

AMBARGRAM

Week 6, Term 1 2025

Welcome
BACK TO SCHOOL

YEAR 7'S FIRST DAY



Year 7 started their first day of high school on the 6th of February 2025. The nerves were high for both students and their Year Advisors however, our days went off without a hitch!

Year 7 participated in a variety of wellbeing activities and workshops designed to ease them into their new setting. New friendships were made, and teachers began learning about the students they will be teaching in 2025.

Our students participated in several workshops where they started learning about Ambarvale High School, their classes and a little more about themselves. Year 7 went on a Scavenger Hunt with Mr Pratt where they started learning about their classmates. New connections were made and everyone, including Mr Pratt, got to learn their class groups!



Students continued learning about each other and their classmates with Ms James! Year 7 created some amazing art works whilst learning about their class names and classmates. Year 7 were challenged during Initiative Games where they were made to use their communication and teamwork skills with Mr Keough. It was great to see all students having a go, with some students really engaging well in these challenges.

Mrs Curtis ran a First Nations workshop where students learnt about Dharawal Country, the land on which Ambarvale High School sits. Year 7 created artworks while learning about the customs and culture of the Dharawal people. *Read more on next page...*



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YEAR 7'S FIRST DAY!

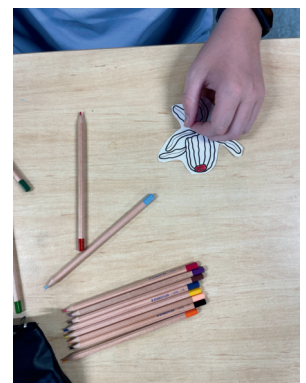
Our students learnt about the valuable resources we have in our Learning Centre. Not just a place to 'hang out' during breaks, but a place to seek support, borrow books and utilise resources available to students.

With our SSO Antoinette, students learnt about her role and gain skills for managing a variety of situations at high school. Students engaged in activities where they learnt skills for resolving conflict and getting along with others. Students were made aware of all the support they have at Ambarvale and who they can speak with to access it.

Year 7 have started 2025 strong! Mr Pratt and Ms James have enjoyed getting to know students and cannot wait to support them through their time at Ambarvale High School.



BLOSSOMING FRIENDSHIPS



Students were welcomed to school in their first week with a set of carousel workshops to cycle through as a class, meet their teachers and foster new friendships. Our Year 7 classes Flannel, Tailflower, Phoenix, Viola, Waratah, Banksia and Grevillea learned about the meaning and purpose of their class names in a 'Blossoming Friendships' collaborative art workshop with their Assistant Year Advisor, Miss James. The collaborative artworks made by every student in each class will be on display in the front office.

A message from Ms Barnott-Clement

A very warm welcome to the 2025 school year to all of our families and the broader Ambarvale High School community. A very special welcome to our new year 7 students and the many new student enrolments to our school. It is so lovely to see so many smiling faces at both the start and the end of the day as students are making their way into school in the morning and heading home in the afternoon. As I am writing this segment, our school photos are being taken at the front of the school and our students are looking wonderful in their uniform and proud of their school.

The teaching, support and administration staff all started their year 4 working days prior to students' return, and this was wonderful time for us to engage in professional learning, attend important meetings and prepare lessons and resources to ensure our students are receiving the very best teaching and learning.

This year there will be year group Wellbeing Camps for years 7, 9 and 11, in addition to each year group's Wellbeing Day. Art Therapy is already underway, as is our Pet Therapy and Top Blokes programs to name a few. We are also preparing to celebrate Harmony Day and International Women's Day, so a lot is happening as it always does, on our wellbeing agenda.

It is going to be a great year 😊

Deputy Principal – Ms McIlwain

Welcome back to all students after the summer holiday break. It has been a busy start to 2025, especially for our new Year 7 students who have had some exciting and busy first weeks of high school. Year 7 Year Advisers, Mr Pratt and Ms James, delivered a new Introduction to High School Orientation Program to help them make new friends as well as settle into school routines and their learning.

Student learning and achievement, alongside wellbeing is at the core of our focus at school. I work closely with our Support Unit, as well as with students in regular classes with additional learning needs. Our staff have many exciting activities and opportunities planned across the school to support and engage all students with meaningful and real-world learning in 2025. Please don't hesitate to get in touch to discuss your child and their learning needs and supports if required.

