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University Campus Newsletter

Issue 2 · 25 Mar 2024

Work Ethic | Excellence | Relationships | Engagement

Kurnai College acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Land on which we live and work, of the Braiakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.

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We look forward to all students and their parents/carers taking up the opportunity next week to have a conversation with each of their teachers to discuss progress and strategies to support success in their studies into next term. This is a valuable time to clarify understanding of requirements and expectations and ensure everyone is aware of any concerns or issues that may need to be addressed or supported. Bookings are now open and can be made on Compass for Wednesday afternoon from 3:30pm to

7:00pm and Thursday from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

School Captains

Kurnai College University Campus is proud to announce the Year 12 school captains for 2024 are Gabby Bonnici, Harry Townsend, and Brayden Young. All three successful candidates participated in a nomination and selection process involving a presentation to the school followed by an election by their peers and staff endorsement. We congratulate Gabby, Harry and Brayden on their appointment and look forward to their contribution throughout the year to the leadership of the students and various representative duties for the college.

Our vice captains come from our Year 11 student cohort and we give them time to settle in to the campus and get to know

each other before making appointments. Nominations and the selection process for our school vice captains is now underway.



Easter Break

The end of term is fast approaching and teachers and students are completing assessments and preparing for term 2. Whilst the break is a valued time to take a breather and enjoy some personal time it is also important not to ignore studies for the full two weeks. It is a time when students can prioritise catching up on areas and consolidating learning as well as investing in some prelearning of upcoming topics.

Having a balance in how time is used will be beneficial in enabling a positive start next term in terms of energy levels

and being prepared. Enjoy some choccy eggs or hot cross buns, a few sleep ins, and fun activities, and also plan some learning focused time so you can still achieve your best outcomes at the end of the year.



Calendar of Events

Key Dates

Term 1, 2024	
Tuesday, 30 Jan	Students return to school
Wednesday, 21 Feb	College Council Nominations Open
Monday, 26 Feb	School Photos
Tuesday, 27 Feb	College Athletics
Friday, 22 Mar	Wellington Volleyball
Friday, 22 Mar	Farm World 2024 excursion
Wednesday, 27 Mar	Parent Teacher Conversations 3.30pm - 7pm
Wednesday, 27 Mar	Buses run as normal
Thursday, 28 Mar	No scheduled classes, students not required, no school buses
Thursday, 28 Mar	Parent Teacher Conversations 10am - 1pm
Friday, 29 Mar	School closed, Good Friday, commencement of school holidays

Term 2, 2024	
Monday, 15 Apr	Students return to school
Thursday, 2 May	VCE and Careers Expo
Friday, 17 May	Student Free day
Monday, 10 June	King's Birthday, school closed

Term 2, 2024	
Friday, 28 June	Last day of Term 2

Student Free days 2024

The following days have been approved by the college council to be our allocated student free days for this year.

- Friday, 17 May 2024
- Monday, 15 July 2024
- Friday, 30 August 2024
- Friday, 22 November 2024

College Key Contacts

For a full list of College wide key contacts please go to:



Year 11 & 12 News

Congratulations, Gabby!

Cadet receives a gold commendation - By Katrina Brandon

ONE out of three and one in 27 years is a massive accomplishment. Cadet Sergeant, Gabrielle Bonnici has achieved this by completing a Summer Cadet Warrant Officers course, and was presented with a gold commendation for her efforts. The Kurnai College student is the first female to ever receive this honour within the Australian Air Force Cadets program. "I heard my name presented on the graduation parade, in front of all of the parents and families, and I was like, 'me?' It was just a bit of a surprise," she said.

"It's the modern version of a promotion course, so personal development and leadership courses, and I went for the rank of cadet warrant officer, which is really intense. It pushed

people to the limit, especially with the time frame we had with the new program." Gabrielle, who is in Year 12, told the Express the program has helped her in many ways, and is helping her get closer to her dream.

"It's not about changing you to an Air Force or Defence Force member, it's trying to change you to be a better person for the rest of your life," she said. "With cadets, it is completely amazing. It gave me purpose in what I wanted to do with my life because I just looked at what I was doing before I started cadets. After all, before, I was a 'ratbag'. "When I came into the system, there was more than I ever thought that we did. We fly planes and all that like people expect us to do, but we learn survival, we learn how to shoot, we learn how to load guns, and we learn heaps of intense stuff. It's really fun if you want to get your hands dirty."

The program runs every Friday afternoon in Morwell. The program is also an alternative learning style for some subjects where students might have failed in a classroom but excelled during their time as cadets. Gabrielle told the Express that subject for her was physics, but air cadets and learning about aviation in the way that flight works helped her a lot with that subject. According to Gabrielle, the opportunity to enter the cadet program starts in Year 7, and you can stay until you are in Year 12. After completing the time as cadets, there is an opportunity to reapply to be a part of the system as a staff member. All schools around the area are able to take on this opportunity.

The cadet program is also not always about being super serious, as Gabrielle explained. "We have also been trained on when to be serious and relax to have some fun," she said. "So, in classrooms, it won't be like your average teacher going and talking to a whiteboard. It's us actually getting you involved and having fun, having a bit of competition with each other. The only time we are serious will be with our serious stuff like parades or, for example, when we have to get it done in a certain amount of order and respect frame."

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www.lvexpress.com.au

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By KATRINA BRANDON

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Onwards and upwards: Cadet Sergeant, Gabrielle Bonnici has achieved highly in her time with the Air Force Cadets.

Photograph: Katrina Brandon

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College News

School Council Elections

Congratulations to Kristen Webber, Kim Savige, Belinda Soppe, Amy Laming and Reaksa Loeur on their successful election to the College Council. We hope your time as a councillor will be enjoyable and productive.

