



YEA HIGH SCHOOL

RESPECT : TRUST : ACCEPTANCE



PRINCIPAL REPORT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The 2024 Annual Report to the School Community is now available on our website. This report provides a comprehensive overview of our school's profile and outlines key priorities in learning, wellbeing, and student engagement. It also offers an opportunity to celebrate our achievements, reflected across multiple data sources including NAPLAN, the Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), the Parent Opinion Survey, and the School Staff Survey.

In NAPLAN, our Year 7 Reading results were particularly strong, with the percentage of students achieving at the 'Strong' or 'Exceeding' proficiency levels surpassing the State average. In Year 7 Numeracy, the proportion of students in these higher proficiency bands was above that of Similar Schools.

The AtoSS results highlighted the school's strong performance in managing student wellbeing, with the 'Management of Bullying' measure receiving a positive endorsement rate higher than the State average.

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PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

Additionally, Parent Satisfaction with School Endorsement reached 80.6%, significantly exceeding the State average of 71.6%, reflecting our ongoing commitment to fostering a supportive and high-quality educational environment.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT REPORT

While the initial focus was to establish a Senior Pathway, several challenges impacted the delivery of the onsite VET Certificate II in Agriculture. Despite this setback, the school has secured quality School-Based Apprenticeships for students pursuing agricultural careers and proudly supports five local students currently completing this course.

To inform curriculum development, staff visited Finley and Timboon High Schools, gaining valuable insights into secondary agricultural education. Local primary schools were also visited to explore transition opportunities. Although Agriculture is not a standalone subject in Years 7–10 under the Victorian Curriculum, it can be integrated across Humanities, Science, Technology, and Intercultural Capabilities.

In 2025, the school introduced Agriculture Studies for Years 7 and 8:

- Year 7: Poultry Industry, Water and Cultural Practices
- Year 8: Apiculture, Land and Sustainability

Agriculture remains central to our community and a strategic priority for the school. A sustainable, engaging curriculum is being developed with long-term impact in mind. To support this, Cindy Newcomen has been appointed as Learning Broker, serving as the main liaison with the community and coordinating future initiatives.

CHINA EXCHANGE PROGRAM UPDATE

The planned China Exchange Program will not proceed this year. This decision was not made lightly. Several factors have contributed to this outcome, including recent changes in school leadership and a shift in our strategic priorities. Additionally, we experienced lower-than-expected student interest in hosting exchange families, which is essential to the program's success.

Despite the enthusiasm and effort from some members of our community, challenges with the planning and coordination process, combined with the associated financial risk, have further underscored the need to reassess.

We recognise the value of international experiences and remain committed to exploring future global learning opportunities that are more aligned with our current context and priorities. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE – A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

Rotary Youth Exchange offers secondary students the opportunity to live and study overseas, experiencing new cultures, languages, and ways of life. Recognised by State and Territory Education Authorities, this program helps build lifelong friendships and global understanding.

Yea High School has a proud history with the program.

Current student Andrew Foster is on exchange in Germany, and we're excited to welcome two incoming students: Julie from Taiwan (July–October) and Josefa from Chile (12 months from July).



PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

The Rotary Club of Yea is now inviting local families to consider hosting an exchange student. If you're interested, please complete a [Host Family application form](#). Rotary will contact you directly with more information. Alternatively, you can contact the Rotary Club of Yea directly for more information – yea@rotary9790.org.au

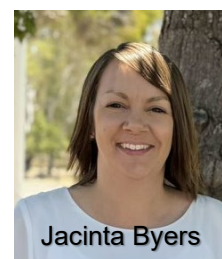
There's no obligation to host—your expression of interest simply helps us build a pool of potential families. All host families undergo an interview and required checks to ensure a safe and supportive environment.

