



Murrayville Community College

Newsletter

From the Principal

Welcome and Welcome Back –

I trust that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and was able to enjoy some quality time with family during the holidays. It is great to see the staff and students back and refreshed and ready for quality teaching and learning to begin. We have a number of new faces throughout the school. We welcome two new staff members Eryn Wyatt and Karen Bailey (pictured far right). Eryn has settled in as the Grade 5/6 teacher and Karen is taking VCE Chemistry, Biology and 9/10 Science. We also welcome back Michelle Swanborough who is mainly teaching Art, Diane Finn who is teaching Hospitality, Psychology and Humanities and Julie Cowley who is teaching Science and Geography. We are also welcoming a very new member to our school community *Stella Anne Willersdorf*. Congratulations to Jaimi and Josh who became parents near the end of the holidays!

Our Foundation (Prep) students commenced today - welcome to Evie Oakley, Riley Musgrove, Seth Walker, Reece Walker, Ethan McKee, Lachlan Nuske, Farren Finn and Liam Wisneske. They are pictured below. We are also welcoming a number of new students into the Primary and Secondary sectors of the school. Standby, for a photo of these new students in our next newsletter.

First Week -

The staggered start to school that we experimented with last week seemed to be very successful from a school perspective. Staff and a large number of senior students completed their Level 2 First Aid on Wednesday, text collection on this day also seemed to run very smoothly. Students in years 7-11 commenced on Thursday and the new laptops were issued to those who have returned their netbooks. The Primary staff were very pleased with the testing that ran on Thursday and found the 30 minute session, with each



student one on one, was invaluable. I am aware that I'm looking at this from a school/staff perspective and therefore I welcome feedback from parents that would assist in our planning for the future.

School Council BBQ -

Our annual School Council BBQ is on tomorrow night from 6pm. The weather is going to be a little bit kinder, so it would be great to see as many people as possible. The two information sessions are beginning at 6pm, for parents of Year 12 and parents of Foundation students, and are highly recommended.

Year 12 Retreat –

The Year 12s travelled to Adelaide Thursday, to set themselves up for the year ahead. They completed the Challenge Hill activity at Woodside on Thursday morning as a team-building exercise. They then travelled to West Beach and continued to complete a number of motivational, goal setting, time and stress management, and

Preps



bonding exercises. Year 12 can be a stressful time for all of those involved, however, some careful planning at the beginning of the year can certainly help. I hope to see as many parents as possible at our information session tomorrow night before the barbeque. It will be a little bit different to those in the past. For the students, supportive and trusting relationships with their peers and teachers are also very important in determining success. Thank you to Sonya Inglis and Helen Parker for taking these students away and facilitating the activities.

Homework Club -

This year the staff and I have decided to run a lunchtime homework club from 1.30-2.00pm each day. This will commence from tomorrow and students will be supervised by a teacher. Students will be able to attend on a voluntary basis or may be sent by a teacher if homework is outstanding. Successful students consolidate their knowledge and practise their skills outside of the classroom and as a school we would like to support students who for a variety of reasons find it difficult to develop these habits out of school.

Principal's Scholarship – Congratulations to Jarrad Barford who was successful in gaining a Principal's Scholarship worth \$5,000 at Adelaide University, to assist with education and living costs in his first year of University. This scholarship is available by Principal nomination to one student from our school who applies to Adelaide University and receives an ATAR of over 80 (after Bonus points). This scholarship is worth considering by senior students who intend to attend Adelaide University.

College Captains -

As announced at Presentation Night at the end of 2013, the students selected as College captains for 2014 are Molly Gibson and Ellen Fearnside. There were several applicants for this position, each undergoing a formal application and interview process. Congratulations to Molly and Ellen - I look forward to their leadership of our students.

Natasha Mudie - Principal



Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA.

The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014. The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery.

To apply, please contact the school office to complete an EMA application form.

