Principal’s Report

‘Diversity Our Strength’
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 destinations 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 2011 Parent Opinion Survey was distributed to our families earlier this week and are due back next week. Families are selected randomly from our student records and I encourage all those who received 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. Last year we only received 22% return which makes the information gained almost negligible. This year we will have staff members and College Council members contacting families that have received surveys to encourage them to complete the survey and return it to the College. Again, it is very important that we get a 100% return on our surveys so we can improve our work and the educational experience provided for our students.

This week we held our athletics carnival at the College Drive oval in bright sunlight and perfect conditions. This set the scene for 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 300 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. Attendance this year was much improved on previous years and the Year 12 students led the way wearing Community colours and costumes. Congratulations to Moira on winning the carnival for the first time and congratulations to all the members of the College community on a great day.

Congratulations to the Beacon Foundation and our Careers and Pathways Team for yet another successful ‘Mock Interviews’ program this week at Echuca College. Mock interviews give our young people a chance to discuss their career options with members of the business community, while experiencing a job interview. There was an impressive range of interviewers and their feedback has been very positive, reflecting the importance placed on this program by both students and teachers. Core components of the program are: confidence, employer expectations, personal presentation, manners and etiquette and communication.

This week the College has conducted course counselling sessions for all students in Years 9, 10 and 11, in preparation for 2012 College programs. It is important that if a student has not attended an interview with their parent/guardian that an appointment be made with our Pathways Team to discuss important subject selections for next year. Please contact Mrs Morrison or Mr Webb for an appointment as soon as possible.

Results from the University of NSW Science competition were released this week and the following students have all received credit certificates; Jonty Jeoffreys Year 7, Isabella Reid Year 9 and Jack Corcoran Year 12. The Science Domain has been doing very well this term and credit to Mrs Main for her work in supporting student’s applications to the National Youth Science Forum. Mrs Main’s good work has produced results again and this year we can congratulate Sarah Head. Sarah will participate in this program in January 2012. Our other notable winner this week has been James Hogan who has qualified to compete in Bendigo in the Winchester/VCTA Clay Target Schools Student Championships in September. Well done to all these students on their achievements.
It was great to see the return of the prestigious Murray River Culinary Challenge this week at BRIT. Over 220 VET in Schools Hospitality students from 29 schools throughout the Murray River region have been demonstrating their culinary skills in hot pursuit of this year’s title. Over the past 2 weeks 26 students from Echuca College, Kyabram P-12 College, Rochester Secondary College, Rushworth P-12 College, St Augustine’s College Kyabram, and St Joseph’s have been ‘cooking up a storm’ to determine the two highest scoring students who will then compete in the Regional Final. The Teams challenged for the honour of representing the Echuca area this week and Echuca College’s Kerith Sims teamed with St Augustine’s College Caysie Spratt in the final. Unfortunately on this occasion the girls were not successful but set a high standard in the competition. Thank you to BRIT for once again hosting this important event for our students.

This weekend will see Echuca College hold its annual Year 11 Debutante Ball at the Rich River Golf Club on Friday and Saturday nights. We have 28 debutantes being presented across the two evenings and the College would like to thank our organisers, Collette May and Robyn Hayes of Riva Dance Studio.

Congratulations to our Rock Eisteddfod team that came third in the RAW Division of the Rock Eisteddfod competition held in Melbourne a fortnight ago. This was the first time the College had entered this section after years of success in Division One and the Open sections. Special thanks go to the parents who supported their students and the team and of course to Mrs Kornmann.

The team was awarded the following:
- Excellence for Soundtrack
- Excellence for Performance Skill
- Excellence for Costuming Character
- Excellence for Drama
- Excellence for Concept
- Excellence for Visual Enhancement

Chris Eeles
College Principal

VCAL Barista Team

Friday August 19th the VCAL PD students hosted a breakfast for 30 local business people. While Mr Eeles spoke about all the great things our students had been up to, our fabulous VCAL students made them coffees of their choice from our new espresso machine in the Cafe learning area. They also served the guest’s hot breakfasts. It was a successful first trial run of our VCAL barista team. Feedback was very positive, so it seems the students have no excuses now but to move to stage 2, which is to open ‘e-cafe’ Monday lunchtimes for staff to enjoy. Phillipa Brill.