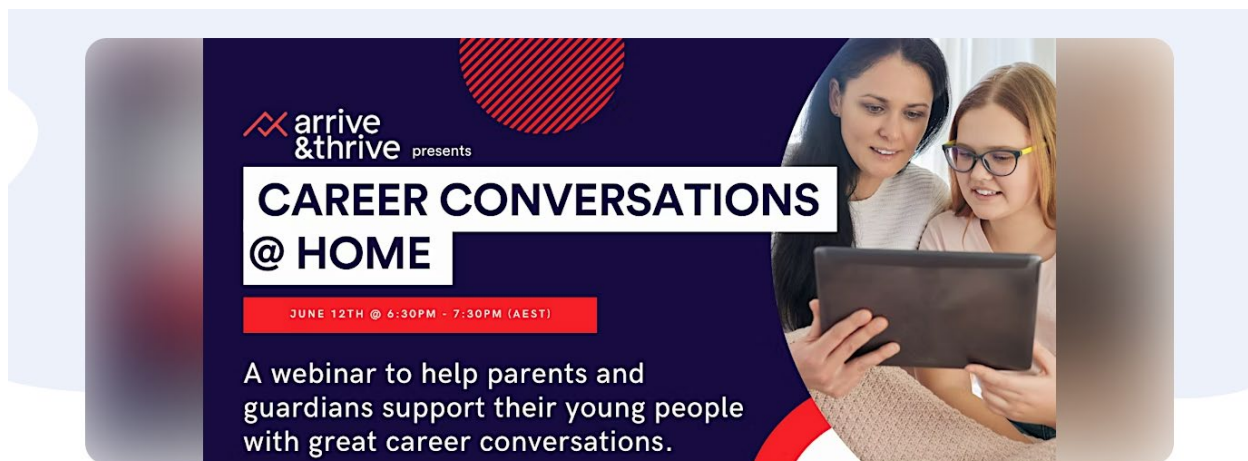
Be part of this enriching experience and help foster global connections!

PAST EVENTS

- **Anzac Day:** Yea High School students and staff proudly participated in ANZAC Day memorial services across Yea, Glenburn, Kinglake, Flowerdale, and Strath Creek. These commemorations provided meaningful opportunities for our community to honour the service and sacrifice of Australia's servicemen and women, while also fostering unity and reflection. The school received positive feedback from community members, and we extend our sincere thanks to the students who represented Yea High School with respect and pride.

Open Night: On Monday, May 12th, Yea High School hosted an Open Night for prospective students and their families. The event featured informative sessions, student-led tours, and opportunities to connect with our dedicated teaching staff and leadership team. It was a wonderful evening that showcased our school's programs, culture, and community spirit.





Thursday, 12 June



Career Conversations @ Home - Helping parents have positive career convos!

\$30
Jun 12 - 6:30 PM AEST

Get tickets

Arrive & Thrive are here to help parents provide positive career conversations to help their young person develop a meaningful career.

REGISTER & PAY ONLINE



Project Ready students, who are undertaking VET Certificate II in Active Volunteering, completing three days of work experience with The Haven and the Greyhound Adoption Project. The students worked with staff undertook a range of tasks including making enrichment toys, exercising animals, cleaning and sanitising animal areas.

Project Ready

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SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATE

Welcome to term 2, we have hit the ground running, busy with sports, excursions and assessments. As we head into the second half of the term, we will see units 1 and 3 subjects being finalised, so please make sure you are keeping up to date with the work and assessments.

2026 Year 12 uniform

Orders are now open for the 2026 Year 12 uniform. Please see the compass post for more information. I have requested sample sizes, and they should be arriving next week. Unfortunately, not all sizes are available so please refer to the sizing guide for more information.

General Achievement Task (GAT)

The GAT is being held on Tuesday 17th June at Yea High School. The GAT is mandatory for all students studying a Unit 3/4 subject in 2025, this includes VCE-VM students. More information will be given to students next week, and information posted on compass.

Legal studies Excursion

Students studying unit 3/4 Legal studies will be attending the County Court on 12th June. Please see compass for more information and make sure you have given permission.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

What is the GAT?

The General Achievement Test (GAT) is a test that measures your general knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, technology, humanities, the arts and social sciences.

Your GAT results are used to check that VCE external assessments and school-based assessments have been accurately and fairly assessed. GAT results can also be used to calculate Derived Examination Scores if required.

It also measures your literacy and numeracy skills against the Victorian standards, that is, whether you met the standards, or achieved the standards with excellence. There is no need to study for the GAT.

The GAT has 2 sections:

- **Section A** assesses skills in literacy (reading and writing) and numeracy.
- **Section B** assesses general knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, technology, the arts and humanities.

Jude O'Connor



Tuesday 17 June

Section A: Literacy (Reading and Writing) and Numeracy

9:00–9:15 am Reading time

9:15–11:15 am Writing time to complete Section A, which has:

- one writing task with 2 parts
- 50 numeracy multiple-choice questions
- 50 reading multiple-choice questions

Break: 11:15 am–1:15 pm

Section B: General knowledge and skills

1:15–1:30 pm Reading time

1:30–3:00 pm Writing time to complete Section B, which has:

- one extended writing task
- 25 mathematics, science and technology multiple-choice questions
- 25 arts and humanities multiple-choice questions



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Victorian Careers Expo



Students in Year 12 travelled to the Melbourne Showgrounds to attend the Victorian Careers Show. Tertiary institutions from around the country were represented as well as wide range of career opportunities. Students had the opportunity to attend seminars, which ranged from subject revision lectures to tertiary course selection. The bus ride home buzzed with conversations about courses, universities and access schemes. A great day had by all.



