

Coming Up...

May

Tuesday 15/5

Year 10 Mountain Bike Erice Day Trip (Group 1)

Tuesday 15/5 - Thursday 17/5

NAPLAN

Tuesday 15/5

Year 11 Federation University Experience Day- Business

Thursday 17/5

Year 12 Mount Baw Baw Sightseeing

Thursday 17/5

Year 12 TIS Tour

Tuesday 22/5

Year 10 Mountain Bike Day Trip- Lysterfield Park (Group 2)

Thursday 24/5

Year 11 Wilsons Prom Bushwalk

Tuesday 29/5

Year 10 Mountain Bike Day Trip- Lysterfield Park (Group 1)

June

Friday 1/6

GPA Reports Published

Friday 8/6

Senior School Formal

Monday 11/6

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Message from the Principal

School Improvement

Over the last holidays, members of our Principal team met with regional department staff to develop an improvement plan to take Lowanna to the next level of improvement. From that meeting we have decided we will focus our attention on four areas that will have the most impact on student performance. As a consequence, we have started to develop a series on implementation and actions plans around the following key elements:

1. Improving teacher practice through consistent use of our Lowanna Instructional Model.
2. Developing high expectations for our senior students by implementing rigour in processes and procedures.
3. Developing strong processes for managing student absences and setting clear expectations for student attendance.
4. Ensuring that student voice is increased so that students are engaged in their learning.

We are really confident that if we can get these things right, improved student outcomes will follow. Over the following weeks I will provide you with more detailed information about each of these key improvement strategies.

Attitudes to School Survey

Over the next three weeks, all students will undertake the annual Attitudes to School Survey. It is a really important survey for the school, as it provides us with vital information on how students are feeling at school and how they are learning at school. We will be taking students through the survey one class at a time and each class should complete it in about 30 minutes. We are

encouraging students to take the survey seriously and provide us with feedback on areas we are doing well in and others we need to improve.

NAPLAN

This week will also see our year 7 and year 9 students undertake NAPLAN testing in numeracy and literacy. As I have mentioned a number of times already, NAPLAN provides us with the best point of reference on each student's learning and areas that we can target to ensure student growth. We understand the political issues that are associated with the tests, but this is of no concern to us. We merely wish to use it to improve student learning. All students have been asked to undertake the tests to the best of their ability, but we do not wish to put pressure on students. Their best will provide us with the vital evidence we are looking for.

SAD Day

Last week we had our local primary schools year 5 and 6 students attend our annual Secondary Awareness Day. It is definitely our favourite day of the year. The students are provided with a taste of what life is like in secondary school and they really lap up the opportunity to involve themselves in subjects and activities that they are likely to encounter when they transition to Lowanna or any other school. Well done to our Junior School Leader, Mike Santo and his team. Thanks to our teachers that provided students with really engaging activities and a huge thanks to our local primary school staff and students for attending with such great enthusiasm.

Scouting Milestone



Madison Mitchell, of the 1st Mountain Rivers Venturer Unit recently earned the Australian Scout Medallion.

To attain this top award in each of the five sections in scouting reflects initiative in tackling the challenge, sustained effort over many months and years, plus self-discipline, teamwork and leadership.

The youth members are well supported by the volunteer leaders, their families and often their teachers, but ultimately the decision to strive to be among the few who reach this level in Scouting is a personal choice, and often an indicator of future success.

Congratulations Madison!



Attitudes to School Survey

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School Survey is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

Students from Lowanna College will participate in the survey. Your child will complete the survey online during school hours using a

purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during, or after completion of the survey.

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. All responses to the survey are kept anonymous in the response file. Personal identification data will not be recorded in the survey response file. This ensures that the confidentiality of your child's responses is

protected at all times.

This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday 14th May-Friday 1st June. The survey only takes 20 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time.

The survey results will be reported back to the school before the end of term 2. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified. Data suppression rules are used for schools with low student numbers per year level.

First Aid Procedures

Lowanna College has a number of First Aid trained staff on call throughout the school day to offer general, emergency first aid. They are not qualified to diagnose or treat illness.

