Next Saturday morning our first group of exchange students from China will arrive in Melbourne as part of their two week stay in Echuca. The nine students and two teachers are from No.5 Middle School of Shangri-La County, Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China. The province is located in the south western part of China and borders Tibet, Burma and the bottom end of the Himalayas. Our visitors will be attending classes at both campuses over the two weeks and also visiting local primary schools and other educational providers. The focus of the visit is an educational and cultural exchange. Echuca College plans to develop a Chinese Language program in the future, a student and teacher exchange to China next year, and an international student program, where students from China will come and study at Echuca College. If you are interested in supporting or participating in our exchange program over the next weeks, please don’t hesitate to contact the College. We will be showing our visitors around the district and we will be involving as many of our students as possible in our exchange program.

Each year DEECD (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development) conduct a number of surveys on school performance. Students, teachers and parents are asked to complete surveys on a range of topics; performance, environment, attitudes to schooling, morale, training, academic rigor, attendance and student destination etc. The Parent Opinion data enables schools to understand how the parent community feel about the school, and helps to guide school improvement efforts. The 2009 Parent Opinion Survey will be distributed to our families on the 24th August. Families are selected randomly from our student records and I encourage all those who receive a survey to complete it and return it to the College. All surveys are confidential and are processed in Melbourne and not by the College. The surveys will be mailed out to families. Again, it is very important that we get a 100% return on our surveys so we can improve our work in developing the skills of our young people.

Congratulations to our Rocka Eisteddfod Team on moving into the Premier Division this year. Our team consists of 120 students, 10 staff and a small band of dedicated parents who accept any challenge from sewing duties to moral support. The team will leave for Melbourne next Friday morning (14th August) to compete in the first round. Our students will be reviewing the video footage of their public performance, held yesterday at the Paramount Theatre, over the next few days and refining their performance in preparation for next Friday’s competition. I would like to thank the Paramount Theatre for their support and for allowing us to have our public performance on the theatre. I would also like to thank all the staff involved with the Rock Eisteddfod and a special thanks to our dedicated parents.

The College is in the midst of conducting a series of information nights for students and parents in preparation for 2010. These information evenings are designed to help students and parents to make informed subject selections and also to assist with planning for life after school. Students moving into Years 10, 11 and 12 in 2010, need to consider all the options available to them, not only at school but within Echuca, before selecting programs for 2010. Our first evening for Year 10 into VCE was very well attended and College staff were very pleased with the interest shown by those students already attending the College and by potential students. Families are unable to attend these meetings should contact the College as soon as possible to collect information about course selections for 2010 and a reminder to Year 10 students to make appointments (if you have not done so) with course counsellors for Monday 10th August.
In addition to our course information evenings, Year 12 students have had the Tertiary Information Service visit this week to provide students with a chance to gain information about tertiary course for 2010. August is the ‘Open Day’ month where universities open their doors to potential students and more detailed conversations can be had around the specifics of courses, accommodation and life at university. I would encourage not only our Year 12 students to be attending these days, but any students in Years 10 and 11 who may be considering further study after secondary school. Mr Webb has all the information about Open Days and various promotional activities held by TAFE Colleges and Universities.

Technology is a wonderful thing. However, unfortunately, we have seen a recent increase in the misuse of mobile phones and iPods. This is as a result of inappropriate student behaviour rather than the technology. Our policy states that students’ phones and iPods should be switched off during class time (unless otherwise sanctioned by the classroom teacher) as they have the ability to disrupt the learning environment. Mobile phone cameras are not to be used at any time. Using a mobile phone camera (still and video) to film people and their activities without their knowledge and/or permission is an invasion of privacy and is not permitted. As a College we are moving forward to educate our students on the appropriate way to use mobile phones and associated technologies. It is important that students display courtesy, consideration and respect for others whenever they are using a mobile phone. Failure to follow these basic principles will result in these items being removed from the student and discipline procedures being implemented. The College does require parental support on these matters.

