Principal’s Report

Energy Breakthrough
Our school was represented at the recent Energy Breakthrough in Maryborough by two teams of students; a primary team competed in the Push Cart events and a secondary team in the 24 hour endurance event for human powered vehicles (HPV). The competition at Maryborough was only a small part of the Energy Breakthrough program. Teams worked throughout the year to modify and develop their vehicles, they also participated in training programs and wrote and rehearsed for oral presentations which is an important part of the event.

Both Ouyen teams made us very proud with the way which they conducted themselves during the competition and as part of a team representing our school. This program would not be possible without the assistance of coordinating teachers and parents. Students and teachers spent hours of their own time preparing for the events. Parents worked to raise funds for our teams, donated food and assisted at Maryborough with catering and caring for the competitors. This year two of our Year 11 students, Jaivon Stacey and Tim Gloster, assisted the team and worked tirelessly as pit crew for the HPV team.

I would like to thank everyone involved in Energy Breakthrough Push Carts and HPV programs. I have heard a rumour that we are entering an engine powered vehicle next year in another category!

Early Start
Next week our Early Start program begins with students in Years 7-11 (2015), the following week the program will continue and include students in Prep to Year 6.

P-4 Concert
Prep to Year 4 students have been practising hard for their end of year concert to be held next Thursday December 4th. This evening begins at 7.00pm and we look forward to seeing our talented junior primary students performing and receiving achievement awards.

College Council
The end of year College Council dinner will be held at the Ouyen Club next Tuesday evening beginning at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity for councillors to celebrate our school’s achievements for 2015.

Bush Fire At-Risk Register
Our school, along with the Ouyen Preschool, has been placed on the Bush Fire At-Risk Register. This means that on Code Red days the school will be closed and no buses will run on that day.

Where possible, up to 3-days notice of a planned closure will be provided; parents and carers should, however, expect that in some instances less than 3-days notice may be provided.

Once the final decision to close is confirmed at 12 noon the day prior, this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast. This will help limit confusion and help your family plan for how your children will be cared for when the school is closed.

We will provide advice to directly to parents / carers regarding any proposed closures.

When a school or children’s service is closed for bushfire, no staff will remain on site.

Leanne Dawes
Principal
SWIMMING PROGRAM:
The primary swimming intensive program for 2014 will commence on: Monday, 1st December.
Children are time tabled as follows:
• 11.30am – 12.30pm – Grades 4, 5, 6
• 12.30pm – 1.30pm – Grades 2, 3
• 2.00pm – 3.00pm – Prep, Grade 1
Students are asked to pay the cost of $18 as soon as possible otherwise students will be required to pay $1.80 per session.
The students will be transported to the pool in the school bus.
What to bring:
• Bathers/Goggles/Towel
• Sun screen
• All students must wear a rashie when swimming
If you have any queries, please feel free to contact the office.

T-20 BLAST CRICKET:
Congratulations to the grade 5/6 students who competed in the regional T-20 blast cricket finals in Swan Hill on Tuesday in perfect weather conditions.
The students competed with enthusiasm and displayed excellent sportsmanship throughout the day, even when things didn’t quite go according to plan.
The boys were up against some stiff opposition, and found the going a bit tough. To their credit they stuck at the task and more importantly, enjoyed their cricket.
Well done to the girls who happily rotated positions during the day and kept a smile on their faces all day.
The girl’s team had an excellent day. They narrowly went down in their first match by 2 runs and then went on to win their next two games in dominating fashion – the highlights, being:
• Lauren’s spectacular one hand catch,
• Molly’s fielding,
• Lily’s batting
• Ella’s agility in the field
• Abbey’s encouragement to the team
• Nat’s happy smile all day
• Georgia’s excitement being in the team
• Jasmine’s improvement throughout the day with her batting
• Emily’s aggressive “bowling” when she nearly took out an opposing batter
After a short wait, the girls unfortunately missed the final by a total of 33 runs.
Huge thanks to Mr Stoetzer for his coaching and bus driving on the day, and the parents who along to support the cricketers.

