

The Valley Vibe

Learning and Life at FVSSC



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Principal's Address



Click on
the video
or scan to
watch



The Big Valley Fiesta

Muree takes the win!



AGE CHAMPIONS

12 YEARS

NONA O
JJ F

13 YEARS

THALINA B
RAPHAEL L

14 YEARS

MIA R
COOPER C

15 YEARS

LARA R
JAMIE W

16 YEARS

ROSE V
KASPAR W

17 YEARS

VOLDINA M
ASIA W

18 YEARS

ARCHER B
JACKSON E

The Big Valley Fiesta



Last school carnival for our Year 12 students

Winning Houses



Big Valley Fiesta was bigger and better than ever this year, with our highest participation yet! From enthusiastic cheering to fierce House competition, our students brought incredible energy and school spirit to the day.

It was fantastic to see our FVSSC community come together, get involved and celebrate what makes our school so special. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this year's Fiesta one to remember!

Jazz Band Takes the Stage



Written by Tara (Year 7)

From the first brassy note to the final standing ovation, the Jazz youth festival was an awesome experience for our FVSSC jazz band. The festival was held at Saint Peter's Lutheran College and happened on the evening of Wednesday 29 July.

The members of the jazz band arrived from 5:30-5:50 and then we headed to a warmup room in the venue. To warmup, we ran through our setlist and then took some photos to commemorate the event.

Representing our school, the band delivered an energetic performance of lively jazz pieces that was a delight to the audience's ears. Our performance lasted about 20-25 minutes and I know for a fact everyone enjoyed every second of it. When our turn in the limelight ended, we packed up and half of us went home, while the other half stayed to watch the rest of the performances.

Blending top-tier musicianship with a lively atmosphere, the event offered a musically rich experience and a night of pure, high-energy fun for participants and spectators alike.



A message from our Principal:

What a fantastic evening celebrating the incredible talent of our FVSSC Jazz Band at the Brisbane Youth Jazz Festival hosted at St Peters Lutheran College.

Our students performed with confidence, skill and professionalism, representing Fortitude Valley State Secondary College with pride. As I sat in the audience with some of our parents and guardians, we couldn't have been prouder of what they achieved, not only musically, but in the way they supported one another and embraced the opportunity to perform alongside other outstanding jazz ensembles.

A big shoutout to Mr Colin McIntyre, their talented teacher, who was just as entertaining guiding the students through their set.

Congratulations to our talented musicians and a huge thank you to our dedicated music staff for the countless hours they invest in creating these opportunities for our students. We are so proud of you all!

Mrs Coogan

Curious about FVSSC? Join us at a Principal's Tour



Join us on a Principal's Tour and see what makes our students good at learning and good at life. Spots are limited and filling up quickly, so register now [here](#).



Looking for a quiet place to get ahead with your study, homework and assignments? BOLD (Beyond Ordinary Learning and Discovery) is our before-school study and support program. All students are welcome to attend BOLD.

Whether you need help with a tricky concept, want to ask a question you didn't get a chance to ask in class, or simply want some uninterrupted time to study, BOLD is here to support you.

RACQ Docudrama

Road safety starts with the choices we make.

This term, our Year 11 and 12 students experienced the RACQ Road Safety Docudrama, a powerful and confronting look at the real-life consequences of road crashes.

With some of our students already on their P plates and many more joining them soon, this presentation was an important reminder of the increased risks that come with gaining independence on the road.

Stay alert, make safe choices and look out for each other.



Netball News

This term, our mixed netball teams hit the courts for the Indoor Netball Federation Queensland Secondary School Competition, taking on teams from schools all over Brisbane.

Our Year 7/8 mixed team battled their way to silver, while our Senior mixed team held their own against some strong competition, showcasing plenty of skill and teamwork throughout the day.

A day full of competition, teamwork and plenty of fun. Well done to everyone who got out there and represented FVSSC!



Want to join a FVSSC sports team?

Keen an eye on Compass for details regarding upcoming opportunities or contact Mrs Ralph (mcleod1@eq.edu.au) to chat about what's available.

