

FOSTER
SECONDARY COLLEGE
NIHIL SINE LABORE

FOSTER SECONDARY COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

June 2026

www.fsc.vic.edu.au

THE PRINCIPAL REFLECTION



DEAN DUURSMA

Semester 1 is drawing to a close and I can't think of a better way to celebrate our achievements than an always brilliant Music performance Evening. The performance is on Wednesday 24 June at the FWMAC. A huge percentage of our students participate in the program and all of them courageously perform in front of a live and very supportive audience of peers, friends, family and community. I encourage everybody to purchase a ticket and come and see a wonderful celebration of teamwork, positivity and musical entertainment, driven by our staff members, Rebecca Bone and Andy Murray.

.Watching any TV or reading any print media in the current environment, one might assume that all teenagers are violent, uncontrollable thugs. That is certainly not the case here at Foster SC. Our Year 9 Community based coaching class recently volunteered to umpire and referee Primary School Sports. We received wonderful feedback on their efforts and attitude. Our cross-country students were commended for their behaviour at the regional meet. Our students volunteer and contribute to their sports clubs in canteens and running boundary or water. Students from Foster SC represent our communities at ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and other formal events. Youth in our area of South Gippsland give me great confidence in the future and will, hopefully, be the leaders of our community in times to come.

Student Semester Reports will be published on the morning of Friday 26 June. This will give students and families time to have a look and ask any questions before the end of term and holidays where staff not be accessible.

Please have a refreshing and safe holiday break. We look forward to the continuing successes of our students and staff in Semester 2.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Student leadership





Mid-year reflections from our busy student leaders!"

From Ursula

"I wanted to represent my school in a positive way."

Ursula reflects that she has developed better public speaking skills, organisation, and confidence, especially around peers.

She sees her growth as fluid and everchanging and is proud of where she is in terms of my individuality and leadership.

Her recommendation for future applicants- For certain students this is a great opportunity to represent a school of which we are proud.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

From Anouar

"Being a part of the school leadership over the months has broadened my understanding of what makes a school (especially a rural one) outstanding."

Anouar initially applied for the role to broaden public speaking skills and opportunities. Public speaking creates a sense of interaction with peers and allows me to be vocal about my passion.

Achievements have included being part of the breakfast program weekly on Thursday mornings and delivering three speeches to the school and wider community about family violence, diversity and most recently, Sorry Day.

He recommends future students to apply for the position of school leader as it provides a sense of socialising and makes a difference with matters inside and outside of school.

Thanks to Ursula and Anouar for their varied leadership roles during their schooling at FSC. Both have referenced SRC and junior school leadership roles in the past. Their ability to represent the school inside and within the wider community is appreciated.

MUSIC NEWS

Music Mayhem Concert

Our Year 7–12 Music students had a fantastic day in Melbourne on Wednesday, attending the musical Waitress at Her Majesty's Theatre. Students enjoyed outstanding performances from Natalie Bassingthwaite, Rob Mills and John Waters, bringing to life the wonderful music and lyrics of Sara Bareilles. An additional highlight for many was seeing the live six-piece band on stage and seamlessly integrated into the production.

It was also a special opportunity to share one final musical theatre excursion with our Year 12 students before they head into their final months at Foster Secondary College. Over the years, they have made an enormous contribution to the Music Department through performances, rehearsals, concerts, and countless hours of hard work. It was fitting to enjoy one last show together, and Waitress certainly didn't disappoint. A fantastic day of music, inspiration, and plenty of memorable moments.

MUSIC MAYHEM CONCERT:

All Instrumental and Classroom Music students perform at a public concert for the community.

- 3.15pm Walk to the FWMAC
- 3.30pm Sound check and concert walk-through
- 5.30pm Dinner and change for concert (All Black) - THIS IS UNSUPERVISED TIME. Students are free to go home or get dinner down the street with parent permission. Parents and guardians are responsible for the students at this time. Students can remain at the hall if necessary, but cannot be in the main stage area due to lighting and sound preparation.
- 6.30pm Doors open to audience
- 7.00pm Concert

NOTE: This is a long concert, so strap yourselves in!!!, but it is very important to us that every single music student gets a chance to perform their work to a large audience. Each student puts in an incredible amount of effort in their own time to create their music and we feel so lucky to be able to share this with them.







