

RINGWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5 July** ISB Day Camp and JSB Day Camp
- 6 July** Year 10 Central Australia Tour Commences
- 10 July** **School Returns - Term 3 - 8.50 am**
- 13 July** ISB Master Class
- 17 July** Production Camp Commences
- 20 July** Year 10 Course Counselling Day
- 24 July** SSB Masterclass
- 26 July** ISB Masterclass
- 27 July** Production Rehearsal



EDITION 4, 2023

PRINCIPAL TEAM

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL



The learning growth and achievement for students will be summarised in their assessment tasks and reports which has been the focus of the work of teachers these past few weeks. Reports will be available early next term and students will have the opportunity to reflect on their efforts in order to propel themselves forward in Semester 2.

Thank you to all families, with whom we work in partnership, for their continued assistance in supporting our students.

Staff movements mid- year include:

Leaving -

Lucas Craig

Julie Sandy, H/R Administration. Julie is retiring after 24 years at the College.

Starting-

Donovan Lawrence, Science/Yr 8 Co-ordination

Helene Butterworth - H/R Administration

Brooke Genevieve- Art.

Returning -Kayla Inger, Art.

We wish Caitlin May a restful break before the impending birth of her baby.



My involvement in the following activities has highlighted what an energetic environment we have:

Year 9 InterGREAT parent afternoon showcase- many parents took the opportunity to visit and interact wonderfully with our staff and students

Senior Music concert- high quality playing from our music students, dedicated staff and parents of the Music Association

Production rehearsals- I have had a peek at rehearsals and bought tickets for the annual Production 'All Shook Up' next term

Wilderness Camp Student and Parent celebration night
Heritage and Alumni committee- planning RSC 70th birthday celebrations for 2024

Year 8 BOUNCE session on sensory grounding when feeling anxious or overwhelmed. A walk around the oval as a form of exercise acts as an immediate mood changer by reducing cortisol and increasing endorphins. The Year 8s and I thoroughly enjoyed our walk and talk around the oval.

There is so much more!

I have witnessed the work of the Careers team and sub schools in supporting students with the subject selection process. Two of the special guests at this week's assembly, Noah Philp and Ebony Morrison, spoke to Year 10 students about their subject selection experiences and provided practical advice to the cohort. I extended an invitation to our School Captains Noah Philp and Niharika Harne to discuss how they are travelling on their leadership journey and about their impressions of Year 12. Both students praised their teachers for their dedication and support throughout the year. At College Council this week, we heard the student report written by Casper Sleight and Jess Harmsworth who are terrific representatives of their year level. The Production Camp and the Central Australia Camp will be occurring early next term too and we wish all participants an enjoyable and productive experience.

Our College continues to offer so much to the community and we uphold high expectations of behaviour and standards in order to create a safe and productive learning environment for all.

It was a pleasure to meet Mary Doyle, Member for Aston, and tour Ringwood Training with Centre Manager Shayne van der Heide who spoke about the much needed resources for the popular training facility.



I have also received communication about the re activation of the STEM building. This is exciting news as we envisage that our new spaces will be purpose built for learning. Any information we receive from the VSBA will be forwarded to families.

It has been a busy and enjoyable 4 weeks as Acting Principal. We look forward to seeing Rosina Fotia back at the helm next term.

Eleni Stathatos
Acting Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS



From Ms Fedrizzi

Term 2 is always packed with so much: examinations, Curriculum Day, work experience, GAT, report writing, sporting competitions, production rehearsals, Jazz Night, and the list goes on!

None of this can occur without the enthusiasm and energy of our dedicated staff so I would like to firstly acknowledge the work that goes into making this work happen so seamlessly. This work is all designed to help all of our students see their talents and try something new.

The important issue of creating cyber safe communities was the focus of a Victoria Police presentation to Year 8s. Constable Williams encouraged students to remember that our communities, whether virtual or not, are held together by respect for self and others. I include some reflections from Sang Puia (aka SP)

Just say no if somebody asks you for nudes because they can send that to others... Don't share private information even if it's someone you get to know on a game. A girl shared that she was at a netball game and the location to a stranger who said he was 18. Lucky that she felt uncomfortable and told her dad (who was a policeman) and the 'stranger' was waiting for her. It turned out that he wasn't 18, he was 46 years old. You can always ask for help from the e-safety commission – they can take an image down and make you feel more safe. But if you don't like something said, just block them.

Semester Reports will be published in early Term 3 but with the rich ongoing feedback available through COMPASS, students are urged to discuss their learning progress with their families, and in particular exploring which strategies worked (or didn't work). This is healthy way to view assessment: as a method of witnessing personal growth and development, and an opportunity to celebrate learning. For those who completed their first exams, congratulations! It's the challenges that we remember and that really help us learn, so I join with all the teachers in urging you to see the feedback provided as encouragement for your next steps in learning.

