



School and Vice School Captains for 2024



Ebony Black



Remy Doyle



Xavier Wishart



Hawley Wells

Sporting House names and captains

Dhungala House

Captains - Angus Donat & Makayla Heap

V/C - Ebony Black

Yarran House

Captains - Marli Easton & Daniel Hawken

V/C – Remy Doyle



Dhungala: A mighty water way-the Murray River

Colour: Orange

Yarran: (Wattle Tree/Acacia) A symbol of regeneration, perseverance and integrity.

Colour: Green



Welcome back to the 2024 school year. I love coming back to school and reconnecting with our young people. It is with gratitude that we are part of their educational journey. To see how much they have grown, hear about their holidays, catch up on their success (or otherwise) in sport and talk to them about their goals for the year is a privilege. I'd like to particularly welcome our year 7 students and all new students to the college and of course our new staff members.

Welcome to our new staff

Mr Sweeney Chemistry/Science

Welcome back

Mrs Edge English/Humanities/Science

Ms Forster Biology/Science/Maths

Coordinators

Year 7&8 Mrs Pollock and form teachers Mr C Hill, Mr Rollinson and Mr M Hill

Year 9&10 Mrs Hawken and form teachers Mr Jennings and Mr Murray

Year 11&12 Ms Payne and form teachers Ms Page and Mr Williams



Congratulations

Congratulations Gab and Trav, we were thrilled to hear of the safe arrival of Beau. A beautiful little boy to spoil and we cannot wait to meet him.

Child Safe Policies

We are currently updating our Child Safe Policies. All policies are on our website. I encourage you to take a look and if you have any suggestions, improvements or ideas to please email me at the college.

Bell times

| | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 8:45am | Staff Briefing |
| 8:52am | Music Starts (3 min) |
| 8:57am | Bell for Form Assembly |
| 9:00am | Bell for Period 1 |
| 9:50am | Bell for Period 2 |
| 10:40am | Bell for Recess |
| 11:00am | Music Starts (3min) |
| 11:05am | Bell for Period 3 |
| 11:55am | Bell for Period 4 |
| 12:45pm | Bell for lunch |
| 1:30pm | Music starts (3 min) |
| 1:35pm | Bell for Period 5 |
| 2:25pm | Bell for Period 6 |
| 3:15pm | Bell for Form Assembly |
| 3:18pm | Bell for end of the day |

Year 12 2023

As many of you may be aware, we had some fantastic student outcomes last year with our year 12 destinations. All students who chose a University/TAFE pathway have been successful, others have obtained apprenticeships, taken a GAP year, or have picked up a job. As a college, together with their families, we have guided and nurtured them through not only their secondary schooling but through the tough VCE years. Congratulations to the Year 12 class of 2023.

Year 12 2023 student university courses

Business, Civil Engineering (Honours), Commerce, Exercise and Sport Science/Nutrition Science, Industrial Design (Honours), Teacher Education, Health Science, Media and Communication, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Psychological Science, Higher Education Science, Speech Pathology, Wildlife and Conservation Biology

We strongly encourage our students to apply for scholarships when applying for university. It's always very exciting to hear when students have been successful. Scholarships range from a few thousand dollars to many thousands of dollars, all of which can be used to help ease the financial burden on families.

We sincerely wish each of you all the very best for your future and look forward to hearing about your journey.

Together in partnership, we can excel!

Excellamus - Let Us Excel!

Mrs. Fiona Miller - Principal

"I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and our school is built, the Barapa Barapa people. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging, for they hold the memories, traditions and the culture of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia. Cohuna Secondary College is committed to acknowledging, building and sustaining respect and understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians."

Senior School Update

Our senior students have made a very positive start to 2024. This first week has all been about consolidating the work completed during Head Start last year, and preparing for their first assessments. We have also welcomed a number of new students to the College.

For parents/students that are new to VCE, it is important that you are aware of the specific requirements in VCE regarding submission of work, satisfactory completion of units, assessment and attendance. Our Senior School Assessment Policy outlines all of these requirements - the policy is available on our school website: <https://www.cohuna-sc.vic.edu.au/publications>. If you have any questions, please contact us at school.

