Principal’s Report

‘Diversity Our Strength’

Last week we held our athletics carnival at the College Drive oval in overcast conditions and cold winds. This however did not dampen the spirits of the competitors, spectators and staff. The enthusiasm of all competitors was outstanding and the behaviour of our students throughout the day was excellent. This year we also had a couple of dance numbers during breaks in the program and it was exciting to see over 100 students dancing out on the oval. The usual novelty events were also held and again it was great to see students and staff having an enjoyable time. Congratulations to Pericoota on winning the carnival for the third year in a row and congratulations to all the members of the College community on a wonderful day of sport and fun. Special thanks to Ms Foy and the sports team for all their hard work.

Last week I was pleased to accept on behalf of the College, a financial donation from the Moama Bowling Club that will be put towards student awards at the end of the year at our celebration evening on the 14th December. Support of this nature is always appreciated and always put to good use. I believe that it is worth noting that while support of this nature is great, the Moama Bowling Club has supported our College in a number of ways over the years and many of our programs have benefited as a result of support from the Moama Bowling Club. This support not only comes in the form of access to facilities for functions and projects but through assistance from their staff in our programs. In areas that focus on the development of young people’s work ready skills, such as the Beacon Foundation and EDVET, support from the Moama Bowling Club and other employers in our community has been critical. On behalf of Echuca College I would like to thank the Moama Bowling Club for supporting our students and College.

As the end of term approaches the College is in full swing in preparation for term 4 and 2011. Part of this process is the completion of Interim Reports. The Term 3 Interim Reports will be sent home with students on the 16th September and this term parents will note that the report has a section requesting contact with a teacher. If this section is ticked on your student’s report please contact the subject teacher in the first week of term 4. This contact may be a discussion over the phone or it may need to be a formal interview. If parents/guardians have any concerns about the reports please don’t hesitate to contact the College and ask for the appropriate Year Level Assistant Team Leader.

Years 7 and 9 students will get there NAPLAN (National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy) results in the mail next week or over the holiday period. The NAPLAN assessments were conduct during term 2 and are benchmarked at a national level. The NAPLAN data, along with other assessment tools used at the College, help us to plan our students’ learning in the future and to also identify areas for improvement or extension. If parents/guardians have any question about the NAPLAN reports or would like to speak to teachers about their report, please don’t hesitate to contact us at the College.

The College’s Talent Quest was held last night at the Paramount Theatre with over 24 performances listed for the evening. The program was well supported with singers, bands, dancers, comedians and even our own ventriloquist (the monkey was very good). The talent quest was well supported and I would like to thank the Paramount Theatre for their support and allowing us to hold the evening at their venue. Well done to all the performers and a special thank you to all the staff involved in the Talent Quest.
Defence Force Visit

On Wednesday 1st September, the Defence Forces (Army and Air force) visited the school to discuss Trade Jobs. The talk was very informative and encouraged people to think about the Defence Force as a viable career. Students were told about some of the 190+ trade jobs available ranging from chefs, structural engineers or telecommunications experts. They were advised about the age you can apply (17 years), prerequisite subjects Maths, English, Physics and the entry procedures. The many benefits of being in the Defence Forces were also highlighted.

The main point that the presenters made to students was to stay in school and complete Year 12. The popularity of getting into the Defence Forces means that it is very competitive and if you leave school at Year 10 you will have to compete with more qualified, mature people. SO STAY AT SCHOOL FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN!

If you would like to learn more about the Defence forces check out the website or see the Pathways Team.

Miss Roberts

Year Level News

Congratulations to our VCAL students on their organisation of the College’s Trivia Evening last Friday. Over a 100 members of the College community attended the night at Radcliffe’s and the winner of the competition was Mr Leach’s table. A special thank you to Mr Hall, Teagan Dean, Natasha James, Jamie Shields and all the VCAL team.