100 Days to Go!



What's our Next Discovery?

Written by Mrs Waters



Is it...

- a. a trip on a Queensland Rail Train to the Queensland Museum Precinct?
- b. a hunt for priceless artefacts, inventions, fossils, rocks, paintings, and sculptures?
- c. a journey through time with a dinosaur puppet leading us?
- d. a journey back in time to the Renaissance?
- e. all of the above?

If you answered E you have answered correctly!

The Year 8 Next Discovery staff and students completed all of the above as they energetically and excitedly explored the Queensland Museum Precinct and all its treasures this term. The students followed in the footsteps of the "Great Masters of the Renaissance" using their investigative skills, creativity, curiosity and teamwork skills to identify and analyse a number of primary sources in the Museum, the Queensland Art Gallery and in GOMA.

We were very surprised to observe that one of the winners of the Creative Generation Excellence awards had creatively used anachronistic features to create six

paintings by combining the works of the "Great Masters of the Renaissance" and superimposing herself into the paintings. We learnt that anachronism is when something is placed in the wrong time period. It was fascinating to see how an artist could combine two time periods in history and make the impossible possible through her art.

We were also very privileged to witness the "World of Jim Henson's Make Believe, Magic" display being installed before our very eyes, as well as seeing other displays being removed and taken down.

In the Museum, we frantically worked together like the characters in Fraggle Rock to find all of the artefacts in our Scavenger Hunt booklet. We were busy looking for various: inventions, types of rocks, artefacts from World War 1 and 2, dinosaurs and the eras of the Geological Time Scale.

Overall, it was an action filled and enjoyable day with the "Best Staff and Students in the Universe representing the Best School in the Universe!" We were so proud of the Year 8 students who shone throughout the day, demonstrating excellence in their work and through their actions, especially towards the general public. The students shone their light through the kindness, respect and responsible behaviour applied throughout the day. Special thanks to the team of teachers who made this excursion the great success it was: Mr Dan Lloyd, Mrs Toni Waters, Miss Georgina Flower, Ms Nation and Mr Li.



Valley Dance Collective Takes the Stage at Dance X!



Written by Miss Ralph

On Sunday 9 August, Valley Dance Collective made FVSSC history, representing our college at our very first dance competition! 28 students from Years 7–10 travelled to Moreton Bay College to compete at the Dance X Competition, performing a contemporary routine that I had the pleasure of choreographing for them.

Mr Jake Callaghan, Head of Department – The Arts, and I accompanied the troupe on the day, and we were incredibly proud of the way our students represented the college both on and off the stage.

While we didn't come away with a placing this time, our dancers certainly made an impression! Following our performance, I had competition organisers, parents and dance teachers from other schools approach me to congratulate our students and tell me how impressed they were with their performance. It was such wonderful recognition for our dancers, particularly as this was our very first time competing as a school.

And if there had been an award for school spirit, I'm confident Valley Dance Collective would have placed first! Our students cheered enthusiastically for performers from other schools, handed out plenty of high-fives and showed incredible sportsmanship throughout the day. I was just as proud of the way they supported and encouraged others as I was of their performance on stage.

Most importantly, the students had an amazing time and really valued the experience. They came away feeling motivated and inspired, and they are already eager to learn new routines, develop their skills and take on even more performance and competition opportunities in 2027. I'm incredibly excited to see where we can take Valley Dance Collective next!



Want to join Valley Dance Collective?

Valley Dance Collective is open to all students at the college, regardless of previous dance experience. Come along on Tuesday mornings from 8:15–9:00am in the PAC and get involved!

Brews, Bites, Banter and a Little Friendly Trivia



A message from the FVSSC P&C:

What a night! Our inaugural FVSSC P&C Social was held on Saturday evening.

A huge congratulations to Chicken Dinner, our trivia champions — because it really was winner, winner, Chicken Dinner!

And a massive THANK YOU to everyone who came along, got into the spirit, battled it out over random trivia and bought raffle tickets to support the P&C.

