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# University Campus Newsletter

Issue 6 · 01 Sep 2023

*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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# Message from our Campus Principal



Again, more information as we approach the pointy end of the year (and secondary schooling) for our year 12 students.

Year 12 VCE VM students will be having exit interviews, with their parents, on Tuesday 5th, and Wednesday 6th of September from 1:30 pm until late. These interviews are critical to ensure that these Year 12 students have a clear pathway they will follow in 2024 or, importantly, they are identified as needing more support to get this pathway in place. The involvement of

parents/guardians in these interviews is critical so that this information does not just sit with the school and the student. Please make sure that your student has booked a time for the interview when you can attend.

The non-ATAR process for Year 12 VCE students has begun.

The number of students who have expressed an interest in going non-ATAR is smaller this year, which is fine as this decision is purely for the students and their parents/guardians.

Parents/guardians and students will be asked to sign the initial non-ATAR information sheet and then parents will be contacted by the school to ensure they understand all the aspects of

this decision. Non-ATAR students will be involved in information sessions with TAFE and the mock job interviews happening early in term 4.

Year 12 VCE students sitting for their ATAR score will be involved in the English practice exam on the last Friday of this term. During the term holidays, there are more practice exams and a wide range of revision lectures both online and in person at the lecture theatres in Fed Uni. The information about this has been sent out through Teams or students can get a hard copy from Study Hall. AND make sure you read the section in this newsletter on the VTAC process and timeline to apply for university courses in 2024.

This is a very busy and stressful time for students and staff. If you have concerns about your student please contact the school and let us know.

Students can be very good at hiding any problems they might be experiencing but there are always things we can do to help students if we know. Call

5132 3800 and ask to speak with the Advocates, VCE or VCE VM team leaders, or the Campus Principal.



# Calendar of Events

## Key Dates

<b>Term 3</b>	
Mon 4 Sep	Student Free Day
Thurs 14 Sept	Yr. 10 & Yr. 11 Parent Teacher Conversations 3:30pm - 7:00pm
Fri 15 Sept	Yr. 10 & Yr. 11 Parent Teacher Conversations 10:00am - 1:00pm Student Free Day
Fri 15 Sep	Last Day of Term 3

<b>Term 4</b>	
Mon 2 Oct	Term 4 Commences
Tue 17 oct	Kurnai's Got Talent Grand Final
Wed 18 Oct	Last Day for Year 12
Thurs 19 Oct	Year 12 Celebration Day
Tue 24 Oct - Wed 15 Nov	Year 12 VCE Exams
Mon 6 Nov	Student Free Day
Tue 7 Nov	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday - College Closed
Wed 15 Nov	Year 12 Graduation - Gippsland Performing Arts Centre
Mon 27 Nov - Fri 8 Dec	2024 Head Start
Wed 13 Dec	Gumbuya World Excursion
Fri 15 Dec	College Awards Ceremony

## College Key Contacts

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



## VCE Practice Exam Timetable

*The following sessions will be held in the Leisure Centre unless stated.*

Time	Friday 15th Last day of Term 3
9:00 am - 12:15 pm	English
9:00 am - 12:15pm	EAL - <i>to be held in 6W121</i>
9:00 am – 11:15am	English Language Literature

Time	Monday 18th	Tuesday 19th	Wednesday 20th	Thursday 21st	Friday 22nd
9:00am – 11:15am		Art (Studio) General Math Chemistry	Environmental Science Revolutions Math Methods Music	Food Studies Visual Communication Software	Business Management
9:00am – 11:45am			Psychology		
1:00pm –  3:15pm		Specialist Math  Theatre Sociology	Art (Creative)  Biology Legal Studies	Health	PE
1:00pm – 2:45pm		Design & Technology			

*The following Revision Lectures take place in different venues - see your classroom teacher for more details.*

