PRINCIPAL REPORT
The year always seems to speed up as we approach the middle of term 4. This year is no exception as we have moved into the senior exam period with year 10 and 11 completing exams this week and year 12 students finishing their final exams. The work of 2012 continues while planning for 2013 also must be completed. Many students over the next few weeks will be involved in course interviews and our Head-Start Program.

The College has organised renovations on the front general office area for 2013. The project will start on December 12th and this will cause some dislocation for the front area including the closure of the parent entrance. All student and parent traffic will need to enter via the student entrance after December 12th. Thank you for your patience during this work.

COLLEGE CAPTAINS 2013
The College has completed the process of electing our College Captains for 2013. I am pleased to announce of Captains for 2013 are:

Harry Hearn
Nick Derrick
Madeline Bailey
Kylie Di Carlo

The College would like to congratulate the elected Captains and we are sure that we have a great student team to lead us next year. The 2013 College Captains have already represented the College in their new roles at Remembrance Day in Drouin.

YEAR 12 EXAMS AND VALEDICTORY DINNER
Our year 12 students completed their Unit 3 and 4 exams this week. The students, parents and staff will celebrate the efforts of the class of 2012 at our valedictory dinner on the evening of Wednesday November 21st. We look forward to seeing the results as they are published in December and hope our students obtain the marks to access the courses or employment that they are aiming for.

YEAR 11 INTO 12 HEADSTART
The year 10 and 11 will return as year 11 and 12 students in the head start program. The head-start program will give all our senior VCE and VCAL students of 2013 the opportunity to get ahead in their studies. It is important all our year 10s and 11s have 100% attendance for this program. The head-start program will be conducted from Monday December 3rd to Friday December 7th.
YEAR 7 TO 10 FINISH
The year 7 to 10 students are now moving into their final 4 weeks of the school year. This is an important time of the semester as staff finalise many assessments including class time tests and exams. It is a time when students need to remain focused. Parents should be seeing increased home study and revision.

COLLEGE SPORT
Students at the College have achieved some excellent results in the past few weeks. The Intermediate Girls Hockey finish 3rd in the State Finals which was an outstanding effort and the girls performed well as a team. Cyrus Monk completed a rare double with a 7th place at the State Athletics final in the 800 metres and a 3rd in the race division of the State School Cycling. Jessica Monk also managed a creditable 9th place in the novice section of the State Cycling Championships.

This weekend the College has two 8 person mixed teams in the Maryborough HPV 24 hour race. The students leave on Thursday and the race will be conducted on Saturday and Sunday. We wish the teams and their leader Ben Stein good luck on their endeavours.

IMPORTANT DATES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 27th November</td>
<td>College Council 7:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 10&amp;11 Exams Finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th November</td>
<td>VCAL 2013 Information Night 7-8pm—Moondah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd December</td>
<td>Yr 11&amp;12 2013 Headstart commences—1 week</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yr 7-9 Exams Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th December</td>
<td>Yr 8H Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th December</td>
<td>Buildings and Grounds Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7th December</td>
<td>Yr 10&amp;11 Final Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th December</td>
<td>Big Read In—All day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11th December</td>
<td>Yr 7 2013 Orientation Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13th December</td>
<td>Final Classes Yr7&amp;9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14th December</td>
<td>Yr 7&amp;9 Activities Program begins—Beach Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17th December</td>
<td>VCE/VCAL results available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st December</td>
<td>Yr7&amp;9 Activities Program Finishes—Presentation Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st January</td>
<td>Australian Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd January</td>
<td>General Office open 10am-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd January</td>
<td>General Office open 10am-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th January</td>
<td>General Office open 10am-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25th January</td>
<td>General Office open 10am-3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28th January</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 8:30am—4:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29th January</td>
<td>Staff Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 31st January</td>
<td>Students Return</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each year Drouin Secondary College supports the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. You can donate to the Salvation Army, which in turn donates to the needy families, in the local area. Please donate so we can all have a wonderful Christmas.

