

# YEAR 7 SCOOP!

Wellington Swimming Championships - 4 Mar  
Yr7 Meet & Greet - 4 Mar  
NAPLAN Tests - 11-16 Mar  
Mini Pop Up Shop - 1 Apr  
Parent Teacher Interviews - 1 Apr

## IMPORTANT DATES



Follow us on the socials @yarramsc

## WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

To kick off the year, our Yr 7 students were invited to a special morning tea with the Yr 12s. They heard from the school captains, shared some yummy treats and got to know some friendly faces. They will be well looked after in the years ahead.



## OUR FIRST FEW WEEKS



Mini Home Groups



Hut Building



Food Tech



Swimming Sports



Smoking Ceremony

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT LYN KERRISON



We live in a world where disconnecting from technology can be anxiety inducing for our youth, so detoxing can be challenging. Day one had threads of this as we headed off to Allambee for a three day camp. Sometimes the anxiety is disconnecting from our social media, family or friends, and sometimes it is disconnecting from a gaming streak. Whether we understand it or not, we can not underestimate how much our kids are challenged by this aspect of their lives. But, how lucky are we that we live in rural Victoria where it is still possible to be immersed in nature, to take the time to watch a sunrise or a sunset with friends and colleagues, to take the time to breathe.

Camp can bring out the best in our students. We watch as they become diplomats negotiating turns and leadership roles on activities that both scare and excite in equal measure. They also become nurturers when they look after their friends, who they barely know, but who will become shot gun passengers in their high school journey. Camp provides opportunities for the most unlikely candidates to flourish, becoming the best at duty or helping others to overcome their fears. They show empathy, commitment and integrity when accounting for themselves.

Staff spend time immersed in activities alongside the students, but we also try to capture moments to share with parents who have gifted us their children to look after for these precious few days. This year I was challenged to complete both the giant swing and the flying fox. As I swung through the air like a giant pendulum, completing a physics move no human was ever meant to undertake, I understood what it means to embrace a fear. I also understood the sheer exhilaration of facing a fear. Camps like Allambee encourage us all to step out of our comfort zone, develop a positive attitude to challenges, demonstrate initiative, display social confidence and awareness of others, work cooperatively to problem solve, and make a positive contribution by encouraging and supporting others. This year, I faced two of my fears. It's taken me 10 camps to complete both these activities earning me the **Bead of Fire** for courage and the **Black Bead of Darkest Night** for facing my fears.

But, like the kids, I take back so much more than beads.





**TAHLIA FLAKE**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADER**

A very warm welcome to our Year 7 students and families of 2026. My name is Tahlia Flake and I am the Middle School Leader at Yarram Secondary College (YSC). I have enjoyed getting to know all of the Year 7 students we have welcomed here by either spending time with them at Allambee Camp, teaching them in class or conversations around the yard.

This will be my fifth year teaching at YSC as part of the Health and PE team. I travel to Yarram from Latrobe Valley each day because of my love for the culture of this school. I am passionate about building a positive school culture and value students feeling heard. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns or would just like to have a chat. You can email me on [tahlia.flake@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:tahlia.flake@education.vic.gov.au) or call 5182 5522.

**INTEGRITY**  
We are honest with ourselves and others.  
We own our actions.  
We demonstrate trust, honesty & respect.

**COMMITMENT**  
We commit to being kind.  
We commit to doing our best.  
We commit to looking after our environment.

**EMPATHY**  
We put ourselves in other people's shoes.  
We support others during tough times.  
We communicate positively.



**Jess Mitchell**  
Wellbeing Leader



**Robyn Knight**  
Community Liaison, Admin  
& Attendance



**Talia Duell**  
Inclusion & Disability  
Leader

**MEET SOME FAMILIAR FACES**



**Tahlia Flake**  
Middle School Leader



**Jack Weston**  
Assistant Principal



**Lyn Kerrison**  
Principal



# Allambee Camp

What a jam packed three days our new Year 7 students had at Allambee Camp! Activities included facing your fear of heights on the giant swing, making memories and building confidence, getting creative building huts and so much more. The Year 7 camp at the start of the year is a great way for the students to build relationships with a positive start to the year. We look forward to the students bringing the school values they showed on camp back into the classroom.



*"Allambee camp for me was a great experience. There were lots of activities and fun. My favourite part was when we did the giant swing on the first day it was so much fun. On the giant swing we all went to the top except for one person and even Miss Kerrison went to the top even though she's afraid of heights. I also enjoyed the vertical climb because we got to go blindfolded while climbing."* Edward Bowden

*"On camp, we did a bunch of activities, ranging from where we had to work together, like the low ropes, to fun, exciting activities like the giant swing or the flying fox. There were three groups, with about fifteen people in each one. It let us trust some people we didn't exactly trust before, and for me personally, I socialised more than I usually do in the teamwork activities more than I do in school."* Katherine Lewis

*"When we headed over to the giant swing, which was overlooking an alpaca named Rachel but we couldn't pat her because she has arthritis in her back. Everyone did a really good job and nearly all of us went to the top. Even Miss. Flake had a go! After that we had dinner, which was really yummy!"* Flossy White

EMPATHY

INTEGRITY

COMMITMENT

# MINI HOME GROUPS!



This term at YSC, we have successfully trialled our new mini home group program with our Year 7 cohort.

