ABSENCE HOTLINE

5182 6300

Please leave a recorded message stating -

• Your Name
• Student’s name
• Home Group
• Reason for absence

There are now new guidelines for what is classed as an approved absence. Anything other than illness is no longer approved even if parents know where their child is. Family holidays, sleeping in, appointments in the morning or afternoon, birthdays, shopping, last day of term etc. ARE NOT approved by the government. Students must bring a note or parents call the absence hotline every time a student is away from school, and a medical certificate should be provided for all appointments.

Busking for the School.

Grade 6 student (and soon to be year 7) Lauren Tschugguel raised $149.60 busking at the Yarram Show. Lauren’s Grandma in Ecuador matched her dollar for dollar, so she decided she would share it between Yarram Secondary College and Woodside PS. Lauren’s brother Nick and one of her friends Ellie joined in with a dancing display and Rylee and Charlie from Woodside PS joined her with their trumpet and bass guitar.

Well done Lauren for a great community initiative.
Headstart

This week we commenced our 2 week Headstart timetable for all of next year’s students. The program was launched with a whole school assembly. We officially welcomed our new Year 7 students, also explained to all students the tremendous opportunity to meet their new teachers and learning courses - to therefore enable a fresh start, or to build upon the wonderful experiences of this year - and finally, to listen to the campaign speeches of the nominated school captains.

The candidates - Jack Mitchell, Kansas Martens, Hannah Maciol and Laura Bland – all spoke extremely well in outlining how they would be the person best suited to represent them and the school in a range of activities. The on-line voting closes tomorrow and the captains announced at the Awards Day.

The Cambodian experience concludes this weekend. The journey has been tremendous and not only impactful on the lives of those there ‘working and living’ it, but also on those following the story through our web page. This will go down as one of the highlights of their young lives and be remembered for many years to come.

Last week all students undertook an exam week for all their subjects. It was fantastic to see the quality of application and high level behaviour demonstrated by all students towards this important part of their assessment and reporting process.

As the year winds down we are looking at better ways to deliver the highest quality education experience for all students. As we reflect on 2014 and move to refine many aspects of day to day life at YSC, I would like to share with you some areas that will be a strong focus in 2015.

We aim to generate in students and the school community a more imbedded culture of achievement and connectedness to their peers, the school and the community. In doing this we aim to improve the students expectations of success and self-belief; have all students be more accepting of what the school can offer them and what they can offer the school, and genuinely feel part of this learning partnership. Therefore, we will enable students to make stronger links between motivation, effort, attainment and future prospects.

Also, we are reviewing our curriculum and will look to offer a more coherent and real world linked curriculum so that students will engage more deeply - because they enjoy the lessons and importantly see why they matter - by making a stronger link between school and their future work prospects. In doing this we aim to increase motivation and engagement.

We will also bring closer together the overarching Yarram Secondary College values (Respect, Trust and Honesty) and a focus on more positive behaviours through closer inspection of student, teacher and parent surveys. This will be promoted further through a renewed SWPBS framework and all school community members need to be accountable in modelling the important traditional values of respect, good behaviour and caring for each other at all times.

Finally, a big thank to all our students, staff, parents and community support partners for another year of bringing together an educational program to support all children within the school. We look forward to holidays and wish everyone a safe and happy time.

David Mowbray
Principal
SECON DHAND UNIFORM AT THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON

Yarram Secondary College are getting behind the new mobile phone app called Clik2Sell for the sale of secondhand school uniform. The app has been launched for Apple iPhones and will follow shortly with an Android version. Parents will be able to list their items of secondhand clothing together with the price, size and contact details under the Yarram Secondary College name. Please note the school will not be part of the deal. Buyers will be able to negotiate directly with the seller. The app is a Department of Education initiative and will eventually replace the secondhand uniform supplies at the schools.

Further information CLK2SELL.com

ACTIVITIES

Final listings are out now. Please check the old careers office (opp. Mrs Darvill’s) window for the lists.

Remember there will be NO REFUND if you do not attend your chosen activities.

MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

UNIFORM PASSES – uniform passes are now to be obtained from the front office. You must get them first thing in the morning, before class. Passes will not be given for more than a school week, unless special circumstances. All students out of school jumpers will be given one for the day, which must be returned washed the next day.

STUDENT ILLNESS – if you are unwell please let the front office know. Do not text your parents!

F3 FORMS – Please note F3 forms will not be accepted without the money, or after the due date.

DRIVING LESSONS

Larry and Dianne Roberts donate $2.50 to us from each driving lesson for students of Yarram Secondary College. This money is used to help provide activities for students during recess and lunch breaks.

For driving lessons please contact them on 5182 6990 or 0409 407 109.

Instructions in driving and hazard perception.

Proudly presenting

Don't forget the dress...

We specialize in Debutante and formal gowns online to simplify your memorable occasions. A one off fee of $55- to advertise.

Email us at dontforgetthedress@gmail.com and receive a 15% discount. Simply mention our codeword GI/P614.

WWW.DONTFORGETTHEDRESS.COM
Awards Day

Wednesday, December 17th

11am Regent Theatre

Please be seated by 10.45am. Presenters, award recipients, speakers and band members to be seated downstairs, all other students and parents to be seated upstairs.

Students coming to school on buses will walk down together and back to school after the presentations. If you are a bus traveller, and leaving after the presentation you must bring a note.

All students MUST be in FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM, (no graffiti) including white socks and black shoes. Failure to be in uniform may mean you can’t collect your award.

THREE BIG CHANGES TO THE VACCINE PROGRAM

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

1. The Wellington Shire Council’s immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccine program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school on 5182 5522 by 28 February 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Wellington Shire Council.

2. In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.

3. The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form/s coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination go to immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

*ATTENTION PARENTS*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**
Could all parents please ensure that the emergency contact details we have for your child is up to date and correct. This includes mobile phone numbers and addresses for yourself and emergency contacts. If you are unsure please check with the front office to see what details we have. Thank you.

- **PHONING YOUR CHILD**
Could parents please note, IF you need to speak to your child, please call during 1st recess 10.10am or lunchtime 1.15pm-2.00pm unless the message is URGENT i.e: medical emergency. Students are NOT to have their mobile phones on them.

- **LATE ARRIVAL / EARLY LEAVE**
Please note: students who arrive late to school/or leave early, WITHOUT a note, shall be marked as late unexplained.

THIS CAN IMPACT ON YOUTH ALLOWANCE AND VCE ATTENDANCE RECORDS.

No note, no leave!
The school is accountable for all students’ whereabouts and must be recorded; a note confirms that parents know the whereabouts of their child.

- **Accident Insurance**
This is a reminder for schools that the Department does not provide accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. The cost of any medical attention or ambulance for a student will be borne by the parent/guardian. Parents are liable for all medical expenses incurred because of student injury, including transport costs such as ambulance or air ambulance costs.
FIXING LIT-Tuesdays
3.30-4.30pm.

BEAT MATHS-Mondays
3.30-4.30pm.

CASUAL BUS PASSES

If you require a casual bus pass you must get a form from the front office, take it home and have it signed by a parent, giving 48hrs notice to the school. Once you have travelled on this bus you must then bring a note every time you wish to use it.

The process is the same every time you wish to travel on a different bus.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS FEES & CHARGES

Remember essential items are items the school has to purchase for your child aside from their books. Items include lockers and locks, photocopying, books for the library, class sets of books, shared curriculum resources, computers. Parents are required to make a payment towards the provision of these essential items.

Thank you

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

DECEMBER
15th/16th Activities
17th Awards Day

JANUARY
29th First Day Term 1 2015

LEARN TO SAIL
3 DAY COURSE
16,17,18 January, 2015
Adults $10 per day
Students 9-18 Free
10.30am-3.00pm
Book Now!
andrewsmacaulay@gmail.com
Jenny 51 851 233
www.facebook.com/PortAlbertYachtClub

CANTEEN ROSTER

HELPERS REQUIRED

Any parents interested in helping in the canteen during term 1 for recess/lunchtime please contact the school asap.