WELLBEING

Yea High School offers a variety of supports to our students including school based services and the Department of Education (DET) services. The combination of these services strives to achieve

- mental health prevention and promotion
- support for students including direct counselling
- coordinating supports services for students with complex needs.

SCHOOL BASED SUPPORTS INCLUDE

Student Counsellor –

Maryanne Carroll-Keays

Mental Health Practitioner –

Kerry Cooke

Mental Health Nurse –

Crissie Bryant

DET provide Student Support Services (SSS) on an as needs basis.

SSS is a multidisciplinary team and may provide access to

- Speech pathology
- psychology
- social work
- allied health professionals

How to refer?

Student wellbeing support services can be organised by students and/or their families. Parents/families please contact the Student Services Leader (Maryanne Carroll-Keays) via reception or any member of staff you have contact with.

Students may organise support by asking any member of staff to refer them to wellbeing.

**Breakfast Club is conducted
8.15am Tuesday & Thursday**



This term all our year eight, nine and ten boys participated in The Man Cave having a great day with most boys reporting that they would recommend to program to others.

The Man Cave's Student Workshops are a series of immersive, full-day experiences that encourage participants to explore the concept of masculinity and the impacts of outdated societal expectations placed on men, and build healthier relationships with themselves and those around them.

Based on the Rites of Passage framework, the workshops create safe spaces for participants to have real conversations with each other. They include group-building activities, interactive games and healthy discussions on topics such as mental health, relationships and consent.

DO IT FOR *Dolly* DAY '25

DO IT FOR DOLLY DAY

Students and staff of Yea High School were keen to acknowledge Do it for Dolly Day. Having a staff wear blue day, and a Facebook fund raiser. With the assistance of Neveah Frazer Year 12 a Kindness wall was created in the café with students writing a kind thought or encouragement to post on the wall. The day was well received and many students and staff participated to increase the awareness of the impacts of bullying.

Every day, young people across Australia experience the pain of bullying. For many, it's a constant emotional battle that impacts every area of their life.

THIS IS WHY DO IT FOR DOLLY DAY IS SO IMPORTANT.

When you join us and go BLUE for Do It for Dolly Day, you help spark conversations - and speak up for those who can't - because we know bullying devastates lives, families, and communities.



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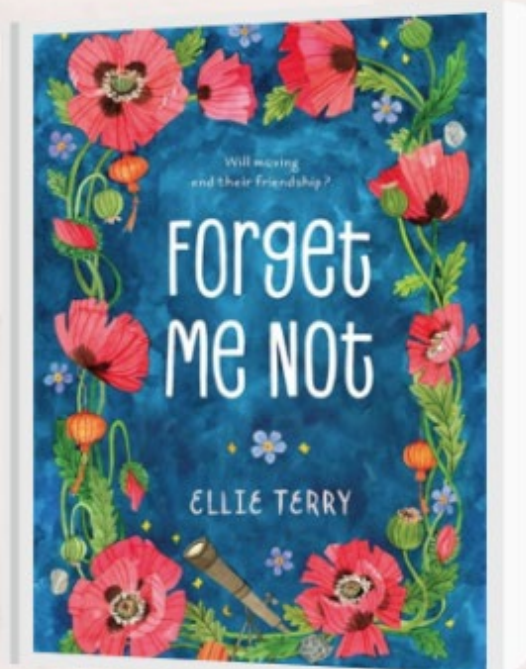


Book profile

Forget me not by Ellie Terry

Year 7 English text

Calliope June has Tourette syndrome. Sometimes she can't control the noises that come out of her mouth, or even her body language. When she and her mother move yet again, she tries to hide her TS. But soon the kids in her class realize she's different. Only her neighbor, who is also the class president, sees her as she truly is—a quirky kid, and a good friend. But is he brave enough to take their friendship public?



As Callie navigates school, she must also face her mother's new relationship and the fact that she might be moving again—just as she's starting to make friends and finally accept her differences. This story of being true to yourself will speak to a wide audience.

Library News

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of **all** Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.

