## YANCO AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER

#### **CALENDAR**

Dec 18th - Feb 5th 2025: Term 4 Holidays

Feb 5th: Students Return from 1:30pm

**Feb 6th:** Year Group Meetings Period 1

Student lessons commence

Feb 7th: Year 7 2026 Applications Close

Feb 8th: Henty Show

Feb 19th: Day Swimming Carnival

Year 12 UOW Excursion

Feb 21st: Open Boys Cricket

Feb 27th: Zone Swimming Carnival

Feb 28th: Tumut Show

Mar 5th: Open Girls Basketball

Mar 6th: Open Girls Cricket

Mar 7th: DESI Students depart by 9am

Mar 14th: Beach Carnival

Mar 15th: Gala Day





## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

#### Dear YAHS Families,

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of the school year. We have had another great year at Yanco, and I would like to thank all members of our school community for their contributions in 2024.

I would like to wish all of our Yanco family a safe and happy school holiday break and look forward to seeing everyone return from 1.30pm on Wednesday February 5, 2025.

Please note that our Registrars Office will re-open on Monday January 6 for families that wish to make contact with the school before teachers and administration staff return on Friday January 31.

#### YAHS Discipline Procedures Update

As is best practice, it is important that our school procedures are reviewed regularly. As such, our school executive team recently reviewed our school discipline protocols that were introduced at the start of the 2024 school year. As part of this review, a change was made to remove school representation (other than educational excursions) whilst in a reflection period right from a yellow level (this was previously at red level), unless in extenuating circumstances and at the principal's discretion. Students on a level are not permitted to be part of after-hours activities whilst in a reflection period. This includes, but is not limited to, shopping leave and non-compulsory after-hours activities. Please note that this penalty does not cover the weekends to ensure fairness and consistency between weekly and termly boarders.

#### Yanco Engagement for Success (YES) Program

In 2025 we will be trialling a pilot Engagement program for our Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10) students. The system is called YES (Yanco Engagement for Success) and it is designed to identify students who are struggling to keep up to date with classwork and assessments and to support and encourage students to strive for their best consistently. It is a way of tracking students and their engagement or lack of, so that early identification and intervention can occur. The YES system is research based and fits into the "What Works Best" framework in the areas of High Expectations, Effective Feedback and Assessment.

How does it work? Every 3-5 weeks, each of your child's teachers will give them a score out of 10, which sums up their engagement for that time period. A score of 10 would be "Outstanding" whereas a score of 1 would be classes as a "Non-serious attempt". These scores will be averaged to give a YES score which will be communicated to students, parents and staff. If this averaged score is 8.5 or above students will receive recognition and rewards whereas scores below 7 will attract guided support from staff to assist them to redeem any missed work and address any engagement concerns. In some cases, there will be sanctions imposed on students to address any serious engagement concerns.

Parents/Carers can expect to receive their first YES scores by the end of Week 5 (end of Feb). More information including a timeline and list of Performance descriptors will be sent early 2025. Students will be briefed on the YES system at their Year meetings in Week 2 2025.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

#### Year 7 2026 Applications

Our applications for students wishing to enrol at Yanco as part of Year 7 in 2026 (current Year 5 students) close soon. Applications for NSW Department of Education Boarding Schools (Farrer and Yanco) are now direct to the school. Please note that our school is still a fully selective high school, and this change does not impact on our selective school status. For more information and to apply, please access the application form which can be found on our website.

#### 2024 Speech Day and Prizegiving Ceremony Principal's Address

I also wish to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we meet today, and I pay my respect to elders, past, present and emerging and acknowledge any Aboriginal people who are present here today.

Good morning parents, carers, staff, special guests and Yanco Agricultural High School students. I warmly welcome you all to our Speech Day and Prizegiving Ceremony for 2024. 2024 has been another fantastic year at Yanco Agricultural High School.

