



Upcoming Dates

AUGUST

Mon 21st

Yr 7 Ecolinc AARK

Excursion

P-4 Discovery Centre
Excursion

Fri 25th

Athletics Carnival

SEPTEMBER

Friday 1st

Book Week

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ron Lister, Steph Demeo and
Josh Diss.



Respect

Responsibility

Resilience

Relationships

From the Principal

All The Best Miss Pay!

Middle Years Leader Kelly Pay begins a period of family leave as of Monday and we wish her and her partner all the very best for the impending birth of their first child. In the absence of Miss Pay, Mr Geoff Adcock will be taking on Miss Pay's teaching load, with Ms Ferres stepping into the role of Middle Years Leader.

We All Have A Right To Feel Safe At School...

At East Loddon P-12 College we aim to provide a safe space for everyone from students, to staff, to parents and other family members. In order to do this successfully, we need to have discussions with stake-holders from time to time that remind everyone that we all have the right to feel 'safe'.

For me, 'safe' takes into account both physical and emotional aspects and not what we 'believe' someone should feel, but how they 'actually do' feel.

I believe that our college is a safe school, but I also believe that it could be a lot safer for all. A genuine acceptance and respect for all would be terrific and I am sure that we are continuing to get closer to this each day.

No student, staff member or college family member should feel threatened or unsafe on our college grounds at all. Respectful conversation and interaction is to be strongly encouraged at all times and individuals should feel comfortable to be themselves and to 'stand-up' if they feel that they need to.

I am not proud to say that we have again uncovered some behaviours this week that contradict our college values, but I will certainly not shy away from the fact that we have disrespectful interactions from time to time. We have uncovered racist, anti-semitic and vulgar comments/interactions this week and to be frank, THIS IS NOT OK. Please have a chat with your child/ren about the topic of safety this week and see what they can tell you about this. In a lot of cases, our children are well and truly ahead of the pack when it comes to safety and the acceptance of others.

Students in our year 5/6 class today discussed the topic of safety, with one very wise student raising a really good point with me afterwards. This point was around 'what we say and what we really mean'. This discussion was with a 12 year old student who was able to critically question the impact of peers and adult family members words on individuals. They mentioned that comments such as -

- No offense but...
- Don't worry it was just a joke...
- I'm not racist but...
- Not to be mean, but...

Are not helpful and are clearly not honest.

This particular student and I wonder how many of our news-letter readers could make a concerted effort to change at least one interaction this week. This might be in the form of respectfully challenging a comment that is clearly hurtful to someone else, or changing the way in which you handle a situation. See how you go...

Building Works Update

There was a large meeting held at the college yesterday for construction companies that are looking to tender for our upcoming stage 2 build. These works are likely to begin at the end of this term and we look forward to seeing these works progress. We are also very close to being able to move into our new relocatable building, which we should have access to next Wednesday. I will share photos upon the completion of this building.

This Week's Photo

My photo this week is of year 5 student Elly Mc and her terrific 'Croc', which is a pull-along children's toy that she made in tech class recently.

Steve Leed—College Principal

Spotlight on Year 10

Our Year 10 class currently has 22 students in one group and 3 students in the VM course. We will spotlight the VM group in a future newsletter.

All of the year 10s have to make the important decision about which courses they will study for the next two years. It is a big transition and it is coming up quickly. As part of their preparation for subject selections, guest speakers from La Trobe Uni and Bendigo TAFE have visited the last two Mondays. In their next lesson, Mrs Krahe will present information about the VCE/VM pathways and subject selection interviews will commence next week.



In English, they are studying persuasive writing and producing their own convincing arguments about whether or not debutante balls should be discontinued.

In Humanities, they are investigating the causes and consequences of WWII: including Kododa, the home front.

In PE, they are competing their High Jump competition.

In Advance, they are working on community projects.

In Science, they are planting trees with the Grade 3 & 4's for Tree planting day / Science Week.

In Health, they have been learning about how to have a 'safe party' including the legal responsibilities of the host family.

In Maths, they have just started a statistics assignment. Students also have a Maths Pathway test scheduled for Thursday. The Specialist Maths class are working on non-linear graphs.

In Sport, they are competing in the 1500m race to earn house points.



Assistant Principal's news



Seriously...who does this?

In some pretty disappointing news, I had a visit from the bus company that operates the majority of our buses yesterday. They reported to me a number of issues that are costing them significant amounts of money. This year they have spent over \$2500 making repairs to buses that only our children use. This came as a bit of a shock to be honest. Some of the repairs were for regular wear and tear but I was shown photographs of chair stitching that had been deliberately unpicked by some of our kids. This is pretty embarrassing and certainly does not follow our big blue R of **RESPECT**. I have met with our senior and junior bus captain today and asked them to reiterate these simple rules.

