

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 3 - 2017:

25th August 2017 **Issue 26**

Important Dates:

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

AUGUST:

Tue 29th: Yr 12 Retreat Day - VCAL students

Wed 30th: Yr 12 Retreat Day - VCE students

Thu 31st: Percussion Soiree - EPAC
7.00pm

SEPTEMBER:

Fri 1st: Yr 7 Sports Day
Yr 11 Geography Excursion

Tue 5th: Spring Music Concert -
EPAC - 7.00 pm

Wed 6th - Fri 8th: Yr 11 Outdoor
Ed. Camp

Fri 8th: Intermediate Sport

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From the Principal:

Emerald Leads the Musical Way

Over the past few years our Music department and program have been growing from strength to strength.

With VCE Music added to our educational subjects in 2018, music at Emerald is a strength we really want to encourage and nurture in our students.

2017 Spring Concert

This term, all our specific Instrumental programs have run Soirees to support our students and showcase their talents. This leads to our annual Spring Concert on Tuesday 5th September.

Due to high demand and our theatre seating capacity, all tickets must be pre-purchased from the College Finance Office.

Booking forms may be collected from the front office. There may be some available seats on the evening but due to the fire and safety regulations we cannot allow entry if there are no seats left. Please avoid disappointment and purchase your tickets early.

All tickets will be available from Monday 28th August from the front office.

City Experience

As part of our Year 9 Connect program, all our Year 9 students have spent part of this week learning in a very different environment.

Being taken out of the classroom and immersed in a supported guided program in the city has been both a challenging and rewarding experience for all our students.

Learning how to navigate transport to and from the city independently as well how to get around the city has provided our students with many lifelong skills. Students have also learnt about the rich history and culture in our beautiful city as well as modern living, sports and the arts.

I would like to thank Ms Ritu Arora for her leadership of this program as well as all our Year 9 teaching staff.

Newspaper Article

Many of our parents and families will be aware of the recent article published in the newspaper. It is disappointing that it contained misguided information regarding our College.

I am more than confident that with the funds Minister Merlino provided to enable us to remove the old portables, redeveloping our Inclusion (Integration) program and creating an inclusive school is exactly what we have done.

Mr Merlino has decried the accusations as false.

"The accusations made in this letter are completely false and the promise

made in 2015 is being delivered,” Mr Merlino said.

“Building works started earlier this year, and the Victorian School Building Authority is working closely with the appointed architect, builders and the school, to ensure that the funds are used to make Emerald Secondary College an inclusive school.”

What we have developed and built is an inclusive school. This means we have inclusive programs and inclusive supports based on individual needs providing far more for all our students than was originally conceptualized.

What has been missed in the article and letter is the fact that the school never saw any of the funds; this money was all kept centrally and it was DET that worked with the architect and builders regarding the funding models used. It is also worth pointing out that DET also deem our school over-entitled in buildings so we could not build a new facility. In fact, we are instead seeing one of our permanent buildings, the end of B block that was the metal workshop being removed in the next holidays. For further information about this, please contact Mr Jaremczuk, Ms Alder or myself.

By remodelling an existing building, unused funds were released and these have enabled us to build VET teaching spaces in both the hospitality and the building industry, supporting our students with additional needs who seek alternative senior pathways to the traditional VCE.

We can confirm partnerships with Hills Physio and Emerald Medical Centre and both these agencies will provide additional supports for all our students in the Centre. The Building and Inclusion program also sees psychologists and speech pathologists as well as educationally designed intervention programs put in place, meeting and extending the learning of students according to individual needs.

Additional to our building program, we are looking to redevelop our library to create a vibrant 21st century resource centre for all our students. The Library is not the new hub for the Integration program as has been indicated. A small space within the library office is used to house a very small number of lockers of students with additional needs to enable staff to support our students in readiness for their classes.

We have a dedicated hard working staff at Emerald Secondary College who consistently work above and beyond to make sure every student at our College is supported to achieve their personal best no matter what their individual needs are. It is both disappointing and upsetting to all our staff and College community to see such misguided information being published, placing us all in a negative light.

By the end of the building works, Emerald Secondary College will be a fully inclusive school with more opportunities than we have ever seen for all our students supporting all their physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs.

