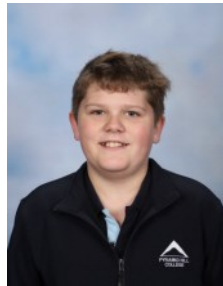
The Pyramid Hill College community is committed to providing an inclusive, caring and rigorous learning environment that engages our students and challenges them to reach their full potential; academically, socially, emotionally, physically and creatively.

Students are empowered to demonstrate and value knowledge and skills that will support them, as life-long learners, to participate in and contribute to a wider community.

We promote a positive school culture that ensures staff, students and parents feel valued, have meaningful opportunities to contribute to the school and can effectively engage in the learning journey.

Year 7-10 Learning Neighbourhood

Student of the Fortnight



Congratulations to Kaitlin Broad and Jacobi Mitchell who were our students of the fortnight. Kaitlin received her award for demonstrating initiative by completing work outside of the classroom. Jacobi received his award for sharing his knowledge with and supporting his peers. Well done to Kaitlin and Jacobi, you thoroughly deserve the award.

NCD Athletics

The team for the NCD Athletics is being finalised. Thank you to the students for their cooperation in determining the positions for events.

Auskick/NetSetGo/Golf Sessions

The NetSetGo, Auskick and Golf programs for 2022 finished last week. Thank you to all of the participants and their families for supporting the programs. Thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted with the programs.



MATES Night

Thank you to the students and mentors who attended the night. It was a great night and Mia, Allarah and Ellesha did an excellent job in organising the activities for the group. Thank you to Mrs Moon and Mr McCann for attending the night and for their organisation. Barb has done a wonderful job in matching students with their mentors.

Hands on Learning

There are many projects currently in progress for the Hands on Learning team. Last week Helen showed the students how to prune and graft and we were able to graft some eating varieties of grapes onto the existing grapevines at the College. This week progress continued on the bike track, wooden trays, chess boards and ga ga ball pit. Some maintenance was done on some tables and wheelbarrows and the team started sanding a picnic table for it to be repainted in the future. We also shifted some music equipment and had a delicious BBQ lunch.

The team continues to be productive with their projects and are demonstrating teamwork and initiative. There was an article in the Loddon Herald last week regarding the HoL program, please check it out.



Emotional check-ins are designed to give you an accurate reading of how you feel. Staying in tune with your feelings can help boost resilience, lower anxiety and point you towards activities you enjoy.

FEELINGS CHECK IN

I feel...

I can...



Happy

- Help someone else
- Notice and enjoy my positive mood
- Play my favourite game



Calm

- Help someone else
- Read a book/do my homework
- Do some arts & crafts



Bored

- Write a letter to a friend or relative
- Play my favourite game
- Put on some music and dance



Sad

- Talk to a parent, relative or friend
- Write or draw about my feelings
- Cuddle a teddy or family member



Angry

- Take 5 deep breaths
- Take a warm shower or bath
- Go for a run or try stretching/yoga



Worried

- Talk to a family member, teacher or friend
- Pay attention to each of my 5 senses
- Take 5 deep breaths



Tired

- Go for a walk
- Have a healthy snack
- Have a glass of water

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE AGED 12-25 THAT DESERVES TO BE RECOGNIZED?
HAVE THEY ACHIEVED SOMETHING SPECIAL IN SPORT, COMMUNITY OR SCHOOL?

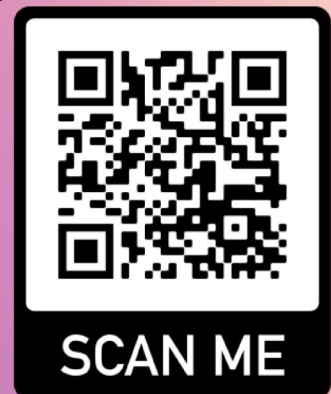
NOMINATE THEM FOR

GANNAWARRA SHIRE'S

Young Person of the Month



Nominate here!



EACH AWARDEE WINS:
A CERTIFICATE
\$50 VOUCHER
PUBLIC RECOGNITION ACROSS THE SHIRE
AN INVITATION TO OUR REGIONAL YOUTH AWARDS

INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Monday, 29 August 2022

9:30 am to 4:00 pm

Near the Neighbourhood House, Kelly Street

PYRAMID HILL

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice



**Services
Australia**

servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice