Please consider attending our OPEN DAY to see what we have been doing...

Like the dependable, ageless Ironbark tree,
We have been a part of the Rushworth Community since the beginning.
...and like the tree, our roots in the community run deep.

As we embark on our improvement plan for the next 4 years,
we invite Students, Parents and all members of the community
to attend our Open Day to share our vision and journey.
So you can see how we are growing and evolving like the Ironbark tree.
Classes will be running as usual and open for tours with interactive learning opportunities provided.
Staff and students will be available to answer questions and share their experiences at the college.

Come grow with us.
Thursday Morning 28th of May
9am-11am

College Values: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Resilient
News from the Principal....

Open Day – Thursday 28th May, 9 – 11am

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Our Strategic Direction

Over the past week we have been fortunate to have Sir Michael Barber, chief education adviser to the education and media company Pearson, and a former adviser to the Blair UK Labour government, in Australia, speaking with our media and also presenting at the inaugural Australia Learning Lecture in Melbourne. Sir Michael argues that joy and data are complementary qualities that will drive education to the next level of achievement.

This has been music to our ears as we embark on a significant and ambitious improvement agenda over the next four years that will not only utilise data but also ensure we put the joy into teaching and learning and rely on the human factor as we challenge and inspire our students on their learning journey. Over the final weeks of this term I will be releasing details of our strategic plan to our College community. In brief though, our work will focus on four key area of Achievement, Engagement, Wellbeing and Productivity, with each of these key area having a goal and several key improvement strategies, as illustrated below:

- **Achievement**
  - College Instructional Model
  - Data and Assessment
  - Leadership Development

- **Engagement**
  - Guaranteed & Viable Curriculum
  - Personalised Learning

- **Wellbeing**
  - Positive Behaviours Interventions & Supports (PBIS)
  - Student Voice

- **Productivity**
  - Enhanced Performance & Development
  - High Expectations Culture
  - Community Engagement & Partnership

With your assistance and help over the next few years, this Strategic Plan, when fully implemented with consistency and integrity, will allow our students and staff to shine and not only ensure their success but the success of the College and position us as a school of choice in the local area.

Kind regards, Brad Moyle, Principal
PBIS Positive Behaviours

The following students have been recognised for displaying one or all of the College’s 3 expectations, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Resilient during the week.

Week 6:

Winner: Jayden Bloomfield
Winner: Hayden Kenny
Winner: Tamikah Clarke
Winner: Chelsea Robinson
Winner: Maya Barlow

Nominated by:
Ms McDonald
Ms Klinberg
Mr Daff
Ms Taylor
Mr Warfe

OPEN DAY - 28TH MAY

Students, parents and members of the community are warmly invited to attend the Rushworth P-12 Open Morning on Thursday 28th May, 9am till 11am.

Classes will be running as usual and open for tours with interactive learning opportunities provided.

Staff and students will be available to answer questions and share their experiences at the College.

We are embarking on a four-year improvement plan and eager to share our vision and journey with our current families, prospective students and the extended community.

For enquiries, call 5856 1230
Outdoor Environmental Studies Camp at Mt Feathertop

On Wednesday the 13th of May, the Year 11 Outdoor Environmental Studies class departed from Rushworth to head to Mt Feathertop. They journeyed up the second tallest mountain in Australia at 11 o’clock.

Every bit of the journey was hard, constant ups and downs, slippery rocks and falling branches. Tom Brown found that out the hard way. After being told multiple times not to grab the branch, when he fell backwards, that’s exactly what he grabbed, which cause Hayley McIntosh to be crushed by the rest of the dead branch. Not one part of the mountain was easy, and the further you went up, the steeper the track got.

It wasn’t until the final kilometre that the students were wishing it was all over, wishing that the top was near. Mr Daff knew that saying, “It’s just around the corner’ would make the students keep on walking, no matter how many times he would say it or how many corners we would go around. Once the students reached the top, it was packs off and draw in whatever air you could.

Thursday was a little easier, but still not a breeze. Snow was everywhere which caused multiple snowball fights and the class to build a snow man. Tom started that off by taking half the snow on the mountain to put into one snowball.

The students then hiked another 3 kilometres to the MUMC hut. Everyone found out that rocks with snow on them are very slippery, as every student slipped over at some point. The students had lunch in the freezing cold and made their journey back to camp. Tom and Mr Daff decided to go up to the peak as the other students went back to camp.