The significant highlight of the year was most certainly the opening of our new 'Worley' female dormitory. This long-awaited project saw students take occupancy in July. The building has space for 86 female students, which includes both shared and single rooms, as well as two staff residences. The two tastefully decorated and spacious common rooms on each floor, as well as the beautiful bathroom and laundry facilities, make this truly an exceptional place to live. Pleasingly, all male dormitories have also been refurbished in 2024 with our newly renovated Hindmarsh male dormitory being handed back over to the school in January, ready for our boys to take residence at the start of the 2025 school year.

This year, our school also continued to achieve significant success in agriculture, with our school teams and individual students achieving numerous prizes across a variety of shows. To reinvigorate and host 'AgVision' at Yanco in September was also a significant source of pride for all involved. Our talent in the sporting arena was also on show this year. Our girls' rugby union 7's team continued to shine again, achieving the state runners up title, in both the Under 16's and opens division.

Academically, our results continue to improve with our 2024 Year 9 NAPLAN results being above our statistically similar schools' group in both reading and numeracy. Our new School Excellence Plan will continue to prioritise student reading and numeracy progress, as well as HSC top two band success. We will also continue to promote excellence in teaching, as well as enhancing educational aspiration. It is also imperative that we continue to have a strong focus on staff and student well-being moving forward. Our student wellbeing survey results this year have also been pleasing, with students reporting a significantly improved sense of belonging as part of the 2024 'Tell Them from Me' Survey. Rest assured we have strong plans in place to continue to improve our already great school in 2025 and beyond.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic staff at Yanco. We are very fortunate to have staff that are invested and work hard across all sections of our school. This year we will say farewell to Brayden Strudwick, Drew Sinnett and Belle Rich. Thank you to Brayden, Belle and Drew for your hard work and commitment to our school. The Yanco family wish you well in your future endeavours.

Thank you also to our Yanco families for your support in 2024. Having care of your children in a boarding school setting is a responsibility we take very seriously. Thank you for your trust, loyalty and support of our school. Having strong and trusting relationships with all of you is very important to me. As such, I will continue to focus on clear, frequent and transparent communication with you as we work in partnership to support not only the educational achievement but the social and emotional development of your children.

To our P&C and Old Yanconians, thank you also for your selfless work designed to support and improve our school. I feel incredibly blessed to be able to work with both of these advisory groups who live and breathe Yanco Ag. To again have the Old Yanconians sponsor \$55,000 worth of scholarships for 2025, that will be announced later in our proceedings, is a testament to their commitment towards our school. Thank you also to our P&C for also funding our upcoming BBQ area refurbishment. We are hopeful that the first stage of these works will be complete in time for Gala Day in March.

Amongst the busyness of day-to-day school life, it is great to be able to celebrate an increasing demand and interest in terms of student enrolments. In 2025 we will have approximately 335 students enrolled at Yanco with waiting lists across multiple year groups. To go from a mid-2022 enrolment of 212, to over 330 enrolled students, in such a short period of time, is a great testament to the pride and positive word of mouth from students, staff and families.

Have a wonderful Christmas and school holiday break and thank you again for your support in 2024.



