

Emerald Secondary College

Fortnightly Newsletter



Emerald Secondary College is a Learning Community

Principal - Jodie Doble

College Council President - Phillip Dwyer

Assistant Principal - Jonathon Rogers

Acting Assistant Principal - Janine McMahon

Business Manager - Jayne Thompson

Term 1 - 2019:

22nd March 2019 - Issue 4

Important Dates:

Every Wednesday: Homework Club - Help is on Your Way 3.20pm - 4.30pm in the Library

MARCH 2019

Mon 25th: Photo catch-up day

Tue 26th: Open Discovery Night 6.30pm

Wed 27th: Yr 8 Wellbeing Day

Thu 28th: Yr 11 Outdoor Ed. Caving Excursion

Fri 29th: Mimasaka Students leave

APRIL 2019

Tue 2nd: Yr 7 Immunisations

Tue 2nd: Yr 9 Try a Trade Day

Wed 3rd: Whole School Cross Country run 1.30pm

Thu 4th: Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4.00pm-8.00pm

Fri 5th: Last Day of Term 1 - no classes

Parent/Teacher Conferences - 9.00am-2.30pm

Tue 23rd: First day of Term 2

Wed 24th: Yr 12 Retreat Day #2

Thu 25th: ANZAC DAY holiday

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- Rotary Debutante Ball
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- Eastern Raptors Rugby League Club Registration Day
- Emerald Village Pharmacy Flu Shot Clinic

From the Principal

The Hills and our Community

The biggest thing that stands out in my time at Emerald Secondary College is that there is a sense of community here that I have not experienced anywhere else. Recently fires caused disruption to schools in the area, this caused stress for students, parents and staff. I was extremely grateful for the many messages of support and feedback during this time. As a school, we work closely with the central office of the Department for many issues and the disruption caused by the fires is a good example of this communication. Safety of our students is our priority and I want to thank all involved for helping to ensure everyone remained safe. We will increase our communication when issues arise to ensure parents know that all students and staff are safe. Thank you on behalf of the College Community.

Athletics Day

As this goes to print students are participating in our Athletics day. Competition is fierce and I for one am disappointed that I will be unable to take my place as a member of the victorious staff team from 2018. This may be due to injury or simply old age. Look out students in 2020. Congratulations to Mr Watson, for once again organising this day. The students appreciate the efforts to hold an event that continues to build our school pride.

School Photos

Our initial school photo day was held in late February. As I mentioned in the previous newsletter there is a need to run a catch up day for students who were unable to get their photo taken. This will be held on Monday 25th March. Students who still require their photo to be taken will be called out of class briefly to have this done. On this day we will also take our VCE group photo and remaining sibling photos.

Parent Communication

Please remember that the College always welcomes parents to communicate with the co-ordinators and teaching staff to best support the students in their learning. Please be mindful that the College is working in a climate of respectful relationships. As such, we expect interactions between co-ordinators, staff and parents to be professional, respectful and solution focused.

Buildings and Grounds update

This could prove to be a great year when it comes to our Buildings and Grounds. Our sub-committee has grown and with that the ideas can continue to flow. I am especially looking forward to having one of our School Captains involved in our meetings, this will provide us with a valuable insight into their thoughts and ideas. Unfortunately our gardener Shane, recently informed us that he was moving on. Shane was a very good addition to the College and we thank him for his work.

Jonathon Rogers - Acting Principal



Assistant Principal's Report

NAPLAN

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills and provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the test. There are many aspects to a schools assessment and reporting process and NAPLAN is simply one part of this process.

NAPLAN results can be used by students and parents to discuss student progress with teachers. Teachers can use results to identify students who may benefit from greater challenges or extra support. Schools can use NAPLAN results to identify strengths and areas requiring improving in teaching programs. Goals can also be set in the areas of numeracy and literacy.

For the first time, NAPLAN for our Year 7 and 9 students will be online this year. NAPLAN will occur between 14 and 24 May and students will undertake four different Tests; Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language, and Numeracy. Students will use their own laptops to undertake NAPLAN.