The Lowanna College school policy states that, 'if a student is too unwell to be in the classroom, they will be sent home'. Therefore, the only recourse when a child claims that they are too unwell to be at school is to send them home.

Parents have the option of returning their child to school if they improve. On returning to school, a student must check back with the first aid officer and will be expected to participate in usual classroom activities.

Staff are not permitted to drive students

home. If your child is not well enough to be at school you will be contacted to arrange for them to be collected from Lowanna College reception.

If your child requires pharmaceuticals for use during the day, you are invited to complete the relevant paperwork (provided by the college) and supply them to the school. Medications will be stored in a locked cabinet in the first aid area and dispensed by first aid staff as required. If your child attends first aid to take any of their medication during the school day, a note will be sent home with details including time, date, type of medication and dosage taken. We ask that students do not carry pharmaceuticals around with them (other than exceptions agreed to by consultation with the

school).

First Aid staff are always available to speak with parents or students regarding any health concerns that might affect their day-to-day schooling. The school needs to be aware of major health issues and are happy to facilitate the communication of that information to other staff as necessary.

First Aid staff are always available to treat and support injured students until a parent or ambulance arrives. At this time, responsibility is handed over.

If you have any further questions about the function of the first aid office, please contact Jenny Stephens on 51279223.

New Attendance Requirements

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible on the day of absence. You can do this by contacting the relevant mini-school, reception or via Compass.

Notifying the school of your child's absence either prior to, or on the day that they will be away, helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and will fulfil your legal responsibility.

From the end of Term 2 2018, all Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

This system also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

Same-day notification of unexplained student absences

1. Contact details

There are times when we will need to contact you, including on the day if your child is absent and you haven't informed the school as to why. Do we have your most up to date contact details? If not,

please contact the school telephone: 5127 9200 so we can update our records. Please include parent/carers' name, address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact details. Please remember to contact the school if any of these details or your circumstances change.

2. Notify the school of your child's absence

Protecting the safety and well-being of children through the reporting and monitoring of absenteeism is the responsibility of both parents/carers and schools.

Please remember to call the school on 5127 9200 or email at lowanna.co@edumail.vic.gov.au or log your child's absence using Compass early in the morning if your child is going to be away or late for school so your child's absence can be recorded correctly.

3. Same-day notification of unexplained student absences

Our school will text or call you as soon as practicable on the day if a student is not at school and you haven't notified the school as to why. If you are notified by the school that your child is away without a reason, please contact us as soon as possible by calling the relevant mini school to let us know where your child is.

If we cannot reach you because we don't have your correct contact details (i.e.: message notification fail, disconnected number), then we will make contact with any emergency contact/s nominated on your child's file held by the school, where possible, on the same day of the unexplained absence.

Please remember it is your responsibility to contact us to provide an explanation for your child's absence from school, and where possible, please inform us in advance of upcoming absences.

Important Information

Telephone:	5127 9200
Office Hours:	8am - 4pm, Monday - Friday
Bell Times:	8.45am Period 1 10.06am Period 2 11.17am Recess 11.44am Period 3 12.55pm Lunch 1.49pm Period 4 3.00pm End of Day

Absence Hotline

If your child is going to be absent for any reason please contact the relevant mini school as soon as possible.

Junior School Tammie Percivall.....	5127 9240
Middle School Andrea Coad.....	5127 9246
Senior School Julie Jeffrey.....	5127 9243

Alternatively, parents can logon to the Compass system and approve absences via the portal.



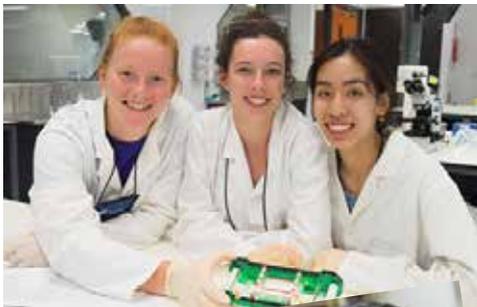
National Youth Science Forum 2019

Do you love science, or technology, or have a drive to find solutions to problems and fix things? Are you constantly asking Why? How? Why not? Do you see yourself working in a science-related field and would like to know more about science initiated study and career paths?

