Principals Report

This year’s Orientation Day for Grade 6 into Year 7 will be on the 10th December. The College always looks forward to meeting our new students and Orientation Day is always a day of mixed emotions for Grade 6 students; whilst excited about the thought of entering the College, most are uncertain on how this transition will take place. Enrolments for 2014 are still open and if families have not enrolled as yet please contact the general office at Echuca College 54821133. Parents are invited to attend the assembly followed by morning tea in the staff room.

Next week will see VCE examinations finish on 21st November with our last exam being Indonesian Language. Our Year 12 Graduation Dinner will be held the same day starting at 6.30pm at the Moama Bowling Club. Next week Years 11 and 10 students will have Thursday and Friday as their 2014 course confirmation counselling days. This means Years 11 and 10 students will only be required at school to attend their course confirmation interviews.

Our Academic Year for 2014 will start on Monday 25th November with all students required at school. 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 (2014 Years 11 &12) and finishes on the 6th December. The remaining Year levels will finish school on Friday 20th December at 2.30pm. ‘Echuca College Celebrates’ will be held in the College stadium on Tuesday 17th December.

Next week the process will start for the selection of our College Captains for 2014. The College has had outstanding young people as our Captains over the years and this year’s team have followed in their predecessors footsteps. Our Year 11 students will nominate candidates, who will then be interviewed by the principals and candidates will complete the process by delivering a speech to their peers as to why they should be elected College Captain. We will have our 2014 Captains in place before senior students leave for their Christmas break and the official handover will take place at our ‘Celebration Evening’ on the 17th December. Good luck to all the candidates.
Golf and Lawn Bowls

A number of schools from across the district competed in the Lawn Bowls competition at Moama Bowling Club. A team from Echuca College competed and did very well. Former student Shaun Hon, trainee at the Moama Bowling Club assisted in the organisation of the very successful event.

Congratulations to Jonty Jeoffreys who scored 78 in the Golf State Finals and came 5th overall and in the handicap section, a fantastic effort by Jonty.

Congratulations also to the Rich River Junior Golf Pennant team who have made it the finals. The team Jonty Jeoffreys, Hayden Favaloro and Courtney Loader all won their rounds with a number of holes left to play.

Year 10 and 11 Exams

Year 10 and 11 students have been completing their exams this week. Students are to be congratulated for their excellent exam preparation, work ethic and attendance. The exams provide students with the experience of an exam room under examination conditions. The exams are an excellent preparation for the students as they embark on their VCE studies next year.
**VCAA Leadership - Brent McGrath**

Brent is one of eight finalist across the state in the VCAA Leadership awards. Brent McGrath has a passion for empowering young people with disabilities to participate in community activities. He is an avid sportsman and uses his skills to mentor students from Echuca Specialist School and clients of Murray Human Services by coaching their football team, The Rockets. Brent runs training sessions and games for the students, who readily respond to Brent’s personable and compassionate nature. Brent feels that he has ‘inspired local young people with disabilities to participate in community activities and highlight their strengths and abilities’ and he hopes to enrich the lives of young people with special needs in his community.

**Jack Wilson - 3rd Australian PGA**

Jack Wilson, former Echuca College student, finished outright third at eight-under in the Australian PGA. Jack completed his Year 12 at Echuca College in 2008 and is in his third and final year of his PGA traineeship, he won the Kel Nagle Shield for best rookie.

He won the WA Goldfield PGA title in Kalgoorlie last month to earn a spot in the PGA field.

His world ranking catapulted from 1544 to 746 courtesy of his victory in WA - the first-ever Australasian tour win by a PGA trainee.

Wilson was within one shot of eventual champion Adam Scott when lightning stopped play for two hours.

**Living Positive**

Sandy and Glenn spoke to all Year 9 students on their personal experiences with HIV/AIDS as part of the Health curriculum. Our students were enthralled as they heard about their personal journeys through their tumultuous HIV positive lives. Sandy and Glenn addressed the students on the importance of the safe sex message – or even to abstain altogether – and also on building trust and communication between you and your loved ones. They addressed many myths and stereotypes associated with HIV/AIDS. Our students demonstrated genuine interest and empathy for Sandy and Glenn’s stories and continued to ask questions well into their recess and lunch breaks. Sandy and Glenn’s personal goal for our students was for each person to go home and discuss their new findings at home as our students are the future for a healthier and safe nation.
Cows Create Careers Winners

Congratulations to our Year 11 student who won the Cows Create Careers Competition for the northern region. As part of the Yr 11 Agriculture and Horticulture course, students work in teams to produce work for the Cows Create Careers Competition. Students care for 2 calves for 3 weeks and research the dairy industry. Students need to submit a letter to the competition manager, a scientific report on calf rearing and a working model of an area of the dairy industry.

Taylor Hamilton, Luke Dusina and Neil Boys had the winning project for the northern region. Each student received a certificate and $50 in prize money.

Upload Your Future

Year 9 Students

‘Upload Your Future’

Information Communication Technology Event

Science Learning Area, Echuca College

Thursday, November 21st 2013, 10am to 3:00pm

An interactive event featuring young ICT professionals, higher education and industry representatives providing students with real insights into ICT studies and careers. Technology in areas ranging from games technology, drones, social & digital media, graphic design, computer hardware, food technology, bionic eye research and robotics will be featured in a fun and interactive way. Students will participate in a series of hands-on workshops and learn about qualifications, skills and interests that are vital to succeed in this booming global sector.

Amazing prizes and giveaways!
FREE event
Morning tea and BBQ lunch provided

Organisations Participating:
La Trobe University, Bendigo and Melbourne
Monash University
Spatoon Cartoons, Berrialla
Bendigo TAFE
Peats Office Equipment, Echuca
Kagome Australia, Echuca
National Information Communication Technology Australia (NICTA)