



NEWSLETTER

CIRCULATED FORTNIGHTLY TO INFORM PARENTS OF
SCHOOL EVENTS AND VIEWPOINTS

No. 18
NOVEMBER
12th,
2009

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Dear Parents,

VCE UNIT 3/4 EXAMS:

Our Year 12's (and many Year 11 students) have almost completed their end of Year exams at the Christian Education Centre. I would like to thank our exam supervisors for the professional and caring way they treat our students. Examiners this year are Mr. Ken Morrison (Chief Examiner), Mrs. Judy Wall, Mrs. Mary Hogan, Mr. Ray Walker and Mr. Graham Shilton.

PARENT OPINION SURVEYS:

Thank you to the parents who were randomly selected to complete the surveys this year. They always provide us with valuable feedback. The survey results were outstanding and reflect a very high level of parent satisfaction with the School and its programs. These will be discussed at next week's School Council Meeting. Interested parents can pick up a two page "snapshot summary" of the results of our student, parent and staff opinion surveys at the General Office.

VALUE SIGNS:

After consultation with parents, students and teachers, eight values were identified as those reflecting Donald High School. Each Year 11 Art student, under Mrs. Warr's guidance, painted a sign which have been erected at the entrance to the School. An assembly will be held on Monday to "unveil" the signs and students from Years 7 - 11 will be speaking on the importance of the values portrayed. Thank you to all concerned with the

project and to Mr. Cashin and Mr. Goode who helped put up the signs.

REMEMBRANCE DAY:

Mr. Potter ran a brief ceremony at School, whilst our Year 10 students represented the School at the local R.S.L. Remembrance Day Ceremony outside the Donald Post Office.

YEAR 9 CANOE CAMP:

This week our Year 9's are on a canoe camp on the Murray River near Echuca, and I am sure that they are having a great time.

GEOFF RIGBY, PRINCIPAL

CALENDAR

November	
9 th to 13 th	Yr. 9 Canoe camp
Tue. 17 th	School Council Dinner Meeting - 7.00 p.m.
19 th to 22 nd	RACV Energy Breakthrough Challenge
Fri. 20 th	Yr. 11 Study Day Yr. 12 Graduation Dinner
Mon. 23 rd	Junior Public Speaking Grade 6 Induction Day at H.S.
23 rd to 26 th	Year 11 Exams
Fri. 27 th	Year 10 exams begin
Mon. 30 th	Year 10 Study Day
December	
Mon. 1 st	Grade 6 Orientation Day
1 st to 3 rd	Year 10 exams continue

STUDENT ABSENCES & APPOINTMENTS

PARENTS ARE REMINDED THAT IF STUDENTS ARE ABSENT, THERE MUST BE A NOTE SENT TO SCHOOL EXPLAINING THE ABSENCE. IF STUDENTS NEED TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS, A NOTE MUST ALSO BE GIVEN TO YEAR LEVEL CO-ORDINATORS OR OFFICE STAFF.

RACV ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

7 days to go!!!

INTER-SCHOOL CLAYBIRD AND BOWLS:

On October 29, our shooters and bowlers enjoyed a day of sport and performed well. Thank you to Mr. Haddow and Mr. Goode for organising the events and to those who accompanied them.

MOCK INTERVIEWS:

All Year 10 students were involved with Mock Interviews last week, after being well prepared by Mr. Leishman and Mrs. Gillahan. Each student had to dress appropriately for the interview, complete a resume and a job application and attend the interview. Thanks to John McConville, Lizzie Wilde and the two LLEN representatives who conducted the interviews in a professional manner. I am sure the students found it a very worthwhile experience.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

At a recent meeting of School Council, it was suggested that we call for volunteers, either individuals or families, to maintain a small section of the School grounds. The School mower or ride-on mower would be available for use, if necessary. This scheme has been in operation in the past, and usually involves two hours per month.

If you are willing to participate, please contact the School.

Geoff Rigby

Parents Club final Meeting for 2009

This will be held at Banyena Foods at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, 23rd Nov. for lunch. All parents are most welcome to attend.

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

Time is flying

With 6 weeks gone, there are just over 4 working weeks left before our current Year 7 group has finished their first year at High School. It is amazing how fast the year has flown. Over the next few weeks there will no doubt be quite a bit of assessment for students to complete. It is vital that students remain organised right up until the end of formal classes. Now is not a time to wind down and slacken off!! For some students they still require constant reminders and help with homework and assessment tasks. Parents, please don't assume your child has everything under control. Continue to check work, ask questions and give assistance if required.

Uniform

Recently it has been observed that a number of students are appearing at school out of uniform. If for any reason your child is out of uniform, could you please send me a note explaining the reasons why. The school has a well-defined uniform policy and, as you can appreciate, policing this at times can be difficult, so your support is appreciated. To date this year's Year 7 group have been fantastic in this area. Things like jewellery and nail polish also come under the uniform policy and are not to be worn to school. If you would like to see a copy of the policy, consult your parent or student handbooks, or give me a call at school.

