



Diary 2023

December

- 4-8 Year 9/10 work experience
- 6 Year 6 lunch
- 8 Return Parent Payment forms
- 8 Last day for ordering primary stationery packs online.
- 11 Presentation Night
- 12 Moving Up Day
- 13 Activities Day, Bendigo
- 14 Activities at PHC
- 15 Pool Day
- 18 Interview Day
- 19 Curriculum Day
- 20 Final Day of school

REMINDERS

Primary Stationery online orders last day is December 8th.
Please return Parent Payments forms to school by December 8th.

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.)

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Principal's News

Year 10 Dinner



Our Year 10 Dinner was held on Wednesday night in the lounge area of the Pyramid Hill Hotel. All Year 10 students looked terrific and certainly made themselves, their families and Pyramid Hill College very proud. The theme 'Men in Black' was very well received and the introduction of the code names set the scene for a memorable night. As each students achievements were recognised, some elected to present a speech reflecting on their years at Pyramid Hill College.

A big thank you to Bu Gould for coordinating the evening and to all staff who helped out in a myriad of ways. The Victoria Hotel did a great job with the catering and was a terrific venue ; and Eloise was magnificent in her waitressing.

It was certainly a very special night as we celebrated the achievements of our fabulous Year 10 students. We wish them all the very best as they move to the next stage of their education or the world of employment.

As we say goodbye to our Year 10's we also sadly farewell some families as their youngest child leaves our setting. I would like to thank Nicole Myles, Steven Gibson, Jacinta and Jason Deller, Hayley Hipwell and Abi Umali for their unwavering support and contribution to our school.

We shall sadly miss our 2023 Year 10 students and their families but we encourage them to keep in touch and look forward to hearing of many achievements in the future.

Booklists

Booklist information was sent home earlier this week. If you have any questions, or if you do not receive your information, please ring the school office and speak to Joy. This year the primary school stationery package being sourced through Kerang Computers will need to be completed online by Friday 8th December. Information regarding payment of parent contributions will be included in the packs. Invoices will be sent home at the beginning of 2024 so no payment needs to be now. We ask that these be returned by 8th December.

CSEF (Camp/Excursion) Money

Any family who applied for the excursion money with their Health Care Card, will be pleased to know that any money still attached to their children at the end of 2023 will be rolled over into their family accounts for 2024. New Health card holders will be eligible for the CSEF upon lodgement of an application in 2024. Please see Joy in the office who can help you with information about this.

School Bus Program

2024 applications have now been processed, and families should have received an e-mail notification.

For families that did not receive an e-mail, please request they check their 'junk' folder, or request they contact us to check that we have their correct e-mail address on file.

For most students they will have received a travel offer on the same bus as 2023, and all will look the same as previous years.

Some students may have been allocated to a different bus based on their eligibility priority/ the number of applications to be accommodated on the 'original bus'

Families can e-mail us with a request to be accommodated as per their 2023 approval, and we will accommodate this where possible

Some families may initially be waitlisted, as allocations are finalised. This list is reviewed daily and, as soon as a seat become available, the family will receive a travel offer.

Families do not need to take any further action for a waitlisted application.

BYOD Program

In 2024 the College will continue with the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) for Year 7-10 students. If parents are purchasing a device we ask that you please check our BYOD specifications requirements below so the device is able to connect to our network and be serviced by our technician.

Whilst we encourage parents to purchase a device for their Year 7-10 students, we will once again have a limited supply of devices that students may borrow for classroom use only. These devices will not be allowed to be taken home.

The school will continue to provide iPads or netbooks for Year F-6 students. These school owned devices will not be allowed to be taken home.

To help students and parents with purchasing their BYOD the school suggest some specification for notebooks (allowing parents to shop about, especially during 'sales time'.)

Suggested Notebook Specification:

- Operating System: Windows 10 or newer
- CPU: Intel i3, equivalent or better
- RAM/Memory: 8GB or more
- Storage: 128GB SSD (Solid State Drive) or larger.
- Screen Size: 11 inches or larger
- Suggested warranty of 2 years or more
- A Laptop Bag is essential
- Battery life of 8hrs or more
- AntiVirus software is required before computers are allowed on the school's wireless network

Students are able to access a free copy of Microsoft Office 365 by using their edupass @schools email address. <https://www.office.com/>

End of year events

The year is quickly coming to a close and with that comes a myriad of events. Please place the relevant dates on your calendar.

