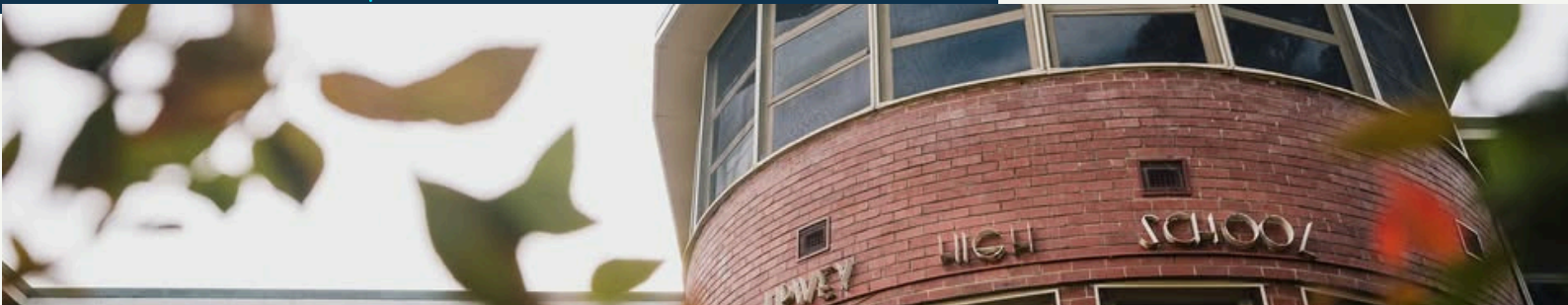


UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 2 | Term 2 | 2026



At Upwey High School, supporting students to be aware of pathways and opportunities beyond schooling is an important focus at all year levels, and really comes to the forefront for students in Year 9. Having had three children go through secondary school myself, from experience I know that not all students know what they want to do post-schooling. I also know that many students do – and that is why two annual events in our school programming are so important. On Tuesday we held our Careers Expo for all students in Year 10–12 as well as the Year 9 Morrisby Profiling which helps students gain a better understanding of themselves as learners and areas they might be interested to investigate in future pathways planning. Our staff were also busy throughout the week – with some great Professional Learning on Tuesday looking at ways to improve the outcomes for our VCE students

Towards the end of Term 1, and now at the beginning of Term 2 our school leadership team (and entire school community) are disappointed, on a daily basis, with the actions of a few students who continue to graffiti and damage our student toilets. While we are working hard behind the scenes to resolve on this ongoing issue, the extent of the damage is causing financial pressure, not to mention creating an unpleasant environment for other students. Several measures are currently being considered, and I will update our school community over the next few weeks regarding the measures that may be required as this lack of respect for our environment, and others, is not sustainable nor does it reflect a community whose values are 'Aspiration, Kindness & Respect'. I also discussed this with students today at our whole-school assembly, re-iterating that this is not the way we expect our Upwey students to behave.

The Year 7–9 Cross Country Colour Run on Wednesday afternoon was a fantastic success, helped along by perfect running weather! It was great to see so many students getting involved across all year levels, with plenty of energy, effort and enthusiasm on display. A big congratulations to those who finished in the top 15 for their age group—keep an eye on Compass for details about the upcoming Division Cross Country in the next few weeks.

Well done to everyone who took part and made it such a fun and positive event!



Have a lovely weekend everyone – and don't forget that Monday is our student-free Curriculum Day

Rachel Lynch, Principal

TERM 2 - WEEK 3

Monday May 4

Curriculum Day (student-free day)

Tuesday May 5

Senior School Sport
Production Rehearsals

Wednesday May 6

Big Day in Concert (lunch time)

Thursday May 7

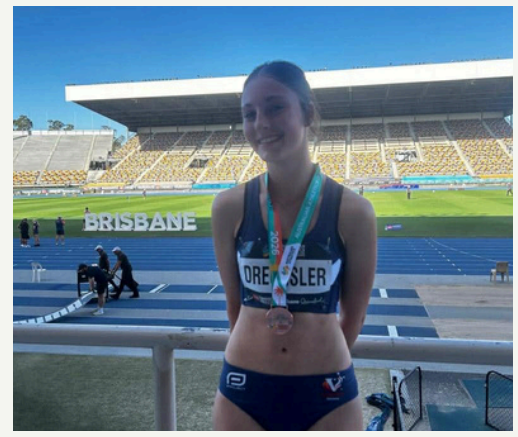
Year 11 English Excursion

Friday May 8

Volleyball-a-thon (10am - 10pm)
Project Rokit Workshops

Lillie wins in Brisbane!

We'd like to congratulate Lillie Drechsler, who was proudly selected to represent Victoria at the 2026 Australian Athletics Junior Championships in Brisbane. She took part in the 200m and 400m events, competing well against athletes from across Australia. Lillie was also a member of the 4x200m relay team, where they finished in 3rd place! This is a fantastic result and a great achievement at a national level.



We are incredibly proud of Lillie's achievements and look forward to seeing her continued success in the future. Well done, Lillie!



