Dear Parents,

Already, the school has been a very busy place with a number of extra-curricular activities taking place and plans are well underway for camps at various Year levels.

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING
Congratulations to all students for their sportsmanship and support of each other in the various events. The three Houses were very close and I congratulate Banyenong on their great win. Thank you to Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Haddow for their overall organisation and to all staff, students and parents who helped out on the day.

STUDENT INDUCTION
This important event was held on Monday and Year 12 students, SRC members, House Captains and School Captains were officially recognised. Congratulations to all these students, and I am sure that they will make a valuable contribution to our School this year. Ex-student Ashley Fritsch was guest speaker, and spoke very well. It was pleasing to have a number of parents and grandparents in the audience. Thanks to Mrs. Goode and Mr. Cashin for their organisation, and to Mrs. O’Shea and Karen Sheridan for the afternoon tea.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
The first meeting for the year was held, and it was decided to purchase a new microwave and air conditioner for the preparation area of the Canteen.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
We have decided to conduct a review of the format of the School Newsletter, and I will canvass parent, student and staff opinion over the next few weeks. We now have a colour photocopier which will permit a change in presentation, if decided.

GEOFF RIGBY,
PRINCIPAL.
STUDENTS’ REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
2010 Induction Day
Monday, February 15

SCHOOL CAPTAINS:
ALEXANDRA DOWNES
ETHAN POWELL

HOUSE CAPTAINS
JEFFCOTT
Ethan Powell Tamika Russell

MEYER
Zack May Caitlyn Wood

BANYENONG
Lachlan Sheridan Alexandra Downes

S.R.C. REPRESENTATIVES
Presidents: Alexandra Downes and Ethan Powell
Secretary: Lachlan Sheridan
Treasurer: Andrew Falla

SRC REPRESENTATIVES
Year 7 A
Daniel Westerland, Sarah Clark

Year 7B
John Gillahan, Morgan Green

Year 8 A
Kiahn Powell, Jaron Dunstan

Year 8 B
Renee Sheridan, Jack Onley, Jordan May

Year 9 A
Matt Berry, Hannah Hogan

Year 9 B
James Young, Isabella Milne

Year 10 A
Jacinta Sheridan, Brandon Egan

Year 10 B
Rachel Carey, James Heslop

Year 11
Jenna Cockman, Ashlee Griemink
Regan Dunstan, Aaron Wright

Year 12
Shannon Crowe, Leah Trollop
Andrew Falla, Lachlan Sheridan
Emily Bird, Jake Postlethwaite
Alex Downes, Ethan Powell

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE
The EMA provides an annual amount $450 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. Students turning 16 years in 2010, will be paid on a pro rata basis. Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2010 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 26th February, are available from the school office.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
Conveyance Allowance is available for families if they have to travel more than 4.8 kilometres to meet their School bus. Please contact the office for more information and an application form.
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 organized 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. Many of those who have tents have brought them to School ready for next week. 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, for example 6-6.30 everyday. 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. Thank you to those who have already done so.

Books left at School?
Kids often get home and realize 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
Daniel Westerland and Sarah Clark (of 7A), and Morgan Green and John Gillahan (of 7B) were voted in by other Year 7 students as their S.R.C. Representatives for 2010. 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 17th AT 8.00 P.M. in the LIBRARY. A letter will come home shortly with details.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Task</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 19/2</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>MathsMate 3 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coming up</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>*Test - Compass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 23/2</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>*Test on Angles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 5/3</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>MathsMate 4 due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maths: MathsMates due each Friday.
English: Successful English exercises:
7A: due every Thursday / 7B: due every Friday
*Spelling tests: 7A & 7B: due Mondays

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 22/2</td>
<td>Inter-School Swimming Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 - 26 Feb</td>
<td>Year 7 Boort Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th to 12th Mar</td>
<td>Meals on Wheels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 8/3</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue. 9/3</td>
<td>Inter-House Athletics Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 17/3</td>
<td>Northern Zone Swimming Year 7 Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 18/3</td>
<td>Inter-House Athletics Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 22/3</td>
<td>Years 7 &amp; 10 injections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 25/3</td>
<td>Reports posted out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 26/3</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1 - 2.30 p.m. finish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Donald Hockey Club
Training Starts Wednesday, 3rd March
Junior A & Underage start 4.00 pm
Women & Men start 5.30 pm
@ Tennis Courts for first 2 trainings
Minkey to be advised

THE REX THEATRE, CHARLTON
COMING FILMS:
The Boys are Back - Sat 20 Feb 8pm, Sun 21 Feb 2pm, Tue 23 Feb 8pm
18TH CHARLTON FILM FESTIVAL 2010 - 26TH AND 27TH FEBRUARY
Featured are:
Fri, 26th Feb 8pm: An Education
Sat, 27th Feb 10.30am: Departures
3.45pm: The September
8pm: 500 Days of Summer
Tickets: Season $60 incl lunch & 2 suppers
Saturday: $55 incl lunch & supper
Fri or Sat night: $16 incl supper
Single film: $10
Lunch: $10
Phone: Rex Theatre 5491-2333
Chariton Pharmacy 5491-1521

Buloke Film Festival 2010

Sponsored by:
Buloke Shire Council National Youth Week 2010.
Beyond Blue.