Senior School Team:

Year 11 & 12 Coordinator/VCE Coordinator – Sharon Payne (Sharon.Payne@education.vic.gov.au)

Year 10 Coordinator – Sallie Hawken (Sallie.Hawken@education.vic.gov.au)

Careers – Cathy Donehue (Cathryn.Donehue@education.vic.gov.au)

VCE tip of the Week - Keep track of due dates

A small notebook in your pencil case can be used to write down due dates as soon as they arise. Get yourself a calendar for your study space at home - use this to keep track of SAC dates and other due dates.

Senior School Attendance

It is important that students keep up-to-date with the outcome requirements in their classes – attending classes is an important part of this. We have an 80% minimum attendance requirement for VCE classes.

If students are missing any classes due to medical or other appointments, they need to obtain a medical certificate.

SAC/SAT requirements

Students and parents will be provided with a list of draft SAC dates for all subjects, by the end of next week. Students are required to complete SACs/SATs as scheduled. Students must apply to reschedule a SAC – applications will generally only be approved for medical or family reasons (with evidence required). The draft SAC dates can change, with students being provided with a minimum of 1 week's written notice of final SAC dates.

If you have any questions about our VCE policy, please contact us.



There are days where a young person's absence is unavoidable - to ensure their absence is coded correctly, **PLEASE** submit an absence or send a message on Xuno.

Alternatively please inform the **front office** of the absence.

Contact can be made by: Phone - 5456 2555 or Email - cohuna.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Families are asked to contact the office directly and not the teaching staff.

Thank you for your assistance.

HOW TO SEND IN AN ABSENCE USING XUNO APP

- Log into your XUNO account (contact Helen in the office if you require your details)
- Click on the MENU top left corner of the screen on the DASHBOARD
- Scroll down to ATTENDANCE
- Click on SEND ABSENCE NOTE
- Select 'send a note for future dates'
- Fill in the date and the periods of the absence
- Type the reason in the box

A screenshot of the XUNO app interface. The top bar is blue with the 'XUNO' logo and a menu icon. Below it, the navigation path is 'Attendance > Unexplained Absences'. The main heading is 'Send a note for a future absence'. A redacted name is followed by 'will be absent from school:'. Below this, there are date pickers for 'Wed 10 Mar 2021' and 'to Wed 10 Mar 2021', with 'inclusive' text below. A section for 'For periods:' lists 'Period 1' through 'Period 6' and 'All Day', each with an unchecked radio button. A 'Reason given:' label is followed by a large text input box. At the bottom right, there are 'Cancel' and 'Save' buttons.

School preparedness and pre-emptive actions for the bushfire season



Fire danger ratings indicate how dangerous a fire would be if one started in those conditions and provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. They can be a trigger for action in community and for school and household level fire plans.

Schools and children's services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at some lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list will be closed when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their Bureau of Meteorology district.

Schools and early childhood services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list take pre-emptive actions on elevated fire danger days to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions. The category of risk (per the BARR or Category 4 list) determines the actions that the school or early childhood service will need to take on days of elevated fire danger.

Our school has been identified as being one of these schools at grassfire risk and is listed on the Bushfire as a category 4 school.

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger, the fire district is District 20, North West Region.**

The department will advise our school of the potential for a **Catastrophic fire danger rating** as information becomes available, however the pre-emptive closure will be **confirmed by 1pm the day prior to Catastrophic fire danger day.**

Fire danger ratings are forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology up to four days in advance. Should a Catastrophic day be forecast, we will notify you of the potential closure by an email or hard copy letter and SMS message. Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- ◆ No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- ◆ School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.
- ◆ All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- ◆ Depending on which fire weather district is impacted, bus route cancellations may affect our school.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

reminder

From the Business Manager

- **CSEF Applications** due now (eligibility as at 29 January 2024 & holding a Centrelink Health Care card) \$250 per child available.
- **SSR (State Schools Relief)** any eligible Year 7 package (CSEF approved) can apply for uniform allowance OR uniform assistance for other year levels (please speak with Bernadette)
- *Anyone who would like assistance with purchasing anything for your child/ren please see Bernadette e.g. uniforms, shoes—sneakers, T-bar, work boots for Tech classes, stationery packs & some textbook vouchers.*
- **VCE EDROLO**—log in with your child/s student code and pay for digital textbooks.
- **Log into XUNO**—to view charges for 2024 and commence your payment plan.

