Dear Parents,

NELSON WALK: Term 1 finished on a high for our Year 9 students, who successfully completed the Great South West Walk from Nelson to Portland. Feedback from the camp has been excellent, with students gaining many positives from the week. Thanks go to the teachers who accompanied the students - Mrs. Warr, Miss Swan, Mrs. McConville, Mr. Potter, and organisers Mr. Whitfield and Mr. Cashin. A special thanks to parents Mark Connell and Mary Hogan who also went on the camp.

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY: Mr. Potter organised this ceremony for our students last Friday, and Mrs Maree Cullen, as guest speaker, provided a wonderful talk and slide show of her recent walk along the Kokoda Track. Seven members of the local Branch of the R.S.L. attended the ceremony, and Ken Morrison recited the ode and led the one minute's silence. I was impressed with our students' respect for the occasion, and their purchasing of ANZAC badges at recess. Our School Captains also represented our School in the local ANZAC Day March and read a poem in the ceremony. I thank Steph and Luke for their participation.

THE BIG SAMBA: Our students were recently treated to an explosion of hands-on musical teamwork in which they had to use various instruments to produce musical rhythms, based on Brazilian Carnival street music. The students really enjoyed the performance by visiting artist Steve Schulz, and I thank Mrs. Goode for organising it.

INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS: Our students performed creditably last Thursday and all should feel proud of their efforts. Thank you to Mr. Haddow and Mr. Goode for organising our students' participation.

PARENT-TEACHER NIGHT: Many parents availed themselves of the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with their teachers. Thank you to Mr. Cashin who efficiently organised the evening. If any parent was unable to see their child's teacher, and wishes to do so, they can make arrangements through Mr. Cashin to meet with the teacher.

CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Queen's Birthday Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Annual Survey during week</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Competition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Year 12 Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAPLAN (Language) - Yrs. 7 &amp; 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAPLAN (Reading) - Yrs. 7 &amp; 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAPLAN (Numeracy) - Yrs. 7 &amp; 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Council Meeting - 7.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu. 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-House Cross Country pds 6&amp;7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-School Cross Country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No. 6
APRIL, 30th, 2009

P.O. Box 138, Donald Camp Street, Donald
Phone: 5497-1205 Fax: 5497-1759
Email: donald.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au
HEALTH EXPO: Our Year 9 and 10 students travelled to Birchip to participate in a Health Expo with all district Schools. The students enjoyed the experience, and I thank Miss Pickering, our School Nurse, and Ms. Perkal for organising our students' involvement.

STUDENT ATTITUDES TO SCHOOL SURVEY: All students at Donald High School will be required to participate in the Annual Survey, and it is important that students take it seriously, as is normally the case. The surveys will be conducted in the week commencing Monday, May 4.

THANK YOU to the many staff, parents and students who offered their condolences to me and my family following my Mother's recent death. Your expressions of sympathy were greatly appreciated.

GEOFF RIGBY
PRINCIPAL

CBCA Book of the Year
Each year the A. R. Adams Library takes part in the Book of the Year celebrations. The Children's Book Council of Australia lists a number of notable books that were published in the previous twelve months, in various categories, of these six are short-listed for each category. At DHS we read the six books short-listed in the Older Reader category, and after a short discussion and luncheon, choose the Donald High School favourite novel. If any parents, staff or students would like to take part in this activity, please contact Mrs Russell.

These new bell times will come into effect from Monday, 4th May, as we will be finishing School 5 minutes earlier than previously

NEW BELL TIMES – Normal Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warning Bell</td>
<td>8.52 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Assembly</td>
<td>8.55 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>9.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>9.43 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>10.26 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECESS</td>
<td>11.09 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning Bell</td>
<td>11.36 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>11.39 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>12.22 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>1.05 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Lunch</td>
<td>1.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning Bell</td>
<td>1.56 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 6</td>
<td>1.59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 7</td>
<td>2.42 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISMISSAL</td>
<td>3.25 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Starting from next Monday, May 4th, dismissal time will be at 3.25 p.m. Lunch time will be shortened by 5 minutes. Bus travellers, please note earlier time, drop off may be 5 minutes earlier.

