

MANSFIELD SECONDARY COLLEGE

Newsletter



Year 7s enjoying class outdoors in the Bagunnga Gardens

CALENDAR

Week 5

Wed 1/3 to Fri 3/3 - OES Mt Buffalo Camp

Thu 2/3 - Yr 9/10 Food St P Class Farm Excursion

Week 6

Tue 7/3 - SR Swimming

Wed 8/3 - Yr 12 Physics Luna Park trip

Wed 8/3 - Uniform Shop open (lunchtime)

Thu 9/3 - Yr 7 Immunisations (*Note: Yr 10s in May*)

Thu 9/3 - VCE Parent Teacher Student Interviews

Week 7

Mon 13/3 - Labour Day Public Holiday

Wed 15/3 - Uniform Shop open (lunchtime)

Wed 15/3 to 21/3 - NAPLAN (Yr 7 & Yr 9s)

Fri 17/3 - HR Swimming

Week 8

Wed 22/3 - Uniform Shop open (lunchtime)

Fri 24/3 - House Athletics Day

Week 9

Thu 30/3 - Round Robin

Fri 31/3 - Agribusiness Seymour Expo excursion

Week 10

Mon 3/4 - School Photo group retake day (Yr 9,10,12)

Tue 4/4 to 6/4 - OES Lake Eildon Canoe Trip

Wed 5/4 - Yr 7-10 Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews

Wed 5/4 - No classes running (due to PTS)

Thu 6/4 - VCE Art Benalla Gallery excursion

Thu 6/4 - Last day of Term - 2:30pm dismissal

TERM 2

Week 1

Mon 24/4 - No classes running (Student Free Day)

Tue 25/4 - Anzac Day Public Holiday

Wed 26/4 - All Students return for Term 2

From The Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians

Term 1 is always busy, with academic studies well underway and also a range of house sports. Last week we had the swimming sports- thanks to everyone who came and competed, and to those parents supporting their young people. Congratulations to the winning house, Wimba (nee Landy). This was the first event this year to be conducted with our new house names and it was a very exciting chance to recognise this change.

School Photos:

School photos were conducted on the 6th February. In the proofing process we have found a small but significant group of boys across a range of year levels making inappropriate hand gestures (that we believe are associated with Andrew Tate). They have obviously colluded together to disrupt the photo opportunity and we are working with them and their families to help them understand the implications of their actions. As a result, Year 9, 10 and 12s group photos will need to be retaken, and we have booked this for 3rd April. An email has been sent to all year levels that are affected by this photo retake.

Andrew Tate:

Andrew Tate has a significant social media presence that explicitly targets young male teenagers. However, his influence isn't exactly helpful. Many of his views are misogynistic and encourage discrimination. I know that some teachers and parents have noticed Tate's influence flowing through to some of our young male students, with aggressive and discriminatory behaviours becoming more prevalent. There are more details in this research paper if you would like to be informed: <https://themancafe.life/andrew-tate-report/>

As a positive step to promote pro-social behaviour, the wellbeing team at the college is partnering with 'the man cave' to deliver workshops to students in May. Their program is "designed to give boys the language, permission, space and role modelling to explore and challenge the traditional scripts of masculinity they have inherited and healthily engage with one another in a safe environment". Thanks to Brad Friend for organising it.

In our community, everyone has the right to feel safe. Andrew Tate works to disrupt this narrative, and his words and actions have no place in our school.



From The Principal (continued)

New Parents BBQ:

The new parents BBQ was well attended last week. Primarily it was an opportunity to 'meet and greet', building the partnership between home and school for the good of the child and their education. If you were unable to attend, there are further opportunities to meet with teachers, and you are always welcome to contact teachers directly through the School Office or via Compass.

Progress Reports:

Our reporting structure includes a number of 'touch points' for students to reflect on their learning progress:

- Progress Reports, every five weeks
- Feedback on common learning tasks, usually three times per semester and often at the end of a unit of study. These usually have the form of a 'rubric' with a comment
- Parent-Teacher-Student interviews in Term 1 and Term 3. Please come with your child, as it is important that they are included in these conversations
- Semester Reports, provided at the end of each Semester, a collation of pieces of feedback that was given through the semester

When using 'Compass' to access the reports, a computer with a web browser is the best way to view these documents. We have found that the 'app' version on mobile devices displays only limited information.