We'd also like to thank:

- Future Magic Brewing Co for hosting us and going above and beyond with prizes.
- Councillor Vicki Howard and Woolworths Fortitude Valley for their donations.
- Principal Coogan and the school for their support
- And, of course, our amazing P&C volunteers who helped make it all happen!

We loved seeing parents connect around their Year-level tables and hope everyone left with a few new faces to say hello to around the school.

Thanks for making our first P&C Social such a fun one — we reckon we might have to do it again!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * **First day of Term 4**
When: Tuesday 6 October
Who: All students
- * **Touch Football All Schools**
When: 7–11 Oct
Who: Touch football teams
- * **Literacy & Numeracy Week**
When: 6–13 Oct (Week 1)
Who: Touch football teams
- * **Hospitality Fine Dining Lunch**
When: Wednesday 14 Oct
Who: Hospitality students + invited guests
- * **Fortitude Arts Fusion Week**
When: 10–23 Oct (Week 3)
Who: All students
- * **Music Soiree**
When: Thursday 22 Oct
Who: Music students, guests and families
- * **External exams begin**
When: Monday 26 Oct
Who: Year 11 & 12 students
- * **P&C Meeting**
When: Tuesday 27 Oct
Who: Parents and carers
- * **External exams finish**
When: Friday 13 November
Who: Year 11 & 12 students
- * **Microcredential Week**
When: 16–20 Nov (Week 6)
Who: Year 11 students
- * **Year 12 Graduation**
When: Wednesday 18 November
Who: All students, Year 12 families
- * **Year 12 Formal**
When: Wednesday 18 November
Who: Year 12 students and families
- * **Year 11 Monday Fun Day**
When: Monday 23 November
Who: Year 11 students
- * **Year 11 Legacy Breakfast**
When: Tuesday 24 November
Who: Year 11 students, families and mentors
- * **House Spirit Day and Last Day for Year 10**
When: Friday 27 November
Who: Year 10
- * **Year 7 2027 Orientation**
When: Wednesday 2 December
Who: 2027 Year 7 cohort
- * **Australian Volleyball Schools Cup**
When: 7–12 Dec
Who: Volleyball teams
- * **Last day & Student Led Conferences (SLCs)**
When: Friday 11 December
Who: Year 7–9 students

SET Planning for the Future

This term, our Senior Education and Training (SET) Planning process has provided students with dedicated time, guidance and support to think about their next steps and make informed decisions about their future.

Our Year 10 students completed their SET Plans alongside their parents or carers and a member of the College leadership team, creating an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about their goals, interests, strengths and senior subject choices.

For our Year 11 students, SET Plan reviews provided a chance to reflect on how their senior subjects are going and consider whether their plans still align with their goals. One of the benefits of our senior school structure is that students study three subjects in Year 11 and three different subjects in Year 12. This gives students the flexibility to reflect on their experiences, interests and future pathways and, where appropriate, pivot their choices for Year 12.

Our Year 12 students also spent time with our Guidance Officers for pathway planning, focusing on the opportunities and options available to them beyond school.

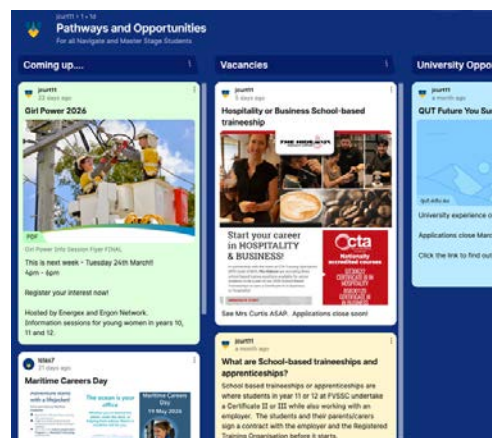
Across each year level, SET Planning is about making sure students feel supported, informed and confident as they make decisions about their future. Our approach provides flexibility while ensuring students have the guidance they need at each stage of their senior schooling.



Want support choosing your pathway?

Contact Mrs Curtis (Head of Department – Pathways, Partnerships & Enterprise) or speak to Mr Harris-Loader or Ms Stroppiana (Guidance Officers)

Senior Schooling Padlet



Mrs Curtis has been hard at work creating a tool for Year 10, 11 and 12 students: The Senior School Padlet!