Monday 4th December – Friday 8th December:- Year 9/10 Work Experience -Year 10 final week at school

Wednesday 29th November:- Year 10 Dinner 6pm start

Wednesday 6th November:- Year 6 Lunch 12:30pm start

Monday 11th December:- Presentation Night 6:30-8:30pm

Tuesday 12th December:- Moving Up Day.



Reminder to Year 5
Have you put your order in for your 2024
Year 6 shirt?



mates

mentor assist target engage skills

Barefoot Bowling for Pyramid Hill College MATES end of year breakup.

A group of twenty-four Year 9 and 10 students and their mentors had some fun bowling at the Pyramid Hill Bowling Club on Wednesday night last week to celebrate another successful year of MATES mentoring at Pyramid Hill College. The MATES mentoring program is supported by the North Central LLEN and has become an embedded and valued part of the school curriculum.

At the Bowls night, Marie Noelker, a committed mentor herself and a keen bowler was assisted by other club members to lead the group through the rules and objectives of the game. Assistant Principal Sean McCann cooked a BBQ tea and Bowling club members and parents stayed after the game to mingle with students and mentors. Certificates were presented by Barb Bear to mentors and Year 10 students who are finishing the program. Mentors were thanked for their valuable contribution, getting to know a young person and taking an interest in their well-being. Mentors and students have bonded extremely well - one mentor traveling from Kyneton to see her student. Due to the forecast of rain, some of the farmer mentors were unable to attend. Current Year 9 students will continue their matches for another year.

Year 10 matches who are finishing the program this year include:

Ellesha Fergusson and Ange Eades

Riley O'Toole and Bill Quinn

James Hercott and Jason Gould

Jasmine Twigg and Marie Noelker

Maria Umali and Sally Manton

Rose Bone and Meg Stewart

Mia Farrar and Imogen Broad

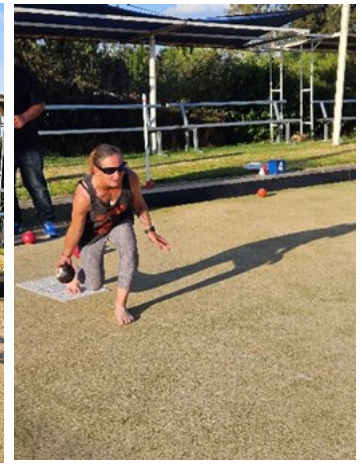
Harry Goodes and Bruce Moon

Blake Gibson and Chris Cain

Allarah Ceballos and Margaret Smith

Zac Manton and Matty Moon

Thanks to all our wonderful mentors for their valuable contribution over the last two years. The North Central LLEN, Pyramid Hill College and the students very much appreciate your time and commitment.



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 F-6 News

Canberra Camp

This week saw Mr O'Connor and nine Year 5/6 students head off very early to Canberra on Monday morning for a five day camp in Canberra. They have had a great week visiting lots of places and mixing with the East Loddon students who went on the camp with them. Thank you to the East Loddon staff for all their organising and to Mr O'Connor for attending the camp.

Year 10 Students

Congratulations to our Year 10 students who are leaving us for their year 11 & 12 studies at other schools next year. We will miss you all and wish you all the best next year. You all looked amazing on Wednesday night and thank you to those students who spoke on the night, you did an amazing job.

Bendigo Trip

On Wednesday the 13th December, Year F-6 have the opportunity to attend Palmer's Gym and the movies. Year 6 will attend the Ninja Warriors in the afternoon as a reward for doing the rubbish bins all year. A note went out today. Money and notes need to be returned by Friday 8th December. A calendar for December will also be sent home next week with all events and the things the students will need for the month of December.

Foundations 2024



Once again, the Foundations students for 2024 came to school as part of the orientation program on Monday morning. This week we made some magnetic gingerbread men and had a play on the new playground. They are ready for school and on Tuesday 12th December they will come for the whole day and participate in English, maths, PE, Auslan and Art.

Year 6 Graduation Lunch

Year 6 students, their parents and staff are invited to the Year 6 graduation lunch on Wednesday 6th December at 12.30. We look forward to this event.

Library Books & Readers Returned

Can we please have all library books and readers returned by Thursday 7th December.

Activities for the last week

Monday 11th Dec- Presentation Night 6.30 start

Tuesday 12th Dec- Moving up day

Wednesday 13th Dec- Bendigo Trip Year F-6

Thursday 14th Dec- Activities at school & Christmas Party

Friday 15th Dec- Pool Day from 11.am

Workers of the Week



Matt Policarpio: great week.

Alice Roberts: positive talk and encouragement towards others.

Tia Gould: dedicated to her reading in 2023 and having great success.

Max Twigg: dedicated to his reading in 2023 and having great success.

