



2023

Courage
Integrity
Community



Principal's Reflection



2023 HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC YEAR FOR WESTERN HEIGHTS COLLEGE.

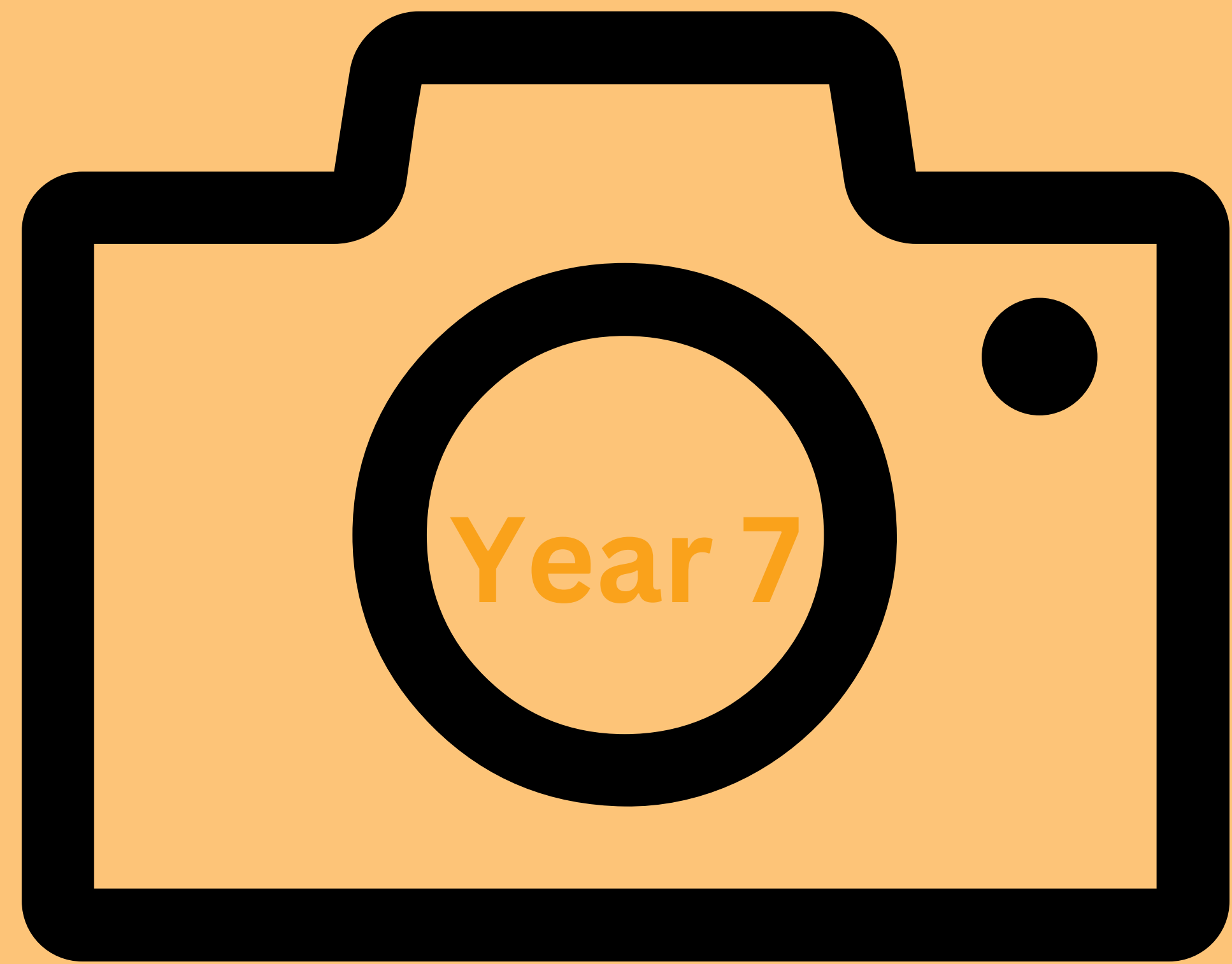
Learning and growth has been the focus whilst ensuring that our well-being needs of our young people have been prioritised. As I walk the classrooms of our school, I see students who love learning with their teachers. I see teachers who make learning engaging and fun each day. I see students participating in challenging lessons where they persevere while solving difficult real-world problems. I see students conducting science investigations where they ask questions, make observations, and collect data. I see art and music being created by excited and energetic students. I see students excelling in our Specialist Sport Program. It is because of the teachers' hard work and dedication that students get to participate in engaging and relevant learning experiences each day at WHC. It has been so great to feel the energy of students in our college classrooms and grounds in 2023.

There have been many wonderful highlights to celebrate as a whole community and college and I invite you to enjoy reading the many reports in this wonderful online magazine and reflection and review of our college year put together by students and staff from WHC which will be posted shortly in compass.

I know that many students and teachers feel exhausted and tired at the end of the school year. Teachers continue to make a huge difference every day to students, and I continue to be proud to be an educator working to make a difference in the lives of the students we serve.

As we close out the year, I want to thank our parents and carers for their wonderful support of our young people.

2023 has been a year of consolidation for our college as we grow towards a school enrolment of 1000. We have so much to look forward too as a community and I cannot wait to continue our school journey together and growth as a community in 2024.

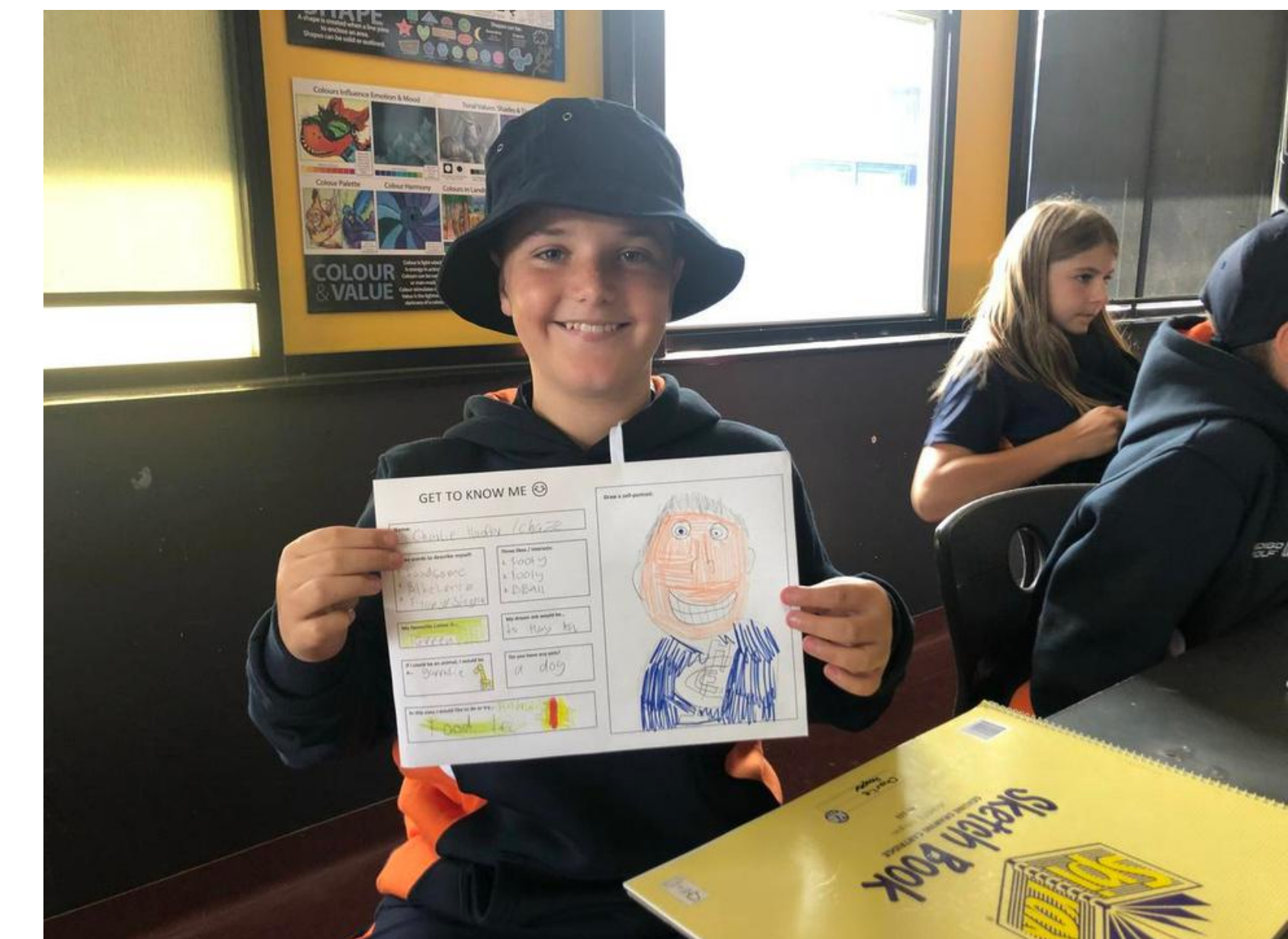


Year 7

FLIPPY



The Year 7s began their high school journey with us on 31 January, when they started the day with a quick assembly, met their mentor groups, organised lockers and made new friends in their new classes. Here are a few photos from the first day of school.



Year 7

YEAR 7 CAMP

TYLDON

LEAP OF FAITH

I did the leap of faith on the last day so I was very tired. I made a deal with Dayno that if he went to the top of the pole and jumped off and hit the ball, I would do it too. So then he climbed up to the top of the pole. Then the pole started swaying around. Then he started screaming and yelling to the instructor saying "what do I do?" Then Mr West started filming him and he got pulled off. He screamed all the way down. - Josh Mustard

ROCK CLIMBING

We had to put harnesses on for rock climbing and the instructors taught us about safety. I love rock climbing so I was not nervous. I was the first one up on the wall in our group. I made it to the top first go when we were meant to just go to the red. I made it up to the top of the wall 9 times. When I finished, my hands killed. - Brody Langley

FLYING FOX

I did the flying fox and it was so fun and interesting to learn about. I have always loved heights so going over a lake on a flying fox was so fun. It was also weird because I could see through the water. At the landing area the water was brown but when you went over the lake you could see straight through it and everything that was in the water. The instructors were really nice and helpful when I was confused with the carabiners and clips. I was told that I was fearless because I did the flying fox so many times. - Mia Houghton

CANOEING

One of my favourite activities was canoeing. I was in a canoe with my friend Mason and we almost tipped in. The one thing I didn't like was the food. It was undercooked or overcooked. - Harry O'Brien

CHALLENGE COURSE

I liked the challenge course because it was really fun. I got really muddy and wet and all my friends were diving into the water. We all had a lot of fun and we all were wet. Every time I got in the water or did an obstacle I was always happy because I got muddy and dirty. -Tyreece William

CAMP FOOD

The food was quite gross and I'm not a picky eater so that says a lot. The first day we had chicken burgers, a small patty and soft bread buns. There was a salad bar at every meal so the topping that I had was: lettuce, tomato, cucumber, aioli, and canned pineapple in a bowl for dessert. The chicken tasted strange as if it was a bird that they found outside! I rate that meal 7/10. Dinner that night we had soft tacos, this was probably the worst meal of the camp. The mince tastes like corned beef and in the salad bar there was mould in the food. From there on out I ate the canned fruit for the rest of camp because I was so scared to get food poisoning. -Michaela Pistorius



