Discovery Evening was a tremendous success with a large crowd of enthusiastic students and families attending the College to discover some of the things Echuca College offers our students. We had many student volunteers ready to show tour groups around the College as well as performers who entertained and our chefs in the kitchen cooking up some beautiful supper. A number of students both junior and senior assisted with experiments in the Maths and Science area whilst others worked on their productions in the woodwork and technology rooms.

We encourage all families who would like a tour of the College to contact the office and organise a suitable time to see the College in action. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Melissa Gould at Echuca College.

State Swimming 2014

Congratulations to our swim team who travelled to the state finals earlier this week. Luke Judd, Oscar Ried, Samuel Shorland and Kyle Scott came second in the freestyle relay closely behind Melbourne High School. This is a sensational effort and follows on from their silver in the same event last year. The relay team came fourth in the medley relay and competed in a number of individual events. Individual results; Kyle Scott 5th in 16 years Breaststroke and 4th in 16 years Butterfly, Luke Judd 7th in the 100 metre Butterfly.
Community Projects - STEP Kitchen

Lyndall Taylor, Jasmine Tindal and Rebecca Toll volunteer at STEPs Kitchen at St Andrew's Church as part of their Year 9 Community Project. The students cooked, served and chatted with the clients that accessed the Church's free services. The girls even donated their pocket money to the cause. The students learned a lot about giving back to the community and are now more appreciative of the small things in life.

Equestrian Success

Echuca College students Olivia Burke and Sarah Hilet rode for the school at the North Eastern Interschool Equestrian Team Challenge, held at the Tatura equestrian centre during the school holidays. The event was run over two days and the girls competed in a variety of equestrian disciplines, including dressage, show jumping, handy mount, games and showing classes, against students in their respective year levels from other schools across North Eastern Victoria. Sarah and Olivia were members of composite teams, representing primary and secondary schools from Kerang and Echuca, with points awarded according to their placings in each event. Both girls rode very consistently to gain ribbons in many of their events. Olivia, riding Harry, did particularly well in the games and her team came a very creditable third overall, out of approximately forty teams. Sarah, riding Dee, was second in the handy mount, fifth in her year level overall and her team came mid-field.

My School Too Support

Echuca College was very pleased to accept support in the form of a donation from the Bendigo Bank and the CCLLEN to the value of $10000. The donation is to support the My School Too Anti Bullying program.

Echuca College together with the Echuca Specialist School, Echuca South Primary, Echuca East Primary and Echuca Primary School will benefit from the program. The donation will support the purchase of the sign up boards and the presentations to the students.
My School Too Signing

STUDENT SUPPORT STATEMENT

Beginning in 2014, Echuca College will be implementing a whole school program called ‘It’s My School Too’

The program is built on the following beliefs...

- Everyone has a right to participate in school life without being bullied or harassed.
- The vast majority of students support this belief AND live it.
- There is power in a majority to make a big difference for the better.
- There are many ways in which bystanders can safely take action to minimise incidents of bullying and harassment at school.
- It’s easy to get through the day treating others respectfully!

The program is currently being implemented across all six state schools in Echuca, and supported by representatives of the broader community including Senior Sergeant Mick Carroll, Officer in Charge at the Echuca Police Station and Mayor of the Campaspe Shire Ian Maddison.

As part of the program, we will be introducing several large display boards which will include the names of all students who agree that all members of our school community have a right to participate in school life without being bullied or harassed. This is intended to create a very clear and highly visual reminder to the whole community that the vast majority of students (if not all) do not believe it is OK to bully and harass others.

On Monday all students will be involved in the signing of student support statements. Students will be asked to consider the following question carefully whilst thinking about the kind of person they are, or would like to be...

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“All members of the Echuca College Community have a right to participate in school life without being bullied or harassed”
Australian Brain Bee Challenge

A team of students competed in the Australian and New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge 2014. Students completed a series of tasks and questions designed to test students ability to "out-smart, out-think, out-last". Four of our students have qualified to participate in the individual challenge of the Victorian state final on Wednesday 4th of June.

The 2014 Australia-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge Victorian State Final will be held at the Melbourne Brain Centre, University of Melbourne. The day will include an Individual and Team Challenge to determine the 2014 Australia-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge Victorian Champion, as well as tours of research laboratories and the anatomy museum.

We are very proud to announce that, Tim Denson, Natasha Wilson, Maegan Johnson and Neal Riveria will be competing in both the individual and team events.

