

# YEARLY WRAP UP 2023

Wyndham Central College Link Centre Community Hub

# FROM BUNURONG LAND

Our vision for reconciliation at Wyndham Central College is to be a school that embraces unity between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians in our school community. We are a safe and connected community that represents equal educational outcomes for our students and provides learning opportunities for staff, students and the wider college community.

We respect, acknowledge, value and celebrate the First Nations people, our heritage, cultural diversity and multicultural strengths. We will provide an environment in which we aim to support every student to engage with truth, justice and healing through reconciliation via the curriculum and listening to our elders and our family stories. An environment in which every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student has the opportunity to achieve their potential and feel strong and connected in their cultural identity.

**WE GATHER HERE IN THIS SPECIAL PLACE  
TO CONTINUE OUR LEARNING JOURNEY  
TOGETHER. WE ACKNOWLEDGE  
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL  
CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND UPON WHICH  
OUR SCHOOL MEETS- BUNURONG LAND.  
WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE ELDERS  
PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING, AND  
ACKNOWLEDGE THE STORIES, TRADITIONS  
AND LIVING CULTURES OF ABORIGINAL  
AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES.  
WE COMMIT TO BUILDING A BRIGHTER  
FUTURE TOGETHER.**



# Community Engagement Lead Report



What an incredible year the Link Centre Community Hub has had! The team has grown, there are more programs and events throughout the year which means more families, students and community groups are accessing our onsite school Community Hub. We are now in our second year of growth, and we are confident that we are achieving our vision.

**“Wyndham Central College staff and families have a sense of community connectedness that promotes lifelong and life wide learning for all members”.**

Wyndham Central College strives to Create a Community of High Expectations and our families that have participated in our adult classes are role modelling the importance of education, ensuring that no matter what your age is- a love of learning is fostered.

We hope you enjoy our yearly wrap up of achievements and thank you for your support throughout the year. 2024 is looking to be a huge one!

**Kristy Gray**  
**Community Engagement Lead**



## MEET THE TEAM



**Paw Ner Moo**  
**Family Community Worker**  
**(Karen)**

Paw Ner Moo has been at Wyndham Central College since August 2017. Paw Ner Moo is from Burma and speaks S’gaw Karen and Burmese language. She has been building a safe space for our families and students of refugee and migrant background, so they can settle into our school and community well.



**Nathaniel Nhial**  
**Junubi Youth Worker**

Nathaniel has been at Wyndham Central College since 2021. Nathaniel works in partnership with Junubi Wyndham. He was born in South Sudan and can speak four languages- English, Sudanese Arabic, Kiswahili, and Dinka. Nathaniel is here to work with our students and families from different countries of Africa to ensure they have everything they need for their education, as well as to help our teachers connect to the community.



# OUR IMPACT

We have reached a number of different groups throughout the year with excellent outcomes and feedback from participants.

