



NEWSLETTER

CIRCULATED FORTNIGHTLY TO INFORM PARENTS OF
SCHOOL EVENTS AND VIEWPOINTS

No. 16
OCTOBER 15th,
2009

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Dear Parents,

Students have settled back into work mode after the distractions of sport finals, and should be aiming to finish off the year well.

YEAR 12:

Students have only one week to go before they leave on "Swot Vac" to prepare for their exams. I trust that they will use this time productively to give them the chance of achieving their best. Year 12 teachers have been working very hard to provide practice exams for our students, and I thank them for their extra effort. I have been impressed with most of the Year 12's this year who have worked to the best of their ability. I wish them the best of luck, and thank them for their contribution to the School over the years.

HALLS GAP WILDLIFE PARK:

Miss O'Brien and Mr. Scott took our Year 7's to the Wildlife Park on the last day of Term 3, and all had a very enjoyable time.

NORTHERN ZONE ATHLETICS:

Last week, a number of our students competed at Bendigo and all performed well. Congratulations to Shannon Crowe on winning the discus, and thanks to Mr. Goode and parents for transporting the students.

SCHOOL SOCIAL:

Congratulations and thank you to the S.R.C. and Mrs. Goode for organising the social. Those in attendance had some great costumes and really enjoyed themselves. Thank you also to the staff who gave up their time to supervise.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE:

Our Year 10's are this week working in a range of jobs which are providing valuable insights into the world of work. Thank you to Mrs. Gillahan for the support she has given students in the process, and to parents who have shown initiative in helping their child secure a work placement.

Geoff Rigby, PRINCIPAL

CALENDAR

October	
12 th to 16 th	Year 10 Work Experience
Mon 19 th	Minyip Shoot
Tue 20 th	School Council Meeting 7.30pm
Thur 22 nd	Battle of Bands Last Day for Year 12
26 th to 29 th	Yr. 12 study period
Thur 29 th	Clay Bird & Bowls
Fri 30 th	Yr. 12 exams begin
November	
Tue 3 rd	Melbourne Cup holiday - no school
Fri. 6 th	St Mary's twilight Fete
9 th to 13 th	Yr.9 Canoe camp
Thu. 12 th	Year 8 Super 8s at Horsham
19 th to 22 nd	RACV Energy Breakthrough Challenge
Fri 20 th	Yr.11 study day Yr.12 Graduation Dinner

SCHOOL HATS - Reminder that hats are to be worn in Term 4!

VISITING AUTHOR:

Glenda Millard worked with a number of classes on Monday and provided excellent instruction to our students. It is essential that our students develop their writing skills, and visits from professional authors are valuable in enhancing the skills of our students. I hope that students take on board the words of wisdom offered by Ms. Millard.

Geoff Rigby, PRINCIPAL

EMA

EMA cheques can be collected from the school office. If you are unsure if you have one to collect, please phone the Office.

YEAR 7 NEWS

Welcome Back

Again the year is flying. Already we are up to the final term with this group of Year 7 students, and the orientation process has begun with next year's group. A principal aim this year has been, with your help, to develop the organisational skills for tackling Years 8 - 12 successfully. Please continue to closely monitor your child's school/homework and diary use throughout Term 4. I will check diaries occasionally - but not every week.

Northern Zone Aths

Jack Onley from Year 7 ventured to Bendigo today to represent the school and the North Central Sports Association in

the Northern Zone Athletics Sports. It was a great effort to make the team and we wish him all the best at the next level.

NAPLAN Test Results

The Year 7 NAPLAN Test results in English and Maths arrived at the school last month, and they were given out to all parents with Term 3 Reports. Each envelope contains the NAPLAN Test Report, and an information pamphlet.

A reminder to parents that these tests were taken at a given point in time and don't always reflect the full picture of student's progress and learning. If you have questions or concerns regarding these results, please contact the School.

Claybird Shoot

This will be at Minyip on Monday, 19th October. Good luck to Seb McConville, the only Year 7 shooter going to this event.