BIKE RIDING:
Congratulations to all the morning bike riders who have regularly ridden to school each Tuesday and Thursday. Due to the busy time of the year, today was the last bike riding session. Well done to these riders – the program will commence again early in Term 1. Keep your eye on the newsletter for further details. ▼
ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL:
This week was our last week of Active After School for the year. Students have been involved in a range of activities throughout the year and have enjoyed all the opportunities to have a go at new sports. Thank you to all the teachers and leaders who have helped throughout the year. Without your help it would not be possible to run a program like this.

Casey Stoetzer

2015 FEES:
Fee schedules for 2015 will be included in student report envelopes. These will be handed out on December 16th. Please keep an eye out for them.
Payments may be made at any time.
If you are having problems paying fees please speak to our Business Manager, Bobbie Stacey, to organise a fee payment plan.

If paying online banking details are: BSB - 063-732
Account # - 10001994
Please use your family name as a reference.

Some 2014 fees are still outstanding. These are not voluntary fees. Technology subject fees must be paid before projects are allowed to go home. Outstanding statements will be sent out next week.

5/6 CRICKET HIGHLIGHTS:
My highlights were when we all caught a ball or got an out. Emily
My highlight of the day was when we got people out. Molly
I felt proud because I knew everyone tried. It was a great day but I was exhausted. Georgia
When I hit an 8 off Phil on another team, he was really annoyed. Jarn
I liked that I made 20 runs off one ball. Heath
My highlight of the day was slapping a six straight down the ground. Alex
My highlight of the day was getting three wickets & hitting a 12. Adrian
My highlight was getting to play all the games, coming third and cheering my team on. Nat.
I loved batting and bowling with my partner, Molly. Lauren
My highlight was when we won two games and came third out of all the girls teams. Jasmine
My highlight was getting in there and having a crack with my friends. Ella

LIBRARY NEWS:
Please return all books to the library by Friday, December 5th, as we will be conducting a stocktake. There will be no borrowing after this date, but the library will remain open at lunchtimes, and LALS will continue as normal.
Thank you.

Roxanne & Prue

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Roxanne & Prue
With a mixture of excitement and nervous energy flowing through their veins, the Year 10 Energy Breakthrough team made their way down to Maryborough to partake in the gruelling 3 day event.

We left on Thursday 20th of November to ensure we had ample time to set up camp, learn the track and take in the sites the event has to offer. Friday was our Design & Construction and Display & Presentation day. These are two out of the three main focus’ of the event, both receiving a score out of 25. The students did an amazing job in both categories, receiving 20/25 marks in the Design & Construction and 24.1/25 marks in the Display & Presentation. Our score in the Display & Presentation was enough to put us equal first!

The race went for 24hrs, starting Saturday at 1.30pm. It is a test of endurance, concentration and skill in the vehicle. Riders challenge themselves in lap times and total laps completed, however there is always an element of fun.

After only a few minor crashes & 3 or 4 roles of gaffa tape, our vehicle was able to finish the race in almost as good a condition as it started! I can’t thank the parents; Craig Woodall, Heath Comrie, Nadine Lynch, Raelene Vine and Bobbie & Ian Stacey, enough for stepping in and helping out with the trip. Mr Rowe and I simply don’t know what we would have done without their help!

To our sponsors; Cat Signs, North West Ag Services, Top End Training, Ouyen Lions Club, Precision Homes and Bryan Perry Pty Ltd, thank you for your very generous donation of goods, money, and time to our team. We hope our achievements have lived up to your expectations.

Mr Stewart
The Year 5 students made their way down to the 2014 RACV Energy Breakthrough to compete in the Pushcarts on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It was the conclusion of a year’s hard work by the Year 5 students and all those who have helped out along the way. The students, parents and teachers worked tirelessly to make this adventure a reality and last weekend it was finally time to put all the pieces together.

We ventured down to Maryborough on Thursday for our team registration and scrutineering, which almost all went according to plan. The next morning we began our competition on what was to be a fantastic day weather wise. Each team competed in the obstacle course and then gave their presentation to the judges. It was fantastic to see the kids strutting their stuff and explaining all of their ideas creatively. That afternoon was a long wait in the sun for the endurance race, a grueling 1.4 kilometre track! There was some stiff competition from schools around the state with over 60 other teams entered. On Saturday morning, the kids lined up for the sprint event and construction components. Again, the students of Ouyen P-12 showed maturity and patience and all members tried their hardest in the most exciting event of the weekend.