If you answer yes to any of these questions, then you should think about applying to attend the NYSF Year 12 Program.

Participants live on campus for 12 days at host universities in January, go on visits to leading research facilities, tour research facilities and industry sites, talk with STEM professionals about their careers, and begin to build their professional networks for future employment.

Applications are open to current Year 11 students and scholarships are available. For more information see Miss Taylor or visit www.nysf.edu.au. Applications close 31 May 2018.



Drive Smart

Last Thursday the Year 10 PreCal students spent the day at Wonthaggi participating in the VicRoads DriveSmart program. Students all had the opportunity to drive one of the cars with an instructor.



Sports Excellence Program

Recently, Year 9 students have been completing AFL umpiring, basketball refereeing or soccer coaching starter courses.



VCE English

Year 12 students recently travelled to the Drum Theatre in Dandenong watch the production of Medea.



Motocross Success

Congratulations to Trent Zealley for achieving a 12 month sponsorship deal in motocross racing!





Hands on Health

THE ROAD TO MEDICINE

Do you dream of becoming a doctor?

The path to studying medicine can seem daunting. In addition to achieving the required ATAR to enter your chosen degree, you also have to pass the Undergraduate Medicine Admission Test (UMAT) and an interview process.

In partnership with Embrace Education, Hands on Health is running The Road to Medicine - a three part seminar to help Year 11 and 12 students understand the entry requirements for studying medicine and provide preparation techniques to sit the UMAT.

The seminar will feature Monash University teaching staff and students who will share their experiences and tips, and answer any questions you have.

DETAILS:

Date: Friday 6 July 2018
 Time: 10am-5.30pm
 Address: 43 Rainforest Walk, South 1 Theatre,
 Monash University Clayton campus

Lunch will be provided.



This program gave me the opportunity to speak to medical students and gain invaluable insights and advice. I entered VCE with the confidence to pursue medicine in the future.
 - Ali Zarghami



How to apply

Visit our website to apply:
www.monash.edu/medicine/handsonhealth/the-program/the-road-to-medicine-md

For further information contact
 Jacqui Towns
 Senior Project Coordinator, Hands on Health
 0429210975
jacqui.towns@monash.edu

Eligibility

To participate in the seminar you must:

- Be an Australian or New Zealand citizen, or holder of an Australian permanent resident or permanent humanitarian visa, or a Bridging Visa A or E
- Be in the correct year level in 2018
- Satisfy at least one of the following criteria:
 - Asylum seeker or recent refugee
 - First in your family to attend university -Attend an under-represented school
 - Have a low income
 - Indigenous Australian
 - Live in a low socio-economic area
- Be considering studying medicine at university

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Contact
 Rick Pemberton
 your local Saver Plus
 Coordinator
Phone
 03 5120 2542
 0407 567 312
Email
rpemberton@berrystreet.org.au
Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.



Don't miss the Lowanna College production of

Disney Alice in Wonderland JR.

Music and Lyrics by Sammy Fain and Bob Hillard, Oliver Wallace and Cy Coban, Alle Wrubel and Ray Gilbert, Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston
 Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional Music and Lyrics by Bryan Louelle
 Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by David Simpatico
 Based on the 1951 Disney film "Alice in Wonderland" and the novels "The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll
 Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australia).
 All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

Tuesday July 31 - Saturday August 4, 2018

Matinee Performances
 10am - 12noon
 Tuesday 31 July
 Wednesday 1 August
 Thursday 2 August

Evening Performances
 8pm - 10pm
 Friday 3 August
 Saturday 4 August

Tickets: \$20.00 adult, \$10 concession, \$5.00 children
 Lowanna College Auditorium, 72-96 Newark Avenue, Newborough

Senior Formal

Friday 8 June 2018

7.30pm - 11.30pm

Turfside Function Centre
 Waterloo Road, Moe

\$40.00 per head
 supper & soft drinks included

LOWANNA COLLEGE
 Broader Horizons