

HARVESTER TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Respect Responsibility Perseverance Community

FEB/MAR NEWSLETTER

EDITION 1 2024



Welcome to our first edition of the Harvester newsletter for 2024.

On behalf of the team, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new families. We hope your experience has been a positive one thus far.

I'm pleased to report our Tech Ten cohort have settled in well and continue to familiarise themselves with this new and different educational setting. When speaking to students, many have commented on the 'no bells' and 'calling the teachers by their first name' as aspects they really like about the college. These of course support a simulated workplace and mature setting where ownership of learning and choices is key. Students are looking forward to the first Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) block in April, with many busily sourcing an employer. I'd like to congratulate Xavier Bugeja of TTC who was the first student to return his completed SWL forms. I look forward to getting to know this cohort and celebrating their growth as the year progresses.

Our Year 11 and 12 students have hit the ground running with both their VCE Vocational Major (VM) and VET courses. Teachers continue to develop and refine the new VCE VM curriculum, maximising applied learning opportunities where possible. Students are already developing community-based projects as part of their Personal Development Skills course which will see us working with more outside agencies than ever before.

This year sees Cert II Small Business (Operations and Innovation) added to our VET program offerings this year. I am proud to say that this new and exciting addition has come about through strong student agency here at the college. With many expressing an interest in running their own business into the future, and with one pre-apprenticeship in the trades under their belts, we are thrilled to be able to offer our senior students this course as they endeavour to make an informed choice about their future pathways.



We held our first whole school assembly on Thursday 22 February, spending the morning celebrating student engagement and success. I'd like to congratulate our first award recipients for the year and our Student Representative Council (SRC) members for 2024, who have committed to working with their peers and leadership to enhance the Harvester community experience.

Turn over for more...

REPORTING AN ABSENCE OR LATENESS

If your child is absent or late please follow the steps below:

1. Call HTC on 8311 5555 **before 9:00am**
2. Press 1 and leave a message
3. State your child's name and a valid reason for their absence or lateness

OR

1. Login to the Compass Parent Portal
2. Add an Attendance Note
3. Be sure to do this before 9:00am

**it's not okay
to be away**

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND

Have your circumstances changed? If so, you may be eligible for the Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF). Please contact Emily at the front office on 8311 5555 for more details.

COMPASS UPDATES

Please check Compass on a regular basis for Newsfeeds, upcoming events, attendance requirements, payment centre and notifications all found on the right hand side of the home page.



Stay up to date by following our Instagram account!

@harvester_technical_college



Like our Facebook page to stay in the loop! Just search:

Harvester Technical College

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED



With many events on the college calendar, I would like to draw your attention to the upcoming Student Teacher Conferences on Tuesday 12 March. This is a pivotal point in the year to receive feedback on student progress and we look forward to welcoming you and your child into the college on this day.

I'd like to officially welcome Ashlea Cefai, Brian Borg, Matthew Corderoy and Vicky Wyatt to the 2024 teaching team who bring a breadth of knowledge and experience to the college. You'll read their introductions later in this newsletter. In addition, I'd like to thank Darren James for his valuable work in both the Plumbing and Technology spaces over the past five and a half years here at Harvester and wish him all the very best as he embarks on a new role.

At Harvester we value effective and regular communication with families about the progress, and health and wellbeing of our students. With *Compass* being our main method of communication, I highly recommend you download the *Compass* mobile phone app to stay up to date with school events and notices. Facebook and Instagram are other great ways to keep informed. In addition, students and families are encouraged to reach out to Jacquie Fellows or Anthony Raffoul, our Wellbeing Leaders, should you have any concerns.

The team looks forward to working with you this year as we strive to achieve positive student outcomes.

