



Illuminate

All students in Years 7 - 10 participate in our Illuminate reading program. Each morning students and staff start their school day by reading silently for 15 minutes. The Illuminate classrooms have their own 'mini-libraries' which are well-stocked with novels for all abilities and interests. Students can also bring in their own books from home, or borrow from the college library. They can also request books that they would like to read - providing they're suitable, I'm always happy to buy books !

Miss Jacobs
College Librarian



A Message from the Principal

2022 Student Reports

Assessment and reporting are a vital part of the student learning process; supporting strong communication between families and teachers, celebrating areas of student achievement whilst also establishing future learning goals. Over the last couple of years, we have listened to feedback from families wanting more detail in our student reports. The frequency of our reporting has always been a strength, and this is something that we wanted to maintain.

I am excited to announce to our school community that this year will see a change in the way we report to our families and students. We will be moving to Continuous Online Reporting through our XUNO portal. It will be important that parents have their access to this important communication channel set up. Please phone our office on 5352 4177 or visit [this link](#) for assistance. Teachers will be conducting Common Assessment Tasks (CATs) throughout the semester with parents able to see the dates these are happening in the XUNO portal. Student results will then be published a short time after submission and will include:

- A description of the task
- Result in percentage form
- Written feedback from the teacher outlining what the student has achieved, what they need to address and action to take moving forward.

This 'real time' written feedback allows parents to be more actively involved in their child's learning, teachers can work with the students to identify future learning goals and students are more accountable for their work habits.

An end of semester report will also be provided to families. This will include assessment against the Victorian Curriculum, a summary of the CAT results and assessment against a learner behaviour framework that will be linked to our school values.

This is a big change in the way we have previously reported at Ararat College. We believe that providing more detailed 'real time' feedback to students and families will only strengthen the learning outcomes of all our students.

A more detailed letter will be provided to families in the coming week. Please ensure that you have access to our XUNO parent portal so that you can see CAT dates and student reports as they are published.

Year 12 Camp

This week our Year 12 students headed off to Halls Gap for their final school camp! A big thank you to Mrs Mel Murnane of her organisation of this trip and to Mr Andy Reynolds and Mr Josh Barrie for supervising. I was able to pop out to visit and it was great to see all students enjoying themselves and being able to spend time together as a group outside of the classroom!

Rapid Antigen Testing

Thank you to all families for their patience as we work to distribute RAT kits to students across our school. More kits will be distributed today to families who were still waiting on their full allocation and next week the second batch of RAT kits will be distributed to all students and staff. Twice weekly RAT testing at home is recommended for both staff and students. If your child completes a test and it is positive, you will need to:

- let the school know – 5352 4177
- keep your child at home for 7 days
- contact the Department of Health via the [COVID-19 Positive Rapid Antigen Test Self-Reporting Form](#) or call centre on [1800 675 398](#).

A video about RAT testing in many different languages, is [available online](#).

Ellie McDougall

Principal

CSEF 2022

Eligible secondary school students can receive \$225 **up to the age of 18 years** to be used specifically for students to undertake Camps and Excursions. Payments will go directly to the school and be tied to the student.

Who is eligible?

- Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.
- If a student is a holder of a valid concession card (e.g. a Youth Allowance Health Care Card) in their own name they will be given special consideration.
- Eligibility will be subject to the concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink in 2022.

If you feel you are eligible to receive the above payment and have not made a claim yet, please contact the college office and we will happily assist you.

Food Technology classes

Students who are in cooking classes are reminded to bring a food safe container to put their cooking into. We recommend a plastic ice cream container with lid or item of a similar size.



Classroom Music

Year 7 Blue have commenced their music lessons by learning rhythms on the djembe drums. The drum has its origins in West Africa and can produce a wide variety of sounds, making it an extremely versatile drum. It is very loud and can be played as a solo instrument or as part of a percussion ensemble. Playing the drum as a group requires teamwork and concentration and our new students did very well keeping to the beat.

Nicole Potter
Music Teacher



Instrumental Music

Our Instrumental music program is well underway with our students having the opportunity to try a variety of instruments including:

- piano and keyboards,
- guitar (electric, acoustic and bass)
- percussion (drums, djembe, marching snare)

Students also have the opportunity to take singing lessons as well.

Our music program has always been very popular and if there are any students or families who would like to participate, or would like further information please contact our Music Department Coordinator Riley Mason, who will be happy to assist.



Stawell Pioneers Soccer Club

Stawell Pioneers Soccer Club is looking for players and coaches to join in the upcoming 2022 season. We are looking to add additional teams to our club programs.