Vaccinations are booked in for Year 7 and Year 10 in Term 2, which will come around quickly. Year 7 can receive their Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (Whooping Cough) and HPV vaccination on Monday 16th June. Year 10 can receive their Meningococcal ACWY vaccine on Thursday 1st May. These are free of charge and are provided during the school day. If your child is absent on vaccination day, there will be a catch-up day in November. If you would like your child to receive their free vaccination you can use the QR code below and register online. We will also email information out to Year 7 and Year 10 parents shortly. Paper consent forms will be made available in a year meeting next week or can be requested through the school office.

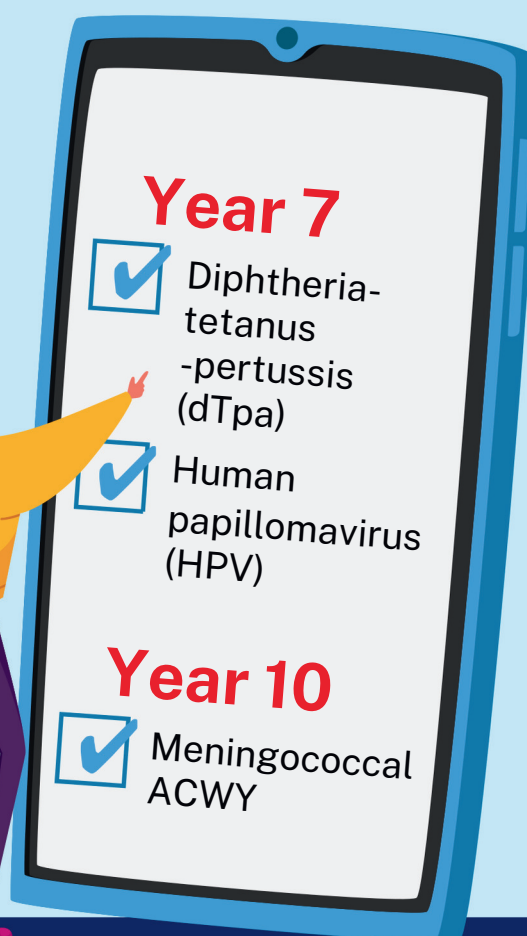
Is your child in year 7 or year 10?



Provide your consent for routine
school vaccinations online

TERM 2
YR 7 - 16 JUNE
YR 10 - 1 MAY

REGISTER
ONLINE



Scan the QR code to
give your consent now



To provide online consent visit:
<https://engage.health.nsw.gov.au/engage>

For more information visit:
health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination

NSW Health

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Deputy Principal – Mrs Fitzgerald

2025 has started well with many students coming to school with positive attitudes and wearing their school uniform with pride.

A reminder to all students that they have all received either an Assessment Mapping Grid (Yr 7-10) or if in Yr 11 a Preliminary Assessment Booklet or in Year 12 a HSC Assessment booklet. Students should be actively referring back these guides and ensuring that they are handing in assessment tasks by the due date. Late submission of assessment tasks may risk a reduction of marks and a N Warning Letter (Yr 10-12).

All students are reminded that they are required to bring their Yondr Pouch to school each day (regardless of if they bring a mobile phone to school or not). During the school day students need to ensure their mobile phone is locked in their pouch. If students damage or have lost their pouch, they can purchase a new one for \$15 from the office.

In Week 7, Year 7 and 9 students have NAPLAN to look forward to, which is an opportunity for schools and parents to understand important information about how education programs are working, areas for improvement, and which students need extra support in the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy. Attendance during this time is important and we wish them well for their testing period.

The Ambartour is scheduled for Tuesday 11th March from 3.30 -5.30pm. We encourage students in Year 5-6 who are considering enrolling in Ambarvale High School in the near future, to visit us on the day to see what our school has to offer and to ask any questions they may have.

Deputy Principal – Mrs Maynard

It has been excellent to see our school body return to school refreshed and ready to learn this term.

As the term slowly comes to an end and the weather becomes cooler, it is a timely reminder that students should continue to wear their full school uniform, including the correct school jumper and pants.

Year 7 and Year 9 are reminded that their Wellbeing Day is coming up in a couple of weeks and parents and carers need to check School Bytes for the permission note. If you are unable to or are having difficulty with the app, please reach out and contact the school office.