1. Students are to sit in their allocated seats. This way there is no question about when damage has occurred and who caused the damage.

2. Students are not to eat on the bus. Full stop.
3. Students are to wear seatbelts if they are fitted.

If you have a child in the senior part of the school, they will find this difficult. We have it on good authority (our littlest informants tell us), that 'the big kids don't wear their seatbelts', 'the big kids eat on the bus'. They say that, because it is true. Know this, it's a big job being a role model. So you might as well be good at it. Students not doing the right thing will be reported to the office by bus captains or the little kids and we will then need to deal with it. We are better than this. Please feel free to tell me if you have any word on the culprits of the vandalised seats.

In better news, our year 9/10 digital technology class is in the process of updating the school website. It will be nice to see our webpage actually include stu-

When you can do this?

dents that still go to the college. Well done to all involved, this is a big task.

The Aths sports is next Friday. Any parents/friends that want to come along and support their kids, please do. If you are keen on a job, firstly thanks, secondly leave your name at the office and we can arrange a task for you to do. Mr Leed and I will be away at a conference so will be of no assistance.

Today it was Ms Colville's birthday! I went down to reading and was greeted by 23 screaming kids with noisemakers, party hats, balloons and party poppers. My sensory cup was full to overflowing. One child said 'that was the best thing we have ever done at school!'. I thought he must have been talking about vertical multiplication.

Go Blues

Mr Wilko

Sub-School Updates

Junior

DISCOVERY CENTRE EXCURSION

Finally the time has come! Our excursion to Bendigo is on Monday. Students will need to bring the following for the day.

- 1 x recess (in named bag)
- 1 x lunch (in named bag)
- 1 x water bottle
- Full school uniform with runners

Students will participate in a workshop, the planetarium, the general exhibition and the VERTICAL SLIDE! If you have children who are anxious, I encourage you to show them the website and talk to them about how they are feeling.

BOOK WEEK

Book Week dress up day is now on the 1st of September.

ATHLETICS

Students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will compete in athletics based activities in the morning and then novelty events after lunch. Remember to wear your team colours!

Families who wish to come and watch and more than welcome! If you are bringing younger children, we also have an event for them! At 11am, we will be running the **Sibling Sprint**. Students with younger siblings are invited to join in!

Middle

Today our Year 8s are in Melbourne visiting GTAC to investigate Dark Matters. I am excited to hear about their experiences tomorrow when they return to school! Any Year 8s interested in attending the Leadership school in 2024 should attend the information session about the program next Thursday 24th of August. We have been lucky enough to secure places for two boys and three girls. This would be an amazing opportunity for students next year. Please see Mrs Johns or past students who have attended if you have questions.

There is a very busy end to this term—Please add these dates to your diary. Some major upcoming events are:

Monday 21st August: Year 7 Ecolink Excursion

Friday 25th East Loddon Athletics

Friday 1st September: Book Week Dress Up

Thursday 7th September: Production

Monday 11th—Friday 15th September: Year 8 Rubicon Camp

From next week, Danida Ferres will be filling in as the Middle Years Coordinator as I take a period of maternity leave.

Senior

College Athletics carnival next Friday 25th of August: Already our lovely Y11 & Y12 students have been participating in the high jump competition. Students have given up several recess times. At this stage Mason, Josh, Jaxon and Brodie are still competing for the top prize. Pictured is Mas flying over the high jump bar. Special mention to our lovely Y9, 10 & 11 students who have been assisting with officiating the event. Thanks Aidan, Flynn, Joe, Blake, Char, Drew & Marley.



Our Aths sports will be held next Friday 25th of August. Please come and along and support our students.

Bendigo TAFE visit: Last Monday our Y10 students were presented with information from Vince at Bendigo TAFE. He provided information about courses available, the campuses in Bendigo and further away plus options for students looking at school based apprenticeships, VET subjects and TAFE courses.

VCE/VM information session Aug 18th 3:45pm-4:30pm TOMORROW: Aimed at Y10 parents and carers, students welcome. The session will provide information about subject choices, career pathways, VCE

(Victorian Certificate of Education), Vocational Major (VM) and VET (Vocational Education Training). Y10 students are also participating in information sessions presented by myself, senior students, La Trobe University and Bendigo TAFE guest speakers. If you have any questions please let me know.

VCE/VM handbook: Is now available for students via compass news feed. Please let me know if you would like a copy. This booklet is designed for Y10 & Y11 students to assist them in deciding which pathway and subjects they would like to select for 2024. Students will participate in another information session during Monday's class (Y10). Following this students will have the opportunity to meet with myself and Angela (Careers Co-ordinator) to discuss questions they may have about pathways and subject selections. Parents/carers are welcome to attend, please contact me and we can arrange a time that suits.

I encourage students to also speak directly to subject teachers about the subjects they are interested in. Subject selections will be due Monday Sep 11th.

