



YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Linda Langton

Deputy Principals: Andrew Facer & Ruth Riach

From the Principal

As Term 1 draws to a speedy conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the teachers and students, as well as the great support that we receive from our families.

Planning for the next 4-year cycle of school improvement has been a major focus this term. Thank you to the many students, parents and carers who provided feedback that resulted in the formation of our three Strategic Directions:

1. Student growth and attainment
2. High expectations culture
3. Educational leadership

These targets place students at the centre of all our decisions and use of resources.

Construction of the new school Hall will commence in Term 2. This will involve movement of existing demountables with some being relocated to the park and others being removed from the school. With contractors back on site, students have been asked to park at Victoria Park to ensure that we have adequate spaces for the construction team, project management team and visitors.



1 April 2021

We will be targeting attendance next term in response to data that shows an increase in partial attendance (mostly due to late arrivals) and a decrease in whole day attendance. Mr Matthews, our Attendance Officer, will be contacting families to discuss any student concerns and explaining the support that the school can offer. Attendance letters will be sent home in Weeks 5 and 9 to the families of students whose attendance is below 85%. In addition to this, Mr Matthews, Mr Facer and Mrs Riach work closely with our HSLO (Home School Liaison Officer) to track students with low attendance and provide interventions for improvement. The HSLO will also support improved attendance through student interviews and parent/carer meetings.

The HSC monitoring processes followed by teachers of Stage 6 classes have been reviewed and validated. This provides evidence that NESAs, Department of Education and school policies and procedures are being used effectively to support our senior students to achieve their HSC qualification.

Our strong P&C team remains active in its continued work and unending care for Yass HS. The recent AGM appointed the following positions:

- Mrs Michelle Thornely as President
- Mr David Thornely and Ms Beth Bird as Vice-Presidents
- Mrs Simone Hughes as Secretary
- Mrs Belinda Banfield as Treasurer
- Mrs Alison Horton as Publicity Officer.

New members are always welcome. The P&C meets at 6pm on the first Thursday of each month. The meeting this week on the evening of the last school day has been cancelled due to family commitments of many of the team. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 6th May (Term 2 Week 3).

Thank you to everyone for continuing to build our school into a centre of excellence.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to a productive Term 2.

Linda Langton

Show Team – Canberra Royal Cattle Show

The end of February saw us attend the Royal Canberra Cattle Show with 4 steers and 19 students. It was a great success for both students and cattle and congratulations to the students for their efforts in representing the school in our first show in over 12 months. The students competed well in parade with several students gaining places in their class, and displayed great comradery. This was particularly obvious with the senior students and their mentoring of the juniors in preparing for their classes. We had a number of students who were only attending their first show and being so early in the year have had very little time to learn these new skills but despite this handled themselves and the cattle exceptionally well. The only dampener on the event was the torrential rainstorms that interrupted judging at times.



The cattle themselves also competed well and we managed to win the heavyweight class with Unit as well as place third and fourth in the middleweight class with Cookies n' Cream and Salt n' Pepper. Unfortunately, Heracles did not place in the export class. The results received for the cattle on the hook we again placed first in the heavyweight class and second in the middleweight class. These were great results to start the year and our hearty congratulations to the other winners at Coonamble High School and St John's College Dubbo both of which we have strong relationships with through the Show Team. An added bonus to the judging was that Emily Polsen (a past student and member of the Show Team) was Associate Judge after winning the Junior Judging Competition at last year's Canberra Show.



As always, we need to acknowledge our supporting breeders, Su McClusky who bred Unit, and Ben & Leanne Toll who bred both Cookies n' Cream and Salt n' Pepper. We are currently preparing steers for the next show being the South Coast Steer Spectacular in early May as well as selecting cattle for the Spring shows later in the year.





Out on the Farm

As always there are lots of things happening on the farm. One of the two main things have been the seniors working on preparing the paddocks for sowing. This has been hampered by the ongoing rain, but we have managed to spread new pasture seed at the top paddocks and are now close to being able to sow forage brassica in the bottom farm paddocks. The seniors have been aided by some of the juniors out of the Pathways class in getting the ground prepared for sowing.





Year 10 Ag have been preparing for the artificial insemination program of the school's ewes which happens on Wednesday 31/3/21 by John Hall of Livestock Breeding Services. They will then be following the ewes through as they get pregnancy scanned later in the year and then managing the ewes during lambing in September.

