



YEA HIGH SCHOOL

RESPECT : TRUST : ACCEPTANCE



PRINCIPAL REPORT

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY

The Longwood Fire has had a significant impact on our community. In response, the school has worked closely with the Department of Education and local organisations to ensure appropriate support is in place for our students and families. This has included access to Student Support Services, with recovery staff engaging directly with students to provide targeted wellbeing support following the event.

The Victorian Government has recognised the impact of recent bushfires and allocated \$2 million to provide immediate mental health support to affected government schools. Our school has been identified as a recipient of this funding, with an allocation of up to \$75,000 through the Schools Mental Health Fund.

This funding will enable the school to strengthen its wellbeing supports, including:

- Engagement of a Mental Health Nurse through Yea & District Memorial Hospital (one day per week, Terms 2–4)
- Implementation of the Big Sister and Blue Edge programs
- Additional staffing to support Wellbeing and Inclusive Learning initiatives

We extend our sincere thanks to our community partners for their generous support. Rotary District 9790 contributed \$7,555.65 through the Rotary Fire Relief Back to School Program to assist students with uniforms, books, and stationery. Rotary Club of Whittlesea has also

donated \$5,000 to support fire-impacted families, including assistance with the Junior School Camp and essential equipment.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

The Australian Education Union called strike action on Tuesday 24 March 2026. A number of our staff participated, resulting in a modified program for students in Years 7–12 on that day. Thank you to families who indicated student attendance in advance. This supported the school to plan effectively and maintain appropriate duty of care. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

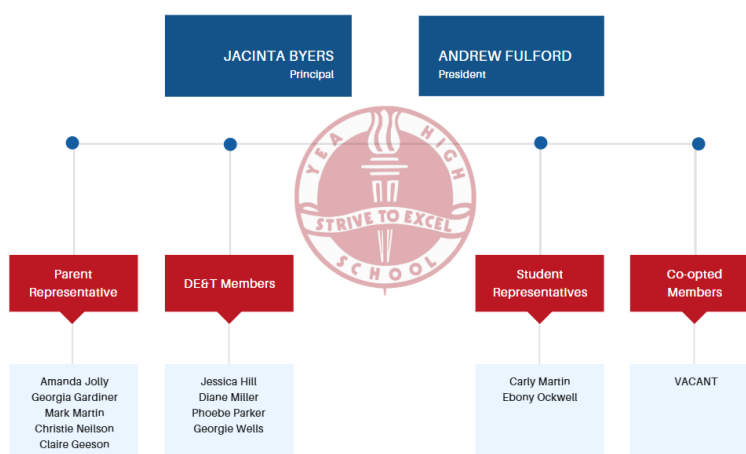
I would like to acknowledge and thank our outgoing School Council members, Kelly Harris, Erin Papadopoulos and Robyn Hopp, for their valued contribution and commitment.

School Council plays an important role in guiding key decisions and supporting the effective management of school resources.

We welcome the 2026–2027

School Council:

- Parents: Andrew Fulford (President), Amanda Jolly (Vice-President), Mark Martin, Christie Neilson, Georgia Gardiner, Claire Geeson
- Students: Carly Martin, Ebony Ockwell
- Staff: Jessica Hill, Diane Miller, Georgina Wells, Phoebe Parker



COMMUNICATION

The school uses a range of platforms to communicate with families and the wider community. Compass remains our primary platform for information relating to:



- Learning: Curriculum documentation, learning tasks, and resources
- Wellbeing: Attendance and behaviour observations
- Administration: Excursions, events, and staff contact

In addition, updates are shared via the school website, newsletter, and Facebook page.

Website: <https://www.yeahs.vic.edu.au/>

MIDDLE YEARS LITERACY AND NUMERACY SUPPORT (MYLNS)

The school continues to receive MYLNS funding to support Year 10 students in developing essential literacy and numeracy skills. Andrei Telehin and Franck Panazio will continue to lead targeted intervention programs to support identified students and strengthen outcomes for future pathways.