Important Dates for Term 4

Mon 19/10	Minyip Shoot
Thur 22/10	Battle of Bands
Mon. 23/11	Junior Public Speaking
14-17/12	End of Year program
Tue. 15/12	Speech Night
Wed. 16/12	Reports handed to students

Day/Date	Subject	Task
Mon. 19/10	7A Home Eco	Design a Muffin - prac \$3. Students need to bring finished muffin boxes.
Wed. 21/10	Science	* Microscope & Cells test
Thu. 22/10	French	Cartoon Strip due
<i>Maths: Mathsmates 2 & 3 due Fridays</i>		
<i>English: Successful English</i>		
<i>7A: due every Thursday 7B: due every Friday</i>		
<i>Spelling tests: 7A & 7B: due Mondays</i>		

Kindest regards,
JENNY LEISHMAN,
YEAR 7 CO-ORDINATOR.
Home Phone: 5497-1206

2010 Community Scholarship

Young Endeavour Youth Scheme

Students aged 16 to 23 years are eligible to apply for this Scholarship. If you would like a copy of the Application form, please ask at the Office.

Austswim Course

An Austswim course will be held at Swan Hill on the 14th, 15th & 22nd November, 2009.

Upon completion of the course, successful candidates are qualified to teach swimming.

For those requiring points towards reaccreditation, a professional development component will be conducted both morning and afternoon on Sunday, 15th November.

Those wishing to do the course are asked to contact Brian Safe, Austswim Co-ordinator, phone 5032-4357. Applications are to be in by 4th November 2009.

NATIONAL BILBY DAY

Congratulations Renee Sheridan.

All students in Years 7 to 10 had the opportunity to enter a crossword competition for "Save the Bilby". Congratulations to Renee Sheridan who won 1st prize in the Victorian Draw - a Family Pass to Victoria Zoos (Werribee, Healesville & Melbourne)

HALLS GAP WILDLIFE PARK EXCURSION

(See photos on Page 12)

On the last day of term 3, all Year 7 students made their way to the Wildlife Park in Halls Gap. They all seemed to thoroughly enjoy the day and all the interactions with the different animals. Below are the students' comments:

I would like to thank Mr. Scott and Dale Basset.

Miss S. O'Brien

7A

We had a Tour Guide named Greg. First we got to pat and hold a snake and a goanna. Then he took us around the enclosures. My favourite animal was the wombat because they were big, cuddly and all they had to do was eat, sleep and drink. I also liked the marmoset and tamarin monkeys because they were so cute and small. I really enjoyed the day because it was just so much fun and a really enjoyable day. It was really funny to see the cockatoos that swore. Greg told us that they lived with an elderly couple, and he thinks the man might have been a bit of a foul mouth. I also really like the nocturnal enclosure because there were little mice and an owl, some snakes, a bilby and a glider. I also liked the albino kangaroo and the alpine peacock. Thanks to Miss O'Brien for organising the day, Mr. Scott for coming to supervise, Dale Basset and all the Year 7s for making it a fun and enjoyable day.

Brittany Egan

At the Halls Gap Wildlife Park my favourite animal was Wilma the wombat. She was lazy and didn't move. We got to pat her. Her fur felt like straw. She didn't mind us patting her, she just lay

there eating. I really enjoyed the day. It was great!

Shannon Jeffery

The best part of the day was the tour Greg gave us around the park, and getting to see all the animals. My favourite animals were the spider monkeys, the cockatoos who danced and swore, and the wallabies. I really liked feeding the wallabies. Something funny was when I was standing all by myself and a peacock came up and spread its tail. I held a snake, but I hated it. It was disgusting!

Eliza Goode

At the Wildlife Park my favourite animal was the wombat because it was big, fat and lazy. We all got to pat it, and I asked Greg (the tour guide) if I could pick it up. He said 'good luck' because it was so heavy. I think they have the life! I thought it was very funny watching Miss O'Brien's facial expressions when she held the snake. Overall it was a very entertaining day!

Kiahn Powell

My favourite animals were the marmosets and the tamarin monkeys because they were really cute. It was a fun day because we got to hold some animals and feed the deer.