Jodie Doble, Principal

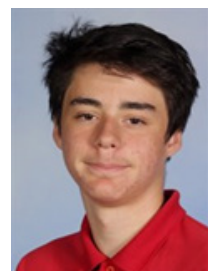
Junior School Student of the Week

This week we have two students who have received the ‘Student of the Week’ nomination.



Firstly Erin Viles of Year 7 who has been nominated by Ms Hanley for her achievement in Year 8 Drama. Ms Hanley states that Erin works efficiently and patiently with her performance groups. She often contributes ideas and takes on feedback from her peers and teacher. However, the true success of Erin is when she performs on stage. Erin has a stage presence that Jennifer Lawrence would envy. One can't help but focus on her when she treads the boards. With more confidence in her ability Erin will shine in future performances and put Emerald Secondary College on Hollywood's radar. Wow – that's a great nomination Erin – well done for working so hard in drama!

Our second nomination for this week is Jarrod Provan of Year 9 who has been nominated by Ms Hanley for his efforts in Year 9 English. When asked why she has nominated Jarrod she outlined the following: Jarrod is an empathetic student to his peers and teacher. Jarrod will give any task a go and try his hardest. If something challenges Jarrod in class, he will turn to his peers or teacher for support. Jarrod will never let his weaknesses defeat him in class. He will work at the task until complete. Jarrod excels at Speaking and Listening tasks and with strengths in this area he will find he can achieve whatever he puts his mind to. Again Jarrod – congratulations on your nomination as student of the week – it's terrific to see that your efforts and ability to persevere are being noticed. Great work!



Classroom Visits

The life of an Assistant Principal certainly is a mixed bag of all manner of things from emptying bins to leading teams of teachers through professional learning. One of the most rewarding aspects of this role is our classroom visits which can be planned (where we may be invited in), or by chance as we move around the College. One of the lessons I recall from

this week was a Year 7 Music class being run by Mr Crowley. This class was a hive of activity as the students were running through a piece of music written for the class by Mr Crowley himself, and which all the students, as a group, performed on buckets. Apart from being loud, the teamwork, concentration and musical ability of these students was fantastic and noted by me with a standing ovation. The students clearly were engaged in the lesson – willing to learn and work together and had clearly learnt some basic music skills. It is a real privilege to work in such a school and on a daily basis witness how well our staff engage students in learning.



Parents of Bus Travellers – Non MYKI Buses

Following a recent meeting with PTV the College wishes to remind all students who travel by school bus that they are required at all times to carry a valid school bus card. At the start of 2017 parents had to register their child for bus travel through the PTV website. If parents registered at the start of the year and were notified that they are a provisional traveller then they would have been receiving an email from PTV two weeks before the end of each term requesting they confirm and renew their child's travel for the following term.



There are several reasons why PTV and the College are looking to remind parents about bus travel:

- If parents are not renewing their child's travel each term they put at risk their child's position on the bus (especially if new families arrive to the College and register).
- Services could be reviewed by PTV as to their viability
- Perhaps most importantly is the issue of safety.

The College wishes to stress to parents that **SAFETY IS OUR NO.1 PRIORITY**. If your child is not registered and is still travelling on a bus then the PTV system and the College records will not have them as listed to catch the bus. In the event of an incident or a need to stop the bus we will not know that, firstly your child is on the bus, and secondly, we will not know to contact you.

For these reasons the College is reminding parents to ensure that their child is a registered traveller and holds a current bus pass. Parents can access the School Bus Management System via <https://schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au/> and they can also call the PTV Call Centre on 1800 800 007.

Bus Travel for 2018 school year – in Term 4 parents who are registered travellers will again receive information about ensuring bus travel for their child. They will also be mailed clear instructions on this process.

The Smart Generation – Secondary Supply Legislation Explained

Did you know that three quarters of young people feel their parents could help them to reduce their drinking?

One of the best ways for you to help your child is to not give them permission to drink, and don't give other people permission to give your child alcohol.

This is called 'Secondary Supply Legislation', which makes it illegal for anyone to supply alcohol to minors in a private home without written or verbal permission from their parents. The fine for breaking the law can be up to \$10,000! This legislation is designed to give parents more control over when, where or if their children drink alcohol.

