



# HEAD OF YEAR 10

# Newsletter

JENNIFER MCDUGALL

Dear year 10 Families,

We've had a great start to the term, with strong results across the board on recent report cards. It has been particularly pleasing to see the positive effort and behaviour marks, which reflect the consistent commitment many students are showing in their classes.

As we move further into the year, preparation for senior schooling continues to be a key focus. Students have been engaging in targeted conversations within their APP classes around SET planning, as well as participating in goal-setting activities during Connect. We are also looking forward to the upcoming Careers Day, organised by our Pathways and Partnerships team, which will provide valuable insights as students begin to consider their future pathways.

## Living Our Values This Term

This term, our focus is on Being Kind. This extends not only to how students treat others, but also how they show care and understanding towards themselves.



This value encourages students to recognise the impact of small, positive actions. A kind word, showing patience, offering support, or simply checking in on a peer – these moments matter. Just as importantly, being kind to ourselves means acknowledging effort, managing challenges with perspective, and allowing space to grow.

As students continue preparing for senior schooling, we want them to understand the influence they have within our community. Kindness is a powerful form of leadership. It is often quiet, consistent, and intentional, but it shapes the culture of our school in meaningful ways.



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## Upcoming dates

### **NAP-SL – 7<sup>th</sup> May**

Selected students will participate in the National Assessment Program – Science Literacy. This provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate their scientific understanding and thinking skills in a national context.

### **Careers Day – 29<sup>th</sup> May**

A fantastic day organised by our Pathways and Partnerships team. Students will have the opportunity to engage with industry experts and attend the Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo, helping them explore future pathways and make informed decisions about their senior years.

### **Year 10 Exam Block – 15–19<sup>th</sup> June**

This will be students' first exam block, offering a valuable introduction to senior assessment conditions. It is a great opportunity for students to develop effective study habits, time management skills, and confidence ahead of Year 11 & 12.

### **SET Planning – 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> August**

These meetings are an important step in preparing for senior schooling, supporting students and families to make informed subject selections aligned with future goals and pathways. Further details to come – Parent attendance is required.

### **Year 10 Camp – 12–15<sup>th</sup> October**

Camp will be held at Emu Gully and will provide an exciting opportunity for students to challenge themselves, build resilience, and strengthen connections with their peers. More information will be shared soon.



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## Connect Program – Term 1

In Connect this term, students have been focusing on building the skills, setting goals, and developing a sense of purpose as they prepare for senior schooling. These lessons are designed to support students in becoming more independent, reflective, and confident in their learning journey.

There is a lot happening throughout the term, including the opportunity for Year 10 students to attend the School Captain speeches and cast their vote. This is a valuable experience, allowing students to see leadership in action, be inspired by their peers and reflect on the qualities of effective role models within our school community.

Connect will also support students in preparing for their upcoming exam block, with a focus on developing study strategies, organisation, and managing assessment expectations. These sessions aim to build confidence and equip students with the tools they need to approach exams with a positive and prepared mindset.

WEEK	THEME/ACTIVITY
1	Year Level Assembly
2	Reflection & Goal setting – QEW Survey
3	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
4	House Week
5	School Captain Speeches
6	Finding purpose
7	Senior Assembly
8	Exam prep, study habits
9	NAIDOC week
10	Engagement Contact Boxes



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## Home and School in Partnership

We value our partnership with families. When school and home work together, students feel supported, guided, and set up for success.

This term is a key time as the SET planning process begins. The decisions made throughout this period play a significant role in shaping each student's senior pathway. We greatly appreciate the support of families during this time, as your involvement, conversations, and encouragement help students make informed and confident choices about their future.

We encourage families to have conversations at home about future goals, interests, and possible career pathways. These discussions, alongside the work being completed in APP, will help ensure students select subjects that align with their goals and meet any prerequisites for future study, including university pathways.

Open communication remains important, and we encourage families to reach out if support is needed. Parents and carers can also access assessment information at any time through Daymap to help support planning and organisation at home.

## Reminders

This term, there will be a renewed focus on uniform expectations, particularly around jewellery. Students were reminded of these requirements in Week 1, and staff will be consistently enforcing the policy over the coming weeks.

Students are required to change in and out of their sports uniform for practical lessons. For example, students may arrive in their sports uniform if they have Period 1 sport but must change back into their formal uniform at



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first break. Wearing the formal uniform for the majority of the day helps maintain a consistent standard across the school – thank you for your support with this.

We also appreciate families notifying the school of student absences. Absences can be reported via SMS (0427 925 653) or by calling (07) 3511 3860. Timely communication helps us maintain accurate records and support student wellbeing.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Year 10 students. I am so proud of the results students have achieved across their classes, particularly the strong effort and engagement shown. I am looking forward to seeing their continued growth as the year progresses.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact me via the Head of Year 10 email – I am always happy to provide support and guidance.

Warm regards,

Jen McDougall