## FROM THE CLASSROOM

#### Playgrounds in Science

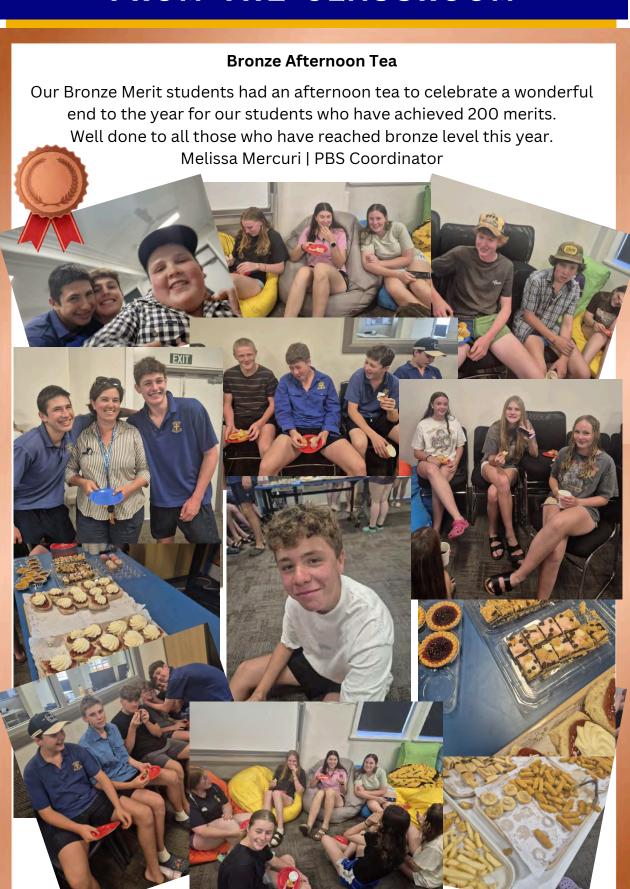
This term, as part of our physics studies, students in Year 7 designed their own playground equipment. From swings to slides, they applied physics principles to create some amazing and imaginative designs.

Check out the incredible creations they came up with!





## FROM THE CLASSROOM



Year 8 went to Griffith for dinner at Il Corso and then a Christmas movie at the cinema. John at Il Corso went above and beyond for us, with pizza, pasta and soft drinks that seemed to never end! He made us feel very welcome and comfortable, with our students really enjoying their time here.

We almost had the entire cinema to ourselves, and were able to spread out and enjoy the Christmas spirit that 'Red One' encouraged.

Overall, we had a fantastic night out and our students were great representatives of YAHS. It was a great way to celebrate the end of exams. A big thankyou to Michael Di Lorenzo and Wyatt Cutting for driving us, and to Charli McCann and Jorja Reilly for helping me organise this trip.

Belle Rich | Year 8 Adviser



#### **Empowering Young Women Through Fire and Emergency Training**

Nine of our Year 11 girls participated in the Girls on Fire program in Narrandera – an inspiring initiative that helps ignite confidence, resilience, and a passion for service in young people.

This evidence-based program introduces teenagers aged 15-19 to fire, emergency, and disaster management skills, giving them hands-on experience on the emergency services frontline. Beyond the skills, it's about uncovering their spark – building leadership, community connection, and even paving the way toward an exciting career in fire and emergency services.

NARRANDER.

We're proud of our students for embracing this unique opportunity to learn, grow, and step into their potential as future leaders and change agents.

Learn more about Girls on Fire and how they're shaping the next generation of community heroes:

Visit: Girls on Fire

#GirlsOnFire #Leadership #CommunityService #FutureLeaders #YAHS



#### **Tuross Fishing Adventures**

What a trip!!! Plenty of laughs, fish, sunshine and memories for life. Yanco students can't go anywhere without running into old boys or Yanco past and current students, friends and families. Even at dinner we ran into Wayne Bradley from Yass, who has just brought a holiday home here to retire to in the future! 75cm has been the largest catch and this fish was released.

Some more pics of these great young lads.

Warren Weir | Sport and Activities Co-ordinator





A group of our Year 9 students had the wonderful opportunity to assist at Gralee School during their Sensory Day. They had a fantastic time supporting the primary school students and even ended up getting a splash of colour themselves!



## AGRICULTURE



Year 7 Agriculture have had a busy term learning about the dairy industry. To complete this topic, the students made butter and taste tested it by making fairy bread. Yum!





## STUDENTS ACHIEVING IN SPORT



Congratulations to Brooke Buckley who was awarded a Riverina Blue for her efforts in CHS Netball. Brooke had an amazing year on the netball court and it is fantastic to see her efforts get recognised.



Our Open Boys won the Narrandera basketball competition with Riley Parslow-Gibson being awarded man of the match! The players were Riley Parslow-Gibson, Rhett Liu-Mealing, James Pendergast, Jasper Ingold and Oscar Brady. Congratulations to all involved and the Narrandera Basketball association for a great competition.