We are looking for the following players

Under 14yrs mixed gender comp school Years 7-8

Under 16yrs mixed gender comp school Years 8-10

Women's team 16yrs and over school Years 10-12

Seniors and Reserves 16yrs and over school Years 10-12

Junior programs run from 4:15pm to 6pm Tuesdays and Fridays

Women's and Seniors run from 6pm onwards Wednesdays and Sundays will change closer to the start of the season.

Please email your interest to teammanager.stawellsc@gmail.com or alternatively text 0455746642 for further information

We hope you join us this year



Doctors in Schools Program 2022

What is Doctors in Secondary Schools program?

- It is a program where a GP (also called a family doctor) works at the school. This can be particularly helpful if you are unable to get into see your usual doctor in a timely manner.

What can I see the nurse and doctor for?

- You can see the nurse and doctor for any health issue you would see your family doctor for; such as mental health, sexual health, asthma and any other health issue.

Do I need an appointment to see the doctor or nurse?

- We do recommend that you book an appointment to ensure we have enough time to talk about everything you need. We also have walk in times during recess and lunch break, these appointments will be short to ensure you are able to attend your next class.

How do I book an appointment?

- You can message your Sub-School Leader via SMT or see them in person.

What happens in an appointment?

- When you come to see us, you will first see the nurse where we will complete some paperwork and have a quick chat, you will then see the doctor who will talk to you about whatever has brought you into the clinic. If needed the doctor can refer you for tests and scripts.

Can I see the Doctor and Nurse if I have COVID symptoms?

- No. Just like a regular GP clinic we are not able to see students if they have covid symptoms. Any student with covid symptoms should stay at home and get tested.



A little about our nurse...

Hi my name is Emily, I have been working in general practice for over 8 years. I work with UFS Medical Clinic, which is based in Ballarat as a practice nurse. When I am not at work I enjoy spending time with my family and golden retrievers.



A little about our Doctor...

Hi my name is Ben, I have been a GP since 2013. Before moving to Australia in 2021, I worked in a number of different places of the world including; South Africa, London and Hong Kong. I have a special interest in Aviation medicals and emergency medicine. The things I like most about Australia so far include the unique wildlife and weather.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

COVID-19 third-dose vaccinations are now available to 16-17 year olds who had their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine three or more months ago.

Supporting as many eligible students as we can to be vaccinated will help make our school as safe as possible.

Getting vaccinated is one of the most important steps we can all take to get direct protection against COVID-19.

How to book an appointment

There are many convenient and accessible options to access vaccinations. These include state-wide vaccination clinics, your local GP or pharmacy.

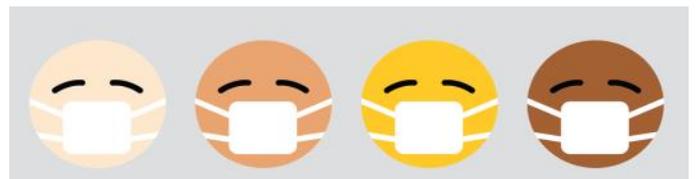
You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

- online: [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine)
- by phone: [1800 675 398](tel:1800675398) (Coronavirus Hotline)
- using the COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder - [COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder | Australian Government Department of Health](#)
- In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or attend one of the State Vaccination Centres. <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-information-children-and-teenagers>

Facemasks

Parents and students are reminded that students should be bringing a facemask with them to school each day. Facemasks have become a daily requirement for all public indoor spaces, which includes classrooms.

The school has a small supply of masks for **emergency use only**, when a student forgets to bring one to school.



National Immunisation Program 2022

A reminder to all our year 7 and 10 families that free immunisations will be conducted at the college by the Ararat Rural City as part of the National Immunisation Program. Could parents please ensure the consent form has been signed and returned as soon as possible so they can be included in the vaccination program. Any student in Year 8 and 11 who were due to receive vaccinations last year but missed out may also be able to take part. Please note that vaccinations offered at school are NOT for COVID-19.

Term 1 2022

Week 3	Monday	14	
	Tuesday	15	
	Wednesday	16	
	Thursday	17	
	Friday	18	
Week 4	Monday	21	
	Tuesday	22	
	Wednesday	23	Year 7 Family Welcome BBQ
	Thursday	24	
	Friday	25	
Week 5	Monday	28	Year 7 Camp
March	Tuesday	1	Year 7 Camp
	Wednesday	2	Year 7 Camp
	Thursday	3	
	Friday	4	

Ararat College acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country throughout Victoria. We pay our respects to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and emerging.

Ararat College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

Expressions of Interest sought

NETBALL COMPETITION

Ararat Fitness Centre
to be played on Tuesday
Nights

Looking for expressions of interest to run a junior and senior netball competition in the coming school term.

Register your initial interest by emailing ararat.redbacks@gmail.com by Friday 25 February 2022.

www.araratbasketballfutsal.com.au

