

CRAIGIEBURN SECONDARY COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

TERM 4, 2025



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We acknowledge the Indigenous lands, waters, and gathering places on which we live, learn, and thrive.

We value the commitment and knowledge of Indigenous peoples, and we honour their teachings from the past that now inform our future.

We pay our respects to all Elders of the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation and extend that same respect to Elders of other Indigenous communities with us today.

As a College, we make a commitment to taking a step forward in reconciliation and to the preservation of Indigenous cultures in Australia.



A Message from the Principal Team

A Retrospective: 2025, A Year in Time

As we close the chapter on another remarkable year at Craigieburn Secondary College, we pause to reflect, not just on what we achieved, but on time itself. Time is our most precious gift. It cannot be paused, rewound, or reclaimed. We have but one childhood, one secondary school education, and one chance to make these years count.

Every day at Craigieburn is a reminder that time offers opportunity, to learn, to grow, to connect, and to discover who we are becoming. It asks us to be present, to use our minutes with purpose, and to understand that the choices we make now shape the stories we carry forward. Our community's strength lies in the diversity of those stories. The many cultures, languages, and perspectives that fill our classrooms create a living mosaic of belonging, understanding, and respect. Together, we learn that while time moves on, the values we build, kindness, courage, and care, endure.

Throughout 2025, our students have used their time well. We've seen it in the determination of those recognised at our End-of-Year Awards, in the creativity displayed at our Art Show, and in the leadership of those who've inspired others through voice and action. These moments remind us that success is not defined by speed, but by persistence, by the courage to keep getting up, again and again, when life tests us.

Time has also taught us that opportunities can be missed when we hesitate or doubt ourselves. Yet, at Craigieburn, we encourage every student to seize each moment, to ask questions, to take part, to show up, because opportunity is rarely lost, it simply passes to someone who is ready. Our Year 12s, as they close one chapter and step into the next, remind us that time is both a teacher and a mirror. It reflects the growth that comes from effort, resilience, and connection. And as we welcome our incoming Year 7 students, we are reminded of new beginnings, the blank pages waiting to be written, the promise of what lies ahead.

It is perhaps timely that we reflect on ikigai, a Japanese word meaning "a reason for being." It is the space where what we love, what we are good at, and what gives life meaning intersect. Education, then, is our students' journey towards that purpose, discovering what gives their time meaning. The journey is what gives us opportunity to grow.

In an age that often searches for shortcuts, we remind our young people that there are none. Growth takes time. Mastery takes time. Understanding takes time. Every friendship formed, every lesson learned, and every act of kindness is time well spent, an investment in who we are becoming.

True change takes time, patience, and courage. It begins with us.

And as this year draws to a close, we offer one final reminder, even when the days feel heavy, or progress feels slow, your time matters. How you spend it, who you share it with, and what you learn from it, that is what shapes your legacy.

So let us step into 2026 with gratitude for the time we've shared, wisdom from the moments we've lost, and hope for the opportunities still to come. Together, let's keep rising, keep learning, and make every moment count.

Diya Dreams & Community Beams

Craigieburn Secondary College recently celebrated Diwali with a vibrant and uplifting lunchtime event that brought students and staff together in a spirit of unity and cultural pride. The celebration transformed the school courtyard with dance, henna art, and collaborative chalk designs, reflecting the colour and meaning of the Festival of Lights.

A highlight of the day was the energetic performance by students Mannatpreet Kaur of 7D and Mahnoor Dhanju of 7A, whose dance captivated the audience and added to the festive atmosphere.

Students also enjoyed receiving henna designs from staff and contributing to large-scale rangoli and diya artworks. The event was marked by strong student voice, with many expressing joy at seeing teachers participate and noting how the celebration strengthened the sense of community at CSC.

The college continues to prioritise inclusivity and cultural recognition, and the Diwali celebration served as a meaningful reminder of the diverse identities that enrich school life.

Harpreet Sethi

"THE HENNA STATION WAS SO MUCH FUN, AND MANNATPREET AND MAHNOOR'S DANCE WAS ELECTRIC!"