On the morning of Thursday 28 March 2019, there will be a Coordinated Practice test where all NAPLAN Online schools are required to hold a practice test session at the same time, using student numbers that are similar to the total scheduled for the first session of the first day of testing (the writing test) in the NAPLAN Online test window.

The practice test is a 45 minute test that includes Numeracy, Conventions of Language and Reading questions. It is important that all Year 7 and 9 students undertake the practice test on the platform in order to familiarise themselves with the format and online tools that they will be required to use, such as the online calculator, ruler and protractor.

Janine McMahon - Acting Assistant Principal & NAPLAN Coordinator



Year 7 Camp 6th March – 8th March 2019

Camp is important in helping the Year 7's develop friendships and confidence in the step up to Secondary School and is just one of the transition activities to welcome our newest ESC members to the college.

The trip to the Phillip Island Coastal Discovery Camp had three clear objectives, all of which the students were able to meet and at times excel.

1. Building resilience

Many of the students were pushed out of their comfort zone in one way or another. For some students it was missing the comfort of their usual sleeping arrangements, for others it was having a go at an activity that they were initially reluctant to try. Body boarding and surfing seemed to be firm favourites for students and teachers alike. There were many smiling faces coming out of the waves and it was lovely to see so many students excitedly talking about their achievements on the walk back up the hill to camp.



2. Building friendships

Students had plenty of opportunities to form new friendships and strengthen previous ones. Working in teams for their time at camp meant students not only got to interact with people in their own home group but also were able to get to know other students from their cohort. Their teamwork was put to the test in the initiatives activities with particular focus given by the YMCA leaders on what makes an effective team member.

3. Connecting with Nature

We were fortunate enough to have fine weather while we were away, with only minor rainfall on the first day. This allowed students to enjoy the outdoor-based tasks. The Marine discovery was a great chance to go rock pooling and the native fauna was abundant with a mob of resident wallabies and a couple of possums making regular appearances amongst the tents. Students should be congratulated on their cleanliness and upkeep of the camp, which was commented on by the YMCA staff.

Well done Year 7 students, you should be commended on how you represented yourself and Emerald Secondary College.

Our sincere thanks are extended to the staff that attended the camp; Ben Carter, Marion Donders, William Creagh, Liam McManus, Cindy Mikieciuk, Tiana Clayworth, Jared Piper, Michelle Milivojevic, Sue Batham and Sarah Deer.

Bec Holmes - Yr 7 Learning & Engagement Leader



Year 8 Boys Baseball

On Tuesday 19th March our Year 8 Boys Baseball team travelled down to Kings Park in Upper Ferntree Gully. The boys played against Upper Yarra Secondary College and came away winners 15-2 meaning we now move onto the next stage. All boys conducted themselves brilliantly during this game showing great passion and pride to represent ESC. We had some outstanding performances from all boys, Kye was brilliant on first base, Oscar and Ethan hit some massive home runs with the bat, Harry and Jackson pitched perfectly to strike out many of the opposition's batsmen, while James, Brayden and Hudson contributed with home runs and catches in the field to achieve a well-rounded team performance. Thank you to the parents who came down to support as we look forward to the next stage.

Jarrad Donders



Yr 12 Supreme Court Visit

Our Year 12 Legal Studies students visited the Supreme Court of Victoria on Wednesday. We were due to sit in on a child homicide case that involved the death of a 17 week old baby, allegedly at the hands of the boyfriend of the baby's mother. Preliminary arguments were in the final stages where lawyers were disputing the admissibility of evidence before the case went to trial. It was very challenging for our students to listen to the proceedings, due to the acoustics of the old court and the mumblings of the lawyers.

In an attempt to find a case in trial mode, our liaison took us to the Court of Appeals, escorting us down the tunnel and through the gateway used to transport defendants held in remand. Unfortunately there were no suitable cases for us to observe there either.

