



**YARRAWONGA COLLEGE P-12**

*Dream Believe Succeed*

*Providing a unique and exciting future in education*



## P - 4 Vision

To provide flexible space classrooms that create opportunities for students to learn through Team Work, Creativity, Critical Thinking, Communication and Collaboration.

Classrooms will be equipped with the appropriate ICT infrastructure for interactive learning.  
Teachers teach in teams and learn from one another.

# Our Philosophy

**Our philosophy for Yarrawonga College P - 12 promotes high achievement by developing the learning capacities of all students, enabling them to be:**

Motivated lifelong learners striving to achieve excellence, who demonstrate respect, compassion, honesty and tolerance for others.

Innovative and resilient learners inquisitive of the world around them.

Competent in the essential skills of Literacy and Numeracy, allowing all to reach their full potential.

Technologically capable students who can adapt to a rapidly advancing world.

Socially responsible students who contribute positively to the community.

*Community*



# Welcome

I am very excited about our future and take an enormous amount of pride in our College, our students and their wide range of abilities and achievements.

We are working to ensure that our students learn through a seamless curriculum from Prep to Year 12. Our current strategic goals include implementing an 'Instructional Model' that teachers follow when teaching a lesson from Prep right through to Year 12, an 'Assessment Schedule' that is aligned from Prep right through to Year 12 to ensure consistent assessments are occurring and 'Positive Education' to encourage students and teachers to learn about and apply positive mental health and wellbeing.

Last year we had great success with our Year 12 students with seventy five percent of all students applying for University degrees receiving first round offers, some taking early entry offers at the end of 2016 as well. Our Year 3 NAPLAN results for all areas of Literacy and Numeracy are at and above the state level thanks to some great teaching and supportive processes. These results lay a strong foundation for our students to experience success as they move through our college.

Our 5 – 8 Campus has an exceptional team of teachers that provide our students with excellent educational/social/emotional outcomes and our facilities continue to improve. There are great leadership opportunities for students at this level of the College and they flow through into the 9 – 12 Campus.

The Technical Trade centre provides our students with new, purpose-built and exciting facilities to support their vocational learning as well as our VCE suite of subjects.

We strive to foster our students with a high level of self-worth, independence and a sense of community, while at the same time instilling the College values of Integrity, Cooperation, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility. These five values underpin all that we teach and do. We pride ourselves on providing an environment that is conducive to achieving these aims. Our College uniform is an important part of our positive environment, and we expect it to be worn with pride.

Damien Keel  
College Principal



# Laying the foundations

## **P-4 Early Years (The Foundations)**

Our teachers are focused on achieving the best possible outcomes for students in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy whilst nurturing and developing care and consideration for others. We understand that students learn more effectively when they are interested in the topic and it means something to them.

Other subject areas at the P-4 Campus include Indonesian, Science, The Arts, Health and Physical Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Information and Communication Technology and Design Technology, Environmental Sustainability and Social and Emotional Learning

## **School Readiness**

Our College values the milestones each child reaches and recognises the step to formal education is a big one in a child's life. We aim to make the transition from Kindergarten to school as smooth as possible. Our eight week School Readiness program has a strong language experience and oral language focus. The program has been based on research that proves oral language provides children with a healthy stepping stone to academic success. The program follows the pre-school philosophy of play based learning, whilst providing experiences and learning opportunities, framed around the guidelines of the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework for the Foundation (Prep) year.



# Laying the foundations

## Building relationships

Our College makes an “extra special effort” to build positive relationships with both your child and your family from the beginning. In 2017, caring staff visited Prep students in their homes at the start of the school year. Teachers had the opportunity to really get to know their students and discover what was important to them. The families that participated in the initiative were delighted with the special effort and contact their child received, which gave our students a boost in confidence about going to school.

## Jolly Phonics

Jolly Phonics is a fun and child centred approach to teaching literacy through phonics. With actions for each of the 42 letter sounds, the multi-sensory method is very motivating for children and teachers. The letter sounds are split into seven groups. The sounds are taught in a specific order (not alphabetically). This enables children to begin building words as early as possible.

## NAPLAN Results

In the Year 3 NAPLAN tests for 2016 our students achieved at or above the state expected level in all areas of English and Mathematics. This has been the case for the past three years, which demonstrates a strong foundation in the Early Years.

# Community



Community





# Years of discovery

## 5-8 Middle Years (The Framework)

Students continue to enjoy team teaching and also have the opportunity to experience a variety of different subjects including Art, Music, Indonesian and Physical Education with specialised teachers and IT and Science within the classroom. Teaching and Learning continues to focus on teamwork, independence and interdependence by engaging our students in a range of learning activities designed to meet the needs of each individual.