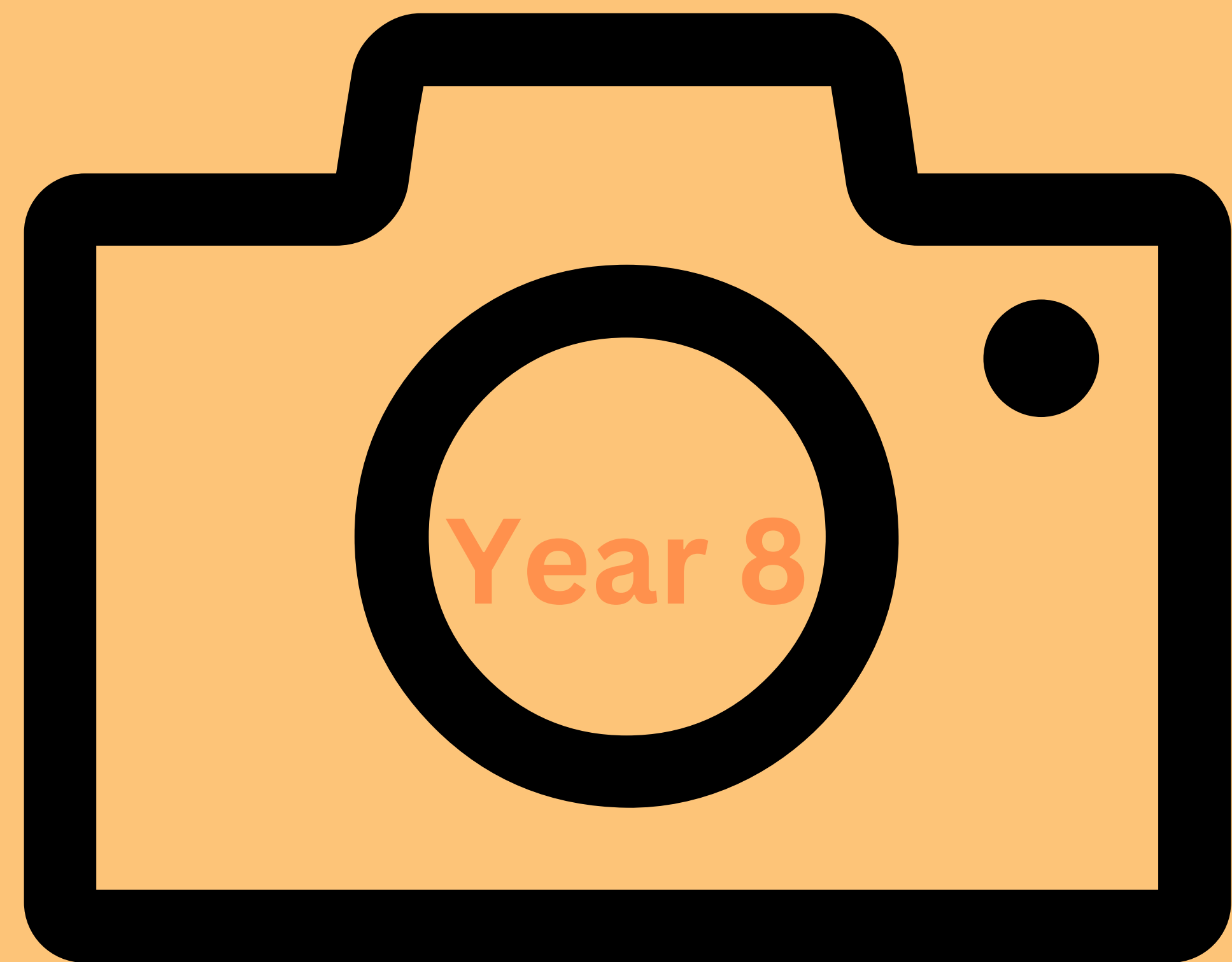
Year 7

YEAR 7 CAMP TYLDON





College Swimming Carnival



CAMP CHARNWOOD

Year 8



Cross Country

THE WHC CROSS COUNTRY

Was held on 16 May this year with the traditional route of "Church Street to Ballarat Road" being taken like previous years. The students headed off after lunch with beautiful blue skies and fantastic weather for the afternoon.

The event was once again ran in three age groupings: Junior Boys and Girls (13/14 years), Intermediate Boys and Girls (15/16 years), and Senior Boys and Girls (17/20 years).

Our individual winners after the race were:

Junior (13-14 Years) Females: Tayah Delaney

Junior (13-14 Years) Males: Luke Grgurevic

Intermediate (15/16 Years) Females: Georgia Tyrrell

Intermediate (15/16 Years) Males: Jackson Unthank

Senior (17-20 Years) Females: Caitlin Charles

Senior (17-20 Years) Males: Jack Wilson

The overall house championship results finished with a close one!

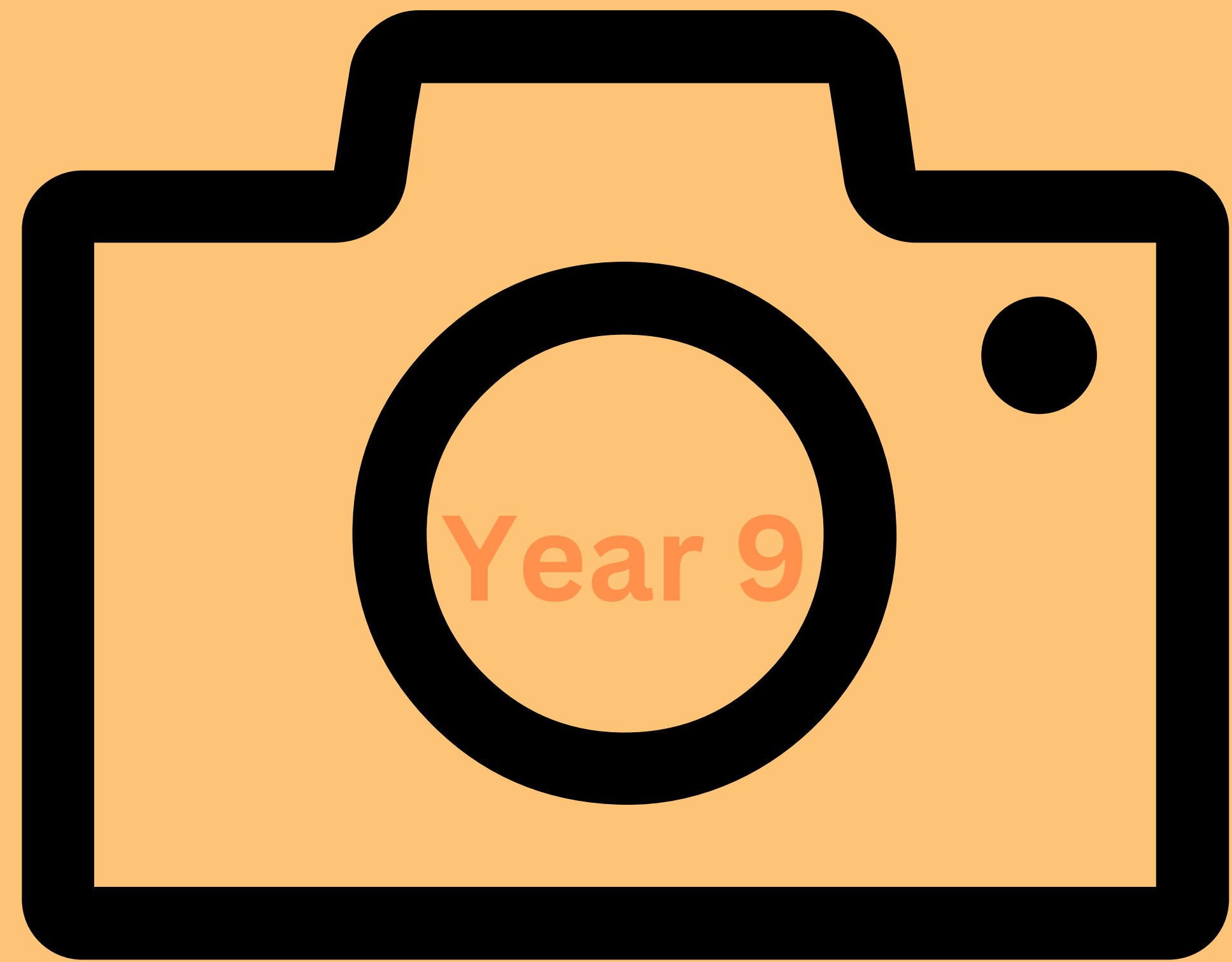
4th position went to Minerva (Yellow), 3rd was Quamby (Red), a tight finish between 2nd and 1st saw Vines (Green) come in as runners up and Barton (Blue) as the victorious house!

Special thanks goes to all staff members who manned the stations and results tables to ensure that the event ran smoothly. Another thanks goes to students who helped out through the afternoon, without this help events such as this are not possible.



The WHC Cross Country







Year 9 Camp

Year 9

King Lake Camp

Year 9 camp was possibly the best camp ever. We started off with a two and a half hour bus trip all the way to King Lake Adventure Camp, North of Melbourne. When we got there, we were greeted by our new camp leaders and got split into our camp groups. The activities we got to do were so much fun. We got to feed and pat Wallabies, go on a hike, play camouflage, and do mindfulness meditation, but everyone's favourite activity was getting to climb up on a high log and jump off. We got to do three different types of jumps. We did a tug of war jump, a free fall, and a trust fall. The food that we got there was actually really good, we had lasagne with garlic bread, sausages in bread, pancakes, bacon and eggs and chicken schnitzel. Everyone ate all of their food it was that good. On the last night of camp, we got to do African drumming and got to learn about Aboriginal culture. In the African drumming we got to experience some African culture, and we all learnt how to play the djembe. During the Aboriginal cultural experience, we learnt how to play the didgeridoo and old tricks. But all together the bus ride home was one of the best moments. We had a portable speaker on the bus and got to blast music and sing the whole way home. Camp was definitely a time to remember.

By Kaiden Nadolski and Xanthe Stangel





KOKODA TRIP



Angus Edge:

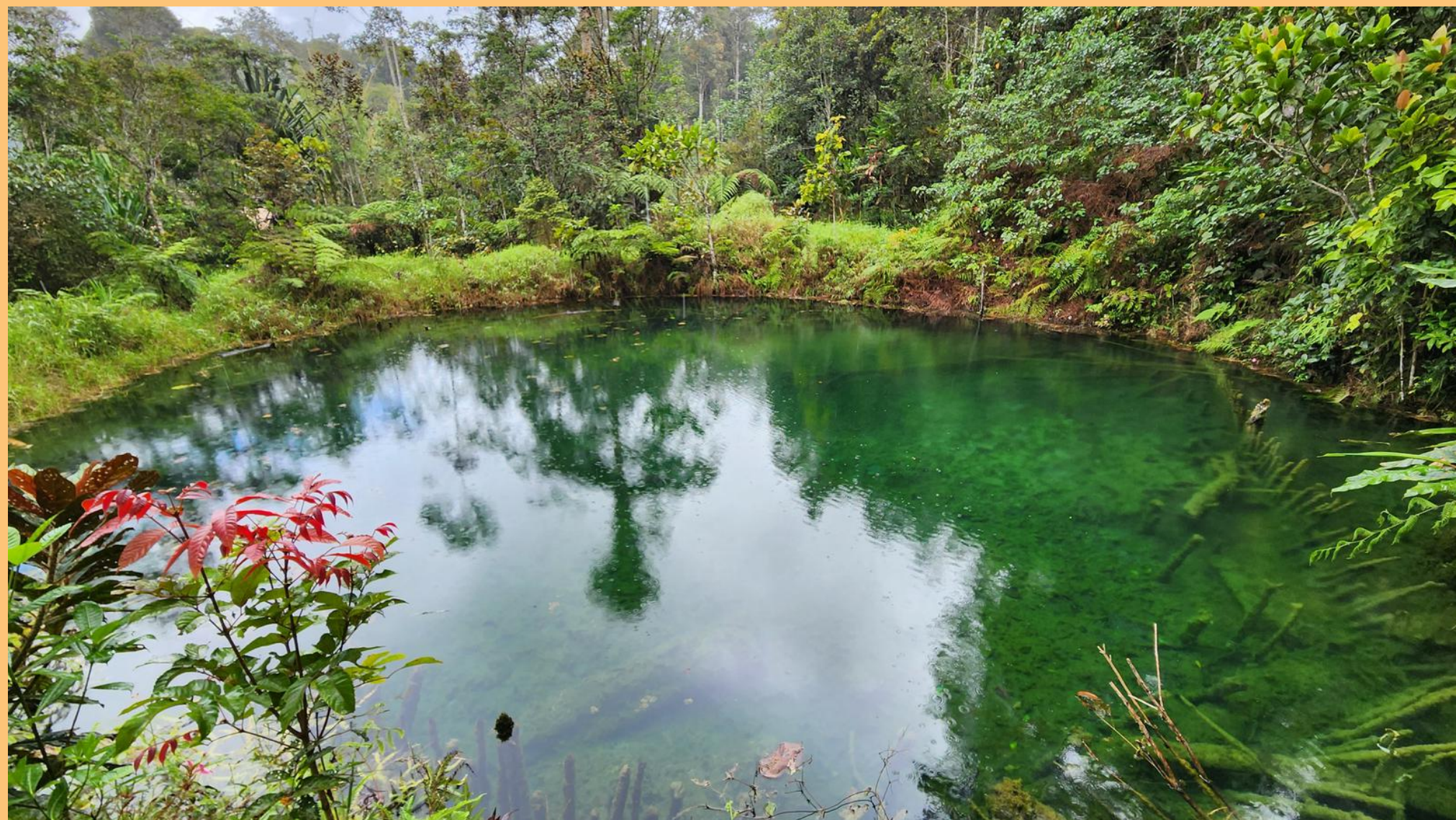
Kokoda was fun and a good challenge with lots of lifelong memories and stories to share with my friends and loved ones .

