

News letter



Time flies!

Dear Carers, Parents, Students,

It seems just yesterday that we started the year by welcoming so many new students to the College. Term 1 always flies by but this year it has seemed even quicker than usual.

In late January we had over 200 students join the College with most of those young people being in Years 7 and 10. I want to thank students and parents/carers for supporting us to make such a positive and purposeful start to the year.

Last week we held our Parent-Teacher Interviews, and it was a wonderful opportunity for us to share student learning successes and map out the next steps in learning for the year. You might like to know that we had more parents/carers attend the interviews than in previous years.

www.hallamssc.vic.edu.au

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Important Dates

Monday 15th April

Term 1 Starts

Tuesday 16th April

Year 7 & 10 Immunisations

Thursday 18th April

Curriculum Day - No classes

Thursday 25th April

ANZAC Day - Public Holiday

The families I spoke to all commented on how well our teachers know their students.

This week we have also held Celebration Assemblies. These assemblies were a chance for us to acknowledge student achievements against our school Values and reward good attendance.

These assemblies build on the new student leadership program that was launched at the whole-school assembly in February.

The whole-school assembly included a formal Welcome to Country and a smoking ceremony from Bunerong Elder Uncle Mark and the introduction of our 2024 College Captains Nanjera Pender and Max Hastings.

We also formally launched our new House System, with artwork provided by former student Ky-ya Nicholson Ward (Djirringu Art).

Looking at the 'big picture' our strategic goals this year focus on;

- Attendance
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Year 12 Senior Pathway Course Completion, and
- VCE median score

I am pleased to report that our Year 12 students in particular have started the year absolutely focused on success. Their attendance is the best we have seen since the COVID era and they have a greater sense of purpose.

I believe this comes down to the collective effort of all of us but in particular we are seeing the fruits of two initiatives;

- our new Senior Curriculum Program was implemented in 2023 and we are seeing it working
- every student in Year 12 now has a Careers interview at the start of the year and at the end of Semester 1 ensuring that students remain focused on what is important.

This work connects to the broader focus we have on;

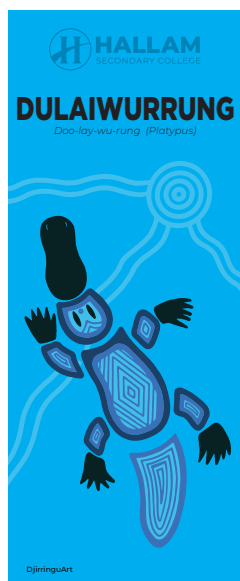
- Responsive Teaching
- Inclusive Classroom Practices, and
- the Berry Street Education Model

With these approaches in place, I am confident that all our students will continue to succeed in 2024.

This Newsletter gives you a snapshot of all the rich experiences students have access to at Hallam and I hope you will take the time to read it.



Kind regards
Simon Sherlock
Executive Principal



After a lengthy process involving student feedback and voting we are proud to announce our new house names and corresponding colours.

Student Leadership Program

A significant highlight of Term 1 was the first whole-school assembly held in early March. This was our first whole-school assembly of the year and marked an important moment in the life of the school with the formal launch of our House System, Student Leadership Program, and the Welcome to Country.

The assembly was also the first time in recent history that we have invited parents to attend.

The 2024 Student Leadership team will be led by College Captains (Max Gay & Nanjera Pender) and College Vice Captains (Dakotah Maxwell, Parisa Ahmadi, Lavinia Badiceanu, Kayliegh Gilchrist).

A full list of the leadership team can be found on our website <https://hallamsc.vic.edu.au/students.../student-leadership/>

We'd like to congratulate each member of the student leadership team for taking on such an important role in the school community. We are looking forward to a great year ahead.



Year 7 Camp 2024

Back in early February, our Year 7 cohort made the journey across to Foster for their first high school camp experience at Camp Rumbug.

Over 3 days students moved through a range of experiences. In some we saw students work together in teams to solve problems. In others, students had to show incredible trust in peers and bravery when dealing with heights. There were many laughs had and lots of muddy clothes sent home to parents.

Overall, the camp was successful in building relationships that will last for years to come.

A special thanks to the attending staff who not only built some really positive relationships with our students but also supported myself for which I am very grateful.

Jack O'Shea - Year 7 Coordinator



Outdoor & Environmental Studies

Year 12 Wilsons Prom National Park Outdoor and Environmental Studies Camp

Students embarked on a three-day camp at Wilsons Promontory where they investigated the environment and made key connections from the study design including changing human relationships with outdoor environments. Students camped at Tidal River and had the opportunity to participate in a variety of adventure activities including surfing, summiting Mt Oberon, and exploring the Big drift Sand dunes. Student collected primary and secondary data for their Unit 4 Outcome 3 Logbook.

