‘Power of one - One College, One Team’

Our College Council Election process will start next week and this year we have four positions available for the election. Four Councillors have completed their two year terms and three have indicated that they will not renominate and one Councillor will be seeking re-election. Our Council has eight parent representatives and four DEECD representatives (staff). There is an opportunity for parents interested in supporting their child’s education to join our Council team so if you are considering joining our College Council, please don’t hesitate to contact me for more information. Parents on College Council provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the College. Those parents who become active on a College Council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging. Nominations forms will available for parent members at the College’s general office.

I believe it is important to acknowledge the work our College Councillors do each year and the many achievements that have taken place in the last 5 years under their governance. In particular, the College community would like to thank Mr Kevin Simpson for his work as a Councillor for eight years and also as College Council President for the past four years. Mr Bruce Smith has been a member of the School Council for over eight years and with Kevin has played a major role in developing Echuca College over the last four years. Both Councillors can be very proud of the work they have completed while on Council. I would like to congratulate and thank both Kevin and Bruce for their leadership on behalf of the College community.

College Council Elections 2010 Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>22nd February 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of nominations</td>
<td>5th March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display list of candidates, nominator &amp; seconder</td>
<td>5th March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare ballot papers and distribute on or before</td>
<td>12th March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of ballot</td>
<td>19th March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Count votes &amp; declare ballot</td>
<td>19th March 2010</td>
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</tbody>
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Who is on the school council? There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school.

- A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

The first three weeks of the school year has been very busy with extra curricula programs taking place outside the College across all year levels. Last week our Year 12 students participated in the ‘Flying Start’ program held at Rich River Golf Club. The program included goal setting, reviewing the academic year and the requirements of VCAA.
The College was able to engage the service of Dion Brownfield, ex Echuca High School student and his ‘Indigenous Hip Hop’ group who worked with students on team building and goal setting tasks. As was the case with our ‘Step Up’ program last year, the ‘Flying Start’ was well attended by Year 12 students.

On Monday the College held its annual swimming carnival and congratulations to all competitors involved in the carnival. Once again Kanyapella was too strong and won the day. I would like to thank Ms Bree Bennett and her team for all the work that went into organising the carnival.

Our Year 7 students will return today from their camp to Harrietville where they have had three days of structured activities. The camp is part of the College’s Orientation/Transition program and its key focus is to provide an opportunity for the students and staff to get to know each other and to establish the partnerships in learning that will be the key to success in Year 7 and beyond. More on the camp in the next newsletter.

Senior Boys Cricket Team

Echuca College Senior boys cricket team defeated Nathalia last Thursday 11th February with Ryan Hon scoring 117 runs and Nick Castles taking 4 wickets. It was a convincing victory but they face a tough challenge against Rochester this Wednesday to advance to the next round.

Turkey 2010

There will be an information night on Thursday 25th February for parents and students attending the Turkey tour. The meeting will be in the Yr 7 neighbourhood at 6pm. If you have not yet indicated interest you are welcome to come. We will be discussing insurance, the itinerary, passports & anything else you might like to know.

Year 11 Report - These are the Days of Our Lives

On Friday 5th February the Year 11 students were introduced to ‘Sonya’ our Guest Speaker talking about staying safe when going out to adult venues. The students gained valuable knowledge about looking after each other.

The Year 11 Peer Support Program made a great impression with staff and very enthusiastic Year 7 students. The Year 7 students are guided and supported through various activities by the Year 11 students. Thank you to Ms Case for organising a wonderful event.

Debutant Ball

Plans for the Echuca College 2010 Debutant Ball are beginning. During the week students will be invited to show an expression of interest. We welcome any parents who may wish to be involved by being on the committee to please contact the College.

Change of Student Program

Students and parents are advised that as of Friday February 19th there will be no further changes to student programs. Students who wish to apply under special provision may work with parents and team leaders to modify programs required. Lastly, our study tip for this fortnight, create your own personal revision notes for each subject!

Keep up the good work everyone,
Year 11 Team.
Year 9 News

Incentive Program
Well done to all students who have been steadily earning their sticker rewards as part of the Incentive Program. Some students are even close to ‘cashing in’ their stickers for a canteen voucher! Well done and keep up the excellent efforts, work and leadership!

Alpine School
The Year 9 Team received an email from our adventurous Alpine School students. It seems like they are having an absolute blast and hardly missing us here back in Echuca! It appears some of the students have been homesick but our students were quick to add that none of them were! Maddy, Millie, Ellie, Brent, Jayden and Tyler are particularly looking forward to their first overnight expedition.