Darcy O'shea

My favourite animals were the spider monkeys and the wallabies because the spider monkeys were funny and I got to feed the wallabies bread with my mouth. Overall the day was awesome and I would like to go back there again. Thanks Miss O'Brien and Mr. Scott for taking me.

Spencer Bowles

Our leader was Greg. My favourite animal was the marmoset monkeys. They were

only small and cute. They are very active. The marmoset monkeys came from the Africa region. The day was a lot of fun, seeing lots of animals. I had a great day.

Stacey Dunstan

My favourite animal at the Halls Gap Wildlife Park was the marmosets because they had cute little faces and loved to swing on the trees. In the nocturnal enclosure, there was a pair of mice that constantly ran up and down the glass of the enclosure all the time.

Rebecca Postlethwaite

My favourite animal at the Wildlife Park was the snake I got to hold and the cockatoos. The cockatoos were funny because it danced and talked. I also enjoyed the deer and the wallabies because I got to pat and feed them. My favourite part of the day was when we had a tour of all the animals with the tour guide Greg.

George Milne

My favourite animals were the wallabies because they let you pat them and I fed one with bread from my mouth. Also the pig on its own, because it was fat, and I loved its snout. I would like to thank Miss O'Brien, the tour guide, Greg, as well as Mr. Scott, for the GREAT day.

Alex Dunstan

At the Wildlife Park Greg, our tour guide, showed us most of the animals. The first reptile we saw was the snake. It was massive, and taller than me. I also got to hold it. My favourite animal was the marmoset monkeys. They were the most cutest think I have seen. Overall I loved it.

Kara Harberger

The day was good. For a start we saw Greg and he passed around a snake. Then we went to the sanctuary. There were some birds at the start and we walked past some turkeys. There were some deer. I liked the deer because they followed you.

Daniel Atkins

Halls Gap was great. My favourite animals were the dingoes. They were so relaxed, but I also liked the marmoset monkeys. They were so small! The weather was perfect as well.

Daniel Matthews

At the Halls Gap Wildlife Park we started the tour by touching and looking at snakes. They were so scary. My favourite animals are the marmoset monkeys. They were so cute. I would buy one if I could!!!

Teagan Anderson

YEAR 7B

The nocturnal house was awesome. My favourite animals were the peacocks because it strutted around with pride. My favourite peacock was the white one.

Lisa Falla

One thing I enjoyed was holding the carpet python at the start of our day. My favourite animals were the dingoes because they were tame and they jumped up on you like a normal dog.

Darby Harrison

I enjoyed having the snake around my neck because it felt smooth and cold. My favourite animals would have to be spider monkeys, capuchin monkeys and all the other monkeys, because they were small, fluffy and cute. I also enjoyed the cockies dancing because they were funny.

Renee Sheridan

My favourite part was where Greg brought out Oscar, the Carpet Python, and we got to put it around our neck. My favourite animals were the tamarin because they were tiny. I also liked the pig called Peaches.

Jordan May

My favourite animals at the Wildlife Park were the dingoes because I got to lead one of them and because they are mysterious beasts. No-one knows how they arrived in Australia. My favourite reptile was the carpet python because I really love snakes.

Keith Brusnahan

My favourite part of the day was at the start where Greg brought out the carpet python, and we got to hold it. It was awesome. The most amusing thing of the day was when Jordy did not read the sign to the rock wallaby enclosure, which said "DO NOT PUT FINGERS THROUGH HOLES!" and Jordy put his finger in there and got bitten by one of the wallabies. I enjoyed the marmosets and tamarins at the start because they were really small and cool.

Seb McConville

The most enjoyable part of the tour was feeding the Fallow deer bread. My favourite animal was the bilby because it was interesting to see its enclosure and its size.

Sabrina Smith

I liked the corellas in the bird cage because their previous owners taught them to talk and they say really funny things. They can also dance. Greg was really cool because he explained the animals clearly.

Daniel Griemink

One thing I enjoyed at the Halls Gap Wildlife Park was holding the carpet python. My favourite animal was Peaches the pig because he just played around in the mud in his pen all day.