Year 11 UrbnSurf Outdoor and Environmental Studies Excursion

Our year 11 students were provided with the opportunity to experience the perfect waves at UrbnSurf, Victoria's largest artificial waver centre. The crystal-clear lagoon offered a safe, controlled, and pristine environment for our students to learn to surf. The students also undertook a variety of aquatic safety awareness modules aligning with the "National Swimming and Water Safety Framework". These centred around vital aquatic skills and topics such as rips, tides, currents, and rescue skills.

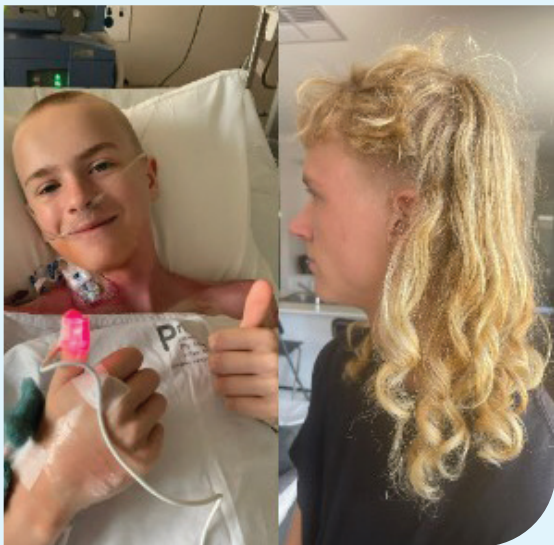


Feedback

We welcome feedback from students, families and members of the community. This information allows us to see where our strengths lie and also the areas in which we should seek to improve. Please email Business Manager, Sue Quinn at: Sue.Quinn@education.vic.gov.au or call 9703 1266.

Jed's Mullet of Gratitude

Jed N, a current Year 12 student has been growing his hair since he had open heart surgery in 2020 and has decided it's now time to cut the mullet off and contribute to a worthwhile charity.



He has chosen to raise funds for The Good Friday Appeal. So far Jed has raised just over \$1600 for the cause.

The Good Friday Appeal love the idea and have invited Jed to be a part of the telethon on Good Friday and have it cut off on live TV.

To read more about Jed's story, please use the link below to Jed's Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal fundraiser page and contribute if able and willing.

<https://fundraise.goodfridayappeal.com.au/fundraisers/thegoldenmullet>

The Secondary School Immunisation Program

The Secondary School Immunisation Program offers free National Immunisation Program schedule vaccines to all eligible Year 7 & Year 10 students.

Hallam Secondary College will be hosting the Secondary School Vaccine Program on Tuesday 16th April

City of Casey council immunisation service delivers the school-based immunisation program. The City of Casey council now uses a system provided by the Department of Health, called CIRV Portal, to manage those receiving an immunisation.

Year 7 students

- Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 10 students

- Meningococcal ACWY

For further information on the Secondary School Vaccine Program:

Immunisation in Secondary Schools

Please complete the online CIRV Portal Consent form ASAP, even if you choose not to consent for your child to be vaccinated at school.

Please click on the link below:

Year 7 – (CIRV PORTAL LINK)

*Please complete online consent form before the 15th April.

Year 10 – (CIRV PORTAL LINK)

*Please complete online consent form before the 15th April.

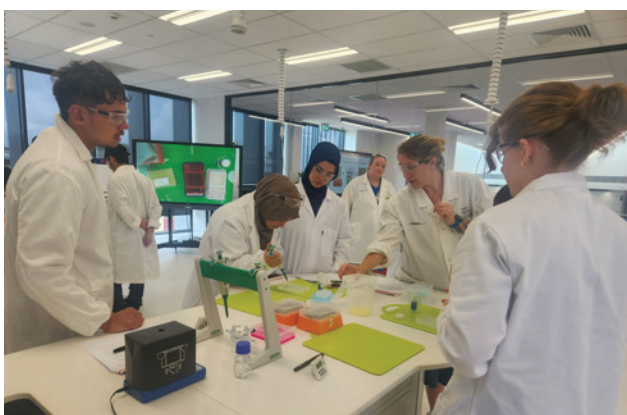
Biology @ Casey Tech

Our Year 11 Biology students travelled to Casey Tech to witness firsthand how genetic disorders are tested.

