

TERM THREE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

7th October –

Start of Term 4

21st October –

Last Day for Yr 12 Students

23rd October –

Junior School Concert

28th October –

Turkish Republic Day Assembly

9TH November –

No School (Cup day public holiday)

10TH December –

Last Day of School

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Congratulations to all of our students on their achievements across a packed Term Three! Life at the College is always on the go and some of the major events that have occurred over this term are;

-**Harmony Day** on Monday 29th July, was a success and it was great to see our students demonstrating so much pride in their cultural heritage

-**Parent-Teacher Interviews** - though we would love more parents/carers and students in attendance at this event

-The **VCE Information Expo** for our Year 9 and 10 students

-The **Quran Competition** was an amazing event that showcased our students' talents and dedication

-The **Islamic Science Symposium**, which was an excellent way to include Science Week (Week 6)

-**Year 7 Camp** at the Ranch in Cape Schanck was well attended. Thank you to our fantastic staff and students for their engagement in the camp experience. It was a great success!

-The **Hajj Simulation** (thank you to all of the participants and the Religious Education team for overseeing this event)

-**Book Week**, a highlight of which is always the College book character dress-up day and the Junior School students dress-up parade.

-**AFL and R.U. OK Day** and the **Yr. 9 and 11 Business Stalls**, as well as the fun **100 days of Foundation** for our youngest students were all excellent events, greatly enjoyed by our students.

-Multiple **Interschool sports events** and our internal boys Futsal Tournaments and staff vs. students Futsal and volleyball events

-The **Year 12 Trial examination period** (occurred in Week 10 in preparation for the upcoming VCAA examinations)

-Lots and lots of **Primary school concert preparation and practice**. Well done to our students for engaging with the concert and we look forward to the finished product that will be showcased to the College community on Wednesday 23rd October.

-The **Parent, Student and Staff surveys**. Thank you to the 125 parents who responded to the survey opportunity. We greatly appreciate the feedback and were very proud of the highest number of respondents the College has ever received. Feedback regarding the survey process will be communicated to key stakeholders over the school holidays.

In line with the College's focus on growth in the area of academic achievement and excellence more than 60 students made the effort to apply for a College Scholarship for 2025. Whilst unfortunately not all of these students can be successful in this endeavour it is an excellent opportunity for our students to get used to working under pressure (during the examination) or how to improve their communication skills (during the Scholarship Interview). Successful scholarship applicants will be informed early in Term Four of the results of their Scholarship application.

One of the main focuses for me and the College executive in Term Four will be following up on overall student attendance. There is a clear link between high attendance and improved performance and social outcomes. For this reason, please ensure you endeavour to have your child attend school whenever they are healthy enough to do so.

In order to help with communication and working together we strongly encourage all parents to ensure that you have access to Compass, this is the College attendance and pastoral care management system. It will enable you to better track your child's attendance rates, notable performances and achievements, areas requiring improvement and also functions as a communication tool for parents. If you do not have Compass access, please contact the College office or get in contact with me and we will help to ensure your account is active. Please contact the College office if you need support with Compass and a member of the College will provide you with information. We can very easily re-send login information if you require this.



We hope that everyone has/had a safe and enjoyable holiday period and thank you for your support during Term Three.

Tim Campbell

Acting College Principal

tim.campbell@mthira.vic.edu.au

As we conclude Term 3 at Mt. Hira College, we are excited to reflect upon our vision of creating a culture of learning where our students are at the center of every educational experience. One of our key initiatives this year is to enhance our students' preparation for the NAPLAN assessments. To support this, we are introducing advanced tools that will offer our students ample practice and focus on honing the skills required to excel. Our goal is for every student to reach their full potential through this targeted support, in line with our commitment to the value of *excellence*.

In addition, starting in Term 4, we will be implementing PAT testing (Progressive Achievement Tests) for Years 2-10. These standardized assessments in English, Math, and Science will allow us to accurately gauge the academic rigor of our current practices and provide a benchmark for our students' abilities. This is part of our broader strategy to ensure that every student receives the best possible opportunities for academic growth and development.

Our educational philosophy goes beyond traditional teaching methods. We believe in fostering an environment where students are empowered to take control of their learning, developing self-regulation and independence. By making students the focal point of the classroom rather than the teacher, we open new avenues for exploration, creativity, and critical thinking—reflecting our school values of *responsibility* and *honesty*. As Allah (SWT) reminds us in the Qur'an, "And say, My Lord, increase me in knowledge" (Surah Taha, 20:114). At Mt. Hira, we strive to embody this divine encouragement to constantly seek knowledge and improve ourselves.

We are also incredibly proud of the outstanding achievements of our students in recent competitions. Two of our students received distinctions in the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC), and another two achieved distinctions in the ICAS Mathematics Competition. These successes highlight the talent and dedication of our students, as well as the quality of education we are providing. Moving forward, we aim to build on these achievements and continue nurturing academic excellence.

As we look ahead to Term 4 and beyond, I encourage our parents to play an active role in supporting the learning culture we are fostering here at school. Learning doesn't stop when students leave campus—it is a continuous process that extends into their home life. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "The best of you are those who learn and teach others." We ask for your partnership in motivating your children, encouraging their curiosity, and supporting them as they strive for excellence. Together, we can ensure that our students are not only equipped with academic skills but also with the drive to achieve their best in all areas of life.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to cultivate a learning community built on the foundations of *kindness*, *fairness*, and a shared dedication to the success of our students.

Warm regards,

Nader Abouzeina

Vice Principal of Curriculum

Dear Students, Parents, and Carers,

The end of Term Three has arrived swiftly, bringing with it a term filled with numerous special days and events for our students. It has proven to be a productive term, marked by students growing in confidence within their learning journeys and exhibiting improved social skills and behaviours.

In Foundation, we celebrated the 100th day of school which was a delightful event. Students dressed up as elderly people, paraded proudly, and received well-deserved cupcakes and certificates in recognition of their 100 days of effort at school. Additionally, students engaged in an intriguing activity, crafting 3D robots from recycled materials. This endeavour captured their interest and enthusiasm, as they proudly showcased their creations at home.





