



Respect - Responsibility - Excellence

18th February 2022

Term 1 Week 3 Volume 3



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.15 until the start of Illuminate. Students can fuel their learning for the day with cheese toasties and milo prepared by Ms Konisberry and Mr Mullin, with the assistance of Harry Hauser (Year 10). On Friday mornings we are very grateful to once again have the support of Ararat Police. Keep an eye out for our Friday specials - pancakes, as well as ham and cheese toasties. Breakfast club is free and available to all students, it's a great way to start the day!



A Message from the Principal

Continuous Reporting

In last week's newsletter I provided an update on the exciting changes to our student reporting process for this year. A more detailed letter and how to guide has now been posted out to all families. This information has also been made available through our XUNO parent portal and our website – www.araratcc.vic.edu.au/reports.

Students will now complete Common Assessment Task's (CATs) across all of their subjects. Parents can view CAT due dates via the XUNO parent portal and be provided with written feedback on their child's achievement as well as an overall result.

As always, please contact our office on 5352 4177 if you have any questions.

COVIDSafe Measures Extension

We want to thank families and students for the great job they have done in keeping our school as safe as possible by following important COVIDSafe measures such as mask wearing, physical distancing, ventilation, getting vaccinated and rapid antigen testing.

This has meant that our school has remained open and our students in class. This is a fantastic outcome and a testament to the hard work of parents, carers, students and school staff.

As a result, the following measures have been extended by the Department of Education.

Rapid antigen tests

RATs will continue to be provided to students for use at home. It is strongly recommended that students test twice per week. After doing the tests at home, if 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.

There is no requirement to report a negative result.

Vaccination

Vaccination is another key component to protect students and staff in school settings.

Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are open and third dose vaccinations for 16 to 17-year olds are now available.

Ventilation

Air purifiers will continue to operate in classrooms and shared spaces across our school.

Mask rules will remain the same, which require students and staff to wear masks at all times when indoors.

Psychologist

Last week we welcomed provisional psychologist Kayla Parry into our school wellbeing team. Kayla will be working at our school two days a week throughout Semester 1. It is great to have access to this program in our local community which has been made possible through One Red Tree Psychology & Education Resource Centre.

Youth Welfare Officer

This week we wished Ms Taylah Jamieson well as she commenced family leave. We all look forward to meeting the newest addition to Taylah's family! During this time Ms Taylah Middlemiss will support our wellbeing team in the Youth Welfare Officer role for two days a week.

Year 7 BBQ

I would like to remind all Year 7 families that next Wednesday February 23rd we are holding our welcome BBQ. This will commence at 5:30pm and provides an opportunity for families to meet teachers from across our school whilst grabbing a bite to eat. Please RSVP via [this link](#) by February 21st if you can attend. Please note that evidence of double COVID-19 vaccination status is required to attend.

Annual Privacy Reminder for 2022

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please take time to remind yourself of our [school's collection notice](#), found on our website. For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

Ellie McDougall

Principal

Year 7 and 10 Immunisation Program 2022

A reminder to all our Year 7 and 10 families that free immunisations will be conducted at the college on **Monday (morning)- 21st February**. Parents please ensure the consent form has been signed and returned for your child to be included. Any students in Year 8 and 11 who were due to receive vaccinations last year but missed out will also be able to take part.

Covid Vaccinations

Please note vaccinations offered at school are NOT for COVID-19. The Child Health Nurses have advise that if a student is receiving a COVID-19 Vaccination around this time (Monday), students can still have immunisations on Monday, there is no longer a waiting period.

If you have any concerns or need further information, please contact

Therese Arnott - Immunisation Coordinator

53550224 0428 163 359

Year 8 Biology

In Science Year 8 students are currently learning about cells. All living things are made of cells – but they are very tiny and we need to use microscopes to view them. In these photos you can see our students preparing slides to view onion cells and then using a microscope to view these cells. To view onion cells you need to slice the onion very thinly with a scalpel– not all students were able to do this on their first attempt, but with persistence every student in class this week was successful.



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.

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.

Year 12 Retreat

What a fantastic time we had on the Year 12 camp last week in Halls Gap. On arrival, we jumped straight into action by completing the high ropes course. Students geared up and worked in groups to support each other to tackle the obstacles. Special mention to Angus, Jake T and Monique for stepping out of their comfort zones by climbing up and leaping off the highest obstacle, great effort!



Later that afternoon we participated in some initiative games led by the camp leaders. These were designed to encourage team work and problem-solving skills. Our students were so impressive, completing the tasks quickly and having a lot of fun in the process. The highlight of the afternoon was the girls versus boys water tube challenge which turned into an all-out war. The girls were triumphant in the end with the help of Mr. Barrie.

On Thursday we were lucky enough to have Ms Taylah Middlemiss come out to visit and talk us about how to identify when they are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, and to offer tips on how to cope with those emotions. Acting Sergeant Ash Murnane from Ararat Police also stopped by to offer our students some advice about transitioning into adulthood and information about some of the issues they may face as they turn 18.

