

Yarra Valley's Independent K-12 Steiner School

An Excellent Upper School Programme

Term 1 – Week 3
Tuesday 11th February 2020

We have recently received some data relating to the VCE achievements of our previous year's graduating class. We are pleased to report that our students returned a 100% satisfactory completion of VCE, with a median study score of 32, which is well in line with our previous scores of 33 achieved in 2018 and 31 in 2017. In addition, all of our students who applied for tertiary places were successful.

It is interesting to compare this with other schools, for example, the Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School, Mount Lilydale and MECS, who all achieved a median study score of 29. It is clear that despite our relatively small size or perhaps because of it, we are able to compete extremely favourably in terms of supporting our VCE students to succeed.

Of course, as a Steiner school, our aim is far broader than to just equip our students with a solid VCE result. The ethos behind our teaching is to guide our students to become flexible and creative thinkers who can work independently with initiative and imagination. This approach requires students to develop confidence in themselves as learners in a lifelong context. The wide, rich and varied Steiner curriculum supports this learning profile in every respect. Inherent within our Upper School programme is the opportunity for students to:

- Develop an understanding of the world around them through cross curricular Main Lesson work that spans architecture, music, geometry, literature, philosophy, mathematics, current affairs, modern scientific concepts in physics, chemistry and biology, history, astronomy and many other topics.
- Develop their analytical thinking, reflection, listening skills and confidence in their academic and creative work through the considered and thoughtful way our teachers deliver both the VCE and Steiner curriculum programmes.
- Develop, through our rich camps programme, international exchange programme, independent project and Little Yarra Ensemble an understanding of the importance of living within, and participating in one's local, national and international community, and through this an understanding that each individual brings gifts to be valued and respected.
- Develop through drama, music and movement a greater awareness of oneself and others and strengthen these skills, both for future learning and to cultivate a sense of responsibility for each other and for our world.

We are tremendously proud of the young people who progress through our school and graduate to go on to greater things, secure in the knowledge that the education they received here will equip them well for whatever life adventures they might choose to embark upon.

- John Stewart, Education Administrator

Calendar

TERM DATES 2020

Term 1	28/1 – 27/3
Term 2	14/4 – 19/6
Term 3	14/7 – 11/9
Term 4	5/10 – 11/12

FEBRUARY

Tue 11	Class 8 Parent Teacher Evening	Class 8	6:30 – 8 pm
Wed 12	Class 10 Teen Mental Health First Aid Training	Class 10	
Thu 13 – Fri 14	Class 9 Kolora Camp		
Thu 13	Class 4 Parent Teacher Evening	Class 4	6:30 – 8 pm
	Class 11 Parent Teacher Evening	Mac Lab	7 – 8:30 pm
	Class 12 Parent Teacher Evening	Upper School English Room	7 – 9 pm
Tue 18 – Fri 21	Class 4 Walkerville Camp		
Wed 19	Parents and Friends Association meeting	Admin	7 pm
Thu 20	Class 8 & 9 Eurythmy Excursion	Collingwood College	
	Class 10 Teen Mental Health First Aid Training	Class 10	
Mo 24 – We 26	Class 8 Bike Camp		
Mon 24	Class 10 Teen Mental Health First Aid Training	Class 10	
Tue 25	School Tour		
Wed 26 – Fri 28	Class 9 Waratah Bay Hike		

MARCH

Wed 4 – Fri 6	Class 6 Walhalla Camp		
Mon 9	Labour Day Public Holiday		
Thu 12	Photo Day		
Mon 16 – Fri 20	Class 11 Rock climbing Camp	Grampians	Postponed to Term 2
Wed 18	Music Concerts		
Thu 19	School Tour		
Wed 25	Parent Teacher Interviews	Classes 1 - 12	
Fri 27	Bach Performance		
	End of Term One		

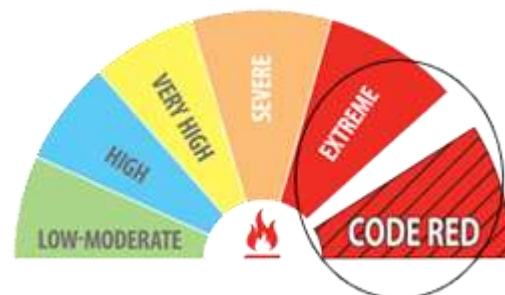
APRIL

Tue 14	Term Two begins		
Tue 14 – Sat 18	Class 11 Rock climbing Camp	Grampians	
Mon 20–Fri 24	David Garb visiting Upper School Students		
Tue 28	School Tour		
30/4 – 8/5	Class 9 Hattah Lakes Camp		

BUSHFIRE NOTICE

John

We are currently in Bushfire season and may experience days of extreme weather this term. Please be mindful that on days of CFA declared **Extreme** and **Code Red** Fire Danger days, the school will be closed. Please stay informed by regularly checking the CFA website, as it may not be possible to update our own website should an Extreme or 'Code Red' condition be declared very late.