We wish all staff and students a well-deserved break over the holiday period. Hoping you return feeling energised and recharged for Term 3.

Agatha Fedrizzi
Assistant Principal



From Mr Stirling

Victorian Global Learning Awards

I had the pleasure of attending the 2023 Victorian Global Learning Awards on Thursday 8 June with the college's International Student Program Coordinator, Shirley Luong.

Ringwood Secondary College received an award for the Homestay Family of the Year category. Helen Xing, one of the college's treasured homestay providers who offer care and accommodation to international students, won a commendation award, recognising her as providing one of the top 3 Victorian government school homestays for 2023.

Helen Xing and her husband, Hong, were both international students themselves 16 years ago and understand from first-hand experience the challenges and supports required for international students. Helen has provided homestay services to international students for more than 6 years.



Helen goes out of her way to help students adjust to their new surroundings, including the local Ringwood area. Helen and Hong ensure they celebrate cultural events with students to build connections and reduce home sickness. They hold family meetings where the students under their care are encouraged to share what's going on at school and in their lives. Helen is a registered nurse and has a strong focus on the wellbeing and physical health of all.

Congratulations Helen!



Become a Homestay provider for International Students

Local families who are interested in finding out more about becoming a homestay provider to international students can email Shirley Luong, International Student Program Coordinator, at the college: sluong@ringwoodsc.vic.edu.au.

Health Information

We are now in the midst of winter and the symptoms of influenza (flu) can hit very quickly and may last several weeks. The Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care has released information recommending influenza vaccination to protect yourself and others: Annual influenza vaccination. Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs and pharmacies, many of which can also provide COVID-19 vaccinations.

All members of the school community are encouraged to practice prevention measures, including:

- washing and sanitising hands regularly
- avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- staying home if unwell and consulting a general practitioner (GP) or Nurse-on-call as required

The 2023 COVID-19 booster dose is also available for everyone aged 18 and above. You can have your booster dose 6 months after your last dose or COVID infection. Information on COVID-19 vaccination and bookings is also available from the Department of Health and Aged Care website: <https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/covid-19-vaccines>.

Tony Stirling

Acting Assistant Principal

FROM THE OFFICE

FACILITIES

Exciting news with the STEM Centre set to re-commence. We'll keep you updated when things move back into full gear.

Recent works

- Indigenous garden-we continue to beautify the area at the front of the school
- Back of Hall project-The top tier behind the hall is now set up to be a grassed area with lovely shade trees
- Glaxo Auctions/Purchases-Many thanks to one of our Facilities Members for assisting with the purchasing of some great items from Glaxo. The school has purchased robots, commercial kitchen appliances and safety cupboards.
- Canteen modifications-We are soon to instal a professional extraction hood in the canteen and a commercial fryer. These will complement our new freezer and fridge.
- 306 External painting- The old Science portable is getting a lick of paint to improve its appearance.

Chris Salisbury

Facilities Manager

Smile Squad is coming to Ringwood Secondary College

The Smile Squad team from EACH are coming to our school from 24th July 2023.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

How to access free dental care

We need your consent before we can provide services.

Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: [xciting news wit](#)

OR use the below QR code:



Please complete and submit the consent form, this will be sent directly to EACH.

Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one. The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

Smile Squad dental packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure.

Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment.

You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

EACH Smile Squad look forward to seeing you soon.



FROM THE OFFICE

RSC Heritage and Alumni Group

Our 70th Anniversary – Sneak Preview.

Planning for the 70th Anniversary celebrations is well underway. We have some interesting activities for Saturday, 16th March 2024, our 70th Anniversary Day at RSC, to show why this college is such a vital part of the wider community.

We chose to name this event RSC's 70th Anniversary Day, to give it due prominence as a special day in RSC history. We believe we have a great program for that day to show what this college has achieved and how teaching has changed over those 70 years.

We will be giving away all the sporting pennants won by this college at inter-school sports to those who wish to have them as souvenirs of RSC's success. They range over many decades, so you may find the pennants that have special memories for you. We believe there are students who would like to own a memento of the year they captained a team in an inter-school match that won a pennant.

This Heritage committee recognises students from RHS and RSC who have made their mark through success in their chosen vocations. We think the younger students of this college should see these successes of these former students and think, "I can do that, too."

Commencing in 1990, three 'halls' were progressively introduced to recognise these successful students in sport, arts, and science. There is also another hall of recognition for those who have given time to help others and support their communities in some official capacity over many years.

What better time than our 70th Anniversary to induct people into these halls, by recognising their achievements as former RHS and RSC students.

The Sporting Hall of Fame recognises players from all sporting codes who have achieved in the sport they enjoy. They may also have taken on roles as coaches, mentors, or club committee members.