Applications close on **28 February 2014.**

HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS

will be held at the
Murrayville Town Pool
Wednesday 12th February

(NEXT WEEK)

All students to attend

*More details in next
Monday's newsletter*



CANTEEN

AVAILABLE MONDAY-FRIDAY

Wraps / Sandwiches / Rolls

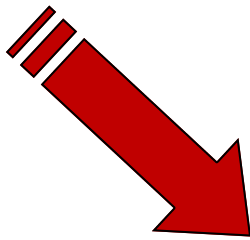
Ham & Cheese or Chicken & Cheese Hot Rolls

**ALL ORDERS ARE TO BE PLACED
BEFORE SCHOOL**

Please - no more than \$5 in your envelope

**Please join staff and councillors of
Murrayville Community College
for the
2014 SCHOOL WELCOME BBQ
on Tuesday 4th February (TOMORROW)
from 6:00pm (Vic time)
BBQ at 6:30pm**

**Meat & Salads provided
BYO drinks**



**TWO INFORMATION
SESSIONS
will be held at 6pm,
prior to the meal**

6:00 pm

Year 12 Expectations

**All students completing a Year 12 subject
and their parents are asked to attend -
in the Student Centre**

Foundation Jolly Phonics

**Parents of Foundation students -
in the classroom**

COLLEGE CALENDAR

12/2	House Swimming Sports
13-14/2	Student Free Days for Staff Professional Development
16-17/2	VCE PE Labs : Ballarat
18/2	5:30pm P-6 Parent info
20/2	MMM Swimming
27/2	UDSSA Swimming
28/2	Mallee Division Swimming
10/3	Labour Day
18/3	Loddon Mallee Swimming Primary Regional Swimming
26-27/3	P-6 Parent/Teacher Interviews
31/3	Arts Council : P-6
1/4	Immunisation : Years 7 & 9
4/4	End of Term
22/4	Start of Term 2 (Tuesday)
9/5	House Cross Country
16/5	Mallee Division Cross Country UDSSA Cross Country
3/6	Loddon Mallee Cross Country
11/6	UDSSA Lightning Prems
23-27/6	Author Visit & Workshops
27/6	End of Term

When you feel gratitude, express it

Throughout the year there are significant increases, or 'spikes', in asthma presentations to hospitals & emergency departments and FEBRUARY can be of them as they often occur towards the end of holiday periods when children return to school/preschool.



Here are some BACK TO SCHOOL TIPS for Parents/carers:

- If your child is self-managing their asthma or capable of administering medication independently, ensure they are carrying reliever medication and spacer while they are at school.
- Provide the school/preschool with an updated Asthma Action Plan
- Ensure your child knows how to recognise early symptoms of an asthma attack and check to make sure they are using their reliever medication properly
- Ensure your child will seek help from school/preschool staff if they experience asthma symptoms

What can parents and carers do to help a child's asthma at school?

- If your child is self-managing their asthma, or capable of taking their asthma medication independently, ensure that your child is always carrying their reliever medication (*e.g. Ventolin, Asmol, Airomir and Bricanyl*) as well as a spacer while at school
- Ensure that you have provided your child's school/preschool with an updated Asthma Action Plan
- Ensure that your child knows how to recognise early symptoms of an asthma attack and check to make sure they are using their reliever medication properly
- Ensure your child will seek help from school/preschool staff if they experience asthma symptoms
- Ensure that your child's asthma is being well managed and that their medication and management is reviewed annually by your GP (this is a good opportunity to also update the Asthma Action Plan required by your child's school/preschool)

Call 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462) for further information.

Community Notices

MURRAYVILLE NETBALL CLUB
General Meeting
Tuesday 11th February at 5pm
Murrayville Community Centre
Please come along if interested in playing, coaching or umpiring
Apologies to
Jacqui 0413 130 121
or Lisa 0418 835 210

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE
Murrayville Neighbourhood House is running a bus to Mildura on Monday 17th Feb for donation of blood
The bus trip is free, so please give blood and help save lives!
Phone Jacqui on 5095 2205

FREE LEGAL AID re Child Support
Half hour sessions
Mallee Family Care
122 Ninth Street
MILDURA
Please phone
(03) 9269 0408
or 1300 792 387
for an appointment

COMMUNICATIONS SENT HOME

(* Return from parents required)

1. Years P-6 students - details of last few days of school
2. Years 1-2 students - introduction to school year

Please check that you have received this information and contact the College if you require another copy