To check the current rating, please visit the CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Jane

On behalf of the Parents and Friends Association - Welcome to a new school year!

I'd like to extend an open invitation to come along to our first Parents and Friends Association meeting of the year, next Wednesday 19 February at 7:00 pm (in the main administration building). We are open to ideas about how we as a parent body can help support the school and our community. We will meet twice per term, but are also always available via email - pandf@lyss.vic.edu.au Hope to see you there! Jane Davis

SINGING EXPERIENCE FOR PARENTS

Damien

Each year students from class 7-12 sing Bach's St John Passion and do an amazing job. Would you also like to challenge yourself and be a part of this amazing experience? I will be running a 30 minute session every Tuesday Morning from 9 – 9:30 where you can learn some of this beautiful work. It is an opportunity to learn some of the chorales giving you the opportunity to join in with the choir for the performance. We will rehearse in my room (number 4) in the music department starting next week 11th February. All welcome.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Barry

School Photos are scheduled this year for Thursday the 12th of March. A listing of times for the various photo taking sessions will appear in an upcoming newsletter. Photos will be taken by SchoolPix and we look forward to the gorgeous pictures they will take. School Photo order forms will be sent home with the children in two weeks' time. Aside from the photo packs that parents are able to purchase, the school uses these pictures on our student database, in some of our First Aid documents, for student ID cards for classes 7 to 12 and as an archive collection of the children who attend Little Yarra each year.

CLASS 12 FUNDRAISING

Meisha

Class 12's, in their Geography Main Lesson, have been learning about the recent bush fires and have decided to raise funds for bush fire relief. Last week's fundraiser was a fantastic success, so this Friday, the 14th February, Class 12 will be selling frozen fruit ice creams again at lunchtime for \$3 each. All funds will be donated to the Buchan CFA.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Barry

The conveyance allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus.

The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by private car or on one of the school buses.

To be eligible students must

- attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible
- be enrolled at a school/campus outside Melbourne's metropolitan conveyance boundary
- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
- be of school age (attending Prep to Class 12) and reside in Victoria

Application forms are available from the School office. Previous applications are carried forward providing that all details remain correct. You will only need to fill in a fresh form if your address details have changed or you are adding an extra child to your claim.

SCHOOL SMS SYSTEM

Barry

Many parents would be familiar with receiving SMS Text messages from School. We will text parents to advise of an unknown student absence, when a class group is returning from camp and when we need to convey a quick message to bus travellers or LYE performers. Parents can reply to a text received from School or alternatively by SMSing directly to 0438 814 170. Please be sure to avoid using emoticons or graphics in your message. Putting the cute smiley face or thumbs up symbol into your message will transform the whole message into Unicode and makes it unreadable for us. Please be sure to only use regular characters and numbers in your message and all will be well. Thank you.

THANK YOU

Tanya

Please pass on our gratitude to the Little Yarra Steiner School community for the beautiful flowers to welcome Ruth Graceburn Gotch, adored little sister of Alby (prep at Briar Rose), Endo, Brinn and Jean ☺
Love Tanya, Michael and family



CLASS 7 SAILING CAMP

Larissa

By night, Class 7 students camped in Shoreham, looking out towards Phillip Island, and by day, they sailed the mostly calm bay waters of Sorrento. Glorious weather conditions made the experience ideal.

On arriving at Sorrento, the students met their instructors and listened to some sailing technicalities. They learned about tilling, no-go zones, jibs, sheets, the mainsail... the students were intrigued and perhaps a little confused until they soon got out onto (and into!) the water to put

some theory into practice. It quickly became apparent that it was all about two things: the wind and working together! Tuesday proved good sailing, even if a little cold out on open water; and Thursday morning brought with it a mild smoke haze, but it soon cleared to become a blue-skied afternoon of about 25 degrees. Because the wind also dropped on Thursday afternoon, we found other water sports and activities to do, such as paddle-boarding and riding the motorboats out to see the noisy seals at Chinaman's Hut.

Interspersed amongst these activities was some free time for swimming in the bay at both Sorrento and Rye. Back at camp, we walked in the evenings – down to the beach, roaming along the shore and amongst the rock-pools at sunset. The students also enjoyed a day out at Point Nepean – seeing where the bay met the ocean and marvelling at the historic sites in the region.