WORKCO Limited

67 Woods Street,
DONALD. 3480
Ph. 5497-1821
NORTHERN ZONE SWIMMING 2009
Sixteen Donald High School students travelled to Swan Hill to compete in the Northern Zone Swimming Carnival on 20th March. This was by far the largest team we have taken to this carnival in recent years, and all acquitted themselves well against very strong opposition.
Declan O'Shea competed in a total of six events. His best performances were in the 50 metres and 100 metres Breaststroke and 50 metres Backstroke, where he finished just out of the placings. Lucas Anderson was the sole placegetter for the day, with a third in the 50 metres Backstroke. Kirk Harberger, Zack and Jordan May also gave their best in individual Breaststroke and Backstroke events.
The Relays gave some younger students a chance to get a taste of competition at this level. The Under 14 team consisted of Daniel Matthews, Brody Haddow, Luke Sheather and Jordan May, while the Under 15 team comprised Daniel Pearce, Scott Wood, Levi Borden and Tom Gillahan.
Possibly our strongest team comprised Zack May, Lucas Anderson, Declan O'Shea and Kirk Harberger in the Medley Relay, but even they had to be content with fifth. Siobhan Jones, Stephanie Borden, Lauren McLean and Hannah Russell also enjoyed the opportunity to swim at this level in their final year at Secondary School.
As members of the North Central region, we would also like to congratulate placegetters from neighbouring Schools. Marley Griffith's two wins and two seconds were a great achievement. Brenton Delaney had one win and one second. Karina Cameron had two seconds and a third. Kellie Pay, India Griffith, Marshall Connelly and Ashlee Donnan also got placings.
Congratulations to all competitors, and we will watch with interest as the winners progress to State level.

YEARS 7 NEWS

ANZAC DAY
Last Friday students commemorated ANZAC Day with a remembrance Service and slide show from Maree Cullen, who recently completed her walk along the Kokoda Track. Maree's talk was inspirational and moving.
The Inter-School Athletics were held last Thursday at St. Arnaud. Year 7's who competed were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clarence Barlow</th>
<th>Jaron Dunstan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jack Onley</td>
<td>Kiahn Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renee Sheridan</td>
<td>Sabrina Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celeste O'Shannessy</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to all those students.

NAPLAN Testing
National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will take place on 12th, 13th and 14th May. Years 7 and 9 students will undertake a test in spelling, grammar and punctuation on 12th May, a reading test on 13th May, and a Numeracy test on 14th May. These tests provide valuable information for students, staff and Schools. Further information regarding the tests will be forwarded to students and parents as the tests get closer.

Maths Competition - The National Maths Competition will again be offered to students in Years 7 to 10. Participation is voluntary, but I would encourage students to get involved as it is a good chance to challenge yourself against students from around Australia.
Parent/Teacher Interviews
It was pleasing to see a large number of parents who attended the parent teacher interviews on Monday night. These nights are a valuable way of monitoring student progress and making sure communication between School and home is maintained. We need to constantly work together for the benefit of your children. (see poem below)

To Ponder On…. 

The Sculptors
I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care

One was a teacher
The tools he used were books, music and art

One a parent
With a guiding hand and a gently loving heart

Day after day the teacher toiled
With a touch that was loving and sure
While the parent laboured at his side
And polished and smothered it o'er

And when at last their task was done
They were proud of what they had wrought
For the things they had moulded into the child
Could neither be sold or bought

And each agreed he would have failed
Had he worked alone
For behind the parent stood the school
And behind the teacher
THE HOME

This poem reinforces our community belief in developing a positive partnership between School and home to support student learning. (Sent from New Zealand by Heather Fox, who worked for a number of years as an Integration Aide).

English - Premier's Reading Challenge
Again this year, all Year 7 students are involved in the Premier's reading Challenge as part of their English studies. Anything that actively encourages student reading can only be a good thing. Let's encourage involvement and wider reading.

Mrs. McConville and Mrs. Goode have set up a challenge between 7A and 7B to see which Year Level can read the most books in the Reading Challenge. It will be interesting to see which Year Level comes out on top. 'Make sure you do your bit'!