IT WAS AWESOME SEEING TEACHERS PARTICIPATE AND DANCE. THAT'S WHAT CSC IS ABOUT!"
—YEAR 7 STUDENT



TAEKWONDO

Craigieburn Secondary College proudly acknowledges an outstanding sporting achievement by Year 9 student Lucas Mamonitis, who has secured his third national title in Taekwondo.

Lucas recently competed at the Australian National Taekwondo Championships, where he demonstrated exceptional skill, discipline, and determination to claim the national title in his division. This achievement marks his third national championship, highlighting his sustained excellence and long-term commitment to the sport at an elite level.

Balancing the demands of high-level competition with his academic responsibilities, Lucas exemplifies the College's values of growth, respect, and perseverance. His success is a testament not only to his personal dedication, but also to the strong support networks provided by his family, coaches, and the wider school community.

Craigieburn Secondary College congratulates Lucas on this remarkable accomplishment and looks forward to following his continued success in Taekwondo at the national level and beyond.

2025 Tour Results

During the 2025 competitive season, Lucas achieved an exceptional series of results across national and international Taekwondo events. His performances included two gold medals at the Sunshine Coast Open; gold medals at the World Selections, Sydney International Open, ASMA Sydney Open, Victorian State Championships, Oceania Presidents Cup, Australian Open, Taekwondo Champions League, and National Championships; and two gold medals at the Sydney Taekwondo Festival. On the international stage, Lucas progressed to the Round of 16 at the World Championships in Fujairah, United Arab Emirates, finishing the tournament ranked 16th in the world. In recognition of his sustained excellence and high-level performance, Lucas was also nominated for Junior Athlete of the Year by Taekwondo Australia.



Year 11 English Public Speaking Workshop

On Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th of October, the Youth Engagement Program were invited into the school to run a two-hour workshop with our Year 11 English students. Working in their classes, each workshop undertook a two-hour session to develop their confidence and engagement in public speaking.

The workshop guided students through the four pillars of effective public speaking – courage, clarity, connection and communication, all of which were modelled by our facilitators Skye and Amanda before asking the students to practice themselves. Student engagement was high throughout the sessions with a host of activities designed to get students up, moving, and using their voice with purpose.

Emphasising the importance of connection, Skye and Amanda began with warm up connection games to build a safe space and develop relationships between the speaker and the audience.

Then students focused on communication through body language, instructed to move around the room adapting their behaviours to suit the designated personas – “walk like you’ve just won a million bucks”, “walk like you’re famous”, “walk like you’re afraid of your own shadow”. Students then reflected on the conscious choices they had to make to convey this information through body language, connecting it to how their body language communicates meaning while they speak.

With courage as a core pillar, the students engaged in an activity – creating a definition or purpose for a made-up word, then using confident verbal expression to really sell the false word to their audience. This low-stakes game emphasised the importance of verbal expression to project confidence despite fears and nervousness while providing an easy access point for all students to have fun and be creative.

Lastly the students were placed in the roles of speaker and judge, listening for filler words that can negatively impact the clarity of speech. Students took turns speaking in pairs for a minute while the judge listened for and buzzed any time a filler word was used. Through this, the students learned the importance of thinking before speaking, and the value of a pause to fill the space.

Through the explain, practice, reflect nature of the workshop, student engagement was high as they built their confidence to communicate through words and body language, showing courage and clarity in how they present.

Aaron Freeman



Future of Our Regions Design Challenge 2025

On 21 August 2025, Craigieburn Secondary College hosted the Future of Our Regions Design Challenge through the Academy for Enterprising Girls, in partnership with Young Change Agents. Thirty-five students from Years 9 to 12 participated in this funded design challenge, which focused on addressing key issues affecting rural and regional Australia.

Working collaboratively in teams, students applied design thinking processes to explore challenges including access to healthcare, workforce shortages, and community connection. Through this process, they developed innovative social enterprise solutions aimed at creating positive and sustainable change. One team, A Taste of Medicine—comprised of Mirna, Phoebe, Rida, Maryam, and Aeysha—was recognised as finalists for their concept. Their idea focused on introducing young people in regional communities to medical learning and first aid, with the goal of encouraging future careers in healthcare.

