



# YEAR BOOK 2023



GREATER  
**SHEPPARTON**  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE





# FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL



Building on the success of our first year at GSSC was the aim in 2023 and our students' contribution to that goal cannot be underestimated.

While much of our first year was spent establishing ourselves as a school for community, our second year has seen us go from strength-to-strength in developing an inclusive learning environment and a sense of belonging for every student.

This year we introduced a range of student-led events that encouraged connectedness across year levels, including GSSC's got Talent and Spirit Week. I am sure these will become an annual feature on the GSSC calendar, and our dress-up days will continue to become bigger and better.

Our cultural celebrations, including NAIDOC Week, Harmony Week and Africa Day were certainly a highlight and from swimming carnival to athletics week and cross country, there was no shortage of fun.

GSSC continued to dominate in sporting arenas including in the Hume Region Track & Field Championships where we emerged victorious, securing the top spot in the overall school rankings for the second consecutive year with our students taking home a total of 14 gold, 22 silver and 21 bronze medals for the day.

We also had many individual achievements to celebrate both in and outside of the classroom and many of these accolades are showcased in this yearbook.

We would like to thank our 2023 Year 12s, for the way in which they have conducted themselves, represented our school with pride and supported each other and their peers along the journey. Our Year 12s should be proud of their efforts, as we are of them. We know they have a bright future ahead and we look forward to following their next chapter in life.

As Executive Principal, I feel privileged to have been a part of another year in the GSSC history books and I cannot wait to see what's in store for our third year.

Happy reading!

**Barbara O'Brien**  
**Executive Principal**

# FIRST DAY

On the first day of school, we welcomed our Year 7s to GSSC, supported by our Year 12 cohort who formed such a valuable part of the new, vertical home group structure. Complementing this change was the Year 7 and 12 'buddy system'.









# INVESTITURE ASSEMBLY

The student leadership structure at Greater Shepparton Secondary College provides opportunities for student voice across a broad range of interest areas and is representational of the unique qualities and diversity of our community. The traditional Leadership positions of College and House Captains have been complemented with Music, College Values, Environmental, Multicultural, and First Nations Leaders in 2023 creating a large and vibrant student leadership team.

On Friday 17 February our college celebrated our newly appointed student leaders at our Investiture Assembly. We were also entertained by an impressive rendition of 'Fast Car' by Leanne Luzuriaga (vocals) and Brodee Sinclair (guitar). The Guest Speaker, Leigh Johnson, Multicultural Liaison Officer of Victoria Police in Shepparton, commenced the proceedings with an inspiring message about being persistent and striving for your goals.









# FIRST NATIONS WELCOME NIGHT

We loved meeting some of our First Nations families at the welcome night and chatting over a bite to eat.

We introduced our Ngarri Ngarri team, First Nations student leaders and leadership team and provided families with information on how we support students in and out of the classroom.

Thank you to our partners at Rights Information & Advocacy Centre Inc. - RIAC and WDEA Works who also attended to provide information on disability support, advocacy and navigating NDIS.











## SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Tuesday 14 February our college hosted the annual swimming carnival at Aquamoves. The weather was perfect, and there was a positive vibe on the day, with students dressing up in their House Colours and enjoying the activities in and out of the water. Competitors gave their best efforts and the Fashion Parade was a highlight, as was the Cork Scramble and Big Flash events.











# GMDSSV CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to the Greater Shepparton Secondary students who took part in the GMDSSV Cross Country championships.

Results:

12-13 Years Boys - 2nd Arman Abdul

12-13 Years Girls - 2nd Saskia Matthews

14 Years Boys - 1st Kazadi Kadima

15 Years Boys - 1st Jai Laws

15 Years Girls - 1st Lucy Potter

16 Years Boys - 2nd Jayden Pert

16 Years Girls - 1st Emmy Younger

17-20 Years Boys - 2nd Damon Moloney

17-20 Years Girls - 3rd Samantha Comline

GSSC also won the following team events:

- 12-13 years girls
- 12-13 years boys
- 14 years girls
- 14 years boys
- 15 years boys
- 16 years boys
- 17-20 years girls
- 17-20 years boys

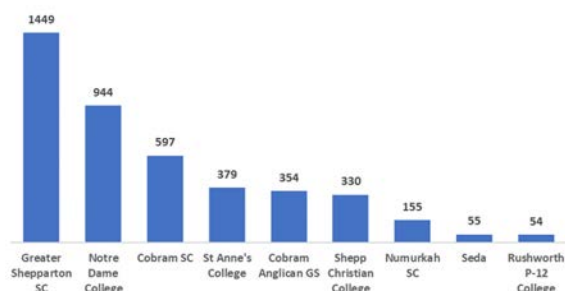






# GMDSSV TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Friday 1 September, GSSC took a squad of eighty students over to the Shepparton Little Athletics track to compete in the GMDSSV Track & Field Championships. GSSC came away as the overall winners for the day after taking out both the Male and Female Aggregate trophies, and the Grand Aggregate trophy for the second year in a row; beating a second place Notre Dame College by over 500 points.



Well done to everyone who competed and represented the school with pride. Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding performances:

12-13 Years Female Champion	Taneesha Atkinson
12-13 Years Male Champion	Kaydan Morgan
15 Years Female Champion	Fofoa Tulimafono
16 Years Female Champion	Olivia Buchan
17 Years Female Champion	Djura Weston
18-20 Years Female Champion	Hayley Gorringer
18-20 Years Male Champion	John Laurence Matira

The Best Performances of the day went to Olivia Buchan & Djura Weston who both won all five of their respective events. Congratulations to all the Age Group Champions and good luck to all competitors moving onto the next stage of competition. The Hume Region Track & Field Championships will be held on Thursday 5th September in Albury.





# SUMMER/WINTER SPORTS











## K-POP CLUB MINI SHOWCASE

On the last day of Term 2, members of the K-Pop club performed learnt dances from their favourite songs in the Mini Dance Showcase, held at lunchtime in the dance studio.

Students spent three weeks in club learning dances to be able to perform them in front of invited friends and GSSC staff.

The club's senior members, Joy Etaka and Masti Pranjapati, performed 'Hype Boy' by New Jeans and Ella Banawan and Faye Galing performed 'Who' by Moonbin and Sanah. Regular junior members Chloe Clancy, Charlee Ciszewski, Lilly-Rose Jackson, Gemma Wall, and Hary Ganesan performed in small groups and there were also solo performances from Ezzy Francis and Ella Banawan.





# BLUE EDGE



The Blue Edge program concluded in Term 1 with the Longest Day excursion. Participants engaged in activities such as the Climbing Walls/Absailing; Zip Lining; Giant Swing; Flying Fox; Obstacle Course and Bush Surfing at Murray Life Adventures.

Blue EDGE (Educate, Develop, Grow, Empower) is a well-established fitness based experiential learning program run by Blue Light Victoria in partnership with Victoria Police combining physical training, personal growth and life skills.







## DANCE SHOWCASE 'PRO FEMINA'

Dance students took to the stage this week in a showcase titled 'Pro Femina' exploring the themes power, empower and powerless.

It was a wonderful display of their talents and the hard work put into their dance studies over first two terms. Thank you to the families, students and staff who joined us in the theatrette for the performances and showed their support to our dance students.











**Biyala Neighbourhood:**  
Sabri Ibisi and Reyhaneh Hosseini

**Dharnya Neighbourhood:**  
Joanna Muli and Bella O'Dwyer

**Bayuna Neighbourhood:**  
Trinity Drain and Madeline Judd.

## 2024 COLLEGE CAPTAINS

We caught up with our 2024 leaders to find out how they were feeling after finding out they were successful in these roles, and what they hope to achieve in the new school year.

### **Biyala**

Reyhaneh: Through my high school years I've taken on various leadership roles, including as Vice Campus Captain in Year 9 in Mooroopna and on the Student Representative Council. This year I've also been one of GSSC's College Values Leaders.

As a College Captain, I hope to be a voice for the non-vocal students. I'd like to hear the ideas from students and share these with leadership to drive student-led change. I also hope, as a multicultural student, that many of my peers see themselves represented and also feel encouraged to put their hand up for leadership roles in the future.

Sabri: I haven't taken on a leadership role in recent times, but as I've progressed into my senior years, I feel like I have gained the confidence to take this on and make a difference.

I'd love to work towards bridging the gap between our various school cohorts – to build on the connectedness between students, leaders and staff and ensure that every voice is heard. I hope to see more students getting involved in decision making and seeking change around the school. I hope through this role I can encourage more students to have a say.

