The Value of Holidays and Experiential Learning

As I moved about the School last week and listened to students telling me about their holiday experiences I was pleased to hear of their excited telling of many adventures and noted very few thought their time spent was boring.

In so doing it became quite apparent to me that more than ever children live in a world in which they are surrounded by educative resources. There are...hours of television and radio... There are several million books in public libraries. There are museums in every town. There is a constant flow of cheap or free information from a dozen media. There are home computers. There are thousands of workplaces. There are the old, the disabled, the very young - all in need of children in their lives, all in need of the kind of help caring and careful youngsters can give, and all of them rich sources of information about the world, and freely available to anyone.

This observation has provoked me to write to you of the value of extending education beyond the classroom. At The Hutchins School this is common practice as we connect to industries, universities, businesses, explorers and adventurers, parliaments, other classes in other schools, scientists and remote sources of immediate information as we engage in the use of high speed technology. We also embark on our own adventures in Tasmania and overseas and travel on more traditional excursions. We are now able to bring education into our school as well as go out of our school to extend our learning and teaching opportunities. This possibility excites all of us and adds meaning to that which we study.

Such opportunities alert me to the fact that at Hutchins we are also able to extend our education opportunities to situations outside the classroom that for students are challenging, confronting and demand a more personal and character enquiring experience. Such opportunities recently found expression in the tours of Singapore, China and Thailand and in the challenge to Port Davey. While studies in more traditional subjects such as History, Geography, Science, English and Mathematics were integrated with tours, the value of such expeditions was the need for students to accept the physical, cultural, socio-economic, religious, familial and language environments that confronted them. Students often had to dig deep into their character (which I define as the sum of one’s daily habits). They were challenged to decide how they were to respond to challenges presented and, from time to time, were afforded opportunities for the first time to think on how they actually would self manage and ponder the worlds of others very different from themselves.

Much debate has been put in other OECD countries of the value of outdoors education and regrettably some have done away with sports programs, adventure programs and the often life changing adventures that are designed to guide students through very different and confronting experiences. Obviously risk assessment and the need to have perception greater than actual risk are important considerations, but it is my sincere belief that it is erroneous to so thoroughly “protect” students from the possibility of harm that we do harm them from excluding such opportunities from the education outcomes process. In short there are those that would suffocate their charges in cotton wool.

There is already in existence at Hutchins a staged and year level appropriate camping program and a series of opportunities for students to be exposed to the many life lessons that can be learned from an experiential learning program and I commend each and all of them as a necessary part of an holistic and all inclusive program of education for all boys and young men.

In due course we will be releasing details of an expression of this philosophy as we launch the Power of 9 Program for Year 9 students 2011. The teaching and learning program will continue to provide a core of academic studies but will also involve a new and integrated elective program and a period of time off the Nelson Road campus when students will participate in studies that include: Life Skills Learning, Community Service, Environmental Awareness, Spirituality, Leadership, Personal Management, The World at Large, Values Education, The Celebration of Achievement.

Release of details of this robust initiative will occur through publication of detailed course descriptions, information evenings and information available via specific emails and the Hutchins website. Please, remember to send to Rachel.lucas@hutchins.tas.edu.au your home email address so that we can be sure of communicating well with you. We can be doing our best, but we need your support to be good communicators to all homes.

Warwick Dean
Headmaster
New look Communiqué

Soon we will transmit the usual email with the Communiqué attached but the format, ease of receipt and opening will be greatly enhanced. The format will be in HTML and your email will, when opened, provide a single page Communiqué that is set out so that readers are able to note all of the news items. Readers will then be able to select active links to read each article in full. We will continue to provide a few printed copies at Senior School Reception and will post each edition on the School’s website. Past Communiqué editions will continue to be archived on the website.

We expect to begin this method of enhanced communication within a few weeks and strongly encourage readers to ensure that email addresses are current AND that there is a home email address included in your advice to us. Please forward advice of home email addresses and other email addresses to be used to rachel.lucas@hutchins.tas.edu.au It is vital for continued improvement of communication with our families that each edition of the Communiqué reaches all homes!

