Dear Parents,

The school has been a busy place over the past fortnight.

YEAR 7 BOORT CAMP
The Year 7’s had a great time and I was very pleased with the positive and co-operative manner displayed by our students. Thank you to Mrs Leishman, Mrs O’Shea, Mr Whitfield and Mr Haddow for their three day contribution to the camp and to Mr Wyatt, Miss Pickering, Mrs Gillahan and the VCAL students for their participation.

INTERSchool SWIMMING SPORTS
Well done to our students on their efforts at the sports and all did their best in their respective events. Thank you to Mr Goode and Mr Haddow for their organization and to our staff who helped on the day. It was pleasing to see many of our parents supporting the competitors.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR
Congratulations to our four Year 12 entrants: Ryan Leeder, Steph Gillahan, Melinda McEwen and Sarah Sheridan. The standard was very high this year and congratulations Sarah on winning. Thanks to Mrs Goode and Miss Swan for organising and encouraging our students.

MEALS ON WHEELS
This week our Year 8 students, staff and parents have been busy delivering meals and I thank them for their vital community service.

GEOFF RIGBY, PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
At the close of nominations, I had received the same number of nominations as there were vacancies on the School Council for DEECD employee representatives. I therefore declare the following nominees as elected members of the School Council without a ballot being required: Mr. Trevor Whitfield and Mrs. Raeanne O’Shea.

At the close of nominations, I had received the same number of nominations as there were vacancies on the School Council for parent representatives. I therefore declare the following nominees as elected members of the School Council without a ballot being required: Mr. Neale Postlethwaite, Mrs Jennifer Baker and Mrs Liz Dunstan. I am sure that they will all make a very positive contribution to Council.

Geoff Rigby
Returning Officer
School Council Elections

CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 6th</td>
<td>Senior Public Speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 9th</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 11th</td>
<td>Year 7 Parent Into Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. 17th</td>
<td>House Aths Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Council Annual Meeting – 7.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 18th</td>
<td>Cultural Performance, 9.00am Yrs 7-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 20th</td>
<td>Northern Zone Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 25th</td>
<td>House Aths Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 27th</td>
<td>Science Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/3 to 3/4</td>
<td>Year 9 Bush Walk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Council Annual Meeting:
The Annual Meeting of School Council will be held on Tuesday next at 7.30 p.m. in the meeting room. This will be followed by the normal monthly Council Meeting.
ANNUAL REPORT
The Donald High School Annual Report to the school community will be available on the website after 23rd March. A printed copy of the Report will also be made available to all parents.

YEAR 7 NEWS
To this point the students in Year 7 have done a great job adapting to their new environment with all of the changes and disruptions that have occurred in such a short time frame. Over the next couple of weeks, assessment will no doubt increase as we move towards reports and the end of Term 1.

Parent Information Evening - next Wednesday, 11th March, 8.00 p.m. Video Conferencing Room
The aim of this evening is to discuss how your children have coped so far, and to give you strategies that will further enhance their transition. I will also take the opportunity to explain what the school is doing to assist your child's transition. Finally, the night is a chance to put a face to a name and meet your child's teachers. Please Note: Last newsletter said this meeting was in the library. We will meet in the Video Conferencing Room.

Homework, study and diaries
Some students have already noticed the increased demands of homework compared to Primary School. It is important that with the help of parents that students continue to work on developing their organizational skills and don’t let things mount up to the point that homework demands become impossible. I think at this stage students on average should be only doing around 30 minutes of homework per night. To assist with developing organizational skills, I sign diaries each Friday. I would appreciate if parents could sign the diary each week, also. This allows me to communicate with parents if needed, and it ensures the students use their diary in the correct manner. I have been signing/checking diaries over the last 3 weeks. Some students haven’t managed to get a signature at all in that time.

I know that you are having all sorts of documents put in front of you which you 'have to sign'. I hope you don't mind too much. With students’ DIARIES, it’s the only way we can be sure that you have been shown them. It also helps to ensure that the diaries are being used. Diaries need to be signed at the end of each week.

At other times, signing and returning forms means we know the form has come home. The constant flow of material between school and home keeps you informed, and us in contact.

