



# NEWSLETTER

CIRCULATED FORTNIGHTLY TO INFORM PARENTS OF  
SCHOOL EVENTS AND VIEWPOINTS

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No. 2  
FEBRUARY  
19<sup>TH</sup>, 2009

Dear Parents,

The school year has started smoothly, with students getting back into the routine of hard work and undertaking a range of extra-curricular activities.

## BUSHFIRES:

I have been very proud of the Donald community's response to the devastating fires. Our School is also playing a part by holding a Casual Clothes Day and taking donations. The money will then be forwarded to the Red Cross Bushfire Relief Appeal. If you wish to make a donation of \$10 or more, we can provide you with a receipt which can be used to claim a personal tax deduction. We will accept donations up to Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February.

## INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING:

The Inter-House Swimming Sports proved to be a great day - the competition was intense and the students were keen supporters. I thought it was particularly pleasing that not only did all students try to give their best efforts, but this was recognised by the applause of the other students - no matter what the place achieved by the individuals. I would like to thank the parents who helped as officials on the day, the staff who helped set up the area and organise the students, and Mr. Goode and Mr. Haddow for their overall organisation of the day.

## SCHOOL CAPTAIN ELECTIONS:

Congratulations to Steph Gillahan and Luke McConville on being elected School Captains for 2009. There was a strong field of candidates, and Luke and Steph are very worthy winners. I am sure they will contribute much to the School life this year.

## S.R.C. INVESTITURE:

Thanks to Mrs. Goode, the Student Leaders' Investiture ran very smoothly. School Captains, S.R.C. Representatives and House Captains were presented with their badges. Special guests were School Council Vice President, Judy Wall, and Guest Speaker, Lauren Adams. Lauren spoke about her career path which saw her return as a teacher to Donald Primary School, and the importance of students making the best of their opportunities. I was pleased to see the attendance of many parents and grandparents at the event. Mrs. Sheridan, Mrs. Gillahan and the VCAL boys prepared an enjoyable afternoon tea for students, parents and staff.

## CALENDAR

February, 2009	
Mon. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Inter-School Swimming Sports - St. Arnaud Parents' Club Meeting - 1.30 p.m. (Meeting Room) New Caledonia Information Night - 7 p.m. V.C. Room
Tue. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Years 7 & 10 Injections
25 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Boort Camp
Thu. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lions' Club Youth of the Year
March	
2 <sup>nd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup>	Meals on Wheels
Fri. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Public Speaking
Mon. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Labour Day Holiday

## E.M.A. APPLICATIONS

2009 EMA applications are due in by 27<sup>th</sup> February. Those parents who are eligible, i.e. Health Care or Pension Card, should fill out a form for this coming year. After this date, applications will not be accepted.

### **ROSES GAP CAMP:**

Our Year 8 students had an enjoyable camp in the Grampians last week, and I thank Miss Hoare, Miss Farnham and Mr. Burgess for accompanying the students.

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS:**

Don't forget that nominations for the three vacant parent positions on School Council **CLOSE on Thursday, February 26 at 4 p.m.** Nomination forms are available at the Office.

### **STUDENT CONCESSION CARDS**

**Students over the age of 15 years are eligible to claim for a Student Concession Card for travel on Public Transport.**

**Further details and forms are available from the office.**

**Mr. G. Rigby, Principal.**

### **EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**

The EMA provides an annual amount of **\$221** for primary students and **\$442** for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Students turning 16 years in 2009, will be paid on a pro rata basis and not on the 70/30% basis.

**Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2009 through this school, will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment.**

Application forms, which need to be lodged at the School by 27<sup>th</sup> February, are available from the school office.