Scholarships for Children of Veterans intending Tertiary Studies in 2011

In 2011 the Australian Veterans’ Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) is expecting to give financial assistance for up to 65 students under many different scholarship schemes. All schemes help the selected children in need of the Australian veteran community with the costs of tertiary education. Applicants are considered for all schemes for which they are eligible. Applications open on 18 August 2010. To apply you must be:

(a) Within the means test. That is eligible on assets and income grounds for Youth Allowance benefits for full-time education.
(b) Enrolled, or planning to enrol, in a full time course of tertiary education in Australia by attendance at a university, TAFE or college. The course must be of one or more academic years’ length and at undergraduate level.
(c) The child or grandchild of a person who has operational service with the Australian Navy, Army or Air Force, or if not has three or more year’s continuous full time service as a member of the Australian Defence Force.
(d) Under the age of 25 when applying, unless exceptional circumstances related to veteran’s service exist.

The largest scheme is the Long Tan Bursary funded by the Australian Government. There are 50 new bursaries each year. They are valued at $9,000 each which is paid at $3,000 per year for three years. There are selection quotas for each State and territory. To apply you must be the child of an Australian Vietnam Veteran, be resident in Australia, be entering any year of tertiary study, having not previously received a Long Tan Bursary.

The other national schemes are the AVCAT Bursary, two RSL Scholarships, three Vietnam Veterans’ Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Scholarships and the Defence Force Welfare Association Scholarship. George Quinsey Scholarships directly pay tuition fees for Economics, Commerce and Accountancy studies. There are also regional scholarships. In NSW, there are three from Brisbane Water Legacy covering Gosford/Wyong NSW and one from the NSW TPI Association. Some private donors offer two scholarships to resident NSW applicants. In SA, the VVAA also offers a scholarship.

Schemes vary between $3,000 and $5,000 per year each. Some are restricted to location of residence or studies. Most require veteran service in Vietnam but others are broader in eligibility criteria. Most schemes continue payments for later years of study. All scholarship schemes but one pays monthly instalments. That scheme helps with tuition costs for courses in Commerce, Economics and Accountancy. In addition to the above there is one grant per year to assist a handicapped eligible veteran’s child or grandchild with special extra costs of transition to tertiary studies or employment

To receive an application form register interest on 1800 620 361. Children and grandchildren of Vietnam veterans should do so now, as should any others who believe that they are eligible.

Applications close on 31 October each year. AVCAT PO Box K978, Haymarket, NSW 1240
Fax: 02 9213 7307 Email: avcat@dva.gov.au Web: www.avcat.org.au

HUTCHINS REMEMBERS BENJAMIN CHUCK

The Hutchins School was saddened last week to learn of the tragic death of Private Benjamin Chuck in a helicopter accident in Afghanistan. Ben attended Hutchins between 1993 and 1996 when the family moved to Queensland. The family retained many friends and contacts here in Hobart. Our condolences and prayers go to Ben’s parents Gordon and Susan, his brother Jason (also a former student) and sister Tiffany.

VIVIT POST FUNERAL VIRTUS
Help! Help! Help!
The new library learning centre will be moving to RFID (Radio Frequency Identification). This is a new state of the art security system to manage stock in new-look libraries and Hutchins is at the forefront in Tasmanian schools. As this requires changing from the old system of using barcodes to a new tag which uses radio signals, we need your help changing over!

Tagging will be taking place in June and July. Any parents interested in volunteering are asked to email Librarian Katie Holloway at Katie.Holloway@hutchins.tas.edu.au

Writing Competition
Congratulations to Isaac Sargent (Year 5K) for his winning entry in Bednall Centre’s writing competition. Prizes can be collected at the end of the week. There will be another competition run this term and entries are strongly encouraged.

Karate
Jordan Kiley (Year 3V) has been practising Karate for 4 years and won 1st place for sparring in 2009 and 2010 at the State Karate Championships. He will be competing at the National Karate Championships on the weekend of 6 - 8 August 2010 which is to be held in Sydney.

School Shop
Short and long sleeve logo shirts are now available from the Uniform shop.
Opening Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.

