



Last Friday, we came together to celebrate Founders Day and acknowledge the Marist and Brigidine traditions that have shaped the community we are privileged to be part of today.

In the lead-up to Founders Day, our staff had the opportunity to hear journalist and author Stan Grant speak. One question he posed has stayed with me: **"Who are you?"** His reflections on identity and belonging prompted me to think about what it means to belong to Galen.

While we each bring our own experiences, talents, cultures, interests and identities to Galen, there is something that connects us all. When we walk through the gates each morning, we become part of something bigger than ourselves. **We are Galen.**

Our eight Houses are a wonderful example. Each has its own identity, colour and spirit, with plenty of healthy competition between them. Yet our Houses do not divide us; they provide another way for students to connect, contribute and belong. **Eight Houses. One community.**

The Marist and Brigidine founders understood that a school is much more than its buildings, uniforms or timetable. It is a community shaped by shared values, relationships and a commitment to one another.

This connects strongly with our 2026 theme, **Now is the Hour. Lead with Grace.** We are not owners of this community, but stewards of it. Each generation inherits what has been built before, contributes to it, and then passes it on. Our time at Galen may be brief, but the community we contribute to can endure. Every act of kindness, inclusion, respect, compassion and grace helps shape the Galen experience for those who follow.

Founders Day reminds us that we are part of something with a history that began before us and a future that extends well beyond us. So, reflecting on Stan Grant's question, perhaps our answer is simple: **We are Galen.**

Take care,

Shaun Mason | Principal

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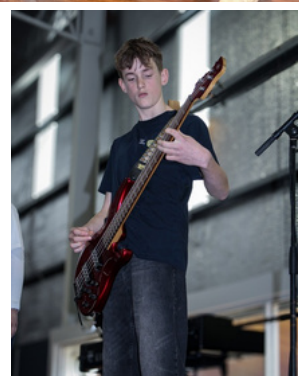
Dates to Remember

***whole school event in red**

Aug/Sept

Year 8 Guest Speaker: Helen Haines	Tue 25 Aug
The Tipping Point: Media Excursion	Tue 25 Aug
Year 12 Dress Up Day: Back to the 80s	Thu 27 Aug
Year 9 Parish Mass	Thu 27 Aug
Cape York Immersion departs	Mon 31 Aug
Vincent House Feast Day	Wed 2 Sept
Year 7 2027 Parent Information Evening	Tue 8 Sept
Cape York Immersion returns	Tue 8 Sept
Respectful Relationships Student Forum	Tue 15 Sept
Year 10 Formal	Tue 15 Sept

FOUNDERS DAY



Community Support, Big Adventure



Thank you



A huge thank you to the local businesses and community members supporting our Cape York adventure by contributing to our raffle prizes!

24 Galen students will soon head north with Red Earth to learn about Indigenous culture, Country and community life. We're so grateful for everyone helping make this experience possible!

Vinnies Winter Appeal

A huge shoutout to everyone who donated to the Vinnies Winter Appeal and helped share warmth and compassion with those in need!



State Hockey



Congratulations to Zander for making the U14 Victorian Hockey Team who will represent the state at the 2026 National Championships in Canberra, October 4-10!

Five Years On

Five years ago, Galen VET Agriculture students helped revegetate a bare and eroding gully in the Byawatha hills. Today, the transformation is clear.

Their work has helped improve habitat for native plants and animals while slowing water movement and reducing erosion. A wonderful example of hands-on learning making a lasting difference to the local environment.



Bon Voyage, Julien!

Year 10 Food Technology recently farewelled Julien following his six-week exchange at Galen from France. To mark the occasion, students shared a traditional Australian pavlova while discussing the influence France has had on modern cuisine.

It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate cultural exchange, food and the connections made during Julien's time at Galen. We wish Julien safe travels and every success in his future endeavours.



Buon Viaggio, Jole!

Year 7 Italian exchange student Jole has spent the past three weeks at Galen, becoming part of the 7.2 community and embracing Australian school life.

Jole enjoyed experiencing subjects such as Materials & Technology, representing Galen in Year 7 Basketball and joining in the Founders Day celebrations. She was grateful for the warm welcome from students and staff and the opportunity to experience Australian culture.

