



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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SEYMOUR TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

## RUBICON CAMP

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August, the Year 12 Outdoor and Environmental Studies class stayed at Rubicon Outdoor Centre as part of their unit of work. During the camp, students participated in a river journey which was rafting in groups of about six down the Big River at The Big River State Forest. The water was freezing cold which motivated most people to stay dry; everyone except Josh Williamson who enjoyed the shock so much, he fell in twice! The next day, the promised cross country



skiing day was cancelled due to lack of snow at Lake Mountain and so students hit the water again, but in two-man rafts this time. This was a much more challenging session as kids had to rudder their own rafts, resulting in Mr Watson and Hamish Pink losing the battle and tipping over. Overall the trip was very successful; students were able to further their knowledge of healthy natural environments and participate in a great recreational activity. A special thanks to Mr Watson for helping out with staffing the camp and being a good sport!

A 'victory salute' from the rafting crew.

Ms Paholek — Outdoor and Environmental Teacher

## SEYMOUR TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HIT THE MT BULLER SLOPES

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August, Mr Rilen's Outdoor & Environmental Studies group went skiing and snow boarding. After an early start of 6.45am from school, we were skiing by 10.00am which gave us an hour's practice before our 2 hour ski-boarding lesson. We stayed overnight on the mountain at Coonamar Ski Lodge; they provided some hearty food and a cosy place to shelter. Day two was just short of blizzard conditions, great snow cover but very poor visibility, so we were restricted to the 2 main lifts Blue Bullitt and Holden. The group all enjoyed the snow experience and were a pleasure to take away. Mr Rilen — Outdoor and Environmental Teacher



Patricia Sporle makes snowboarding look easy at Mt Buller

## IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 24th August	Book Week Activities—Library
Friday 28th August	
Friday 28th August	Daffodil Day—Out of Uniform Day
Friday 11th September	Festival of Spirit
Saturday 10th October	Enhanced / Accelerated Testing for 2010

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

We are half way through this vital term and that means our year 12 students have about 9 weeks of classes before they will leave for the exams. An information evening was held on Tuesday night to encourage them to think of their tertiary options. All students should apply for at least some tertiary options. It reminds us that the year is rapidly moving towards the critical point for all students in all levels.

**YEAR 12 2010 EVENING**

Last night a VCE/VCAL evening was held for all current year 10 students to consider their programs for next year. It is critical that students work with our advisors and their parents to select courses for 2010 that will keep the career choices open. Effective planning cannot be underestimated.

**PARENT OPINION SURVEY**

About 94 of our families, randomly selected by computer, comprise the survey sample invited to complete the questions on the Annual Parent Survey for 2009. The sample size amounts to 15% of the population. The survey has been sent home by post this week and will most likely arrive on Monday of next week. We urge families invited to complete the survey so please do so. The responses remain confidential with all replies being sent to Melbourne for compilation and recording. The deadline for the responses is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Please return your completed survey in the sealed envelope. The envelope will not be opened at the School. We understand that surveys take up precious private time and we really appreciate you taking the care to provide your opinion. The outcomes provide us with affirmation for actions that we are doing well and help shape plans and targets for areas that require improvement.

Students, staff and families are surveyed annually as part of the school's accountability processes. These surveys provide valuable feedback and assist the school in its strategic planning. Staff and students have already been surveyed – now it is time for families.

A contractor collects and collates the survey data. The school will receive the results in October. The input is confidential and the survey is conducted in such a way that responses remain anonymous. The opinion of the sample forms the opinion of the School population so please make your input.

**REGENERATION**

Last week the third bus trip to Berwick Chase Primary School was undertaken with staff and parents from the four schools. The design of this school, completed by our architects ClarkeHopkinsClarke was opened this year and modelled on current educational best practice in primary schools. It was terrific to see students and teachers not only working on what is powerful to learn, but what is powerful learning and what promotes it. The students we observed were working well in a variety of learning spaces with options for teams of teachers to decide how the day was planned. The contrast between new teaching spaces and some of our more tired buildings was apparent to all. The Science block planning continues and we expect to hear soon on the success of the Primary Schools and Special School applications for the buildings that the Regeneration project may be successful in obtaining.