### **PARENTS' CLUB ANNUAL MEETING**

**This first meeting for 2009 will be held on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 1.30 p.m. in the Meeting Room. ALL WELCOME.**

# **YEAR 7 NEWS**

## **Boort Camp**

As I am sure you are all aware, the Year 7 Transition Camp to Boort will be held next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We are currently getting final details organised and I hope all of the information regarding the camp has made it home. Students have been asked to supply a 2 or 3-man dome tent, if possible. If there are any problems with this, students should let me know as soon as possible. Those who have tents were asked to bring them to School today. We will set them up in order to check poles/pegs.

A report on the camp will appear in the next newsletter.

## **Homework, Study and Diaries**

You have probably already noticed the increased demands of homework compared to Primary School. Some parents are unsure about how much help to give their children with homework. In my view, you cannot help them too much. Short of actually writing their work for them, I would like you to give your Year 7 children at this stage of the year as much help as you have the time to give. Try to get your child into a structured time to complete homework. I think this is a good habit to get into.

I have already begun signing the diaries each Friday. I would ask parents to co-sign their child's diary each week. I know it's easily forgotten, but you will get into the habit of it. Of course there is no point signing it without having a good look first. If little has been recorded for a week, you should ask your child why. This is a simple way of us both keeping an eye on the amount of work the Year 7 students are doing, and helping them in their organisation. It is also a good way of keeping in contact with the school.

Some parents leave messages for me in the diary.

### Books left at School?

Kids often get home and realise they have left material at School that is needed for that night's homework. If this happens, don't panic. The School building is open until at least 6.00 p.m., and if the mistake is discovered later than this, or over a weekend, I can be contacted at home and will open the School for you. This last solution should be used for emergencies only please.

### S.R.C. Elections

Alex Sheridan and Kiahn Powell (of 7A), and Sebastian McConville and Sabrina Smith (of 7B) were voted in by other Year 7 students as their S.R.C. Representatives for 2009. They were officially inducted at the Ceremony held last Monday. I am sure they will do a great job representing the Year 7 students on the S.R.C.

### Year 7 Parent Information Evening

Early each year we hold an Information Evening - Get-Together to enable Year 7 parents and teachers to meet each other before the year is too old. I will try to ensure all of your child's teachers are at this evening, so that you can introduce yourselves. The date set down for this year's meeting is WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11<sup>th</sup> AT 8.00 P.M. in the LIBRARY. A letter will come home shortly with details.

### Parents' Club Meeting

All parents are welcome to attend the first meeting of 2008, which is scheduled for Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at School.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1

Mon. 23/2	Inter-School Swimming Sports
Tue. 24/2	Year 7 Injections
25 - 27 Feb	Year 7 Boort Camp
Mon. 9/3	Labour Day Holiday
Wed. 11/3	Year 7 Information Evening
Tue. 17/3	Inter-House Athletics Trials
Fri. 20/3	Northern Zone Swimming
Wed. 25/3	Inter-House Athletics Sports
Thu. 2/4	Reports posted out
Fri. 3/4	Last day of Term 1 - 2.30 p.m. finish

### *Work due over the next fortnight*

- Please cut this out and stick it on your fridge
- Tests are marked with an \* asterisk
- Please note that this schedule only reflects tasks that teachers have set in advance. Other homework may be set from day to day.

Day/Date	Subject	Task
Thu. 19/2	7A English	Successful English due
Fri. 20/2	Maths 7B English	MathsMate 3 due Successful English due
Tue. 24/2	History	Finish Hats
Thu 5/3	7A English	Successful English due
Fri. 6/3	Maths 7B English	MathsMate 4 due Successful English due

Maths: *MathsMates due each Friday.*  
English: Successful English exercises:  
 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

### FOUND:

A watch was handed into the Office last week after the Swimming trials, also a pair of swimming goggles left behind from the sports.

**HOLIDAY READING** (books marked with # can be found in the School Library)

A wide variety of books were enjoyed by many staff members during the Summer holidays. The following is a sample of the books read, many of which you will find in the School Library.

