Remembrance Day

At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the School stopped for a minute’s silence to commemorate Remembrance Day. The day and time reflect the occasion when an armistice came into place to end World War 1.

However the day now commemorates all those who have served, suffered or died in wars and conflicts around the world.

2012 School Captains Ryan Griffin & Dylan Oats and Vice Captains Marni Harris & Kirsty Nixon represented the school at the official remembrance and wreath laying ceremony at the Rutherglen Memorial Gardens.

Alpine School and Uncle Toby’s

The six 2011 Alpine School students have been working towards achieving their Community Learning Project goal of installing seating and rest areas along the Rail Trail. They have raised around $900 through various efforts including a raffle of goods donated by Rutherglen IGA.

This week they met with Uncle Toby’s Plant Manager Dave Flanagan as well as Ben Payne and Glen Wenzke.

Dave gave a presentation about the Wahgunyah operation and then the students presented their plan for the Rail Trail.

The verbal presentation was impressive and Uncle Toby’s will contribute $2,000 towards the project!

Afterwards Glen gave our group a tour of the plant. To say that it is large, impressive and very modern is an understate-ment! However the safety and hygiene gear is not a fashion statement.

Year 12 Destinations

Through the early entry system at Charles Sturt University, 5 of our Year 12 students have already gained tertiary placements for 2012. Students have been successful in gaining placements in pharmacy, radiography, occupational therapy, speech therapy and primary teaching. This is a great outcome given exams only officially wrapped up yesterday!

Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program

Jarrod Curran has been awarded a place in the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars program in 2012 by Melbourne University. This will give him access to people and programs to support and encourage him to pursue tertiary studies, inspire his career plans and provide opportunities to interact with the University community. Previous recipients include Josh Ellis and Marni Harris.

Year 9 2012 Information Evening

This session was held last night with students being asked to complete elective selections next week. Ron Webb will be following up students/families who were unable to attend.

Hospitality Dinner

In a lovely twist, last week the Year 12 Hospitality students put on a surprise dinner for Brooke Rasmussen (and a few other staff) to thank her for her hard work with them over the past couple of years.

Brooke was truly surprised (thanks to Patsy and Simon) and even more surprised by the fact the students (with assistance from Lorraine Foster) had secretly prepared a full three course dinner!
Student Work

Student work from areas including Art & Technology, but also student portfolios, was on display at the Information Centre. Some work from senior students is still on display in the Senior Study area at the School. If parents would like to view the work, come along to the School tomorrow, Friday, between 3.30 & 6pm, or please contact the General Office on 02 6032 9483.
2011 Year 10 Practice Interviews

Last Monday the majority of our Year 10 students were brave and turned up for their Practice Interview. The process required the students to apply for a mock job by writing an application letter, preparing a resume and attending an interview.

Many students due to fear resisted participating, however, following the interviews, there was an abundance of positive feedback, saying that it was a worthwhile experience. The interviewers were impressed by the calibre of our students including how they, dressed, presented themselves and responded to questions. Following the interview, many students were given verbal feedback and all will receive written feedback, including, how they answered questions, their letters and their resumes.

I would like to thank the following for giving up their time to interview our students: Alison Holloway and Matthew Lade from Youthways; Ashlea Wilkinson and Mary Clapperton from ATEL; Heide Neumeister from Kestrel Recruitment and Ian Gilson from NETRACKS. Having professional recruiters allows our students to gain an appreciation of the expectations that they face in a ‘real’ interview one day. I would also like to thank parents/guardians for supporting this activity by encouraging their student to participate. As you can imagine it is a difficult task to get students to participate in what seems like a daunting experience, despite it being for their benefit.

Congratulations to all who participated. You were all amazing by just having a go. The following students were successful in being selected for their respective jobs. These students returned their permission form, provided a letter and resume and turned up.

- Light Vehicle Mechanic – Brendon Spinks
- Heavy Vehicle Mechanic – Danyon Williams
- Labourer – Tristan Hall
- Animal Attendant – Madeline Pianto
- Chef – Rebecca Mollison
- Hairdressing Apprent. – Michael Manderson
- Gardener – Jarrod Curran
- Food & Beverage Attendant – Amy Webb
- Childcare Assistant – Taylor Miller
- Office Trainee – Bridget Martin
- IT Trainee – George Wood
- Electrician – Jack Reynolds