Uniform and Hats
Congratulations to all Year 9 students on their superb wearing of the College uniform. It’s a real pleasure to walk through the yard and see the students immaculately dressed. A reminder that all students are to be wearing their broad brimmed hats in the yard at lunch time. Students not wearing hats will be made to sit in the gym for the duration of lunchtime.

Attendance
Thank you to those parents who have been contacting the College if their student is absent from school. Of late, the Year 9 Team has been contacting the families of all students who are absent from school. Parents can either contact the College office, 5482 1133, or please feel free to email one of the Year 9 Team.

The Year 9 Team - Carlie Jones, Dan Davidson and Stewart Cheal

Year 8 News.

MESHH is off to a great start and students have been enthusiastic. Students spent last week immersed in the new topic ‘The World Around Us’. They took part in various classes designed to build background knowledge such as: cooking, descriptive writing, poster making and trying to support the life of Captain Eggleton on his re-entry into the earth’s atmosphere.

Rubicon Outdoor Adventure Camp will be held towards the end of March. There are a limited number of students that may attend and they will need to meet a selection criteria to be considered. More information will be given at a later date.

Please note that students receive homework on Tuesdays and are expected to submit on the following Tuesday.

School Photos
The College has contracted Arthur Reed Photos to be our school photographers this year. All students will have their photographs taken on Wednesday 3rd March. ALL students will be photographed even if they are not ordering photos. Ordering envelopes will be sent home with students approximately one week before photo day.

Parents and guardians should have received a letter this week outlining ordering information and uniform requirements. It is vital that all students are in full and CORRECT school SUMMER uniform.

E-Learning News.
E-Learning Bulletin: Staying Safe Online
The internet can be used in many positive ways, e.g. doing research, finding and connecting with friends and peers, for entertainment purposes, and for general information e.g. the weather report. As parents and teachers, we are not always able to monitor young people’s online activities. It pays to regularly remind young people about the appropriate behaviours when online. Use these tips to make sure you and your family stay safe online – whether you are browsing the Web or chatting with friends:

1. Stay safe when using e-mail
E-mail is a great way to communicate and stay in touch with friends and family. Some ways to stay safe when e-mailing:
   • Don’t give out any personal information. Guard your home address, date of birth, drivers licence number, and bank or credit card information. Do not give out your family’s details, work or school details or times when your parents will not be home.
   • Have different e-mail addresses: It’s a good idea to have one e-mail that you use for family members and close friends and another one for shopping and signing up for newsletters and Web sites.
   • Use caution when opening attached files. A file attached to an e-mail is a common way for a virus to spread. Think first before opening attachments even if you know the sender, and check with the sender if you’re not sure about an attachment.

2. Stay safe when surfing the Web
   • Make sure your personal information is protected. Read a site’s privacy statement before you give out any personal information or download software. Check for signs that the Web site protects sensitive data: look for “https” in the Web address and for a yellow padlock or an unbroken key in the lower-right corner.
   • Use strong passwords. Strong passwords have at least eight characters; include letters, numbers, and symbols; and are easy for you to remember but tough for others to guess. Protect your passwords, and change them regularly.
   • Monitor your kids’ online activities. Pay attention to what kids do and who they meet online. Make it a household rule that no child reveals personal information (including photos) without permission.
   • Warn kids never to meet Internet “friends” in person. If you have not met the person you have been communicating with online, face-to-face, then you do not know that person.

3. Keep your computer and anti-virus software current
   • There are new viruses out every day. Ensure you keep your anti-virus software up to date by downloading and updating regularly. In this way you will be get the latest protection against new threats. If you think you have a virus, get off the internet immediately, and run a virus scan.
   • Do not allow others to use their USB’s on your computer, unless you have scanned the USB content with your anti-virus software first.

By Maryna Badenhorst, E-Learning Coordinator, Echuca College.
Malaysia was a great experience! It was fun, especially the elephants; they were cool. I got to feed them, ride one and go swimming with an elephant. I saw monkeys sitting on the fence beside the road. I loved the horse at the kings palace; he gave me a kiss. My favourite food was crispy chicken. Krystelle Lloyd 7T3

Last year I had the awesome opportunity to go to Malaysia with a great group of girls, I would have liked to stay longer. I enjoyed meeting the locals and trying out my Indonesian, with some help from the girls and Courtney Peters. My favourite would have to have been the elephants centre and the cultural experiences like Batu caves, Batik making and eating out and trying the local food. I also enjoyed our day at the school and attending some classes. Of course the shopping and the bargaining was always fun too. I am looking forward to the next trip already and I would like to thank Courtney Peters for organising a brilliant trip I had a lot of fun and learnt heaps. In fact it has inspired me to study Indonesian with my girls Rhiannon and Krystelle. Margi Smith (parent)