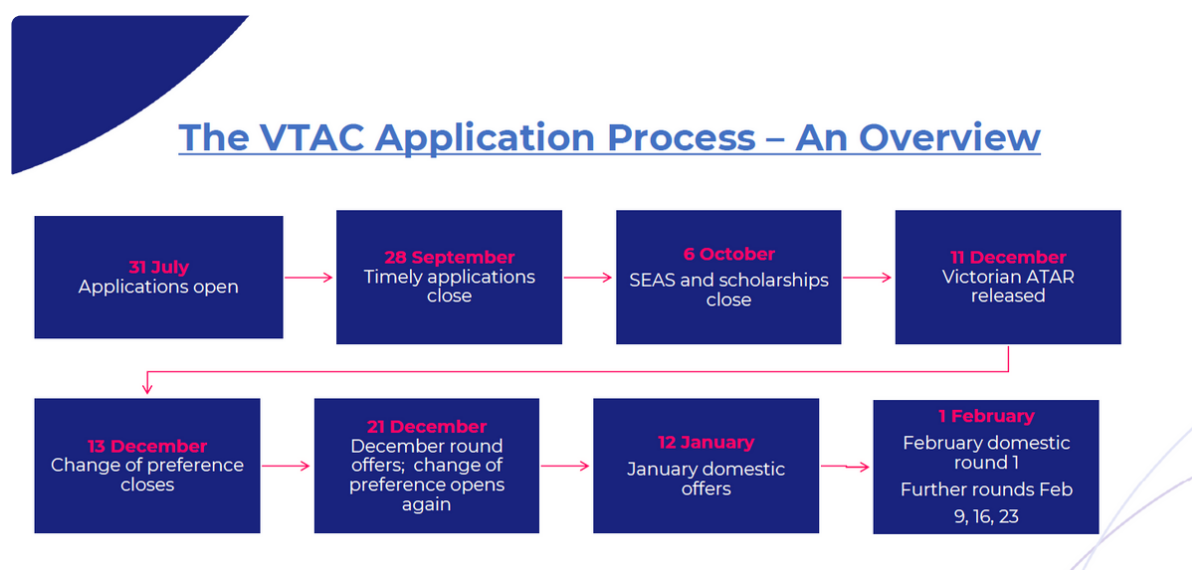
Saturday 16th	Sunday 17th	Wednesday 20th
Biology Gippsland Grammar	Psychology 1:30pm – 5:00pm	Health and Human Development 10:00am – 1:00pm

Sale		
Food Studies		
9:00am - 6:00pm		

*The following sessions will be held at Federation University Churchill Campus. Bookings to be made online.*

Time	Monday 18th	Tuesday 19th	Wednesday 20th	Thursday 21st	Friday 22nd
10:00am – 12:30 pm	English 2E101	Physical Education 2E101	Biology 2E101	General Mathematics 2E101	Psychology 2E101
1:00pm – 3:30 pm	Maths Methods 2E101	Health and Human Development 2E101	Business Management 2E101	Physics 2E101	Chemistry 2E101
1:00pm – 3:30pm	Sociology 6W158			Legal Studies 2E202	

## The VTAC Application Process - An Overview



Year 12

**VTAC OPEN NOW – START Applying!**

Just a reminder that the VTAC timely application period is open **NOW** until the **28th September 2023**, where you will pay a one-off fee of **\$55**. If after this date you are looking at undertaking University courses or certain TAFE courses, this fee will become **\$140 – very late applications it increases to \$180**.

**SEAS – All** domestic students on this campus are ELIGIBLE to apply for SEAS category 1 and potentially category 4 due to covid. Please make sure you get this done, as it could be the difference in getting an offer. SEAS will close on the **6th October 2023**.

**Scholarships – All** students are encouraged to apply for Scholarships which close on the **6th October 2023**.

Please come in to careers, if you need a hand with this process.

**ACCOMMODATION**

If you have to move away to study, you will need to consider accommodation options. If you would like to live on-campus, you will need to start considering your options now as some universities are 'first in, first served'. **Residential Applications will open soon so have a look at the University you are wanting to attend and be ready to apply!**

**YEAR 12 SUBJECT SELECTION 2024**

VCE students will be advising careers of their Year 12 subject selections for 2024 during their English class. The majority of Year 11 VCE students are studying six subjects and in Year 12 they will study five subjects. This means that students will need to reduce the subjects they study in Year 12.

So that students are prepared for this day, we encourage they:

\* Speak with teachers if you have any concerns or questions in regard to continuing on with any subjects in year 12.

\* Discuss thoughts and ideas with your parents and guardians. Speak with careers if you have any questions.

In Term 4, students will receive their timetable.

If there are any clashes with student classes once the 2024 timetable has been finalised, the careers team will be in contact to discuss options.

