NEWS AND VIEWS

Neerim District Secondary College

August 5, 2016

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HOME ECONOMICS ROOM UPGRADE

Significant refurbishment of the demonstration and preparation areas of the Home Economics room were completed in the holidays. It is now fully modernised while retaining the heritage aspects of the room.

OUR SPONSORS

We would like to thank all of our generous sponsors for their support throughout this year. With your continued generosity and commitment we have been able to improve the educational opportunities available to students. We strongly encourage our parents and the wider community to please support these wonderful local businesses that sponsor our school so well.

If you wish to become a sponsor please contact Mr Stuart Nicolson at the school on 5628 1455 to discuss.

HOME ECONOMICS ROOM UPGRADE

Significant refurbishment of the demonstration and preparation areas of the Home Economics room were completed in the holidays. It is now fully modernised while retaining the heritage aspects of the room.

STUDENT FREE DAY

A reminder that next Wednesday 10th August is a student free day due to staff Professional Development.

PARENT OPINION SURVEYS

Parent Opinion Surveys were mailed home two weeks ago to a random sample of families.

If you still have one of these questionnaires at home, could you please take the time to complete it over the weekend and return it to the school office on MONDAY.

Pictured above are Mrs Guerin and Jordyn Allen of Year 8 in class this week.
Principal’s Report

Cyber Safety

The sending and forwarding of nude and/or pornographic images

Young people are now digital natives. This means that they have grown up with technology. They use it readily and frequently. They can access tools to record and transmit both photographic and video footage on their personal devices.

Schools have noticed that students are increasingly becoming desensitised to pornographic and nude images. Many students are comfortable with sending and responding to solicitations for nude pictures of themselves. Recent statistics have suggested that on average teenagers have over 20 nude images stored on their phones.

The law is clear that sending nude images of anyone who is under 18 falls under the laws preventing child pornography. Your child could be charged with a crime for sending their nude image to another person. Anyone who forwards that image could also be charged. Previously, students may have also been placed on the register for sex offenders.

There are additional consequences to sending nude images, or any image. Once sent, the individual no longer ‘owns’ this image. They have no control over what happens to it next. There is also not a time limit on how long this image may circulate. The SOCIT (Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team) of the Police recently talked to students about several cases where adults had had nude images circulated at their work that they had taken and shared as young adults. In some cases, these images were also being used to blackmail individuals.

Neerim District Secondary College’s stance on students sending and forwarding nude/pornographic images is as follows:

- If you are under 18, it is against the law irrespective of your personal belief of whether this behaviour is morally right or wrong
- The short-term and long-term consequences of sending nude/pornographic images cannot be known, therefore, it is safest not to engage in this behaviour
- Students and families need to be aware that once images are transmitted, the individual no longer ‘owns’ this image. The individual needs to be aware that their images can be shared with anyone in their life, and/or anyone outside their circle of friends (i.e. family members, workmates, strangers, etc)
- This behaviour may make children vulnerable to sexual predators; therefore, the school deems the sending and forwarding of nude and/or pornographic images to be an unacceptable risk.

Vaya Dauphin
College Principal

Sponsor of the Week

GIPPY PEST CONTROL

This week’s winner is Nathan Everton of Year 7.
Congratulations Nathan, an iTunes voucher to the value of $30 is on its way to you courtesy of Gippy Pest Control.

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8</td>
<td>Year 9 - WGTTA Open Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10</td>
<td>Year 11 O &amp; E Education - Mt Baw Baw Skiing &amp; Snowboarding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10</td>
<td>Curriculum Day - No students required at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 15</td>
<td>Year 11 O &amp; E Education - Cross Country Skiing at Mt St Gwinear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17</td>
<td>Grade 6 Maths Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18</td>
<td>Next Parent &amp; Friends meeting, 2.30pm at NDSC. All welcome &gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18</td>
<td>CEA 9 Plant Paddlers - Latrobe River to Lake Narracan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24</td>
<td>Year 12 Biology Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29 - Friday 2</td>
<td>Year 8 Camp to Rubicon</td>
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GOOD NEWS POSTCARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a good news postcard: Jacob Findlater, Rhys Peterson, Mitchell Dawson, Nathan Everton, Hayden Swain, Heath Darcy, Cooper Orwin & Karin Martin.

AAA AWARD

The AAA award rewards consistent effort and citizenship in our students and recognizes the contribution that they make to the life of the College.

