



Yurran
P-9 College

4 March 2026 | Week 6, Term 1

Newsletter

Key Dates

March

- 9** Labour Day Public Holiday
- 11 - 23** NAPLAN Assessments
- 20** School Photos Smile
- 25 - 26** Dental Van
- 31** Easter Hat Parade

April

- 3** Good Friday Public Holiday
- 3-17** School holidays
- 20** First day of Term 2

2026 Term Dates

Term 1

29 January – 2 April

Term 2

20 April – 26 June

Term 3

13 July – 18 September

Term 4

5 October – 19 December

Photos From the Week



Learn, Grow, Succeed!



From the Principal

Official Opening – A Historic Milestone

Our recent Official Opening marked a significant and historic milestone in the journey of Yurran P–9 College. It was a privilege to welcome the Deputy Premier, our local Member of Parliament, families, community members, neighbouring principals, and our building partners to celebrate the formal opening of our College. The attendance on the day exceeded expectations and was a powerful reflection of the pride and optimism shared by our community.

I extend my sincere thanks to Mr Schwartz and Ms Fiona from Ngurruga School, who collaborated with our students and staff in preparing the Acknowledgement of Country. This partnership exemplified our commitment to community connection and cultural respect. The collaboration between both schools was warmly received by families and provided an authentic opportunity for our students to model our values of Respect and Learning while embracing a Growth Mindset through shared experience.

I also commend our students for the exemplary manner in which they conducted themselves during the ceremony. Their active listening, respectful participation, and pride in representing their College reflected the high standards we uphold at Yurran P–9 College.

The Official Opening was more than a ceremonial event; it was a celebration of vision, partnership, and collective achievement. It marked the beginning of a new chapter and our shared commitment to building a thriving Yurran P–9 learning community.

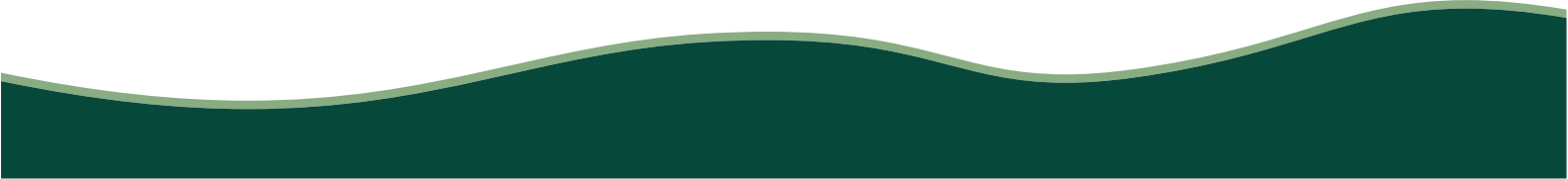
As we continue through Term 1, I thank families for your ongoing partnership in supporting student attendance, punctuality, and readiness to learn. Together, through high expectations and strong family engagement in learning, we will continue to foster excellence in learning, strengthen wellbeing, and ensure every student experiences growth and success at Yurran P–9 College.

Warm regards,

Sadia Toqeer

Principal

Yurran P–9 College



School Council

Following the recent School Council election process conducted in accordance with Department of Education requirements, I am pleased to announce the membership of the 2026/2027 Yurran P-9 College School Council.

Parent Members

Lauren Dickenson
Jessica Chawla
Ramanpreet Warring
Ziad Sasy
Shaojun Li

Staff Representative

Jessie Patterson

Election of Office Bearers

The February meeting marked the first meeting of the newly constituted 2026/2027 School Council. In line with governance requirements, Council members elected the following Office Bearers:

- **President:** Lauren Dickenson
- **Vice President:** Jessica Chawla
- **Treasurer:** Shaojun Li

We thank these members for taking on these important leadership roles.

Role of School Council

The School Council plays a vital role in the governance of the College. In partnership with the Principal, School Council is responsible for:

- setting the strategic direction and vision of the school
- approving and monitoring the School Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan
- overseeing school finances and ensuring accountability
- developing and reviewing key policies
- supporting a strong culture of high expectations and continuous improvement.

The School Council is not responsible for the day-to-day operations of the school; this remains the responsibility of the Principal. Instead, the Council focuses on strategic oversight and ensuring that the College is well governed and aligned with Department of Education policies and requirements.