Parent Contact Details

The College is currently updating all student records. Parents and guardians have been requested to provide current mobile phone numbers, email addresses and postal addresses. This information is only ever used for College business. Eg
- Student Progress
- Student Absences
- Reminders for school events
- Student Welfare
- Student Emergency contact information

The College considers this to be an important way of communicating with parents and welcomes your feedback. If you would like any further information, or would like to update your details, please do not hesitate to contact the administration at Echuca College.
CONGRATULATIONS ECHUCA COLLEGE FOR COMING 3RD PLACE IN RAW 2011!!!
Echuca College entered this event for the first time in 2011, gaining third place as well as the following awards:

- Excellence for Soundtrack
- Excellence for Performance Skill
- Excellence for Costuming Character
- Excellence for Drama
- Excellence for Concept
- Excellence for Visual Enhancement

WELL DONE STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS!!!

THANKYOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS;

- Suttons
- Newton’s Bus Service
- BYL Espresso
- Forever Fresh
- O’Neill’s Newsagency
- McDonalds Echuca
- Articulate Hair Studio
**Year 7 News**

*Year 7 Tree Planting Excursion*

On the 1st August, 27 Year 7 students had a day out of school to support ‘National Tree Planting Day’. This excursion was held at the Rich River Golf Club under the supervision of Andrew Johnson (Course Superintendent) and club committee members.

The students were working alongside the committee members and groundsmen to reach the target of 500 or more trees for the day. Andrew was surprised at how quickly the students worked and how successful the planting was. By morning tea, the students had completed 2 sites with a range of native shrubs and some established trees. After the delicious lunch and soft serves provided for lunch, Andrew announced that his calculations showed the students had planted 492 trees in 2 ½ hours. What a fantastic effort!!

The day ran very smoothly, with the students proud of the opportunity to assist with the planting of native trees and shrubs.  

Krysten Adams  
Year 7 teacher

**Year 8 News**

Echuca College goes ‘WHEELIE’ MAD!

Last Tuesday, the entire Echuca College Year 9 cohort had the opportunity to participate in a wheelchair basketball activity. The program is an initiative of the Disability Sport & Recreation organisation.

The day’s program was kicked off with a presentation by World Champion snow and water skier Jason Sleep. Jason was involved in a quad bike accident over 10 years ago which left him a paraplegic. Jason spoke to the students on the importance of making appropriate choices and calculated risks rather than silly ones. He highlighted that whilst he had been dealt a ‘nasty deck of cards’ life goes on and you deal with it, become more determined and make the best. Jason discussed the importance of seeing the ability rather than the disability and giving everyone a fair go rather than making rash judgements.

Throughout the remainder of the day, students were given the opportunity to partake in a wheelchair basketball match. Students initially had to complete a range of skills before playing the game. Whilst the students had a great deal of fun and laughter, it reinforced how lucky they were to be able to get up out of the chair and go home. Students were surprised by the amount of coordination and upper body strength needed to be efficient at playing basketball.

Daniel Cooper and Jacob Flanagan

**Year 9 News**

On Tuesday the 23rd August, we left school at 9.00 am to go to Torrumbarry. We were all split into 5 groups to do different activities. Some of the activities were: a bush walk to look at weir webs, a reading activity in the information centre, a tour of the weir and fish ladder and many more. Then we had lunch and kicked the footy. We thought the excursion was good and learnt a lot.

Daniel Cooper and Jacob Flanagan

**Year 10 News**

*Choosing 2012 Subjects* – on Tuesday of this week all Year 10’s were involved in course counselling sessions for 2012. It was pleasing to see that the vast majority had done some planning for these interviews, as it is very important that correct decisions are made.

*Mock Interviews* – on Thursday and Friday of this week students were also involved in “mock job interviews” as part of their Beacon classes. With employers from the local area on hand it gave the students a valuable insight into the workplace.

*It was great to see so many of the year 10 students dress-up and participate in the Community Athletics Sports this week.*

*Bogong Ski Trip* – next week: Good luck and have fun Jack M, Kiennan J, Billie-Jo M, Maddie S, Caesy D, Ashlee S, Jaimee E, Abby M, Eleanor D and Emma F.

David Pearson - Year 10 Team Leader.
Andrew Hewitt & Debbie Dunn – Year 10 Assistants.
Course Counselling

It has been a busy week counselling students into VCE/VCAL courses for 2012. Thanks to all of the parents who have accompanied their children to the interviews to assist in the process of planning for their future pathways. Any parents who have concerns about their child’s selections should contact the relevant Year Level Team Member or the Pathway Coordinators Mr Webb or Mrs Morrison.

