



# Trafalgar High School Newsletter

Integrity ~ Collaboration ~ Aspiration ~ Excellence

Trafalgar High School, Locked Bag 1 TRAFALGAR, 3824

Phone: 5633 1733

## Volume 9th December 2022

### PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Well done to everyone on reaching the end of the 2022 school year. Although we are all in need of a good rest in order to recharge the batteries, I would like to take some time to reflect on 2022 and congratulate you all on overcoming challenges and experiencing great success. Despite periods of student and staff absences due to illness and a general fatigue across our community, it has been tremendous to be back together and learning side by side.

Extra-curricular activities are what make schools what they are and how good has it been to have our schedule of events back this year! Athletics and Swimming carnivals are a highlight of the first half of the year and when reviewing photos for our school magazine, I was struck by the colour and celebration that was involved and fun had by all. This year we were also able to hold our Debutante Ball, Year 11 Formal and Valedictory Dinner all with our closest friends and family in attendance – something that unfortunately had been missing the last few years. Camps were back on the agenda this year and although not everyone got a chance to go on one, our Year 7's started the year off and how important this is for their connections to both each other and to the school cannot be underestimated. Learning experiences in the form of excursions occurred throughout the year and they are always a highlight for our students and add tremendous value to all learning programs. Onsite we had fair days and fundraisers and of course our brilliant Night on the Lawn only two Fridays ago. Interschool Sport was back in full swing and our teams were travelling all around the countryside having success. I won't name everything that we did throughout the year but I did want to give a big shout out to all the staff and parents that help with these events. These events don't just organise themselves and they do take considerable time putting together.

Like all years we bid farewell to various staff at this time of year and this year is no different. We have two long term staff leaving us, with Stephen Higgins heading off on retirement and Kym Brand relocating to East Gippsland. We wish both Stephen and Kym all the very best and thank them for their commitment to THS and our students. We also bid Tessa Balfour all the best as she heads off travelling for 12 months and look forward to seeing her again in 2024. We have been extremely fortunate with our recruitment for 2023 and we will welcome our new staff with open arms next year.

The community involvement at THS is incredibly strong and this is undoubtedly a highlight of our school. I wish to thank our dedicated School Council members for their support and the broader community for their involvement. We have a unique school community with the breadth of distances our students travel from. With this uniqueness we have so many opportunities for our students to get involved in activities all across Gippsland and beyond and I look forward to seeing this evolve as we move forward.

I want to thank our brilliant Principal and Leadership teams for their incredible efforts this year and highlight how lucky our school community is to have such a committed and experienced team leading the school. Trafalgar High School is an incredible place to learn and these exceptional leaders keep our programs on the cutting edge of innovation.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all and express how grateful I am to have landed at THS. The entire community has made me feel incredibly welcome. I have loved being involved with the community and events and look forward to doing so long into the future.



# UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



## UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

7TH- 12TH DECEMBER	SECOND HAND BOOK SALES (9AM-1PM) @THS
MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER	SEAL EVENING 4PM-8PM
12TH-16TH DECEMBER	ACTIVITIES WEEK
TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER	STATE-WIDE ORIENTATION DAY (ALL STUDENTS)
WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER	SECOND FULL ORIENTATION DAY (ALL STUDENTS)
THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER	PRESENTATION EVENING 4PM-6PM
THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER	FINAL DAY TO ORDER BOOKS FROM BOOKLISTS
FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER	FINAL DAY OF ACTIVITIES WEEK
MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER	STAFF PLANNING
TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER	STAFF PLANNING
24TH-25 JANUARY 2023	BOOK COLLECTION FROM THS LIBRARY CENTRAL
TUESDAY 24TH JANUARY 2023	GENERAL OFFICE OPENS
THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY 2023	AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
FRIDAY 27TH JANUARY 2023	STAFF PLANNING DAY (NO STUDENTS)
MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 2023	ONLY YEAR 7 & 12'S FIRST DAY BACK
TUESDAY 31ST JANUARY 2023	ALL YEAR LEVELS RETURN



# ONLINE BOOKLISTS

2023 Booklists are now live at <https://www.booklists.com.au/trafalgarnews/>

VCE and 10VCE orders are due by Monday December 5th, 2022.  
Years 7-10 online orders are due by Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.



Late orders will incur an additional charge \$9.95, due to additional publisher postage and handling charges.

## COLLECTION DATES - Trafalgar High School Library Central Building

- Tuesday 24th January 2023 (2pm to 7pm)
- Wednesday 25th January 2023 (9am to 2pm)

A Layby Payment arrangement is available at Trafalgar Newsagency, prior to the booklist collection.

# I AM READY

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December was the Celebration day for our “I am Ready” Participants. We had 4 students in the program this year

The celebration was held at the Morwell RSL

The morning started with a drumming circle, the students enjoyed learning the different sounds created by beating the drum in various places, and played short rhythms.

They played games where they shared what they were grateful for and what they had enjoyed about the program.

Some formalities followed, and then lunch was served.

We thank the BBLLEN for the support they provide our students every year.





**CONGRATULATIONS ECHOIC!!**

Echoic participated in and won the 2022 Kool Skools for Best Ballard—Congratulations and well done guys!



# WALK AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE

Yesterday a group of students volunteered to represent the school community at the **Walk Against Family Violence** in Melbourne. The event run by Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre is part of the #16DaysOfActivism #16DaysOfActivism2022 - With programs like Respectful Relationships, Trafalgar High School promotes and models respect and equality. We educate our young people on how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence, all key to reducing family violence in the community.