In Year One, students wrote interesting narratives for Literacy and understood the structure of narratives. Students also continued to work on their VCOP skills and continued using THRASS to build on their spelling skills. In Mathematics students learnt about various 2D and 3D shapes and built a robot using 3D shapes in class. In Health students learnt about different part of their body and in Integrated students were learning about places around the world.

Year Two students learnt about expanded noun phrases and explored the narrative writing genre. They worked on ensuring their setting, plot and characters for their narrative writing were more developed and, detailed and interesting. Students also worked on their subtraction skills through various strategies like the split strategy. For integrated their focus was history and students were learning about famous landmarks. In Art students looked at underwater textile scenes and focused on the Great Barrier Reef.



Year Three students focused on using plurals to enhance their sentence writing skills. Students also completed their cold write on 'The Robot'. In Mathematics, students worked on their multiplication skills through repeated addition. Students also focused on division and completed many worded problems using their division skills. For Integrated students explored the topic of recycling and importance of reducing the usage of plastic to improve the environment. The Year Three students also had a wonderful experience at the Ceres community environment park where they gained extensive knowledge on Aboriginal culture.



In Year Four, our students thrived across multiple subjects. In Mathematics, the exploration of fractions, decimal numbers, and money ensued, encompassing conversions and practical money-related problem-solving. Students also enjoyed their excursion to Sealife Melbourne, where they gained deeper insights into different sea life creatures and their survival mechanisms in various environments. The students also engaged in guided tours and discussions, enriching their understanding of diverse life cycles and habitats. The Year Four students had an amazing time at Sealife and came back with much more knowledge of sea animals.



Year Five students delved into learning adverbial phrases and adjectives to assist in enhancing their writing skills. In Mathematics students continued to work on their division skills and also focused on number patterns. During Science week students had an incursion on the science of sound, they also learnt to recycle and reuse everyday items to create their own musical items. Students thoroughly enjoyed this experience and learnt a lot.

On August 27th, as part of Book Week, our Year Six students embarked on an excursion to the State Library, exploring its rich heritage spaces, including the awe-inspiring La Trobe Reading Room. This experience kindled appreciation for libraries' significance in both personal and community contexts.





Science Week brought forth engaging activities and creative costume designs, showcasing students' enthusiasm for scientific discovery. Similarly, Book Week's Character Dress Up Day spotlighted the creative ideas of parents and students, reinforcing their shared love for reading. The Book Fair's success enabled our library to secure an array of new books for the upcoming term.



We also had a great success amongst the Year Six boys' interschool soccer competition. The boys demonstrated remarkable prowess in regional finals for interschool soccer, securing victories in both sets of finals against four different schools. Their success earned them a place in the Southern Metro League finals, a significant achievement. Congratulations to the Year Six boys on this outstanding accomplishment!

Our Junior school students also thoroughly enjoyed attending Taekwondo sessions where they built key skill in strengthening their bodies and building on resilience. As we celebrated Father's Day this term, our parent volunteers ran a successful Father's Day stall, which students and families were greatly appreciative of. As we enter Term Four, let us recognise the pivotal role that consistent attendance plays in fostering learning. A strong presence throughout the term ensures that our children can fully engage in critical teaching and learning moments.



Wishing everyone a safe and restful term break.
Sincerely,

Miss. Natasha Padayachee
Head of Junior School



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

As we approach the end of Term Three, I am filled with pride and excitement at how our students have navigated this term. It has been a period of growth, learning, and achievement, and I want to commend each of you for your hard work and dedication.

Upcoming Semester Two Examinations

As we look ahead, I want to remind all students that Semester Two examinations are on the horizon. This is an important time to review all the knowledge and skills you've gained throughout Term Three. The upcoming break is an excellent opportunity to revise and ensure you're well-prepared. Remember, organisation is the key to success—create a study schedule, prioritise your learning, and approach your exams with confidence.

Uniform Reminder for Term Four

As we prepare for Term Four, I would like to remind everyone to review the College's uniform policy. Wearing your uniform with pride reflects your respect for our school community. Please ensure that all aspects of your uniform, including personal presentation, are in line with the College's expectations.

Extracurricular Activities

I'm pleased to announce that our **Volleyball Club** will continue running in Term Four. Sessions are held every Friday from 3:45 pm to 4:30 pm. It's a fantastic way to stay active and build teamwork skills.

Additionally, the **After School Soccer Program** will also continue, with sessions every Monday for Junior School and every Wednesday for Middle/Senior School. The cost for the term is \$80, and we have experienced coaches ready to help students develop their soccer skills.

Special Events

A huge thank you to our Year 9 students for their outstanding efforts in running the RUOK Day and AFL Day. Your hard work and the engaging activities you organised have made these days truly memorable for the whole school community. We are incredibly proud of your commitment and leadership.

Year 7 and Year 9 Camps

Thank you to all the staff and parents who supported the Year 7 Camp—your contributions made it a successful and enriching experience for our students. Looking ahead, the **Year 9 Camp** will be held in Week Four of Term Four. Please ensure that all payments are made through the office to secure your spot for this exciting event.

As we head into the break, I encourage everyone to rest, recharge, and return ready for another term of growth and achievement.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Kind regards,

Serdar Eroglu

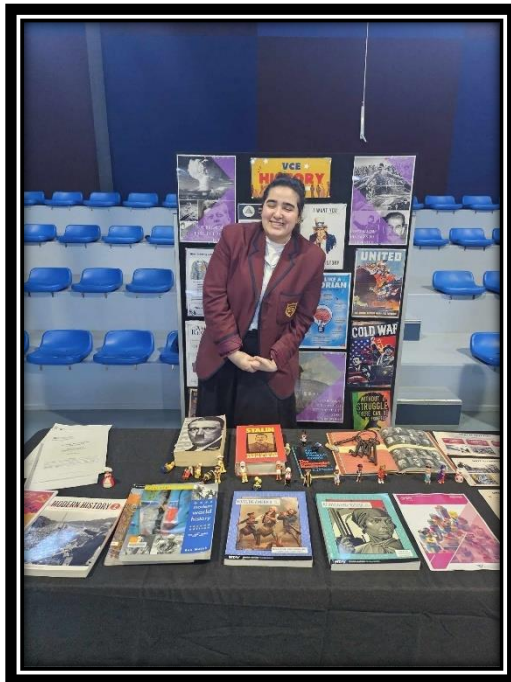
Head of Middle School



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Currently our Year 10 students are completing their work experience placements, which involved students searching for the own placements at a range of different workplaces. This provided the students with great experience on how to approach employers and seek opportunities. Throughout this week students will be gaining a taster of their desired career path to see if it is an industry that would suit them in the future. Our students should be congratulated for their effort in seeking exciting placement opportunities, including in publishing, construction, law, medical and business.