We are also delighted to be able to announce that Dan Swallow from the Morwell Campus and Matt Jobling from the University Campus have been declared DET representatives.

A big thank you to all elected councillors for being prepared to take on this important role.

Thanks must also go to our vacating members Bronwyn Woodward, Richard Richardson,

Gillian Reid, Ryan Ferris and Steve Van Rooy for their significant contributions.

Music News

Our musos did and amazing job on the weekend at the 'Show Me Some Art' Festival held at the Moe botanical gardens. It was a great turn out, beautiful weather and our students performed to a very high standard making for a really enjoyable afternoon of live music. A Huge thank you to the staff that attended and supported our kids. Please congratulate our musos on a tremendous job when you see them next week. Thanks everyone







Camps, Sports & Excursions Fun



CSEF FORMS DUE

This is \$250.00 paid by the Government, that can be used for students schooling activities such as camps, sport and excursions.

If you are receiving a Government allowance you may be eligible.

Applications close Friday, 28th June 2024.

Please contact your Campus Office if you have any questions.



Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice.

Our <u>Privacy Policy</u> describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn. We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use Microsoft 365 safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents. This information is also available in ten community languages:

- * Amharic
- * Arabic
- * Dari
- * Gujarati
- * Mandarin
- * Somali
- * Sudanese
- * Turkish
- * Urdu
- * Vietnamese

Mobile Phones in Schools

A reminder that the Department of Education has in place a mobile phone ban that requires students who bring mobile phones to school to have them switched off and securely put away during school hours.

The department is requiring all schools to ensure this ban is in place and enforced from the start of the 2024 school year.

The ban applies equally to all government schools right across the state.

This helps ensure that school is a learning environment free from unnecessary distractions and disruptions.

By ensuring mobile phones are kept away at recess and lunch times, students can interact with each other face-to-face, without the distractions and social pressures that mobile phones can cause.

We ask for the support of all our families, staff and students in continuing to support the implementation of this policy in our school.

Further information

Exceptions: For a small number of students with particular health needs, an exception to the policy may be granted. Please contact your Campus Principal if you would like to discuss this.

Emergencies: In the event of an emergency or if you need to immediately contact your child, I ask that families contact the school office who will pass on a message as required.

School mobile phone policy: A copy of our school's local mobile phone policy, which implements the government's mobile policy in line with our local context, is available <u>here</u>.

Parent support: The <u>Mobile phones in schools webpage</u> provides links to resources for families to help them balance their children's time using mobile phones.

If you have further questions, please contact the administration office.





General Information

2024 Student Booklist

VCE Books for Sale Second Hand for 2023-2024



Books for sale second hand 2023-24.docx

Sustainable School Shop





Buy and Sell

Second-hand Textbooks



- · Register on the Sustainable School Shop website www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au
- A subscription to this service has been kindly provided by Kurnai College

Second-hand textbook trading system

- . List Wanted & For Sale Ads (Browsers tell each other what they require and what they have to sell).
- . The school's booklists are loaded into the system to make the Ad listing process easy, fast and accurate.
- · Assistance is provided to accurately price items.
- Our Ad Matching service shows you
 - Exactly the right items to buy
 - Who has the most items you need
 - The cheapest items
- · Buyers contact Sellers, and arrange where and when to transact.
- · Excellent email and telephone helplines are provided: 0438 743 444

Also Buy & Sell

Pricing Guide

- Calculators
- Like New
- Sporting items
- Excellent
- Musical items
- Very Good
- Electronics & DVD's

- · And lots more

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

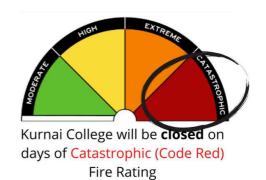
Helpful tips

- . Be patient many new items are listed each day
- · Listing Wanted and For Sale Ads gets results
- Our unique Ad Matching Service shows you who to transact with, and will save you lots of time
- . Telephoning sellers provides a quicker response as many people do not regularly check their emails
- . Pre-arrange who to transact with if your items are still being used and write the availability date in your Ad
- · Respect other browsers and remember to Delist your Ads promptly when no longer needed
- . Meet somewhere convenient to transact, don't make special trips and just fit it in to your normal activities

Code Red Fire Danger

A reminder to all families, that on days of Code Red in the West & South Gippsland Fire Zone, both the Churchill and University campuses will be closed.

This is a change to previous years, and we ask families to be aware of this in preparation.



Kurnai College University and Churchill Junior Campuses are on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and the Category 4 list.

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the West and South Gippsland.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan our staff continue to maintain our grounds.

What does this mean for our school?

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 4 at our Churchill Campuses only.

Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating West and South Gippsland fire district.

What is the department's policy?

The department's <u>Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy</u> requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?

Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in West and South Gippsland fire district.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding

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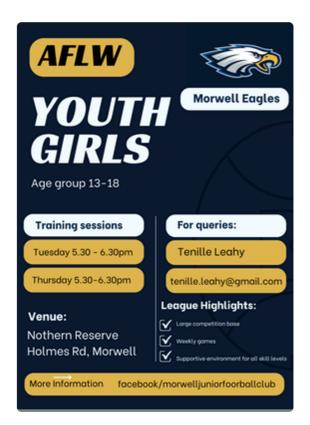
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Community News























How would you like to learn a few secrets that only the best comics and clowns know? Let's face it – being funny can be a serious business. It takes teamwork, listening and learning how to 'go-with-the-flow'.

Wednesday 3 April | 1pm | GPAC Town Hall Theatre

Led by professional Could be professional Co

The workshop concludes with a short presentation for family and friends.

See the GPAC website for booking details.

If you wish to promote your sporting club, community group or non-for-profit organisation in our school newsletter please email kurnai.co@education.vic.gov.au