Emerald Secondary College

The Bush Telegraph

Emerald Secondary College is a Learning Community

Principal - Jodie Doble
College Council President - Paul Woods
Assistant Principal - Mike Jaremczuk
Assistant Principal - Estelle Alder
Business Manager - Chris Woodhouse

Term 1 - 2016:
Issue 6 - 11th March

MARCH:
Mon 14: Labour Day Holiday
Tue 15: Welcome to Mimasaka
       Sister School from Japan
       at Whole School
       Assembly
Tue 15: Due to assembly timetable today school will finish at 3.15pm
Tue 15: Open Night
Thu 17: Intermediate Sport
Mon 21: Central Trip departs
Thu 24: Whole School Cross Country Periods 3-6
Thu 24: Easter and School Holidays begin
Normal finish time 3.05pm

APRIL:
Mon 11: School resumes
Thu 14: Parent Teacher interviews
         More info to follow

In this Issue:
- Some words from the Principal
- From the Assistant Principals
- Teaching and Learning
- Monbulk Rangers Soccer Club
- Connect Newsletter
- Tigers Football team visit to ESC
- PAVE Festival Flyer

SOME WORDS FROM THE PRINCIPAL:
School Athletics Carnival:
Our annual College Athletics Carnival was held today Friday 11th March at the Knox Athletics track. The weather was great and students participated in the events with great enthusiasm, cheered on by their friends and peers who were dressed up in House colours. Please read next week's newsletter with the full report of the event.

Open Night:
A final reminder that our annual Open Night is on Tuesday 15th March. If you are unavailable to attend the Open night itself, we are opening the College for tours during the day on Wednesday 16th, Thursday 17th and Friday 18th of March. Tours must be booked in advance. Please contact the General Office to make a booking.

Debutant Ball:
As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, on Saturday 27th February, with the wonderful support from the Emerald Rotary club our annual College Debutant Ball was held at The Grand on Cathies Lane. The Rotary club have taken official pictures of our amazing students, but I would like to share a few quick shots with our learning community. Once we have the official pictures, these will be on our College website with the main group image in our entrance foyer.

Mimasaka Visit:
On Sunday 13th March our visitors from our sister school Mimaska Senior High School in Okayama, Japan arrive. We will hold a whole school assembly on Tuesday 15th to welcome them to the College. It is a great honour to have both teachers and students visit our College and community, and we look forward to working with them over the next two weeks. Last year we celebrated the twentieth anniversary of our sister school partnership with Mimasaka. The benefits of a strong exchange program are outstanding, providing our own students with valuable and rewarding opportunities to learn on a global level. We hope that our whole learning community, student and families enjoy the opportunity to meet and host our visitors.

Jodie Doble Principal
DRIVER EDUCATION 2016:
Parents of students in Years 10-12 should have recently received a letter from the College outlining our approach to driver education in Term 2. There are a range of opportunities planned for students to learn, discuss and consider all aspects of driver education. The College Staff encourages all parents to get behind these initiatives and have some discussions with their son/daughter about these activities when they occur. Students will have hands on experiences during this time with the Year 10 students in particular undertaking a driver education day on May 3rd at METEC driver training facility where theoretical and practical driver training will take place. Students, regardless of whether they have received their L plates by then or not will have the opportunity to drive a car on private property under the supervision of expert instructors. On this day they will also be involved in discussion and learning around road rules and compliance.

The College is providing this opportunity through our driver education approach which is a proactive way of supporting our parent community. Interestingly the Government is also planning as part of their election promise to roll out further road safety education programs from students from 2017. If you wish to read more on this please visit:

ABBY BARTON COMPETES IN INTERSCHOOL DRESSAGE:

Last Saturday Abby Barton, a Yr 10 Student at ESC competed against 35 students from schools in the district in an Interschool Dressage Competition. Abby who rode her own horse - Fonz a five year old Palomino, competed in two events on the day placing 7th and 11th. This is a great result and one she was thrilled with. It has been some time since ESC has had a rider competing in this event and Abby was encouraged to compete by Ms Kanoa, who is a keen competition rider herself. In speaking to Abby for this article, she said that she really enjoyed the day, mixing with other riders from the other schools and the opportunity to compete. Abby has been riding since she was 3, when she got her first pony, and she really enjoys it because it’s fun. She is a member of the Cockatoo Pony Club and is following in the footsteps of her mum who is current State Champion. Abby is hoping to one day compete in the Grand Prix – a really high level of dressage. Congrats to you Abby and we wish you all the best with your dressage riding in the future!

JUNIOR SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE MONTH:
This month we would like to recognise a Year 9 student Harry Woods-Emery who has been nominated by several of his teachers for his outstanding work ethic and also for his teamwork and participation in class. Ms Ryder Barnes nominated Harry for his work in Drama. She states that not only is Harry on time and ready to start the lesson, he has pushed himself out of his comfort zone by performing in front of others – something that he would not have done until recently. Harry has produced fabulous work including a ‘Mind Map’ that will be used for display as a “work of excellence” for other students to see. Other staff who teach Harry have commented on his behaviour and that he is really polite and respectful in the class. He has given some excellent feedback to peers and has developed his confidence in his class contributions. Congratulations Harry you are a deserving winner of Student of the Month – well done!