Our Year 10 students also participated in the 2024 VCE subject expo, where students were able to freely roam the different stalls set up for each subject and speak to the teachers to gain an understanding of what each entailed. This event starts the process of transferring ownership of learning to students, marking the first time in their schooling journey where students have been able to select every subject they will complete (with English being the only compulsory one). In Term Four students will meet with myself individually to finalise their subject selections.



In the first milestone event of entering Year 12, our current Year 11 students have designed and voted on the style of their 2025 Year 12 Jacket. Students will receive these jackets on the first day of Head Start in Term Four, which marks their official commencement of Year 12.

The Year 12 students have rounded out the term with some friendly sporting competitions with the teachers. The first game was an extremely competitive futsal match between the boys and male staff. It was an extremely close game with the staff keeping a clean sheet and picking up a solitary goal by Mr Eskin. The Year 12 girls also played the female staff member in Volleyball, once again it was a hard-fought match, with the Year 12 girls coming out triumphant.

Our Year 12 students have now completed all of their coursework for the year and now turn towards the upcoming examination period. In order to support our student a number of staff have volunteered to run additional holiday class for the Unit 3&4 subjects.

My advice for the Year 12 students is to use this holiday period productively. Ensure that you take a small amount of time to refresh and recharge after Term Three, but also set yourself a study schedule to ensure that you make the most of this break to consolidate your key skills and knowledge for the final exams. As always, the teachers are available to help so, please feel free to email them and ensure that you attend the VCE holiday classes. If you need anything over the next few weeks please let me know.

Mr Jack Franklin
Head of Senior School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

There have been a lot of exciting events taking place within the English Domain during Term Three.

During Term Three, the English Domain was proud to celebrate National Book Week. There were several events and competitions taking place, and we were pleased to see many students keen to participate.

One of the highlights of this week was the short story competition with a large number of students writing a creative piece based upon set prompts. Whilst it was extremely hard to decide a winner, we eventually decided the three best stories belonged to:

- **First Place:** Zara Azan
- **Second Place:** Farwa Ali
- **Third Place:** Mishaal Rab

The most exciting part of book week was dress up day. Students were invited to dress up as a book character of their choice and many of the students put in a lot of effort to create amazing outfits!



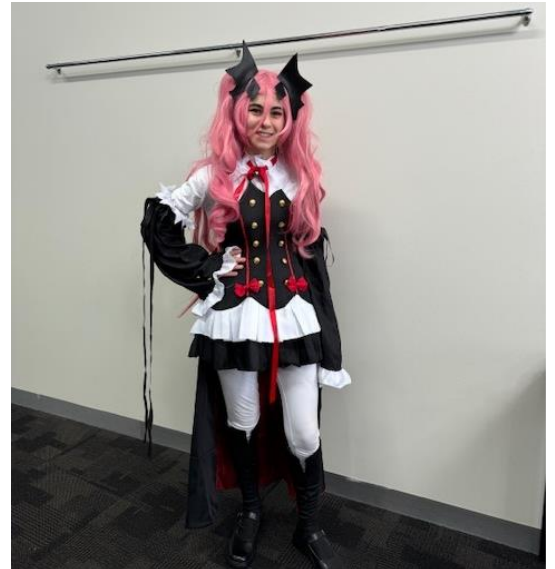


The Year Nine cohort was fortunate enough to experience a visit from an Australian author, Rebecca Lim, the writer of '*Tiger Daughter*', which is on our Year Nine English text list. Rebecca engaged students with an interactive talk and students had the opportunity to get their books signed.

With the VCAA English Examination on the horizon, we wish all of our Year Twelve English students the best of luck in completing this huge examination.

Jack Franklin

English Domain Leader



DEBATE NEWSLETTER REPORT

Ms Annisa Mohamed

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Towards the end of Term 1, the **Year Nine Debating Team**, run by Ms. Annisa Mohamed, had to compete in Round 2. The Year 9 students Zane Hussein, Yoseph Shafai and Dilara Aydin debated against Mentone Grammar School as the affirmative team for the question **Should Victoria should cancel the Suburban Rail Loop**. The students did their best in their preparations and approached the debate with a positive attitude but were unfortunately defeated by the opposing team. The students should be proud of their efforts and should take comfort in knowing they worked hard. Good effort!

During Term Two, the Year 9 debating team had competed in two more debates.

Year Nine students Zara Ahmad-Azhan, Shifa Memon and Dilara Aydin spoke in Round 3, against Dandenong High School and were able to defeat their opponents. The topic they were debating was **Australia should implement a 4-days school week**, with the girls arguing the affirmative. Congratulations to Shifa Memon, who was nominated as best speaker for the round and well done to the girls for all their hard work and meticulous preparations prior to this round. Fantastic work!



In Round 4, Taha Daknach, Yoseph Shafai, and Mikaeel Asvi competed against Haileybury. The topic was **Australian government elections should be conducted online**, with Mt Hira arguing the negative. The boys did a fantastic job and were able to win against the opposing team. Congratulations to Yoseph Shafai, who was nominated as best speaker for this round. The students were preparing for their debate amidst their examinations, and they should be commended for approaching their studies and the debate with vigour and a positive attitude. Well done!