**Mrs. Warr**

*"One Fifth Avenue" by Candace Bushnell*

This is a modern day story of old and new money and relationships and is based on a group of people living in a Manhattan Art Deco building. A great read.

*"My Story" by Judith Moran*

An interesting read and a different point of view on the Underbelly saga.

**Mr. Potter**

*"The Devil's Brood" by Sharon Penman*

Terrific book. A true story of a family tearing itself apart.

*"Azincourt" by Bernard Cornwell*

Very good action-packed tale about one of the most famous battles in history.

*"A Clash of Kings" # by George R. R. Martin*

Second volume of one of the best fantasy series I have read. Better than Harry Potter!!!

*"The Lost Army" by Valerio Manfredi*

Set in ancient times. A good read.

**Mr. Haddow**

*"Kite Runner" # by Khalad Hosseini*

*"Black Wind" by Clive Cussler (adventure)*

*"Last Known Victim" by Erica Spindler (crime)*

*"Hide" by Lisa Gardner (crime)*

All were an enjoyable and worthwhile read.

**Miss Swan**

*"A Thousand Splendid Suns" # by Khalad hosseini*

Brilliant. An excellent follow-up to the Kite Runner.

*"A Game of Thrones" # by George R. R.*

*Martin*

Excellent; he creates an entire world.

*"The Boy in Striped Pyjamas" # by John Boyle*

Tragic - very cleverly done.

*"Miss McAllister's Ghost" # by Elizabeth*

*Fensham*

Lonely - very interesting idea.

*"Twilight" # by Stephanie Meyer*

Interesting - I can see why all the girls love it!

**Mr. Leishman**

*"A Most Wanted Man" by John Le Carre*

This book is about the distrust of other cultures and the irrational treatment received by those who are seen as being different.

**Mrs. Leishman**

*"The Memory of Running" # by Ron McLarly*

This book just got better and better. No! It's not about running - but cycling! Very much in the Forrest Gump style, the main character is a unique and lovable bloke. When you get into it, you'll find it hard to put down.

**Mr. Cashin**

*"Not Without my Daughter" by Betty*

*Mahmoody*

Excellent book - couldn't put it down. Gives a real insight into life in Iran and the Islamic religion.

*"All I Can Be" # by Nathan Buckley with Ben*

*Collins*

Interesting story. Discovered a lot about Nathan Buckley I didn't know. Good read if you like sports biographies.

**WORKCO**  
Limited

67 Woods Street,  
DONALD. 3480  
Ph. 5497-1821

### Education Rebates

In a brochure from John Forrest, the following information is provided for parents: Parents should now save their receipts for education-based expenses. The Federal Government announced a \$4.4 billion tax refund from July 1, 2008, allowing parents of Secondary and Primary children to claim 50 per cent of up to \$1,500 in education related expenses. Eligible expenses include laptops, home computers, trade tools and text books, although it does not apply to School fees.

### YEAR 11 STUDENTS: 2009 DEFENCE TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Did you know that there are around 350 different jobs in the Australian Defence Force? Apprenticeships, Degree courses, the ADF gap year, and the new Defence Technical Scholarships - all offer an extensive range of opportunities.

The Department of Defence, as part of a broader Technical Trades Strategy, is offering 1,500 Defence Technical Scholarships for students entering Year 11 and 12 in 2009.

Scholarships are targeted towards students with a demonstrated interest in pursuing an ADF technical trade career, and encourage completion of Years 11 and 12. The Scholarship strongly promotes the study of Mathematics as well as specific Vocational Education and Training subjects. The Scholarship comprises \$2,000 in Year 11, and for selected students, the opportunity to attend Defence events to learn more about trade career pathways in the ADF.

Further information on Defence Technical Scholarships is available at [www.defencejobs.gov.au/DTS](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/DTS) or see Miss O'Brien.

### YEAR 10 NEW CALEDONIA SLICE DRIVE FUNDRAISER REMINDER

All order forms must be in by **FRIDAY, 27th FEBRUARY**. If you have lost your order form, please don't hesitate to contact me and I will provide you with a new one.