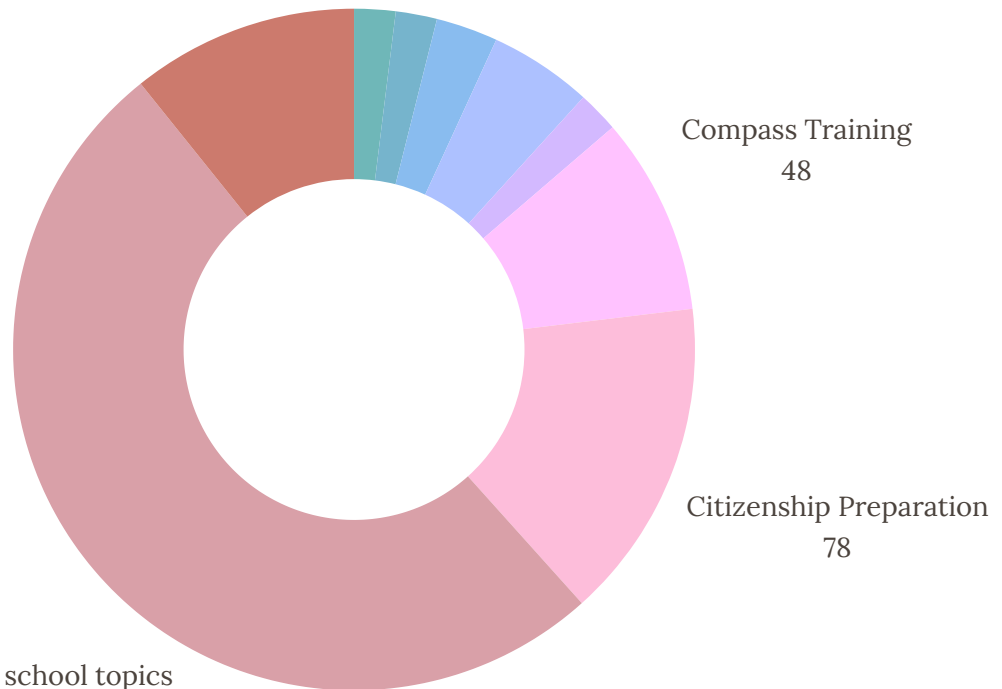
## ADULT LEARNING

Link Centre Community Hub's Key Focus: Enhancing Lives through Education

The Link Centre Community Hub places a significant emphasis on education. The classes offered are designed to broaden the participants' understanding of school, improve employment opportunities, increase cognitive abilities, support living in an English-speaking country, and enhance communication skills.

- English Class
- Computer Class
- White Card Training
- First Aid
- Living and Working in Australia
- Compass Training
- Citizenship Preparation
- Support on a variety of school topics
- Subject Selections and Senior Years Support