This week’s winners are Paige Le Gros and Caitlyn Quain of Year 12. These girls have been nominated by Glenys for regularly helping out in the canteen during busy times. Congratulations to you both. A cheque will be heading your way shortly, courtesy of the Walter Haines Foundation.

YEAR 10 & VCE SUBJECT SELECTION INTERVIEWS

Interviews will take place on Thursday 11th August and Thursday 18th August or at another time by arrangement. Parents can make an appointment by ringing the College or students can make an appointment with Mr Sharp.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE OR EMAIL

It is very important for health, safety and emergency management that the school keeps accurate records of student addresses and contact details. If you have recently moved or changed your phone number/email please notify the staff in the office asap of this change.

Thanks

OUR SPONSORS

A big thanks to all of our generous sponsors for their support throughout the year. Please support the wonderful local businesses that sponsor our school so well.

Don’t forget to register details of receiving a postcard by ringing NDSC on 5628 1455 or 5628 1201 after hours to go in the draw to win a community sponsored prize.

PBS IS A MARATHON. NOT A SPRINT.

Student feeling unwell during school hours

Lately some students are contacting parents directly and asking to be collected. We discourage this practice and ask for your support in this.

If you child becomes unwell during school hours, we ask that they report to the Library.

Please discuss this with your child and ask them to make the library their first port of call when they are feeling unwell.

Thank you.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

The Parents & Friends are doing their major fundraiser for the year at the Bower Festival on Sunday 23rd October. We are asking for people to help on the day, even if it’s for a couple of hours. We need a couple of people from 9.00am to help set up and then the day runs form 10.00am to 4.00pm. We are also asking for any donations that could go into our raffle for the day also.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 18th August at 2.30pm at the NDSC. Everyone is welcome.
On our first trip out we travelled to Forest Edge, where we did some further study around Hypothermia and correct outdoor clothing. We also had our first look at the Latrobe River.

From Forest Edge we travelled up to Neerim Junction for morning tea and then a talk from Wally Brown about the catchment and local soil types. Neerim Junction provides an excellent overview of the top of the catchment. After the water testing, we travelled to Noojee for lunch and then drove to the “Bump” between Noojee and Powelltown. We were very excited to find our way up to near the very start of the Latrobe River, but disappointed to find that someone had thrown a couple of old televisions down the bank next to the stream.
Reminders:

1. **INSIDE MONASH’ UNIVERSITY SEMINARS** – Final seminars in the series: Science - August 24; Teaching - September 13; Details and bookings: [www.monash.edu/inside-monash](http://www.monash.edu/inside-monash)

2. **YEAR 12 VICTORIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS CENTRE (VTAC)** applications for 2017 courses open Mon 1 August; timely applications close 29 Sept (see [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au))

3. **MONASH ART, DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE (MADA) WORKSHOPS** - 26 & 27 Sept, MADA (Caulfield campus) for Year 11 & 12’s; Book: [www.monash.edu/mada/workshops](http://www.monash.edu/mada/workshops).

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1. **OPEN DAY REMINDER** – Make sure you attend Open Days this year. They are your opportunity to ‘try before you buy’ your university or TAFE course. They commence THIS weekend at Swinburne (Hawthorn), 10am – 4pm. Remember to use Open Day planners before attending. For example, La Trobe University has a handy tool for browsing the Open Day activities and lets you build a personalised schedule to follow on the day. You can download the La Trobe Open Day app which you can use to access your timetable as well as maps to help you get around.

Some Open Day Dates for 2016:
- Sun 31 July – Swinburne University
- Sat 6 Aug – Monash (Peninsula)
- Sun 7 Aug – Deakin University (Warrnambool); La Trobe University (Bundoora); Monash University (Caulfield & Clayton)
- Sun 14 Aug – Australian Catholic University (Melbourne), La Trobe University (Bendigo); RMIT University; William Angliss Institute
- Sun 21 Aug – Box Hill Institute (Lilydale campus); Deakin University (Waterfront & Waurn Ponds); University of Melbourne; Monash (Parkville)
- Sun 28 Aug – ACU (Ballarat); Box Hill Institute (Box Hill); Deakin University (Burwood); Federation University; Victoria University (Footscray campus)

2. **YEAR 12 NEWS**

- **VTAC APPLICATIONS** - Applications for TAFE and university courses open on the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) website on Monday 1 August, 2016 at [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au). Use Course Searches as it is the primary source of course information. You will also find very useful VTAC videos about applying for courses, SEAS, scholarships, offers and changing preferences at [www.youtube.com/vtacmedia](http://www.youtube.com/vtacmedia).