Jenavieve Lloyd Small of Year 8 competed at the JDS NSW Champion of Champions in Sydney on the 22nd to the 24th November, finishing in the top 20 for the UI4 girls for tennis. Congratulations!



Yanco student, Taya Kennedy and her horse, Gwennie, won two show jumping events (95cm and 1.05m) at the HARA Equine 2024 Championships at Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Centre.

Congratulations Taya and Gwennie, from the Yanco family!



Congratulations Ruby from the Yanco family.



## YANCO DRUM CORP

Congratulations to our Drum Corp who performed magnificently at the 'Light Up Leeton' Community Concert.

Amazing!



#### WEEKEND ACTIVITIES



## YEAR 12 CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER



## YEAR 12 CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER





# Academic School Year 2025 Start 2025 - February 5th 2025

We look forward to welcoming you all back to school for 2025.

The school will reopen for students at 1.30pm.

Parents will park at the school car park near the gym. Parents will need to sign students back into the school at the designated area and see what dormitory they have been allocated. Keys for individual rooms will be available at the designated sign in area.

YEAR GROUP SIGN IN AREA		
YEAR 7	DINING ROOM	
YEAR 8	FRONT OFFICE	
YEARS 9&10	DUTYROOM	
YEARS 11&12	REGISTRAR'S OFFICE	

#### **PROGRAM**

TIME	VENUE	GROUP	
2PM	Dining room	YEAR 7	YEAR 7 STUDENTS AND PARENTS
2.30PM	Dining room	P&C MEETING	FOR ALL PARENTS
3.15PM	SEMINAR ROOM	EQUINE MEETING	EQUINE STUDENTS AND PARENTS
3.30PM	MAIN QUAD	ASSEMBLY	ALL STUDENTS

Parking Gym carpark and side of front drive

Access to dorms from 1.30pm

Students allocated to that dorm

(Parents - only for this day and until 3pm)

Parents Depart After the P&C meeting

**Other Information** 

**Leave Applications** Submitted VIA REACH Wednesday 3pm prior to affected

Weekend (either staying in or going on leave) PLEASE

DO THE FIRST WEEKEND IF NEEDED BY THE 5th

**FEBRUARY** 

**FRIDGES** SENIORS ONLY -to be put in the gym on arrival.

Available forms fixed to each fridge. Fridges need to be

tested and tagged

**MEDICATIONS** ALL medications and accompanying documentation to be

taken to the Health centre by parents.

**Term 1 Events:** 

February 19th School Swimming Carnival

Leeton Pool Day Carnival

March 7th- 10th Designated leave weekend

(buses depart morning of 7th (by 9am) and return evening

of 10th March (school reopens after 4pm)

March 14th Beach Carnival

No weekly buses (on Friday 14th March)

March 15th Gala Day

March 28th Whole school photo

April 11th Buses and students depart for Holidays by 9am



#### SCHOOL TERMS AND DESI WEEKENDS



#### All students return Wednesday 5 February, 2025

#### Term 1 2025

Day 1 Term 1: Staff Friday 31 January, 2025

All students return Wednesday 5 February, 2025-from 1.00pm onwards

Day 1 Term 1:

Student lessons commence Thursday 6 February 2025

Designated Leave Weekend:
Students travel home
Friday 7 March (morning by

Students travel home Friday 7 March (morning by 9.00am)
Students return Monday 10 March (after 4.00pm)

Last Day Term 1: Students travel home Friday 11 April (morning by 9.00am)

Term 2 2025

Students return to school: Tuesday 29 April (after 4.00pm)

Day 1 Term: lessons commence Wednesday 30 April

Designated Leave Long Weekend:

Students travel home Friday 6 June (morning by 9.00am)
Students return Tuesday 10 June (after 4.00pm)

Last Day Term 2: Students travel home Friday 4 July

Parents must pick up students to travel home.