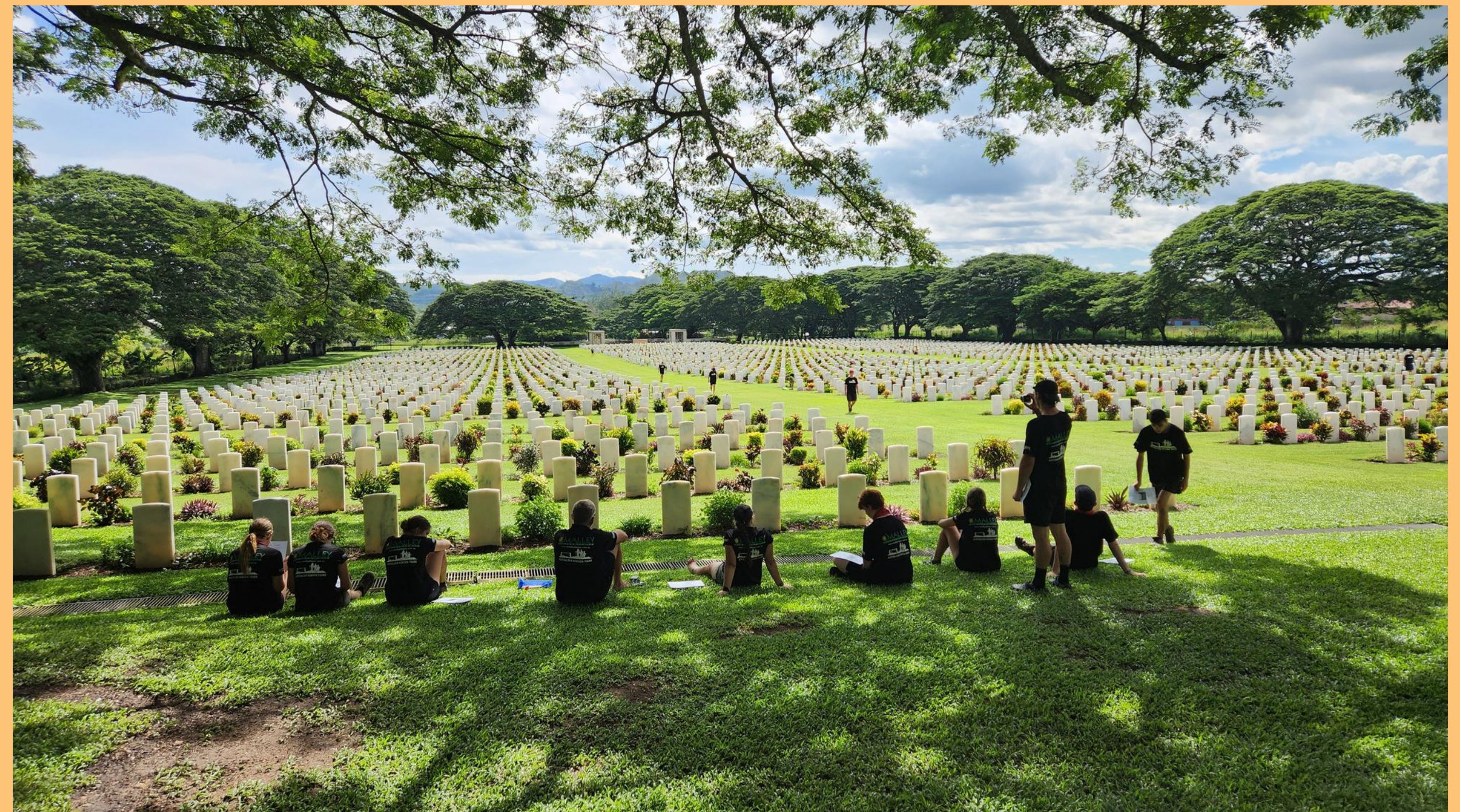
A memories that will stay with me forever is seeing the sort of life people live in the villages and seeing how content with their life they were.

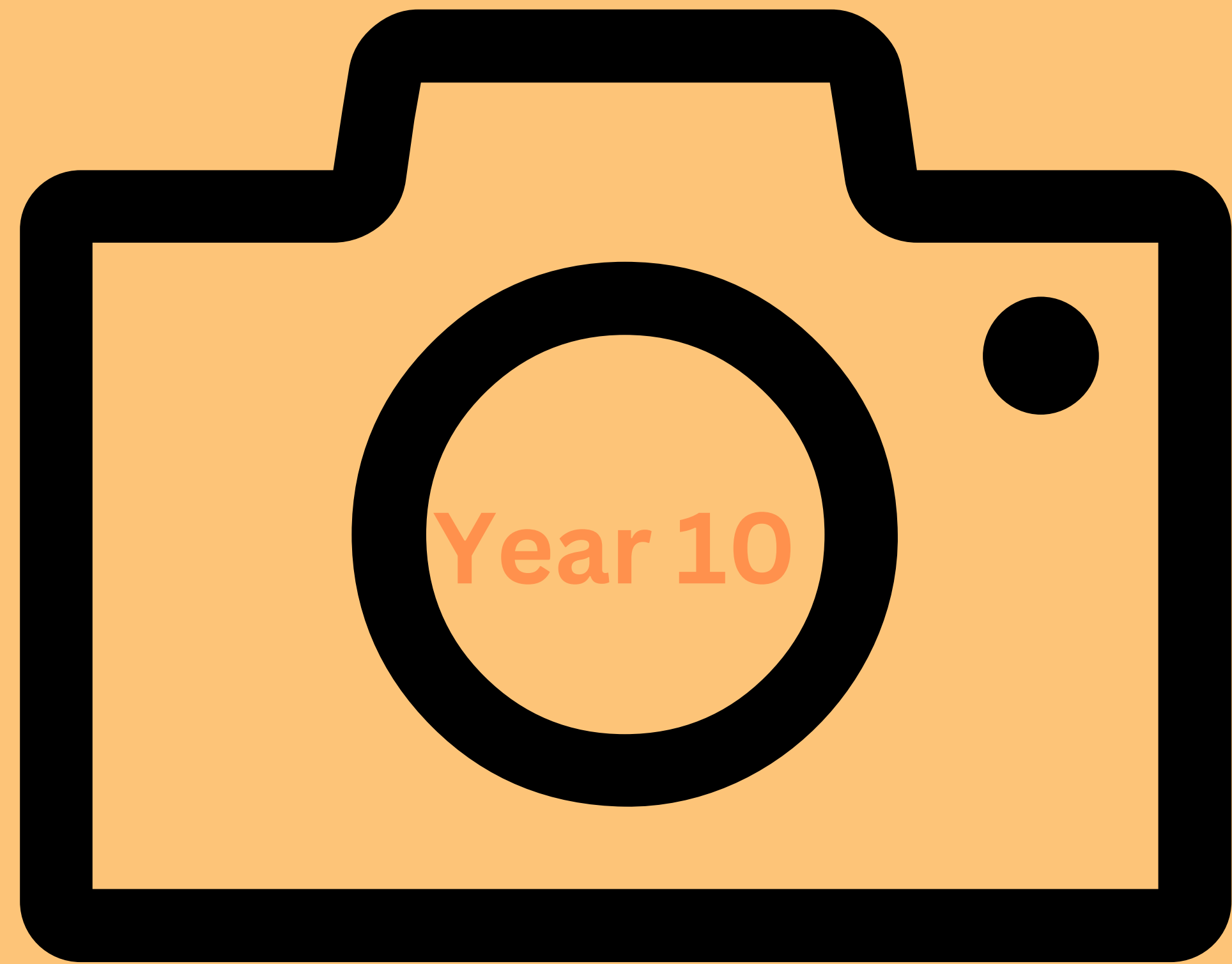
Astrid Watters:

Kokoda was a once in a lifetime experience, and I loved every second of it, whether it was climbing the hardest mountain or playing with the kids in the local village, connecting with different cultures was extremely inspirational and inspiring. I'm thankful for the group that I went with and all the memories and connections we made. The trek pushed me to limits I didn't think was possible and I wouldn't have been able to do it without the incredible support system that we made as a group. It's made me a more resilient, patient and confident version of myself. I'm proud to say that I trekked Kokoda and I'd do it again in a heartbeat.









Year 10

The year 10's have had a jam packed year – from completing their last year of schooling before commencing VCE/VM to many other activities. Year 10s have had a busy year completing interschool sport – with multiple of the team winning and even making it to state finals. Multiple students have been out on work experience this year, getting a taste of what it is like to work in a trade – carpentry, cabinet marking and bricklaying being some of the trades the year 10s have experienced.

The year 10s also helped fundraise this year in the form of a sport colors day casual dress and a BBQ with year 10 students helping collect money, and cook and serve sausages to the school. All funds raised went towards funding the year 10 celebration night/formal. The year 10 celebration night/formal was just that – a celebration and acknowledgment of having nearly completed year 10 in a fun way. Multiple students helped organise the formal alongside Miss Daly - they created a color theme, organised invitations, decorations and even helped create a playlist for the night. All students who attended had an amazing time and danced the night away.

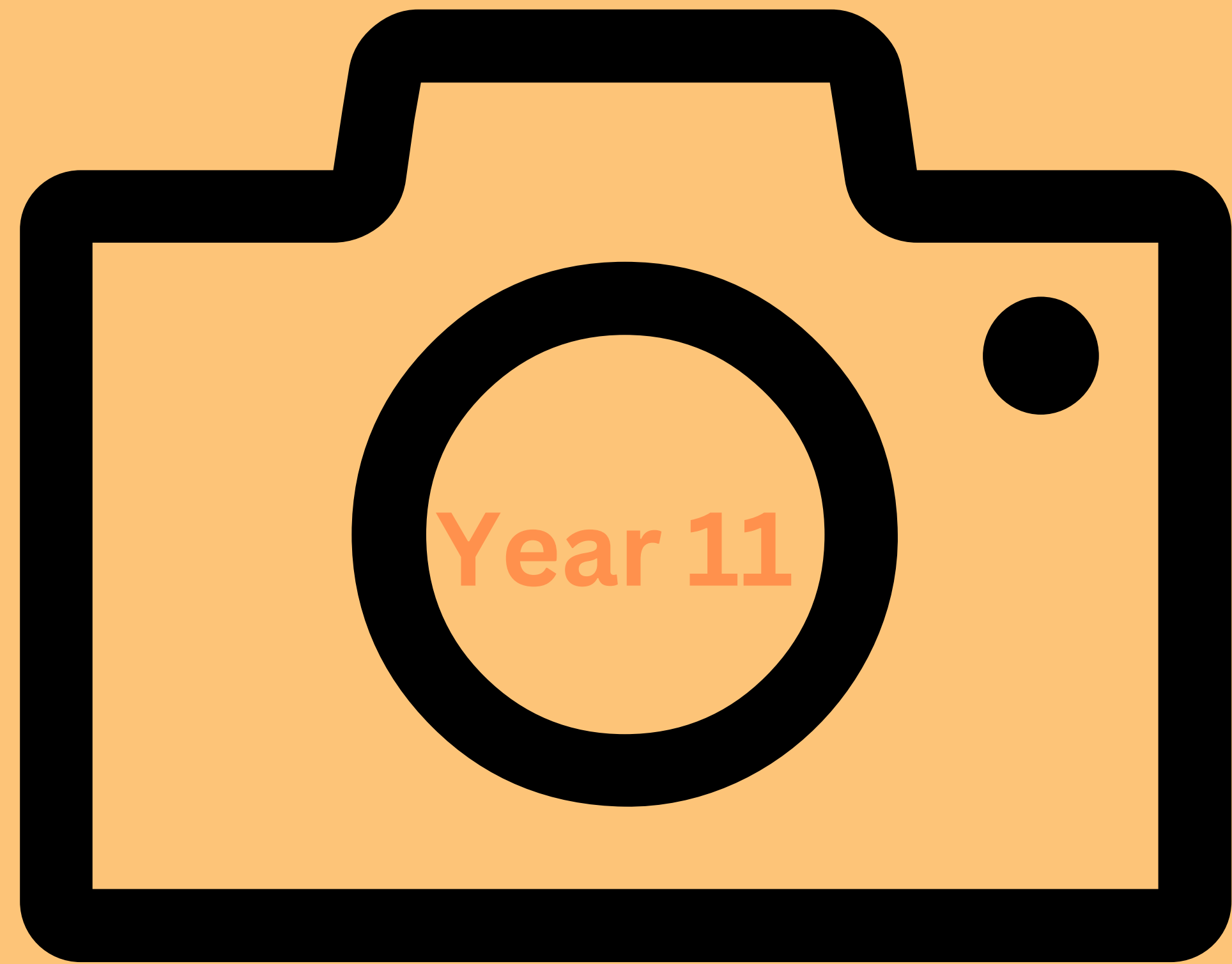
The year 10's also got serious about their mental health and wellbeing this year with the mancave and life changer workshops. The boys took part in a powerful session with the crew from Mancave all day, and were supported to share some of their stories and feelings. Meanwhile the girls were challenged regarding their self-esteem and relationships with others by the life changer team, and members of the wellbeing team.