You can apply for up to eight courses, placing them in the order you most want them. You will be offered a place in the highest course in your list for which you meet the requirements.

Don’t forget to check out the **Selection Requirements** for each course for which you apply. Many use only the **ATAR** for selection, however, a lot have other requirements such as an audition, folio presentation, interview or an extra form or documents that must completed as well. You will NOT be offered a place in any of these courses if you do not meet the selection requirements, regardless of your ATAR.

You have until 29 September for a ‘timely’ application. After that, the normal **application fee** of $32.00 rises to **$100.00**.

When applying for courses you will be asked for a **contact email address**. You are advised NOT to use a your school email address

Some B. Fine Art degrees at the University of Melbourne (Southbank campus) have earlier closing application dates; they close on 31 Aug for Animation, Dance, Film and Television and Screenwriting. For Production, Music Theatre, Theatre Practice and Visual Arts, timely applications close on 29 Sept and no later applications are allowed.

3. **SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS)** – This Scheme allows selection officers at universities and TAFE’s to grant special consideration for course entry to applicants, but doesn’t exempt you from meeting course requirements. SEAS doesn’t change your educational results or qualifications but enables course selection officers to consider circumstances that may have affected your results or educational progress. There are four categories of special consideration:

- **Personal Information and Location**
- **Difficult Circumstances**
- **Disadvantaged Financial Background**
- **Disability or Medical Condition**

For information about SEAS participating institutions, how to apply (demonstration provided), supporting evidence required (with suggested tips) and other details, see: [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) and search for SEAS.

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**WHAT IF I DON’T GET THE ATAR REQUIRED FOR MY DESIRED COURSE?** Firstly, remember that even if you think the ATAR will be too high for you, still put your most desired course first in your VTAC application. ATAR’s sometimes come down on previous years, and some applicants get in on lower ATAR’s because of bonus points achieved, or with a successful SEAS application, so you might be surprised.

However, what can you do if you do not obtain a high enough ATAR to access your course(s)? Many universities offer pathways into university. For example, Deakin has Deakin College, Monash has Monash College, La Trobe has La Trobe Melbourne and Swinburne has UniLink. These institutions can be accessed with lower ATARs and usually provide pathways into university.
Many other pathways exist. For example, Monash offers some diploma programs (in business, science, education & nursing), the University of Melbourne offers a Diploma of General Studies as a pathway, ACU offers courses through ACUCom, and Swinburne, RMIT and Victoria Universities offer certificate and diploma courses in their VET divisions, often offering pathways to university. Some VET providers (eg Box Hill Institute) have formal pathways to university.

Keep in mind as well, as noted in previous issues, that some universities allow students to access their courses on a lower ATAR as a result of their involvement in their communities (eg Aspire program at La Trobe and the Early Achievers Program at ACU).

4. NEW COMMON FIRST YEAR FOR ENGINEERING STUDENTS AT SWINBURNE – In 2017 engineering students will begin their studies with a common first year. The B. Engineering (Honours) will teach students the fundamentals of engineering before they choose their major, ensuring they can make informed choices about their career in industry. Those who enrol in the B. Engineering (Honours) (Professional) will also complete a guaranteed 12-month paid professional work placement. http://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/course/bachelor-of-engineering-honours/.

5. NEW MAJORS IN HEALTH SCIENCE AT SWINBURNE – In 2017 Swinburne’s B. Health Science will include four new majors. The degree is designed to equip students for careers promoting health and wellbeing. New majors in biomedical and clinical technologies, exercise science and nutrition will be offered alongside a revised major in biomedical science. Student who enrol in the B. Health Science (Professional) will also complete a guaranteed 12-month paid professional work placement. Find a course at: http://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/find-a-course/health/.

6. DEAKIN UNIVERSITY NEWS – Find out more about your professional personality, about life after finishing Year 12, and about how to improve your study habits. Check out some of these latest articles featured in the Deakin digital content hub at: http://this.deakin.edu.au/careers/whats-your-professional-personality-the-careers-quiz; http://this.deakin.edu.au/careers/what-life-was-like-after-i-finished-year-12 and http://this.deakin.edu.au/study/five-ways-to-get-on-top-of-your-study-workload.

