



inside out

ALEXANDRA SECONDARY COLLEGE

August 05 2024

T3 WEEK 4

Mount Buller Ski Day 2024.



Last Friday we had a group of enthusiastic students and staff spend the day snowboarding and skiing on Mount Buller - a fantastic time was had by all. Thanks to Mr Nadj for organising the day.

More photos on page 7

Dates to Remember

- Monday August 5th - Ski Squad
- Tuesday August 6th - Maths Competition
- Monday August 12th - Ski Squad
- Monday August 19th - Round Robin
- Wednesday August 21st - Pupil Free Curriculum Day
- Friday September 6th - Penny Concert

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Principal's Report

Keeping you up to date with college news

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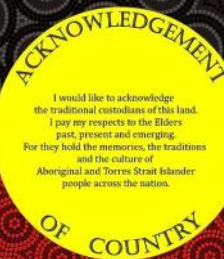
Holocaust Museum

Our Year 10's visit the Holocaust Museum

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Science Week

Next week is Science Week, find out what we will be up to.



Principal's Report

We sent a full bus of students up to Mt Buller last Friday. We had excellent weather conditions and a great day on the snow. Thanks to Jacki Tossol, Christine Waters, George Nadj, Brenda Hampson, Rebecca van Lierop, Ally Crouch, Lochy Morrison and Lucas Russell for their long day but rewarding day looking after our students. Huge thanks also go to George Nadj for his organisation of the day.

It was fantastic to see so many families at our Open Night on Wednesday. It was especially nice to meet our new parents and students and welcome them into our College Community.

Subject selections for students going into Year 9, 10, 11 & 12 in 2025 should be submitted online by this Friday 9th August.

At any time, if students or parents have specific questions about subjects, our teachers are very happy to be contacted; remember all teacher emails are on the College Website.

For career pathway advice, appointments can be made with Phil Stevenson. Cath Collett is also a great resource for advice on subject selection.

We have emailed home, to all of our families tonight, a letter with a link to the annual parent survey on the College. We value the opinions of our parents and greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey, and in doing so, help inform us in the continual journey of improving our school for our students.

Weinberg students have made the strongest start for attendance for the term. To have better than 90% attendance after 3 weeks of term, students must not have missed more than one day of school.

Nigel Lyttle

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Emma Kidd

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When: Friday, 16th August at recess & lunch

Where: In the caf

What: A bake sale run by the Yr11 Leadership Team to raise money for Australian children in poverty who struggle to have a fulfilled education. Prices will range from 50c to \$2!

*Cash only

Year Level Co-ordinators

Year 7 -

Sharon Parbery

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Year 9 -

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Year 12 -

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Year 10 Melbourne Holocaust Museum English Excursion

Last Wednesday our Year 10 cohort visited the Melbourne Holocaust Museum as part of their English studies. Students have been reading the text 'The Happiest Man on Earth' by Eddie Jaku, a Holocaust survivor. Our students received high praise for their respectful manners and insightful questions.

A highlight of the visit was the question and answer session with Holocaust survivor John Lamovie. He shared his harrowing story of evading the Nazis in France by assuming a fake identity – which as a small boy he had trouble remembering, being smuggled out of occupied territory by the French Underground, refusing a lolly offered by the Gestapo and the heartbreaking betrayal and murder of his mother and sister at Auschwitz concentration camp. We are now indelibly linked to the artefacts, stories and people we encountered at the museum and will remember John's final message to be kind to others and to make an effort to enjoy our lives.

To lighten the mood after the museum visit and foster friendships, the Year 10s enjoyed a quick game of Ten Pin Bowling on the journey home. Spirits were high and competition was fierce, with everyone aiming to get on the scoreboard. Congratulations to our top performers, Matt Waixel, Noah Upson and Michael Whittles, who competed intensely across multiple lanes. Mr. Mitrow showcased impressive bowling skills, boosting morale among the teachers, while many students achieved strikes and were met with cheers from the entire Year Level.

