Dear Parents,

INTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS
Congratulations to all our competitors on their efforts. Once again we came third overall, however the margin between the winners and ourselves has narrowed. A special congratulations to the three age group champions – Levi Borden, Declan O’Shea and Zack May. This year we should have a larger number of competitors at Northern Zone swimming.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR
This year the standard of entrants was very high and all students acquitted themselves very well. Congratulations to Alex Downes on winning, and well done to Zack May, Laura Connell, Megan Berry and Jake Postlethwaite on their performance. Thank you to Miss Swan for organising our students.

YEAR 7 CAMP
The three day camp at Boort went extremely well, and students had a great time. Teachers who accompanied the students spoke highly of their behaviour on the camp, and I commend the students for this. Thank you to Mrs. Leishman who organised the camp, and to Mrs. Leishman, Mrs. O’Shea, Mr. Haddow and Mr Whitfield who accompanied the students. Thanks also to Mr. Wyatt, Mrs. Gillahan, Mr. Cashin and the five VCAL boys who all made positive contributions to the camp.

YEAR NINE PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Mr. Whitfield organised the evening to explain the features of the special “Time-Out” Program which our Year 9’s participate in. The Nelson Walk is fast approaching in the last week of Term 1 and staff and students should be busy preparing for the walk.

COVERED OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA
The sports base for the shed was completed last week, and students are already using it for Physical Education classes, lunchtime competitions, and as a general play area. The area is set up for volleyball, basketball and netball, as well as a host of minor games. I thank Tony Cashin for his hard work in designing the layout for the various courts, and his excellent co-ordination of contractors to ensure a quality facility was constructed.

GEOFF RIGBY, PRINCIPAL

CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 8th</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th to 12th</td>
<td>Meals on Wheels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue. 9th</td>
<td>Athletics Trials pd. 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th - 12th</td>
<td>Year 8 Roses Gap Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. 14th</td>
<td>School Working Bee 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue. 16th</td>
<td>School Council Annual Meeting 7.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>School Council monthly meeting to follow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 17th</td>
<td>Northern Zone Swimming sports Year 7 Parent Info, Night - 8.30 p.m. in the Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu. 18th</td>
<td>House Athletics Sports Newsletter No. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun.21st-Fri.26th</td>
<td>Year 9 Bushwalking camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 22nd</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 10 Immunisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. 26th</td>
<td>End of Term - 2.30 p.m. Finish</td>
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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. Tony Cashin and Mrs. Rebecca Warr.

Also, 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. Roger Smith, Judy Wall and David Falla. I am sure that they will all make a very positive contribution to Council.

Geoff Rigby
Returning Officer
School Council Elections

School Council Annual Meeting:
The Annual Meeting of School Council will be held on Tuesday, March 16 at 7.30 p.m. in the meeting room. This will be followed by the normal monthly Council Meeting.

DONALD NETBALL CLUB
JUNIOR TRAINING
13 & UNDER, AND 16 & UNDER - STARTS THURSDAY, 11TH MARCH 4.30 TO 6.00 P.M.
16 & Under A & B will move to a Wednesday night to train after a few weeks. Coaches will advise of a date.

GROUND WORKING BEE
This will be held on SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH from 9.00 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.

A Sausage Sizzle will be provided at the end of the working bee.

Tasks: a general clean-up and removal of garden refuse, as well as other projects organised by the Grounds Committee

Tools required: Trailers, whipper snippers, shovels, blowers, wheel barrows, rakes, chain saws, etc.

Both parents AND students are urged to attend.

All participants should report to the Canteen to sign in and a list of jobs will be available.

Enjoy a social half-day and help the school.

The Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal
There are envelopes attached to this newsletter to make donations to this very worthy appeal. Please return any donations to the School office by Friday, 19th March, 2010 so all envelopes can be forward before Good Friday.
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, 17\textsuperscript{th} March, 8.00 p.m. in the Library
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, 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 have been looking at 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.

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 when they have simply 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**

Athletics Trials for the House Aths Sports will be held on Tuesday, 9th March, during periods 6 and 7, and then the Aths Sports will be on Thursday, 18th 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 were prepared to be involved in the various activities. 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:**

"It was so, so, so much fun." Stacey  
"It was the best camp I've ever been on." Bayley  
"Oh My Gosh. That was awesome." Morgan  
"Exciting, amazing and a whole lot of fun." Darcy

**Things I liked:**

"Laser force was fun as." Angus  
"French toast ... because it tasted good."  
"Canoeing ... because it kept me cool, although we crashed into lots of trees."  