Also remember to check out the Deakin EXPLORE facility at: http://explore.deakin.edu.au. Find out which course suit your interests, major studies available to you, and how to qualify for a career that interests you, plus a lot more.

7. SPOTJOBS CAREER EXPO COMING – This Expo will showcase career opportunities from large employers and trades through to higher education. There will be free career advice, industry panels, interactive training demonstrations and exhibits, seminars, and a wealth of information and opportunities for further study.

When: Fri 26 – Sun 28 August; Where: Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Southbank;
For details and a free ticket see: www.careerexpo.com.au.

Compiled by: m.walker

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEERIM SOUTH WINTER MARKET

WANTED STALL HOLDERS and Musicians for our NEW WINTER MARKET at JD Algie Hall, Main Road, Neerim South on Saturday 13th AUGUST. All sites under cover. Ample parking for visitors and stall holders.
For BOOKINGS or ENQUIRIES, please call Deb on 5628 1234 or 0417 748 884.

COMMUNITY GATHERING & CONSULTATION

All are welcome to our community update on Thursday 28th July, 4.00pm-8.00pm at JD Algie Memorial Hall.
• Find out what's planned for the Neerim Bower Arts Festival 2016;
• Stall Holder applications are open for the Neerim Bower Arts Festival 2016;
• Baw Baw Shire Council will be present to consult with the community on Planning issues;
• DELWP is conducting a forum on Planned Burning;
• Neerim District Lions Club is holding their annual Grafting Day.

For more information: www.facebook.com/neerimbower

FOOD BANK

There are many people doing it tough this winter, including farmers, tradies with no work, white and blue collar workers who have been laid off due to the economic climate, pensioners, families in crisis, the list goes on.

Food Relief at Neerim South supports families and individuals with food supplies, a cuppa and chat and referrals to other agencies if needed.

We welcome everyone, and location is the rear of JD Algie Memorial Hall Neerim South. Please drop in on any Thursday between 9.30am and 1pm. For alternate times please phone Judy on 0400 791 325.
The annual NDSC food drive

Donations go into supporting the local community.

Please only donate non-perishable foods (canned/boxed goods).

Pass on your donations to your home group teacher.

Starts August the 1st through to August 17th

House spirit points will be awarded for most kilos donated!

Community Gathering

All are welcome to our Community Update
(Food & Drink Supplied)
Baw Baw Shire Council Planners
Want To Hear From You

Don’t miss this opportunity to influence the future direction of your town.
DELWP is holding a forum on planned burns in the District, learn about their planning and how you can have input.

4:00-8:00pm
Thur 28th July

J.D. Algie Memorial Hall
213 Main Neerim Rd, Neerim South
For more information: www.facebook.com/neerimbower
The Neerim District Progress Assoc Inc

"NEERIM - PLEDGE FOR THE FENCE!"

We need your assistance to help continue the pride, support and investment in our local community to create a destination facility & celebrate the 100th year of the Neerim District Community Show.

The Neerim Memorial Hall Committee of Management in conjunction with the local community and user groups, wish to install a low maintenance, strengthened PVC fence around the perimeter of the Main Show Arena and Oval at the Neerim Reserve by December 2016, in time for the Jan 2017 100th year show.

The project requires community funding. There are many fencing options available however the recommendation is a PVC fence which has a lifetime guarantee of 20 years with no maintenance. The fence is aesthetical, practical and meets the safety requirements for the diverse needs of the users of the reserve.

Donations of any value will be gratefully received, however donations of $100 or more will be acknowledged on a “Thank you” board to be permanently displayed at the Neerim Reserve.

For more information contact cmakeser@bigpond.com
www.facebook.com/neerimreserve

PLEDGE FOR THE FENCE
Bank Account Details
Branch: Neerim District Banking Group
Bsb: 633 000
Account: 137493516
Reference your Full Name
Neerim District Tennis Club

Registration Day
Sunday 21st August 10.00am - 12.00pm
At the Neerim District Tennis Courts

School Holiday Clinic
Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st September
Cost will be confirmed closer to date.
All welcome, registrations for Senior’s Tennis and Juniors Competition.

Junior Registration closes on Monday 5th September.

For more information please call Sarina on 0428 281 214.

2016 Neerim District Tennis Club
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 17th August at 7.00pm
in the clubrooms

New members welcome, for more information