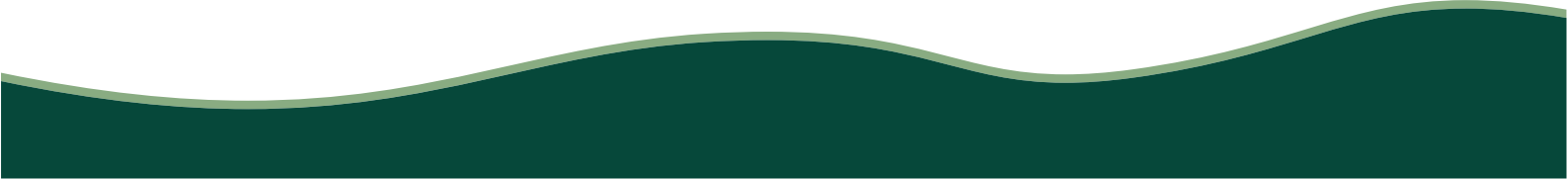


School Council - February Meeting Highlights

At the February meeting, School Council:

- Finalised one-year and two-year parent member terms
- Established the Sub-Finance Committee
- Received and endorsed the January Finance Report
- Endorsed the following policies, Cash Handling Policy, Electronic Funds and Management Policy and School Purchasing Card Policy
- Our next School Council meetings will be held on Monday 16th March at 12:30 pm.

We sincerely thank our School Council members for their commitment to strong governance, transparency, and the continued development of Yurran P-9 College.

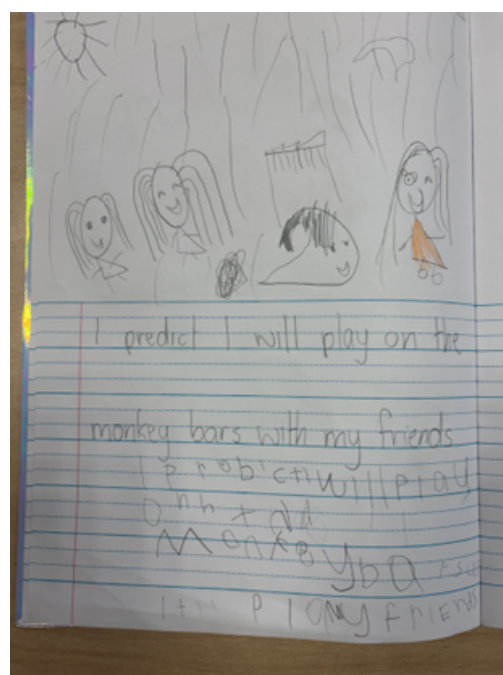
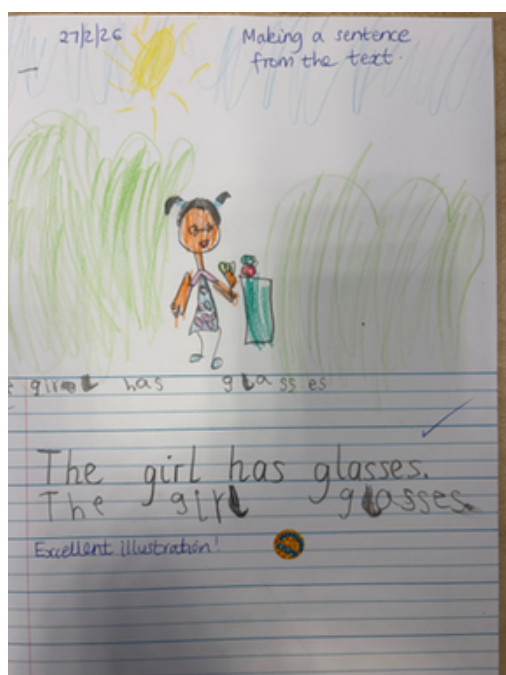


What we are learning

Literacy

Reading Foundation - Year 1

In Reading, students have been looking at creating predictions and making text-to-self connections. In Writing, they have been developing their knowledge of letters and sounds. Students are currently learning the letters 'p', 'n', and 'i' along with their sounds.



Ben Casey

Foundation - Year 1 Classroom Teacher

Numeracy

Place Value & Operations Year 3 - 5

Numbers can be built, renamed, compared, and used to solve real problems.

