Echuca College will be holding its ‘Students Information and Discovery Evening’ for prospective students on the Wednesday 5th May at 6.30 pm at College Drive in the College gym (just next to the Year 8 Neighbourhood). The evening will begin with a brief introductory session, followed by an opportunity for students and their parents to tour our College. The tour allows students and their parents to experience various components of the Year 7 program and to view our new facilities. An information brochure is being delivered to our partner primary schools for circulation as part of our school visits leading up to the evening. Later in the year students in Grade 6 who have elected to come to Echuca College will be involved in a familiarisation program in term three and our main orientation day will be held in December. If prospective students and their families need any additional information about our College, please don’t hesitate to phone College Drive or make an appointment with Mrs MacLean, Mrs Burton or Mr Trewhella.

We look forward to seeing you at our information evening on the 5th May.

Last week the College held “Learning Chats” with parents of students from Years 7 -12. The “Learning Chats” are designed to assist Tutorial Teachers in learning more about the students in their tutorial group so they are in a better position to support them throughout the year. The “Learning Chats” have provided us with important information about our students and while we anticipated that each conversation would only take 10 to 15 minutes, due to the richness of the conversations, many exceeded this time limit. Feedback from the parents involved was very positive and many expressed the view that it was good to be able to provide the tutorial teacher with a greater insight to their student. The “Learning Chats” will now be reviewed by staff and our College Council to see how they can best be used in the future to enhance the educational experience of our students and improve the communication channels between the College and our community.

Next week is the second meeting of the new College Council. At our March meeting we had several new faces join College Council. Our parent representatives are, Helen Williams, Bernie Teasdale, Damien Warren (President), Ross Whelan, Lynda Reid, Jenni Candy, Jill Prowse and Gavin Hore (Treasurer). The DEECD representatives are Cheryl Watson, Nicole Case, Karl Stenning and David Mitchell. We will also have two student representatives on Council from our Student Leadership Team. Due to the ANZAC Day holiday, Council will meet next Tuesday night. We look forward to a very positive year at College Council with many major projects still to be completed.
Chaplaincy News

At the whole school assembly on Monday our two Chaplains Brooke Bowles and Alan Corby were officially recognised in a commissioning service. As part of the ceremony there was an excellent musical item performed, AXIS dance also entertained us and a live art painting representing chaplaincy was painted by Jess Le Clerc. This painting will be displayed within the College. Brooke and Alan are supported by their Chaplaincy Committee, and the College. Alan is partially funded by the National Chaplaincy Program. The Chaplains are here to support all the members of our school community, students, staff and parents who wish to talk with them. The commissioning was enjoyed by both the guests and the school community. In the photo are some of the AXIS dance members and Alan and Brooke.

On Friday 30th April Year 7 students won’t need to bring their lunch as they will be provided with a healthy lunch from Subway.
Year 9 News

Welcome back for what will be a busy and long (11 weeks – my goodness!) term two! We hope you all have had a restful and relaxing break and perhaps escaped the rat race for a few days?

Term 1 Incentive Program Winner: Congratulations to Casey Dobson who was the Term 1 winner of the major draw prize. Casey won a $30 shopping voucher to Cotton On clothing – not a bad reward for gathering 10 merit stamps! We encourage all students to continue earning and ‘cashing in’ their stamps to the Team Leader’s office to go into the Term 2 draw.

School for Leadership: Welcome back to our six term 1 Alpine students – Millie, Ellie, Maddy, Brent, Jayden and Tyler – we hope they settle back in well and look forward to hearing about all of their adventures. This week we will also begin interviewing applicants for our Term 3 School for Leadership experience – good luck to the students involved.

Will Groves – Congratulations to Will on his success in New Zealand over the last week of the school holidays and into week one of Term 2. Will water skied for Australia in the Trans Tasman Cup, coming home victorious in his age group! Well done Will – a sensational effort!

Duke of Ed Program – A reminder that students can still sign up to complete their Duke of Edinburgh certificate through the College. This is an ideal chance for students to develop their leadership skills and work on an area of passion or interest. Please see Mrs Jones for more information. The Year 9 Team

Year 11 News - These are the days of our lives

Welcome back to Term 2. The Year 11 students’ have settled into the new term and are working hard. It is pleasing to see students’ wearing full school uniform, keep it going!

Peer Support Program
The successful Peer Support Program ended with a BBQ Lunch. It was great to see the students interact positively with each other. Congratulations to all Year 7 and Year 11 students involved.

Year 11 Physics Students.

Study Tip: Make an early start by preparing mid-year exam study notes.