### **Dharnya**

Joanna: I knew that in my final year at school I wanted to take on a leadership role. I didn't know whether to apply for College Captain, I felt like it was out of reach but then I decided to just go for it. The process all happened really quickly and I was so surprised to find out I got the role but so happy I decided to give it a go.

My aim through this role is to create a place where everyone feels like they belong. I'm a proud Tongan girl and my culture is everything to me. I hope that

through the diversity of our group – other students see themselves represented and know that nothing is ever out of reach.

Bella: Being a College Captain is always something I wanted to do. Throughout the years I've taken on various leadership roles including on Student Representative Council in primary school and in Year 9 I was a House Captain at the Mooroopna Secondary College Campus.

Through this role, I want to build the aspirations of all students. I want everyone here to feel like they can achieve and to access the supports and resources available to achieve their goals, whether they be big or small.

### **Bayuna**

Trinity: After being a House Captain at the Mooroopna Secondary College Campus in 2021 I knew in my senior year I wanted to take on a leadership role. I was so surprised when I found out I was successful and very happy.

Next year I'd really like to work towards strengthening connections across year levels. Vertical Home Groups introduced this year have gone some way towards achieving that, but I think we can create even more opportunities for students of all ages to connect and lean on each other for support.

Madeline: Becoming a College Captain is something I have aspired to since Year 7. Over the years I've taken on various leadership roles, including as a College Values Leader at GSSC this year. I've really enjoyed the experience and the privilege to work with students and staff to make direct change.

I'd like to use the Captaincy role work towards building opportunities where students can set goals – both personal to them and related to future careers and pathways. I think goal setting is a great way to help students feel like they're coming to school with a purpose and to help them be more prepared and productive.



# SOUTH KOREAN FILM CREW VISIT

Our students and staff were true ambassadors as Greater Shepparton Secondary College hosted a South Korean film crew for an entire day.

South Korea has a television channel dedicated to education and a popular documentary host in Professor Jung Ho Shin.

They are featuring our "Education State" in a series showcasing international innovation in education

The crew came to Shepparton to tour one of Victoria's most contemporary schools and we didn't disappoint.

Thanks to environmental leader, Vincent, and College Captain, Fabian, for performing hosting duties and interviews, along with teacher Kylie Adams and Neighbourhood Principal Daisy Utber.

Professor Shin and his producer were especially impressed by our innovative learning spaces, such as the commercial kitchen, multi-media area and roof-top gardens, where our Year 12s chatted to him about their aspirations.







## GSSC'S GOT TALENT

We had a blast at our inaugural GSSC's got Talent event! Held over recess and lunch, the talent show was the initiative of our College Captains, to help to build a sense of fun and connectedness across year levels. The cheering in our packed-out Theatrette was a telling sign of how much the event was enjoyed by students, who are now calling for a second show in Term 4! Well done to all those performers who braved the stage and put themselves out there. And to the audience who supported each act and showed great camaraderie.





# APPRECIATION DAY

It was fantastic to catch up with some of our families and many staff at our Appreciation Day Event.

This was hosted by our Year 10 Food Creations class who prepared a range of hot food and boxes of sweet treats for the special people in their lives who joined us at school for a bite to eat and a cuppa over recess.

Thank you to those who attended and thank you to the Year 10 Food Creations classes who impressed their guests with the calibre of food they had created.





# AFRICAN WEEK

May 2023 Greater Shepparton Secondary College celebrated Africa Week with a variety of activities for the students, culminating in a whole school assembly where the students held a fashion parade comprising traditional costumes and entertained with dance and music.









# AVALON AIRSHOW

Greater Shepparton Secondary College was able to secure free tickets to the Avalon Air Show for Friday 3rd March. The aim of this excursion was for students interested in the STEM subjects – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, to hear about all the different job opportunities in the aviation field.

Talks from industry representatives at Qantas, Boeing and Lockheed Martin were given and RMIT University gave a presentation about their Bachelor courses in Aviation. Students heard that there were jobs requiring a range of education from TAFE courses to University. There are opportunities for everyone to work in the industry.

After the presentation students were able to explore the displays and what an amazing experience it was. Students involved thoroughly enjoyed the day.



# NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

During the summer holidays, Year 12 student, Lara Trevaskis attended the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF). This 10-day program offers a combination of in-person and digital events.

It provides students with opportunities, such as tours of Science and Technology facilities, learning about cutting edge technologies, learning more about university STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) career pathways and engaging with industry and research partners.

"My highlight of NYSF was the four days I spent in Melbourne visiting multiple universities, including Monash University in Clayton, Melbourne University and Monash Pharmaceuticals in Parkville. I attended lectures ranging from computer security, environmental advancements and functions involved in Chemistry.

"I also had the opportunity to visit the Peter Doherty Institute of Immunology and the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. While at the Peter Doherty Institute I met Peter Doherty himself, Nobel prize winner!

"I enjoyed meeting like-minded people, as well as getting an inside view of the lab environment and how they are working for a future in research.

Thank you to the Shepparton South Rotary club for their endorsement and the scholarship which enabled me to be attend the NYSF."





# GV PASSPORT YEAR 9 DRUG & ALCOHOL EDUCATION

Students completed a unit on Drug and Alcohol Education to enhance their knowledge and understanding. They participated in the program with several expert run sessions on six different areas associated with drugs and alcohol. The program began by highlighting some rules, laws and how to stay safe when entering into a pub or club. Students then broke off into six smaller group rotations covering:

**Drugs, Alcohol and the Law** – Facilitated by Victorian Legal Aid, who covered the many legal issues that are associated.

**First Aid** – Facilitated by the Secondary School Nurse Team, covered what to do if someone is unwell, sick or injured, as well as prevention.

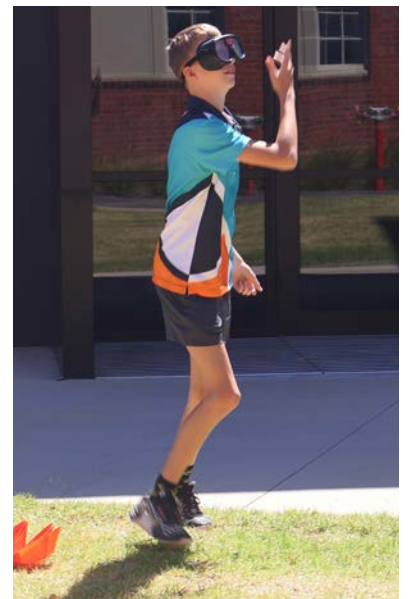
**Beer Goggles** – Facilitated by Secondary School Nurse Team, utilised 'Beer Goggles' that simulate how a persons vision may be affected with different levels of Blood Alcohol Concentration.

**Drugs and Alcohol and Mental Health** – Facilitated by GSSC Mental Health Practitioners, who discussed the effects that drug and alcohol use can have on our brain and mental health

**Standard Drinks** – Facilitated by Primary Care Connect, Drug and Alcohol workers, ran some activities around how much alcohol is in a standard drink.

**Safe Partying** – facilitated by the Secondary School Nurse Team, worked through some scenarios that highlight some of the dangers, choices and consequences that can arise when partying.

The students continued to work on the Drug and Alcohol Unit over the term while we continued to encourage parents to have conversations with their young people on the issues that are associated with drugs and alcohol.





# BEACON - STUDENTS POLISH THEIR WORK-READINESS SKILLS

As part of our Early Commencement program, students from the Year 12 VCE VM Work Related Skills classes and selected Year 11 students took part in the work readiness program, POLISH. Students workshopped how to identify their skills and strengths and develop an elevator pitch. They then met with mentors from various businesses who delivered a panel presentation on their employment and conducted individual mock interviews with each student. Students come away from the event with a renewed confidence, ready for the world of work and interview preparation.

Feedback from students who took part included:  
 "I really enjoyed how they answered our inquiries and showed that they enjoyed being here and talking to us and gave us really good tips on how to go into an interview."  
 "It helped give me more confidence in myself and get to hear people's experiences."  
 "I gained valuable knowledge for the future."

Comments from volunteer presenters included:  
 "Loved the opportunity and students were interactive and engaged."  
 "These children are our future"

"Phil was great with the kids and clearly explained the processes. The kids were interactive and were happy to engage once they felt comfortable."