The other major event is the renovation of the main steer pen at the bottom farm. The fence has been removed and is awaiting rebuilding by the Primary Industries classes once the ground has sufficiently settled after some drainage works were carried out by Scorgies Earthmoving. This combined with a new feeding area will allow the steers to be worked in a separate area to feeding and allow steers at different stages of preparation to be managed more easily.



Ploughing into the Holidays,
Agriculture Department.



Pathways

The Pathways class recently had the opportunity to go out to local property Yanawee run by Mrs Harding and her son Andrew. They were there to participate in constructing a fence for erosion and environmental management. Students had the chance to learn new skills including the use of specialised equipment.



It was also a great opportunity to try something new and also to demonstrate the use of Maths and Science in the real world. The boys worked hard throughout the day until they ran out of materials to keep working.

Students of the Fortnight

Mylee Jenkins



Consistent and outstanding work in Music and Visual Art

Charlotte Burke



Consistent application and positive attitude to learning

Kurt Marshall



Commitment and desire to achieve in Sport and Recreation

Joshua Vale



Excellent assessment work in both Chemistry and Physics

Stage 4 & 5 Problem of the Fortnight

Stage 4:

My sister and I are playing a game where she picks two counting numbers and I have to guess them. When I tell her a number, she multiplies my number by her first number and then adds her second number.

When I say 15 she says 50. When I say 2, she says 11.

If I say 6, what should she say?

Stage 5:

Manny has three ways to travel the 8 kilometres from home to work: driving his car takes 12 minutes, riding his bike takes 24 minutes and walking takes 1 hour and 44 minutes. He wants to know how to get to work as quickly as possible in the event that he is riding his bike and gets a flat tyre.

He has 3 strategies:

- 1) If he is close to home, walk back home and then drive his car
- 2) If he is close to work, just walk the rest of the way
- 3) For some intermediate distances, spend 20 minutes fixing the tyre and then continue riding his bike

He knows there are two locations along the route to work where the strategy should change. How far apart are they?

Intouch interview- John Cockburn

John Cockburn was a wireless (radio operator) operator for the royal Australian air force in the second world war. John applied for the aircrew but was not successful as he was color blind with the colors red and green, so he applied to be a wireless operator. John was an inspiration to talk to as his life advise to get to 100 is cigarettes, whisky and wild wild women. For John's 100th birthday on Sunday 28/3/2021 the students of Yass High School gave him over 200 cards.



NON-ATTENDANCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM



WHAT IS THIS? Mass interviews of students who has been identified has having attendance below the legal requirement of 95%.



AIM OF THE PROGRAM: To identify attendance problems early and work together [Parents, student, school and HSLO] to develop strategies personalised to the student's situation to lead to a higher percentage of attendance.



THE MASS INTERVIEW: If your child fits the above criteria they may be taken out of class, asked to complete a short questionnaire and interviewed by a Home School Liaison. The student's reasons for non-attendance, and possible solutions, are discussed. If the officer feels that support, either from the school or the community, would be beneficial to the student the officer may later refer to the appropriate services. On completion of the interview the student will be given a letter to take home.

TUESDAY

WHEN:



Home School Liaison Officers are mandatory reporters. Implications and legal requirements will be pointed out to the student.

State-wide Career Expo



My Journey

Virtual Career Expo

28th April 2021 9am - 5pm

Sponsored by



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myjourney.vfairs.com



My Journey Virtual Career Expo is designed to connect young people with employers, post-school education and training providers and youth support services to help them make informed decisions about their future careers.

Featuring exhibitors from:

- Universities, Higher Education Colleges
- Accommodation and Education support services
- TAFE and Private Training Organisations
- Apprenticeship Centres
- Group Training Companies
- Employers from varied industries
- Youth services
- Career support organisations



Enter the virtual world, chat with the exhibitors and download information into your virtual Backpack. The information you collect will be emailed to you for future reference.

To register for the My Journey Virtual Career Expo:

- 1 Go to myjourney.vfairs.com and register as an attendee.
- 2 Log on during the event (28th April 9am - 5pm).
- 3 Explore the two exhibition halls.
- 4 Attend the webinars that are of interest to you.
- 5 Parents and carers are welcome to register for this event.

Coming Events

Date	Event
Thursday 1 April	Last Day Term 1
	Year 12 Celebration Assembly
Monday 19 April	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 20 April	Students Return to School
Thursday 22 April	South Coast Open Touch Trials
	Drama Workshop Years 7 - 10
Friday 23 April	Girls Zone Tennis
Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 May	South Coast Schools Steer Spectacular
Thursday 6 May	School Athletics Carnival