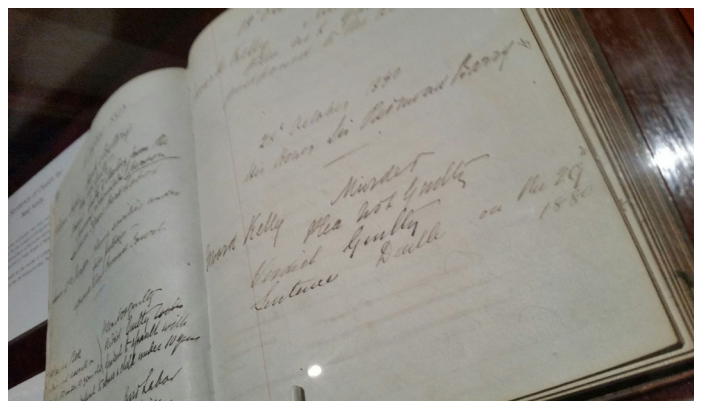
The last part of our visit was spent in the Law Library, where students could look at old precedents and even see the sentencing record of Ned Kelly.

While the day may not have panned out as we would have hoped, there were still many valuable lessons. Firstly, the wheels of justice do not move quickly, allowing students to see the impact of delays and costs on those defending a case. Our liaison informed students that senior barristers can cost up to \$8000 per day at trial, making defending a case extremely expensive if you don't qualify for legal representation through Legal Aid. Secondly, the tradition and formalities of the court room can be quite intimidating for those not accustomed to what goes on. In a way, this provided an insight to students of what it might feel like to be self-representing against more experienced personnel, bringing into question some of the principles of justice we have discussed in class.

One thing was for certain, our students excelled themselves in confidently responding to questions from the liaison about the criminal justice system. This was a proud teacher moment, and a good sign for the SAC this class completed on Tuesday, which I am currently marking.

Once again, our students were terrific ambassadors for the College. They were respectful of court etiquette and attentive throughout the day.

Tanya Moran – Yr 12 Learning & Engagement Leader



'Bullying. No Way! Take action every day' – Friday 15 March

On Friday 15 March 2019, our school stood together against bullying to celebrate the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA).

The NDA is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools. It is a positive day of action which strengthens our everyday message here at Emerald Secondary College that bullying has no place in our school.

At lunch time on Friday, we created a communal piece of art demonstrating our collaborative promise to beat bullying. We need to get the message across to students that bullying must stop.

There are many misconceptions and misunderstandings about what bullying is. The statements below will help define bullying.

IS IT BULLYING?

When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once –

That's **RUDE**

When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once –

That's **MEAN**

When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset –

That is **BULLYING**

Parents and carers are encouraged to visit the Bullying. No Way! website (www.bullyingnoway.gov.au) for advice and useful information

Emerald Secondary College is dedicated to supporting this program and saying

'Bullying. No Way! Take action every day'



AFL Pathways Program

On Tuesday 12th & 19th March students in the AFL Program headed down to our sponsor Pinnacle Health Club Upwey to participate in their first of many strength and conditioning sessions for the year. Students got the opportunity to partake in a cycle class before entering into a HIT session for the second part of the night. Students had a great time performing different exercises as they learnt new ways to train. If your son/daughter is interested in footy check out the AFL Pathway program on our school website.

Jarrad Donders - AFL Pathway Program Coordinator

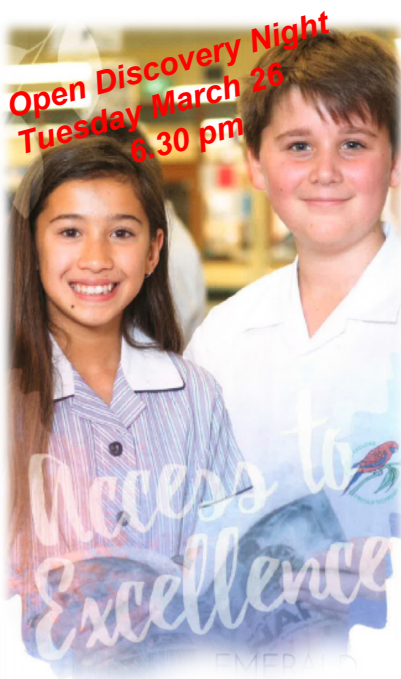


Work Experience - Help Required

As part of the Year 11 and 12 VCAL Program students attend school 3 days per week for timetabled classes, 1 day they attend a TAFE course (Building, Hospitality etc.) and 1 day per week they undertake Structured Workplace Learning (Work Experience). We have Year 11 students looking for placements on a Thursday in the following areas, Building and Construction, Electrical, IT and Retail. We also have Year 12 students looking for a placement on a Friday in the following areas – Graphic Design, Photography and Health Services.