Hutchins Rowers in Youth Cup Squad
Hutchins rowers have figured strongly in the Tasmanian Youth Cup squad selection. The Cup, a national competition for Under 21 rowers, will be held from 9 -11 July at the Sydney International Regatta Centre, Penrith. Five of the ten members of the men’s squad are from our Boat Club. Congratulations to Frank Burridge and Tobias Tenbensel selected to row Div 1 pair (2-) , four (4-) and eight (8+), Toby Pitt, scull (1X), quad(4X-) and eight (8+), Jock Mure coxswain and Wilson Mure, reserve. Our Senior Coach, Roger Drummond, has been appointed as men’s sweep coach for the Cup. Congratulations to all - competing in National Under 21 Competition, it will be a great experience.

Julian Joscelyne
Director of Rowing

Hobart Dance Eisteddfod
Ayrton Rose received 3 first place gold medals, 2 second places in the Intermediate Tap Trophy, and the 12 years and under Scholarship. Ayrton was invited to perform a tap solo for the adjudicators at the Presentation Night.

English Help
English Help is on from 3.45pm - 4.45pm in SG12 on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout Term 2. The session provides an opportunity for students to access help on how to revise for exams and to seek assistance in any tasks that involve reading or writing, understanding texts, planning, setting out and proof-reading assignments.

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION MEETING
14 JULY 2010 7.00 PM
All parents are invited to attend the next Parents’ Association Meeting on Wednesday 14 July starting at 7.00 pm. This month’s meeting will be held in the Tech Design/Metalwork/Woodwork area of the School – a great chance to see a part of the School that is producing some great outcomes. Head of the Design and Technology Department Mr Tom Turbett will be on hand to show us around and answer any questions.

Just head towards the Auditorium – we will put up signs to show you the way from there!

***** WARNING *****
SPA Presents SPUNKY SQUAD
Thursday 22 and Friday 23 July 7.30pm auditorium
COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN OF OUR 70’S THEME NIGHT
Tickets on sale soon
Communication, Contact Details and Family Information Update

Please assist us to achieve good communication practices by ensuring you supply to the School as soon as possible:

1. Your family’s contact details
2. Medical history and important additional personal information we may need to know about your son(s).

Please pass your current email address to rachel.lucas@hutchins.tas.edu.au to facilitate this process and, if you use a business email address, would you also include a home email address so our messages reach your family as well.

Special Examination Provisions for Year 11 and 12 Students—TCE

The TQA provides special assessment arrangements for students who can provide evidence that their assessment would be compromised by pre-existing conditions. These may include a medical condition, learning difficulty or disability. If any student is seeking this provision he will need to complete the appropriate form and be able to provide evidence. Please contact the John Bednall Centre for Learning Support for the appropriate form and advice. Documentation, including current assessments, will need to be completed by 20 August.

Rugby Tour to Sydney

From 19 to the 22 June the 1st XV Rugby Team travelled to Sydney to compete against Shore College. The trip provided a fantastic experience for our boys in that they were able to witness Schoolboy Rugby at its best. They played against Shore College's fifths team and after one of the most exciting games of rugby I have witnessed, with the lead changing constantly, the game was drawn at 19 all. Our boys played fantastically well at a level of Rugby they have never played before.

AN ARCHIVES MOMENT

Introduced by Headmaster C C Thorold in 1918, the House system was based on that of the well-known English Public Schools like Rugby, and designed to encourage school spirit. School House already existed at Hutchins as the home of the boarders; Buckland (named in honour of the first family to run the School) and Stephens (after the much-loved late Deputy-Headmaster) soon followed. (The fourth house, Thorold, was founded in 1960 from a mixture of volunteers from the other three houses.)

It had been decided by the Sports Committee to hold A and B competitions in Cricket, Swimming, Athletics, Football, Tennis, Cross-country, Rowing and Shooting. The first four sports counted as first-class and the last three as second-class, with differing points awarded to winners according to the class of sport and the level of competition. (By the following year the increased interest in Rowing had led to it becoming a major sport.) The first competitions under the new system were held on the cricket field, and caused ‘considerable enthusiasm’.

