



# NEWSLETTER

CIRCULATED FORTNIGHTLY TO INFORM PARENTS OF  
SCHOOL EVENTS AND VIEWPOINTS

No. 17  
OCTOBER 29th,  
2009

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Dear Parents,

## YEAR 12's:

Our Year 12 students completed the last day of their secondary education last Friday. After a BBQ with staff at lunch time, they were farewelled at the "Battle of the Bands". I hope that they are studying hard and I wish them success in the exams.

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS:

This year's extravaganza went for two hours with over twenty musical acts. It was very pleasing to see students from all Year Levels performing. This reflects very well on our music program which is run by Miss Walsh and Mrs. Battersby. It was great to have students and teachers joining together for many songs which demonstrates the close links between students and teachers at our school. Well done to all participants and to the parents who came to see the students perform. Thanks to Miss Walsh for her efforts in forming the bands and preparing the students and to Caitlyn Wood and Megan Berry who introduced each group.

## EMA

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

## CONGRATULATIONS:

Well done to Olivia Borden and Tim Gillahan for winning prizes in a recent North Central LLEN competition.

## MINYIP SHOOT:

A large contingent of shooters participated on 19<sup>th</sup> October, and all thoroughly enjoyed the day. Thank you to Mr. Goode for his organisation and to the parents and community members who transported and supported the students.

Geoff Rigby, PRINCIPAL

## YEAR 10 EXAMS AND STUDY DAY

Our apologies for the change to the advertised dates for the Year 10 Study Day and Exams, if this has caused problems for parents. The Study Day is Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, and exams are being held on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday and Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

## CALENDAR

October	
26 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup>	Yr. 12 study period
Thur. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Inter-School Clay Bird & Bowls
Fri. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Yr. 12 exams begin
November	
Mon. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Super 8's Clinic Year 10 Mock Interviews
Tue. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Melbourne Cup holiday - no School
Fri. 6 <sup>th</sup>	St Mary's Twilight Fete
9 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup>	Yr. 9 Canoe camp
Thu. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Yr. 7 & 8 Super 8's at Horsham
19 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup>	RACV Energy Breakthrough Challenge
Fri. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Yr. 11 Study Day Yr. 12 Graduation Dinner
Mon. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Junior Public Speaking Grade 6 Induction Day at H.S.

## **New School Leaving Age**

Research has shown that young people who stay in education or training longer significantly boost their career prospects and their earning capacity throughout their working lives - which is why, from January next year, the minimum school leaving age will rise from 16 to 17. From 2010 onwards, all Victorian students will be required to complete Year 10 and remain in some form of education, training or employment until the age of 17. In Victoria, students can choose from a range of academic and applied learning options, including the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). Students can also undertake the popular 'hands-on' Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Schools program as part of their VCE or VCAL.

St. Mary's Primary School invites you to a great family night out. **St Mary's are holding their Annual Twilight Fete on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

# **YEAR 7 NEWS**

## **Organisational Skills**

Already into the fourth week of Term 4, and I am witnessing a number of students who are still yet to develop the necessary organisational skills, or who have become stuck in this area, and as a result are not working to their full potential. Some students are consistently forgetting homework, and forgetting books or other equipment. This inhibits their learning and makes teaching difficult. I would hope that students can make a greater effort in this area, and that parents can continually monitor their child's progress. Parents still need to be signing diaries (making sure they are being used correctly), discussing with students what is and has been going on at school, and reminding them of important dates, events and classes. We need a co-ordinated and consistent effort if improvements are to be rapidly made. We should not just assume all is fine just because we are into Term 4. Staff will make a concerted effort over the remaining weeks to assist students with their organisation, but we need back-up support from home.

## **Incubating Chicken Eggs**

On Tuesday at 8.30 a.m. the Year 7s met in Room 8 to label their chosen chicken egg and to start the incubation process. Fingers crossed for the next 21 days.

## **Students taking their own responsibility**

We have also asked all students that they are not to phone home or borrow money from the office unless there is an emergency. Students must start to take responsibility for remembering lunches, P.E. gear, homework, etc.

### **Super 8's Clinic**

On Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, there will be a Super 8's Coaching Clinic for Year 7 students from 2.00 to 2.45 p.m. The Super 8's team will be selected from Years 7 and 8 students.