Jack Onley

My favourite animals were the marmoset monkeys because they were so cute and showed off all the time. Also the spider monkeys were great because they love to climb and they were funny. I enjoyed having Oscar the snake around my neck. It felt weird.

Dylan Wheeler

My favourite animal at the Wildlife Park was the fallow deer because we got to feed them bread and they also were very friendly. My second favourite animal was the wallabies because we also got to feed them, and the way they hop is cool.

Nikeisha Grant

I enjoyed the wombat and the dingoes the most, apart from when the dingo jumped up on me. I thought that the monkeys were really funny, and the peacock was gorgeous. Overall I thought the day was great.

Tessa McCahon

One thing I enjoyed was letting the dingoes out for a little walk. My favourite animals were the marmosets and the tamarin monkeys.

Jay Parsons

SINGING LESSONS

'Learn a technique to sing any style'

Contact Tracey on 5495 2119

If enough interest, will travel from St.

Arnaud to Donald

"Veil Trail"

On 16th October, St Mary's will be hosting the "Veil Trail" Wedding Fashion parade, at the Memorial Hall.

Bridal gowns from the last 80 years will be paraded, intermingled with performances from local talents, and a delicious supper will also be provided.

All interested are invited to come along and reminisce and enjoy a night of fun and entertainment.

It is a licensed event with raffles and Wedding gifts galore!!!

Tickets are available singly at \$15 a head from MP Jolly's, or get together with 10 of your friends or family and book and pay early- to secure a front table. It is bound to be a memorable night.

St Mary's Primary School invites you to a great family night out. **St Mary's are holding their Annual Twilight Fete on Friday 6th November from 4.30 pm - 9.00 pm.**

Features and attractions include BBQ, licensed bar, pancakes, cake/produce and delectable coffee and cake.

For the children there will be a jumping castle, show bags, clown, lucky containers, face painting and colour and novelties for hair.

Try your luck on the spinning wheel or in the raffle, with great prizes on offer. All this and more - - - whilst being entertained by great local musicians.

**Earthwatch - Australia's
Vanishing Frog Program**

Congratulations Andrew Falla

The principal aim of the project is to assess the status of a number of critically endangered frogs in the rainforests of eastern Australia. Nine endemic Australian frogs are considered to have disappeared (presumed extinct) in the past 20 years. A further 20 species have declined in distribution and abundance and 27 species are listed as threatened.

Andrew has been accepted to attend this all expenses paid week long project in December. Congratulations to Andrew for taking on this wonderful opportunity. He will be working with a group of scientists completing fieldwork, surveying stream transects, taking animal measurements, data recording and analysis.

Once again congratulations to Andrew and hopefully he will write an article to go into the first newsletter for 2010.

S.O'Brien

Southern Corroboree Frog (*Pseudophryne corroboree*) ~ is endangered



Southern Gastric-Brooding Frog (*Rheobatrachus silus*) ~ is extinct. The cool thing about this frog is that it keeps its eggs in its mouth and the tadpoles develop in the frog's stomach.



PARENTS' CLUB REPORT

Thank you to all families for their support given to the Monster Raffle in donating items and selling or buying the tickets that were sent home. The winner was Ashley Piera. To the girls who sat in the street and helped at the Show on Friday night, thank you. To Geoff Rigby who gave the Parents' Club the opportunity to add the bike to the raffle, thank you.

Thanks to all involved, proceeds banked from the raffle was \$929.51.

Robyn Bibby
President

**JUNIOR TENNIS
COACHING
WITH MAX BALDWINSON**

5 x 1 hour lessons \$60.00

10 am - 11am

Beginners through to Advanced
Sundays - October 18, Nov 15, Dec
20, Feb 21, March 21

Names ASAP to: Anne Maree Wright
5497 1643

**THE REX THEATRE, CHARLTON
COMING FILMS**

Friday, 16th October, 8.00 p.m. -
Andre Rieu, live via satellite from
Sydney - tickets \$40 (phone 5491-2333)

