

Emerald Secondary College



Fortnightly Newsletter

Emerald Secondary College is a Learning Community

Principal - Jodie Doble
College Council President - Phillip Dwyer
Assistant Principal - Jonathon Rogers
Assistant Principal - Estelle Alder
Business Manager - Jayne Thompson

Term 2 - 2018:

20th April 2018 **Issue 6**

Important Dates:

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

APRIL:

Mon 23rd: Yr 12 Retreat Day #2
Tue 24th: Yr 9 Try-A-Trade Excursion
Tue 24th: ANZAC Day Assembly
Tue 24th: Whole School Cross Country Run
Wed 25th: ANZAC Day (no school)
Mon 30th: Yr 10 METEC Driver Education Day
Mon 30th: Yr 11 County Court Visit (Group A)

MAY

Wed 2nd: Yr 11 County Court Visit (Group B)
Thu 3rd - Fri 4th: Yr 9 Outdoor Ed Camp
Fri 4th: Yr 11 VCE & Careers Expo
Mon 7th - Fri 11th: Careers Week

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From the Principal:

Welcome to the start of Term 2, I hope you have all had a pleasant and well rested break. As always this will be a busy term for our staff and students starting with our College Cross Country carnival on Tuesday 24th April. This term we also see our Year 7 and 9 students participate in the NAPLAN tests, all our students complete the Student Attitudes to School surveys as well as students completing CATS, SACS and mid-year academic exams. Beyond the academic programs we have a number of camps including our Year 7 camp, careers programs and sports and performing arts competitions.

Anzac

On Tuesday 24th April at 11.55am we will be holding our College Anzac assembly. Parents and families are welcome to attend. If parents and families are attending can I ask that you sign in at the front office and are seated in the gym by 11.55am.

On Wednesday 25th April I will accompany our College Leaders to the 5.00am Dawn service at the RSL in town.

At 10.00am I will be joining our Student Leaders at the cenotaph opposite the Commonwealth Bank to march the Anzac walk representing our College community behind our flag and banner. All students and families are invited to join us. Students joining us are asked to wear their full school uniform.

The service takes place at the RSL and will conclude by 11.30am

Back burn

Over the break the CFA in partnership with DELWP conducted a back burn adjacent to the college and behind our Inclusion Centre. Reducing fuel in our area is important to ensure the safety of our community, but we are also mindful of the environmental impacts safety burns can at times cause.

Michelle our gardener, Mr Rogers, Mr Closter and I have been discussing the recent safety burns and the potential impact on the Emerald Star bush. Our School Council Buildings and Grounds team, as part of this group, are also involved in the discussions, and we will be developing and planting an Emerald Star Bush walk behind our Inclusion Centre to protect this endangered plant.

Central Australia

Our intrepid campers returned over the Easter break from our annual Central Australia camp. Planning and preparation for the camp is a year long event and although we take into consideration a number of possibilities and eventualities as part of our planning, we always hope for the best.

Unfortunately a gastro illness hit the campers during the tour placing our

staff and students in a quarantine situation at Alice Springs. I would like to thank and congratulate all our students and staff for working together and supporting each other during this time and hope they can hold onto the happier memories from their tour.

Open Night

Last term I conducted a high number of school tours during the day and this term looks to be the same based on the positive interest coming from our primary community about our school.

On Wednesday this week we held our annual open night and it was wonderful to see so many guests attend this event. This year we opened up our Science, Arts, Technologies, Maths and English rooms as well as our Library and EPAC to our guests. We showcased a number of activities such as our Taiko drumming band, concert band, Library, Literacy program, SEAL program, Arts, Sport and much, much more. It was an engaging evening and I would like to thank all our students, their families and our staff for making this evening so engaging.

Election Funding

Being an election year our College is seeking an election promise to support the building of our new STEM centre. This will be in place of our current science rooms in E block and Maths rooms in G block. Although we have gained some funding from our government to repair our science rooms we really want to be able to provide our learning community with facilities that support 21st century learning.