Overall the year 10's have had a busy and chaotic year – full of fun but most importantly full of learning.

- Miss Daly & Mr Temelkovski (Year 10 LCLs)

YEAR 10 FORMAL





BBQ Fundraise

As part of PDS Unit 2, the Year 11 students researched and identified issues impacting the local Community. Students voted on the issue of Homelessness that they would like to help raise awareness of. Students planned a school BBQ, writing letters to local businesses and collecting donations of BBQ supplies. Students made posters that identified the statistics of homelessness in Geelong and stated places that one experiencing hardship can go. Students independently ran the BBQ at lunchtime, raising approximately \$550 for The Geelong Food Relief Centre.

Year 11



LIBRARY

READ, INSPIRE, GROW! BOOK WEEK 2023, WHC LIBRARY.

At least 200 students visited the Library during Book Week; many of you participated in or observed the lunch activities. Thank you for popping in to see what all the fuss was about!

This year's Book Week theme was Read, Inspire and Grow, and students were definitely **READING** new things, were **INSPIRED** by the dress ups and **GREW** the library community as well as themselves as readers.

COMPETITION WINNERS

99 Word Story Tsunami by Mikayla Brian, 8A

Marvel Quiz Izik Burgess, 7G

Match the Book Title to the Teacher Tia Samphanh, 10C (assisted by Angus Edge, 10E)

Wacky Wednesday Silly Walk Lissy Huismann, 7B

Scavenger Hunt Kyra Lawson, 7D

Maze Hunt Sav Nicholson, 10D.

Thank you, Mrs. Burville, for the fantastic displays and cupcakes, thank you Ms. Walker and students for the 3-D Whomping Tree from Harry Potter. Thank you, Librarian Kathryn Mulqueeney from the GRLC, for the book bag activity. Thank you, Leaders (Ben, Cooper and team), for announcements over the PA. Thank you teachers and support staff for supporting Book Week!

Make sure you continue to pop into your library and offer suggestions about what you would like to see and do. Everyone is welcome!

Ms. Choong, Library.

LIBRARY



ALUMNI



ALUMNI

On behalf of the entire Western Heights community, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our alumni speakers for 2023, taking the time to visit our campus and share your invaluable insights with our current students.

Your presence and words resonated deeply with both students and faculty alike. Your journey from graduation to current position or accomplishments serves as a powerful testament to the possibilities that lie ahead for our students. Your willingness to share your experiences, challenges, and triumphs provided a unique and enriching perspective that will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on those who were fortunate enough to attend your presentations.

Your commitment to giving back to the College is commendable, and we are grateful for the positive influence you have had on our current students. Your involvement enhances the sense of community and connection that defines the spirit of Western Heights College.

Once again, thank you for your time, your generosity, and your dedication to supporting the next generation of college graduates. We look forward to the possibility of welcoming you back in the future and continuing to foster this valuable relationship between our alumni and current students.

ALUMNI



/HEADSTART

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

Since 2019, the Head Start program has seen school-based apprentices and trainees thrive, enabling students to develop the skills and experience that employers value. From much favoured traditional trades to increased interest in agriculture and green energy, Head Start lets students start learning skills for an apprenticeship or traineeship early – providing them with the real life knowledge that employers need, while continuing to complete their senior schooling.

With schools reporting strong retention rates and genuine employment outcomes for students post placement, Head Start has now been expanded to include all government Secondary Schools across Victoria.

In our area, Head Start Barwon South West has expanded from 16 schools to supporting students across 40 schools in the Geelong and South West region.

So what does it take to be in the Head Start program?

- You must be over 15 and enrolled in year 10, 11, 12
- Ideally have completed work experience or structured workplace learning or willing to work to find opportunities
- Committed to studying and willing to learn
- Has good school attendance & is punctual & reliable
-

What do students have to do to be referred?

Career planning

Your school counsellor will work with you to find the right one.

Plan your pathway

Your Head Start coordinator will develop your pathway plan to get you into your chosen career.

Find an employer

Your Head Start coordinator will work with you to find an employer who is committed to mentoring young people in your chosen industry.

Do a trial

You'll complete work experience or structured workplace learning to make sure it's the right fit for you.

/HEADSTART

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

Get started

Your Head Start coordinator will work with school staff to create a flexible timetable to help you combine school, work and training successfully. They'll be on hand to give you one-on-one support throughout your Head Start program.

In 2023, the Head Start team had an amazing year. Our coordinators have had the pleasure of exploring career pathways and opportunities with students, supporting them to balance school, work, training, friends and family.

At Western Heights, 5 students have taken up an apprenticeship or traineeship in the Head Start Program. Congratulations to the following students who commenced the Head Start program in 2023:

Thomas Evans Certificate III in Plumbing

Jesse Colville Certificate III in Landscaping

Riley Michalik Certificate III in Plumbing

Billy Greaves Certificate III in Automotive Electrical Technology

Noah Tucker Certificate III in Civil Construction

To find out more, speak to your career's teacher or Head Start Coordinator.

Kick-start your career with a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship through Head Start!

/HEADSTART

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS



Women-in-Trades Program 2023



I wanted to express my gratitude to WHC for permitting me to capture this year's Women-In-Trades (WIT) Program photo in front of the community centre TODAY.

A total of 35 girls from secondary schools in Geelong enthusiastically took part in the WIT program. During this program, these young women had the opportunity to gain invaluable work experience in a range of construction jobs / trades across Geelong. This initiative empowers girls who are interested in pursuing careers in Trades that have traditionally been male-dominated.

We're truly heartened to witness these girls stepping up and giving it their all. A big thank you goes out to the WHC teachers & Amy, Nicole, and Jonathan from Headstart, as well as Jo and Claire from GRLLN for your invaluable support in ensuring the success of this program. You all have made a significant impact for the girls. We also extend our gratitude to Miranda Borg from 'Apprentices Support Australia' for generously providing a \$20 Gift Card for each of the 35 girls who participated.

Andrew McCarthy

PS – WHC girls who participated were: Stevie Allen, Ella Brown, Jorja Cookson, Zahlia Foley, Kobie Frost, Keshena Kincaid, Jaylah Buschmann, Bonnie McFlarlane, Ryah Crowthers.

Year 12





Vocational Major

West Café

The West café opened its doors for the first time on Friday selling coffee, hot chocolates and cookies at recess. Students have been working hard developing a business plan, logo, advertising campaign, completing a barista course and cooking and testing out prospective products. The West Café is a student run café and will be open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday's at recess.