The National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2025 theme, Bridging Now to Next, reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future. Bridging Now to Next calls on all Australians to step forward together, to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

**Bridging
Now to
Next**



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YEAR 7 SCIENCE – Perng Chao

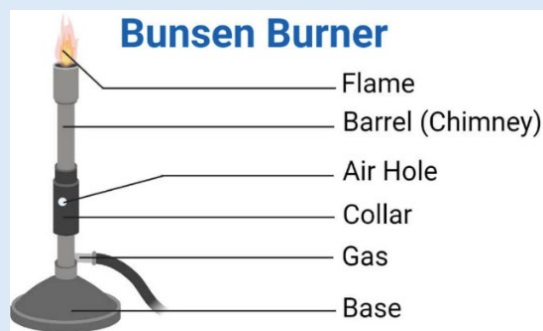
It's been an exhilarating term in the Year 7 science classrooms at Yea High School, where students have taken their first big steps into the world of practical science. From learning how to safely navigate the science lab to exploring the fundamentals of chemistry, our budding young scientists have dived into their studies with curiosity and enthusiasm.

Over the past few weeks, students have become familiar with essential lab equipment and have learned how to apply science lab safety rules—an important foundation for all future experiments. Through hands-on activities, they've explored particle models, discovering how solids, liquids and gases behave at a microscopic level, and investigated how mixtures, solutions, and solubility work in everyday substances.

One of the most exciting milestones came when students used Bunsen burners for the very first time. As the photos in this newsletter show, this experience was both nerve-wracking and thrilling—and an unforgettable moment for everyone involved. Watching the flames dance and change color was described by many students as “beautiful” and “mesmerizing.” Teachers were proud to see how quickly the students adapted to using this new tool with care and confidence.

The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, with many saying they feel more connected to science now that they've had a chance to engage in real laboratory work.

We look forward to more exciting experiments and discoveries ahead as our students continue to build their scientific knowledge and skills.





HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY



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SPORT UPDATE

May was a huge month for sport, with students showing outstanding spirit, determination, and athleticism across several major events – including our House Cross Country, House Athletics Carnival, Round Robin competitions, and the State Swimming Championships.

A special shout-out to Finn Hargreaves for her exceptional effort representing our school at the State Swimming Championships held at MSAC. Congratulations on your outstanding achievement, Finn!

Perfect weather and high energy made for a fantastic afternoon of competition at our annual House Cross Country on Tuesday 6th May.

Students from all year levels took on the course with grit and enthusiasm. Congratulations to all who participated and pushed themselves on the track.

CROSS COUNTRY - AGE CHAMPIONS:

Female

- **12–13 years** – Lexi Harris
- **14 years** – Kayla De Iulio
- **15 years** – Jemma Anstey
- **16 years** – Lily De Iulio
- **17–20 years** – Bella Hargreaves

Male

- **12–13 years** – William Mullis
- **14 years** – Flynn Roberts
- **15 years** – Max Papadopoulos
- **16 years** – Kaiden Crockett
- **17–20 years** – Zack Papadopoulos

On Friday 16th May, House colours were on full display and the cheers of teammates echoed around the track, our Athletics Carnival was a celebration of school spirit, healthy competition, and athletic excellence.

From sprints to high jump, long-distance races to discus throws, our students gave their all across a wide range of events.

HOUSE RESULTS – ATHLETICS

1. **Dennis – 411 points**
2. **Casey – 269 points**
3. **Burnet – 262 points**
4. **Clarke – 105 points**

A huge congratulations to **Dennis House** for taking out the win in dominant fashion!

ATHLETICS - AGE CHAMPIONS

Female

- **12–13 years** – Lexi Harris
- **14 years** – Kyla Dowling
- **15 years** – Jemma Anstey
- **16 years** – Lily Delulio
- **17 years** – Ebony Ockwell
- **18–20 years** – Bella Hargreaves

Male

- **12–13 years** – William Mullis
- **14 years** – Flynn Roberts
- **15 years** – Hamish Antrobus
- **16 years** – Kaiden Crockett
- **17 years** – William Granter
- **18–20 years** – Zack Papadopolous

We are incredibly proud of all students who participated, encouraged their peers, and represented their Houses so well.

Our recent Round Robin competitions on Tuesday 20th May saw students representing our school with pride across a range of sports. We took two netball teams – Seniors and Juniors – to Shepparton, with our senior girls putting in a stellar performance to bring home a well-deserved win. Congratulations to all who participated! Our intermediate boys' football team travelled to Seymour and gave it their all on the field. In addition, six badminton teams ventured to various schools across the region to compete, showcasing skill, effort, and enthusiasm throughout the day.

Well done to everyone involved!

A big thank you to all staff and student helpers for making these events run smoothly. We look forward to seeing even more students get involved next year!

TERM 2 ROUND ROBIN – Senior Netball



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