



Upcoming Dates

FEBRUARY

Mon 5th—9th
Yr 7 Rubicon camp

Swimming Lessons
Begin

Fri 16th
School Swimming
Sports (at Pyramid Hill
Swimming pool)

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From the Principal

Year 7 Rubicon Camp

I had the pleasure of driving Miss Mitchell, Mr Hughes and our wonderful year 7 students to the Rubicon Camp in Thornton on Monday. The students were really excited by the opportunities on offer at camp and from all reports, the students are doing a wonderful job whilst away. I look forward to collecting them from camp tomorrow, and to hearing all of their camp stories!

My photo this week shows our year 7 campers at the Cheviot Railway Tunnel near Yea. What a great spot for a break and history lesson...

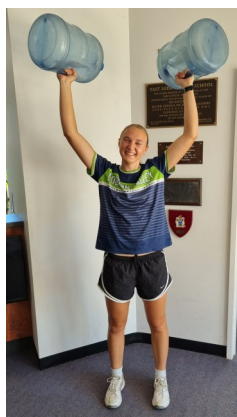
Well Done And Good Luck Keira!!!

College staff were excited to see former student Keira Lawry in the college earlier this week! Keira has been lifting kettlebells competitively for a little while now and will be travelling to the World Champions in Denmark shortly. Keira is currently ranked number 1 in the world for her division and we wish her all the very best for her upcoming competition! As hard as we tried to get her father Micheal to pose as a kettlebell for the photo, we failed miserably and had to resort to our office water bottles...

Good luck Keira! What a champion you are!!!

Swimming Sports Next Friday

We are excited to be holding our annual college swimming sports next Friday and hope that we will see a number of family members there to support our swimmers. Please carefully read any information forwarded from the college in the lead-up to this event.



Front Gates...

The front gates to the college grounds will be closed at some point during the week of Monday 12th February. These gates will then remain closed so that we can provide an increased level of safety for all within the college grounds. Please know that the closing of the school gates is solely about safety and not about keeping parents, carers and families from the school grounds. Those who need to visit the college during school hours will still be able to park at the front of the college and access our grounds via the smaller personal access gate to the right of the college entrance. Those who need to bring a vehicle onto the college grounds will be able to stop at the front gates, call the college office and be 'buzzed through' remotely by office staff.

Our Prep's Are Amazing!

I have the great pleasure of being a reading buddy in the Prep/1 room this year and I have been extremely impressed with the way in which our new prep students have eased their way into schooling. I believe that the Loddon Herald will today feature a photo of these wonderful students, possibly with teacher Louise Hocking and education support member Harrison Kelly. Grab a copy before they all go!

Naplan Later This Term

Students in years 3, 5, 7 & 9 will undertake Naplan tests later this term. As we get nearer to this testing period, students in these year levels will begin to discuss the testing period at home. Please ensure that you encourage your child/ren to do the best that they can do throughout the testing period. The individual best efforts of each child are all that we can ask for.

Stay safe and hope you have a great week!

Steve Leed—College Principal

Literacy & Numeracy

We are excited to announce that East Loddon has signed up to participate in a professional learning and research study led by the Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) and the Science of Language and Reading (SOLAR) Lab at La Trobe University School of Education.

Over the next two years our Prep – Year 2 staff will participate in professional learning in the Science of Reading, learning and applying structured literacy approaches to support early learners as they begin their reading and writing journey. This study is asking questions about the best way to support teacher learning while they are 'on the job'.

We are excited about the collaboration and look forward to working with the AERO/SOLAR Lab team. To learn more about the study visit <https://www.edresearch.edu.au/research/research-projects/professional-learning-research>

Families that have students in Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 will be sent further information and will also be asked to complete a short form to give permission for their child's progress to be anonymously shared.

Assistant Principal's news



It's that time of the year when I go back over the rules for our 6 school buses. We have elected senior and junior bus captains. These people are

Bus 1—Cade T Chelsea A Baxter L, **Bus 2**— Hollee V Amy T Henry V Talia S, **Bus 3**— Marissa H Maddy L Charlotte L Braxton L, **Bus 4** — Mason H Drew D Matilda E Jake H **Bus 5**— Isaac JM Ava S, Shania H Payton H **Bus 6**— Jackson L Daisy S Ava W Harvey W

The captains are our eyes and ears on the bus. They may ask students to sit correctly, to put food away, to put on seatbelts etc. They will also keep a roll and inform the college if children are not following the bus rules. It's a tough job, so please talk to your kids about listening to their captains. Here are some rules that are simple and most

students can easily abide by
Stay in your allocated seat. If you are unhappy with the seat, it may just be bad luck, but come and see me during the school day to discuss.

Wear a seatbelt if fitted.
Keep noise at a level that does not distract the driver or others

NO FOOD OR DRINK

Keep the aisle clear

If the bus is moving you must be in your seat

Never cross a road until the bus is out of sight and you have clear vision of the entire road.