Study Techniques
With Topic Tests approaching, now is a good time to make a few simple points about Study Technique:
Testing is an important and regular part of assessment at Secondary School and students need to develop a systematic approach to studying for tests that they find successful. Too often, students satisfy themselves that they have 'studied' for a test because they have read over the relevant section in their workbook.

To give you some idea how to help your child approach tests, I suggest the following study tips:
1. Read over the section of your workbook that the test will be based on (this is as far as a lot of students ever go)
2. Make brief notes in point-form or draw up lists of key names or words
3. Have someone at home ask questions from your workbook
4. Go back over workbook and study notes, concentrating on areas where lack of knowledge or understanding was apparent
5. Retesting at home until weaknesses are overcome

When these processes have been followed through, then you can honestly say you have studied. “Studying” certainly goes a lot further than reading over notes in the isolation of your bedroom or in front of the television. Even the preparation for weekly spelling tests should follow this routine.

Inter-School Sport
A wide range of inter-school sporting competitions take place throughout the year, and if a student is selected to represent the school in four separate sports, they are awarded a SPORTS CERTIFICATE on Speech Night. Already some Year 7’s have represented the school with great success in swimming.

Inter-House Aths Sports
Trials for the House Aths Sports will be held on Tuesday, 17th March, during periods 6 and 7, and then the Aths Sports will be on Wednesday 25th March.

Boort Camp
Mr. Whitfield, Mr. Haddow, Mrs. O’Shea and I were all very impressed with the way the students performed on camp. The camp was a great success and I think it achieved its goals of trying to get the students to mix and to give staff and students a chance to get to know each other better. The highlight of the camp was the way the students participated in the activities in Bendigo. We brought home 33 very tired students, but feedback from both parents and students was very positive.

The general impression I gained of the students as a group was a positive one, and I hope this continues throughout the year. Well done!

Students’ reactions to Camp:
What were the three best things about the Boort Camp?
Ice skating because it was fun and everyone was falling over.
Torch tiggy. I love the dark and playing in the dark.
Ice skating because it taught me to have self-confidence.
I liked the Laser Force in Bendigo because I like to shoot things.

What were the hardest things about the camp?
Ice skating because when you fell over it hurt like mad.
Trying to stay awake on the last day because I was so tired.
Getting to sleep is hard because it is noisy at night.
Packing up the tent because it wouldn’t fit in the bag.

“Ice skating was one of my favourite activities because I did not know how to do it & then eventually I got the hang of it.”

Tessa
“The scenery there was lovely. Green grass and lots of birds.” — Lisa
“Boort camp was fun. I had a great time and a great camp.” — Paige
“Boort camp was awesome. I had an awesome time.” — Nikeisha

Important Dates for Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 9/3</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 11/3</td>
<td>Year 7 Information Evening</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. 17/3</td>
<td>Inter-House Athletics Trials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 20/3</td>
<td>Northern Zone Swimming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 25/3</td>
<td>Inter-House Athletics Sports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 2/4</td>
<td>Reports posted out</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 3/4</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1 - 2.30 p.m. finish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 11/3</td>
<td>7B Phys Ed.</td>
<td>Anatomy questions and quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 11/3</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 12/3</td>
<td>7A Phys Ed.</td>
<td>Anatomy questions and quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 16/3</td>
<td>7B Home Ec</td>
<td>Prac : Hamburgers $3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 16/3</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Science Spelling Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 17/3</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Safety Poster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 19/3</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Science Safety Test</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

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

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS:
Paracetamol is now no longer able to be held by the School on School premises. If students require Paracetamol, it must be brought to School by them with permission from their parent/guardian.

MIPs TIPS - FOR PARENTS
Would you like to get your hands on more careers information resources? Are you unsure about what the MIPs Program involves? Would you like to know more about how to assist your teenager with career investigations? Are you confused by all the acronyms (VET, VCAL, VCE, VTAC, etc. etc.)? You're not alone! Your School's MIPs Co-ordinator, Lizzie Wilde, welcomes any queries - no matter how big or small - and encourages you to get in touch on 0429 148 399 or llen5@bigpond.com
Lizzie Wilde, MIPs Co-ordinator
North Central LLLEN 5491-1144

INTER SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS
St Arnaud Monday 23rd of February.
An excellent day in ideal conditions. Donald finished a very credible 3rd overall. The overall winners were Boort and this was decided in the last relay of the day. Boort 1768, St Arnaud 1748 and Donald 1464. Two age group champions: Declan O’Shea boys 15 years and Kir Kilmer boys 18-20 years.