Trudy Whiteside



FEBRUARY AWARD RECIPIENTS



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Claudio Lusi

11 A



LITERACY AWARD

Nicholas Vasilopoulos

11 C



NUMERACY AWARD

Jaydon Peel

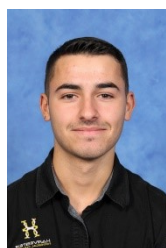
Tech Ten C



SPORTS AWARD

Reece Barclay

12 B



VET AWARD

Jayrus Alvarez

12 A



TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Hudson Fletcher

Tech Ten A



Community Award

Angus Taylor

11 C

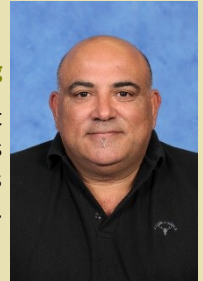
INTRODUCING OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Ashlea Cefai

Ashlea joins us with a wealth of experience in the applied learning and vocational education setting. Ashlea is teaching both Literacy and Personal Development Skills and is looking forward to leading the Tech Ten and Year 11 Literacy team, especially in these early stages of the delivery of the new VCE Vocational Major curriculum. With experience in VET Sport and Recreation, Ashlea is also keen to support the college sports program.

Brian Borg



With many years of experience and leadership in the Engineering industry, and most recently as a secondary school teacher, Brian is looking forward to imparting his knowledge and skills onto our aspiring tradespeople. Brian is delivering the Cert II in Engineering Studies course this year as well as Tech Ten Technology – Metal.



Matthew Corderoy

Matthew has run his own consulting business for many years, working in several industries including manufacturing, hospitality, health and wellness and property management. Matthew is delivering the Cert II Small Business (Operations and Innovation) course for the first time here at Harvest-er. We look forward to his breadth of industry knowledge supporting a contextualized and engaging delivery of the curriculum.

Vicky Wyatt



Vicky's passion lies in the vocational and applied learning space. She was responsible for implementing VCAL at another large secondary school and has years of experience across a range of subjects. Her wealth of experience will be sure to benefit our students as Vicky teaches Numeracy, Personal Development Skills and Work Related Skills.

TRADE UPDATE

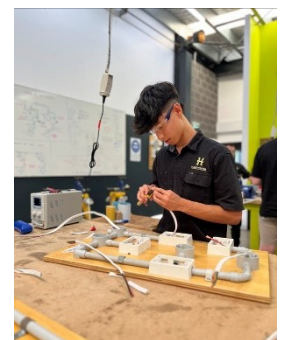
Electrotechnology

In 2024, students in the Electrotechnology class will explore a range of units including electrical principles, producing electrical products and sustainable energy solutions. These units will encourage students to expand upon their skills and knowledge relating to the electrotechnology industry.

The class began by undertaking a unit relating to occupational health and safety, which provided understanding of specific hazards within the construction industry. The students demonstrated positive behaviour and competence within this unit, which provided them the confidence to advance into the progressive units.

Students are currently utilising the workshop equipment in a fabrication unit, where they designed and created projects relating to the electrical industry with integration of the engineering trade. The students fabricated metal components and are currently being taught the basics of electrical wiring and terminations.

Jason Aquilina — Electrotechnology Teacher



TRADE UPDATE

Carpentry

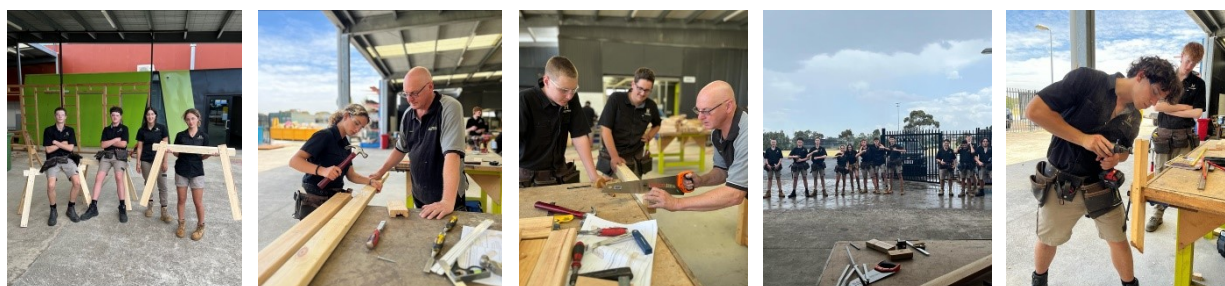
Over these first few weeks the Carpentry students have hit the ground running, commencing several modules including OH&S, Communications, Drawings and Plans, Calculations and Prepare to work in the Construction Industry.

Modules like Hand and power tools are practiced throughout the year, starting with learning new hand skills by safely using hand tools, practicing jointing techniques, laminating and glueing, and cutting simple and complex mitres. Some of these skills were put into practice whilst making sawhorses in the workshop.

