‘Diversity Our Strength’

As we break for mid-year holidays and the end of semester one, I would like to congratulate students on their achievements so far this year. As reports are being collated we get a better picture of each student’s progress and this allows the College to work with students in semester two to further develop skills or where necessary put greater effort into areas where skills are not as well developed. Of course this process requires a partnership to exist between student, teacher and parents/family. Our reports provide valuable information for our students and parents/family and must be read carefully and discussed at home before students return to school at the start of term 3. It is important for parents/family to have their student explain the various components of the subjects they have been studying, what they learnt during the semester and areas where they believe they need to improve. These discussions may reveal the need to get in contact with the College for greater explanation of what learning is taking place or to seek further assistance in areas where there is a strength (how do we extend our student in the areas?) or weakness (what additional support is available?). Reports will be issued to students after 2.15pm on Friday and those reports not collected will be retained by the College for collection (letter from parents) next term. Students will be dismissed at 2.20 pm.

Our students and the College have experienced a very busy and productive term. Transition visits from our partner primary schools concluded this week with Echuca South students spending a morning at the College. Our Transition Team will continue to visit primary schools during the next term as part of transition program for Grade 6 students moving to Year 7 in 2013. During the term and as part of our Year 9 Community subject, students have been involved many volunteer programs around Echuca. Students are still participating in ‘Meals on Wheels’ each week and they enjoy the interaction with community members who received this service. Students are also involved in supporting activities at Wharparilla Lodge each week with senior members of our community. Our Year 9 and Year 10 students are working closely with the ‘One and All’ program and yesterday we had students participate in a football match with student’s from the Echuca Special Development School. There are a number of activities planned for Term 3 with the ‘One and All’ program that will see students from Echuca College provide support to students from the Echuca Special Development School.

In the sporting arena, Echuca College students have participated in all the winter sporting events with some great results. I would like to thank teachers, students and parents who have helped out with the preparation of these teams for the various sporting events. Echuca College won the SSV Campaspe cross-country; as a result Max Ogilvie and Liam Gundry will be running in the state final on the first Tuesday of next term. Our Intermediate Boys Tennis Team also competed at the state finals and they were narrowly beaten on a count back. Some of the other great results for the semester are listed below.

- Senior Boys soccer team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Senior Girls soccer team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Year 8 Girls soccer team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Year 7 Girls Volleyball team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Year 8 Girls Volleyball team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Year 8 Boys Volleyball team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Intermediate Girls Volleyball team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Year 7 Girls Badminton team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Year 8 Girls Badminton team – winners of SSV Campaspe event.
- Jonty Jeoffries – has qualified for the State Junior Golf event.
- Tessa Mellington and Isaac Duffy – State Swimming

Would you like to receive the newsletter via email?

Our Year 12 students go into the holiday break knowing they only have 13 weeks of secondary education between them and final classes. Some of the students have now experienced VCAA examinations a fortnight ago and all know the work that must be done between now and their final classes in October. In addition to course work, term three is traditionally very busy for Year 12 students with university and further education and training information sessions and also preparing for life after school. We have encouraged our students to have a break but to also organise time for some structured study over the holiday prior in preparation for the reminder of the year.

Next term will see a couple of minor changes to our teaching personnel. Ms Kerry Lynn-Dixon will be working with us during semester two as an English teacher replacing Terry Muller. Mrs. Bella Teakle will be taking Mr. Mullers VCE Drama group. We also have our Canteen Manager Mrs. Janette Fabry away due to illness and we have Mrs. Kay Davey taking her place until she recovers. Finally I would like to wish everyone a safe, relaxing and enjoyable mid year break.

Chris Eeles  
College Principal

**Careers**

**Jacob Campbell, Echuca College School Captain 2009**
Currently studying Civil Engineering/Commerce at Swinburne University in Melbourne. Jacob was awarded a Swinburne University Vice-Chancellor’s scholarship. The scholarships are available to students who achieve an ATAR of at least 97.00. According to Jacob, the scholarship will give him more time. “I’ll be able to give back to the university community by attending and helping with workshops and open days in the future. Jacob is exempt from paying the Student Contribution Amount of his course. Jacob has also received the George Alexander Foundation Scholarship supports rural student and is valued at $18000 over three years. Most recently Jacob has also been awarded a scholarship from the Port of Melbourne valued at $5000 per semester and involves industry based learning and vacation work.

**Joshua Strachan, Echuca College 2008**
Joshua is currently studying for a double degree for Commerce/Business Information Systems at Swinburne University. He has already completed his studies for a diploma in Information Systems, Networking and System Administration as well as gaining numerous qualifications including CISCO CCNA and other certificates. Joshua is currently in the process of applying for cooperative programs through Accenture, Deloitte and PWC.