We created the Arts Hall of Achievement for those who have been successful in the wide range of Art disciplines, such as performer, artist, musician, author, actor, playwright, painter, dancer, or designer.

There is the Science Hall of Excellence recognising those who have been successful in the wide range of challenging and ever-increasing science disciplines we know today and those still to emerge.

In 2015, we introduced the Heritage Hall of Fame for those who continued to serve their community into their senior years, upholding the "service" part of the college motto of "Culture and Service."

This celebration will be the opportunity for those who have not visited the college in recent years to see excellent examples of 21st century teaching technology. We will have guided tours of the three new buildings on Saturday, and others during the week for those wishing to see this college 'in action' and be able ask questions of our tour guides.

Make Saturday 16th March 2024 your special day to see RSC's 70th Celebrations and reconnect with your school, and see what it can offer students still thinking of a college to complete their secondary education.

Barry Ring – Convenor
RSC Heritage and Alumni Group

SUB SCHOOLS

JUNIOR SCHOOL



Term 2 has ended just as busy as it started. The Junior School team are very proud of how our Year 7 and Year 8s have conducted themselves this semester.

On Monday 5th June, Elevate Education came and worked with the Year 7 students on how to effectively study. They learnt new tools to better organise themselves and complete learning tasks to the best of their ability. Ask your children what tips they received as a help to get homework completed.



On Friday 9th June, the community liaison officer from Victoria Police spoke to the Yr 8 students about cyber safety. He gave them useful tips on how to protect their social media accounts from predators and what to do if they believe a person is contacting them that they do not know. It was a timely reminder on how to stay safe online as our students enter the social media world more and more as they get older. All students walked away with some very useful tips to keep them safe and having fun online.



Congratulations to our Year 8 leaders who ran the year level assembly on 26th May. Although they had a few nerves, they did a brilliant job and were loudly applauded by their peers. We look forward to seeing them run the next assembly in Term 3.



As a part of Reconciliation week, three of our Junior students gave the Acknowledgement of country to all the Ringwood staff at a morning meeting. Congratulations to Jade, Dakota and Elroy. You did a fabulous job.

Harrison and Marten from Year 7 had their first go at helping to run the Year 7 assembly. They did everyone proud. Well done super stars.

Kathryn Mahoney

Junior Sub School Leader

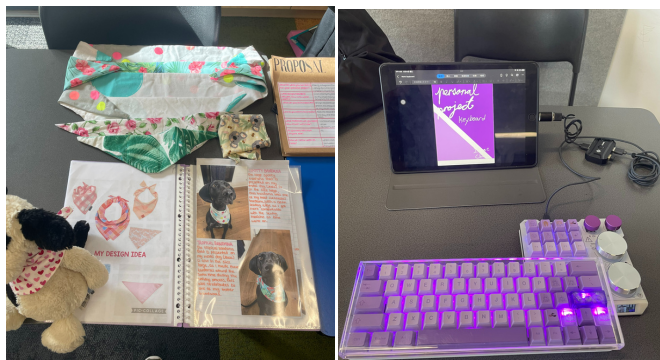
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Year 9:

Well done to all students in Year 9 for completing their Personal Projects for InterGREAT. It was great to see so many fantastic projects and ideas come to fruition.

It was also great to see so many parents and family members attend our expo afternoon to check all of these out! Along with these final products it was great to see some really creative Portfolios handed in and presented on the day.



Year 10 Student Course Counselling - Thursday 20 July

Who: For all current Year 10 students wanting to study Year 11 at Ringwood SC in 2024. Options for Year 11 include the VCE, VCE-Vocational Major and VET (Vocational Education and Training).

When: Thursday 20 July, 8.30 am to 4:30 pm

Where: Library, Ringwood Secondary College

Why:

- To choose student pathway and subject selections for senior school studies in 2024.
- To receive guidance from a college course adviser.
- To provide parents the opportunity to be part of this important process.

How: Parents must book the course counselling interview for their child using Compass- [bookings are open now](#) and will close Tuesday 18 July. You are advised to book early to secure your preferred time.

Arrangements for the day:

- No formal Year 10 classes on the day
- Compulsory for Year 10 students to attend their course counselling interview. Students are only required at school for their interview time.
- Full school uniform must be worn.
- Parent/guardian expected. If they can't be there in person, students to ring/facetime parent/guardian during the interview.

It is compulsory for students to attend, this will help ensure students get their preferred subjects and receive important information and advice for Year 11 subject selection.

Year 10:

What a busy Term it has been for our Year 10s! Great job to all of you for getting through a week long Work Experience with the school receiving some really positive feedback from all of your employers!

Also a big congratulations for getting through your exams, with a high attendance rate showing that you are all engaged in your learning and keen to do your best as well as begin your preparation for what's to come in VCE over the next couple of years.



