



# YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Linda Langton

Deputy Principals: Andrew Facer & Ruth Riach

## From the Principal

I am writing to you from the midst of a very quiet school as we end Term 1. I reflect on our first assembly of the year when we welcomed Year 7 into our school community, recognised the introduction of Year 11 into the senior school and focused Year 12 on their last three terms of school. The year we envisaged was one that followed the same routines, milestones, events and expectations of every other school year. My how the world has changed!

Within the last three weeks, our school has totally re-imagined how we teach and learn, connect with each other, care for each other and continue to work towards achieving our goals. Although the **process** of doing each of these things has changed, the **reasons** remain the same.

I would like to acknowledge the amazing talents of all staff as they have moved into a new way of working with agility, determination, great skill and enduring care for their students. Many of us have had to very quickly learn how to use new technologies for providing learning opportunities, maintaining communication and still connecting authentically with your children.

We are so proud of the way in which our students have adapted to learning in this environment. Work is accessed through on-line platforms such as Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams, conversations are occurring remotely in the Zoom and Teams worlds and work is being submitted online. The resilience and commitment of our young people towards maintaining their drive towards success is a strong statement on their character as local and global citizens.

My most heartfelt appreciation is directed towards our parents and carers. Overnight you have embraced a greater responsibility for guiding the learning of your children in a largely on-line environment that is unfamiliar to many.

Please be assured that what you are doing is good enough – even if it looks different from what other parents or carers are doing.

Your children's teachers still have the responsibility and oversight for the education of every child and will make sure that you know if there are any academic or wellbeing concerns that arise.

This challenging task has been exacerbated by the self-isolation and social distancing regulations in force across communities. I know that your children are missing the social interactions that occur in and out of school; they are missing the connections with their teachers and support staff, as well as the comfort of the structure that school provides (and against which a few rally from time to time!).

Like you, I find the uncertainty of Term 2 difficult. You are trying to organise how your family will manage over a possibly extended period of isolation and distancing; we are trying to plan for continuation of remote teaching and learning, as well as for the resumption of 'normal' school when it occurs. It is important that, for families who are able to do so, children continue to be kept at home and engage in the current mode of learning. It is very difficult to maintain social distancing at school for more than a very few number of students. Teachers are increasingly being directed to work from home to assist with this social distancing and most of our casual teachers have indicated that they are not available for employment until the COVID-19 situation is resolved. Even though I am sure that the temptation to return your children to school next term is high, I remind you that schools are open for children of essential workers (and, yes, this definition is hazy); our ability to staff the supervision of larger numbers of students is low and would ultimately require teachers being moved for certain days off remote teaching platforms and into classrooms to supervise students at school. Active teaching will not resume until the Department of Education directs a return to normal duties.

Thankfully the Easter break has arrived! I hope that, as a family, you are able to take time to rest, re-charge and re-invigorate for the next stage. Please encourage your children to have a holiday and to build exercise, enjoyment and rest into their days. I thank you for the huge amount of support that we have received at school. Please know that we are here to help you and your children in any way that we can. I know that we will all emerge stronger both personally and as a community when this ends...and it will.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter and look forward to continuing to work with you in Term 2.

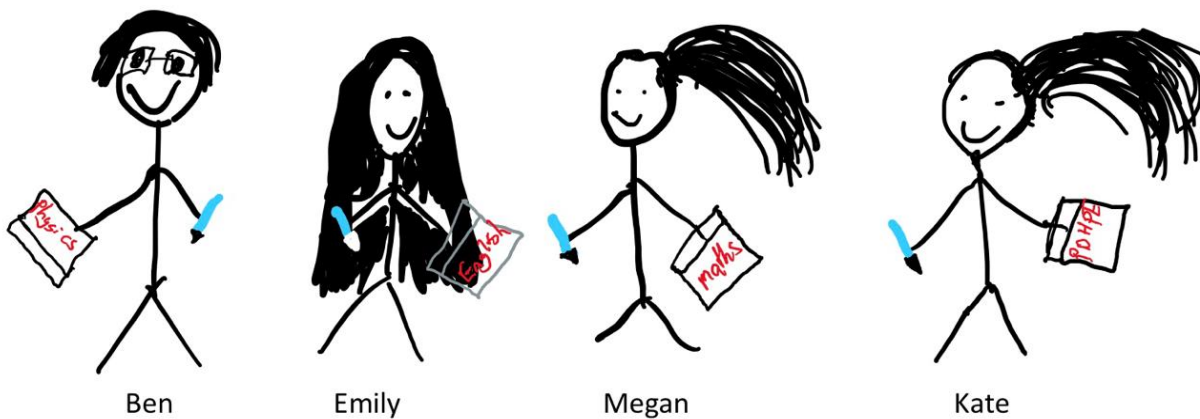
## Captains Corner

Hey guys, we hope everyone is looking after themselves and working hard at home. The four of us are certainly missing seeing everyone's faces at school and we're incredibly excited for the day we can go back. We would like to say the biggest THANK YOU to every single one of the teachers and staff at Yass High for your amazing work in adapting to this new way of learning; your efforts are greatly appreciated by everyone!