Students can log on to the Kurnai College website and access the Student Handbook that details all the subjects for 2024 at the following address: [Kurnai Handbook \(kurnaicollege.vic.edu.au\)](https://kurnaicollege.vic.edu.au).

Commencing in 2024, Virtual School Victoria will be operating a new blended learning hub in Morwell, where students will be able to access select VCE subjects not otherwise available at their secondary school, through a blend of face-to-face and online learning. The Hub will be located at the Morwell campus of TAFE Gippsland, and will be co-located with the high-tech Gippsland Tech School. \*At this stage, VCE Politics (comprising Australian and Global Politics Units 1&2, Australian Politics Units 3&4, and Global Politics Units 3&4) would be the only subjects not offered at the uni campus. Please see careers if you want to hear more about this.

Students who are planning on transitioning to further education, training or employment in 2024, if they have not already done so, come and see our Careers Team (Cherie and Suze) ASAP to discuss your pathway option.



# College News

## Message from the College Principal



## College Review

All public schools in Victoria have a four-year strategic plan and we are currently undergoing our school review which takes place at the end of one plan and helps to inform the direction of the next plan. Our reviewer is Rob Miller who is appointed by the Department of Education to lead the review and prepare a report that can inform the development of strategic goals for the school to work toward over the next four years. Forming part of the review team are challenge partners who on this occasion are three Principals of other secondary schools, our senior education improvement leader, and our regional director.

The review team have met with the college Principal team and discussed our pre-review self-evaluation and have begun field days where they observe a range of classes across all campuses and speak with focus groups of students, staff and parents. There are numerous student and staff groups that cover the range of year levels, programs, supports, and levels of leadership that are running over three field days. We are also holding a number of parent focus groups across the college.

I would like to extend a big thanks to all the parents who have been able to meet with the review team and share their feedback on what we are doing well and where we could improve. We have our final field day on Tuesday and then convene at the end of term to receive the final report and develop goals for our next strategic plan.

This is an important part of our operations to ensure we are continually focused on getting better and providing our students the best education possible and we are grateful to everyone who is having input into the review.

## Music News



### Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod:

Congratulations to all our musicians from across the College who participated in the 'Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod' over the past fortnight. The event provided the opportunity for our students to develop connections and interact with other musicians from across Gippsland. We are very proud of you all, Well done!

### Eisteddfod Results:

Thursday 10th August

**Section 539:** Secondary Instrumental Ensemble - Kurnai College 1st Place

**Section 545:** Open Jazz/Improvisation Stage Band - Kurnai College 2nd Place

Sunday 20th August

**Section 421:** Secondary Students Piano Solo - Hayden S, 1st Place.





### Primary Schools Music Tour:

Music students from across three campuses of Kurnai College have joined forces to entertain and delight audiences over the past fortnight. Our students have performed throughout the Latrobe Valley area including Boolarra, Yinnar, Churchill, Churchill North, Morwell Central & Morwell Park primary schools. Each performance was met with tremendous applause as the primary school students sang and danced along. The school visits are designed to provide students with the opportunity to see, try and hear a wide variety of musical instruments during engaging and fun filled performances. It is a fantastic opportunity to establish connections with the local community through music; with the primary school visits a clear highlight of our calendar. Kurnai College staff and students would like to thank the local community for welcoming us with enthusiasm.



### Monash Medical Orchestra 'Music for the Valley'

This year for the first time we are very excited to be collaborating with the Monash Medical Orchestra. Kurnai Alumni and current staff and students will join forces with the orchestra as a part of the 'Music for the Valley' performance. During the term we visited Monash University in Clayton to rehearse with the orchestra and to fine tune our repertoire in preparation for the musical performance on **Saturday 16th of September**. This is a fantastic opportunity for our staff and students to be involved in, and we are very much looking forward to performing and our collaboration continuing into the future!

### **Kurnai's Got Talent:**

Auditions have taken place across the College throughout the term. Our contestants are now refining their performance repertoire in preparation for the Kurnai's Got Talent Grand Final which will be held on **Tuesday, 17th October from 6:00 - 8:00pm** at the Kurnai Morwell Campus Performing Arts Centre. All are very welcome to attend.

