

UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 6 | Term 1 | 2026



It has been great to have received feedback from many families over the past few weeks regarding our high expectations at Upwey High School. We thank all members of our community for reaching out to provide this important feedback that enables us to continue to build partnerships that are positive by displaying two of our key school values; **Kindness & Respect**. In light of some feedback about our new attendance expectations, please see our reworded 'Key to Opportunities' section on the last page of this week's newsletter.

Community support for USH comes in all shapes and sizes and we are extremely pleased to announce an amazing fundraising day for our school through the Upwey Tecoma Lawn Bowls Club – see page 5 for all the details!

Student leadership is such a fantastic way for students to become involved in school life and we are incredibly pleased to announce this year's student leadership team for all year levels (see below). Well done to all students who applied and congratulations to those who have been successful. It has been a very busy week at UHS in Week 6 and this is a bumper edition of our Weekly News – enjoy the reading!

We hope all members of our community have a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend and we will see the students back at school on Tuesday.

Rachel Lynch, Principal

House Captains	Bleazby	Chandler	Crow	Knox
Year 7	Scarlett Heywood Sophie Fraser	Jarrah Coulthard- Noonan Juliet (Jett) Adeson	Chloe Varney	Oscar Blundell
Year 8	Ivy Sykes	Tori Litterbach	Oscar Geelen	Avelynn Tan Aster Hill
Year 9	Liam Bawden	Noah Packer Tristan Crosbie	Evan Davis Quinn Hum	Tom Hutchins Rori Benne
Year 10	Joelen Brotheridge Callum Herron	Abby Crocco	Mishank Sarwal	Azriel Tan
Year 11	Madi Roach Tess McKiernan	Katie Clarke	Paul Sibly	Olive Block
Year 12 School Captains	Archer Maudsley	Niamh Harrold	Cooper Ashby	Lily Williamson
Student Wellbeing Captain	Leiam Heycox			

NEXT WEEK

Monday March 9

Public Holiday - Labour Day

Tuesday March 10

Knox Division Swimming
Year 10 Handball Sports Excursion

Wednesday March 11

NAPLAN (Year 7 and Year 9)
Year 10 Central Information Night
Year 9 NZ Volleyball Information Night

Thursday March 12

NAPLAN (Year 7 and Year 9)

Friday March 13

NAPLAN (Year 7 and Year 9)
Senior Formal

Year 12 Genetics Workshop

Last Wednesday, the Unit 3 Biology students went to the Yarra Ranges Tech School to participate in a Genetics Workshop. The session provided students with the opportunity to use gene technologies such as Gel Electrophoresis and CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing tools. They carried out tests to observe how scientists are using CRISPR-Cas9 to remove the mutated gene that causes Cystic Fibrosis, with the goal to repair this gene in future patients, as well as the ethics surrounding these technologies. A great hands on way to learn key knowledge in preparation for their first outcome.

~ Merryn Garratt, Year 12 Biology teacher & Careers Leader



Intermediate Sport Update

Our Intermediate (Year 9 & 10) Sports Day was a fantastic success, with a total of 80 students representing the school across Volleyball and Tennis. It was great to see such strong participation, positive attitudes, and teamwork throughout the day. All students competed with enthusiasm and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, supporting one another both on and off the court. A special mention to our 10B Volleyball girls team for finishing 1st in their pool, and to our 10A Volleyball Girls team for securing 2nd in their pool – fantastic achievements that reflect the hard work, commitment and teamwork shown by both teams throughout the day. In tennis, both of our boys teams played hard and had several close matches, but unfortunately we fell short, losing to Rowville East. Overall, we are very pleased with their efforts!

Well done to all students involved for representing the school so proudly and thank you to our staff who volunteered their time to support our wonderful sports program!

~ Rachael Block & Maddy Somerville - Co-Directors of School Sport



Some of Year 10 students enjoying their 'Cornish Pastries' in the sun on Friday morning!

We are really pleased to announce our Year 10 House Captains for 2026- Abby Crocco, Joelan Brotheridge, Azriel Tan, Callum Herron and Mishank Sarwal. These amazing young people went through the application process and demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities.

Congratulations to each of them! We are really looking forward to a wonderful year!

-Amanda Petrie (Year 10 Team Leader)

Jeremy Coates (Assistant Year 10 Leader)



Mummies Alive in Outdoor Pursuits

After looking at bandages and sling techniques in a first aid unit of work in outdoor pursuits the students had 10 minutes to make the best mummy. The results speak for themselves.