**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 5/3</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>MathsMate 4 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 12/3</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>MathsMate 5 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 22/3</td>
<td>7B Home Eco.</td>
<td>* Test &quot;Introduction to the Kitchen&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maths:** MathsMates due each Friday.  
**English:** English Rules exercises:  
7A: due every Tuesday/7B: due every Thursday  
*Spelling tests: 7A: due Tuesdays 7B: due Mondays

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

**NEW BOOKS IN YOUR LIBRARY THIS WEEK**

"Surf Ache" by Gerry Bobsien  
From ballet to surf, Ella’s world has totally changed, and the people with it.

"The Hunt for Ned Kelly" by Sophie Masson  
Hoping for a photo opportunity, Jamie and Ellen head to North-east Victoria, but their search for Ned Kelly brings them closer than they could ever imagine.

"Three cups of tea" (Young readers' edition) by Greg Mortenson, David Oliver Relin and Sarah Thomson  
An amazing journey of how one man wanting to build a School has managed to form the American Himalayan Foundation, build Schools, and try to promote peace throughout Pakistan and Afghanistan.

**Unfinished business By Tadhg Kennelly with Scott Gullan**  
In this honest and heartfelt biography, Tadhg reveals the difficulties in moving from Kerry to Sydney and back again.
### 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>Apprentice Drycleaner</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Brooke Janetzki</td>
<td>05.03.2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any interested students can obtain further information regarding these vacancies from the Office.
HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING OFFICER ASSISTANT
TRaineESHIP
As part of the Horsham Rural City Council’s on-going commitment to apprenticeships and traineeships, applications are invited for this position, which is based in the expanding Planning Department. We are seeking an enthusiastic and committed person wishing to make the most of this opportunity to commence a career in this interesting field of local government.
This position will require the applicant to be:
- Computer/keyboard literate
- Able to work as part of a team
- Possess good communication skills
- An interest in town planning would be a definite advantage.
For further details, contact Chris Perry on 0419 312 293

WORKCO Limited is an equal opportunity employer
To apply: Written application and resume to be sent to Chris Perry at WORKCO Limited, 144 Firebrace Street, Horsham. 3400, by 5 p.m. Friday, 19th March, 2010.

CERTIFICATE 3 IN AUTOMOTIVE
(SALES - PARTS INTERPRETING)
WORKCO Group Training, on behalf of Howden’s of Horsham Pty. Ltd., are seeking an enthusiastic person to undertake a traineeship within their spare parts division. This is an excellent opportunity, and ideally the successful applicant should possess the following attributes:
- Excellent communication skills
- An interest in the automotive industry
- Basic computer skills
- Ability to work under pressure
- Successful completion of Year 10
For further information, contact Chris Perry on 0419 312 293
To apply: Written application and resume to be sent to Chris Perry at WORKCO Limited, 144 Firebrace Street, Horsham. 3400, by 5 p.m. Friday, 5th March.

FReeZA DTP Bus Timetable – Sunday, 7th March, 2010

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

- 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 at your school if you wish to travel by bus
- The Loddon Shire Council has organized buses from East Loddon and Boort to attend the event. For information on these please contact Tony Bellenger - 0437955265
  For more information contact Marc - 0429 867 897
The Australian Science Olympiads

The Science Olympiads are international competitions for Secondary School Science students, where teams from 80 countries battle it out for gold, silver and bronze medals.

Every year Australian Science Innovations selects and trains three teams to compete at the Science Olympiads. The Biology and Chemistry teams have four members, and the Physics team has five.

Competing in the Science Olympiads is a huge head start in launching a possible career in Science. Back in Australia, team members find themselves targeted for prestigious University courses, prizes and scholarships.

The Science Olympiads are held in July in a different country each year. Competing countries take turns to host the event. Olympians are treated as VIPs and meet Senior Ministers and Heads of State, as well as experiencing the culture of the host country.

The competition is based on both theory and laboratory work, and our teams are trained at residential camps at Monash University in Melbourne. Most of the team members are in Year 10 or 11, although some may be younger.

Being selected for the Science Olympiads teams

The first step is to enter the National Qualifying Exam (NQE) in Biology, Chemistry or Physics. These are held in August and are organised by ASI. Students enter through their Schools. Please give your name to Miss O’Brien by 19th April if interested.

Entry costs $8.00.

Students who do exceptionally well in the NQE are invited to attend the Summer Science School. Seventy students come to Monash University for a 14 day residential school, where they attend lectures and work at the laboratory bench.

The Science Olympiad teams are chosen from the Summer School students, selected on how well they did at the Summer School, and on their performance in the Final Selection Exam. The new teams come together in April for five-day intensive training session.

Teams are formally announced at a ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra, when blazers are presented by the Minister. This is held in late May. The teams meet in July for a few days before the international competitions for a final training session. This may be held in Australia, or in the country hosting the Science Olympiads that year. They then fly straight on to the Science Olympiads.