Year 12

It is a very busy time for Year 12 students with the end of the year rapidly approaching. Coursework for Unit 4 will be completed by the end of term 3 which is only 4 weeks away. Term 4 will see teachers focusing on revision for the end of year exams. Students are also going through the process of completing their VCAT applications for Tertiary courses as well as applications for scholarships.

Important Dates.

- Thursday 3rd November – Year 12 - 2011 Exams Commence
- Monday 21st Wednesday 23rd November – Year 11 - 2011 Exams
- Thursday 24th November – Graduation Dinner Year 12 - 2011
- Monday 28th November - New Academic Year - Year 11 & 12 - 2012
- Friday 9th December - Year 11 and 12, 2012 finish.

Parent – Teacher Interviews

Parent – teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday the 7th September. We encourage all parents and students to attend the evening to ensure students are on the right track to successfully complete their units of study.

Unit 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies Camp

A lack of snow did not stop the Unit 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies group from enjoying their camp last week. Instead of hitting the slopes at Lake Mountain for cross country skiing the group participated in rogaining in the Rubicon State Forest, white water rafting on Big River and mountain bike riding around the Eildon Dam. All the activities were a big hit, especially the white water rafting. The girls went in one raft and the boys in the other, which made for a fierce rivalry. The cold conditions did not deter the groups in attacking each other with a massive water fight towards the end of the day. The boys raided the girls’ raft, tipping most of the girls in the water and stealing nearly all of their paddles! The girls hit back and managed to get a few of the boys into the water as well. It was a highly entertaining day of paddling. The sun broke through on Friday for some fantastic mountain biking conditions. The Eildon dam provided a scenic backdrop for a fun and challenging ride. Congratulations to all the students involved for their excellent participation and attitude throughout the camp and a big thank you to Mr Sanders for helping on the camp and providing good entertainment for us – especially in his ankle freezers!

Miss Menz

VCAL Update

The students have been busy organising activities as part of their Personal Development Skills studies. They recently represented the school at a business breakfast, making coffee using their skills from the barista course they have been completing. They also successfully ran the BBQ at the athletic sports. Students have also organised a movie night to raise funds for the Royal Children’s Hospital. The movie being shown is ZOO KEEPER and will be on Monday the 12th September at 7pm at Echuca Paramount Cinemas. Tickets are $15, which includes supper after the movie. They can be purchased from the school office. Preparations for the Trivia Night are well under way. Tickets are $15 each and can be purchased at the school office in groups of 10. The trivia night will raise money for the Beacon Foundation. It will be held at the Border Inn on Friday the 16th of September at 7pm.
Echuca College Community Athletics

After being washed out last week we experienced the ideal day for the Athletics sports on Wednesday. Brilliant sunshine was a perfect backdrop to Moira claiming their first ever win, after Perricoota had won the three previous events. Student Captains Wade McGrath and Brittany Warren along with Mr Bubb and Ms Butler are to be congratulated as Moira did not have one age group champion but consistency and participation in events won them the day. Winners in each event will compete in the Campaspe event in Bendigo on Tuesday September 13th.

Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>PARTICIPATION</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Moira</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Kanyapella</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Perricoota</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Wharparilla</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>856</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age Group Champions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U13</th>
<th>Chelsea Atkins – W</th>
<th>Joshua Heddle – K</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U14</td>
<td>Jessie Hardess – P</td>
<td>Charles Lowe – P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U15</td>
<td>Tegan Milne – P</td>
<td>Shaun Atkins – W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U16</td>
<td>Greta Pearson – K</td>
<td>Marcus Mckenner – K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U17</td>
<td>Ellie Ralph – P</td>
<td>Cameron Prowse-Wilkins – K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U21</td>
<td>Libby Pellegrino - K</td>
<td>Kieryn McKemmish – W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Records:

MU14 Discus – Charles Lowe 31.33m
MU14 Javelin – Cameron Valentine 37.9m
MU16 High Jump – Zoe Keele 1.36m
MU14 Long Jump – Sienna Kelly 3.9m
MU21 100m – Kieryn McKemmish 11.4s
MU21 400m – Libby Pellegrino 1.13.60
FU15 Discus – Roweena Isley 24.17m
FU14 1500m – Isabella Reid 6.19.00
MU21 200m – Kieryn McKemmish 23.97s
FU14 800m – Isabella Reid 3.04.75
FU13 100m – Olivia Connelly 13.21s
FU17 400m – Emma Rouget 1.15.27
On Monday 8th August Chloe Carr, Shannon Elgar, Laura McKellar, Taylah Newman, Courtney Priestley, Kaitlin Rowlands, Allison Shorland, Amy Wright, Victoria Farrell and Taylah Morris represented the year 7 and 8 division in Bendigo. The girls had six games to play on the day, each 15 minutes long. The girls began the day with strong netball but unfortunately lost their momentum as the games went by; 2 wins, 4 losses. The girls played a variety of positions and were positive and enthusiastic on court, as well as encouraging to the other teams. Many thanks to parents for supporting the girls for a high quality event and let’s hope next year is a little more successful. Krysten Adams