The current step in the reporting cycle are the Progress Reports. These provide an early indication of how your son/daughter is progressing with their studies. They should present an opportunity for you to talk with your child - both about what is going well, and what they need to improve in. With Parent-Teacher-Student interviews coming soon, you can (and should) take the opportunity to talk with staff about your child's learning progress.

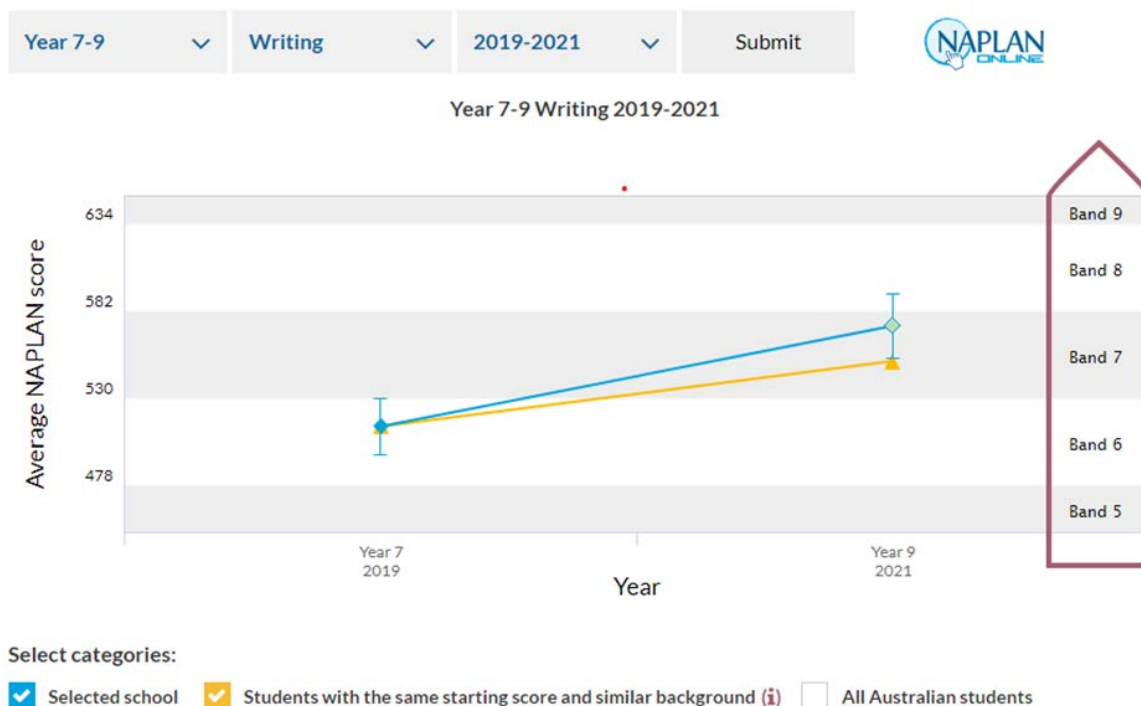
NAPLAN:

You will have seen some recent discussions in the media about the NAPLAN results from last year. We have had access to the data and have been using it to evaluate our programs. The impetus currently has been the flow of information into the 'myschool' website.

Our growth data is excellent, (and it usually is!).

You can see from the chart below that our students grow more quickly than the state average, and we are very proud of that. This data includes all students, regardless of their starting point, and measuring their progress. We can, and do, enable growth for all students on the spectrum from academic to vocational. For more information about our results, please visit: <https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/45419/naplan/studentprogress>

Kind regards
Timothy Hall



MSC Swimming Carnival

In very warm conditions on Friday 17th February, the MSC Swimming Carnival had all the tales and disappointments one would expect from a competition keenly sought after by all houses, especially in the inaugural year of the new house names.

It was Wimba who got the chocolates after finishing second in 2022, and the relays were the difference in the end as Biyal had the better of the individual events, but lost their way in the relay section of the program allowing Wimba to sneak through and win the day by under 40 points!