During Term 3, the Year 9 students Nadeen Ryan, Humza Haroon and Yusuf Jafer were representing the school and were up against Mentone Grammar School. The topic was **Streaming services (e.g. Netflix) made the wrong decision to ban password sharing**, with the Year 9s arguing the affirmative. Despite the best efforts of the students in round 5, they were defeated by Mentone Grammar by a couple of points. The students should be applauded for the work they have done to prepare for this debate and for the courage it takes to participate in this competition.



Some members of the Debate Club have written about their experiences:

The debate team had an outstanding year, showcasing their talent and dedication in various competitions. Our team won many rounds at the regional tournament, with several members earning individual speaker awards. We also participated in practice rounds, impressing judges with our well-researched arguments and confident delivery. The team's hard work and commitment to refining their skills were evident throughout the season, and their success has made the school proud. Special thanks to Ms Mohamed for her unlimited guidance and support!
– Yoseph

*Debating was a new experience for the year 9's. As a team was formed, we ensured that we would support each other and try to enjoy our time throughout the debate team! During the debate, it was an awesome experience, although it did feel like we had butterflies in our stomachs, our team won many rounds as well as winning best speaker. Debate helped us overcome our comfort zones and get competitive, impressing the judges. Our debate team is so grateful towards Ms Mohamed for always supporting us and making sure that we do our best, encouraging us to do well!
Her enthusiasm has helped us have a memorable time throughout the debate – Shifa*

Message from the Debating Coordinator:

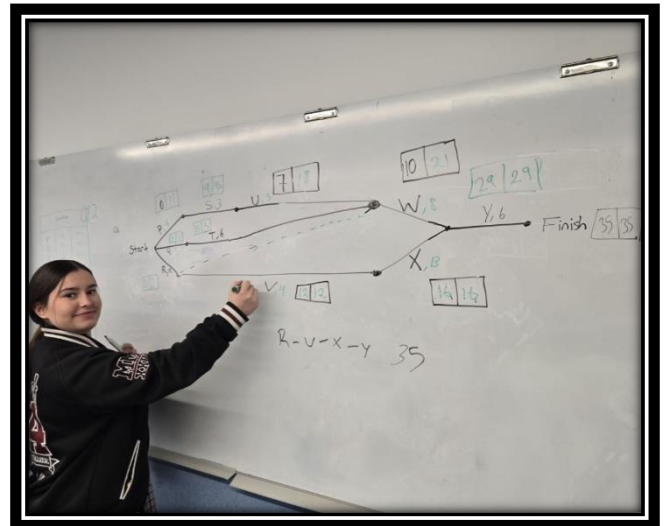
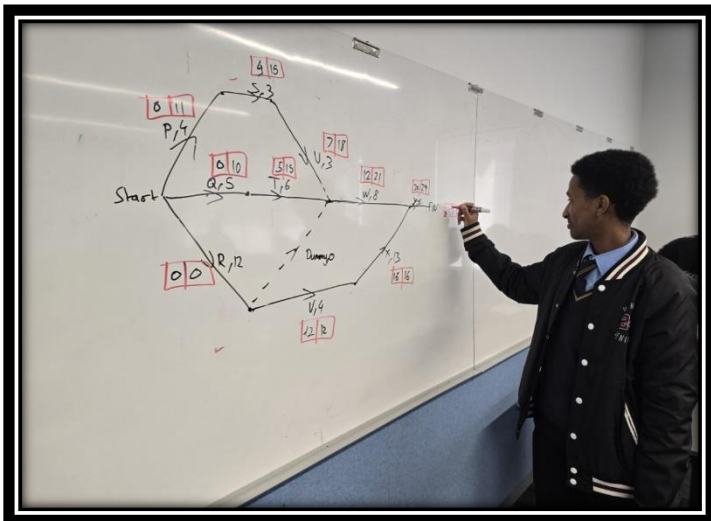
The Year 9 debating students should be commended for their efforts in preparing for debates at lunch time throughout the year and staying back after school to compete. They have represented themselves and the school well and have worked hard alongside their schoolwork and other commitments. We are all very proud of their achievements and wish the Year 9 students' good luck in their future debating endeavours. – Ms Mohamed

Dear Mt Hira Community,

As Term 3 draws to a close, I am pleased to provide an overview of the work completed by the Math Department and the achievements of our students from Years 7 to 12.

Curriculum Highlight: Throughout this term, students have explored a range of essential mathematical topics.

Year 12 General and Methods students have completed the Unit 3/4 course and have been diligently preparing for their upcoming exams.



Caption: Some friendly competition, as Adam and Klara go head-to-head to complete a critical path analysis problem. Critical Path Analysis is the backbone of Project Management and teaches students how tasks should be completed in order to minimise time/cost.

Student Engagement & Learning: Overall, student engagement has been excellent. We continue to emphasize the importance of reflection, independent learning, and the Colour Therapy submission process on Compass to reinforce key concepts. The recent introduction of the Essential Assessment Program for Years 7-9 has been successful thus far, providing valuable insights into student progress. While uptake has been promising, there is room for further improvement as we continue to gather meaningful data to inform our teaching.

Competitions & Activities: This term, some of our students competed in the **Australian Mathematics Competition**. We would like to extend our congratulations to all participants and thank them for representing our school with enthusiasm and dedication.

A special mention to the following students who received Credit and Distinction certificates.

Rian Korcari	9H	Credit
Cihan Gurbaz	11H	Credit
Saira Sultani	11T	Credit
Elham Ayache	8T	Distinction
Yusuf Munshi	10M	Distinction

ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools). Some of our students recently participated in the ICAS Mathematics competition, showcasing their skills against national and international standards. Congratulations to the following students for their achievements:

Usama Cole	4M	Credit
Zayyan Shakeel	4M	Credit
Taha Daknach	9M	Distinction
Yusuf Munshi	10M	Distinction

We are very proud of their efforts and encourage all participants to continue challenging themselves.

A particular highlight for **Year 7** was **The Maths Show**, presented by Felstead Education. This live stage performance captivated students with its unique blend of mathematical history, puzzles, magic, and entertainment. The show not only engaged students but also ignited a deeper interest in mathematics through its interactive and entertaining format.