Beacon Week would not take place without the financial support of the following organisations who are supporters of the Beacon Foundation:

- Day 1 - Clayton Utz
- Day 2 - Schneider Electric
- Day 3 - IPH
- Day 4 - Aon
- Day 5 - VLINE

Along with these fantastic organisations, we would like to thank local industry that come to the program as mentors:

- Terri Cowley - media and publishing
- Amanda Herezo - CPE construction
- Jim Gow and Caleb Ellemor - Salvation Army
- Hope Irvine - Primary Care Connect
- Marie Wycisk and Yvette Williams - Fairley Leadership
- Emily Fischer and Lisa Menhenett - Work Safe
- Mariola Nebiu - Greater Shepparton City Council
- Jesse Mitchell - Gotafe
- Ross Hammer - Watters Electrical
- Mert Tetik, Jessica Clarke and Michael Harbour - ANZ
- Melissa Joyce - Connect GV
- Morgan Marx - GMLLEN
- Talissa Crosbie - McDonald's
- Vline staff







## GV SUPPLY CHAIN

Monday 5 June, Greater Shepparton Secondary College students Guy, Naomi, Marc and Grace, along with Wodonga TAFE Trainer, Steve and Kirsten Elliott from the Industry Training Hub, visited the SPC Factory Sales site to tour the shop front floor and part of the warehouse. It was great to put some of the theory students have learnt into perspective – to look at how goods are packaged and seeing an electric and manual pallet jack used in the workplace. The students gained a variety of targeted and transferable skills, while completing units from the Certificate II in Supply Chain (TLI20421) which includes three accredited units:

- Communication in the workplace (Unit TLIE1003)
- Pick and process orders (Unit TLIA0022)
- Packaged goods (Unit TLIA0020)

The students learnt how to use the electric pallet jack and manual pallet jack, used scales to weigh items, aspects of quality control – checking each others work when picking and packing orders, reading documentation - reading a picking slip, along with many non accredited learnings, how to do tasks and what is expected on the job. It was great to 'pilot' this pathway for the first time with Wodonga TAFE.

So many opportunities for young people to get a start in the Transport, Warehousing and Logistics sector in an entry level role across our region.







## GOWRIE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL MURAL

Students from GSSC and Gowrie Street Primary School are bringing First Nations culture, history and storytelling to life through the form of two murals being painted at the schools.

The First Nations secondary and Years 5 & 6 students painted on a shipping container at GSSC, displayed prominently near our Bayuna Neighbourhood. Once completed, the group worked together again to design a mural for Gowrie St, which is located in their central courtyard along one of the buildings.

The students worked with program lead Aunty Lisa Lynch-Johnson from Gowrie St and GSSC Art Domain Leader Alison Sealie to workshop design ideas, incorporating First Nations perspective, both local to Yorta Yorta and Bangerang peoples and symbolising Aboriginal art more generally. This includes symbols depicting gathering areas, waterholes and running water, representing the region's rivers and meeting places. The travelling and journey with resting place symbol also featured heavily in students' designs as they discussed its relevance to education and how their schooling is a long journey taking them somewhere.

When visiting GSSC, the Gowrie St children were also led by our students on a scavenger hunt around the school, showcasing our neighbourhood facilities including the library, multicultural hub and Koorie Educator office, science and food technology classrooms, level one and two spaces, bleachers and house reception areas.



As well as honouring and celebrating First Nations culture, the mural projects are designed to foster relationships between our senior primary school students and GSSC students to enable a more seamless and supportive transition into secondary schooling.









## SOCIAL WORK

On Tuesday 9th May, 15 Year 11 and 12 students took part in a Social Work Experience with Latrobe University Shepparton.

Students heard from current Bachelor of Social Work students and their varied diverse pathways into the course.

Lecturers explained how the course is delivered, expectations, support and life at university.

This was a comprehensive experience that many students came away with learning the skills shortage in the industry, demand for employment and our wider community needs.





# YEAR 12 LEADERSHIP INDUCTION

On Wednesday 15th February, the Greater Shepparton Secondary College Year 12 leaders had the privilege of attending the "Leadership Induction Day". The aim of this day was to come together for the first time as House and Neighbourhood captains to develop our leadership teams and develop a deeper understanding of how we want to lead the school community in 2023.

After kicking off the day with some team building activities, we were lucky enough to receive a presentation from Rob McCartney, the Head of Football for the Hawthorn Hawks.

Already thinking about our goals, with thanks to Rob, the group then worked together to make our 2023 leadership statement. We worked in small groups to come up with what leadership meant to us, then joined to find the most common traits.





# RACE GOULBURN ROADSHOW

The RACE-Goulburn Roadshow visited GSSC on Tuesday 14th March affording students the opportunity to consider food waste and the importance of tech skills in agriculture.

Students from Year 9 Sense of Humus, Year 10 Geography, Year 11 Environmental Studies and Year 11 and 12 Agriculture and Horticulture were given the task of coding an Edison Robot 'Tractor' to traverse an entire paddock using the Scratch coding language. They also tested their ingenuity in avoiding food waste when creating apple chips.







## Q+A TRIP

A group of new Year 12 students stepped beyond the boundaries of classroom learning and travelled to Melbourne on Monday 27 November to experience being part of the studio audience of Q and A.

Juna Crozier expressed her enthusiasm for the trip as she said it opened her eyes about the workings of television and politics. "I loved being part of a live audience and experiencing what that's like. Something as simple as seeing the camera that has the presenter's speech above it was so interesting to me. Q and A is a show that I would never have thought to watch, but I'm so glad that I had the opportunity to view it live."

The episode, titled 'Coming Together' was the final Q and A show of the year and featured a diverse panel discussing a range of important issues. Maddie Judd shared her impressions, highlighting the thought provoking insights she heard. "What I found the most interesting was hearing about the panellists' opinions regarding the media and how it often skews the truth through biases. I particularly enjoyed Osher's stance that we must acknowledge and respect others opinions to then consider the whole picture, not just argue senselessly. I found the conversations very stimulating and look forward to future Q and A episodes."

The speakers on the night included Cheng Lei, who talked about her recent release from three years in a Chinese detention centre and shared her perspective on the Australia-China relationship. Osher Gunsberg talked about men's mental health. Todd Fernando discussed the recent Voice referendum. Charlotte Mortlock talked about the role of women in conservative politics, and Anthony Callea shared his thoughts about the effect of social media on the contemporary music industry.

Joanna Muli found the discussion informative and found it interesting when the importance of teaching about First Nation's heritage and issues was raised.

Lincoln Atkinson enjoyed the insight gained into the television industry, while also engaging with important societal discussions. "Being able to see how a television production works first hand was such an amazing



opportunity and experiencing such an important discussion about social issues really enlightened my mind and gave me hope for the future of Australia."

Muhammad Hossain marvelled at the meticulous planning that went on behind the scenes to produce the show, from the filming equipment to the hour long talk that occurred before the show began, which was aimed at relaxing the audience so they would respond to the conversations occurring in the show. He also highlighted the impact of the finale of the show. "Certainly, the final performance of 'Incomplete' by Anthony Callea, in order to finish off the year for Q and A, was a highlight. The questions put during the show were relevant, and the answers were a melange of views relating to politics and entertainment, in accordance with the careers and commitments of the panellists. Overall, a good night which, not only was captured on camera, but was also shown to me and everyone else behind the camera."

Reyhaneh Hosseini summed up the experience, emphasising the diversity of the perspectives presented. "I enjoyed the experience of being in the audience and hearing and listening to all the different views the panellists had on specific topics. My favourite panelist was Cheng Lei, she was awesome!"



# NETBALL CLINIC



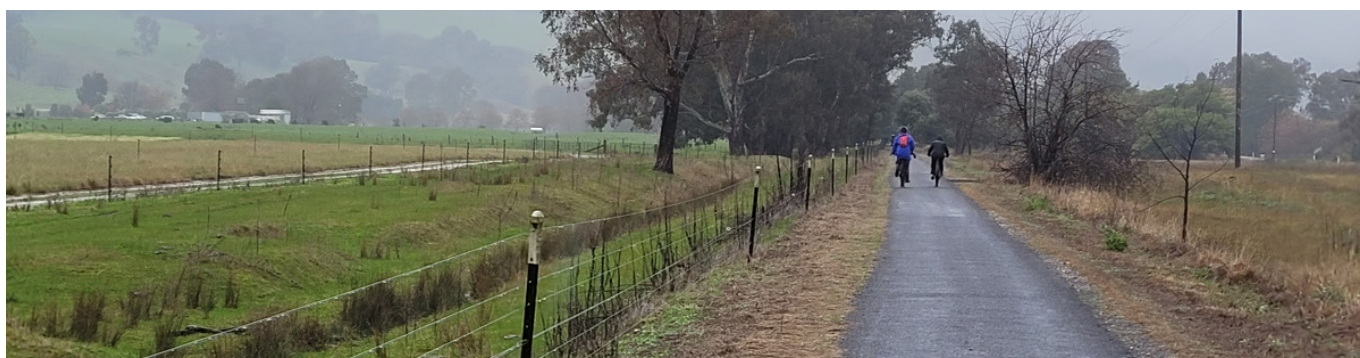




## YEAR 10 OUTDOOR RECREATION

Ten Year 10 Outdoor Recreation students and three staff experienced a 3-day (100km) bike ride along the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. They rode 43km from Beechworth to Myrtleford. Students demonstrated resilience, leadership and teamwork when riding in the rain and up Taylor's Gap. They rode to Bright before participating in a hike and they finished up in Harrietville.