The evening entertainment included a kahootz quiz where we got to learn some interesting facts about each other. On Thursday night, Mr. Barrie hosted a game of ‘Family Feud’ where plenty of laughs were had and hot debate ensued about ‘naughty things that pets do’ and ‘what items we keep in the fridge’.

Other highlights for the camp were playing mini golf, participating in a relaxing mindfulness session, free-time on the oval playing tennis, cricket, basketball and footy, getting to know each other and creating memories for the ‘Class of 2022’. I would like to thank the students for the way they behaved and conducted themselves during the three days, it was an absolute pleasure to take these students on camp. I would also like to thank the front office staff for their organisation and the teachers who came out to visit us. I would like to give a big thank you to Josh Barrie and Andy Reynolds for all of your help whilst on camp.

Mel Murnane – Senior School Coordinator





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.



**NO
HOODIES**

Hoody NoHP-1912 www.clarendondesigns.com

A reminder to parents and students that Hoodies are unacceptable attire and are not permitted to be worn at school unless it is a specified 'out of uniform day'.

Any student who is wearing a hoodie will be asked to remove it and will be issued with a school polar fleece to wear for the day.

If you need assistance to provide your child with the correct uniform, or you are experiencing financial difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the College Office who will happily assist you.

Local Excursion Authority 2022

Local excursions are excursions to locations within walking distance of the school and do not involve 'Adventure Activities'. Schools are required to seek approval from parents/carers when excursions are conducted. Local Excursion Permission covers a range of local activities, including visits to local venues like Ararat Performing Arts Centre, Alexandra Oval or those walking distance from the College. Students will either walk to the venue or be driven by school bus, car or commercial bus.

Permission for the 2022 school year can be given through the Xuno Parent Portal or please complete and return the permission form sent at the end of last year.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you need assistance in accessing the Portal.

School Uniform Recycling. Donations Needed!

Schools are always in need of second hand uniform.

If you have items of uniform that your child no longer requires and you would like to donate, we would be most grateful to receive them. Any uniform that is still in good wearable condition will be happily accepted.

If you would like to make a donation please send them to school with your child to deliver to the college office. If you would like to donate items anonymously, please contact the college office 5352 4177 and we will make arrangements for their delivery.

Thank you to those families who have been donating their surplus uniform, your support is greatly appreciated.

Attendance

School attendance is important and we have included a brief overview of our requirements for new and existing families. Please contact the college office if you have any concerns with this process.

All students are expected to attend school every day and arrive at all scheduled lessons and activities on time. Rolls are marked electronically by all staff for each lesson of the day. Parents can monitor their attendance live via the Xuno parent portal.

Students are expected to remain in the college grounds during the school day, unless they have a **note** signed by a parent and a year level coordinator giving permission to attend an appointment.

- **All** students must sign in or out via the General Office if they are late to school or need to leave early.
- Students **will not** be given permission to go down the street for the sole purpose of buying lunch.

The Department of Education requires a valid reason be given to the school for ALL student absences.

If your child is absent an SMS will be sent to your mobile phone asking for an explanation.

This can be given:

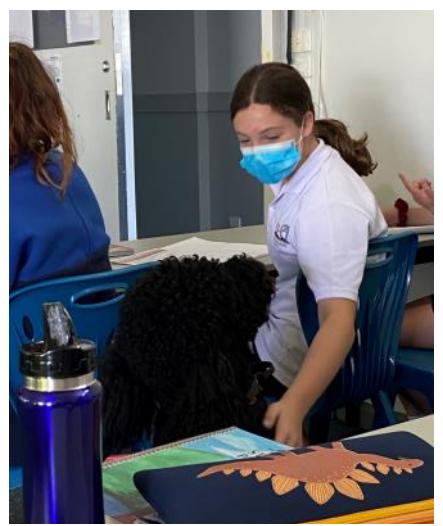
- via attendance notification in the parent portal
- via a return SMS
- Via a phone call to the College
- via written note explaining an absence (blank notes are in the diary) on the day your child returns.

“It’s Not Okay to Be Away”

Winston At Work

Families who are new to our school may not be aware that we have a very important staff member, Winston the Therapy Dog. Whilst he may not be on the payroll, he is paid in full with lots of pats and attention from all our students. Winston is a fully qualified and registered Therapy Dog and resides with staff member Trish Ruthven.

The role of a therapy dog cannot be underestimated! Whether it be anxiety over tests or exams, a personal worries, or just having a bad day, a simple pat or hug of a furry friend can make all the difference to a student's day. Our Year 7 students are pictured getting to know Winston during their first week of school.