*No film screenings 17, 18 & 20 October
(Charlton Show Weekend)*

Charlie & Boots - Sat 24/10, 8 pm, Sun
25/10, 2 pm, Tue 27/10, 8 pm

Aliens in the Attic - Sat 31/10, 8 pm,
Sun 1/11, 2 pm, Tue 3/11, 8 pm

Fame - Sat 7/11, 8 pm, Sun 8/11, 2 pm,
Tue 10/11, 8 pm

**NEW BOOKS IN
YOUR LIBRARY THIS
WEEK**



***Wings* by Aprilynne Pike**

When Laurel is thrust into the midst of a centuries-old battle between faeries and trolls, she's torn between a human and a faerie love. In this extraordinary tale of magic, romance and danger, everything you thought you knew about faeries will be changed forever.

***Macbeth you idiot* by Don Henderson**

In this very funny novel Andy Macbeth is the star player on the Scotts College football team. He has three witchy aunties, a friend called Banger, a coach called Duncan King whose job Macbeth covets, after one of the aunties says he could be coach as well as captain, and an ambitious streak which could just be his downfall.

***Fill out this application and wait over there* by Ruth Starke**

Hailee needs more money for her gap year in Asia so she must join the work force. This involves getting up unnaturally early in the morning, wearing unattractive clothes and being nice to whining customers, all for very small wages. A very funny first-hand account of life at the bottom of the heap.

***The Princess Bride* by William Goldman**

What happens when the most beautiful girl in the world marries the handsomest prince of all time and he turns out to be...well...a lot less than the man of her dreams?

The "Good Parts" of the S. Morgenstern classic, as retold by Goldman

**Donald Junior Cricket
Association**

Junior Cricket will commence on **Saturday, 24th October, 2009.**

There will be training sessions at the Jeffcott Cricket Nets on Friday, 16th & 23rd October, commencing at 5:00 p.m.

Registrations and fees will be taken on either of these dates. These must be completed for children to play. At training on the 23rd October, teams will be announced and T-Shirts allocated. A BBQ and can of soft drink will be provided for players on this night.

If you haven't put your name in and you want to play Junior Cricket, please get your names to Mary or Anthony Hogan **immediately!** Phone: 5497-1971 (Leave a message if no answer)

**INTRODUCTION TO SHEARING &
WOOL HANDLING PROGRAM,
CHARLTON**

The 3-day workshop will be conducted for young people 15 - 19 years in 2009 across the following dates: Wednesday, November 25th to Friday, November 27th, 2009 (inclusive) 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. each day

Location: 'Bushy Park', Corner of Wright & Kaye Street, Charlton

Included in the 3 days' training will be extensive course material, and morning tea and lunch will be provided.

For further information, please contact **Sue Hill**, NCLLEN Representative, on 5491 1144 or **Louse Cameron** RIST Traineeship Leader on 0438 730 973 or 5573 0943

WORKCO Apprenticeship and Traineeship Vacancies

Job Title	Town	Contact	Closing Date
Administration Assistant Traineeship	Ararat	Jamie Bennett	19/10/2009
Maintenance Assistant Traineeship	Ararat	Jamie Bennett	19/10/2009
Sports & Recreation Traineeship	Ararat	Jamie Bennett	21/10/2009
Apprentice Chef/Cook	Birchip	Kate Clark	23/10/2009
General Maintenance Traineeship	Horsham	Shane Cross	30/10/2009

For further details on any of these positions, please check the notice board outside the office

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Important Asthma Information for Children

It is important to find a doctor who has a special interest in asthma. This doctor will ideally:

- Be able to spend time with you explaining your child's asthma and how it is best managed
- Show you and your child how to administer medication via a device, which is appropriate for the age and ability of your child.
- Assess how well you and your child are able to use the chosen delivery devices.
- Give you a written asthma action plan outlining the management of your child's asthma at home. This plan will tell you:
 - Medications to be taken each day (if required) to keep asthma under control; as well as medications that may be taken prior to physical activity if your child gets exercise induced asthma
 - How to recognise signs of worsening asthma
 - What to do if their asthma gets worse
 - What to do if asthma continues to deteriorate, or if your child has a severe asthma attack.
 - How to get help quickly.