Year 12 Formal

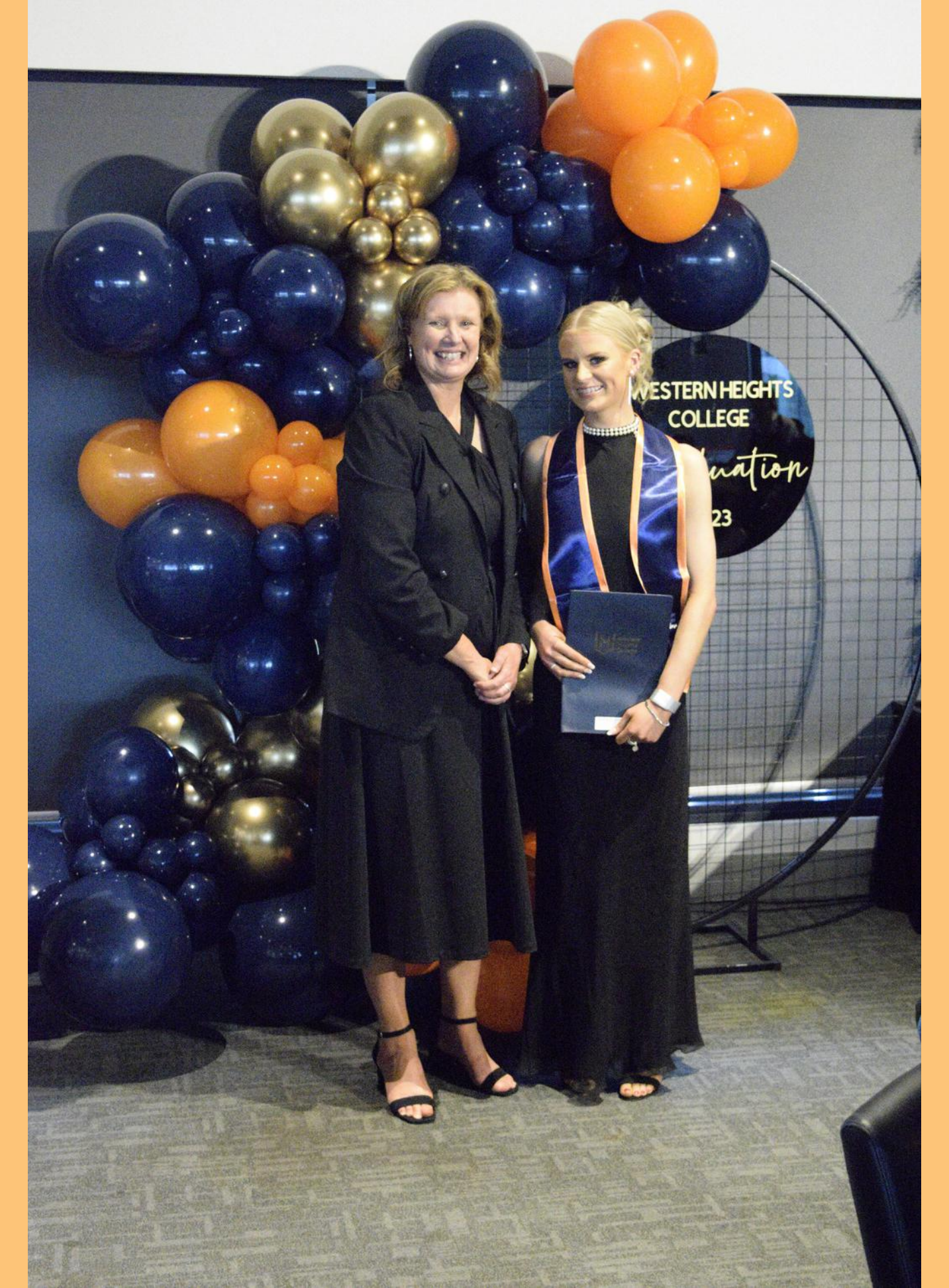


Year 12 GRADUATION



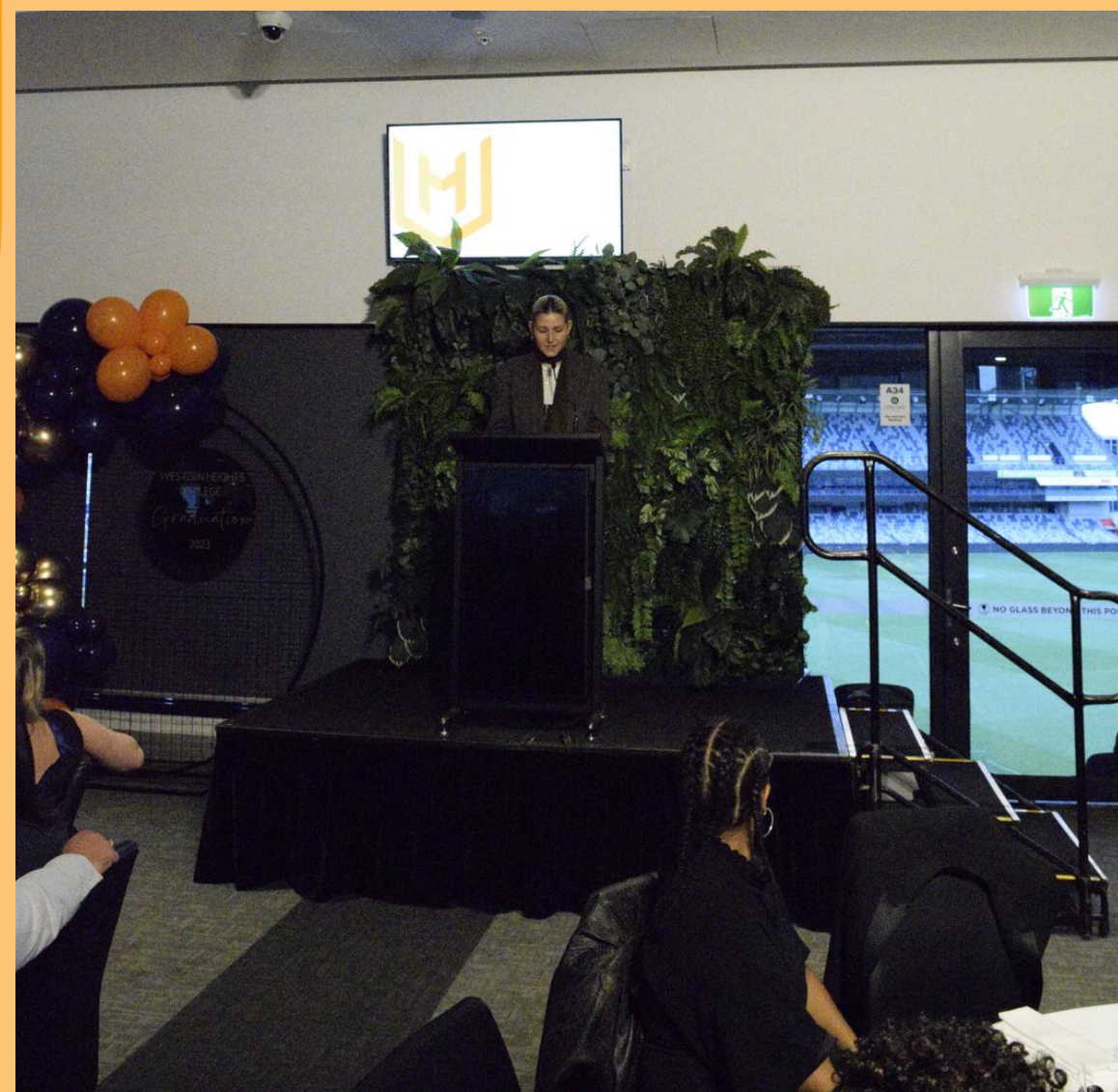


Year 12 GRADUATION





Year 12 GRADUATION



Sports programs



BASKETBALL

Sports programs



AFL

Sports programs



SOCCER

Sports programs



NETBALL

Sports programs

Specialist Soccer Program

What a phenomenal year it has been for the inaugural Specialist Soccer Program. The energy and excitement experienced from everybody involved has made this year an astounding success. To witness such growth in every aspect of the student's life is a gift we as coaches never take for granted. To be able to share and add to their life and soccer journey is a privilege that is special and makes this job the best in the world. Throughout the course of the year the students have worked tirelessly with the strength and conditioning team. They've increased their skill development, game training, and continued with their own video analysis. All these elements were brought together when competing in the practice matches, cup games and tournaments that were played during the year.

One of the greatest features of the Specialist Soccer Program is the great Strength and Conditioning component. In order to play at an elite level one must be a prime athlete, so the head of the Strength and Conditioning team, Nick Richardson has devised programs to ensure that each student is well placed in achieving these aims. The students have been tested in the first term and the last term to track their progression and to improve in any areas that are in need of further work. The fitness element also pushes the individual so that he or she can expand on their working load which means they can play and train for longer periods of time without becoming fatigued. Strength and Conditioning is a major part of elite sport and shouldn't be underestimated. We are extremely fortunate to have elite members of the sporting community work with our kids and challenge them on a daily basis to push them so that they can reach their full potential.

Students have also worked with a sports Psychologist who reiterated the importance of Goal setting which was the main focus of Term 1. Students have also attended a Sports Nutrition seminar and worked through Soccer analysis, where they edited their own clips and formed their own soccer resume. The students conducted professional session plans and formulated a skills acquisition compilation on film. The Women's World Cup was a massive highlight for the students. To incorporate the World Cup into the curriculum, students were asked to analyse a team and to create an in-depth football (soccer) analysis. Here, students were to identify structure of play, player profiles, strength, weaknesses, and an overview of the Teams playing style.



Sports programs





Sports programs



We are extremely pleased to have partnered up with Australia's most successful A-League team, Melbourne Victory. This partnership has added a great deal to our SSP program. The partnership allows us to have a Victory coach for 6 hours per week. The partnership also creates an opportunity for our students to be seen by Victory coaches, which allows them to attend Melbourne Victory trials in the final stage of selection. The partnership also gives us (coaches) access to the Melbourne Victory coaching portal which works as a best practice for junior development. To end the year, there is also a Melbourne Victory Schools tournament to crown the 'Best Victory School'. I'm sure this will be yet another tournament win for Western Heights SC 😊

The year has been full of games, competitions, and tournaments in various forms. Our very first competition was the 'Schools Cup invitational', where we were fortunate enough to have won the year 7/8 competition and the 9/10 competition for boys. This was followed with year 7 and 8 wins in the SSV Geelong as well as the Senior Girls win. Although the boys both lost marginally to heavyweights Maribyrnong, the girls won the Western Metro Competition. In the State Championship Finals, the Senior Girls came in 3rd place. Both the year 7/8 and 9/10 won the Challenge Cup against local rivals North Geelong SC where both teams won easily. Futsal is a game of soccer played 5 v 5 on a hard floor surface. We decided to enter our year 7 boys and year 7/8 girls into the Victoria State Cup. Both teams easily won their divisions in the West and then headed to Darebin International Stadium for the Vic State finals. The Girls were amazing and won the State final 14-1 blowing away all opposition while the boys also won 2-0 in a hard-fought win. All age groups have had a great deal of success this year, and a lot of credit must be given to Sean Mahon who has given everything to make this year's soccer program a success.

The students' application this year has been nothing short of phenomenal. Every session, every day, whether it be in the gym or on the field, in the classroom, the student's work ethic can't be questioned. It is not easy to show up each day with a growth mindset and a mindset knowing that they will be pushed physically, mentally and sometimes emotionally. I applaud each student for the dedication and commitment as well as parents or carers for their support. There is no doubt that the compounding gains the students receive in this program year in and year out will hold them in good stead for the years to come.

As your coach, I personally can't thank you enough, it has been a great year !

Thanks Again

Joey Didulica



Sports programs

Specialist Netball Program

It's been 'Game On' in the Specialist Netball Program in 2023. With the program hitting the ground running, expanding this year to accommodate a Junior (Yr 7 & 8) class as well as for the first time opening to student athletes from Yr9,10,11 & 12. It has been exciting to see the significant growth of student athletes within the SNP over the course of the year on court, in craft/skill sessions, in the gym, education, in tournaments and many experiences throughout the year. It certainly has been busy!!

On Court

Court sessions have been based at our High-Performance location at Corio Leisure Time Centre and have ranged from general skill development, specialist area sessions, strategy, systems, concepts, scenarios, applied match play. A large focus has been on upskilling and building student athlete individual development across many aspects including increasing capacity to learn and manage load; complimenting their commitments outside of WHC. Student Athletes have been challenged and supported in many environments and settings. Fitness and skills testing has enabled us to track and plan individual programs to ensure progression and we have seen significant improvements across many areas of testing.

The SNP Team

Our SNP Staff welcomed the addition of many talented coaches, educators, specialists, and mentors. Ainsley Corrigan and Stacey Dodds took on Head Coaching roles, Georgia Kiddle as an assistant coach along with Australian 19&U Squad member Charli Nicol have been great mentors to our up-and-coming students. Charlie Perks has headed our Strength & Conditioning along with Nic Richardson in Athlete Wellbeing & Development and Cate Johnson as our SNP Coordinator. Additionally, we have had specialist coaches including Australian Diamond Caitlin Thwaites involved and have tapped into Victorian Institute of Sport for resources in Sports Science, Nutrition and Psychology. All staff have worked tirelessly to support and strive towards building student athlete capacity and experiences. We have also worked hard to foster relationships with students' mainstream education with staff and shared experiences.

SPECIALIST NETBALL PROGRAM

Competitions

Our student athletes competed in both external and internal competitions/tournaments through the year. The School Sport Victoria and Netball Victoria Schools Championships were held across terms 2 and 3 this year with some fantastic results in both events. In the SSV competition our Yr 7 group achieved outstanding first year results of placing 2nd in SSV Victorian Championships Grand Final going down fighting by a single goal. Our Intermediate and Senior programs had strong performances both advancing to Grand finals at Western Metropolitan Regional. At the NV Schools Championships, WHC had a strong presence being the only school with 4 teams competing across the Junior and Intermediate divisions. It was great to showcase the depth and development of the WHC SNP. Our Intermediates had some great performances throughout the day and our Junior Navy side progressed through to State Finals Day. Overall, much was achieved and experienced by all.

Term 4 has also seen student athletes compete in the modified Fast5 Netball Format in an internal tournament, coinciding with the Fast5 Netball World Cup. All players have enjoyed the challenge of learning a new format, strategies and speed of the game being different. It has been highly competitive and engaging and has had many cameo appearances from staff along the way also!

Experiences

Experiences have extended beyond the court. Earlier in the year all SNP students attended the unveiling event of the bronze statue of netball legend Sharelle McMahon outside John Cain Arena. This was a monumental occasion not only regarding netball but equality for women in sport and the powerful message of the legacy a statue brings to the community inspiring many generations to come. Players spoke with Sharelle and Melbourne Vixens Captains and leadership in attendance. As the only secondary school in attendance, it was a privileged experience for the group.

Our intermediate and Senior Student Athletes also attended the Victorian Institute of Sport to be educated on Sports Science, and tour and use the high-performance training facility. Later in Term 4 they also attended a Melbourne based High Performance training experience at the State Netball Centre and home of Melbourne Vixens and Netball Victoria's High-Performance Pathways, where they utilised the facilities including on court, gym and recovery pools and theatre.

Term 4 also saw the grounding opportunity for student athletes to engage in community school clinics, supporting and coaching children in a series of clinics across our Geelong region. The clinics saw small numbers of WHC students at a time assist in planning, organising, and facilitating aspects of the clinics. The feedback from schools on our students has been fantastic and really positive. It is a humbling experience to learn the impact and influence we can have on others through sport and important for students to learn to give back to the community.

Education

In Education we have covered a multitude of topics from goal setting, organisation, successful habits, team work & dynamics, feedback cycle, self-awareness and assessment skills, match analysis, Hudl sports analysis, statistics, strength & conditioning education, fitness components in Netball and many more topics. We have had presentations from Dietitians on nutrition and also Sports Psychology around performance anxiety. Students completed numerous learning tasks both physical and theory based as well as general assessment tasks. A highlight was students' Netball World Cup Presentations which were of a great quality as they presented on teams and individuals.

Achievements

There have been many team and individual achievements in 2023. The vast majority of SNP student athletes are participating at advanced levels on Netball Victoria's High-Performance Pathway, competing at representative level in Association Championships or State Titles, some both, which they should be congratulated on. Evie Christopher recently participated in Netball Victoria 17&U Screening Day for the State 17&U Victorian Squad which is a great achievement and experience.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the SNP staff and other staff supporting the program for their commitment and investment into all students in 2023, they are fortunate to have such great people involved. To all the SNP student athletes, congratulations on all your progress and growth as both players and people this year. There has been much to celebrate, and it has been a lot of fun working together with you all. As the SNP continues to grow again next year we look forward to continued progress and experiences together.

Well done, it's been a Ball!!

Susan Meaney

Director of Specialist Netball

THE ACADEMY

The Academy 2023

Much like 2022, this year has been an adventure. The Academy began the year with a new batch of Year 11 students, a change of location and curriculum and of course our returning cohort joining the graduating class of 2023.

The Academy program is a fully integrated VCE-VM/VET program with a football theme. Students are able to combine the completion of their schooling life (Yr.11 & 12) with their passion for AFL Football. As a result of this integration, strong bonds and relationships are built which paves the way for students to feel very comfortable in their surroundings which promotes growth in every aspect of their education. The true emphasis is on the person not the player and as a result we focus on the process of achieving our core set values and measure our development as people on these values; Love, Positivity, Leadership and Engagement.

We witnessed the growth and development of the young people that have entered into this wonderful program. The core values mentioned above are revealed in many forms; I see the selfless nature, care, thought and effort our students bring everyday and it drives our culture. Our leadership group Diesel Moloney, Darcy Jones, Caleb Hurley, Stefan Jreige, and Taylan-Jay Trickey have been strong in driving these values and ensuring our standards are met. They have also been employed to work with and help those who do occasionally step outside our agreed values. I thank our leaders for their wonderful contribution.