Australian research has found that the majority of teenagers would be willing to discuss alcohol with their parents. So, for more information or tips about how to get the conversation started visit: www.teendrinkinglaw.vic.gov.au.

The Year 9 Smart Generation EPAC Event

On Tuesday 15th August the College held an information night for parents and students around the notion of educating parents and members of the community about alcohol, effects it has on teenagers and the laws associated with it. We heard from Dr Bosco Rowland from Deakin University who was able to identify risks associated with drinking to excess (above the recommended amounts) along with his take on how parents can support their children to act responsibly towards alcohol consumption going forward.

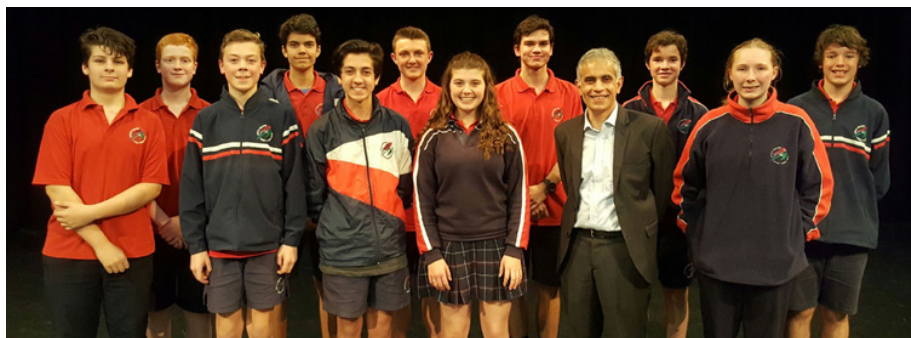
The whole event was coordinated and run by a fantastic group of Year 9 students who had worked for quite a number of weeks to put it all together. These students were able to encapsulate the feeling towards alcohol consumption amongst teens and discuss why they consider it to be a community and nationwide concern. It was great to see their take on what parents should be saying to students/young teenagers who ask for alcohol – that being definitely no.

The clear message to come out of the night was for parents to really consider setting guidelines that your child does not drink alcohol at home or elsewhere, and discuss the possible consequences early before they do it behind their back.

Congratulations to the following students who put it all together: Morgan Gusts, Finan Hardidge, Ronan Harris, Andrew Kapahnke, Riley Klaassen, Montana Lacsni, Heidi Mitchell, Francis Nickell, Sophie Ogilvie, Liam Russell, Flynn Stevens, Jessica Vansteyn, James Woolley.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the College's Wellbeing Leader Felicity Wooden for her support and guidance of these students.

Mike Jaremczuk & Estell Alder - Assistant Principals



What's the Buzz . . . Tell me what's happening!

The Performing Arts team has enjoyed a wonderful 2017 and we are thrilled to see what our students are capable of achieving. In the past weeks, we have seen some outstanding Instrumental Soirees. We kicked off with the Guitar Soiree hosted by our incredible Warren Wickremesooriya (say it fast three times in a row!).



A week later Melissa Knowles and Peter Brodie blew our minds with the Brass, Woodwind and Piano Soiree. This week we were buzzing out of EPAC with the BIG voices from Sally McKenzie's Singing Soiree.

Next week Ross Crowley will beat us back into EPAC on Thursday 31st with the Percussion Soiree, while on Tuesday September 5th we are hoping you will 'accept this rose' and come along to the Spring Concert. Our talented instrumental students will perform their best work for you all.



The quality of work so far in 2017 has astounded us and it makes us even more excited about our big plans for 2018, when Performing Arts at Emerald Secondary College is going to take creativity into uncharted waters.

It is time to steer away from the clichéd programs synonymous with other schools.

We are moving with the times, taking risks and know our school and community will love and embrace it.

Emerald Secondary College will be known as THE Innovative Performing Arts School. Watch this white space . . .

The Performing Arts Team



UPCOMING WORKING BEES for SEMESTER TWO

Following the huge success last term of our college working bee we are holding two for this Semester. Please make note of the following dates below and come along and help your school community create the best environment it can for our students.

TERM 3 - SATURDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 9am-12.30pm

All parents and students are invited to attend this event which will see work on areas that need re-invigorating to improve our College grounds. Parents are asked to bring with them any of the equipment items listed below on the day to assist with the work being carried out.