For 15 minutes at the end of each day, students have met in small groups of 3 to 6 with their mini home group leader. These sessions have provided a safe and supportive space for students to check in on their learning, reflect on their day, and build key social and emotional regulation skills.

As part of our strong commitment to a holistic approach to education, the mini home group program is designed to support wellbeing, connection, and confidence. We believe these check ins (now just twice per week) will play an important role in helping our Year 7 students feel supported and settled as they transition into secondary school.



# IMPORTANT INFO!



Absence Hotline:  
5182 5522 -  
press 1



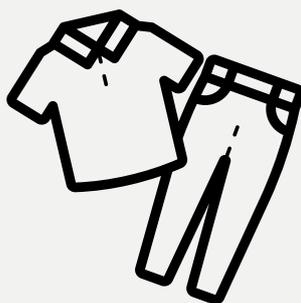
All students are encouraged to bring their own locker key. A spare key can be held at the front office.



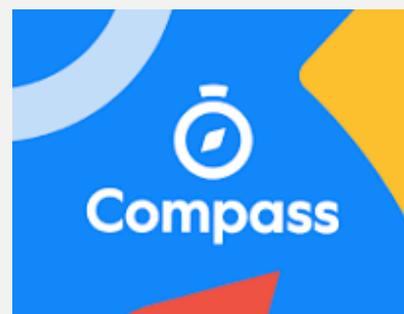
Allergies or Anaphylaxis?  
Make sure the school has your official Action Plan signed by your doctor



Students now have their laptops - for school use only!  
Any queries, please ask us.  
No earbuds or phones in class!



Uniform shop is open Tuesdays  
12.30pm - 2pm



If you don't have your login details for Compass, please ask at the front office

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We own our actions.  
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## COMMITMENT

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## EMPATHY

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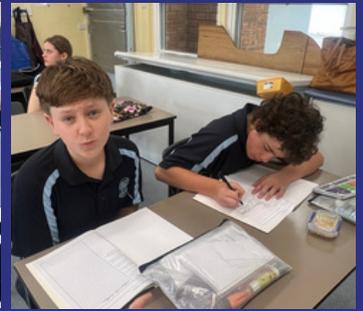
## Melody Jumpponen

I'm Melody, or you might know me as "Mx J". I teach English, Humanities and VM Literacy. I've just started at Yarram SC, having moved down from Melbourne over the school holidays. A little about me... I'm an avid sportsperson and musician. I play softball, roller derby and Finnish baseball. When I haven't exhausted all my energy playing sport, I'll pick up a guitar and write music. I love to read, to cook and to travel. I also DJ when I get the chance and have a background in lighting and sound production.

## Meet the School Captains



**Lexie Francis  
&  
Will Cook**  
Lexie and Will, together with all the Yr 12 students, welcomed the Yr 7s with a morning tea on their first day and promised to look out for them at all times!



## Congratulations to our Yr 7 Class Captains



**7A Max Olarenshaw,  
Oscar Griffiths and  
Oscar Sheehan.  
7B Florence White and  
Macy Sampson.**

Students were nominated and then voted by their peers as people they believe will show positive leadership and uphold the values of the school.

## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT MATHS



This term in maths, students have focused on building their understanding of computations with positive integers. They have practised a range of skills including addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, using both mental and written strategies.

Students have worked on several classroom skills, such as writing notes, presenting their work, navigating a textbook and sharing ideas. They have applied these skills to solve fluency and worded problems, which will greatly assist their future learning, in and out of the classroom.

Emphasis has been placed on developing problem-solving strategies, showing working out, working independently, and collaborating with peers to discuss different pathways and solutions. So far this term, Miss Glynn, Mr Collins and Ms Dupont have supported students in strengthening their number skills, encouraging positive learning habits, and building a strong foundation for future learning in mathematics.



## INCLUSION FOCUS



Here is what our school captains, Lexie Francis and Will Cook, had to say about our inclusion focus for this term.

*"Inclusion is at the heart of our community, and this inspired us to introduce this as our Term 1 theme. We think it is important for our school community to be inclusive of those around us, despite being in a different year level, or peer group. For example, during the recent smoking ceremony, we learned that the youngest members of the family sit on the inside of the circle while the elders sit just outside them to keep them safe and guide them. The elders are then encircled by everyone else in the family.*

*This kind of support could be demonstrated in the school yard with our new Year 7s sitting in the middle of the circle and our Year 12s sitting just outside of them to help and support immediately. But this doesn't mean that all the year levels which exist outside of the inner circles can't help our Year 7s, or other new or vulnerable students out.*

*We would love to see you all using inclusivity over Term 1, not just with the Year 7s, but with everyone in our school community. This could look like helping a staff member if they have their hands full or sparking up a conversation with a student in another year level.*

*Inclusion is all about ensuring everyone in our school feels included and supported as we start a new chapter in our high school journey. As school Captains, we will have our eyes peeled to make a note of how inclusive you are in your day-to-day life."*