Looking Ahead: Next term, **Year 8** students will begin their preparations for **NAPLAN**. I am excited to announce that the school will be trialling innovative software aimed at boosting student engagement and confidence as they work toward next year's national test. I look forward to seeing how this new tool will enhance learning outcomes.

In conclusion, Term 3 has been a productive and engaging period for the Math Department. I am proud of the progress made by our students and are excited to build on this momentum as we move into Term 4.

Thank you to all staff and students for their hard work and commitment.

Kind regards,

Ryan Tebble
Mathematics Domain Leader

SCIENCE DOMAIN LEADER REPORT

Mr Osman Bicer

Our VCE Unit 1/2 Biology students recently enjoyed an enlightening excursion to the Melbourne Botanical Gardens, where they delved into the world of plant adaptations and reproductive strategies. The excursion provided a hands-on learning experience, allowing students to observe firsthand how various plant species have evolved to thrive in diverse environments such as deserts and rainforests.

Students explored unique adaptations such as drought-resistant features and specialized pollination strategies, including plants which have adapted to obtain nitrogen by consuming small animals. Students engaged in a scavenger hunt with the lush plant life and interactive signs and gained valuable insights into the complexities of plant biology. This real-world application of their studies enhanced their understanding and ignited a deeper appreciation for the natural world.



Our Unit 3 and 4 VCE Biology students recently had an exciting hands-on experience at Swinburne University, conducting advanced laboratory experiments in Genetics. In addition to working with practical lab techniques, students also had the unique opportunity to explore the use of Virtual Reality (VR) in Biology. This immersive approach allowed them to visualize complex biological processes in a dynamic, interactive way, further enhancing their understanding. Experiences like this help foster a deeper engagement with scientific learning and reflect our commitment to excellence in modern education.

Kind Regards

Mr Osman Bicer

Science Domain Leader

HUMANITIES DOMAIN LEADER REPORT

Ms Hannah Piltcher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Semester Two has been off to a great start. The Humanities department is pleased to welcome a new team member, Ms. Jing Xu who will be teaching VCE Business Management.

Students have been busy learning about Economics and Business this term, exploring possible future careers, how to budget, and how their decisions can impact their future and the Australian economy. Students in Year 9 and 10 have also had the wonderful opportunity to select from a range of Humanities elective this Semester, and its fantastic to see so many students interested in these subjects in 2024.

Year 6 Humanities

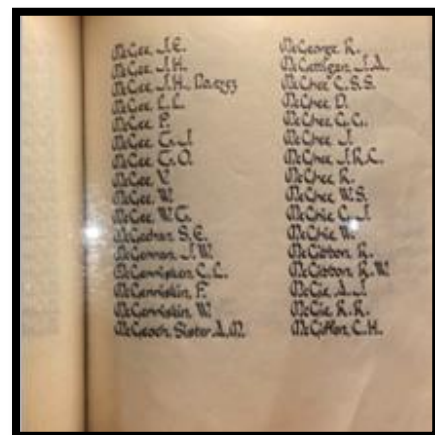
On the 31st of July, the Year Sixes participated in an incursion on Market Manoeuvres. Students explored the differences between needs and wants. They encountered opportunity cost and trade-off situations and learnt about the personal and societal benefits of work and trading.

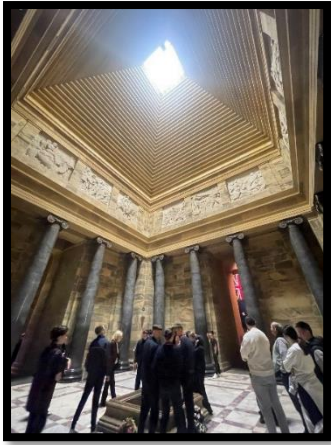
Students participated in interactive games in which they purchased, produced, and sold materials and goods to investigate the role supply, demand and government have in setting market prices.



Year 9 Humanities

After learning about trench warfare, the landing in Gallipoli and the reasons for enlisting in 'the war to end all wars' in Term Two, the Year Nine cohort had the fantastic opportunity to visit The Shrine of Remembrance. Students toured the historic building to see some incredible artefacts and commemorate the fallen soldiers of WWI.



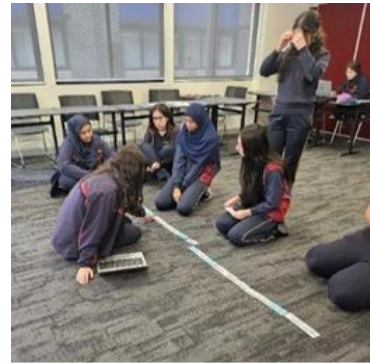
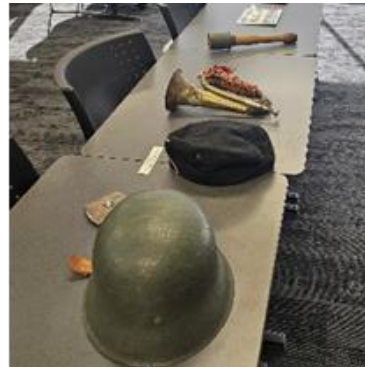


In Term Three, Year Nine students have explored the key features of the Australian economy. To understand how consumer and business decision making can impact the economy and society, students engaged in friendly games of 'monopoly'.



Year 10 Humanities and Electives

Students in Year Ten Humanities have explored the causes, consequences and experiences of the Second World War. A highlight of the term was a lesson in which students got hands-on experience with authentic artefacts from the Second World War and Nazi Germany. This experience sparked students' empathy and allowed them to connect with the past in a active way – helping them to understand the sacrifices and challenges people around the world experienced in the 20th century



Year Ten students in Elective Legal Studies have explored what makes an effective law and how our current justice system investigates and prosecutes criminal offences. Students engaged in a range of hands-on activities. Students engaged in debate about what makes a crime serious or minor, and conducted a crime scene investigation to question the reliability of evidence collection methods.

