

2025 Issue 12 July 30



Like many of you, my own kids don't talk to me much about school. I get the usual grunts, some comments about classes, but other than that, not much is mentioned. However, the other night my son (in Year 8) was looking at the subjects on offer for Year 9 and we were talking through the options and thinking about what that might mean into the future, beyond Year 9.

What struck me (beyond the fact that he was engaging with me about school!) was that he was genuinely interested in talking about the subjects on offer and which ones he might like to do (or not). Isn't this exactly what we want our young people to do? Be interested in their learning, be curious about different subject areas and to be directing their own pathways?

Tonight (Wednesday 30th July) we have our Senior School Information evening and subject expo – designed for this very conversation. We want our students to be engaged in their learning, to discuss it with you and with their teachers. We want them to direct the conversation and for them to choose their own pathway for next year, but also for beyond their time here at Galen. I encourage all families of students in Years 9, 10 and 11 to attend this important school event

In addition to this event, **next Wednesday (6th August)**, we have our student/parent/teacher conferences. This is another opportunity to put education front and centre in our minds – to chat with your son/daughter's Homeroom teacher about their progress, their achievement and where to next? For students in Year 9 and 10, it's the chance to discuss with an experienced teacher your pathways and subject choices for the coming year. If you're in VCE Year 11, it's a chance for you to reflect on your recent exams and to consider what goals you might like to set for the coming semester and beyond.

At Galen, we are forever grateful that you have given us the privilege of educating your children. However, we know that we're not alone in this endeavour. We look forward to walking with you and joining you for these important conversations about your child's education, their choices and their future.

Shaun Mason | Principal

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Dates to Remember

*whole school event in red

Senior Pathways Evening

Year 10 Immunisation

Year 11 Parish Mass

Subject selection & learning data conferences

*PUPIL-FREE DAY

Music Camp departs

Staff Professional Learning

*PUPIL-FREE DAY

Australian Maths Competition

Yr 11 Downhill Ski/Snowboard Day

July/August

Wed 30 Jul

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Thu 31 Jul

Fri 1 Aug Wed 6 Aug

... . . .

Wed 6 Aug

Wed 13 Aug

Thu 7th Aug

Fri 8 Aug

Follow us on socials \





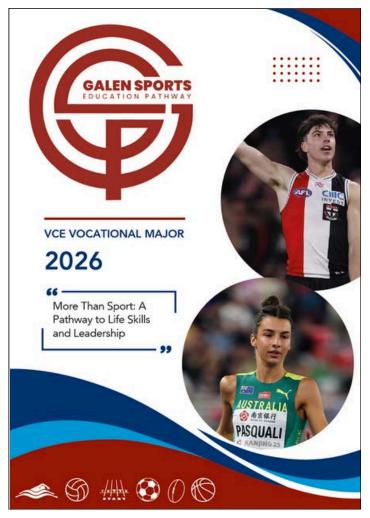
NEW in 2026 – Galen's Sports Education Pathway

Galen Catholic College is excited to launch the Galen Sports Education Pathway (GSEP) in 2026 - a brand new senior program designed for students who love sport and want a hands-on, active approach to learning.

As part of the VCE Vocational Major, GSEP blends academic study with high-performance training, structured workplace learning, and a Certificate III in Sport and Recreation. Students will develop key skills in leadership, teamwork, communication, and resilience - ready to take on future study, work or training in the sport and health fields.

Whether you're aiming for a career in sport, fitness, or simply want to complete Year 12 in a way that suits your learning style, GSEP is more than sport - it's a pathway to real-life skills and future opportunities.

Come along to the Senior Pathways Evening to learn how GSEP could be the right fit for you in 2026! Find out more at our Senior Pathways Evening (details on next page).



Levi Selected for Australian MTB Squad

Congratulations to Year 10 student Levi Billings, who has been selected to represent Australia in the Under 17 Mountain Bike Cross Country (MTB XCO) Development Squad.

