

## MANSFIELD SECONDARY COLLEGE

# Newsletter

### From The Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

#### VCE Results:

We are thrilled to announce that our students have performed exceptionally well in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). Our median study score was 30, compared to other schools in the North East Region which is an excellent result. Seven students achieved a study score of over 40 with two achieved through distance education.

We are proud to say that 36% of our students achieved an Australian Tertiary Entrance Ranking (ATAR) of more than 80.

Well done to our DUX this year - Brianna Anstee, with an ATAR of 87.!!

And well done to all students of the class of 2023!



#### Programs and Camps:

**Mt Arapiles Climbing Camp:** the Adventure Challenge class travelled to Mt Arapiles for the week where the class abseiled and rock climbed this world-renowned climbing site. The climbing camp is the culmination of a range of outdoor activities conducted throughout the year.

**Surf Camp:** Year 8 students participated in a range of surfing lessons and stayed at the Eumeralla Scout Camp.

**The Statewide Transition Day for 2024 Year 7 students:** we welcomed 92 students to the College, to experience a day of Secondary School. They engaged in a number of great activities and learnt to navigate the College Campus classrooms and facilities.

**Year 7 Camp:** This three-day adventure at Camp Howqua allowed Year 7 students to come together for their last few days as Year 7's. It is a fabulous opportunity to celebrate their time together and to challenge themselves to achieve things they haven't done before.

#### The Resilience Project:

We would also like to draw your attention to the work of the Resilience Project that we are engaged with. This program focuses on three key areas: Gratitude, Empathy, and Mindfulness.

As we approach the end of the year, we would like to thank all of our staff, students, and parents for their hard work and dedication. We wish you all a safe and restful break over Christmas and look forward to welcoming our students back in 2024.

Kind regards,

**Timothy Hall**

### CALENDAR

#### TERM 4

#### Week 12

**Mon 18/12 - Curriculum Day (Student Free day)**

School Office Open 9am-3pm

**Tues 19/12 - Professional Practice Day (Student Free day)** - School Office closed

**Wed 20/12 - Last day of term 4** - School Office closed until Thursday 25/1/2024.

#### 2024

**Thurs 25/1** - School Office Open 9am-3pm

**Fri 26/1** - Australia Day Public Holiday

#### Week 1

**Mon 29/1** - School Office Open 2pm-3:30pm

**Mon 29/1** - Lilydale Book Collection 1pm-3pm in the Stadium

**Tues 30/1** - Year 7 first day

**Tues 30/1** - Year 12 Retreat Day, Pinnacle Valley

**Wed 31/1** - Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 first day



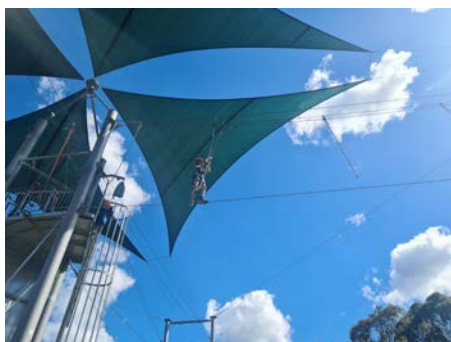
## Year 7 Howqua Camp

Our annual Year 7 Camp was held at Camp Howqua. Students were treated to a range of activities including the high ropes course, horse riding, water slide, survivor course, flying fox, and archery. On the first night of the camp there was a series of spectacular thunderstorms as a weather front came through. All of the students had a great time and enjoyed each other's company, creating lasting bonds. Thank you to the team at Camp Howqua for their hospitality and the MSC staff that accompanied us for the camp.

It has been a wonderful year with this group. I have enjoyed being their Year Level Coordinator. The camp was a perfect way to finish off the year. Have a restful and joyous holiday and I will see you in 2024!

### Michelle Comerford

Year 7 Coordinator



## Year 8 Surf Camp

This year's surf camp was once again a resounding success. Students were lucky to enjoy 4 days of great weather at Anglesea Beach learning how to surf. At the beginning of the week students were learning how to pop up on their boards and by mid-week they were much more comfortable in the water and mostly standing up. Students found that making mistakes and falling off is a key part of the learning process! Some of the other highlights were a beautiful coastal walk from Anglesea to Point Roadknight, walking along the foreshore of Bells Beach renowned for its world class breaks, a trip to Aireys Inlet to see the lighthouse featured in the Australian series Round the Twist and some hardy meals prepared by Jenny Hearn. Thanks to all the MSC staff who attended, Eumeralla Scout Camp, Sea Earth Adventures and our awesome bus driver Brett from MMBL.



### Chris Johnstone

Surf Camp Coordinator



## Adventure Challenge Mt Arapiles Climbing Camp

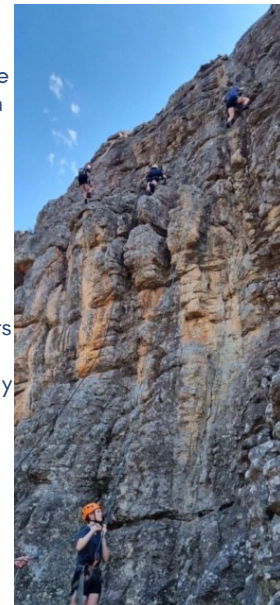
The Adventure Challenge class ended a year of adventure on the Mt Arapiles climbing camp. Students had the chance to display the skills they developed at the Mansfield bouldering wall on the best of Australia's rock. On the trip in along Centenary Drive the mountain revealed its amazing sandstone cliffs that lead the group to feel trepidation and excitement.

