

Newsletter

23rd October 2025 | Volume 15



nathaliasecondarycollege



nathaliasecondary



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Nathalia Secondary College

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We value: **C**aring, **L**earning, **E**xcellence, **A**ccountability & **R**espect



A message from our Principal, *Daniel Robinson*

Hello Nathalia Secondary College School Community, this week has been a truly special and memorable time at Nathalia Secondary College, as we celebrated the achievements and contributions of our Year 12 students as they concluded their formal schooling.

The week began on Monday with a fun and relaxed day of ten-pin bowling in Shepparton, giving our graduating students the chance to unwind and enjoy time together as a group. On Tuesday, the college came together for our Year 12 Celebration Assembly, where we recognised the journey of the Class of 2025 and congratulated a number of award recipients for their academic achievements, leadership, community contribution and school spirit.

We concluded the celebrations on Wednesday night with a wonderful Valedictory Dinner in Moama. It was a heartwarming evening shared with families, friends and staff, highlighting the pride we all feel in this graduating group.

I would like to praise our Year 12 students for

the respectful, mature and positive way they conducted themselves throughout the week. Their behaviour, gratitude and sense of community were outstanding, and they leave behind a strong legacy for younger students to follow.

Congratulations once again to all of our award winners from Tuesday's assembly – your dedication and commitment to your studies and to the college community have not gone unnoticed.

Also this week, a group of students in our Work Related Skills class attended an excursion to the Apprenticeship Factory, where they explored a range of pathways and opportunities for employment and training. Experiences like this are valuable steps in preparing our students for life beyond school.

As we head into the final weeks of the school year, I encourage every student to continue giving their very best – in their studies, attendance and interactions with others. Let's make Term 4 the best term of the year, full of positive effort, progress and celebration.

Parent Bulletin

PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT FOR 2025

Information regarding the 2025 Parent Payments has been forwarded to all families. The total amount per student for 2025 is \$250.

Payments can be made in the following ways:

- **BPay.** Please contact the office for your unique BPay code.
- **In Person.** Payments can be made at the Office between 8.30am and 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. EFTPOS (credit and debit cards) or cash are accepted (please note, we cannot accept American Express).

Please contact the Office if you have any questions regarding these arrangements.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK—WEEK 7

Our Year 10 students will be completing their Work Experience program in Week 7 – Monday 17th to Friday 21st November.

Students are encouraged to have conversations at home with their parents and guardians about where they might like to complete their placement. It's

important to consider both areas of interest and transport options, as travel can be a challenge for some students.

To support this process, NSC Career Practitioner, Emma Minchin, is available on Wednesdays and Fridays to meet with students and their families to help organise placements and answer any questions. Emma can also be contacted via email at

Emma.Minchin@education.vic.gov.au.

We encourage students to take initiative, explore their interests, and start planning early to make the most of this valuable opportunity.

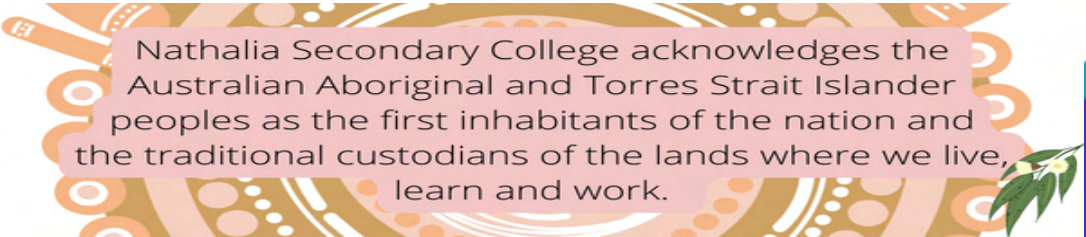
PUPIL FREE DAY

Please be aware that Monday 3rd of November, the day before the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday, is a **Pupil Free Day**.

SCHOOL HATS

In Line with our SunSmart policy, school hats need to be worn throughout Term 4. Please ensure your child has their hat with them daily.

Hats can be purchased from Casual Step.



Nathalia Secondary College acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

In the classroom

YEAR 11 BIOLOGY—KYABRAM FAUNA PARK EXCURSION

The Year 11 biologists recently visited Kyabram Fauna Park to undertake some field work looking at the adaptations of a range of Australian and exotic species. They were able to make first-hand observations of the various structural, physiological and behavioural adaptations of meerkats and kangaroos that enable them to survive in their natural environments. Plus, meerkats are just fun to watch.