### **The Kurnai Choir:**

All students from all campuses have the opportunity to participate in the Kurnai Choir. Choir rehearsals are held weekly during lunchtimes at each campus. Rehearsals have been well attended and a great opportunity for students to learn to sing with friends in a fun and inclusive environment. All students are welcome to join - for more information contact Mrs Sims.

## School Values

Kurnai College's four pillars underpin all aspects of our work.



**Kurnai College**  
PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



**Excellence**  
We do the best  
that we can do



**Kurnai College**  
PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



**Engagement**  
We actively participate  
in our own learning



**Kurnai College**  
PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



**Work Ethic**  
We are committed to  
working hard

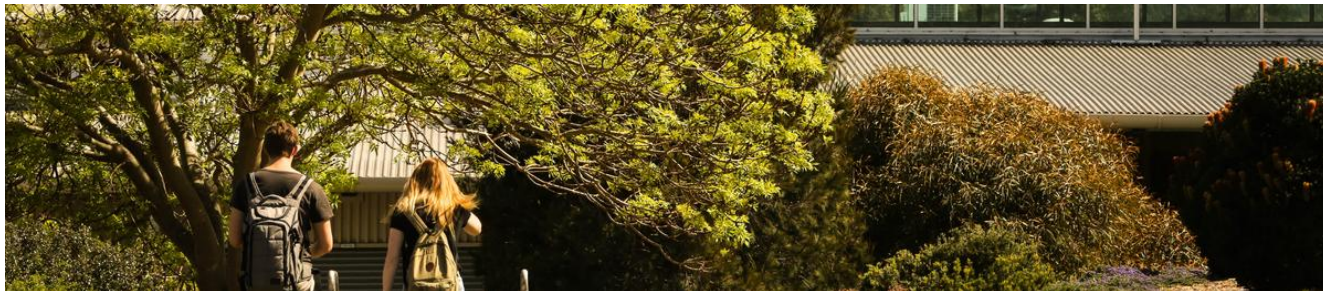


**Kurnai College**  
PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



**Relationships**  
We value and respect  
each other





# School News

## We want our Parents/Caregivers/Guardians to tell us what they think!

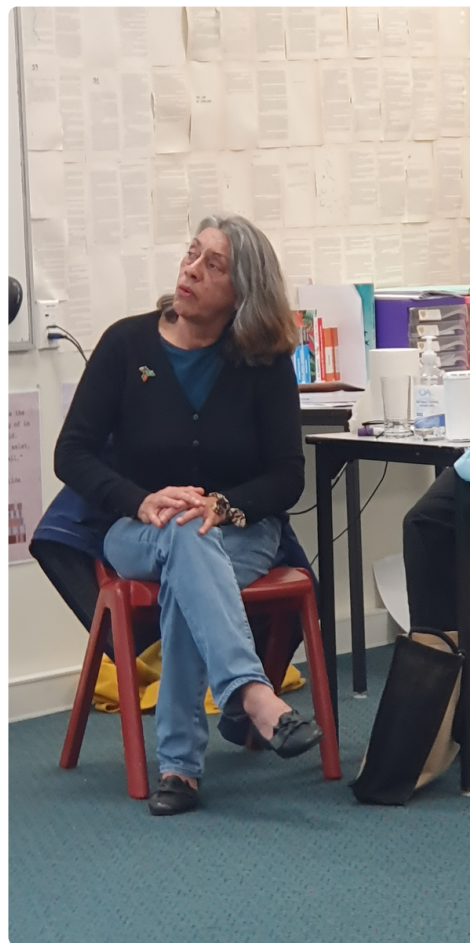
Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents / caregivers / guardians think of our school. The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional but we encourage families to participate. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies. A random sample of approximately 30% of parents / caregivers / guardians has been selected to participate in this year's survey. Information on completing the survey has been emailed to those families.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey is open from **Monday 7 August to Friday 8 September 2023.**

The survey is conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the survey period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Please contact your campus office if you would like more information.

## Elder and Koorie Mentor participate in Literature Class

Our teacher, Samantha Elliston delivered an Indigenous Unit of Work in her Literature class recently. As part of this delivery, the Koorie Leader was able to invite Elder, Aunty Christine Johnson and Koorie Mentor, Hollie Johnson to share their knowledge and support with what Samantha was sharing.



