Principal’s Report

Trade Training Centre Success!! $13.9 million announcement!

Yesterday I was notified that our consortium of schools here in north east Victoria has been approved in principle to build Trade Training facilities up to the value of $13.9 million!

The YouthNETT consortium includes Rutherglen High School as well as schools in Benalla, Bright, Mansfield, Myrtleford, Numurkah, Wangaratta and Yarrawonga. YouthNETT involves 8 government secondary schools, 1 Catholic secondary school and a specialist school working cooperatively to provide high quality trade training opportunities. We also have a very strong partnership with Goulburn Ovens TAFE.

The key feature of our consortium is that it is a decentralised model. In many cases, students will be able to learn and train in their local communities rather than having to travel to a central location. This will mean that students gain much needed skills, local towns and schools retain their young people in turn leading to strong and sustainable communities.

It is likely that there will be a long lead time before building works commence, but this is fantastic news for our school, our town and our local area.

Junior Boys Hockey

The Junior Boys Hockey team recently competed at the Eastern Zone level and took the pennant as Runners Up. Congratulations to all of the students in the team.

2010 Trip to France

At this stage we have 10 confirmed places and the planned trip will proceed. However if we have another two interested students, the cost per student will be kept at a lower rate. After seeking advice, we are prepared to accept students currently in Year 7 who have an interest in the French language and who have the maturity to participate in this trip with older students. If you are interested, please contact Mr Kim Le as soon as possible.

Wangaratta Choristers Christmas Concerts

The Wangaratta Choristers will perform a selection of carols and songs at a Christmas Concert to be held at the Rutherglen Memorial Hall on the Wednesday 2nd December. Check out the enclosed advertisement and book your tickets.

School for Student Leadership – Gnurad Gundidj Campus

We will be sending a great team to Gnurad Gundidj for Term 1 2010. The successful team members are Madeline Pianto, Maddison Smedley, Sara Yarwood, Drew Hiskins and Kieran Robinson. Rebekka Mollison and Jarrod Curran are next in line if a provisionally selected team member is unable to attend for any reason.

The quality of the applicants was very high and we certainly could have fielded an excellent second team if the opportunity had been available. Thank you to all of the applicants for the work they put into their application and interview.

Head Start Program

For the next two weeks, current Year 11 students will commence their 2010 Year 12 subjects. It is essential that all students attend every day. They will be completing work which will not be repeated next year. Students will be dismissed at lunchtime on both Fridays unless they are bus travellers.

Year 7 Success for Boys / Success for Girls

On Monday morning, our School Nurse Linda Elkington will be working with Year 7 girls from the Year 9 Connect program to deliver workshops and activities on health and well-being. The Year 7 boys will be working in groups on similar issues with class teachers.
Anzac Tribute  
Acrylic on canvas

“I have created a tryptich of collaged images of World War 1 to tell the story of the Anzacs of Beersheba and Gallipoli. These heroes sacrificed their lives for Australia. These paintings show my appreciation towards the Anzacs for what they have done for us”

Kay Davidson

Blending into the Background  
Photography and sculpture

I wanted to explore contrasting images to represent how identity can’t be defined by a single characteristic. I initially looked at things that defined who I am and then I expanded my research to include camouflage and the environment.

Steph Pearce

Me, Myself and Music  
Digital Photography

Music is a very important part of my identity. I wanted to try to show how the musician and the instrument are two parts of a whole. One is worth less and incomplete without the other.

Braden Whitaker

YEAR 12 VISUAL ART 2009
Urban Jungle
Mixed Media Jewellery

I made three necklaces based on animals: a zebra, a fish and a peacock.

I chose animals because I love the decorative quality of their colours and patterns and I wanted to investigate the nature of Adornment in both humans and animals.

Nicole Grigg

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**Introduction of the Victorian Student Number**

Our school is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at the school.

The VSN is a student identification number that is being assigned to all students in government and non-government schools, and students in Vocational Education and Training Institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student’s school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to stable information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).

The introduction of the Victorian Student Number will provide the capability to accurately detect patterns of student movement through, and departure from, the Victorian education and training system. It will greatly improve the collection and analysis of timely and accurate data about education in Victoria. The Department collects information to track improvements made to the education system, identify areas that require further improvement, and to analyse trends and identify future needs. The VSN will improve the accuracy, reliability and completeness of this information, providing a better basis for assessing needs and developing policies to meet them.

You will see the VSN appear on student report cards, enrolment confirmations, and exit confirmations.

This year our year 7 and 8 Form groups have been involved in a team building activity that focuses on the environment of our school. Various classes have participated in the program, and the organisation process, planning, presentations and end result in some cases, have been effective.

The approach that was taken is in part outlined below.

Form Group Project: For Years 7 and 8 2009:

Topic: Our School Environment

Rationale:

1. To provide a focus for real teamwork and deeper thinking in Form groups and
2. To provide the opportunity for an activity that will be a contribution from Year 7 and 8 to the whole school.
3. To provide a structure for Form Teachers to use in Wednesday Form Periods that is a real task and one that can be ongoing. The project is designed to encourage team work and leadership and will allow for whole form planning and discussion. It can be used throughout the year.