The Year 5/6 Team ensures that an extensive curriculum is delivered through a carefully planned teaching and learning program taught through a team approach where two teachers have a class of Year 5/6 students.

The teachers plan as a team of six teachers and teach a consistent program in pairs. The relationships developed with students and teachers are high level and the students enjoy being part of a vibrant Year 5/6 team. In the latter years of Primary aged schooling the team of teachers are careful to ensure they provide students with;

- Transition into more secondary school based subjects.
- Encouragement to take responsibility for their learning.
- Support to become successful independent learners.
- Opportunities through the student leadership program at our college.
- A carefully thought out camps and excursions program.



# Years of discovery

Years 7 and 8 are a key transitional stage when students move from their primary years of school into their senior years of education. It is supported by a curriculum that allows for both team teaching and smaller differentiated learning tasks. It is also supported by a dedicated team of teachers and year level coordinators.

During Year 7, students participate in Visual Arts, Textiles, Home Economics, Wood Work, Metal Work, Music, Information Technology and Indonesian. Team work is still a focus as is the continued development of independent learners and critical thinkers.

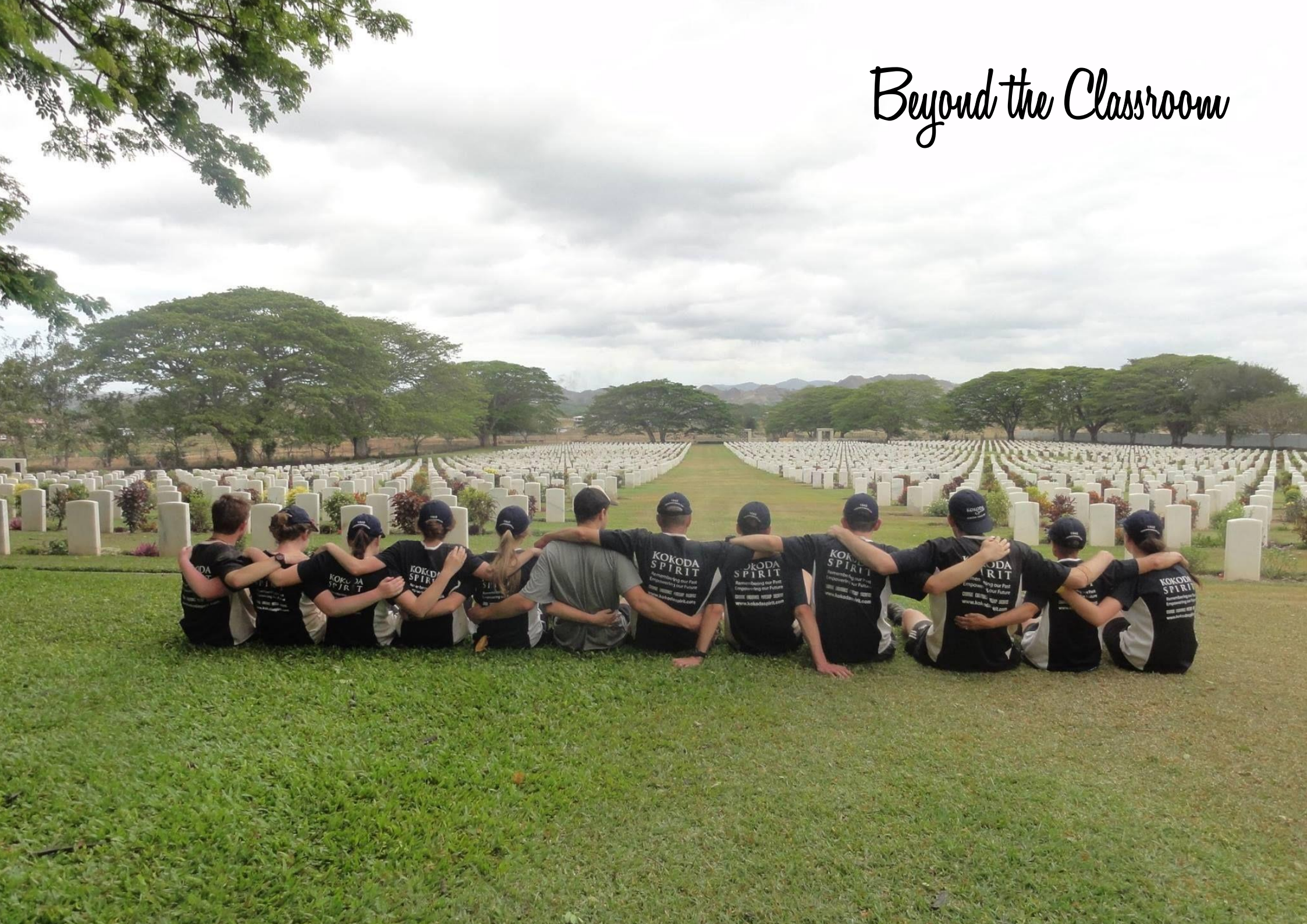
Students in Year 8 start to experience a wider range of teachers for their core subjects and get to choose which electives they complete. This is a major step in the transition phase for students as they begin to specialise in their interest areas.