Year VCE Legal Studies

On July 17th, VCE Legal Studies students visited the Melbourne judicial precinct. Students visited the Melbourne Magistrates Court and Supreme Court. Year Eleven student Nevin Gurbuz recounts the excursion:

On Wednesday the 17th of July all of us had a look at what our future could end up looking like, and when I'm talking about the future, I don't mean the wrong side of the law, I mean learning it, as well as enforcing it.

The day began with most of the year eleven's arriving at Dandenong station, in hand, our myki's, prepared to be using public transport with the school for the first time.

Once we arrived at the court room we had to bow out of respect to the judge and listen to the real cases that were going on. After the experience at Magistrate court, we went to Nando's and ate as a whole class, discussing the events that had just taken place.

In the afternoon, we went to the Supreme Court where we met the volunteers who summarized what everything was and when it was made/ how old the building was. Then they introduced us to a judicial registrar, Deidre McCann, who explained how she chose her job and why.

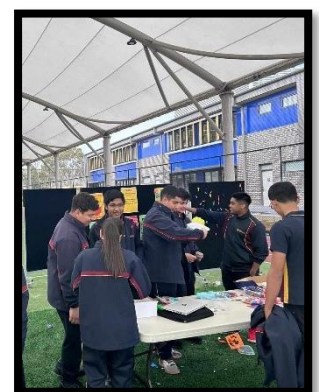
Later, the volunteers led us to the major court trial on Adam Tiba, showing us how evidence proves with reasonable doubt on whether he was guilty or not, we didn't stay too long then to know.

After the courts and the full day, we were then on our way to the train station, which was a whole experience in itself, but while on the train I realize how even now it made the whole journey even more insightful, on whether we could potentially see ourselves in that field.



Year 9 and 11 Business Stalls

On the 3rd September, students from the Year Nine Business Elective and Year Eleven Business Management ran the annual Mt Hira Business stalls. Students used their creativity to develop a business plan and market a product which would meet their target market, Mt Hira students and teachers, and ensure that they would not only cover their costs but make a profit. Students worked tirelessly to promote their stalls and ensure all products were safe for their customers. Students from Foundation to Year Twelve visited the stalls, engaging with the various activities and goods on offer. A big thank you to Ms. Annisa Mohamed, Ms. Jing Xu and Mr. Tim Campbell who organised the event.



This term has been another successful one for our students competing in interschool sports. Our Year 9/10 girls and boys, as well as the Year 7 girls, won their futsal competition. Well done to them for their amazing efforts and to their coach, Miss Asma.

Our Middle School PE classes ran a striking games unit and a gymnastics unit, providing students with opportunities to enhance their sporting skills in new and exciting ways. Our Year 9 students created a variety of AFL skill activities for the junior school to participate in on AFL Day. We also had our Year 10 students participate in a 4-week AFL A-Game unit, run by the Bachar Houli Foundation. This unit provided students with practical leadership and coaching skills.



Our junior school classes have had the opportunity to complete a gymnastics unit this term. Students explored various gymnastic equipment, including the vault and balance beams. The Year 4 and 5 students created their own gymnastics routines, which they showcased to their peers. All our junior school classes also had the chance to participate in the fun AFL Day activities. Students created banners that they presented to the junior school. After lunch, students were then invited to participate in a variety of AFL activities run by the Year 9 cohort.

All our junior school classes experienced one Taekwondo class, and an optional Taekwondo club was also run during lunchtimes at school. This gave our junior school students the opportunity to try a sport they may not have experienced before.

We look forward to offering many more exciting PE activities for all our student's next term.

Ms Antonia Barbalace

HPE Domain Leader

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

30 Ağustos Zafer Bayramı

Students from Year 7 to Year 9, as well as VCE Turkish students, celebrated August 30 Victory Day with great enthusiasm. This year marks the 102nd anniversary of the Great Victory, a significant milestone in our history. Our struggle for independence, initiated under the leadership of Ghazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in Samsun in 1919, culminated in the decisive Battle of the Commander-in-Chief. The August 30 victory declared to the world that these lands are our eternal homeland. It symbolized the revival of a nation that was once on the brink of being erased from history. We honour and remember with respect Ghazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of our Republic and the Commander-in-Chief of the Great Offensive, along with his comrades-in-arms.

VCE Turkish

Language education and cultural preservation are crucial for families aiming to provide their children with valuable lifelong skills. At Mt Hira College, we are dedicated to promoting language education. Learning a language opens doors to new perspectives and fosters a deep appreciation for other cultures. It enhances students' social and cognitive skills, which benefit other areas of their education. Moreover, proficiency in another language can positively impact VCE ATAR scores, access to selective universities, and future career opportunities.

In VCE Turkish classes, we emphasize the development of the four key literacy skills—Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing—while also cultivating an understanding of Turkish culture. Turkey's rich history and diverse traditions offer a unique cultural experience that is best appreciated through the Turkish language. Our VCE Turkish students are among the first to face the VCAA exams this year. Despite the stress of a long academic year, they have been diligently preparing with their teacher, Ms. Sebnem. They are navigating a mix of concern and excitement as the exams approach. We wish them the best of luck and want them to remember: "You are all great!"

Junior Turkish

The Junior School learned how to read and write in Turkish and memorised the national anthem.

Our amazing 1st 2nd and 3rd grade students focused on improving their Turkish reading skills and as well as their ability to understand their comprehension.

Our 4th and 5th graders developed their listening comprehension skills and are now able to summarise the stories we are learning about in class.

