NETBOOKS FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS IN 2015

Year 9 students were recently provided with a two page outline of personal computer options for 2015. Each student was asked to respond to a brief survey to ascertain whether or not they were interested in being part of a bulk purchase of Netbook computers for 2015. We are about to order these units. Unfortunately we only received 60 responses from 190 students. So here goes on attempt number two:

1. If you are unaware of the two page outline, this can still be collected from the general office (or e-mailed on request).

2. WSC will be stocking an Acer B113 netbook. These are currently being used by our 2014 Year 10 students. These units perform well in the classroom as well as being lightweight and portable.

   The cost of the B113 is $445 with a protective carry case. This includes a 3 year onsite warranty and full support from the I.T. staff at WSC (Hardware and Software). Please note that the warranty covers technical faults. It does not cover damage – ie. it is not “insurance”.

   The specifications are:
   Processor: Intel Celeron Dual Core 1.5GHZ
   Memory (RAM): 4GB DDR3
   Hard Drive: 320GB
   Battery Life: 7.5HRS
   Screen Size: 11.6” LED

   These units come with the DEECD eduSTAR software package, which contains an extensive list of software preinstalled, including Microsoft office and Antivirus. When purchased, the units will be available to students during 2014 Head-start in December, configured and ready to go on the schools network.

3. Students may also purchase their own device (it should meet minimum requirements) or opt to not have a computer.

We have a record of students who have expressed interest in being part of the school bulk purchase of computers. At this stage we will only be ordering 50 units. If you wish to be included in the order, please contact the school by the last day of term. Further information is available by contacting the Dudley General Office.

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Parents/Carers should have received their child’s interim report and information regarding the online booking system for Parent/Teacher/Student interviews. This will include step by step instructions on how parents can book interview times with their child’s teachers.

Term 3 Parent /Teacher/Student interviews will be held at the Dudley Campus on:

Thursday 18th Sep (4.00pm - 7.00pm — for parents of students at McBride and Dudley)

Friday 19th Sep (9.00am - 1.00pm — for parents of students at the Dudley Campus only)

McBride students are reminded that normal classes will be conducted on Friday the 19th of September and attendance is compulsory as per normal requirements.

Garry Dennis
College Principal
Important Dates

SEPTEMBER
Monday 15 - VCE Music Recital Night
Thursday 18 - Gippsland Athletics @ Newborough
- Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews 4pm-7pm
Friday 19 - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews 9am-1pm
- Student Free Day Dudley
- End of Term 3

Thursday 16 - Year 9 Cape Day
Monday 20 - Yr 12 Drama Performance Exam
Tuesday 21 - State Athletics
Wednesday 22 - Year 10 Swan Lake Regent Theatre

Friday 19 - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews 4pm-7pm

OCTOBER
Monday 6 - Start of Term 4
Friday 10 - Table Tennis Gippsland Finals
Saturday 11 - Casey HPV
Mon 13-Fri 17 - Dudley Health & PE Week
Monday 13 - Yr 8 Mental Health Presentation
Tuesday 14 - Yr 9 Workshops @ Cape Paterson
- Senior Boys Cricket State Finals
- VCE Japanese Oral Examination
Wed 15-Fri 17 - Yr 11 Outdoor & Environmental Studies Bush Walking Camp
Wednesday 15 - Yr 7 PE classes Positive Thinking Presentation

Thursday 23 - Year 12 Graduation Dinner
Tuesday 28 - Intermediate Girls Basketball Gippsland Finals
Wednesday 29 - Year 12 Exams Begin
Thursday 30 - Year 8 Boys Basketball Gippsland Finals

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Don’t watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going.
Sam Levenson

2015 Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

For many years now low income families have had access to a number of financial assistance initiatives to help them put their children through school.

One form of assistance package was the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

Over the last few years we have seen the amount of EMA steadily reduce. Recently we received advice that the EMA will cease altogether at the end of 2014.

THERE WILL BE NO EMA IN 2015.

With the abolition of the EMA I must inform you that Wonthaggi Secondary College WILL NOT be entering into any credit arrangements in 2015.

With this in mind I ask that you plan ahead so that you are in a position to pay for your school books, uniforms and charges in 2015.

The loss of the EMA will impact our low income families but the impact will be softened somewhat following the announcement on September 2 that the schoolkids bonus will continue for a further two years.

There are moves afoot to introduce a new financial assistance package to assist low income families. Be assured that we will let you know details of any financial assistance initiatives when they come to hand.

The Business Manager can be contacted on 5671 3706 to answer any queries.

WANTED:

Horticulture at Dudley need 2, 1.5 and 1.25 litre plastic soft drink bottles to complete their greenhouse. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.
GJ Gardner Homes Building Design Competition

Year 10 Building Design students’ assessment is to design a house then make a scaled model. The assignment is a major piece, which the students will spend a considerable amount of time designing then assembling. The house must be designed to suit a building block, to a realistic budget, and a north-facing aspect.

This year, to offer further incentive to the students and to encourage careers in the building industry, GJ Gardner Homes has offered their assistance. GJ Gardner Homes will judge the best design. The winning designer will be awarded a cash prize, a chance to work further with GJ Gardner Homes and have their design incorporated as part of the GJ Gardner range.

Pictured here is Nick Dobbie and Weston Sparkes getting help from Brett and Sally at GJ Gardner Homes

Year 12 Motivational Speaker - Mark ‘Dobbo’ Dobson

Mark Dobson returned to Wonthaggi to do some follow up work with our Year 12 cohort. During headstart in 2013, our students first heard Mark speak about the importance of positive thinking, goal setting and time management. With the Year 12’s workload increasing and stress levels rising we asked Mark to return.