Year 12 News—Look Both Ways

Our Year 12 film text will be screened at the College on the 4th and 6th of May. Screenings will commence at 3.45pm each afternoon and will be shown in the Drama room. Students are expected to attend one of these screenings. It is imperative that students see this film as it was intended to be seen – on the big screen and in one sitting. The film will not be shown in its entirety in class. More information will be given to students soon. Year 12 English teachers.
School Nurse - Report

Impetigo - School Sores
Impetigo is a skin infection more commonly known as ‘School Sores’ because it usually affects school-aged children. The condition is characterized by collections of small, crusting blisters that usually form on the face or limbs. Impetigo looks unsightly, but it isn’t dangerous and doesn’t cause any lasting damage to the skin. However, it is highly contagious as the blisters and crusts are filled with bacteria. The skin is usually itchy, so the child scratches and spreads the infection from under their fingernails to other areas of the body or to another person. A child with impetigo should be kept home from school until appropriate treatment has begun and the sores on exposed areas are covered with a waterproof dressing. Treatment options include antibiotic creams, ointments, antibiotic syrup and tablets which are prescribed by your Doctor. Help is available from your doctor, pharmacist or Nurse-on-Call Tel. 1300 60 60 24 (24 hrs, 7days) More information is available on the Better Health Channel www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au, or please feel free to contact me at school.

Headlice Nits
I’m sorry if the mere thought of head lice gets you scratching, but it’s something we all need to know about. Although the head louse can cause significant irritation, it has not been known to transmit disease. Head lice have been common in the community throughout history and will spread anywhere that a number of people work, play or live together. Head lice are a very common problem in schools and institutions everywhere in the world. They affect all groups and are not a sign of poor hygiene. Anyone can get head lice. While head lice are not a threat to health, they do cause a lot of distress and anxiety for families and schools.

Head lice do not fly or jump and they do not live or breed on animals, bedding, furniture, carpets, clothes or soft toys. They are spread mainly by direct head-to-head contact. They have strong claws and move by swinging from hair-to-hair. This can happen when people play, cuddle or work closely together. The only objects on which a few head lice have been found, are combs, hairbrushes and pillowcases. However, transmission from these objects can only occur when the item is used immediately after use by an infested person. This is because head lice can only survive up to a day away from the human host. Detection of adult lice or nymphs on the scalp is the best way to determine if head lice are present. Scratching and the presence of eggs are not reliable signs of head lice. Most people with head lice will not develop an itch. A small number of people develop an itch due to an allergic reaction to the saliva of the louse. Scratching can give rise to secondary bacterial infections on the scalp.

The most effective way to detect head lice is by using the conditioner and combing method. You will need white hair conditioner, an ordinary comb, a fine tooth head lice comb and white tissue/kitchen towel.
1. Apply sufficient white conditioner to dry hair to completely cover the scalp and hair from roots to tips.
2. Use an ordinary comb to detangle hair and evenly distribute the conditioner. Divide the hair into four sections.
3. Comb hair from root to tips using a fine tooth head lice comb.
4. After each stroke, wipe the comb onto a white tissue, checking the comb and tissue for head lice.
5. Comb the whole head, checking for lice.
6. Put all tissues in a plastic bag, tie the top and put the bag in a rubbish bin.

All members of the family/household should be checked once per week using this method.
One of the benefits of using method to check for head lice, is that it can also be used as a form of treatment. When using the comb and conditioner method as a treatment, you do exactly the same process as outlined above, except you continue the process every second day until you have not found any lice for ten consecutive days. There is also a range of insecticide based treatments available, and it is very important to follow the manufacturer’s instructions properly. Remember however that lice can become resistant to these, so monitor the situation carefully. If your child should have lice, they are excluded from school until treatment is started. If you are checking weekly with the conditioner and comb method, this counts as having started treatment.

Preventing head lice
There is no product available that prevents head lice. However, tying long hair back and checking weekly for, using the conditioner and comb method, can help prevent the spread.


