Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

We look forward to seeing all our students return next year. We are also very excited to get to know our new Year 7 students.

Don't forget to check in on the website for news and ensure you have the App to stay up to date with all the College news and important dates.

Reports are available on the Parent Dashboard now and School Magazines that have been paid for can be collected from the front office.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!!!!!
Echuca College Dux 2013

The Echuca College community congratulates the Class of 2013 on their achievements in their VCE studies. We are proud of their dedication to learning and their efforts and determination shown throughout the last 13 years of schooling.

We are delighted that our students were able to combine learning and high achievement whilst still actively involving themselves with the community.

Echuca College is deeply committed to the importance of learning. We also place a priority on nurturing the development of young women and men to become well rounded individuals. The class of 2013 is a testament to this. As a school community we are very proud of our dedicated staff who provided such wonderful support to all our students.

It is with great pleasure and pride that we announce the 2013 Dux of Echuca College is Eleanor Denson who achieved an ATAR of 98.6.

Anglesea Camp Report

On Tuesday the 10th of December 48 of the 2014 year nines of Echuca College loaded onto a bus. Once the bus was finally packed (aisle and all) we headed off to Anglesea, unaware of the fun ahead. After setting up base camp we headed off to the first of our activities, canoeing. We enjoyed paddling along the manmade canals in Anglesea. We learnt that the canals were made to extinguish severe bush fires in the area that happened around the same time as the Black Saturday fires. We also learnt about the coal and minerals in the ground that we were also learning about in science. Next we went for a bush walk that turned into a lovely, freezing cold swim at the beach. We enjoyed seeing the Anglesea township and surrounds. After a refreshing night sleep we awoke in the morning excited for the afternoon’s trip to Geelong Adventure Park, but first we went to admire some magnificent rock pools. From this spot we could see the light house where the TV series ‘Round The Twist’ was filmed, we could also see caves that William Buckley (famous English convict) had camped in. We were learning about William Buckley in humanities before we left for camp. We also learnt about the igneous rocks that formed the rock pools and we learnt about the limestone and sandstone that could be seen in the cliffs around us. We were also investigating this in science. At rock pools we were fascinated by the creatures and plantation. We saw animals such as starfish, crabs, sea snails and fish of many species. Immediately after viewing the rock pools we headed off for the much anticipated trip to the Geelong Adventure Park. Everyone had a great time and it was a good laugh to see the teachers racing the students on the Aqua racer. After exhausting ourselves unfortunately we had to leave. The bus trip back to our campsite was filled with the stories of what people had done at the park and this was followed by laughing.
That night we all slept comfortably with no energy to keep us awake. The next morning it was up early and a mad rush to get to our activities. First we went snorkelling. Though the water was a little murky we all enjoyed diving below the water into deep holes filled with wild life. Often people could be seen swimming in circles chasing fish. It was a great experience to be able to see what lives in the waters around our coast. After a warming hot dog lunch we headed to our second fun filled activity for the day. We went surfing! The wave were huge and temperature was low but that didn’t stop both students and teacher’s carving it up, hanging 10 and all that other stuff. Everyone had at least one massive wipe out but after laughing it off with everyone else they got straight back into it. Everyone caught at least one wave and had fun doing so. This day wore us out completely but the anecdotes were endless. The next day we were sad to leave but after the struggle of packing up our tents we got back onto the bus and set off home. On behalf of all the students that went to this camp I would just like to thank the teachers who attended the camp and the ones that helped plan it because it was defiantly a camp I would go to again!!

Kelly Gould

Echuca College Celebrates Awards Night

Echuca College celebrated 2013 with an amazing finish to our year. Our awards night celebrated many of the fantastic achievements of our students and was well attended by parents, families and friends.

Echuca College was very proud to announce our Dux for 2013 who achieved an outstanding ATAR of 98.6. Amelia Down and Thomas McCluskey also received Outstanding Academic Excellence awards for their fantastic VCE results. Gemma Lodi had a sensational evening receiving the Caltex All Rounder award, the Studio Art and Visual Communication and Design Academic Excellence awards and the VCE Art Exhibition Award.

Our Sports Stars for 2013 were announced and our Junior winners were Oscar Reid and Jessica Davidson, our Senior winners were Erik Holt-Crossman and Tessa Mellington. Jessie Hardess received the School Sport Victoria – Academic and Sporting Award.

