



YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Sandra Hiscock

Deputy Principal: Louise Pinson

From the Principal

Planning for 2018 is finally coming together with many talented, well-qualified and experienced teachers joining us to ensure the school remains dynamic and evolving to better serve the students and the community. As well as the new principal, Linda Langton, who starts on Monday 27th November, next year we'll welcome John Duncan back as Head Teacher Mathematics, Joanne Southwell from Boorowa will replace the retiring Rod Saville as Head Teacher TAS (best wishes, Rod), Gina Carnely from Narrandera will join the art staff with Amy Watson, who has been appointed permanently.

It was great to see such strong school spirit come to the fore last Tuesday for the Melbourne Cup (or Yass High Cup?) Pink Day Fundraiser which saw students, staff and the community contribute over \$3,800 to the Cancer Council's Pink Ribbon Day.



It is that fabulous school spirit as well as the pervasive sense of belonging to such a close school community that I will miss most when I retire next week. It has been a real privilege for me to serve as principal with such a professional and talented staff team, with such delightful, responsive and friendly students and with such generous and supportive parents and community members.

I hope that I have contributed in some way to improving the school, perhaps through building confidence and self-esteem with higher



expectations for academic, career, cultural and sporting success as well as through developing social cohesion built on decency, mutual respect, wellbeing and citizenship. There are so many people who willingly contribute so much to the school, often well beyond any realm of responsibility, that it is impossible for me to begin to acknowledge them here. But I do sincerely thank everyone for their tremendous efforts and support and I wish the school and its community the very, very best for the future.



From the Deputy

Mobile phones continue to be a source of delight and frustration. The delight mostly belongs to students who enjoy the opportunities to engage with friends 24/7 (even during lesson time, if they can manage it). The frustration is felt by parents who have to take part in exhausting negotiations to prise the devices from students' fingers



so they can participate in family life and sleep at night and by teachers, like myself, who find ourselves in multiple daily conversations about the purpose of school (education) and the effect of an active phone (distraction and potential harm to wellbeing). Like many aspects of behaviour, a focus on the positives, a calm consistent response to those unwilling to comply and engagement in something greater are hallmarks of the most effective response.

We focus on the positives through our Positive Behaviour for Learning program in which students gain Ys for following school values and are acknowledged as meeting school values when they attend our reward excursions (coming up later this term).

Our calm consistent approach can be seen in every classroom where posters reminding students that devices should be 'off and away' are on display, where teachers ask students to take to the office phones which are 'out' or 'on' and where I follow up with an interview or a phone call home if students cannot follow this natural consequence. Where students are caught up in the challenge and excitement of learning, phones are, momentarily, forgotten. I see this everyday as students catch and weigh growing lambs, create a self-portrait with pencil and crayon, master a hard won mathematical skill, perform an intricate scientific experiment or write a story of which they are proud.

Sometimes a little encouragement is needed to turn away from the comfort of the interactive device towards the endless potential of learning. I encourage all students to be phone-free at school, or at the very least, between break times, so young minds can be fully focused on the delights of learning.

<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/i-put-my-teens-on-a-digital-detox--the-results-shocked-me-20171106-gzg4ey.html?btis>

Make sure your phone is



OFF & AWAY

**If your phone is visible or audible,
it can be sent to the front office**

Yass High School puts learning first

Captain's Corner

This week our Teacher/Principal of the Week is Sandra Hiscock! Ms Hiscock is a very dedicated principal and has strived to make Yass High the best school it can possibly be over the 6 years she has been here. She has done an amazing job with all the past and present students, helping shape them into incredible people. She has made countless positive changes for this school and for that, on behalf of Yass High School, we thank you.



Joke of the week:

Q. How does a penguin build it's house?

A. Igloos it together!

Come along to SRC meetings in F block during Monday lunch if you want to be like Billsie and make a difference at our school.

Farewell Ms Hiscock!

Ms Hiscock arrived at YHS in the midst of construction mid 2012, complete with demountable toilets and a demountable canteen after the facilities had been engulfed by fire. She had barely hung up her hardhat when in the early hours of 24 November 2012, another fire tore through the school. An entire block and its contents were lost. The scenes of devastation are still hard to put into words some five years later.