VICTORIAN HIGH-ABILITY PROGRAM

The Victorian High-Ability Program for Year 7 and 8 students will commence in Term 2, delivered through Virtual School Victoria. The program provides extension in English and Mathematics, with a focus on critical thinking, collaboration, and deeper learning. Students are selected based on NAPLAN data and teacher judgement.

We acknowledge and thank Thomas Panazio for his leadership of this program at Yea High School.

Program benefits include:

- Engaging and challenging curriculum
 - Opportunities to connect with like-minded peers across the state
 - Increased student confidence and capability
 - Flexible access to learning through the Virtual School Victoria platform
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YEAR 7 LAPTOP PROGRAM

The school remains committed to equity and access through the Year 7 Laptop Program. From Term 2, students will be able to take their devices home to support their learning. These devices remain school-owned during the warranty period, after which ownership will transfer to the student.



RECENT EVENTS

- Welcome BBQ with strong attendance from Year 7 families
- House Swimming Carnival at Yea Pool, with Clarke announced as the winning house
- Term 1 Round Robin (Volleyball) across year levels
- Student participation in the Southern Ranges Swimming Carnival, with two students progressing to the Hume Region level
- Completion of NAPLAN for Years 7–9
- Year 12 Elevate Study Skills session
- Visit from the Smile Squad, with all bookings completed and referrals made

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email: yea.hs@education.vic.gov.au



Highlights:

NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

A group of Student Leaders recently attended the National Young Leaders Day in Melbourne, where they engaged with a range of inspiring speakers. Jacqui Bell shared her experience as the youngest person to complete an ultramarathon on all seven continents, reinforcing the message that while you can go fast alone, you go further together. Author Adrian Beck spoke about drawing on personal experiences to shape his writing, highlighting that books have the power to influence and inspire. Students also heard from Catherine Laga'aia, who stars in the upcoming Disney live-action *Moana*,

encouraging students to strive to be a little better each day and to take responsibility for creating positive change.



Jacinta Byers

YHS Principal

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Year 11 and 12 Personal Development Skills students put their teamwork and leadership skills to the test in a MasterChef-style challenge. They were tasked with creating a healthy meal aligned with the healthy eating guidelines.

Students prepared a wide range of dishes, including fried rice, carbonara, crunch wraps, stir-fries, and burgers. It was fantastic to see such creativity and collaboration in the kitchen.

A lot of fun was had as students put their skills into practice, worked towards key learning outcomes, and, of course, enjoyed eating their creations.

Book profile

Horror

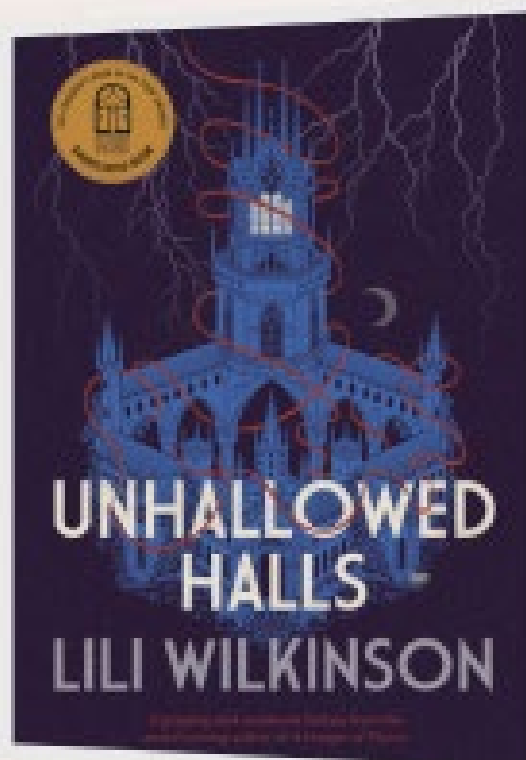
Unhallowed Halls by Lili Wilkinson

Page Whittaker has always been an outcast. She's too smart, too quiet, too weird. And after the deadly incident that destroyed her only friendship at her old school, she needs a fresh start.