Be sure to establish a good relationship with your doctor and ensure your child has regular check ups, even if they appear to be in control of their asthma.

For further information, please call the Asthma Telephone HelpLine on **1800 645 130** or visit the **Asthma Foundation of Victoria's** website www.asthma.org.au.



RACV ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

34 days to go!!!

The countdown is on. We have only 34 days to go until the start of the RACV energy Breakthrough Challenge in Maryborough.

At the moment the staff at Donald Steel are putting some finishing touches to our vehicle so it will meet the stringent engineering requirements. Meanwhile back at school we are preparing our education presentation. As part of the Challenge, we are required to provide a short presentation about what we have learnt about fitness, healthy eating, the environment and working together.



Sponsorship: Thank you to Donald Steel, The Buloke Times, T Pos Fabrications, Donald Mensland, The Clothes Bin and Faye Allen for providing us with sponsorship. We are still looking for Businesses and Individuals to sponsor us in the challenge. We will promote your business on our trike and our website. If you can assist in any way, please contact Jane Battersby or Viva Perkal at Donald High School, by phoning 5497-1205.



YOU COULD LEARN A LOT FROM AN INTERNATIONAL BROTHER OR SISTER !

climate change? further education?
cultural differences? language?
study habits? careers?

AND WHAT FUN TEACHING HIM/HER ABOUT AUSTRALIAN CULTURE.

Carefully selected students will arrive February 2010 for 5 months from Europe, Japan and the U.S.A. They will attend local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money.



CONTACT: 1800 500 501
email : scceaust@scce.com.au
Website: www.scce.com.au

BARNUM

On Wednesday, 16th September, Olivia, Caitlyn Wood, Tamika, Alex, and our driver Miss O'Brien, buckled up in the School's feature-packed Ford eagerly awaiting Barnum. We left the School car park at 6.30 a.m., arriving in Avoca at 7.30 and Ballan soon after where we purchased our essential supplies for the huge day ahead. We arrived at the Melbourne Comedy Theatre car park at approximately 10.15 a.m., with the show scheduled to start at 11. It was fortunate that we had allowed ourselves spare time, as we found regular-sized car parks hard to come by, and managed to improvise, however, with Miss O'Brien manoeuvring the School car (carefully) into a 'neat' sized car park. We entered the Comedy Theatre to see a mass of School children who, like us, were eager to see the show. After we sat down in our Gold Class, top-level back row seats, the first half of the show began. The storyline of Barnum was of an American man, Mr. P. T. Barnum, who had insatiable dreams of running circuses and museums. Mr. Barnum's initial ways of making money were by buying people with unusual titles such as the oldest woman or Tom Thumb, the smallest boy, which proved to be of little monetary value. In the first half of the show, Megan Berry was a dancer, accompanying Mr. Barnum as he sang, with her role changing in the second half of the show. The crowd favourite was one of the performers Mr. P. T. Barnum had purchased who was a French woman with an amazing voice. After a 20-minute interval, the second half consisted of Mr. P. T. Barnum and his cast members, including Megan, building a museum which later burnt down, leading to his demise, but subsequently lead to the formation of a circus. During this stage of the production, Megan became a notable juggler and dancer, whilst members of the Flying Fruit Fly Circus soared high above the stage, entwining themselves in ropes and catching one another, which was spectacular to watch. We spoke with Megan after the show before heading back home via McDonalds. Barnum was a brilliant production which had a profound as well as humorous story-line accompanied by spectacular ensemble of tricks and dances. We congratulate Megan on her performance and hope to see her on the stage in the future. Huge thanks must go to Mr. Rigby for allowing us the opportunity to see Megan perform. This gesture is much appreciated. And a special thanks to Miss O'Brien for giving up her time to drive us to Barnum and letting us listen to Michael Jackson all the way home. Also, one last thanks to the girls for keeping the car seats squeaky clean.

By Alex Downes



Alex, Tamika, Megan (with her make-up on), Olivia and Caitlyn before the production



Rebecca Postlethwaite feeding a Fallow Deer



Daniel Atkins with a carpet python



Daniel Matthews and Dylan Wheeler with one of the 'tame' Dingoes.