Principal’s Report

Last week I had the privilege of interviewing 15 candidates for next year’s College Captain positions for 2012. The 20 candidates had a series of questions that they had to respond to during their interview. All responded in a confident manner and had clearly thought about how they would conduct themselves if elected to the position of College Captain. The candidates delivered their campaign speeches to the Year 11 students and this was followed by a ballot that day. All candidates were very impressive. I am happy to announce that our Captains for 2012 are Sarah Head and Jarrod Kornmann and our Vice Captains are Larni Williams and Jake Morris. I look forward to working with them next year and the College community wishes them all the best.

We have had a very busy week at the College with lots of extra curricula activities taking place and some great news around student achievements. Last week Emma Francis and Sarah Toll (Yr.10) travelled to Kyabram for a presentation and awards ceremony for ‘The Cows Create Careers Project’. I would like to congratulate Emma Francis and Holly Kornmann “The Moolicious Team” for being the Region’s winning team. The competition is judged on adding together the score of each of the team assessment tasks which included writing a letter, working with design briefs, food preparation, completing a research paper and presenting a photo gallery of their work. I would also like to congratulate the ‘runners up’ another team from Echuca College, ‘The Moos’ which consisted of Cara Wayland, Caitlin Robinson and Sarah Toll. Thank you to Mrs Dunn and Mrs Smith for their support.

Another award to be received by an Echuca College student this week has come from South West College of TAFE to Javais Ham for her outstanding work at school and in her VET Equine course. Well done Javais. Alannah Richardson has also been won a local photography competition this week for one of her photographs in "Campaspe in Focus". Alannah's photograph of a section of the Old Port of Echuca will be used in the Campaspe Shire calendar for 2012. Congratulations to all these students on some great achievements.

Next week will see VCE examinations finish on the 23rd with our last exam being Indonesian Language. On Monday to Wednesday Year 11 students will complete their examinations for Unit 2 subjects, followed on the Thursday and Friday with 2012 course confirmation counselling. This means Year 11 students will only be required at school to attend their course confirmation interviews. The week starting the 28th November is the start of our Academic Year where students from Year 7-11 move into their new year levels 8-12 for 2012. For our senior students this provides an opportunity to get work underway in their VCE. Texts for English and other pre-reading can start before the interruptions of Christmas and the January holidays. The program runs for two weeks for Years 10 and 11 (2012 Years 11 &12) and finishes on the 9th December. The remaining Year levels will finish school on the 22nd December.
Next year we will continue our ‘Peer Support’ program for Year 7 students that will run for all of first term. The focus of the program is to support Year 7 students during the first few months of the year and also to provide a senior student as a friend to talk to if the need arises. As mentioned earlier, Year 10 students will be trained as ‘Peer Support’ leaders on the 22nd of November and while their main function is to support their younger peers, the training is valuable to them as leaders in the College. The leaders and their group meet once a week in term one and during this time complete activities that provide an opportunity for conversations about school, classes and how the transition from primary to secondary school is going. Students will meet at different times each week to avoid missing the same class and at the end of the term all Year 7s and their leaders will meet for a final celebration. The goal of the program is to help Year 7 students to feel comfortable in their new environment and to also make their secondary experience a great experience.

Booklists and documentation outlining our College levies for 2012 have been issued to students this week. 2012 Year 7 students will receive their information in the mail this week. Next week the second hand book sale will be held on the Thursday 24th at the College in the small gym. Please see the advertisement for the uniform and book sale in today’s newsletter.

VCE/VCAL News

Unit 3/4 Exams
Congratulations to the students for their behaviour and attitude to the Unit 3 / 4 Exams so far. There are only a few exams to go, with Indonesian being the final exam on Wednesday 23rd November.
VCE results and ATAR will be available on the 16th of December. Students are encouraged to see Mr Webb or Mrs Morrison after the release of these results to check their marks meet the requirements for their Tertiary selections.

Year 11 Exams and Course Confirmation for 2012
Year 11 Exams will be held from Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd of November in the café learning area. Students have been provided with a timetable of their exams. On Thursday 24th and Friday 25th November course confirmation and counselling will be held for some year 11 students. Students will be notified if they are required to attend on these days.

New Academic Year
The 2012 Academic Year will commence on Monday the 28th of November. It is compulsory for all students to attend. We are aware that students will not yet have their text books, however students are expected to turn up with pens/pencils and new exercise books and folders.
Wowzers! Only a fortnight left of the 2011 academic year! Students should be hard at work, trying to finish off all tasks for their teachers, ready to commence their Year 10 subjects on November 28.

ISABELLA REID – Congratulations to Bella who recently won an inaugural scholarship to Indonesia. Bella has earned herself an all expenses paid, language immersion trip to be held mid next year. This is a very prestigious scholarship to win as there are only a handful of these handed out across Australia. We look forward to hearing more on Bella’s progress in coming editions of the newsletter – congratulations again Bella!

