Principal’s Report

Have Your Say
A huge thank you to those 31 out of 40 families (78%) who completed the Parent Opinion Survey and sent it back during the last couple of weeks. These surveys provide valuable feedback to many areas of school operations. As you may be aware, as an incentive to return the surveys, 5 lucky families were drawn out of a hat to win a $20 voucher from the school. Those 5 families were: Pyke (Joe), Sharrock (Jesse), Maslin (Liam), Jackman (Oliver) and Greig (Campbell). Those 5 families will have $20 credited to their school account that can be used to help cover any school associated costs such as excursions, etc.

Secondary Pathways Evening
Thank you to those parents and students who attended our Pathways evening on Wednesday night. The session was designed to give some information about the different pathways and courses that are offered at our College. In particular, we discussed electives, subjects offered and the choices students can make, Work Experience, VCE and VCAL courses. The staff members were terrific in the way that they presented the information and there were some very good questions asked from those in attendance. I think the fact that all families stayed behind for a cuppa and/or a chat suggested that it was a successful evening.

Parent/Teacher interviews
Parent/Teacher forms were distributed yesterday to the eldest student in each family. Parents should check with their children that these forms arrived home safely. The forms are due back at school next Wednesday 19 August so that Mrs McSween can develop a timetable for parents who wish to attend the interviews the following Wednesday afternoon/evening, (26th August). Once times are organised, forms will be sent home so that parents know which teachers they are seeing and at what times.

Emergency Contacts
An incident earlier this week highlighted the fact that some information is lacking in the family/student details folder. Mrs Torney and I were looking for an emergency contact name and number for a particular student and realised that there wasn’t one. This highlights the need for all families to have at least one emergency contact listed at the school and preferably more than one. Please contact the school to update any of this important information. Parents need to be aware that we are only able to allow students to leave the College with someone that is listed as an emergency contact on their family details information.

Adolescent Scoliosis Spinal Curvature – National Self-Detection Program.
Scoliosis is a lateral or sideways curve of the spine. It usually develops during early adolescence (age 10-13 years) when growth is most rapid. I have included a brochure in this newsletter to highlight the need for early detection and to make parents of schoolgirls, in particular, aware of the outward signs of scoliosis. Please refer to the brochure for more information.

Mind Matters and Kids Matter – Mental Health Program
Derrinallum P-12 College is implementing a new Wellbeing program which incorporates Mind Matters and Kids Matter. Mrs Celia Rous is implementing this program throughout Years P-10, visiting each class once a week to discuss things such as kindness, compassion, empathy, resilience and respect. We are looking to develop a whole school community approach to this program which includes staff, students and parents. As a result, we are looking for any parents who would like to find out a bit more about this program and possibly become involved in working out what is actually taught in this program. If there is any interest from any parents, can you please contact me or Mrs Rous at the College.

ES Week
Next week is ES Week which recognises the wonderful and important work that ES staff members do in all schools. Each of our ES staff members: Kylie Carr, Janette Devlin, Fiona Noone, Gaye Robinson-Marks, Natalie Strachan, Suzie Ellis and Sandra Torney do a fantastic job helping both staff and students and ensuring that the College functions as well as it possibly can. On behalf of Ken Smith - Principal all the

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Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26th August</td>
<td>Life Education Van - Prep-6</td>
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<td>18th August</td>
<td>Food Safety Level 1 &amp; RSA Course @ the College</td>
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<td>26th August</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>28th August</td>
<td>Western Plains Winter Sports Rokewood - Year 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st September</td>
<td>VCAL ‘Health Is Wealthy Day’ - Whole school, Lismore Primary School and Community Members welcome to attend. @ Derrinallum P-12 College</td>
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<td>9th September</td>
<td>Halls Gap Landcare Excursion with Lismore Primary School - P-6</td>
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<td>10th September</td>
<td>Music Concert Night - Music Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th September</td>
<td>Eureka Division Athletics Ballarat - Primary Students</td>
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<td>17th September</td>
<td>Mid-West Round Robin @ Derrinallum Years 7-9</td>
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Greater Western Division Badminton 2015
On Monday 10th August we had 8 students (Riley Makrai, Max Uren, Liam Maslin, Jeremy Jackman, Hannah Thompson, Kylee Spillman, Tiana Ormsby, and Amber Pobjie) travel to Ballarat to the Ken Kay Badminton Stadium to compete in the Greater Western Division of Year 8 Badminton. After many weeks of training they arrived enthusiastically and the format of the day meant they each played a singles rubber and one doubles rubber (best of 3 sets to 15 points) against each other school that was there competing.

Although our teams both finished last, our students had a good day and learnt a lot about themselves and Badminton.

The VCAL Vegetable Patch
The Derrinallum P-12 College VCAL class have finally finished making the new large worm farm. We thank Mrs Grant for donating an old water tank that the VCAL class have turned into the new worm farm. We have put a new handle on the tank, we have given it a new tap, we have made a new frame from an old table that the worm tank can sit on, we have put a new stop plug next to the tap and last but not least, the worm farm has been relocated for easy access. It has already benefited our worms as they are happily munching away all the food scraps with all the spare room they now have which will in turn benefit the health of our growing vegetables.

Woolworths Earn & Learn
Woolworths Earn & Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for your local primary school, secondary school or Early Learning Centre. Derrinallum P-12 College supports all local business, but we know there are times when you shop at Woolworths. Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiums and science labs. It’s simple to participate. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at your local school or at your local Woolworths.

We can then redeem your Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers for valuable education resources for your school.
This week’s question is: What do the first 20 odd numbers add up to?

ANS: Subtract (take away) 2, I am left with an answer of 3. If I double this number, then add 5 to it, then divide it by 5, then

Last week’s question was: What number am I?
If I double this number, then add 5 to it, then divide it by 5, then subtract (take away) 2, I am left with an answer of 3.
ANS: 10.

This week’s question is: What do the first 20 odd numbers add up to?