Walking Club
Walking Club commenced this week with a total of 32 Walkers participating. Many thanks to Ms Shirley and Mrs Main for their support to the students attending. We had a fantastic walk down to the river and the weather was perfect. All students received a “Go For Your Life” hat and were credited with points for their effort which contribute to their tally for rewards for achieving their “milestones”. Walking Club walks on Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes and leaves from the Gymnasium. Parents, Staff and Students are most welcome. Denise Leed, School Nurse

Help is available from your doctor, pharmacist or Nurse-on-Call Tel. 1300 60 60 24 (24 hrs, 7days) More information is available on the Better Health Channel www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au, or please feel free to contact me at school.
Pathways News

Careers in Sports Medicine and Science Seminar
A Career’s in Sports Medicine and Science Seminar will be held on Sunday May 23 at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre, Albert Park. The seminar will cover careers such as Doctor, Physiotherapist, Sports Scientist, Psychologist, Podiatrist and Osteopath. Registration is required and costs are involved. For more information and registration visit vic.sma.org.au

Year 12 Students
Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admission Test- UMAT
Year 12 students intending to apply for medicine or health sciences need to check if they need to sit the UMAT test. Student’s who are required to sit the test and don’t, won’t be considered for their course. A list of courses that require the test is displayed on the noticeboard in the Year 12 study Centre or can be found at www.umat.acer.edu.au. Registration closes on June the 4th. The test date is Wednesday 28th July.

Year 12 Excursion – The Age VCE and Careers Expo.
Year 12 students will be travelling to Melbourne for The AGE VCE and Careers Expo on Friday the 23rd of April. This is a great opportunity for students to attend seminars on VCE subjects and to see the broad range of training and careers available to students.

Work Experience
Student’s in years 10 to 12 have the opportunity to participate in work experience this year. Students are expected to complete work experience during the school holidays so their school program is not disrupted.

Students therefore can complete work experience during the term two (mid year) break and term three (spring) break.

Work Experience documentation must be completed four weeks before the end of term for NSW and two weeks before the end of term for Victoria.

The NSW Education Department doesn’t allow students to complete work experience during NSW holidays. In 2010 NSW schools are still operating during the first week of both the mid year and spring holidays, therefore students can complete work experience in NSW during the first week of the Victorian holidays. New South Wales work experience forms must be returned to the Pathways office four weeks before the end of term as these forms have to be sent to the NSW – Education Department for approval.

Students who want to do work experience in a trade (eg Plumber, Builder, Bricklayer, Electrician, Tiler, Plasterer) that involves working on a building site must have a Construction Induction Card. (OH&S) To get a Construction Induction Card students must complete a one day course which costs the student approximately $90. Echuca College Pathways Coordinators will organise for the training to be delivered to interested students during term two.

Students are expected to organise their own work experience and need to pick up, complete and return the relevant documentation to the Pathways Office. Pathways staff can assist students who may have difficulty finding a placement.

Sports Achievement
Jessica Pitts, Siobhan Thompson and Kayla Arkinstall travelled to Canberra to compete in the Under 13 girls National Junior Championships.

Day 1: Victoria country vs Tasmania 1-2                 Victoria country vs NSW Metro 2 0-1
Day 2: Victoria country vs NSW Country 1-0            Victoria Country vs Western Australia 0-1
Day 3: Victoria country vs Northern Territory 5-0

There was also an All Stars game. They chose 16 girls, who they thought were the best in the championship. They chose two players from Victoria country one was Jessica Pitts. The All Stars team were up against the group winners which were NSW Metro 2.

All Stars Game; All Stars vs NSW Metro 2 0-1. They select 30 girls from the Championship to attend an Australia camp for the possibility of being selected for the Under 13 girls Australian team. They will travel to Vietnam late June. Congratulations to Jessica Pitts who was selected to attend the camp.

Ellie Ralph came 2nd in her race the Mildura 100 Ski Race at Easter—congratulations Ellie
Australian Mathematics Competition
Each year students from Echuca College enter this competition and achieve great results. All students who enter receive a certificate and high achievements are rewarded with money prizes. This year the competition will be held on Thursday 5th August. Students that wish to enter the Australian Mathematics Competition have until the 30th April to submit their form and money ($4). All maths teachers have forms to give to students.

Chaplaincy Fundraiser – Film night: “Fireproof”
Held on Friday the 30th of April, at 7pm in the College Cafeteria. A supper will be provided after the screening. A donation towards chaplaincy at Echuca College will be collected on admission to support the ongoing work in the school. Fireproof is a movie about marriage and relationships - “Never leave your partner behind”

MACPHERSON SMITH RURAL FOUNDATION
YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM—2010 YEAR 12
Applications are presently being sought for these tertiary study scholarships. Each is worth $15000 per year, for three years, commencing 2011.
They are being offered to young Victorians from rural and regional areas
- Who are keen to further their studies
- Are interested in pursuing and growing their leadership interests
- And plan to eventually return to a rural or regional community.
For further details, contact David Hatherell on 0419 560753, visit our website at msrf.org.au or email us on dhatherell.msrf.org.au. Applications close on May 31 2010

REMINDER
EMA Cheques are available to collect at the office

Would you like to receive the newsletter via email?

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2PM SUNDAY APRIL 18
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