Individual event winners were:
Jordan May Boys 13 years backstroke.
Levi Borden boys 15 years C grade freestyle.
Declan O’Shea boys 15 years breaststroke, butterfly, A grade freestyle, backstroke.
Arnaud Steygers U/ 21 C grade freestyle.
Stephanie Borden girls U/21 B grade freestyle.
Jarred Newell Boys U/18 B grade freestyle.
Lucas Anderson U/18 boys backstroke.
Our relay teams performed very well with 3 firsts, 3 seconds, 1 third and 4 fourth placings.
Relay winners were boys U/14, U/15 and U/21 freestyle. Girls U/21 freestyle. Boys open medley.

Special thanks to parents who assisted with transport and acted as officials.

FOUND:
A watch was handed into the Office after the Swimming trials.
A ring & a bracelet have also been handed into the office.

THE BIRCHIP QUARTER HORSE CUP
SUNDAY, 15TH MARCH, 2009
AT BIRCHIP
Five card sprint races, first race at 12.30 p.m.
• On course bookmaker
• Scrumptious catering
• Bush bar
• Whip Cracking Competition
• Archery
• Fabulous fashions
• Amazing Street Theatre
• Live music
• Fantastic fun for the kids
• The fastest horses over a quarter of a mile!

Kick up your heels, kick up the dust and bring on the fun!
Admission $10, Children U/12 free. (to purchase a membership (which includes all entry fees plus great benefits - call 0419 342 106)

SLICE DRIVE SUCCESS
I would like to sincerely thank the wider school community in supporting the Year 10 New Caledonia Slice Drive. I understand that the effects of the ongoing drought and the devastating bushfires have taken a financial toll on our community, but to see so many support this fundraiser, which enabled us to fundraise $312, is fantastic.

Thank you all again for your greatly appreciated support!

Miss Natalie Hoare
LOTE Co-ordinator

ST. PATRICK’S PARTY
SATURDAY, 14TH MARCH, 2009
Cup Eve Concert on course. Access from 6.30 p.m.
Sensational non-stop music featuring local band Loaded Dice, the infamous Mick Young/Young Wherther, Disco Gold and internationally-acclaimed The Boat People. Plus The Birchip Cup Calcutta.
Admission $10. Strictly no byo.
ID required to access licensed bar. Food stalls and free sausage sizzle. Regular courtesy bus from BCG Place.
www.birchipracingclub.com.au

Disturbing The Peace
When: 8th March, 2009
Where: Wycheproof Hall
Who: Years 7 - 12
Time: 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Cost: $15

‘Strictly smoke, drug and alcohol free event’

BUS Donald – Wycheproof

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stop</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warracknabeal</td>
<td>7:15pm</td>
<td>Post Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Donald 8:00pm Post Office
Wycheproof 8:30pm Hall

- Note: All buses will leave the Wycheproof Hall at 12:30 a.m. and follow the same route home
- Your name needs to be on a bus list if you wish to travel by bus

For more information contact Marc - 0429 867 897

Marc Cox
Youth Development Officer
Buloke Shire Council
5478-0172
0429 867 897

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY DATES</th>
<th>Uni/TAFE (Footscray)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 15th Aug</td>
<td>Holmesglen TAFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 16th Aug</td>
<td>Australian Catholic Uni (Melb): Deakin Uni (Warrnambool): La Trobe Uni (Bendigo): Swinburne Uni/TAFE: Melbourne Uni; Sunraysia TAFE (Swan Hill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 23rd Aug</td>
<td>Box Hill TAFE: Deakin Uni (Melb): La Trobe Uni (Albury/Wodonga)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 30th Aug</td>
<td>Australian Catholic Uni (Ballarat): Ballarat Uni; La Trobe Uni (Bundoora)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOR SALE

Two pairs of Girls' shoes (photo) are new. The black lace-up shoes are Size 7, and the others are Size 9. Please contact Faye Allen (5497-232) if you are interested in purchasing them.

decisions and wondering how the girls from school would react to each situation.