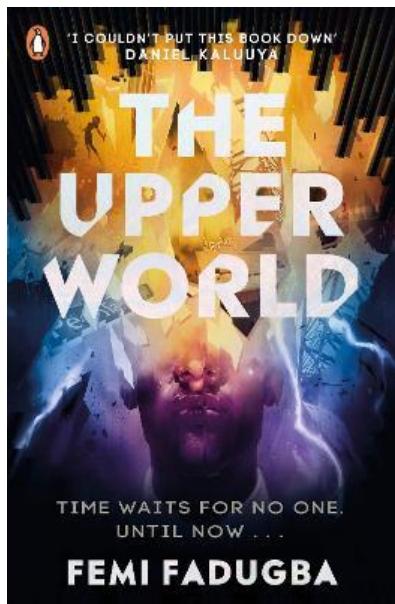
Year 10 Studio Art

Students in year 10 Art have been experimenting with rendering in greyscale as part of their first semester studies. We look forward to sharing more of our students artworks throughout the school year.



A C Reads

These new novels are now available in the library.



A game-changing thriller about two teenagers a generation apart, connected by one bullet with the power to devastate both of their lives. Get ready to reconsider everything you thought you knew about time.

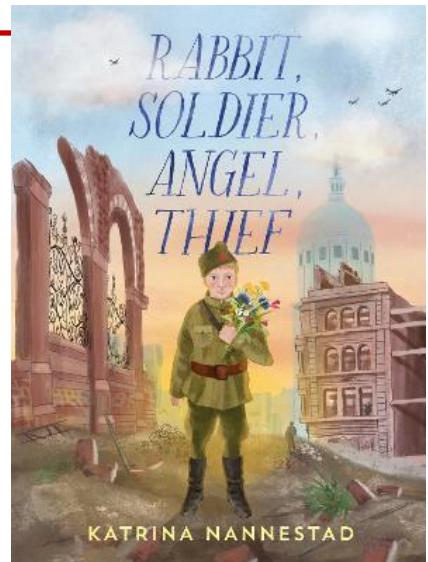
Esso is a teenager running out of time and into trouble. Accidentally caught up in a gang war, he receives an unexpected gift - access to a world where he can see glimpses of the past and future. But now Esso has the devastating knowledge that the road he is on will eventually lead to the deaths of the people he loves most.

A generation later, football prodigy Rhia is about to lose everything. When a man comes into her life claiming to know the key to time travel and asking for her help, she becomes obsessed with finding a way back to the past to save the parents she never got to meet.

Two teenagers. Fifteen years. One chance to stop a bullet.

Award-winning writer Katrina Nannestad transports us to Russia and the Great Patriotic War and into the life of Sasha, a soldier at only six years old.

It's spring, 1942. The sky is blue, the air is warm and sweet with the scent of flowers. And then everything is gone. The flowers, the proud geese, the pretty wooden houses, the friendly neighbours. Only Sasha remains. But one small boy, alone in war-torn Russia, cannot survive. One small boy without a family cannot survive. One small boy without his home cannot survive. What that small boy needs is an army.



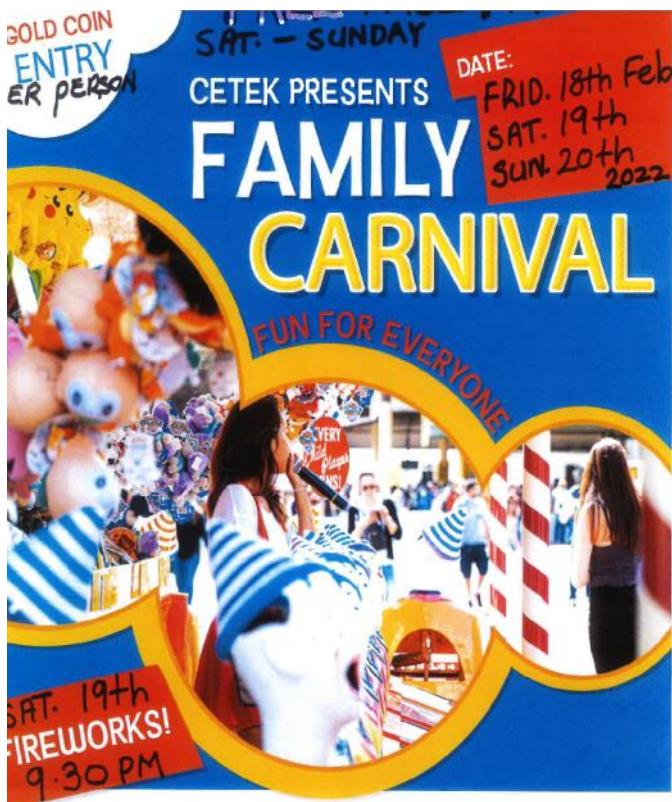
Can you help?

'We are seeking an old guitar for an art project – if anyone has one lying around and would like to donate it to the College that would be great!'

Mel Murnane

Term 1 2022

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	
Week 6	Monday	7	
	Tuesday	8	
	Wednesday	9	
	Thursday	10	
	Friday	11	



ROLL UP ROLL UP! THE CARNIVAL IS COMING TO TOWN!
WE HAVE GAMES & RIDES GALORE!

AUSTRALIAN OWNED & OPERATED.

LOCATION: KOKODA PARK RESERVE
OPENING TIMES: FRID 5.00pm - 10.30pm
SAT 12.00pm - 10.30pm
SUN 11.30am - 5.00pm

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