Malaysia was a great experience and I’m really glad that I had the opportunity to go. I had a great time and the shopping was the best! I loved wandering around and looking at all the different things. I loved the breakfast that we got in the morning, especially the fried rice and hash browns; there was so much to choose from. The elephants were wonderful and the Sunway Lagoon Water Park was a whole heap of fun. I’m really glad I had the opportunity to go, especially with the people who were with me. Rhiannon Lloyd 11T7

On the 7th of December 2009, a group of ten girls went on a trip to Malaysia, for Indonesian studies. The trip was a fantastic cultural experience (that’s a nice phrase to cover my introduction to their toilets) and opened my eyes to how other countries live. To be able to travel to Malaysia and spend nine days eating, shopping and exploring was amazing. One of the highlights was the markets where we could practise the language skills we have learnt in class and it made them so happy to hear us speak their language, they really appreciated our attempts to communicate with them. To walk away from the stall knowing you had spoken Indonesian even if it was just Terima Kasih (thankyou) was such a great feeling and the shopping was fantastic.

On Wednesday the 9th, we toured around Kuala Lumpur, visited an Indonesian school, Islamic Museum, Kings Palace and a memorial site. The school was very welcoming and loved it when we could speak to them and they also returned the favour speaking in English. Their were a few language issues when my mum answered a question in Indonesian saying she had two husbands, and earlier when the principal mistakenly thought mum was the teacher and Bu Peters another student. We split into groups to go to different classes and exchange information about each other. We also had a formal class, which was difficult because the teacher spoke so fast and you had to really concentrate. The students were just so friendly and even got some of us to sing with them, during the election of their school captains. The museum was amazing with all the history of Malaysia. It was set out to show how the city has grown over the decades. At the Kings Palace we were fortunate enough to see the changing of the guards. Did I mention the shopping? The elephant sanctuary was a great experience, riding them a feeling of excitement combined with a little fear, swimming with them an experience I will never forget. Some of us even

The trip was amazing, the shopping great, including all the other activities we did and I would encourage all students if they got the opportunity to travel overseas wherever it may be, to take the leap and go for it because it was such a great experience. Jessica Mitchell Year 12 & Joy Mitchell (parent)

Immunisations

Students in Year 7 and Year 10 are to be immunised on the 17th March. Immunisations cards have been sent home with these students. Parents are asked to complete and sign the cards and return them to the College asap. Please check with the college office if you did not receive your child’s immunisation card. Please note: ALL completed cards MUST be returned to the College. You must return the card(s) even if you are choosing NOT to have you child immunised.

Year 7 students:
Chickenpox - yellow card. This immunisation is recommended if your child has NOT had Chickenpox disease.
Hepatitis B - Red card. This is the first of a two dose immunisation.
HPV - Purple card. This is the first of a three dose immunisation for FEMALES ONLY.

Year 10 students:
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Whooping cough boostrix – Blue card is offered for all year 10 students.

If you do not receive immunisation consent cards for your child, please ask at the school office.
If you have any further questions about the Immunisation Program please contact Gillian at the Shire of Campaspe on 1300 666535.

Could all students in years 7 and 10 have the cards returned to the college by Wednesday 24 February.

Would you like to receive the newsletter via e-mail?
Dear Parents,

The Beacon Foundation is a national not-for-profit organisation that seeks to influence societal attitudes and culture through the delivery of valid and relevant projects. It is the hope of the Beacon Foundation that each young person will develop an independent resolve to achieve personal success, recognising the value of education in their lives and also the importance of the local and broader community.

Established in Echuca in 2001 the Beacon Foundation focuses its delivery on Year Ten students and has for the past nine years, in collaboration with the local secondary colleges, assisted the youth of this region in enhancing and expanding their career opportunities.

A key strategy of the Beacon Foundation is to initiate original and innovative schemes that demonstrate solutions to youth disengagement and encourage self help at a local level. The implementation of these schemes relies on the support of the local community and especially the business community.

I thank our current sponsors and businesses who have assisted in the delivery of this program for their support and enthusiasm, and urge other community groups and local business houses to assist the program where possible.

Parents can assist as owner operators of their own business, or by bringing the program to the attention of their employers. I encourage and welcome parent interest and involvement in the program by these means.

Support can be shown in many ways – including offers of work experience placements, student industry visits, ‘Adopt a class’ by local business, school based apprenticeships, career counselling through personal presentation, assistance with practice job interviews, individual student mentoring, scholarships, or financial sponsorship to the Beacon Foundation.

All business and community groups are welcome. The determination of the broader community to extend the hand of inclusion and friendship to the young people of Echuca Moama can only result in positive outcomes!

For more information about this successful and respected program please contact me at Heygarth House 47 – 49 Heygarth St Echuca on 5482-1788.