- Gloves
- Rakes
- Garden fork/shovel
- Wheelbarrows
- Pruning implements

Upon arrival parents/students will be required to sign in and then they can select work from a board that will be set up. The Meeting point will be just outside the General Office. We are hoping that students and parents can get behind this initiative. Morning tea will be provided to the hard workers. Please contact the College if you have any questions.

LOOKING AHEAD - TERM 4 – SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER 9am-12.30pm



Kickstart 2018 - 29th November – 12th December

This year Emerald Secondary College will have a Whole School Kickstart program for two weeks from the 29th November to 12th December. Kickstart gives students extra class time for the best possible start for their 2018 course, gives students an opportunity to make early subject changes, and allows for a smooth start to the 2018 year.

2017 subjects will finish on Tuesday November 28th and students will then move up to their next year level for 2018. The 2018 timetable will begin on 29th November, and students will be taking their 2018 subjects with their 2018 teachers (where possible).

Kickstart Attendance

In Kickstart the 2018 academic year begins, and attendance is mandatory. College expectations for attendance and academic performance are the same as for the usual school year. Senior School students should note that Kickstart attendance is mandatory and counts towards Unit 1&3 attendance. Classwork tasks must be completed as part of satisfactory completion coursework for a satisfactory Unit pass. Subject changes will be completed after Kickstart.

Kickstart textbooks and stationery

English novels will be available for use during Kickstart with early purchase through the College book seller, Lamonts. Students are expected to have their new 2018 exercise books with them during Kickstart. Teachers will provide copies of textbook information for students during the Kickstart period.

If you have any questions regarding Kickstart please contact:
Junior School – Minna Kanoa, Senior School – Jason Nicholas,
Assistant Principal – Estelle Alder

Kick Start!

Second Hand Uniform News

Opening Hours 2.30-3.15pm Fridays or by appointment out of hours - Phone Sue: 5968 4515

Anyone wishing to sell items of uniform, please contact Sue or leave them at the General Office in a bag labelled Second Hand Uniform.

We currently require sports shorts, winter skirts and Seniors uniform.

We do have some Music tops for sale at present. Anyone requiring Music tops please call into the Uniform Shop. Assorted sizes available.



Homework Club

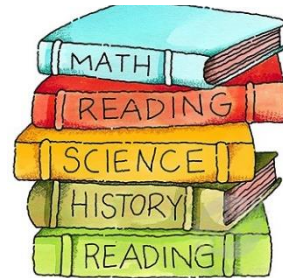
If you need a quiet place to get your homework done or require extra help from your teachers, the place to be is Homework Club.

Details

When: Every Thursday from 3.20-4.30pm

Where: Room A7 with teacher assistance

Who: All students from Years 7 - 12



Any questions, please contact Ms. Sarah Trounson – D Block staffroom



Everything Patchwork & Quilting at Gembrook

Sat Sept 2nd 2017
10am - 4pm

\$5 Admission

Gembrook Community Centre
Gembrook - Pakenham Rd
Gembrook 3783

- Traders •
- Guest Quilter display •
- Demonstrations •
- Locally made quilts •
- Refreshments •

All proceeds go to:
Gembrook C.F.A.



Find us on
Facebook:
EverythingPatchworkQuiltingatGembrook





PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS **GROWING GREAT KIDS**

ARE YOU TIRED OF YELLING?

How to get kids to listen without having to yell?

DEALING WITH ANGER

Helping parents, helping kids deal with frustration and anger.

STRATEGIES

Discuss and share strategies that work.

CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

Understand the challenges your kids face in School.

SELF CARE

How to cope with Stress and Emotions?

WHEN:

Thursdays

31 August, 7, 14 & 21 September 2017

WHEN:

7pm to 9pm

WHERE:

**Cockatoo Primary School
19-33 Belgrave-Gembrook Road,
Cockatoo VIC 3781**

COST:

FREE

FOR BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES CONTACT:

Naomi Dewar 03 5968 8017 or Jasbir Singh 0431 203 177
or text your name to register.

Email: Dewar.Naomi.N@edumail.vic.gov.au or
jasbir.suopada@anglicarevic.org.au



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**BETTER
TOMORROWS**