The Stone Crown by Malcolm Walker
In this parallel world of myth, magic and the supernatural Emlyn and Maxine's paths cross at the ancient Scottish site known as Sleeper's Spinney, where the trapped spirits of King Arthur and his men are contained.

Missing Girl by Norma Fox Mazer
A haunting thriller where we become part of the lives of the five Herbert girls and terrified by the man who is watching them.

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larsson
Blomkvist is at a low point in his career, losing a criminal libel case to the head of the Wennerstrom Group. His reputation is in tatters and the future of his magazine in jeopardy when he is called by a lawyer acting
on behalf of a rival industrialist, Henrik Vanger. Vanger wants Blomkvist to find out what happened to his great-niece Harriet, who disappeared almost 40 years before, Blomkvist is reluctant to take the job until Vanger provides two incentives he can’t resist: he is willing to back Millennium financially, and he has information on Wennerstrom.

**Scholastic Book Club**
Issue 2 orders to be returned to Mrs Russell by 13th March 2009

**SCIENCE NEWS**

National Youth Science Forum
Monday the 5th of January we boarded a coach which was charted by NYSF and full of kids on our way to Canberra. Tuesday morning was our first day of activities, we started with a picnic at Pine Island with lunch supplied by Rotary. After lunch we split up into interest groups. And hopped back on the coaches, my bus went to the Canberra Deep Space Tracking Centre. On Wednesday evening we went to the Yaarlumla Wood Shed for a bush dancing evening. Thursday was the day that my interest group went to the National Art Gallery where we were taken for a tour of the Gallery and then a look behind the scenes where we saw how artwork was restored.

On Friday my group and I visited the university of Canberra Forensic and Toxicology lab where we were shown the wonders of Chromatography. Then we where off to meet up with everyone at Belconnen Mall. Saturday night we had a Disco. Sunday was home hospitality day were we went to Rotarians who offered to lend us their homes for the day where we did our washing and caught up on some much needed sleep. Monday there was a 6:15am combat/aerobics class for any one that could wake up that early. Then we went to Canberra’s shine dome to have a debate on climate change. That evening we had evening activities away from ANU (Australian National University) some went swimming, others went ten-pin bowling. Then another bus, the one I was on, went to the University of Canberra’s new Sports Stadium where we played indoor soccer. Tuesday was when my group made ice cream with liquid nitrogen (very cool). It tasted really nice. My group also went to the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) where we learnt how to make blueprints. Later on we had a video conference with some scientist from CERN which is the massive partical accelerator in Belgium. On Thursday the 15th our group took a mini bus to the Doonkuna Winery where we were able to smell different wines. There was another set of evening activities and this time I went bowling. On the Friday we went and visited the Governor General’s house, which is pretty big! The last night we had a Science Disco which finished at about 1:30 then we all stayed awake until we got on the buses to go home at six o clock the next morning. I had a fantastic time and I would like to thank everyone who supported me and made this opportunity possible.

Jim McLoughlan

---

**WORKCO Limited**

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

60 Earth Hour
Make Earth Hour Happen In Year 7 and Donald

On 31 March 2007, more than 2 million Sydney businesses and households turned off their lights for one hour - Earth Hour -
sending a powerful national and global message that it’s possible to take action on global warming.

At 8.30pm on 28 March 2009, Earth Hour goes global, with cities and towns around the world taking stand on the greatest threat our planet has ever faced, and millions of people uniting to turn the tide on global warming.

If you want to turn out the lights for Earth Hour in your town or city on 28 March 2009, this will help you get started!

Our Goal
Get the most people and businesses around Donald involved in Earth Hour and get them to turn off their lights for one hour at 8.30pm on March 28 2009.

Be Creative
As well as asking as many people and businesses as possible to turn off their lights in Donald at 8.30pm on 28 March 2009, think creatively about how to bring your friends and family together for the night.

