Principal’s Report:
What a busy but wonderful week we have had.

Future Problem Solving National Championships:
Leaving on Friday afternoon, and competing all day Saturday and Sunday, our team of five Future Problem Solving students represented our College and the State at the XXVII National Finals.

The three competition days were extremely busy and event filled, starting at 8.00am and ending at 5.00pm. The team met many other students from primary school age through to senior secondary age and enjoyed an inspirational highlight – meeting Sir Gustav Nossal and hearing him speak.

The team set up their 3D interactive media display the evening before judging, and waited patiently before the open community fair. The judges had already received the team’s six page report and addendum, and it was now up to the team to show their enthusiasm and knowledge about the topic and subject area.

Following the open community fair, the team had to present for half an hour to the judges with their presentation ending with a media video they had created. Although they missed out on one of the top three places that would have seen them being asked to represent Australia at the world championships in America next year, they were extremely excited to be placed in the top five performing teams and schools. Congratulations to Alyssa D, Noa S, Nellie H, Tyler D and Jessica T.
Spring Concert:
On Tuesday we held our annual Spring Concert in EPAC. It is always wonderful to see the amazing talents our students have in such a wonderful showcase event. With a packed audience, the roof was definitely raised and I would like to congratulate all our students, staff and instrumental teachers as well as our parents and families for supporting the musical creativity in our students.

VET Awards:
Also on Tuesday night, it was the annual VET awards held at Rowville Secondary College Arts Center. We had a number of our students nominated for the top awards due to their dedication, hard work and perseverance in their studies. Sarah Y and Rachael R both won the top award for their classes along with Georgia P, Tom G and Joel F.

We also have a further two students mentioned as top students and these were Abby B and Steve L. I would like to congratulate all our VET students and especially those who were nominated for an award, or who won the top awards.

State Winners:
Tuesday seems to have been the night for Emerald Secondary College to shine. Our Future Problem Solving team was nominated for a Victorian Student Voice award. The awards were held at the NAB in Docklands, with the Hon. James Merlino presenting certificates to the finalists and announcing the winners.

With 33 schools from both Private and State schools nominated for an award, it was with massive pride that we saw our students on stage receiving the overall winning trophy. I would like to thank the students for their efforts, ideas, creativity and hard work throughout the year, and also the parents and families that supported them throughout their journey.

Year 12 Assembly and Farewell breakfast:
Wednesday was a day of celebration, reflection, joy and tears as we said farewell to our class of 2016. Our Yr 12’s wore their ‘traditional’ junior red tops and sat in their last classes before heading down for their final assembly. One of our Yr 12 parents came in to deliver a letter thanking the school and staff and mentioned that the final day is an emotional day for not only our students but also our parents.

The whole school assembly, to farwell our Year 12’s was wonderful, with energy and happiness filling the room, although there were many of our Yr 12’s not quite so enthusiastic to leave when the bell finally went.

The Year 12 video group outdid themselves creating and showing wonderful memories of our class of 2016 which allowed us to laughed along with them, and reflect on the sad memories for those we have lost.

Thursday morning our Yr 12’s returned in creative and colourful costumes, for our annual celebration breakfast and this year we also had bouncy castles, piniata’s and bowling.

With the examination period rapidly approaching, I would like to wish all our Yr12’s all the best for the examinations, and their future pathways and careers. We certainly look forward to hearing their news at our Valedictory dinner in November, and at the reunion in February next year.

Primary School musical tours:
On Thursday Ross Crowley and Sally McKenzie started our annual musical primary school tours. I know from speaking to our Primary schools they really appreciate seeing how our students have grown, and the primary students love to see and hear the amazing talents of our students.

The ESC College choir certainly brought the house down at Selby PS, Belgrave South PS and Gembrook on Thursday with their rendition of ‘Can’t help falling in love’.

On Friday, not to be out performed by the choir, the concert band had an equally amazing impact on Cockatoo PS, Macclesfield PS and Emerald PS.

As a Principal it is always wonderful to be able to see and experience just how talented our students are. I would like to thank Ross for leading our music department and of course all our hard working instrumental teachers- Ross, Sally, Pete, Eddie, Belinda, Warren and Daisuke.

Parent feedback:
At ESC we really want to be able to celebrate areas within our school that we are doing well in, continue to develop students learning and wellbeing and also review aspects we need to improve. As mentioned last week, we are seeking feedback from our families to help us with this. Can I ask that parents please consider completing the short survey attached commenting on areas they feel we are doing well in, and areas we need to develop. Thank you. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ESC_Parent_feedback

Jodie Doble Principal
Emerald is tops in VET!

On Tuesday 18th Oct I had the pleasure of attending the Mullum Cluster VET Awards at Rowville Secondary College. The event is attended by a large number of private, government and catholic schools in our region. Only the very top 1-2 students per class are nominated by their VET trainer, and then a final winner is chosen. Emerald had many students awarded the top honour, as well as nominations. The following students were recognised as the top performer in their class. Congratulations to:

- **Tomas Gibbs** – Certificate III in Information Technology (Year 1)
- **Georgia Pike** – Certificate II in Business (Year 1)
- **Sarah Young** - Certificate III in Beauty Services (Year 1)
- **Rachel Reilly** - Certificate III in Beauty Services (Year 2)
- **Joel Firrito** - Certificate II in Building and Construction (Year 1)

Congratulations also to **Abby Barton** and **Steve Lamble** who were also nominated as top performers in their class.

We are extremely proud of these students for excelling at their VET studies. Such great performance will certainly ensure success in their chosen pathways. Thanks also to Mr Shane Closter for assisting with the evening, and co-ordinating our VET program.

**Estelle Alder Assistant Principal**
**Astronomy Club news:**
A number of Emerald students and families, as well as staff, joined in as volunteers for the Astrolight Festival at Scienceworks on Saturday 10th September. The massive event had over 2000 attendees and the volunteers were kept busy with setting up activities, running telescopes and, as a bonus attending talks and joining in the fun. Highlights were talks by NASA astronaut Marsha Ivins, roaming Star Wars cosplayers and telescope viewing on the field (where many folks managed to see Saturn and other celestial objects despite being rained out for part of the night). Thanks MBO and Telescopes in Schools for helping us to be part of this.
EXHIBITION DATES
Oct 29 2016
to
Jan 29 2017

Photographers of all levels and ages, from professionals to ipods, from 10 year olds to retired folk, and the Emerald SC astronomy club all showing their work.

Don’t miss it!

FREE ENTRY

For more information:
info@mtburnettobservatory.org
www.mtburnettobservatory.org

Mount Burnett Observatory
2017 Debutante Ball

Applications are now being accepted

New Date

SATURDAY 17th June 2017

For further information and to download an application form, go to www.emeraldrotary.org.au

Forms are also available at the School Office
Bring your own ipad, or computer and hook into the network, or use our computers.

TOURNAMENTS AND PRIZES
SAT. FORTNIGHTLY EVENTS
Next Event 29th Oct and running in Nov. 5.00pm—10.00pm
BYO Snack, Free popcorn
Soft drinks for sale

DECEMBER EVENTS
Sat. 3rd and 17th.
All events $10.00 Entry.

Cockatoo Neighbourhood House
23 Bailey Road Cockatoo
Enquiries: 0438 710020 or 59689370