Welcome

Communication with our community is important in developing strong relationships between the College and families and the College and surrounding communities. We are also conscious of the need for our communications to be clear and up-to-date. The College will trial a new approach to delivering information traditionally found in our newsletter via our website home page. On the website is a section called Echuca College News Feed and this site will be updated each time a new item of importance occurs at the College. This approach will allow us to provide prompt information about coming events, student achievements and teaching and learning developments that impact on our students. The College would appreciate any feedback on this development via email or on the parent ‘Dashboard’.

LMR Athletics

Our Athletics team travelled to the Loddon Mallee Region Athletics carnival where our team came away with an outstanding number of medals. Overall the team won 21 medals, including 8 gold, 4 silver and 9 bronze.

Students who won gold and qualified for the state finals include the 14 boys relay - Oscar Reid, Amos Farrell, Max Ogilvie and Isaac Warren - the boys broke the 2004 record held by Flora Hill. Isaac Warren won gold in the 14 boys 100m and 200m and Asher Jones in the 13 boys 100m and 200m. Kiennan Jones won gold in the 21 boys 200m and Siobhan Thompson won gold in the 16 girls javelin and discus. Erik Holt-Crossman won silver in the 16 boys 1500m and has also qualified for the state finals.

Important Dates

October
21st
• Int Cricket Rnd 2
22nd
• Athletics
23rd & 24th
• VET Dance Prac Exam
24th
• Yr 12 Celebration Day
25th
• LMR Basketball & Hockey (Int & Jnr)
28th
• LMR Cricket (Int & Jnr)
30th
• Yr 7 HPV 3rd Dose
• Yr 9 Boys HPV Catch up Program

November
4th
• Pupil Free Day
5th
• Melbourne Cup Day
• Public Holiday

Connect to Echuca College

Please visit www.echucacollege.vic.edu.au, or download our App from either the iTunes or Google Play store for current news and events
VCE Leadership Award

Brent McGrath has won a 2013 VCE Leadership Award. The VCE Leadership Awards are coordinated by the VCAA to recognise VCE students for their leadership, initiative and involvement in extra-curricular and community activities. As a VCE Leader, Brent receives a three-month subscription to the Herald Sun. He will also receive a certificate, trophy and prize which will be presented to him at the VCE Leadership ceremony in Melbourne.

Brent many achievements have included his involvement with the One and All Inclusion Program, his coordination and organisation of the Humanitarian tour of Cambodia coming up in December and his outstanding efforts as Echuca College School Captain for 2013. Brent is an outstanding role model for our community and is always prepared to help out and support students, staff and peers whenever needed.

Film Competition Winners

It is with great pleasure that we announce the prize winners for the Loddon Mallee Department of Health/DEECD Immunisation film competition. Echuca College won the best film promoting immunisation in year 9 and 10 and will be awarded $3000. The film was created by; Emma Favaloro, Courtney Johnson and Meagan Johnson who will all be awarded $666 each.

The competition formed part of the “Get Immunised – it does save lives” campaign and aims to promote immunisation awareness amongst adolescents. The competition provided an opportunity for students to express their creativity, become more aware of health issues and create strategies to help other young people.

The team from Echuca College demonstrated and extraordinary amount of initiative, drive and excellent time management skills in submitting their entry. Thanks must also go to Mr Barry Jones for his support and work with the students.

Please visit our website to view this video.

Mini Matilda

Year 10 student Jessica Pitts travelled to China during the holiday to represent Australia at the Asian Football Confederation Junior Women’s Championships. Jessica scored a goal in their first game against Bahrain from outside the box and the team went on to win 8-0. The next game against host nation China saw the team lose 2-0. The Asian championship is the official FIFA qualifying tournament for the 2014 Under 17 Women’s World Cup, the team did not qualify on this occasion.

Jessica made her international debut with the under 17 team — known as the Mini Matildas — in a series of friendlies against New Zealand last month before selection in the squad. Jessica travelled to Canberra earlier in the year for the NTC National Challenge with her Victorian team.

Echuca College is extremely proud of Jessica and her achievements; she was also named Most Valuable Player for the Echuca College State Championship Team.
It’s not OK to be away

Students with irregular and poor attendance often find that their academic achievement and the value they receive from their education are greatly reduced as a result. Sometimes this creates a cycle of disconnectedness leading to more absenteeism and a further lowering of achievement.

Student absenteeism is not an issue which can be dealt with solely by the College. It requires the support of both parents and the community if it is to be successfully addressed.

Research has shown that once it was the case that students only missed school when they were genuinely ill, but that has changed. Students are being allowed to stay away and are having their opportunities to perform to their potential adversely affected by parent-condoned absences such as-

- a day off for their birthday
- a day off because relatives are visiting
- a day off to be with parents
- a day off to go shopping
- a day off to look after younger children
- a day off to work at a part time job

A sobering fact is that the average student will lose one year of education (200 days) through parent-condoned absences over their school career from Prep to Year 12.

We need your support to ensure your son or daughter attends regularly. Absences

- make it difficult to catch up on missed work,
- create gaps in a student’s knowledge
- make it difficult for teachers to monitor student progress and achievement
- cause students to lose touch with their friendship group which is closely connected to their wellbeing and social development

Parents are encouraged to make every effort to get their child to school every day. If there are issues to do with your son/daughter’s attendance that you think we should be aware of please don’t hesitate to contact the College. This information is confidential.

It is only when we see education as a partnership between the College, parents and the community that we will be able to properly address this issue.
PGA Trainee Professional Jack Wilson has taken out the WA Goldfields PGA Championship at Kalgoorlie Golf Course following a payoff. Jack completed Year 12 at Echuca College in 2008.

After finishing level with Gillespie at 10-under-par, Wilson needed one playoff hole to take out the PGA Tour of Australasia event, going wire-to-wire to claim his first Professional title.

“It’s amazing, It’s a goal that I really wanted to achieve,” said Wilson who in taking out the tournament became the first ever Trainee to claim a PGA Tour of Australasia title.

“I always want to be the first to do things and hopefully this is just the start.”

Wilson led comfortably for most of the final round before double bogeying the 15th hole in dramatic circumstances.

The 22-year-old from Melbourne’s Kingswood Golf Club quickly recovered however, and is over the moon with the opportunities now afforded to him over the next 15 months.

“I’m so pumped to have the opportunity to play the Perth International, Australian PGA and Australian Open. I was looking for invites, but now there’s no need,” said Wilson who has earned exemption to the Tour for the remainder of 2013 and all of the 2014 season.