



# Murrayville Community College

## Newsletter

### *From the Principal*

#### **Swimming-**

Congratulations to our 3-6 students who travelled to Ouyen on Thursday for the Underbool & Districts Swimming carnival. There were a number of finalists and Suzie Beckmann was successful in winning the age-group champion for the 10 year olds. Thanks to the many parents who supported our group at this event. Congratulations also to all of our 7-12 swimmers who competed at Mildura today in the Mallee Zone Swimming carnival. We look forward to hearing the results of their efforts.

#### **Breakfast Club –**

Mallee Track have contacted the school about providing breakfasts for our students. This is offered through St Vincent De Paul and consists of bread & spreads for toast, and fresh fruit. The students were provided with fresh fruit last week and this was a very big hit. When this program is properly up and running students and parents will be informed through the newsletter.

#### **School Council –**

The vacant school council positions have been filled without the need for elections. All of our expiring parent reps have kindly renominated for another term - thankyou to Michelle Thomas, Carley Heintze, Kym Kingdon and Stacey Milde for their ongoing contributions to council. Josh Willersdorf and Theo Magnisalis have nominated for the two expiring staff positions and Eryn Wyatt has filled the one-year vacancy created when Brad Sheridan moved on. Council also has the ability to co-opt another member, so if anyone is interested in being our co-opted member please contact me at school.

School council met last Monday night for the first time this year.

- Council approved the development of the flower garden located between the gazebo area outside the staff room and the Grade 3/4 room to become a tranquil, reflective space. This work will be mainly organised by Darcy Weckert as part of her VCAL program and will be assisted by Damon Herbert as part of his School based apprenticeship training. Many thanks to Milde's Ag and Hardware for donating the watering system for this space.
- The Resources and Environment sub-committee reported on the new furniture that has arrived in the school, including new seat coverings for the soft chairs in the student centre, new secondary lockers, new tables for the Gallery and primary classroom and a reading sofa for the P-2 room.

- The Transport sub-committee reported from their meeting that some minor changes to bus routes have been approved. Approval will be sought from Public Transport Victoria after the Mildura Rural City Council approves the new roads involved. It is anticipated that no changes will take place until the beginning of Term 2.
- Creating a Chaplaincy support group was also discussed and it was decided that this would operate as a sub-committee of council. These sub-committees have the ability to co-opt members, so if anyone is interested in having an input around the programs that the chaplains run, please contact the college.

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*Our newly-elected 2014 SRC Executive - Kayley, Ella, Randall, Bonnie*



**New Student Attendance rules -**

The Victorian Government is introducing new measures to ensure students attend school every day and get the most out of their schooling. Research shows that children and young people who attend school regularly and complete Year 12 or equivalent have better health and employment outcomes and higher incomes throughout their lives. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Missing one day a fortnight equates to missing four weeks of school by the end of the year.

From March 1, new laws mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason. Five unapproved absences will trigger an infringement notice to parents. Therefore it will be very important that parents send a note, text or ring the school when their child is absent. If you are having attendance issues with your

**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

child, please let your classroom teacher know so that we can work together to get your child to school every day.

**No classes achieved 100% attendance this week.**

**- WANTED -  
FOR USE IN THE  
PRIMARY SECTOR**

- ◆ Icecream containers
- ◆ Margarine containers
- ◆ Foam trays



**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

**SRC -**

Congratulations to those students who have been elected by their peers to the Student Representative Council. Aspiring leaders addressed the student body at assembly earlier this week, and the leaders have been named as:


- President*                      Randall Watson
- Vice President*              Ella Gibson
- Secretary*                     Bonnie Richman
- Treasurer*                    Kayley Beer

Class representatives are:

- Year 12*                        Molly Gibson, Ellen Fearnside
- Year 9*                         Lexi Thomas, Darcy Weckert
- Year 8*                         Henry Gibson, Mitchell Parker
- Year 7*                         Lillian Moyle, Blake Henderson
- Year 6*                         Hugh Parker, Miranda Walker
- Year 5*                         Kristen Sparnon, Brock Milde

Thankyou to Mrs Pritchard and Mr Willersdorf for their coordination of the voting process.