Outstanding Academic Excellence Awards:

Yr 7 – Reece Campbell, Tyler Batchelor, Samatha Mason, Tom Harris, Caleb Upton, Sarah Taylor, Jessica Muir, Jessica Davidson, Annie Sampson

Yr 8 – Kelly Gould, Ireland Hayes, Benjamin Hercott, Georgia McKellar, Alise Riley, Yvonne Southern, Rebecca Toll, Jakob Ayres, Luke Judd, Oscar Reid, Erica Austria

Yr 9 – Courtney Johnson, Maegan Johnson, Emily Holmes, Bethany Young, Sarah Kaddissi, Tarika Oosthuizen, Emma Favaloro, Emily Davis, Lachlan Arkinstall, Jason Hanson, Sarah Hercott, Cody Spiers, Timothy Denson, Eliza Ough, Andrea San Diego

Yr 10 – Holly McCoomb, Tiffany Chong, Jordyn Coutts, Marley Jones, Gemma Toll, Sienna Kelly, Amy Wright

Yr 11 – Bianca Anderson, Tessa Mellington, Jesse Munzel, Greta Pearson, Madeleine Clark-Grundy, Kayla Arkinstall, Hayley Barnard, Ashley Hipwell, Jencie Lawford, Alana Long, Joshua McKenzie, Shannon Savage, Bryce Robertson

The audience also enjoyed speeches by Kayla Arkinstall on her time at Echua Collge, Jaklyn Crilly – Dux 2012, she spoke about her year at University. Tessa Mellington and Greta Pearson spoke about their time in Cambodia. Drew Walker and Tellekah McDonald provided excellent vocal performances on the night.
Other awards included:

- Kwong Lee Dow Melbourne University Young Scholars - Mark Bolitho and Amy Wright
- Ron Davidson Memorial Scholarship - Holly McCoomb and Hayden Favaloro
- The Holland Foundation Scholarship - Caley McGillvray
- Libby White Memorial Award - Ryan Rudeforth
- VCE Art Exhibition Award - Gemma Lodi
- Mavis Cunningham Rothfels Scholarship - Tenaya Williams
- Rich River Rod and Custom Club Award - Bryce Robertson
- Harley Davidson Award - Luke Polomka
- Epicentre Community Values Award - Joel Shillinglaw and Emma Favaloro
- Long Tan (Australian Defence Force) - Abbey Dobson and Cara Wayland
- Chaplaincy Awards - Emily Davis and Tess Pearson

A detailed program is available on the website.

Cambodia - Humanitarian Tour

A group of 13 students, along with Mr Sanders and Ms Menz were lucky enough to have the trip of a lifetime to Cambodia recently as an alternative to schoolies.

We had no idea what to expect and when we stepped off that plane it was a shock to us all. The hot weather hit us first, and before we knew it we were on the busy, bumpy, dangerous roads heading into Siem Reap. We spent one full day on our bikes riding around remote villages; it was eye opening seeing the way people lived. We visited a little school and played footy with the kids. Mr Sanders enjoyed scooting a bike 10kms back into Siem Reap after the chain had snapped in half.

After all the fundraising we did in Australia, we were able to donate a library to a school, which we spent 3 days helping build. We took in turns building and teaching the children. The girls were very creative in coming up with games to play with the students, and the boys enjoyed challenging the locals in some soccer matches. This was a challenge as they knew minimal English, but overall it was an amazing experience and definitely a highlight of the trip.

We all woke up one morning at 4am to see the sunrise over the beautiful temple of Angkor Wat. We spent the day being tourists, visiting different temples, shopping and using our great bartering skills.

We spent a day at a remote village. Here we were able to donate a solar panel and moonlights to the community and underwear and sarongs to the local women. The people were all so friendly and grateful. We enjoyed playing volleyball and footy with them. This day we were also lucky enough to spend an hour helping them harvest their rice crop. Everyone got in and had a go and the locals loved watching and laughing at our skills.
On our last day we visited S21 Prison and the killing fields. This was a massive confronting experience and it gave us all an insight into the Pol Pot Regime and the millions of people who died during this time.

Our time in Cambodia went so quickly, it was such an amazing trip. Seeing the way they live compared to Australia was an eye opener to us all, and has made us realise how privileged we are. We had an awesome time and have made some great memories shared with the amazing group of people we went with. On behalf of all the students that went on the trip, we would like to say a huge thankyou to Mr Sanders, Ms Menz and also Ms Gould for all the time spent organising the trip, it really was a life changing experience for us all. Thanks.

- Tessa Mellington and Greta Pearson

It's My School Too

Echuca College along with the State Primary Schools are implementing the “It’s My School Too” program. This program aims to empower the ‘silent majority’ in reducing incidences of bullying and harassment, and boosting a culture of safety and tolerance where students feel free to participate in school life without being bullied or harassed.

This program has started with a group of students who are preparing a video which will be used in workshops with all students and staff next year. This video will provide students with the opportunity to voice how Echuca College can work together to take a stand against bullying. The video will include students discussing their ability to treat others respectfully and ways to respond in situations where bullying or harassment may arise. More information will be provided early next year, including an information session for parents and ongoing updates.