We have had so many highlights this year ranging from the WHC Swimming Carnival, School Camp at Anglesea, game at the M.C.G against the Bachar Houli Academy, volunteering at Primary School Sport Carnivals and WHC Athletics Carnival. The camaraderie, spirit and connection that was able to be forged will remain etched in memory.

Unfortunately the Academy program has come to an end after 4 strong and successful years of supporting young men into the community. We hope that the students can look back with fond memories and remember the good times and how the last years of their education were tailored towards their passion and setting them up for what lies ahead.

THE ACADEMY





ATHLETICS





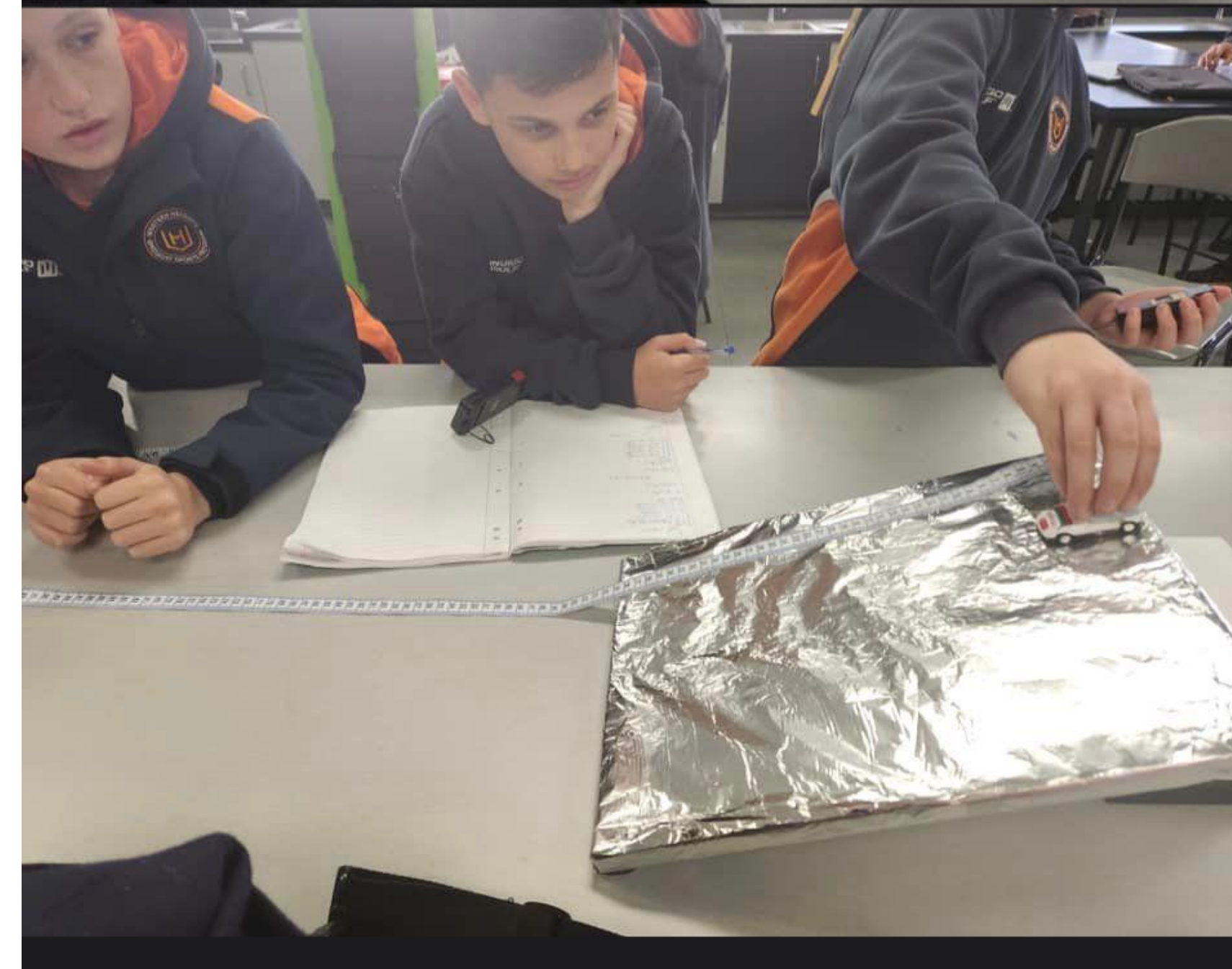
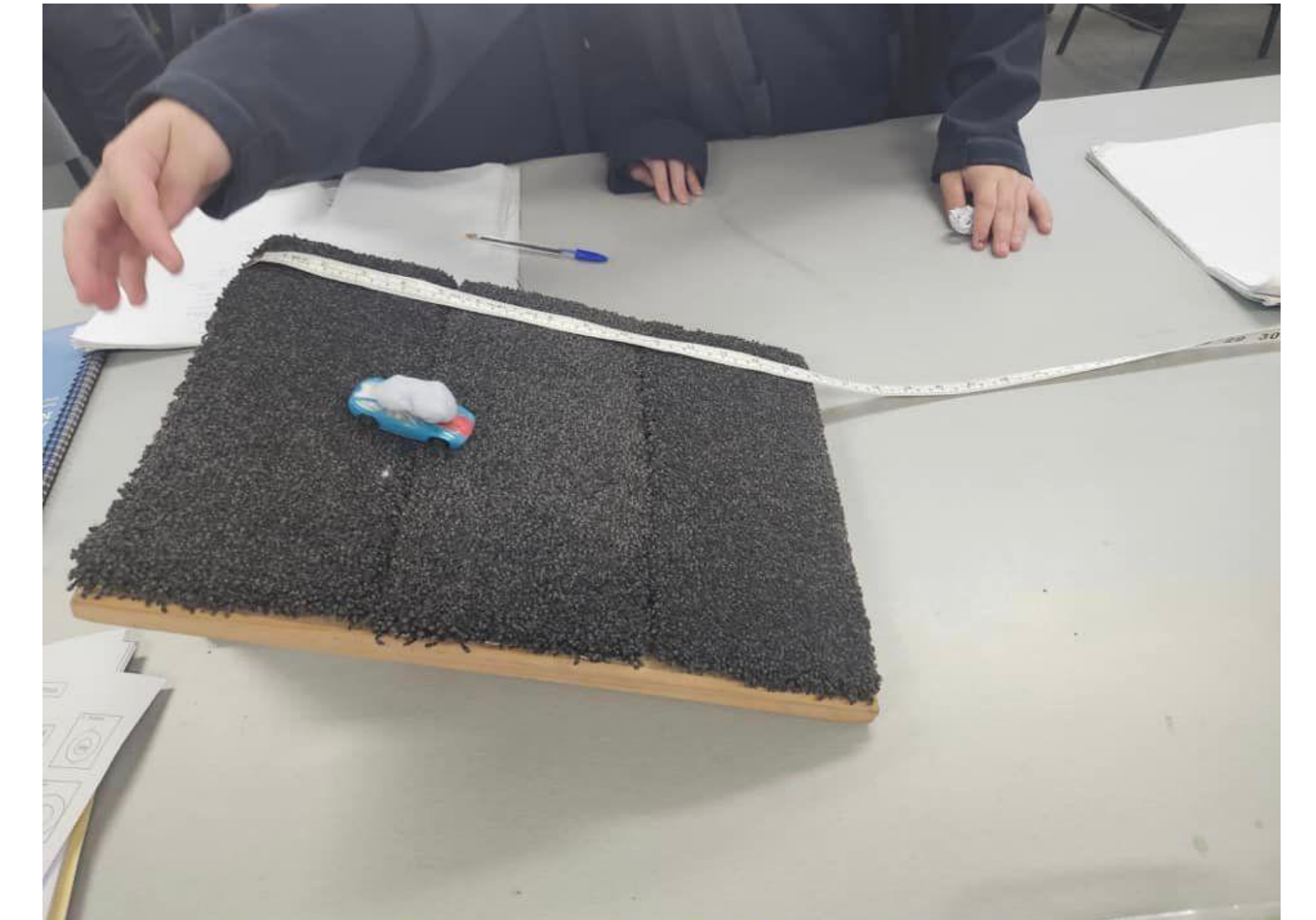
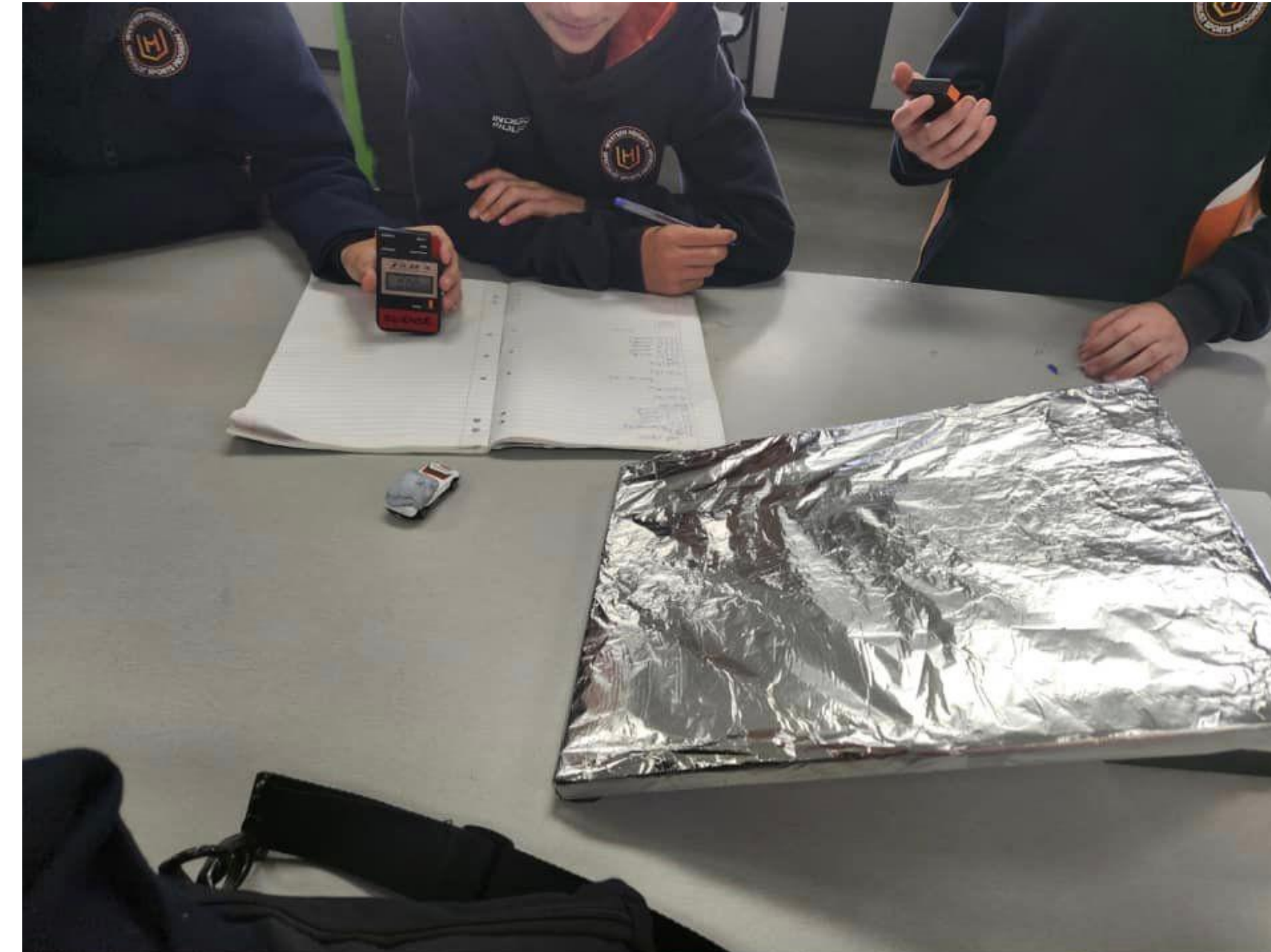
CAREERS & PATHWAYS

CAREERS & PATHWAYS



Science

Year 7 Science class were investigating Forces namely Friction and using cars on ramps with various frictional surfaces. They were collecting data on the time taken & distance travelled for each car to reach the bottom of their ramps and discussing the observations using data collected in tables and graphs & linking findings back to their initial hypothesis.