Agathion College is everything Page has ever wanted: a safe haven of wood-panelled halls and dusty books, on a remote Scottish moor. And for the first time in her life, she has a close group of friends. Cyrus, Ren, Gideon, Lacey and Oak help her feel at home; the only problem is, they're all keeping secrets from her. Page doesn't know it yet, but her perfect new school has a crooked foundation, rooted in an ancient clandestine society with rumoured ties to demonic magic.

DARK ACADEMIA... WITH DEMONS - Perfect for fans of Lynette Noni and Leigh Bardugo, from the acclaimed author of *A Hunger for Thorns*.

SHORTLISTED BOOK: 2026 CBCA Book of the Year, Older Readers



Library News

Easter break and school holidays

Wishing all our families who celebrate the traditions of Easter a wonderful time over the coming weekend.

For some, it means hunting for chocolate eggs and bunnies, for others it heralds the end of a period of Lent, and others still may be preparing for Passover. Some of our Muslim friends have recently celebrated Eid al-Fitr, marking the end of the month-long fasting during Ramadan.

However you and your family enjoy this time away, Yea High School Library wishes everyone a safe and happy break.

A reminder to all students that the library catalogue is open 24/7 and from here you can access our digital collection of ebooks and audiobooks (these are especially handy to pass the time if you are stuck in the car for hours with annoying siblings!)

Please scan the QR code, click this [link](https://au.accessit.online/YHG00), or visit <https://au.accessit.online/YHG00> to discover all of the helpful online content offered by YHS Library



AGRICULTURE...

We have been hard at work constructing sections of the Yea High School grounds into a fresh produce garden and animal sanctuary for chickens and bees. Over the last 18 months we have built a Bee platform, surrounded it with pollinator garden plants and students in Year 8 are ready to construct the Bee Hives next term. The Chicken coop is close to finished and with a gate hung over the coming holidays the Chickens will arrive for Year 7's to look after next term. Year 9's have been a wonderful help out in the Kitchen Garden, planting natives as a habitat space and to provide future shade to our students and vegetable gardens. We have 17 garden tanks that are slowly being planted out with produce. Fun times ahead as we will pick and use these food products in Food Technology.

The year 7's in Materials Technology - Wood have made herb shredders, mixing spoons and plant identifying stakes to use in our gardens. The Year 9 and 10's have constructed large planter containers from recycled materials and currently we have started to plant grapes in those.

Mr Ricci had a vision and we thank him for his time, effort and construction allocated to the Kitchen Garden at Yea High School.



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FOOD TECHNOLOGY...

Italian cooking: Students were brilliant with the menu in Italian cooking. We discussed fresh, home grown cuisines and how the colours eaten are also represented nationally in the Italian flag. Music was playing, views of the Italian country side were viewed and the fresh smell of garlic and basil wafted down the corridor. We created a feast and invited friends to share.

Hot Cross Buns: Proving yeast leads to the baking of Chelsea buns or Pizza bases. Due to it being Easter celebrations the Yea High School students made hot cross buns to take home. Yeast is a live organism, so we fed it sugar, wrapped it in flour and warmed it with hot milk. Then the bubbles formed. This mix was added to larger quantities of flour and sugar, mixed and again laid to rest to prove. The dough divided and shaped and to stick to traditions a cross was piped onto each bun. Warm sugar and yeast smells filled the room.



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YHS Student Wellbeing

At Yea High School, we are proud to offer counselling services onsite through our Student Wellbeing team. Students can access this support through self-referral, parent/carer referral via their Sub-school Leader, or direct staff referral. Our aim is to ensure every student has access to timely, compassionate support when they need it.

We also recognise that there may be times when students and families need support outside of school hours, or prefer to access services independently of the school. Whether support is needed for personal, family, or wellbeing concerns, there are many trusted external services available to help.

Below, you will find a list of recommended support services. We encourage families to explore these options and access the support that best suits their child and family's needs.

If you would like assistance connecting with any of these services, please don't hesitate to contact our Student Wellbeing team—we are here to help.