RACV ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH – Good luck to the College’s team who will soon embark on their trip to Maryborough for a fun filled (and perhaps sleepless??!) weekend of riding! Mr Hore has been training the guys hard and has formed a strong team. Please support the team by purchasing a raffle ticket at the College office.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS – Well done to the Year 9s who recently completed some outstanding Community Projects as part of their community subject. Students volunteered at a range of organisations such as the Lost Dogs Home, Wharparilla Lodge, Echuca South PS and Echuca Specialist School. The students learned lots about leadership, the importance of giving back – all whilst having lots of fun!

SWEAT V STEAM FUN RUN – Congratulations to Bella Reid who recently finished 3rd in her age group for the 5km event at the Echuca Sweat V Steam. Special mention to the Year 9 staff who competed (seriously and for giggles) in the event!

JAYDEN WALLIS - Congratulations to Jayden who has recently received an offer to sign on with a Formula Ford racing team. Jayden will race in some prestigious events in the coming months and is now a step closer to realizing his dream of a professional race car driver - as long as he remembers his Year 9 coordinators when he's rich and famous

CASUAL DAY 24 NOVEMBER – Well done to Maddie Naismith, Rebekka Poidevin and Courtney Scanlon-King who have been working tirelessly to coordinate the upcoming College’s Casual Day. Due to the girls’ hard work, all funds raised will go to supporting the Naomi Hetherington Foundation and in turn supporting their classmate, Ryan Hetherington. Please get behind this worthy cause by donating a gold coin when you wear your casual clothes and supporting the BBQ at lunch time ($1.50 a snag).

Naomi Hetherington Fundraiser

Casual Dress & Sausage Sizzle
Thursday 24th of November
Gold Coin Donation
Sausages- 1.50 each
ALL DONATIONS WELCOME
No Thongs or Singlets
Yr 11 Agriculture/Horticulture

Students attended the Cows Create Careers presentation day and achieved 1st and 2nd place for the region. The competition attracts 7000 students over 179 schools in Australia. Students must raise 2 calves for 3 weeks on the school premises and then complete written tasks about the experience. The two teams in the Ag/Hort class completed a poster on an area of Dairying, a power point about their experiences raising the calves, a scientific report and letters of thanks to their industry advocate and farmer.

Matt Webb, Corey Spencer, Patrick Hann, Daniel Conlan and Jesse Green comprised the winning team. Each student received a gift pack and $50. Kylie Reynolds, Nadine Cadan and Madeline Richie were the second place team, they received a gift pack.

Daniel Conlan and Jesse Green would like to make special mention of their aides, Kaye Ross and Dawn Leo who were of great help to them during the project.

The YMCA Greater Murray is proud to announce it will be running its first ever summer camp this January at Camp Four Posts, Deniliquin. In July 2011 YMCA Greater Murray became the custodians of Camp Four Post situated on the Edwards River near Deniliquin. We would like to invite your child/ren to participate in this great experience to Camp Four Post from 9th – 13th January 2012.

The Senior program (13-16 years) focuses on challenging participants, team work and personal growth. We provide individual and group success through teamwork and cooperation. By the end of the week, campers will have made great new friends, tested their capabilities and shared in a unique experience together.

The YMCA will bring together an energetic, experienced team who has formal training in outdoor education, CPR, and first aid and current Working with Children Checks. The leaders work closely with each camper to foster personal growth and to teach the YMCA core values of honesty, caring, respect and responsibility.

The cost of the five day camp is $480.00, which includes transport, accommodation, all meals, fully supervised program, excursions, activities and materials. There are financial subsidies available however such assistance will be closely monitored with the YMCA seeking advice from referring agencies.

If any student is interested in attending this camp please see Mr. Robinson for an Expression of Interest Form (EOIF). This form must be completed and returned to the YMCA Greater Murray by Thursday 1st December 2011. In order to confirm your child/ren’s place in the camp deposit of $50 is required. Places are limited so be quick to return your EOIF.

For more information please contact Leanne at the YMCA on telephone 5482 2517 or 0418356451 during business hours.
Yr 10 Outdoor Education Camp