Levi is one of just 12 riders chosen from across the country for this prestigious opportunity. He will travel to Japan in September to compete in an international event as part of the national squad.

This is an outstanding achievement, and we wish Levi all the best as he prepares to take on this exciting challenge on the world stage.











OR CLICK HERE TO REGISTER Galen Catholic College

2026 Senior Pathways Evening

Wednesday 30 July 2025 | 6-8pm



Oskar Treks Kokoda

Year 11 student Oskar English recently returned from an unforgettable trek along the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea, as part of a group of Wangaratta students taking part in the Bob Iskov Kokoda Youth Leadership Program.

This local scholarship provides young people from Wangaratta with the opportunity to build resilience, grow in leadership, and gain a deeper appreciation for Australia's wartime history.

"The most challenging part was probably the physical toll on your body after all the mountain ranges you go over," Oskar shared.

"I've taken away multiple things on the trip, but my biggest one is the sacrifice the Australian soldiers made for our country. The scale of losses on the trail really made me grateful for what we have."

Well done to Oskar for representing Galen and the local community with humility and strength on such a meaningful journey.









Hands-On STEM at Yarra Ranges

This week, a select group of Galen VEX Robotics students were lucky enough to attend an exclusive three-day STEM Camp at Yarra Ranges Tech School (Tuesday to Thursday).

As the only school invited, our students had a unique opportunity to dive deep into the Engineering Design Process and strengthen their skills in robotics and programming. Over the course of the camp, they worked intensively with Optical, Bumper, Distance, Vision, and Inertial sensors, learning how to program and calibrate them to complete a range of robotic challenges.

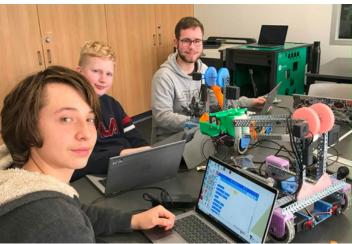
It was an exciting and enriching experience that pushed their critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills — and highlighted the incredible potential of STEM learning beyond the classroom.

















FREE STEM WORKSHOP FOR YEAR 9–12 STUDENTS

HIGHWAY TO STEM NATIONAL WORKSHOPS 2025

For students who are ready to shape the future of STEM.

GAIN CONFIDENCE & SKILLS

LEARN FROM EXPERT MENTORS

MAKE INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS

BUILD YOUR CAREER IN STEM

UPCOMING IN-PERSON WORKSHOP

Monday 11 August 2025 , 1.00 pm Wangaratta Turf Club, Victoria

In partnership with







RESERVE YOUR SPOT:

See sign up form in the bulletin

Or email
Ms Timms
maree.timms@galen.vic
.edu.au

Year 7s Immerse in Art and Country

Year 7 students visited the Benalla Art Gallery to view the works of Albert Namatjira and the Hermannsburg School. The students were captivated by the delicate detail of the watercolours. Up close, they could see the true colours of Central Australia and understand why Albert Namatjira is considered one of the greatest watercolourists – his works stood out with their vibrancy and skill.

The group also experienced an extraordinary 19-metrelong painting by Mary Tonkin. This huge artwork wrapped around the gallery walls, immersing the viewer in the bush, just as the artist experienced it while painting outdoors in the Dandenong Ranges. Many students commented that the sweeping horizontal view of the landscape felt like looking out from inside Ned Kelly's helmet.