Kids' Helpline - Phone + WebChat Counselling Services



Headspace - Information about mental health + counselling services



ReachOut - Information for young people and parents/carers + Peer Support services



SANE Australia - Support for people experiencing complex mental health and their families



Qlife - Counselling and referral service for LGBTQ+ people + WebChat/phone counselling

MENTAL
Health
MATTERS



Beyond Blue - Information for teens, youth and families, online chat + 24-hour counselling services



Raise - Online Mentoring Program to support young people build confidence, resilience and develop help-seeking skills



Raising Children Network - Information and parenting guides for all ages and stages

SEYMOUR
PERFORMERS
WORKSHOP
YOUTH THEATRE SCHOOL

Production of

ROALD DAHL
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.



Book
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics
TIM MINCHIN

MAY 9 - 17, 2026

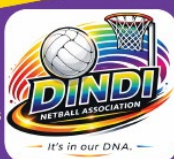
VENUE: SEYMOUR COLLEGE ARTS CENTRE
TICKETS: SPWORKSHOP.ORG.AU



**LADIES
NETBALL**

YEAR
10+

All Skill Levels Welcome!
A great Night of Fun & Fitness
Alexandra Leisure Centre

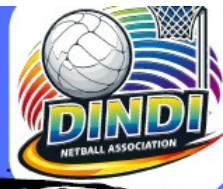


TEAM REGISTRATIONS
Teams will be organised by the committee once all registrations have been received.
Alternatively, if you would prefer to submit a team list for approval, please email the committee
dindinetball@gmail.com Register Online: @dindinetballassociation

Starts Wednesday 6th May | Term 2 & 3 | 6:15 & 7:15PM | \$70 DNA Fee/\$94 Netball Vic

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**YOUTH
NETBALL**



Mixed Competition | Year 7-10 | Tuesday Nights



SEASON STARTS TUES 5TH MAY

TEAMS WILL BE ALLOCATED BY THE COMMITTEE
ONCE ALL REGISTRATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED

\$50 Association Fee/ \$73 Netball Vic



**Kinglake Ranges
Neighbourhood House**
6 McMahon Rd. Kinglake



Term 2 Program, 2026

**COMING
SOON**

www.krngh.org

WHAT'S ON @ THE HOUSE IN APRIL

NEW TERM 2 PROGRAM

Our Term 2 Program will be available from mid-April. The Program outlines the core classes, courses and key services available at the Neighbourhood House. You can visit our website to enrol and pay for any Term 2 classes or courses. Our website and Facebook Page are regularly updated with pop-up workshops and special events, so be sure to keep an eye out.

THE NOOK

Things are really starting to take shape at the Kinglake Ranges Op Shop - The Nook! We've refreshed our stock and are now offering more of what you asked for - including kids' toys, camping gear, gym and fitness wear, and kids' dress-ups. Our new stands are filling up with some wonderful donations from community members, and there are always new bargains to discover.

FOODSHARE

We are currently seeking **volunteers** to support our Foodshare Program at the Neighbourhood House. Foodshare runs every Wednesday from 1.00pm-3.00pm and provides a confidential service for anyone experiencing food insecurity or needing a little extra support. While the program runs weekly, volunteers are only needed once or twice a month. If you have a few hours to spare and would like to make a real difference in our community, we would love to hear from you.

HOUSE ACTIVITIES

FIBRE FRIENDS

Second & fourth Tuesdays of each month | 10am-1pm
\$3.00 per Session.

CLAY CLUB

Tuesdays 21 April - 16 June | 6.30pm-8.30pm
\$140.00 Term 2 (9 Sessions) OR \$15.00 Casual Session

LEADLIGHTING

Morning Session
Mondays 27 April - 22 June. 10am-12pm
\$120.00 Beginners. Includes materials.
\$95.00 Advanced. BYO material
No Classes on Monday 8 June (King's Birthday Public Hol.)

LEADLIGHTING

Evening Session
Mondays 27 April - 22 June. 7pm-9pm
Prices as above.

**We need
Volunteers**



Contact us:
03 5786 1301 | 0482 847 764



More information/enrolments:
www.KRNH.org