~ Harry Potter, Outdoor Pursuits teacher



The Year 11 Geography class completed their first fieldwork excursion during class on Monday afternoon, catching the train to locations in both Upper Ferntree Gully and Belgrave to observe and analyse the management of a biological hazard. Fieldwork is an integral part of studying geography and the first unit of study – Hazards and disasters. Students were identifying invasive weeds and how they were being managed around rail infrastructure using goats as a management tool. The students have since used this data collected to complete a fieldwork report on weeds and how they are managed. It was a great afternoon out of the classroom and into the field and we are all looking forward to the next fieldwork excursion to Cockatoo to look at another geographical hazard; Bushfires.

~ Nick Somerville, Year 11 Geography teacher

Year 11 Geography Fieldwork



100 BOX HILL

Cookery Bootcamps

Wed 15 April Lilydale | Thur 16 April Lilydale
10am - 12.30pm | \$15 per person

Bootcamp Dates:

- Wednesday 15 April 2026 – Group 1
- Thursday 16 April 2026 – Group 2

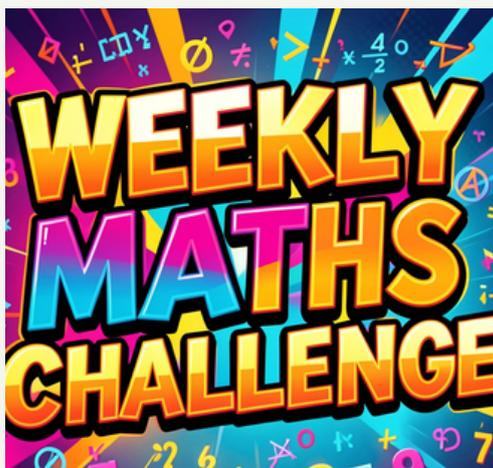
Learn more and register here:
<https://info.boxhill.edu.au/cookery-bootcamps/>

What an amazing Opportunity! Only \$15 per session for youth 16 years and above. 2026 Cookery Bootcamps – Hands-On Training in Our Commercial Kitchens! Give your students a real taste of the culinary world with our 2026 Cookery Bootcamps at Box Hill Institute– Lilydale campus. These immersive, hands-on sessions are perfect for students exploring a cookery pathways.

Participants will work alongside our chef Stephane LeGrand to prepare two classic dishes:

- Green pea & mushroom risotto finished with parmesan
- Hand-shaped Fougasse (French artisanal bread)

The best apron award goes into the draw to win a professional cookbook, perfect for inspiring young chefs.



Birthday Smarties Puzzle

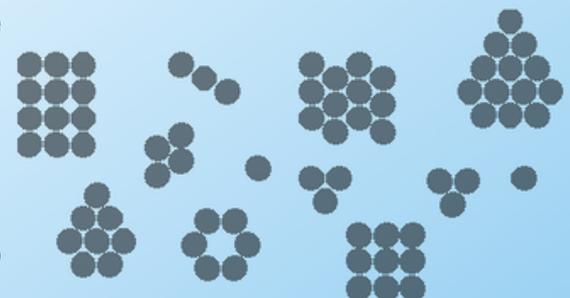
The Puzzle:

The Birthday Cake has all gone but there are twelve piles of Smarties left.

Each pile is held together by icing so can't be split up.

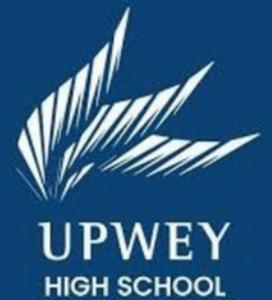
Most of the guests have gone, but Hungry Horace and his two friends want to share out the Smarties equally.

Can you draw around the piles so that everybody gets 25 Smarties each?



YEAR 9

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM EXCURSION



Judy & Leon Goldman Learning Centre

On Wednesday, Year 9 students visited the Holocaust Museum as part of the humanities program. The students took part in various activities throughout the day, where they saw the impact of the Holocaust on humanity.

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

As we walked through the exhibitions, I was struck by the artefacts, photos and videos that showed how Jewish people and families were gradually stripped of their rights, identities and freedoms. Seeing personal items like clothes and documents made me realise how the Holocaust was not just a large historical event, but something that affected ordinary people with normal lives. It showed that when left unchallenged, prejudice and discrimination can grow into hatred and dehumanisation with horrible consequences. Towards the end, we were given a rare opportunity to speak with a survivor of the holocaust, Sarah Saaroni. Listening to her speak about her survival made the history feel real and personal rather than distant. Her story showed both the cruelty people had to face and the incredible resilience they displayed.



-LIARA A.