The purpose of this trip was for students to discover the diverse and ever-changing landscape of Northeast Victoria - from natural bushland to lush farmland, hidden valleys and some of Australia's most spectacular mountain ranges, while strengthening their enjoyment of Outdoor Recreation activities.







## FOOD

Students in food classes across the collage have been engaging in different learning opportunities. To start the of term 4, students in all year levels entered various products into the Shepparton Agricultural show. Maya Watson, a food studies and hospitality student was awarded best exhibit for her decorated cake and raspberry and white chocolate muffins. There were also many 1st and 2nd prizes for piklets, muffins, tea cakes, scones and slices.

- Café culture classes completed their café CAT class and served a range of hot beverages and treats to staff and students.
- Food creations held a appreciation morning tea and invited guests enjoyed a delicious selection of sweet and savoury treats.
- Food for all class participated in a decorated cupcake challenge and investigated and designed a range of grazing boxes and MasterChef challenges
- Hospitality classes continued to impress the teachers with their skills and service of a range of meals.







## CLAY TARGET SHOOTING

GSSC students did very well competing against other students from the Goulburn Murray District schools in Clay Target Shooting, for Senior Summer Sport.

Many thanks to the Sporting Shooters Association, Shepparton Branch for hosting and guiding the students





# GSSC CROSS COUNTRY







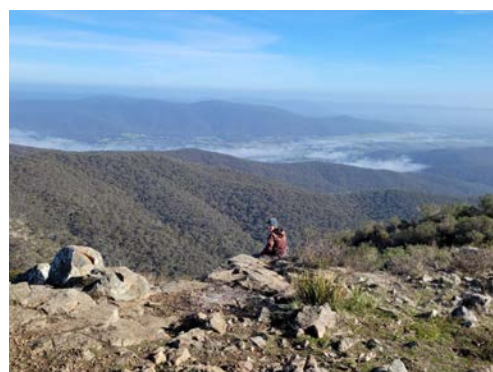
## YEAR 9 HIKE CAMP

On Monday 22nd May twenty-two Year 9 Outdoor Education students and four staff took part in an overnight hike to the Mount Samaria State Park.

The students hiked a total of 15km, with an elevation gain of 514m.

The purpose of the hike was for students to develop an understanding of human impacts on the environment as well as exploring the changes in vegetation across the landscape.

Students also practised minimal impact hiking strategies, packing a hiking pack, setting up a tent and using a Trangia (outdoor stove). It was wonderful to see the students build connections with each other, offer support and encouragement and have fun!



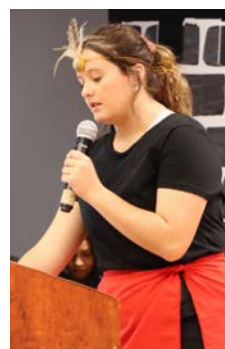
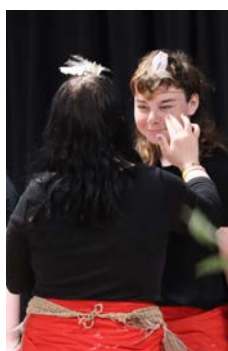


# CULTURAL SHOWCASE YEAR 6 INTO YEAR 7 TRANSITION PROGRAM

Grahamvale, Mooroopna Park and Mooroopna Primary Schools kicked off our Year 6 into 7 transition program, with a Cultural Showcase held in our Theatrette.

Hosted by our First Nations and Multicultural student leaders, the Year 6s were treated to a variety of cultural performances, including a First Nations poem and performance by the Marrung dancers, a song in language showcasing Pasifika culture and a range of traditional dances highlighting the various African cultures.

During the visit, our student leaders led an interactive Q&A session promoting the cultural diversity, celebrations and leadership opportunities here at the college. The GSSC students cited Harmony Day as a highlight on the school calendar and spoke about the various opportunities for them to share their own culture and tradition among their peers and staff and to learn about other cultures.





# SPIRIT WEEK: BOOK WEEK



The Year 12 cohort celebrated a 5-day 'Spirit Week', organised by our College Captains. Spirit Week is an American inspired week of dress-ups that was aimed to take a bit of pressure off of our Year 12 students as we are about to embark on the final leg of our high school days which means the cortisol levels are high!

Each of our themes for the week were voted on by the Year 12 students and the most popular themes were chosen.

On day 1 the theme was 'Decades Day', this has become a GSSC tradition, and we had a large portion of students dress up from 2000s to 1900s inspired punk rock. On day 2 the theme was 'dress as a teacher' where everyone wore outfits inspired by our teachers- Mr Harris and Mr Bolton being the most popular muses. On Wednesdays the prompt was Mean Girls Movie inspired 'On Wednesdays We Wear Pink' where we had a massive amount of Year 12s participate. On Thursday the theme was 'Rhyme Without Reason', this is another American inspired theme where students wear a costume that rhymes with other students, this was done in pairs or up to groups of 5. And lastly Friday was 'Book Week/Pop Culture' dress up as it was Book Week, which was a whole school dress up day, even our teachers joined in.

Overall, the week was incredibly successful and is something we hope the 2024 Year 12s continue as a tradition.

- Lara Trevaskis,  
Bayuna College Captain



# SPIRIT WEEK: DECADES DAY





# SPIRIT WEEK: DRESS AS A TEACHER DAY



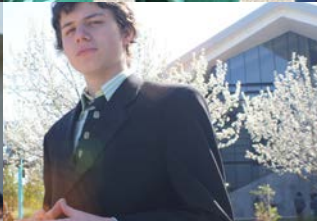


# SPIRIT WEEK: ON WEDNESDAYS WE WEAR PINK





# SPIRIT WEEK: RHYME WITHOUT A REASON





# ASPIRATION DAY

On 5th December, we opened our doors to hundreds of primary school students as part in Year 5 Aspirations Day.

This is the second year GSSC has hosted the event, which is an initiative of the Shepparton Education Plan. The aim of this day is to inspire young people to dream big about their futures and start exploring the many career pathways and opportunities available to them.

From Virtual Reality Technology, to learning about the many jobs within the emergency services sector, students were able to take part in a range of activities also including welding simulations and hands-on learning with local council Maternal Child and Health nurses. Students were able to try their hand at nappy changing, eye tests and weighing babies.

Staff from universities and TAFE were onsite to answer questions about further studies and life after primary and second school and participants also enjoyed a sausage sizzle thanks to local Rotary clubs and GSSC staff and students helping out on the barbecues.

The idea of the event was to give students a real life experience into the world of work and the many job options available to them both locally and beyond.

We had many of our GSSC students assisting on the day as ambassadors and all represented the college proudly. We hope to see many of these young people as future GSSC students in a few years to come!

Many thanks to the following businesses and organisations for making this event possible:

- GMLLEN
- Lighthouse Project Greater Shepparton
- Kreskas Bros. Transport
- Kaiela Arts
- VACC
- Latrobe University
- Bertolis Agricultural and Industrial
- Greater Shepparton City Council
- University of Melbourne
- River Connect
- Victoria Police
- Fire Rescue Victorias
- Rotary
- CPE Construction
- GO TAFE
- Quicklift
- Foott
- Furphy Engineering
- The Department of Education









# YEAR 11 PRODUCT DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Introducing, the GSSC Fashion Collection:



Designer Charleigh Hack is bringing some First Lady Class to GSSC with her Woven Knit Pinafore Dress.



Designer Angie Berry has kept it casual with a checked skater skirt, made from durable canvas fabric, featuring zippered pockets to keep your school essentials safe.



Designer Mia Popelier has not forgotten the sports crazed crowd with her breathable baseball, jersey-styled, t-shirt, personalised to your specifications.



Designer Samira Khalili has transformed the school kilt into a sophisticated academia inspired woven knit tennis skirt that can be styled anyway thanks to its neutral colour palette and comfortable fabric. Did we mention the amazing pleats? Sewn perfectly in place to give the skirt its soft flowy fit.



