



YEA HIGH SCHOOL

Be Respectful : Be Responsible : Be Kind



PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal Endeavour Awards

The school is proud to announce that students who have shown exceptional effort, consistency, and productivity throughout Semester 1 will be recognised at our **20th Annual Principal's Endeavour Awards Ceremony**. Parents and guardians have been formally notified by email that their child has been selected as an award recipient

Date: Friday, 12 September 2025

Time: 12:10 pm

Location: Yea High School Gymnasium (please sign in at the Administration Office)

The ceremony will feature a performance from our school band, followed by the presentation of awards. Afterwards, families are warmly invited to join us in the Music Room for light refreshments.

www.yeahs.vic.edu.au



phone: (03) 5797 2207
email: yea.hs@education.vic.gov.au



PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students, and we would love for families to share in this special occasion.

To assist with catering, please confirm your attendance by contacting the Student Administration Office on 5797 2207 by Friday, 12 September 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you to this important celebration of student achievement!

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for students to engage fully with their learning program. Each absence can disrupt lessons, affect student progress, and make it more difficult for teachers to help students catch up. Unplanned absences during the day also create extra administrative work for office staff as they manage attendance and follow up with families.

Parents and caregivers are reminded to notify the school promptly if a student is absent and, where possible, provide advance notice of planned absences. This allows staff to plan effectively, maintain continuity of learning, and support every student's success.

Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged 6 to 17 years unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted. Parents and carers must ensure their child attends school and provide an explanation for any absence. Daily attendance is crucial to prevent students from falling behind socially or academically and supports better long-term outcomes, including health, employment, and overall life success.

Parents and caregivers will receive an 'Unexplained absence notification' letter in the mail during the coming week. This provides an important opportunity to record the reason for your child's absence and ensure our records are up to date. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

"Attending school every day means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape your future" Department of Education & Training



Missing **one day per fortnight** adds up to missing **four weeks** of school a year.



vic.gov.au/education



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PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

2025 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey

We warmly invite all parents, caregivers, and guardians to participate in the annual **Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey** conducted by the Department of Education.

Your feedback is important to us. The survey helps our school gain valuable insights into families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. This information is used to guide school planning, improvement strategies, and staff professional learning.

Survey details:

- **Dates:** Monday 18 August – Friday 19 September 2025
- **Format:** Online survey (approx. 20 minutes)
- **Devices:** Accessible on desktop computers, laptops, tablets, or smartphones
- **Languages:** Available in English plus Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources in other languages can be provided on request.
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How to complete the survey:

1. Click the link below or copy and paste it into your browser:
<https://research.orima.com/parent>
2. Select the school and campus:
 - **School Name:** Yea High School
 - **Campus Name:** Yea High School
3. Enter the School PIN: **788135**
4. When finished, click the **'Submit'** button. *(Please note: the survey will time out after 60 minutes of inactivity.)*



Last year, your feedback helped us strengthen community outreach and improve communication with families. We look forward to building on this progress with your support.

If you would like further information, or need a guide in another language, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

Thank you for taking the time to share your perspective and help us continue improving Yea High School for every student.

Common Curriculum Day

Our recent Common Curriculum Day was a fantastic opportunity for staff to engage with expert-led sessions, collaborate with colleagues, and explore innovative strategies to enhance teaching and learning. This annual event is coordinated by the Murrindindi and Mitchell Network of Schools.

Staff participated in workshops led by a range of outstanding presenters, including Sue Larkey on supporting neurodiversity in the classroom; Real Schools on restorative practices; Kylie Captain sharing her inspirational *Dream Big* approach; The Academy exploring AI in

PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

covering study skills for senior students; Evolve Education on digital safety and wellbeing; Brendan Lee on the science of mathematics; James Dobson on checking for understanding in maths; Samantha Charlton on explicit maths instruction aligned to VTLM 2.0; David Morkunas on daily review and retrieval practices in mathematics; Emina McClean on teaching reading comprehension; Ozlit Teacher on unpacking English 2.0; and Beth Guy on understanding the brain, trauma, and VTLM 2.0.

The day provided a rich professional learning experience, equipping staff with practical strategies, inspiration, and opportunities to share ideas and strengthen connections across schools.