On Wednesday November 2nd, 21 students set off for an outdoor experience in the high country. The day started well with glorious weather, high spirits and lots of munchies along the way. After a short lunch stop in picturesque Myrtleford, we arrived at Valley Homestead, found our cabins and changed into our “climbing” clothes – no short shorts, volleys or singlets allowed – go & get changed Holly & Ethan. So we tackled four hours of challenging rope activities, the highlight being the 220m long flying fox and the vertical slide with a 2m free fall. Joel & Kiennan were the leaders in the climbing race, with James and Brent also having a climbing duel. Ashlee climbed the 10m pole with ease, and made valiant attempts to reach the ring on the jump from the top. Others who relished in the ropes and climbs were Millie, Ellie and Holly with some interesting climbing and swinging techniques displayed. After the ropes session, everyone was keen to use the spa and pool before spag bol for tea. Night time saw packs being packed with all the gear, and yes… it should all fit in! After a restful sleep (yes boys…. Sleep!) a 7am breacky saw us on the road for Mt Feathertop. We parked the bus at Diamantina Hut, loaded up our gear and set off for the 9.9 km walk….. that’s what the map says it is. Megan and Caitlin’s idea of distance was quickly deflated on the first rest break… we aren’t even half way yet. Jake’s chaffing, Dylan’s dodgy knee, Luke’s blisters and Ethan’s whinging were all overcome along the way in the back group with Mrs O and Robbo, whilst Carrot, Simone Twiggy, Brad, Brent & Joel powered along up front keeping up with Andrew’s fast pace. With the Hut in sight, everyone strolled into camp, set up tents and then set off for the summit to frolic in the patchy snow. What a view from the top! Trangias were roaring with pasta, rice, stew on the menu – or was it a 3 course delight for the girls?? With the weather still fine, we set out on a search mission to find Joel – where was he hiding? And of course the bottle grab game – some excellent dives displayed. Night time saw the wind pick up, roaring into tents – at least they stood up all night, but some kids froze in the chilly night – next time bring the winter bag eh Megan! The return walk down Bungalow Spur was 10kms downhill, with Amber limping and others carrying her pack – great team work! Strolling into Harrietville with a great sense of achievement and sore legs and backs – 21 weary souls can be proud of their achievements!

Year 10 News

Year 10 exams – All students were given a timetable this week outlining the program for the exams which are on next week, (Thursday November 24th and Friday November 25th). These are a valuable learning experience which should help the students when they have exams in VCE.

Australian Maths Awards – Congratulations to Sam Day, (credit), and Tom McCluskey, (distinction), in the recent competition.

Tamara Mottram – Well done to Tamara who won a state martial arts competition recently. Tamara has been using her skills at South Primary School teaching the students which is fantastic.

Sweat vs Steam – Congratulations to Riley Fitzpatrick who ran the 13km event. He certainly gave his all, (even breakfast just prior to the finish!).

Relay for Life – Well done to a number of students who helped raise $1000 in the recent event. Ellie Denson, Felicity Prendergast, Rebecca Ashwell, Alicia Priest, Katrina Wagner, Vaughn Gale, Georgia McMurdoo, Lani Graham, Riley Fitzpatrick, Ryan Godfrey, Callum Stephens, Joseph Sandford and Emily Gretgrix were involved on the day.

Remembrance Day Service - It was great to see Matthew Bell, Emma Francis and Sarah Toll on the front page of the RIV representing the College on this special day.

As the New Academic Year begins on November 28th this will be my last report for 2012. I have really enjoyed being Team leader of this group of students and I wish them well in their VCE years. Thanks to Assistant Team Leader’s Andrew Hewitt and Debbie Dunn and Tute teachers Janine Watson, Jenny Morris, Sandy Morrison, Ted Down, Norm Wright and Barry Jones.

David Pearson - Year 10 Team Leader.
**LOCKINGTON YOUTH GROUP**

**Presents....**

**TWILIGHT: BREAKING DAWN PART 1.**
**TUESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER**
**START TIME 6.45 PM**
**$15 A TICKET**

ECHUCA PARAMOUNT THEATRE

For ticket enquiries contact Kris Munro 0488591887 or Jenny Howlett 54849291

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**ROCHESTER LAWN TENNIS**

Invites Entries To
LADIES DAY PAIRS TOURNAMENT
Thursday 1st December
9.30am Start
$15 Per Person Entry Fee
Entries & Inquiries To
Barb 54865391 or Julie 5484153

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**CAMBODIA EXPERIENCE STUDENTS READY TO TAKE FLIGHT**

On Saturday 26th November, a group of Year 12 students and staff will fly to Cambodia where they will have the opportunity to make a difference by getting involved in humanitarian projects. Our students have been busily working to raise money to donate items such as soap, books and shampoo – all items that we take for granted. Whilst in Cambodia, the students will volunteer at a range of places including orphanages, schools, community centres and hospitals. On behalf of all the students and staff involved in the “Echuca College Cambodia Experience” we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the generous businesses, organisations and community members who donated towards helping the people of Cambodia. We would like to recognise the significant contributions from the following businesses, organisations and community members;

- Rotary Club of Echuca/Moama
- Murray River Paddle Steamers, Shire of Campaspe
- Vern Beasley, Bunnings Warehouse
- Epicentre Church
- Echuca Uniting Church
- Echuca Paramount Cinemas
- Echuca Toyota, Big W, Coles
- The Head Family
- Jim Stynes
- Thyra Uniting Church
- Knox Durrant
- Echuca Farmer’s Market
- Border Raiders Soccer Club, AFL
- and every person and family that purchased a sausage or raffle ticket at our many sausage sizzles. Your support has been gratefully received.