What we've been learning

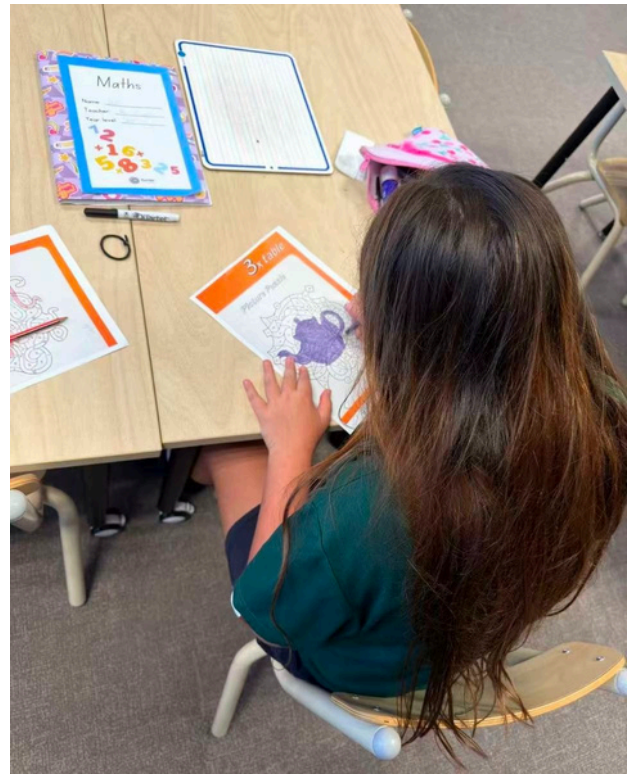
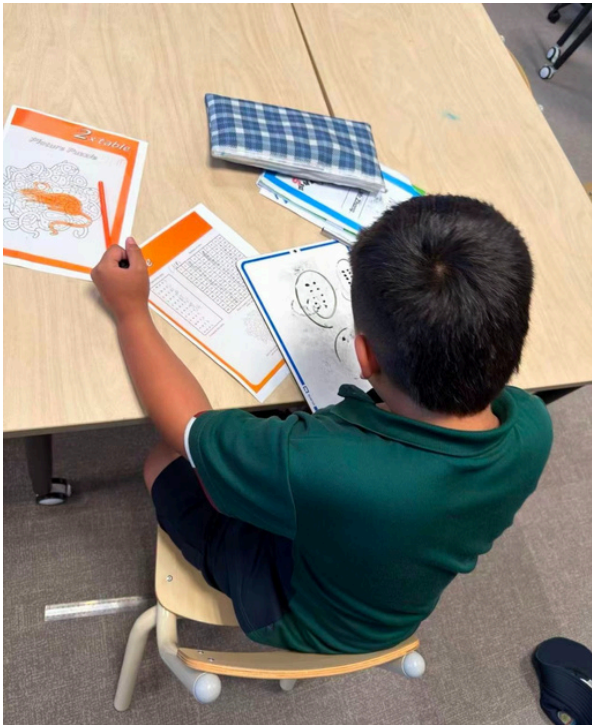
Students have explored large numbers and how place value helps us read, write, model, order, and solve real world problems. We used hands-on materials, mini whiteboards, number lines, and strategy-based methods to build confidence and accuracy.

Highlights from our Numeracy learning

Naming & Recording Large Numbers

Students practised reading numbers aloud and writing them correctly using: digits, words, and expanded form.

Example: $45,208 =$ forty-five thousand, two hundred and eight
 $= 40,000 + 5,000 + 200 + 8$



Counting with Place Value

We counted forwards and backwards using different place value "jumps," such as:

+10, +100, +1,000

-10, -100, -1,000

This helped students see how each digit changes when we move through a place value pattern.

Making & Representing Large Numbers

Students built numbers using: place value charts, base-ten blocks / place value discs (or drawn models), "build it / draw it / write it" routines.

Addition (2-3 digit numbers)

We used strategies such as: partitioning (split numbers into hundreds/tens/ones)
compensation (adjust then correct)

Gengchen Zhang

Year 3 - 5 Classroom Teacher





Physical Education

In Physical Education, all students started the first two weeks getting familiar with the routines and expectations of the subject. This included practising entry and exit routines, familiarising themselves with the teacher's stop signals and playing a range of basic PE games to get warmed up for the year ahead.