15 books should be read by the start of August. All students should be reading for at least 30 minutes per night.

Homework due:
- Please cut this out and stick it on your fridge. Make sure these tasks are placed in your diary.
- 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>Tue. 5/5</td>
<td>Geog.</td>
<td>* Continents Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 6/5</td>
<td>Science French</td>
<td>* Spelling Words Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 29/5</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Egyptian Project due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Important Dates for Term 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Mon. 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>School Photos Taken Student Annual Survey during week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;-14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>National Numeracy &amp; Literacy Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thu. 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Inter-House Cross Country (pds 6&amp;7)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri. 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Inter-School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Mon. 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Queen's Birthday Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed. 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Science Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri. 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Report Writing Day - Pupil Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thu. 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Northern Zone Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri. 26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>End Semester Reports given to students Last day of Term (2.30 p.m. finish)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Letter from John Landy, Chair, Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund Advisory Panel**

To students, staff and parents at Schools across Victoria,

A big thank you from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund, to all of the School communities who so generously came together to raise almost $1 million to support the victims of the bushfires.

Your efforts through Casual Clothes Days, gold coin donations and other fundraising events have made a major contribution to the Appeal Fund.

This funding is already helping thousands of individuals and families whose homes have been lost or damaged, who have lost loved ones, have been severely injured, or who need assistance with getting back to work.

Along with my colleagues on the independent advisory panel overseeing the allocation of these funds, further decisions are being made about how these funds will assist affected communities in the medium and longer term.

The Panel will ensure that your money gets to those who need it, when they need it.

If you have queries in the future about how your kind donations are being used to help, you can visit [www.dhs/bushfireappeal](http://www.dhs/bushfireappeal)

Donald High School S.R.C. has donated $1,406.65 to the Bushfire Appeal from fundraising and donations.

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**MIPs Tips – Year 12s: Get ready for TIS Day!**

Only 3 weeks to go until the North Central LLEN/LCP host the annual Tertiary Information Service (TIS) event in Charlton (Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May). All Year 12 students are invited to attend (check with your Careers Teacher for transport details). The day will include a general presentation covering the key aspects of transition from Year 12 into tertiary study, then an opportunity for students to visit stalls set up by over 20 tertiary providers! Now’s a great time to start making a list of places you’d like to investigate or questions you want answered by the representatives. The better prepared you are, the more you’ll get out of the event. Your Careers Teacher or MIPs Co-ordinator can give you some hints.

---

**Maths:** MathsMates due Fridays.  
**English:** Successful English exercises:  
7A: due every Thursday / 7B: due every Friday  
Spelling tests: 7A & 7B: due Mondays
ATHLETICS IS ALWAYS A WINNER, 2009

Just as the 'bald is beautiful' fashion has swept all before it in elite sport, so too has the barren oval become the preferred surface for School athletics in 2009. If you happened to be regular at the Birdsville Races or the Patchewollock Easter Gift, you would no doubt say that Donald High School oval looked a picture for the Inter-House sports on 25th March. There is no doubt Athletics is popular with students, with all fields seemingly full to overflowing as 'would be' champions lined up to break their individual 'personal best'.

There were many excellent performances on the day, but only two records were broken. Darcy Cameron reset the U/17 Shot Put record with a new distance of 12.25 metres, and then Sean O'Reilly threw 26.4 metres to set a new Under 15 Javelin record. It would appear that the boys are ganging up on Ash Trollop, who held both records since 2003 and 2001 respectively. They still left his U/15 400 metre record intact.

The high jump always proves a great spectacle, whether it be the height of the bar or the interesting techniques that some employ. It was great to see Tom Whiteford (Open), Lachlan Sheridan (U/18) and Jake McKenzie (U/17) all clearing the 1.60 metres barrier, and getting within striking distance of the records. Similarly, Caitlyn Wood (U/18) and Ally Doak (U/17) just missed setting new records in their respective events.

The change in cut-off dates for age groups seems to have had an effect on the individual championships. Laura Ackland, Jake Sheridan, Rachel McLoughlan, Ally Doak, Darcy Harrison and Arnaud Steygers were all first time winners for their age group.

