Important Dates

**JUNE:**
- 23rd Yr 10 – “Keys Please”
- 25th Last day of Term 2. 2:20pm dismissal

**JULY:**
- 12th - Term 3 begins
- 13th - VSSSA Cross Country
- 14th - CSSSA Intermediate & Senior Basketball
- 21st - BEACON Pledge Day  All Year 10’s.
- 28th - Northern Zone Football Yr 7 & 8 Intermediate.

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Principal’s Report

**‘Diversity Our Strength’**

Last week major newspapers across the state released DEECD’s ‘On Track’ data for post Year 12 destinations in 2010. Echuca College’s data was very pleasing and of our 102 Year 12 graduates in 2009, 86 consented to participate in DEECD’s ‘On Track’ survey. Of these students 85% received a tertiary offer (University/TAFE/VET) and as of April 2010, 70% were in further education or training and 8% had deferred. The pressure on families in relation to access to youth allowance may explain why 26% of students completing the survey have taken up employment, leaving less than only 4% of those surveyed looking for employment. Students leaving the College at other year levels have also experienced success in obtaining good positions within the local community and beyond. We have had 19 students gain apprenticeships, 5 go to BRIT and 3 to other TAFEs to pursue further study, 2 students gain traineeships and 9 gained full time employment. Although we have lost a number of students from our senior ranks this year, the outcomes listed above are good for both our students and local businesses. We are proud that our students, at all senior levels, have done so well in a range of career options. Clearly ‘Diversity is Our Strength’.

Last week saw the College complete our first examination period on one site. Junior students had a new experience watching their senior peers preparing for exams and supporting them by being quiet around the College grounds at recess and lunchtime. It was a bit of a challenge for our maintenance team setting up examination desks in the gym so 180 students could sit the GAT last Thursday, but all was achieved. Teachers at the College have been very impressed by the way students in Years 10, 11 and 12 have approached their examinations and clearly our senior students are setting the tone for our younger students to follow.

This week saw the start of a new semester for students at all year levels. This means VCE students have started work on their Units 2 (Year 11) and Unit 4 (Year 12) course work. At Years 7-10, students have started new electives. As a consequence teachers have been writing reports for semester one’s work. On the last day of school all VCE reports will be issued to students but Years 7-10 will be issued on the first (Wednesday 14 July) of term 3. The College will hold a Parent/Teacher evening on the second Wednesday (21 July) for all year levels. Our rationale for holding the junior reports until next term is that we would like the issuing of reports and the Parent/Teacher evening to be as close as possible. When the reports are issued, the package will also contain an appointment sheet for the Parent/Teacher evening. As mentioned earlier, our VCE students will get their reports on the last day of term so they can reflect on their semester’s work in preparation for the second half of the year.

While many of our students will do the usual things these coming holidays, some have a very busy schedule ahead of them. Darcy Elliott in Year 12 has a strong background in musical performance and as a student at the College he has been involved in talent nights, Rock Eisteddfods and drama performances, on stage and in the role of technician. So it comes as no surprise when you hear that Darcy will be heading to ‘Broadway’ this month to participate in a 13 day tour of New York. Darcy will visit all the Madison Square Garden’s, key Broadway theatres and Alvin Ailey’s dance school. We look forward to Darcy’s return and all the knowledge he will bring back to the College to share with his peers in term 3. Another student with a busy schedule is Jessica Pitts who will be representing Australia in the under 13 team at the Festival of Football in Vietnam. Jessica part of the 22 player team that will play four matches during the 8 day carnival in Vietnam. Jessica hopes to play in two games. On return Jessica has promised to talk to your Year 7 students about her trip to Vietnam and the Festival of Soccer carnival.

Next Friday, school will finish at 2.20 pm for the midyear break. While we appreciate that some families like to get an early start to the holidays, the semester 2 program has started and students will be working a normal day until 2.20 pm. I would like to wish our College community a safe and relaxing holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone ready to go on 12th July.
**Year 7 News**

The students have been finishing up their studies on Ancient Egypt. They researched a specific area and then produced models and games etc about that area.

With the changeover of semester [this week], students will have some different classes. Extension studies will start for 7T3, 5, 7, 8. The other tutorial groups will start Information Technology and Health.

The English and Humanities theme will also change to Survival and we will be reading a related class novel.

Please remind your students that there is homework every week from both English and Maths. If they need help it is important that they ask for help before it is due in.

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**Year 10 News**

**Keys Please** - The program is on in the Cafe Learning Area next Wednesday 23rd of June from 9.00am until 10.30am. This is a program run by the RACV to assist students getting their “L’s”.

Parents are invited. Returns to Mr Hewitt.