Chris Eeles
College Principal

Information Nights
Last week our first Information night for 2010 was held. We had a wonderful turn up for our Year 11 group for 2010 at College Drive. Parents who were not able to make an appointment for the 10th of August (year 10 course counselling day) should do so asap with their child’s counsellor. This week we have Year 12 for 2010 and VTAC Information night as well. It is very important that parents and students attend these sessions in preparation for next year.

Debutante Ball
This year’s Debutante Ball is coming along very well thanks to the hardworking committee of parents. Each Sunday night students are practicing their dance moves in preparation for the ball on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd August at Moama Bowling Club. I would like to thank the parents and students for their hard work and look forward to the ball later this month.

Busy Times
The remainder of this term is a particularly busy time. There are many extracurricular activities that our students are involved in. We remind our senior students that it is very important that they inform their classroom teachers if they will be away and ensure they catch up on any work missed.

Karl Stenning & Chris Kelly
Campus Principal’s

Campus Principals Report

Year 10 Course Counselling Day
A reminder to all students and parents that this Monday 10th August is course counselling day for all Year 10 students. Year 10 students are not required at school on this day for their normal timetabled classes.

Year 11 Camp
Two weeks ago I had the pleasure of spending 3 days with our Year 11 students in Melbourne on their Vocational Camp. Students once again were very well behaved over the 3 days and certainly experienced life in Melbourne as a young person. During the 3 days students had to negotiate public transport to get them to their different activities. I went to Elli Lucas Beauty School, Channel 9 and Coffee School. The afternoon I spent with Martyn Lawrence, his mother and Robyn O’Sullivan was one of the most humbling experiences I have had in my teaching career. We were shown around channel 9 by Mr. Peter Hitchener, the chief newsreader, and met people such as Grant Hackett, Jo Hall and Bert Newton. A great day for all of us. I would like to thank Mr. Down, our Year 11 Team Leader for organising the trip and the staff that attended as well. It was a very worthwhile experience for our students.
Year 7 news

Local grade 5/6 students have started transition visits to Echuca College. These students participate in 2 classes and are here over recess, allowing time for year 7 students to catch up with friends from primary school.

All students have been reading ‘Hatchet’, a novel about a boy struggling to survive in the Canadian Wilderness. Please take the time to ask about the story.

Just a reminder to have all clothing items named as there are lots still turning up in the lost property. Jumpers etc will be returned if we know who they belong to.

Tracey Burton
Year 7 Team Leader

Year 8 News

Term 3 is off to a flying start; students are immersed in our ‘Footprints’ theme. Footprints looks at the imprint that each person leaves behind environmentally and personally. We have also been talking about the footprints that have been left behind on ourselves by others. You may have some memories that have left an impact on your life or shaped who you are today that you can share with your child.

Please be aware there has been some changes to this semester’s homework. Below is a chart outlining which week your child receives homework and from which subject.

Homework is due on a Monday for North students and Wednesday for South students.

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Year 9 News

Financial Literacy Study

Students in Year 9 Mathematics have been studying Financial Literacy. Financial Literacy is an Echuca College unit on Financial Education for Teenagers. The four components of Financial Literacy are:

Financial understanding - knowledge about the nature of money, financial decisions and the implications of these decisions.

Financial competence - the application of knowledge and skills in a range of changing contexts.

Financial enterprise involves initiative and informed risk-taking in the nature and use of money.

Financial responsibility involves making financial decisions that display care for self, others and the community.

These components of financial literacy are supported by knowledge, skills and values related to competition, exchange, income, liability, power and value. This is aptly highlighted by the current economic climate. It also incorporates a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy skills.

Research shows teenagers are engaged in financial activities such as saving money, making purchases and using mobile phones. As active consumers therefore, children need guidance and help to become confident, responsible and informed. Research also shows that financial education is most effective when it is started before they begin part-time employment and can help children to:

- Develop the knowledge, skills and understanding to use money wisely
- Identify and evaluate the value of money and credit
- Take greater responsibility for their own financial decisions, and
- Develop a sense of responsible management of resources.

Assessment is based on a Budget Calculator, Credit Card Calculator and an Online Financial Skills Assessment.