Thank you to our Year 10 English teachers Mr Mitrow and Mrs Landers and our Year 10 Co-ordinator Ms Steuart for attending and helping to arrange the excursion. Many thanks also to Mrs Kidd, Mrs VanLierop, Anne Norris, Max Lopez and Anita Rennie who were instrumental in organising the excursion behind the scenes.



UT Creek Riparian Zone Rehabilitation Zone NEWS

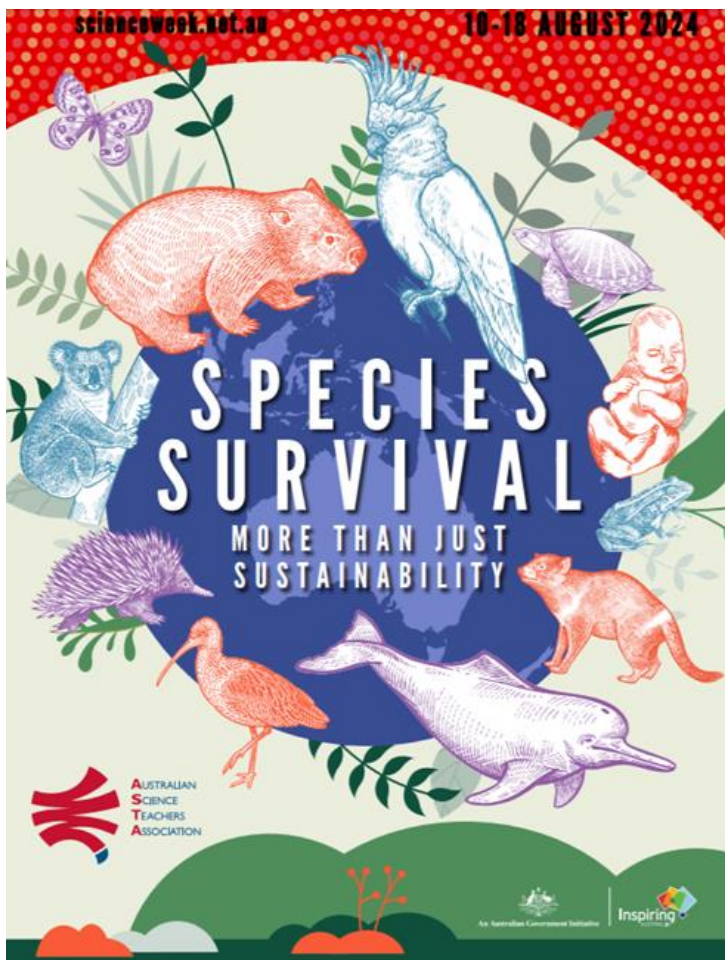
Enormous thanks to 8C for taking time during period 6 last Thursday to water our recently planted native seedlings in the rehabilitation zone. The weather was glorious and students happily bucketed water from UT Creek to supply our thirsty plants.

This Wednesday at lunchtime, we will be erecting plant guards around our Poa grass seedlings. Our local kangaroo mob has discovered them and finds them delicious! Our ultimate goal is to provide food and shelter for local wildlife; although, we'd prefer the seedlings to reach maturity first!



The incredible 8C, pictured here on our Tree Planting Day, continued their care of our local environment by watering ALL the seedlings this week.

Next week is National Science Week.



Next week is NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK with the theme 'Species Survival – More than Just Sustainability'. The theme perfectly aligns with the College's 'Resource Smart School' goal to increase biodiversity.

Staff and Students are encouraged to monitor the Daily Notices on Sentral to learn what fun activities our Science Teachers have planned.

Down in the UT Creek Riparian Rehabilitation Zone during National Science Week we will be planting out the slope with *Dianella* seedlings. These plants were generously donated to us by Mrs Evans and the Cathedral Landcare Group. *Dianella* produce nectar-rich blue flowers which are popular with native bees and birds.