Natalie Hoare  
LOTE Co-ordinator

#### **Donald Hockey Club Positions not filled at 2009 AGM**

**Coaches:** Underage / Under 13 / Minkey  
**Club Executive:** Secretary  
**NCHA Executive:** Secretary (paid position) /  
Junior Country Champs Co-ordinator

Enquiries to Melissa Sellick 0428 971 850

#### **Donald Hockey Club Training Starts Seniors Only**

Mondays 5.00 - 6.00 p.m.  
Wednesdays 5.30 - 7.00 p.m.  
At Primary School Big Shed

Underage / Under13 / Minkey to be advised  
when coaches appointed

#### **Donald Netball Club Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>**

- \* Working bee - 4 to 5.00 p.m. Parents asked to attend to clean out sheds and tidy courts and surrounds.
- \* Training for all grades to commence.  
4.30 p.m. - U13 & U16 A & B.  
6 p.m. - senior training.

Any inquiries to Kerry Wood DNC Pres. Ph 54986228

## 2009 Induction Day

Sixty students received badges during Monday's Induction Day Ceremony. The School community - parents, grandparents, students and teachers - gathered during the afternoon to celebrate and recognise the importance of student leadership at Donald High School.

Our guest speaker for the ceremony was a former student, Lauren Adams. Lauren has returned to Donald, after gaining a university qualification, to work as a professional in her home town. Lauren's presentation was both engaging and honest as she outlined her reasons for returning to Donald to work as a teacher, and the preparation Donald High School gave her for encountering the wider world. We thank her for her enthusiastic and interesting account of life since Donald High.

Lauren then presented Our School Captains for 2009, Luke McConville and Stephanie Gillahan with their School Captain badges. As part of their role, Luke and Stephanie take on the responsibility of joint SRC Presidents. They will lead a total of 28 SRC representatives. The SRC is an important part of our school community, providing students with the opportunity to experience leadership and decision-making, and be part of a fundraising group.

House Captains were also honoured and presented with badges by School Council representative Judy Wall. The other School leaders, our Year 12 students, each received a badge from Acting Assistant Principal, Tony Cashin, to commemorate their final year at Donald High School.

Our student officials for 2009 are:

**School Captains** - Stephanie Gillahan and Luke McConville

**Vice School Captains** - Nicole Clark and Jim McLoughlan

**House Captains** - **Banyenong** - Rowie Wood and Kirk Harberger

**Jeffcott** - Sarah Sheridan and Jim McLoughlan

**Meyer** - Hannah Russell and Luke McConville

### **STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL:**

**Year 7** - Alex Sheridan, Kiahn Powell, Sebastian McConville and Sabrina Smith

**Year 8** - Laura Ackland, Scott Wood, Renee McEwen and James Young

**Year 9** - Nathan Dunstan Jacinta Sheridan, Jeremy Goode and Sarah Postlethwaite

**Year 10** - Ashlee Griemink, Brenna Green, Declan O'Shea, Luke Clark and Sean Walsh

**Year 11** - Lucas Anderson, Caitlyn Wood, Caitlin Leishman and Erin Fritsch

**Year 12** - Jim McLoughlan, Nicole Clark, Sarah Sheridan, Blair Burke and Jessie Onley.

Karyn Goode  
SRC Co-ordinator

## SWIMMERS THRASH IT OUT. 2009

The stiff breeze and cooler conditions were a far cry from the scorching temperatures of the previous week, when Donald High School conducted its Inter-House Swimming Sports last Tuesday. Once again, Meyer House was ahead overall, but there was plenty of interest in the individual tussles which were witnessed during the day.