Staying safe from mosquitoes

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases have recently been detected in mosquitoes in northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain.

The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.



In line with community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- using insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March
- wearing long, loose-fitting clothing outdoors if possible if mosquitoes are around and covering exposed skin as much as possible. At school, it is recommended that students wear repellent on skin not covered by school uniforms. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn, but students should use insect repellent on exposed skin if mosquitoes are active limiting outdoor activity when mosquitoes are active.

Further information

A [handy guide](#) to help protect you and your family from mosquito-borne disease

Better Health Channel [information about preventing mosquito-borne diseases.](#)

◆ *Street Pass*

A signed NOTE from a parent will need to be presented to the Assistant Principal in order for a student to go down the street for appointments.

A street pass WILL NOT be given to buy lunch, even with parent permission.

◆ *Bus Pass*

A written NOTE from a parent must be given to the Assistant Principal before a bus pass will be issued!

If a student doesn't have a note then permission to travel on the bus will be denied.

A purple bus pass will be issued and must be handed to the driver on entering the bus.

◆ *Mobile Phones*

Mobile phones are not allowed to be used at school. If you don't need them then please keep them at home. However, if you do bring a mobile to school it will be collected in form assembly and returned at the end of the day form assembly.

REMINDER – the Department (which includes our school) does not have accident insurance. Items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school is not the responsibility of Cohuna Secondary College or the Department.

Staff and students are reminded not to bring items of value to school."

IMPORTANT DATES : TERM 1 - 2024



| | | | |
|-----------|------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Wednesday | 7th | February | Year 7 Orientation Camp, Geelong |
| Tuesday | 13th | February | CSC Swimming Sports |
| Thursday | 15th | February | School Photos |
| Tuesday | 20th | February | Interschool Swimming |
| | | | |
| Monday | 4th | March | Quantum Discover Engineering |
| Wednesday | 6th | March | Summer Sports |
| Thursday | 7th | March | LMR Lawn Bowls |
| Monday | 11th | March | Labour Day Holiday |
| Tuesday | 12th | March | LMR Swimming |
| | | | GTAC (Biology) Excursion |
| Wednesday | 13 | March | NAPLAN |
| Thursday | 14 | March | NAPLAN |
| Friday | 15 | March | NAPLAN |
| Thursday | 28 | March | End of Term 1 |



REMINDER: Canteen will only serve snacks and drinks on Wednesday this term.

Parent helpers are now only rostered on a Friday each week.

Due to the decline in orders on other week days help is no longer required.

Parents will only be rostered on once for the entire year unless you wish to be put on more often of which you can let Jodie know. If your rostered day is not suitable, please try to find another family member or friend who is available or arrange a swap, alternatively please let Jodie know if you do not wish to be put on the roster due to other commitments.

Jodie Robinson—Canteen Manager

| Term 1 Canteen Roster | Friday ~ 10.30am to 1.00pm ~ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Friday 2nd February | Family of Miley Anset |
| Friday 9th February | Family of Brianna Bourke |
| Friday 16th February | Family of Milah Crichton |
| Friday 23rd February | Family of Will & Evie Fletcher |
| Friday 1st March | Family of Travis, Lacey & Jacob Ford |
| Friday 8th March | Family of Lachlan Gray |
| Friday 15th March | Family of Zephan & Zara Hensley |
| Friday 22nd March | Family of Oliver & Noah Mathers |

~Community Notices~



FEB 10 | KERANG

HEVENSHE

MASKETTA FALL DALLAS WOODS BESTIES

FOREVER ON HIGH | IVY BLACK
 ONE MORE WEEKEND | KITTY RAE
 LILI-VIOLET | GRACE FROST
 CONNOR BULGER | RYAN MCPARTLANE
 BIRDDOG | COURTNEY ROVERE

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