Brad Battin our local MP is seeking support from our parents to help him gain the much needed funding. He has asked me to ask our parents to please go to his page and sign his petition that will assist us to seek the funding for all our students. <http://bradbattin.com.au/petitions-3/fundemerald/>

Mount Burnett Observatory Star Record Attempt

On Wednesday 23rd May, in partnership with Mount Burnett Observatory and our Emerald Astronomy club, we are hosting a world record attempt in Stargazing Live at our college at EPAC. The ABC are organising tickets through Eventbrite. The event is free but we are asking for a gold coin donation to support our ESC astronomy club. MBO and the College would love to see as many people as possible at the event. If you have a telescope or binoculars please bring them along. More information is on the Mount Burnett Observatory website, on our Facebook page and in this newsletter. Further details can also be gained from contacting MBO on info@mtburnettobservatory.org



Jodie Doble - Principal

Assistant Principals' Report

A Warm Welcome Back

After a well-deserved break we have hit the ground running this term. With many excursions planned to help enhance the learning opportunities of our students. I have been fortunate this week to go with some of our Year 8 and 9 students to an initiative set up by Victoria Police. We worked with their engagement officers to look at issues this generation face. The setting was the newly improved Gumbuya World. Students enjoyed the activities and conversations.

Planned Burn

The planned burn at Lawsons Road occurred during the holidays. We were surprised to find a small section of the school had also been treated. This area had been planned by the College as an Emerald Star bush conservation area. We had planned specific garden beds which have now been modified to reflect the space available. Once regeneration has begun we will increase the number of plants in the area as had been previously planned and look at information signs to promote why the Star bush is significant to the area.

College Open Night

On Wednesday 18th April the College held its annual open night. The staff who presented our College did an amazing job in promoting their subject areas and other key aspects of the teaching and learning program. Initial feedback from parents who attended was quite positive and I am looking forward to continuing these conversations throughout the term.

Compass Photos

Verification of Compass photos has been completed after a delay caused by their system. Photos that are on order will be delivered to the College once finally processed. If you have any questions about the photos, please contact Compass directly – Email: support@jdlf.com.au

Buildings Grounds and OHS

Over the break we had asbestos removal completed. We are awaiting the reports, however this last round has resulted in all identified asbestos now being removed from the College grounds. As I am sure everyone will appreciate that with building works planned and the sheer size of the asbestos problem in schools, before we celebrate too much we will get another inspection completed.

Further works have been identified for the Science rooms in E block. We have now gone to tender for the identified improvements. Whilst this is exciting I remind all members of the College community that the improvements may not be as visible as a complete rebuild however the functionality of the rooms themselves will be much better and safer. Our timeline will be confirmed after the tender process although it is likely to begin in the July School holidays.

Respectful Parent/Teacher interactions at ESC

Students at Emerald Secondary College are very lucky to have committed staff to support them in their developmental growth throughout their secondary schooling, both academically, socially and in a welfare paradigm. We see the journey as everyone working as team – school leaders, teachers, students and of course, you, our parents/carers. Thus, as a school community we all need to work together as a team to ensure the best possible outcomes for all. To that end, Co-ordinators are available to answer any query you might have that relates to the learning or welfare of your son/daughter. These conversations must always be respectful, timely and cover off on three aspects – decision, action and accountability. To expand on this idea, decision pertains to an outcome, action reflects putting structures and agreements into place and accountability points to all parties keeping up their end of any negotiated action. The importance of being solution focussed must be at the forefront of every interaction, in a positive environment.

Jonathon Rogers - Assistant Principal



CENTRAL AUSTRALIA 2018

Another year – another Central Australia Tour – but not a typical experience!

At 6am on Sunday 25th March, 4 staff and 38 students (a lot without much idea of what to expect) headed off on tour, with much anticipation and enthusiasm.

We met our driver Steve and our cook Kristen, and settled in to the coach that was to become our home away from home, as we drove across the country to see the vast expanse of land that is the outback of Australia.

While we did have an unprecedented amount of sickness, this didn't dampen our spirits. We stuck together, supported each other and made it through the other side.

When we weren't in recovery mode, our days were packed with amazing sights and experiences that included: exploring mines and sleeping underground in Coober Pedy; watching the amazing landscape of the Australian countryside, including some fantastic salt lakes; visiting the Royal Flying Doctor Service; hanging out with Rex and his reptiles; climbing through Simpsons Gap & Standley Chasm; visiting the School of the Air; swimming in amazing water holes like Ormiston Gorge and Ellery Creek Big Hole; displaying our entertainment skills in our "Central Australia's Got Talent" show; gaining an understanding of just how vast our country really is; riding camels; seeing Uluru from a distance at sunset and close up as we walked around it or flew over it; getting to know one another and forging tight relationships with our peers; sleeping in tents and under the stars; sharing great meals and gaining a greater understanding of the Aboriginal culture.