Year 7 Excursion to Wangaratta Art Gallery

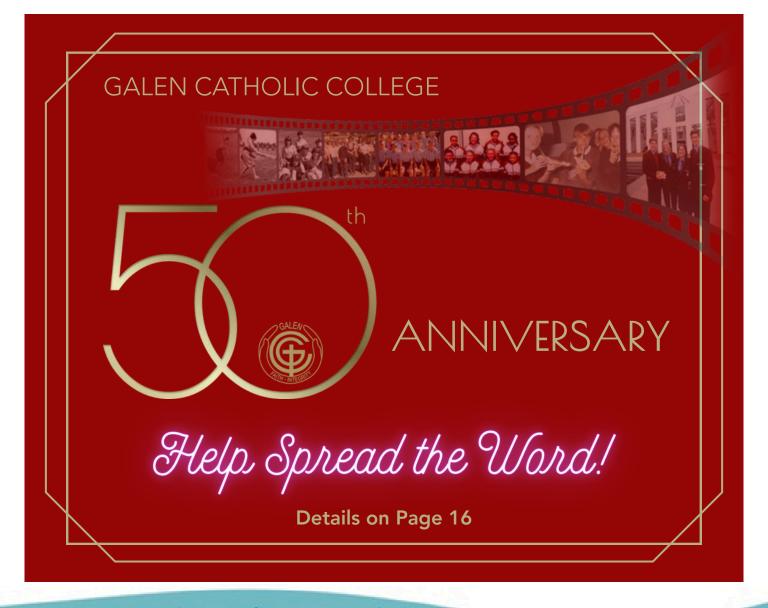
Mrs Bourke's Year 7 Art class visited the Wangaratta Art Gallery to view the exciting contemporary artworks in the \$40,000 Textile Award exhibition.

Students were curious and asked lots of questions about art, galleries, and the winning artwork. They learnt that contemporary art is about new and different ideas, and that if art never changed, it would become boring. Art changes because we change, and it reflects the times we live in.

Students also discovered that galleries are important places where we can see things that make us think, spark new ideas, and experience creativity in different ways. Gallery Director Rachel Arndt gave an excellent talk, helping students to understand these ideas.

Everyone left with a new appreciation of art and the special role a gallery plays in the community. We highly recommend visiting the Wangaratta Art Gallery to see the wonderful exhibitions on display.





DIGITECH **TEACHER** TRAINING









"Thank you very much, it was brilliantly delivered and clear this training has been developed with 'real teaching' in mind."

de for Schools is excited to offer a transformative teacher training and classroom support experie for teachers in the Wangaratta area.

ining provides the perfect gateway for rs, and their students, to begin their

We will run two concurrent sessions on the day - one for primary teachers and one for secondary teachers.

Key Details

n Catholic College n Resources Centre 244 Phillipson St, Wangaratta VIC 3677

All training, resources, and follow-up guidance ovided free of charge. Morning tea and lunch ovided on the day of training.

rinary session: Ideal for Grade 5 & 6 teachers of all inch and teaching backgrounds. econdary session: Ideal for Years 7 & 8 teachers of Il tech and teaching backgrounds, or those teaching oding for the first time.

Questions? We're here to help! megan@csinschools.con

Empowering Teachers. Engaging Students. Building Future-Ready Skills



Click here to register, or scan





Immunisation Reminder

A reminder that Year 10 immunisations are scheduled for Thursday 31 July. At this stage, only 54 out of 179 students have completed the online consent form.

To ensure your child is able to receive their immunisation, families are required to complete the online consent process via CIRV (Central Immunisation Records Victoria).

Please follow these important steps when completing the online form:

- 1.Use accurate and up-to-date information.
- 2. Select YES or NO to indicate your consent.
- 3.Be sure to click 'SAVE' before exiting the site.

We encourage all families to complete the consent process as soon as possible to ensure a smooth and efficient immunisation day. Thank you for your cooperation.



Complete online consent process





Cooking with Heart: Hospitality A Taste of Learning in Food Students Give Back Technology

In the final week of Term 2, our Year 12 Hospitality students combined skill with service in a meaningful community outreach project. As part of their practical coursework, students prepared family-sized lasagnes from scratch, refining their pasta-making techniques and working together in a commercial kitchen setting.

But this task was about more than just perfecting a recipe. Each meal was carefully cooked, labelled and frozen to be distributed to members of the Galen and wider community who may be facing hardship.

