

UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 7 | Term 1 | 2026



With a shortened week, Week 7 seemed to fly by at UHS and has left us now with only three weeks to go of Term 1. Though short, this week was certainly filled with many things both in and outside of the classroom. On Tuesday we were proud to send so many students to the Divisional Swimming – see the full report on the next page for all the details.

Despite a nation-wide technical disruption, on Wednesday our Year 7 students and Year 9 students commenced their NAPLAN testing. This year we changed the way we conducted the testing – having all students in the year level completing the tests together in the Later Years Centre. We are extremely proud of the way in which all students have conducted themselves, so far, during this important testing period. NAPLAN provides schools with a useful snapshot of how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy and helps us identify areas of strength as well as opportunities for further growth. While it is only one measure of student learning, the information gained supports teachers to reflect on practice and continue strengthening teaching and learning across the school.

Next week we will be conducting a Shelter-in-Place Emergency Management Drill as required by the Department of Education. An Emergency Management Drill aims to educate students and staff about the processes we would need to enact if there ever were to be a real emergency. Given that our school is a bushfire-prone area, it is vitally important that we conduct these drills.

Next week is also 'Harmony Week' and on Friday we are asking all students to wear a touch of orange to support cultural diversity, inclusivity and respect. More details about this can be found on the next page.

Don't forget to come along to the Upwey Tecoma Lawn Bowls Club on Sunday between 11am-1:30pm for the fundraiser 'Bowls for Mental Health' where all gate takings will be donated to the UHS Wellbeing Program – all details on page 4.

School Council 2026

School Council voting (Parent Category & Student Category) is still open – our Parent Category voting closes next Wednesday, and the Student Category closes at 12pm next Friday. On Friday afternoon next week we will be making a public announcement about the ballot results and announcing our new School Council for 2026.

Rachel Lynch, Principal

NEXT WEEK

Monday March 16

Year 10 Legal Studies Excursion

Tuesday March 17

VCE Product Design Excursion

Young Leaders Program

Emergency Management Drill

Wednesday March 18

Year 7 Camp

Year 8 Interschool Sport

Thursday March 19

Year 7 Camp

Year 12 VM Excursion

Friday March 20

Year 7 Camp

Harmony Day

Year 10 Strong Mind Strong Body Yoga

Year 10 Assembly P3

Division Swimming

On Tuesday, 30 students from years 7-12 represented our school at the Knox Division Swimming Competition, as well as 16 students from the Handball Sports class who assisted with running the event as part of their Sports Organisation and Coaching Unit.

Students participated in a range of individual and relay events, giving their best in every race and proudly representing the school. Our team demonstrated great effort, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the day while competing against strong schools from across the division. Overall, Upwey came 2nd in the division, which is a huge achievement for our school!

We'd like to congratulate the following students who were awarded Age Group Champions:

- Oscar Geelen
- Zoe Geelen
- Sienna Censi
- Eloise Ravensdale
- Kynon Van Loon

Overall it was a fantastic day out, and we are so proud of our students who participated. Those who came first in their events will be going to EMR swimming on Monday 30th March.



HARMONY WEEK

Harmony Week is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

The theme for Harmony Week 2026 is "Everyone Belongs". This enduring theme emphasizes that belonging is created together through understanding, respect, and meaningful connection. The celebration coincides with the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21.

During the Aspire classes next week students will participate in activities celebrating diversity and on Friday 20th March we ask students to wear a 'touch of orange' to show support for cultural diversity, inclusion, and respect, as orange symbolizes social communication and freedom of ideas.

HARMONY day
EVERYONE BELONGS

March 21st, 2026

What is Harmony Day?
Harmony Day is a celebration of people all around the world. It's a day where we recognize the value of each other's culture and differences.

g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!
g'day!

Wear a touch of Orange on Friday 20th March

EVERYONE BELONGS
Harmony Week 2026

Illustration of five diverse people holding hands, representing cultural diversity.

UHS 2026 TOURS PROGRAM

In 2026, we are pleased to be able to offer an extensive program of tours - both interstate and internationally. This week we held Parent Information sessions for our upcoming Year 10 Central Australia Tour - which departs on April 14 and the proposed Year 9 New Zealand Volleyball Tour scheduled for November. During this school holidays, we also have 20 VCE students attending our VCD & Art Tour in Sydney. The Parent Information session for this tour will be held online on Thursday March 26 to coincide with our Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences.



Year 7 Peer Support

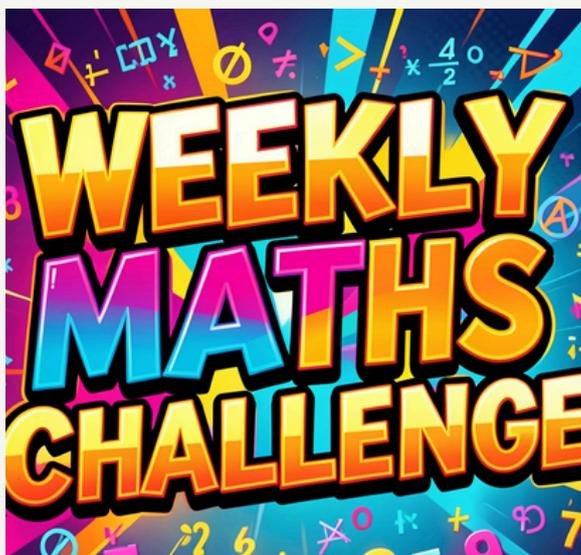
The Y7s have had their first peer support session with the Y10 students. The 7's were split into 14 random groups from all homegroups and today completed a number of different team building activities in order to get know each other and the Y10s a little better. It was lovely to see them all so engaged.



School Drop Off



A friendly reminder to parents/carers that the car park of Marchant Avenue is not a drop off zone for students - this is strictly a car park for staff. Students can be dropped off at the back car park or the lower car park, off Darling Avenue. We appreciate your support with this matter. If your child has an injury which requires you to drop them off closer to the school, please discuss this with your child's Team Leader.



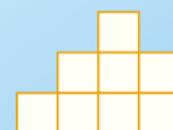
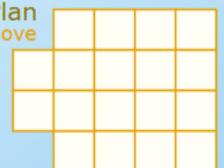
Hilda The Builder Puzzle

The Puzzle:

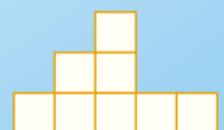
Hilda made a house from building blocks and it looked like this from the top and two sides.

How many bricks did Hilda use altogether?

Plan
View from Above



Side Elevation
Left Side View



Front Elevation
Front View

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

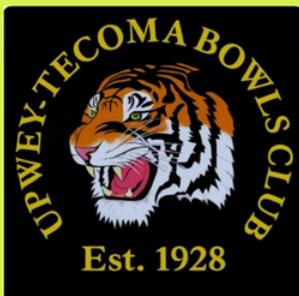
Prizes!

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

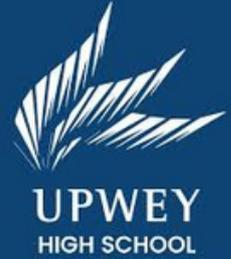
Actively participate to the best of your ability in all learning activities

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