



Let us excel!

Cohuna Secondary College

6415 Murray Valley Hwy.

[P.O. Box 273]

Cohuna, Vic. 3568

Phone: 03 – 5456 2555

Fax: 03 – 5456 3298

Email: cohuna.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

Web: www.cohuna-sc.vic.edu.au

No. 1 6th February, 2009

From the Principal's Desk ...

Welcome back to school for the 2009 year! Although it has been a very hot start we have had wonderful cooperation from our students this week.

For 2009 we are introducing a new system of **Excellamus Awards**: there will be 3 levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. During any class, students can be awarded an "instant" **Mini-Merit** for:

Citizenship: Active participation in school events; volunteering, helping others; seeing a need and acting on it; being respectful and using your manners.

Endeavour: Extra effort, going above and beyond; being on time to school and to class; getting all assigned work in on time; Learning Goals done (in Ibis Organiser and on computer) and reflected upon.

Personal Best: Achieving a personal best in any field: assignment, test, sports, debating, etc.

Ready to Learn: Coming to class with your *Ibis Organiser* and using it; bringing all books, pens, PE gear, equipment, materials, etc.; settling down to work quickly; and being switched on to learning. This must be sustained over time.

Students put their Mini-Merits in the Random Rewards box at the front office and a weekly prize will be drawn. This is also where Mini-Merits are recorded on our computer system. Once 5 Mini-Merits are awarded the student receives an *Excellamus Merit Certificate* and a reward (such as a free milkshake). Once 5 Merit Certificates are awarded then a Bronze level *Excellamus Award* is gained (a bronze badge plus special privileges such as an end-of-term excursion). Earning three Bronzes earns a Silver Award and three Silvers earns a Gold Award.

Another new program that is commencing this year is the Agriculture strand of the *Gateways 4 Sustainable Communities* program. Students in Years 9-11 can undertake a Certificate 2 course in Agriculture/Irrigation/etc. Community members can also enrol, as much of the work will be done in blocks of 3 days once each term. See further details in this newsletter.

Our wonderful Global Gateways students will be presenting to the whole community on Tuesday 17th February at 7:30pm in the Red Brick Building. Come and hear about their experiences in the US and the things they learned about American culture, schools and agriculture. See why the Americans were so impressed by our students.

We are very proud of our exiting Year 12 students who have now all received their offers of courses and work. A list of their new locations/vocations will be in a future newsletter.

The whole school community has been deeply saddened by the death of Dalton Hawken over the holidays. We are working with our young people to try and assist them through this terrible time. We have counsellors at the school each Monday, and our two chaplains are also both qualified counsellors. We share the pain his family is going through.

We welcome new staff members: Jo Richardson as our Pathways and Careers Assistant; Sandra Fry and Tina Prout as Integration Aide replacements for Marg Main while she takes Long Service Leave, and Sue Bottcher as our part-time Biology-Science teacher.

We look forward to an exciting year!

Let us excel!
Dr. Gaeil Hildebrand
Principal

Important Dates 2009

FRIDAY
WEDNESDAY

13TH FEBRUARY
18TH – 20TH FEBRUARY

SCHOOL PHOTOS
YEAR 7 CAMP – BILLABONG CAMP

Excellamus



CANTEEN ROSTER

					Lunch 12.30 – 1.00 pm
Monday	09	Kylie Ibbs 5456 4650	Linda Spink 5456 3268	Leanne Hore	
Tuesday	10	Karen Douglass 5456 2008	Sue Fehring 5456 8454	Mareeta Griffiths 5456 7584	
Wednesday	11	Lea Crichton	Rachel Tatt 5456 4446	Lea Crichton	
Thursday	12	Barb Baker 5456 7589	Megan Perry 5456 7609	Dianne Bowles 5456 8218	
Friday	13	Lea Crichton	Lea Crichton	Lea Crichton	Kim Dye 5456 4001

VCE LEVIES

A reminder to all VCE parents and students that the VCE levies must be paid in full or at least a quarterly instalment made by the 20th February, 2009. If you have any queries, please contact Bernadette on 5456 2555.

EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance)

Parents/Guardians eligible as at the 28th January holding a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit card. Forms are at the office to be completed by Friday 27th February, 2009.

1st Instalment = \$310.10 (27th March, 2009)
 2nd Instalment = \$132.90 (28th August, 2009)
 \$443.00

PRIVACY AND IMAGE OF STUDENTS

'At Cohuna Secondary College we celebrate the efforts of our students by mentioning their participation in school events and their achievements in our school newsletter. Occasionally photographs of the students are included. We also use photographs of students in our school magazine along with examples of their work.

On the school website there are images of students but we only ever use group photographs and we never identify the student's name, only class and year number.

We invite local press to school events and they are expected to follow school policy on the publication of photographs of students. When a story is about an individual achievement we will always seek your consent before passing information or photographs to the press for publication. Unless a story features an individual child only group photos are published and students' identified by first name and year only.

If you do not give permission for Cohuna Secondary College to publish any art, photographic work, written work, completed articles or photographs of themselves in publications such as: Newsletter, Magazine, Website, Local Newspaper Articles and Brochures, please contact the school on 5456 2555.

HOUSE CAPTAINS 2009

BURKE	Jorja Lyons Jodie Poole	Captain Vice Captain	Lachlan Embleton Jack Dehne	Captain Vice Captain
HUME	Ellie Hore Ebony Anset	Captain Vice Captain	Richard Hore Chris Anderson	Captain Vice Captain
MITCHELL	Nikita Harbinson Elise Bottcher	Captain Vice Captain	Lachlan Harbinson Ryan Holmes	Captain Vice Captain
STURT	Gemma Free Tannah Free	Captain Vice Captain	Nicholas Lee Grady Woods	Captain Vice Captain

COLLEGE CAPTAINS 2009: Hannah Donehue & Mitchell Bruns

COLLEGE VICE-CAPTAINS 2009: Gemma Free & Chris Anderson



CONCESSION CARDS

2009 Victorian Public Transport Student Concession Card Application Forms are now available from the office.

Please note: The Government has lifted the child age from 15 years to 17 years of age. Now all children under 17 years (i.e. up to their 17th birthday) can travel on concession fares on public transport without the need of a concession card.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

The school photo order forms will be handed out to students today. Please bring them back with payment on photo day (Friday 13th February, 2009). Family Photo order forms are available from the office on request.

STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATES & MEDICAL FORMS

Newsletters will be posted out to families on Thursday 12th February along with Student Information for updating and new Medical Forms for 2009. Please update and/or complete forms (even if no changes required) and return to the office by Friday 27th February, 2009.

An exciting new opportunity for our students and community members!

Gateways 4 Sustainable Communities Program

2009 – Certificate Course

- The four “Gateways” schools are: Boort Secondary College, Cohuna Secondary College, East Loddon P-12 College and Pyramid Hill College.
- This is the inaugural year of the Certificate level courses run through BRIT.
- These courses are *free* for students in the four Gateways schools.
- The trainers from BRIT and our local communities will come to us!
- We will visit appropriate workplaces and farms to gain first-hand knowledge.
- We will also visit each other’s districts as we learn through the year.
- The activities and units build into nationally accredited Certificate courses.
- Initially, we are running an Agriculture-based Certificate program. In later years we will add other courses such as Hospitality and so on.
- The 2009 program includes common work across several Certificate courses. These include issues related to: OH&S, environmental work practices, working effectively in industry, workplace communication, etc. After these are completed, students can take electives to qualify for Certificates in Dairying, Environmental Management, Horticulture and Irrigation.

Who can take part from Cohuna?

- any Year 9 or 10 student through the Gateways program; (or Year 10s doing a VCE unit)
- any Year 11 VCAL student (as part of Work Related Studies)
- any senior student provided approval is given from the VCE or VCAL coordinator;
- any community member who has left school but wishes to learn more about Agriculture.

GLOBAL GATEWAYS

The five Cohuna Global Gateways students will present their experiences to the public on:
Tuesday 17th February, 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Red Brick Building.

Come and hear about their US tour.

What did they learn?

What can you learn from them?

See why the Americans were so impressed by our young people!