Thank you once again to parents who assisted in a variety of different capacities on the day. Congratulations to Meyer who won overall by 24 points from Banyenong in second place, and Meyer in third position.

Age Champions are as follows:
Under 14: Grace Brennan (Meyer) and Jack Onley (Banyenong)
Under 15: Laura Ackland (Banyenong) and Scott Wood (Meyer)
Under 16: Jointly - Keely Russell (Banyenong) & Rachel McLoughlan (Jeffcott), and Jake Sheridan (Meyer)
Under 17: Ally Doak (Meyer) and Darcy Cameron (Jeffcott)
Under 18: Alex Downes (Banyenong) and Darcy Harrison (Meyer)
Open: Rowie Wood (Banyenong) and Arnaud Steygers (Banyenong)

Final results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banyenong</td>
<td>208.0</td>
<td>232.5</td>
<td>440.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffcott</td>
<td>182.5</td>
<td>225.0</td>
<td>407.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meyer</td>
<td>243.0</td>
<td>221.0</td>
<td>464.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS AT ST ARNAUD, 2009

Sixty-five Donald students took part in the Inter-School Athletics at St. Arnaud last Thursday. The weather was near perfect on a track that could only be described as first class.

Ally Doak had her most successful day in Inter-School athletics with individual wins in the 100 metres, Long Jump and Triple Jump as well as teaming up with Georgia Bird, Teagan Stuchbery and Laura O’Reilly to win the relay. This, along with a second placing in the 200 metres, enabled her to win the Under 17 Girls Championship.

Darcy Cameron competed in six different events, finishing with wins in the 100 and 200 metres, and placings in all other events.

It was particularly pleasing to see three senior girls each win their respective field events. Caitlyn Wood jumped an impressive 1.38 metres in the Under 18 High Jump, Olivia Borden threw 9.08 metres in the Shot Put, and Shannon Crowe 23.47 metres in the Discus. Jack Onley had his first win at Secondary School level in the 200 metres, and followed up with three second placings in the 100 metres, discus and relay.

Other winners on the day were Nathan Dunstan (Under 16 High Jump), Jake McKenzie (100 metres B grade), and Stephan De Silva (100 metres B grade). The relay teams put together their best performances in several years, and are to be congratulated on their smooth changes. Practice pays off.

Students displayed true team spirit in the way they firstly made themselves available, and then helped each other out in cases where withdrawals were necessary. Thanks to this attitude, the team continues to improve its overall standing.

Competitors from all schools are to be commended on the spirit displayed on the day. Winners now have the opportunity to compete at Northern Zone level on Thursday, 8th October.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Arnaud</td>
<td>3226</td>
<td>3060</td>
<td>3318</td>
<td>3509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boort</td>
<td>2519</td>
<td>2949</td>
<td>2792</td>
<td>2518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>1542</td>
<td>1621</td>
<td>1741</td>
<td>1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlton</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>1716</td>
<td>1451</td>
<td>1526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedderburn</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1075</td>
<td>1387</td>
<td>1449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wykheproof</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1421</td>
<td>1098</td>
<td>726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyramid Hill</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>593</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WANTED TO BUY:
2nd Hand school dress about size 12 - Contact School Office.

R.A.C.V. FREE2GO
Printed for the information of students and parents - a very worthwhile initiative:
free2go is the latest initiative brought to you by RACV. It's a motoring assistance program developed especially for young Victorians who are new to the road.
Available to all Victorians aged 18 to 20 years, as well as Year 12 students, free2go offers all the benefits of RACV membership and comes with Roadside Care. What makes the program really stand out is that for 18 year olds and Year 12 students, it is free. And for 19 and 20 year olds, Roadside Care is only half price. Peace of mind at a discounted price - you can’t say no to that!

free2go membership includes:
• Emergency roadside assistance. Anyone aged 18 years or in Year 12 will be covered for emergency roadside assistance (Roadside Care) in any car they drive, or are a passenger in. And what’s more, it’s free - no catches or contracts. Anyone aged 19 or 20 years will receive Roadside Care in a nominated vehicle at half the normal price. And if you’re 19 or 20 and don’t require Roadside Care, then you can still be a member and access all the other benefits free!
• Free motoring information and advice on getting a licence or buying a car.
• Access to a range of discounts and benefits, including driving lessons, accommodation, entertainment and motoring accessories.