The workshop strengthened students' collaboration, problem-solving, and entrepreneurial skills, culminating in final pitch presentations and the presentation of certificates of participation. Craigieburn Secondary College extends its sincere thanks to the Academy for Enterprising Girls and Young Change Agents for supporting this valuable learning opportunity.



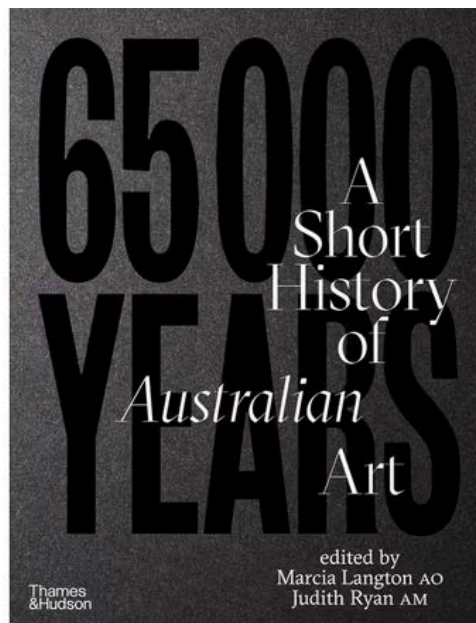
65,000 Years of Indigenous Art

When I visited the Ian Potter Museum of Art at the University of Melbourne, it felt like stepping into a quiet pocket of creativity tucked within a busy campus. The building had a calm, modern atmosphere, where every sound seemed softened and each artwork felt as though it was waiting to be discovered. I moved through galleries showcasing a wide range of works, from contemporary pieces that still seemed alive with energy to historical artworks that carried rich stories through their textures and colours.

Students drifted in and out of the space, some sketching, others simply seeking a moment of quiet, creating an environment where curiosity and inspiration blended naturally. The museum was not loud or flashy; instead, it was thoughtful and surprising, leaving me with a sense that I was seeing the world a little differently as I walked out.

In many ways, the museum felt larger on the inside than it appeared from the outside. It was like an inner sanctuary carefully placed within the vast and noisy university campus. Beyond the physical space, the stories it shared and the cultural practices it represented were themselves beautiful forms of art. The museum genuinely impressed me, and for that reason, it is a place I will always value.

Zahid, 7F



CULTURES COMING TOGETHER FESTIVAL

On Tuesday 25th November, our school community came together to celebrate culture, connection and diversity at the Cultures Coming Together Festival. Parents, families, friends, teachers and staff were invited to enjoy an evening filled with food, music and performances. It was wonderful to see so many people attend. The evening was warm and welcoming, creating the perfect atmosphere for the celebration. DJ Vino kept the music flowing throughout the night, while the Jevik Food Truck served delicious Pasifika food that was enjoyed by many. For those with a sweet tooth, the Roll Me Up ice cream stall was a popular stop.

A highlight of the festival was the cultural performances. Our 4Cs Samoan, Tongan and Cook Islands groups proudly showcased their talents, representing their cultures with confidence and passion. The Anau Brothers also delivered an impressive performance that was enjoyed by the audience and added to the excitement of the evening.

The atmosphere was buzzing with conversations and laughter, with many families reconnecting and spending time together. A photo booth provided by Status Photobooth, a local company, gave everyone the chance to capture special memories from the night.

The event was hosted by Jada and Hope, our 2025 Pasifika Student Leaders, who did an excellent job guiding the evening. Our co-hosts, Moab and Joseph in Year 11, also did an amazing job stepping in where needed and helping the event run smoothly. Mrs Faalili added extra fun to the night by running dance competitions, where parents, teachers, and students confidently showed off their impressive dance moves.

Lawn games were set up for everyone to enjoy, and many families brought their own chairs to relax, sit back, and enjoy the evening together. From a student perspective, it was inspiring to see our cultures celebrated and our community united in such a positive way.

The Cultures Coming Together Festival was a memorable event that truly reflected the strength, pride, and diversity of our school community.



Year 11 News

2025 has been a significant year of growth, leadership, and achievement for our Year 11 cohort. Throughout Term 4, students continued to build momentum as they confidently transitioned into their roles as the school's future Year 12 leaders, demonstrating strong readiness for the challenges of 2026.