The camps program supports this fact and allows students to participate in a range of experiences, with relationships a key focus. The camps program also aims to build resilience, offer adventure and challenge students to get outside their comfort zones.

Leadership opportunities include:

- Meals on Wheels.
- Community Volunteer Programs.
- Student led weekly assemblies, awards ceremonies and numerous special events such as Anzac day and Remembrance Day.

# Beyond the Classroom



# Creating their pathway

## 9-12 Senior Years (The House without a ceiling)

As students enter their senior years of education the underpinning philosophy is on challenging them to reach their full potential and building the pathway to their future careers. There is a strong focus on developing leadership skills, independence, responsibility, an ability to think critically and analyse a range of complex problems.

Senior students will be guided to become more complex thinkers and begin to develop preferred areas in their learning, thus selecting specific subject areas as they start to establish their pathway towards a career choice.

In 2016, 75% of all students applying for University courses received first round offers. We also have fantastic pathways subjects and programs to provide high level future opportunities for all students beginning in Year 9 such as:

### The Future Makers Program

It is an integral part of the Year 9 curriculum that helps students build resilience, understand their own personal strengths and development of teamwork skills. Through a partnership with Bogong Outdoor School, students undertake a 12 day experience at the high plains.

### School for Student Leadership

During Year 9, students may experience the opportunity to attend the School for Student Leadership for a term. This is an application and selection process. In the past we have had students attend Dinner Plain, Gnurad-Gundidj, Snowy River and the overseas experience of China.



A photograph of a male student with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue polo shirt and dark trousers, crouching in a workshop. He is working on a metal rod with a tool. In the background, there are metal shelves filled with various tools and materials, and a yellow power tool is visible on a workbench.

# Creating their pathway

## **Work Experience & Work Placement program**

As part of the Year 10 curriculum, all Year 10 students participate in one week's work experience. Students also have the opportunity to undertake a work placement program which enables them to experience a work day each week. Work placement is also a valuable component of the VCAL program.

## **Kokoda Leadership**

A team of 10 students and 2 staff (teachers) travel to Papua New Guinea and undertake a nine day Australian Guide led trek along the Kokoda Track. This program provides high level practice and knowledge in team building that links to core community priorities.

This program creates an opportunity for these students to develop into ANZAC Ambassadors – providing high level speaking and ambassador duties that represent the community in the ANZAC tradition. It provides an add-on to an already existing high level experience program and formulates a pathway to our Year 12 student leadership program.

## **Vocational Education and Training**

Yarrawonga College provides a number of opportunities for students to complete a TAFE certificate. These include: Building and Construction, Engineering, Beauty, Allied Health & Hospitality.

A photograph of a school playground. In the foreground, there is a large, vibrant green lawn. In the middle ground, a large, red, triangular shade sail is suspended over a play area. Underneath the sail, there is a metal play structure with slides and climbing frames. The background shows more of the playground and some trees under a clear blue sky.

# The future of our College

- Seamless curriculum for P – 12 Literacy Development.
- Continued focus on Literacy and Numeracy learning in the Early Years.
- Agreed framework for teaching and learning from Prep to Year 12.
- Positive Education philosophy to support student wellbeing and mental health.
- Respectful relationships to encourage all students to get along and be kind to each other.
- The development of the P – 4 Campus to be completed on time and ready for day one of school 2018.
- Secured grants to establish a new oval at the 5 – 8 Campus, shade sails and landscaping of grounds.
- We are establishing positive connections with our Local and Federal Members about the next level of funding for our 9-12 Development.
- Senior Subject provision/Vertical Physics & Chemistry (2017) Year 11 & 12.
- Year 10 VET Sport and Recreation Subject choice for 2017.
- Doctors in Schools Program.
- Bi-annual Community raffle with Yarrawonga Caravans (anticipated \$70,000.00 profit).
- Community Art Workshop Building provision on the Gilmore Street Site.
- Received a grant to ensure our Playgroup will run for another two years.
- Administration Hub for our College will be on the Gilmore Street site from 2018.
- Yarrawonga College P – 12 all on one site in the future.



**YARRAWONGA COLLEGE P-12**

*Dream Believe Succeed*

## Information

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