Subject Selections and Senior Years Support  
55



Support on a variety of school topics  
260



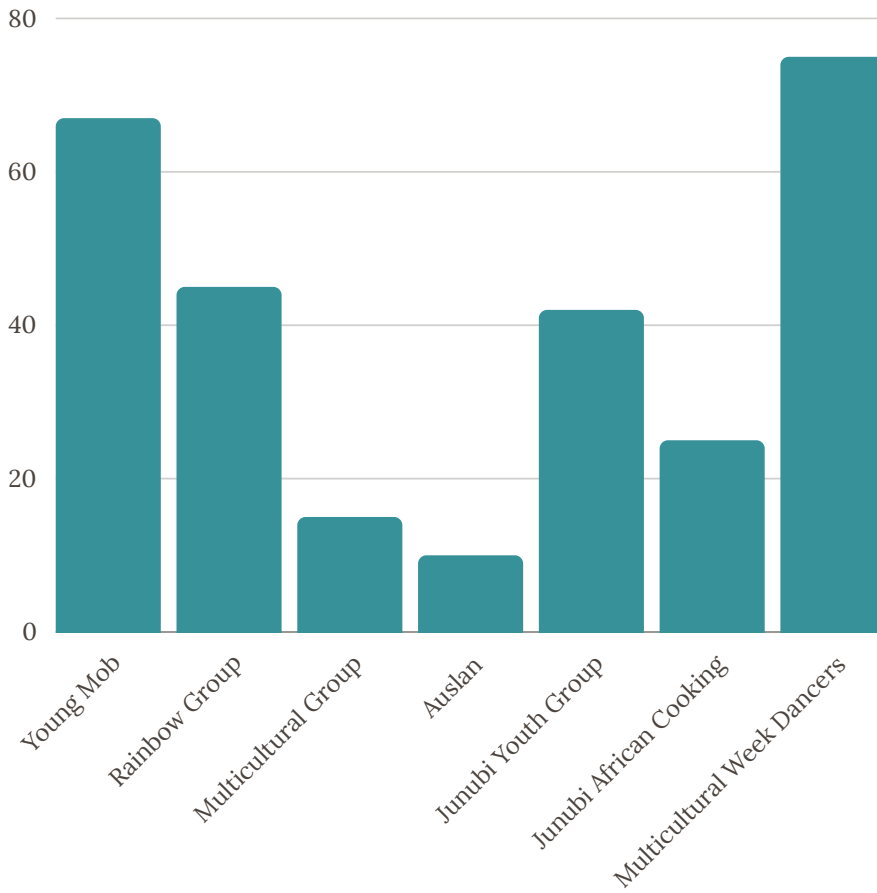
# 511 LEARNERS

Adult Learners in 2023

# STUDENT ACCESS

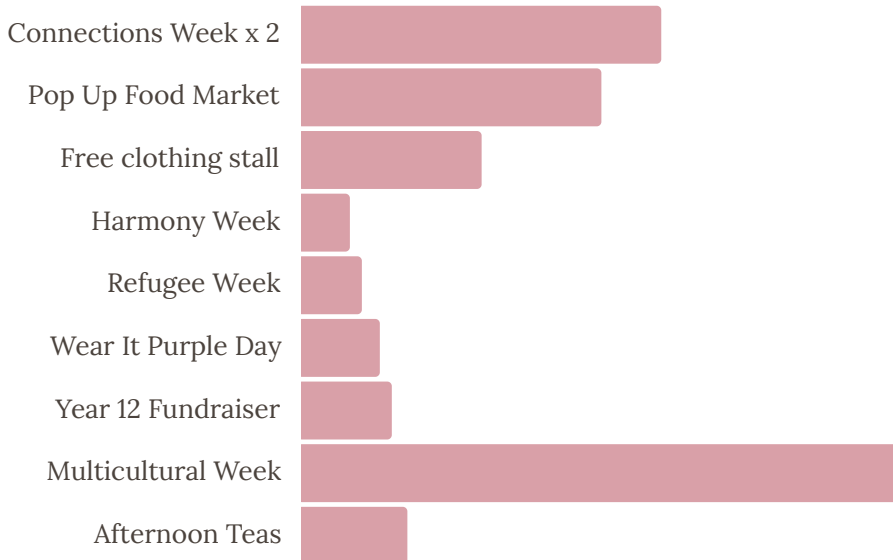
## PROGRAMS

The number of students enrolled or participating in programs throughout the year.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community events for students, teachers, families and community



# CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASSES



## Celebrating a Successful Year of Learning English with Our Students

Our partnership with Wyndham Community and Education Centre has been exceptional this year. Our dedicated teacher, Claudette, has gone above and beyond to ensure our learners are thriving.

### Who is Wyndham Community and Education Centre?

Wyndham CEC provides a range of programs and services, including pre-accredited and accredited training courses and community programs for individuals aged 15-64 from various communities. Their focus is on those who face disadvantages, refugees and humanitarian entrants, youth, and emerging communities. The organization's tailored training and individualized approach to adult learning make them well-suited to deliver community strengthening activities.



### Exciting Adventures Awaited Our Students!

We had an incredible time this year with an Amazing Race-themed excursion at the Werribee Zoo. It was a day of learning, fun, and practicing English as our families worked together to solve challenges. Thank you to the Werribee Open Range Zoo Education Team for making it possible, and a special thank you to Claudette for preparing our families for the day.

Our students will continue to learn English until 2024, as they graduate from their second course this year. We're thrilled to see improvements in their English skills. Check out the photos on the next page to see for yourself!



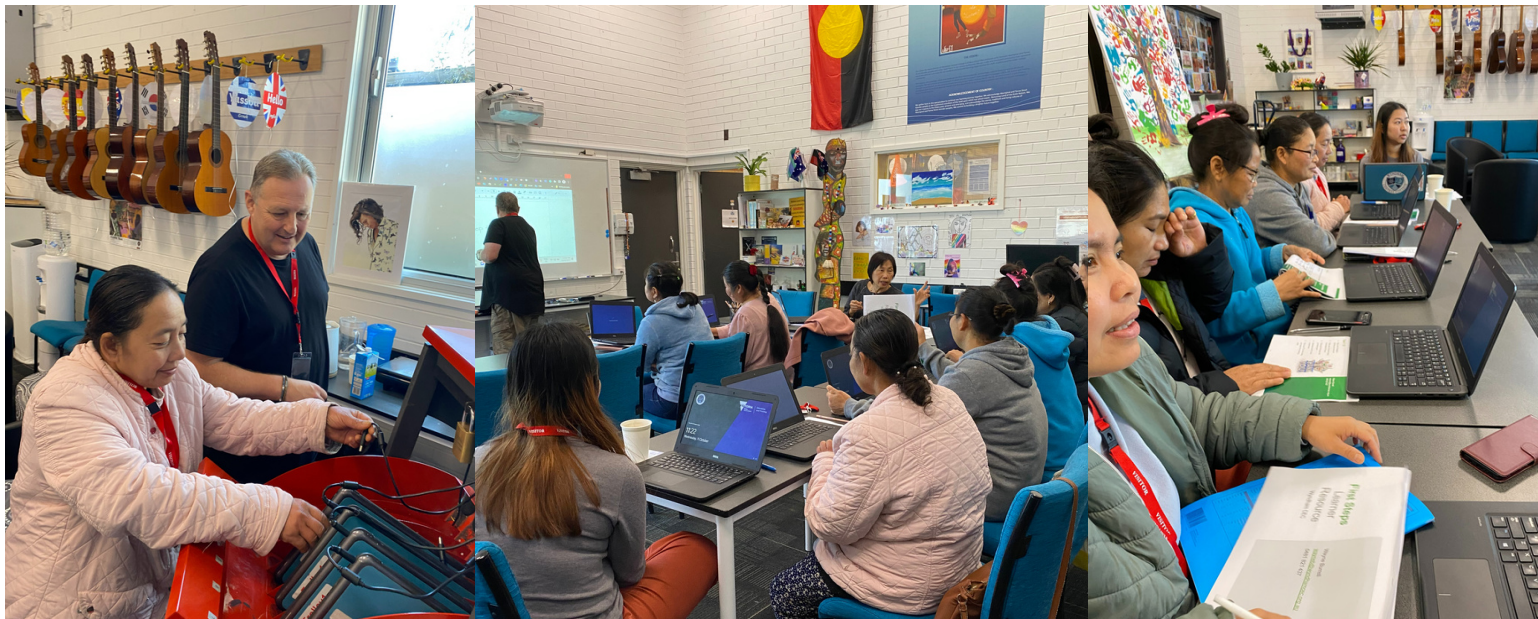
# CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASS



# COMPUTER SKILLS CLASS

## Computer Skills Classes Empower People to Succeed Online

This year, our computer skills classes have been in full swing! With the prevalence of digital technology in our daily lives, it's essential to learn basic computer skills such as applying for jobs, paying bills, scheduling appointments, and accessing educational resources. At the Wyndham Community and Education Centre, our teacher, Wayne, has been working diligently with our students to teach them everything from opening and starting a computer to setting up a Gmail account and sending emails.



# LIVING AND WORKING IN AUSTRALIA

## Preparing for Life and Work in Australia: An Overview of Our Course

The objective of our course is to provide participants with an understanding of the Australian community and workplace atmosphere, allowing them to transition successfully into their new environment. We support learners as they prepare to take the citizenship test by educating them on a range of topics, including the rights and freedoms of Australians, the parliamentary democracy, government and judicial systems, workplace culture and employee rights, and much more. Our knowledgeable instructor, Wayne, has been instrumental in delivering this essential information to our participants.



# NEIL DILLON COMMUNITY AWARD



Neil Dillon was an active member of the Wyndham Park Community Centre, a strong partner organization for Wyndham Central College. Neil's family is honored to have this award for the young people who give back to their community.

This year we decided to award two young adults for their exceptional leadership in the multicultural space at the College, particularly representing the Karen community. We have over 300 students from the Myanmar region, also known as Burma and other refugee camps in Thailand.

As cultural leaders, they have been active members of our school community, contributing to the creation of videos spoken in Karen language ensuring our families, where English is a second language, have the important information they need to be actively engaged in their child's education. They co-designed activities that took place during Refugee Week, teaching our school community how to speak the languages of Karen, Chin, Thai, Karenni, and Burmese. They have contributed to our Harmony Day, Multicultural Week, and Connections Week through traditional dancing and introducing the school to the Karen traditional harp called a 'thana', which was made by Pawter's great-grandfather. Collectively, both students have contributed to the wider community by volunteering through their church, attending and helping at community events such as the Wrist Tying Ceremony, Karen New Year Celebrations, and sporting events such as 'chinloh'. We would like to thank both students for their contributions. Our wish for them is to achieve their potential, feel strong and safe in their cultural identity, and to continue to give back to the community.

Congratulations, Pawter and Lapaw.

# CONNECTIONS WEEK



Connections Week has become a key feature for Family Teacher Interviews in 2023. Our partnerships are backbone support for our families in a community setting and we are so grateful we can showcase the exceptional organisations we have in the Wyndham community. Our first featured family services organisations such as Salvation Army CaPSS, headspace Werribee, IPC Health, The Smith Family, The Huddle, Junubi Wyndham, WESTjustice, Vic Police cooked the BBQ and Werribee Fire Brigade.

The second had a sports focus with Werribee Football Club, Western Athletics, Dane Nebel's Tennis Academy, Libraries in Wyndham, Werribee City FC, In Balance Fitness - Werribee, Stepnout Performing Arts, The Skate Studio, Wyndham Police, Wyndham Netball Association, ReLink Australia, Werribee Gymnastics Club and Sports 4 All.

A key feature is the pop-up markets, first being free fruit, vegetables and pantry items, second being free clothing for the families. We shared food and celebrated with our multicultural student dance groups.

We look forward to hosting these again in 2024.



5.33% of our student population are refugee status. We celebrated by hosting a student led activity for our community-learning to speak S'Gaw and Po Karen, Karenni, Burmese and Thai. Some teachers learned how to play the traditional Karen harp. The purpose of Refugee Week is to celebrate the ways in which people from refugee back grounds enrich our communities and culture.

