Principal Report March 2016

Nominations closed for College Council last week and I’m happy to announce that all councillors who had completed their two-year tenure have successfully re-nominated and been returned. Our parent representatives are Robyn Hayes, Lynda Reid, Maree Loader, Mark Robertson, Jamie Lake, Debbie Whitehead, Teena Dalziel and Gavin Hore. The DET representatives are Melissa Gould, Cathy Kervin, Brett Ayres and Karen Vick. We also have a community representative, Mark Thomson. Throughout the year we will have student representatives attend Council meetings as part of their leadership development. This month Council will hold its AGM at 7.00 pm on March 18th and confirm Council appointments and elect a Council President, Treasurer and approve newly nominated members to College Council.

Our successful ‘Peer Support’ program for Year 7 students has been running this term. The focus of the program is to support Year 7 students during the first few months of the year and also to provide a senior student as a friend to talk to if the need arises. Our Year 11 students completed training as ‘Peer Support’ leaders last year and while their main function is to support their younger peers, the training is valuable to them as leaders in the College. The leaders and their group meet once a week during the term and in this time complete activities that provide an opportunity for conversations about school, classes and how the transition from primary to secondary school is going. Students will meet at different times each week to avoid missing the same class and at the end of the term all Year 7s and their leaders will meet for a final celebration. The goal of the program is to help Year 7 students to feel comfortable in their new environment and to also make their secondary experience a great experience.

Congratulations to Luke Judd who represented our College in the Lions Youth of the Year competition held last week. Luke completed an interview with Lions Club members and with other students from the district competed in the public speaking component of the competition at Rich River Golf Club. Luke spoke on the topic of
‘The Benefits of Music’. He now goes on to the district finals to be held at Girgarre later in the term.

The College will be holding its Student Leadership Induction Ceremony on Monday 21st March in the College in our refurbished stadium area at 9.15am. The induction ceremony provides an opportunity to formally acknowledge the College’s student leaders for 2016 and to also introduce them to the College community. While the ceremony will not exceed 30 minutes, the role our young leaders play is yearlong. The College invites our community to attend this important occasion to see College Captains, House Captains, House Leaders and Beacon Leaders inducted for 2016.

Three weeks ago our students competed in the ‘School Sports Victoria’ swimming sports at Echuca against the districts secondary schools both government and non-government. Echuca College won the day convincingly with some outstanding individual and team performances. The College had seven aged group champions and our swimmers broke eight of the nine records broken on the day. As a consequence, a team of 23 swimmers will head for Swan Hill next Thursday to compete in the Loddon Mallee Regional competition with 12 swimmers in individual races and 10 relays.

Early notification to parents and students about our mid semester Parent/Teacher interviews on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th April from 4.00 to 6.00 pm (week one of term 2). Interviews for all year levels will be conducted on both afternoons but part time staff may only be available on one of the two sessions. Bookings for the interviews will be on XUNO before the end of term and Student Assessment Summaries will also be available to students and parents on XUNO at the start of term two.

Get Happier Project

Staff from Echuca College, Echuca Specialist School and Echuca South Primary School participated in a day of Professional Development. The guest presenter was Ivan Honey, he is a psychologist, International Trainer and a #1 Amazon best-selling Author with his children’s book, The Amazing Adventures of Doug Dragster. The focus of the day was his latest Positive Psychology program, “The Doug Dragster ‘Get Happier Project’, which is currently being used and researched in the Los Angeles School District in California.

View article...

Science in Action

Our Year 7 Scientists have been developing their own experiments. The learning intention was to develop scientific inquiry skills by planning and completing a fair scientific experiment and by considering the scientific work of others. Some of the great ideas included designing an experiment that would; test a variable that is likely to affect the bounce height of a ball, test a variable that is likely to affect the amount of salt that can be dissolved in cup of water, test a variable that is likely to affect the stretch of an elastic band or other elastic material. One group of scientists tested the PSI in a soft drink container, measuring how the distance covered was affected by the amount of water in the bottle.

Scientists had to complete their work by writing a scientific report that included their aim, hypothesis, materials, method, results, discussion and conclusion.
Great Success at SSV Volleyball and Tennis

Tennis was a success in all aspects. The students represented the College very well through their attire and sportsmanship. We were also absolutely blessed with the weather with idyllic overcast conditions, and a cooling breeze at times. Our intermediate boys utterly crushed the competition and will be off to Mildura next, the team consisted of Derek Southern, Tom Harris, Mitchell Lake and Ryan Moore. View article...

School for Student Leadership Update

Six of our Year 9 students, Corey Pearce, Josh Berg, Kyle Saunders, Tyler Cox, Madison Elliot and Jessie Tall have attended the School for Student Leadership at Gnurad Gnurad for Term 1. Students have been required to attend classes to push them out of their comfort zones. Activities have involved some team work and problem solving, lots of thinking with Peers Skills, Thinking and Learning, a hike up Mt Noorat and Introduction to bikes. View article...