Finally to all our students from Middle School who represented the school at Region Cross Country, you have done the school proud with your efforts and we wish those who have gone through to State next Term all the best of luck with their run!

Enjoy a safe holiday break!

Rhett Jordon

Middle Sub School Leader

AROUND THE SCHOOL

RECONCILIATION WEEK WITH THE RSC KOORIE GROUP @ RINGWOOD TOWN SQUARE

On the 2nd of June, the Koorie kids of Ringwood Secondary, along with the wonderful staff who joined us, were able to travel to the Ringwood Town Square to celebrate and acknowledge Reconciliation Week with Maroondah Council and Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place. Upon arrival, we waited outside in the freezing cold, sitting on our chairs as we listened to the performers soundcheck.



The event started with a speech of introduction and a beautiful smoking ceremony. For the many who are aware what a smoking ceremony is, it is a spiritual tradition that we practise to cleanse the spirit. We burn varying natural ingredients that hold many different meanings, to create a large amount of soul cleansing smoke which we use to rid ourselves of bad spirits. During the ceremony, the elder who had set up the smoke, used clap sticks to let the ancestors know that we were there. As an indigenous person, I love my culture, but I struggle to connect due to my own personal history. Though smoking ceremonies are not uncommon, this particular one was my first. Being able to take part in a tradition that I had only ever seen in videos made me feel immensely happy and I am incredibly thankful for the experience.

After the ceremony had finished, we went back to our seats and watched as the many musicians performed. Performers included the local music group 'Yeng Gulli Mullum', the Eastwood Primary School choir and Kutcha Edwards. I particularly enjoyed listening to Kutcha Edwards because of his humour, as well as his amazing talent for singing and storytelling through the emotional expression of music.



When asked to describe the experience, a member of our group first used the phrasing "freaking awesome" before being reminded that this was for the school newsletter and changing it to simply "wonderful". I personally am very thankful for everyone who helped make this experience possible. The opportunity to connect to culture and to grow closer as a group will not go unappreciated. Thank you.

Cianna

Year 10 of the Yorta Yorta mob

REGION CROSS COUNTRY 2023

On the 14th of June over 40 students made their way up to Yarra Valley Racecourse to compete in Region Cross Country. It was definitely chilly however we were pretty lucky that the rain held off for most of the day. The high representation from the students at Ringwood was evident with many age groups placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd and/or 4th as a team.

I can easily say that every student represented the school to a high standard and tried their absolute best. Congratulations to those that competed on the day and good luck to the following students who made it through to State Cross Country:

- 13yr Boys: Harrison (10th)
- 13yr Girls: Belle (10th)
- 14yr Girls: Rebekah (2nd)
- 14yr Girls: Lucy (9th)
- 14yr Boys: Finn (9th)
- 16yr Girls: Nat (1st)
- 16yr Boys Team: Jay (4th), Josh (13th) & Lewis (19th)
- 17-20yr Girls: Ellie (12th)

In preparation for an equally busy Term 3, the following ensembles will be participating in day rehearsals over the holidays, and it is essential that all attend as these rehearsals are in preparation for upcoming Victorian Schools Music Festival events. As you know, each ensemble is the sum of all parts, and that collaboration is an essential part of the success of each performance.

A massive thankyou to Mr Ingleton, Mr Saunders and Mrs Jennings who came along to help and support our students.

Jai Edwards
Sports Intern

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Thank you to everyone for a very successful and busy Term 2.

Well done to all our intermediate and senior ensembles for their performances at the sold-out Senior Concert back in May.

Straight on the heels of this concert, the Senior Jazz Combo and Marimba Soloist, Thomas Dower wowed the audience at the North Eastern Victorian Region's Concert at Hamer Hall.



This week is the Junior Winter Concert where our training ensembles will make their premier performances, the first of many future performances at the school. This concert has already sold out, well before the event!

Holiday Day Camps/ Rehearsals:

Tuesday 27 June	9 am- 4pm – Senior Stage Band
Tuesday 4 July	9 am- 4pm - Intermediate Stage Band
Wednesday 5 July	9 am- 2pm – Junior Stage Band 11 am- 3pm- Training Stage Band
Sunday 9 July	9 am- 12pm – Senior Choir 12 pm- 4pm – Junior Choir



Almost there! Have a well-deserved break and we look forward to everyone's performances at the Victorian Schools Music Festivals and our Gala Concert next term.

Janine Pero
Director of Instrumental Music

2023 PRODUCTION 'ALL SHOOK UP'

Don't miss out on securing your place in another fabulous RSC show - Head to this link to get those good seats - <https://www.trybooking.com/CIIYI>

Gaynor Borlase
Director of Performing Arts