Quotes from students

It’s a great experience to have as part of our schooling (Beck M.)
It’s a good experience, so you know what it would be like in the future (Poi)
It was nerve wracking but useful (Beth)
The feedback was good, now I know what I have to do to get better (Taylor)
My interviewer liked talking about hunting and fishing (Josh)
My performance was good but I need to be more prepared (Demii)
I did a good job and I think I’ll get the job (Brendan)
It was a good learning experience (Kiah)
It was a good experience to see what questions they might ask in real life (Maddie P)
It went quicker than I thought it would (Danyon)
It was an insight into how the interview process works (Jarrod)
I found it hard to come up with unique answers to questions that seemed similar. I might also have talked too fast. I think a real one would be more challenging (Michael)
I found it a little bit confronting to start with but then I relaxed (Kodee)
That was scary but good (Amy)
It was really helpful and I was given good advice about building my resume (George)
I was nervous but I guess it’s not that bad and it’s important to get better at it if it’s a job you really want to do (Jack)

Beth (Animal Attendant), Poi (Childcare Assistant), Beck M (Chef)
Danyon (Mechanic), Jarrod (Gardener)
Maddie P (Animal Attendant), Adey Starkey (Childcare Assistant)
George & Interviewer (IT)
Michael (Hairdressing), Dana (Retail Trainee) & Kodee
Michael Manderson (Hairdressing)
Jack & Interviewer

FRENCH MATINEE AT WAHGUNYAH PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Matinee at Wahgunyah Primary School was an awesome day with all the children at Wahgunyah. The students from the Year 9 French class went to Wahgunyah Primary School on Tuesday the 15th of November. We organised and ran activities for the kids. One group did “The Elephant Game” which was lots of fun. One group did “The Diabolo Drinks” which the kids enjoyed very much and chose different flavours. Another group did “The Eagle Game” (in the photo on the right below) which was also heaps of fun for the kids. One group did French Dancing (the French Nut-bush/’Le Carré’) which all the kids loved. The other group did “The Fisherman Game” (in the photo on the left below) and it was a game that both the students and the children enjoyed a lot.

- Meredith Quick and Rachael Eggleston

Le mardi 15 novembre, la classe de français des années 9 (3èmes) sont allés à l’école primaire de Wahgunyah et ont passé une formidable matinée avec les écoliers. Ils ont tous organisé et proposé des activités ludiques, amusantes et pédagogiques. Petits et grands ont passé d’excellents moments ensemble.

I thanked all the Year 9 students who skilfully ran the French activities for the primary school students. Teachers, parents and students really appreciated and enjoyed the Matinee organized by the high school students.

Thank you for Pam and Lyndell who also contributed to this agreeable matinee at the primary school.

Merci et “chapeau” à tout le monde!

- Mr LE
Two of our Year 11 students, Marni Harris and Emily Robson, competed in the Lions Club Youth of the Year Quest.

They both did an outstanding job, spoke extremely well and handled the entire process superbly.

Marni was successful as the overall winner, and Emily successful as the winner of the public speaking section. Both girls spoke from the heart, and were very courageous and gave honest, well planned speeches.

The Judges were extremely impressed, commending Rutherglen High School in their feedback to Marni & Emily.

Extremely well done girls!

LIBRARY News...

Your Library staff attended an all day Professional Development Conference earlier this month (we know you cried without us for a day..) to learn more about current school library resources, including eBooks, graphic literature and how to conduct writing workshops.

Author Meme McDonald was one of the guest speakers and guided us through a reading/writing appreciation workshop. Meme co-wrote with Boori ‘Monty’ Pryor titles such as ‘The Binna Binna man’ and ‘Maybe tomorrow’ (which are but a few housed in your own School library. Check them out!)

Throughout the day, we were pleased to note that Rutherglen High School are keeping up with surrounding schools in terms of eResource investigation and planning for ‘future libraries’. Certainly RHS Library is already circulating many of these. Our eBooks will be available for all student use next year.

One of the Conference booksellers (from The Little Bookroom in Melbourne) was disappointed not to make a sale with us this year, as RHS already boasts most of the current fiction titles that were on offer and desirable for secondary students! However, rest assured mad readers…..we will be shopping in 2012. Keep those fiction requests coming!!

In other Library news…we now have an enquiry terminal at our front desk, for use by students and staff, allowing users to search our database for all Library resources, including DVDs, talking books & Internet sites. Users can also search their own current loans, reserves & loan history. Another step toward independent research and learning!

- Sue & Lou

Mobile Muster

Just a reminder that the Mobile muster is still up and running so if you have any old phones, iPods, and mp3 or chargers you can put them in the box at the office. So far we have 15 phone and we would like so more so keep up the good work guys.

By Reece Brennan and Billy Stones

SNOW TRIP 2012

The following students have indicated that they wish to participate in the proposed snow trip from September 3rd - 7th 2012. If you are not on this list but wish to come PLEASE see Ms Megarrity ASAP as we need to book accommodation soon.