The group then helped the zoo assess whether or not a section of the park is suitable for housing a possible enclosure of Plains Wanderers, a small endangered Australian bird. This species is very fussy where it lives, staying only if the grass clumps are a certain height and distance from one another (so it gives places to hide). They also dislike areas with nearby trees where predatory birds can sit in wait. This was done by picking a random square metre in the potential enclosure area, analysing the grass cover by dropping golf balls and seeing how many are visible in the grass, then measuring the distance to any large trees. This information will be sent to the park once the students have compiled and analysed it, helping them to determine if Kyabram is a good place to set up a breeding colony of these special little birds.

WORK RELATED SKILLS EXCURSION

The Work Related Skills class attended CVGT Employment, The Apprenticeship Factory and Gotafe in Shepparton on Monday 20th October 2025. Their current Learning Objective is focused around being prepared with a resume, references and relevant work experience to apply for jobs. Hearing directly from these organisations how to do this successfully and being able ask relevant questions was a very valuable experience for these students.



In the classroom

CLASS CLOWNS DRAMA EXCURSION

Lexie: "Laura was a good comedy teacher because she was funny, helpful, caring, she made it really fun and I learned a lot of comedy stuff to help me better than my class...and my Dad."

Cassie: "We played some warm up games and did some skits. For one of the skits, we had to make up an ad about something that does not exist. In my group was Theresa, Amelia, Ella and myself. We did a massaging chair. Theresa and I were shaking the chair with Amelia on it, and Ella was speaking."

Theresa: "it was kinda cool because everyone was getting creative"

Kelvin: "my comedy teacher Laura was AMAZING. She explained everything in a clear tone so it was easy to understand. The two skits I performed were selling someone's shoes and incredible gassy vs a ninja."

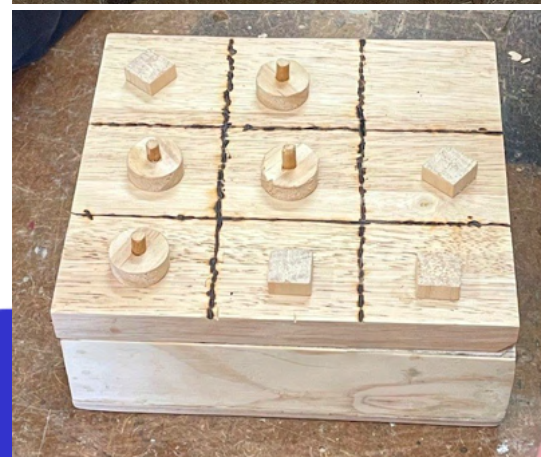
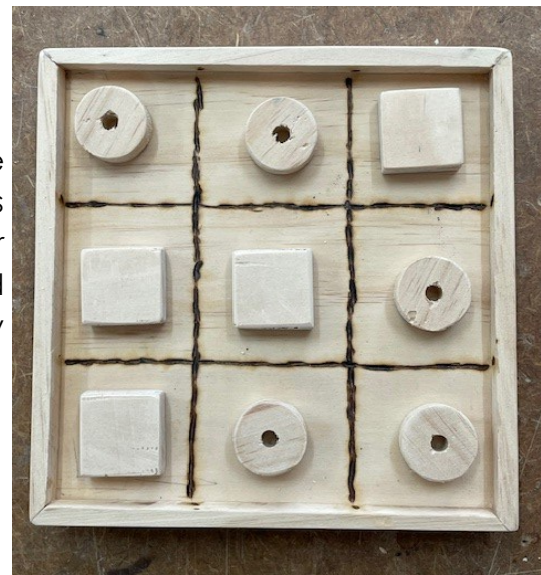
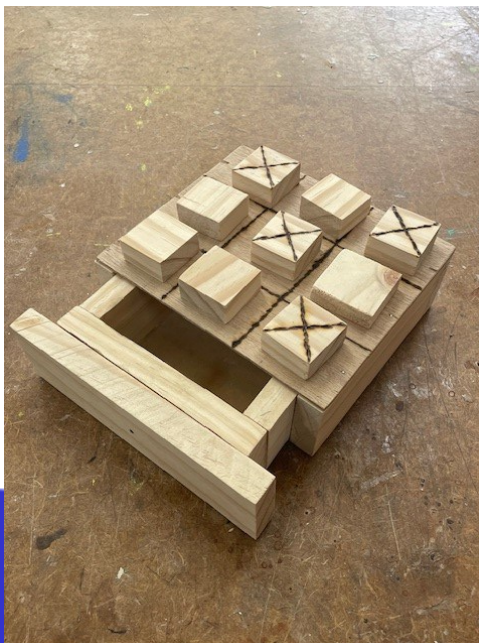
Amelia : "Laura was a good comedy teacher because she made it very fun and we did lots of fun games during the time we were there and she liked all the funny skits we did during the excursion it was fun fun fun"