Denise Richardson
Year 8 Assistant Team Leader/Mathematics Teacher

Alipne School Update, by Sarah.

Dear Mr. Morgan,

We got back from our first expo today loads of fun. We walked 15km yesterday mostly along the beach that was hard work but we did it and today we walked 5km on a bush route. It was loads of fun! I will feel the pain tomorrow but it was worth it. Some of us were a little bored at first and didn't want to do it, but then we got into it and we really liked it and now we can't wait for the next expo. We didn't end up going surfing, it was cancelled which I was a bit disappointed about but it's ok because we get to go four times so it's all good! The bridge building was a lot of fun. Our bridge sort of collapsed but we got there in the end.

Sarah Head
STUDENT COUNCIL DAY

Student Council Day,
On Friday 31st of July the Student Council representatives from both campuses came together at the Anglican Hall in Echuca. This was the first time both councils had come together and it was a fun and rewarding day for all. The main aim was to discuss and brainstorm the role of Student Council and what members could bring to it, as well project planning and any possible issues that might arise from both campuses coming together in 2010 with 1,000 students. A student perspective is very important in these matters and their input was invaluable. Students were joined by Mr Eeles and the other campus principals for lunch. A lot of fun was also had with many ‘getting to know you’ style games and activities, with many silly and embarrassing moments for all, especially the teachers.

The role of the Student Council is to represent the concerns and interests of the student-body as well running activities and fundraising.

Steve Abramovich

CAREERS NEWS

Work experience – Year 10
Students in Year 10 are encouraged to undertake work experience during the school holidays. A number of students took up work experience in the June holidays in a range of jobs. The feedback has been very positive and many students now know which career pathway they want to take.

If students are interested in work experience on a construction site (for example; building, brick laying, plumbing, cabinet making etc) they are required by law to have the Construction Induction Card training (old Red Card). The College will be holding a training day for students who wish to gain their Construction Induction Training card. See Mr Webb or Miss Roberts for further details.

Work Experience for September Holidays.
Please note, work experience forms for the September holidays must be handed in before the following dates

NSW – Week 6 Friday 21st August
VIC – Week 8 Friday 4th September

Sandra Roberts.

INFORMATION EVENINGS AT ECHUCA COLLEGE

The following VTAC and information Evenings will be held at the College during August. For further information contact Lyn Costin at Crofton St Campus on 03 5482 3366.

Year 12 Students
VTAC Information Evening on Thursday 6th August at 7.30 at Crofton Street

2010 Year 12 Students.
Information Evening for parents and students on Wednesday 5th August at 7.30pm. in the College Drive in Senior Learning Area.

2010 Year 10 Students.
Information Evening for parents and students on Wednesday 12th August at 7.30pm. in the College Drive in Senior Learning Area.

Beyond the Horizon
A Science and Astronomy Expo
Join us to celebrate National Science Week
The Scientwists, in conjunction with the Bendigo District Astronomical Society (BDAS) proudly present this unique community event.

When: Monday August 17th
3.30pm – 5pm & 6.30pm—8.30pm

Where: Echuca College, College Drive Campus, Science Precinct.

What:
- Science Show
- Quiz and prizes
- Fantastic Astronomy Expo
- Visit from Paddlewheel Pete
- Star Gazing with BDAS
- Science Careers information with CCLLEN and CCLCP
- Make your own Planisphere
- Sample Astronaut food
- Repair the International Space Station

**Fun for the whole family**
Entry by Gold coin donation. Echuca College VCAL BBQ and drinks available.
**SPORT NEWS**

**RICH RIVER GOLF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Recently Tom Moss competed in the Rich River Gold Club Championship, which consisted of four rounds.

Tom’s opening round was an amazing effort of net score 68. This was the best net score out of the 200 golfers competing on the day. He finished all three rounds playing to his handicap of 11.

Tom ended up coming runner up in the Junior B grade section and was the winner of the Junior Champs off the stick. Both he and Kacey Heywood proudly received golfing scholarships at the Metropolitan Golf Club. This scholarship entitles them to full access of the club and both will receive coaching from the golf pro at the club!

