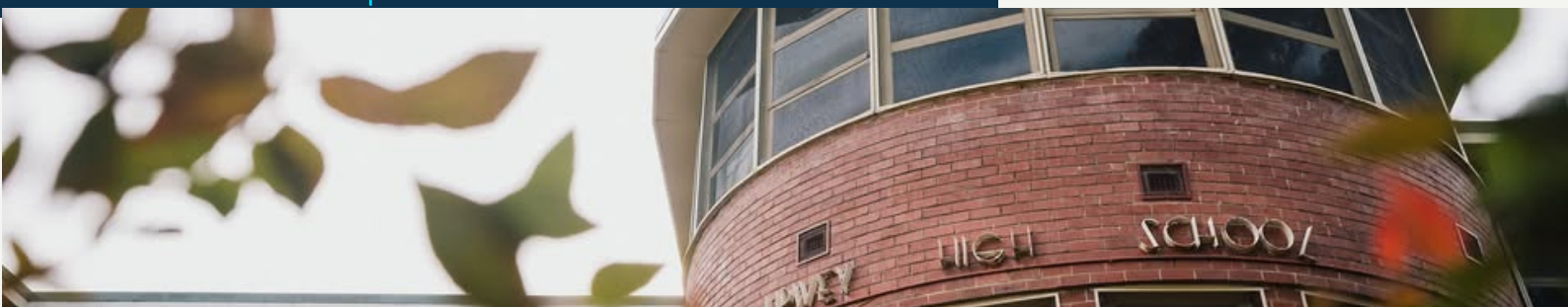


UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 7 | Term 3 | 2026



As we finally head into Spring next Tuesday, and hopefully leave the dreary cold wet weather behind, we also now ahead into the last three weeks of Term 3. For our VCE and VCE VM students in Year 12, this means official classes will soon be wrapping up – ahead of VCE exams for the majority of our students. For them, it is now time to start focusing on the weeks head including completing their final SACs and SATs as well as continuing their exam preparation. Practice exmas will be occurring in the second week of the term break – see the schedule included in this week's newsletter. For our VCE VM students (just like my own son), the time is very quickly approaching for final assessments and class tasks to be completed before finalising their studies. We look forward to continuing to support our Year 12 students over the coming weeks/months with their future pathways – whatever that may look like for them.

Over the past two weeks we have also been completing the 2027 Course Counselling process for students entering Year 10, 11 and 12 in 2027. I would like to thank all students and their parents/carers for supporting this process by attending our Subject Information Sessions and our Year 10 Course Counselling interviews. It was fantastic to have parents back 'onsite' – something that hasn't been done since 2019. This was so well attended that, for Semester 2 (on September 9) we will be hosting our Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences using a hybrid model – having our community coming onsite for these interviews, but where requested, also providing the opportunity for these interviews to be held online. We also look forward to receiving feedback from our community on this. On the topic of feedback, if you are a parent/carer and have not yet responded to the 2026 Parent/Caregiver Opinion Survey, there is still time to do so. Please find my Compass post with clear instructions and the log in details if you would like to share your views about our great school.

If you weren't yet aware, our Year 11 VM class have been working on their Community Project by redesigning our workout gym – including a cardio room and weights room. They are continuing to take donations for this great space that will be used by many students and staff alike. I personally toured this area earlier this week and am already impressed by what they have been able to achieve. If you have spare gym equipment at home that you no longer use (and it is still in good condition) please contact Harry Potter at the school to arrange collection. We have been overwhelmed by the support within our community already and are so grateful and thankful to those who have already contributed. See the flyer in this week's newsletter for more details. You can also use this [link](#) to make a donation to our fundraising page– Australian Sports Fundraising website.

Have a great weekend everyone – my daughter DID make it through to her Grand Final and plays this Saturday so fingers crossed for a win for the Lynch Family!

Rachel Lynch – Principal

TERM 3 – WEEK 8

Monday August 31

Emergency Management Vic Awards (select students)

Tuesday September 1

Knox Division Athletics
Year 11 VM Club Lime P5

Wednesday September 2

Thursday September 3

Yr 11/12 VM Primary Schools
Division Athletics Day (all day)
Year 7 Night of Notables 4:30pm

Friday September 4

Year 10 Assembly P3
Year 8 UPS Reading Program

Year 9 Leadership: Student Voice & Agency

Our Year 9 Leadership Group recently worked in small focus groups to unpack key findings from the Year 9 Attitudes to School Survey (ATOSS), with a particular focus on student connectedness and student voice and agency. Students used a PMI (Plus, Minus, Interesting) thinking routine to reflect on the data, before creating flow charts to identify key themes and areas for improvement. The groups then completed a deeper audit of the two priority areas they identified. These student-led focus groups will play an important role in determining our next areas of focus, with students continuing to help lead discussions and drive positive change across Year 9.