Maeve was our Outdoor Education assistant on this camp, and we heard inspiring and exciting stories of her rafting journey down the Franklin River, and how she became interested in outdoor education as a career. Huge thanks to Woody and our new friend, Maeve, for creating such a fun and exhilarating week!



WORKING BEE

Leanne

A huge thank you to the parents and families who contributed and participated in the working bee on Saturday morning. It was so encouraging to have such a positive and helpful team of parents. There was much weeding, mulching and cleaning up achieved by many hands across the preschool, upper school and primary school areas. The school looks even more beautiful and cared for, and our students will really feel the difference that has been made.

We enjoyed a communal lunch before heading home with some of the school's organic garlic and leftover vegies donated by Helen Brock (thank you Helen, your produce was delicious). Thank you to everyone who came: Claudia, Anita, Trish, Murray, John, Bernie, Ingrid, Jules, Barry, Sara, Cameron, Tom, Teresa, Sandra, Marcus, Monique, Mal, Keith, Melody, Marais and the children Tessa, Joshua, Asher, Gabriel, Oliver, Ethan, Aiden, Lara and Millie.



JOB VACANCY at LYSS

Leanne

Our treasured colleague Hiromi is leaving at the end of next week and we are looking for a new Daily Organiser 5 mornings per week. Details on the SEA website.

<https://www.steinereducation.edu.au/jobs/daily-organiser-part-time-o-4-fte/>

CALL FOR INSTRUMENTS FOR MUSIC REGISTER

Barry & Melinda

There are many great second hand instruments in varying sizes available in the Music Instrument Register.

The Music Register is displayed on the noticeboard outside the Music Studio and included in the Parent Community newsletter Sweet Porridge.

<https://lyss.vic.edu.au/parents-community/sweet-porridge/>

Please remember to email Melinda melinda.whyman@gmail.com if you sell an instrument so we can keep our list current.

San Francisco Youth Eurythmy Troupe

MELBOURNE 2020

'NIGHT JOURNEY'

In this performance by the San Francisco Youth Eurythmy Troupe, eurythmy blossoms into a breathtaking art – pure poetry in motion! This new program by director Astrid Thiersch will be premiered in February 2020 in San Francisco, and then in Sydney and Melbourne. This year's Troupe is 28 students from the San Francisco Waldorf High School's 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. The program features choreography to music of Beethoven and Arvo Pärt. A fairy tale, *The Twelve Dancing Princesses*, shows mysteries of sleep, and a variety of poems and humoresques round out the program. Come and enjoy this rare experience of light, colour, movement and music! The program is appropriate for all ages.

About the Troupe

The San Francisco Youth Eurythmy Troupe began in 1995. It is open to all interested 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students, whose intensive practice of all aspects of eurythmy as a performing art culminates in annual public performances in San Francisco. Artistic expression is a primary focus, including solo and large and small ensemble work, costuming and lighting. Eurythmy has a wonderfully beneficial effect on flexibility of movement and of thinking and promotes harmony of feeling and a positive group dynamic. The Troupe has acquired a fine reputation through its performances at home and on tour. Significant highlights include: the Faust Youth Conference in Dornach, Switzerland, and the Hito Sun Conference in Stuttgart, Germany, both in August of 1999; an international conference in Fair Oaks in August 2000; international eurythmy conferences in Switzerland 2001 and 2003; touring to New York 2002, and to Texas 2004; a return tour to Germany 2005; and tours to Japan 2006, Italy 2007, Egypt 2008, India 2009, France 2010, China 2011, New Zealand 2012, Holland and Belgium 2013, Taiwan 2014, Thailand 2015, Switzerland and Germany 2016, a return to China 2017, Philippines 2018, and Korea 2019. This year the Troupe tours to Sydney and Melbourne, Australia.

About Eurythmy

Eurythmy was born in the climate of the modernist revolution in the arts when Rudolf Steiner was asked in 1912 if a new impulse could be given to the art of movement. Steiner explored the world of human speech and music, seeking archetypal forms and movements belonging to the sounds themselves. Sound is always formative, but its world of forces is usually invisible. In eurythmy, the aim is to speak and to sing through movements and gestures that reveal to the eye what language and music sound to the ear: it is often referred to as visible speech and visible music. Stage eurythmy has moved audiences worldwide, with its blend of colourful flowing movement and profound expression, creating a space alive with the forces that shape us as human beings and the world around us.