Back at school we will plant a native bee-friendly garden near the Science building. It will be filled with local native flowering creepers, grasses, shrubs and a couple of trees. We also plan to set up all the native bee hotels we made last term.

*Addendum – during the compilation of last week's edition of Inside Out, autocorrect changed the word 'Rehabilitation' to 'Repatriation'. It's definitely a rewilding project down by the creek - **rehabilitating** the local bushland.

Rock Band Day

On Tuesday 30th July 14 students from Alexandra Secondary College travelled to Euroa Secondary College to participate in the first biannual Rock Band Day. There were several reasons for bringing this event to reality. First and foremost it is an opportunity for likeminded music students with a passion for Contemporary Music to meet, listen/see what the other is doing and to potentially form future alliances and ensembles. It was also a great opportunity for students to develop their listening and analysis skills and to develop their ability to articulate these observations to an audience. Whilst we had plans to delve into the various avenues for future musical development and career opportunities in the Music Industry, we had so many quality performances that the time quickly slipped

away. Nevertheless we plan on touching further on these areas in our subsequent Rock Band Day during Term 4.

There were numerous performances from over a dozen ensembles, all students presented and conversed well and all seemed to enjoy and gain ideas and new directions from the day as a whole.

Looking forward to furthering the performances and discussion in Alexandra later in the year!

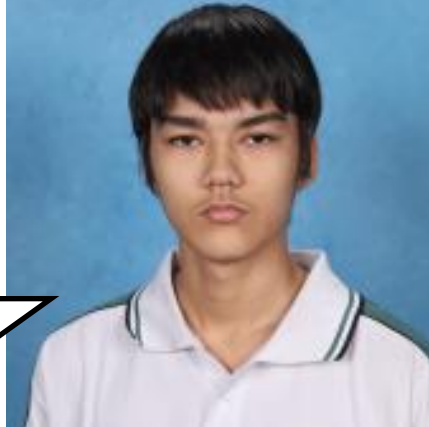


Our students are talking about ...

Their excursion to the Melbourne Holocaust Museum

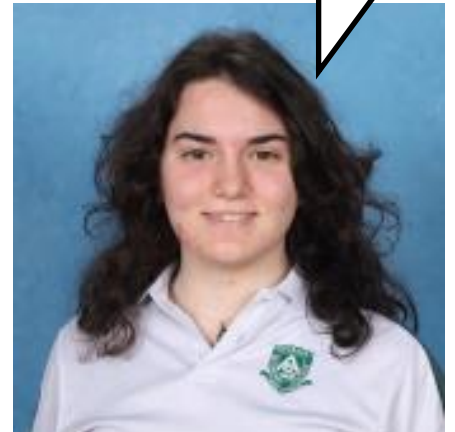
One thing I will remember from our visit will be the questions to the surviving gentleman, his story was profound to me. The fake ID's also tell me how terrifying it would have been.

Michael



I will remember the story of the little baby who was born right before his family was taken to a concentration camp. His mother smuggled him to a non Jewish family, after the war the little boy was adopted by the same family and was taught about his Jewish heritage.

Lacey



Ryan said the one thing that will stay in his mind from the Holocaust Museum is the story of the pyjamas as it was very confronting. Listening to John with everything he had been through and had remembered was also fascinating.

Ryan



I walked away remembering John's story of his life during the Holocaust and how he had to live in Paris. I will remember this as it was very eye opening. I also learned that many countries had a very low percentage of Jewish people and it was bizarre how they were thought of as a threat.

Billie



John, the Holocaust Survivor was very memorable. His experiences and stories were extremely interesting to listen too. I also learned how Jewish people had to wear gold stars to show that they were Jewish.

Stuart



It was really interesting learning about the prototype of the camps that the Jewish people were forced to stay in, they showed the layout and activities that they had to endure. Also learning the toll this took on survivors was very confronting.

Abi



Buller Ski Day










We have some exciting news - we've become Victoria's first 'Koala Smart' School!