Across the year, students engaged positively with senior studies, balancing academic expectations with co-curricular involvement and community engagement. They approached SACs, examinations, and practical assessments with increasing maturity, resilience, and independence, producing high-quality work across all learning areas. Success was also reflected through strong participation in sport, arts showcases, the completion of VET certificates, the receipt of awards, and the securing of apprenticeships.

While the pressures of senior schooling were evident, students responded with perseverance, supported by strong teacher guidance and effective peer collaboration. These experiences have strengthened their study habits and wellbeing strategies, preparing them well for the demands of Year 12.

As students move into 2026, they will step fully into leadership roles, shape the culture of the school, and begin to consolidate their post-school pathways. We are immensely proud of the Year 11 cohort's growth and achievements and look forward to supporting them in their final year. We wish all students a safe and restful holiday break.



MEA Team Homework Club

This year the MEA Team Homework Club has been a roaring success!!! The MEA Team has supported EAL and CALD students from across 7-10 with their studies across different learning areas, including: Maths, Humanities, Italian, Science and EAL. Students who have regularly attended the MEA Team Homework Club report having improved their GPAs significantly throughout the year, thanks to the tailored support they have received through the initiative.



Well done to all those students who have made efforts to improve their learning outcomes by attending the MEA Team Homework Club on Tuesday lunchtimes and Thursday afternoons in P07. Particular mention must go to Anthony Hirmiz, Landon Ianusi, Bewani Kayicki, Whitmer Bruce, Nas El Kheire, Thiago Toomey, and others who attended the MEA Homework Club consistently.

Congratulations on demonstrating the College values of Growth and Understanding through your participation in the Homework Club!!

The Multicultural Team

Y7 English, Term 4 – Gothic Horror Narratives

In Term 4 English, Y7 students were explicitly taught about the different elements of Gothic horror narratives. After undertaking a range of learning activities, all the Y7 students wrote their own original spooky Gothic horror narrative in 2 periods under exam conditions. Beware: their narratives were perfectly frightful and ghoulish!!

Read the one below, if you dare...

Elizabeth Manor

A Gothic horror narrative by Ayub Mohamed, 7F



Far to the west and beyond the red sea, there is a land untouched by the flames of war or the hands of colonizers. A land that few know about. it is a dark, lonely place where the wind howls through the cliffs and the sea crashes angrily against the rocks. in the centre of that strange land stands and old decaying mansion named Elizabeth Manor. No-one resides there, yet sailors speak of a malevolent spirit haunting the house.

On a dark gloomy afternoon, I heard a knock on my door. I peered through the tiny peep hole to see a

letter on my doormat. The letter read "come at once, the house remembers." there was no name, no address, and no evident reason why it had been sent to me. Still, I felt a force urging me to go. So, I decided to venture deep into the red sea. Thick grey clouds blanketed the skies and the waves thrashed angrily against my tiny boat tossing it around like a toy.

At last, I reached the shore. My clothes were soaked and the cold air made me shiver. A thick mist covered the land as far as the eye

Year 9 Market Day

Our recent Year 9 Market Day was an outstanding success and a genuine celebration of student initiative, creativity, and community engagement. Designed as a fundraising event for charity, Market Day offered an invaluable learning experience for our Year 9 cohort while strengthening the sense of connection across our school.

Throughout the day, students operated a diverse range of stalls, including games, handmade crafts, and delicious food options. Each stall reflected thoughtful planning, teamwork, and the practical application of skills developed throughout the year. It was inspiring to see students confidently managing money, communicating with customers, problem-solving in real time, and supporting one another as they worked toward a shared purpose.

The atmosphere was vibrant and positive, with both staff and students enthusiastically participating in the festivities. The level of engagement demonstrated by the Year 9 cohort highlighted their commitment not only to the success of the event but also to the charitable cause it supported. Their efforts resulted in a meaningful contribution that will assist those in need, reinforcing the values of empathy and social responsibility that underpin our school community.