There were some outstanding efforts over the course of the day particularly by students who are not necessarily into the swimming scene, but nonetheless swam in many events for their houses and gave them at least one swimmer in every race.

The behaviour of our students was again a timely reminder of how positive and respectful our school body is and many new staff to MSC remarked on both the participation and behaviour of the school community.

A massive shout out to all the staff who got in and made the day happen and it was great to see so many smiles on everybody down at the pool!

Students who won an event in their age group will move onto the Southern Ranges meet in Benalla on March 7th. Mr Thomson and a helper will supervise that team and a bus will be hired for the journey.

Below are some pictures and the age group champions for the day.

Age Group Champions

12/13yr: Keziah Wolfe / Zac Hotton

14yr: Keira Thornton / Sam Kain

15yr: Lara Gould / James Benton

16yr: Estelle O'Neill / Judah Kelleher

17yr: Quinn Russell / Ashton Dean

Open: Scarlett Hanratty / Ben Les

Christian Thomson

Sports Coordinator



Wellbeing Team Introduction

Hello Parents and Carers

Welcome to new families of Year 7 students and those who have just joined us in other year levels. We hope that you find MSC to be a place where your child feels supported to achieve and reach their goals in all areas of life.

As the school's Wellbeing Coordinator, my role is to identify student needs, provide support and connect them to appropriate supports both within our school and the community. The MSC wellbeing team comprises Suzy Russell (Mental Health Practitioner), Trish Marks (Youth Worker), Chris Nicholls (Adolescent Health Nurse) and me. Feel free to get in touch if you'd like to discuss any concerns you have and to seek support.

A range of mental health support services exist within the community. They include (but not limited to):

- Private Psychologists - there are few psychologists in Mansfield, including Rachel Meadows who sees students at school. There are many psychologists who offer a service via Telehealth. 20 appointments can be accessed in a year under Medicare by visiting a doctor and getting a mental health care plan. There is still a gap fee to pay for psychologist appointments.
- Headspace Regional Phone Counselling Service - this is available to school students and through school. Appointments happen at school and via phone to a Headspace practitioner. Unlike other phone services, appointments are scheduled and with the same person each time.
- Headspace Centres - Headspace provide an outreach service to Benalla once a week. Counselling services are also offered via Telehealth. There can be a waitlist to access Headspace. They can be reached on 1300 332 022.
- Albury Wodonga Health (AWH) - They provide a range of services aimed at crisis support and more complex mental health issues. AWH offer a 24-hour mental health crisis triage line - 1300 104 211. This is the number for students and families to call if in need of urgent help.

I'm more than happy to discuss any of these options if you need more information or advice on the most suitable service.

Each term students are asked to complete a wellbeing check in survey. This helps us to identify students that require additional support and to get an idea of particular areas of concern across the school. Next term the more comprehensive Resilient Youth survey will be administered. More info about this survey will be communicated at a later stage.

Lastly, we are again working with The Resilience Project. This program helps students to learn positive mental health strategies with a focus on gratitude, empathy, mindfulness (GEM), and emotional literacy. See the attached document for further info.

For families of VCE/VCEVM students, I am available to discuss your students' wellbeing needs at parent teacher interviews. Bookings can be made via Compass.

Brad Freind

Wellbeing Coordinator



Suzy Russell, Trish Marks, Chris Nicholls & Brad Freind

Welcome to The Resilience Project

PARENTS & CARERS

This year, we are excited to bring The Resilience Project (TRP) into our school community!

WHY?

Current research tells us...

Why mental health matters



One in four Australian adolescents will experience mental health problems this year

Nearly two thirds of them will not seek help.



One in seven primary school students are also likely to experience mental health problems this year.

Source: National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Australia's Youth Mental Illness

EVIDENCE-BASED

The Resilience Project's School Partnership Program has been independently evaluated by both The [University of Adelaide](#) and The [University of Melbourne](#). Click the links or scan the QR code to find out more about the impact the program has on **emotional wellbeing and behavioral changes**.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The **Resilience Project** is committed to **teaching positive mental health strategies** to prevent mental ill-health and **build young people's capacity to deal with adversity**.

We will be implementing their evidence-based **Teaching and Learning Program** throughout our classrooms, staffroom and school community.