Astrid Thiersch, Artistic Director

As a Waldorf student in Stuttgart, Astrid loved Eurythmy from an early age. She studied at the Eurythmeum under Else Klink, where she was active performing and teaching for several years, touring with the Stage Group, teaching in the Eurythmy training, and giving courses at the WALA/Dr. Hauschka company. Astrid has taught students and teachers of all ages – her special interest is in working with high school students. Her unique Youth Eurythmy Troupe has been thriving and performing annually for well over twenty years. Astrid was an Artistic Director for the groundbreaking international youth eurythmy project *What Moves You* in Berlin in both 2012 and 2014. Each year she creates an original program with her Troupe, inspiring audiences in San Francisco and around the globe.

Night Journey

San Francisco Youth Eurythmy Troupe presents a Eurythmy Performance • Astrid Thiersch, Artistic Director



PUBLIC PERFORMANCE

Wednesday 19th February 7pm

Collingwood College Theatre

Corner Cromwell St and McCutcheon Way

Collingwood, Victoria

Full ticket \$15 Concession \$10 Child \$5

www.trybooking.com/BIEYM





For parents/guardians of students:

2020 Student Residential Address and Other Information collection notice

This notice is from the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department), to advise you that the department has requested that your child's school provide a 'statement of addresses', in accordance with the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (Cth) (Regulation).

A *statement of addresses* contains the following information about each student at the school:

- Student residential address (**not student names**)
- Student level of education (i.e. whether the student is a primary or secondary student)
- Student boarding school status (i.e. whether the student is boarding or a day student)
- Names and residential addresses of students' parent(s) and/or guardian(s)

Schools generate a record number for each student for the purposes of this collection, which is also provided to the department.

Purpose of the collection

This collection is routinely used to inform Commonwealth school education policy, and to help ensure that Commonwealth funding arrangements for non-government schools are based on need, and are fair and transparent.

The information collected in the *statement of addresses* will be used to inform school funding calculations. It is combined with data held by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to calculate the estimated capacity of a school community to contribute to the schools' operating costs (capacity to contribute). Australian Government funding to non-government schools takes this estimated capacity to contribute into account.

On 20 September 2018 the Government announced that it will implement a new, improved capacity to contribute methodology used in the calculation of the Commonwealth's needs-based funding arrangements for non-government schools. Known as the direct measure of income (DMI), the proposed new methodology is based on the median income of parents or guardians of students at a non-government school. This is in contrast to the current area based measure which is a point in time analysis based on average circumstances in 2011 of the area in which students at the school lived. This change follows a review of the existing methodology by the National School Resourcing Board. Further information about the review and the Government's response can be found on the department's website: <https://www.education.gov.au/review-socio-economic-status-ses-score-methodology>.

Use and disclosure of personal information

Your personal information is protected by law, including the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth). Any use and disclosure of your personal information relating to the *statement of addresses* will occur in accordance with the Regulation.

Your personal information may be used by the department, or disclosed to the ABS, for the purposes of reviewing capacity to contribute methodology, calculating capacity to contribute and Commonwealth school education policy development (including school funding), or where it is otherwise required or authorised by law.

Your personal information will be provided to the ABS for capacity to contribute calculations and analysis as part of the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP). Departmental staff will use the ABS' secure DataLab to undertake analysis and calculate capacity to contribute scores for schools using de-identified data (i.e. data that has had identifiable information such as name and address removed). The linked information will not be used for other purposes. Further information on the MADIP can be found here:

[http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/4a256353001af3ed4b2562bb00121564/9099c77cb979d558ca258198001b27a0/\\$FILE/MADIP%20iPIA_2018.pdf](http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/4a256353001af3ed4b2562bb00121564/9099c77cb979d558ca258198001b27a0/$FILE/MADIP%20iPIA_2018.pdf).

The department may, from time to time, carry out audits of school submissions. In the event of an audit, contracted auditors may seek to compare a school's *statement of addresses* with student enrolment information held by the school. These contractors will not use the information for any other purpose.

The department may also be required to disclose your personal information to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology (ICT) support services to the department.

What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. Your school is responsible for providing the requested details to the department, however, you may wish to ensure that your school has the most up-to-date and correct details for your family.

Contacts for further information

Your school can provide additional information about the process of the address collection.

If you have any further questions regarding the collection, you can contact the department by:

- Email: seshelpdesk@dese.gov.au
- Phone (free call): SES helpdesk on 1800 677 027 (Option 4)

The department's privacy policy is available on the department's website at www.dese.gov.au. The privacy policy contains information about:

- how individuals can access and seek correction of the personal information held by the department;
- how complaints about breaches of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) can be made; and
- how the department will deal with these complaints.