



YEA HIGH SCHOOL

RESPECT : TRUST : ACCEPTANCE



PRINCIPAL REPORT

End of Year Reflection – Jacinta Byers

As we come to the close of 2025, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on a year of growth, learning and connection across our Yea High School community.

This year has been a significant one for me personally. After commencing the year in the Acting Principal role, I was honoured to be appointed to the substantive position in Term 4. Having been part of the Yea High School community since 2013, it is a privilege to continue leading a school that has shaped my professional journey and one that I am deeply proud to call home.

Throughout 2025, we have maintained a strong focus on student learning, wellbeing and engagement. We have continued to embed School Wide Positive Behaviour Support and implement Disability Inclusion, ensuring consistent expectations, positive relationships and inclusive learning environments for all students. These approaches are reflected in the way our students interact, engage in learning and contribute to our school culture each day.

A range of programs have supported student growth and engagement this year. Our instrumental music program provided valuable opportunities for creativity, confidence building and performance. MYLNS and our tutoring programs delivered targeted and responsive support for students who benefit from additional learning time and personalised instruction. Together, these programs continue to strengthen our learning culture and support positive outcomes for students.

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PRINCIPAL REPORT cont/d

We also expanded our onsite VET offerings, including Building and Construction, Community Services and Active Volunteering. Delivered in partnership with key stakeholders, these programs provided meaningful pathway opportunities aligned with student interests and future aspirations.

Whole school events such as Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country carnivals, Round Robin Sports, camps and excursions played an important role in strengthening student connection, participation and school pride. Students represented Yea High School with enthusiasm across Southern Ranges, Hume and State level competitions, demonstrating teamwork and resilience.

One of the strongest indicators of our progress this year was reflected in the 2025 Attitudes to School Survey. We saw improvements in Teacher Concern, Effective Classroom Behaviour and Resilience, alongside stronger student voice and agency, more positive attitudes toward attendance and a decline in reported bullying. These results reflect the collective efforts of staff, students and families in building an inclusive, supportive and connected school environment.

Academic outcomes have also continued to strengthen. Yea High School was recognised across the Goulburn region for strong NAPLAN results in both Numeracy and Literacy. Proficiency levels in Numeracy at Year 7 and Year 9 were at or above the state, while Literacy outcomes, particularly in Year 9 Reading, Spelling and Writing, outperformed similar schools and the network, and in several cases exceeded state averages. These results highlight the impact of targeted, evidence based teaching and the dedication of our staff.

This year also involved significant staffing changes. I thank all staff, both past and present, for their professionalism, flexibility and commitment to ensuring continuity of learning despite workforce challenges. We congratulate Jessica Hill on her appointment as substantive Assistant Principal this term and thank her for her leadership and contribution throughout the year.

We also acknowledge the retirement of former Principal Brian D'Arcy at the end of Term 2. His calm leadership, strong belief in young people and lasting contributions to our facilities and partnerships have helped shape the school we are proud of today.

I would like to acknowledge the leadership shown by our students throughout the year, including our School Captains, School Council Representatives and all students who took on leadership roles. I also thank our School Council, particularly President Andrew Fulford, for their ongoing guidance, support and commitment to strengthening our school.



On behalf of the Yea High School community, I am delighted to congratulate **Freya Foster**, our **2025 School Dux**, on her outstanding academic achievements, including an exceptional **study score over 40 in English**. I also commend **Year 11 student Jasper Bastion** for achieving a **study score over 40 in Health & Human Development**, a remarkable accomplishment at this stage of his schooling. Congratulations to our **incoming 2026 School Captains, Nina Callander and Jasper Bastion**, we look forward to their leadership in the year ahead. Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to **Rose Burt and Finn Hargreaves** for their dedication and leadership in captaining our school throughout 2025. These achievements reflect the hard work, commitment, and spirit that make Yea High School so proud.

As we reflect on the year, it is important to recognise that success takes many forms. Academic growth, confidence, resilience, re engagement with learning, contribution to the school community and the development of positive relationships all matter and all deserve recognition.

Thank you to our families for your trust, partnership and support, to our staff for your dedication and care, and to our students for the perseverance, curiosity and kindness you have shown throughout the year. I look forward to continuing this work together in 2026 and wish everyone a safe and restful break.