**UNIFORM 2010**

A reminder that new uniform currently worn by our year 7 students will be compulsory for all students next year. If families need to replace an item for a child in any level then I strongly urge you to buy updated items from our official suppliers.

**AGM MEETING VOTE TO CLOSE COOPERATIVE**

The School Co-operative Annual General meeting was held last week and the outcome of the meeting was to shutdown the cooperative. I thank all the past and present members of the Co-operative and acknowledge the tremendous contribution the past building programs have made to the school. I can understand the sense of loss some of our community will feel when the buildings are removed, but I did remind all present that these buildings are now 40-60 years old and are tired and no longer suitable for modern teaching spaces. The stadium is proposed to be retained in the current plan .

Tim McCartin,  
Principal.

**ENHANCED/ACCELERATED TESTING - DATE CHANGE**

The testing of students for entry into the Year 7, 2010 enhanced/accelerated class will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October not Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September as stated in the school calendar. Information brochures will be forwarded to Primary Schools shortly. For further information you may also contact Seymour Technical High School.

Tracie Baker

Enhanced / Accelerated Coordinator

**8D SIZZLERS**

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August, Cody Dare, Sarah Coombs, Haylee Durbridge, Ethan Forcier, Rhia Drummond and Alec Suffredini of 8D, together with some of their parents and I, ran a sausage sizzle outside Safeway as part of our \$1040 challenge. It was a wonderful day and I would like to thank everyone involved. Special thanks to Ernie, the cleaner for his generous donation of the chorizo sausages. Everyone worked hard and we raised nearly \$600 for our project. Congratulations to the team and thanks to those who came and supported our school.

Megan Taylor



Haylee Durbridge, Sarah Coombs and Rhia Drummond, Alec Suffredini, Ethan Forcier and Cody Dare manning the Sizzle.



### TAN RUN AND LEXUS CENTRE VISIT

The Year 12 Physical Education classes travelled to Melbourne on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August to run the 3.8km of the Tan track around the Botanical Gardens. They then visited the Lexus Centre, home to the Collingwood Football Club. Whilst there they got to tour around the facilities and rub shoulders with some of the Collingwood players as they went through their recovery sessions. They were then spoken to by David Buttifant, the head of Sports Science at Collingwood, about training principles, recovery techniques and the effects of overtraining. Josh Neels was the first student home in the run and Mrs Jones was the first staff member to complete the course. A good day was had by all.

Stephen Garner - Physical Education Teacher

### WINTER ROUND ROBIN

The last round robin for the year saw many students take the opportunity to be involved in table tennis, squash or basketball. Well done to the year 7 & 8 girls squash teams that won their GSSSA round and will play the Eastern Zone round at Wangaratta on the Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you to all of the students who have supported our round robin sports program for this year. A special thanks to all those teachers who volunteered their lunchtimes to coach, umpire and organise school sports teams.

Christy Rilen, Sports Coordinator

### LIBRARY NEWS

It's Book Week again and we're going on a Book Safari. There will be activities running every day in the Library 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> August. Sign up in the Library for Monday's craft activity, Tuesday's Games Day, Wednesday's Trivia Quiz and be sure to get your Book Safari passport completed by Monday if you want to be a part of the film viewing during lunchtimes on Thursday and Friday. With the Festival of Spirit close on the heels of Bookweek, if you have any suitable books or DVDs that you would like to donate for our Book Stall, could you please drop them off at the General Office during school hours?