Designer Jofet Etaka has re- envisioned the formal short sleeve shirt into a premium linen button up that complements any student with its luxury fabric that feels and looks fantastic.



Designer Quinn Keep -Barlow has drawn inspiration from the throwback era of early 2000s with her stretch knit skirt, tied up at the front in a pretty bow. This skirt will keep you cool in summer and warm in winter, but most importantly it will always keep you looking cute.



Designer Hadees Atai has merged fabrics and aesthetics together she has created two toned corduroy pants with contrasting pockets. Highlighting the flare of the 70s-styled jean with the comfort of contemporary, casual fashion.



# NURTJA PROGRAM

The Victorian Desert adventure was an unforgettable experience for nine students who embarked on a four-wheel driving trip to the Big Desert in Wyperfeld National Park near Mildura.

Thanks to Giz A Break's Sonke, Brad, and Jas, the students had the chance to toboggan down white sand dunes, conquer towering dunes in the four-wheel drives (as passengers), and immerse themselves in everything the Vic Desert had to offer. While exploring the area and enjoying the stunning sunset over the famous Pink Salt Lake, the students learned that salt is quite drying for the skin.

Each day was filled with packing and setting up camp, navigating challenging sandhills and grassland plains, gaining insights into the local flora and wildlife, and most importantly, having an abundance of fun without technology. It was a journey they'll treasure for a lifetime, brimming with adventure and discovery.





# PRESENTATION BALL

Our first Presentation Ball of 2023 was held with 30 students taking part.

These students participated in eight weeks of dance lessons and choreography with Gerry & Amelia Vecchio from In Style Dancing and their hard work and dedication paid off on the night.

A viewing was held at the College's gymnasium as students presented their dances to staff and guests before heading to the GV Hotel to join friends and family for dinner and the official presentation.









# JUNE 16 PRESENTATION BALL

After eight weeks of dance choreography lessons with Amelia & Gerry Vecchio from InStyle Dancing, Thirty of our Greater Shepparton Secondary students were presented at the second ball of the year.

Family and friends were delighted to attend the school gymnasium to watch the viewing segment of the evening with students showcasing their dance moves. Students were then transported to the GV Hotel to be presented to their guests and staff.

Guests enjoyed a two-course meal accompanied by musical entertainment from local DJ, Dom Monteleone. To begin the second part of the evening, each student was presented to their table with their selected song of choice. After students had run through their six dances, family and friends were keen to join them on the dancefloor.

Thank you to all who participated and dedicated their time to make the night a success. A special thank you to staff members who volunteered their time on the night to enable students to partake and enjoy themselves. Lastly, thank you to Darryl McConnell who documented the night through photos.









# YEAR 11 & 12 VET FOOD

Well done to our Years 11 and 12 VET Kitchen Operations Hospitality students who prepared, cooked, and served a three-course meal for our whole-of-school leadership team, as part of their studies. The meal was thoroughly enjoyed by the staff who were also very impressed by the student's professionalism, enthusiasm, and talent.

The team stepped up again to cater for the School Council members. Thank you to our Food Studies and Hospitality teaching and support staff Anna, Jodie and Wendy who helped the students provide this wonderful experience.







## YEAR 12 HOSPITALITY

Our Year 12 hospitality students completed their first assessment for one of their units - 'Appetisers and Salads'. As part of their assessment conditions students are required to serve a range of canapés to real customers. Each variety of canapé needs to have a different base, spread, body and garnish.

Grace, Naomi and Charli did an amazing job serving our GSSC families and staff at the Annual Welcome Night.





# HARMONY WEEK

Harmony Week is one of our major celebrations because it is all about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, from the traditional owners of the land to our newest arrivals. The College held The Harmony Day Concert with our staff, students, families, and community members privileged to watch the performances of our students, which ranged from traditional dances, songs, poems, demonstrations, and a fashion parade.

During that week our students also had the opportunity to participate in a variety of Harmony Week activities, including a Food Safari, orange themed out-of-uniform Dress-up Day, and some guest speakers.









# KNOW YOUR ROOTS

Our Year 7 Humanities students were given a taste of Pasifika culture in semester 1 as they took part in the Know Your Roots Inc. (KYR) program, run through their Humanities studies.

The group have spent time in class learning about the various aspects of Pasifika culture, including the customs, values and traditions home to the Samoan, Tongan and Maori peoples.

The students have been led by KYR program mentor, Ofeira Satele and spent time learning about the culture through storytelling, dance and music, which even incorporated some language lessons!

Humanities Domain Leader Cathy Falk said the students feedback around the classes has been positive all round, with program participants getting excited for the next session of KYR.

The KYR program has been embedded in GSSC curriculum since 2021 thanks to the Point of Difference Studio. It provides a means for local community leaders and mentors to provide students an opportunity to reconnect with their culture and share it with their peers.

The KYR program is delivered at GSSC through our Year 7 Humanities studies and is offered in Year 9 as an elective subject.

For Semester 2, students will spent time learning about Middle Eastern culture as part of the program.







## LGBTQIA + PLEDGE

Many of our students gathered in the school courtyard to make a pledge to be a good friend and ally against homophobic bullying and discrimination. The pledge was made in recognition of IDAHOBIT Day – the International Day Against LGBTQIA+ Discrimination.

Members and friends of the GSSC Pride Club also headed down to the Queens Gardens during lunchtime to enjoy an event hosted by Greater Shepparton City Council. This included a range of activities, live music, a flag raising and free food!





# JUNIOR WINTER SPORTS

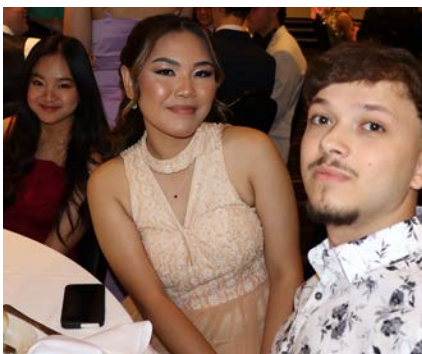








# YEAR 12 VALEDICTORY





# SONGMAKERS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday and Wednesday 21-22nd March sixteen students from our Year 10 and VCE music classes were lucky enough to participate in the SongMakers workshops. Over the two days, students were put into four groups and each group wrote and recorded a song. They worked with professional recording producers Anna Laverty, Liz Drummond, Donald and Hayden Lauerson, who between them have worked with artists such as Rodriguez, The National, City & Colour,

Mumford & Sons, Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, Courtney Barnett, Meg Mac, Lady GaGa, G Flip, Montaigne, Ali Barter and Kira Puru.

The students did amazingly well, creating four songs from scratch and Anna, Liz and Hayden were really impressed with the talent, cooperative nature and kindness of the students involved.





# SEPTEMBER PRESENTATION BALL

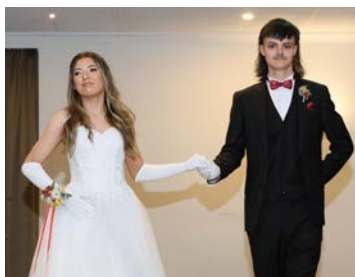
After 8 weeks of dance choreography lessons with Amelia & Gerry Vecchio from InStyle Dancing, twenty of our Greater Shepparton Secondary students were presented at the third and final ball of the year.

Family and friends were delighted to attend the school gymnasium to watch the viewing segment of the evening with students showcasing their dance moves. Students were then transported to the GV Hotel to be presented to their guests and staff.

To begin the second part of the evening, each student was presented to their table with their selected song of choice. After students had run through their 6 dances, family and friends were keen to join them on the dancefloor.

Thank you to all who participated and dedicated their time to make the night a success. A special thank you to staff members who volunteered their time on the night to enable students to partake and enjoy themselves.

Lastly, thank you to Darryl McConnell who documented the night through photos.





# YEAR 7 BIG DAY OUT





# YEAR 10 CAREERS DAY OUT

Year 10 students enjoyed attending the annual Careers Day Out event at DECA on 10th May. Students met industry, trainers and university representatives. All activities were hands on, ranging from brick laying to CPR races, Creating hair styles, to making smoothies.

This is a great activity for students to experience a variety of trades and ask questions about pathways and obtaining employment, before choosing their senior classes for 2024.





# GSSC EXPO DAY

The talent, diversity and creativity of our students shined bright at our GSSC Expo held at the school on Wednesday 1st March.

Thank you to the parents and students who came along and enjoyed a BBQ dinner and canapes supplied by our Food Tech students, as part of their assessment.

The Greater Shepparton Secondary College Ensemble Band also did a fantastic job providing the entertainment.