Excerpts from 8K’s Form project

Originally 8K students were planning on decorating the upper corridor: we were thinking of painting the walls and decorating them with different drawings, plants, pots and other materials but unfortunately, we found out that the corridors were to be a thing of the past.

We had to rethink and regroup:

It was decided we would use the barrels that had been offered to us through Cofield’s Winery and use them in a new way.

Two choices were agreed upon: Use them for the Year 9 area or the new Year 7 area.

Since we were to be in Year 9 next year we decided it would be good to offer them to the Year 9 Alive program.

Evaluation:

What worked well? We all worked together

What would we do differently next time? Different plants

What have we learnt? We can work as a team. Organisation is important
**My fantastic trip to Space camp.**

About a month ago, 5 other vision impaired students and I, as well as two chaperones from the department of education, left Melbourne for the USA. The flight lasted for approximately 13 hours and we touched down at Los Angeles airport at about 9 AM local time.

In Los Angeles, we had a great time going to Disneyland and California Adventure. Disneyland was really good, having good shops to look in. Not that I did much shopping there. However California Adventure was better because the rides were more exciting. I really liked the California Screamer which was a big roller coaster that had lots of drops and went upside down. I didn’t notice the moment I went upside down most of the time. I just noticed the G forces pulling on my face. Another ride I enjoyed was the Tower of Terror. It would go straight up in the air and then drop. It felt like I had left my own body behind as I shot down the building. It would do this several times, not giving you time to get over the first drop.

After all the fun and excitement in LA, we flew to Dallas and then onto Huntsville Alabama. This is where space camp is held. For the next five days we did things like:

- **Simulators**
  - Every night, our team would get the chance to go on a simulator. Some of these would let you -
    - move in any way possible except moving vertically up and down,
    - Take you straight up and straight down like the tower of terror to give you a feeling of a few seconds of micro gravity
    - Use a jetpack that astronauts use to move around in outer space.
    - A bike-like simulator that was like walking on the moon.

  Our teams were given missions to complete in a certain number of hours. There were two of these and both were similar, but I got to do different jobs in each mission. I was the commander in one. I would fly the simulator shuttle and try to fix different errors when they occurred. We did lots more but it’s too much to put in this article.

  After all this, we caught a plane back to Dallas. At the end of the flight, I heard the engines rev up and the aircraft speed up a little. I didn’t pay much attention but found out later that we didn’t quite make it onto the runway and hit the side of it.

Back in LA, we went to Universal Studios. We did many activities there such as Water World, which displayed a lot of fireworks and water sprayed everywhere. There were also other things to do, but it had a lot to do with visual effects.

The next day was mostly spent on the Santa Monica peer. There were a few rides there but they weren’t as good as Disneyland or California Adventure.

That’s about all. That night we flew out of the States back to Australia.
Year 8
Mount Buffalo / Mount Hotham Camp

On the 22nd of October the majority of Year 8 went on their annual camp. We left at about nine fifteen on our way to Mt Loch. We stopped at Bright for Lunch on the way and then headed on up the Mountain. When we arrived we went over to the bottom of the Mount Loch walk. We did our note taking on plants in the Snow Cover. Then we had a snow fight to get the feel of the snow. We had learnt in class how environmentalists had built a tunnel under the town for the Mountain Pygmy Possum to travel to the breeding grounds. So we went to have a look at the tunnel of Love.

We headed off down to Dinner Plains for a bit of a look at the environment. It was estimated that we would go for about a two hour walk. We headed off following a four wheel drive track and then went along and went on to look at the Dry / Wet Heath land. The posts were about 150 metres apart from each other. Mr. Webb was leading us the way and we went across a couple of hills and then we started asking how much longer and he said about an hour. We kept going along and then the track just ended at a cliff. Mr. Webb was adamant that we weren’t lost so we just followed the track back and got back to the bus . ...we hadn’t been lost at all, but yes...it was a bit longer than we had thought.

We arrived at our Hotel at 9:30 all very hungry after our walk. We had dinner and we were supposed to have a bonfire but it was too late. We then headed off to our rooms at 10:15 and it was lights out at 11:00 but not exactly sleep time for all rooms. We woke up at 7:00 some people having a good night’s sleep and others not. Had Breakfast at 8:30 then went up to Mt Buffalo

The next part of the trip we walked down Mount Buffalo. We had a look at most of the lookouts along the way. We had a few rests and looked at the different zones that we walked through. Once we got to the road we waited for the bus. Then we got down to the bottom of the Mountain and found a park to sit down and have lunch. After lunch we headed off home. On the bus on the way home some people watched “Bolt” and others caught up on lost sleep. We arrived home earlier than expected so we could head home on the bus or in a car and catch up with family a bit earlier. We had fun and laughed about “nearly” getting lost once we were back safely.
LJ7 Update: Opportunities for using the flexible Learning space.