Click the image to view pathways, opportunities, career advice and traineeship information.

Senior Fitness Students Train Teachers

A fantastic morning of authentic, hands-on learning for our Year 11/12 Certificate III in Fitness students, working with their FVSSC teacher clients at JETTS Fortitude Valley.

As part of their Certificate III in Fitness, students must deliver a one-on-one Gym Program for an Adult Client and evaluate the effectiveness and delivery, as part of the practical assessment requirements for the course.

These practical experiences form an important part of the assessment students must successfully complete, while building confidence, communication and real-world coaching skills.

A huge thank you to our staff clients for supporting our students and giving them the opportunity to put their learning into action!



Volleyball Senior Schools Cup State Championships



What a tournament! Over three big days on the Gold Coast, FVSSC competed at the 2026 Senior Schools Cup State Championships — our biggest year yet, with four team entries!

Congratulations to all our players for an outstanding tournament, not only for their performances on court but also for their fantastic conduct and sportsmanship throughout the competition.

Silver medal (2nd)

- Year 11 Girls
- Year 12 Girls

Bronze medal (3rd)

- Year 11 Boys

5th place

- Year 10 Girls (playing in the Year 11 division)

A huge congratulations to our Tournament MVPs: Fodhla, Julia, Noah and Beatrix!

We also extend our thanks to Head Coach Mr Marzullo, and team coaches Mr Ward, Ms Walsh, Mr Maas and Mr Arsenic for their dedication and hard work.

Next step: Australian Volleyball Schools Cup in December! Bring it on!



Real World Learning: Author Shares Story

Our Year 9 students, joined by our Senior Literacy students, had the chance to work with author Megan Jacobson as part of their in-depth novel study: Books that Changed the World.

Megan, author of *Yellow*, *The Build-Up Season* and her newly released novel *The Waiting Place*, shared an inside look at what it takes to turn an idea into a novel.

Students explored the creative writing process, from developing characters and ideas to building a story and bringing a novel to life, with plenty of opportunity to ask questions and learn from a published author.

A great opportunity to see the writing process beyond the classroom and hear what it really takes to become an author.



Literature Reading Evening



By Mrs LaBan

FVSSC celebrated the work of this year's Master Stage Literature class with a showcase of their writing in our inaugural Literature Reading Evening sessions.

Over two nights, students presented their best piece of writing from the year to an audience of their parents, staff and friends at a local bookstore Cursive Knives.

We are so grateful to Terri-Jane and her team at Cursive Knives for hosting at the perfect venue for a Literary evening, and providing drinks and cheese platter. Have a look at their website for more amazing literary and artistic events.

Thank you also to Mack and Jolie, who provided ambient music to support the wonderful atmosphere.

Congratulations to our 2026 Literature students! We look forward to hosting more of these evening session in the coming years.



Staff vs Students OzTag

This term, our students put our staff to the test with a series of lunchtime OzTag showdowns... and let's just say, the staff came ready to play.

Here are the results:

Year 8: Staff 6 - 1 Students

Year 9: Staff 3 - 3 Students

Year 10 B: Staff 8 - 1 Students

Year 10 A: Staff 2 - 2 Students

Year 12: Staff 8 - 6 Students

Staff: 3 wins, 2 draws, 0 losses. Students... there's always next year.



Candlelight Concert: 90s Unplugged

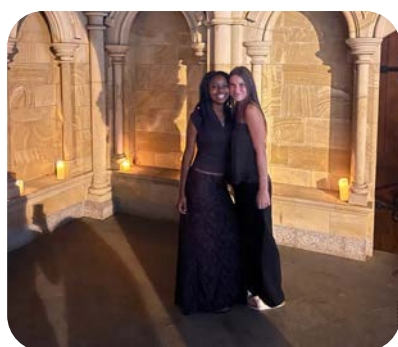
Our Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 Music students experienced something a little different this term as they visited Saint John's Cathedral for a candlelight concert.