WELLBEING UPDATE



Supports at Foster Secondary School – if you have any concerns or need support, please do not hesitate in contacting the Wellbeing team at FSC.
Anna Stafani is the wellbeing Coordinator who works Monday – Friday
Sandra Challis – Mental Health Practitioner – At FSC on Mondays.
Emma Hughes – Secondary School Nurse – Available on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
Anne- Maree Stever – Koorie Support

When online gaming takes over your life -Worried that your online gaming is becoming a problem? Here's what you need to know about gaming addiction.



Gaming addiction is a real thing!

It can happen playing any game - online, offline, digital or video For most people gaming is not a problem and may never be one. But for a very small amount of people it may become a problem or an addiction. Research is looking into whether this is an actual disorder (Gaming Disorder). The difference between healthy gaming and addiction is the negative impact it is having on your life. It's important to recognise the warning signs and start to make a change.

What are the warning signs? Some signs that your gaming might become a problem are:

- Playing even though you're no longer enjoying it
- Not being able to quit or play less, even when you want to
- Needing to spend more and more time playing to feel good
- Feeling unable to focus on other activities when you're not gaming
- Using gaming to forget or cope with problems or negative feelings
- Lying to people close to you about how much time you spend playing

WELLBEING UPDATE

For More information these are some great websites for support and advice.

Kids helpline When online gaming takes over your life | Kids Helpline

Reach out.com - Help your teenager take a break from technology | Technology

Raining children Video gaming problems & addiction: 9-18 | Raising Children Network

Breakfast Club every Thursday

Every Thursday at the school cooking room our school leaders, and staff run a morning breakfast. Each week they have options of warm toasties (baked beans or spaghetti), pancakes, fresh fruit and always something special like savoury bread, muffins, slices and quiches. This is a funded program which we are delighted to see each week. All our students stop into the warm cooking room and grab something to eat. Thanks to everyone that helps and to all the students for coming in and grabbing something to start the day



WELLBEING UPDATE



Youth Assist Clinic (YAC) @ South Gippsland Community Centre

A free medical clinic to help people aged 12-25 years with physical, mental and sexual health concerns.

What we do

YAC is a free clinic offered to all young people aged 12-25 years. It is open on Mondays during the school term from 12.00 pm – 4.30 pm. With a Nurse, GP and Headspace counsellor on site, YAC can help with physical, mental and sexual health concerns. This includes Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) screening, regular GP appointments and Headspace referrals.

Who can use our service?

Anyone aged 12–25 years old.
How you access - No referral is necessary.
You can make an appointment with our Community Care Reception team Monday to Friday between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on telephone 03 5683 9780.

MARRUNG UPDATE

Celebration!!!!
FSC a Secretary Marrung Award finalist!

The Secretary's Marrung Awards, established in 2021, celebrate the unique knowledge and skills that Koorie staff and allies bring to the department, to create better educational outcomes for Koorie students. This may be in roles that focus on communications, policy, program delivery, student support, teaching, allied health, or leadership.

Tika Hicken, FSC Marrung lead was nominated for the awards for 2026.

The nomination category was as follows

Positive Climate for Learning

This category celebrates those who foster an environment where learning and development thrive, showcasing exemplary respect and inclusion.

It honours individuals and services dedicated to making Koorie children and learners of all ages feel confident in their cultural identity and helps all Victorians appreciate and respect Koorie culture and history.



Tika is pictured with the Secretary of the Department of education and the Chair of the VCAA, Tony Bates.

From the website-

Finalist: Foster Secondary College (Tika Hicken)

Tika Hicken is a dynamic Marrung lead at Foster Secondary College. Her work on the Foster Secondary College's First Nations Celebration Day includes the opening of the Foster Secondary College Reconciliation Avenue, learning stones space, a First Nations music mural, and a community celebration 'Do It Deadly' concert.
The collection of projects focuses on transforming the physical landscape into a space that honours First Nations musicians and provides a space for learning and yarning.

https://www.vic.gov.au/secretarys-marrung-award-winners

Well done Tika and thank you for all your hard work.