One of the more intriguing battles was played out in the Open Girls where five girls were separated by a mere two points at the end. Hannah Russell's win in the backstroke was enough for her to edge ahead of Steph Borden, Nicole Clark, Jenna Davidson and Sarah Tottenham. Kirk Harberger led the Open Boys division with two wins. Arnaud Steygers came a commendable second. The contribution and leadership displayed by the senior students was a highlight.

The Under 18 and Under 16 age students represent the largest groups in the School, and consequently there was the potential for many to miss out. Although this may give some an excuse to sit back and become spectators, the participation rate in each division was encouraging.

Lucas Anderson, with three wins out of five, was a clear winner ahead of Kalon Green, Jarred Newell, and Will McAllister, who ran their own mini competition for second among the Under 18 boys.

Megan Berry (three wins out of four) and Alice Rooney (one win and two seconds) were closely followed by Caitlin Leishman in the Under 17 girls. Zack May had to work hard to hold out other Under 17 boys including Aaron Wright, Sean Walsh and Luke Clark

The change in age groupings this year has seen the rise of new rivalries. Under 16 swimmers Declan O'Shea and Nathan Dunstan now find themselves pitted against each other. Both gave their all, but it was Declan who led at the end. Declan also took a full second off Duane Johns' ten-year-old record when he swam the breaststroke in 26.62 seconds. Rachel Carey was again a clear winner, but credit must go to Keely Russell and Chelsea Leeder who pushed her all the way.

Levi Borden's ability to swim all four strokes enabled him to stay ahead of his Under 15 rivals who included Scott Wood, Sean O'Reilly, Daniel Pearce and Tom Gillahan. The smallest grouping in the School, the Under 15 girls, appeared to swim in formation all day. Kirstie Davidson was always the winner ahead of Isabella Milne, and either Hannah Hogan or Jacinta Clifford in third place.

As one may expect, the Under 14 minnows were possibly the most enthusiastic. They formed quite a large group this year. Renee Sheridan, Tessa McCahon and Grace Brennan all had wins. Renee's win in the diving enabled her to sneak ahead. Jordan May also had two wins. This included breaking Nat Clark's Under 14 backstroke record in a time of 29.19 seconds. The competition concluded with the Max Harris Staff versus Students race, which this year was won by Jeffcott.

As always, the captains did a wonderful job and were well supported by their fellow House members. Thanks must also go to parents who volunteered to assist as judges, timekeepers and recorders. Their assistance is appreciated by staff and students alike.

The competitors can now look forward to the Inter-School Swimming Carnival at St. Arnaud on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

### Results.

#### **Age Group Champions:**

U/15 Renee Sheridan & Jordan May

U/15 Kirstie Davidson & Levi Borden

U/16 Rachel Carey & Declan O'Shea

U/17 Rebekah Borden & Zack May

U/18 Megan Berry & Lucas Anderson

Open Hannah Russell & Kirk Harberger

House Points	Girls	Boys	Relay	Total
Banyenong	122	163	118	403
Jeffcott	126	113	90	329
Meyer	182	157	122	461

### SRC RED CROSS BUSHFIRE APPEAL

The generosity of Donald High School families was overwhelming on Tuesday. To launch our fundraising for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal, a Casual Clothes Day was held. An amazing \$575 was collected from students, nearly four times the amount usually raised on Casual Clothes Days. Almost all students contributed to the fundraising, with many families donating much more than a gold coin donation. Year 11 students were the most generous year level, with \$143 raised, Year 10 \$96, and Year 12 \$63. Together with donations to the Red Cross by individual families, and a contribution by the Ladies' Gym Group, our tally is nearing \$1,000. It is hoped that more families will make their donation through the office during the next week, so that we can send a Donald High School community total to the Red Cross.

Thanks for your empathy.

Karyn Goode, SRC Co-ordinator.

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### R.A.C.V. ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH CHALLENGE

Donald students - take on the Challenge.

As part of the RACV Energy Breakthrough, the 'challenge' team are asking all staff and students, where practicable, to ride or walk to School next week, on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February.

