Inspiring PRIDE

Persistence Respect Independence Determination Excellence

MURRAYVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

From the Principal ...

Welcome back –
There has been a wonderful positive vibe all around the school since the students' return on Thursday. I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas break and is looking forward to a fabulous year full of learning in 2026.
We are thrilled to welcome back Candice Tiller and Grace Gilbert to our staff, and to welcome back Miranda Hudson as the Yr 2/3 teacher. It is fantastic to start the year with all of our building works completed.
We are doing things a little differently in the mornings and at lunchtimes in the secondary school, and looking at increasing engagement. So far these changes have been received very positively by the students.

When students are unwell -
We just ask that if students are feeling unwell (have symptoms such as fever, headaches, muscle aches, fatigue) that they stay home, if they have symptoms such as sniffles and coughs but otherwise feel well, it is fine for them to be at school. We will continue to use the air purifiers and encourage good hygiene at school.

Instrumental Music –
Music Alive from Loxton will again be offering instrumental music fortnightly at school. If your child would like to learn an instrument please let Mrs Inglis know.

Newsletters -
Will again be fortnightly in 2026, generally going home on a Friday or a Tuesday depending on my movements and the school program. Our newsletter will again be supplemented by flyers, compass and facebook posts, sms messages and emails. As always the website contains a wonderful wealth of information.

Compass –
This is the digital learning management tool that we are using across the school.
We are hoping to invite parents onto this platform during February and will hold an information session on the afternoon/early evening of **Tuesday the 12th of February.**

Looking ahead –
We are very optimistic about 2026 and have an exciting and busy year planned for the students, with many opportunities for families to be involved in our programs and events. Given that there is so much on we have decided not to hold a *Back to School BBQ* this year.
* There will be an **information night** to be held on **Thursday 12th of February,** for primary classes and compass for the whole school. A detailed flyer with times will come home later this week.
* It is always fantastic to see parents, carers and extended family supporting the students at the **House Swimming Sports (Tuesday 17th of Feb).** We would love to see you there.

51st Birthday Celebration Day Friday March 13th –
We will be inviting all parents, caregivers and interested members of the school community to join us to celebrate the 51st Birthday of the school. This will be a major event for the school, with all students involved.
More details will be available closer to the time.

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Anaphylaxis & Asthma -
Just a reminder that we have students attending our school who could potentially have a fatal anaphylaxis attack from exposure to nuts. Although I can never guarantee that school is nut free, I ask that nuts and nut products are not brought to school. Students that have Asthma need to have a care plan, signed by their doctor, and their reliever medication (puffer) and spacer accessible to them at school, at all times.

Child Safety –
The staff and I take our obligations to Child Safety very seriously. All staff are trained as Mandatory reporters of Child Abuse. The Child Safety policy can be found on our website.

College Council Elections –
Although it feels as though we have just settled back into school, I need all parents to begin thinking about the 2026 College Council. As our school has become smaller it has been getting increasingly difficult to fill the positions on College Council over the years and last year we successfully applied to reduce the number of School Councillors required. The tenure of a number of School Councillors is about to expire. The expiring parent reps are Melinda Oster, Katherine Daniel and Sarah Matthews. The expiring staff rep is Stacey Morzer-Bruyns. I want to thank them all for their contributions over the past two years.
I ask that all parents to please consider nominating for this very important role in our school community. The College cannot operate without a full council. It is important to note that if you have been on College Council previously, you can nominate again – this includes the members whose tenure is expiring. Nomination forms are available from the school and are also downloadable from the Council section of the school website. The timeline for this election is published on the following page.

Communication & Feedback –-
As a school we endeavour to maintain open lines of communication with parents about the things that are going on at school and welcome any feedback at any time. If you have any concerns or queries about your child's education please feel free to contact me to discuss.

Student records & Consent –
Coming home today with the newsletter is a Student Enrolment information form and permissions form. On the **white** Student Enrolment information form please check the student details and make any changes to address, phone numbers, medical details etc. If all is correct please just initial and return to school. The **pink** permissions form covers local excursions and publication of student names and photos etc. Please read this carefully and complete each section.

CANTEEN

ALL ORDERS TO Administration
BEFORE SCHOOL
Please - no more than $10 to be tendered

ITEMS AVAILABLE

Pies/Pasties $4.50
Party Pies $1.20
Sausage Rolls $4.00
Sauce 20¢

Pizzas (Ham & Pineapple
or Bacon & Cheese) $2.50
Milk Drinks and Yoghurts
to be purchased at the canteen -
not delivered with primary orders

Learning Technology Agreements –
The Acceptable use agreements for technology will also come home this week for parent signatures. We ask that you read this, sign it and return it to school. We will then go through the agreement with students at school and ensure that they understand it before they sign it also. Primary students have already done theirs but students in Years 7-12 will need to do this next week.

Breakfast club –
There a range of food for breakfasts, snacks and lunch, including plenty of fresh fruit and carrots. We are going to set up a sandwich making station, when we get our bread delivery – so secondary students will be able to make themselves breakfast or lunch if they want to.

