



HEAD OF YEAR 10 *Newsletter*

JENNIFER MCDUGALL

Dear year 10 Families,

We have made a strong and steady start to senior school. It has been encouraging to see our Year 10 students stepping confidently into the expectations that come with this significant transition year. The transition into senior expectations can feel significant, and our cohort has approached it with resilience and a willingness to rise to the challenge.

Thank you to the many parents and students who attended our Year 10 Parent and Student Information Evening. Your presence and engagement send a powerful message to our young people about the value of support, involvement, and shared responsibility in their learning journey. We are grateful for the strong support that surrounds this year level.

This term we have also welcomed guest speakers, and our students represented themselves and the school with pride. Their respectful engagement and thoughtful participation were commendable. Continuing with next week year 10 students will take part in the Red Frogs Party Safe presentation. This proactive session is designed to equip students with practical strategies to make safe and informed decisions as they begin to experience increasing independence in their social lives.

We also recently enjoyed a fantastic Swimming Carnival and House Week. Both events were filled with energy, participation and strong house spirit. It was wonderful to see so many Year 10 students getting involved – whether competing in events, cheering on peers or contributing to the positive atmosphere of the day. Most importantly, students represented themselves and the school with pride, demonstrating encouragement, respect and sportsmanship throughout.

Across all subject areas, there have been wonderful things happening in classrooms. Students are excelling across a range of subjects - academically, practically and creatively. Staff have noted strong efforts and an increasing confidence to seek feedback and support. It has been encouraging to see students recognising that senior school is not just about ability, but about commitment and consistency.



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Living Our Values This Term

Our focus value this term is Paying It Forward.

This value challenges students to think beyond themselves and recognise the impact of small, positive actions. A kind word, offering help without being asked, including someone who might otherwise be left out – these moments matter. They shape our school culture.



As students move further into senior schooling, we want them to understand the influence they carry within our community. Leadership does not always look loud or obvious, often it is quiet, consistent and intentional. We have already seen many examples of students supporting one another and contributing positively to their classes. We encourage families to continue conversations at home about what “Paying It Forward” looks like in everyday life.

Connect Program – Term 1

In Connect this term, students have been focusing on physical and emotional health, with an emphasis on building healthy habits.

Through guided reflection, students have been asked to self-evaluate their current routines and identify practical areas for improvement. The focus has been on awareness, realistic goal setting and understanding the link between wellbeing and academic success. Senior school requires stamina – mentally, emotionally and physically – and these conversations are an important part of preparing students for that journey.

Connect continues to provide a valuable space for students to pause, reflect and intentionally plan for growth.



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Home and School in Partnership

We deeply value our partnership with families. When school and homework together, students feel supported, guided and held accountable in the best possible way.

We also continue our partnership with Real Schools as part of our commitment to relational and restorative practices. This approach supports students to take responsibility for their actions, repair relationships when challenges arise and contribute positively to our school culture. It is about building character alongside academic achievement.

For families interested in learning more, Real Schools will be presenting at the upcoming P&C meeting next week. We warmly invite parents and carers to attend.

Parents and carers are reminded that assessment dates and task information can be accessed at any time through Daymap. By logging into Daymap, families can view upcoming assessment items, due dates and task details for each subject. Regularly checking Daymap is a helpful way to support students with planning, time management and avoiding last-minute stress. We encourage families to use this as a tool to have proactive conversations at home about workload and preparation.

Upcoming dates

Red Frogs – Party Safe Presentation – 9/03

Year 10 students will participate in the Red Frogs Party Safe presentation on 9th March. This session provides practical, age-appropriate information to help students make safe and informed decisions as they experience greater independence in social settings.



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School Immunisations – Monday 30th March

Year 10 students are scheduled to receive their school immunisations on Monday 30th March. Parents and carers should have received communication outlining how to complete the online consent process. The information provided will guide you through the required steps prior to the day.

If you have not yet completed this process, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Please contact the school office if you require assistance.

Year 10 Camp – Term 4, Week 2 (Monday–Thursday)

Year 10 Camp will take place in Term 4, Week 2 from Monday to Thursday. Camp is always a highlight of the year – an opportunity for connection, challenge and shared experiences outside the classroom. Further information will be distributed later in the year, however we wanted to provide families with advance notice to assist with planning.

Reminders

A reminder that students are required to change in and out of their sports uniform for practical lessons. For example, if a student has sport in Period 1, they may arrive at school in their sports uniform but must change back into their formal uniform at first break. Students are expected to wear their formal uniform for the majority of the school day, and following this routine helps maintain a consistent standard across the school. Thank you for supporting your child in meeting this expectation.

Adhering to the uniform policy helps maintain a sense of pride, belonging, and school spirit across our community. For full details of the uniform requirements, please refer to our Uniform Policy found on the school website.



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I sincerely appreciate the parents who take the time to notify me of their child's absence. To assist all families, please note that absences can be reported by SMS to 0427 925 653 or by calling (07) 3511 3860. Providing timely notification ensures we have an accurate record of student attendance and helps us ensure their safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Year 10 students. It has been such a positive start to the senior phase of their schooling, and we are proud of the growth, effort, and engagement we are seeing across the cohort. We look forward to building on this momentum throughout the rest of the term.

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