Foundation - Year 1

Throughout this year, Foundation to Year 1 students will have a big focus on learning and practising the Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS). These are a collection of basic gross motor skills that can be applied to a range of physical activities throughout someone's life. These skills will equip students to get started with a range of sports as they reach the older year levels, and can be used to then progress to sport specific, specialised movement skills.

Term 1 has a focus on Locomotor FMS, which are the skills needed to move around a space efficiently. So far students have engaged in running and leaping, but will soon move on to hopping and jumping in the coming weeks.


Year 3 - 5

For the opening weeks of the term, our Year 2 - 5 class has been focusing on teamwork and sportsmanship. This topic will be a key theme throughout the entire school year as students prepare to engage with a range of sports and physical activities. This term we have started by exploring the concept of a team huddle, including why they are effective and what they should look like. Students will then continue to use this knowledge in future topics throughout the term.

For the latter half of the term students will turn their focus to invasion sports, which are team games where players attempt to move into the opposing team's territory to score. Our first sport will be Netball, where students will learn to apply the skills of passing, pivoting and shooting along with using strategies for attacking and defending as a team.

Alex Schwartz

Physical Education and Science Teacher



Assessment updates

Our College staff have been busy collecting a variety of assessments to help us be responsive to each child's social and academic needs. This includes work samples as well as a range of standardised assessments. From here, we are planning and delivering programs that provide the appropriate level of challenge for all.

NAPLAN 2026: Setting Students Up for Success

As we prepare for the upcoming NAPLAN assessments, we aim to support our students in building confidence and performing their best.

What is NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual online assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9.

- It assesses essential skills in Reading, Writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar, and punctuation), and Numeracy.
- Students read some of the questions and listen to others with headphones.
- Students in Year 3 will do the Writing test using pencil and paper. Year 3 students will answer the other test questions on the computer.
- Students in Years 5, 7 and 9 will answer all their test questions on computers.
- Teachers will help students get ready for NAPLAN tests and will receive the results.
- The school will then give parents/carers a report showing their own child's results.

Key Dates for NAPLAN 2026

The testing period starts on Wednesday 11 March 2026 and finishes on Monday 23 March 2026 – Year levels involved at Yurran P-9 College: Years 3 and 5.

- **Encourage routine practice:** Discuss their learning and progress in reading, writing, and numeracy at home.
- **Promote healthy habits:** Ensure they are getting plenty of rest, staying hydrated, and eating well during this period.
- **Reduce stress:** Remind them that NAPLAN is just one of many ways to understand their learning and growth.
- **Familiarise with the test format:** Engage with practice materials provided by the school or visit the official ([NAPLAN Information for Parents](#)). A [public demonstration site](#) is also available for schools, teachers, parents, carers, and students to familiarise themselves with the online tests.

What We're Doing at School

We are providing targeted learning opportunities and encouraging students to practice problem-solving and literacy skills, using a supportive and positive approach, ensuring every student feels prepared. This includes running the practice omnibus in Week 6. The practice omnibus test gives students the opportunity to interact with the types of questions they will encounter in NAPLAN.

Wellbeing and Engagement

Attendance

Student attendance and engagement is among one of the priorities at Yurran P-9 College. Attending school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day. Regular attendance and participation in school will help your child develop:

- Important skills and knowledge to help them learn and grow.
- Social and emotional skills such as good communication, resilience and teamwork.



There is no safe number of days for missing school. Each day a student misses puts them behind.

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible on the day of absence using one of the following methods:

1. Online: log the absence directly using our Compass Parent Portal.
2. Telephone: the school office and let the staff know your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.
3. Email: the school and provide the staff with your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.

In our commitment to improve attendance, our staff will continue to contact families to follow up on two or more days of unexplained absences and devise strategies to support students in improving attendance.

See the graphic on the right, which demonstrates how absences can accumulate over time. Please continue to ensure your child/children are in attendance every day, and please call the College if support is required.

It's only

They are only missing just....	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling, that's
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1.5 years</u>
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over <u>2.5 years</u>
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over <u>5 years</u>
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly <u>8 years</u>

Student Representative Council

In 2026, our school will be launching its first ever Student Representative Council (SRC). An SRC consists of student leaders whose main role is to not only be a role model of our school values, but to act as a voice for their peers in how our school operates. The purpose of this is to promote student voice, agency and leadership to empower students and build school pride.