WHAT TO GIVE
You can give nearly ANYTHING! It only needs to have 3 requirements:
1. It mustn’t be perishable food
2. It must be in well before the use before date.
3. It has to be packaged.

PLACE DONATION UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE NEAR THE GENERAL OFFICE. Thanks.
Very important message for all students

At the end of 2012, all portable computers that connect to the college network will be re-imaged. Students in years 10 and 11 need to return their netbooks to the computer centre by Friday 23rd November. They will get them back for HeadStart. Students in years 9-7 need to return their netbooks to the computer centre by Friday 14th December. They will get the same Netbook back again during the first week of school next year. Students not returning to Drouin Secondary College next year need to return the Netbook, charger and case by Friday 14th December or they will be charged the full replacement cost of $589.

Students will need to organise to back up the data they wish to keep before handing their Netbooks in to be re-imaged, as computers will be completely wiped in the re-imaging process. If you need assistance with this, you can get help from the Computer Centre or from your teachers any time before handing back the Netbook.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact me or the IT Staff.

Teresa Fanning
Strategic Leader - ICT
fanning.teresa.t@edumail.vic.gov.au

On Sunday 28th October Jess Earl in 9B and 12 girls from the Jada Cheerleading Squad competed in the Australian Cheerleading National Cheerleading Championships.
2012 is Jada Cheer’s first year of competing, and what a fantastic year it has been!
Jada’s Senior Level 2 Team – where Jess is a member, came 1st in the Senior Level 2 Competition – this makes them National Champions!! The girls have also won several other competitions leading up to Nationals.
We are so proud of you, Jess!! Well done.
If you are interested in Cheerleading, see Jess Earl in Year 9.

The DSC Parent Portal

The eLearning Committee is pleased to announce the launch of the DSC Parent Portal. This is a website that will give Parents further information regarding their child’s progress at school. This includes the following:

- Which classes your child is enrolled in
- A record of attendance for today and for the semester
- Their current timetable
- A record of messages sent by staff to you
- Your child’s school reports
- The On-line Parent/Teacher Interview Booking sheet
- The Parent Bulletin

In order to access the site, you will require a login name and password. These will be sent to you via email on Monday 26th November.

Also, if you have more than one child at the school, details for both children will be available.

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN EMAIL WITH YOUR USERNAME AND PASSWORD, PLEASE EMAIL ME AT whelan.bryan.wn@edumail.vic.gov.au and I can send you a username and password.

The Parent Portal website is located at http://staff.drouinsc.vic.edu.au/ew6/parents
We also have links to it from our school web site and eWorkspace.

If there are any problems with it, feel free to email the school at drouin.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au or email me direct at whelan.bryan.wn@edumail.vic.gov.au

Bryan Whelan
IT Manager
EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA): Changes for 2013:

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring EMA, which continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses for their child up until the age of 16.

Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points. BUT please note that the school will no longer receive their portion which Drouin Secondary College previously used to cover the Curriculum & Material Levy.

Payment Amounts - 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instalment</th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents.

New EMA Payment Option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment:

Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or

Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or

Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and

be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance, or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

DROUIN SECONDARY COLLEGE:

Our practice in the past has been for parents to use their first EMA instalment as a credit at the beginning of the year against various charges. However, due to the school portion being eliminated in 2013 we are unable to offer this service. We would encourage the first portion of EMA to be signed over to the school to cover your child’s Curriculum & Materials Fee ($205.00).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

If financial assistance with payment of uniform, books, camp etc is required please make an appointment to discuss a payment plan with our Business Manager, Josie O’Connor, before the end of 2012.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 25th February 2013.
Conveyance Allowance – changes being implemented in 2013
The Conveyance Allowance Program provides financial assistance for the journey to and from school in areas where transport options are limited. Eligibility criteria are being changed to better target those families most in need.
Information for Parents and Students please visit Drouin Secondary College Web Site – Parent Information – Transport Information for links to the DEECD Conveyance Allowance Program www.drouinsc.vic.edu.au

