



27th February, 2020  
Issue 4

# Newsletter

Echuca Specialist School acknowledges the history, culture, diversity, and value of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and pays respect to their elders past and present, as well as acknowledging future generations.



## Our Vision:

To provide inclusive and engaging learning that empowers all students for life



## Assistant Principals message:

### Cultural Understanding and Safety Training

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of February the whole staff at Echuca Specialist School participated in and completed the CUST training. The day was facilitated by members of the Koorie community including Koorie Education Support Officers Paul Clark, Rick Ronnan, Howard Armstrong and Wayne Cowley, LAECG chair Rob Saunders and elder Deb Cowley. Throughout the day we learnt lots and discussed ways in which we can ensure that Aboriginal culture is recognised and taught within the classrooms. It was a great opportunity for the staff to listen to personal experiences and to ask questions relating to the stolen generation and the impact that a wide range of issues had on the Koorie community.



### Student Support Group Meetings

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of February we conducted the Students Support Group meetings. Thank you for your attendance, it is a great way to discuss how school is for each child and the team set goals for the first semester. It was fantastic to hear the students discussing their successes and where too next

## Dates to remember:

### February

28th—School captain announcement 9:30

### March

9th—Labor Day  
- Public Holiday

11th—Year 7 Immunisation

27th—Term of Term 1

### April

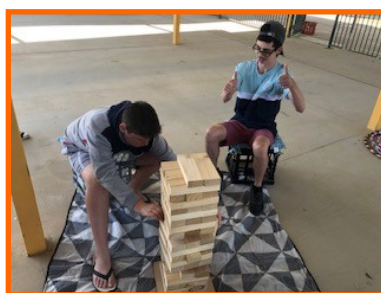
14th—Start of Term 2

16th—Year 10 Immunisation

## CON'T ASSIST PRINCIPAL REPORT

### Keep In Touch Van

The KIT Van attended school during the SSG day, the KIT van is a resource that offers information and support focussed on adolescent mental health. Thank you to the families who met with Alana and had a look at the KIT. We will invite the van to attend other school events.



### Verney Road Swimming Sports

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> of February students from the senior department travelled to Verney Road School to participate in a swimming carnival. The students participated in a range of races and novelty events. The students cheered and celebrated the students who participated in the activities. Congratulations to all that went, it was great to see you representing our school with pride.

## FUNDRAISING NEWS



1st prize—Signed 2019 team Geelong jumper

2nd prize—Signed 2019 Essendon team poster

3rd—Kids hamper

**\$2 PER  
TICKET**



## Knowledge in the Yard

I follow the rules



I ask when I need to move yards



## Excursions & Camps

The cost of all camps and excursions are to be paid by parents/carers unless alternative arrangements have been agreed to by the Principal prior to the excursion. All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for all activities. Consent forms will have clearly stated payment amounts and payment finalisation dates.

Students who have not finalised payment by the required date will not be allowed to attend unless prior arrangements have been made.

Echuca Specialist School will make all efforts to ensure that students are not excluded for financial reasons. Families experiencing financial difficulty are invited to discuss alternative payment arrangements with the Business Manager. The Business Manager can also discuss family eligibility for the Department's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF), which provides payments for eligible students to attend school activities, including camps and excursions. Applications for the CSEF are open to families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents and are facilitated by the school. Further information about the CSEF and the application form are available at [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#).

If a camp or excursion is cancelled or altered by the school, or a student is no longer able to attend part or all of the camp or excursion, our school will consider requests for partial or full refunds of payments made by parents/carers on a case-by-case basis taking into account the individual circumstances. Generally we will not be able to refund payments made for costs that have already been paid where those funds have already been transferred or committed to a third party and no refund is available to the school. Where possible, we will provide information about refunds to parents/carers at the time of payment.



# MOOROOPNA SWIMMING CARNIVAL





### Media and technology

Media and technology are at the centre of kids' lives every day. From a very young age, kids use technology at home and at school to connect with friends and family and to document their lives and create digital content of their own. With more and more of life happening online, what catches kids' attention isn't always what's best for them, and what companies do with their personal information isn't always clear. What our children watch and see online matters. There is a lot of research being done about how children are affected by what they see, hear and play online. What we do know is that children who watch or play games that have violence in them are at an increased risk of aggressive behaviour themselves. A great website available to us as parents and carers is **Common Sense Media** [Common Sense Media: Age-Based Media Reviews for Families](#) which is a website that promotes safe technology and media for children. Common Sense Media reviews books, movies, TV shows, apps, games, music and website. Each review is rated in terms of age-appropriate content, positive messages/role models, level of violence, explicit content and swearing. Reviews are done by experts, by parents/caregivers and by children. They give an overall rating and age appropriate recommendation. It's very simple to use: you simply type in the game/app etc that you are looking for and it will give the recommendations. This allows us to make an informed decision about what our young people are viewing.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



The Echuca Moama Rockets Inc. Football Club is a Club that offers football participation for players of all abilities within the Echuca Moama Region. We promote: INCLUSION / BELONGING / CHALLENGE / FRIENDSHIP / RESPECT / ENJOYMENT / OPPORTUNITY / GROWTH. We strive to offer inclusion for players of all abilities to enjoy an environment that promotes fitness, fun and a sense of belonging. We offer participation to all aiming to enhance life skills, develop self-esteem and improve overall health and wellbeing for all.

The Rockets have been given an amazing opportunity through the receipt of a **VicHealth Active Club Grant** to run a **FREE** five week **Soccer Skills Program** in Term 1, 2020.

Week 1: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 5.00pm - 6.00pm Soccer Skills

Week 2: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 5.00pm - 6.00pm Soccer Skills

Week 3: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 5.00pm - 6.00pm Soccer Skills

Week 4: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 5.00pm - 6.00pm Soccer Skills

Week 5: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 4.30pm - 6.30pm Soccer Skills and Soccer Game

Echuca South Recreation Reserve (South Oval next to Basketball Stadium)

**SO COME AND TRY THE ROUND BALL  
WITH THE ROCKETS.**

For more information please contact: Prue O'bea (M):0421 060 440



Thank you to Gary Whitby for donated his amazing art work to our school. They will be great talking pieces in the classrooms.



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