Maddie Leerson: beautiful reading.

Amelia Stevens Year 6 award: sharing her toys with everyone when she brings them to school.

Kerenza Archbold: for trying really hard with her handwriting and colouring.

Lucy Scott Year 6: going out in downhill even when she wasn't sure.

Olivia Scott: being dedicated to her reading in 2023 and having great success.

Reading Awards



150 Nights: Ronnie Jessop

300 Nights: Tia Gould, Max Twigg, Olivia & Lucy Scott

Year 7-10 Learning Neighbourhood

Year 10 Dinner



Work Experience

Work experience for year nine and ten students will be from Monday December 4th to Friday December 8th. Students have been completing safe at work modules at school. Thank you to Barb Bear for her work in organising placements for the students.

Chaplain's Chat

CHANGE, CHALLENGE & COMMITMENT.

Growth and change are on my mind this week, as we give our well wishes to many year tens who have grown up over the years attending PHC. Growth is indeed a part of our lifelong learning journey. When growth occurs it brings about change, as the two are inseparable. The problematic part for some of us, is inner growth and change require our own hard work over extensive periods of time. Change can be both personal and communal, yet for either to occur we need to take ownership and then embrace becoming a change-maker.

For change and growth to occur there are two vital steps, also beginning with the letter C. They are CHALLENGE and COMMITMENT. For change to occur either personally or communally, we first must identify the CHALLENGE and decide what we need to make this happen. The second vital step is COMMITMENT. We must resolve to commit ourselves to the work required to meet the challenge which will result in change and growth. There are many wonderful change-makers here at PHC who understand change begins with one person. Are you also a change-maker?

HANDS ON LEARNING



A program supported by Save the Children

This week in HOL we were fortunate to have Malcom join us from HOL. We made some short bread biscuits to make Christmas trees next week, had lunch down at the Coffee Bank and then did some mowing and weeding at the pre school.



Reminder to all students that library books must be returned next week. Please check to see if you have any at home.

LODDON LIGHTS UP ORANGE

16 Days of Activism Campaign

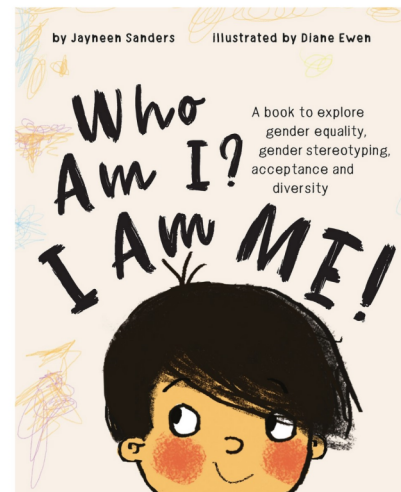
25 Nov-10 Dec

Each year Loddon Lights up Orange for the 16 days of Activism campaign against gender-based and family violence to raise awareness and say 'NO' to family violence. The campaign runs from 25 Nov to 10 Dec.

Rigid beliefs and thinking about men and women's roles and stereotypes are a key contributor to violence. You can make a difference by having conversations with the children and people in your life - that it doesn't matter what gender they are, they can like, do or be whatever they want. Together we can create a community where everyone is safe, equal and respected.

Books that can help support these conversations:

- > **Giraffes Can't Dance** by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees
- > **No Difference Between Us** by Jayneen Saunders
- > **Who Am I? I Am Me!** by Jayneen Sanders
- > **Hunting for Dragons** by Bruce Whatley
- > **I am Enough** by Grace Byers
- > **I Could Be, You Could Be** by Karen Owen
- > **Jacob's New Dress** by Sarah and Ian Hoffman
- > **Made by Raffi** by Craig Pomranz
- > **Introducing Teddy** by Jessica Walton
- > **My Princess Boy** by Cheryl Kilodav
- > **Pearl Fairweather Pirate Captain** by Jayneen Sanders
- > **The Paper Bag Princess** by Robert Munsch



Visit your local Library service to borrow books that promote boys and girls as equals or win one below.

Activities happening locally for Loddon Lights up Orange

- Pre-Launch at Boort District School on the 24th of November
- Walk Against Family Violence. Saturday 25 November, starting at 8am as part of Nolen's Park Parkrun.
- BDH are facilitating an awareness marquee in town on December 1st as part of our 16 Days, with NDCH's giant games
- Empower Her event, Friday 8 December, starting at 10am at Jen's on George Cohuna. Bookings essential. Call NDCH 5451 0200 or visit our Facebook page

SAFE + EQUAL



RESPECT WOMEN CALL IT OUT