No travel arrangements will be made. Parents to collect students from School. Parent/Teacher interviews will be held over the Thursday (3/7) and Friday (4/7)

Term 3 2025

Students return to school: Monday 21 July (after 4.00pm)

Day 1 Term 3: lessons commence Tuesday 22 July

Designated Leave Weekend Friday 22 August (morning by 9.00am)

Monday 25 August (after 4.00pm)

Students travel home Monday 25 August (after 4.00pm)

Last Day Term 3: Students return Friday 26 Sept (morning by 9.00am)

Students travel home

Term 4 2025

Students return to school: Monday 13 October (after 4.00pm)

Day 1 Term 4lessons commence Tuesday 14 October
Designated Leave Weekend: Friday 14 Nov (morning by 9.00am)

Students travel home Monday 17 Nov (after 4.00pm)
Students return Friday19th December (Speech Day)

Last Day Term 4: Students travel home

Parents must pick up students to travel home. No travel arrangements will be made.

DESI/HOLIDAYS-students not travelling by bus to depart by 9.00am/return after 4.00pm

Wed 19 Feb- Day Swimming Carnival 14 March-Beach Carnival 15 March – Gala Day 3 July - Performance Night Thurs 25 Sept - Year 12 Grad

#### DESIGNATED LEAVE WEEKENDS

YAHS has been advised that NSW Trainlink will NO longer do any location changes for any future Desi or Holiday leave buses.

Students are ONLY permitted to travel to and from their home destination or nearest station. If another location is required, the option of Public Transport is available in some instances for parents to book.

See Regional Trains and Coaches | transportnsw.info

Please advise the School if using this service and if you need to cancel allocated Desi/Holiday buses.

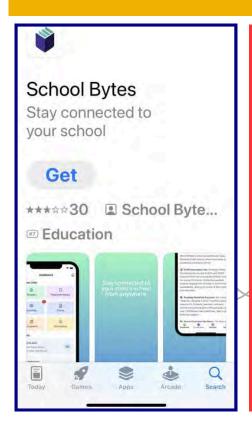
#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If your child is sick and / or not returning to school on a Monday,
Please contact the office by phone **after 8am** to ensure that the message gets
through or alternatively please send through an email to



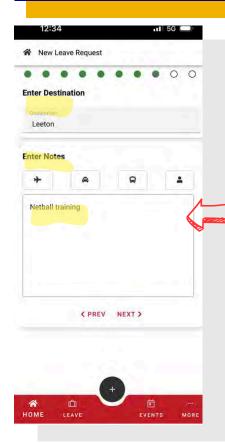
yancoag-h.admin@det.nsw.edu.au

## SCHOOL BYTES



Please
make sure you have
the Schoolbytes App.
This is our primary form
of communication with
parents. Just download the
App and off you go!
All emails and excursion
notes and permissions
will be communicated
through this App.

## LEAVE / REACH APP



#### When entering a leave in Reach......

Help!!

To avoid an "Unjustified" All Day(A) rollmarking in your child's absence history in Sentral, please remember to include a reason for your leave in the Enter Notes section in Reach after the "Destination" as in the photo opposite.

It does not have to be a long explanation, just brief and to the point so that their leave can be coded correctly in Sentral and avoid Unjustified leave. Some examples as follows:

- Appointment Dental or other
- Medical Appointment/ Illness or injury
- Family Event (Wedding, Funeral etc)
- Sport (training, game time)
- Holidays (family holiday)
- Sick Leave

## Thank you

## LEAVE UPDATE

## Going on leave for 5 days or more?

If you are intending to have your child absent from school for 5 days or more, PLEASE fill in an application for <u>Extended Leave</u> before you put your leave into REACH. Make sure you put in the reason for the leave. This is a Department requirement.

The leave will then be approved by the Principal and a Certificate of Leave issued to you, the parent/carer. Click on this <u>link</u> to access the document, or go to our school Website and find it under Forms/Downloads/Permissions.

When you receive your Certificate of Leave please attach this to your leave application in Reach which will then be approved.