Thursday night blew a gale; tents broke which forced the students and Miss McDonald to sleep in the safety hut. The early wake up on Friday morning still wasn’t enough time for Matt Lucreziano to get ready, have his cuppa and start hiking down by seven. Hayley decided to see what the sky looked like from the ground as she slipped over onto the hard rocks within the first ten metres, and after being constantly told not to step on the frosty logs, she continued to step on them and slip over. On the final couple of kilometres down the mountain, Hayley’s constant slipping made her come to a quick stop before the edge of a hole and the mountain which almost force Tanner Stokes to slip of the edge and take her with him.

The last twenty metres to the car was heaven, the students were just glad that the 10.5 kilometre hike was over, and they were able to sleep in the warmth.

By Tanner Stokes.

Editors note: Although Tanner paints what seems to be a bleak, desperate picture of the camp, it was a very positive experience for all of the students. They endured some tough conditions, which further developed their resilience, learnt that listening to instructions is VERY important, and learnt that some lessons are more valuable done the hard way! At no time were the students in any immediate danger, under the expert guidance of their Outdoor Environmental Studies teacher, Jamie Daff.
The Campers take a break on the way up Mt. Feathertop, whilst mother nature reminds them of her beauty (with a rainbow) and then basks them in snow...
College Council News

I would like to provide feedback to our College Community from discussions at our March, April & May College Council meetings.

The College Council Annual General Meeting was held in March. The election of office bearers was as follows:

**DEECD Members** – Brad Moyle (Treasurer), Frankie Hodson (Secretary), Steve Dawes, & Dean Jamieson;

**Parent Members** – Mica Rosenberg (President), Tracey Bons, Natalie Coton, Jenni Rathjen, Donelle Robinson, Judy West;

**Community Member** – Cass Alexander (Vice-President);

**Student Representative** – Alex Gelsi.

A number of critical issues have emerged around building the success at the College. Firstly, we encourage staff, students and families to work together to raise expectations across the College. Please take advantage of the College’s ‘Open Door’ policy to discuss issues and concerns with Principal Brad Moyle or Assistant Principal Peter Bovell or make an appointment to see your student’s teacher for academic or classroom concerns. **Parent support and input are vital to the College’s improvement agenda. We cannot improve without constructive feedback.**

Another area highlighted for improvement is student attendance. As many parts of the curriculum are built on previous learning, it is crucial to each student’s educational outcome that they attend school regularly. The College is aiming at an attendance rate of more than 90% for each student.

It is also vital to instill a strong feeling of ‘ownership’ around each student’s learning, by encouraging students to have a ‘voice’. This means providing students with a forum to provide feedback to staff regarding their education, career aspirations, how they learn and what they need in order for the teaching to be effective.

The May Council meeting focused on the development of the Strategic Direction for the College for the next 3 years. The plan is challenging, positive and achievable if the whole College community works together. We have a vision for Rushworth P-12 College to be a dynamic, vibrant educational centre where the personalised needs of each student are carefully considered and the input of all parties is valued and necessary.

**Thumbs Up!**

- To Dean Jamieson for organising major maintenance work around the College, including the canteen upgrades, work in the stadium (new floor finish & lighting), air-conditioning installation, new decking to several external areas, and additional exterior lighting.
- To our new cleaners – the floors around the College look fantastic.
- To our students who participated in various camps and activities already this year and have been wonderful ambassadors for the College.
- To our Leadership Team and RJS Consulting for working together to build leadership capacity within the College.
- To the wider College community for embracing PBIS.
- To our staff for going the hard yards to exhibit our 3 R’s (being Respectful, Resilient and Responsible) in working towards the College’s ambitious improvement agenda.
- To our students for working hard throughout this semester with focus and enthusiasm.

*Mica Rosenberg*

*College Council President*
FOOD TECHNOLOGY

It has been another busy week cooking in Food Technology. Year 7’s were busy making a healthy pizza as part of their assessment. Students worked as pairs and had a wide variety of toppings to select for their own unique Designer Pizza.

The Year 8s have also been producing Pasta as part of their assessment. Students had to design a Pasta meal suitable family mid week dinner meal. Students were lucky enough to compliment their pasta by producing a quick and easy garlic bread too.

Look forward to seeing some of you on our Open Day Morning next Thursday and sample some of the quality foods we produce in our Food Technology classes.