I would also like to extend thanks to NT Toursim, who made available a monetary grant for which schools could apply. Our successful application meant our students had access to an additional fantastic cultural experience, learning about the history of our Indigenous people, sampling some true bush tucker (how was that witchetty grub, Jordan?!), being exposed to some of the weaponry used for hunting and having access to some original artwork by local artists. Just a fascinating activity all-round.

We kept a journal of our thoughts each day, and just a few of the comments from students at the conclusion of the tour included:

- Central Australia trip was amazing. I will remember it for the rest of my life.
- I loved Central, it was so amazing! All the experiences we had were great, thank you so much.
- I'm really happy I chose to come on this trip. I'll treasure the memories I have made for the rest of my life.
- Easily the best school trip I have been on. Thank you teachers for making this happen.
- This has been a massive eye-opener and I'll cherish the memories.
- One of the best experiences of my life. I loved seeing parts of Australia I had never been to and how close everyone became.

To all the students who attended the trip, on behalf of the teachers, I would like to express our thanks for your enthusiasm, co-operation, flexibility, understanding, great spirit, willingness to help out, sense of humour, terrific contributions, outstanding conduct and exceptional representation of the College - so thanks to you all!

On a personal note, I'd also like to express my external thanks and gratitude to Mr Nicholas, Mr Donders and Ms Choo for giving up their family, holiday and weekend time, and working so hard to make the trip such a memorable one. Their contributions were well above and beyond expectations.

Melissa Stephens





Kokoda Training Camp

In July, a team of students and three staff will travel to Papua New Guinea to walk the 96km of the Kokoda Track. In preparation for this, the team held a two-day training camp during the Term One holidays at the Cathedral State Park. Blessed with excellent weather, we climbed up and down several of the peaks, some repeated, to help simulate some of the steepness they will encounter on the trek. We also wanted students to understand how their body will fatigue across the duration of a day's walking... and still need to get up the next day to walk all day again with full packs on their backs.

The spirit and comradery of the crew was fantastic, especially when some members were struggling with energy and blisters. For some students it was a wake-up call as to the steepness of the terrain we will face in PNG. The Camp also gave us an opportunity to discuss the historical significance of the Kokoda campaign to Australia, the limited training of the soldiers, the overwhelming ratio of Japanese soldiers to Australia's and the unique relationship formed with the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels.

With 10 weeks until departure, the team will continue to train throughout Term 2 in a bid to become fitter, stronger and better prepared for this massive undertaking.

Tanya Moran, Shane Closter, Steve Barrett





Homework Club

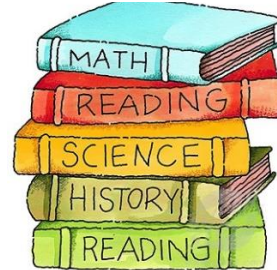
If you need a quiet place to get your homework done or require extra help from your teachers, the place to be is Homework Club.

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



EMERALD RSL

3 Memorial Avenue
Emerald

ANZAC DAY

Wednesday April 25th 2018

DAWN SERVICE

- 5.00am - Assemble at Anzac Place
- 5.30am - Official Dawn Service
- 6.00am - Puffing Billy salutes
- 6.15am - Laying of Wreaths
- 6.30am - Service concludes

Scouts will be selling egg and bacon sandwiches at the RSL clubrooms

ANZAC DAY MARCH

- 10.00am - Emerald community assembles in town centre
- 10.30am - March commences to Anzac Place

MORNING SERVICE

- 10.45am - Assemble at Anzac Place
- 11.00am - Official Morning Service
- 11.15am - Laying of Wreaths
- 11.30am - Service concludes

ACTIVITIES AT EMERALD RSL

- 11.45am - RSL Open
- Food available
- Drinks at Bar prices
- 2.00pm - Two Up
- 3.00pm - Anzac Day Football on the big screen

The Emerald RSL invites the community to “walk” the Anzac Walk audio trail and listen to the stories of the 32 young Emerald men who died in WW1

LEST WE FORGET

Mount Burnett Observatory and
Emerald Secondary College present -

STARGAZING LIVE

World Record Attempt



Australian
National
University

Join us on Wednesday 23 May
at our Star Party



7.00pm Event registration / Telescope collection

8.00pm: Stargazing Live broadcast commences

(The World Record attempt will take place during the broadcast, sometime between 8pm and 9pm)

10.00pm: Event concludes

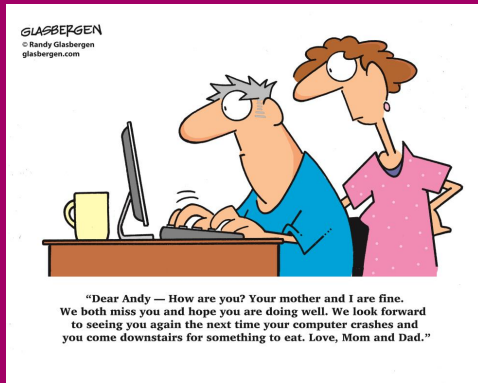
All bookings online via Eventbrite. Free event. Small telescopes available for Purchase via Eventbrite.