INSIGHTS:
Next Wednesday all students across the College will take part in a reflection session with their Homegroup teacher. The purpose of these sessions (3 throughout the year) is for students to track their own learning and reflect on aspects that are enabling them to succeed as well as reflecting on practices that may be inhibiting them. Students in Yrs 7-10 will also look at results from recent diagnostic testing in literacy and numeracy to have them reflect on their growth in an education sense. We would encourage all parents to speak to their son/daughter about this session. Parents of students in Year 7,8, 10 & 11 will be able to see their child’s reflection questions and answers via their Compass parent portal.
Teaching and Learning update:
As part of our ongoing curriculum review the College is now using the Emerald Assessment Rubric for all major pieces of work for students in Year 7-10 and VCAL students. A rubric is a grid which explains the expectations for a piece of work compared to the expected standard. A rubric also provides feedback on how students can improve their performance. The Emerald Assessment Rubric generates a percentage and grade as a summative indication of student performance. This is the grade which will appear on a student’s semester report.

Emerald Secondary College Assessment Rubric

<table>
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<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Rubric total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Well Below expected standard</td>
<td>Below expected standard</td>
<td>At expected standard</td>
<td>Above expected standard</td>
<td>Well Above expected standard</td>
<td>/</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Knowledge & Skills assessed

Total /

Percentage & Grade % =

Emerald Secondary College Assessment Scales

In line with the Emerald Assessment Rubric, we are now also using a consistent Assessment Scale. The Assessment Scale clearly explains to students and families how our percentages, letter grades and VCE Outcome ratings match together. The Scale also shows if a student is performing at a satisfactory level.

Grade Conversions

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>VCE Outcomes</th>
<th>VCAL</th>
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<td>90-100%</td>
<td>Very High</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>Medium – High</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59%</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Satisfactory</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>40-49%</td>
<td>Very Low</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UG</td>
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If you would like more information about the above or have any queries, please contact the College.
Estelle Alder and Mike Jaremczuk Assistant Principals

Calling all future MATILDAS
COME & TRY TRAINING SESSION
FOR U12, U14 & U16 GIRLS
5.30 - 6.30pm Wednesday 16th & 23rd March
@ Moores Rd Monbulk (ground behind Woolworths)
For more details contact Hans Damen ph 0418 315 710 or Lisa Doolan ph 0427 560 204
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS IN THE YEAR 9 PROGRAM

I am sure that by now, our parent community is aware of the fantastic opportunities, we provide through our Connect program in Yr 9. My assumption is based on the amount of support we have received from our parent community in previous years.

Below are a few important dates, on which we are seeking support from our local and parent community. Please contact me, Ritu Arora if you help with any of the projects.

**PASSION PROJECT**
- Visit Yr 9s for their Passion Project Expo on 17th March.

Ever wondered what 14 and 15 year olds are passionate about? Have you always wanted to come into school to see some great work which students have done and ask them some questions?

If you have answered yes to the questions above, then we are inviting you to visit our school for the “Connect Passion Project Exhibition”. This exhibition will be held on Thursday - 17th March, from 11:15am to 12:00noon.

**CAREER PATHWAY ACTIVITY – 28th April**
You may wish to share your own career pathway with students and outline for them the steps you took from school to where you are now (the concept here is that we are really aiming to provide students with a range of ways in which people can seek employment opportunities, change careers etc.).

**COULD WE VISIT YOUR WORKPLACE- 19th May**
We are organising our students to visit different workplaces as a part of our Future Careers term. This will provide them an opportunity to look at the career opportunities a given work place can offer. In order for this to occur we are looking for suitable workplaces, for students to gain an insight into the many and varied roles/tasks/careers within an organisation. If you can help us in this regard to this session and would consider having a group of students visit your work place, please let us know.

**MOCK INTERVIEW DAY- 17th June**
We are inviting parents to support our “Mock interview Day”, 17th June by being on a ‘Mock Interview’ panel. All of our Yr. 9 students are to apply for a range of ‘mock jobs’ in which they will be shortlisted to appear before an interview panel. We require parents to be panel members supported by one of our teachers. Do not worry - a staff member will do all the hard work on the day. Parents can choose time slots to be on the panel. So please get involved in this fun filled learning experience and support our Yr. 9s.

We would be happy to have support from all the ESC parent community not just those with son/daughter in Year 9.

Please phone the College to leave your details if you are interested in any of the options listed above or contact me.

Ritu Arora Connect Program Coordinator arora.ritu.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

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A huge thank you to ESC Community for their support to the Connect Program

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**TIGERS VISIT EMERALD SECONDARY COLLEGE:**

“On Monday, 29th February, Dan Butler and Jack Riewoldt from the Richmond Football Club came to our school. 23 lucky students between Yrs 7 and 9 got the chance to do football skills and drills with them. We also got the chance to do a Q & A about the footballers careers and daily life. All the students had an amazing time meeting Dan Butler and Jack Riewoldt and learning new skills. Thanks for coming to ESC!”

Jaymie Hall 14A and Byron Downey 14A
2016
April 10th – 17th

PAVE FESTIVAL
Performing and Visual Arts in Emerald

FUNFEST

A great family day out!
Sunday April 10th
10am - 4pm

www.pave.org.au  info@pave.org.au

Over 50 events to enjoy!

Strengthening Community Connections

Sustainability through the Arts  5968 3881