## UNIFORM SPECIAL—\$10 SPRAY JACKETS & TRACKPANTS

**\$10**

**Spray Jackets & Trackpants.**

*Available for purchase at the THS Office.*



UNIFORM SALE



\*GREEN & BLACK SPRAY /SPORT JACKETS

\*BLACK THS TRACK PANTS

**\$10.00  
EACH**

# WALK BESIDE US CAMP

Kiya Nathan attended the two day “Walk Beside Us Camp” held at Federation University. The “Walk Beside Us Camp” seeks to increase year 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students' engagement with Higher Education by fostering an awareness and appreciation of university through campus and cultural activities. Such activities provide exposure to a university setting, inspiration to complete VCE, observing and participating in cultural etiquette, communication with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander role models, and consideration of career opportunities. Kiya commented that it was an excellent experience and she has made long term friends. Kiya is looking to pursue a career in psychology by completing her VCE and applying to Federation University.



# 2023 HOUSE CAPTAINS

## DRAKE

Poppy Susa



Grace Susa



Ellie Varsaci



Joe Varsaci



## HAWKE

James Pettifer



Piper Albert



Hollie Vlasveld



Chelsey Sadler



## JERVIS

Maxx Corrie



Victoria Luge



Imogen Wade



Danielle Briggs



## NELSON

Natalie Bills



Hannah Nquyen



Julia Bates



Keeley Lewis-Ryen



# NIGHT ON THE LAWN

Last Friday, 25th November, we held our Night on the Lawn Music, Art & Design Show, to celebrate both our students' talents and to raise money for "Win the War with Willow" and Bowel Cancer Australia. We'd like to give a big shout out to all of the students who performed on the night and commend all of their hard work in practicing and preparing for their performances. We'd also love to give a massive shout out to Fitzpatrick's Pro Audio in Traralgon who donated the lighting and audio system used during the show and a big thanks to everyone who sold us out of our raffle tickets, BBQ and who donated money at the gate as they came in, as we were able to raise \$2,100 for the cause. We'd also love to give a shoutout to Coleman's Music in Lynbrook, Tritec Fine Art Supplies in Yarragon and Jak's Music in Warragul, for donating the amazing prizes for our raffle. We'd love to also give another shoutout to the owners of the Oz Whip icecream truck, who donated a portion of their proceeds made on the night to contribute to the donations.



We loved having everyone come down to help make the night so special and hope to hold many more events reintegrating back with our community in the future.

A final and sincere thanks to our Arts, Design and Tech team and teachers, Mr Smith, Mr Richards, Ms Sette and Mr Gilmore for all of their hard work in organising and running this event, it could not have been done without them. Here's hoping that we get to run many more exciting events like this in the future, so watch this space for all that we have brewing!

## **-PRIZE WINNERS-**

1st Prize - Adrian, Electric Guitar from Coleman's Music (Pictured)

2nd Prize - Vana Anderson, Art Voucher (Not pictured)

3rd Prize - Edith Stretch, Ukulele from Jak's Music



# NIGHT ON THE LAWN



# THS HOSTING THE DEBATING ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA'S JUNIOR-SECONDARY PROGRAM—EXHIBITION DEBATES

As we have in previous years, THS again played host to the DAV's JSP where year 7 & 8 students from our school and other schools in our region are trained up in debating rules and skills and then practice these in a series of exhibition matches.

This week, on Wednesday 7 December, teams of students from Mary MacKillop Catholic Secondary College returned to Traf to face off against THS students in a series of practice debates. Our students did us proud and learned a lot about debating.

Mr. Spence would like to thank all the students who participated, their teachers who let them out of regular classes, this visiting school's staff and students, and of course the DAV for running this excellent training program.

If any THS students reading this are interested in having a go, please come along to our Debating Club meetings, every Thursday Lunch 1 or 2 in room N7. You can also get in touch with Mr. Spence, the Debating Club manager and coach.



# COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



Looking for Children aged 7-18 to  
Audition for our production of

Disney  
**FROZEN JR.**

Auditions being held on  
Wednesday 7th December and  
Sunday 11th December

Contact  
gippsyouththeatre@gmail.com or  
find us on Facebook for more  
information



## BRANCH OUT MENTORING – INVITATION

**YouThrive**  
VICTORIA  
A legacy of Helen Macpherson Smith

### Branch Out Mentoring

Branch Out Mentoring is a **peer-to-peer** transition program for Year 12 students. It aims to support young people in their journey from high school to further education, vocational training, or the workforce. Small groups of students will be matched with a past student from the school, who will run eight sessions online or in person, throughout the year. The structure of the program is quite flexible and is tailored to the mentee's interests.

**What:** Mentoring support for Year 11/12 rural Victorian students

**Where:** Online and in person mentoring sessions

**When:** 8 sessions across 2023

**Who:** Year 11 and 12 students who may be interested in learning about managing VCE/VCAL and future study and work

*Would you like your students to have the support of other young rural people through Branch Out Mentoring? No cost to you.*

To find out more and register your interest, please contact:

Charlie Bracey, Rural Youth Network Coordinator P: 0488 029 044 E: [charlie@youthrivevic.org.au](mailto:charlie@youthrivevic.org.au)

THE  
YOUTH  
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ENGAGE!

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