By mid-year 1918 School House was leading the competition with victories in Cricket and Athletics, with second-placed Buckland victorious in Swimming, while Stephens was favoured to win the unfinished Shooting matches. School eventually won the Bethune Shield so convincingly that the following year its day boys were re-allocated to the other two houses, giving them superiority in numbers and leaving School with fifty boarders. This had the desired levelling effect, with very close results occurring a year later.

In 1923 an Inter-House Challenge Debating Shield was presented by the governing bodies of the School to increase the breadth of competition. The Steven Gumley Shield for inter-house academic effort was first presented in December 2000.

Readers with a sharp eye for detail may have picked up a typing error in the Archives column which appeared in the last edition of Communiqué. The Old Boys’ football match took place on 7 June 1916, not 1913 as stated.

Margaret Mason-Cox
ARCHIVIST
Absence Contact Methods

Parents / Carers of Senior School students are requested to make use of the following three methods to submit absence notification:

**Telephone:** 6221 4200 (You are able to leave a voice message should your call be outside of office hours or if the operators are busy.) Please do not call absentee messages to your son’s Head of House or Mentor’s direct numbers.

**Email:** Please only use this email address absentees@hutchins.tas.edu.au to reach all appropriate staff. Please do not email absentee messages to your son’s Head of House or Mentor.

**SMS:** 0428 620 861 (You cannot call this number—it will only receive SMS messages.)

Please Note:
Absence notification must be submitted to the School before 9.30 am.

As a reminder:
When a student arrives late, he must swipe his card at the auto-sign-in machine or see Mrs Els (this will prevent you receiving unnecessary SMS messages).

To assist us in providing you with a better service, your co-operation and support are greatly appreciated.

Thank you
During the recent vacation period, The Hutchins School was most fortunate to host Konstantin Shamray, the winner of the Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia (SIPCA), in what was his only solo piano recital in Tasmania.

Presenting works by Beethoven, Schumann, Scriabin and Prokofiev, Mr Shamray performed to a very gracious and enthusiastic audience who were nothing short of amazed at the skill and technique of the 25 year old Russian.

Mr Shamray was performing as part of a 4 month national tour organised by SIPCA which included presentations in all states and the ACT. Mr Shamray enjoyed his very brief stay in Hobart, having visited for the first time a couple of months earlier performing with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra.

The Hutchins School is very grateful for the opportunity to host Mr Shamray and for the assistance of SIPCA’s Artistic Director, Professor Warren Thomson, OAM. The Faculty of Music is hopeful that they may be able to host another competition winner in 2011.

Christopher Luke
Head of Faculty – Music.

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Collegiate / Hutchins Parent Education Evening with Cyber Safety expert Susan McLean.

Learn how to keep your child safe online - learn about their world. Monday 5 July 2010 at 7:30pm
Collegiate McNeill Performing Arts Centre

We invite you to attend what we feel is a crucially important presentation in the Collegiate McNeill Performing Arts Centre at 7:30pm on Monday 5 July. As educators we urge you to ensure that at least one parent/guardian in your household attend this important Parent Education Evening to learn about what is or will soon become your child’s world of communication, the Cyberworld, where many of their social arrangements are made, as well as increasing your knowledge on identity theft and privacy issues.

Susan McLean is Australia’s foremost expert in the area of cyber safety and young people and was a member of Victoria Police for 27 years. Widely known as the ‘Cyber Cop’ she was the first Victoria Police Officer appointed to a position involving Cybersafety and young people. As the mother of 3 children aged 21yrs, 19yrs and 15yrs, she is acutely aware of the issue from both a parental, school and legal perspective. She has also been awarded The National Medal and the Victoria Police Service Medal and 2nd Clasp, as well as several commendations for exceptional performance, initiative, dedication and professionalism.

In 1994, Susan took her first report of Cyberbulllying involving a group of Year 8 school girls. Having identified the then emerging problem of internet harassment and witnessed first hand the significant increase in issues relating to internet misuse over the past years, Susan began to research the issue and looked to the international arena for evidence of exemplary practices. Her research led her to the USA which had been exposed to the problems of internet misuse for several years. In August 2006, she travelled to the United States of America, where she completed the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children’s, ‘Protecting Children On-line’ training program, and then travelled to Dallas, Texas where she attended the internationally recognised 4th Annual Internet Crimes Against Children Conference where she participated in many training programs.