Dear Parents,
It’s not too late! You still have time to sign your child up for the New Caledonia trip!
It’s in September next year and it’s an excellent opportunity for students of French to use the language in real-life situations. They’ll participate in expensive language classes and perform tasks designed to get them using the language in authentic situations. In addition to these benefits, pre-trip preparation classes and post-trip evaluation classes will be provided to prepare the students for and capitalise on the learning potential of being in such an environment. Students returning from this trip will perform much better in their French classes and in external exams, as well as exhibiting higher confidence with their written and oral French, and their studies of LOTE in general. During their stay, students will have the chance to tour both the city of Nouméa and surrounding countryside, getting to know the people and the culture.
The estimated cost of the eight-day trip is between $1890 and $2350. This depends on the number of students involved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This includes:</th>
<th>This estimate does not include:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Flights</td>
<td>• Passport costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 7 nights hotel accommodation</td>
<td>• Travel insurance costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transfers from airport</td>
<td>• Additional meals and transport costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Breakfast daily</td>
<td>• Personal spending money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 4 dinners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Guided tour of Nouméa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Full-day excursion to Amedée Lighthouse, with lunch and show included</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 3 one-hour French lessons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• All applicable taxes</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you are interested in having your child participate, please contact me via email or phone and pay a deposit of $300 to the Office ASAP.
Yours truly,
Teresa Fanning
LOTE KLD Coordinator & French Teacher
fanning.teresa.t@edumail.vic.gov.au

Common Mistakes in English!
You’re vs. Your
You’re is the contracted form of You are. This form is used in sentences using "you" as the subject of the sentence with the verb "to be" used as either the helping verb (e.g. You're going ..., You're watching ...) or the principal verb of the sentence.
Examples:
You’re going to have a great time!
You’re much better at tennis than Jim.
Your is the possessive pronoun form. This form is used to express that something belongs to "you".
Examples:
Your wife is such a kind woman.
I think your skills are outstanding.
Uniform Transition Timeline

All Year 7 2013 students and other newly enrolled students are expected to purchase the College approved uniform. Please do not purchase uniform from outlets other than the DSC Uniform Shop.

For current students:

It would be expected that all students will be wearing the new College uniform from the beginning of 2013 for wash and wear uniform items.

This includes: girls dresses, pants & shorts, boys pants & shorts, shirts, PE tops & shorts.

2013 Year 12 students can continue to wear the old uniform, but may choose to change to the College approved uniform if they need to replace uniform items.

More substantial uniform items should be changed over to the new approved uniform by the start of 2014 for all students.

This includes: woollen jumpers, spray jacket and girl's winter skirt.

All students are expected to be wearing the new approved uniform by the start of 2014.

You will be able to view the new uniform at the DSC Uniform Shop or on the DSC web site.

The DSC Uniform Shop will also supply socks, tights and white under-shirts. Optional items such as: beanies, scarves, ties & school bags will also be available for purchase.

Second Hand Uniform & books are available at the Uniform Store

Cost:

Some uniform items will be more expensive as a result of a significant improvement in quality. New uniform items will wash & wear better than many current uniform items.

Lay-by is available. This will be very handy for purchase of winter uniform.

Parents should also note that they may approach the College for financial assistance in cases of hardship.

*On-Line Uniform Orders*

On-line ordering is now available. Just go to www.drouinsc.vic.edu.au, then click on the Parent Information tab, then the College Uniform tab and select the Order Form.

When you have completed your order, click on the email address at the top of the order form and your order will be sent directly to the DSC Uniform Shop. Orders will be ready for collection on the following Thursday.

The DSC Uniform Shop

To ensure uniform quality and style are consistent the uniform is supplied by Buxwear. Buxwear also manage the Uniform Shop ensuring excellent service for parents.

The DSC Uniform Shop is located towards the back of the College on the roundabout in front of the Auditorium.

All approved uniform items are embroidered with the DSC lyrebird logo.

Second-hand uniform & books can also be sold & purchased at the Uniform Shop. Items may be left at the Uniform Store or at the General Office.