A $50 deposit will be required by Monday December 5th 2011.

Hannah Kerr
Tristan Williams
Breanna Milthorpe
Jake Taylor
Meredith Quick
Martin Brennan
Gary Douglas
Georgia Lowe

Ryan Jones
Danyon Williams
Darby Griffin
Trevor Coulthard
Sam Quick
Brianna Renshaw
Jane Eggleston

Ben Jones
Jake Clarke
April Burneister
Caleb Harris
Josh Cooper
Tom Pearce
Charlie Redman

LIONS COMMUNITY

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Lions Park, Old Railway Station, Rutherglen
Friday 9th December

Free Sausage Sizzle & cordial for the kids

Join the local community from 6.30pm onwards for the school children’s presentations of their favourite Christmas songs before Santa arrives (He’s on a very tight schedule so don’t be late!)

Traditional Carols by Candlelight to follow

• Murray Brass • Guest Artists • Musical items

EVERYONE WELCOME!

CYBERSMART

Helping your child avoid cyber bullies

You can help make cyberbullying less likely to happen to your child by:

- discussing cyberbullying when your child first starts to use the internet or a mobile phone. Talk about what forms cyberbullying can take, the consequences it can have, and how it’s best to never pass along or reply to bullying material

- teaching your child not to give out passwords to friends. Some teenagers do this as a sign of trust, but a password gives other people the power to pose as your child online

- teaching your child to ‘think before posting’. Young people who post personal information online (like suggestive photos or videos) can also attract unwanted attention, negative comments or ridicule. This kind of personal information might be available online for a long time, well after your child is comfortable with other people seeing it.

check out www.cybersmart.gov.au
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Your work here is done! No more Volunteers required for the remainder of 2011.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to you all. Our wonderful Canteen simply would not survive without you! We are all busy in our daily lives, which makes it difficult to commit to yet ‘one more thing’; but our current Volunteers agree that, once they arrive at School, the social interaction with staff and the opportunity to see their children interacting with their peers, is well worth donating their time for. Please consider volunteering with us next year. It only need be a few hours, one day per Term. We know you’ll be glad you did. Can I also please make special mention of the following parents, who have been Volunteers in our Canteen for over 6 years: Lyn Fleming, Joanne Hiskins and Pauline Sims. (Their youngest children completed Year 12 this year.) Thank you so much for your invaluable assistance. 

Have a Merry Christmas and a happy & safe New Year. See you all in 2012.

- Lynne Kerr, Canteen Manager

School Attendance – Part 2

Rutherglen High School is proud of its attendance record with the majority of the student’s attendance rate at or above 90%. In recognition of this outstanding attendance rate we would like to take this opportunity to highlight why high attendance rates are of such importance.

Last week we explored the significance of poor attendance on young people. This week we will discuss what parents can do to support their child’s attendance.

It is the parent’s responsibility to let the school know the reason for a child’s absence as soon as possible, preferably on the first day of the absence but no later than the day of return to school if the absence was only a brief one.

An absence for an acceptable reason is authorised by the school.

An absence for an unacceptable or unexplained reason is unauthorised and is registered as such on your child’s record of attendance.

Parents and guardians can only explain absences - they cannot authorise them.

Schools are given clear guidelines by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development regarding student attendance, for example:

**Authorised Absences**

Only keep your child away from school if he or she genuinely too ill to attend or has an infectious disease that could be transferred to others.

**Unauthorised absences**

You should not keep your child from school:

- To look after the house or other members of the family
- To go shopping
- To visit relatives
- Because it is raining
- Because you or your child got up late
- Because they don’t want to go

Schools do understand that at times special circumstances occur. Talk to someone at school about other reasons you may have.

**EVENTS**

**NOVEMBER……**

Friday 25th to Saturday 3rd December

— Great Victorian Bike Ride

Monday 28th — Yr 10 I&E excursion

Wednesday 30th — Grade 6 ‘Headstart’ program, P 1 & 2

**RUTHERGLEN HIGH SCHOOL**

Principal: Phil Rogers

Phone: 02 60 329 483

Sheridan’s Bridge Road (PO Box 84) - Rutherglen—VIC—3685

Assistant Principal: Jennie Ward

Absence Line: 02 60 329 818

Email: rutherglen.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au

Fax: 02 60 329 185

Website: www.rutherglenhs.vic.edu.au

Please email articles and photos to us for inclusion in our fortnightly Newsletter. Please let the School know if you would prefer to receive our Newsletter via email, rather than receive a hard copy. An electronic copy is also available on our Website.