**NEW BOOKS IN
YOUR LIBRARY THIS
WEEK**



"Mama's Song" by Ben Beaton

Georgina, alone and pregnant, takes refuge in the country town where her Grandmother lives. Here she finds herself alone facing the enormity of her situation and the responsibility of caring for another.

"Swerve" by Phillip Gwyne

Hugh is 16, loves the cello, and is a car fanatic. When his Grandfather offers him a road trip to Uluru in his 1970 Holden HG Monaro, Hugh decides to do the unexpected and "go". Along the way, with a cast of crazy characters and incidents, he discovers a few secrets about his Grandfather and his family.

"Goal: glory days" by Robert Rigby

Santiago Munez playing in the English Premiership League once again. He's also been selected for the 2010 World Cup and is playing on the form of his life. When disaster strikes during an international warm-up match, and Santi is injured, it looks like his dream of playing in the greatest competition of them all is over if he can't prove himself

physically and mentally match-fit in time for the finals.

"Remarkable Creatures" by Tracy Chevalier

When Mary Anning uncovers unknown dinosaur fossils in the cliffs near her home, she sets the scientific world alight, challenging ideas about the world's creation and stimulating debate over our origins. In an arena dominated by men, however, Mary is soon reduced to a serving role, facing prejudice from the academic community, vicious gossip from neighbours, and the heartbreak of forbidden love. Luckily Mary finds an unlikely champion in Elizabeth Philpot, a middle-class spinster who is also fossil-obsessed.

DONALD JUNIOR CRICKET

Due to harvest commencing and the impending hot weather - Friday afternoon Junior Cricket training is finished for the rest of the season.

Anthony Hogan, President

Donald Junior Cricket

**GALLAGHER AG SERVICES
CONTRACT HARVESTING AND
CARTAGE**

Leigh Gallagher, 0408 520 926

WORKCO Apprenticeship and Traineeship Vacancies

Job Title	Town	Contact	Closing Date
Automotive Mechanical (Light Vehicle) Apprenticeship	Horsham	Chris Perry	20/11/2009
Business Administration Traineeship	Horsham	Chris Perry	27/11/2009
Information Technology Traineeship	Horsham	Chris Perry	27/11/2009
Automotive Mechanical (Tyre Fitting) Traineeship	Horsham	Shane Cross	13/11/2009

For further details, please ask at the Office for any of these positions

A.U.S.I.M.M.
**(Australasian Institute of Mining
and Metallurgy)**
**CONGRATULATIONS JAKE
POSTLETHWAITE**

**Australian Student Mineral Ventures -
Southern Regions**

Australian Student Mineral Ventures (ASMV) Scheme is a series of prestigious vacation programs presented annually throughout Australia, and Jake has been accepted into one of their programs. These ventures introduce High School students (Years 10, 11 & 12) to many pathways available within the minerals industry through mine and plant

visits, geological excursions, lectures and exposure to scientific and technical approaches being used by industry, and an opportunity to meet key industry personnel.

The Southern ASMV is hosted by the University of Ballarat, 9th - 20th January, 2010. The program starts in Ballarat and will take Jake to towns such as Stawell, Hamilton, Portland, and even to Hobart and surrounding towns in Tasmania, looking at different smelters and research facilities. Congratulations and well done Jake!

PARENTS' CLUB REPORT

GRADUATION DINNER - 20th November in the Donald Blue Room

The Parents' Club are asking all families for a money donation to help cover the cost of the dinner. **Thank you to those who have already sent their donations in. We are very grateful for your assistance.**

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 20th 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, 9th November.



Please fill out form below and return to School by Monday, 16th 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		
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Serve meals from 7 pm	Marilyn Connell		
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Year 11 Exam Timetable

Year 11 Exams start next week. Yes that's right; they are only a week away. If you have a child in Year 11, they should be completing at least 2 hours of study each night and plenty of revision on the weekends. They could be completing questions from textbooks, summary notes, past or practice exams. Year 11 students completing end of year exams do have a study day on Friday 20th November. They are expected to attend Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week before the exam period. Year 11 students can wear casual clothes and may come and go as they please. Students who would normally travel on the bus to get to and from school, must have a note, and sign out in the Absent Book if they are going to leave the school grounds, even to go down the street for lunch. Below is the timetable for the exams. You may want to stick this on your fridge as a reminder.