It was at this time, the true calibre of our new principal became very obvious. Ms Hiscock rallied the troops and the community to make the school operational, and then fought long and hard for two years for what all students and staff enjoy today, the Community Trade Training Skills Centre.

The management of the rebuild, was in itself a full-time job, and I am still in awe of the workload that was undertaken and achieved by Ms Hiscock, whilst being principal as well. Two full-time jobs rolled into one!

The school's appearance has transformed under the helm of Ms Hiscock. We have seen the establishment of beautiful gardens and hedges around the school grounds, new pathways, a wonderful awning in the quad and the screening of other parts of the school which we would rather not look at. Who would even know where the toilets are now!

Ms Hiscock has bought many opportunities to the students during her time at YHS. Ms Hiscock's approach has always been "hands on" and she has worked tirelessly to instil a sense of pride, achievement and confidence in Yass High School.



She constantly promotes our school and all it has to offer. I can't imagine many schools where the principal joins in for a game of handball on her way through the quad or adorns themselves with an inflatable horse.

We really appreciate that you were always available to everyone; students, staff, parents and the community. Your contributions to the school and wider community will leave a lasting impact. We will miss your wonderful sense of humour, your caring nature, your "can do" attitude and your amazing leadership qualities.

We extend our warmest and best wishes to you and Neil and we hope you enjoy your retirement. Enjoy your travels and precious family time with your loved ones.



What's Happening in Woodwork?

Students have completed a variety of fantastic work this term! Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 have developed a variety of woodworking skills and techniques. Students shown from the top left; Jaxyn and Abbey practising their woodburning, Cecilia on the drill, Daniel getting his hands dirty, Lachlan and his excellent CD tower, and Lane's highly creative woodburning design, and of course, Pink Day party in the woodwork room!!!



Work Place Learning



Students from the Yass High School Community Trade Skills Centre are busy on their second work placement as a mandatory part of their Certificate 1, 2 and 3 courses.

Work place learning organiser, Carissa Mills from Southern Region Business Enterprise Centre has been meeting with the students and their teachers to get the best possible placements in our local industries. They have been in contact with local employers asking them to take on our students for a one week placement. Our students then made appointments to introduce themselves and be inducted into the workplace. Most work placements of one week will hopefully take place in weeks 6,7 and 8 or between Nov 13 and Dec 1. Some students are lucky enough to do more than one VET course so have to organise their time to complete multiple work placements.

Our wonderful employer hosts will be recognised at our Workplace Learning awards ceremony as part of the Work Ready days next year.

Parents are an important part of the process with a contract between the student, school, parents and employers having to be signed and returned before the work placement can go ahead. Our shared responsibility to produce work-ready industry qualified graduates from the Yass High School Community Trade Skills Centre forms an important focus for every student.



Year 11 Make Possum Boxes for Wildcare

Year 11 construction students have been making possum boxes for Wildcare for several years, in conjunction with WIRES. Jane and Kevin Baker from Wildcare recently picked up the latest 25 box batch. This has been done with the assistance of teacher Ralf Hansson.

Ralf Hansson said it was a win-win situation, “Wires pay for the material and the students not only improve their woodworking skills from making them, but they also knowing they are doing something good for the possums and community.”

Ms Baker, on behalf of Wildcare Queanbeyan, thanked the staff and students for their ongoing support of “our work of rescuing and rehabilitating orphaned and injured wildlife in our region”.

“Under the direction of Ralf Hansson, and with the enthusiastic support of principal, Sandra Hiscock, these students have cut out and assembled boxes, which provide housing for hand raised orphan possums on their return to the wild and for possums from urban areas that have to be relocated to the wild,” Ms Baker said.

Ms Baker said Wildcare was grateful to these students for their hard work and generosity.



ANSTO Big Ideas Forum



Bronwyn Kemp as part of her Year 10 Aurora College program took part in the ANSTO Big Ideas Forum last week. She toured Australia's Open Pool Australian Lightwater (OPAL) reactor and attended workshops related to radiation.