Tennis Team

JUNIOR TENNIS

The Junior Boys were outstanding against the other 6 competing teams in the Campaspe Tennis on Monday in Kyabram. Derek Southern and Mitchell Lake did not look like losing any of their seven sets, and Ryan More and Brayden Nevitt had their closest result, a 6-4 victory in the final against Kyabram. The boys will now travel to Mildura in Term 2 for the Loddon Mallee event.

The Junior Girls team of Ashleigh Coghlan, Aimee Hardess, Sarah Taylor and Kiara Duncan enjoyed the day but were, unfortunately, out-gunned by the opposition to finish 5th.

INTERMEDIATE TENNIS

Andrine Holt-Crossman and Yvonne Southern were undefeated on the day and along with Georgia McKellar and Lily Wallace finished runners-up in the event. Well done girls.

The boys team of Dylan Robertson, Jakob Ayres, Tom Crilly and Oscar Reid were up against some very good opposition and were very competitive.

SENIOR TENNIS

This team won the Campaspe competition by a big margin and will be tough to beat in the Loddon Mallee event in Mildura and are a big chance to get to the State Final in Melbourne. Erik Holt-Crossman, Jack Southern, Corey McGrath and Regan More are members of this team.
Volleyball Report

Our Year 7 and 8 Boys and Girls Volleyballers headed to Kyabram on Monday 24th March to find out if their training for all those lunchtime was worthwhile. Clearly, it was as they defeated both St. Augs and Nathalia College to win the region.

The boys ran out comfortable winners with Trent leading the charge as Captain, more than capably supported by Jamie, Matt, Connor, Will, Blaidian, Caleb and the injured Cooper (who managed a few points). Their serving and team play was a credit to the boys and they will only get better with experience.

The girls won two very tight matches lead by Sarah with terrific support from Khrystal, Briana, Leah, Courtney, Maddi Z., Madi E. and Lili, who was co-opted from the emergencies at the last minute. The game against Nathalia went right ‘to the wire’ with a 30 – 28 set played in the middle of the match.

Well done to all players who acquitted themselves with great skill and learned much from our clinic organized by ‘Volleyball Victoria’ on the day.

Mr. Stewart Cheal (Coach)

On Exchange in Italy

On the 17th of January, 2014 I packed my bags to embark on a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience a new culture, meet new people, learn a different language and travel to some extraordinary places. I left my friends, family and my Australian life to live as a real Italian for 6 months. I’m hosted in a small town called Chiuduno, which is a medieval town and dates back over 2,000 years, in the region of Bergamo. Which is an hour away from the world famous Milan. From Monday to Saturday I go to school starting at 8 am and going to 1 pm Monday to Thursday, 2 o’clock on Friday and 12 am Saturday. On the weekend I do many different things with my host family. Skiing at Mounte Campione would probably be my favourite, but I’ve also enjoy spending time with friends, going clay shooting, going to the park with my host family and seeing as much of Italy as possible. My favourite place so far is ‘Il Duomo’ the 5th largest church in the world and arguably the most grand, building started in in 1386 and only finished in 1965, but is always under constant preservation. I’m looking forward to the Easter holidays where I’ll being going to the beach with my host family and going scuba diving. I’m also looking forward to my school trip on the 30th of March to spend a week in Valencia (Spain) there I will be attending school for a week and visiting sights.

Jason Hanson
Summer Sports Wins

Congratulations to all the teams who successfully qualified for the Loddon Mallee Region Finals. Our successful teams were the Senior Girls Volleyball, the Intermediate Girls and Intermediate Boys Volleyball teams, the Junior Girls and Junior Boys Volleyball teams and the Junior Boys and Senior Boys Tennis teams.

Supporting our Community

It was great to see so many Echuca College students and staff supporting our community at an amazing event on the weekend. Over 400 people participated in a fun run "Doin' it for Wayne", to support Wayne Rickard and his battle with cancer. The PEAK Fun Run encouraged all the community to be 'Healthy and Active for Life' whilst supporting Wayne's journey, also the proceeds of the T-Shirts went to kids Cancer research.

Year 7 student Archie Reid was first home in the 8km run closely followed by Mr Dave Pearson with Mr Brett Ayres came third. Year 9 students Max Ogilvie and Oscar Reid fought out the 5km with Max finishing first and Oscar second.

A special mention to Ms Lauren Menz who completed an Iron Woman event on the weekend. Lauren swam 3.9km, rode 180km and ran 42.2km an extraordinary effort - Congratulations!