Careers Expo a huge hit with Later Years students

Our annual Careers Expo, held on Tuesday, provided a valuable opportunity for students in Years 10–12 to explore a wide range of post-school pathways. Students engaged with representatives from TAFEs, universities, art schools, Victoria Police, the ADF, sports colleges, and a variety of apprenticeship and traineeship organisations. It was fantastic to see students actively taking advantage of the event, asking thoughtful questions, seeking advice, and beginning to consider their future options. Feedback from our stallholders was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the curiosity, politeness, and genuine interest shown by our students throughout the day.



Second-hand Uniform Shop

Did you know we have a Second-hand Uniform Shop onsite at Upwey? Open on Mondays between 1:15pm and 1:45pm in H-Block there are a range of items for sale at great prices!





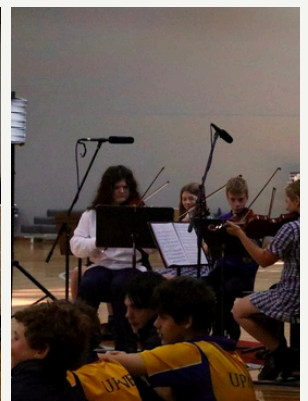
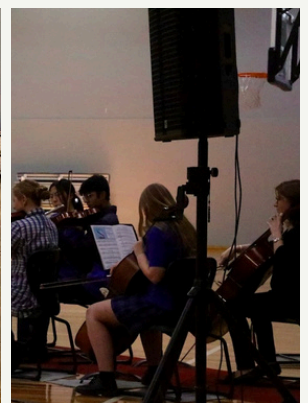
Surfing at Smith's Beach

On Thursday a number of Y10 students travelled to Smiths beach on Phillip Island for a surfing lesson. The classes learnt about Rips and what to do if caught in one and the techniques associated with catching a wave and standing up on a board. The classes had a great time and the conditions were perfect.



Term 2 Whole-School Assembly

During Period 3 on Friday, we held our Term 2 Whole-School Assembly which provided staff and students the opportunity to reflect on Term 1, while looking ahead to Term 2. It was also a great opportunity to present our Year Level House Captains with their 2026 badges. We were also very impressed with the wonderful orchestra who performed for us. It is always great to get the school together in this format, and remind everyone of the importance of demonstrating our school values; Aspiration, Respect and Kindness. I shared my new favourite quote with students and staff today; **Kindness if Effortless**. I asked them to live by this and always support each other



Central Australia

STUDENT TESTIMONIES



Kings Canyon was my favorite part of the Central Australia tour, especially the Garden of Eden, it felt like such a magical place. I loved seeing the vivid colours in all the rocks and how vast the landscape felt – I've never been around anything quite like it before. The sunsets and sunrises in NT were incredible, one morning some of us even woke up early to do yoga as we watched the sunrise. Looking back, the Central Australia tour has created so many fond memories for me that I will cherish forever!

- Abby Crocco

Having never been away from my family for more than 24 hours, the Year 10 Central Tour was a big step for me, both physically and mentally. At times, the camp threw grueling challenges at us, long tiring hikes, boiling hot days, and freezing cold nights, but the energy and spirit the staff provided carried us through the hardest of times. The experiences that we participated in couldn't have been any different; from a semi-formal progressive dinner to hiking through Kata Tjuta, every day held a new surprise, ready to test our limits and stretch our comfort zones. Highlights for me included the infamous Kings Canyon hike, in which we walked the 5km walk plus a visit to the Garden of Eden in 5 hours, visiting Lilla, where we listened to fascinating indigenous stories and ate kangaroo tail, and the bus rides. You would expect a 5-hour bus ride to be long and boring, but the bus drivers made sure everyone was having a blast, making bracelets, singing karaoke, and completing quizzes on music and movies. The camp itself is a physical nightmare, scaling cliffs and walking for hours around landmarks and national parks, scrambling across rocks and swimming in ice cold water holes, but every bruise and mosquito bite is worth it. Looking off the edge of Kings Canyon, learning the secrets of Uluru, and watching the endless landscape and wildlife fly by is a reward I wouldn't pass up for the world. The UHS Central Australia tour has changed how I perceive our country and myself, both for the better.

-Taya Holmes

My favourite part of Central was the watering holes where we got to have a swim and had a chance for some of us where we were able to go to a place where we could jump off a rock into the water. I also really liked the walk at Kata Tjuta and the Valley of the Winds where there were wind tunnels. Another great spot was the Garden of Eden where we went on the biggest walk of the trip (Kings Canyon around 5 hours) but it was worth it for the views we got to see.

- Lachie Aitkin





2nd Hand Uniform Shop

The 2nd Hand uniform shop is open each Monday lunchtime during school terms from 1.15-1.45pm. It is located in the H-block, above the stadium at Upwey High School.

Prices:

Dresses	\$10
Skirts	\$10
Jumpers (Navy/Junior Blue)	\$10
Jackets (sports/waterproof)	\$10
Polo shirts (blue / white)	\$5
Yellow sports polos	\$5
Sports Shorts	\$5
Navy Shorts	\$5
Long Pants	\$5
Volleyball Tops	\$5
Volleyball Hoodies	\$10
Shoes	\$10

There are also a limited number of schoolbooks available for purchase. Please contact our wonderful volunteer Fiona for availability and prices

Enquiries: Fiona 0402 655 329

If you have any uniforms in good condition that you would like to donate, you are welcome to leave them at the general office.

All proceeds from the sale of uniforms and books are used to support the well-being program at Upwey High School.

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