Normal Trading Hours for 2012

Tuesdays 8.30am - 10.30am
Thursdays 3.30pm – 6.00pm

2013 Year 7 Orientation Day - 11/12/2012
Tuesday 8.30am – 7.00pm

BACK TO SCHOOL TRADING HOURS 2013

January, 2013
Thursday 24th 9.30am – 4.30pm (Landmark book pick-up day)
Friday 25th 8.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday 26th 8.30am - 12.30pm
Tuesday 29th 8.30am - 4.30pm
Wednesday 30th 8.30am - 4.30pm
Thursday 31st 10.00am - 6.00pm (Students return to school)

Normal Trading Hours for 2013
Thursday 10.00am – 6.00pm

Uniform information is available at www.drouinsc.edu.au
Or please ring Buxwear on: 9792 0424.
Yr 7 Accelerated Reader Update

Congratulations go to the following students who successfully completed Accelerated Reader quizzes since the previous Parent Bulletin:


Thank you for your continued support in developing a routine of regularly reading at home.

DSC English, SURFF and Library staff.

Yr10 Agriculture:

On 1st November, a freezing, wet and windy Thursday, the Year 10 Agriculture class visited two types of dairy farms. One was at Hallora, milked their cows with robots and the students also received a demonstration on how to artificially inseminate a cow! The other dairy we visited was totally organic and also raised laying hens in caravans! We are so lucky that our students have easy access to these types of excursions and we appreciate the farmers giving up their time.

CREPE DAY @ DSC

On Tuesday 13th September, three lovely crepe-making ladies visited Drouin Secondary College.

We had an educational and delicious day, practicing our French speaking skills and tasting French culinary culture. We will definitely be inviting them back again next year!

Year 9 Tasmanian Camp 2013

Parents are reminded that the Tasmanian camp deposit is due on Tuesday the 4th of December. There are still spaces available. Confirmation of the trip will depend on student numbers. We need all students to return their forms to establish our true numbers. Participation will be on a “first in first served” basis. Further information, contact Brian Griffin, Year 9 level leader at the school.

Head Lice

“We have been notified by some parents that their children have head lice. Please be vigilant with checking your childrens hair weekly and if there is evidence of lice or nits make sure you treat all parts of head and scalp. Two applications 7 days apart will be necessary to kill the eggs. If you choose not to use an insecticide, the conditioner and comb method can be used every second day until there have been no live lice for 10 days. Use conditioner on dry (untangled) hair – this stuns the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.”
Success at DSC

AGM AT THE LLEN

Recently three of our talented year 11 were invited to be a part of a special meeting at our Local Learning Network. Mollie Kovacs, Stephen Hornecki and William Edmonds were invited to take part in this special program. They were asked to talk about a Copy CAP program they had participated in earlier in the year. These talented young people reported to a range of distinguished guests.

SP Aus Net Awards – Tayla Beaumont

Tayla Beaumont says that the opportunity to undertake a School Based Traineeship with Brian Soutar Real Estate (Harcourts, Drouin and Bunyip) enabled her to prove herself to her employer and as a consequence, take the first few steps towards a full time career in the real estate industry.

“I guess the School Based Traineeship was really a sort of pre-work trial and I tried to do everything as well as I could. I began by doing basic clerical duties, then was gradually given additional responsibilities such as typing routine inspection letters, leases, banking and then a Front Reception Desk role on Saturdays. This involved meeting and greeting clients and directing enquiries to the Sales and Rental departments.”

Her employer, Pauline Soutar, says that Tayla was quick to learn and willing to work. “Tayla is a very impressive young lady, who is quietly confident, respectful and well grounded. Since commencing her School Based Traineeship with our company, Tayla has earned the respect of our team. As a consequence of her efforts, we have recently offered her a full time position in administration and now that she has successfully completed her Year 12 VCAL studies, we will be encouraging her to take on more responsible roles”.

Tayla is obviously delighted to be commencing full time work and is looking forward to the prospect of moving into an administrative role with the Sales team. “This role will involve me dealing with sales documents and contracts, windows and newspaper advertising, account related work and assisting the eight sales staff in the office. It is very exciting”.