Health Careers Information Session 2014

A number of Year 9 students were lucky enough to attend the Health Careers Information Session at Echuca Regional Health. The students returned very excited about their day and really appreciated the time and effort that had gone into to organising the interactive event. Presenters showcased and demystified the wide variety of careers in the health sector from medicine to nursing and allied health. Various pathways were highlighted into a career in the health sector. Students were able to see first-hand some of the skills required to enter this field. The day outlined the links between school, university and the professions and highlighted the reasons why a student might look at a career in health sector.
Shooting Stars

Our shooting team travelled to Barook this week and had a very successful day. Mrs Courtney Umbers coached the successful team and is very proud of all the students.

Kiara Dean 1st in junior girls (First shoot for our school ever)

Caitlin Carrington 1st in senior girls

Emily McCluskey was in a shoot off for 2nd and 3rd in the senior girls. She claimed 3rd place.

Dylan Robertson was in a shoot off for 2nd and 3rd place in the senior boys members. He claimed 2nd place.

Jesse Anderson, Harley Anderson and Carl Scott came 3rd in the junior boys non-member team category.

Caitlin Carrington and Emily McCluskey came 2nd in the senior girls team category.

Jess Pitts - Sporting Blue Award Winner

Jessica Pitts was awarded a Victorian School Sporting Blue Award at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday. A career highlight for Jessica was making the Junior Matilda's under-17 girls' national soccer team that competed in the recent World Cup Qualifying tour of China. This topped off an impressive year in which she represented Victoria at the National Training Centre Championships at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. Jessica was also a member of our State Champion Senior Girls Soccer team.

She currently plays in the Victorian Women's Premier League and hopes to continue on to the National League. Training and playing with these teams involves a significant family commitment, regularly travelling six hours from Echuca to Melbourne and return.
Community Billboard

**Autism Awareness Event**

is pleased to be able to advertise our annual

**FREE AUTISM AWARENESS EVENT**

THURSDAY the 29th of MAY 2014, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Bendigo Baptist Church Auditorium, 757 McIvor Road, Junortoun

This event is open to ANYONE with an interest in or affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders including Asperger's Syndrome. Parents, carers, teachers, students, professionals, teenagers and adults on the Autism Spectrum are all most welcome to attend.

**Guest Speaker: Dr Wendy Lawson**

MAPSBS(Hons), Gdip(Trichstud), PhD(Psych)

Wendy is an adult on the autism spectrum, a psychologist, social worker, writer, adult educator, mother and grandmother! Wendy is well known both in the Northern and Southern hemispheres where she has been sharing her knowledge, understanding and experience of the autistic spectrum for over 15 years.

**PROGRAM:**

9.30am - Welcome and Introductions
9.45am - 10.45am Session 1 'Autism Spectrum Condition and appropriate support at schools, home and within the community'
10.45am - Morning tea (with gluten & dairy free options), hot & cold drinks
11.15am - 12.15pm Session 2 Elongated QUESTION and ANSWER session with opportunity for questions from those in attendance on the day
12.15pm - 12.30pm - Wrap Up and finish

Any questions? Please email BABG at info@babgautism.org.au or RIAN at ausfamiliesrc.org.au.

It is not necessary to book for this event – please just come along on the day and invite anyone else that you think would benefit from coming along too!

**ALL WELCOME! DELUXE MORNING TEA PROVIDED!**

Although this event is free, a gold coin donation at the entrance door would be appreciated.

Bendigo Autism Asperger Group (BABG) is an Auspire Group of RIAN, Regional Information and Advocacy Council Inc. ABN 42 401 261 579

**Saver Plus**

Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and textbooks
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Marie Fontana, your local Saver Plus Worker:

(03) 5822 8116 / 0429 122 096
or mfontana@berrystreet.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Melita and Campaspe by Berry Street. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

**Girls Ride Out**

Girls Ride Out

10th SUNDAY 4TH MAY

9.00am for a 9.30am start

Commences and finishes at the Echuca Aquatic Reserve (behind the Echuca Tourist Information Centre).

A family BBQ will follow with prizes and for best dressed & best decorated bike (male, female, groups & junior).

5th annual family bike ride, 10km or 20km

Enquiries to girlliderideout.ecchuca@gmail.com Tel: 0430 824 099

Return enrolment form & deposit to: RivADance studio PO Box 2375 Echuca 3564

**Deb Ball**

Enrolment form & deposit are now due for the:

Echuca College

Debutante Ball to be held at the Rich River Golf Club “Tatalia Room”

Friday 20th & Saturday 21st June 2014.

TRAINING COMMENCES

Wednesday 7th. May 2014