Science

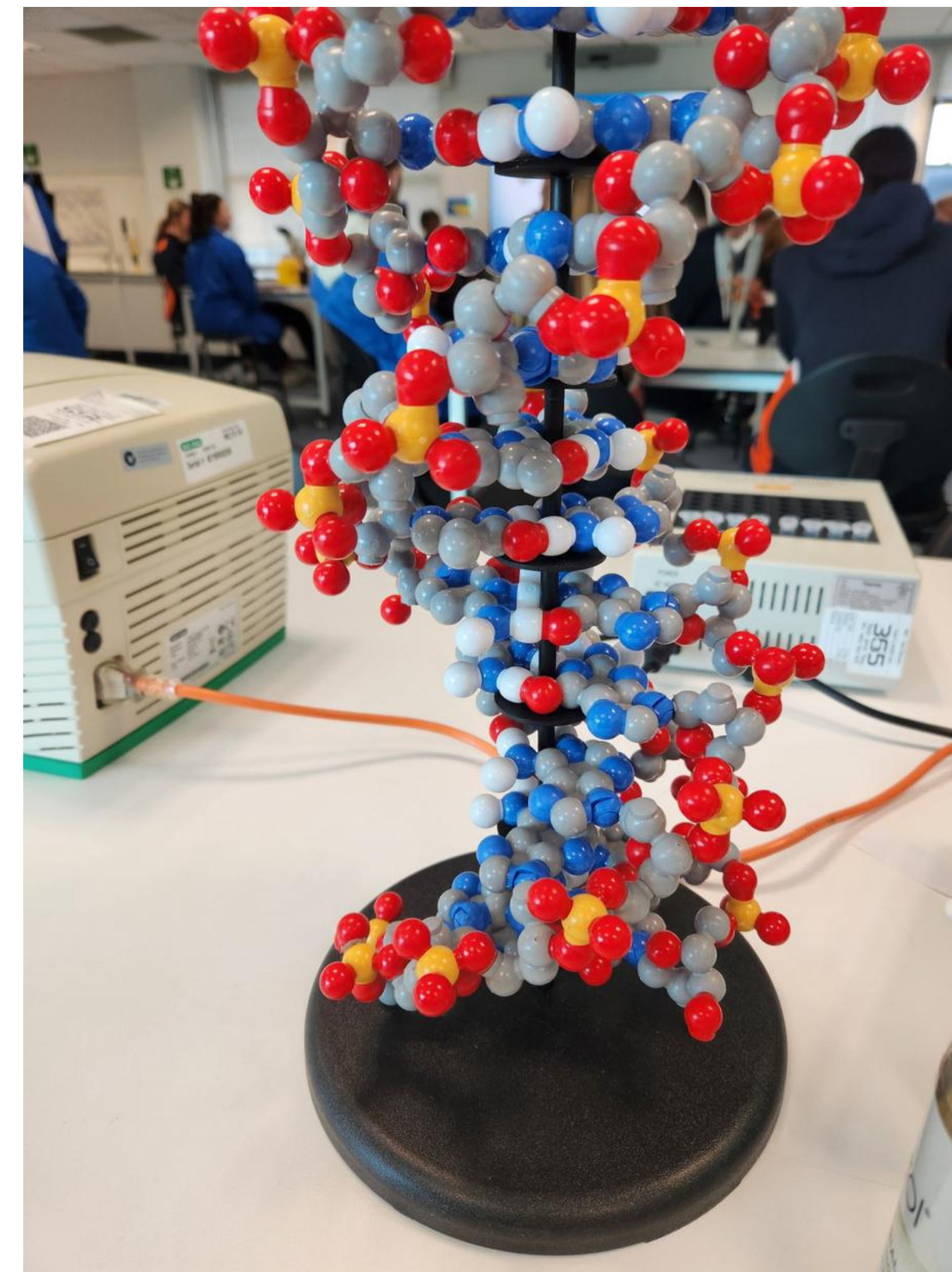
Year 10 and 11 Biology students at GTAC (University High School) last Wednesday in Melbourne. Students were learning about PCR modelling and DNA electrophoresis in a DNA Barcoding experiment. Students isolated DNA from a nematode parasite and host animal and through using detergent, enzymes and heat (lysis) of cells. Then applied PCR to amplify the DNA and then gel electrophoresis to separate the DNA into sizes of PCR fragments against a DNA ladder. Collect data to identify species & provide evidence for evolution. Students were using micropipettes, PCR and centrifuge and fluorescent electrophoresis equipment in a real world science experiment linked with current PhD students from University of Melbourne.



Science

Plenty going on in the Science rooms at WHC! Year 10 students have compared the DNA of six athletes and detected the gene for 'super flexibility' by using gel electrophoresis. Students used micropipettes and equipment that scientists would use in the genetic identification of elite athletes. They've also learnt how to extract DNA from strawberries and bananas.

In Year 7, we've been learning about food webs and performed a shrimp dissection to investigate its anatomy and function. We connected this lesson to Australian aquaculture and its impact on wild fish populations in our oceans and food chains.



Science



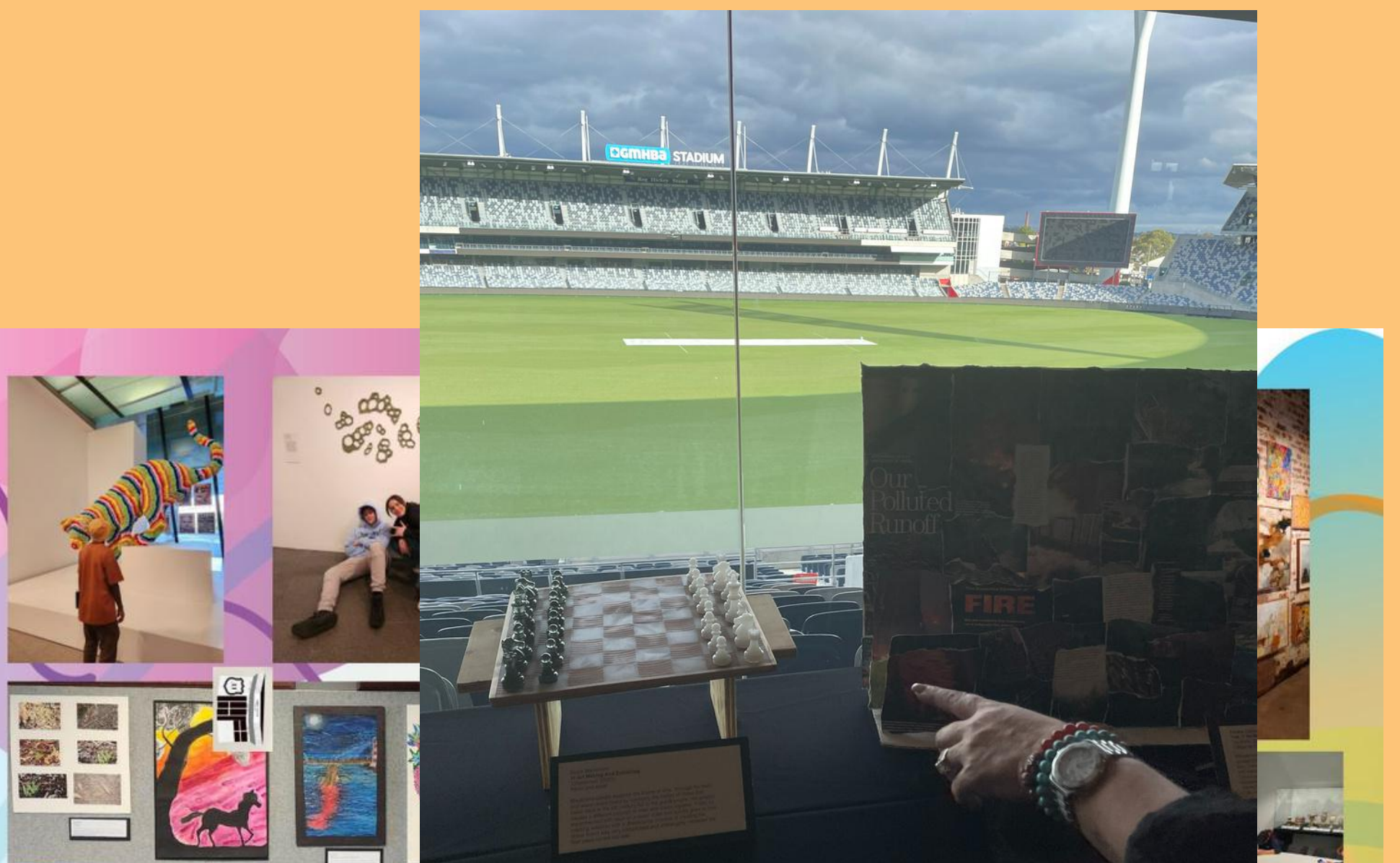
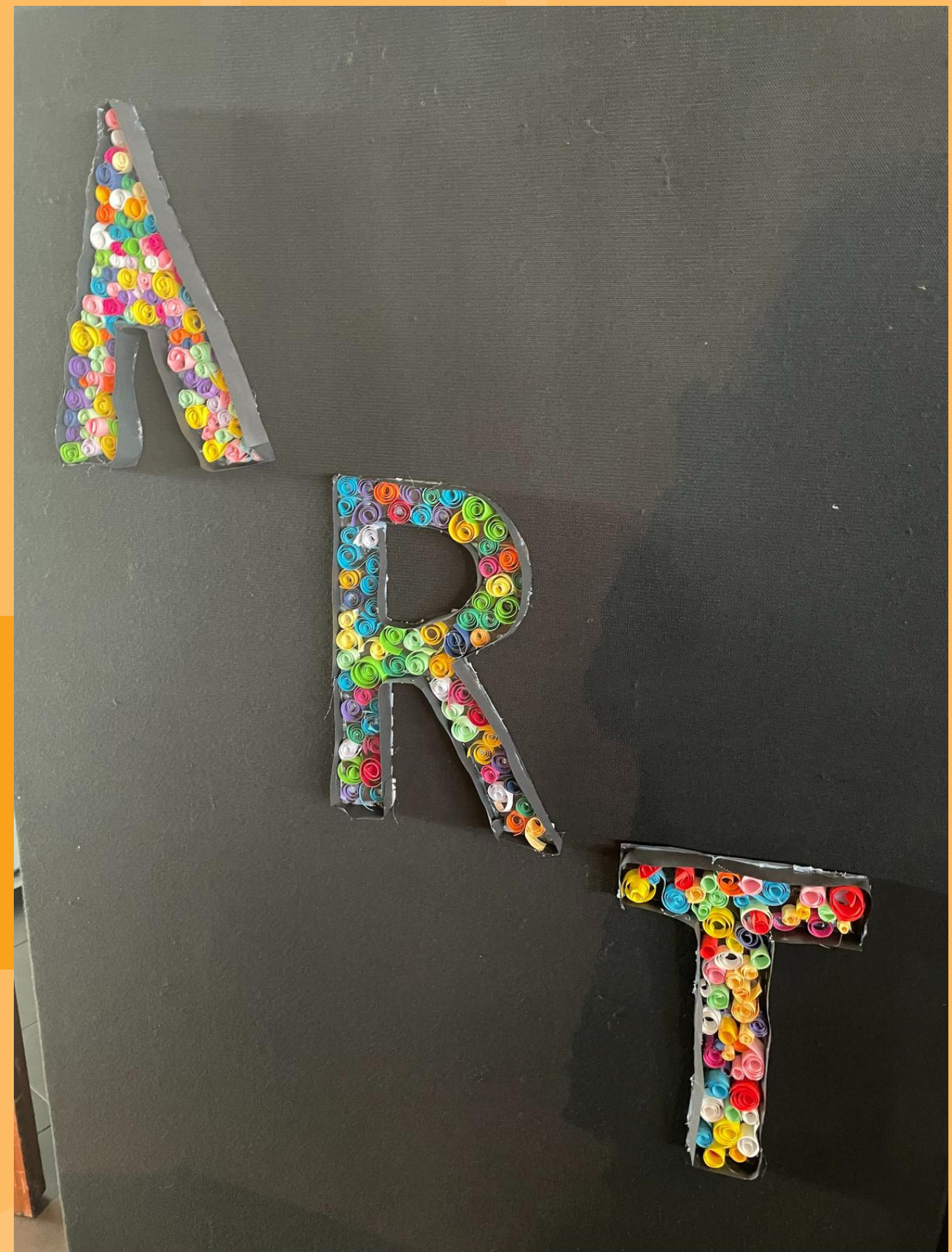
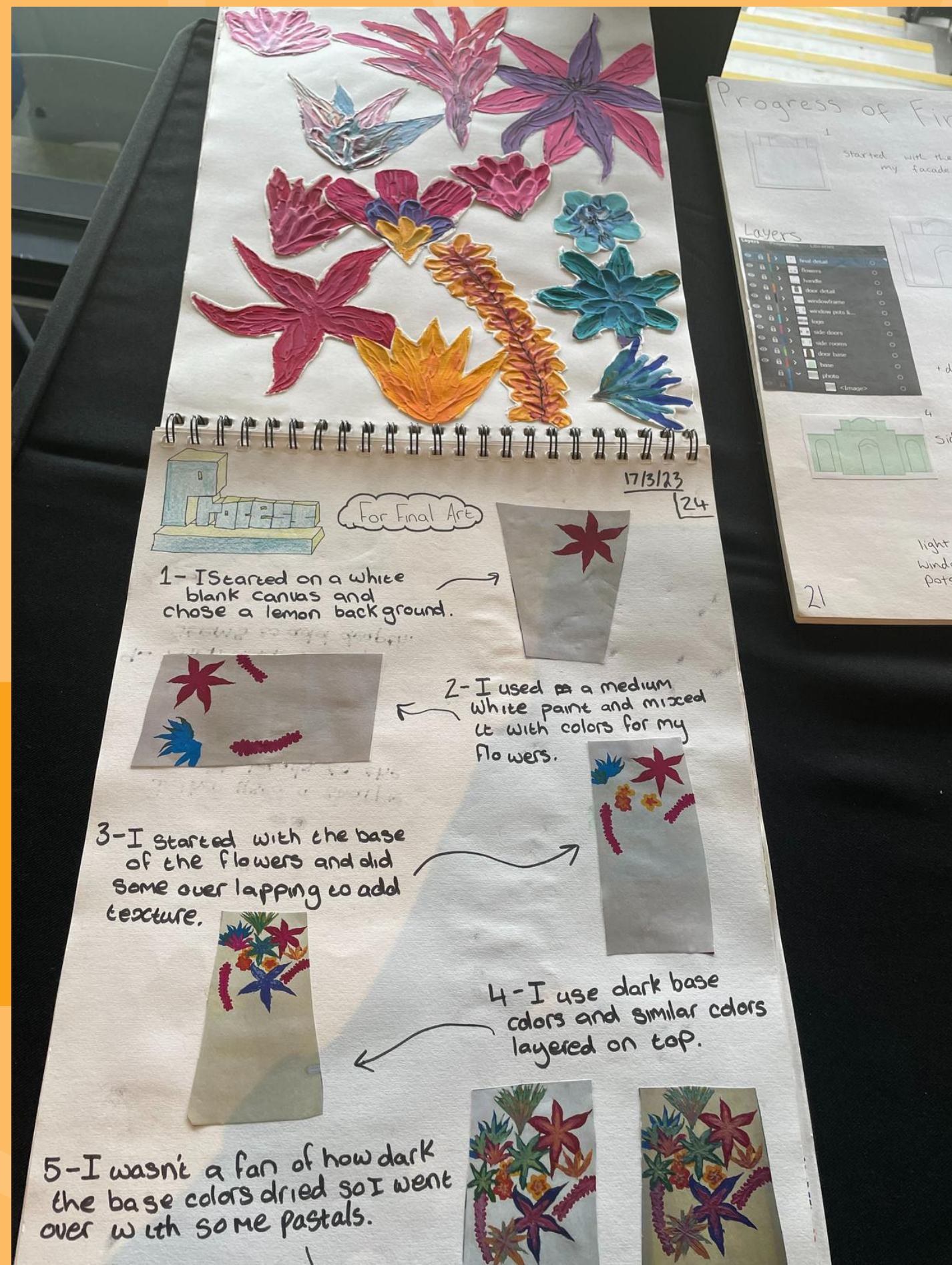
Year 9 & 10's competed in an inter school National Science and Engineering challenge at Deakin University.