SCHOOL CAREER'S UPDATE

Careers Report

Over the next couple of months, the Careers Department and Senior School Coordinators will begin course counselling for preparation of 2027.

Students who will be in the senior school 2027, along with their parents and carers will be invited to the Senior School Information Night on Wednesday the 29th July. Members from TAFE Gippsland, SGBCTSA, Country University Centre and other Tertiary providers will be there to answer questions and explain the different offerings provided. Our senior coordinator Kit Rotthier will explain VCE, VCEVM pathways and our teachers will be on hand to answer questions relating to their classes.

Year 9 students will be attending "Speed Careers" at Korumburra to begin the process of Pathway planning, as well as the follow up from the Morrisby Profiling. Interviews will be held on site with a Morrisby profiling expert the week of July the 20th. The Department of Education gives every year 9 Victorian Government school student free access to the world leading Morrisby online career education tool. Morrisby helps your child make informed choices for senior secondary school and beyond by exploring their strengths, interests and career opportunities.

Foster Secondary College encourage all parents and carers to discuss their students course choices and/or pathway options. Students that are interested in applying for VETDSS for 2027 are required to make an appointment to discuss their options with Kylie. Appointments can be made during school hours or after school to suit parents work schedule.
Please contact Kylie to arrange a meeting. Kylie.hill@education.vic.gov.au or 0356 822 066

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Melbourne VCE Camp – 15, 16,17 July
- Music Careers Expo – 28 July
- Year 10 - ACU / Swinburne University Tours – 28 July
- VCECM Financial Literacy Course - 11 August
- Year 10 Work Experience September 7th to 11th.

SCHOOL UPDATES

Community Bank Toora and Foster is excited to be partnering with the Foster Secondary College with a pilot program to provide support to students and their families who may be facing unexpected financial difficulties. The Community Bank has provided FSC with funds for use during the 2026 school year, allowing the School Wellbeing Team to provide the support they believe to be appropriate for student and family needs. Bendigo Bank operates not only to provide banking services but through its Community Bank model to use its profits to strengthen our community, especially when there is an identified need. This program is an example of how the Bank does this. It is pleasing to know that the program is making a substantial difference for students, their families and FSC

Bendigo Bank

Community Bank
Toora and Foster

SCHOOL NEWS

Hawks

To Foster Secondary College,

As a valued school within the Hawthorn Football Club zone, we are thrilled to be in touch with an exclusive $15 Adult General Admission ticketing offer for staff and families of students for our Round 16 match against GWS at the MCG on Friday 26 June. As well as information on KIDS GO FREE for this match.

What to include when sharing the offer (simply just copy the below and paste to your school newsletter or noticeboard, but don't forget to attach the image in the link below).

HOW TO REDEEM R16 $15 ADULT GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS + KIDS GO FREE TICKETS

- ·Go to TICKETEK website or link here
- ·On "Select date" dropdown, choose option "Fri 26 Jun 2026 7:40pm - Club Members & Public Reserve."
- ·A box below will appear and copy your promo code FSC16 in and click "Unlock tickets"
- ·You will be taken to a page where a map will appear. On the right-hand side, click "Find Best available"
- ·Select "Adult" ticket (maximum qty 10) and "Children 6-14 years" (maximum qty 10) for kids go free ticket. Click next and follow steps to check out.
- ·General admission seating areas will be posted in the link here, 24 hours prior to the match.

Click here to download promotional image to share.

