

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Hello Mount Rowan School Community,

Thank-You Thank-You Thank-You

Thank-you for your support with our most recent remote learning period. The students have returned to school with ease. This was our 6th return to school, so by now we are well practiced with it. Who knows if we will return to remote learning again. We have found the majority of our community can switch to learning online fairly well and there are always supports to those students and families who need to work on-site or need support with technical issues and devices. As we still live in an environment where Covid-19 is a threat to the health of our community, we need to be ready to move to remote learning at any stage and we will do our best to support each child to move to this easily.

If you have seen my Compass posts, you will see that we have needed to postpone or cancel events. All going well!! Our school musical MARS 2035 will run in week 10 of this term. For this event to be confirmed I need to wait on easement of restrictions about visitors to be on-site and mixing of school groups on-site, as we invite primary school students to join us across the daytime productions.

There is now a student free day set aside for Tuesday September 7th, this is yet to be confirmed with the presenter who will be travelling in from South Australia. I will give you plenty of notice about this date, once I can confirm dates with the presenter working with staff on this day.

We have moved other dates to term 4. The GAT (General Achievement Test) has been postponed with another date still to be confirmed.

The Tutor Learning Initiative TLI is still underway and some of the student groups have been updated for semester 2. We currently have 4 tutors working with our students, to meet their needs of missed learning that potentially occurred in 2020. The four tutors are: Megg Conder, Stephen Samuel, Liz Kelly and Maxine Harrison.

We are looking forward to 2022 with the year 7s joining us and the extra staff needing to be employed. Currently we have 163 year 7s joining us in 2022. This means we are moving to 7 classes in 2022 for year 7. These are exciting times ahead as we grow our community. I will personally make sure our 'small school' feel will continue. I intend to do this by making sure we all follow our school Values, we work on building respectful relationships and we continue to support each other inside and outside of the classroom. The work we do regarding wellbeing to support engagement is just as important as the curriculum we need to teach.

It is now time for the parent/guardian/caregiver opinion survey. There is information in this newsletter for how you can access the survey and there has been a Compass message sent out this week with details also. I invite you all to fill in the survey as your opinion matters to the staff here and we use the data for future planning that will best support your Child and all future students of

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We are half way through Term 3 and with a couple of rounds of remote learning thrown in! Well done to all students on how they have returned from remote learning each time. We understand that it could be a challenging time during remote learning, but the way the students have re-engaged back with school has been great.

School Uniform

School Shoes

There are a small number of students wearing runners instead of their school shoes at present. Heads of House will start getting those students to swap for school shoes that are located in the HoH office if students don't have a written note from home explaining the shoes.

A small number of students are also choosing to wear boots instead of black school shoes. We will be making contact with home in regard to this and we are more than happy to support these students to ensure they are in full school uniform.

Sports Uniform/Runners

We are noticing that there are a small number of students wearing sports uniform throughout the school day when they don't have PE or Sport. Students are only to be wearing PE / Sport uniform when they have the subject. Students can wear their Sports uniform to school if they have PE / Sport during Periods 1 & 2, but they must have their school uniform to get changed into for the remainder of the school day.

We are currently looking at the possibility of this changing in future, but we really need students to be in full school uniform.

School Laptops

Just a friendly reminder to all the students around expectations of school laptops.

Below is a list of expectations that all students need to follow:

- Laptops are only to be used in class as directed by the classroom teacher (students are not to get Laptops out and use them unless teacher has asked them too)
- Laptops must be carried around the Campus in the carry bag (this protects the laptop)
- Laptops cannot be carried around the Campus and to and from class while listening to music with headphones
- Students can use Laptops before school, at recess and lunch breaks but must ensure they remained charged for class
- Laptops must be stored in lockers when not being used (Lockers must have locks on them)
- Laptop stickers must not be removed from laptop (if removed, you will have to get a replacement at your own cost)

All students signed an agreement at the beginning of the school year when they collected the laptops and the majority of the above expectations were in this



HEALTH & WELLBEING NEWS

Can parents please make sure that students bring their own face masks to school.

Updated Asthma/Anaphylactic plans also need to be returned to Kim Hart in First Aid. If your student needs to take medication while at school, please make sure the relevant form has been completed and sent to school with the medication.

For any queries please contact the office on 5336 7804.

CANTEEN NEWS

Look out for healthy specials at the Canteen—fruit cups, banana bread, zucchini slice, muffins. These are subject to seasonal food availability.



LIBRARY NEWS

Premier's Reading Challenge

Please hand in your list of books that you have read this year to Jeanette in the Library.

We have a few students that have already finished. Days are running out, so keep reading

The library is open at lunchtime each day Mon -Fri so come in and play cards, Chess, or just find a great book to read

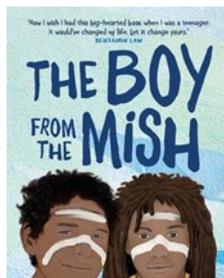
No food or drink

If you had a school netbook during lockdown you need to return them with the power cord.