With so many modules to complete, the students have committed to attending a once-a-week period seven (after all other students have been dismissed) for seven weeks, to complete a safety induction and small group practical tasks to build skills in using power tools safely.

This year's Carpenters are shaping up to be a productive and talented group.

Rucio Sosnowski—Carpentry Teacher



Engineering

Our diligent group of VET Engineering students has been hard at work, making steady progress through their coursework. Here's a brief update on their recent achievements.

The Engineers have successfully completed the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) module, focusing on essential safety protocols and workplace precautions. This foundational knowledge ensures a safe and secure learning environment as they delve deeper into their engineering studies.

Students are also well underway with the Technical Drawings module, honing their skills in translating Australian standards into precise, detailed drawings. The emphasis on accuracy and attention to detail will undoubtedly serve them well as they progress in their trade journeys.

As part of their practical coursework, students have begun the construction of their toolboxes. These will serve as essential storage for the tools they will create throughout the academic year.

Brian Borg—Engineering Teacher



TECH 10 WORKSHOP NEWS

Students in the Tech Ten Technology space will explore and develop a range of skills and knowledge relating to Electronics, Woodwork, Metal, and Plastics across the year.

The students began the year undertaking a white card course to educate them relating to Occupational Health and Safety [OH&S], with the intention to prepare them to work safely in the construction industry.

Learners have been enrolled in two of the four Technology courses for the first semester and will be enrolled in the other two in the second semester. The initial course work includes interactive quizzes and questioning through OnGuard and along with teacher demonstrations, provides students with knowledge relating to safety when working with tools and equipment, and within the workshops. The students then engage in practical activities that are designed to provide learners with the fundamental skills, knowledge and understanding for them to progress into their practical tasks and assessments.

The intention is for learners to develop their skills within an integrated learning environment to create a speaker box that is fully operational. The box will be created in Woodwork, with an amplifier and other electronic parts created in Electronics, and completed with accessories and components being designed, created, and assembled in both Plastics and Metal.

Jason Aquilina– Technology Leader



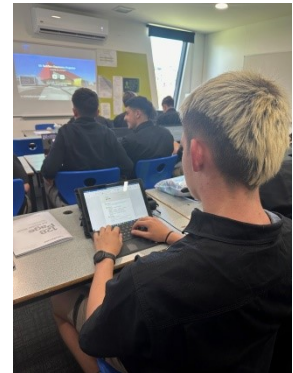
LITERACY NEWS

Literacy is off to a positive start with all year levels now undertaking the VCE-VM curriculum. A variety of fun games from Quizlet to Bamboozled have been used to help students understand new vocabulary in a competitive and engaging manner.

Students have been working hard towards producing a professional folio in their Literacy classes, creating documents such as a resume, cover letter, and professionally written emails. The students have gained a strong understanding of how to structure professional documents towards a job application, which allows them to feel job-ready, confidently using their resume when sourcing SWL or part-time jobs.

Year 11 students have written about their passions for the trade they are studying by writing their 'Why I Chose a Trade' essay, whilst the Year 12s have been learning about, and improving their comprehension of common forms such as Tax File Declarations, Mobile Phone contracts and analysing visual aspects of Public Health Initiatives.

Robert Coghill & Ashlea Cefai — Literacy Leaders



NUMERACY NEWS



The Numeracy team is excited to welcome back old and new students into our classrooms for a new year of challenging and engaging numeracy learning activities.

Across all year levels, the students started the term with a focus on sharpening their basic numeracy skills in order to be ready for the challenging tasks ahead.

Tech Ten students have now begun learning about space and measurements with a real focus on its real life applications. Year 11 students will now begin diving into financial numeracy where they will be learning about topics like

credit card loans and superannuation. Year 12 students have been learning all about data and probability and will focus on how to obtain, analyse and interpret data in real life context.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates from the Numeracy team!

Maryam Sulaiman — Numeracy Leader

WORK RELATED SKILLS

With work placement creeping up quickly, we have started off the year having some great discussions with the students about how to obtain a placement. Students have been making phone calls and researching potential businesses they would like to do their placement with and some have even actively made the effort to grab a placement face to face.