Candlelight concerts are live musical performances held in beautiful venues surrounded by the warm glow of candlelight. For this 90s-themed concert, a string quartet reimaged iconic songs from artists including No Doubt, The Cranberries, Oasis, Nirvana and the Spice Girls.

It was our first time taking students to a concert like this, and they had a fantastic night. They enjoyed the chance to dress up, get out of their usual school routine and experience live music in a completely different setting.

Opportunities like this are part of how we connect learning at FVSSC, with the real world giving our students authentic experiences that extend beyond the classroom and allow them to experience music as an audience member, performer and part of the wider creative community.

A memorable night for our musicians!



Who supports me in my house?



Bidla-Bidla



Richard McDaniel
Deputy Principal



Carlos Lopez
Head of House



David Ashby
HOD Support



Monica Dawkins
Deputy Head of House



Boobanggan



Richard McDaniel
Deputy Principal



Liana Nation
Head of House



David Ashby
HOD Support



Denny Dyne
Deputy Head of House



Gargarra



Nathan Maddox
Deputy Principal



Julie Curtis
Head of House



Geno Ferrer
HOD Support



James Morris
Deputy Head of House



Gulambarum



Nathan Maddox
Deputy Principal



Jake Callaghan
Head of House



Liam Richards
HOD Support



Lucy Moeser
Deputy Head of House



Mirri



Nathan Maddox
Deputy Principal



Amy LaBan
Head of House



Geno Ferrer
HOD Support



Peter Run
Deputy Head of House



Muree



Megan Brunkhorst
Deputy Principal



Misty Ralph
Head of House



Sarah Milner
HOD Support



Dan Lloyd
Deputy Head of House

R U Ok Day

On R U OK Day in Week 9, we filled the driveway with chalk drawings, shared KitKats and brought plenty of positivity to our school.

It's a day about checking in and connecting with each other and celebrating the strong sense of community that makes FVSSC what it is.

A conversation can change a life. Thanks to our student leaders for organising such a fantastic event!

Special shoutout to Miss Pippa, Mr Maddox's border collie, for joining us and spreading the love!



Be the Voice! Year 7 English



Written by Mrs Waters

Did you know that it is estimated that over 11 million people were murdered during the Holocaust! 6 million of these innocent people were Jews and the other 5 million innocent people were gentiles (non-Jews). What is even worse is that 1.5 million of these people were children! Miraculously, some children survived.

This term, Year 7 classes were given the opportunity to engage in a workshop at the Queensland Holocaust Museum where they were able to learn the stories of five different children who survived during this dark time in history. After the war, these children, Susie Smeed, Peter Baruch, Peter Kraus, Sue Goldzweig and Uri Themal were lucky to leave their war torn countries along with their families and begin a new life in sunny Queensland. Over 206 survivors made beautiful Queensland their home after the war. Our state has prospered from the immigration and contribution to Queensland society that these families made on arrival in Australia.

One of the survivors, Dr Peter Kraus is a well known obstetrician who many of you may know as he served in both the Townsville and Brisbane hospitals for many decades. Another survivor we were introduced to was

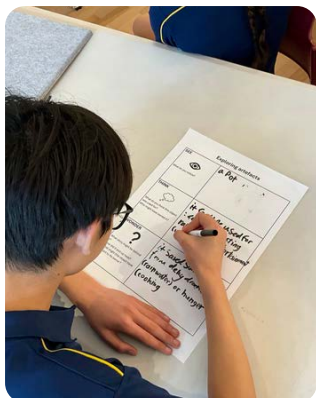
Peter Baruch whom will be visiting our school on the 12th October – 3.30–5.00pm. If have not booked your tickets for this event yet, please do so as tickets are running out fast.

Sadly, Sue Goldzweig passed away a couple of years ago. Uri is a rabbi who was the executive director of Multicultural Affairs Queensland and worked in the Premiers office for a long period of time and Susie Smeed lives in the Sunshine Coast. She is an advocate for and speaks out against all forms of indifference throughout Australia and Internationally.