**Well Done!**

**CSSSA SENIOR AND INTERMEDIATE BASKETBALL**

**Senior Girls**

The first game of the tournament saw us come up against a tall Kyabram team. Maddie Stephenson was a force to be reckoned with in offence, scoring freely. Alex Kennough was rock solid in defence, drawing many charge fouls. Amy Connors’ speed around the court enabled Echuca College to take away a 42 to 16 win.

A slow start in our second match against Nathalia resulted in us having to work hard in the second half to create a large difference on the score board. Hannah ‘Montana’ Hearn showed clean hands in defence, stripping many opponents of the ball. Connie Ruedin drove strongly to the ring scoring several points. Echuca ended up run away victors with a 35 to 8 win.

Our final match was always going to be a tough one against arch rivals Rochester. Georgie Chandler stood tall in defence, taking several key rebounds and protecting the ball in defence. Kayla Hancock’s ‘hustle’ over the ball and defensive pressure enabled us to gain several turnovers. Zara Pearson’s relentless driving to the ring saw us convert many turnovers. Echuca going down by one point, 16 to 17. We done girls on fighting it out til the end.

**Coach- Carlie Jones**

**Intermediate Girls**

The morning started off with a cold one, but the girls were still keen as they went up against Nathalia in their first match. With a pretty one sided game, the girls were able to set up their play to perfection. Amanda Carrington and Rochelle Daley strong defence never let the ball down the opposition’s end for very long. With a final score of 24 to 4, the girls were ready to take on Ky.

In our second match we had new team tactics thanks to Corey. The girls were keen to take another win away with them. The game started off strong with the speed of Tameka Branch feeding the ball down our end. Ellie Ralph and Jodie West were on the money with their goals, even with Ellie injuring her ankle towards the end of the match. Ky put up a good fight, but again our girls were able to pull away with another win with 19 to 8.

Finally we came up against Rochy. It was the game to win. The girls started off strong and put us in a two point lead for majority of the game thanks to the keen defence of Tess O’Reilly and strong shots of Jodie West. After half time Rochy picked up their game and were in front, but with a few quick turn overs it was goal for goal. Annabell Harris put her body on the line for the team, and with a few free throws the girls came away with a 3 point win (17 to 14), which sends them to the Northern Zone finals in Mildura. MVP for the day was Annabell Harris. Well done girls!

**Coach- Bri Bennett**

**Senior Boys**

Echuca College’s senior boys team came up against Nathalia first. Ryan Hon started the match strongly, scoring freely from around the arc. A severely dislocated finger injury to Ben Reid prevented him taking any further part in the day. David Monaghan went in hard in defence resulting in him unintentionally injuring his opponent and himself. Echuca went on to take the match, 43 to 13.

In our second game, we came up against a very tall Kyabram team. Jordan Glanville drove hard in the offence, scoring when given the chance. Kyle Forge was strong in defence, applying great pressure over the ball. Luke Hubbard displayed plenty of speed and agility in chasing down lots of loose balls. Unfortunately, the boys’ efforts weren’t enough going down 13 to 21.

Our final match saw us come up against eventual winners Rochester. Nick Castles worked hard in offence, putting up many shots. Ross Picone was a ‘fox terrier’ in defence, causing several turnovers and working the ball down the court. The strength of Rochester’s bench and foul trouble from Echuca saw us go down 12 to 43.

**Intermediate Boys**

The inter boys had a fantastic day being undefeated in the CSSSA Basketball.

First game was an easy one against Nathalia. The boys used the ball well and ran out Nathalia. Great form by our centre Cam, Daniel and Steve with their rebounds and added pressure around the key. Our youngster Jack did great damage with his quick ball skills.

Second game was against Kyabram which was a bit more of a challenge for the boys. They started slowly but with the leadership of Nathan directing play, the boys easily took away a win.

It was good to see the starting line up doing damage and with the likes of Noodles, Alister and Mick coming off the bench to change the play, the boys pulled away with another win.