Past Events

Student Leadership Excursion

Our Student Leaders recently attended the Student Leadership Excursion at Wallan Primary School, where they engaged with keynote speaker Kylie Captain.

Kylie Captain is a proud Gamilaroi woman, author, educator, and public speaker recognised for her contributions to Aboriginal affairs, education, finance, and community service. She is the President of the Aboriginal Studies Association and founder of *Dream Big Education Wellbeing & Consulting*. Kylie shared her personal story of overcoming challenges and highlighted the transformative power of education. She demonstrated how storytelling can heal, educate, and inspire positive change.

Students had the opportunity to connect with Kylie, reflect on her story, and engage in meaningful conversations. They also explored the importance of goal setting, considered their personal values and attributes, and identified the people and groups who can support them in working towards their aspirations.



Kylie Captain with Yea High School student leaders, Cindy Newcomen and Jacinta Byers.

PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

Lockdown Drill

Students and staff recently participated in a lockdown drill as part of our school's ongoing commitment to safety. During the drill, everyone followed the established protocols to ensure the school could respond effectively in an emergency.

These exercises are an important way to ensure that both students and staff know how to respond calmly and confidently, while also allowing the school to review and strengthen its safety procedures. Participation in drills helps build a culture of preparedness and resilience across the whole school community.

Project Ready – Industry Experience

Students completing their Certificate II in Active Volunteering have been actively building their industry experience and developing organisational awareness through a range of excursions and workplace visits.

As part of the program, students visited Gnarly Neighbours, a Seymour-based community group that provides a safe and inclusive space for young people to connect through creative activities, social programs, and skateboarding. They also toured the Puckapunyal Military Base, where they explored facilities and spoke with staff about the wide variety of career pathways available. These included hospitality, grounds maintenance, fitness and recreation services, the onsite fire station, and plant and machinery maintenance.

These experiences gave students valuable insights into real-world workplaces, strengthened their understanding of community connections, and encouraged them to reflect on their own goals and future pathways.

Southern Ranges Athletics

Yea High School is proud to celebrate the achievement of 25 students who have been selected to compete at the Southern Ranges Athletics Event in Shepparton. This is a wonderful recognition of their talent, effort, and commitment to sport, and we wish them every success as they represent our school.



Jacinta Byers

Principal

UNIFORM UPDATE



We are excited to announce the arrival of our brand-new school dress design! Featuring our school colours—Navy Blue, Maroon, and White—this fresh new look represents our school spirit beautifully. The new dress is now available for purchase at the uniform shop, priced at \$55.00.

Additionally, our current school dresses will continue to be available for purchase at a reduced price of \$30.00, while stocks last. Please note that the current dress can still be worn, but it will be gradually phased out in future years as the new design becomes the standard uniform.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing our students proudly wearing this updated uniform.

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**

CONGRATS...



CONGRATULATIONS TIGERS & LIONS!

A huge shoutout to all our local stars on their amazing achievements this season:

★ Yea Tigers U15s PREMIERSHIP – Jemma Anstey & Lily Neilson

★ Yea Tigers C Grade Best & Fairest R/Up – Jemma Anstey

★ Yea Tigers U18s Best & Fairest – Harry Dignam (Winner) & Will Granter (R/Up)

★ Yea Tigers Woman's Football Best Young Player – Ebony Ockwell

★ Seymour Lions U16s PREMIERSHIP – Tayte Hoefchen

★ Kinglake U16s Best & Fairest – Lachlan Henwood (Winner) & Ethan Harry (R/Up)

A special congratulations to Jemma Anstey and Tayte Hoefchen, who have both been invited to the League Best & Fairest on Sunday – GOOD LUCK



**FRIDAY
26TH
SEPTEMBER
10AM - 2PM**

SEYMOUR

SPORTS & AQUATIC CENTRE
POLLARD STREET

FUN DAY



**FOOD
AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE**

\$10
PARENT/CARER ENTRY
(SUPERVISION ONLY)

\$25
FULL ADMISSION
(includes Laser Tag)

FREE
PRESCHOOL ENTRY
(AGED UNDER 5)