# THE PATCH GARDEN OPENING

'The Patch' was officially opened – our designated agriculture and horticulture area located behind our Bayuna Neighbourhood.

In acknowledging the Yorta Yorta and Bangerang Clans, the Traditional Custodians of the lands of Shepparton, our Executive Principal, Barbara O'Brien said it felt fitting to reflect on our First Peoples and the deep connection they have to the land and waterways of this region.

"We thank them for not only caring for country but for sharing their knowledge of country, which spans over thousands of years," Mrs O'Brien said. "In the Goulburn Valley, there is no denying the importance of caring for Country, in preserving culture and traditions and looking after our beautiful waterways and our flora and fauna."

In addition to this, the Goulburn Valley region also contributes to 25 per cent of Victoria's agricultural production, with Greater Shepparton being a major fruit and vegetable processing centre growing a majority of the nation's produce.

This includes 99% of nashis, 86% of pears, 80% of kiwi-fruit, 50% of pomegranates and 43 per cent of apricots.

This, as well as our large dairy industry provide product for both local consumption and national and international export.

"While the patch we stand on right now may be small in size, it's contribution to the future of agriculture and horticulture in this region is large," Mrs O'Brien said.

"It is here we hope to shape the future generation of farmers, growers, agronomists, environmental scientists, biosecurity experts, lab workers, landscapers ... the list goes on."

Ms O'Brien said Agriculture and Horticulture is one of the fastest growing and technologically innovative industries in Australia and whether you're interested in being outdoors, adapting to climate change, animal welfare or researching sustainable business practices – the careers and pathways are endless.

"GSSC students will utilise The Patch to make choices about seeds to plant at certain times of the year, crop care and watering, harvesting and marketing. The garden beds will be used for trials for students at VCE level," she said.

"The presence of chooks demonstrates a part of a good backyard garden, where the animals can be used to assist with garden pest management and supply eggs. They also provide an opportunity for students to learn about the responsibility and commitment of looking after animals.

"The Patch is developing every day, with fruit and nut trees now planted, along with grape vines. The compost bins and worm farm are also in full operation."

During the opening event, Mrs O'Brien acknowledged and thanked our Multicultural Liaison Officer, Hussam 'Samy' Saraf, who has been instrumental in the set up of The Patch, in assisting students to plant and establish trees.

"For those of you who don't know, Samy is a keen gardener and expert in grafting who even holds a world record for the most types of fruit grown on a single tree!" Ms O'Brien said.

"Samy also made a generous financial donation towards the purchase of our edible garden and we are very grateful for his vision and support.

"You will also see The Patch has had a boost of colour and vibrancy thanks to a mural along the back wall of the area. This was painted and designed by our Project Ready students who have been learning about regenerative agriculture and designed the piece inspired by local agriculture practices."

Mrs O'Brien said the students were supported by local artist and painter Joan Erikson and Art Domain Leader Alison Sealie who assisted to bring the students' ideas into reality in the way of one large 15m x 2m long mural.

What wonderful opportunities we will be able to provide our students in this space – transferable, hands-on and interactive learning that will be sure to build aspirations among our young people," Mrs O'Brien said.

Thank you to the following individuals, groups and businesses who have made this all possible:

Agriculture and Horticulture Teacher, Charlotte Drinnan – Without your passion and dedication we really wouldn't be here. You have worked tirelessly to bring this to life and we value and appreciate your ongoing efforts and contribution.

The Leadership and Facilities teams – For supporting the vision and assisting with resourcing and collecting items from other campuses to repurpose.

Our Science Domain Leader Sarah Beattie and Lab Techs Kath, Leanne and Jo for your constant support over time and running around collecting items.

Louise McDade-Cartey – For creating the signs for the fence and chook house with VCAL students.

Harry and Milo for the build.

Stuart Drinnan and Miriam Drinnan for collecting and transporting goods and setting up the wicking beds.

Avonlea Flowers for the greenhouse hoops.

David Black for the pea straw.

AGF Seeds for cover crop seed and;

Footte Waste for the bins for chook food storage.







# YEAR 12 UNIFORM MASH-UP









# 2023 GANBINA YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

A number of Greater Shepparton Secondary College students were recognised for their achievements in education as part of the Ganbina 2023 Youth Achievement Awards.

GSSC Executive Principal, Barbara O'Brien said it was a proud moment attending the event to see students presented their awards and recognised for their outstanding efforts towards their schooling and future.

"These students have done themselves, their families and their school proud," Ms O'Brien said.

"They have given their studies 100 per cent and acted as wonderful role models for fellow peers.

"I know we are in good hands with young people such as these students leading the way and I look forward to seeing what this group achieves in years to come both at GSSC and beyond."

GSSC award recipients:

Year 7 - Taneesha Atkinson, Yulkirri Bamblett, Casaidon Joachim, George Nicholson

Year 8 - Bradley Atkinson, David Campbell, Bridget Cooper

Year 9 - Rhianna Ward

Year 10 - Cody Fairless, Gretel Peters

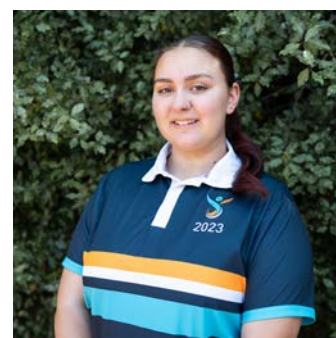
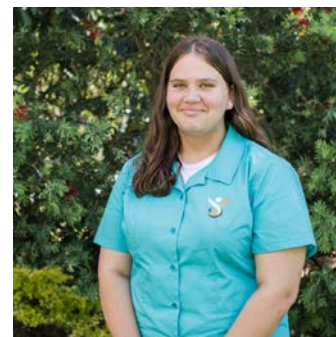
Year 11 - Shanikwa Allen-Jones, Lincoln Atkinson

Year 12 - Hariyett Peters

GSSC Graduates of the Ganbina Youth Leadership Program were also celebrated: Lincoln Atkinson, Connor Moore and Hariyett Peters.

About Ganbina:

Ganbina was established in 1997, to support young Aboriginal community members in the Goulburn Valley to succeed. It is widely recognised that these children and youth face significant barriers in achieving their individual goals related to education, training and employment. Ganbina has established awards in these areas to acknowledge the achievements and efforts of individuals and to encourage them as they continue on their journey to become future leaders and agents of change within their community.





# SCIENCE INCURSION FUTURE STEM GEN

On Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th May our Year 7 students participated in a Science incursion run by Future STEM Gen. The Future STEM Gen team was led by Seamus Delaney from the School of Education at Deakin University, and was assisted by PhD students from a range of universities, including Monash and Deakin. The team trained our Year 11 Chemistry students to work as mentors to facilitate the delivery of the activities to our Year 7 students.

The team and mentors delivered two practical activities; Making Dye-sensitised solar cells with berries, and testing for Vitamin C in *Melaleuca Alternifolia* (Tea Tree). Each Year 7 class participated in one of these activities.

Students were also able to talk to the PhD students about university and the projects they are currently working on.

This was a great opportunity for students to link everyday items with science, and for our senior students to act as mentors for those in junior classes.







## eSPORTS DAY

On Saturday 25th February Greater Shepparton Secondary College held its first ever eSports Day in our college gym. The event was aimed at introducing students to an aspect of social gaming that has slowly diminished, with the increased ability to connect online. All who attended were very happy with the results of participating in the experience. It also provided an opportunity for students, displaying high levels of skills in their gaming, a chance to prove their abilities against others in a live environment.

There were booths set up from the Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) and GoTafe, with displays and activities to show participants what career opportunities can come out of their interest in gaming and computers. GoTafe brought along a hacking challenge, with visitors to the booth seeing how fast they could break into another computer on their network! Both organisations had a chance to address the hall about what they do and the opportunities that they provide at their institutions, which were well received by students and started a few conversations about career paths.

Our event runners, Justin, AJ and Brandon, were amazing in their professionalism and their support for our students, who were unfamiliar with how eSport tournaments run. They were busy throughout the day making sure students were signed into the right things and joining the right games, as well as running the technical side of the event.

It was an amazing opportunity to have them provide this for our students and they are keen to make sure

it happens again! We gave out a huge range of prizes thanks to JB Education.

Our tournament winners were:

Rocket League – Andrew Kenttala, Noah Murdoch and Jaiden Heinzmann secured a spot and travel expenses paid to The Game Expo's Rocket League tournament, which gives them a chance at a \$5000 prize!

Super Smash Brothers Ultimate – Nate Traianidis won a PowerA Pokémon Edition Switch controller has been invited to The Game Expo to compete in Smash tournament.