Students learnt about the latest genetic engineering technologies such as PCR and Gel Electrophoresis, and the implications of knowing that one carries a disease. They were also able to explore the ethical issues surrounding bioethics in the scientific field.

Students shared their thoughts on bioethics and the moral dilemmas that arise when it comes to deciding a child to be born or not knowing they could carry a disease and suffer lifelong. They also discussed ways to approach these issues with integrity and respect.

The excursion was a huge success, and our students learned a lot from the experience. The excursion was very well organised by Casey Tech and we appreciate the support of the school administration as well in making this excursion possible.



Message from Victoria Police

Young people going to and from school and using public spaces can be vulnerable to theft and robbery offences.

Victims are having phones, earphones, expensive clothing items stolen by offenders.

Please consider these safety tips to help protect yourself:

- Stay alert – Be aware of where you are and the people around you.
- Travel in groups where possible.
- Keep it light – Only take what you need.
- Hold it tight – Keep hold of valuables and don't leave them unattended.
- Out of sight – Keep valuables hidden.

CAFE Reminder

A reminder that Students will only be served at the Cafe during the Recess and Lunch breaks. Once the music starts to signal the end of the break, service will stop to ensure there is enough time to consume their purchase. Food and drinks are not allowed in class.

As part of the Mobile Phone Free School policy, **Students will not be able to use their mobile phone to make payments** in the Café/Canteen. This will also apply to any other payments made during school hours.

Careers & Pathways News

/HEADSTART

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

Head Start supports students undertaking School Based Apprenticeships/Traineeships (SBATs). Students who undertake an SBAT attend Hallam Secondary College part time, work part time and attend TAFE Training. Mentoring and monitoring is given to students throughout their SBAT guiding them towards full time work once they have completed their secondary education.

Some students have been referred to me via the Careers Pathways team after they have had the Career Action Plans completed. I am keen to keep meeting with and speaking with enthusiastic Year 11 and 12 students who are considering entering into an Apprenticeship whilst they are completing their senior studies at Hallam Secondary College. Keeping in my, any Year 12 students thinking of entering an Apprenticeship/Traineeship once school has finished can commence this year, why wait?

Many industries are experiencing skills shortage – therefore Employers are wanting to engage with the Head Start team to employ a School Based Apprentice/Trainee in their business.

We have opportunities in the following areas in various locations:

- Landscaping
- Warehousing - Year 11 only
- Brick Laying
- Roof Tiling
- Glazing
- Engineering (Metal Fabrication)
- Baking
- Childcare
- Swim Instructor/Life Guard
- Cabinet Making
- Commercial Cookery

The Head Start Office is located in the Senior Centre, next to the Careers Office, come by and have a chat, or if I am not present, please email me or send me a text message and I will come and find you when back at Hallam.

Nerida Parsons

Head Start Assistant Director - Southern Melbourne Hub

P: 0407 453 705 E: Nerida.parsons@education.vic.gov.au

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday 8th May and Thursday 9th May
The Trades and Tech Fit
The TTF career expo delivers to female and gender diverse secondary students exciting trade and technology industries, showcasing the rewarding and well-paid career opportunities they provide.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/trade-tech-fit>

Tuesday 14th May

SELLEN Try a Trade

<https://sellen.org.au/careers-day-try-a-trade/>

Late April/early May – Date to be confirmed.

SEMMA

<https://semma.com.au/>

Immersion Day – view, ask, enquire, experience.

Thursday 8th August

Boating Industry Day with BIAV

Further details to come.

White Cards

If you are considering doing work experience or entering a trade in the Construction field (Plumbing, Carpentry, Cabinet Making, Electrical, Landscaping, Heating and Cooling) you will require your Construction Induction Card (White Card).

If you haven't done this already through your VET course or you are not doing VET, then you will need to consider this.

If there are enough students interested, Hallam Secondary can run a White Card course, much cheaper than if you were to do it externally.

If you are interested, please come and speak to me, Sharyn or Suzanne in Careers.

VET Beauty & Hairdressing

Students in hairdressing have had a busy Term 1. Practical skills are developing, and new knowledge absorbed.

Classes were treated to education by Fiona from OZDARE. Sustainable Eco Taps and new innovative Colour PODS infused through water.

Hallam Secondary College being the first to adapt and implement this as part of our learning, SHBHAS001 Provide shampoo and basin services.



Beauty Students have been developing customer service skills and preparing for practical tasks in Term 2.

They will be focusing on makeup applications, lash and brow services, waxing, manicure, and pedicure.

Keep an eye on our space.

