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University Campus Newsletter

Issue 4 · 07 Jun 2024

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



Exams/Assessments

As we progress toward the end of Term two, we have a busy few weeks. Next week we have mid-year exams for all VCE students and our VCE VM, and VPC students are finishing any outcomes for Semester 1. Semester 2 classes will commence on Monday 17th June. Teachers will be assessing and then preparing Semester reports for distribution at the end of term.

GAT

All VCE and VCE VM students studying a Year 12 subject will be participating in the General Achievement Test (GAT) on Tuesday 18th June. An assembly was held earlier this week to inform students of the details they need to know and also to hand out an information sheet explaining the purpose and structure of the GAT. Each student will receive a GAT statement of results later in the year. Please note there are no classes on this day to accommodate the GAT and teachers will use this day as their assessment day for Semester 1.

Welcome to New Teaching Staff

The staffing shortage across the state has been challenging for many schools and we have been working toward a full complement of staff across the College and are pleased to welcome Daniel Lambert to the University campus. Daniel was a local in the Latrobe Valley and then ventured interstate and has been gaining experience around the world, teaching for many years before returning recently to take up a position at Kurnai. Daniel will be joining our English faculty.

Recent Events

Over the last few weeks, we have had a range of excursions and experiences on offer to students and I would like to thank the staff who have organised and supervised these. Events have included sporting competitions, an inspiring health camp, bushwalking, a visit to a chocolate factory, University camp, and a visit to the Lume Gallery in Melbourne.

The conduct of our students at these events has been exemplary, demonstrating support for each other, consideration of others, respectful and polite interactions with providers and cooperation with staff. Feedback from a number of people external to the college has been consistently positive and we congratulate all students for their attitude and manner, as this enables us to receive ongoing opportunities for other groups and builds the reputation of our student cohort reflecting on all of us.

Closer to home we've had a number of online mentoring programs with the Australian Business and Community Network (ABCN) which is a purpose-led, not-for-profit organisation which brings businesses and schools together to address educational disparity. We have had a number of programs including a Leadership for Women series, My Career Rules, and Interview 2 Impress. Students are supported in online sessions with mentors from the business community held in our library.

During Reconciliation Week we held a campfire conversation using our new fire pit and located near our Indigenous-themed garden and totem poles. A number of students and their families joined staff and chatted together before local sporting identity and Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer Laurie Marks spoke about his experiences growing up. Laurie provided valuable advice on how to approach the final years of schooling leading into adulthood in a positive way.

Our Advocate and Wellbeing team put on a great BBQ breakfast at recess recently which was well received and appreciated by our school community. Later that day the SRC ran a shave for a cure fundraising event with a number of brave souls shedding their locks for a worthy cause raising funds for cancer research.



Calendar of Events

Key Dates

Term 2, 2024		
Monday, 10 June	King's Birthday, Public Holiday	
Tue, 11 June to Fri, 14	Year 10 Pathways Work Experience	
June	Year 11 & 12 VCE Exams	
Monday, 17 June	Uni Yr 12 VM Prevent Alcohol & Risk-Related Trauma in Youth	
	excursion	
	Morwell & Churchill Junior Campus Assessment Day	
	(no scheduled classes for Junior Campus students)	
Tuesday, 18 June	University Campus Assessment Day	
	GAT	
	(no scheduled classes for Uni Campus students)	
Friday, 28 June	Last day of Term 2	

Term 3, 2024	
Monday, 15 July	Student Free Day
Tuesday, 16 July	First day of Term 3 - students return to school
Thursday, 25 July	College NAIDOC Celebration
Friday, 30 August	Student Free Day
Friday, 20 September	Last day of Term 3

Student Free days 2024

The following days have been approved by the college council to be our allocated student free days for the remainder of this year.

- Monday, 15 July 2024
- Friday, 30 August 2024

• Friday, 22 November 2024

College Key Contacts

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



Year 11 and 12 News

Exam Week 11th to 14th June

1. Year 11 & 12 VCE

On Tuesday, June 11th, the Year 11 and Year 12 VCE students will begin their June practice exams. All students undertaking a VCE subject have an individual timetable created in Compass that indicates the day, time, location, and exam that they will be completing. Students are only required at school during exam week for their scheduled exams. Students are, however, able to come to school and study in the Study Hall. Exams have been divided into two sessions, for each day. Session one starts at 8.30 am and concludes at 10.30 am. Session two starts at 11.00 am and concludes at 1.00 pm. All students will need to arrive at least 10 minutes before the exams start so that they are seated in the exam room and ready to start reading at 8.30 am and 11.00 am.