Through the sharing of their stories, FVSSCs year 7 students were able to learn about being brave and righteous in times of difficulty. They explored the important values of being kind, courageous, never giving up, and speaking up against injustice when it occurs. These anecdotal stories and values of survival resonated with the students as they are values of being bold, resilient and kind.

These incredible stories of survival and the values they taught helped the students reflect on their own lives, their values and on what sort of world they want to live in. The stories inspired and motivated the students to think about their English assessment task and challenged them to think about how they can be an upstander and use their voice in our community to speak out about injustice in order to make our community a safe and secure place to live in.

We thoroughly enjoyed our excursion and would like to thank Ms Cheeseman for organising it for us, Ms Nation for coming along with us and supporting us and Ms Emily Fraser for providing such a wonderful, thought provoking and inspirational workshop for us all.



Brisbane Youth Policy Challenge

Our Brisbane Youth Policy team took part in the inaugural Youth Policy Competition, hosted by Madonna Jarrett MP, alongside students from schools across Brisbane.

Grace, Ari, Scarlett, Parinitha and Tara did an incredible job researching and presenting policy ideas on issues including public transport, mental health, education funding and university equity.

We're so proud of our students for putting themselves forward, sharing their ideas and exploring how policy can create positive change.

The future is bright with young people like these leading the way!



FVSSC x Young Con Community Concert



What a fantastic Saturday of music! Our FVSSC Wind Symphony had the incredible opportunity to work alongside the talented musicians of Young Con Wind Orchestra to put on a fantastic performance.

A huge thank you to Young Con for joining us, inspiring our students and sharing your passion for music. A special thank you to Young Con conductor Stephanie Smith for leading such a wonderful experience.



We're also incredibly grateful to Mr McIntyre, Mr Callaghan, Miss Agius and Mr Richards for their ongoing support of our music program at FVSSC.

And finally, a special shoutout to our students — getting up early for rehearsal every week, practicing at home and even coming to school on a Saturday, all in the name of great music!

NAIDOC 2026: 50 Years of Deadly

In Week 1, we came together as a school community to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2026 — a time to celebrate, reflect and connect.

We were honoured to welcome Colin W Smith and Songwoman Baringa Barambah Meeanjinju, whose words and presence helped us deepen our understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and experiences.

A special thank you to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and families for sharing this important occasion with our school community.

Thank you to everyone who joined us as we celebrated culture, reflected on the past and came together to strengthen our connections as a community.



To begin our NAIDOC celebrations, our whole school community gathered to honour the legacy of Songwoman Maroochy Barambah.

Together, we planted a native finger lime tree in her memory, accompanied by a special plaque featuring an excerpt from one of her poems. The tree will serve as a living tribute to Songwoman Maroochy Barambah and her enduring legacy within our community.

We were honoured to welcome her daughter, Songwoman Baringa Barambah Meeanjinju, a proud Turrbal and Gubbi Gubbi woman, who welcomed us to Country, spoke about treasured memories of her mother and shared a blessing song with our community. She also spoke of our shared humanity, our connection to one another and our connection to this place.

It was a special way to begin our NAIDOC celebrations, coming together to remember and honour the life and legacy of Songwoman Maroochy Barambah.



Stats on Show at The Ekka

Our Year 9 students took their maths skills beyond the classroom at the Ekka!

Lucky for us, it's just a short walk from school. From data collection to dagwood dogs – our Year 9s enjoyed a day of hands-on learning and engaging with our community.

They spent the morning collecting data for their probability and statistics maths investigation centred around statistics and probability.

Once back at school, they analysed their data and presented it on an academic poster to the Ekka committee, explaining what games, foods and vibes are statistically viable for a certain demographic population.

Authentic assessment in action!



QUT High School Moot Competition

Congratulations to Ariel, Hannah and Grace on representing FVSSC at the QUT High School Moot Competition!

Working as a team, students presented legal arguments on a fictional criminal scenario, using legal reasoning and common law precedent to argue both the prosecution and defence cases.

The team was commended by judges for their well-structured arguments, strong speaking skills and ability to respond to complex questions during their advocacy.

A fantastic achievement and a wonderful opportunity to develop their skills in legal reasoning and advocacy!



