

Principal's Chat:

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Members of the Kyneton High School Community,

We appreciate that parents and carers are anxious to know as much as possible about the situation with their child's schooling in these uncertain times. As of today, the situation is that Victoria's Chief Health Officer has advised that all schools should continue to operate as planned for now. Some parents have chosen to keep their child home as a precautionary measure and we will do our best to provide continuation of learning for these students while the school remains open.

It is possible that at some stage the school may be forced to deliver remote learning to homes. If this occurs, please be aware that it could be at very short notice. The school has developed a plan to support continuation of learning in this event. It will include work being provided online via Xuno, Google Classroom, Edrolo and other means that teachers and students are accustomed to using.

To prepare for the continuation of learning at home, we ask that parents/carers check that their student's laptop is working and up-to-date with any required software. If you do not have internet access at home, or your child does not have access to a device, please advise the school as soon as possible. **Teachers can provide students with hard copies of learning materials if they do not have access to online learning.** Further details, including a recommended home learning schedule, will be made available.

I would like to thank parents and carers for your understanding of the measures we have taken so far to reduce the risk to our students and staff. I would also like to acknowledge the commitment and effort that staff have put into maintaining a positive learning environment whilst preparing thoroughly for the possibility of school closure. I hope you enjoy the stories and pictures of the wonderful learning experiences that our students have enjoyed in the past few weeks.

Ana Rees
Executive Principal



Year 7 enjoyed the many activities that they were able to be involved in, at Camp Adanac.

Captains Report

Hey guys it's your college captains here and we just wanted to send out a positive message to all those in our community. This Friday we are celebrating Harmony Day, a day that's all about acceptance and the celebration of diversity from our world to our communities. We are hoping that each student can dress up in their favourite sport colours, something cultural or orange as it is the official colour of Harmony Day. We are hoping to raise money for our new interschool sport uniforms to fit in with our new uniform and name.

At this time we would also like to acknowledge and congratulate all the students who received badges yesterday for either being a year level captain or house captain.

It's been great to see our students, teachers and community rising up against these challenging times that we have and are facing of late and we hope everyone stays safe as we come closer to the school holidays.

Charrouf, Hayden and Sarah

Year 7 Camp Student Responses

Year 7 attended Camp Adanac recently. Below are student comments of the camp. (Please see this edition for photos).

- *Year 7 camp was an exciting and exhilarating opportunity. I had a lot of fun with my friends and teachers.*
- *The best times were when I was too scared to go on the water slide but after the first go, I loved it!*
- *I thought school camp was great. My favourite part was water trampolining and canoeing. The food was great, I loved it!*
- *The food was great, I loved it! I enjoyed the water slide and hut building.*
- *The best part about camp was trying all the new, exciting and challenging activities.*
- *My favourite part of camp was being spear tackled off the aqua trampoline.*
- *I enjoyed the water slide and hut building.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

| March | 2020 |
|---|---|
| Friday 27 th | End of Term 1 School Finishes 2.30pm |
| April | 2020 |
| Monday 13 th | Easter Monday Public Holiday |
| Tuesday 14 th | Term 2 Commences |
| Wed 22 nd | Year 10 Immunisations |
| May | 2020 |
| Tuesday 5 th | Year 11 & 12 TIS 10am (SHC) (TBC) |
| Tue 12 th –Fri 15 th | Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN (TBC) |

Important Information for Parents

Emails were sent home today to parents and students, explaining the process for students studying from home. This is purely a precautionary measure, but we as an education facility, must have steps in place.

(If you did not receive the email please check your junk mail).



Camp Adanac Photo Gallery





Grand Prix Excursion

Last Thursday 12th March, our year 9/10 Applied class, along with both year 11 and year 12 VCAL classes were lucky to get a day out at the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne. As you can see from the photos, there is so much to see and do apart from sitting in the stands and watching different types of race cars fly past; we were even filmed by Channel 10 as we collectively yelled "Ricciardo" at the top of our lungs!

We were able to wander through the Innovation and Tech Hub, plonk on beanbags and watch the track action on big screens, listen to industry people speak about their jobs, check out many different Australian Defence Force vehicles, race e-Grand Prix simulators, ride e-bikes and boards and watch what goes on in the pits as well as a whole heap of other stuff.

Thanks so much to Mrs Tardif and Ms Rantall for organising this excursion and all the staff who attended.



A group of lucky KHS students spent a day at the Grand Prix last week.

Welcome To Our New Staff Members



Hello, I'm Chelsea Feist and I have joined the Health and Physical Education team here at Kyneton High School.

In 2020, I'm teaching year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Health and Physical Education. This is the beginning of my third year of teaching and as a physical education teacher I am looking forward to assisting with interschool sporting teams and working with students to teach them the importance of living a healthy active lifestyle.

Chelsea Feist



Hello everyone. My name is Kirsten Vincent and I am returning to Kyneton High after a number of years teaching at other schools in the area as well as over in England!