Next week: Frog in a pond and toffee for sale Tuesday at recess.

AROUND ELP SPORTS

Athletics Carnival Friday

August the 25th

One more week until the athletics carnival.

Students will be competing in a range of events all students are encouraged to attend to earn points for their house!

Activities will start at 9:15am, parents and carers are welcome to attend the day.

Throughout the day, students will participate in a number of track and field events such as javelin, shot put, discus, as well as the many short and long-distance running events. Our P-2 students will participate in novelty events as well.

The canteen will **NOT** be open on this day, Friday the 25th. The parents association will be running a barbeque—sausages and drinks will be sold for \$2.00. We will also have a small amount of lollies being sold by the VM students.

Students are encouraged to get in their team spirit and wear their house colours. A reminder that students outfits should SunSmart be appropriate for competing in the events for the day.

“Overpower. Overtake.
Overcome.”

Shaw, Shaw sure to win!
Quote—everyone

School for Student Leadership 2024

East Loddon has again been accepted to send a team of Year 9 students to the School for Student Leadership at the Don Valley campus in Term 1, 2024.

Two boys and three girls will be given the opportunity to extend their leadership skills through this well-regarded school. They will also develop a community leadership project during this time, that will be conducted on their return to school. This year's team are busily finalising their project, the Mental Health Awareness walk, for the start of next term.

East Loddon has sent several teams over the past five years and the feedback from everyone has been overwhelmingly positive.

Families of current Year 8 students are invited to consider taking part in the program in 2024 and an information session with more details about what the School for Student Leadership is and what the program involves will be held next week, Thursday 24th August, at 9am.

Interested students will need to complete an application form, including any initial ideas for a community leadership project. We encourage all interested students to apply, whether they have previously held leadership positions or not.

Please contact Mrs Johns if you have any questions or would like more information about this!

Production – Tickets now on sale!

It's hard to believe that our college production of Matilda the Musical is only three weeks away! Despite a range of challenges, our leading cast have been working incredibly hard, along with each year level as they work on their class act or other contributions.

Please note that all students are required for both the matinee performance (during the school day) and evening performance. Families are asked to also take note of the below information please regarding costumes.

- **Prep:** casual clothing (no pictures or logos please!)
- **Year 1-2:** Grey leggings/shorts/tracksuit pants and a white or grey plain T-shirt (no logos or pictures)
- **Year 3-11:** White shirt, grey shorts/skirt/pants (no logos or pictures on clothing)
- **Year 12:** casual clothing (themselves as parents)
All: usual school shoes, ankle socks (if wearing longer socks, they must be white or grey)

Costumes are required no later than Thu 31st August and will be left at school for dress rehearsals. On the day of the production, students will come to school as usual and will get changed into their costumes prior to the performance. They will board the bus to go home as usual at the end of the day.

Leading cast members and some other senior school students may be asked to stay behind at school that afternoon (a note will go home shortly for these students).

All students are required back at school by 5:40pm to get ready for a 6pm show.

Please direct any questions related to the college production to Chelsea Harrington via email or phone through the college office.

Chelsea Harrington
Chelsea.harrington@education.vic.gov.au

Celebrate Book Week 2023 with your favourite book and matching costume!!!

East Loddon P-12 Parade is being held on Friday morning 1st of September

Students should come dressed as their favourite book character. It would be great if they could bring the book as well.

This event requires a gold coin donation.

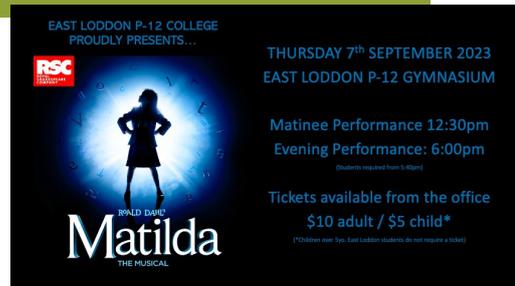
At P-12 assembly during reading time held in the gym, parents and guardians / East Loddon community members are welcome to come and view the parade

PRIZES FOR

- Best dressed from each year level
- Best coordinated group costume
- Best Costume overall

Bring the book your character is from.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to come ask Lilly and Drew from Year 10 or Mrs Fleming.



Canteen

		2023 Aug/Sept	
Fri 18th	Kristie Cullinan Deb Smith		
Mon 21st	Karolyn Campbell	Mon 28th	Belinda Clymo
Tues 22nd	Mel Primrose	Tues 29th	Mel Primrose
Wed 23rd	Penny Cockerell	Wed 30th	Kylie Addlem
Thurs 24th	Mel Primrose	Thurs 31st	Mel Primrose
Fri 25th	Athletics Carnival	Fri 1st	Wendy Murphy Kristie Noonan