apollobayp12.vic.edu.au 03 5237 6483
apollo.bay.p12@education.vic.gov.au
@apollobaycollege
Compass Parent Portal https://apollobayp12-vic.compass.education/

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19 August 2022

ChildSafe
Apollo Bay College is a CHILDSAFE School

WHAT'S ON!

DATE	EVENT
Mon 15 - Fri 26 Aug	Yr 3-8 Prime Minister's Spelling Bee
Mon 22 - Fri 26 Aug	Book Week
Mon 22 Aug	Yr 7/8 Basketball (Lorne)
Wed 24 Aug	Book Week **Dress-up Day**
Fri 26 Aug	Wear it Purple Day
Wed 7 Sep	GAT - Units 3 & 4 (scored & unscored)
Sun 4 - Fri 9 Sep	Yr 9-11 Ski Camp - Mt Hotham (fully booked)
Mon 12 - Fri 16 Sep	Yr 7 Summit Camp - Trafalgar East
Wed 14 Sep	Yr 8/9 After-school Market
Thu 15 Sep	Senior School Formal (Apollo Bay Golf Club)
Fri 16 Sep	Last day of Term 3 - school finishes at 1:30pm
Wed 5 - Fri 7 Oct	Yr 4 Camp - Kangaroobie (Princetown)
Sun 9 - Tue 11 Oct	Yr 10 Driver Ed camp (Charlton)
Tue 25 - Wed 26 Oct	Yr 3 Camp - Bimbi Park (Cape Otway)

15-26 August, 2022
Years 3 to 8

In this edition:

- Principal's Report
- Book week dress-up info
- Science Week activities
- GAT & VCE
- Upcoming events

.....and more!

SCIENCE WEEK
Discovering Invertebrates!

"Apollo Bay P-12 College acknowledges the Aboriginal community, their ancestors, elders and families here in Gadabanud country. We strive to include our whole school community in our quest to learn about, understand and respect the traditions and culture of Indigenous Australians."

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Term 3 - Week 6

What an amazing week of Science activities we have had. I would like to thank Melissa Potter and Andrea De Kauwe for all of their work in bringing the week together. I was lucky enough this morning to go with the students to visit the dinosaur footprints along the coast and listen to local Dino expert Tim Wagstaff and Paleontologist Mike Cleeland speak about the amazing historical area in which we live. All week it has been fantastic to see the level of engagement from Prep through to Yr 10 as they listened to the presenters listed below –

- Ecologist - Georgie Custance
- Aquatic Ecologist - Ryan Francis
- Bureau of Meteorology - Phoebe de Wilt
- Geologist & Palaeontologist - Mike Cleeland

The last two weeks has seen the beginning of the transition period for our senior students. Nicola has been leading the Yr 12 students and their families through the tertiary application process as they prepare for life after Apollo Bay P12 College, while also getting next year's VCE students ready to choose their subjects for 2023. I would like to thank Nicola and Jenny for running the two Parent Information Sessions that will make this process as smooth as possible for all involved.

Over the last two weeks, I have also been lucky enough to attend several professional learning activities. Last week Ale, Andrea and I attended a two-day workshop around leading change in Maths. It was a very productive couple of days and we are excited about all of the advancements that will be coming to Maths at Apollo Bay P12 College in 2023. Earlier this week, I was in Geelong at the Regional Principals Conference where we spent several hours discussing the new Victorian Schools Agreement that will shape the way schools will be structured for the next four years.

This will involve lots of work for all staff in the coming weeks. It seems as though I will never get to say that we've seen a slowing down of COVID in the school community. It is most certainly still an issue that we are managing, I just wanted to thank both staff and families for your continued support in managing a challenging situation and encourage you to be vigilant around testing and managing symptoms. If you require any more RATs or masks, please come into the office.

Finally, I would like to thank all families for looking after their children while the staff had two student free days. The first session allowed staff to reinvigorate the way in which units are planned together with more effective use of data to improve our students' outcomes. The second session allowed all staff to complete their First Aid training which will enable our full range of camps and excursions to be undertaken safely. I fully understand the disruption that student free days can cause, however would like to update families on how important and productive these sessions were.

Brian Humphries

Parent Opinion Survey 2022
OPEN 15 Aug - 16 Sep

The 2022 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is now open. Visit www.orima.com.au/parent to participate. The PIN is **756637**
We look forward to hearing your feedback!

WINTER WILD PART 1

Science Week Activities

The Southern Otway Landcare Network (SOLN) was very pleased to bring a series of workshops to Apollo Bay College for NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK (13-21 August). Given Landcare's focus on protecting and rehabilitating our landscapes, we invited scientists with an Earth Sciences or Ecology background to present to the community.