The OPAL reactor is a state-of-the-art 20 megawatt multi-purpose reactor that uses low enriched uranium (LEU) fuel to achieve a range of nuclear medicine, research, scientific, industrial and production goals.

Operation Christmas Child: Spreading the Joy

In 2017's Operation Christmas Child drive, we were able to contribute a total of 19 Christmas boxes to children of a range of ages in the South-East Asian region. Students, members of the community, and staff contributed generously to the drive coordinated by the Yass High School Social Justice Group. A special acknowledgment should go to Emily Targett, who organised and funded three boxes of her own accord. Yass High School has a well-founded and long-standing spirit of community-mindedness. It was heartwarming to see this in the lovingly filled and wrapped gifts as they were sent off on their long journey to Christmas stockings around the world. A well-earned and merry Christmas to all!



Regional Performing Ensemble



A troupe of 45 young performers from across the region came to perform at Yass High and our very own Corinne Green was one of them! They have been touring around for a week putting on an absolutely fabulous show of singing, dancing and stage band music. The assembly hall rocked and jumped to numbers such as Can't Stop This Feeling, Footloose, Mercy and a Michael Jackson Medley, many feet

could not keep still! Then there was the gorgeous Dancing On My Own which brought a tear to some eyes and had beautiful dancing.

The band was amazing with three different drummers/percussionists and a great brass line up. The saxophones moved and grooved to the beat and the trumpets even sang along, as did many of the audience. We were blown away by the awesome vocalists who sang with pizzazz and even embarrassed a few of our students and Mr Alchin too!



The professionalism and obvious talent of these students was inspirational and we were all thoroughly entertained. If you are one of those who think they'd like to audition for next years' ensemble please come ASAP to get a form from the CAPA staffroom. Thank you to Ruth Riach for organising it for us.



Melbourne Cup Day

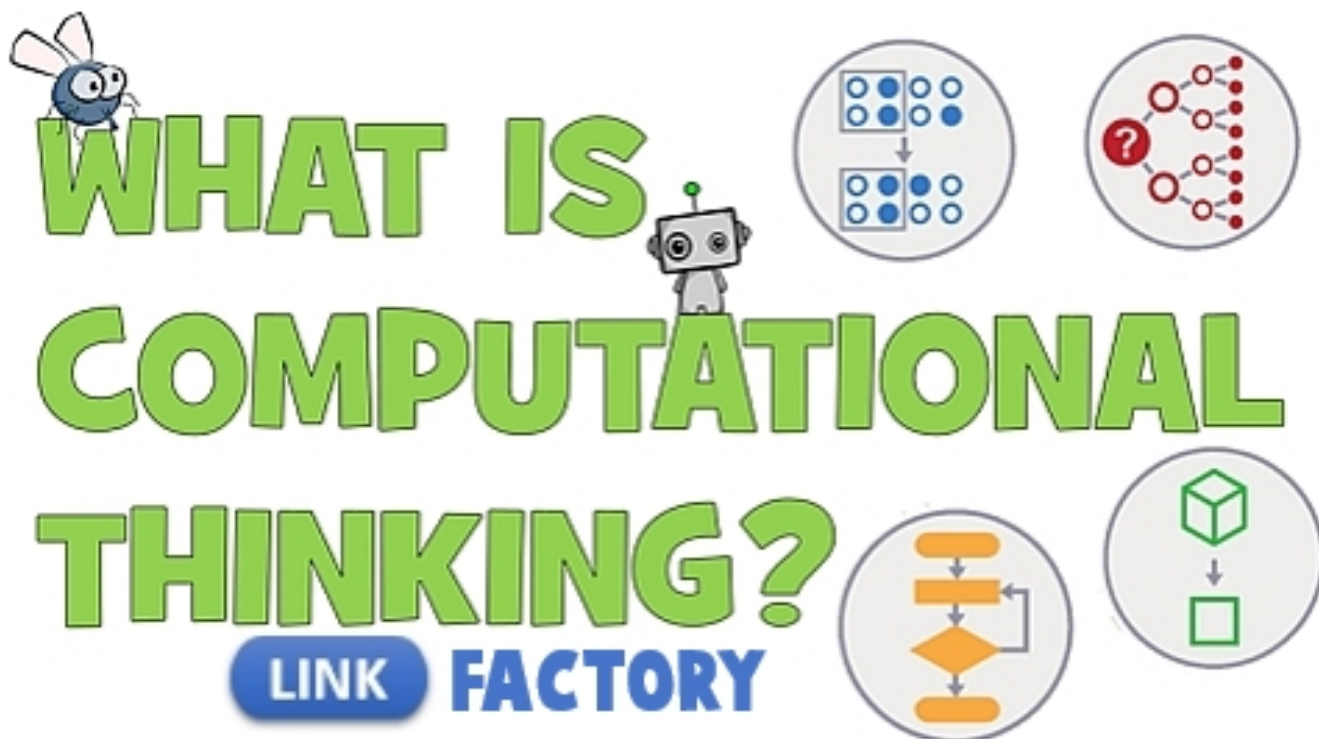
On the 7th November three wonderful students – Patrick Morton, Casey Tristchler and Vita Pappalardo joined the ladies of the Yass Hospital Auxiliary to present their annual Melbourne Cup luncheon.