Students are reminded to bring appropriate equipment to the exams – for example, a dictionary for English exams and a calculator for Math exams. All students will need to bring blue or black pens to write on the exam papers. Students may also bring pencils, highlighters and a ruler if required. These items can be carried into the exam room in a clear plastic bag. Students are encouraged to bring a bottle of water, which must be clear and without a label or writing. They will not be allowed to leave the exam room for a drink.

If a student is unable to complete an exam on the scheduled day, there is the opportunity to reschedule the exam after the consultation with the VCE Coordinators.

2. VCE VM, VPC, VET & TAFE

During the VCE exam week, VM and VPC students who have unfinished tasks and outcomes will be required to attend catch-up classes which will be running on Tuesday 11th June and Thursday 13th June.

All VET/TAFE classes will be running as normal and students are required to attend their normal scheduled classes that day. Work placement will also be happening as normal during

exam week.

Students who have completed all assessment tasks and outcomes for Unit 1 or Unit 3 will not be required to attend on Tuesday or Thursday, as normal classes will not be running.

Parents will be notified by SMS if their child is required to attend school.

Students who have been advised to attend, must attend the catch-up classes as this places them at risk of not successfully meeting outcomes for their VM or VPC course.

Senior Netball

Kurnai College entered two senior teams into this year's School Sports Victoria Wellington Division Netball Competition. Students travelled to Sale on Wednesday 29th May to compete and put their training to the test. Both teams did tremendously well and came away with more wins than losses for the day. Great team spirit was shown by all participants and some true netball talent from our campus was realised. Thanks to staff member Rachelle for coordinating the event and to our team captains Andy, Brayden, Olivia and Mia who all showed great leadership prior to and on the day. Special thanks to all the students who participated, for commitment to their team and for doing their school and coach proud, well done!





College News

The World's Greatest Shave

The University Campus SRC recently arranged for students and staff to take part in the World's Greatest Shave.

Many stepped up to shave, cut or colour their hair for the cause, with approximately \$140 being raised for the Leukaemia Foundation.

A big thank you goes to Mr. Sabawi who helped with the shaving.









RMIT Excursion

Recently, students attended the RMIT University "I Belong" camp, which provides insight into higher education and career options for regional Indigenous students, along with experiencing urban living in metropolitan Melbourne.

Our students explored RMIT University and experienced many of the subjects on offer, including Automotive Engineering, Creative Environment, Engineering, Marketing, Osteopathy, Nursing and STEM Taster Workshops.

The students also experienced mock courtroom hearings at the Old Melbourne Gaol and learned about sporting scholarships at the Essendon Football Club.









Reconciliation Week 2024 - Now More Than Ever



To commemorate Reconciliation
Week, our University Campus hosted a
campfire conversation evening last
week. Students, their families and
special guests Aunty Christine and
Uncle Laurie made the night a great
success, filled with heartfelt

storytelling and the joy of community coming together.











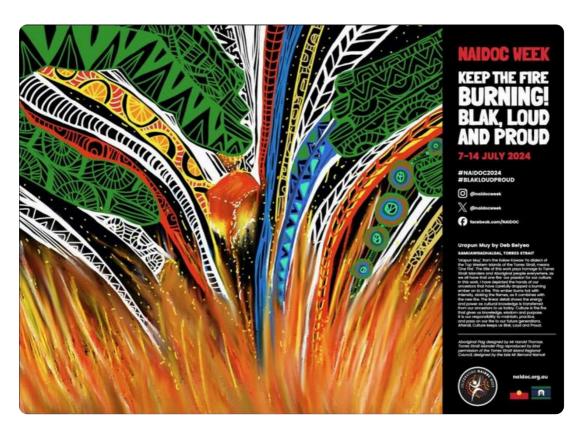
Reconciliation Week also saw some staff attend The Secretary's Marrung Awards in Melbourne, which celebrates the unique knowledge and skills that Aboriginal staff and allies bring to the department to create better educational outcomes for Aboriginal students.

Kurnai proudly congratulates Marina Cooper, our Koorie Student Wellbeing Coordinator, for being a finalist in this year's awards. Marina's nomination recognises her unwavering dedication to fostering a positive learning environment for our Koorie students.

NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week (National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee) occurs annually in July, and celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

With the official week falling in the school holidays, Kurnai College will be celebrating NAIDOC from 22 - 26 July. Our major event will be held at the University Campus on Thursday 25 July, with additional celebrations held at our other campuses throughout the week.



Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides funds for eligible students to attend school camps, excursions, sports and outdoor education programs. These payments are made directly to the school and are tied to your student.

Payment amounts for 2024 are:

- \$150 per year for eligible primary school students
- \$250 per year for eligible secondary school students.

2024 applications close on 21 June 2024. Forms can be submitted at your school's office.

Are you eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund? Those who are eligible to apply for CSEF are:

families holding a valid means-tested concession card.

 a student over 16 years who is considered a mature minor and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card or Disability Support Pension Card).