Living in an area of Australia where koalas are commonly found, many of our students are lucky to have these animals on their properties. Therefore, it's difficult for us to comprehend that without our intervention, koalas could face functional extinction within 35 years.

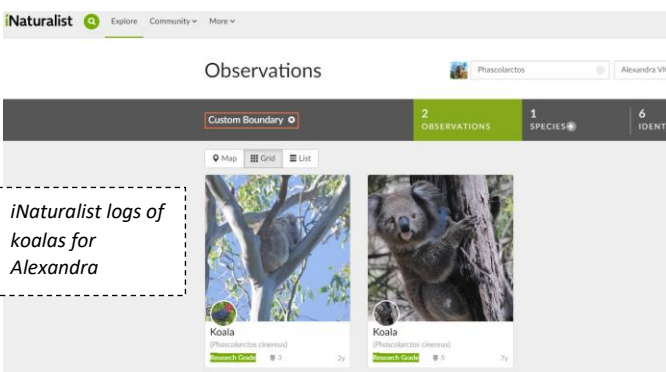
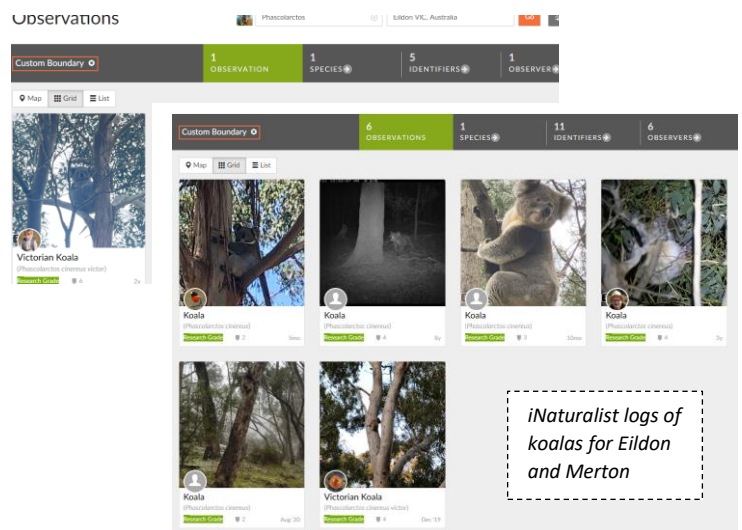
Last week Ms Stuart and Mrs Evans met with an Ecologist named Lynne Wallace-Greenberg who is a koala expert working with **Koala Smart**. Lynne has extensive knowledge of koalas and has previously worked at the world-famous, Port Macquarie Koala Hospital in NSW. She has recently moved to Alexandra and is keen to support us.

Koala Smart is an educational programme with classroom resources designed to encourage students to actively create positive change to protect koalas. We will incorporate these exciting resources into our Science classes and we're thrilled to have a major field project planned with the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network.

Very little is known scientifically about our local populations of koalas, so to kick off our first week as Victoria's first Koala Smart School, we are initiating a **Citizen Science Project**. Students, their families and friends are encouraged to locate and photograph our local koalas!

We invite our College Community to install the app **iNaturalist** on their mobile phones and photograph any koalas they see (alive or deceased). This amazing app allows you to upload photographs of koalas (and any animals, plants or fungi for that matter) to a global database which is accessed by Scientists around the world. If your photograph is analysed by an expert, it will be labelled as "research grade".

At the moment, only two koalas have been uploaded for Alexandra in the past seven years, with six logged for Merton and one at Eildon. We hope to rapidly expand this local koala database, especially as we are currently in the "koala dispersal" season, where young male koalas are out and about seeking new territory.



Our local koala database will help university researchers monitor koala populations, determine their conservation status and eventually collect DNA samples. It's important to analyse the DNA of our local koala population because most of the koalas in southern Australia lack genetic diversity which means they could be susceptible to a disease and are at risk of being wiped out. However, Scientists don't know if the koalas in our area are also inbred. If they are genetically diverse, our local population could potentially save Australia's southern koala species from extinction!