19 & 20 year olds, please ring 13 7228 or pop into any RACV shop to start your free2go membership.

NEW BOOKS IN YOUR LIBRARY THIS WEEK

"The complete book of Naughty Stories for good boys and girls" by Christopher Milne
The first of these stories was self-published by Milne in 1992 - well before the likes of top-selling Australian authors Andy Griffith and Paul Jennings wrote about bums, farts and poo. Milne's collection is a compilation of humorous short stories that touch on many of our children's social issues.

"The School for dangerous girls" by Eliot Schrefer
Angela’s parents think she’s on the road to ruin because she’s dating a "bad boy". After her behaviour gets too much for them, they ship her off to Hidden Oak Boarding School. Isolated and isolating, Hidden Oak promises to rehabilitate "dangerous girls". But as Angela gets drawn in further, she discovers that recovery is only on the agenda for the "better" girls. The other girls -- designated as "the purple thread" become more dangerous . . . and more reliant on Hidden Oak’s care.

"Boofheads" by Mo Johnson
Life is pretty sweet for Tommy, Casey and Ed as they start Year 11. They try to hang out as they always have, but with football, families and jobs, their lives start to diverge and become more complicated.

"The Magician (The secrets of the immortal Nicholas Flamel)" by Michael Scott
Allied with the legendary Nicholas Flamel, on the "good" side are teenage twins Sophie and Josh, who are supremely gifted, but with powers that are untrained. Countering them is a new arch villain, Niccolò Machiavelli, who, along with other figures from history and legend, swells the already impressive cast, plundering on the dark side.
**Scholastic Book Club**
The latest Scholastic brochures are attached to this week’s Newsletter. Please return all book club order forms to Mrs Russell by 8th May, 2009.

**YEAR 9 GREAT SOUTH WEST WALK**
Year 9 students spent the last week of Term 1 hiking along the Great South West Walk, from Nelson to Portland, along the Shipwreck Coast. 31 students, accompanied by 6 staff and 2 parents, completed the arduous 75 km journey and finished at the iconic Portland Lighthouse. The group departed at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 29th March, and returned weary but in high spirits on Friday, 3rd April.

Students were accompanied by; Tony Cashin, Trevor Whitfield, Stuart Potter, Rebecca Brown, Lauren Swan, Pam McConville, Mark Connell and Mary Hogan.

The eager walkers left early Sunday morning, 29th March to embark upon the four-hour bus trip to Nelson. Arriving mid-afternoon, the groups waved goodbye to the comfortable bus and readied themselves for a week of walking, camping, cooking and long-drop toilets!

Students were required to carry all the equipment they needed for the week including food, clothes, tent and trangia stove. Most packs weighed in at around the 20 kilogram mark. For some of the students, this was almost half their body weight!

There were three walking groups, and each group set off for the week in high spirits. Walking along spectacular coastline, students tackled terrain such as beaches, sand dunes, cliff-tops and admired the views of the ocean, the cliffs and the Portland Wind Turbines. The weather was superb for the week, keeping everyone at just the right temperature. Wednesday was even warm enough for a quick dip in the icy waters of Bridgewater Bay.

The groups walked approximately 75 km in total; 7 km Sunday, 16 km Monday, 21 km Tuesday, 16 km Wednesday and 16 km Thursday. A challenge for even the fittest walkers!

The finishing point for the walk was the Portland Lighthouse. The groups arrived in quick succession, some kissing the lighthouse itself, others hugging each other and shaking hands, appreciating the enormity of their achievement. The final group arrived and serenaded the other two groups with an entertaining chant. Needless to say, spirits were exceptionally high at this point!

Heading to the beloved bus, students found two big blue eskies awaiting them, crammed full of ice cold cans of soft drink. Downing those and celebrating a birthday with a chocolate cake, the students ambled onto the bus and looked forward to a pub-cooked meal.

