



NEWSLETTER

CIRCULATED FORTNIGHTLY TO INFORM PARENTS OF
SCHOOL EVENTS AND VIEWPOINTS

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No. 9
JUNE 11TH,
2009

Dear Parents,

SOLAR POWER PROJECT UPDATE:

I believe we are in the final stages of securing funding of \$65,000 to enable us to install a 6.48 kW solar power grid connect system. The system, when installed, will reduce the overall power consumption of the School, thus reducing the School's carbon footprint. The system will also provide awareness about renewable energy systems to both the students and the wider community.

BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION UPDATE:

I am in the process of finalising quotes for \$125,000 worth of projects to be undertaken around the School. These will commence in July, and must be completed by February 2010. I am sure that work done will be of great benefit to the School.

INTER-SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY:

This annual event was held at St. Arnaud on 29th May, and I was impressed with our students' efforts. Thank you to Mr. Goode and Mr. Haddow who organised our students.

YEAR 11 AND 12 EXAMS:

All Year 11 students are presently undertaking mid-year exams. Year 12 exams are held for Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Accounting and the GAT. I would like to thank Mr. Ken Morrison (Chief Exam Supervisor), Mrs Judy Wall and Mrs. Marilyn Connell for supervising our students.

MEALS ON WHEELS:

This week, members of our School community are performing a vital community service by delivering Meals on Wheels. I thank the parents, staff and students for their efforts.

REPORT WRITING DAY: A reminder that all Donald Schools will be closed for students on Friday, June 12 to enable staff to write students' Reports. The North Central Cluster Centre will also be closed on this day.

GEOFF RIGBY, PRINCIPAL

CALENDAR

June	
Fri. 12 th	Report Writing Day - student free
Tue. 16 th	Northern Zone Cross Country - at St. Arnaud School Council Meeting - 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 17 th	Intermediate Public Speaking Year 12 P.E. Melbourne Trip
22 nd - 26 th	Year 9 Green Week
24 th - 26 th	10B Driver Ed.
Fri. 26 th	End Term 2 (2.30 p.m. finish)
July	
Mon. 13 th	Start of Term 3
Thu. 16 th	Careers Expo - Charlton
Tue. 21 st	School Council Meeting - 7.30 p.m.
Fri. 24 th	High School Fete
Wed. 29 th	Winter Sports
August	
Tue. 4 th	English Competition
Thu. 6 th	Maths Competition
Mon. 10 th	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Tue. 18 th	Grade 6 Information Night School Council Meeting - 7.30 p.m.
Wed. 19 th	Year 7 Injections
Thu. 20 th	D.H.S. Drama Festival

YEAR 7 NEWS

Fete

This year's School Fete will be held on Friday, August 24th. The Year 7 students will be involved in the usual array of activities, including the sweet stall, sponge throw, mystery balloons, coin in the tank, fortune telling, guess the lollies, and so on. Our greatest fundraising activity is always the home-made sweet and cake stall. Students will be asked to write on a list in the Year Level Room what the students can make or supply from home for this stall. It would be appreciated if all Year 7 students and families could donate something for us to sell at this stall. Further details will come home on a note with your child. This is just a preliminary warning about the Fete.

Assessment Tasks and Reports

With report writing day set down for Friday, June 12th, students have been busy with assessments of all sorts. Reports will go home with students on the last day of term.

Generally I have been very pleased with the Year 7 groups. I have had no complaints from staff about homework not being done, etc.

I am still collecting diaries each Friday morning, just to check that they are being used and also being signed. Your child should be asking you to sign their diaries (perhaps Wednesday or Thursday night). If they forget, you could prompt them - although it is their responsibility.

Other Activities

It is great to see Year 7 students having a go at other activities around the School. At the moment, students are involved with the RACV Energy Challenge, Scrapbooking, rehearsals for House Plays, Choir, and Science Competition. There's always something extra going on.

School Photos

Students have just received School photos. These should be posted to the address given. Don't bring them back to School.

Inter-School Cross Country

Congratulations to the Year 7 students who did a superb job representing the School at the Inter-School Cross Country last week. Some found the hilly course a little difficult, but it was great to see the way they toughed it out. Up to 35th places are recorded.