For more information contact:
info@mtburnettobservatory.org
Or Brad Gibbs at Emerald Secondary College 5968 5388



Who's in Charge?



Does your child hurt, intimidate or abuse you?

Do you feel you are losing control?

Want to better handle conflict?

Who's in Charge? group is a 7-week program to support you if you have a young person (8 to 18) who is beyond control, violent or defiant.

The group aims to:

- Provide a supportive environment for you to share your experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame you may feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop individual strategies for managing your child's behaviour
- Explore ways of increasing your safety and wellbeing
- Help you feel more in control and less stressed

Cost
Gold coin donation

Date
Every Monday
7 May – 25 June
NO GROUP ON 11th JUNE
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Time
10am–12:30pm

Venue
Connections
Level 2, 50 Station Street
PAKENHAM 3805

Contact
T 03 5990 8400
Group Workers
Bookings essential

Uniting

GRADE 5 – YEAR 9 CHILDREN'S ART

EMERALD ARTS Society

2018 TERM 2 CLASSES

WHEN: Tuesdays 4pm–5:30pm (11 weeks)

AGE: Grade 5 to Year 9

COST: EAS Members \$165 per term
Non-members \$220 per term
(Pro-rata rates if joining after term starts)

LOCATION: EAS Studio, Cnr Church & Anne Sts

PROVIDED: All art materials used in class

BRING: Art smock, after school snack/drink

ENQUIRIES PHONE RAQUEL ON 0416 726 406
CLASSES@EMERALDARTSOCIETY.COM.AU

THE TEACHER:
Monika Poray is a professional artist and registered VIT teacher. She has a Degree and Masters in Fine Arts and a Grad. Dip in Education. Monika values the hard work and dedication involved in art making and is very passionate in sharing her skills and knowledge to young aspiring artists.

Students will develop their art skills in drawing, painting and sculpture, including shading, colour, proportion, composition, drawing from observation and more.

Students also learn about various artists to understand their art making processes, study their art style and therefore be inspired with their own art development.

To stimulate students creativity, various art materials will be explored and a variety of art styles such as abstract, surrealism and pop art.

The tutor provides an interactive art program where students learn many skills while having fun creating.

CNR CHURCH & ANNE STS, EMERALD PH: 5968 5406 EMERALDARTSOCIETY.COM.AU



Bully Resilience: Changing the Game

*Equip children to protect their heart & mind.
Strategies for developing resilience for life.*

Mon. 30th April. 7 - 9pm
Equip Counselling & Consulting
516A Dorset Road, Croydon South

Wed. 2nd May. 9.30 - 11.30 am.
Woori Community House
Shop 5, 1385 H'ville Koo Wee Rup Rd, Woori Yallock

\$20- Bookings Essential

Gwen Godman: 0499 772 642
www.bullyresilience.com.au
gwen@equipccc.com.au

Tuning in to Teens

**ARE YOU ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH WITH
YOUR TEEN?**

**A parent/carer's program in 6 sessions to help you
tune in to the adolescent in your care.**

Would you like to learn how to:

- » Be better at talking with your teen?
- » Be better at understanding your teen?
- » Help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
- » Teach your teen how to deal with conflict?
- » Help your teen develop their emotional intelligence?

Who: Parents and carers of adolescents

When: **Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.30pm**
2nd May - 6th June 2018

Where: **Uniting Place**
1 Coral Drive Hampton Park 3976

Cost: Gold coin donation

Contact: Group Workers 5990 8400 (Bookings essential)



Uniting



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

9, 16, 23, 30 May & 6, 13 June 2018

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 - 59

Email: wooden.felicity.f@edumail.vic.or

Jasbir Singh at Parentzone on 0431 203 1

Email: jasbir.suopada@anglicarevic.org



anglicarevic.org.au

BET
TOMORROW