Year 11 are well into their Preliminary studies, and they are encouraged to use their school planner and continually refer to Assessment Schedules to ensure they do not miss due dates for assessments. It is important that students know and understand the assessment policy so that they are not at risk of receiving an Academic Warning letter for a late or non-submission of a task. Year 11 are reminded that they have their Strong Learners Camp coming up on 9-10 April, Week 11. It will be a great experience, so be sure to check School Bytes for the permission and information.

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

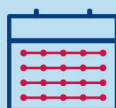
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight



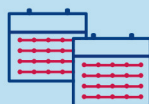
= 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed



1 day per week



= 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed



FROM THE OFFICE



A reminder to parents to access the Sentral Parent Portal and the School Bytes App.

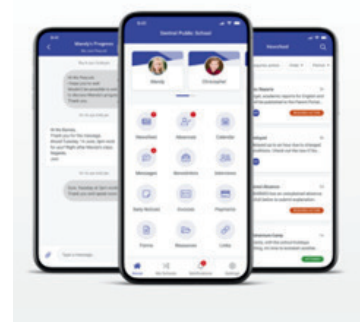
Please ensure that you have provided your current email address.

If you would like assistance accessing these services or require a parent access key, please contact our office on 4627 1800 or at ambarvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Sentral Parent Portal

The Sentral Parent Portal can be used to access information such as your student's Timetable, Stationery Requirements list, Uniform Price list and the School Newsletter. You may also access the portal to explain student absences and communicate with the school. You will find a family access key to log onto the Parent Portal enclosed. In the case of parents living separately please contact the office on 4628 1700 or at ambarvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au for an additional access key.

The Sentral Parent Portal can also be accessed through the Sentral for Parents app.



Download the Parents App

The Sentral for Parents app allows you to monitor your child's school journey simply and efficiently. You will find numerous smart features that help streamline your day. Receive messages and notifications from teachers, report absences, make payments for school activities and more. The Sentral for Parents app helps you stay connected and informed about your child's education.



School Bytes

Permission notes for incursions and excursions, statements of account and fee reminders will be sent home via School Bytes to the parent /carer email address supplied to us. Please ensure that the email address that you have supplied us is current.

School Bytes will allow you to provide consent and payment for all school activities.

How to Access School Bytes

- Method 1 - Parent Portal - accessed via this link: <https://portal.schoolbytes.education>
- Method 2 - Parent App · App Store - <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/school-bytes/id6463097826> · Google Play - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=education.schoolbytes>
- Method 3 - Unique link emailed or sent via SMS to you. These links will take you to a webpage on one of our trusted domains listed below:
- schoolbytes.education
- parentpayments.com.au
- bytes.sc

Family Information

“Have you changed your address, email address or telephone numbers?”

The school often experiences difficulties contacting parents and it is extremely important for your child's wellbeing that your current mailing address, email address as well as your home, work and mobile numbers are up to date. Emergency contact names and phone numbers also need to be current and contactable. Please request a change of details form from the school office if any of this information has changed and return it as soon as possible.

School Office Hours

The school office hours are from 8:00am – 3:15pm.



Student Appointments During School Hours

In the interest of good attendance and to minimise the loss of learning time, it is recommended that appointments for students be made outside school hours. Where this is not feasible, appointments should be made as early or as late as possible. We ask that you try to avoid making appointments during the middle of the day to ensure your child engages with as much teaching and learning time as possible.

Students who have an appointment during school hours and need to leave early should bring a note from their parents and give this to the Deputy Principal before school. This note should detail:

The student's name

Time of departure

Reason for the absence

When leaving early the student hands in the parent note and the authority from the Deputy Principal at the Administration Office. Following this process will assist administrative staff in ensuring that students can leave school at the required time to make their appointment.

Additionally, students who arrive late to school due to attending an appointment should bring a note from their parent indicating the reason for the late arrival. This note should be presented at the Administration Office when the student signs in and will assist us in ensuring that all absences are explained.



I would love to take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Agriculture teacher here at Ambarvale High! I have been teaching Agriculture for 12 years and am very excited to come on board at AHS!

Soon we will have some more new arrivals as our animals start arriving! Watch this space (and Facebook) for the introductions and some opportunities to help us name some of our newcomers! Since returning to school, Year 10 Ag have already been busy working to reinvigorate our garden beds! They spent a very hot day ripping up meters of weed matting to allow to quadruple the number of garden beds to be used for veggie production. They also prepped some seeds and monitored their sprouting in anticipation of transplanting into the new gardens.