Work Placements usually occur between 5 and 20 days and a minimum \$5- per day student payment needs to occur. Once paperwork is completed, the Education Department accepts liability for insurance / work cover. If you can help expand our students education in this way please contact Shane Closter at the College or 59685388 or via email to closter.shane.s@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Shane Closter - VCAL/VET Coordinator



Our Commitment

**QUALITY TEACHING AND
LEARNING, POSITIVE
RELATIONSHIPS,
PERSONALISED LEARNING**

At Emerald Secondary College we are committed to ensure that all our students experience a quality education that enables them to achieve their personal best and access excellence. Our school learning community provides a caring, inclusive and sustainable environment in which students can develop skills and personal qualities necessary to participate confidently and positively in a changing global world.

EMERALD SECONDARY COLLEGE

425 Belgrave-Gembrook Road

For school tours
and further information

Please call 59685388

**SEAL Applications due
Wednesday April 24**



AFL Academy 2020

Emerald Secondary College is set to launch an AFL Academy in 2020.

Opening to Year 7 students, the Academy will offer boys and girls the opportunity to engage with coaches, professional athletes and resources during school contact hours to excel learning of the great Australian game.

The Academy program will aim to sequentially develop individual players through skill development, games, professional strength and conditioning sessions, match rules and conditions fitting their stage of learning and ability.

Aims:

- The Emerald Secondary College AFL Academy is aimed at providing an integrated academic pathway driven by young students sporting aspirations.
- This elite program allows young student athletes to enhance and develop their sporting talent while concurrently receiving their secondary education.
- It is crucial to the Academy that students' academic pursuits are of the highest priority and that each student's interest and aspiration in sport assists them in achieving high results both academically and athletically.
- Promote and enhance self-discipline, goal setting, time management and leadership through team participation and team experiences.

Applications have now opened and can be collected from Jarrad Donders at Emerald Secondary College. We will be holding an information night on Tuesday 26th March 2019 at the College Open Night. For any further information please contact Jarrad Donders at Emerald Secondary College.

P: [\(03\) 5968 5388](tel:(03)59685388)

E: Donders.jarrad.s@edumail.vic.gov.au

f www.facebook.com/ESCAFLAcademy



Homework Club

Help is on Your Way

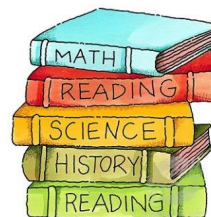
If you need a quiet place to get your homework done or require extra help from your teachers, the place to be is Homework Club.

Details

When: Every Wednesday from 3.20-4.30pm

Where: Library with teacher assistance

Who: All students from Years 7 - 12



Any questions, please contact Mr Chamila Herath – Maths/Science G9 staffroom

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**PINNACLE
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Rotary
Debutante Ball



A Project of The Rotary Club
of Emerald & District Inc

2019 Debutante Ball

SATURDAY 15th June 2019

**Deb Ball Application Acceptance
has been extended
to the 29th of March**

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

Don't miss out on a great night!



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

ARE YOU TIRED OF YELLING?
How to get your teenager to listen, without
having to yell

DEALING WITH ANGER
Recognising the causes and triggers for anger

REALTIONSHPIS
How can parents build a better relationship
with their teens?

STRATEGIES
Discuss and share strategies that work

DATES: Wednesdays for 6 weeks
8, 15, 22, 29 May, 5 & 12 June 2019

TIME: 6.00pm - 8.30pm
WHERE: Emerald Secondary College
425 Belgrave-Gembrook Rd,
Emerald Vic 3782

COST: FREE: Bookings essential
BOOKINGS: For bookings and enquiries contact:
Felicity Wooden - Well Being Leader - 5968 5388
Email: wooden.felicity.f@edumail.vic.gov.au or
Jasbir Singh at Parentzone on 0431 203 177,
Email: jasbir.suopada@anglicarevic.org.au



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BETTER
TOMORROWS

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