

Emerald Secondary College



The Bush Telegraph

Emerald Secondary College is a Learning Community

Principal- Jodie Doble

College Council President- Phillip Dwyer

Assistant Principal- Mike Jaremczuk

Assistant Principal- Estelle Alder

Business Manager- Jayne Thompson



Term 2 - 2017:

21st April 2017 Issue 10

Important Dates:

Every Thursday: Homework Club
3.20pm - 4.30pm in A7

APRIL:

Mon 24: College PD Day - no students at school

Tue 25: ANZAC day Public Holiday

Wed 26 - Fri 28: Yr 10 Advance Camp

Thu 27: VCE Excursion to Top Designs @ Melbourne Museum

MAY:

Tue 02: Yr 9 Try a Trade Day

Wed 03: Yr 8 Sport

Fri 05: Yr 9 Badminton

Mon 08: Careers Week

“ “ :Yr 11 VCE & Careers Expo

Tue 09: Yr 10 METEC Driving Day

“ “ :Yr 11 RYDA

Wed 10 -Fri 12: Yr 11 OES Camp

“ “ : Responsible Service of Alcohol Course

Fri 12: Interschool Cross Country

Mon 15: Yr 11 History Holocaust Museum

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From the Principal:

Welcome to Term Two

On behalf of the whole learning community we welcome everyone back to what looks to be a very exciting term of learning at ESC. We hope that you all have had a well-rested and wonderful holiday and Easter break and are ready to embrace the new term.

Term Two will be a very busy term for all our students with this week being no exception. Starting with our Parent-Teacher meetings and the practice VCE GAT examination for our Senior students, we also have the NAPLAN tests, the 2018 SEAL examination, Year 7 camp, State School Aerobics, district sports and the Attitudes to School Surveys. Information regarding these activities and many more will be sent home closer to the dates.

Parent Teacher Meetings

This week we held our Parent-Teacher meetings to discuss the achievements of students over Term One.

If you were unable to attend the meetings, or would like to further your discussions with staff members about your son or daughter's progress please either contact the staff member directly, or the College, to organise a meeting time.

It is important that we continue to support all our students' learning and progress and developing strong home-school communication is a key to this.

The Spirit of Anzac

Following on from our College ANZAC service on Friday this week, we would love to see our students and their families participate in the Emerald ANZAC Day services on Tuesday 25th of April. Both services will be held at the RSL in Emerald.

At the dawn service I will be joining Jamieson Scott and Jensen Oncken who will be giving a speech and laying a wreath on behalf of our College community recognising the 75th anniversary of ANZAC. At the 10.30am march and 11am service I will be joined by Holly Bast and Jacynta Howden who will also give a speech to our community about the Spirit of Anzac. It would be wonderful to see more of our students and families join us in remembering those who served and serve in order to keep our freedom and way of life.



Social Inclusion

ESC has a proud tradition of participating in the international competition for Future Problem Solving Australia, an organisation that brings together more than 140 schools around Australia, trying to solve some of the world's greatest issues from the perspective of the next generation. In our second year in the Community Problem Solving division we have a small team of very bright and enthusiastic minds working on a project to 'promote inclusion and diversity equally'. Calling themselves Team PRIDE, as an acronym for their project, they met with Brad Battin this week, seeking his advice and support. Mr Battin was very interested to hear what the students' research had shown, and what they were aiming to do. He has offered to work with them and support them in what looks like a very challenging yet rewarding project for our school community.



Staff Celebration Evening

There are many industries that celebrate and recognise the work and dedication of their staff. It is unfortunate that in the public sector this does not occur very often. ESC has been working closely with some of our key community members to change this, and on Wednesday we held our first Staff Celebration and Recognition Evening.

Held at the Emerald RSL, our staff enjoyed the company of our School Council members, Brad Battin MP, Cardinia Mayor Brett Owen, Peter Maloney from the RSL, U3A/Men's shed representative Mike Allery, and Rev. Owen Prout.

It was a great pleasure to be able to recognise and celebrate staff members' years of service to our College, as well as their achievements, at such a wonderful event.