All three students represented our school beautifully and I received many comments on how wonderful they were, what a great job they were doing and how lovely it was that they were there.

It was wonderful to see these students participate in new activities such as meeting, greeting and seating guests. Watching them in this role gave me a new perspective on just how great our students are! I was immensely proud of Patrick, Casey and Vita. Thanks to them for making the day so easy and enjoyable for the ladies of the auxiliary, the guests and your teacher. Special thanks to Patrick for leaving me a little bit of banoffee pie!

Thanks also to Sally Walker who supported our students on the day.





Computational thinking (CT) is widely recognised as a critical skill for the digital world we live in. CT is clearly identified in NESA's draft [Science and Technology K-6 syllabus](#) and draft [Technology mandatory](#) syllabus. Whilst there is currently no clear timeline for when new documents will be implemented, NESA has published [A Guide to Coding and Computational Thinking across the Curriculum](#) that outlines where CT can be introduced using the current NSW syllabus. Get prepared now with free support to learn more about computational thinking and apply that learning into the existing syllabus.

The *federal government's* [Digital Technologies Hub](#) includes links to [professional learning](#), [lesson ideas](#) and information for [families](#). The DoE has developed the Technology mandatory unit, [Crack the Code](#) for teachers with no coding background. the NESA registered *Foundations MOOC for Primary* is at [CSER Digital Technologies Education](#). CSER also funds a NSW project officer [Meridith Ebbs](#) to support your school or community of schools. Ask her how you can access a [lending library of equipment](#) for you to test before you purchase.

The [Australian Computing Academy](#) (ACA) offers explanations of [key terminology in the Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies](#) and [workshops](#). Familiarise yourself with the terminology with [Introduction to Computational thinking](#) on *BBC Bitesize* to . Finally, Google offers a free [computational thinking course](#)!

What's Happening in Textiles?

Year 7 finished off some great textile projects last term. They designed and made waist bags, backpacks and shoulder bags. Once completing their bag students had the chance to make pencil cases, soft toys and finish off the unit with tie dyed t-shirts.





Stage Five Textile Art Piece Challenge

Each year the Textile Educators Association of NSW run a competition for stage 5 textiles technology students of a textile art piece. The theme this year was “New Beginnings”. Students from schools all over NSW enter each year. Hailey Lennon and Shania Wilson entered a mini art quilt each and received a Highly Commended certificate. Their work will be on display at the “TEXSTLE” exhibition at Rosehill Racecourse in Sydney from 8-11 March 2018. They will be in good company as the award winning year 12 HSC textile major projects will be on display as well. Mrs Barberis is planning to take interested textile students to see this next year.