I learned so much at the Holocaust Museum. It was interesting to discover how Jewish tradition and religion works, and heartbreaking to learn what people suffered years ago. During the tour, I constantly compared what I was learning to the things that I already knew. Almost everything made sense to me, and the various exhibits built on my prior knowledge. I would have appreciated a bit more time to look at the collection. Overall, the excursion was an eye-opening experience for me, and I'm glad I went there.

- POPPY B.

The Holocaust Museum was a very interesting place, and I feel like as a year level everyone took something away from it. We were split up into two groups for the first two activities, which were exploring the collection of special artefacts with a tour guide and an activity where we discussed how primary source artefacts contributed to the Holocaust. The exhibition included objects like old clothing, maps, and letters. The primary source activity included items such as Nazi propaganda posters, identity cards and old pictures of families. Once both groups were done with each activity, we moved into a room where a special guest named Sarah talked to us about her experiences during and after the Holocaust, including what it was like to be a survivor, and what it was like to be a young person during these horrible times. We had the opportunity to ask her our own questions about the Holocaust and there were a lot of interesting questions from my peers. I thought this was a great opportunity for us to learn about how awful the Holocaust actually was and how we can make a difference today.



-EVAN D.



On Wednesday, the Year 9s went on an excursion to the Holocaust Museum in Melbourne. It was a serious and emotional place, and some parts were especially sad. We walked around and looked at real artefacts from the Holocaust, which made it feel more concrete and not just something you read in a textbook. We met a Holocaust survivor, Sarah Saaroni, who told us about her life and what she went through, and we got to ask her many questions. I think she was brave for what she went through, and I appreciate that she retells her story to help us learn to do better. Overall, it was a very interesting and important excursion that I think a lot of us will remember for a long time.

- RORI B.



B O W L

\$10*

FOR MENTAL HEALTH

ALL GATE PROCEEDS GO TO YOUR SCHOOL'S STUDENT WELLBEING DEPARTMENT

*Students, Parents, Teachers
Come and give lawn bowls a try!*

Sunday March 15

11am to 1.30pm

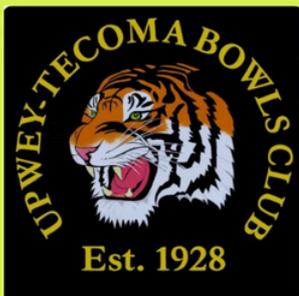
Prizes!

Competitions!

BBQ!

Guests!

Bar Open!



UPWEY-TECOMA BOWLS CLUB

21-41 ALEXANDER AVE. UPWEY, VIC. 3158

(03) 9754 3144

* entry cost per person (family deal \$30)

UHS Classroom Routines



Before Lesson

Line up outside the classroom on time, entering calmly when directed to by staff

Be prepared for learning - have all equipment (including a charged laptop)

During Lesson

Wait for formal greeting and roll call / entry activity

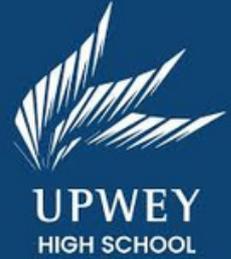
Actively participate to the best of your ability in all learning activities

End of Lesson

Take note of homework or activities to be completed before the next class

Pack up when directed and clean the room before leaving in a calm manner when dismissed

UHS EXPECTATIONS IN 2026



Relationships

Kindness and Respect is to be displayed by all members of our community at all times. Build positive relationships with those around you and look after each other



Attention



Laptops are used in the classroom for teaching and learning purposes only. They must remain closed at all times unless students are instructed by a teacher to use them. Students are expected to give teachers 100% of their attention when being taught in class

Uniform

Students are permitted to wear uniform items (bottom half only) that do not have a logo but they are NOT permitted to wear tracksuit pants or leggings. All top half uniform must have the approved UHS Logo as supplied by KLAD. Year 7-9 students can wear PE Uniform on days they have PE only.



Food & Beverages



Energy Drinks are completely banned on school grounds
Water bottles are the only drink permitted in class
NO food permitted in class at all (students can eat at recess/lunch or during the five minute break between P1 and P2 or P3 and P4 only)

Key to Opportunities



To access opportunities to attend sports, excursions and camps our staff will work with families and students to support strong and consistent school attendance. Where attendance is a concern, the school may work with families to ensure students are demonstrating a commitment to regular attendance before participating in additional school opportunities. Students will also be required to demonstrate positive behaviour at school (no more than three serious behaviour concerns on Compass in a Term) and be completely up to date with schoolwork.

Aspiration

Respect

Kindness