Tayla is obviously a very motivated and committed person, and says she has already mapped out a ‘Five Year Plan’, which she hopes will see her progress up the real estate ladder.

SP Aus Net Awards – Ashlee Porter AWARD WINNER of the SP Aus Net Business Awards - Trainee

Ashlee Porter commenced her School Based Apprenticeship in Agriculture with Longwarry dairy farmer, John Versteden, in January 2012, and says that having the experience of working on a farm has helped convince her that she is heading along a career pathway that is both vocationally fulfilling and financially rewarding.

“I have been very fortunate to have had the support of John, Chris Senini at NCDEA and also my parents. They have all helped introduce me to the Dairy Industry and I have really benefitted from the experience and expertise they have passed on”.

Ashlee’s daily routine involves her in a range of duties, which includes milking the cows, feeding calves, handling vaccinations and washing down yards. She admits that the work can “sometimes get a little dirty” and the recent wet weather hasn’t helped in that regard, however, she enjoys working outdoors and says the benefits of farm life far outweigh the negatives. Even getting up at 3.00am in the morning to milk cows is something that the sixteen year old Year 10 Drouin Secondary College student happily takes in her stride.

STUDENTS APPLAUDED FOR CREEK RESTORATION

Students have been applauded for transforming a stretch of the McMillan Creek into an outdoor nature classroom at Community College Gippsland’s (CCG) Warragul McMillan campus.

Some 2,000 native trees and grasses have been planted, a walking trail, arbor, timber bridge and seating constructed to enable students and visitors to learn about conservation and habitat and enjoy the creek environs.

State Member for Narracan, Gary Blackwood MP, joined CCG staff, students and parents to officially open the creek restoration. The project follows a $10,000 funding grant to the College from the Victorian Coalition Government’s Communities for Nature program.

Gary Blackwood said the project was a fantastic contribution to the local environment.
**ALERT ALL VETiS STUDENTS**

*IF YOU ARE ENROLLED IN A TAFE COURSE FOR 2013 YOU MUST: 1. HAVE PAID YOUR DEPOSIT OF $200 ALREADY. 2. NEXT INSTALLMENT OF $200 IS DUE BY DEC 10TH. 3. ALL VETiS FIRST YEAR STUDENTS AND PARENTS MUST ATTEND A FINAL VET ENROLMENT SESSION ON DECEMBER THE 6TH, 7 PM IN MOONDAH.*

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**Year 11 VCAL Students and Parents**

- You must attend a compulsory Information session on 29th November at 7 pm in Moondah.

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**FREE TO ALL**

Every lunchtime in the careers office there is free guidance and help with choosing the right steps to take for your future. We welcome students and parents to make contact with us at any stage. We are located at the front of the science block or call 5625 1002.

*We are: Mrs. Helen Malone, Mr. Pat Dowty and Mrs. Kerrie Wainwright*

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**Congratulations**

To all of the year 12 students who have passed their studies and are on the way to a new part of life’s journey. Remember us: if you need any help with sorting future plans just call in or pop us a line, or if you just want to let us know what you are up to.

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**THE GLOBAL EXPERIENCE – LIVE IT AT HOME**

In January 2013 students from over 20 countries around the world will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 5 or 10 months.

Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

*To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student*

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**Library Book at Home?...**

Parents, could you please assist students in returning books?

If there is an overdue library book at home (or in a locker or school bag), please remind your child to return it or reborrow it. Books not returned will be charged to family accounts so that replacement copies can be purchased for others to borrow. Thank you to the majority of students who are great at returning borrowed books.

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**ARE YOU RECEIVING EMAILS FROM STAFF?**

If the answer is no, it will be because the school does not have your email address.

Please contact us on 56251002 to have your contact details updated.
DROUIN SECONDARY COLLEGE
South Road
P O Box 338
DROUIN 3818

We value:  Achievement, Respect, Commitment, Community

drouin.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au  www.drouinsc.vic.edu.au
Phone: 56251002
Fax: 56251297

We value:  Achievement, Respect, Commitment, Community