Year 7 results are below:

Boys

16th Jack Onley

35th Jaron Dunstan

Girls

4th Sabrina Smith

14th Celeste O'Shannessy

30th Kara Harberger

Important Dates for Term 2

June	
Fri. 12 th	Report Writing Day - Pupil Free
Tue. 16 th	Northern Zone Cross Country - St. Arnaud
Fri. 26 th	End of Semester Reports given to students at School Last day of Term (2.30 p.m. finish)

Important Dates for Term 3

July	
Mon. 13 th	Start of Term 3
Fri. 24 th	High School Fete
Wed. 29 th	Winter Sports
August	
Tue. 4 th	English Competition
Thu. 6 th	Maths Competition
Mon. 10 th	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wed. 19 th	Year 7 Injections (11.30 a.m.)
Thu. 20 th	D.H.S. Drama Festival
September	
Mon. 14 th	Music Festival
Thu. 17 th	Reports posted to parents
Fri. 18 th	End of Term 3

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.

Day/Date	Subject	Task
	Science	Spelling Words
Mon. 15/6	7B Home Ec	Evaluation question Nos. 6 - 9 of 'Design a Muffin' Prac. Bring \$3
Tue. 16/6	Geog.	Map of S. Asia due
<i>Maths: MathsMates now complete for Term 2</i>		
<u>English:</u> 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

MIPs TIPS - CAMPUS TOUR: LaTrobe BENDIGO

LaTrobe will be conducting their "Experience LaTrobe" event once again these School holidays (Tuesday, 7th July), this time at their Bendigo campus. Students and their parents/guardians can take a guided tour of the campus, ask questions of staff and current students, explore the student accommodation and attend a mini lecture or tutorial in their area/s of interest. Registrations are now open. Please phone 1300 135 045 or register, visit <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/events/experience/bendigo> or speak with your MIPs Co-ordinator for more info.

WIMMERA BANDS GROUP MUSIC SCHOOL

The Wimmera Bands Group will be holding its Music School at the Donald High School during the first week of the July holidays, beginning 29th June. The School is being hosted by Donald 2000. This represents an excellent opportunity for all music students to receive tuition from specialised music educators. All ages and stages of learning are catered for, and mature-aged students are also very welcome to attend. The cost is \$140 for the week, which includes textbooks, lunch, as well as morning and afternoon tea. This is a rare opportunity in your home town, so any music student who is not already enrolled should seriously consider making the effort to attend. There are still places available. Any interested students should contact Jane and Peter Battersby on 5495-1780 (a.h.).

YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE

The Year 11 students spent a week completing Work Experience during the week 11th to 15th May. The majority of the students worked in Ballarat for the week, some other places were Melbourne, Mildura, Bendigo and Donald. From all supervisors spoken to, they were impressed with our students and said that they'd take a Donald student for work experience anytime. The students' comments will follow in the next Newsletter. So stay tuned!

NEW BOOKS IN YOUR LIBRARY THIS WEEK



"A Ghost in my suitcase" by Gabrielle Wang

When Celeste returns to China, she learns from her Grandmother of a secret gift that is passed from generation to generation. Celeste needs to learn how to use the gift and reveal the deception to save her Grandmother from being trapped forever.

"Silverfin" by Charlie Higson

This is the first in the Young Bond Series, that looks at the life and adventures of future spy James Bond, when he was 13. This first novel takes place as Bond is a first-year student at Britain's Eton Boarding School, where he joins the Danger Club. This leads to excursions and numerous dangerous adventures requiring James Bond to help; Keeping the forces of darkness at bay.

"3 Willows: a new sisterhood grows" by Ann Brahares

A new sisterhood; or not quite. We follow the lives of three friends who have gone their separate ways. Although not seen as the close friends of previous books, we do become acquainted with Polly, Jo and Ama over the Summer holidays as they struggle to deal with their difficulties and disappointments.