As Jole returns to Milan, we wish her safe travels and hope to see her back at Galen in the future!



A Taste of Italy

Grazie to our incredible staff for putting in so much hard work to bring our annual Italian Day to life! Students enjoyed a day filled with Italian-inspired activities, from herb identification and Madonnari-inspired chalk drawing to delicious cooking classes.

And, of course, we couldn't forget the highlight of lunchtime - our annual spaghetti eating competition! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a fun and memorable celebration of Italian culture.



Annual Awards Ceremony

After another outstanding year of school football, our Year 7 and Year 8 Football teams gathered for their Awards Ceremony at lunchtime on Thursday 13 July. The awards recognised not only on-field excellence, but also the teamwork, sportsmanship, and character that are at the heart of our football program. Mr Mason was in attendance to hand out the medals along with team coach Mr Lombardi.

Year 7 Success

Our Year 7 team enjoyed a highly successful season, finishing as Upper Hume Division Champions. **Patrick was awarded the Division Final MVP** after an outstanding performance in the grand final against Catholic College Wodonga.

Ryan received the Third Best and Fairest Award for his strong performances throughout the Hume Region Finals and his influential final quarter in the division decider against Catholic College Wodonga.

Co-captain **Sonny was recognised with the Second Best and Fairest Award** after two excellent days of football, contributing across a number of positions and consistently putting the team first.

Harry capped off a remarkable season by winning the Best and Fairest Award. Harry was one of the team's most consistent performers, leading from the front and excelling in all seven matches throughout the campaign.

Year 8 Recognition

Following their State Finals appearance in 2025, the Year 8 team continued to demonstrate impressive individual performances and exceptional teamwork throughout the year.

Hugh received the Effort Player of the Day Award for his tireless work in defence and his commitment at every contest.

The Goal of the Day Award went to Jack, whose memorable first goal for Galen was made even more special by his enthusiastic celebration.

Charlie was recognised with the Team Spirit Award for his positivity, energy, and enthusiasm within the group.

Vaughn was named Year 8 Best Player and also received the Pressure Player of the Day Award after a dominant performance. Congratulations to Vaughn on a well-deserved double achievement.

Also a special mention to our Year 8 captain Judd and Coach Mr Lombardi for winning the Under 14 National Football Champions with Team Vic.

A Fantastic Year for Football

The 2026 season has been another tremendous year for football at Galen. The expansion of the Year 7 and Year 8 football program on Thursday mornings, strong results on the field, representation in state teams, and a continued focus on being good people have all contributed to the success of the program.



Netball Success

Galen's Senior Boys netball team has secured victory at the regional competition on Thursday 7 August, earning a place at the State Championships on 31 August.

Galen's Year 7 Boys and Year 8 Boys both finished runners-up, after strong performances throughout the competition.

The Year 7 Girls also enjoyed a successful day, finishing third overall. Congratulations to all teams on their fantastic results!



Culinary Journey Through Culture

The aromas of freshly baked Lebanese flatbread and a variety of homemade dips filled the Food Technology classroom this term as Year 10 students completed their latest assessment task, combining culinary skills with cultural research.

As part of the project, students were challenged to investigate and develop a dip recipe while exploring the cultural traditions, history, and ingredients that make each dish unique. The task encouraged students to look beyond the recipe itself and examine the role food plays in bringing communities together and preserving cultural identity.



After selecting a dip, students researched its origins and the significance of its key ingredients, discovering how geography, climate, and tradition have influenced food practices around the world.

The practical component saw students put their research into action by preparing and presenting their chosen dip. Alongside this, students created a traditional Lebanese flatbread to serve as an accompaniment. Learning to make bread from scratch provided an opportunity to develop essential food preparation skills, including dough mixing, kneading, shaping, and cooking techniques.

The assessment produced an impressive range of dishes, with students demonstrating creativity, attention to detail, and a strong understanding of flavour and presentation. Their final products reflected not only technical skill but also an appreciation for the cultural significance of the foods they had studied.

The project highlighted the importance of cultural awareness through food and provided students with a meaningful opportunity to experience the rich traditions that shape cuisines around the world. The outstanding effort shown by all Year 10 students resulted in a successful and rewarding learning experience, showcasing both their culinary abilities and their growing understanding of the diverse world of food.

