



YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Linda Langton

Deputy Principals: Andrew Facer & Ruth Riach

Year 12 Graduation

It was with great pride that we graduated our wonderful Year 12 cohort on Tuesday 17th November. The planned evening in the Quad went ahead smoothly with all COVID-safe regulations in place. Attendees registered through a QR code or on the attendance form. Seats were arranged in family clusters 1.5m apart. The stage was beautifully presented with full technological capacity (huge thanks to Mr Munn and his amazing Entertainment team). Portfolios with certificates, references and a USB with the video (thanks Mr Munn) of the school farewell day were prepared (thanks to Jess Dunn). The massive effort of determining the recipients (thanks to Ms Bills and Ms Wykes) of the many awards (from our supportive sponsors – we are so grateful for your continued support) ensured an evening that truly acknowledged and celebrated the many successes of this group of students.

The speeches ranged from entertaining (Bronwyn Kemp – 2019 Dux) to emotional (Ms Baines...Ms Bills...Tamara Brooker and Renee Kemp) but all were thoughtful, genuine and reflective of the strong relationships that exists throughout the Yass High School community. The stirring performance of “The Time of your Life” (Mrs Hansson, Jaime Burgess, Max Hansson) conveyed our wishes for wonderful memories of life at Yass HS. We applauded the class of 2020 as they exited with a final roll call. The ceremony ended with cake (individually wrapped – thanks Hailee Southwell) and bottles of water – all COVID-approved 😊

So many people made this event a reality. As a school we are delighted that we were able to host a Graduation event for Year 12 that families could attend in a year that has been characterised by change and uncertainty. Thank you to our students, staff and parents for the support that you have given the school this year.



Captains Corner

This week's staff member of the fortnight goes to Miss Bills! We have chosen Miss Bills because of her unmatched dedication to Yass High, particularly for her organisation of the successful Pink Day while she was away. She has been a continuous support for all students at Yass High for many years and provides brilliant support for the community and the school. She an inspiration for many Yass High students daily!

Once again, thank you Miss Bills!

Joke: I'm reading this book about anti-gravity... it's impossible to put down.



Yass High Pink Day

Pink Day 2020 was held on World Kindness Day November 13th. With the help of Berinba and Yass Public school, Yass High School was able to raise over \$6500 for CanAssist and Breast Cancer Network Australia. Yass High School's Year 9/10 Community classes put together a morning BBQ for the staff and cream pie throwing. Special thanks to Lia Gaspari and Mia Jephcott for organising the prizes for our raffle winners.



Thank you to Miss Pack, Mrs Dunley, Mr Harding, Miss Broadhead and Mrs Dunn for all their wonderful help. Many students went above and beyond with their support. Robbie Jephcott, Stacey Whyte, Kaila Lymbery, Hayden Starr, Maddi Irwin, Megan Kemp, Corinne Green, Nick Downey, Jordan Crisp, Josh Vale, Grace Bush (Yr 11), Zeke Groom, Cate Wells, Maeve Hughes, Charlie Beck, Cora Robbins, and Sean Bell.

Thank you Ms Halley-Barberis, Jackson Nash, Jorja Rawson, Hayley Hawker (Coffees) Tom Bell and Nick Hinds- BBQ

PINK DAY: 100 Club winners: Nat Rhodes- \$50 Linda Langton- \$20

Raffle Winners

Ben Thornely, Ali Brown, Marianne Wright, Ashlee Piper, Jemma North, James Harding,

Michael Williams, Ree Nicholson, Marianne Wright, Zeke Groom, Kelly Clarke, Leisa Doggett

Top 3 Roll Call Amounts

1. Oxley 3- Alchin \$189
2. Hovell 5- Laurent \$146.65
3. Sturt 5- Dunley \$141.05

Fashion Parade Winners – The Trolls



Yass High School's Pink Day Business Donors

Woolworths Yass
Millers Pharmacy
Yass Outdoor Sports & Camping store.
Murrumbateman Winery
Shaw's Winery
AutoPro Yass
Bargain Base
Subway
Narelle's Hair
Yass Guitars Lessons

Priceline Pharmacy
Firth Furnishings
Yass Appliances
Canberra Raiders
Country Charm
Belle Mere
Reece Bush
Bello Beauty
Robbo's Gym

And the many other wonderful people who donated prizes for the day.
We could not have raised the money without your help so a big thank you!





Driver Simulator Training

During Week 5, Year 10 students participated in the Rotary Driver Safety Simulator Program run jointly by the Rotary Clubs of Yass and Young. Students were put through a simulation of driving either under the influence of alcohol or using a mobile phone to experience the dangers of distraction on the safety of drivers, pedestrians and other road users.



All students appreciated the experience and gained some valuable insight into the importance of being safe and responsible road users. A big thank you to the Rotary Clubs for providing the simulator and for members giving their time to give students this opportunity.

Learning Hub Cooking

LH1 are cooking foods from different countries. On Friday 13th November we cooked a Mexican dish called nachos. We all had different jobs to do to create one big pot of nacho mince. Jake.