SSV Campaspe Swimming Sports

Congratulations to Echuca College on winning the SSV Campaspe Swimming Sports with a score of 564 points, second place was St Joseph’s with 432 points and third was Rochester 390. Congratulations to our Age Group Champions;
14 Girls - Lara Judd
15 Boys - Jack Steel
16 Boys - Michael Carmellotti
17 Girls - Lyndall Taylor
17 Boys - Luke Judd
20 Girls - Nina Murphy
20 Boys - Kyle Scott

View article...
Students and families are invited to attend an open night at Echuca College. Students will be able to participate in a class of Design, Creativity and Technology – Woodwork, Food Technology, Physical Education or Science. Whilst students are enjoying working in our classrooms, parents and families can enjoy a tour of our school with a member of our Leadership Team.

**Bookings are essential—please call 0354821133**

When:  **Monday 21st of March**

Time:  Session 1 – 6pm  
        Session 2 – 7pm  

The classes are open to students from Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6.

If you require any further information, please contact Melissa Gould or Chris Jennings at Echuca College on 03 54821133
Our Vision

Students at Echuca College are inspired and supported to achieve their best and develop the skills required to meet the challenges of an ever changing world in a caring learning environment.

Our Values - PRIDE

PROROGRESSIVE - We continually evaluate and evolve to meet future needs of the students and the community

RESPECT - We value and honour each other’s rights, property and environment.

INCLUSIVE - We ensure everyone has an opportunity to succeed, be safe and welcomed. We accept and recognise all values and strengths. We accept our differences, to build a strong community.

DEDICATED - We are committed to personal goals and to achieving our personal best.

EXCELLENCE - We are committed to improvement. We demonstrate excellence in our appearance, in our actions, in our communication and in always doing our personal best.

What our students say about our school

“A school that does not discriminate, moves forward and allows staff and students to achieve their personal best. Everyone in this school is equal, respectful and capable of excellence.”

“It is a school of students and staff all striving to achieve their personal best in all areas not just while supporting the people around them.”

“PRIDE is the action for all students and staff to take that will bring out the best in them and others around them.”

“Everyone gets a say. A school that feels proud. They all get included and all have a go. Echuca College pride shows that everyone tries their personal best.”

“It is where everyone gets a say and that we help each other out and also to try our best for yourself and others.”

“Everyone at Echuca College working together to achieve and strive to be their best, assisting in the development of each other and ourselves while respecting and including everyone no matter what their faiths, beliefs and opinions are. Accepting a more active role in our learning and development.”
BECOME AN AUSTSWIM TEACHER OF SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY*

AUSTSWIM Teachers are in high demand. Develop essential knowledge, skills, and understanding to teach vital swimming and water safety education.

COURSE INFO:

VENUE: Echuca War Memorial Aquatic Centre
Corner Service and High Streets, Echuca VIC 3564

DATE & TIME: Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April 2016, 8.00am-4.30pm

COST: $289.00

ENROL TODAY AT AUSTSWIM.COM.AU

GOULBURN VALLEY FOOTBALL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2016

UMPiring Australian Rules Football as a field, goal or boundary is a most rewarding experience.

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If you would like to have a try at umpiring please call now and we will send an information package out to you.

Greg Sidebottom
0419 154097
sidebottom@bigpond.net.au

FREE AUTISM AWARENESS EVENT

Thursday May 12th 2016
9.30am – 1.00pm

757 McIvor Road, Junortoun (Baptist Church Complex)

Guest speaker:
Donna Williams

Walking in Autistic Shoes
&
How do I choose the most fitting autism approach?

What is it like to 'walk in autistic shoes'? Drawing on 20 years work as an autism consultant working with over 1,000 people on the autism spectrum, this presentation will take you on a journey to find out.

Donna Williams was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1963, in a time when the idea of autism was thought to be 4 in 10,000 children and autism was deemed 'childhood psychosis'. She was thought dead and in a 3 day resident hospital assessment at the age of two she was diagnosed as psychotic.

Growing up echolalic (she acquired functional speech when she was between 9-12 years old), against a background of abuse, homelessness, illiteracy and immorality, Donna eventually returned to school as an adult, gained post graduate qualifications as a sociologist and teacher, became the author of ten books in the field of autism, an international public speaker since 1994 and autism consultant since 1996 as well as an accomplished arts, music, songwriter and performer.

All welcome – presentation suitable for adults with ASD, partners, friends, parents, relatives, teachers, support staff, carers, allied health workers and anyone who is interested in learning more about autism.

email: info@bendigoautism.org.au  www.bendigoautism.org.au

BAAG is an autism network of NAC (Rights Information and Advocacy Centre Inc.)

ZEN DO KAI

MARTIAL ARTS
including
Muay Thai, MMA,
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NO MONTHLY FEES

Anglican Church Hall

Mondays and Thursdays
Kids 5.30pm-6.30pm $7
Adults 6.30pm – 8.00pm $10

Opposite McDonalds
(560 High Street, Echuca)
Enquiries to 0429 407 361

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