Teachers and students will engage in weekly lessons and activities around the key principles of **Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness (GEM) and Emotional Literacy** to build resilience.

WHAT CAN BE DONE AT HOME?



To learn more about The Resilience Project and get involved from home, you can start exploring the ideas, activities and resources which bring **Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM)** to life on [TRP@HOME](#).

The **Imperfects** podcast, led by Hugh van Cuylenburg, Ryan Shelton and Josh van Cuylenburg, is all about how perfectly imperfect we all are. Hugh, Josh and Ryan chat to a variety of interesting people who bravely share their struggles and imperfections, and we all learn some valuable take-aways we can apply to our own imperfect lives.



School for Student Leadership Fun!

Last week the School for Student Leadership Snowy River campus had a pretend wedding and the students all got dressed up!

Thanks to Ava Virtanen for sending the photo through!



Successful Mt Stirling Hike for Adventure Challenge Class

The Adventure Challenge class had fantastic weather for their Mt Stirling hike and camp this week. Check out the views!



New Books!

We have the following new books available in the Library. Please have a scroll through as there is a real mix of genres, I'm sure there is something for many of our students.

The box set books at the bottom of the email have been made into movies and Netflix series so they may be of particular interest.

Two Can Play That Game - Leanne Yong (love story)

Funny and romantic, an upbeat YA novel about gaming, goals and getting even from a fresh new voice in contemporary fiction.

This Time It's Real - Ann Liang (love story)

This is a hilarious and sweet romance that explores fitting in, standing out, the meaning of home, the power of hope, and learning to show your true self to others. As funny and entertaining as the very best rom-coms, I really hope this is turned into a movie one day. This will be loved by teen readers aged 14 and above, especially those who enjoy a good rom-com!

Mission - Yozakura Family Vol 1 - Hitsuji Gondaira (graphic novel)

Taiyo Asano is a super-shy high school student and the only person he can talk to is his childhood friend Mutsumi Yozakura. However, Mutsumi comes from a line of master spies with amazing powers. Her oldest brother, Kyoichiro, is obsessed with Mutsumi and out to kill anyone who gets remotely near her--and his next target is Taiyo! The only way for Taiyo to save himself from Kyoichiro's murderous clutches is to marry Mutsumi!

The Maze Runner Series - James Dasher (science fiction) 5 part box set, film

The complete Maze Runner series in a boxed set, including the heart-stopping prequel! The series is set in a post-apocalyptic reality where violence, disease and lies threaten to destroy much more than the lives of the young Gladers. But the truth is more dangerous than any of them could have ever imagined. The maze is only the beginning. Includes The Maze Runner, The Scorch Trials, The Death Cure and The Kill Order in a collectible slipcase.

The Hunger Games Series - Suzanne Collins (science fiction) 3 part box set, film

THE HUNGER GAMES takes place in an unidentified future time period after the destruction of North America, in a nation known as Panem. Panem consists of a rich Capitol and twelve surrounding, poorer districts. As punishment for a previous rebellion against the Capitol, every year one boy and one girl between the ages of 12 and 18 from each district are forced to participate in THE HUNGER GAMES, a televised event where the participants, or 'tributes', must fight to the death in a large outdoor arena until only one remains. The story follows fatherless 16-year-old Katniss Everdeen, a girl from District 12 who volunteers for the Games in place of her younger sister, Prim.

School of Good and Evil Series - Soman Chainani, 5 part box set, Netflix series

Two best friends have been chosen to be students at the fabled School for Good and Evil, where ordinary boys and girls are trained to be fairy-tale heroes and villains. One will train for Good, one will become Evil's new hope. Each thinks they know where they belong, but when they are swept into the Endless Woods, they're switched into the opposite schools. Together they'll discover who they really are and what they are capable of. . . because the only way out of a fairy tale is to live through it.

The Divergent Series - Veronica Roth (science fiction) 3 part box set, film

Enter a world of split loyalties in the Divergent trilogy series. In the post-apocalyptic landscape of Divergent, society is divided into five factions. Every year, all sixteen-year-olds must select the faction to which they will devote the rest of their lives.