The staff from Arapiles Climbing Guides soon had the group moving with style and grace on the rock at Bushranger Bluff where a range of climbs were ascended. Students used a mix of strength, flexibility, stamina and adrenaline to reach the top of each route. Everyone had a go at top roping regardless of their levels of fear and the group team worked the role of belaying each climber up the cliff safely.

Once students felt comfortable on the rock and understood the complexities of using equipment to safely ascend the cliff, the challenge of multi pitch climbing was introduced. In groups of three with a guide, students ascended classic climbs such as Agamemnon, The Bishop and Dracula. These were long adventurous journeys that took students into the high cliff environment sometimes two rope lengths above the ground. Along the way students' endurance, resilience and management of fear was tested.

As the weather turned for the worst and an extreme fire danger day was declared the group moved into Horsham Riverside Caravan Park to camp on the Wimmera River in an urban environment. Swims in the river, showers and restaurants made the experience more luxurious than previous years.

It was amazing to see such enthusiasm and a positive approach to the trip. A year of adventurous journeys was capped off with a once in a life-time experience. Well done to all participants!



### Daniel Hough

Outdoor & Environmental Studies Coordinator



## Quantum Excursions

On Friday 1st December the Year 8 students visited Quantum Victoria Science. On this excursion we got taught to program robots to do many difficult tasks. The instructor that ran our program helped us so we could achieve our goal. One of the hardest challenges was the outer space challenge. We had to program our robots to hit, lift, spin and pull objects from outer space eg: rockets, astronauts, satellites and bases. The robots were Lego robots called Mindstorms. We used a drop and drag program to help with the coding of the robots. It was a good day and we learnt about some simple robotics. We left Quantum at 1:30. Then on our way home we stopped at Whittlesea for McDonalds after that we headed straight home. It was a long day as we left school at 7:30 and we arrived home at 5:30. Thanks to the teachers and staff who organised the excursion for us.

Keira Thornton & Emma Snell

The Year 9's attending Quantum were involved in a Forensic Science Investigation. They were presented with a scenario of Dinosaur bones being stolen from a museum and needed to use witness interviews and logic to reduce their suspect pool. They then had an opportunity to attempt hands on forensic science techniques to investigate the crime including: soil sample acidity, pet hair samples under a microscope, finger prints, blood types, and mobile phone location data. It was a bit of a competition to see which group could learn the skills to solve the crime first.

### Naomi Hall

Science Teacher



## Indonesian Celebrations

Phew! What a busy year we've had in the Indonesian department! Here are some of our recent achievements:

Year 9 students Selina Green and Nathan Tremmel have each won a scholarship from the North East Multicultural Association. The scholarships were awarded to recognise Selena and Nathan's proficiency in Indonesian language as well as their enthusiasm and dedication to studying Indonesian.

Three of our year 10s are currently on student exchange in Indonesia for six weeks. Amanda Duhamel, Arthur Gerrans and Connor McFadden flew to Indonesia on Sunday 12th December. They are each staying with different host families and attending school in Bandung, West Java. This will be not only a wonderful way for them to improve their Indonesian, but also to experience Indonesian culture directly.

Ibu Lowing recently won an award from the Commonwealth Government. Called the Australia-Indonesia Institute's Indonesian Teaching Award for 2023, it recognised her 'outstanding contribution to teaching Indonesian and deepening understanding of Indonesia among Australian students'.

Did you know that Ibu Lowing, who has been teaching Indonesian at Mansfield Secondary College for the past 11 years:

- was added to the Department of Education's Honour Roll this year because she has been teaching for 40 years,
- has worked on Indonesian curriculum development, innovation and implementation at regional, state and national level
- was a state-wide examiner for Year 12 Indonesian written and oral exams for almost 20 years
- successfully applied for a grant of almost \$900,000 to implement a bilingual program at Benalla East Primary School over 20 years ago. This was the biggest grant given in Victoria and the only one allocated to a regional school. As a result, a team of eight Indonesian teachers was employed. Students in the bilingual program studied Indonesian for eight hours a week, from prep to grade 6.

Last Thursday afternoon Year 9, 10 and 11 Indonesian students, together with their teachers, celebrated all of the above achievements with a class party. The Year 10 and 11 students presented an impressive performance of the SAMAN dance, followed by speeches from various students in tribute to recent achievements.

Selamat liburan! (Happy holidays) Sampai tahun depan! (See you next year)

Ibu Burton



## Student Representative Council for 2024

We are pleased to introduce the Student Representative Council for 2024!

Year 8: Tessa Learmonth & Vaya Rose

Year 9: Hunter Watson & Talia Hinton

Year 10: Jai Callaway

Year 11: Mikhela Leitch, Daelin Fox, Connor McFadden, Arthur Gerrans

Congratulations to all students, we look forward to your contribution to the College in 2024.



