



# YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Sandra Hiscock

Relieving Deputy Principal: Ruth Riach

IN TOUCH

## From the Principal

**Exams, Reports and Plans:** Congratulations to our Year 11 achievers whose HSC Preliminary Year Reports and Awards were distributed at a well-attended celebration assembly last Friday 23rd October. The exam outcomes and teacher comments provide a good basis for students to plan their approach to their HSC courses for the coming year. From this week the Careers Adviser and I will be interviewing each student to offer support in planning and to ensure that their chosen subject options adequately address their academic and career aspirations and potential.

**The HSC exams** continue with students and staff generally responding positively to the “challenging but fair” mostly English, Maths and Science papers which have been completed so far.

**Ag Achievements at Murrumbateman, Illabo and Scone:** Once again our show team and the agriculture and primary industries students and staff are to be commended for the impressive exhibits and achievements at the Murrumbateman Field Days, and the Illabo Sheep and Scone Cattle shows. Mr Armour’s YHS Agriculture Stand at Murrumbateman won best display award and the full details of the show team’s successes are detailed elsewhere in this InTouch.



Oct 30th 2015



Many thanks to the musicians who performed so impressively and the students and staff who hosted the school display over the two days of the Murrumbateman Field Days: much positive feedback was received about the school's profile at the event.

Garage Sale Clean Up: Almost \$1000 was made for the school from the sale of old furniture and equipment as well as farm produce at last weekend's garage sale: many thanks to staff, parents and students who supported the day.

**Funding for 2016:** The school has received notification of its funding for 2016 using the new Resource Allocation Mode (RAM) which is needs-based, consistent with the recommendations of the Gonski Review. The RAM funding is allocated according to identified needs, some support being for the entire school, and some for particular groups of students or individual students. Accountability for how the funds are used occurs through the annual report and aligns with priorities from the collaboratively developed school plan.



Some aspects of the RAM are

1. Equity loadings which include

- socio-economic background (\$49,184): the rate of this funding is per student based on a combination of individual student and school need using the Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI) from student/parent enrolment information
- Aboriginal background (\$16,32): reflects both percentage and number of Aboriginal students in the school
- low level adjustment for disability (\$39,433): based on the number of students in regular classes with low level disability and learning support needs

2. Base school allocation and operation grants which include

- per capita on enrolments (\$33,269) - new in 2016
- professional learning allocation for all staff (\$47,326) - an additional \$15,00 from 2015
- location loading (\$30,88): recognises remoteness and isolation – disadvantage due to distance from other schools, the additional cost of goods and services, and the capacity for teacher professional learning

3. Targeted (individual student) funding: specific support for individual students who require high or moderate level adjustment for disability

A suite of materials has also been developed to assist school communities to understand the RAM. This information is available on the Department's website <http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/about-the-department/our-reforms/local-schools-local-decisions/reform-agenda/resource-allocation-model>



## From the Deputy

Term 4 is well and truly underway, with students preparing for assessments and exams in their different subjects. Our year 12 students have nearly finished the HSC with just geography and visual arts to go. One of the students mentioned to me that the best studying is done on a nightly basis, just summarising the work done in class that day, and making sure they understood the key concepts taught. Try adding a little study into your student's every day daily routine, and see what a difference it makes.

Another way to improve individual results is through attendance, which is not only compulsory; it has a huge impact on both the learning and long term outcomes of our students. The law in NSW places the responsibility on parents, to ensure their child is enrolled at a government or non-government school and attends the school whenever teaching is provided. There are of course exceptions to this, including when students are sick or other special family circumstances.

It is part of the school's obligation to ensure that absences are not only recorded, but that there is prompt follow up for absent students. To do this, Yass High School will send a text if your student is unexpectedly absent. Our hard working SASS staff do their best to ensure that our records are accurate, so if you have kept your child home due to illness, or other reasons, please call the school (62261711) and let us know so we don't bother you with a text.



## Captains Corner

Hello... is it us you're waiting for? I can see it in your eyes, I can see it in your smile, and we're all you've ever wanted and more.

We are your 2016 captains and will be taking over this corner from now on! Thank you to the 2015 captains for creating this tradition to keep you updated on what is happening around the school.

Now to the important business, our first teacher of the week goes to Ms Blake. As well as being a wicked maths teacher, she also helped us from the beginning of the daunting process for captain, from the interviews to the speeches, to the induction, she was always there!

Finally last but not least your favourite part, the joke of the week!

What do you call a belt made out of watches?

A waist of time!



## RMC Band Excursion

On Tuesday morning we went to Canberra to see the RMC (Royal Military College) Band. The band is made up of approximately 60 players, comprising both full time and part time cadets. We were the youngest audience members by far and with a hushed anticipation of the fantastic concert ahead we rose to join in the National Anthem led by Ms Wilkinson (singer).