On Monday, Prep-Year 4 students were taken through Invertebrates in Your Backyard with ecologist Georgie Custance (Threatened Species Conservancy). Here they learnt how to be more precise with their language, not to call everything that creeps and crawls in their environment an insect or a bug. Invertebrates make up a whopping 97% of the animal kingdom and yet we often know so little about them, or even notice that we are sharing our homes & backyards with them. We can break down this massive grouping into small groups (phyla), one of which is the ARTHROPODA, or arthropods. The stats for arthropods will also blow your mind: they are 84% of all known animal species!!! This grouping (phylum) includes crustaceans (crabs/lobsters/crayfish), arachnids (spiders & scorpion), myriapods (millipedes & centipedes), and insects. It is true that insects are the largest class of the phylum, and they make up an incredible 75% of all animal species that have been named or described, but many things we sometimes sloppily call an 'insect' are actually not like snails, spiders, worms, millipedes. So next time you're out in your garden or nature, if is not flying, it is probably best to call the animal you're seeing an 'invertebrate', that way you'll always be correct (unless, of course, it has a backbone & then it's a vertebrate, which are generally easily to classify)!

Continuing the invertebrate theme, the Prep-Year 4s also attended a session with aquatic ecologist Ryan Francis (Pinion Advisory) on Freshwater Crayfish of the Otways. They learnt that our famous Southern Rock Lobster is not a crayfish, because it doesn't have claws... aquatic species with those big claws and a tail are crayfish. Yabbies are crayfish and they are what populate our dams (ask your child to tell you which way their claws generally face, as opposed to other crayfish). Because they are so good to eat, yabbies have been moved all over Australia, which is not a good thing because they out-compete the local crayfish species. The common yabby has a fantastically dramatic scientific name: Cherax destructor. (I reckon we'll see a number of stories from the P-Year 4 students featuring this character in the coming months!) There is another yabby recorded in our region, the Black Yabby or Otway Bush Yabby (Geocharax tasmanicus); it is only found in the Otways but sightings are rare and it's listed as endangered. Ryan told the students that there are 3 other crayfish species they should also keep watch for in the region and they are all burrowing crayfish: the Coastal Burrowing Crayfish (Engaeus cunicularus), Otway Burrowing Crayfish (Engaeus fultoni; listed as 'vulnerable'), and the Hairy Burrowing Crayfish (Engaeus sericatus; listed as 'vulnerable').

Ryan had local specimens on hand to show the students; all were E. fultoni. Despite our best efforts (more than a metre of digging), we couldn't locate the animal making the holes and chimneys in the lawns around town. It is a burrowing crayfish, but Ryan is really keen to find out which one. So, if you're able to snap any photographs of this animal, please send them to SOLN or put them up on the free app iNaturalist.

And that was the take-home message of both workshops: you & your children can be 'citizen scientists' and contribute to our knowledge of the species around us by documenting any species you see any where on iNaturalist (native or introduced species, as the latter provides important information too). Take multiple photos, from multiple angles and then post them online to be identified and recorded. This greatly increases our understanding of the biodiversity out there in our landscapes, as well as their threats.

National Science Week is funded by an Inspiring Australia initiative of the Australian Government. (The next edition of the College News will feature the workshops attended by the middle & senior school).

Crustaceans!

Invertebrates!

Freshwater Crayfish of the Otways!

BOOK WEEK DRESS-UP DAY

WED 24 AUG

Come as your favourite book character or an Australian bird, butterfly or animal in keeping with this year's theme – 'Dreaming with Eyes Open', representing beautiful creations (or dreamings) of the natural Australian environment.

Play Pod Revamp

Hello Apollo Bay School Community,

The **school council environment committee** at Apollo Bay P-12 is looking to spruce up our play pod area and asking for household donations we can upcycle from you, our wonderful community. The play pod is the creative play zone where kids can use their imagination during free time for play-based learning. Creative play provides an entertaining and supportive learning environment for younger children to engage in creative activities other than sport or playground. We hope you can help us achieve a wondrous area for our young students to thrive.

Ideas: Our goal is to create themed zones: an outdoor kitchen, dinosaur pit, construction/race car arena, fairy garden, sea play, sensory lab, and obstacles area. It's important to note that although we're designing within themes, the children can mix and play where their imagination takes them. The themes allow us to organise donations and up-cycle any unwanted household items easily.

Donations: Thank you for your kind consideration in supporting our school. A list of items is attached with the type of support we are looking for. Although every donation is appreciated, we carefully sort quantities of individual items and types before accepting.

How to Donate: I would love to talk to you about a potential donation via telephone on 0423067707 or email at JacquelineMegowan@gmail.com. Accepted donations can be dropped by the door of the Leisure Centre, or pick-up can be arranged.

Thank you,
Jacqueline Megowan

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST
Wear it purple day

Wear It Purple Day

Apollo Bay P-12 College is celebrating Wear It Purple Day on **Friday 26th August.**

Apollo Bay P-12 College invites all staff and students to wear purple clothing or accessories on Friday 26th August to show their support in building a safe, inclusive school environment for everyone.