**James Scott – Echuca College 2009**
After completing year 12 at Echuca College I was accepted into a double degree at ACU Ballarat studying a Bachelor of Nursing & Para medicine. In my first year of study I fortunate to receive the George Alexander Scholarship, which has assisted me financially throughout my University education. I am very grateful for their continued support! I am now in my third year of the four year degree. My most recent clinical placement in May and June was within the mental health setting at Bendigo Health. As a result of the positive experiences at Bendigo Health the majority of students expressed that they would definitely consider a career in mental health in the future. I have also undertaken several paramedic placements with Ambulance Victoria in various parts of the state. I have had great experiences on these placements; it is always invaluable to learn from experienced paramedics.

My main interest remains in becoming a paramedic, but I also hope to do some time mental health and emergency nursing. As nursing is a fantastic career to travel with, I hope to go overseas to work for a period of time. When I gain more experience I will also look at working in a voluntary capacity in developing countries for short periods.

**Keaton Male – Echuca College 2008**
Keaton is currently undertaking a co-operative learning year as part of his 3rd year at Victoria University studying Bachelor of Business Hospitality Management with Crown Casino for 12 months. Keaton was recently awarded the J Mulchay Memorial Award, most outstanding student, Bachelor of Business for 2011. His career goal is to manage a large hotel or resort.
Youth Advisory Summit - Canberra

This is a report by year 7 student Tyler Thompson on her experiences whilst attending the Youth Advisory Summit on Cyber safety in Canberra on Tuesday, June 12. Leighton Flight also attended the Summit. The students were accompanied by their mothers and Mr. Robinson.

My experience was that the youth advisory group (YAG) was a well organised event with 150 students from all over Australia attending. It went from Monday, June 11 to Wednesday, June 13. Monday was an early start for me having to get up early to catch two buses and then a plane to Canberra.

On the day of the YAG summit (Tuesday) which was held at National Convention Centre, everyone met in the Bradman theatre and was welcomed to the Cyber safety Summit for 2012. We were entertained by Team Rockit.

Next I was put with a group of students for two workshops. My first workshop was “Get the Message Out” with Ruby Rose and Tenealle Hawke. They each gave us their personal stories from their childhood when they had been victims of bullying.

Ruby Rose was an inspirational speaker. Even though she came from an abusive childhood and had been affected by bullying all through high school, because they thought she was different, that didn’t stop her from pursuing her career goals of being a DJ and being a TV personality.

My second workshop was social media and reputation management where we had Angie Bainbridge (Australian Swimming Champion, representing Australia again at the London Olympics) to help talk about privacy, relations, being safe, responsible, digital footprints and reputation management. Face book, Twitter, My Space and Skype are the most important websites to stay safe on. With just 1.9billion users for Face book, if you post a message or photo any one can see it if your settings are not on private. Some advice that they gave us was to change your passwords regularly, stop and think before you click on links and attachments, regularly check your privacy settings on social networking sites and to always report when you feel uncomfortable or threatened in any way.

My personal highlight of the day was meeting Ruby Rose and hearing her speak. I would like to thank Mr. Cheal and Mr. Robinson for giving me this opportunity to attend YAG 2012.

By Tyler Thompson 7T5

DEPRESSION AND EXERCISE

- Research suggests that regular exercise may be effective in preventing depression and also in treating mild depression.
- A sedentary lifestyle increases the risk of depression, and depression increases the likelihood of a sedentary lifestyle.
- Regular exercise alters brain chemistry and leads to improved mood and feelings of wellbeing.

People who suffer from anxiety also improve when they exercise regularly.

Where to get help

- Your doctor
- Your local community health centre
- Lifeline Tel. 13 11 14

Kids Helpline Tel. 1800 55 1800

Beyond Blue Info Line Tel. 1300 22 4636

SANE Mental Health Information Line Tel. 1800 18 SANE (7263), weekdays 9 am to 5 pm

Suicide Line Victoria Tel. 1300 651 251 – for counselling, crisis intervention, information and referral (24 hours, 7 days)

More information can be found on the Better Health Channel. www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

WALKING CLUB

Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes. New walkers are welcome to come along and have relaxing and enjoyable walk with enthusiastic staff and students.

Canteen

With many students to serve, the Canteen Manager needs the help of several people each day to provide lunches and snacks, we are in urgent need of volunteers to help out on a daily basis. We would also appreciate donations of pumpkins, or any vegetables suitable for soup. If you are able to help out please contact our Canteen Manager on 54821133

Lote

Sumardi Master Shadow Puppeteer

The Echuca College LOTE department is excited to announce the tour of Sumardi the master shadow puppeteer who will be performing at Echuca College on Wednesday the 18th of July 9.30 to 10.30am.

This performance will give students a wonderful insight into the myths and legends of Indonesian history and culture. Theatrical storytelling brings to life the ancestral spirits said to swell inside the puppets. The climatic scenes are based on Hindu epics, such as the Ramayana Cycle. Students are given an opportunity to watch the shadow puppetry from both sides of the screen to experience the magic as well as learn the skills and techniques behind these ancient art forms.
**Sport News**

**Echuca College Athletic Sports.**
Week 4 of Term 3 – Tuesday August 7th.
Javelin will be held in the first week of term and Discus will be held in the second week, at lunchtimes on the oval.