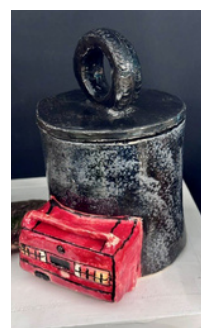
Year 10 Global Menus: Bellissimo!

Year 10 students in our 'Global Menus' class have been focusing on Italian cuisine over the past few weeks - including making Gnocchi with Napoli sauce and, today, a favourite - pizza! More specifically, students have been learning about the purpose of yeast in Italian cooking and the various ingredients, spices and herbs that can be added to pizza to enhance their flavour.

Year 10 Ceramics

In this Year 10 subject, students gain a greater understanding of the ceramic process. Students learn how to work with clay and glaze techniques. Prior knowledge of clay and its properties is helpful but not necessary. Students will study a variety of ceramics techniques, which will include a selection from hand building, wheel throwing, slip casting as well as the application of earthenware glazes. They will learn about the history of art movements and the place of ceramics in art history. Additionally, students learn to apply the art process to the development of both functional (bowls, cups, vessels) and sculptural (figurative, formal, decorative) ceramic works. This subject has a pathway into VCE Art Creative Practice.

These images show some of the great work happening this semester, in our Year 10 Ceramics class taught by Ms. Nichols - some amazing talent and quality on display!



Year 10 Excursion to Swinburne University

On Tuesday 25 August, all Year 10 students had the exciting opportunity to visit Swinburne University of Technology's Hawthorn campus as part of our ongoing careers and pathways program. Students began the day with a welcome session, learning more about university life, study options and the range of pathways available at Swinburne. They then participated in hands-on workshops in one of four areas: Aviation, Engineering, Law or Psychology. These workshops provided students with an insight into different industries and allowed them to explore potential career pathways beyond secondary school.

The day concluded with a wrap-up session and time for students to reflect on their experiences and talk to current students at the university. The excursion was a fantastic opportunity for students to broaden their understanding of tertiary education, explore areas of interest and begin thinking about their future study and career pathways.

A big thank you to the staff at Swinburne University for welcoming our students and providing such an engaging and informative experience.

Students reflections:

I enjoyed learning all about Swinburne and how it has lots of advantages and benefits. The aviation flying simulator was really cool as well.

It made me see more options for universities and hearing from students about their experience showed how fun Uni can be.

I really enjoyed Swinburne. It opened up new ideas and paths for me. I also really enjoyed the mock trial I participated in.

I liked learning about other people's Uni courses, and it made me think about what I want to do.

Swinburne was excellent and the mock trial was very educational and overall helped me understand universities.

I attended the Architecture/Engineering workshop and learned about sustainable building practises and working with physics and biology. The presenter answered lots of questions and was very in depth.

The Swinburne tour was very informative in learning about life after high school. I did the aviation workshop which was so cool to see the aviation pathway at Swinburne.

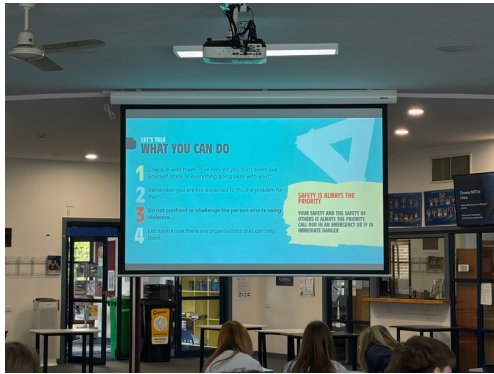
I really enjoyed my day at Swinburne and my favourite activity was the interactive psychology workshop.



Year 10 FVREE Workshops

On Wednesday our Year 10 students attended the Free from Family Violence (FVREE) "Let's Talk: Intimate Partner Violence Prevention Workshop". FVREE is the leading specialist family violence service in Melbourne's Eastern Metropolitan Region. FVREE is committed to empowering young individuals in cultivating safe and respectful relationships with their peers, family members, and intimate partners. They invest in prevention and education in order to stop family violence occurring in the first place. We are incredibly lucky to have had FVREE present at our school for a number of years now and continue to build on our commitment to strengthening our respectful community.

The Let's Talk workshop engaged students in recognising the "healthy" and "unhealthy" characteristics of relationships and using the 'traffic light' system to highlight red, yellow and green flags with various scenarios. It was fantastic to see all our students engaged in robust and meaningful discussions around these themes, and it was commented on by the presenters how well-versed our young people were on how to identify warning signs and how to support friends and seek help.



Year 7 Interschool Sport

Yesterday marked our final Year 7 interschool sport competition for the year, with students competing across Basketball and Table Tennis.