Shania Wilson writes about her quilt: *My inspiration for my art quilt was made up of a range of different ideas relating to a sunset. The sunset represents a new beginning by knowing that the day is over and we should look forward to what is coming over the horizon. Any day that passes good or bad, you find a way to let go. By including the dolphin its shows the willingness to jump into something new from day to day. I see the Angelina fibre that I used as something that makes you think of the bright and shiny day ahead. I think of my work as a day to day journey through my eyes, the way that I somehow find a way to let go even if it's hard to forget.*





Hailey Lennon writes about her quilt: *My quilt displays the theme of New Beginnings because it is about new life in the world of horses. The young horses, called yearlings, that stand under a tree, represent new life in the world, with a bright mysterious future ahead. The sunrise background represents a new day to come for the yearlings and what adventures that they may explore. The yellow trees demonstrate sunshine coming through the bush to display what the light can bring for the young adventurous horses. The whole quilt is a representation New Beginnings: with*

new life comes new days that always bring "new opportunities" not just for the young horses but for everyone.



Fortnightly Focus



This fortnight we will be looking at how to identify the purpose of brackets and working with probability. Thanks Samantha and Nicholas for displaying the focus areas this fortnight.

Y Tally

Congratulations to the following students for displaying the school values and receiving the most Y's in the last fortnight. Don't forget to pick up your canteen vouchers!

Year 7 – Anthony Henderson

Year 8 – Samantha Pascoe

Year 9 – Lisa Johnson

Year 10 – Brandon Horne

Year 11 – Amy Kelly

YASS HIGH

Yr 9 Mini- Fete

- . Tye Dye Stall
- . Milkshakes
- . Car boot sale
- . Bake sale
- . BBQ sausage sizzle
- . Car Wash
- . Pizza
- . Live music
- . Basketball competition
- . Kebab stand
- . Food stand
- . Pie throwing
- . Chocolate toss
- . Face painting
- . AND MUCH MORE !!!!

FRIDAY 1st of December 1:25 pm -3:25 pm

Yass High School Quad

All funds raised go towards the Year 10 camp in 2018





TIME SCHEDULE

- 1.30 – 3.10pm Various FOOD STALLS running
- 1.30 – 3.10pm Face painting and chocolate toss
- 1.30 – 3.10pm Carwash
- 1.45 – 3.00pm LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES in the QUAD
- 2.00 – 3.25pm MOVIE THEATRE screening in PA1 and PA2
- 2.20pm Egg and Spoon Race
- 2.30 – 3.25pm Basketball shootout competition on basketball courts

3.20pm Mini-Fete concludes

YASS HIGH SCHOOL FETE

Carwash



Friday the 1st December

1.30pm-3.25pm

YASS HIGH SCHOOL QUAD

\$5 PER CAR

If you can drive it..... we can shine it ☺

the
power of
humanity



The Yass Red Cross branch invites you to attend

...AN EVENING ABOUT DEMENTIA

AN OPEN DISCUSSION WITH EXPERTS

This will be held in conjunction with Dementia
Australia (formerly known as Alzheimer's Australia)

DATE: Wednesday 22 November

TIME: 7pm for 7.30pm start

VENUE: Uniting Church Hall, Meehan Street, Yass

COST: \$15.00 per person (which includes supper provided by Red Cross)

Bookings not required

For further information please contact

Bronwyn Baker 0419 440 707

National Dementia Helpline

1800 100 500



dementia
australia™

Coming Events

| Date | Event |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Fri 17 Nov | Year 12 Formal |
| Wed 22 Nov | Engineers without Borders |
| Thu 23 – Fri 24 Nov | Peer Connect Training – Year 9 |
| Fri 24 Nov | Geography Zoo Excursion – Year 8 |
| Mon 27 – Tue 28 Nov | Courage to Care visit |
| Tue 28 Nov | Girl's Leadership Canberra Excursion |
| Wed 29 Nov & Fri 1 Dec | White Card course |
| Fri 1 Dec | Year 9 Mini-Fete 1.25pm – 3.25pm |
| Tue 5 Dec | Orientation Day – Year 7, 2018 |
| Tues 12 Dec | Scripture – Levi McGrath concert |
| Wed 13 Dec | Celebration Assemblies – times TBA |
| Thu 14 Dec | Presentation Evening |
| Fri 15 Dec | Last day of school |
| <p><u>Click on the school website for the online calendar</u></p> | |
| <p><u>Remember assessment tasks dates due are available on school website assessment calendars</u></p> | |