Ms Taylor
Food Technology

PLEASE: Remember to bring a suitable container for any practical classes.
LIBRARY LEARNINGS
THE CHILDREN’S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AWARDS
2015 Shortlisted Books

Each Library article leading up to Book Week, will feature a Shortlisted book from categories: Older Readers, Younger Readers, Early childhood and Picture Book of the Year.

So make sure to keep an eye out for each issue!!

Older Readers - Recommended for Years 9+
Title: The Intruder  Author: Christine Bongers

Blurb: Kat Jones is woken by an intruder looming over her bed. She’s saved by Edwina - the neighbour Kat believes betrayed her dying mother.

Her dad issues an ultimatum. Either spend nights next door, or accept another intruder in her life - Hercules, the world’s ugliest guard dog. It’s a no-brainer, even for dog-phobic Kat.

When she meets adorkable Al at the dog park, finally Kat has someone to talk to, someone who cares.

But the prowler isn’t finished with Kat. To stop him, she needs Edwina’s help...and what Kat learns next could mend fences - or break her fragile family apart forever.

Younger Readers:
Title: The Cleo Stories: The Necklace and the Present  Author: Libby Gleeson  Illustrator: Freya Blackwood

Blurb: Cleo desperately wants a necklace. Her parents say special presents are only for birthdays...but Cleo doesn’t want to wait. In the second story, it’s mum’s birthday and Cleo doesn’t know what to give her - until she has the best idea of all.

Early Childhood
Title: A House of Her Own  Author: Jenny Hughes  Illustrator: Jonathan Bentley

Blurb: Audrey is bigger than she was yesterday. Now she needs a bigger house. So she tells her dad to build her one. At the top of a tree. It is an ideal house. It has a bathtub for snorkelling, a place to drink tea and somewhere to hide the dirty cups. The house is perfect in every way. Except for one thing...

Picture Book of the Year
Title: My Two Blankets  Author: Irena Kobald  Illustrator: Freya Blackwood

Blurb: Cartwheel has moved to a place that is strange to her, she no longer feels like herself. This is a story about new ways of speaking, new ways of living, new ways of being.

These books are currently available to borrow from the Library.

Remember to keep on reading!  Kerri-Anne Nurse, Library Manager
More... Meet the NEW staff....

After working with the College on a casual basis in Term 1, Mr Mongan has taken up a full time role this term as one of our Maths/Science teachers. Mr Mongan has extensive experience as a qualified Accountant and Regulatory Economist. He has worked with local Water Corporations, the ATO, KPMG and local accounting firms. His aim, in taking on a role at Rushworth P-12, is to prepare students for the workforce and help them have successful careers. As a long-time Kyabram resident, Mr Mongan is familiar with the local community and spends much of his spare time volunteering and taking care of his three young boys. Mr Mongan also has a small sheep stud (White Suffolk) and is establishing a walnut orchard in Cooma.

Mr Mongan teaches Year 7 to 8 Science and Year 8 to 9 Maths. He welcomes the opportunity to speak to any parents and can be reached at the College, or via email at mongan.daniel.d@edumail.vic.gov.au

DOOKIE AG/HORT Excursion

On Friday, the 15th May the Year 9 class were lucky enough to travel to Dookie College which is a part of Melbourne University to learn about Agriculture, not only life on the farm, but the many careers and opportunities associated with the farming/agricultural industries.

I had a look at two things mainly on the day, genetics and quick look at the beef and dairy industry.

While I enjoyed both, I found the genetics more interesting as that is what I would like to study later on at University. I learnt how to separate D.N.A. how to select a top quality cow or healthy plant, so I really enjoyed that session. The people at Dookie College were all very helpful and nice and I think I learnt a great deal.

I definitely want to learn more about genetics and thanks to Kerrie Raglus for organising it for us - I think I have found my career.

Eqa
What we do in the CFA each week.

We learn about all the elements and things from CFA. The group got told from the CFA volunteers that at the end of this training, we will be more qualified than 50% of the volunteer firefighters in rural areas. We learn lots of things each Friday - spray the hoses, running drills, learn how to use the radios, and more. We also complete some theory work, and learn lots of aspects of how the CFA works.

We have also learnt the importance of the number 5 in CFA. 5 members make up a crew, 3 Fire trucks and 2 FCV's make up a strike team. We also get drilled into our heads that "safety comes first"! Our/my safety is very important.

The things I like about the CFA program are;

- *It is something I have wanted to do since I was about 5 years old.*
- *I love doing all the hands on stuff.*
- *I love learning new things each week.*
- *There are some great and inspiring volunteers. (although they can get grumpy sometimes).*
- *I am proud of myself when I put on the yellow gear*

My favourite volunteer is Brian from Colbinabbin, he is always mad, but expects a lot from us.