"Bog Child" by Siobhan Dowd

Set in Northern Ireland in the 1980's Fergus discovers the body of a girl in the peat bog and begins to hear her voice telling her painful story. Fergus is also involved in his own unhappy story, when his brother, involved with the IRA, is imprisoned. In this tale of sacrifice, amongst stolen peat, border smugglings and Fergus's hope of becoming a doctor, many surprises begin to unfurl.

Year 10 New Caledonia 2009 has been postponed until 2010 due to the SWINE flu epidemic. Thank you for all those who have supported the 2009 fundraising effort. All monies will go towards the 2010 program.

WORKCO
Limited

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YOUTH ALLOWANCE CHANGES

The School received the following email, in the hope that we will let parents and community members know of a way that maybe will help country students who are being disadvantaged by the Youth Allowance Changes.

"Dear Principal,

My name is Megan Freckleton. I'm a gap student from Horsham, and I am trying to get in contact with as many country students as I can in regards to the proposed Youth Allowance Changes. Although I am unaware of your position on this issue, I have organised an online petition aimed to specifically help country students. This will hopefully be a great tool for the Government in gauging just how big of an effect these changes will have on those in regional and rural areas.

The address is

<http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stop-the-proposed-changes-to-youth-allowance-and-student-benefits.html>

Kind Regards

Megan Freckleton

WORKCO Apprenticeship and Traineeship Vacancies

Job Title	Town	Contact	Closing Date
Automotive apprenticeship	Ballarat	Jamie Bennett	17/06/2009
Information Technology Traineeship	Horsham	Joe Richardson (0418 102 904)	15/06/2009
Retail Traineeship (Sales & Delivery Driver)	Horsham	Shane Cross (0418 564 890)	19/06/2009

Further details about these positions can be found on the noticeboard outside the Office.

INTER-SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY 2009

A team of forty seven Donald runners travelled to St. Arnaud on Friday, 29th May to compete in the Inter-School Cross Country event.

The course started and finished at Lord Nelson Park. The team arrived about fifty minutes before the start, which gave runners a chance to walk the three kilometre course. Some were concerned about getting lost, but the thick white line marking the track was clearly visible. Those looking for short cuts were also out of luck. The question of "Where are we?" could be answered quite simply. Just follow the white line!

The Donald team took the task seriously, and almost all gave their best. Generally speaking, they found the course through the bush, fair, yet challenging. Our best performances for the day belonged to Sabrina Smith (Junior Girls), Jake Sheridan (Intermediate Boys) and Alex Downes (Senior Girls) who all finished fourth in their respective divisions. Other performances that deserve special recognition include Alexander Bouchier (fifth), Kelly Sheather (eighth) and Kalon Green (eighth). A total of sixteen Donald students have now been invited to compete in the Northern Zone division at St. Arnaud on the Tuesday, 16th June. This event has normally been held at Bendigo, so it is a great to see our local area being given the chance to stage such an event.

As in past years, St. Arnaud were the clear winners in five out of the six events. Donald's performance was by far its best for many years, which is a credit to the students who made an effort to do extra training in preparation for the event. Wedderburn were also big improvers, with several winners and top ten placings.

Individual winners were:

Juniors:	Zoey Torney (St. Arnaud)	Jonathon Lanyon (Boort)
Intermediate:	Meg Lockhart (Wedderburn)	Zack Notting (St. Arnaud)
Senior:	Daniel Griffiths (St. Arnaud)	Karina Cameron (St. Arnaud)

<u>Final Results</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
St. Arnaud	1471	1294
Boort	729	887
Donald	594	470
Wedderburn	592	454
Charlton	327	423
Wycheproof	312	709
Pyramid Hill	178	200

Northern Zone - Tuesday, 16th June at Lord Nelson Park, St. Arnaud

11:00 a.m. U/14 Girls	11:25 a.m. U/14 Boys	11:50 a.m. U/15 Girls	12:15 p.m. U/15 Boys
12:40 p.m. U/16 Girls	1:05 p.m. U/16 Boys	1:45 p.m. U/17 Girls	1:55 p.m. U/21 Girls
2:20 p.m. U/17 Boys	2:20 p.m. U/21 Boys		