Kind regards,
Hawthorn Membership Team
03 9535 3045

SCHOOL NEWS

Daniella San Jose
Member & Fan Engagement Lead
W: +61395353010

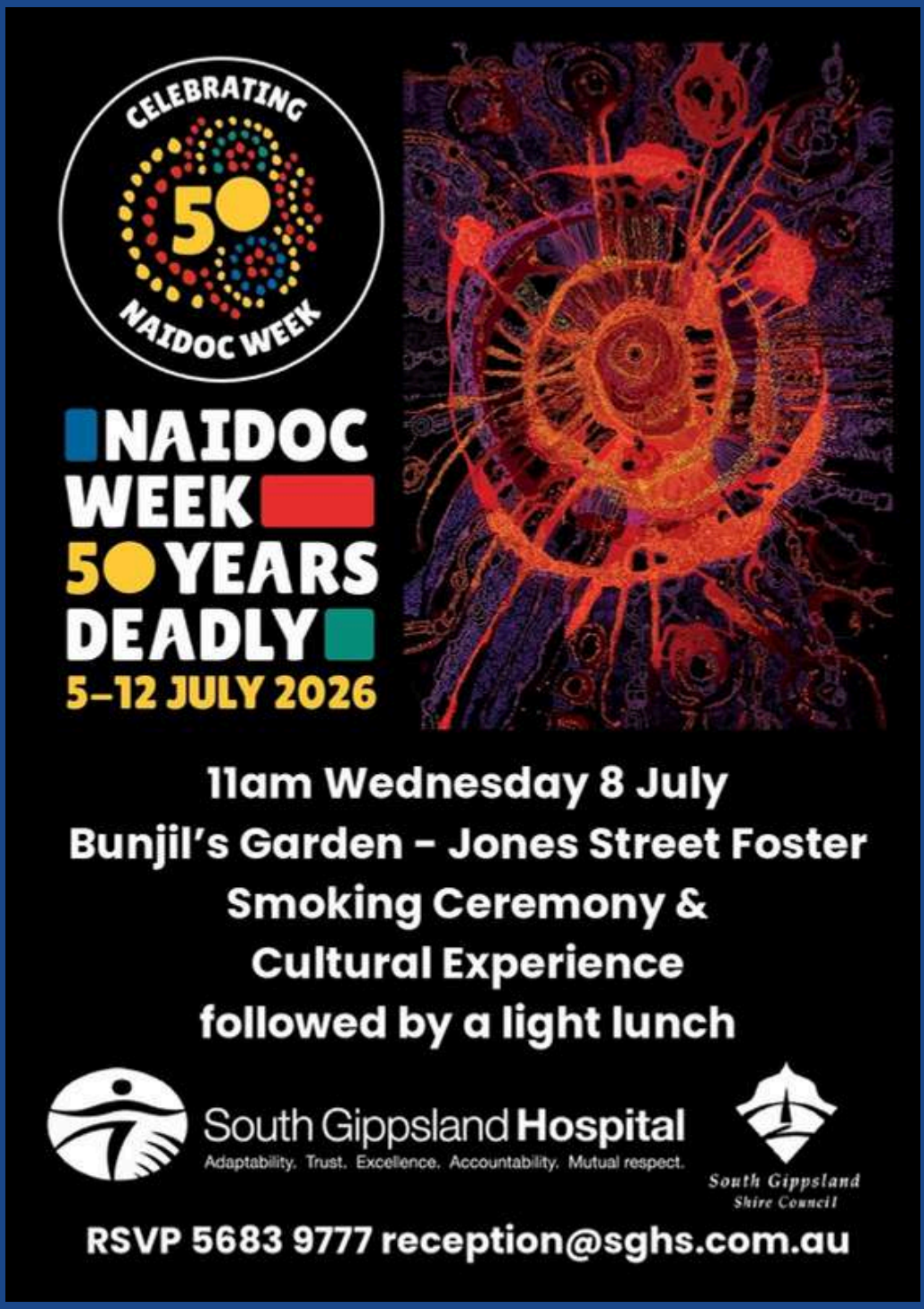
Hawthorn Football Club
Kennedy Community Centre
94 Tootal Rd,
Dingley Village VIC 3172



Breakfast Club

SCHOOL NEWS

NAIDOC WEEK



SCHOOL NEWS

WONTHAGGI ACOUSTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL



SCHOOL NEWS

Sandy Point Music bringing you local and national artists for your entertainment

COMING UP AT SANDY POINT MUSIC -

our last event before the winter break - tickets for this show featuring popular local band Blind Cobblers Thumb are going fast. Get online and grab yourself a ticket!

Date: Saturday 27th June
Where: Sandy Point Community Centre
When: Doors Open – 7.15pm for 8pm start
BYO Drinks and Nibbles
Tickets: $35 from Trybooking

Blind Cobblers Thumb
Supported by locals - Smiley Doherty



TICKETS

CONNECT WITH US

EMAIL - sandypointmusic@gmail.com