George: "Laura was amazing at being a comedian and a teacher because she has experience and knows how to analyse what happened in the skits"



YEAR 7/8 WOODWORK

Year 7/8 Woodwork class have been finishing off their Tic-Tac-Toe Games recently and there have been some wonderful products submitted. This task allowed the students to design and create their very own style of Tic-Tac-Toe game, only using scraps of timber and basic hand tools. All students are to be recognised for their creativity and the results speak for themselves.



Around the grounds

VALEDICTORY DINNER



Last night we celebrated the incredible Class of 2025 at their Valedictory Dinner, held at the beautiful Moama Bowling Club. It was a wonderful evening filled with pride, laughter, and reflection as students, families, and staff came together to honour the achievements of our graduating class.

The night provided a chance to look back on 13 years of schooling — from their first days in the classroom to the young adults they have become today. Heartfelt speeches, shared memories, and a few tears reminded everyone of the strong bonds formed along the way and the many milestones reached together.

Students were recognised for their hard work, perseverance, and contribution to the College community, both in and out of the classroom. The evening was a fitting celebration of their dedication and growth throughout their secondary years.

As this chapter closes, we look forward with excitement to the new adventures that await each of our graduates. Whether continuing their studies, beginning work, or exploring new opportunities, we know they will take with them the values, confidence, and friendships that have shaped their time at the College.



Congratulations once again to the Class of 2025 — we are so proud of you all and wish you every success for the future! 📖 ✨

Around the grounds

AWARDS ASSEMBLY

On Tuesday we gathered as a school community to celebrate our Year 12 students at their Farewell Assembly — a milestone moment marking the end of their secondary schooling journey. It was a wonderful opportunity for staff and students to come together to recognise the hard work, commitment, and growth shown by our graduating class throughout their time at the College.

As part of the celebration, a number of well-deserved awards were presented to acknowledge outstanding achievements across academics, leadership, community involvement, and personal excellence. Each recipient was warmly applauded by their peers, reflecting the genuine respect and support shared within this cohort.

The assembly also provided a moment to reflect on the friendships, memories, and experiences that have shaped the Class of 2025. With a mix of excitement and nostalgia in the air, the occasion was a fitting send-off before the next chapter of their lives begins.

Congratulations once again to all award recipients and to our entire Year 12 class — we are incredibly proud of everything you have accomplished and wish you every success for the future!

2025 Australian Defence Force Award - Year 10



Taylah

2025 Australian Defence Force Award - Year 12



Josh

2025 GMLEN (Goulburn Murray Local Learning & Employment Network) Award



Yalarnnah

2025 Dan Kennedy Memorial Rotary Club of Nathalia Award



Kyah

2025 Moira Shire Award



Tyler

2025 VM/VPC Award



River

2025 AMPOL Best All Rounder Award



Ashleigh

2025 Langham-Taylor Award



Lil

We value: **C**aring, **L**earning, **E**xcellence, **A**ccountability & **R**espect

Around the grounds

RURAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR

Well done to Zahra, who took part in the Rural Youth Ambassador program ran by Country Education Partnership.

'Country Education Partnership (CEP) developed the Rural Youth Ambassadors program to provide young people within rural communities the opportunity to develop their ambassadorial amplitude while strengthening their leadership skills and capacity. By partnering with education sectors, rural communities and governments the program aims to enhance and improve the lives, learning opportunities and educational outcomes of rural young people'

Congratulations, Zahra!



LMR ATHLETICS

Our students represented the College with pride at the recent LMR Athletics Carnival, competing against some of the best athletes from across the region.

A huge congratulations to Taylah, who placed 2nd in the 16-year-old girls discus — an outstanding effort!



Well done also to River, who had a fantastic day, achieving 2nd place in both the 17-year-old boys shot put and discus events.