*Natasha Mudie  
Principal*



**PRIMARY GOLD AWARDS**

**Prep :**  
**Seth Walker & Lachlan Nuske**  
for consistent good work shown in their sound book

**1-2 : Jai Standley**  
for completing every task set during the week

**3-4 : Jasper Standley**  
for displaying a great attitude to learning and working hard in class

**5-6 : Ben Plum**  
for concentrating and completing quality work

# champion



# UDSSA Swimming

A very successful day for our primary school swimmers, who came 3rd overall at Ouyen yesterday, with the following students making their finals:

- Suzie Beckmann 10 years girls backstroke  
10 year girls breaststroke (1st - 38.14)  
& 10 years girls freestyle
- Brock Milde 10 years boys freestyle
- Amelia Peers 10 years girls breaststroke
- Kynan Milde 10 years boys breaststroke
- Annika Yard 11 years girls breaststroke
- Hugh Parker 11 years boys breaststroke
- Luka Morzer-Bruyns 11 years boys breaststroke (1st - 35.18)
- Lara Mudie 12+ years girls backstroke  
& 12+ years girls freestyle
- George Heintze 12+ years boys freestyle  
& 12+ years boys breaststroke

### Age Group Champion

Suzie Beckmann won the 10 years girls championship



Addy from the Dollarmites crew visited on Monday morning to encourage participation in the school banking that takes place on Tuesdays.



Addy is seen here with some of our youngest students.

In Years 7-10, students on average almost miss every term - that's four weeks of school per year.

In primary school, some students miss 3 weeks of school per year. That's half a year of school by the end of year 6.



Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

### Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

### Getting in early

It's never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when

attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

### What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

**"Day off"** – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – When students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

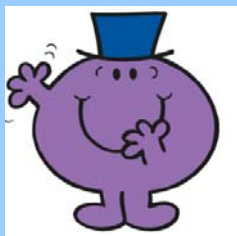
If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)



*This week's questions ... kids theme  
(from Sydney Heintze and Maddison Mudie)*

1. Name these MR MEN and LITTLE MISS characters?



2. In the Incredible's what is Violet's super powers?
3. What was the first Disney movie and what year was it released?
4. In Shrek what are the 3 baby ogres names?
5. In Peppa Pig what type of animal is Zoe?

*Remember to put your name on your entry*

# Year 8 English competition

*Last week's answers ... genre of horror*

1. 'The Shining'
2. Henry James
3. Greg McLean
4. R.L. Stine
5. William Peter Blatty



*Mr Willersdorf and Shantelle Michell  
were joint winners - well done!*

# COLLEGE CALENDAR

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)
3-4/5	HPV Round 1 at Loxton
9/5	House Cross Country
13-15/5	NAPLAN Tests
16/5	Mallee Division Cross Country UDSSA Cross Country
3/6	Loddon Mallee Cross Country
11/6	UDSSA Lightning Prems
14-15/6	HPV Round 2 - Adelaide
23-27/6	Author Visit & Workshops Year 10 Work Experience
27/6	End of Term
14/7	Start of Term 3
22/7	Immunisation : Years 7 & 9
26-27/7	HPV Round 3 - Adelaide
29/7	Winter Games - Robinvale

# Community Notices



## MURRAYVILLE RECREATION RESERVE

### CAR BOOT SALE

\$50 per site -  
sell your own items!  
Sunday 16 March from 10am  
Bookings essential  
Book with :  
Graham Wyatt (5095 2240)  
Carly Heintze (0427 952 049)  
or Lisa Crane (0418 835 210)

## HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

Volunteer to host an international high school student through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Carefully selected students will arrive in July 2014 for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, have their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au), to request international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

## PINNAROO WETLANDS

### "Day on the Green"



Official Opening  
Sunday 4th May  
Free Family and  
Children's Entertainment



## MURRAYVILLE NETBALL CLUB

Are you interested in Coaching in 2014, if so please contact Lisa, Jacqui or Carly Pre Season starts 6/3/14, working bee at 4.30pm followed by training Contact Carly Heintze asap to get your Bulldogs dress & socks ready to start the season.

## MALLEE YOUTH

Friday February 28<sup>th</sup> - TONIGHT  
**The Big Splash!**  
Swimming Pool fun at 6pm Vic time at Murrayville Pool.  
BBQ tea and faith talk to follow  
Bring bathers, towel & a friend!  
For further info please contact  
Pastor Dan Rooney 08 8577 8094



Presentation on

## COMMUNITY SAFETY

by Inspector Simon Clemence  
in conjunction with the Murrayville Liaison Committee meeting on  
Wednesday 19th March at 7:30pm  
in the Murrayville Hall  
*All welcome*

The mind might forget, but the heart remembers

## COMMUNICATIONS SENT HOME

(\* Return from parents required)

- 1-2 students - newsletter from class teacher
- 7-10 students involved in Mallee Swimming - details of meet
- 4, 5 & 6 students - UDSSSA swimming information (2 notes)

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