A Piece of History

Year 8 student Tom has brought a little piece of Australian history to Galen, creating an impressive steel replica of Ned Kelly's iconic armour at home.

Tom's craftsmanship and attention to detail have certainly caught attention, and his replica is now proudly on display in the Galen Library for students and staff to enjoy.

It's a fantastic example of how our students can turn their interests and creativity into something that can be shared with the wider Galen community.



**Got a Galen story
to share?**

We'd love to hear it!

**Send your contributions to
news@galen.vic.edu.au**

YOUTH OPEN MIC 12-25YO

IN A BAND?

SATURDAY 19 SEPT
5PM-9PM
WANGARATTA BARR RESERVE

REGISTER!

AMP IT UP

DRUG, ALCOHOL, VAPE, AND SMOKE FREE EVENT

Dog Day

WE WALK TOGETHER

Celebrating dogs supporting mental health

FREE Community Event 20th September

9am - 1pm
Walk begins at 10am
Wangaratta Kennel Club
(Behind the showgrounds)

Scan for free registration

Join us for a morning of fun dog-friendly activities and a community dog walk. Interactive hubs will give advice on nutrition, agility, & enrichment and much more. There will be on-site food & coffee available for purchase.

In collaboration with Wangaratta Kennel & Obedience Dog Club

2026 Battle of the Barrus

SIGN UP NOW!

Saturday October 3rd
Martin Park - Chitlers | 2.30 pm

Sunday October 4th
The Vine Hotel, Wk Wang | 2.00 pm

Saturday October 10th
Mansfield Botanic Park | 12.00 pm

Saturday October 17th
Avenel Memorial Hall | 2.00 pm

Friday October 23rd
Retro Lane Cafe, Albury | 3.00 pm

Saturday October 31st
Corryong Memorial Hall | 12.00 pm

Wangaratta Library

GEEK CON

Saturday 19th September
2:00pm-5:30pm
21 Docker St, Wangaratta

SYNERGY YOUTH HUB

AGES 12-18

AUGUST

- 3 D and D
- 10 CELEBRATE YOU(TH)
- 17 Arts and Crafts
- 24 Pride cookies. WIP day
- 31 Planting for Spring

29 FLANAGAN ST, WANGARATTA
FOR MORE INFO: YOUTH@WANGARATTA.VIC.GOV.AU

Calling Victorian School Students!!

YOUNG SCIENTIST

COMPETITION OF VICTORIA 2026

Eligible Participants: Ages 12-18
Topic: Sustainability
Organized by: Y17 Academy
The Collaboration with School of Science, UOW

Venue: Building 16 (Skoray Hall), RMIT University, 336/348, Swanston St, Melbourne, VIC 3000
Public access from 2.30pm onward

Submissions open: 1st June 2026
Submissions close: 5th September 2026
Presentation date: 13th September 2026
from 10am - 4pm

FREE ENTRY

SYNERGY YOUTH HUB

AGES 12-18

SEPTEMBER

- 7 CLOSED
- 14 Art and Craft
- 21 School Holidays 11am-4pm
- Swap Shop & Smoothies
- 28 School Holidays 11am-4pm
- Playstation & Pizzas

29 FLANAGAN ST, WANGARATTA
FOR MORE INFO: YOUTH@WANGARATTA.VIC.GOV.AU

SYNERGY YOUTH HUB

AGES 12-18

3.30-5.30PM

The first Monday of the Month will be a dedicated D & D day.

Other activities will still be on as well

29 FLANAGAN ST, WANGARATTA
for more info: youth@wangaratta.vic.gov.au

Country Hope's On Key 4 Kids

Sunday 27th September at 2pm
Wangaratta Cathedral

Piano Concert
Featuring Timothy Wong, Emma Lang and Celeste Cari

\$15 tickets at the door

Pre-ticket sales can be placed at **eventbrite**

Raising vital funds to support regional families facing childhood cancer and life-threatening illnesses.

COUNTRY HOPE
CHILDREN FAMILY COMMUNITY

Thank you for your support! Together, we can make a real difference.