Yr. 11 Exam Timetable **STUDY DAY - 20th Nov**

Monday 23rd Nov - Thursday 26th Nov

Date	AM/PM	Subject	Room	Start Reading	Finish	Reading Time	Length
Monday 23 rd Nov	AM	ENGLISH (33)	VC	9.00 a.m.	11.10 a.m.	10 mins	2 hrs
	PM	CHEMISTRY (8)	VC	1.45 p.m.	3.25 p.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
		H & HD (12)	VC	1.45 p.m.	3.25 p.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
Tuesday 24 th Nov	AM	ACCOUNTING (18)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
		GEOGRAPHY (9)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
	PM	LEGAL STUDIES (14)	VC	1.45 p.m.	3.25 p.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
Wednesday 25 th Nov	AM	P.E. (19)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.25 a.m.	10 mins	1.25 hrs
		FRENCH (1)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
		PHYSICS (6)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
	PM	NO EXAM					
Thursday 26 th Nov	AM	BIOLOGY (6)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
		STUDIO ART (7)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.10 a.m.	10 mins	1 hr
		IT (7)	VC	9.00 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
	PM	MATHS METOHDS (18)	VC	1.45 p.m.	3.25 p.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs
		GENERAL MATHS (13)	VC	1.45 p.m.	3.25 p.m.	10 mins	1.5 hrs

You can collect your EXAM RESULTS from Monday, 7th December

Australian Brain Bee Challenge LOOKING FOR COMPETITORS

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge (ABBC) motivates young people to learn about the brain - and has been created to inspire students to pursue careers in neuroscience research.

As Australia's only neuroscience competition for High School students in Year 10, the ABBC is an event that will have you expanding your hemispheres!

The Brain Bee Challenge is a test of knowledge about important facts concerning intelligence, memory, emotions, sensations, movement, stress, aging, sleep, Alzheimer's disease and stroke.

Taking part is easy! The ABBC is a three-part competition, followed by the ABBC winner being invited to compete in **The International Brain Bee Competition (IBB)** held in the US. **Round 1** is an online quiz held in your School. Students who score well in Round 1 will be selected to progress to Round 2, which is held at Melbourne University.

Winners in **Round 2** can win great prizes, and Zeiss microscopes for their School. The winning student from each State or Region Final will go on to represent their State or Region in **Round 3, the National Final for either Australia or New Zealand.**

The winner of each National final has the opportunity to represent their country in **The International Brain Bee Competition (IBB)** held in the US. They receive return airfares, accommodation and spending money for themselves and an accompanying adult to attend the international competition in North America.

If you are in Year 9 this year and are interested in taking on the Challenge, please see Miss O'Brien.

Introduction of the Victorian Student Number

Our school is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at the school.

The VSN is a student identification number that is being assigned to all students in government and non-government schools, and students in Vocational Education and Training Institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student's school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to stable information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).

The introduction of the Victorian Student Number will provide the capability to accurately detect patterns of student movement through, and departure from, the Victorian education and training system. It will greatly improve the collection and analysis of timely and accurate data about education in Victoria. The Department collects information to track improvements made to the education system, identify areas that require further improvement, and to analyse trends and identify future needs. The VSN will improve the accuracy, reliability and completeness of this information, providing a better basis for assessing needs and developing policies to meet them.

You will see the VSN appear on student Report Cards, enrolment confirmations, and exit confirmations.

If you want to know more about the VSN please see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm>

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

FireReady

Fire Ready Community Information Session
Tuesday 24th November 7.00pm
Donald Golf & Bowls Club,
Wood Street South, Donald

All members of Donald & surrounding district communities are invited to attend a 'Fire Ready Community Information Session', hosted by Community Safety from the Country Fire Authority. This information session will inform all residents about understanding their fire risk and assist them to prepare for the approaching fire danger period. Please come along and find out how you can better protect your family and yourself from fire.

'Fire Ready Community Information Session' are designed for all members of the public, to gain better understanding of the bushfire risks specific to their area, and will provide a good opportunity for community members to highlight and discuss particular areas of concern within their bushfire survival plan.

The 'Fire Ready Community Information Session' will be held at the Donald Golf & Bowls Club, Wood Street South, Donald, commencing at 7.00pm, on Tuesday the 24th November 2009.

More information on Fire Ready Victoria can be found on the CFA website, www.cfa.vic.gov.au or by contacting Tricia Witney 0400 102 017 or Kevin Sleep on 1800 820 118.

INTER-SCHOOL LAWN BOWLS

Ten Year 10 students travelled to St. Arnaud on 29th October to compete in the Inter-School Lawn Bowls event. The event was played as triples, and involved the following students, who each played four matches:

Declan O'Shea, Luke Clark, Aldridge De Silva (won 3, lost 3)

Joe Sheridan, Reece Harberger, Sean Walsh (won 3, lost 1)

Mikayla Haddow, Georgia Bird, Laura O'Reilly, Ashlee Jeffery (won 1, lost 3)

After one practice session prior to the event, we all believed we had the game mastered, however, it quickly became apparent there was a great deal more to learn. Highlights included Joe, Reece and Sean winning 9 - 0 against Wedderburn, many erratic drives by Laura and Georgia, and Luke's embarrassment of sending a bowl off on the wrong bias, causing chaos on neighbouring rinks. We had a very enjoyable day, and we would like to thank the Donald Golf Bowling Club for use of the Club's facilities and bowls for practice.

Claybird shooting 2009

Another three students participated in the NCSSSA Claybird Shoot at St. Arnaud: Matt Gilmour, Seb McConville and Levi Borden. The winning School for the day was St. Arnaud.