I also love spraying water and firing the hoses. Working with my classmates is great as well, some of the people in my crew, I don’t get on with at school, but at CFA we get along and are side by side.

I also love the responsibility because I am a crew leader.

*by Peter Cullie.*

An ever-popular program at the College, the Year 9’s certainly love their involvement each week.
**PREP - YEAR 6 News...**

**Years Prep - 2**

Congratulations to our weekly award winners! **Bailey Burge** received the P-2 PBIS award for his positive attitude and displaying the 3 R’s! and **Haylee Marshall** for trying her best! Keep up the great work!

It has been fantastic to see the P-2 commitment to reading lately! **Every student** has reached over **25 nights** of reading! Great work P-2’s!

We have had a very busy and engaging classroom, over the past couple of weeks we have been winding up our Indigenous inquiry unit, investigating chance and data in maths, as well as writing about monsters in literacy.

We are moving into exploring healthy eating in inquiry, maps/locations in maths and learning about punctuation in literacy.

Keep up the great work P-2’s! 😊

*Miss Belinda McDonald*

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**Year 3/4**

**Well done to all Grade three students, every student demonstrated exceptional effort and persistence during the NAPLAN assessments last week.**

Well done to **Charlie Marshall** for receiving our PBIS awards, for demonstrating the 3R’s of Rushworth P-12. Our class award went to **Harry Werner** presented in recognition of his exceptional effort during class.

**Jackson Stewart** and **Harry Werner** achieved a Bronze Mathletics award.

Well done to **Mac Miller, Jay-Leigh Meguyer** and **Jackson Stewart** for achieving **75 nights** of reading, **Harry Werner** has also achieved **50 nights** of reading.

There has been a slight reduction in the number of students bring their readers to school each day, please encourage your child to be responsible for bringing their reader to school and home again each day and recording their reading in their reading log.

**Learning Foci:**

In Literacy, we have been learning about how characters and events are presented in text and authors purpose, we also discussed how our own literacy experiences can be different to others and how it can change. Next week we will be looking at discussing literacy experiences and contributing to conversations to share information and ideas.

In Numeracy, we have been learning about angles and comparing the size of different angles. Next week we will be looking at repeated addition and how this feeds into multiplication process.

Our Inquiry focus for the next five weeks of this term is “Smooth Moves”, which is a unit based on force and motion if any members of the school community would like to share their experiences on this topic, please contact me at the College.

*Miss Megan Flynn*
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is on again this year.

Parents:
The Premiers’ Reading Challenge encourages all children to read a set number of books over the year and record their efforts online. It’s a great way to get young people talking about reading with their friends and pushing themselves to read as many books as they can.

Students:
Take the Challenge. Read great books that you choose from the booklists. Then log in to record what you’ve read and vote for your favourite.

To register for the challenge go to http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc or please see Ms Bradley for more details.

Literacy Hints
During our English Domain meeting, we talked about the importance of discussing the meaning of new words with children. Often children can decode some very challenging words (sound through) but that does not necessarily mean that they understand the meaning of the word.

If a child is to gain a good understanding of the text, it is essential that they grasp what the word means. When listening to your child read, ask them what some of those new words mean and if they have doubts, please discuss the meaning with them.

For older students it is important that they have a dictionary close by, which they can refer to if they come across unfamiliar words. This can have a huge impact on the understanding and engagement of the text.

Remember, all students should be reading every night!

Keep an eye out in upcoming Newsletters for more handy tips to help you assist your child with their Literacy skills.

Sue Bradley
Literacy Coordinator
Do you care for a child with disability or Chronic Illness?

My Time group provides support for mothers, fathers, grandparents and anyone caring for a child with disability or chronic medical condition. My Time provides a place to socialise, to discuss, to support and be supported by other carers. Each group has a play helper who leads children and siblings in activities, so parents and carers can spend time focusing on catching up with others. If you are interested in attending My Time or want more information please contact:

Elle Grabham at Community Living & Respite Services ph: 5480 2388 email: egrabahm@clrs.org.au

Disclaimer
The Department of Education & Training, and Rushworth P-12 College do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department or College for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements.
Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School **camps** provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, **excursions** encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and **sports** teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- **$125** for primary school students
- **$225** for secondary school students.

**How to Apply**

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

**Closing Date**

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.