We're incredibly proud of their hard work, determination, and sportsmanship. Congratulations to both Taylah and River on their impressive achievements!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS! 🎓

A huge congratulations to all our Year 12 students on completing your schooling! This is such an incredible milestone, and you should all be extremely proud of your efforts, dedication, and resilience throughout your final year.

As you move into this next exciting chapter — whether that's further study, training, or entering the workforce — remember that support is still available to help you with your next steps.

If you need any careers-related advice or assistance, including resume writing, applying for jobs, apprenticeships, or TAFE courses, please don't hesitate to reach out to Emma Minchin Emma.Minchin@education.vic.gov.au.

Congratulations again, and best wishes for your future adventures!

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE – COMING UP SOON! 🤖 ♀️ 🧠 📅

Work Experience is fast approaching for our Year 10 students! This is a fantastic opportunity to explore potential career pathways, gain hands-on experience, and develop valuable skills that will help prepare you for life beyond school.

Students are encouraged to start organising their placements as soon as possible to secure a spot in an area that interests them. Once you have found a placement, you'll need to see Emma to complete the paperwork.

We're excited to introduce the new Work-Based Learning Application, which will make it easier for students, parents, and employers to complete and manage the required forms online. Each part of the paperwork will be emailed to students, parents and employers for completing and signing.

If you need any assistance with finding a placement or completing your paperwork, please see Emma Minchin or email Emma.Minchin@education.vic.gov.au.

CED GROUP APPRENTICESHIP

Well done to Josh, who has been offered a full-time Electrical Apprenticeship with [CED Group](#) in Cobram!

Josh has been completing a School-Based Apprenticeship with CED over the past 12 months and has shown outstanding dedication and hard work throughout 2025. It's fantastic to see his effort recognised with this exciting opportunity.

A sincere thank you to CED Group for their ongoing support and for providing Josh with this amazing opportunity.

Left to right: Andrew Sim (Founding Director & Technical Consultant), Josh Dohnt & Luke Robinson (Operations Manager)



Congratulations to Josh, who will be starting his Electrical Apprenticeship with CED in 2026!

VET SUCCESS STORY—YALARNNAH

In February 2024, Yalarnnah Bux began a Head Start School-Based Traineeship in Certificate III in Individual Support at the Rumbalara Elders Facility in Shepparton, after completing a two-week work experience placement that sparked her passion for caring for others.

Living with her grandmother in Cummeragunja, Yalarnnah travelled weekly to Shepparton to complete her traineeship. Over the past 20 months, she has achieved 270 hours towards her qualification, earning three VCE units while gaining valuable industry experience.

Yalarnnah has thrived at Rumbalara, forming strong relationships with staff and residents. She describes her favourite part of the role as “spending time with the elders, getting to know them, and hearing their stories.” Her work has focused on providing emotional support to residents and encouraging participation in daily activities.

Recently completing her VCE at Nathalia Secondary College, Yalarnnah was also recognised with the Work-Based Excellence Award from GMLLEN for her outstanding dedication and achievements. Reflecting on her journey, she shared, “Finishing my VCE is amazing. There were times I wanted to give up, but I knew I could do it.”

Shannon Firebrace, Operations Manager at Rumbalara Elders Facility, praised her commitment: “Yalarnnah has put in a lot of effort and come a long way and has the potential to achieve anything she wants.”

Next year, Yalarnnah plans to move to Melbourne to study a Bachelor of Social Work at Deakin University through the NIKERI Institute.

Yalarnnah's journey is a powerful example of perseverance, pride, and purpose. **Congratulations Yalarnnah!** We are all so thrilled for you and wish you the best!



SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS HAVE GOOD SLEEP HYGIENE



Sleep is important for physical and mental health and well-being, especially for children and young people who are still developing. In children and young people, insufficient sleep is a contributing factor for mood, academic or behavioural problems.

Sleep improves
Daily functioning and concentration
Productivity and affects our overall quality of life.

What is sleep hygiene?

Our sleep environment and our behaviour.

Setting ourselves up for getting a good night's sleep as part of a daily routine.

Poor sleep hygiene negatively affects our quantity and quality of sleep.

Signs that we could work on our sleep hygiene include:

- having difficulty falling asleep
- waking up throughout the night
- frequently feeling tired during the day, or having difficulty concentrating.

Parents are critical in modelling positive sleep behaviours and routines and can inspire children to develop self-regulation and autonomy for healthy sleep habits.