Since our last newsletter, we have had students and teachers travel to China and they will arrive home on Friday afternoon. The China tour is the first in a series of trips that students from our College are involved in over the next couple of weeks. Next week we have students travelling to Queensland as part of the Year 10 tour and students going to the snow as part of a Year 9 adventure camp. Next Wednesday 13 students and two staff head off to New Zealand on the Soccer Tour and the last tour leaves for Turkey on the first weekend of the holidays for a fortnight. All these tours are great experiences for our students and I would like to acknowledge the work that has been done by teachers and parents to make sure these tours are a success. We look forward to hearing all the stories from these tours in coming weeks.

As this is the last newsletter for the term I would like to wish all the College community a good break and remind parents that school will be dismissed at 2.20 on Friday.

Year 11 Report — These are the Days of Our Lives

Peer Support Reunion
The Year 11 and Year 7 students involved in the Peer Support program at the start of the year reunited building their leadership skills. A highlight during the morning was the recycled newspaper designs, followed by fashions on the fields. The Year 7 students presented impressive commentary while the Year 11 students showed they are good sports! A delicious BBQ was celebrated by all at the end of the event. Congratulations to all who were involved.

Year 11 Attendance Awards
Congratulations to all students who achieved 100% attendance for Semester 1. Movie vouchers and certificates were presented to students at the Year 11 assembly.

Year 11 Melbourne Camp
The Year 11 Camp will be held Term 4 Week 4. A letter covering camp details has been distributed to students wishing to attend. Those students who are not going on the camp are required to attend school and continue with their studies.
Year 9 News

SCHOOL FOR LEADERSHIP
Next week will see our six School for Leadership students return to Echuca College after their 9 week experience at Glenormiston. From all accounts they have had a wonderful time with their experience culminating in their Community Learning Project presentation in their last week. The students are designing a project centred around Glanville Retirement Village. We look forward to seeing our friends when they return.

TOMORROW WHEN THE WAR BEGAN MOVIE
A big thank you to the Year 9 English teachers for coordinating the trip to the movies to see the first screening of the new blockbuster movie “Tomorrow When the War Began”. Both students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the movie – despite a little hiccup at a key scene in the movie! The buzz as we all walked back to school was amazing!

ECHUCA COLLEGE ATHLETICS
Congrats to all students who participated in the recent aths carnival – special mention to the AWESOME Perricoota team too!! Special mention must go to our very own Kie Jones on his age group champion success!!

SPECIALIST SCHOOL VISIT
During our athletics carnival we had many visitors from the Echuca Specialist School who participated in events and barracked for our students. Can I commend our sensational Alpine students and their friends for assisting these students? The Specialist students had a terrific day whilst I was so very proud to see students giving up their spots in relays so that the Specialist School kids could run – I even witnessed students giving away their own ribbons! A very proud day of teaching for me!!

WW3 STARTS AT YEAR 9!
Thank you to Mr Wright and his Tute Group 9T5 in coordinating our year level activity of a WW3 ball game competition last Monday! Students and staff all had a blast throwing balls at each other on a Monday morning and went to class with a smile on their faces! We look forward to seeing what the next Tute Group will provide! Well done to all! The Year 9 Team

Year 12 News

A huge CONGRATULATIONS to all Year 12 students who participated in the Athletics Carnival last Wednesday. The effort that went into some of the costumes was fantastic, lots of colour and fun. It was a great day and it was great to see everyone having fun and supporting each other.

Thank you to our wonderful and generous students who gave up their time to support our visitors from the Echuca Special School. A special mention must go to Amelia Down, Brent McGrath, Jayden Twigg, Ellie Denson, Tyler Lethlean, Maddie Steel, Ryan Rudeforth, Ryan Hon and Troy McLean. A number of students from the Echuca Special School joined in the activities and participated in most events at the Athletics Carnival. This initiative was supported by the One & All – Campaspe Inclusion Program and we would love to be able to participate in more joint initiatives.

A letter will be sent out this week outlining the key dates and important information for Year 12 students. Many teachers have generously volunteered their time over the coming classes to be available to students during the second week of holidays – a copy of the timetable for that week will also be sent out.