I look forward to updating you further as we progress through the year!

Ms Gray

from the TAS faculty



Welcome back to 2025!

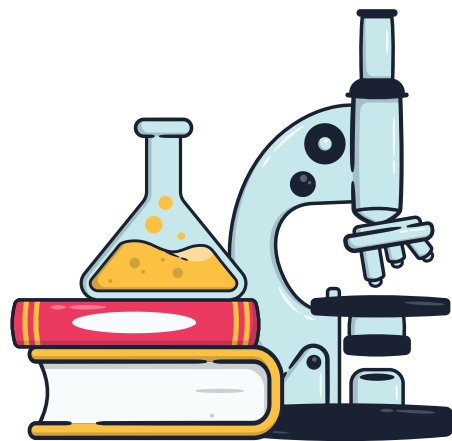
This year in the TAS faculty we will be opening a café utilising the commercial kitchen and giving students the opportunity to build on their barista skills. Interested students are invited to meet with Mr Shaw to join this exciting new opportunity which will give valuable trade skills that will be transferable to the workplace.

Year 7 have settled in and are currently learning about coding and house design. They will soon be launching into design and production work testing skills and theories at an individual and collaborative level.

It is with great pride we see our HSC Industrial Technology students engaged in their production work in class. We look forward to their finished projects completed to a level commensurate with the effort put in.

And on a final note, we would like to take the opportunity to remind students to wear enclosed footwear when engaged in the TAS faculty courses as this is a WHS matter that is governed by Workcover NSW.

Hello! from the SCIENCE Faculty



Welcome back to school from the Science Faculty here at Ambarvale High School!

We're thrilled to kick off this new term by extending a warm welcome to both our returning members of staff and our newest additions to the team. Let's start by reintroducing some familiar faces: Miss Nunes, our Head Teacher of Science, Mrs Maynard, our Year 12 Chemistry teacher and Relieving Deputy Principal, and our all-rounders Miss Mar, Mrs Francis, Ms Cleuskens and Ms Corado. Their dedication and expertise continue to enrich our school community, and we're grateful for their ongoing contributions.

This term we also have some new faces within the faculty, our all-rounder Mr Gates and our new Agriculture teacher, Ms Gray. They bring fresh perspectives and a wealth of knowledge to our faculty, and we're excited for the opportunity to collaborate with them in providing exceptional education to our students.

As we embark on this new academic year, we're looking forward to a host of exciting learning opportunities that will engage and inspire our students. Stay tuned for more updates as we dive into a year filled with discovery and growth!

Welcome from Mrs Cervini

Your Girl Supervisor for 2025



Welcome back to all of our students, and a special warm welcome to our new Year 7s! I hope you are all ready for another fantastic year at Ambarvale.

I'm Mrs. Cervini, and I'm excited to introduce myself as your Girl Supervisor for 2025. My role is to support you throughout the year, so if you ever have any concerns, need advice, or just want someone to talk to, I'm here to help.

We have many exciting initiatives designed to empower and support our female students, including:

Girls' Committee – Running every Wednesday, Week B at lunchtime, this leadership group gives students the opportunity to develop strategies for the things they are passionate about, build a positive school culture, and take initiative in their day-to-day lives.

The Girl Gazette – Our student-run magazine, released regularly throughout the year, gives girls the chance to write articles, poetry, short stories, interviews, and more. Students can even design their own pages, ensuring our school community stays informed and inspired!

Alongside these initiatives, we also run various workshops and host guest speakers throughout the year to provide valuable learning and personal development opportunities.

I look forward to seeing you around the school, getting to know you all, and working together to make 2025 a fantastic year!

Support Faculty



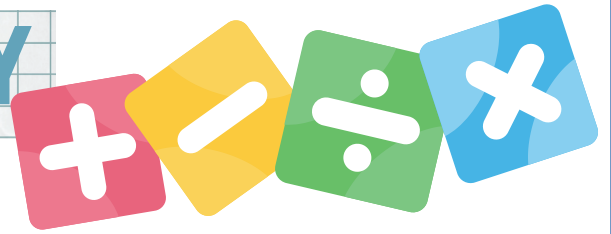
An Australian summer is one filled with beautiful weather, random downpours and many opportunities for fun in the sun. As a community at Ambarvale High School, we take sun safety seriously and ensure students are aware of the multiple ways they can choose to protect themselves when enjoying the summer break and the sunshine.