Some info for new parents

Students in p-6 will not be left at a bus stop that is not attended by a parent or other responsible adult. If younger students alight with their siblings who are

year 7 or above, this is ok. If possible please wait on the side of the road where your child boards/alights, this avoids the need to cross the road.

Buses to swimming next Friday will not stop at school. Last year buses 1,5 and 6 completed their usual route and then went straight to Pyramid Hill. Buses 2,3,4 all ran a reverse route. We are planning something similar for this year but have not confirmed with the bus co's the logistics. As this happens we will inform parents. **If your child is not catching a bus to or from the pool Friday, please inform child's homegroup teacher.**

Mr Wilko

Sub-School Updates

AROUND ELP SPORTS

Junior

GREAT START

Students have settled in so well to the new school year with their new classes. It has been particularly great to see how the Year 4 students have already stepped up into being the role models for our younger preps. We hope that the routines at home are feeling settled now, too!

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Well done to all the students for a successful swimming program. Each day, students are getting more efficient with changing and being where they need to be on time. When our swimming program is on, it can be very exhausting for the students, but you wouldn't even know it with these kids! We have Friday 9th, Monday 12th and Tuesday the 13th left for our program.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Students in P4 typically have an altered swimming program on the big day. This is because, for the majority of our students, swimming full lengths can be tricky, overwhelming or not a skill yet mastered. For our swimming carnival students will compete in swimming events in the smaller pool area. Students will be supervised on their swimming days, and invited to swim some full length laps if deemed appropriate by swimming teachers and staff. Teachers will talk to students about this later this week and early next week.

Please remember to wear your house colours on the big day!

PREP TESTING DAYS

Each Wednesday until March the 11th, students in Prep will not attend school. This is to ensure that all the required Prep testing at the beginning of the year is complete. Thank you to our first Prep students who came in this week to start off! Mrs. Hocking will continue this testing each Wednesday. We hope the Prep students are enjoying some rest!

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16!

PYRAMID HILL SWIMMING POOL

Consent has been provided for all student who have participated in the school swimming program. Students in year 11 and 12 will need to be provide consent on Compass.

BBQ

Our SRC will provide a BBQ for our swimming carnival, a gold coin donation is appreciated. Students will need to still pack their lunch, plenty of snacks and water.

BUSES

Buses will collect and return students to their usual bus stops. The buses will NOT stop at school. Collection and drop of times to be confirmed.

House Colours

Students are encouraged to wear their house colours over the top of their bathers on Friday. Please ensure they are SUNSMART!

Programs

Program and event schedule is available on Compass.

Yr 7 Rubicon



Senior

Year 11 & 12 Guide: This week during our homegroup time our VCE & VM students were provided with information about the rules, guidelines around VCE and VM, plus some specific information to our College. These handbooks were attached to a compass news feed last week. If students or parents have questions please contact me. Students also practiced a little bit of adulting this week by completing the VCAA enrolment forms.

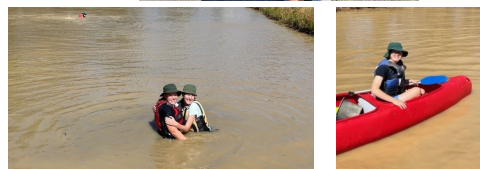
If you would like a printed copy of Y11 & 12 handbook please let me know.

Year 12 rugby tops have arrived: Please pay money to Mr Twigg in the office and then collect your rugby top from myself.

Leadership roles: Mrs Heaslip is currently working with our Y12s to form an awesome SRC executive for this year. Mr Wilkinson has been working with newly nominated bus captains to organise seating plans and Mrs Ellis has organised for us to vote tomorrow on our 2024 House Captains. Con-

gratulations to students who are keen to take on a position of responsibility within the school.

Pictured is the group at Driver Ed last week. Please encourage your child to keep practicing their skills. They did such a wonderful job!



Pictured is some of the Y9&10 students canoeing as part of their Outdoor Recreation class. Their enthusiasm to practice their canoeing skills and enjoy a swim in res was fantastic.

SRC NEWS

Victorian State Schools Spectacular

The college has been allocated 20 places within the choir for the Victorian State Schools Spectacular which will be held at John Cain Arena on Saturday 14th of September.

Students from Years 5-12 who have expressed their interest in participating will bring home an expression of interest form today. This form must be returned no later than Tuesday 13th February to receive an audition. Successful students will be confirmed by Thursday 15th February.

Middle Years Garden producing the goods



Year 9 SSL Team Building Activity



Charlton Tafe Students



Canteen

Fri 9th	Kristie Cullinan Miranda Smith	2024 Feb	
Mon 12th	Belinda Clymo	Mon 19th	Prue Milgate
Tues 13th	Sue Pickles	Tues 20th	Sue Pickles
Wed 14th	Michaela Shrimpton	Wed 21st	Karen Pascoe
Thurs 15th	Sue Pickles	Thurs 22nd	Sue Pickles
Fri 16th	SWIMMING SPORTS	Fri 23rd	Michelle Balic Crystal Chuhaj