General information: What’s happening with the space?

The flexible learning space should be ready for use from next week. The outside area with lockers and undercover outside learning space will commence soon.

Furniture has been looked at and various quotes obtained. Depending on quotes for outside area, we will know how much we have left to spend on the furniture. If we go ahead with the order, we may have it here by Orientation day 8th December.

Currently the room is set up just see how furniture can be arranged

We are able to use the space for those who wish to work together.

As a trial for the LJ7 -2010 Communications program, Luci Green and Sonya Barra’s year 7 classes are to be time-tabled in the space. They are trialling the 2010 Term 4 Communications Integrated unit this term.

The Headstart Program begins 9th November. The Primary Headstart program will occur in the flexible space on Wednesday 18th for Communications, and December 2nd for Investigate.

The interactive whiteboard and noticeboard materials have been ordered and are expected to be installed this week. Nancy Coppolino has agreed to run a workshop on using the interactive whiteboard.

Various other staff members are continuing with planning and writing integrated units for the Year 7 cohort next year and a lot of exciting material has been developed.

The progress of the flexible space has been amazing to watch. The stages can be seen in the photos above.
I had the pleasure of coaching the Junior Boys Hockey team in the Eastern Zone Final last week. I did not realise how much I missed playing until I was yelling 'sticks down ' and 'cover your players'... but there are no teams for slow old ladies!

In sweltering conditions the boys took on Wodonga. We were caught off guard and Wodonga had two goals in the first five minutes, THEN we started to play. The game was very even from then on with Rutherglen having many scoring opportunities. Josh Cooper scored a great goal and our hopes soared. Everyone put in a huge effort but we tired near the end and a couple of defensive errors let Wodonga in for two more goals.

Thanks to the support team of Julie Hatton and Bev Hall for transport, sunscreen, team morale and cheering.

Best players were Josh Cooper and Henry Hall ably supported by the rest of the team Aaron Clarke, Jordan Bramwell, Drew Hiskins, George Wood, Jacob Clarke, Braeden Hatton, Danyon Williams, Caleb Harris, Jarrod Curran, Justin Geisler, Tristan Williams and Nathan Boyd.

Margaret Gillick

On 19th November as part of Pathways all Year 10 students are expected to participate in a simulated job interview process. In class, students have been preparing an application letter and a resume for the interview. The panel members are from NELLEN, Workways, NETRACKS and LaTrobe University. The interviews will take place at the Rutherglen Rural Transaction Centre (Library) and students are expected to dress appropriately for the job that they are applying for.
Help raise money for the GREAT VICTORIAN BIKE RIDE 2009

- Heaps of Great Prizes to be won!
- Questions for both young and Old
- Tea, Coffee and supper provided
- BYO Nibbles
- Drinks at bar prices
- Cost: $10 per person ($5 Students)

Held at the Rutherglen Bowls Club - Murray St

Date: 13 November 2009
Time: 7.00pm

To book a table contact the school office on 02 60 329 483
ALBURY UNITED SOCCER CLUB will be looking for new and existing players to fill all current & new junior teams for the 2010 season.

For more information on next season please ring Chris Rochford on 0400 011 766 or email: rochford_c@yahoo.com.au

RUTHERGLEN FIRE BRIGADE—OPEN DAY

Sunday 22nd November 10am until 4pm

Come and see the new fire station and meet the firefighters, checkout Rutherglen’s 1927 Chevrolet Fire Truck and all the present day equipment

Sausage sizzle & soft drinks available

See the “History of the Rutherglen Fire brigade” DVD (available for purchase)

Creating safer communities
DATES TO REMEMBER

Headstart Program
9-20th November

Great Victorian Bike Ride
27th November—6th December

Year 7 Orientation Day
8th December

Presentation Evening
16th December

BREAKFAST PROGRAM
FOR STUDENTS
WHEN? Thursdays, 8.15am to 8.50am
WHERE? RHS Community Centre
WHAT'S ON? Milo, Tea, Coffee, Toast, Cereal...sometimes pancakes, smoothies and more!
AND...IT'S ALL FREE!!

THANKS SO MUCH TO RUTHERGLEN BAKERY FOR THEIR WEEKLY DONATION OF BREAD, IN CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR BREAKFAST PROGRAM.

VCE 2ND HAND BOOK SALE

On Wednesday 18th November at lunch time 2010 VCE students will be able to purchase 2nd hand books from this year's 11 & 12's in the VCE centre. If you are currently doing a VCE subject and wish to sell your text books please bring them in on this day.

Booklists will be available prior to this date to ensure the correct books are being sold/bought.

CASH SALES ONLY

WHOLE SCHOOL 2ND HAND BOOK SALES

Parents wishing to sell/purchase 2nd hand books for 2010, please contact the school office giving your name, contact number, student year level in 2010 and books required.

The school will attach a 2nd hand book list to future Newsletters and people wishing to buy/sell books will contact you directly.

CONTACT US...

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