Full information can be found at <u>http</u>	os://www.vic.gov.au/c	camps-sports-and-excursions-fund

Smoking and vaping ban

All parents, carers and students are reminded of the legislation that within Victoria, a person must not smoke cigarettes, including e-cigarettes/vapes (regardless of whether they contain nicotine) within school premises and within 4 metres of any pedestrian access to school premises. Smoking in these places is a fineable offence. The smoking and vaping ban applies to:

- anyone present on school premises during and outside of school hours including students, teachers, contractors, parents or carers or the wider community, such as sporting groups
- all activities that take place on school premises including pre-schools, kindergartens, outside school hours care, cultural, sporting or recreational activities and school fetes. Parents, carers, schools, and community all play an important role in protecting children and young people from, and educating them about, the harmful effects of smoking and vaping.

Research from the <u>Royal Children's Hospital</u> shows many parents and carers are not aware of the harmful effects or how their views about smoking and vaping can impact the likelihood of a young person taking up smoking or vaping.

The Department of Education has developed resources to help you learn more about the health risks of smoking and vaping. The resources include advice about how to talk to children and young people about vaping, and where to get support. To access the resources, go to https://www.vic.gov.au/smoking-and-vaping-advice-parents

You can also view <u>this video</u> on smoking and vaping from experts at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne for health advice and tips for starting a conversation with young people.







General Information

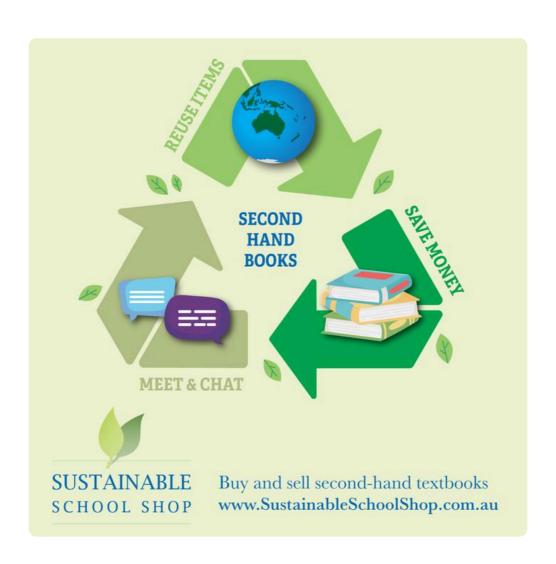
2023 Annual Report to Community

2024 Student Booklist

VCE Books for Sale Second Hand for 2023-2024



Sustainable School Shop





Buy and Sell

Second-hand Textbooks



- · Register on the Sustainable School Shop website www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au
- A subscription to this service has been kindly provided by Kurnai College

Second-hand textbook trading system

- · List Wanted & For Sale Ads (Browsers tell each other what they require and what they have to sell).
- . The school's booklists are loaded into the system to make the Ad listing process easy, fast and accurate.
- · Assistance is provided to accurately price items.
- Our Ad Matching service shows you
 - Exactly the right items to buy
 - Who has the most items you need
 - The cheapest items
- · Buyers contact Sellers, and arrange where and when to transact.
- · Excellent email and telephone helplines are provided: 0438 743 444

Also Buy & Sell

Pricing Guide

- Calculators
- Like New
- · Sporting items
- Excellent
- Musical items
- Very Good
- · Electronics & DVD's

- · And lots more

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

Helpful tips

- . Be patient many new items are listed each day
- · Listing Wanted and For Sale Ads gets results
- Our unique Ad Matching Service shows you who to transact with, and will save you lots of time
- · Be realistic when pricing items
- Telephoning sellers provides a quicker response as many people do not regularly check their emails
- . Pre-arrange who to transact with if your items are still being used and write the availability date in your Ad
- · Respect other browsers and remember to Delist your Ads promptly when no longer needed
- . Meet somewhere convenient to transact, don't make special trips and just fit it in to your normal activities

Code Red Fire Danger

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

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



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



Community News



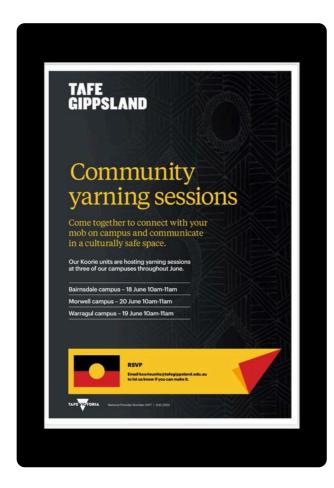


















If you wish to promote your sporting club, community group or non-for-profit organisation in our school newsletter please email kurnai.co@education.vic.gov.au