This initiative not only showcased the students' culinary talents, but also their compassion, teamwork and commitment to caring for others. It was a wonderful example of hospitality in its truest form-offering nourishment and kindness to those who need it most. Well done to all involved in this act of service and generosity.







Technology

Our Food Technology students have been busy in the kitchen, building practical skills and confidence as they explore a variety of cooking techniques and recipes. Whether they're baking, meal prepping, or experimenting with new flavours, students are learning the importance of teamwork, organisation, and nutrition in a hands-on, engaging environment.

Recently, Year 8 students prepared fresh Caesar salads as part of their learning. Makenzie Ledger, Olivia Hines, Eloise Hernan and James Irvine are pictured bleow, proudly displaying their finished dishes-delicious evidence of their growing skills and attention to detail.

Each lesson is a step toward greater independence - and some tasty results along the way!











NCCD Information Sheet for Parents, Carers and Guardians

Nationally ConsistentCollection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schoolsmustnow complete the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or "help" at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

Tocount astudentin the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

- 1.Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
- 2.Is the help given because of a disability? The word 'disability' comes from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) and it can include many students.
- 3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
- 4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student's learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

What does the word 'disability' mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word 'disability' comes from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

How will the NCCD be different this year?

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Amendments were made to the <u>Australian Education Act 2013</u> and <u>Australian Education Regulation 2013</u>). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

Wherecan I findoutmore?

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national NCCD Portal.

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

Galen Catholic College will once again proudly participate in the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, during the week of August 11–15, 2025.

This year's theme, "Be Bold. Be Kind. Speak Up.", calls on our entire community - students, staff, and families - to stand together in promoting a culture of respect, kindness and safety, both at school and beyond.

At Galen, students will take part in activities designed to:

- Encourage discussion around empathy and respectful relationships
- Reflect on the impact of bullying and the importance of kindness
- Promote student leadership as upstanders—those who speak up for others
- Empower staff and families to model and reinforce positive behaviour

Families play an essential role in creating a safe and respectful environment. During this week, we encourage parents and guardians to have open conversations with their children about bullying, online behaviour and how to support their peers.

The Bullying No Way website is a helpful resource with practical advice for families: bullyingnoway.gov.au You're also encouraged to review our Bullying Prevention Policy, available on the Galen website, to understand how we support student wellbeing and address any concerns.

If you have any concerns that your child may be experiencing bullying, speak to your child's House Leader as the first point of contact.

Be Bold. Be Kind. Speak Up.

BULLYING NO WAY WEEK 11TH-15TH AUGUST 2025

Housing Ends Homelessness

In Victoria we need 60,000 new social houses to be built to meet current demand

Galen is taking the initiative to raise awareness of homelessness by folding paper houses.
We aim to fold 2,500!

STEP 1: We provide the paper and instructions, you fold the houses (collect these from Resource Centre or Main Office)

STEP 2: Drop the houses off in the boxes in the Resource Centre or Main Office





*GALEN HAS SOME <u>PUPIL-FREE</u>
DAYS COMING UP:

Wednesday 6th August

Subject selection & learning data conferences

Wednesday 13th August

Staff professional learning



State Cross Country

Six dedicated students travelled to Melbourne to represent Galen College at the State Cross Country Championships, competing against the best runners from across Victoria. All students gave their absolute best and should be proud of their efforts on a challenging course.

Results:

12-13 Year Boys

Judd Campbell - 82nd

16 Year Boys

Lennie Cashman – 66th Hayden Winter – 83rd

17-20 Year Boys (pictured below)

Dexter Hill - 44th

Eli Green - 49th

Patrick Bennett - 79th

Congratulations to all runners for their outstanding effort and for proudly representing Galen on the state stage.



Senior Boys Basketball Crowned Hume Champions

Congratulations to our Year 11/12 Boys Basketball team, who are the Hume Region Champions after a hard-fought victory against Seda College. The final score saw Galen take the win 55–48, showcasing strong teamwork, determination, and skill under pressure.