A gold coin donation would be appreciated for students who wear purple on the day. Donut day will be moved from Thursday to Friday this week, with purple donuts for sale on Friday at recess for years 5 and above. Wear it Purple wristbands will also be for sale on the day for a gold coin donation. All money raised on the day will be donated to Wear It Purple to help them continue raising awareness and education on building safe, inclusive environments for rainbow youth.

The junior school will have a focus on being kind and respectful to everyone, with some wellbeing activities on the day from the Grow Your Mind framework.

The secondary school will have some short wellbeing activities on building awareness and inclusivity of LGBTQI+ youth.

"Wear It Purple strives to foster supportive, safe, empowering and inclusive environments for rainbow young people. Wear It Purple is a youth led, volunteer organisation. All money raised goes back into providing resources, training, and educational tools to raise awareness of LGBTQI+ young people".

We look forward to celebrating Wear It Purple day as a school community and encouraging kindness, acceptance and respect to everyone.

~ Apollo Bay P-12 College Wellbeing Team ~

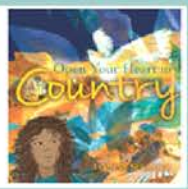
~ BOOK WEEK ~

Book Week is coming: 22nd to 26th August

Book Week is fast approaching, and with it a range of book-related activities will be taking place in the library and classrooms. There will be second-hand books for sale in the library (during break times on Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th, and Thursday 25th), along with colouring competitions, quizzes and read-aloud picture book sessions.

Back by popular demand is also **DRESS-UP Day, which will take place on Wednesday 24th August.** Students can dress up as a book character of their choice, or they may prefer to dress up as an Australian bird, butterfly or animal, in keeping with this year's Book Week theme – Dreaming with eyes open, which refers to the beautiful creations (or dreamings) of the natural Australian environment.

The artwork for this year's Book Week is by indigenous artist and writer, Jasmine Seymour. Jasmine Seymour is a Dharug woman and descendant of Maria Lock, who was the daughter of Yarramundi, the Boorooberongal elder who had met Governor Phillip on the banks of the Hawkesbury River in 1791. Maria was the first Aboriginal woman to be educated by the Blacktown Native Institute. Jasmine is a member of the Dharug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation.It is Jasmine's wish that through her books, everyone will know that the Dharug mob are still here, still strong. Jasmine is a primary school teacher in the Hawkesbury area of NSW.
Here are some of the prize-winning children's books by Jasmine Seymour.



MARKET DAY - WED 14 SEP

The Year Eight and Nines are combining to host a market after school on **Wednesday, September 14** (the last week of term). This will be a chance for the Year 9s to sell products from the amazing work they've done with Cam P in the $20 Boss Challenge to include stalls, entertainment and performances.

The market will be hosted after school once the final bell goes and will be set up around the BER (opposite the school office) and basketball court.

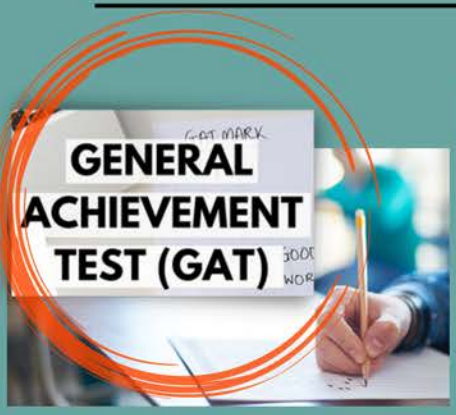
Keep an eye out for more info leading up to the market!

Tennis coaching

After a winter break, our visiting coach Marvin Barker is in Apollo Bay on Mondays.

He offers group coaching for juniors and seniors, all abilities, and ages.
We can lend you a racket if you would like to join in but don't have the equipment.

If you are interested, please contact Marvin directly on 0490 772409 or marvinbarker0907@gmail.com



Attention VCE Students

The GAT will be held on Wed 7 Sep 2022:

- **All Students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3-4 sequence will be required to sit the GAT.**
- **GAT Results will continue to be used to check that VCE external assessments and school-based assessments have been accurately and fairly assessed. If a student does well in the GAT, they are likely to do well in their other assessments.**
- **No special study will be required. Past study of subjects like English, Maths, Science and History prepares students for the GAT by building their general knowledge and skills in writing, numeracy and reasoning.**

VCE INFORMATION EVENINGS

Students completing VCE in 2023 and their parents were recently invited to VCE Information Evenings at the school library as a joint information session in preparation for next year. Here they were presented with information about the VCE and available educational pathways to commence the subject selection process for courses. Thanks to all who attended.

FIRST AID TRAINING

Education staff from across the school successfully completed First Aid, CPR and Anaphylaxis training via Life Saving Victoria throughout yesterday's student free day which will allow us to run all our camps and excursions safely for the next 3 years. With a number of staff also going on to obtain lifeguard qualification, this will also support increased use of the pool facility for our students.