We placed 5th overall out of 8 which is good considering its our first time!



AWARDS NIGHT ART SHOW

Arts



Missy Richmond
 11 Art Making and Exhibiting
 'If You Look Deep Enough', 2023
 Acrylic, fine liner on book pages

Missy Richmond used the theme 'Time' to explore and experiment with ways pictures can represent time 'Time' to explore and experiment with enough into the image and think about its true meaning. Richmond experimented with acrylic paints and pen work to navigate her art by refined painting skills and blending. In this finished artwork Richmond used to represent the intricate factors within. She was inspired by detailed fine art artworks over book pages to add depth and a backdrop and give the artworks a deeper meaning.

& PERFORMING ARTS YRS 7-10

It's been another great year of creative expression with growing repertoire, original compositions, devised melodrama scripts and scenes of improvisation achieved. The year 8's and 10's participated in Hip Hop dance workshops and as a school we visited to see Mumma Mia & Harry Potter in Melbourne.





STATE SCHOOL SPECTACULAR



Ramzy in Year 11 who will be representing our college in the GYE Kokoda Group 12 trek. Ramzy has grown immensely during the past 7 months and we are so proud of him. From all in the WHC community we wish Ramzy safe travels and a successful trek.



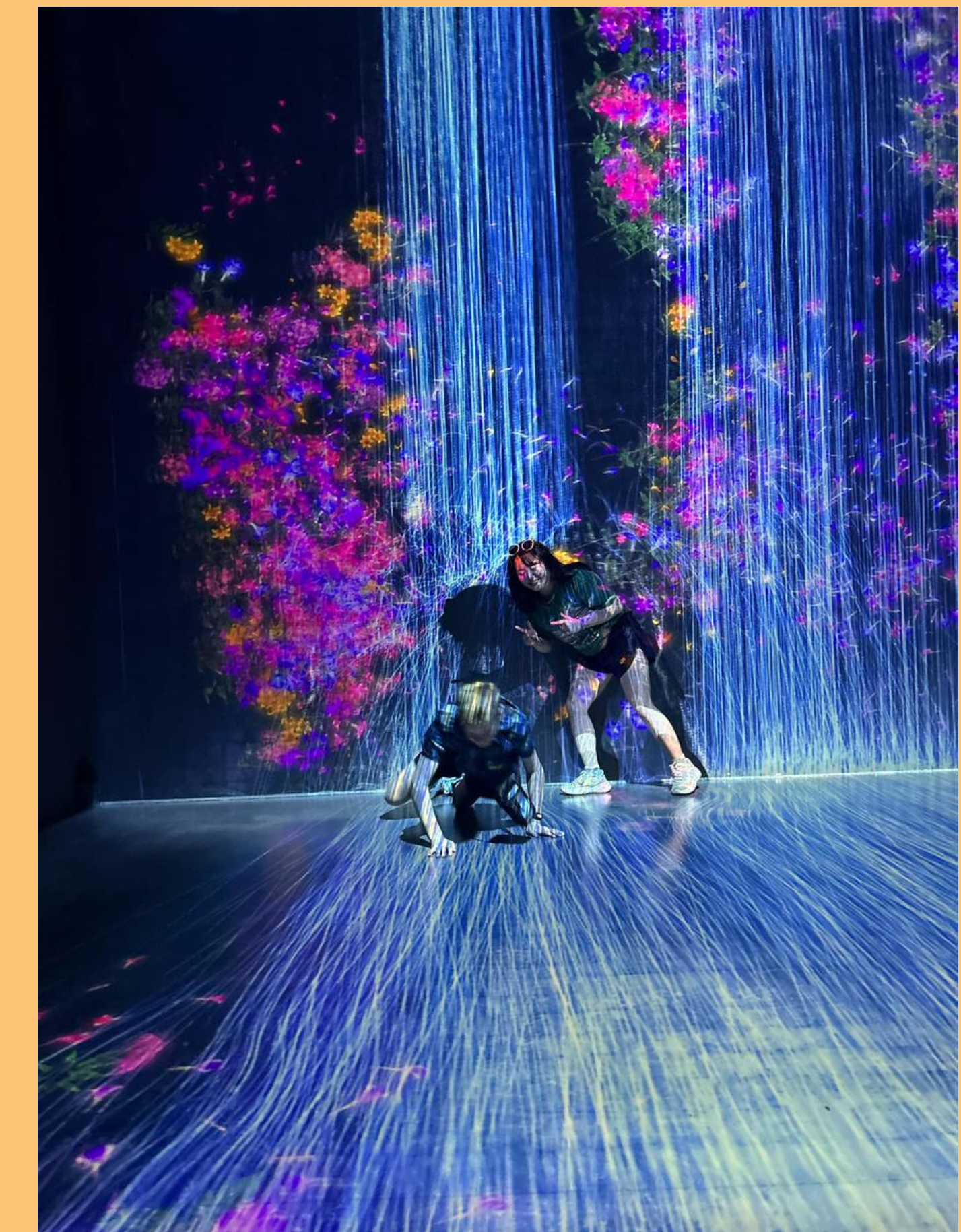
Congratulations to Ramzy of Year 11 for successfully completing the Kokoda Track representing the school in the GYE Geelong Kokoda Program 12 for 2023. We are so proud of him.

GYE Kokoda Group

Chinese Language SINGAPORE TRIP



Chinese Language SINGAPORE TRIP



Kitchen Garden



Kitchen Garden

The VM students have taken over the kitchen garden with the vision of creating a 'paddock and plate' café. This week students weeded the overgrown garden beds, identifying plants and herbs in between the cooch grass and thistles.

COOKING

After harvesting pumpkins from the garden, students made pumpkin soup and damper in the wood fire pizza oven. Next week students will be participating in a Safe Food Handling course and 3-day Barista course. The students are looking forward to planting seeds, watching them grow and turning the produce into nutritious snacks.



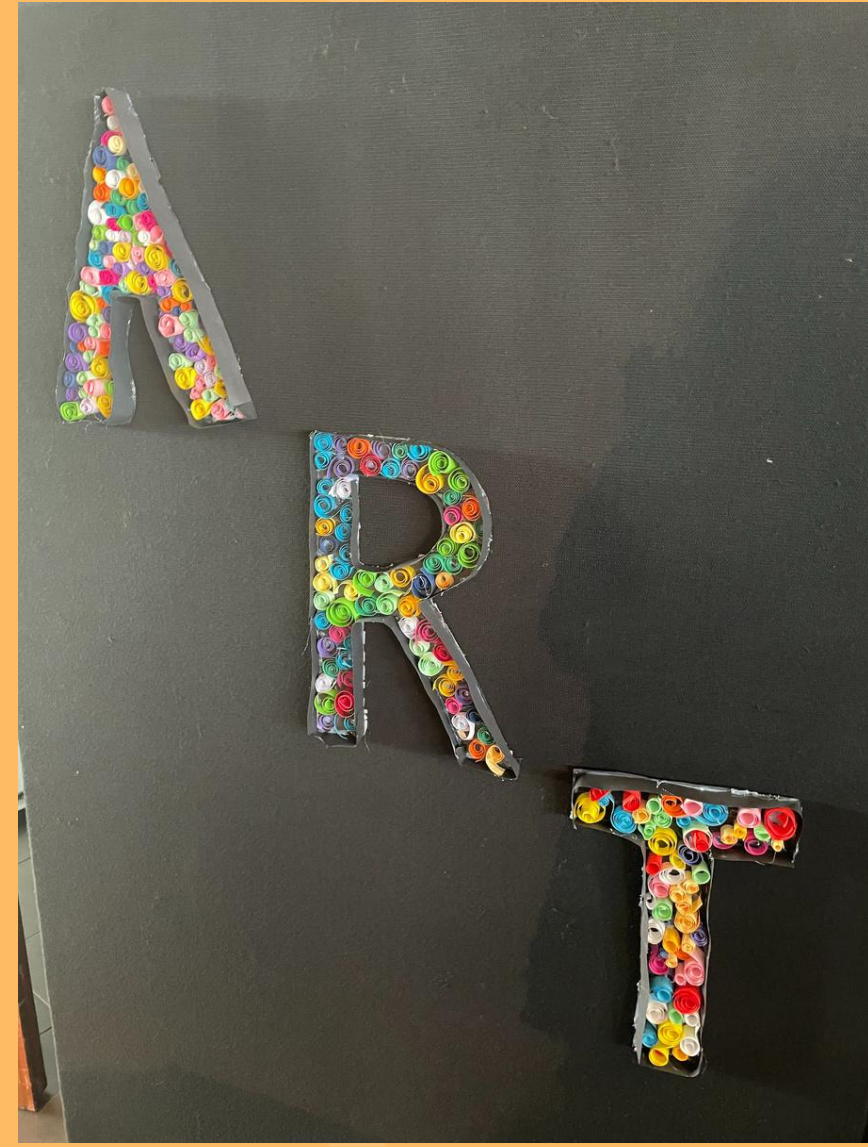




Awards Night



Awards Night



Awards Night

BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR SPONSERS FOR SUPPORTING OUR AWARDS NIGHT

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**Thank you to all our Students, Families,
Staff and Volunteers**