Students of all year levels looked at their goals and interests and how they can be applied to a future career path. At the year 10 level we started having discussions about potential careers in the trades. Our year 11s have started putting together a career folio to help prepare them for the workforce and recognise how much they have achieved already. Our year 12s have looked into the future effects of technology and automation and the impact that will have on their future careers.

Just a reminder that SWL forms need to be submitted by the end of term!

Tamara Zerafa — WRS Leader

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENTAL SKILLS (PDS)

Personal Development Skills has had an excellent start to 2024. Tech 10 students have just wrapped up their first unit of work, Be Wise. Be Wise was all about One Punch and risk taking, with guest speakers coming out from the Pat Cronin Foundation to explore anger management and making good choices. The students are now moving onto their next unit, Wheel Talk, with a visit from Peter from Disability, Sport and Recreation to give the students perspective about what life is like in a wheelchair.

Amy Casati — PDS Leader



HEALTH & PE NEWS

2024 Health & PE classes started off with students taking part in ten fitness tests. One of the tests, a 50 metre sprint, identifies the fastest four from each class who qualify to compete in the HTC Gift held on Tuesday 5th March.

In School Sport Victoria news, HTC were represented by four teams in the opening event, Lawn Bowls. Although no teams progressed through to the finals, all had a red hot go and enjoyed the experience.

Some of our female students took part in a Senior Futsal tournament on Monday 26th February. Coached by staff member Ashlea, the girls gave it their all but unfortunately didn't progress to the next stage.

On Wednesday 5th March, the Senior Girls Volleyball team travelled to Copperfield College to compete in SSV Volleyball. The first match against Victoria University Secondary College saw our students record a fantastic win. The girls tried their best and put up a good showing against Copperfield College but ultimately fell short.

The Senior Boys Volleyball team, who competed at Gilson College, got off to a slow start against Victoria University Secondary College. It was evident that they had not played together, and the chemistry and team understanding took a while to kick in. Although they lost in straight sets, they gave Copperfield a run for their money and played brilliantly, unlucky not to get the win.

The day concluded with both teams getting together for lunch, and once again, the students' attitude, enthusiasm and behaviour was first class.

Anthony Raffoul—Health & PE teacher



A WORD FROM THE CAMPUS MANAGER

We have had an excellent start to the year these past five weeks. I am pleased to acknowledge that attendance has been better than expected, with minimal absences recorded. Attendance is critical to success, so this statistic is very positive for our students and sets them up for a successful Semester One. I am also very pleased with how students have been consistently wearing the college uniform. Well done.

Another positive has been the election of the student representatives for 2024. Congratulations to Lachland Green, Blake Gebing, Harvey Brooks, Harry Azon-Jacometti, Amelia Josevski, Catherine Keramidis, Trinity Goodwin, Meika Oravec, Ryan Taylor, Stella Bradford, Leah Campbell, Eden Hetherington, Leon Cremona, Frank Zappia and Maya Holowka for your election and for your willingness to represent your classmates and the college.

In conclusion, appointments are now open for the Parent-Teacher Conferences on Tuesday 12 March. As spaces are limited and book up quickly, please see the link on your Compass home page as soon as possible to make appointments with your child's teachers. We look forward to welcoming you into the college to discuss your child's progress.

Carolyn Papageorge— Campus Manager



HARVESTER GIFT—50 METRE SPRINT

On Tuesday 5th March, the annual Harvester 50 Metre Gift was run in perfect weather conditions. With a record 39 students competing in the heats, it once again came down to the final two runners. Lachland Green, last year's runner up, found himself up against Koby Harris, who breezed through his heats. After an even start, Lachland found another gear and took the lead and never looked back.

With the sun shining, some tunes playing to motivate both the runners and spectators (thanks for the playlist Emily!), great competition and icypoles to keep everyone cool, the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thanks to all the students who competed with enthusiasm, the students who cheered from the sidelines and all the staff who made the race a great event.