## VCE VM School Project

Make sure clothes donated are not ripped and are washed before Donating.

Contact information:  
Janae Kemp or Amanda Vosper at Uni Campus

**Collections:**  
Kids clothing from sizes 3 and up to teens and Men's clothing

**3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER**



**Spread the Love with Tabitha's Closet!**  
**Help us give back to those in need**  
Join us in making a positive impact!  
Bring your gently used clothes to our donation drive.

We will have a donation collection spots organized at the Kurnai Café and the Library



## VCE VM Young Mums Hamper Project



# YOUNG MUMS HAMPER PROJECT

Hey guys!

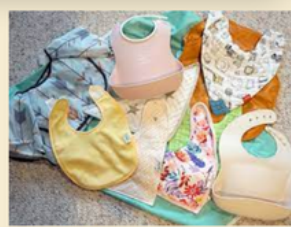
For our final year 12 project we're doing a young and expecting mums hamper.

Due to the rising cost of baby products it can be hard to get everything that a child needs without extra support. Feel free to drop of these donations to Churchill Kurnai university campus office or Morwell Kurnai general office between the dates of 22/08/2023 to the 3/09/2023

## Educational and sensory toys



## Clothes



## Sanitary products



## Others

So your kid's LGBTQIA+ Presentation and Discussion





# So, your kid's LGBTQIA+?

## PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

**THURSDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER**  
**12.00 - 1.30 PM**  
**CORNER OF COMMERCIAL ROAD AND CHAPEL STREET**

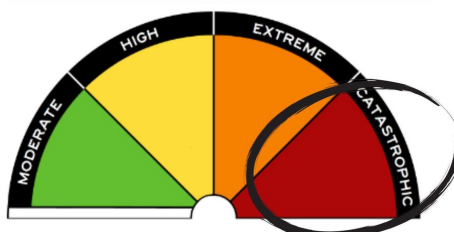
Topics include:  
Suggestions for support  
Gender Dysphoria  
LGBTQIA+ Terms and Pronouns  
Self-harm and keeping young people safe

RSVP - [jojo.naughton@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:jojo.naughton@education.vic.gov.au)

Catering provided



## Code Red Fire Danger



Kurnai College will be **closed** on  
days of **Catastrophic (Code Red)**  
Fire Rating

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

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



# Community News

## Morwell Junior Cricket

- First cricket session is on Tuesday September 5th from 4:30pm at Keegan Street Reserve, Keegan Street, Morwell.
- Under 10s, under 12s, under 14s, under 16s.
- First games are in Mid October.
- Under 10s play on Tuesday nights – softer type ball used for beginners.
- Under 12s play on Mondays.
- Under 14s play on Wednesdays.
- Under 16s play some Fridays and Sundays.
- Encouragement for all.
- Inclusive, Family Orientated, Fun Environment, Positive Supportive Coaching.
- No Cost fees for the season - All Equipment, Free Cap, Shirt Supplied.



For more information call Mark Smith on 0438 870 790 or email [mdsmith72@bigpond.com](mailto:mdsmith72@bigpond.com) or via Facebook [www.facebook.com/MorwellCricketClub](https://www.facebook.com/MorwellCricketClub)

Click on the below QR Code to Register today!



## Kinship Care

### Bringing Up Great Kids in KINSHIP CARE

A mindful, reflective and respectful program with a focus on building loving and nurturing relationships between carers and the children in their care.

The Bringing Up Great Kids in Kinship Care program supports carers to:

- Learn more about the origins of your parenting style and how to adapt to Kinship care;
- Understand the meaning behind children's behaviours, and how to respond to children's underlying feelings and needs;
- Learn more about brain development in children and the influence of developmental trauma;
- Discover ways for you to take care of yourself and to find support when needed;
- Develop strategies to manage your parenting approach despite the mounting pressures on your time and role.

Come along to these 6 sessions to learn more about caring for children under Kinship Care Arrangements

**Dates & Time:**  
Every Wednesday for 6 weeks starting 9th of August through to the 13th of September from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

**Venue:**  
Morwell Bowling Club  
52 Hazelwood Road, Morwell 3840

**Contact:**  
Anita on 1300 010 838 or email  
kinshipcaregippsland@berrystreet.org.au

To register please contact Anita, use the QR code or click on the following link  
<https://forms.office.com/r/6PPbZ4FDKZ>



**BERRY STREET**  
Belonging to  
Children, Parents,  
Their Future.

## Community Services Expo

### COMMUNITY SERVICES EXPO

This expo will provide members of our community with an opportunity to engage with local services, to better understand what is available in the region and how these services can be accessed.