## Life Skills Program

As part of their Life Skills program, Hayden, Addison and Tommy had a chocolate fundraiser every Tuesday where they set up and sold chocolates and All Natural jubes to their peers. This involved money transaction, balancing the chocolate at the end of the day, interacting with their peers as well as making signs to put up around the school.

They raised \$255.03 which went to the SRC to contribute to the funds they raised for MND.



## Year 12s VM PDS Class - Implementing a Community Project

This year, a talented group of student leaders spearheaded a community project to raise money for the Mansfield Youth Centre. Their efforts resulted in the creation and purchase of remote-control cars and a track. To raise the funds, the students crafted a variety of items from recycled wood, such as coasters, horse saddle stands, and wooden boxes, which they sold for a total of \$654.00.

Before embarking on their project, the students researched different possibilities and met with local council workers. After surveying students in Years 6-9, they discovered a significant gap in activities available for non-sporty youth in the area.

The leadership team for this project featured Cadence Waddington-Bass as the Promotional and Sales lead, Matthew Hearn as the Project Inspiration and Design leader, Mikhael Hassan Haneez as the Manufacturer and Design lead, Daniel Carter as the Resource Manager, and Maddison Barlow as the Team Leader.

The success of this project could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of these student leaders.



## 2024 Parent Payments

Parent payments are a valuable contribution to enhancing and enriching the educational experience for all our students. Ongoing support will make a significant difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Previous years' parent payment support has allowed us to:

- offer a wide selection of subjects and curriculum experiences
- purchase air-conditioners for the STEAM building
- purchase equipment, materials and resources for classrooms including but not limited to: robotics, food technology, science pracs, wood technology, art materials, 3D printing
- purchase other equipment, materials and resources including library books, sports equipment, music instruments
- provide access to ICT resources
- maintain School buildings & grounds
- make grounds improvements

In addition to contributions, Mansfield Secondary College offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the education experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum.

We encourage you to contact the school's Business Manager, Anna Francis, on 5775 2022 or via email at [anna.francise@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:anna.francise@education.vic.gov.au), to discuss payment options or if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support

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## 2024 Uniform - Order Now!

We highly recommend ordering school uniform now if your child is outgrowing their current uniform!

Please place orders online via our website so we can try to fill the order ready to collect at the end of January 2024.

If you order the wrong size, we can exchange items as long as tags and packaging remain in tact and items haven't been washed or worn.

Order online: <https://mansfieldsc.vic.edu.au/shop/>

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## Compass

We remind families that our main communication tool is Compass. If you are having any issues navigating your way through Compass (either the app or via a web-browser), please contact the School Office for assistance.

New families for 2024 will be sent a welcome email early February 2024.



Merry Christmas ✨

A book is a gift you can  
open again and again.

Happy holidays

Don't forget to return all library books  
before you go on break.  
And...make sure you pop in and grab a  
holiday read!

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year  
from the team in the Library.  
See you in 2024!

## CONGRATULATIONS

MSC VCE CLASS OF 2023!



**Breanna Anstee**  
Dux ATAR 87.1

**Amy Camilleri**  
ATAR 86.65

**Ben Les**  
ATAR 85.65

**Chloe Judge**  
ATAR 85.25



**Lachie Pentony**  
ATAR 85.00

**Freya Lee**  
ATAR 84.55

**Sarah Marshall**  
ATAR 83.25

**Zac Appleby**  
ATAR 83.1

Your hard work and dedication have paid off, we are proud of you all!

- 5 students achieving ATAR scores in the 70s
- 4 students achieving ATAR scores in the 60s
- 3 students achieving ATAR scores in the 50s
- 7 study scores above 40
- Median Study Score of 30



## CONGRATULATIONS

2023 High Performing VCE Students with Study Scores 40+  
5.7% of students gained a 40+



**Lachie Pentony**  
Health & HD - 44

**Chloe Judge**  
Health & HD - 42

**Ben Les**  
Health & HD - 41

**Sarah Marshall**  
Health & HD - 40



**Breanna Anstee**  
Psychology - 41

**Charlie Hall**  
Algorithmics - 41

**Hilary Murakami**  
Japanese - 41

## 2024 IMPORTANT DATES

### Thursday 25th January

- School Office OPEN 9am - 3pm
- Uniform order collection - NO fittings or new orders at the office (orders must be made online and you will receive an email when your order is ready for collection, keep tags and packaging in tact in case an exchange is required)

### Friday 26th January

- Australia Day Public Holiday

### Monday 29th January

- School Office OPEN 2pm - 3:30pm
- Lilydale Book order collection 1pm - 3pm in the Stadium (via View St Stadium carpark)
- Students in Years 8-12 can drop off new laptops for set up

### Tuesday 30th January

- Year 7s first day of school, students to meet staff at the flag poles (Bagungga Gardens) with their bags, including laptops
- Year 12s Retreat Day at The Sebel, Pinnacle Valley

### Wednesday 31st January

- Year 8, 9, 10 & 11s first day of school