Anthony Raffoul—Health & PE Leader



HARVESTER GIFT—50 METRE SPRINT

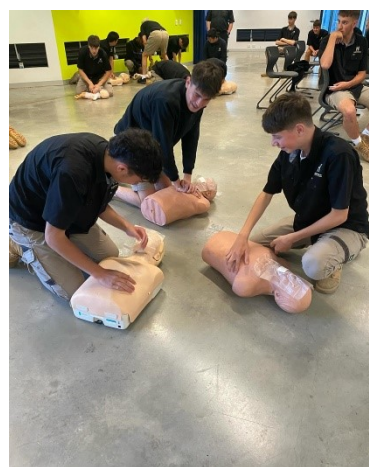


TRAINING NEWS

It has been a busy start to the year for our Certificate II Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs. As well as updated courses for both Building and Construction and Engineering, we have also opened up a new student pathway in Small Business for our Year 12 students. We have been fortunate to welcome two new staff to our VET space : Brian Borg who is part of the Engineering team and Matthew Corderoy who is delivering Small Business. Both Brian and Matthew have a wealth of experience in their industry sectors and we look forward to them sharing this with the students.

As part of our Trade based Certificate II VET programs, our Year 11 students also undertook a full day of First Aid training here at the College. We welcomed Bruce and Greg from IVET who shared their skills, knowledge, and experiences with the students about responding to emergency situations, providing appropriate first aid procedures and the importance of communication. Through an engaging combination of practical tasks and questions, our students completed the unit requirements.

Kerrie McKay—RTO Manager



CAREERS & PATHWAYS NEWS

Cummins Apprenticeship Program Presentation

On Thursday 15th of February, we had the pleasure of Brad Merryweather and Jake Millar from Aquatap come out to visit with our Plumbing and Small Business students. Brad and Jake spoke at length about what Aquatap does and what is required to run a hugely successful business.

We would like to thank both Brad and Jake for continuing to encourage young people to enter the plumbing sector and for helping the college with potential work placement. It is much appreciated and valued.

On Thursday 22nd of February, we had the pleasure of Ren Trinchera (Apprentice Program Manager) from Cummins come out to visit with our Engineering students. The students had the opportunity to view a presentation about the apprenticeship program that is on offer. Ren showed the students what Cummins does and the many advantages of working for a global company.

The students asked many questions and enjoyed the presentation immensely, with many seeking potential work placement with Cummins. A big thank you to Ren for taking the time to visit with us.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Jacob McMahon – Plumbing 2021

It was a lovely surprise to see Jacob drop in during his VU lunch break the other day! He is now in his 3rd year of his Plumbing apprenticeship. In 2020 Jacob completed his Certificate II in Building & Construction, he then went on to complete his Year 12 with a Certificate II in Plumbing. Jacob really enjoys his job with Duggans Drainage, working mainly in the Western suburbs doing sewage, storm water and tappings. He likes learning different things and working with a great bunch of people. Well done, Jacob.



Dylan Hickmott – Engineering 2022

Our former student Dylan recently came in to visit us here at Harvester. During his time the college, Dylan successfully completed a Certificate II in both Carpentry and Engineering. Dylan is currently studying an electrical apprenticeship at Victoria University, whilst working for Edgewire Electrics. Dylan works with a great team doing mainly domestic jobs in the Northern suburbs. He loves the culture at work and enjoys his fellow workmates. Well done Dylan, it was great to see your smiling face!

Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#).

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:

Amharic
Arabic
Dari
Gujarati
Mandarin
Somali
Sudanese

Child Safety

Our community values of **Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance** and **Community** are underpinned by an understanding that **Child Safety** is a paramount responsibility of the school community. Harvester Technical College has a number of guiding policies regarding **Child Safety** on our website located at www.sunshine.vic.edu.au

Please take some time to make yourself aware of these and contact the school should you have any concerns regarding **Child Safety**.



TERM ONE KEY DATES

Monday 11 th of March	Labour Day (public holiday)
Tuesday 12 th of March	Parent Teacher Conferences 1:00pm—8:00pm (no classes)
Wednesday 13 th March	SSV — YR 11 & 12 Futsal
Friday 15 th March	Trades Hall Workshop Excursion—Year 11
Monday 18 th March	Undercover Melbourne Excursion—Tech 10
Friday 22 nd March	Melbourne Grand Prix Excursion - Year 12
Tuesday 26 th March	SSV — Yr 10 Volleyball
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of Term 1 (12:32pm dismissal)
Monday 15 th April	First day of Term 2
Thursday 25 th April	ANZAC Day (public holiday)
Friday 26 th April	Curriculum Day (student-free day)