ROCK CLIMBING, JUMPING CASTLE

DRONE FLYING, GIANT SNAKES & LADDERS

AFL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL, LASER TAG



Scan QR Code for Registrations
Questions:

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<https://www.facebook.com/share/1CE1vt2jCQ/>

Phone: 0458 742 362

Email: dustyministry@gmail.com



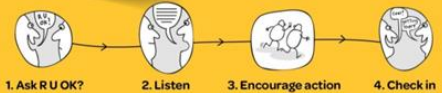
ART with Ms Lowe

Our wonderful Year 8 students have been very busy in Art this semester at YHS, exploring the elements and principles of Art. Students have been hard at work putting their own spin on the Mona Lisa in 2D. Well done to Jaiven Jolley on his incredibly detailed interpretation of the Mona Lisa



In Year 9 Art students have been focused on exploring the medium of charcoal. Students expressed tonal gradation through their production of Gargoyles. Well done Lily Neilson on your finished piece!

Proudly supporting
RU OK?

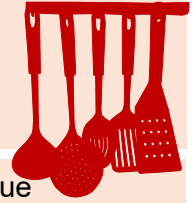


Yea High School marked R U OK? Day with a lunchtime BBQ and bracelet-making, sparking conversations and connection. Students swapped bracelets as symbols of support, while funds raised helped subsidise the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner – a great mix of food, fun, and friendship!





FOOD TECHNOLOGY



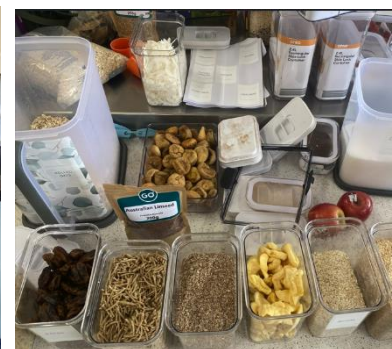
Our Food Technology students continue to impress with their skills, moving beyond foundational cooking skills to develop diverse culinary techniques. Having already demonstrated competence in using kitchen equipment like ovens and frypans, they have now embarked on a new phase of learning focused on creating a variety of recipes that promote healthy eating, particularly for the winter season.

Over the past two weeks, students have explored wholesome, nutrient-rich breakfast options by preparing overnight soaked oats for Bircher muesli and delicious toasted muesli with dried fruits and nuts. This is a skill that they could use on a weekend to feed the family Sunday breakfast at a low cost.



Their most recent project was an exciting exploration of root vegetables, where they delved into the ancient theory of the "Doctrine of Signatures". This interesting concept suggests that a food's shape can provide a clue to its health benefits. For example, students learned how the cross-section of a carrot resembles the human eye, and that carrots contain beta-carotene, which the body converts to Vitamin A to promote overall eye health and help with night vision. Similarly, the rich red colour of beetroot is a sign of its benefits for the circulatory system, as it contains nitrates that are converted to nitric oxide, helping to relax and widen blood vessels.

Students cooked with a range of root vegetables, including onions, potatoes, parsnip, swede, turnip, and beetroot. The results were a showcase of their growing skills, with many presenting beautiful, restaurant-quality dishes.





Biology students attended the Melbourne Zoo to explore evolutionary trends seen in Primates. Students collected observation data and were able to determine species relatedness based on a range of behavioural complexities and anatomical features. Naikiah, Hunter, Liam and Cooper are pictured grouping and determining species relatedness by examining the morphological features of various skulls.



VCE BIOLOGY

ENGINEERING – Year 7

Our Year 7 students are in the final stages of their Engineering Common Assessment Task, where they've been challenged to apply the design process to create and improve a space parachute. This hands-on task aligns with the Victorian Curriculum in Design and Technologies, encouraging students to think critically, problem-solve, and work collaboratively.

As part of the project, students were tasked with designing a parachute that could safely deliver a fragile cargo: an egg. While only one egg has survived the drop so far, the learning journey has been rich with creativity, experimentation, and refinement of ideas.

Throughout the process, students have tested their prototypes, analysed the results, and made design improvements based on performance. It has been fantastic to see such collaborative teamwork, persistence, and enthusiasm as students work towards their final designs.

We look forward to seeing their completed projects and celebrating their efforts in the coming week.