We watched the movie CoCo. This showed us how Mexico celebrates the Day of the Dead. The people painted their faces white and black. They partied to remember relatives that had passed already. In the movie Grandma Coco needed to remember her father as his spirit was disappearing. Isabelle



In Mexico they like to see their ancestors and remember them. They paint their faces white and black. The family unit is important to people in Mexico. Often the extended family all live together. Anthony

They like spicy foods like nachos, tacos, and burritos. They add lots of spices such as chilli. I don't like spicy food, but our nachos were delicious. Felicity

I learnt that Tacos come from Mexico. They were yummy. Chloe

My job was to stir the nacho mince. We added onion, carrot, zucchini, celery, corn and kidney beans. The chilli flakes made it spicy. Chester

We watched CoCo and we made nachos to learn about the culture in Mexico.

Emily.



Year 12 Food Technology students in the Learning Hub have been practising their safety and hygiene skills in the kitchen. They have enjoyed putting the theory work into practice. Hannah made a delicious meal of honey chicken and fried rice and Emily made burritos. Jake has made garlic croutons and nachos.



The Hawking Room

What do the following have in common? The Big Bang Theory TV Show, Star Trek Next Generation, The Simpsons and the The Hawking Room in the STEM Building.

If you couldn't guess it was Professor Stephen Hawking.

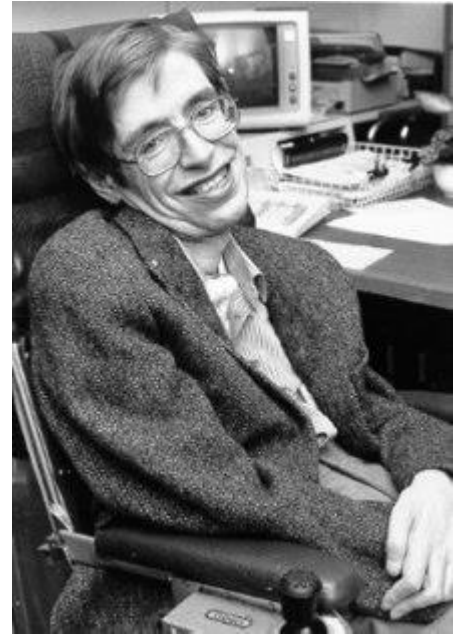
The Hawking room in the STEM building is named after the renowned theoretical physicist, cosmologist and author Stephen Hawking. Stephen Hawking was born in Oxford, England in 1942 and attended the University College at Oxford when he was 17 years old. He graduated from there with a first-class BA (Hons.) degree in physics. He went on to study at Cambridge where he obtained his PhD degree in applied mathematics and theoretical physics, specializing in general relativity and cosmology in March 1966. While studying at Cambridge he was diagnosed with an early-onset but slow progressing form of motor neuron disease (also known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease). This disease would slowly paralyze him resulting in his reliance on a motorized wheelchair to get around. Eventually, the disease took away his speech but he was able to communicate through a speech-generating device – initially operated by a handheld switch and then converted to a single cheek muscle. It was his collaboration with Roger Penrose that they discovered a way to be able to predict in theory that black holes emit radiation (now referred to as Hawking radiation). At the time their work was considered controversial with many other physicists disagreeing with them but later they were proven correct.

Hawking wrote a large number of books and his book called *A Brief History of Time* was on the best-selling list of the English paper the Sunday Times for 237 weeks. He was also known to voice his opinion on many of the great world debates such as the future of humanity, science vs philosophy and religion vs atheism and of course politics.

In 2018 Hawking died peacefully at home in Cambridge at the age of 76. Following the cremation, a service of thanksgiving was held at [Westminster Abbey](#) on 15 June 2018, after which his ashes were interred in the Abbey's [nave](#), between the graves of Sir [Isaac Newton](#) and [Charles Darwin](#).

Reference:

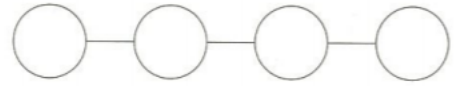
Wikipedia Stephen Hawking https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_Hawking



Stage 4 & 5 Problem of the Fortnight

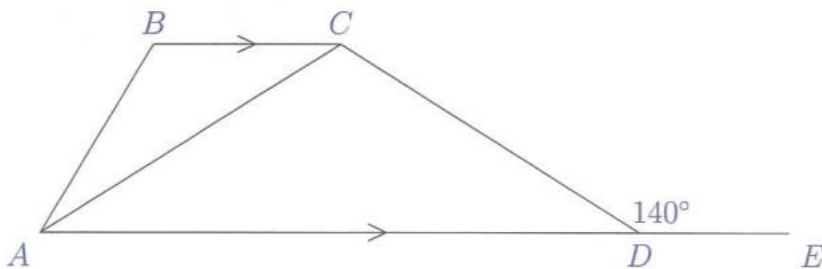
Stage 4:

In how many different ways can you place the numbers 1 to 4 in these four circles so that no two consecutive numbers are side by side?



Stage 5:

A quadrilateral $ABCD$ has $AD \parallel BC$, $AB = BC$ and $AC = CD$. The external $\angle CDE = 140^\circ$. What is the value, in degrees, of $\angle ABC$?



Y Tally:

Congratulations to the following students receiving the most Y's for the fortnight

Year 7: Kacey Butt

Year 8: Riley Gibbs

Year 9: Abdullah Rubbani

Year 10: Noah Groom

Year 11: Emily Fitzgibbons

Students of the Fortnight

Abbey Best



Diligently applying herself to every aspect of Drama and being an exemplary role model for her peers

Maddison Leahy



Consistently applying herself to a high standard in all aspects of PDHPE and Community Studies

Bailey Scheffler



Representing the school in the Ethics Olympiad and outstanding work in History

Chrissie Davis



Outstanding achievement in Year 11 Biology

James Lawrence



Outstanding animation in
Year 8 English

Tashi Phillips



Working exceptionally well in
Mathematics. Above and
beyond expectations

Grace Foster



Excellence in Technology
Mandatory

Jake Harrington



Enthusiastic return to school

Year 12 Graduation Speech 2020

Good evening parents, carers, families, staff...and most importantly, Year 12 students of 2020.

Graduation is always such a special occasion – the culmination of years of hard work, the realisation of goals attained and the celebration of successes achieved. Year 12 is commonly referred to as “the most important year of your life”. Wow! How’s that for pressure? Throw in a global pandemic and the class of 2020 has faced one of the biggest challenges of their lives. You have risen to the many challenges presented to you this year. You have accepted change stoically; re-positioned your learning with agility; pulled yourselves back up when everything around you seemed to be pulling you down. You have shown great resilience in navigating a year of continual change and unforeseen obstacles.

Author Elizabeth Edwards writes that “Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good.” You have done exactly that to complete your Year 12 studies and your HSC exams. You have believed in your ability to cope; identified and stayed connected to your sources of support; shared your personal journey with your friends, families and teachers; helped each other in times of need; purposefully stayed positive and determined to survive and succeed.

Above all, you have sought meaning for yourself by staying focused on your goals and working diligently towards attaining these. It is these skills which have given you the resilience necessary to move through 2020. The world is forever changed. Things will eventually get back to ‘normal’, but this will be a different standard than before 2020. Jobs will change; the skills that have been valued in the past may not be those most needed now; the ideas that may have once been fanciful can now be revolutionary. This is your moment. The future is yours to influence and design.

You have all the skills and talents necessary to succeed. Yass High School has shared your growth from the child who walked into this school in Year 7 to the young men and women seated here tonight. We have strengthened the values you have been taught at home through our focus on Respect, Responsibility, Safety and Learning.

You have developed maturity to deal with obstacles in your path; empathy to appreciate how others feel, kindness to be gentle with yourself and others; and, resilience to pick yourself up after adversity, dust yourself off and keep moving forward towards your goals. “It is your reaction to **adversity**, not the **adversity** itself, that determines how your life's story will develop.”

These values will be critical as you navigate the many character-defining moments that confront you in life and test your values and moral code. I challenge you to have courage to stay strong to your character. Do not be swayed by convenience or expediency. Your actions define you; your words explain you; your kindness connects others to you. Remember the special moments you have shared at Yass HS and value the people around you who have known you from childhood to adulthood. Long-term friends are hard to find and need to be cherished. They will be by your side in the darkest moments and keep you true to yourself as you flourish in the years ahead

I congratulate you all on your graduation this evening. The tears, tantrums, laughter and friendships have all been necessary steps towards tonight. Through success, you have understood your talents; through adversity, you have faced and overcome challenges and developed inner strength. You are ready for life beyond school, whatever that will look like for you.

I have many people to thank for making this evening possible.

On your behalf I would like to thank:

- your Year Advisor: Ms Baines for her guidance, care and compassion...and for always having a listening ear and saving you from yourselves when you needed it most.
- Ms Bills, Ms Baines, Ms Wykes and Mrs Dunn for their superb organisation of this event;
- Mr Munn and his Entertainment students for the technical and stage set up;
- Mrs Dunn for her detailed publishing;
- Mrs Riach for her support as your deputy;
- Ms Wykes for the guidance and advice she has offered for life after school;
- every teacher who has known, cared for and valued you throughout your time at Yass High.

Thank you to parents, carers and families for your love for and support of your wonderful children and for trusting them to us for this important part of their lives. We share your mixed feelings of sadness, joy and pride as we farewell our Year 12 group.

As you leave the comfort and structure of school, look forward to what lies ahead. This is the start of the rest of your life. Seize this moment to create your own life story. Use your gifts of intelligence, kindness, compassion and empathy to make a difference in your community, your country and your world.

The knowledge and skills that you have gained from your time at school will not determine what lies ahead for each of you; it is what you will learn in the next stage of your lives that will advance you as a person. Live your life with passion for your ideals, kindness to others and service to your community. Contribute to the world that your generation will lead. Leave it in a better state than that which you have inherited it. Make an impact...ensure your life has meaning for yourself and others.

Farewell Year 12. Our best wishes for the future and strong belief in your ability to achieve anything you desire go with you.

Thank you