SHOPPING LEAVE AND DESIGNATED LEAVE AND END OR START OF TERM - UNIFORM IS THE CORRECT TRAVEL DRESS - INCLUDING SCHOOL JUMPER OR JACKET (NOT YEAR JUMPERS); POLISHED BOOTS OR SHOES, PLAIN BLUE JEANS AND SCHOOL POLO OR PRAC SHIRT

#### REMINDERS

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Monday Morning Return to School Sign in

Students arriving back to school on a Monday morning MUST have their name ticked off on the REACH App by a DUTY STAFF member in the DINING ROOM. Whether on a bus or being dropped off by a parent. If you do not do this you are still "on Leave" and likely to be marked absent. School day starts 8:30 am.

Parents...Please help us by encouraging your child to make sure they have been signed in on a Monday morning as they arrive at school.

At any other time signing in/out will be in the **FRONT OFFICE** during school hours and the **DUTY ROOM** after school hours (after 3:20pm)



Have you checked your Pencil case?

Over the holiday break, take time to check that you have:

- Blue/black pens
- Lead pencils
- Glue stick
- Eraser
- Sharperner
- Highlighters
- Coloured pencils

### **Uniform Shop/Canteen hours of operation**



We Welcome Jess Morrison to the Uniform/ Canteen Shop. Jess joins us from the Kitchen/ dining room and is looking forward to meeting our YAHS families.

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**

Monday9:30 am - 3:15 pmTuesday10:00 am - 1:30 pmWednesday9:30 am - 3:15 pmThursday9:30 am - 3:15 pmFriday10:00 am - 1:30 pm

# CANTEEN 3:20 pm - 4:00 pm C L O S E D 3:20 pm - 4:00 pm 3:20 pm - 4:00 pm C L O S E D

#### TERM 4 WEEK 5 / NOVEMBER 2024

### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP ROLES

#### **STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2025**

**CAPTAINS: DOMINIC EDWARDS, CHARLOTTE MILLINGTON** 

**VICE CAPTAINS: PIPER DEMAMIEL, ALYSHA MORRIS** 

PREFECT: HUNTAH BROOKER, ALAREE TABAIN

#### **YEAR ADVISORS 2025**

YEAR 7 WYATT CUTTING

YEAR 8 SHAUN BROOKER, HELEN MALLAMACE

YEAR 9 ROBYN LOCKE, LAUREN JESS

YEAR 10 NATHAN CASSILLES
YEAR 11 MELISSA MERCURI

YEAR 12 TERRY BABIC

**HEAD TEACHER GIRLS WELFARE -** CATHERINE GRAY **HEAD TEACHER BOYS WELFARE -** JASON SACHS

#### **SPORTING HOUSE CAPTAINS 2025**

MUTCH

CAPTAINS: BROOKE BUCKLEY, JACKSON GREENE VICE: OLIVIA DOWSETT, WILL NICHOLSON

**MCCAUGHEY** 

CAPTAINS: JORDAN NEEVES, OWEN PLANE

VICE: AUDREY FILLINGHAM, DARCY HINDS

**BREAKWELL** 

CAPTAINS: BEATRICE DAVIS, PATRICK MADDEN

VICE: SOPHIE TAYLOR, ZAC SCOTT

GARDINER

CAPTAINS: ALANA JONES, LUKE ANDERSON VICE: TAYA KENNEDY, MAX BEATON





BY APPOINTMENT | ADDRESS: 259 EUROLEY RD, YANCO, NSW, 2703
PHONE: (02) 6951 1500 | EMAIL: YANCOAG-H.ADMIN@DET.NSW.EDU.AU
WEBSITE: HTTPS://YANCOAG-H.SCHOOLS.NSW.GOV.AU/
FACEBOOK: YANCO AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL

# School Report and Magazine

School reports have been emailed out and can also be found on Sentral.

Hard copies if not collected on Speech Day will be posted out.

The School Magazine can be collected from the Front Office on Wedneday 6th Feb 2025