More details in the next Newsletter. So watch this space and The Bulletin for updates.

### Cool Chemistry Show - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Years 7, 8 & 10

The CSIRO will be conducting their 'Cool Chemistry' Shows on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March for Donald High School students in Year 7, 8 & 10. It is an interactive show and some of the demonstrations will be:

- ☺ Hydrogen and Fireworks
- ☺ Dry Ice and Indicators

- ☺ Chemical Luminescence
- ☺ and many more.

Over the years the students have thoroughly enjoyed the Science Roadshows that come to the High School, and this should be no exception.

The Science Department has donated some money towards lowering the cost for students. We ask that all students in Year 7, 8 and 10 pay \$8.00 to cover the cost of the performance. If you have any issues or queries, please feel free to contact Miss O'Brien or Ms. Perkal at the School.

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### **Cool Chemistry**

Student's Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$8.00 per student:- \_\_\_\_\_ total payment

Please return form with payment to Miss O'Brien or the Office by **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March.**

## **Bushfires and Asthma**

**With the devastating Bushfires that have occurred throughout Victoria and with fires still burning across the State, there is an increased risk of asthma. Parents and carers of children with asthma should remain alert, and ensure the child carries their blue reliever medication with them at all times.**

### **Tips to minimise the effects of Bushfire smoke:**

- **Smoke and increased air pollution from fires can cause people with asthma to experience increased symptoms, such as wheezing, coughing, chest tightness or shortness of breath.**
- **Children are one of the first to feel the effects of smoke and particle pollution. For this reason extra care needs to be taken.**
- **Always follow the child's written Asthma Action Plan.**
- **Parents and teachers need to be aware of the additional risk and be prepared.**
- **Ensure the child has access to blue reliever medication, and continues use of preventer medication.**
- **When smoke is in the air, but fire is not directly threatening, keep children indoors, and close all windows and doors.**
- **Avoid doing physical activities outdoors.**
- **If a child develops symptoms, seek medical assistance immediately.**
- **If the child's blue reliever medication is not reducing asthma symptoms, start Asthma First Aid and seek medical attention without delay.**

## **Back to School Spike**

Back to school time presents a phenomenon called the 'February Epidemic', which is a well-documented occurrence of an increase in asthma hospital admissions in children. This trend occurs two weeks after School goes back, with the spike generally occurring in mid to late February.

- **An increased exposure to colds and flu, the most common triggers for asthma, can explain the peak.**
- **Schools can ensure that all students with asthma have a written Asthma Action Plan that outlines their asthma management, including details of medication, emergency contact details, asthma triggers, and what to do in an asthma emergency.**
- **Knowing the probability of an asthma attack is higher during this time of year, it is vital that parents ensure their children take their prescribed preventer medication and carry their blue reliever medication at all times.**

For further information, please call the Asthma Telephone HelpLine on 1800 645 130 or visit [www.asthma.org.au](http://www.asthma.org.au) or [www.asthmafriendlyschools.com.au](http://www.asthmafriendlyschools.com.au)

### CFA information

With the fires continuing to burn throughout the state, it is timely to provide all parents, students and community members with "Important Safety Advice from the Country Fire Authority (CFA)" that should be adhered to in the event of a fire outbreak.

#### *Road travel*

- ◆ Radiant heat is the biggest killer in a bushfire. Being in a car during a fire is highly dangerous. Many recent fatalities have occurred on roads. Cars do not provide adequate protection from radiant heat. Roads are unsafe to travel on because of poor visibility due to smoke, falling trees and a large number of emergency services vehicles.

#### *Leaving Early*

- ◆ People who intend to leave must leave before there is a fire in the area. Leaving early means going to safe places on all days when there is a severe fire risk.
- ◆ In extreme fire conditions, fire travels very fast. It is too late to leave when there is already a fire in the area.

