Echuca College News

Erik makes Australian Team

Erik Holt-Crossman recently represented Victoria at the Pizzey Cup in Hobart. The Victorian team came second overall in an outstanding effort.

Erik also played in the singles event, in which he was unseeded, he won through to the final round and lost in the final. He was runners up in the Under 18 Australian Cup.

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Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

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Psychology Excursion

On Tuesday May 19, Year 11 Psychology students went to 208 Primary School to participate in some learning activities with Grade 1 students. The students teamed up with the Grade 1's and conducted some activities that determined how the mind works in young children.

Chess Competition in Castlemaine

Today we took a team to compete against schools across Victoria in the Mt. Alexander Chess Challenge in Castlemaine at the old Castlemaine Gaol. Our team (Isaac Duffy, Josh Heddle, Neal Rivera and Mitchell Chapman) played 7 other schools and won 5 rounds, drew 1, lost 1 and come third in division one. Some of the teams the students played included international and state level players so a top effort. They also overcame being one player short (meaning they started every round one game down). Congratulations to these students for representing Echuca College in such a positive manner.

Year 12 Court Excursion

No, not the driving of Mr. Cheal on the way! The Unit 3 Legal Studies students awoke before the birds to head down to a ‘Day in Court’, literally, on Friday 11th May. Following some ‘Top Gear’ driving and maneuvering into a parking space we were treated to a fascinating morning in the Supreme Court before, initially Justice Harper for some fascinating personal time, and then in a murder case before presiding Justice Emmerton. The case R.v Wajibi involved the charge of ‘incitement to murder’ whereby the accused had enlisted the help of a ‘hitman’ for $15000 to kill the boyfriend of his promised wife (it was to be an arranged marriage). The accused had pleaded ‘guilty’ so we heard a plea hearing where the defence tried to minimize the sentence Justice Emmerton applied. Fascinating stuff and so much better than all that CSI American TV!

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Melbourne Zoo Work Experience

Year 12 student Madison Davies was selected to participate in the Melbourne Zoo work experience program; she was one of only 26 students from across the state selected. Below is her account of the experience.

After a lengthy process of resumes and applications, I was given the opportunity to complete Work Experience at the Melbourne Zoo. On Wednesday 28th January, I went to Melbourne for an orientation day to meet the other students who were also given the opportunity and got a basic run down of what we would be doing during our week of work experience. On the 4th to the 8th of May I spent the week participating in different sections of the Zoo, meeting a range of different people and I was able to get an insight on what it would be like to work at the Zoo. Each day I worked at different sections from 7:20am to 5:00pm. Monday with the primates, Tuesday with the Trail (elephants) in the morning, wild sea life in the afternoon, Wednesday invertebrates, Thursday carnivores and ungulates and on Friday Australian animals. Every morning I assisted in the morning cleaning and feeding routines, which involved cleaning the enclosures and assisting in enormous amounts of food preparation. Throughout each day, I was given the opportunity to be a part of multiple veterinary check-ups on a variety of animals ranging from lemurs to elephants and also assisting in the training of animals including giraffes and seals. I am very thankful to Echuca College for the help and support they gave me throughout this experience.

Intermediate Boys Soccer

The Intermediate Boys Soccer Team were left lamenting a rotten bit of luck as a James Brown shot deflected of a post to deny them passage to the next round of the school soccer. The lads enjoyed a bright start to the day with a win over St. Josephs thanks to a Connor Brown shot which the St. Joseph’s keeper forgot to bend down to stop. They went to the next match against St. Marys, Nathalia, full of confidence and created opportunities to score but on a rare attack St. Marys conjured a goal from a corner thanks to Jakob forgetting for a moment he was playing the round ball game and ‘catching’ the ball in the goal mouth to concede a penalty. They then scored a second after a goal mouth scramble ended in a headed goal. Skipper James then went on personal mission to win the game and nearly succeeded after scoring a terrific individual goal he nearly netted another only to see the post agonizingly deny him his just reward ... rats!!

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An early, cold Tuesday morning in May and the Year 11(and 1 Year 10) Legal Studies students with Mr Cheal at the wheel and Hannah for support, head to Castlemaine to visit Loddon Prison, a medium security jail housing 450 inmates.

On arrival we went through some very strict security checks where Rebekah’s back piercing tripped the alarm as did Mr Cheal’s titanium knee, at least we were re-assured the security worked!

The group was then ushered through the electrified wire (not literally) into the prison visiting area where we received an initial briefing from the Corrections Officers and a short tour of the booth visitor area, the family visit units and the strip search cubicles.

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