From March to October 2007, Susan managed the Victoria Police Cyber Safety Project which researched and reported on the issue of internet safety as it applied to young people and adults with an intellectual disability.

Susan is unique in her vast knowledge and expertise in this area, and is the only person in Australia with her specific background, experience and qualifications. She is a sought after presenter and advisor and has delivered keynote presentations, written papers and regularly provides professional development for both educational institutions and within the corporate area.
TERM DATES FOR 2011

TERM 1
Monday 31 January (New Staff PL Day)
Tuesday 1 February – Friday 4 February (Staff PL Week)
Monday 7 February – Staff PL Day
- Orientation Day for new students
Tuesday 8 February – Friday 27 May
Easter Break Friday 22 April to Friday 29 April inclusive

TERM 2
Monday 20 June (Staff PL Day)
Tuesday 21 June – Friday 2 September
Mid Term Break Monday 18 July

TERM 3
Monday 19 September – Tuesday 13 December
Mid Term Break Thursday 20 October to Friday 21 October
Wednesday 14 December (last day for teachers)

YEAR 10 CAREERS LAUNCH
Over the last two weeks the Year 10s have participated in a unit of work introducing the first stages of career planning. This has included presentations from the University of Tasmania and Work & Training Ltd covering the various academic and employment pathways open to students. The unit will culminate with all students producing a Careers Portfolio, which will include a resume, evidence of achievement and a letter of application for an employment position of their choice. This will be assessed by their English teachers and will contribute to their final English award.

In addition, boys have been issued with a Resource Pack which contains the following important documents:

- 2010 Job Guide
- 2011 Curriculum Handbook and Course Choice Form
- Letter to Parents regarding the upcoming Course Choice
- Information Night
- University of Tasmania Course Guide
- Strengths and Abilities Worksheets
- Resume Template
- ‘How to write a Cover Letter’ Handout

I encourage all parents to review the Resource Pack with their sons and to talk through the many factors involved in the choices and decisions which will need to be made over the next two years.

For any further information, or assistance with this important stage of your son’s development, please contact Mrs Sheree MalarSKI, Careers Counsellor, on 6221 4271.

School Calendar

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- Presentations from the University of Tasmania and Work & Training Ltd.
- Various academic and employment pathways.
- All students producing a Careers Portfolio.
- Resume, evidence of achievement, and a letter of application.
- English teachers assess.
- Final English award.
- Resource Pack.
- Multiple documents included.

**WEEK FOUR**

**July**

- **Mon 5**
  - 1.15 pm Yrs 11 into 12 Transition Meeting (MAN)CC
  - SRC Plain Clothes Day
- **Tue 6**
  - Yrs 7/8 Major Reports Due
  - TAS Secondary All Schools X-Country Sym Plns
- **Wed 7**
  - Headmaster’s Assembly AUD
  - Curriculum Coordinators meeting CC
- **Thu 8**
  - JS Debating HUT
  - MS Assembly AUD
  - Tasmanian Mathematics Competition TBC-CHU
  - Yrs 11/12 Study Day
- **Fri 9**
  - Yrs 11/12 Examinations commence
  - SS Admin Time (Yrs 9/10)
  - 6.00 pm Fitness Camp ends GYM

**WEEK FIVE**

**July**

- **Mon 12**
  - ELC/JS F/T Conferences commence (2 weeks)
  - Yr 8 Outdoor Ed / Enrichment 1 commences
  - Yrs 11/12 Examinations
- **Tue 13**
  - Yrs 10 into 11 Transition Meeting CC
  - JS Chapel Chapel
  - Hobart Eisteddfod – Choral – TBC City Hall
- **Wed 14**
  - JSSATIS Intra State Carnival Various
  - JC Chapels Chapel
  - Yrs 9/10 Major Subject Reports due TBA
  - Yrs 9/10 School Assembly TBA
  - MS Chapel Chapel
- **Thu 15**
  - ICAS Science Testing (4, 6, 8 & 10) BR