Kind regards,

Serdar Eroglu

Head of Turkish

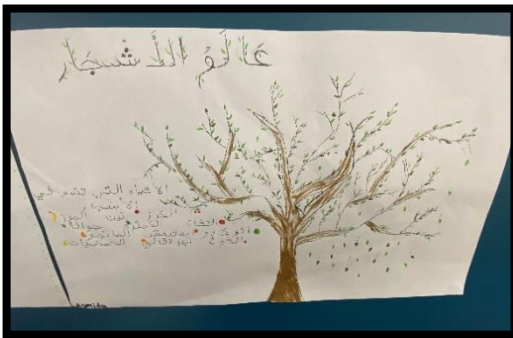
Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Term 3 was a busy term with a lot of students' activities, projects and contribution to many initiatives. The Arabic team participated in the harmony day, the science week and book week in addition to projects in different levels. The projects revolved around the Olympic games, sports, maps, careers and jobs, and dream house. These projects are research-based where students have the opportunity to learn new vocabulary with the right spelling and also improve their hand-writing. As we progressed in the year, our students became comfortable using the Arabic keyboard and translation tools, which provide translation and transliteration.



Year 1 students playing a word game in groups



Science week: the world of trees



Harmony Day: We all belong Arabic poster

As I did in the past, I would like to request the parents to encourage and support their children to learn the Arabic language through the available software students use at school, as it has many benefits and may open doors for them in the job market in the future.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Samir Dorhmi

Head of Arabic Domain

As Term Three comes to a close, we reflect on the enriching experiences our students have had through various religious education excursions and programs. These events have been instrumental in deepening their understanding of Islamic heritage, identity, and community.

Architectural Exploration of Newport Mosque

Students had the unique opportunity to visit the Newport Mosque, a stunning example of contemporary Islamic architecture. Designed by world-renowned architect Glenn Murcutt in collaboration with Hakan Elevli, the mosque is an architectural masterpiece that marries Australian Vernacular Architecture with Islamic design principles. Hakan Elevli himself joined the excursion, offering invaluable insights into the design and construction of both the Newport and Keysborough Mosques. This experience not only highlighted the beauty of Islamic architecture but also fostered pride in our students' Islamic identity.

Year Twelve Excursion to Historic Mosques (Shepparton Day Trip)

Our esteemed Year Twelve students embarked on an educational journey to the first mosque built in Victoria, the Albanian Mosque, and the Turkish Mosque in Shepparton. This excursion provided an immersive experience into Islamic identity, community, and heritage. The students engaged in meaningful discussions with the Imams, focusing on the principles of Islam and the importance of maintaining Islamic identity. The visit included mosque tours that offered a firsthand look at the architecture, history, and cultural significance of these sacred spaces. This experience aligned perfectly with Mt Hira College's mission to nurture students' Islamic identity and prepare them to be confident, active members of society.

Honouring Islamic Scholars and Innovators (Islamic Science Symposium)

Another highlight was a special event dedicated to the profound impact of Muslim scholars and innovators throughout history. Through insightful presentations, students explored the groundbreaking contributions of these historical figures to science, medicine, mathematics, astronomy, and architecture. This event not only honoured their legacies but also inspired a deeper appreciation of Islamic heritage and its enduring influence on the modern world.

Understanding Islamic Funeral and Burial Rites (Morgue and Cemetery Visit)

The Religious Education Department organised an educational program that provided students with a comprehensive understanding of Islamic funeral and burial rites. The program began at the Keysborough Mosque Morgue, where students learned about the preparation processes according to Islamic customs. The visit to the cemetery included practical demonstrations and Quranic recitations, enhancing students' understanding of the cultural and religious significance of these rites. Insights from Br. Fadil Fachni and Br. Moustafa Hassan further enriched the students' learning experience, offering deeper perspectives on the spiritual and communal aspects of these practices.

Exploring the Islamic Museum of Australia

Our students also had the opportunity to visit the Islamic Museum of Australia, where they explored five permanent galleries: Islamic Faith, Islamic Art, Islamic Architecture, Islamic Contributions to Civilisation, and Australian Muslim History. This visit enabled students to connect with the rich history of Islamic civilisation and reinforced their commitment to excellence in both academic and spiritual development. It was a valuable experience that helped students take pride in their Muslim identity.

Exploring Local Mosques in the South-Eastern Region

To complement their Term Two project, our Year Eight students participated in an excursion focused on the history and challenges of mosques around the world. The itinerary included visits to several local mosques, where students learned about the origins, architectural styles, and cultural significance of these sacred spaces. The excursion also highlighted the contemporary challenges faced by mosques, including accessibility, preservation, and sustainability. This experience fostered empathy and a broader perspective on the issues faced by Muslim communities, promoting respect and understanding of diverse religious practices.

These events have significantly contributed to our students' spiritual growth and understanding of their Islamic identity. We look forward to continuing to provide such impactful learning experiences in the future.

Kind regards,

Muhammed Sezgin

Head of Religious Affairs/ RE Domain Leader

WELLBEING REPORT

Asalamu Alaikum,

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

As Term Three draws to a close, I am both proud and excited about the remarkable progress our students have made. This term has been marked by considerable growth, learning, and accomplishments. I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of you for your exceptional effort and commitment.

I would also like to emphasize three key areas vital to our students' wellbeing: fostering respectful relationships, encouraging positive behaviour, and supporting mental health—all rooted in our Islamic values.

Respectful relationships are the cornerstone of a strong school community. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "The best among you are those who have the best manners and character." Let's work together—students, staff, and families—to ensure kindness, empathy, and respect thrive in our school and beyond.

We also focus on positive behaviour, guiding students to take responsibility for their actions and develop strong values. With family support, we aim to nurture students who not only excel academically but also demonstrate respect, resilience, integrity, and compassion.

Supporting mental health is equally important. Academic pressures, social challenges, and life's complexities can weigh heavily on young minds. As Islam reminds us, "Allah does not burden a soul beyond that it can bear." It's vital for students to know that seeking help is a sign of strength. Our Wellbeing Team offers support through one-on-one sessions, peer programs, and workshops, all grounded in our faith.

As Vice Head of Senior School and Head of Wellbeing, I welcome families to collaborate with us in addressing any challenges impacting students.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any concerns or questions.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable holiday break.

Ms. Jumana Hallak

Vice Head of Senior School (Senior School Coordinator) and Wellbeing Specialist

VCE English Teacher

jumana.hallak@mthira.vic.edu.au

WELLBEING REPORT

Dear Mt. Hira Community,

Term 3: Parent-Teacher Interviews:

Term 3 began with the opportunity to meet and converse with parents during the Parent-Teacher interviews. It was wonderful to engage with parents from a wellbeing perspective, reassuring them about our programs designed to cater to the needs of our students.