All of this year’s hard work has paid off. It was an incredibly successful event with all who were involved enjoying their time spent in Maryborough. The students’ hard work, persistence and commitment was fantastic to see. It was excellent to have the opportunity to watch the HPV students do their presentation and also was fantastic to have them come and watch the Year 5 present as well.

A big thank you to all the parents who have helped out along the way, and thank you to those parents who attended and went above and beyond throughout the year. Without your help this event would not be a possibility. Another thank you to Mr Emms and Mr Rowe for all your effort this year, the students have learnt so much and enjoyed each part of the process. A big thank you for the support from the local community. Our community was represented by a fantastic bunch of kids and we should all be proud of what they have achieved.

Finally, thank you to Iluka and Ouyen Inc. for your support and sponsorship.
VTAC
Monday 24 November, 9am:
Change of preference opens
Friday 5 December, 5pm:
Very late course application close
Monday 15 December, 7am:
VCE results and ATAR available online
Monday 22nd December 2014 12 noon
Change of Preference Closes
SATA
Monday 01 December 2014
Equal consideration closing date for most undergraduate courses. New applications after this date are not guaranteed equal consideration for selection. Check with SATAC before applying after this date.
Monday 05 January 2015
Deadline for existing applicants to change their preferences to most courses and still be guaranteed equal consideration
Monday 05 January 2015
Deadline for applicants who have applied by 1 December to pay their application fee and still be guaranteed equal consideration
Thursday 15 January 2015
Main January offer round for semester 1 2015

Year 12 students have been emailed a list of scholarships that may be of interest. This list is only a small selection of what is available if you choose to do some research. You continually need to check for the latest up to date information including closing dates as this does change from year to year.

PROPOSED WORK EXPERIENCES DATES FOR 2015
Year 11 – Monday 13th – Friday 17th July
Year 10 – Monday 10th – Friday 14th August
Students may also undertake work experience during the holidays in Term 1, 2 and 3, but not during the holidays at the end of the year.

WORK EXPERIENCE AND STRUCTURED WORK PLACEMENT

Work Experience - Work experience is part of the schools’ educational program where students experience the world of work, often for the first time. It is the short term placement of secondary school students with employers, to provide insights into the industry, and the workplace in which they are located. Students are placed with employers primarily to observe and learn

STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING - is on the job training during which a student is expected to master a set of skills or competencies, related to their VET, VCAL or VCE a course.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY - Schools are required to adequately prepare students for the risks and hazards they may face in the workplace.
safe@work is an occupational health and safety program for secondary school students undertaking work experience. All secondary school students undertaking work experience must satisfactorily complete safe@work before commencing their work experience placement

CONSTRUCTION INDUCTION CARD
This card is required for work experience in industries such as plumbing, building, carpentry, electrical, landscaping engineering and architecture. A one day course will be held at the school early in 2015 for interested students. This course will be subsidized by MIPS funding. More details in 2015.

BENEFITS OF WORK EXPERIENCE OR WORK PLACEMENT
Work experience activities will help you to:
• You gain valuable experience that you can add to your resume
• You might get a good reference from your work experience employer that can help with job applications
• You might get invited back to do part-time, casual or holiday work, or even be offered a full-time job
• You make contacts that could help you find a permanent job
• Insight into what a job involves
• A new referee to add to your resume
• an opportunity to demonstrate commitment and reliability
• confidence in your ability to learn and become competent at new tasks
• work/life skills, such as communicating effectively, or working in teams

RESUMES
• A resume is a marketing tool – you are selling yourself
• 1 minute – Average time it takes an employer to skim read your resume
• Tailor your resume to what the employer is looking for, not your life story

Youth Centrals resume and cover letter templates are designed to meet the standards of 21st-Century recruitments strategies, whatever your level of education or work experience

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN A COVER LETTER
You might be applying for an advertised job or you might be marketing yourself for possible future work. In general, your cover letter should:
• Introduce you
• Highlight your skills, experience and achievements
• Be attached to your resume

Make your cover letter as personal as possible. You need to demonstrate to a potential employer that you understand the job requirements and can do the job. www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/

Sue Sly
Careers Coordinator

Our last P-4 Assembly for 2014 was held today.
Thank you to all parents who have attended throughout the year.