Magazines

- 4x4 Australia
- Play Australia - The number one magazine for PlayStation
- Wheels
- AMB (Australian Mountain Bike)
- Hoofbeats, Riding, training horse keeping
- Frankie

Stay tuned for Fresh Texts updates coming soon 😊

Abbey McConnell

ICT Manager



CWA Mansfield Bursary

Congratulations Emmeline Evans and Maddie Carvill on both being selected as recipients of the CWA Mansfield Bursary, with each receiving \$1,000 over two years which will go towards their studies.

Once again Mansfield Secondary College is extremely grateful to CWA for this support of our students.

Shelly Comben
Careers Practitioner



Maddie & Emmeline pictured with CWA Mansfield President, Fiona Greenway

Year 7s Mansfield History Tour

Students in Year 7 have been learning all about the history of Mansfield and to further build their knowledge, the Year 7 Pursuits teachers have taken the 4 classes on guided tours of High Street and Highett Street in Mansfield.

Students have learnt the ages of significant buildings in town – did you know that building where Henry Partner’s Accountants is located is the oldest building in town? It was built in 1860 and known as the Sartain Building. The current Alzburg Resort was the Convent – have a look at the very top and see the placard or the crosses on the wall next to the green wall. We all know the war memorial gates at the Recreational Reserve...but did you know they are based on the Menen Gates in Ypres, Belgium?

Have you ever stopped to look at the monuments and plaques in High Street? The memorial to the 3 policemen killed by Ned Kelly and his gang is the obvious one in the middle of the roundabout. The old horse trough with stunning purple flowers planted in it was gifted to the shire in 1914, go and have a read of what the side of it says! The kids worked together to work it out! And what about the monument between the Court House and Delatite Hotel – a monument to Mansfield’s first doctor – Dr Samuel Reynolds.

Does that name sound familiar? Students have also been learning some of the street names and who the significant figure is behind it. Collopy Street is named in honour of William Collopy who was a boot maker, shire rate collector and dog licensor. And there are so many more...Elvins Street, Baldry Street, Nolan Street just to name a few.

And finally, the beautiful trees that line the median strip of High Street, where students enjoyed the shade during their walk, were planted circa 1892. The streets were once upon a time lined with white wooden fences. Oh how our town has changed...but not all that much in some places!

Michelle Comerford, Naomi Hall, David Jagger, Brigitte Brocklesby & Amanda Marshall

Year 7 Pursuits teachers



SICK BAY REMINDER

Students not feeling well are to go to the Sick Bay which is located next to the library. Parents will be contacted by the First Aid staff when required. **Students are NOT to call or SMS parents directly.**



LAPTOP REMINDER - CHARGE & LABEL!!

Students are reminded to charge their laptop each night and bring their charger each day. Please label laptops and **chargers!!!**

CSEF & Conveyance Allowance

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides payments for eligible students to attend various activities: school camps, swimming and school-organised sport programs, outdoor education programs, excursions and incursions.

Parents/students holding a means-tested Health Care Card valid on the first day of Term 1 may be eligible. Foster parents and Veterans Affairs cardholders may also be eligible.

Year 7s

Year 7 students that are recipients of the CSEF automatically qualify for the State School Relief uniform package.

CSEF and SSR Forms are available from the School Office. Completed forms, with a copy of your Centrelink Card, should be submitted to the Mansfield Secondary College School Office. For information, please visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Conveyance Allowance

If you are an eligible bus traveller and live more than 4.8kms from your closest bus stop, you may be eligible to claim Conveyance Allowance to assist with travel costs.

Forms are available from the School Office. Applications close late February 2023. Eligible applicants can either be reimbursed by EFT and paid each term, or your conveyance allowance can be credited to your family account.

For more information, go to: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/transport/Pages/conveyance.aspx>

Mansfield Pottery Festival

Sat 11 March 2023



Pottery Market 10 - 2pm
Potters, Demonstrations & Clay Play for kids
High Street Mansfield



VISIT US IN THE MOBILE CAMPUS

MANSFIELD
Highett Street
7 - 9 March
10am - 4pm

FREE WORKSHOP AT 11AM
Thursday: Key selection criteria

 **BOOK A SESSION**
use the QR code below or drop in to access our FREE services

Free TAFE sessions every day at 2pm