I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everybody back to school and to the start of the 2009 school year. Our first newsletter will be quite brief and is just to provide our community with information about key dates that are upon us very quickly. Next week there will be a detailed newsletter. We look forward to 2009 with great anticipation. Our Year 7 enrolment is up to 187, over 20 more students than this time last year. The College is also attracting enrolments at the senior end of the school with record Year 12 numbers at approximately 130 students. Some students are still waiting on results from job applications and we have new families moving into the area. We have approximately 550 students at College Drive and 450 at Crofton Street. Figures will not be firm until week three of the school year.

The College community will be working towards the consolidation of our College onto the College Drive site during this year. As a consequence our motto for this year and for this process will be; ‘The Power of One-One College One Team’. As all our buildings will be completed by late May, we will be able to plan our move from Crofton Street very carefully leading up to November. Our new science wing has been completed; the construction of the new college Library, Hospitality, Food Technology and Materials Fabrics facilities are expected to be finished in March. A refurbishment of the College’s new Administration wing will complete our building program. Works to complete two new multi purpose hard courts are expected to commence shortly and discussions continue with the Campaspe Shire regarding a new synthetic hockey and tennis complex.

Due to the refurbishment of the administration wing, the General Office at College Drive has taken up temporary residence in the Senior Learning Neighbourhood. To access the General Office enter the College via the third driveway (from the Northern Hwy end). This is known to some as the BRIT entrance.

As I mentioned at the end of last year we have a number of new staff working across the College. I would like to welcome and introduce our new staff to our College community:

- Ms Grenfell: Senior English
- Ms Foy: Year 11 Psychology and PE/Health Ed
- Mr Ferrier: Years 10, 11 and 12 PE/Outdoor Ed and Health Ed
- Mrs Gale: Year 12 English
- Mr Hajra: Senior Maths and Physics
- Ms Heazlewood: Years 8 and 9 Science
- Ms Menz: Years 7, 8 and 10 Phys Ed
- Ms McGurk: Year 7 Science and Y8 Phys Ed and Health Ed
- Ms Pearson: Year 7 and Y8 Visual Art
- Mrs Kervin: returning from leave Year 7 Math and Science
- Mrs McAsey: returning from leave Year 10 Humanities
- Mrs Naughton: General Office Crofton Street
- Mr C Wanganeen: Trainee working in the Year 7 and 8 neighbourhood
- Mr M Pearson: Trainee working in the Year 7 and 8 neighbourhood
- Ms Bennett: Trainee working in the Phys Ed and Sport program
- Mrs Bowles: Campus Chaplain College Drive
- Mr Corby: Campus Chaplain Crofton Street

Welcome to all our new staff.

Echuca’s ‘Southern 80’ weekend is always a big event for our community. I would like to reinforce to all our students the need to act responsibly, be careful and to look out for your friends.

Chris Eeles
College Principal
Year 9 Parent information Evening
Parents of Year 9 students are reminded of an Information Evening to be held in the Senior Neighbourhood on Tuesday February 10th from 7.30pm. The evening will provide an outline of the year’s program, give greater detail about the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme and an opportunity to meet class teachers.

Student Absences
If students are absent for any reason, please contact the general office to let us know that your child will be away. Our phone number is 5482 1133.

Year 7 Camp/BBQ
The Year 7 camp departs to Harrietville next Tuesday, February 17th, returning on Friday 20th. This is a wonderful opportunity for students, teachers and support staff to get to know each other and an opportunity for students to form friendships with students who have come from different Primary Schools. A BBQ for families will be held at school on Tuesday, February 24th from 6.00pm. This will give families the opportunity to meet teachers, support staff and school administration. It is also an opportunity to see some of our new facilities.

A letter will be been sent home regarding the BBQ which will include a return slip for you to indicate how many from your family will be attending. There is no cost to families.

Second Hand Books Available
There are still a few second hand science books available for students in Year’s 7, 8 and 9. If your son or daughter needs a text book, please contact the General Office.

Student Planners
Each student has been issued with a Student Planner. This planner should go home with students each night and be used by students, teachers and parents as a form of communication as well as organisation for the students. The Student Planner contains a range of school policies for use by students, teachers and parents as a form of communication as well as organisation for the students. The Student Planner contains a range of school policies for your perusal. It would be appreciated if parents could regularly monitor student planners at home.

SunSmart
In general the wearing of the school uniform has been good. Parents and students are reminded that as a part of the College SunSmart Policy, all students must wear a broad brimmed hat when outside during term 1 and 4.

Who’s who at College Drive?
Some handy contacts at College Drive….

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Paul Hon</td>
<td>Campus Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Chris Kelly</td>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Tracey Burton</td>
<td>Year 7 Team leader</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Brett McMurdo</td>
<td>Year 8 Team Leader</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Paul Challis</td>
<td>Year 9 Team Leader</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Paul Robinson</td>
<td>Student Counsellor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Brooke Bowles</td>
<td>Chaplain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Denise Lead</td>
<td>School Nurse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Jeanette Fabry</td>
<td>Canteen Manager</td>
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Paul Hon
College Drive Campus Principal

Karl Stenning
Crofton Street Campus Principal

Welcome Back
A warm welcome to students and parents for 2009. Our first week back has been very smooth, with students commencing classes period 2 on Monday. The Step-Up program last year certainly contributed to the quick start this year.

Australia Day Awards
During the holidays a number of our students were very successful in achieving awards for the Australia Day presentations in the Murray Shire and Shire of Campaspe.

Congratulations to the following students:
Shire of Campaspe:
- Zara Pearson - Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- Callum Taylor – Junior Citizen of the Year
Murray Shire:
- Jordan Williams - Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- Molly Edgar – Junior Citizen of the Year

Motivational Speaker – Lorin Nicholson.
Next Friday 13th February 2009, our College has been very lucky to gain the expertise of Lorin Nicholson who is a well known motivational speaker across Australia. Lorin has been legally blind (less than 10% vision) since birth. He has developed a program to present to the school community that follow the four objectives.

- Help students to recognise that challenges come in different forms and can be overcome.
- Help students recognise the special needs of people with disabilities.
- Raise awareness of social justice issues in schools, (eg. teasing, bullying, exclusion, etc
- Share a love of music.

Lorin will be speaking to our staff on Friday morning at a special breakfast session and to the students at College Drive at 9am and students at Crofton Street at 11.15am. He will also be running a Music workshop for our students at College Drive in the afternoon.

Parents are more than welcome to attend the presentations at College Drive or Crofton St with our students. Lorin has a very strong message to present to our College.

Karl Stenning
Crofton Street Campus Principal

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>CSSSA Summer Sports Day</td>
<td>2 Apr 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>VSSSA Swimming</td>
<td>2 Apr 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melbourne Aquatic Centre</td>
<td>3 Apr 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
<td>20 Apr 2019</td>
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</tbody>
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*Could families that would like to receive the newsletter email please forward their email address to: newsletter@echucacollege.vic.edu.au