A reminder also that VTAC applications should be submitted before the school holidays to ensure that staff are available to help should students or parents have any questions or queries. Please contact the Year 12 team if you have any queries in regards to the coming weeks.

The Year 12 Team.

Welfare News - Cyber Safety/ Image Protection Evening

Echuca College will be holding an information evening that will explore the issues around cyber safety. The evening will involve a panel of people with skills and experience in this area. The evening will provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions and explore issues and options that relate to being safe when using technology.

The date to put into your diary or planner is: Wednesday, October 20 at 7.30.

The evening will be held at the college.

More detail in the coming newsletters. If anyone would like more information contact Mr. Robinson, SWC at the college on 54821133.

Canteen News

The Canteen are looking for parents and relatives to help out as Term 3 comes to an end. We find that as the Term comes to an end we have a shortage of helpers as people start to go on holidays etc. Canteen are also looking for any parents that can spare a small amount of their time each day, week or month coming into one of the most busiest terms - Term 4. If you are able to help out either at the end of Term 3 or during Term 4 please contact Jeanette in the canteen on 54821133.
Community Notices/Events

**“Understanding Depression and Resilience”**

Carer Assist in partnership with the Black Dog Institute will be offering free to the community of Deniliquin and surrounding area an evening of music and an information seminar presented by Dr. Tessa Wigney from the Black Dog Institute.

Where: RSL club Deniliquin
When: Wednesday 29th September
Time: 6:30-8:30pm.
Cost: Free of charge
Music and light supper provided
RSVP by 22nd September to Susan at susan@carerassist.org.au

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**Girls’ Soccer Tour to New Zealand**

The touring party is packed and ready to tackle the Tasman! The tickets have arrived, the money is being changed, the kits are now embossed with the names of the touring party and the sponsors, the opposition awaits in Auckland, Rotorua and Wellington, all we need now is for the departure day to arrive!

Our final practice match against a formidable opposition of boys from the Border Raiders Under 16 Saturday Competition (who were themselves priming for the Finals) was quite an impressive hit-out for our girls who are already gelling into a commendable football unit. Although new to the game, Eloise and Casey started to find their feet (or should I say ‘boots’) whilst relative newcomer Kiara dazzled with her foot skill whether in midfield or ‘up front’. She played Captain Millie into the box with a delightful ball to help set up the equalizer for a very creditable 1 – 1 draw on a cool but dry evening.

The action packed tour begins with 2 matches in Auckland, followed by 1 in Rotorua and a final game in Wellington just before we are lucky enough to be able to see a Hyundai ‘A’ League match involving the Wellington Phoenix. All this will be interspersed with host stays, jet-boating, sightseeing, retail therapy and a ‘whole lotta fun’!

Keep your eye on the ‘Riverine Herald’ over the next week for a shot of our girls in their touring kit. They will be looking pretty ‘specco’ in their Echuca College representative outfits.

Stewart Cheal (Coach and Organizer)

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**Annual Zone Trap Championships**

On a cold, windy Thursday in August (12/08) the Echuca College shooting team attended the Annual Zone School Students Trapshooting Championships at the Echuca Gun Club. Blustery winds played havoc for shooters who, depending on which layout they received, experienced varying degrees of interference to their clays. Despite the inconsistent conditions all shooters had a great day, with some impressive scores from the likes of Patrick Hann and Amanda Carrington. James Hogan enjoyed his first ever trapshooting competition, hitting targets in both rounds. All students conducted themselves as positive representatives for Echuca College and were some of the few students who stayed to support award winners.

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**TENNIS SATURDAY MORNING JUNIOR COMPETITION TERM 4.**

Rich River Tennis Club’s Saturday competition start Saturday, October 9th. It is a junior competition for children of all ages and standards. The players participate in a team consisting of two or three players. All queries to Andrew and Sarah Crossman

Phone: 5480 9690