### **Important Dates for Term 4**

Mon. 2/11	Super 8's Clinic (2 - 2.45 pm)
Thu. 12/11	Super 8's Horsham
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
Fri. 30/10	Science	Chicken Incubation Sheet due
Mon. 2/11	7B Home Ec	Muffin evaluation due
Thu. 5/11	French	* Written Test Oral recording due
Mon. 23/11	English	Junior Public Speaking Students should be preparing for this

*Maths: Mathsmates 4 & 5 due Fridays*  
*English: Successful English*  
7A: due every Thursday 7B: due every Friday  
Spelling tests: 7A & 7B: due Mondays

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.

### **SINGING LESSONS**

'Learn a technique to sing any style'  
Contact Tracey on 5495 2119  
If enough interest, will travel from  
St. Arnaud to Donald

### **Austswim Course**

An Austswim course will be held at Swan Hill on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> 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, 15<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

### **GALLAGHER AG SERVICES**

Contract harvesting and cartage.  
Leigh Gallagher  
0408 520 926

### **THE REX THEATRE, CHARLTON** **COMING FILMS**

**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  
**BABBA** - Sun 15/11, 2 pm, Bookings  
phone 0419 727 574

**NEW BOOKS IN  
YOUR LIBRARY THIS  
WEEK**



### New releases

This month we have seen new releases in three very popular series:

***Specky Magee & the battle of the young guns*** by Felice Arena & Garry Lyon.

***Brigands M.C.*** by Robert Muchamore, Cherub Series and more from Jack West with ***The Five Greatest Warriors*** by Matthew Reilly all are available now in our library.

***"Chinese Cinderella: the mystery of the Song Dynasty"*** by Adeline Yen Mah

Following a fall at the river town of Feng Jie, Chinese Cinderella is whisked away to hospital, where she sees a copy of an ancient painting, 'Along the River at Qing Ming'.

As she lapses in and out of consciousness, she is haunted by vivid dreams. A tale emerges of friendship, wealth and poverty, eunuchs and an Emperor who loved art, as Chinese Cinderella recalls a life lived eight hundred years ago during the Song Dynasty.

***"Blue Noise"*** by Debra Oswald

When the enthusiastic oddball Charlie moves to town, he immediately seeks out a group of musicians to form a blues band. Ash is a budding guitarist with a dysfunctional home life. Erin is a classical pianist who reluctantly agrees to play keyboards, much to the disappointment of her parents. Erin and

Ash surprise themselves when they realise they actually sound pretty good, and start to think that perhaps their band has a future.

***"My Life as a Traitor"*** by Zarah Ghahramani

Ms. Ghahramani makes a highly unlikely political prisoner, a romantic, poetry-besotted young woman whose rage at the government was a matter of personal style as much as of principle. "Irritation at, and occasional exasperation with, the rigid dress code and with the hidebound ideology of the mullahs, guarantees her a cell in the infamous Evin prison. There she is held for nearly a month in solitary confinement, interrogated and tortured, after taking part in student demonstrations at Tehran University.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 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

## NORTHERN ZONE ATHLETICS,

2009

LaTrobe University's Athletics Complex in Bendigo was the venue for the Northern Zone Athletics Meeting held in the first week of term. The North Central Schools were again very well represented with wins in twenty five out of the 180 events.

Eight students from Donald competed in individual events and relays. These representatives were winners at Inter-School level in St. Arnaud earlier in the year. Shannon Crowe was thrilled to win the 17 years old Discus event with a distance of 22.25 metres. She then went on to the VSSSA State finals last week. Although she came up against more seasoned throwers, she enjoyed the experience. Jack Onley came second in the discus with a distance of 30.97 metres, and third in the 200 metres in a time of 29.06 seconds. Caitlyn Wood jumped 1.35 metres against a very talented field in which the winner cleared a height of 1.70 metres. Olivia Borden finished a creditable third in the Shot Put (8.56 m). Ally Doak competed in a total of four events. She finished seventh in the 100 metres (15.17 secs), fourth in the Triple Jump (8.56 m) fourth in the Long Jump ((4.47 m), and finished the day running the relay with Laura O'Reilly, Georgia Bird and Teagan Stuchbery.

Congratulations to all students from Donald and surrounding Schools who participated, and at this point we must also acknowledge the support given by parents and many officials who volunteer their services on days such as this.

Tony Goode,  
Sports Co-ordinator

## Olivia and Tim win LCP

Competition.

Olivia Borden and Tim Gillahan, Year 11 students at Donald High School, are the lucky winners of a poster competition organised by the West Mallee Local Community Partnership, NCLLEN.

The aim of the competition was for students to design a poster which promotes the advantages of studying a VET subject and undertaking Structured Workplace Learning along with their usual studies in Years 10, 11 and 12

Olivia was awarded first prize and awarded a Nintendo WII . Tim was awarded second prize, and for his efforts was awarded a Nintendo DS Lite.