Third game was the showdown against Rochy. Both teams were undefeated so they boys had to win. Throughout the game it was quick plays and hard pressure from both teams. In the end Echuca College was up by 2 points but with a late call of the ref, Rochy had a chance to draw the game with 2 shots after the buzzer. Their player missed the first shot and hit the last that giving us a 1 point win!

It was the team work from all the boys that helped them come away with all three wins. A big thanks to Bri Bennett for organizing the day for us and to the boys. Good luck in the zone basketball in Mildura next month.

**Coach- Corey Wanganeen**
NORTHERN ZONE YEAR 7 FOOTBALL

The year 7 football team competed in the Northern Zone Football Carnival on Tuesday the 28th of August at the Swan Hill football oval. In wintery conditions the team took to the field in a fearsome purple haze. From the first bounce Jordan (Judd) Mulholland set the tone for the day with his ferocious attack on the ball, impressing all with his ball winning abilities. Jake (Jonathan Brown) Toll put in a tireless display at centre half forward taking numerous contested marks and kicking some magical goals. Rucking virtually unchanged throughout the entire day Shaun (Kruezer) Atkins provided our onballers with plenty of clearances as well as dominating play around the ground. Amon (Harley) Hudson, Jayden (Hodge) Williams and Ben (Presti) Abbott were stoic defenders who often repelled the opposition to create numerous attacking moves. Corey (Bartel) Hackney was another tireless onballer who impressed with his kicking left foot and possession gathering.

Overall the teamwork was very pleasing and after a win, draw and lose were unlucky to miss the state finals by two goals. I would also like to thank Trevor Mellington, Nathan Evans and Cam Valentine who assisted with the team.

Coach - Scott Trewella

STATE CROSS COUNTRY

It was an early start last Friday for the State Cross Country boys. At 7:30am we were off to Bundoora. It was a cold morning which turned into an even colder day, but the boys weren’t deterred from the competition. Harry was up first, after a quick warmup he was off, ending with a fantastic result coming 14th with a time of 10.28 min.

Next up was our year 7 boys Corey and Shaun, who were keen to get going. The competition was challenging but the boys still pulled through coming 73rd, with a time of 11.56, and 78th with a time of 11.59.

After a long break it was finally Gus race. After settling the butterflies in his stomach he was ready to go. He finished with a great time of 20.07 min coming 64th.

Our last competitor was year 12 student Tim, coming 53rd with a time of 19.10min.

Then it was back on the warm bus to thaw out on the trip home. Well done boys, it was a great day.

Bri Bennett

RED CROSS TEEN MENTORING

We are pleased to announce that fourteen committed volunteers from our community were trained as Red Cross Mentors last Sunday to further support the young people of Echuca-Moama. The volunteers will spread their services across the local secondary schools.

The mentors are a great bunch of people and are all eager to ‘get going’. We are currently forming a list of students who might benefit from participation in the Red Cross Mentoring Program. Letters will then be sent to relevant parents/guardians for permission for their child to be involved in the program.

The training was conducted by Jenny McCaw from Red Cross who was assisted by a group of committed members from our community who donated their time to support this program. Thank you to: Matt Jones (Wellbeing Coordinator 7 - 9, St Joe’s); Marg Fuller (Women’s Health, Primary Care); Wendy Howe (Drug & Alcohol Worker, Primary Care); Brett Steele (CAMHS); Libby Houghton (Mentor); Ken McMullen (Mentor) and Libby Barnes (assist all schools in the area of Wellbeing).

Thank you also to the Moama Bowling Club for donating the venue and morning tea for the mentor training. We would also like to say THANK YOU to our current band of dedicated Red Cross Teen Mentors who continue to do a fantastic job.

The following information about the program comes directly from the Red Cross website: www.redcross.org.au

The Teen Mentoring Program developed by Australian Red Cross provides weekly, individualised support and activities to secondary school students who could benefit from contact, on a one to one basis, with a significant adult other than their parent or teacher. The mentors help secondary school students prepare for life beyond school by encouraging communication, reinforcing positive behaviour and increasing self-esteem and confidence. The mentoring sessions take place at the student’s school, for an hour each week. The mentors help students who could benefit from some extra support for a number of reasons. It may be a young person who is at risk of dropping out of school or an over achieving student who has difficulty relating to his or her peers. The mentors may help the student with issues faced in life or just give a student an hour of dedicated attention and conversation that he or she may not get anywhere else.