Runner-up, Imran Coskun (not pictured), has also been invited to compete at the Game Expo and both will have travel expenses paid.

Diabotical – Andrew Kenttala and Jaiden Heinzmann received a PowerA Chroma Xbox controller each.

Chess – Sabri Ibisi won a Super Mario edition chess set, which he confessed he already owned and in a great display of sportsmanship, he donated it to another competitor!

Fortnite – Brody Betson and friend Blake won a Mionix Gaming mouse for efforts in Fortnite.

Apex Legends – Sabri Ibisi, Jaiden Heinzmann and Regan Ayton won a Logitech G502 Gaming mouse each.

Overwatch – Jaiden Heinzmann won a Logitech G213 Gaming keyboard and runner-up Regan Ayton won an MSI dinosaur hat!



# YEAR 12 OP SHOP

Our Year 12s were very creative for their op shop dress-up day and we loved seeing all of the outfits and fun they had over recess and lunch.

This is one of two dress-up days the Year 12 cohort will host to raise money for a local charity, the next being a 'PJ Day' next Thursday 22 June. The group will host different fundraisers over the remainder of next semester as well, and collectively nominate their chosen beneficiary at the end of the school year.





# YEAR 9 OUTDOOR ED

Year 9 Outdoor Education students were given the opportunity to participate in bodyboarding, surfing, a coastal walk, rock climbing and abseiling, while on a three-day camp at Anglesea and Torquay. These activities promoted personal development (self-esteem, independence, leadership, co-operation, respect, resilience and determination), teamwork, and

environmental awareness as well as fun and safety in the outdoors.

The students increased their knowledge and awareness about coastal environments, surf safety and the history of surfing which lead to an increased awareness of the place of humans in the natural world, emphasising inter-relationships with natural systems.





# AFRICAN WORKSHOP

On 15 March GSSC held a African Workshop with Networking African Australians.





# FAREWELL ASSEMBLY





# YEAR 12 RMIT & UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE OPEN DAY

On Monday 23rd May a bus load of Year 12 students went down to Melbourne to explore the campuses of RMIT and University of Melbourne. Students were treated to morning tea, and presentations about each university which included support services available, accommodation options and personalised tours.

RMIT also provided two workshops. One involved putting on laboratory coats to test blood samples for DNA, the other involved problem solving to build rockets that were tested for their ability to fly. It was a long but enjoyable day for all involved. Our thanks to RMIT and University of Melbourne for continuing to make sure regional students are given every chance to explore options for university.







## YEAR 10 FORMAL

All the glitz, glam and good times from our Year 10 formal. What a fantastic night it was!









# NAIDOC WEEK

We acknowledge that this college is located on Aboriginal land and recognise the strength, resilience, and capacity of the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang people. We acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present - we recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs, and relationship with the land, which continue to be important to the people living today.

It was fantastic to finish Term 2 on a high note as we celebrated NAIDOC Week, including our whole-of-school assembly. Our First Nations leader Olivia Gibson did a wonderful job leading the ceremony and we were grateful to have had Uncle Dixon complete a smoking ceremony, Jada Cooper did a Welcome to Country, Josh Atkinson, President of Rumbalara Football Netball Club was our guest speaker and our student performers included Shanika Allen-Jones who read a poem and the Marrung dancers performed.

Many other events and activities have been held throughout the week including a cultural exchange program with Mt Scopus Memor

ial College, a celebration morning tea for our local Elders, traditional games, art, basket weaving and beading at recess and lunchtime and traditional food tasting. These foods included kangaroo stew, kangaroo meatballs, damper, Jonny cakes and lemon myrtle shortbread.

The Koorie Big Day Out was a highlight. Delivered by Toorong Marnong and the Shepparton Education Plan, the event was hosted for First Nations Students from across the Goulburn region, featuring careers and aspirations exhibits, panel speakers and breakout sessions focusing on First Nations specific opportunities to pursue higher education, training and employment. Community connection, cultural strength and health and wellbeing were also hot topics on the day.









# ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Monday 14th August, Greater Shepparton Secondary College held its annual Athletics Carnival at the Shepparton Little Athletics Club. The day was a huge success with over 350 students from Years 7-12 taking to the track and field events to earn valuable points for their respective houses. After a fantastic day of friendly competition, it was Murrumbidgee House (Yellow) who came out on top as the overall champions: just beating out Warrego House for the top honours.

Well done to all students who competed and congratulations to the following students who were named Age Group Champions for the day:

12-13 Years Female Champion	Saskia Matthews
12-13 Years Male Champion	Arman Abdul
14 Years Female Champion	Jayda Golding
14 Years Male Champion	Seamus Chapman
15 Years Female Champion	Fofoa Tulimafono
15 Years Male Champion	Marlo D'Addona
16 Years Female Champion	Olivia Buchan
16 Years Male Champion	Adam Chandler & Connor Fallon
17 Years Female Champion	Holly Egan
17 Years Male Champion	Sabri Ibisi
18-20 Years Female Champion	Haley Gorringe
18-20 Years Male Champion	Bharat Sharma

The Best Performances of the day went to Olivia Buchan, Fofoa Tulimafono & Seamus Chapman. All 3 competitors won all five of their respective events. Congratulations to all the Age Group Champions and good luck to all competitors moving on to the next stage of competition. The GMDSSV Track & Field Championships will be held on Friday 1st September in Shepparton.











## HUME REGION CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Friday 16th June, GSSC took a team of 40 students to Benalla for the Hume Region Cross Country Championships. Special mention to Kazadi Kadima who won the 14 years boys age group in a time of 10:02.67 for his 3km run. Kazadi will be representing GSSC at the School Sport Victoria Championships in July along with the following students who also qualified:

Cody O'Donnell - 8th in the 14 years boys

Jai Laws - 7th in the 15 years boys

Liam Exton - 10th in the 15 years boys

Jayden Pert - 9th in the 16 years boys

Samantha Comline - 11th in the 17-20 years girls

Our 14 years boys team of Kazadi Kadima, Cody O'Donnell and Ayden McCrae and the 17-20 years boys team of Damon Moloney, Gamar Bakhtiet and Nicholas Vella both came in second place in the teams division.









# REFUGEE WEEK

Students and staff put their best poker faces to the test this week, joining in the gym for a game of 'hunt the ring' or 'mheibes' as it's traditionally known. A common game played in Iraq, hunt the ring involves two teams each taking turns to hide the ring while the opposing group uses clues through body language and expressions to guess the ring keeper. This and other multicultural games have been hosted by our Multicultural Liaison Officers at recess and lunch, as part of GSSC's early celebration of Refugee Week.

This year's theme 'Finding Freedom,' aims to highlight aspects of the refugee experience and help the broader community to understand what it is like to be a refugee. The national celebration also works to unite individuals, communities and organisations from many different backgrounds behind a common cause and as a reminder, that regardless of our differences, we all share a common humanity.





# REMEMBRANCE DAY





# PROJECT READY GRADUATION

Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Goulburn Murray LLEN Project Ready program .

Project Ready is a hands-on work readiness and personal development program that incorporates a VET Certificate II in Active Volunteering. It supports students in developing the skills required to successfully transition into further training or the workforce.

Over the course of the year, the GSSC students participating have taken part in a range of industry training experiences, work placement opportunities and personal development activities.

At the graduation event held last week it wonderful to celebrate together with students, families and program coordinators and supporters and to reflect on and celebrate the amazing progress and achievements our students have made along the way.

Thank you to GMLLEN and local businesses and organisations who make this program possible and who have opened up new opportunities and pathways for our students.



## ASHEFEST

We are the Buroinjin Challenge Champions for 2023!

Well done to our GSSC students for winning all three divisions at ASHEfest held yesterday. Absolute stellar effort.

Held annually by ASHE Shepparton, ASHEfest is a three-day event bringing schools together from across the region to celebrate the history and culture of First Nations people.

Tuesday 5 September was the first

day of the festival where secondary schools competed in the Buroinjin Challenge. Buroinjin is a ball game originating from the Kabi Kabi people of South Queensland and traditionally uses a small kangaroo skin ball.

Thank you to ASHE Shepparton - The University of Melbourne, Rumbalara Football Netball Club, GOTAFE, Greater Shepparton City Council, VicHealth, sponsors and local elders and special guests who gave up their time to make this such a special event for our young people.







## YEAR 12 PYJAMA DAY

Our Year 12 students took the opportunity to rug up in their pyjamas, onesies and dressing gowns for their out-of-school-uniform day on the second last day of Term 2.