Just like everyone else, we are still getting used to learning remotely from our homes, and although it isn't ideal we are certainly enjoying the company of our new classmates - Oscar and Ollie. Below Oscar (left) and Ollie (right) are showing off a few of the new school uniform choices for remote learning at Yass High!



Due to social distancing we couldn't get our photo so here is a stick figure drawing of us all.



Joke of the week: Post Malone postponed his concerts, does that make him Postponed Malone?

## YHS Year Advisor Profiles

In each InTouch a small insight will be given into a particular Year Advisor, what they do, and how they help our students at YHS.

### Ree Nicholson - Year Nine Year Advisor

Hi my name is Ree and no it's not short for anything. I am the current Year 9 Adviser.

I have been teaching English and History at Yass High since 2016. Before that I was teaching at Bourke where I was posted after graduating University. However, whilst I have studied and taught in NSW, my blood runs maroon, being born and raised on the Sunshine State.

I love films, funky fashion and dogs especially when you can combine all three. When I am not teaching, you will find me snuggling with my dogs Teddy and Bosley.

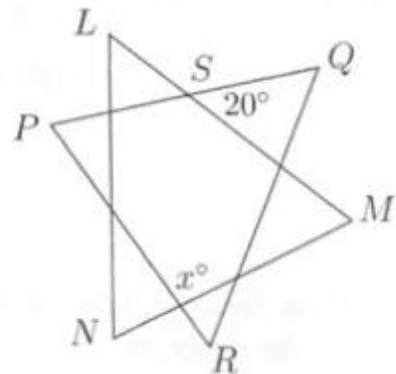


## Stage 4 & 5 Problem of the Fortnight

### Stage 4:

In the diagram, triangles  $PQR$  and  $LMN$  are both equilateral and  $QSM = 20^\circ$ .  
What is the value of  $x$ ?

- (A) 70 (B) 80 (C) 90 (D) 100 (E) 110



### Stage 5:

Two rectangular prisms are constructed. One measures 4 cm X 6 cm X  $x$  cm and the other measures 3 cm X 8 cm X  $y$  cm are integers. If they have equal surface area, what is the smallest possible value of  $x + y$ ?



## Before and After's

Last year we had the opportunity to have Nicole Godding, a wonderful local photographer, come to Yass High and take professional photos of our students and their learning environment. The photos included shots of the different learning areas and our very talented music kids.



The music room can be a challenge sometimes, with strange high-pitched squeaks, music notes not quite being hit and the odd xylophone bouncing on the floor...but when the talent shines through and the band plays it's pure magic.



*Music then: the music room filled with our talented band playing with so much enthusiasm  
Music now: it's so different in here now.*



*IL Space then: Mr Roberts and his year 11 class enjoying the learning space.  
IL Space now: it's dark and lonely.*





*The quad then: students enjoying conversation and laughter  
The quad now: no one about.*





*The Hall then: full of students and teachers!*

*The Hall now: a very different place.*

When Mrs Langton asked me recently to take some photos of the same spaces now to illustrate the difference, I was happy to oblige. I didn't realise how upsetting and strange comparing these images would be. Walking into the empty Hall, a quiet music room, a dark classroom and a sad quad really hit me. For starters, the Hall is usually bustling with activity, announcements, teachers reminding students to take their hats off, cheering and clapping. Today it was cold and creaky.

The quad always has the sounds of students laughing and singing. It's generally a very happy place with friendships forming and conversations getting louder and more urgent. But today it was a tad gloomy. I have to say though...it was very clean. Not a single wrapper or food scrap on the cement!

Even though you are learning in a different place and your routines have changed, always remember that we are here for you and we miss you, our wonderful Yass High School students. Be safe, stay happy and look after each other.

Sam Boughton



## Flexible Teaching and Learning

Our teachers have adapted to working partially from home, and we wanted to know what the best bits about this new arrangements are.



Mrs Halley-Barberis: working flexibly from home is wearing your slippers all day as appropriate footwear!



Working flexibly from home has been a bit lonely, I'm missing being around my students and colleagues. However, my dog Henrietta has been enjoying me working from home!  
Hannah Joseph

Mrs Dwyer is enjoying wearing her trackies ...and the close proximity of the chocolate fridge!



Working from home is.....sometimes boring without friends, so Ms.Vale likes to look through the dress up box before meetings with colleagues.

## Y Tally

The Y Tally continues, even through remote learning! Save your InTouch until we are all back at school and the canteen is up and running – your vouchers will be ready to be collected and used then.

Year 7:	Alerya Brayshaw	13
Year 8:	Ella Widdows	11
	Lachlan Leister	11
Year 9:	Alexander Gomersall	25
Year 10:	Noah Groom	14
Year 11:	Mitchell Starr	10
	Emily Fuller	10
Year 12:	Megan Kemp	10
	Dylan Huey	10
	Millicent Duncan	10



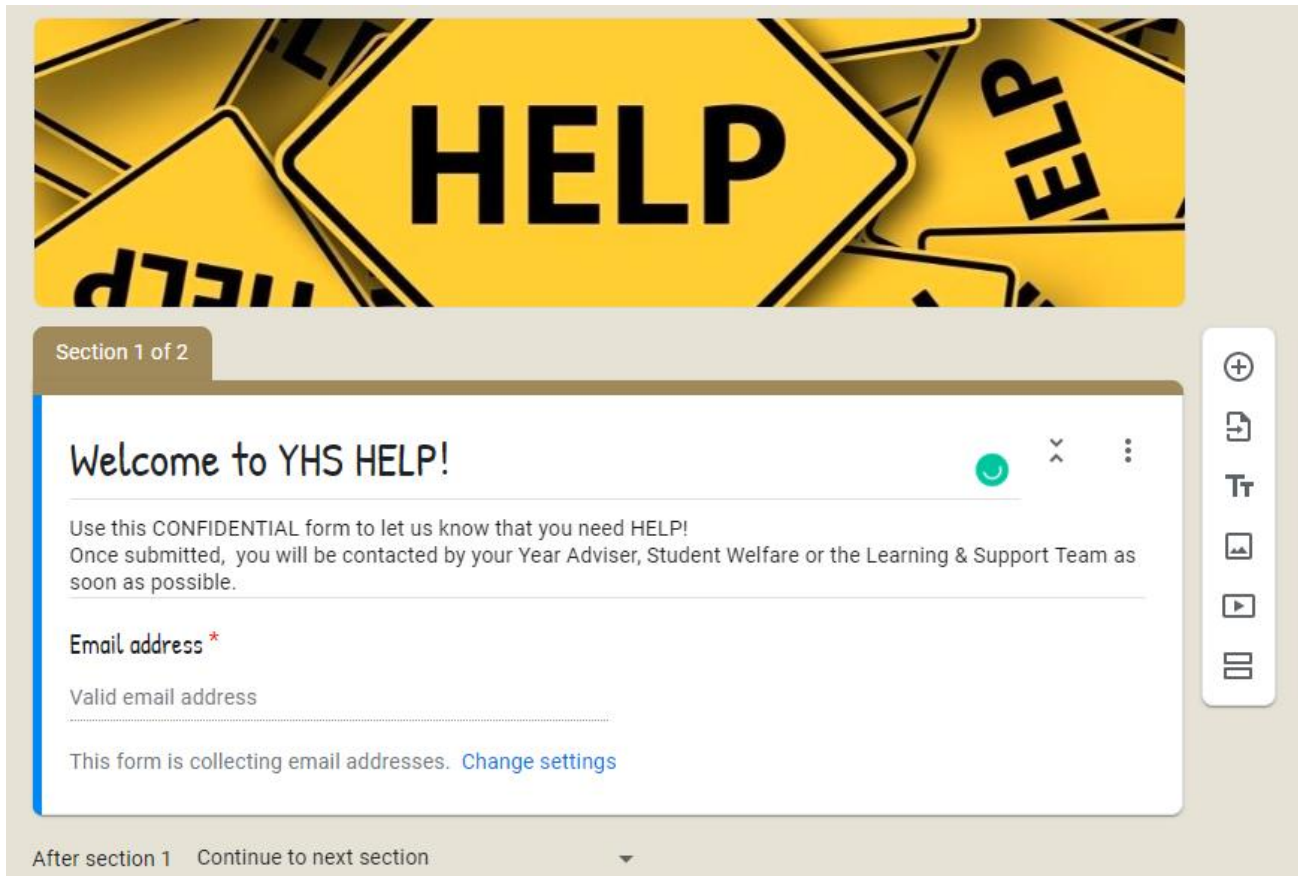
## Home Schooling at the Langton's

Meet Maddie Langton. She is 18 months old (equivalent to Year 7 in human terms), and her carer is struggling with some discipline issues! Her latest infraction is damage to property (see photo below) and we think this calls for a short (4 day) suspension!



## YHS Help! Button

All students have access to the YHS Help! button on their individual year group's class Wellbeing pages. Please encourage your child to use this if they need help contacting staff at school for assistance with their school work or wellbeing.



Students can also call Kids Help Line for free 24hour online and phone counselling services at any time.



Mrs Ward has put together some helpful hints around learning at home. Find them [here](#).



# ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM AND COVID-19



**All updated information on how the Department of Education is responding to COVID-19 can be found at**

**<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-safety/novel-coronavirus>**

**Please check this website regularly.**

**Please ensure you follow strict hygiene processes.**  
**See the website above.**



**The ASTP will continue services as normal for students. We will advise you of any changes as they occur.**

**Are you a school?**

**Please notify the ASTP immediately if your school is closed or a student on transport is unwell. Why? ASTP transport runs begin well before school starts. The ASTP needs as much notice as possible.**

**Please liaise with parents to notify the ASTP when a student can resume travel.**

**Are you a parent?**

**Please notify your driver if your child is unwell and not going to be attending school.**

**Why? The driver needs as much notice as possible.**

**Please talk to your school about notifying the ASTP when your child can resume transport.**

**Please note that the Department will continue to take advice from NSW Health and the Australian Chief Health Officer about COVID-19**

**education.nsw.gov.au**