What strategies can parents use?

- Be a good sleep role model and make sleep a priority
- Set a sleep schedule
- Adjust your child's bedtime routine
- Set device limits at night
- Create device-free bedrooms
- ...Or at least put devices out of reach
- Make small adjustments over time
- Talk to children about the importance of good sleep
- Focus on other healthy habits too



NOTICEBOARD



- Graeme Bernhardt Memorial -
**KID'S COME AND TRY
FISHING DAY**



WHERE: Broken Creek Nathalia between Chinaman's Weir and the Town weir

WHEN: Sunday 16th November 2025
registrations from 9.00am, presentation 2.30pm

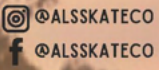
COST: \$5.00 per child

Includes bag containing water, lunch voucher,
goods to the value of \$30.00

Enquiries to:

David McKenzie 0438 691252 or
Col Bernhardt 0400 313 253

**"Nathalia Angling Club –
Encouraging Family Fishing"**



2025

ROUND 6

NUMURKAH SKATE PARK

SATURDAY OCT 25TH

REGISTRATION & WARM UP 9:30AM
COMPETITION STARTING 10:00AM

PROUDLY RUN BY AL'S SKATE CO

ALL AGES EVENTS

ALL EVENTS ARE DRUG, ALCOHOL, SMOKE & VAPE FREE



Rural City of Wangaratta



NOTICEBOARD

AIR FORCE CADETS

The Air Force Cadets are now RECRUITING!

FROM 01 OCTOBER 2025
TO 31 MARCH 2026

APPLY ONLINE

airforcecadets.gov.au

@airforcecadets

The Australian Air Force Cadets 419 Squadron in Shepparton are now recruiting for their 2026 intake. There will be an information evening in Shepparton on Friday 21st Nov 25.

If you're between 12 - 15 (must be in high school in 2026 and turning 13 in 2026) and have an interest in aviation, drones, STEM, leadership and personal development, fieldcraft, a career in the Australian Defence Force, or just want to make new friends, we're keen to have you join our ranks. You'll learn many new skills and have a lot of fun along the way.

We are sponsored by the Royal Australian Air Force and you will have the opportunity to fly and visit Defence Bases in Victoria, and so much more

To register to attend the information evening or for more information email:

co.419sqn@airforcecadets.gov.au

Expressions of interest to join can be completed at:

www.airforcecadets.gov.au/how-to-join

Brereton's Bakery & Coffee Lounge Nathalia & Numurkah

School aged weekend (Nathalia & Numurkah) /after school positions available (Nathalia only).

*Experience Not Essential.

Come join our awesome team; serving delicious coffees, cakes, wraps, rolls, pies, pastries, slices and more...

As a customer service team member your shift will include, but not limited to;

- ☒ Customer service (supplying our customers with our yummy treats 🍰, 🥧, ☕, 🥞)
- ☒ Cash Handling (don't stress we have a great till to help with those tricky additions ➕)
- ☒ Cleaning (BYO positive outlook and willingness to try, we will supply the rest 😊)
- ☒ Making & Displaying Products (you make our products look even more delicious and drool worthy 😋)

If this sounds like a role you cannot pass by please send an email with your resume to sales@breretonsbakery.com.au or call 58662466 for more info 😊

Extra shifts over this school holidays will also be on offer to the successful applicant.

Come and join our amazing team!





Dates to remember...

Tuesday 28th October

Exams Commence

Thursday 30th October

Transition Program 12:30-3pm

Monday 3rd November

PUPIL FREE DAY

Tuesday 4th November

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Tuesday 11th November

Remembrance Day Service

Mon 17th—Fri 21st November

Transition Program 9-10:40am

Year 10 Work Experience Week

Year 11 Exam Week

Tuesday 18th November

Transition Program 11:10-12:50pm

School Council

Monday 24th November

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 25th November

Transition Program 11:10-12:50pm

Tues 25th Nov—Fri 5th Dec

Head Start (Year 10 & 11)

Thursday 4th December

10:55-12:25pm Transition Program

Tuesday 9th December

Statewide Transition Day

Thursday 11th December

Last day of classes Yr 7-9

Friday 12th December

Fun Fields excursion

Mon 15th—Tues 16th Dec

Activities Yr 7-9

Tuesday 16th December

School Council

Wed 17th—Thurs 17th Dec

Environment Days

Nathalia Secondary College

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