The Intermediate netball team consisting of, Greta Pearson, Tess Mellington, Jess Hardess, Bella Reid, Grace Day, Tracey Ogden, Alana Long, Megan Fusti and Jaimi Elgar played ten incredible, hard fought games. The girls won eight games, drew one and lost one by two goals, which put them in second place for the day. The girls faced some tough, tall and at times feisty competition through which they handled themselves with poise and continued with the business of playing netball. The team worked well together with many impressive sections of play. It has been fantastic to watch the girls develop as a team, encouraging and motivating each other along the way. Nicole Case

The VCE netball team gave 110% throughout the day. Unfortunately, the girls haven’t been fed enough chicken throughout their junior years as we were so short in comparison to our opposition?! Who plays centre and is six foot tall – GV Grammar apparently! Having a small pool meant we had to play the same teams many times. Our defenders fought gallantly all day, with Sarah McCluskey, Nicole Mahncke and Rochelle Daley taking lots of intercepts but alas we couldn’t convert in our offensive end. An injury to Tameka Branch in Round 2 limited our mid court opportunities, leaving Zoe Lubke, Annabelle Harris and Ella Hamilton to do the mid court work for the day. Our goalers, Amanda Carrington and Jayde Ilsley, continuously tried to out manoeuvre the tall defenders with the limited opportunities they had. The girls would like to thank Ms Menz for all of her efforts in training and coaching the girls.

Boys Soccer Report

Year 7 Soccer lads valiant in defeat!

It was a rare lovely August morning when our Year 7 Boys Soccer Team challenged the might of Bendigo South-East with its team boasting a number of Bendigo Academy players. Led more than capably by our own State Representative Lachie Arkinstall, the boys defended tenaciously but were unable to match the experience and organization of the boys from down the highway. Nevertheless some performances were of note, especially that of Jason Hanson and Ashley Twigg in defence whilst Daniel Maher and Lachie worked tirelessly in the midfield. Alas, we went down 3 – 0 but should be very proud of our efforts. Runners-Up for the Zone is still a highly commendable effort. Most Valuable Player for the match was Lachlan Arkinstall (Coach – Stewart Cheal).

Girls Soccer Report

Yet again the Echuca College Year 7&8 girls soccer team showed there fabulous skills at the SSV soccer competition on the 9th August. The girls won against Kyneton and Mildura but unfortunately lost to Bendigo East 0:2. Player of the day goes to Maia Hall and Siobhan Thompson. A fantastic effort by all.

ECHUCA DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Australian Diamonds player Catherine Cox and Rebecca Bulley will host a Netball Clinic on Wednesday 31st August 5.00pm -7.30pm at Echuca Netball Complex. (Open to players aged 11-15 years. The clinic will also include a session for any interested coaches. Cost for all participants is $25.00) Please register and make payment to the Netball Office by Monday 29th August. Enquiries 54801725.
Community Notices

**Echuca College**

**“THE CAMBODIA EXPERIENCE”**

You are invited to join us on a cruise aboard the Pride of the Murray.

When: 11th September 2011
Time: 2:30
Cost: $30 includes Cruise, afternoon tea and Entertainment.
Limited Tickets available from Melissa Gould at Echuca College

**COME TO THE HEART OF AFRICA!**

Echuca Lutheran Church invites you to join us as Pastor Matt Anker shares stories and images from his recent trip to South Sudan & Refugee Camps in Kenya.

You’ll leave with the sound of Africa ringing in your ears as our African choir bring the stories to life!

**BE INSPIRED, CHALLENGED AND INFORMED!**

**WHEN:** Friday 9th September @ 7.30pm
**WHERE:** Multi Purpose Hall
Moama Anglican Grammar School; 2 Kircher Street, Moama

A light supper will be served following the presentation

**Donations to the AFRICAN FAMINE APPEAL most welcome!**

**What your gift could do...**
- $22 will provide sleeping mats & clothes for a family
- $156 will provide a life saving meal for 1,428 children
- $3.30 will provide a tent for emergency shelter

Donations over $2 are tax deductible

**Reaching out in love... for justice!**