The team now advances to the State Championships on September 18, where they'll compete against the best in Victoria. Well done to all players and coaches - we'll be cheering you on at State!



More Than Books!

Think the library is just bookshelves, silence and a few board games? Not quite.

The Galen Catholic College Library is a vibrant, welcoming space where senior students from all pathways – VCE, VM and VET- find support that makes a difference. Whether it's learning how to research effectively, picking up helpful study tips, or simply finding the perfect novel to escape into when things get a little stressful, we're here for it all.

The library team brings more than just book knowledge to the table. With professional backgrounds in education, banking, IT, journalism, horticulture, dentistry, automotive mechanics, advertising and marketing (to name a few) we're a friendly mix of real-world experience and school smarts. No question is too big, too small, or left of field; we've probably heard it before, and if not, we'll happily help find the answer.

And when the Senior Study Centre is full to the brim, students know they can count on the library for a study nook, access to helpful resources, or just a calm space to reset.

We're open (and fully staffed) 8am to 4.30pm, weekdays. We'll also be at the upcoming Senior Pathway Evening to chat with current and future families. Stop by and say hello. We're more than just books – we're part of the journey.















4 WEEKS TO GO!

GALEN CATHOLIC COLLEGE



ANNIVERSARY

AUGUST 2025

Friday 29 | College Tours & Gala Evening

Saturday 30 | Anniversary Mass

REGISTER TO ATTEND

Whether you're a former staff or student of Champagnat,
St Joseph's or Galen, or part of our current school community you're part of our story.

Join us this August as we celebrate 50 years of Galen.



Are you aged between 12 & 18? Would you like to have a stall at the November Wangaratta **Farmers Market?**

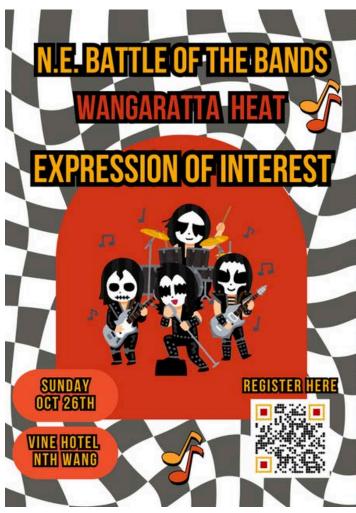
Register your interest here!





for more info (youth@wangaratta.vic.gov.au



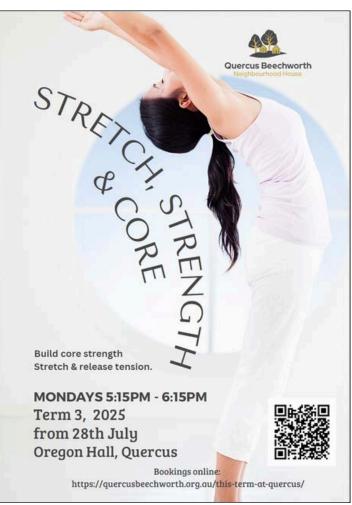








school & play in Wangaratta









This exciting series of masterclasses is a continuation of our successful Beechworth Young Cooks (BYC) program in Term 2! Join our hands-on cooking adventure for students aged 15-17 years! Learn to cook delicious meals, plan budgets, and build kitchen confidence before heading out on

your own.

Book the full six-week program or pick the classes you love most! Each session is just \$5 and led by local chefs and foodie experts.

Dates & Classes:

5th August – Gnocchi Knockout 12th August – Aromatic Adventures 19th August – Austrian Earts and Treats 26th August – Dough it Yourself 9th September – Flavours of Japan 16th September – Pasta Party

Weekly after school, 5th Aug-16th Sept (excl. 2nd Sept) Only 5 spots per class – book early!

Register your interest now! Fill in the online form with student details. Accepted participants will complete a short parental/guardian declaration form and the free Victorian Dept. of Health DoFoodSafely course (details provided).

Hosted by Quercus Beechworth with support from local volunteers.