Book of the Week:

The Boy from the Mish by Gary Lonesborough

Summary:



It's a hot summer and life's going all right for Jackson and his family on the Mish. It's almost Christmas, school's out, and he's hanging with his mates, teasing the visiting tourists, avoiding the racist boys in town. Just like every year, Jackson's Aunty and annoying little cousins visit from the city - but this time a mysterious boy with a troubled past comes with them. As their friendship evolves, Jackson must confront the changing shapes of his relationships with his friends, family and community. And he must face his darkest secret - a secret he thought he'd locked away for good.

Compelling, honest and beautifully written, The Boy from the

HEALTH & WELLBEING NEWS

Resilience ... it's a familiar word, isn't it? But what does it really mean?

When we talk about resilience, we're talking about a child's ability to cope with ups and downs, and bounce back from the challenges they experience during childhood – for example moving home, changing schools, studying for an exam or dealing with the death of a loved one. Building resilience helps children not only to deal with current difficulties that are a part of everyday life, but also to develop the basic skills and habits that will help them deal with challenges later in life, during adolescence and adulthood.

As a parent, carer, or significant adult, you can help to develop essential skills, habits and attitudes for building resilience at home by helping your child to:

- build good relationships with others including adults and peers
- build their independence
- learn to identify, express and manage their emotions
- build their confidence by taking on personal challenges



For further information and support visit Beyond Blue
<https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/healthy-homes/building-resilience>
From The Wellbeing Team at MRSC

Belinda Spark
Student Counsellor

CALENDAR

Wednesday 18 August	School Council Meeting
Tuesday 7 September	Student Free Day
Friday 17 September	Last day of Term 3
Monday 4 October	First day of Term 4

SURVEY

WE WANT OUR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS/GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents/caregivers/guardians think of our school. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted each year for all parents/caregivers/guardians (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All responses to the survey are anonymous. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is now open and closes on **Friday 3rd September**.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

To complete the survey, simply:

1. Click on the link below, or copy and paste the text into your browser. This link will take you directly to the survey.
<https://www.orima.com.au/parent>
2. Select the School and Campus name below.
3. School Name: Mount Rowan Secondary College
4. Campus Name: Mount Rowan Campus
5. Note: Link Up families – your data is included into the whole school survey, there is not a separate survey for Link Up families.
5. Enter the School PIN below.
6. School PIN: **175874**

Thanks, your opinions are important to me and for future planning for our school community.

Seona Murnane
Principal

Messages reporting absences are sent out to parents and carers at 9:30am each day and must be responded to via phone call not text message. It is important that absences are reported daily, unless previously reported to office staff. This gives the staff at Mount Rowan Secondary College an understanding of why your child is absent from school.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

If your child misses school 1 day per fortnight, that equals to 20 days per year. Which is 4 weeks per year, across 13 years of school that equates to your child missing nearly 1.5 years of school and is equal to them finishing year 11.

If your child misses 1 day per week, that equals to 40 days per year. Which is 8 weeks per year, across 13 years of school that equates to your child missing over 2.5 years of school and is equal to finishing year 10.

If your child misses 2 days per week, that equals to 80 days per year. Which is 16 weeks per year, across 13 years of school that equates to your child missing over 5 years of school and is equal to finishing year 7.

If your child misses 3 days per week, that equals to 120 days per year. Which is 24 weeks per year, across 13 years of school that equates to your child missing nearly 8 years of school and is equal to finishing grade 4.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

If your child is 10 minutes late per day, that equals 50 minutes per week. That means they are missing nearly 1 and half weeks of school per year, across 13 years of schooling they will be behind by 6 months.

If your child is 20 minutes late per day, that equals 1 hour and 40 minutes per week. That means they are missing over 2 and half weeks of school per year, across 13 years of schooling they will be behind by nearly 1 year.

If your child is half an hour late each day, that equals to half a day per week. That means they are missing nearly 4 weeks of school per year, across 13 years of schooling they will be behind by nearly 1 and half years.

If your child is 1 hour late per day, that equals 1 day per week. That means they are missing 8 weeks of school per year, across 13 years of schooling they will be behind by 2 and half years.





Want \$500 to help you with school costs?



Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:

		
laptops & tablets	uniforms & shoes	books & supplies
		
sports fees & gear	lessons & activities	camps & excursion

For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:

 Sue Ogilvie

 sue@hgt.org.au

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From **Saturday 3rd July 2021** our Ballarat retail service centre will be open Saturdays from 10am to 1pm.

Campion Education - Ballarat Retail Service Centre
5 Yarrowee Street, Sebastopol. Phone 5333 3222.

Visit us in-store for all your educational and library resource needs.