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed to the day's success. Whether through donations, preparation, supervision, or simply attending and supporting the stalls, your involvement played a vital role in creating a memorable and impactful experience for our students.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for helping make the 2025 Year 9 Market Day such a rewarding achievement for our school community.

Year 9 Team



Patchwork: CSC's Fourth Annual Art Exhibition

On 4 December 2025, Craigieburn Secondary College proudly celebrated the creativity, talent, and dedication of its students at the opening night of Patchwork, the College's fourth annual Art Exhibition. This year's exhibition showcased an impressive and diverse collection of student work from Years 7 to 12 across Visual Art, Media Studies, Textiles, and Visual Communication and Design. For the first time, the exhibition was expanded to include creative writing pieces from selected Year 8 and Year 10 English students, alongside student-designed products produced through the Technology Materials program. This addition further highlighted the breadth of creative expression across the curriculum.

The evening was enriched by a strong sense of community and collaboration. Year 9 students participating in the \$20 Boss Program operated market stalls, raising funds for charities they had selected, while performances by current and former Music students created a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere for families and visitors. Guests also enjoyed food and refreshments prepared by Year 10 Hospitality students, with the event supported seamlessly by the College's dedicated student leaders.

As part of the exhibition, students were formally recognised for demonstrating exceptional creativity, technical skill, and sustained commitment across the Visual Arts programs. These awards acknowledged not only the quality of the final artworks on display, but also the persistence, resilience, and personal growth demonstrated by students throughout the year.

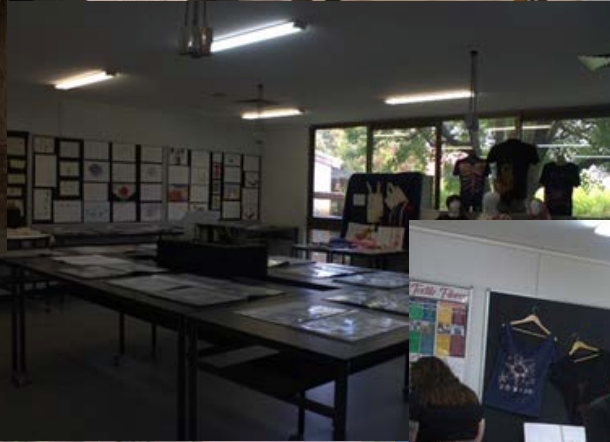
The evening was a resounding success, bringing together staff, families, and members of the wider school community to celebrate student achievement. Patchwork highlighted not only the artistic skill of our students, but also their creativity, perseverance, and passion for the arts. Craigieburn Secondary College extends its sincere thanks to everyone who attended and supported the exhibition, and looks forward to continuing to celebrate student excellence in the years to come.

VISUAL ARTS AWARDS

ANDREW
CASSANDRO
ANIA JANKOWSKI
LAVINIA HANNA
STEPH EDDY
SEINNA PLENZICH
RAND ALRABIAN
RHUZELL ESTRADA
LEON GILIANA
TEANI MASTERS
ARIANNE NGUYEN
DAISY JENKINS
EBONY TAVOULARIS
SWASTHIKA SURESH
NASALDA NAEA
KIRZTEN ASANZA
ANGELICA
GENIGIORGIS
MEHAR RUMANA
ABBY CLEARY

DESIGN MATERIALS AWARDS

MIRNA MARQUS
EMAN ABDUL-WAHAB
MCROUNALD TANGAL



HOL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

HOTHLYN DRIVE CHILDRENS CENTRE

TURNING PLAYGROUND DREAMS INTO REALITY

On Thursday the 13th of November, the Thursday Hands on Learning team returned to a local kindergarten to donate and construct a cubby house. Earlier this year, our students ran an art activity where the 4 year old young people were encouraged to imagine the playground of their dreams and draw it on paper.

The HOL students took these drawings back to our workshop, and needed to remember an important requirement the kinder staff gave us... the little ones needed to be seen at all times. Our students combined the common themes in the drawings (castles, dinosaurs, fairies and dragons) and came up with a cubby house design that would knock their tiny socks off. And boy did they succeed!

Students Brock Omond, Amir Mashti, Isabelle Daniels and Carlos Toma worked as a well-oiled machine; communicating, thinking ahead, offering each other support and having a laugh. After a couple of hours, the masterpiece was complete, and the young people couldn't have been more excited!