**Year 8 Football.**
In great football conditions the Year 8 boys contested the Campaspe competition in Moama last week. The first game was a battle against the eventual champions St. Josephs. Clay Poidevan and Chevy Cocks were outstanding in defence with Nick Pratt, Bryce Bish and Aron Pavone working hard on the ball. Against St. Mary’s Nathalia a half time 4 point lead turned into a 5 point deficit, until Clay Poidevin ran from full-back with seconds to play to kick a match-winning goal. Daniel Maher on the ball and Keegan Hutchins up forward were very good players in this game.
Results: EC 0.0.1 lost to St. Josephs 6.6.42
EC 4.2.26 defeated St. Mary’s 3.7.25
MVP: Clay Poidevin
Coach: Mr David Pearson

**Sport Uniforms**
Parents – some students have helped us out by taking home athletics singlets, netball dresses, footy jumpers, shorts or socks to wash. They are all predominately purple so if you see them in the wash or in/on your teenagers cupboard/floor we would love them back so that all our teams can be fitted out.
Thanks in anticipation – Chris Sanders and David Pearson, Sport Co-ordinators.

**Brave Boys Beaten**
The Year 7 and 8 Boys Soccer Teams ventured to Moama to play two matches against similarly skilled opposition on Wednesday 20th June. All the lads acquitted themselves really well, only a few with previous football experience, many playing their first competitive games of the round ball code.
The Year 7s were more than capably lead by skipper James Brown who scored a hatrick in the first match against St. Jo’s whilst Ricky Walsh(also 1 goal) and Isaac Warren up front assisted in some attractive forays in attack. Jakob Ayres was the general of defence with wonderful cover from goalie Clayton Thompson. In the second match the boys from Nathalia were simply too good although the goal scored from the halfway line involved more than a little luck!
The Year 8s also enjoyed some terrific leadership from Lachie Arkinstall and Jason Hanson was virtually impassable at centre back. They unfortunately lost the first match 1 – 0 and were clearly dominant in the second against St. Marys but could just not find the back of the net, though Lachie’s shot took a coat of paint off the post. Tom Crilly tried valiantly in attack and Josh Heddle played breathlessly all day. We drew the second match 0 – 0 with the bulk of possession.
Congratulations to all the boys!
MVP: Year 7 – James Brown          Year 8 – Jason Hanson
Coach: Stewart Cheal

**Junior Girls Soccer**
On Wednesday the 20th of June the junior girls’ soccer team played in the first round of the SSV sports. After three fantastic games of guts and determination the girls won their way to the next round. Maia Hall was the MVP on the day scoring 7 of the teams 8 goals. Next round is on the 30th of July. Well done girls!

**Camp Reminders**

**Central Australia Camp**
Parent and students information evening at Cafe Learning Area at 7.30pm Thursday 19th July. Please see Mrs Smith if you can’t attend.

**Gold Coast Camp**
Parent and student information evening at Cate Learning Area at 7.00pm Thursday 19th July.
Students going to Qld must attend for important information. Any problems in attending, please see Mrs Smith.
Echuca Musical Theatre Company Inc. announces the Junior production of
'Peter Pan'
in November 2012

INFORMATION NIGHT
Monday 16th July 2012
7:30pm at 'The Shed'
Simmie Street, Echuca

All interested in being involved
(actors, singers, dancers, production team, back stage)
should attend the Information Night.

Audition bookings taken
at the Information Night or call
Director, Trish Deakin ph. 5852 3415;
0427 523 418
for more information

AUDITIONS
20th and 21st July 2012
At ‘the Shed’, Simmie Street, Echuca

$5 entry will get you a BBQ tea, Drinks, Glow sticks and entry to the disco. Make sure that you wear white clothes, they glow on the dark! Parents must sign you in and there will be no pass outs until the end of the night. This is to raise money to make the grade 5/6 camp cheaper!

Prep-Grade 6: 6pm-8pm
Grade 5- Year 10: 8:15pm-11pm
Friday 20th June
WEP Student Exchange - Special Holiday Info Sessions

There is no better time to plan your student exchange program than during your school holidays! Choose from over 20 countries around the world and experience life as an overseas teenager for a summer, semester or even a year. To help you and your family make this important decision, WEP has scheduled 12 additional information sessions during the school holidays. For dates, times and directions, visit wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733.

From Our Students “My host family was waiting for me at the airport with big smiles and open arms. All that worrying for nothing! They are the sweetest people and I feel very lucky to be staying with them” ~ Chelsea, semester program to Italy.

World Education Program (WEP) Australia WEP is an independent, not-for-profit Australian student exchange organization registered with the education departments in QLD, NSW and VIC. Students accepted by WEP Australia generally act as producers, rather than consumers, of their own education. Our programs ready students for a lifetime of successful learning in a diverse and rapidly changing society.