I started my career as a Chemical Engineer and after 20 years working in various industries I decided to follow my childhood passion of teaching. I love bringing real world stories and meaningful applications to maths and science for my students. This year I have the pleasure of teaching year 7 maths, year 7 science, year 9 science, year 11 chemistry and year 11 general maths.

Kirsten Vincent



Hi my name is Richard Rotgans and I've been a mechanic since 2004, working both locally and overseas in a wide variety of mechanical roles.

Two of my favourite roles have been working in China to develop automated livestock handling equipment for farmers, and working with Passivhaus Australia to design and deliver mechanical services for zero energy homes throughout Victoria.

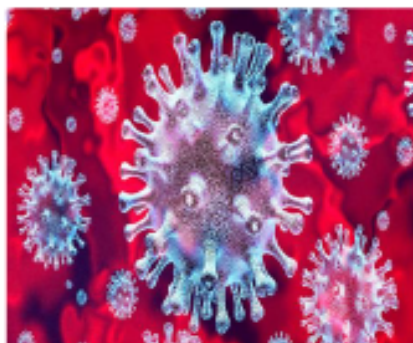
I love applying my mechanical skills, knowledge and experience to all fields and disciplines and look forward teaching these to the Year 11/12 VCAL Automotive class this year.

Richard Rotgans



Ambulance Victoria Wellbeing and Support Services

HELPING CHILDREN – COVID19



The Ambulance Victoria Wellbeing & Support Services is AV's internal mental health support service available 24/7 to all employees and their immediate family members, RANs, ACO's and CERTs providing 24 hour mental health and wellbeing support.

This tip sheet has been prepared as a resource for parents and caregivers, to support the understanding of children's response to worry about Coronavirus.

News of the coronavirus (COVID-19) is everywhere. It is being talked about on the front page of the papers, and in the playgrounds. Kids worry more when they are kept in the dark, so it's important that we speak to our children in a way to reassure them, and help them understand what they can do to minimise the impact of this epidemic.

The following tips can help reduce worry before, during, and after this epidemic has impacted our local communities.

Don't be afraid to discuss it! Most children have heard about the virus or even seen more people wearing facemasks. Not talking about it often makes kids worry more. Convey age appropriate facts, free of jargon, and set the emotional tone for how we, and by modelling, our children will manage their responses to this. The goal is to help your children feel informed, and get fact-based information.

Be developmentally appropriate. Don't volunteer too much information, as it may be overwhelming. Try to answer your child's questions honestly and clearly. It's Ok to say you don't know the answer, as to your child, being available to them is what's important and reassuring.

Take cues from your child. Invite your child to tell you anything they may have heard about coronavirus and also how they feel about what they have heard. Give them ample opportunity to ask questions, but don't necessarily prompt them to ask. Your goal is to avoid encouraging frightening fantasies.

Be reassuring. Children are very egocentric, so hearing about the coronavirus on the news may be enough for them to think they can catch it. It is useful to reassure your child that it is reasonably rare (the flu is more common) and that kids actually seem to have milder symptoms than anyone else.

Focus on what you are doing to stay safe. Kids feel empowered when they know how to keep themselves safe. Teach them how to wash their hands properly – make it fun – get them to rate how well you do it on time, surface covered, and amount of foam created – 20 seconds or two rounds of "happy birthday" or their favourite "tik tok" dance. If they ask about facemasks explain the experts don't think they are necessary for most people, but some people like being super cautious.

If a child's health anxiety response is ongoing, and impacts relationships or level of functioning, please speak to a professional, or W&SS for referral advice and support.

PEER SUPPORT - 1800 MANERS (1800 626 377 Option 1)24/7 VACU COUNSELLING LINE – 1800 MANERS (1800 626 377 Option 2)

Ambulance Victoria Staff Support Line 1800 626 377

Common Reactions to Worry

Infants to 2-Year-Olds

Infants may become crankier. They may cry more than usual or want to be held and cuddled more.

For 3 to 6-Year-Olds

They may have toileting accidents, bed-wetting, tantrums and a hard time sleeping or be frightened about being separated from their parents/caregivers.

For 7 to 10-Year-Olds

Older children may feel sad, mad, or afraid that they will get really unwell. Correct misinformation the child may get from others.

For Preteens and Teenagers

Some preteens and teenagers respond by withdrawing and isolating from friends and events.

For Special Needs Children

Children with physical, emotional, or intellectual limitations may have stronger reactions. They may need additional words of reassurance, more explanations, more comfort and other positive physical contact such as hugs from loved ones.

Be aware of how you talk... adults need to be conscious of the presence of children when discussing the potential impact of COVID-19 – it is a good idea not to let children overhear adult conversations that may fuel worry and increase distress.

Keep Talking

Tell your kids that you will continue to keep them updated as you learn more.

If their local community or school is impacted or quarantined, talk to them about the importance of sticking to a home routine, and let them know you are prepared to cope with a period of being home together as a family.

Maybe plan to restock your board-games, jigsaws, and reading material so you have some quality time together if this occurs.