The Support Unit will be focusing intently on this concept across Term 1. PROPECTUS, our Innovative Pedagogy Project has been built around the concept and idea of sun safety. Students will be provided a variety of learning opportunities, both internal and external to the school environment, to ensure they develop understanding, strategies and awareness of key practices to protect themselves.

A hook event will take place to engage students in the project as a whole and spark their curiosity. This will be used as an opportunity to build a foundational understanding of why this is important and explain to students the learning that will occur across the term. As students' knowledge and understanding increases, they will be provided with excursions to further solidify this is a real-world context.

Stay tuned for updates across the term!

MATHS FACULTY



Welcome back to Term 1, 2025!

We are excited about the upcoming year in the Maths faculty and have many activities planned.

We are thrilled to introduce a new member to our team, Mr. Ellis. He completed his practicum placement with us in Term 4 last year and has already developed a good rapport with many of our students. We warmly welcome Mr. Ellis and look forward to collaborating with him.

This year, we have implemented a Year 8 Numeracy program. All classes will have one lesson every fortnight with Ms. Lewis, focusing on enhancing their personal skills and understanding of numeracy.

We eagerly anticipate sharing all our achievements throughout 2025!

From the **ENGLISH** Faculty



Welcome Back!

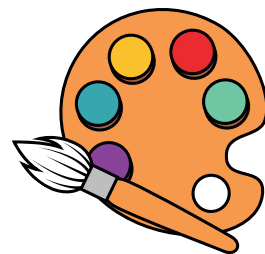
As we start the 2025 school year, we welcome back all our students and new additions to the Ambarvale High School community. This year the English Faculty led by Mrs Taraboulsis. and comprising of Ms Hayden, Ms Walklate, Mrs Cervini, Ms Perwaiz, Miss Woollard, Miss Prince and Mr Hicks, are looking forward to a year filled with learning and opportunity.

The English Curriculum highlights the importance of reading and how integral it is in our day to day lives. We encourage all students to develop a habit of reading at home, as it enhances vocabulary, comprehension, and critical thinking skills. Books offer a gateway to knowledge and imagination, and we look forward to hearing about our student's reading experiences and recommendations throughout 2025.

Students should keep an eye out for exciting writing competitions and literacy events that assist in showcasing creativity, creative writing and help them connect with fellow literature enthusiasts. This year begins with The Premier's Reading Challenge, which begins on 24th February. If any students are interested in participating, please visit Ms. Perwaiz in the English Staffroom for further details.



CAPA FACULTY



A big welcome back from all of us in the CAPA Faculty! We would like to take the opportunity to welcome three new members of our faculty this year; Miss Allen, who joined us at the end of last year and is our newest permanent Visual Arts teacher, with Ms Simpson and Mr Williams, who are our amazing new Music teachers. The rest of our CAPA family consists of Head Teacher Ms Sutton, Mrs McAteer, Miss Tobin, Mr Marincevski and Miss James. We are all looking forward to an amazing year of artistic expression and fabulous learning opportunities.

The CAPA Faculty are happy to announce that Art Club is back for 2025. See the attached poster for information or see Ms James or Miss Tobin for more information.



ARCHIVALE IS BACK!



SAVE THE DATE

Ambarvale High School's
Portrait Competition

ARCHIVALE

"My Hero"

Get a portrait artwork ready for our 'My Hero' art competition happening in Term 2!
Any art medium, paper size or style of art, as long as it's a portrait.

WHEN: WEDNESDAY 25TH JUNE
3-4PM

We have two Year 11 Visual Arts classes in 2025 led by Miss Tobin and Mrs McAteer and they have started off the year by experimenting with a range of 2-dimensional media in the creation of their portfolios. Students are endeavouring to find their individual artistic practice using Still Life as their subject matter and have been looking at shape, form and tone in practical lessons.



Mrs McAteer's Year 10 Visual Arts class have begun their new topic of Portraits this term. Students are creating a self-portrait using graphite and charcoal and are using photographic images of themselves as a reference for their drawings. They are looking amazing, and we cannot wait to see the final pieces!



Miss Tobin's Year 9 Photography class has been learning all about the History of Photography and have begun a range of experiments using traditional photography techniques. Across the term, students will build a portfolio displaying all the techniques they explore - watch this space for more!