Congratulations High Achievers!



Congratulations to our bold and resilient high achievers!

These students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 achieved straight "A"s in all subjects in Semester 1 this year.

Congratulations to:

- Thomas (Year 7)
- Zara (Year 7)
- Harvie (Year 7)
- Jakob (Year 8)
- Gauri (Year 8)
- Vaydah (Year 8)
- Lok (Year 8)
- Ariana (Year 9)
- Bella (Year 9)
- Mia (Year 9)
- Abhishek (Year 9)
- Josh (Year 9)
- Nissran (Year 9)
- Skylar (Year 10)
- Sebastian (Year 10)
- Summer (Year 10)

These students had a surprise afternoon tea with Mr Lopez and Mrs Coogan to celebrate all of their hard work and achievements.

Z Club Donates to Help People in Need

The Z Club have been working hard collecting generous donations from our school community, and this year we received a record-breaking number of contributions!

Earlier this term, our students handed over the donations to Zig Zag, a Brisbane support service for young women, trans and gender diverse young people.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated and helped support this important cause!



Music Students Visit Music Careers Expo

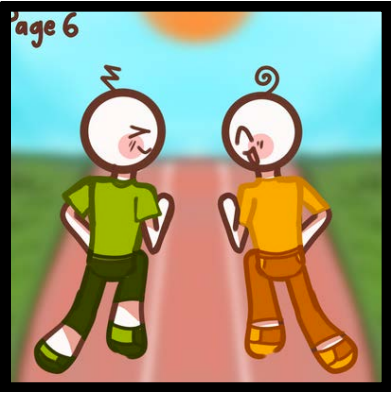
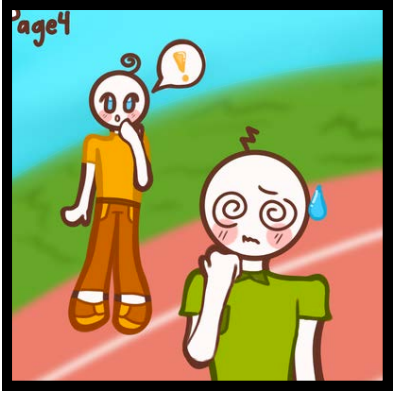
Our Senior Music in Practice students had an incredible opportunity this term at the Music Careers Expo held at The Triffid.

Students connected with music industry professionals, explored pathways with universities and TAFE providers, and took part in hands-on workshops that offered valuable insights into careers in the music industry.

What an inspiring experience right here in our local community, helping our students explore the many possibilities that exist beyond the classroom.



Comics by Zoe



Written and drawn by Zoe (Year 8)

Science Week Takes Over FVSSC!



Written by Maisie (Year 7)

Science Week 2026 started off with a bang!

On Monday, we started the week off with a frog dissection in the labs and an awesome hydrogen bubbles fireball experiment. This experiment was exciting and fun for all year levels and drew quite a big crowd.

On Tuesday, Year 7, 8, and 10 got a chance to go into the Giant Dome as a special science week incursion, which showed the space trip to Mars that NASA is planning for the future. We also saw all of the effects on the human body that being away from Earth's gravitational pull can cause, in an extended trip to Mars.

On Wednesday, we had tons of experiments including the red cabbage indicator, the invisible fire extinguisher, and the egg in a bottle experiment for Break 1 and Break 3 was the elephant's toothpaste. The chemical reaction of the elephant's toothpaste made the substance shoot towards the ceiling and stick on it (oops!).

On Thursday, we made fake movie blood and a puttylike substance for skin to create realistic cuts and wounds, but if blood isn't for you, there was also a moving electricity experiment in the next classroom! There was also an experiment hosted by STEM students at Break 3, where we extracted REAL strawberry DNA!

To end the week on Friday, we had a rat dissection and a space talk with Mr. O'Connor, a science and math teacher. Finally, on Break 3 we had the rocket launch on the oval with Professor Matt Richardson.



Shaping the Future: McConnel Youth Advisory Council

Three Fortitude Valley students are helping shape the future of their community.