Megan Taylor, Teacher-Librarian

### CANCER COUNCIL DAFFODIL DAY

There will be an 'Out of Uniform Day' on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August. A gold coin donation will be collected and the money raised will be donated to the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day fundraiser. Merchandise including Doogle Bears \$5.00, Pens \$1.00 and Enamel Pins \$3.00 will be on sale from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Margaret Tuckwell  
Fundraising Coordinator

### FESTIVAL OF SPIRIT WRISTBAND SALES

We have had a rather slow response to our sale of wristbands offer and our commitment to our booking with the amusement company. To date, we have only reached half our target number and with next Friday being our due date for payment of the deposit, we appeal to you to make your payment ASAP to help us finalise the arrangements. Please return your green forms to the General Office.

Mark Hardisty – Festival of Spirit Coordinator

### WANTED

Lego sets or pieces. If you have any sets or pieces of Lego or Duplo that are no longer needed, they could be donated to the orphanages run by Graceworks in Burma (Myanmar). For more information contact Margaret Tuckwell at school on 5771 1300.

**CAREERS NEWS**

**UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY SEASON IS COMING TO AN END**

A number of our Year 11 and 12 students have been to Open Days at Monash, LaTrobe and Melbourne Universities. There are still some Open Days remaining this weekend and the weekend after. For a full list of University Open Days, refer to the link on the VTAC website: [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) .

**SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIP AVAILABLE**

Araminta's Tea Rooms is currently seeking a School Based Apprentice to work on Thursdays and Sundays. Interested students should take their resumes to the Tea Rooms and speak with Carlene Fava. It is advisable that students do this between 3:30 and 3:45pm but not on Tuesdays.

A School Based Apprenticeship in Beauty has recently been advertised at The Edge Hair and Beauty (in the Anzac Village Shopping Centre). Interested students should approach the manager with their resume.

Jeremy Linton  
Careers co-ordinator

**A REMINDER FROM THE OFFICE**

A reminder to parents / guardians that at the end of term three, students school reports will be mailed to the most recent postal address that has been supplied to us by you. It is imperative that the school be kept informed of your correct details ie; phone numbers, addresses and contacts to ensure that you can be contacted when necessary.

Keren Fletcher - Business Manager

**COACHING CAMPS FOR YOUNG CRICKETERS**

Get a flying start to this cricket season by receiving qualified coaching at the Hume and Hovell Cricket Ground. There are 2 three day camps on offer; for more details see Mr Rilen or go to the website [www.humeandhovell.com.au](http://www.humeandhovell.com.au)

**AVENEL FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB**

Junior Disco: DATE: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August  
VENUE: Avenel Football/Netball Club rooms  
COST: \$5.00 Age 6-12 from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm and 13-16 from 8.30 pm to 10.30 pm.  
Fully supervised, snacks and drinks available

**AVENEL TENNIS CLUB**

'Come And Try' day. Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September commencing at 10.30 am at Jubilee Park. Open to junior and senior members of the community looking to enjoy some fun tennis. For further information contact Dee Wright on 5796 2309 or Stephen Garner on 5796 2547.

**WORK EXPERIENCE PARTICIPANTS**



Above: Adrienne Halsall at The Euroa Gazette office.

Below: Emma Dare at Barribill House nursing home.



**FESTIVAL OF SPIRIT - HELP REQUIRED**

The Festival of Spirit committee are looking for helpers to run stalls during our Festival of Spirit on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September between 1.30 pm and 6.30 pm. We are also seeking donations for our food produce stall. We are looking for fresh produce (fruit & vegies) or baked produce (cakes, biscuits etc). Please attach a list of ingredients to your items. If you are a parent / guardian or student (who hasn't already signed up) please fill in the reply slip below and return to the General office ASAP. Any enquiries, please contact Mark Hardisty at school on 5771 1300.

" .....

I ....., am willing to help at the Festival of Spirit on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. My preferred times are ..... and I can be contacted on (phone).....

" .....

I .....am prepared to supply ..... (description of item) for the Festival of Spirit on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. I can be contacted on (Phone) .....