We had seven basketball teams and two badminton teams represent the school, with our girls' badminton team progressing straight through to EMR next term after the other teams in their competition forfeited. A number of our basketball teams finished third in their pools, which was a fantastic achievement, particularly given the tough competition they faced from schools such as Rowville and Wantirna.

Congratulations to all of our Year 7 students for their efforts, sportsmanship and commitment throughout the year. It was wonderful to see them representing the school with such enthusiasm and pride!



School Council President Update: August Meeting

Hello everyone

This week School Council meet on Wednesday night. At this meeting, I was able to provide School Council with an update from the Student Dress Code Subcommittee who meet on Thursday 13 August. The Subcommittee are working through the Student Dress Code and considering/discussing the varies aspects of the Student Dress Code, especially financial and operational/day to day (practical stuff).

We have another meeting coming up and are aiming to have the Subcommittee's recommendations ready for the next School Council meeting (to be held on 16 September). At this stage there is no changes to the Student Dress Code. I want to thank our School Community for their understanding and patience during this review, we are just trying to get it as right as possible and will keep you updated.

With thanks

Kel Verwey

School Council President.

Year 11 Geography visit Puffing Billy

Year 11 Geography undertook an excursion on Puffing Billy on Wednesday 26th August. The students were exploring the idea of Sustainable Tourism on the Railway, collecting fieldwork data, and analysing the positive and negative social, cultural, economic, and environmental impacts of the Puffing Billy Railway as a tourism experience. The students and staff thoroughly enjoyed their day immersing themselves the tourism industry that they are studying and students will now use this week's excursion to complete an assessment task presenting their findings by comparing Puffing Billy with another domestic or international tourist site.



Year 10 Interschool Sport

Last Friday we had three teams competing at the Intermediate Table Tennis. The competition was tough! Our year 9 boys team played well all day. They played Wantirna College in the Grand Final, but unfortunately fell short by only a few games. Our Year 10 girls team played well, and they too played against Wantirna in the Grand Final. It was an incredible game and our girls managed to get the win! It was a wonderful day of competition and well done to everyone who participated!





UNIT 3/4 PRACTICE EXAMS 2026



**Tuesday
September 29**

**Wednesday
September 30**

**Thursday
October 1**

**Session 1
8:45am**

(various finish times)

History Revolutions (11am)
Visual Communication
Design (10.30am)
Physical Education (11am)
Bus. Management (11am)

Health and Human
Development MCG (11am)
Physics (10.30am)
Art Creative Practice
(10.30am)

Biology (11.30am)
Gen Maths B WIP (10.30am)
Foundation Maths (11am)
Data Analytics (11am)

BREAK

**Session 2
12:00pm**

(various finish times)

Maths Methods (2.15pm)
Gen. Maths A WIP (1.45pm)
Food Studies (1.45pm)
Environmental Science
(2.15pm)

HHD MOB (2.15pm)
Legal Studies (2.15pm)
Media Studies (2.15pm)
Product Design and
Technologies (1.45pm)
Philosophy (2.15pm)

Psychology (1.45pm)
General Maths GRE (1.45pm)
Chemistry (1.45pm)

HELP US BUILD A **STRONGER** SCHOOL

UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL GYM UPGRADE

Our high school is working hard to upgrade the school gym so that students have a safer and more modern space for sport, fitness, and school activities.

**BETTER
FACILITIES.
STRONGER
FUTURES.**

**STRONG
TODAY
BETTER
TOMORROW**



DONATE YOUR OLD GYM EQUIPMENT!

Do you have old gym equipment you no longer use? Give it a new purpose and help our students build a stronger future!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:



WEIGHTS & DUMBBELLS

Any size or weight is appreciated.



KETTLEBELLS

Great for strength training and fitness classes.



BARBELLS & WEIGHT PLATES

Help students build strength and improve their performance.



BENCHES & RACKS

Essential for a safe and effective workout space.



OTHER FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Resistance bands, mats, machines and more!

♥ Your old equipment can make a big difference to our school community.



HELP US EQUIP OUR GYM.

Your old gear. Their new goals.

Together, we can create a healthier, more active, and stronger school for everyone!

**THANK
YOU!**
♥



TO DONATE OR ARRANGE DROP-OFF, PLEASE CONTACT:
Harry.Potter@education.vic.gov.au



TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A STRONGER,
HEALTHIER AND MORE ACTIVE SCHOOL



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
OUR STUDENTS AND OUR SCHOOL

MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS
AT UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL



1 day every 2 weeks
= 4 weeks a year
 $\frac{1}{2}$ year lost by Year 12

2 days a week
16 weeks a year
Almost 2 years lost!



1 day a week
8 weeks a year
Almost 1 year lost!

3 days a week
24 weeks a year
Almost 3 years lost!

**YOUR FUTURE STARTS
WITH SHOWING UP TODAY!**



UPWEY
HIGH SCHOOL

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