Produce a 10 minute film - you choose the storyline.
Be script writer, director, actor and cinematographer.
Work on your own or with a group of friends.
A category is available for those who use mobile phone cameras.
Anyone aged 12-25 can be involved.
Great Prizes to be won!
Films to be screened on Tuesday, 13th April, 2010 at Charlton Community Theatre. For further information and to obtain a copy of the entry guidelines, please contact Marc Cox 1300 520 520 or email marc@buloke.vic.gov.au
DONALD SWIMMERS BATTLE IT OUT IN THE POOL, 2010

Under perfect conditions on Tuesday, 9th February, the stage was set under the new Donald Swimming Pool facilities for all students to show their stuff in the pool for their inter-house swimming sports. This year’s competition was considerably closer than the previous domination by Meyer in the sports, and due to several new recruits, it made for a very even and fierce competition. The overall winners were Banyenong with 393 points, Meyer with 385 points, and Jeffcott with 380.5 points.

It was a close battle all day, with the overall winner making it over the line by sheer participation and organization by the House Captains to fill all events. The competition in the Open Boys’ section was between Jarred Newell and Kalon Green, where Jarred won the freestyle and breaststroke in convincing form, and ended the day on 19 points, and Kalon 14 pts.

The Open Girls again showed fantastic competition between the two rivals Megan Berry and Alice Rooney, and on the day they did not disappoint. Close nail biting finishes saw Alice just take out the freestyle and backstroke, while Megan the butterfly and breaststroke. The end total was Megan 22 points to Alice’s 19 points.

Zack May and Tayla Burke showed excellent form in the pool for the 17 Years Boys and Girls age groups, with a clear dominance from Zack in the boys, winning all individual races and scoring 28 points for the day. Tayla’s ability to swim all four strokes enabled her to gain valuable points, which allowed her to finish 3 points ahead of Rebekah Borden on 12 points.

The superior performance of the day went to Declan O’Shea, where he broke three records and dominated the Boys 16 Year’s age group. Two of the records previously belonged to Nathaniel Clark (2002) in the freestyle and backstroke were broken by 3 seconds each, however Declan had not made his stand yet. He decimated Justin Sachse’s breaststroke record set in 2001 by 6.89 seconds, and set a personal best time of 52.97 seconds.

In the Girls’ 16 Years, Rachel Carey showed excellent form in the water, finishing first in breaststroke and backstroke while participating in all other individual events. Overall she finished with 20 points for the day, just ahead of Keely Russell on 15 points, who was consistently placed in the top 3.

Levi Borden and Kirstie Davidson both established a clear dominance in the 15 Years Boys and Girls events, finishing on 24 and 21 points for the day. Levi marginally broke two records, firstly Nathan Sachse’s freestyle set in 1996 by 0.97 seconds, and then Ryan Jukes’s backstroke set in 2001 by only 0.17 seconds. Kirstie also showed her swimming prowess by winning all of her individual events.

In the 14 Years age group for the girls and boys, there is a strong competitive streak, and especially the boys lived up to the expectations. Jordan May and Luke Sheather tied the Boys’ age group championship on 15 points each, but Renee Sheridan cleared the pool and won all of her individual events, scoring 26 points for the day.

In the 12 & 13 Years age group, the Gillahan twins made a lasting impression, this being their first High School swimming sports, and they both showed signs of years to come. John and Katie both won their freestyle and backstroke events, finishing the day on 18 and 15 points each. The competition concluded with the Max Harris Staff versus Student race, which this year was closely won by Banyenong.

As always, the captains did a wonderful job and were well supported by their fellow House members. Thanks must also go to the 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, 22nd February.
RESULTS:

Age Group Champions:
12 & 13 YEARS  John Gillahan, Katie Gillahan
14 YEARS  Jordan May / Luke Sheather, Renee Sheridan
15 YEARS  Levi Borden, Kirstie Davidson
16 YEARS  Declan O’Shea, Rachel Carey
17 YEARS  Zack May, Tayla Burke
OPEN  Jarred Newell, Megan Berry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House Points</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Relay</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banyenong</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffcott</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>119.5</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>380.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meyer</td>
<td>146.5</td>
<td>138.5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>385</td>
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</table>