I particularly liked the James Bond theme Skyfall, as performed by the singer with the most amazing breath control. - Zoe

Fantasy of Flight was my favourite piece, which had 10 movie themes by John Williams (including Harry Potter) all joined together. - Rhiannon

The singer was awesome; I enjoyed the bus trip (singing /ukulele playing). - Piper

The depth and volume of the music was thrilling. My favourite piece was Skyfall. – Jordana

After the concert we went to the mall to eat lunch and have a little free time to do some window shopping as we didn't have any money!! - Tess

Both the bassoon and trombone were terrific; I couldn't pick which song I liked best as they were all great. On the trip home we all sang and talked about the band and the instruments we liked. After an amazing experience it was time to head back to school.- Ashleigh

A big thank you to Ms Olzomer who took us on the excursion.



Lance Corporal Elspeth McGregor, a flautist with the band jumped in the photo with her old high school. Also pictured are Major David Bird and Captain Matthew O'Keefe.

## Aurora College

Aurora College is a Virtual Selective on-line High School providing students in rural and remote areas the chance to study specialist subjects using the latest technology. I started with Aurora in 2015 studying in a virtual classroom Maths, English and Science. All my other subjects are in mainstream classrooms at Yass High School.

Twice a year, the students and staff of Aurora go to Sydney for a week. Last week was one such week, most of us got there on Sunday night and the week was packed full of interesting lessons and excursions around Sydney. Year 8 got to go to the Powerhouse Museum and participate in activities to do with Mars Rovers and electronics, as well as explore the museum. After the Powerhouse Museum we went to the University of Technology Sydney where we learnt a bit about coding and made our own versions of Flappy Bird as well as a tour of the University. In short it was a really great week and I would recommend Aurora to anyone who likes a challenge. – Bronwyn Kemp



Bronwyn with her Galaxy Award In recognition of sustained dedication at Aurora College

## Greenlight Driver Course

On the 8th October 25 Year 10 boys attended the Greenlight Youth Driver Education Course. The program was facilitated by Motorvation Mobile, a unique driver training provider with a strong focus on driver psychology, attitude change and risk reduction. The students used a mobile training facility that included two world class driving simulators and had the opportunity to drive a vehicle under instruction in a safe off-road environment.



They were taught strategies to help them reduce risk and improve their understanding of vehicle technology, road laws, safety features and spatial awareness. The boys gained much from the day and came away with strategies that can help to make them safer drivers when they gain their provisional license.



## Sculpture in the Paddock

On the beautiful sunny morning of Monday October 12<sup>th</sup> Year 9 and 10 sculpture students returned to Cooma Cottage to collect their sculptures from the recent exhibition. Along with them came Al Phemister (local sculptor and organiser of SITP), Suzie Bleach and Andy Townsend (the two sculptors who worked with students), Ms Hiscock, the local paparazzi and our art staff Ms O'Sullivan and Ms Vandermeys.



Not only were the students taking down their part of the exhibition but so were other artists removing their sculpture from the paddock (Eg. Suzie and Andy had their blue horse sculpture in the trailer). Besides this a presentation was held to thank the students for their excellent work and present them with encouragement awards in the form of a set of rasps and a lump or two of soapstone. Students and staff also thanked and gave gifts to the artists.



## Murrumbateman Field Days

Yass High School put together another wonderful display at the Murrumbateman Field Days this year. The school won “Best Agricultural Educational Exhibitor” – a fantastic effort from all staff, students and community involved. The band and music students entertained the crowds, and the exhibition with student works and archives was well received.







**Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
October 2015**



**Jonah Smith**

**Year 10**

For his Musical Contribution at  
the Garage Sale

**Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
October 2015**



**Emily Polsen**

**Year 10**

For Displaying Outstanding  
Responsibility and Leadership with  
the Show Team and  
Murrumbateman Field Days



## HAVE AN INQUIRING MIND? LEARNING LABS WILL CHALLENGE YOU!

To apply visit: [www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/llapplicationform](http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/llapplicationform) closing 3 November, 2015

Learning Labs is an academic enrichment program for high achieving students in Year 7 to Year 10. Workshops are held in the January school holidays. All workshops are held over two days and cover a range of disciplines, presented by university academics and specialists who are experts in their field.

### LEARNING LABS

For students in Years 7 to 10 during the **2015** school year.

**When:** 21 - 22 January, 2016

**Fee:** \$160

**Where:** UOW Main Campus & iC Campus

For more information about individual workshops, sponsored places and how to apply, please visit [www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/learninglabs](http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/learninglabs) or contact Sarah Smith at [sarsmith@uow.edu.au](mailto:sarsmith@uow.edu.au)

#### A note for schools:

Places for this program fill up quickly. Please distribute this information to students whom you think would benefit from the program as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

# A TASTE OF THE WORKSHOPS...

## Learning Labs (Years 7–10 only)

### **3D PRINTING AND CAD MODELLING: BECOME A MAKER!**

Begin your journey to become a 3D designer and maker using our 3D printers and software.