ALL WELCOME

NEW WEBSITE

Cohuna Secondary College now have a new look Website for 2009. The website contains information regarding; important dates, the latest news at CSC, weekly newsletters, information on the college, enrolment forms, levies and charges, course booklets, staff positions and contact details, etc. Some sections of the website are not yet fully complete but please feel free to browse the site at www.cohuna-sc.vic.edu.au. We would like to say a special thank you to Amy Treacy for all her hard work in setting up and updating this website.



NOTICES

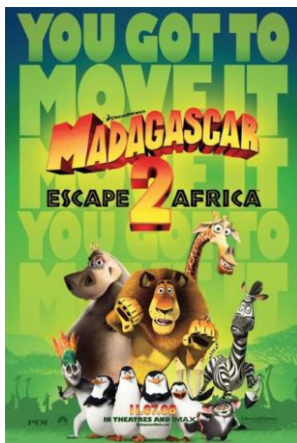
Excellamus

COHUNA KANGAS NETBALL CLUB
Pre-Season Training begins for Under 17's & Seniors. All those interested in playing please attend Thursday 12th February 6.30 pm start. Bathers optional for social swim after training.

GOLDEN RIVERS DANCE ACADEMY
 Jazz classes resume on Tuesday 10th February. Classes are held at the Cohuna Uniting Church Hall. Classes cost \$5 per student (discounts for families).
 Prep to Year 3 – 4.00 pm
 Year 4 to Year 6 – 5.00 pm
 Year 7 to Adult – 6.00 pm
 All enquiries to Alicia Hodgekiss on 5431300 or 0488325156 or e-mail goldenriversdance@bigpond.com

LEITCHVILLE/GUNBOWER NETBALL CLUB
GENERAL MEETING
 Wednesday 11th February, 2009
 Starting at 7.30 pm at the Leitchville Complex
 All players for 2009 MUST attend to confirm numbers.
 A light training run for all Senior & the Under 17 Girls will be on Thursday 12th February at 6.30 pm at the Leitchville Netball Courts.
Everyone Welcome

COHUNA KANGAS NETBALL CLUB
Meeting on Thursday 12th February, 2009 at 6.30 pm at the Complex.
 All Under 13's, Under 15's and parents must attend. A \$60 deposit will be required on this night for all new dresses. If you do not attend we will presume you are not playing. For any inquiries phone Catrina on 5456 2078.



A night at the Drive-In Movies is on its way to Kerang!

MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA

When: Friday 13th February, 2009

Where: Riverside Park (back oval)

Purchase tickets on the night \$25 per car or \$10 per person walk in (bring a blanket/chair and fm radio)

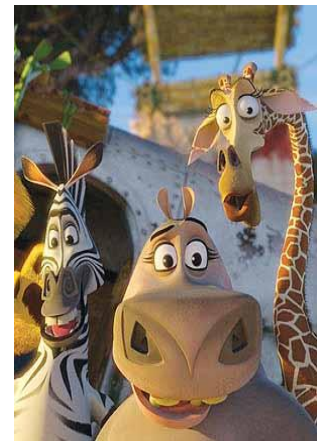
Gates open at 7.00 pm onwards.

BBQ, soft drinks, popcorn and ice-creams are available for purchase on the night.

Movie begins at dusk – approximately 8.30 pm.

Brought to you by Wandella Football Club.

For queries contact Janine Gray 5452 1655.



COURSES:

- Level 2 First Aid Course – 27th February
- Red Card Training – 27th March

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:

- Certificate 3 in Home & Community Care
- Certificate 3 in Aged Care
- Certificate 3 in Child Services

These courses can be run in Cohuna 2009 if enough people are interested. Contact Lorraine on 5456 4666.

BACK TO BASICS TUTORING

After School Tutoring is available for ages Primary through to Year 9 students at the Neighbourhood House on Mondays and Wednesdays.

I will be teaching one-on-one the fundamentals of literacy and/or maths.

1 hour sessions between 3.45 pm to 6.45 pm. \$30 per hour. Qualifications and record checks available on request. Any further queries contact Kylie Cummins on 5452 1777 or 0407824934.

Commencing 16th February, 2009.