I would like to congratulate all of our staff for their dedication and hard work for our students and school as well as our School Council and community members for helping to recognise their achievements.



Buildings Update

Over the break there have been many additions to our building program. I have been informed by the builders this week that the Inclusion Centre is now at a stage where we are waiting for some structural steel supports to be delivered before the next stages can commence. The Library wall has been built, and work on the cafeteria/VET Hospitality space has also begun.

The builders are confident that the project is on track as planned, and we hope to be moving into the new Inclusion Centre before the end of Term Three.

Visitors to the College will also have noticed the new doors to the main office building. This is not part of the main building program but was essential to ensure that our building met regulations. Also separate to the main building program is the much needed upgrade to the students' D block toilets which began over the break.

To make sure our Shelter in Place meets the needs of our community and fire regulations, the Department of Education has also begun to upgrade the College gymnasium, replacing the straw walls with a more fire retardant material. All the shutters and fire screens on the external doors and windows are also being upgraded.

Jodie Doble Principal

CONNECT NEWS:

Passion project - As per previous years, our students in Yr 9 are enjoying being a part of the Connect program. They are engaged in learning through real life experiences, thus becoming socially and emotionally self-aware.

It was evident from the Passion Project Expo of 2017 that the most outstanding aspect of this year was that students have done explicit research for their passions.

The students undertook an inquiry research to explore different aspects of their chosen passion. Most students have clearly demonstrated through their posters that they were thinking about open and closed questions and have addressed different parts of research.

Some students stepped out of their comfort zone to come with novel ideas such as 3D models and booklets along with the posters. We were delighted to see our 'not quite motivated' students engaged in this project while presenting it to the parents, their teachers and Yr 8 students. (See photos following)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS /GRANDPARENTS

Assisting the School :

As in the previous year, we are looking forward to having our parent community involved in the program. There are a number of projects coming up where you could support us in term 2.

Tuesday – 30th May: *Career Pathway activity* -

If you wish to share your 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.)

Involvement in this activity will only take about 1 hour in the morning.

Tuesday - 20th June: *Mock Interview Day*.

We are inviting Parents to support our Mock Interview Day by being on a *mock* interview panel. All our Yr. 9 students apply for a range of 'mock jobs' in which they will all be shortlisted to appear before an interview panel. We require parents to be panel members. To broaden the learning experience of our students, we are looking for a range of occupations. Parents will be able to choose preferred time slots to be on the panel.

Tuesday -27th June: *Could we visit your workplace?*

We are organizing our students to visit different workplaces as a part of our Future Careers term. This will enable them to look at the career opportunities that a given work place can offer. In order for this to occur we are looking for a variety of workplaces in order for our students to gain an insight into the many and varied roles/tasks/careers that can occur within an organization.

If you can help us in this regard to this and can consider having a group of students visit your work place, please let us know. Get involved in this fun filled learning experience and support our Year 9s.

We would be happy to have support from all the ESC parent community not just those with a 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 via email: arora.ritu.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ritu Arora - Year 9 & Connect Program Coordinator





PARENTING TEENS

PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS

A program for parents, grandparents, step parents & carers.

UNDERSTAND THE TEEN'S BRAIN

Know about Ages and Stages of teenage learning.

TIRED OF YELLING?

Getting your teenager to listen without having to yell.

DEALING WITH ANGER

Recognising the causes and triggers for anger.

RELATIONSHIPS

How can parents build a better relationship with their teens?

STRATEGIES

Discuss and share strategies that work.

DATES: Tuesdays for 5 Weeks
2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 May 2017

TIME: 6pm to 8pm
(refreshments provided)

WHERE: Emerald Secondary College
425, Belgrave Gembrook Road,
Emerald, Victoria 3782

COST: FREE. Bookings essential.
(Refreshments provided)

BOOKINGS:

For bookings and enquiries contact:

Felicity Wooden - Well Being Leader - 5968 5388
Email: wooden.felicity.f@edumail.vic.org.au or
Tanya Ryder-Barnes - Inclusion Leader - 5968 5388
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Jasbir Singh at Parentzone on 0431 203 177 or
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