- Representatives from different services in our community
- Financial Counsellor representative
- Utility Provider(s) - bring your bills with you
- NDIS Provider(s)
- Fresh produce provided by Foodbank
- Giveaways
- Coffee van

COME AND SEE WHAT YOUR COMMUNITY CAN OFFER YOU...

INFORMATION STALLS  
FOOD PRODUCE  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

For more information contact Myla,  
[myla.bennett@salvationarmy.org.au](mailto:myla.bennett@salvationarmy.org.au)

18 October 2023  
10AM - 3PM

Latrobe Valley Salvos  
57 Bridle Road, Morwell



## Counselling Services



### Counselling services

Counselling involves talking in a safe and supportive space about any difficulties or challenges you are experiencing in your relationships. It can help you find positive ways to manage your situation.

#### Why attend counselling?

Counselling can help you clarify your situation, gain new perspectives and work towards change while focusing on what's most important to you. The counselling process can support you to develop insights, generate solutions and consider choices.

#### What can counselling help with?

Counselling can be an effective way to improve overall wellbeing, by relieving distress and enhancing relationships.

Common issues that people seek counselling for include:

- relationship difficulties
- separation and divorce
- parenting
- grief and loss
- life changes
- mental health issues
- managing stress
- managing emotions, such as anger
- family violence
- trauma and abuse
- loneliness and isolation.

Whatever your concern, it's important to reach out for support.



Interpreters are available on request.

[www.rav.org.au/counselling](http://www.rav.org.au/counselling)  
Counselling Services Flyer 2023a

### Getting started

To organise an appointment or learn more, call your nearest centre or contact us online at [www.rav.org.au/contact-us](http://www.rav.org.au/contact-us)

Ballarat: (03) 5337 9222  
Boronia: (03) 9725 9964  
Cranbourne: (03) 5990 1900  
Greensborough: (03) 9431 7777  
Kew: (03) 9261 8700  
Melbourne: (03) 8625 3666  
Shepparton: (03) 5820 7444  
Sunshine: (03) 8311 9222  
Traralgon: (03) 5175 9500

#### About us

Relationships Australia Victoria has over 70 years' experience providing family and relationship support services across Melbourne and Victoria.

We are committed to providing safe, inclusive and accessible services for all people.



We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waterways of Australia and we support Aboriginal peoples' right to self-determination and culturally safe services.

We recognise the lifelong impacts of childhood trauma. We recognise those who had children taken away from them.

**Relationships Australia**  
VICTORIA

## Tuning in Term 4 for parents & carers of Aboriginal TSI children

### TUNING IN TO KIDS™

#### Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A FREE six session parenting program for Aboriginal Parents, Carers of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children, or Family of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Children aged 3 – 10 years old.

#### Would you like to learn how to:

- Be better at talking with your child?
- Be better at understanding your child?
- Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- Help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- Teach your child to deal with conflict?
- Or to break through relationship barriers with your child?

Tuning in to Kids will teach you how to help your child develop **Emotional Intelligence**. Children with this skill are shown to:

- Find it easier to make and maintain friendships & personal relationships
- Concentrate better in school
- Have the ability to calm themselves when angry, upset or under stress
- Tend to have fewer childhood illnesses
- Tend to have less chance of developing mental illnesses

For upcoming sessions contact: Tuning in to Kids Group Facilitator: Cassandra Wilson at VACCA on:  
Ph: 0458 926 313 or by email: [cassandra@vacca.org](mailto:cassandra@vacca.org)

**BERRY STREET**  
We're for Childhood  
SINCE 1917

*Mindful*

**VACCA**  
Connected by Culture  
VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE AGENCY



**Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of September**  
At 3pm, Morwell Town Common  
Cor Elgin and Chapel Streets, Morwell

Entry fee via Gold coin donation.  
Refreshments available for purchase.

Featuring our Beginner,  
Training and Main bands.

*Come along and support your local  
community band.*

*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](mailto:kurnai.co@education.vic.gov.au)*