### **CREATIVE WRITING FOR BEGINNERS AND BEYOND**

A practical, hands on workshop that will give you dozens of techniques to use the written word.

### **FANTASY: FILM AND FICTION**

During this workshop we will trespass a little into the "Perilous Realms" of Faerie in film and literature, hoping to gain some insight regarding the popularity and significance of Fantasy within our culture.

### **HISTORY - WEIRD WILD CONSPIRACIES**

This interactive workshop will look at some of the most famous conspiracies and ask some important questions that will challenge you.

### **INTRODUCTION TO BUILDING VIDEO GAMES**

A crash course introduction into the world of game construction, you'll be constructing your own game to learn how it's done.

### **LEGAL ETHICS**

Be prepared to think, argue and have fun in this challenging workshop.

### **LET'S GET PHYSICAL**

Are you interested in how the body functions? In this workshop we will use anatomical, physiological and biomechanical concepts and measurements to look at the integration of different body systems involved in exercise.

### **NERDS, GEEKS AND FANDOM**

This workshop always brings out the passion in people! We are going to explore the relationship between content creators, audiences and pop culture fandoms.

### **PAINTING: THE LIFE OF THINGS**

This workshop will challenge your painting skills, you'll be working in our visual arts studio to create a variety of paintings.

### **THE POWER OF IMAGINATION: AN ACTOR IN ACTION**

A practical workshop that uses exercises, games and theatre texts to kick-start and maintain your investigation of performance and the theatre.

## Learning Labs (Year 7– 8 Only)

### **BRAIN CHALLENGE**

Learn to think outside the box in this workshop. Prepare to be challenged...

### **CRAZY CONTRAPTIONS USING LEGO NXT EV3 ROBOTICS**

Design and build elaborate mechanical and programmable contraptions. Bring your creative thinking and engineering skills.

### **MYTHBUSTING PHYSICS**

Interested in what physics is and how physics influences our day to day life? Work with our School of Physics experts to debunk common myths in our society.

## Learning Labs (Years 9–10 Only)

### **OCEAN ENGINEERING**

Work in UOW's ocean engineering facilities using the wave tank and other hydrodynamic equipment to explore and apply method, analysis and testing of floating structures and much much more.

### **MYTHBUSTING PHYSICS – ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS**

Learn key concepts, carry out hands-on experiments and run computer simulations to solve the real-world problem of designing energy efficient buildings. You'll be making use of the brand new Sustainable Buildings Research Centre (SBRC) at Innovation Campus.

To apply visit: [www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/llapplicationform](http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/llapplicationform) closing 3 November, 2015



## **Aunty Jean's** ***"Let's Keep our Mob Healthy"***

Are you interested in providing healthy meals at a low cost to you and your family?

Would you like to increase your level of physical activity?

Are you interested in health education?

Do you suffer from chronic or complex health conditions?

Heart Disease, Stroke, Diabetes, Kidney disease, chronic airways disease, asthma or emphysema?

Do you want to meet people, have fun and improve your overall wellbeing?

**If you answered YES to any of the above questions then the Aunty Jeans Yass may be the answer for you!**

**When: Every Wednesday Starting 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Where: Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation**

**Address: 147 Meehan Street Yass**

**Time: 10:30am – 2:00pm**

The Aboriginal Health Worker who runs the Aunty Jeans Program.

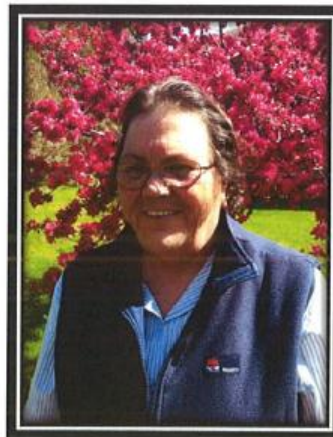
- Brenda Flint **62202139**

**A healthy lunch is provided**  
**Sessions only runs during the school term**

**What to bring with you?**

Comfortable clothes, enclosed shoes and any medication you may need to take throughout the sessions!

EG. Puffers, insulin etc.



## Coming Events

Date	Event
Mon 2/11	P & C Meeting 7pm all welcome
Mon 9/11 – Tue 17/11	Year 8 Valid Science
Fri 13/11	Year 12 Formal
Fri 20/11	Year 10 Rewards excursion
Mon 23/11	Scripture
Thur 26/11	Jewish Excursion Year 9 & 10
Thur 3/12	Year 7 2016 Orientation Day
Mon 7/12	P & C Meeting 7pm all welcome
Wed 09/12	Rewards Excursion Year 9
Thur 10/12	Presentation Night
Fri 11/12	Celebration Assemblies
Tue 15/12	Rewards Excursion Year 7 & 8
<a href="#"><u>Click on the school website for the online calendar</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>Remember Assessment tasks dates due are available on school website assessment calendars</u></a>	