Congratulations to Ellis (2025 Graduate), Niveditha (Year 12) and Daisy (Year 12), who were successful in gaining a place on the McConnel Youth Advisory Council with Grace Grace MP.

Over the school holidays, they attended the Council's first meeting for the year at Parliament House, where they met fellow young leaders (aged 16-22) from across the McConnel and Miller electorate, toured Parliament, shared ideas and discussed issues that matter to young people.

We're proud to see our students using their voices to represent their community and contribute to positive change. Well done, Ellis, Niveditha and Daisy!



QATSIF Scholarship

A huge congratulations to Kate (Year 11), who has been awarded a QATSIF Scholarship for 2026-27!

The Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) Scholarship Program supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through Years 11 and 12, helping them pursue their goals throughout senior school and prepare for life beyond school.

Well done Kate, we're excited to see you thrive in Year 11 and 12!



Year 9 History: The Making of Modern Japan

Our Year 9 History students brought their learning to life with an exhibition in the library, exploring the artefacts and ideas that helped shape the transition from feudal Japan to modern Japan.

Students selected an artefact and investigated how it influenced Japanese society, considering its impact on politics, the economy and daily life. They developed their own inquiry question, researched using primary and secondary sources, created a PowerPoint presentation, and then designed and made their own artefact to bring their research to life.

The final step was presenting their work as part of the class exhibition, sharing their research and artefacts with an audience.

A fantastic example of students taking their historical inquiry from research, to creation, to exhibition.



Year 9 Drama: The Scene Project

This term, our Year 9 Drama students took to the stage at Queensland Theatre, performing their own version of the Greek myth of Icarus to a huge audience of Brisbane schools as part of The Scene Project.

They performed brilliantly and had the opportunity to receive valuable feedback from Queensland Theatre actors and crew. What an incredible experience!



QUT National Science Week Challenge



Our Year 9 and 10 STEM Society students took on the QUT National Science Week Challenge at QUT Kelvin Grove, joining students from schools across Queensland for a day of science, problem-solving and teamwork.

The students were challenged to showcase their science skills, think creatively and work together to tackle a range of challenging problems. Along the way, they had the opportunity to collaborate, put their knowledge into practice and, most importantly, have fun!

FVSSC Students at the Brisbane Central State School Art Show

What a wonderful evening at the Brisbane Central Art Show!

A huge well done to Jolie (Year 11) and Mack (Year 12) who performed live on Friday night, helping to bring the event to life! We were also proud to have student artwork on display throughout the show.

It was a great opportunity to celebrate the creativity of our students while supporting one of our local feeder schools and connecting with our wider community.





MENTAL HEALTH

Matters. Always.



Taking care of your mind is just as important as taking care of your body.

DID YOU KNOW?



1 in 5

Australians aged 12+ experience a mental health condition each year.



75%

of mental health conditions emerge before the age of 25.



Talking

about how you feel can reduce stigma and help you feel supported.



Small steps

every day can improve of your mental wellbeing.



Reaching out

is a sign of strength. Help is available and recovery is possible.

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

- Get outside and enjoy nature
- Stay active and move your body
- Practice mindfulness and relaxation
- Connect with friends, family and community
- Talk about your feelings or write them down
- Do thing that bring you joy!

NEED TO TALK?



Lifeline **13 11 14**

Beyond Blue **1300 22 4636**

Kids Helpline **1800 55 1800**

Headspace **1800 650 890**

YOUR LOCAL SUPPORT

GUIDANCE OFFICERS

FVSCC has two Fantastic Guidance Officers which can listen to you and offer advice, they cover their own range of houses, however if you prefer to talk to one specifically, you can. You can make an appointment by emailing your Head of House or them themselves (their emails are on the FVSCC website).

HEADSPACE

Headspace offers 24/7 online support and 4-6 Free youth therapy sessions, to help you or a friend. These sessions are completely free. Starting from 14 years old, you do not need a parent or guardian to attend with you, or for them to be notified of these sessions.

FAMILY

You can consider talking to a family member about your problems. If you feel uncomfortable talking to your parents, consider reaching out to help from brothers, sisters, cousins or your mates.