#### *Staying to defend*

- ◆ People who stay and defend must be prepared to face a terrifying experience and be ready to protect themselves from a severe assault by the fire.
- ◆ People who stay must be mentally and emotionally able to sustain a long and dangerous battle to defend their home.

People who commit to staying **MUST**:

- have a comprehensive plan, reliable water supply and fire fighting equipment
- have an adequate cleared space around their house

If residents do not have these things in place, they should leave well before there is a fire.

#### *Being caught by fire*

- ◆ People who are unable to leave before the fire is in the area must stay inside a building while the fire front passes. Buildings, whether they are weatherboard or brick, may protect people against radiant heat while the fire passes. Being outside is deadly. Seek shelter in buildings during the passage of the fire front and then move quickly to burnt ground.

#### *Information*

- ◆ Agencies will be working hard to provide up-to-date information, and communities in fire-prone areas should listen for information and warnings on ABC or local radio. However, it is not always possible to provide timely information for each locality, and all people must remain alert and monitor their surroundings for signs of fires.

More information can be found at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

Take care, Arnna, Secondary School Nurse

## WORKCO Apprenticeship and Traineeship Vacancies

There are vacancies in the following jobs. Please check the list outside the office for further details if you are interested in these positions.

Job Title	Town	Contact	Closing Date
Business Administration Traineeship	Stawell	Chris Perry	20/02/2009
Certificate III in Retail Traineeship	Stawell	Asha Hitchens	ASAP
Certificate 3 in Plastics Traineeship	Ballarat	Jamie Bennett	20/02/2009
Apprentice Concreter	Donald	Kate Clark	27/03/2009

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### EARTH WATCH - VANISHING FROG PROJECT

We went to the Dorrigo National Park, which is near Coffs Harbour in N.S.W. We were searching for the endangered Hip Pocket Frog with an Earthwatch team of students from Victoria and N.S.W. We used different searching methods which were: lifting logs, frog call-back and 5m x 5m plots where we leaf-lifted. We were very excited when we found the endangered frogs because they were so small, and our group found about 25. That's one of the highest numbers that a group has found. We cooked for ourselves and lived in a Ranger's house for the week. We both enjoyed the experience and met some great new people.

By Emily Bird and Shannon Crowe

### **Scienceclub**

This year we have 15 new members. Yesterday was our first session and students were able to work in groups to make Elephant toothpaste. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were astonished with the results they produced.

If you would like to make Elephant Toothpaste at home, you can find student-friendly instructions at the site below:

[www.stevespanglerscience.com/content/experiment/elephants-toothpaste](http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/content/experiment/elephants-toothpaste)

The students were all fantastic and were great when it came time to clean up. Thanks to the Year 8 and 9 students who helped me with setting up the activity, and to all the new members who attended.

I hope to see you at the next Scienceclub meeting.

S. O'Brien

#### **Term 1 Timetable:**

Date	Activity
Wed, 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Volcanoes
Wed, 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Geodes
Wed, 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Lava Lamps
Wed, 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Mini-Rockets
Wed, 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Slime

# **INTERESTED IN PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES?**

## **HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BECOMING A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY?**

**Want to expand your knowledge of other countries, cultures, languages and cuisines? Then consider opening your door to an international exchange student.**

**World Education Program (WEP) is looking for Volunteer Host Families for International Students arriving in July 2009.**

**Students from Belgium, Italy, Brazil, France, Germany, and Switzerland are looking for families that are prepared to welcome them into their homes.**

**These young ambassadors are looking for life-long friends, and a place to call home during their stay. If you would like more information on becoming a Host Family, please contact our National Office.**

**Full support is provided to all host families and their students!**

**Nikki Medwell  
Inbound Exchange Administrator  
World Education Program  
Toll Free: 1300 884 733  
Email: [wep@wep.org.au](mailto:wep@wep.org.au)**

**An information pack can be sent on request which includes student photos and profiles.**

**It's easier than you think & a fantastic experience for all!**