Organise a “block party” in your neighbourhood with “in the dark” games and activities, organise a movie or music night at someone’s house, look up at the stars, use the hour to talk about what you can do every day to save energy.

Think about the different ways to have fun with Earth Hour.

What to do everyday
Turning off your lights for one hour at 8.30pm on 28 March 2009 is the first part of getting involved in Earth Hour. Making a difference to the future of our planet by making energy savings every day is the second part.

When spreading the Earth Hour message, don’t forget to encourage your friends, family and colleagues to turn off unused lights and appliances every day of the year.

YEAR 7 STUDENTS
Year 7 students will be designing a 60 Earth Hour Poster in their Science classes. These will be displayed in local businesses around Donald, to spread the word. Students will also be writing a letter to a relative or friend to spread the word about 60 Earth Hour.

Donald High School will descend into darkness on Friday 27th March, by turning off all unnecessary lights in classrooms for the day!

If you would like to do your own bit and want to know more, visit the website www.earthhour.org.

Miss S. O’Brien
Science Coordinator

Once again I would like to promote the event by offering a cupcake to all students at Donald High School. I am asking for parents (especially of Year 7) and students to support the promotion of this event by making enough cupcakes for 180 students.

I, ________________________ would like to make a batch (24) of cupcakes to support Earth hour. Could all cupcakes made be donated on Wednesday 25th or Thursday 26th of March.

Thank-you for your generosity!
SCIENCE COMPETITION 2009

A reminder to any students who are interested in participating in, but have not already paid for the Science competition, that it is being held on Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} June. The entry fee is $6.00. This competition is a good way for students to test their skills in an externally assessed task. It provides students with more experience in analysing and interpreting information under test conditions. This is achieved by answering 45 multiple choice questions in a supervised one-hour session. The cost of $6.00 for the competition covers the printing of the booklets, correction of the answer sheets and the provision of certificates and feedback to all participants.

Certificates are awarded to each Year Level as follows:
High Distinction - the top 1\% of entrants in the state
Distinction - the next 10\% of entrants in the state
Credit - the next 20\% of entrants in the state.
If your child is interested, could you please fill out the form below and send it along with the money in an envelope by Thursday 7\textsuperscript{th} May.

My child(ren) \underline{____________________________________________________} (please print)
would like to participate in the University of N.S.W Science Competition to be held on

Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} June. Please find enclosed the entry fee of $6.00

Signature: \underline{____________________________________________________}
PARENT'S CLUB. Parents Club Annual meeting was held on February 23 with office bearers remaining the same; President – Robyn Bibby, Secretary – Ngaire Jones, Treasurer – Jan Crowe. Parents Club hold four meetings a year and would welcome any parents who would like to come along and share ideas and be part of their child’s secondary schooling. The next meeting will be held early June, date to be confirmed closer to the time.

Robyn Bibby.

WORKCO Apprenticeship and Traineeship Vacancies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificate III in Retail Traineeship</td>
<td>Stawell</td>
<td>Asha Hitchens</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Based Plastics Traineeship (Certificate 2)</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Shane Cross</td>
<td>06/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Apprentice (Light Vehicle) - 1st/2nd Yr</td>
<td>Yarraville</td>
<td>Deena Sleiman</td>
<td>06/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st or 2nd Year Apprentice Cabinet Maker</td>
<td>Campbellfield</td>
<td>Deena Sleiman</td>
<td>06/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprentice Concreter</td>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>Kate Clark</td>
<td>27/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Based Business Traineeship (Certificate II)</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Shane Cross</td>
<td>06/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Operations Trainee</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Brooke Janetzki</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Based Real Estate Traineeship</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Shane Cross</td>
<td>06/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprentice Electrician</td>
<td>Stawell</td>
<td>Chris Perry</td>
<td>06/03/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewing (Textiles) Traineeship</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Chris Perry</td>
<td>13/03/2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apprentices & Trainee Positions

For more details of above positions see Careers Noticeboard at the school.

Wycheproof Pool Movie Night
Fun and Games all music by DISCO Gold

Feature Screening: Evan Almighty
Free BBQ
Bring a deck chair

When: Friday 6th March
Where: Wycheproof Pool
Time: 6:00pm – 10:30pm
FREE entry