Mark is an expert speaker and author who has worked with some of the world’s best athletes, President Obama and many of Australia’s top businesses. Included in his presentation were ideas and tips for dealing with fatigue, setting learning goals and using study time efficiently. His strategies are ideal at this time of year when our students need to refocus and get ready for exams.

Mark encouraged the students to access his study videos online:

www.yourstudycoach.com.au

Mark is pictured here with the 2014 Year 12 students.
YEAR 8 - GEOLOGY STUDIES

As part of their Geology studies, Year 8 Science students are making edible conglomerate rocks! As any Year 8 student should be able to tell you, conglomerate rock is made of sandstone or mudstone with embedded pebbles and chunks of other rocks, making it look a bit like rocky road fudge. And because the dinosaur fossils at Inverloch are found in conglomerate rock, some classes buried dinosaur lollies in their conglomerate rock fudge.

YEAR 9 - ECOLOGY

As part of their Ecology unit, Year 9 Science students are monitoring the water quality of Wonthaggi wetlands. Students are measuring a range of “abiotic” factors like turbidity, salinity and pH. They are also collecting, identifying, counting (and returning to their habitat afterwards) macroinvertebrates like boatman beetles, shrimps, water mites and a range of insect larvae. One of the most interesting is caddisfly larvae, which live inside hollow sticks. And the results? The good news is that the clear water and many mayfly larvae and other sensitive organisms suggest the wetlands are very healthy!

Intermediate Soccer Team Report

After winning all 3 matches in the first round, the Intermediate Boys Soccer team progressed to the Gippsland Finals. Our competition was Lavalla Catholic College (From Traralgon - Current State Champions), Lowanna College (Newborough) and Nagle Catholic College (Bairnsdale).

Our first game was against Nagle and skills were fairly well matched. Despite many saved attempts by our team the match finished 0-0.

The second and most challenging match was against Lavalla. Despite a considerable difference in skills we defended well. Will Dryden (goalie) saved some great shots on goal but conceded when from the corner the far post was left unmarked. Final score Lavalla 1 Defeated Wonthaggi 0.

Our last game against Lowanna was certainly the most exciting. Our sides defense was tested many times but our counter attacking proved to show gaps in the oppositions defenses. Three attempts on goal in particular were very close. Max Boulton scored at the end of the first half after a great through ball. The second half was riddled by attempts from the opposition, including a powerful strike that rebounded off the crossbar. Final score Wonthaggi 1 Defeated Lowanna 0.

Credit should be given to all students who attended. Will Dryden finished as best player for Wonthaggi as voted by all.

In summary our team finished in second place and received a red runners-up pennant.
WSC Celebrates Reading

Bookweek is a highlight on our Dudley campus calendar and an important part of strengthening a culture of reading in the school. All English classes were treated to a comprehensive Book Week power point presentation that informed them of the remarkable novels that were short-listed by the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA). The Library also ran several competitions and showed a lunchtime movie, A Series of Unfortunate Events, as an example of a great book made into a movie.

Bookweek culminated in an exciting Book Character Dress-Up Day. Lots and lots of staff and students dressed up and at lunchtime and were entertained by the amazing band, Hell Unknown. Afterwards, students paraded their outfits and prizes were given for best costumes. Dozens of characters appeared on the day including; Wolverine, Skulduggery Pleasant, Primrose Everdene, Titus, Darth Maul, Goku, Pikachu, Wally, The Flash, Alice in Wonderland, Finn, an Oompa-Loompa, The Joker, Cat in a Hat, Thing 1 and 2 . . . and many, many more.

Biology & Chemistry Excursion

On Thursday 4th September, 19 Year 11 students embarked on an underwater journey through SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium’s amazing themed zones to learn about the continuity of the animals on display and back of house. The Biology students explored the unique reproductive strategies employed by marine organisms and advantages and disadvantages of these methods. The Chemistry students drew upon their basic understanding of H₂O in order to discuss and demonstrate the practical, real world applications of this knowledge.
Become A Volunteer Host Family

Gain A Friend From Another Country!
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Imagine the look on your new brother’s or sister’s face as you introduce him/her to Vegemite for the first time. Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.

Arriving in January:

Ilaria (17) from Italy tells us that she is incredibly fond of animals, and that if she had her own way, she would turn her house into a zoo! She enjoys drawing in her spare time, as well as travel. She believes that living so far away from home will help her broaden her mind, and she can't wait to live with a welcoming family. + MANY MORE

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wonthaggi Little Athletics Centre
Season 2014/2015
Saturday’s @ 9.00am
Come and Try Day - 11th October
Season Starts - 18th October
Wonthaggi Secondary College - Dudley Campus
To register online please visit www.lavic.com.au

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

BOYS AND GIRLS SPRING OUTDOOR NETBALL COMPETITION
Korumburra Rd Courts
School Grades 6, 7 and 8
Preference of Tuesday or Wednesday Night - 5pm Start
Proposed Season Dates - 7th October - 2nd December
Finals: 9th and 16th December
(Noted season dates dependant on night chosen)
Team Fees to be determined.
Submit own teams, maximum 2 boys per team.
Teams to supply own umpires.
Please contact Vicki Edwards - 0417711301
*For comp to proceed 10 teams are required.

Wonthaggi Miners Cricket Club
Training starts Wednesday 17th September at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve at 4:30pm - Under 16, Under 14, Under12
Sign up by calling 0422 068 669
or visit: http://wonthaggicc.vic.cricket.com.au/

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