All students in grades 3 to 5 were eligible to nominate themselves for a role as a Student Leader in our SRC. Any students who applied prepared a speech detailing why they wanted to be a student leader, and why they thought they would be a good fit for the role. The students then presented their speech to their peers in each class around the school, who had a chance to vote on who they believed would make a great student leader. Once this had been completed the students were then interviewed by our Principal team, who made the final decision on our SRC leaders. All students who applied did an incredible job presenting themselves and impressed all of our staff with their excellent speeches.

We are excited to announce that we have selected two students who will take on the role of Student Leaders in 2026.

Congratulations to Indii and Trevaan!

We are sure that you will do an incredible job representing your peers around the school and we look forward to a great year ahead!



Breakfast Club

We are excited to announce that Breakfast Club will be starting this Thursday 5th of March at 8.15am. Breakfast Club will then run every Thursday moving forward.

The School Breakfast Club Program enables all students at Victorian government schools to enjoy a nutritious breakfast and everyone is welcome!

Some of the foods available are fresh fruit, toast and cereals.

If you have any questions, please contact the Administration Office.





Policies

Our Schools Policies

Policy informs the College community of the College's position on a particular issue. Policies are not school level operations and procedures. Most routine matters are dealt with via procedures and do not require a policy.

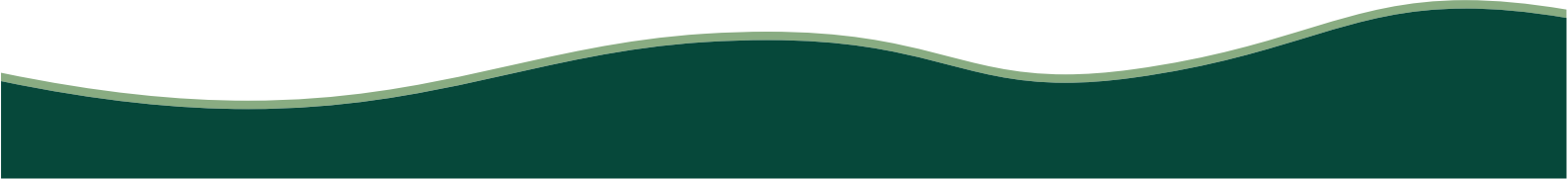
The College systematically reviews policies and coordinates the development of new policies as appropriate. This involves liaising with the college community. Policies are then endorsed by the College Council. Our school policies can be found [here](#).


Building Positive Relationships Within the School Community

The relationship between parents, carers, and school staff often spans several years, providing an opportunity to collaborate in the best interests of the child. A strong, cooperative relationship is founded on open and honest communication, mutual respect, and shared expectations. A safe, positive and inclusive school environment is essential, as everyone has the right to feel safe and contribute to a culture of respect. Staff, parents, and carers each play a crucial role in creating a school community that supports both learning and work.

In Victorian Government schools, staff must adhere to the [Respectful Workplaces Policy](#) to maintain a workplace culture based on respect. All school staff have a right to feel safe at work and are deserving of respect from all members of the school community.

It is important that everyone who visits our schools is aware of the expectations set out in the [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#). Parents and carers can also contribute to a positive learning and working environment by:

- modelling positive behaviour to their child/children and to the school community
 - communicating politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
 - communicating constructively with the school
 - working with the school to achieve the best outcomes for their child/children
 - making use of the expected processes and protocols when raising concerns
 - following the school's processes for communication with staff and making complaints
 - treating all school staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.
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By upholding these principles, schools, parents, and carers can work together to ensure students feel valued and supported.

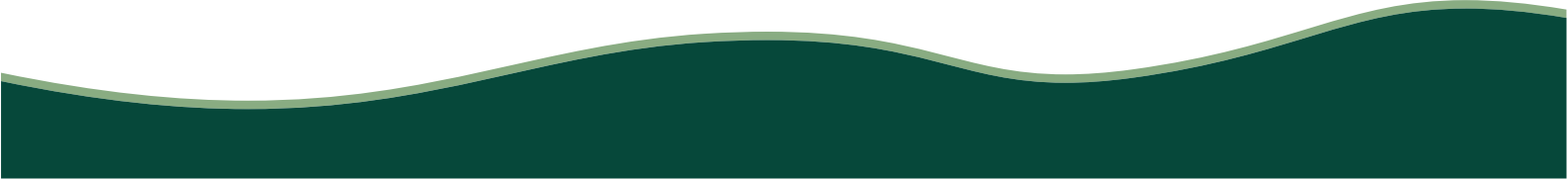
The Department recognises the importance of feedback and encourages parents and carers to express concerns through the [Parent Complaints Policy](#). Complaints from parents and carers help the school community by providing feedback to improve how a school operates.

Schools' welcome complaints from parents and carers if they are communicated in a respectful and constructive way. Schools may ask that concerns be communicated in writing. When a small number of parents and carers behave unacceptably towards a staff member or another member of the school community, this can affect their health, safety, and wellbeing. The impact can also be felt by the wider school community.

Unacceptable or unreasonable behaviours include, but are not limited to:

- being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including being physically intimidating, aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive, or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media, or over the telephone
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- discriminatory or derogatory comments
- the use of social media or public forums to make inappropriate or threatening remarks about the school, staff or students.

If a parent or carer behaves in an unacceptable way, the school principal may contact them to talk about this further and there may be consequences. This may include making a [School Community Safety Order](#) to prohibit or limit harmful, threatening or abusive behaviour from a parent, carer or other adult to members of the school community. [School Complaints Policy](#).



Community updates

OSHClub

If you are yet to enrol in the OSHClub Rise Then Shine and Stay & Play programs, please find our 'How to enrol' brochure attached for guidance - and remember, it's free!

We kindly remind all families to check that their bookings are accurate and amend them as needed. Bookings can be reviewed by logging into your OSHClub account or the Kidsoft app. If your child will not be attending on any booked day, kindly remove the booking to avoid non-notified absence charges.

To help secure your child's place, we also encourage families to ensure all 2026 bookings are entered and accurate for both Term Time care and Holiday HQ.

Entering bookings early supports planning and helps us to better manage availability throughout the year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to head down to the OSHClub room to visit the team or get in touch with our Regional Manager, Bree Lloyd, on 0492 168 651. We're so excited to be welcoming you to our OSHC service and can't wait to begin our time together.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

OSHClub Team

Program	Date/Term	Times	Booking Type	Full Price (Before CCS)	Fees* After Govt. Subsidy
Holiday HQ	Coming Soon!	6:30 AM - 6:30 PM	Full Day Holiday Program	\$74.95	\$7.50
			Flexible Booking	\$27.00	\$3.94
Rise then Shine	Coming Soon!	6:30 AM - Bell Time	Last Minute Booking	\$29.70	\$6.64
			Early Bird Booking	\$22.40	\$2.24
			Early Bird Booking	\$34.95	\$3.50
Stay and Play	Coming Soon!	Bell Time - 6:30 PM	Flexible Booking	\$38.45	\$3.84
			Last Minute Booking	\$41.94	\$4.19

Fees After Govt. Subsidy are subject to individual family income. These are the out-of-pocket expense after the maximum CCS, hourly cap and 90% of CCS. Visit our CCS page to discover your applicable CCS percentage and use the online calculator

How to enrol



What You'll Need:

- Centrelink Customer Reference Numbers (CRNs) for yourself and your child if you would like to claim Child Care Subsidy (CCS). Note that the person completing the enrolment must be the same person linked to the child for CCS
- Bank account details or card for direct debit
- One or more emergency contacts
- Doctor's contact information, management plan for any relevant medical conditions and your child's immunisation record

Steps:

- 1 Scan QR Code above or head to oshclub.com.au/register and click on Get Started to register as a new Kidsoft user
- 2 Validate your registered email address (you will receive an email)
- 3 Create your account password
- 4 Select your school in 'Find a Place'
- 5 Complete the 'waitlist' form by adding your child's details (separate one for each child)
- 6 Complete and submit the enrolment form



Tips:

- Please allow 10-15 minutes to enrol, so it's a great time to grab a cuppa!
- Your email address will be your username and the main point of contact.
- Download the Kidsoft app on your mobile to manage your bookings!


We're here to help!

Our friendly customer service team is here to assist with any enquiries.

✉ oshaccounts@junioradventuresgroup.com.au

☎ 1300 395 735

For service specific information and contact details, head to oshclub.com.au and search for your school.



Wyndham Community Connector

A COMMUNITY CONNECTOR CAN PROVIDE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE

Supporting you to access the services you need to stay living at home, active and connected with your community.

We are an access point for Wyndham residents to connect with personalised support to navigate formal and informal services and groups/activities.

Our connectors can work with all residents and carers of residents living within the Wyndham municipality.

The community connector team is available Monday to Friday between 8am – 5pm.



(Interpreter available on request)

Community Connectors will be available at the following Community Learning Centres:

- **Tarneit Community Learning Centre**
WEDNESDAY 8am – 5pm
- **Point Cook Community Learning Centre**
THURSDAY 8am – 5pm
- **Manor Lakes Community Learning Centre**
FRIDAY 8am – 5pm

Additional days and Community Centres may be available, for more information please contact 8734 4514.

Please note during Community Centre closures the Community Connectors will only be contactable by phone or email.

www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/communityconnector

What matters to you?

How can we help you?

Is it important to you to stay connected to your community?

What information would help you connect to your local area supports and services?

Do you or someone you know need support with daily living to maintain independence?

Do you need an advocate to support you and work on your behalf to represent your wishes?

A Community Connector can assist with, however not limited to:

- Information about services that support you to participate in your community, feel safe and supports your wellbeing or that of your family.
- Connecting with local community groups and activities
- Information about council services

Access and connect to:

- State & Commonwealth funded programs
- Home & Community Care for Younger Persons (HACC PYP)
- My Aged Care (MAC)
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Connection to emergency relief supports, for example:

- Food relief and material aid
- Mental health support and counselling
- Family violence support
- Family, youth and social support
- Homelessness and emergency accommodation
- Financial support

Youth events at Wyndham City Libraries



FREE

SHARED LENS:

SHORT FILM WORKSHOPS AND SHOWCASE

If you love film or storytelling, take part in our Short Film Workshops and Showcase!

Join our smartphone filmmaking workshops and learn tips and tricks from leading industry pros.

Craft a 3 to 5 minute film based on what community means to you, created either solo or with friends!



Come along to a workshop listed below, or simply submit your film to be screened at our showcase event in May 2026.

<p>Workshop 1: March 5, 3-5.30pm</p> <p>Workshop 2: March 12, 3-5.30pm Bookings required for workshops.</p>	<p>Entries for showcase accepted online from March 23 - April 24, 2026.</p> <p>Entries MUST be made entirely by young people aged 13-18 only.</p>
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www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/whats-on/shared-lens-short-film-showcase-and-workshops

Ph. 8734 8999

  librariesinwyndham



Youth events at Wyndham City Libraries

AGES 11-15

KIA ORA G'day HELLO!

Global Hangout

FREE EVENT

Join our Global Hangout event that brings together young people from Australia, America and New Zealand. Discover different traditions, food, hobbies, and more!

Saturday 7 March
11am - 1pm
Online



Bookings Essential:
www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/global-hangout
Ph. 8734 8999
📍 📱 librariesinwyndham



Puzzle of the week for our possum detectives

I Spy with My Little Eye...

Find at home:

- 3 things that are blue
- 2 things that are soft
- 1 thing that makes a sound



Submit your answers, name and year level to the Administration team by **Friday 27 March**.

People of Yurran Nicole Strange – Administration

What is your favourite colour? Green

What is your favourite number and why? 5, because there are five of us in our family.

What is your favourite book and why? I loved *The Power of One* by Bryce Courtenay because it is a realistic and inspiring story about overcoming obstacles. The main character, Peekay, faces bullying, loneliness, and discrimination while growing up, but he develops strength, confidence, and resilience through determination and self-belief. The novel shows how perseverance and courage can help someone succeed despite difficult circumstances.

What is your favourite food? Oh, tricky because I love most foods! I think if I had to choose a last meal it would be seafood, on the beach in Thailand!

What do you like most about your role? Meeting new people and working with kids.

What is something that is unique about you? I had triplets!

Volunteers

Help us make a difference!

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to support our College community throughout the year. Some events we have coming up include:

- Breakfast Club
- Mother's Day Stall
- Easter Parade.

If you are interested and have a Working With Children's Check, please contact our Administration team.

Easter Raffle Donations

Yurran P-9 College is currently seeking Easter chocolate donations for our Easter Raffle to be drawn at the end of this term.

Fundraising initiatives are ongoing at Yurran P-9 College so that we can provide the best resources for our students.

If you have any Easter chocolate donations, please drop them at the Administration Office.