This is one of two dress-up days the Year 12 cohort have already hosted to raise money for a local charity. The group will host different fundraisers over the remainder of next semester as well, and collectively nominate their chosen beneficiary at the end of the school year.







## DUX OF THE SCHOOL: FAST-TRACKING HIS WAY TO SUCCESS

We would like to congratulate Year 12 student, Matthew Hanns, who has been named 2023 GSSC dux.

Like his fellow Year 12 peers across the state, Matthew woke this morning to his VCE results, followed by a phone call from Executive Principal, Barbara O'Brien informing him he was dux of the college.

"I was really happy," Matthew said.

"Year 12 has been a stressful year and the wait between exams and receiving results was at times nerve-racking so getting my scores and being happy with them is definitely a weight lifted."

Matthew received an ATAR of 97.40 and this year studied Philosophy, Physics, Specialist Mathematics and Literature.

Last year he fast-tracked Mathematics Methods and Biology and next year he will undertake English Language, Computing and Chemistry.

At the end of Year 8, Matthew fast-tracked into Year 10, which has allowed him to complete his VCE over three years. He said this enabled him to challenge himself and to turn 18 before heading to university.

Post-secondary schooling, Matthew is striving for direct entry into the Monash School of Medicine. Now he has received the ATAR and study scores he needs, Matthew is hoping to sit the University Clinical Aptitude Test for Australia and New Zealand (UCAT ANZ) to be considered for this.

"Medicine is something I've always been interested in – I would love to become a doctor and be able to help people," Matthew said.

"If I'm unable to do this, I hope to undertake a double degree in Biomedicine and Engineering, which would enable me

to explore the engineering side of things while still leaving medicine open.

"Knowing that I received the ATAR I need for the Engineering and Biomedical Science degree at Monash is comforting as I can now focus on the UCAT and my Chemistry subject, which is a pre-requisite for medicine."

Executive Principal Ms O'Brien said she was extremely proud of Matthew's efforts and those of the entire 2023 Year 12 cohort.

"I think I speak on behalf of all of us GSSC when I say we are immensely proud of Matthew. He is not only an exceptional student, but a kind, polite and courteous young person who we are lucky to have here at Greater Shepparton Secondary College," she said.

"Matthew has worked really hard over the past two years to achieve his results and I know he has a bright future ahead.

Ms O'Brien said among the graduating class of 2023, there are students who have achieved well and who have already taken alternative pathways to those reliant on ATARs and study scores.

"Receiving VCE results comes with mixed emotions – for some today will be a celebration, while others may be feeling disappointed or anxious," she said.

"While we recognise that our students need to work through these emotions, we also encourage them to reach out to our careers team who are available onsite to talk through results and Change of Preference options.

"There is always more than one way to get to where you want to be, and I would just like to congratulate each and every one of our Year 12s for an amazing year."





#### **Biyala Neighbourhood:**

Sabri Ibisi and Reyhaneh Hosseini

#### **Dharnya Neighbourhood:**

Joanna Muli and Bella O'Dwyer

#### **Bayuna Neighbourhood:**

Trinity Drain and Madeline Judd.

## 2024 COLLEGE CAPTAINS

We caught up with our 2024 leaders to find out how they were feeling after finding out they were successful in these roles, and what they hope to achieve in the new school year.

### **Biyala**

Reyhaneh: Through my high school years I've taken on various leadership roles, including as Vice Campus Captain in Year 9 in Mooroopna and on the Student Representative Council. This year I've also been one of GSSC's College Values Leaders.

As a College Captain, I hope to be a voice for the non-vocal students. I'd like to hear the ideas from students and share these with leadership to drive student-led change. I also hope, as a multicultural student, that many of my peers see themselves represented and also feel encouraged to put their hand up for leadership roles in the future.

Sabri: I haven't taken on a leadership role in recent times, but as I've progressed into my senior years, I feel like I have gained the confidence to take this on and make a difference.

I'd love to work towards bridging the gap between our various school cohorts – to build on the connectedness between students, leaders and staff and ensure that every voice is heard. I hope to see more students getting involved in decision making and seeking change around the school. I hope through this role I can encourage more students to have a say.

### **Dharnya**

Joanna: I knew that in my final year at school I wanted to take on a leadership role. I didn't know whether to apply for College Captain, I felt like it was out of reach but then I decided to just go for it. The process all happened really quickly and I was so surprised to find out I got the role but so happy I decided to give it a go.

My aim through this role is to create a place where everyone feels like they belong. I'm a proud Tongan

girl and my culture is everything to me. I hope that through the diversity of our group – other students see themselves represented and know that nothing is ever out of reach.

Bella: Being a College Captain is always something I wanted to do. Throughout the years I've taken on various leadership roles including on Student Representative Council in primary school and in Year 9 I was a House Captain at the Mooroopna Secondary College Campus. Through this role, I want to build the aspirations of all students. I want everyone here to feel like they can achieve and to access the supports and resources available to achieve their goals, whether they be big or small.

### **Bayuna**

Trinity: After being a House Captain at the Mooroopna Secondary College Campus in 2021 I knew in my senior year I wanted to take on a leadership role. I was so surprised when I found out I was successful and very happy.

Next year I'd really like to work towards strengthening connections across year levels. Vertical Home Groups introduced this year have gone some way towards achieving that, but I think we can create even more opportunities for students of all ages to connect and lean on each other for support.

Madeline: Becoming a College Captain is something I have aspired to since Year 7. Over the years I've taken on various leadership roles, including as a College Values Leader at GSSC this year. I've really enjoyed the experience and the privilege to work with students and staff to make direct change.

I'd like to use the Captaincy role work towards building opportunities where students can set goals – both personal to them and related to future careers and pathways. I think goal setting is a great way to help students feel like they're coming to school with a purpose and to help them be more prepared and productive.



# YEAR 12 GRADUATION

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023









# 2024 LEADERS



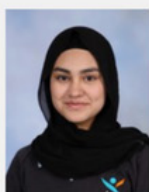
## 2024 SPECIALIST LEADERS

We are pleased to introduce our Student Specialist Leaders for 2024.

These students comprise Values, Environmental, Music, First Nations and Multicultural Leaders with representation from across all year levels.

Our student leaders are integral to our College Mission to nurture a student-centred culture and promote student leadership, voice and agency. In addition to advocating for fellow students, these leadership roles provide an opportunity for our young people to challenge themselves, build their own leadership skills and expand horizons.

### MULTICULTURAL LEADERS



Diya  
Ali Bangash



Shiringul  
Amini



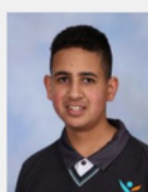
Zainab  
Alnajar



Syma  
Karimi



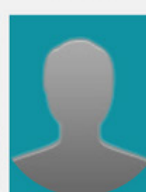
Mimi  
Batamuliza



Karrar  
Alderawy



Hargun  
Kaur



Shaima  
Khaksar

### MUSIC LEADERS



Stephanie  
Ludlow



Charlotte  
Amadei



Josh  
Mills





# Greater Shepparton Secondary College 2024 SPECIALIST LEADERS

## VALUES LEADERS



Ray-Ray  
Waser



Aleesha  
Sullivan



Taranpreet  
Kaur



Khatera  
Sadat



Oakley  
Pendlebury



Farnia  
Mirjani



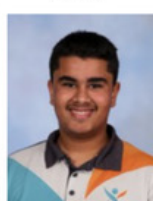
Temperance  
Thu



Olivia  
Buchan



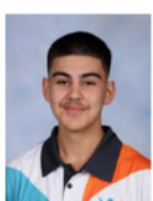
Annabelle  
Baines



Jaideep  
Singh Dhillon



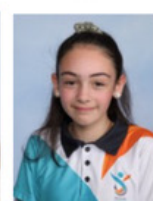
Juna  
Crozier



Kadir  
Sut



Emma  
Hutchison



Tayla  
Said

## FIRST NATIONS LEADERS

### BIYALA

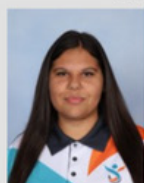


Cody  
Fairless



Lachlan  
Gribble

### DHARNYA



Kirby  
Joachim



Ryan  
Briggs-Farrow

### BAYUNA



Laura  
Trewin



Jag  
Weston

## ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS



Aspen  
Richardson



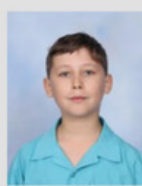
Shaniqua  
Aravaji



Madeline  
Beare



Maddison  
Ryan



Vincent  
Vesty



Zac  
Pietch





GREATER  
**SHEPPARTON**  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE