



What's On?

Each Wednesday
Canteen \$6
Minestrone Soup
& Garlic Bread

25 August
Musica Viva Concert

26 August
Book Week Parade

29 August
Pupil Free Day

12 September
Footy Day

16 September
Last day Term 3

3 October
First day Term 4

Dear Parents and Carers



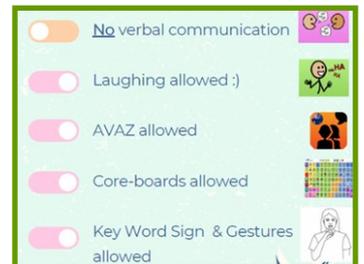
This week we farewell **Megan Retallick** who embarks on a new career change with her partner Shannon for the next 12 months as new parents to their baby boy. We wish Megan and Shannon all the best.

**COMING
SOON**



Ned Watson will also be on Parental Leave for the remainder of Term 3. He and his wife Kate are awaiting the arrival of their second child. We wish them all the best.

Speech Pathology Week is August 21st-27th. Our speech Pathologist, Natalliya, is hosting a silent morning tea for the staff to advocate for AAC use at AVHS. This should be fun. The aim of this is to highlight the challenges faced by people with communication difficulties and to put into practice the different ways AVHS support effective communication for our students and parents.



This week the students in Room 16 participated in a **Hockey Victoria Clinic**. This was organised by Robyn our PE teacher and is part of **the Sporting Schools Program**.



"The first thing Ravi taught us was how to hold the stick correctly. We learnt how to trap the ball and how to pass the ball" Bailly

"We practiced dribbling the ball with the hockey stick around the cones. It was great fun. We are doing it for another two weeks." Lakeisha



A message from Ayoub, Student Voice representative on School Council

The Breakfast Club program has been a hit and the reason why it's a hit is because I created a playlist so that I was able to entertain the students who attended breakfast club. The students chat amongst themselves while they also eat breakfast. With the playlist that I created meant that the students could keep coming back to breakfast club every single day of the week.

Cont/d...

Cont/d...

Nobody can get bored so that the playlist can entertain them while they are chatting to each other.

As the cold season approaches everyone has to rug up and keep warm through this cold flu season. As long as you are rugged up and warm you should be fine and should not get flu and colds. We can be strong and healthy as long as we don't get these types of illness.

Also with being healthy you can drink lots of water and eat fruits like apples, pears, bananas, strawberries fruits that have nutrients and vitamins in them. The bad foods that contain sugar and are not healthy for you should be avoided. Foods like chocolate, greasy foods that have lots of oil in them, like chips. Foods like this are occasional foods only.

The type of drinks that are healthy for you and young kinds in the school are apple juice, orange juice and water are all good for you. The bad drinks that you should avoid especially for young kids are alcohol, beer, wine, coke that has lots of sugar. We should avoid these drinks during the cold and flu season.

During the cold and flu season we should stay healthy during this season.

Thank you,

Ayoub—School Voice Representative—Room 9





Room 3, Christian, Michael, Sebastian, & Thomas, have just celebrated their first 100 days of school !
Congratulations Room 3 !



16 August 2022

Good afternoon Parents and Carers,

As the President of our school council, I am writing to you to inform you of some of the work that the school council has been advocating for on behalf of our school community over the last year.

As your school councilors, we thank Nance Sidoti, our new Principal, for her recent update in our school newsletter which showcased the new spaces. Nance also explained the decanting process which enables the building works to continue whilst students are still at school.

We as parents understand the challenges and patience required whilst the building works are occurring, and while we appreciate that the new building works already underway will improve some spaces around the school; the current budget and extent of the building works approved by the Victorian Government are simply not enough.

Unfortunately, our school did not receive the allocation of funding in the Victorian Government 2022/2023 budget required to properly fund the school's development master plan; and without full funding, the school is unable to undertake the scope of works required to bring all of the buildings up to modern standards.

This means that while we will have some wonderful newly refurbished areas in the school that will provide more stimulating and engaging workspaces, a significant portion of buildings will remain in their current state – unrenovated and in desperate need of repair. We have included some images in the following page that highlight areas of the school that will remain as they are, and not a part of the approved building budget. The consequence of this is that only some students will be able to benefit from the new learning environments, and all of the secondary school Classrooms, the Kitchen, the Allied Health Room, Staff areas and the First Aid Room will miss out. We feel that this is unfair to both our students and the wider school community.

Danny Pearson received correspondence from the School Council on the funding shortfalls for the basic school upgrades in June 2021 and visited the school in April 2022 to view the works ongoing in the junior school.

Additionally we have written letters to the former Victorian Education Minister - James Merlino and the Premier – Daniel Andrews in May 2022 and also asked for an explanation on the current funding shortfalls for the Ascot Vale Heights School from our local Member of Parliament - Danny Pearson, MP.

We have been advised by the Victorian Government that AVHS has received all funding budgeted at present to undertake building works, however the vast bulk of the works required to upgrade the school to modern building standards cannot be done within the current funding allocation. We received a response from the office of new Education Minister, the Hon. Natalie Hutchins MP in June 2022, advising there will be no further budget allocation to fulfill the AVHS building masterplan. Naturally we are very disappointed with this response and the ongoing failure of the government to properly fund the facilities required by our children.

It is disheartening to see that Ascot Vale Heights School has also not been included in the Victorian Budget Schools and Specials Schools 2022/2023 upgrade, as noted here <https://www.budget.vic.gov.au/major-upgrades-classrooms-and-special-schools>.

We will continue to advocate as a school council on behalf of our school community and have planned further advocacy with the Victorian Government.

Cont'd...

What can you do?

If you would like to help and support our advocacy for the school, we encourage you to correspond with our local Member of Parliament – Danny Pearson to request further information on the current shortfall in the funding required for our School and explanation of what the current state Labor government are doing to properly support students with special needs.

You can find his details [here in this link](#) or use:

Email: danny.pearson@parliament.vic.gov.au

Address: Suite 1, 28 Shuter Street, Moonee Ponds, VIC 3039

Phone: (03) 9370 7777

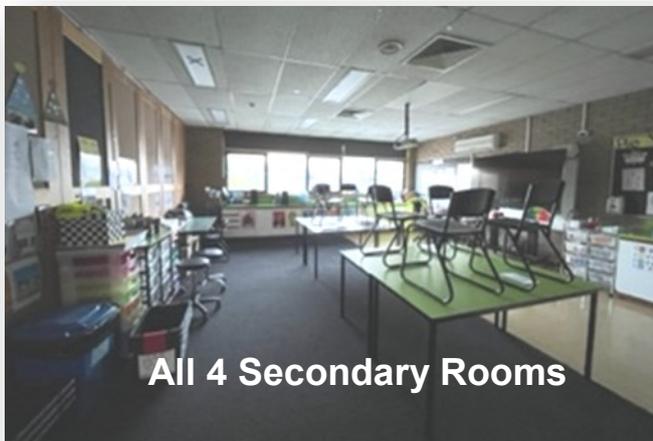
An example of how you can help by sending an email and using these points as a guide:

- *Asking for an explanation of why we didn't receive enough funding when our students are in need of improved learning facilities.*
- *Asking why we were not included in the Victorian Budget Schools and Special Schools 2022/2023 upgrade when our students are in need as much as any other school.*
- *Asking why newer and better equipped special schools were allocated funding instead of Ascot Vale Heights, which is in desperate need of repair and modernisation,*
- *You could also speak to the disruption of learning at the school and the impacts it has had on your child.*

Thank you for your time, I hope that together we can secure a better outcome for our children and all future students at Ascot Vale Heights School and we appreciate your support to our advocacy plan.

Regards,

**Anthony Charles
President
Ascot Vale Heights School Council**





Allied Health Office



Resource Room



Multiple Staff Offices



First Aid Room



Kitchen

Dreaming with eyes open



BOOK WEEK PARADE

WHEN: FRIDAY 26TH

DRESS UP IN YOUR FAVOURITE CHARACTER FROM A BOOK



Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre

Post Office, Blackwood, Victoria, 3458, Australia
Phone: (03) 5368 6768 Fax: (03) 5368 6835
E-mail: blackwood.specialschools.oec@education.vic.gov.au
Internet: www.blackwoodsoscc.vic.edu.au



Campus of:- Frankston Special Developmental School
Member of:- Residential Outdoor Schools Association (ROSA)

Have you considered a: Traineeship in Outdoor Leadership (Certificate IV)

Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre (Blackwood) is a Residential Outdoor School run by the Department of Education exclusively for students enrolled within Victorian Government Special Schools.

Surrounded by the Wombat State Forest Blackwood provides a variety of Outdoor Education programs for students of all ages and abilities within Special Schools.

While working full time at Blackwood during the academic weeks, Trainees are supported through the completion of a Certificate IV in Outdoor Leadership, a 12-month course run through the Box Hill Institute and Trainees will gain knowledge in all aspects of the program offered.

Trainees may develop skills in:

- Climbing
- Canoeing
- Rafting
- Bushwalking
- Mountain Biking
- Orienteering
- Skiing

Trainees will also be required to attend TAFE based training, and may also be required to implement Blackwood Programs, across a range of locations in Victoria.

If you are interested in applying for a position could you please send the following:

1. Current resume highlighting experience relevant to the Certificate IV Outdoor Leadership position.
2. List of 3 referees with their contact details. At least one of these referees should refer to a personal context and one a professional context.
3. A succinct one-page document outlining what it is that you hope to achieve whilst at Blackwood and how you intend to use your experiences in the future.

• **Applications CLOSE: Friday 9th September 2022**

Please email applications to blackwood.specialschools.oec@education.vic.gov.au

For more information, to register your interest or organise a tour of our facilities please contact Tony Bellette (Campus Principal) on: 5368-6768



A destination for exploration

Trainee Job Statement 2023



CERTIFICATE IV

OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP TRAINEESHIP

Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre (Blackwood) is excited to announce its' annual traineeship positions. There are two (2) positions available. We are looking for enthusiastic, hard working people who have an interest in Outdoor Education as a career to apply for the 12 month full time position. The position requires studying for a Certificate IV in Outdoor Leadership as well as working full time at Blackwood.

Blackwood is one of the 11 campuses of the Residential Outdoor Schools Association (ROSA) Network and is seeking young, enthusiastic people who have an interest in pursuing Outdoor Education as a career to apply for their two Outdoor Recreation Traineeships for 2023.

Blackwood is a destination exclusively for students from Victorian Special Schools, where they are given every opportunity to laugh, live, learn and grow through outdoor adventure-based programs.

Surrounded by the stunning Wombat State Forest, Blackwood was established in 1970 and provides the ideal setting for adventure, environmental, creative and developmental programs aimed at extending the abilities of students with special needs. The layout of the School complements and utilises the natural beauty of the property to provide a variety of lesson sites designed to challenge students both individually, and, within a team environment to further their personal, emotional, social and physical development.

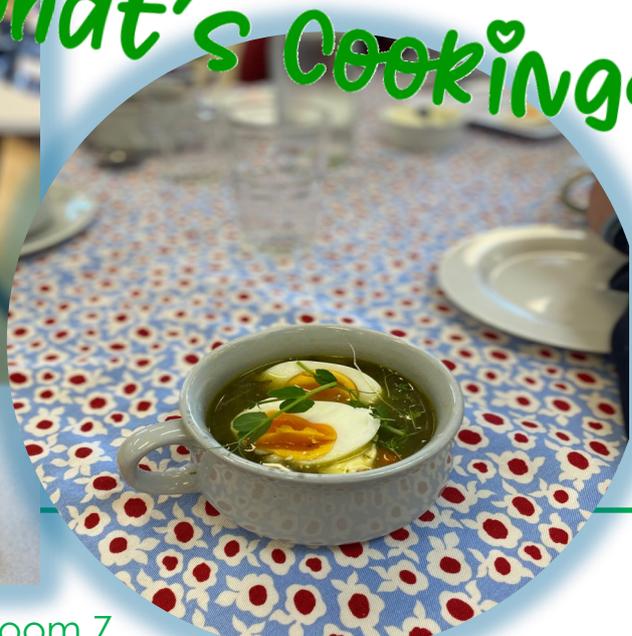
The Certificate IV in Outdoor Leadership is a 12 month course with students gaining knowledge in all aspects of the program offered. Students will be required to attend training at the Box Hill Institute (TAFE) and various venues around the state.

Blackwood will provide every opportunity possible to enable these to be successfully completed. The Certificate IV students will gain knowledge in all aspects of the program offered. Students will be required to attend training at a range of locations across the state as well as attend theory sessions through the:-

Faculty Of ICT, Business, Sport & Creative Industries
Box Hill Institute
Lilydale Lakeside Campus, Building LC, Office 323
Jarlo Drive Lilydale, Victoria 3104
W www.boxhill.edu.au



What's Cooking?



Klara from Room 7
preparing her delicious fresh lunch.

Every student, every day to be given the opportunity to be the best they can be.