## REFUGEE WEEK

Harmony Week is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We celebrated with activities outside the community hub and everyone wearing orange to support the day.



## HARMONY DAY

# DEADLY YOUNG MOB IN ACTION

Young Mob has taken place once a fortnight to engage with each other and learn about their culture. This year Young Mob group went on Wathaurong Country and connected to their community, culture, country and language. We learned from Aunty Judi and Uncle Reg and were welcomed on Country by Aunty Naomi and Olivia with a traditional ceremony. Connection to culture and country holds great significance for First Nations People, as it is the source of spiritual, cultural, and physical sustenance. Thank you to the deadly team, Kristy and Troy for organising the day, Mr Morrison and Rose for helping us out and Wathaurong Aboriginal Co Op for taking care of us. Gobata! meaning 'take care' in the Wathaurong language.



## RAP UPDATE

We are pleased to have reached 70% of our school Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). 2024 will see the development of our second RAP.

A Reconciliation Action Plan is a formal commitment to reconciliation. It documents how our school will strengthen relationships, respect and opportunities in the classroom, around the school and with the community.

A highlight for the group is our Gathering Circle, located at the front of our school. This place of connection has brought together families, community, other school mobs and a place of calm and belonging.



# LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

There are many opportunities to showcase your talents and lead work in a space that you're passionate about in the Community Hub. Days like Wear It Purple Day are an opportunity for students to stand proud in their identity and educate each other on important matters of the world. We encourage students to celebrate their community groups and learn more about their history everyday through opportunities like the Multicultural Youth Forum and contributing to community topics related to youth.



## INTERACT

Thanks to our Interact Super Stars and our partnership with Rotary Club of Werribee we were able to raise just over \$400 in book funds and 250 books that will go to the Bahay Ni San Jose Orphanage in Papaya, Luzon, Philippines at our Subject Expo BBQ and Book Drive. This project contributes to the groups focus on a global community project. The Interact team started our school community garden! We used the expertise of our Project Based Learning team with Mr Palatsidis to build the wicking beds and create a beautiful space for our school community to start using. Our long term vision is to create a space where our families can grow and creating opportunities for community-sourced, sustainable food options.



## JUNUBI WYNDHAM



Our partnership with Junubi Wyndham has allowed our students to lean into their culture, have some fun, and allow families to access resources they need at school. We have been able to host a fortnightly Youth Group which allows students to practise their learning and skills around topics that are important to them. We also started an African Cooking Class which has produced delicious meals for students to take home and share with their families.

# REFUGEE EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM



The Refugee Education Support Program (RESP) is a two-year program that has supported our school to identify and implement strategies having a positive impact on achievement, engagement, and wellbeing outcomes of students from refugee backgrounds and their families. The RESP team has undergone training with Foundation House and Centre for Multicultural Youth and have provided a range of events, practices and learnings to all staff within the school.

## A note from **School's In for Refugees** about the impact on RESP

Young people from refugee backgrounds are often highly motivated, bringing with them a range of skills and strengths to succeed in their education, but can often face significant challenges in accessing the support they need to remain engaged in and successfully navigate school.

These educational challenges are often compounded due to learning a new language, navigating a new culture and social system, building peer relationships, negotiating grief and loss associated with separation from significant others and an unfamiliar and different education environment.

## COMMUNITY HUB MEMBERS GIVING BACK TO COMMUNITY

Moving into 2024 Kristy, Paw Ner Moo, Nathaniel and Hassan (Tutor Learning Program) will be members of the Wyndham Park Community Centre Board of Governance. This contribution allows the team to give back to partnerships that are valued by our families at Wyndham Central College. Kristy has been nominated as President and Hassan as Treasurer. Thank you to the wonderful staff at the Centre for allowing us to work in the space.



For the last two years, Kristy has been a selected member of the Wyndham Reconciliation Advisory Committee for Wyndham City Council. This role has contributed to the adoption of the Council's second Innovation Reconciliation Action Plan.

# STUDENTS IN COMMUNITY ACTION!

There is so much talent at Wyndham Central College. We are so proud to be the heartbeat of fun, culture and connection in the Link Centre Community Hub.



From the team and I- **THANK YOU!** to all those that have supported this work.  
We look forward to an even bigger year in 2024 :)  
-Kristy Gray, Community Engagement Lead, Wyndham Central College