*Our HOL Team poses with the 4-year-olds
after constructing the cubby house.
So many smiling faces!*

The day wasn't complete without a game of 'Octopus' with the little ones, a hot meat pie and cracking open a cold soft drink in celebration. This group have worked tirelessly for months to build something they can be so proud of. Seeing the joy their project has brought to the community was a moment they won't soon forget, it just goes to show how much offering our skills to the community benefits us all. Huge congratulations to the students involved, and a particular shout out to Stuart Sadah and Keanu Boundy who helped build the project over the past few months but couldn't make it on the delivery day.





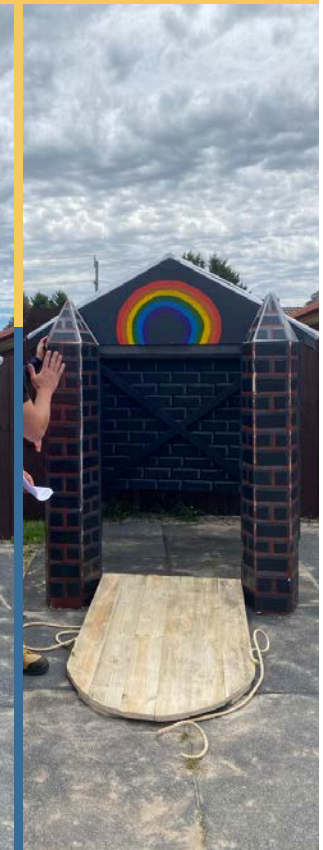
Issy reads out the instructions and directs the team on what needs to be done.



She screws in the back wall panel while Carlos and Amir make extra sure our work is level...



One step at a time... walls, bracing, studs, roof, towers, draw bridge... it all comes together





...Now it's
time to
PLAY

'Peek-a-boo' shop opens
for business, selling fairy
dust and giggles... (Paddy
single-handedly keeps
the business afloat)



The kids were so excited about their
new cubby they couldn't sit still! So,
a game of Octopus just made
sense...



HOL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

BROADY BIKE HUB

DOING OUR BIT, ONE ALLEN KEY TWIST AT A TIME

On Friday the 14th of November, the Friday Hands on Learning team visited Nick at the Broadmeadows *Broady Bike Hub*. The Hub accepts donated bikes from the community that need some TLC, then local young people in their mentorship program work together to fix the bike and develop job-ready skills, before the bikes are either sold or donated back into the community to those that need one. They are invested in a circular economy principle, reducing the number of bikes that find their way into the tip. This program has helped so many young people prepare for life in further study or out in the workforce, as well as supporting the local community to improve their wellbeing and autonomy by receiving a good-as-new push bike. It's a win-win!

Cooper Ayton, Luca Spadaro and Sara Hogg spent the day helping Nick fix up a bike that was being donated to a young family in need. The students put their heads together to help replace parts and even gave the bikes a test-run, just to make sure their handywork was top notch (and certainly not because its fun...)



All students in attendance represented our program values so well; they showed respect to the equipment and the community members, they gave everything a go even when it was hard, and they showed us what it means to give back to the community. Students were also able to explore a bit of the Broadmeadows Kangan Institute campus, given that is where Broady Bike Hub is situated. It sparked some great conversations about future plans, goals and aspirations. Overall, it was a fantastic day out and we are so proud of our students for doing their bit for their local community, and seeing what awesome initiatives there are around that they can get involved with!





Well, someone's got to make sure the bike works after all that tinkering, may as well be Luca and Cooper...

Nick gave us a go on the E-bike, Luca discovered a problem with the battery after going over a bump and having it fall out!

That's a repair for another day...



What a ripper day, thanks for having us, Nick!

Proudly presented by the Community and Student Engagement Team



Thank you to our CSC staff, students and community for your valued contributions to the second edition of our 2025 College Newsletter.

Your support and involvement are deeply appreciated as we celebrate and showcase our vibrant school community.

Thank you.





HAVE YOUR SAY
PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON
OUR NEWSLETTER.