Young People – Real Futures – Our Responsibility

Steve Gale
Executive Officer
Echuca Moama Beacon Foundation

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**Echuca CFA**

Invites you all to come and see our State Junior Championships
This weekend 20th - 21st February at Victoria Park Echuca
Time 9am - 5pm Saturday 9am - 4pm Sunday

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**JAZZ and CONTEMPORARY DANCE CLASSES**

For ‘Ladies’!

Ph: 54 832300

With Jacqui Kornmann B.Ed, AISTD Cecchetti London

During a one hour class learn three different dance routines over the term which includes stretching, strengthening, fitness and dance technique. No experience necessary (plenty of women are too scared to start because they don’t think they are good enough, but we’re just there to have fun and get fit!) Grab a friend and come and join in for eight weeks!

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**REMINDER - EMA**

If you have not yet claimed your EMA, call into the College office and complete the appropriate forms.

EMA applications close Friday 26th February 2010

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**Vibe**

The Vibe 3 on 3 is a proudly Indigenous event for the Aboriginal community – Indigenous and non Indigenous, young and old, girls and boys. A fast paced day of sport, music and culture, and encourages sportsmanship, teaches new skills, build self esteem and promotes reconciliation at a grass level.

Hosted by a former Globetrotter and Aboriginal basketball star Claude Williams, Vibe 3 on 3 features 3on3 basketball, breakdancing and art workshops, a dance competition and a health expo, all accompanied by backing tracks of the latest RnB, hip hop and Indigenous music. Vibe 3on3 is on Saturday Feb 20th and starts at 9am at the Echuca Fonterra Sport Centre. For more information vibe.com.au
**YOUNG ENDEVOUR**

Young Australians between the age of 16 – 23 can apply to crew the Young Endeavour for 11 day voyages departing from July – December along the coasts of NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and Tasmania. No previous experience is required. Applications close 28th February 2010. For more information please visit www.youngendeavour.gov.au or ph. 1800020444 or contact Mrs Smith (Camps Director).

**LBU Under 14`s**

As the coming football season draws near we need to get a list of names interested in playing for LBU under 14’s this year. Although training won’t start until towards the end of March it is important to make sure of our numbers now as the GCFL require team numbers for the upcoming season. Please ring or fill out the form with your details below and fax/email it to Joe Sciotto or Colin Bacon as soon as possible.

Team Manager: Joe Sciotto  PH-54868313  Mobile- 0428300764
Email- jandfsciotto@clearmail.com.au

Coach: Colin Bacon  Mobile-0428370813  PH-54868242  fax-54868252
Email- colnarcofarm@clearmail.com.au

Ass Coach: Andy Monaghan  PH-54862540

**EM BALLET STUDIO**

Enrolments now being taken for our popular kinderdance class, classical, jazz/funk, contemporary and our new hip hop classes created by choreographers of ‘so you think you can dance!’

Classes are filling FAST-DON'T MISS OUT!!

Enquiries Ph 0407 573 902 or Email: emballet@bigpond.com

**UNITING CHURCH YOUTH GROUP**

Teddy Bears Picnic at the Kirabee Sound Shell on Friday 19th February starting at 6pm (meeting at the car park behind the shire offices in Moama)

Bring your teddy bear, picnic rug, picnic tea, drinks, insect repellant and family.

This 1st Youth group is a family one. Please invite your families along so we can all meet each other to start the year off.

Normally for secondary school age only.

To be held usually every 3rd Friday of the month.

Please let us know if you and your family are attending on 5482 6422.

**AMPLIFIED YOUTH**

It’s an awesome way to meet new people, play insane tribal wars, listen to the hottest tunes and have the most fun possible for grades 6-8!

Every Second Friday at the Echuca College Gym, Butcher Street.

Each night is themed so come dressed up and ready for an incredible time!!!

Terms 1’s nights are:

- 12th Feb – Sports Jocks
- 26th Feb – Farmville
- 12th Mar – Super Heroes
- 26th Mar – 80’s Fluoro

For Any More info give Leah a call on 0419717914.

**UNIVERSAL DANCE**

Enrolments now being taken for our Hip Hop classes, contemporary and our new jazz dance created by choreographers of ‘so you think you can dance’!

Classes are filling FAST-DON'T MISS OUT!!

Enquiries Ph 0407 573 902 or Email: emballet@bigpond.com

**TEENAGE DANCE**

Enrolments now being taken for our popular kinderdance class, classical, jazz/funk, contemporary and our new hip hop classes created by choreographers of ‘so you think you can dance!’

Classes are filling FAST-DON'T MISS OUT!!

Enquiries Ph 0407 573 902 or Email: emballet@bigpond.com