Olivia's poster has been reproduced professionally and will be distributed to schools in the Region to promote VET and Structured Workplace Learning. Both students are to be congratulated on their achievements. Donald High School would like to thank the West Mallee Local Community Partnership of North Central Local Learning and Employment Network for the chance to participate in this competition and for the wonderful prizes.

## YEAR 10 MOCK INTERVIEWS

On Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, all Year 10 students will be participating in Mock Interviews. In recent weeks, students have been practising writing resumes and letters of application for "mock" jobs they wish to apply for. All their practise will be put to the test when they attend their "mock interview" and are put through a real-life scenario of a job interview.

Students are to attend these interviews dressed appropriately for the job they are applying for. If a student is unable to attend this interview on the day, they are to notify Lizzie Wilde on **5491-1144** and Mr. Leishman or Mrs. Gillahan. Good luck to all students involved in the program.

## **WORKCO Apprenticeship and Traineeship Vacancies**

<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>
Business Administration Traineeship	Horsham	Chris Perry	30/10/2009
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**

### **FUSION'S NEXT DAY TRIP INVOLVES ABSEILING**

**WHERE?**

**MELVILLE CAVES**

**WHEN?**

**SATURDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

**IT'S GOING TO BE FUN**

**IF YOU WANT TO GO, CONTACT BEK OR DEBBIE BORDEN (PHONE 0409 955 272)**

## RACV ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

21 days to go!!!

We have only 21 days to go until the start of the RACV Energy Breakthrough Challenge in Maryborough.

Fourteen students from Donald High School will be travelling to Maryborough in 3 weeks' time. Declan O'Shea, Jeremy Goode, Alexander Bouchier, Tom Gillahan, James Young, Jaron Dunstan, Darcy O'Shea, Jenna Allen, Sarah Postlethwaite, Cassie Taylor, Brittany Egan, Celeste O'Shannessy, Rebecca Postlethwaite and Katrina Heslop have all worked very hard during the year, and are looking forward to the big race.

Sponsorship: Thank you to Donald Steel, The Buloke Times, T Pos Fabrications, Donald Mensland, Weir's IGA, Donald Newsagency, 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 - 5497-1205.

### 2009 Australian Mathematics Competition

This event was introduced in Australia in 1978 as the first Competition in Australian Schools. It has become the largest single event on the Australian Education Calendar, allowing students to attempt the same tasks, on the same day in about 40 countries. It has become a truly international event, with countries throughout the Pacific and South East Asia, and some from even further afield taking part.

This year, 41 students from Years 7 - 10 at Donald High School completed the Australian Mathematics Competition on 6<sup>th</sup> August.

Twenty students received outstanding results, and were rewarded with a special Certificate.

**Distinction Certificates** were awarded to:

Daniel Griemink (Year 7)

Jeremy Goode & James Heslop (Year 9) Luke

Clark & Declan O'Shea (Year 10)

**Credit certificates** were awarded to:

Year 7: Darby Harrison, Tessa McCahon,  
George Milne and Sabrina Smith

Year 8: Katrina Heslop

Year 9: Finbar Baker, Matthew Butler, Emily McLennan, Rachel McLoughlan, Fabian O'Shannessy, Sarah Postlethwaite and Jacob Voigt.

Year 10: Callum Baker, Ashlee Griemink and Sean Walsh.

Congratulations to all award winners and everyone who participated.

## PARENTS' CLUB REPORT

The Year 12 Graduation Dinner will be held on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> November at the Donald Blue Room. The Parents' Club are asking all families for a money donation to help cover the cost of the dinner.

We will require the assistance of the Year 11 students and parents to help on the night. The students are asked to waitress and the parents to help in the kitchen.

This system has worked well in past years, so we are hoping that the same will apply again this year. We realise that Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> is a study day for Year 11 students, however we are hoping that you

can organise yourselves during the day and be able to help the Year 12 students enjoy their last School function, keeping in mind that you and your parents will be able to enjoy the same next year at your graduation. Please see Miss Swan about waitressing. Waitresses need to be at the Blue Room by 6.30 p.m.

Two parents will be required at 5.00 p.m. to heat savouries, etc., and an extra three parents at 7 p.m. to help serve the meal, wash dishes and help clean up. Please complete the list below for a cash donation, or to work on the Friday night. Please return to school by Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> November.



Please fill out form below and return to School by Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> November

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to assist with the Graduation Dinner (enclosed in envelope)

I can help with the following times at the Blue Room (please write your names in the spaces provided):

Heat savouries from 5 pm			
Serve meals from 7 pm			