Commitment to Anti-Bullying

Our school maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying, and we are committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for all students.

We hosted a vital AFP cyber-safety and bullying workshop for students in Years 3 to 10. This program focused on educating our students about online predators and the importance of using privacy settings. It was startling to discover that 85% of our Grade 3 students are engaging with social media and online gaming platforms. We encourage all parents to stay informed about their children's online activities and the individuals they interact with. Overall, students found the workshop both informative and thought-provoking.



Rose Bogarts

College Counsellor

WELLBEING REPORT

In Term 3, our wellbeing program has not only continued to support students with weekly crochet lessons but has also expanded to include significant events that promote mental health and cultural awareness. We have been working closely with the Year 9 students to create a fun and effective R U OK? Day, focusing on fostering a supportive and inclusive school environment. Additionally, we celebrated a highly successful Harmony Day, organised by our students, where various performances showcased the rich diversity within our school community. This event allowed students to express and share their cultural differences, further enhancing the sense of belonging and connection among peers. Through these initiatives, our wellbeing program has contributed to the emotional and social development of students, encouraging open conversations and cultural appreciation.



Mr Serdar Eroglu
Head of Middle School

CAREERS REPORT

Ms Rihab Abouzolf

Mt Hira Careers Department striving to guide and support our students towards their future pathways & goals.

This term has been a dynamic and enriching period for the Careers Department, filled with a variety of events designed to prepare and inspire students across all year levels.



YEAR 9 & 10

For our Year 9 students, the Careers Department organised mock interviews, providing a valuable opportunity to experience a real-world interview setting. Students received constructive feedback, which will be instrumental as they continue to develop their interview skills in the years ahead.

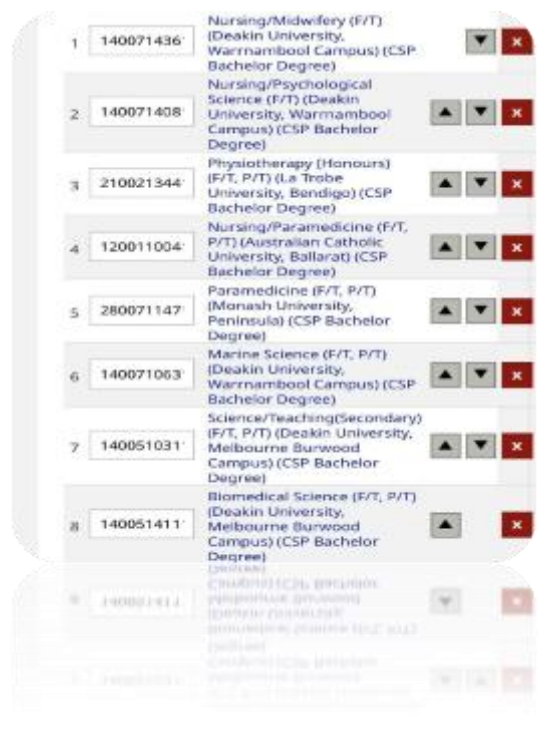
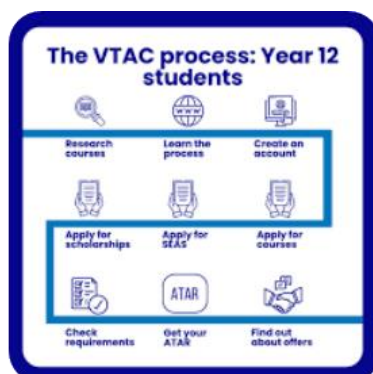


YEAR 11 & YEAR 8

Year 8 and Year 11 students will be engaging in Speed Careers events in Term 4, where they have the chance to interact with a diverse range of professionals from various industries. These events are designed to expose students to different career options and inspire them to start thinking about their own futures & pathways.

YEAR 12

Our Year 12 students had the opportunity to attend the VTAC university preferences information session. This session was essential in guiding them through the complexities of selecting university courses, understanding application procedures, and making informed decisions about their futures. The department also provided ongoing support for students preparing for their VTAC applications, ensuring they are well-equipped for this significant step. We will all our Year 12 students all the very best with their VCE Trial Exams.



1	140071436	Nursing/Midwifery (F/T) (Deakin University, Warrnambool Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
2	140071408	Nursing/Psychological Science (F/T) (Deakin University, Warrnambool Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
3	210021344	Physiotherapy (Honours) (F/T, P/T) (La Trobe University, Bendigo) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
4	120011004	Nursing/Paramedicine (F/T, P/T) (Australian Catholic University, Ballarat) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
5	280071147	Paramedicine (F/T, P/T) (Monash University, Peninsula) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
6	140071063	Marine Science (F/T, P/T) (Deakin University, Warrnambool Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
7	140051031	Science/Teaching(Secondary) (F/T, P/T) (Deakin University, Melbourne Burwood Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
8	140051411	Biomedical Science (F/T, P/T) (Deakin University, Melbourne Burwood Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
9	140021911	Chemistry (CSP), Bachelor of Science (Honours) (Deakin University, Warrnambool Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			
10	140021911	Chemistry (CSP), Bachelor of Science (Honours) (Deakin University, Warrnambool Campus) (CSP Bachelor Degree)			

As we conclude this term, we reflect on the success of these events and the positive impact they have had on our students. The Careers Department is already looking forward to Term 4, where we will continue to offer exciting and informative events to further support our students in their career journeys.

The Careers Department is excited to continue providing our secondary students with outstanding guidance and support. We have many more exciting careers events planned, designed to inspire, and inform our students about their various future pathways. At Mt Hira College, we remain committed to helping our students navigate their career journeys with confidence and clarity.



Thank you to all the staff and students who have made this term a success. We look forward to more enriching experiences in the coming months.

Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities in the coming term!

Wishing all our students & families an enjoyable & relaxing term break!

Rihab Abou Zolf

Careers Coordinator



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