**Year 10 Exams** – Congratulations to the 99% of students who performed and behaved very well in the two exam days recently. With semester two starting this week it is valuable feedback for the students, e.g. How am I going? Am I doing enough homework/study?

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**Echuca College Sport News/Updates**

**Year 7 & 8 Boys and Girls Badminton**

On Tuesday the 1st of June, four badminton teams went to the Fonterra centre to play fellow year 7 and 8 students from Nathalia, Kyabram and Rochester. Our students were very inexperienced, and most of them hadn’t played the game seriously before, even so everyone played with great sportsmanship and there was a vast improvement in all of our players.

The year 8 boys played against some strong competition all day and unfortunately lost all of their three games, although they were not disgraced and managed to win three sets throughout the day.

The year 8 girls also had strong competitors and some of their opponents even played in a weekly tournament. Even so the girls were not deterred and won some of their sets against their far more experienced opponents.

The year 7 girls and year 7 boys each had one school to beat to be able to progress to the next stage which will be held in Kyabram.

MVP for the year 7 boys was Erik Holt-Crossman, MVP for the year 7 girls was Lara Harris, MVP for the year 8 boys was Brady Chandler and MVP for the year 8 girls was Teagan Milne.

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**Intermediate Boys Football**

On the 1st June the winter sports day saw our Intermediate boys football team take on Rochester and Kyabram to advance to the Northern Zone finals. Our first match was against Rochester and it was a low scoring close match with star performances from Kenny Gamble and Michael Young in the backline and Luke Sanderson giving plenty of drive from the middle. We went down by only a couple of goals and then had to back up straight away for our game against Kyabram. The boys were a bit flat early and Kyabram got off to a good start. It was even for the rest of the match but we could not get back the lead they had gained, great performance from Harry Ennis, Marcus Roberts and Raymond Weetra. Well done to the boys on the day as they never gave up and well done to Kyabram who won on the day.
Aussie Jersey for Echuca College's Jessica Pitts

Jessica Pitts, a 13 year old budding soccer star and Year 7 student at Echuca College will next month record her biggest achievement yet, pulling on the Australian jersey at the Festival of Football in Vietnam. The talented youngster was one of 22 selected in the final Westfield under 13 Australian team, following an intensive training camp at the Australian Institute of Sport less than two weeks ago, which saw 8 players chopped from a squad of 30. An excited and anxious Pitts received the news earlier last week and couldn’t be more happy with the news that she had made the team. “It’s pretty cool” she said. “I can’t wait”. Pitts was one of just two Victorians selected by national team head coach Nicola Williams in the final squad and the only player from Country Victoria.

Her selection for the camp followed participation at the 2010 Football Federation Australia National Junior Championships, from which selectors identified national talent. “We played games against the ACT state teams and we did a lot of intense training. It was pretty professional”. Coach Nicola Williams said picking from the Canberra camp was a tough task. “What we looked for in the selection camp was how well players were adapting to playing and understanding what the FFA curriculum is implementing”. The trip to Vietnam will be Jess’s first trip overseas which adds another element of excitement to the whole experience. “It’s pretty exciting. A bit different as well”.

Just 29 days remain until Jessica Pitts flies to Vietnam to represent her country, playing the sport she loves. Even though the date is so near Jess claims to have not started the countdown just yet. “Not quite”. “Maybe when it’s two weeks away, I might”. All the staff and students would like to congratulate Jessica for her amazing efforts to reach this amazing level at the age of 13.

We wish her the best of luck in Vietnam and her future in playing football and knows that she will do not only Echuca College proud but also her country.

Nurses Report & Community Notices -

Do you want to know more about Asthma?
As apart of the Commonwealth government’s Asthma Management Program, The Asthma Foundations of Australia have commenced a Community Support Program to support Asthma management throughout Australia.

The Asthma Foundation of Victoria will be presenting an education session to raise awareness of Asthma management in your community.

This session will include information about:
The impact of Asthma and linked conditions, Symptoms and triggers, Medications and how to take them properly, Asthma Management and Asthma First Aid.

Date: 9th July, 2010.
Time: 10:30am - 11:30am
Venue: Echuca Library - 524-528 High Street Echuca
Cost: FREE

Are you interested in Foster Care?
Ring 5440 1100 to register for the information session.
When: Wednesday 7th July, 7pm - 8pm.
Where: Campaspe College of Education 103 - 109 Hare St, Echuca.
Open days allow students and parents the opportunity to see what each educational institution offers in courses, accommodation, and other programs. Students and parents are encouraged to start attending open days from Year 10 as Year 12 is a very busy year and time to attend open days is very limited. Further information on the University Open Days can be obtained by visiting vtac.edu.au/opendays, or contacting Mr. Glenn Webb, Pathways Coordinator at Echuca College.

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<th>Institution:</th>
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