Teachers, parents and students involved thoroughly enjoyed the week. All students experienced a sense of achievement and many felt they would love to do the walk again. Students demonstrated an admirable level of
maturity, and some fantastic teamwork and leadership qualities. It was a real pleasure for teachers to watch the students encourage and support each other through the week. The camp was a meaningful experience for all involved.

**SUNGLASSES FOUND**

A pair of sunglasses was found at the School following the Parent/Teacher interviews on Monday. The owner can collect them from the Office.

**DONALD WOMEN’S WINTER BASKETBALL**

Please enter teams or individual names with Kay and Peter Wyllie (5497 1590), Jill Davidson (5497 1316) or Patsy Dunstan (5497 1834) **BEFORE** Friday, May 8. Season will be commencing mid-May.

**DONALD SWIMMING CLUB INC.**

Annual General Meeting
7TH MAY, 2009
AT SHAMROCK HOTEL
AGM at 8.00 P.M.
GENERAL MEETING TO FOLLOW.
ALL WELCOME

**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, 10th 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, 7th May.

My child(ren) ________________________________
(please print)

would like to participate in the University of N.S.W Science Competition to be held on Wednesday, 10th June. Please find enclosed the entry fee of $6.00

Signature: ________________________________

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SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS – FAMILY - Monday, 4th May

Any parent wanting a FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH needs to return the form below to Mrs. Gillahan with one of their children before that day. You will be under no obligation to purchase the photo that is taken.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

National School Photography will be here on Monday, 4th May. Individual and class photographs will be taken, which parents then can order from the Proofs. All students are expected to be in summer uniform. If you wish to have a family photograph taken on this day, please complete the form below and return by the morning of Monday, 4th May at the latest.

S. GILLAHAN

Please include my children in a family photograph:

Names: .......................................................... Yr Level ..... 
.......................................................... Yr Level ..... 
.......................................................... Yr Level..... 

Signed: ________________________________


SUMO WRESTLING SUITS ~ GLADIATOR CHALLENGE ~ 4-WAY BUNGEEN TUG-OF-WAR ~ HUMAN BOWLING BALL SUITS ~ BREAK-DANCING DEMONSTRATION ~ BMX DEMONSTRATION

Contact Marc Cox 5478-0172 or email marc@buloke.vic.gov.au
Or Tony Bellenger 5494-1232 or email tbellenger@loddon.vic.gov.au
BALISTIK Sunday, 3rd May, 2009 (1 – 4 p.m.) – Bus Timetable

BUS ‘A’ Donald – Charlton 56 Seats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stop</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Post Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlton</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Charlton Football Ground</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BUS ‘B’ Birchip – Charlton 43 Seats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stop</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birchip</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Post Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wycheproof</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Post Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlton</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Charlton Football Ground</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All buses will leave the Charlton Football Ground at 4:00 p.m. and follow the same route home.

For more information contact Marc 0429 867 897 (Buloke), or Tony 0437 955 265 (Loddon)

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>Business Administration Traineeship</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Chris Perry</td>
<td>01/05/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horticulture/Agriculture Trainee (Glasshouse Assistant)</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Chris Perry</td>
<td>01/05/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprentice Chef</td>
<td>Warracknabeal</td>
<td>Kate Clark</td>
<td>15/05/2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For full details of these positions, please see list on the Noticeboard outside the Office.

THE REX, CHARLTON

Coming Films:
In association with Regional Arts Victoria presents Fiona Scott – Norman in “THE NEEDLE and the DAMAGE DONE” Sunday, 3rd May at 3.00 p.m. Adults $20 Children/Concession $15. Bookings 0419 727 574

“EASY VIRTUE” (PG) Sat 9 May, 8 pm; Sun 10 May, 2 pm; Tue 12 May, 8 pm
“KNOWING” (M) Sat 16 May, 8 pm; Sun 17 May, 2 pm; Tue 19 May 8 pm
“MONSTERS Vs ALIENS” (PG) Sat 23 May, 8 pm; Sun 24 May, 2 pm; Tue 26 May, 8 pm
“RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN” (PG) Sat 30 May, 8 pm; Sun 31 May, 2 pm; Tue 2 June, 8 pm