CHOOKAS!

BREAK A LEG!

GO - ROCK EISTEDDOFD TEAM!

Get behind the Rocka Team this year as they gear up for the Premier Entry in this year’s Rock Eisteddfod. The team will perform at Hisense Arena in Melbourne on Friday 14th August.

Public Performances:
Will be held on Thursday 6th August at 4, 5 and 6pm (gold coin donation) at the Echuca Paramount. For more information contact Jacqui Kornmann at the College!

GO TEAM!
ECHUCA INSURANCE HOUSE JUNIOR PIRATES SQUAD TRYOUTS

Echuca INSURANCE HOUSE Junior Pirates Squad Tryouts
Conducted by the Echuca Basketball Association
Open to all boys and girls interested from the Echuca/Moama/Lockington area.
Age groups are under 12, under 14, under 16 and under 18
For more details or to express interest in attending please call the Echuca Basketball Association on 54806903

MAJOR & SILENT AUCTION ON THE NIGHT

For more info please contact Melinda Simmons
0411 176 164 or email 208pfa@gmail.com

DINNER DISCOUNT

“Bendigo TAFE’s, Kickhams Mill Training Restaurant provides great food, great atmosphere and a great opportunity to sample the cuisine of the regions up and coming chefs. It provides students with hands on, practical experience in all aspects of restaurant.

Dinner is offered on most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.30pm.

Please visit www.britafe.vic.edu.au and go to the downloads section to view the restaurant timetable.

Mention you heard about the training restaurant through this newsletter and receive a 20% discount. For restaurant bookings and functions, telephone (03) 5483 1312 or email stall@britafe.vic.edu.au”

VEAL Trivia Night

The Theme Is Hollywood

Date: 04/09/2009

WHERE - Echuca Workers Club

Money Raised Will Go To The Beacon Foundation

The Night includes finger food, prizes, raffles and drinks which are available at the bar!

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY NOTICES

Echuca Primary School Parents & Friends Association Presents the inaugural

208 GALA BALL

DATE: 4th September
STARTS: 7.30pm till late
WHERE: Ceres - 2 Nish Street
COST: $55.00 per person
DRESS: After 5
MUSIC: DJ Strats

Finger food provided & Drinks available at bar prices
Tickets available from Echuca Primary School office
School Breakfast is proven to be good for children’s bodies and their minds. Research shows that children who eat breakfast have improved memory, problem-solving skills, verbal fluency and creative abilities.

Why Eat Breakfast?
School Breakfast really is the most important meal of the day for kids and provides the necessary fuel to start a day of learning and achievement. Research has shown that children who eat breakfast at school:
- Improve academic performance
- Have fewer health issues
- Behave better in class

Research also shows that kids who skip breakfast rarely make up for missed nutrients later in the day – so skipping breakfast could also affect the after school activities that they really love doing at Echuca College!

School Breakfast: Good for your Kids
School breakfast provides 25% of the recommended daily allowance of protein, calcium and iron, vitamins A and C and calories for your kids as well as meeting state nutrition guidelines based on the Dietary Guidelines for Australians.

What’s in a meal?
Our daily menu is designed to meet a child’s basic nutritional needs. The breakfast line-up includes this good stuff:
- Milk and hot chocolate
- Fruit and 100% juice or vegetables
- Whole Grain Breads
- Variety of cereals

What is the School Breakfast Program?
Echuca College’s Breakfast Program runs Tuesday to Thursday in Cafe 8855 from 8:20 to 8:50. Is open to all Echuca College students and is a healthy way to join your BFFL and start your day.

Need more information?
Contact Denise Richardson, Echuca College Student Wellbeing Team Leader.
Phone: 5482 1133
Email: richardson.denise.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Remember to make your child a superhero?
A superhero can’t function without energy, and neither can your child. Eating breakfast helps a child power up for a day filled with learning and achievement.