Bushfire procedures –
Given the ongoing heat, we will run a fire drill this week and also discuss the bushfire procedures for buses with the students. Please read the page of information carefully and put it on your fridge or somewhere prominent if you do not have it already.

Natasha Mudie
Principal

Tilly Turtle

Prep/One students have enjoyed exploring their new classroom, opening their first day bag, creating their own turtles, planting their classroom succulent, and dressing up in their turtle costumes.

They are looking forward to a terrific term in the turtle room!

Welcome to our Turtle Room

School procedures for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the **Mallee fire weather district.**
As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What does this mean for our school?
Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school.
Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **Mallee fire district.**

What is the department's policy?
The department's Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?
Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **the Mallee fire district.**
Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by email, text and if possible a note home.
Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**
For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website [www.murrayvillecc.vic.edu.au], by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the CFA's website.
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website https://emergency.vic.gov.au
- Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency)
- Twitter (https://twitter.com/vicemergency)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

website *www.murrayvillecc.vic.edu.au*
email murrayville.cc@education.vic.gov.au
☎ (03) 5095 2001
SMS 0457 518 394

COLLEGE CALENDAR

We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the first peoples and traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. We pay our respects to the Elders, both past, present and future, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of Indigenous Australians.

12/2	Compass for Parents
17/2	House Swimming
25/2	Mallee Division Swimming
2/3	Sunraysia South Swimming
3/3	Project Rockit : Years 3-10
5/3	International Women's Day Rachael Sporn guest speaker
9/3	Labour Day Public Holiday
10/3	LMR Swimming
13/3	MCC 51st Birthday Celebrations
19/3	Central Mallee Day : Yrs 9-10
26/3	MRCC Youth Engagement
27/3	Arts Council : P-6
2/4	End of Term
20/4	Term 2 commences
27/4	ANZAC Day
28/4	Student Free Day
6/5	School Photos Sunraysia South Cross Country

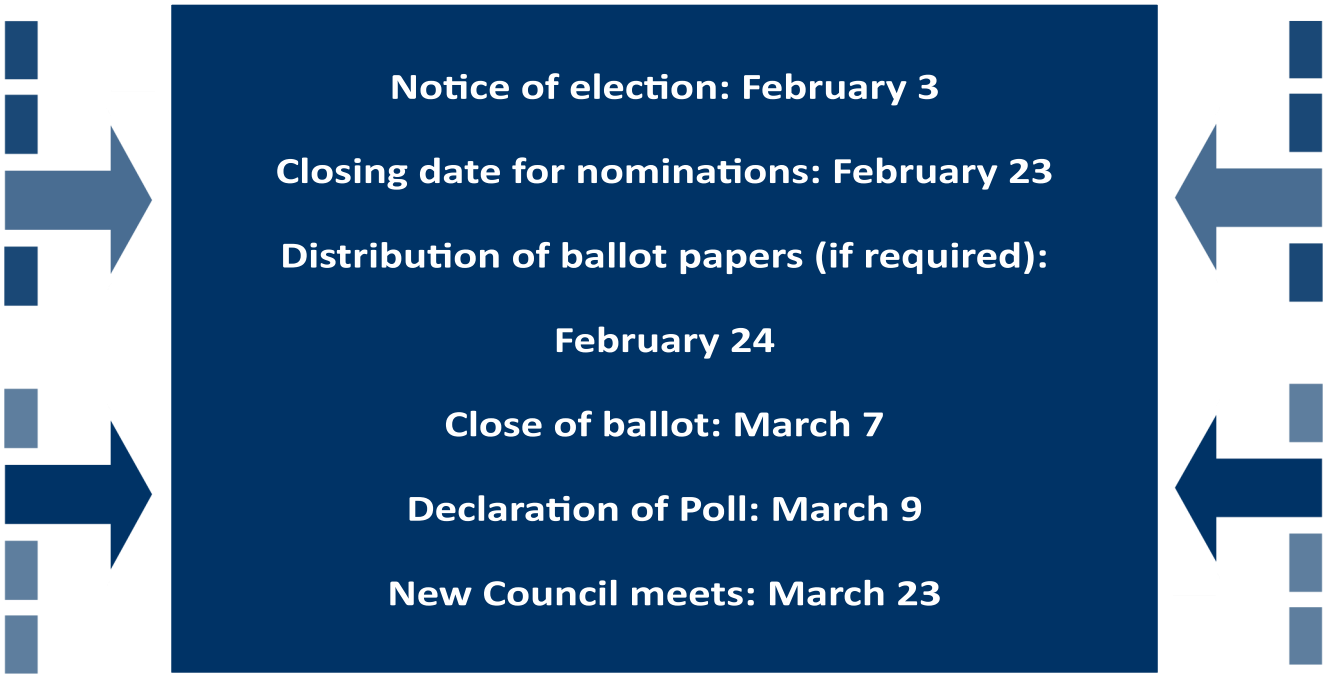
To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A parent has purchased uniform from our supplier that is too large for her son and so has the following new items available for purchase:

Kids Tactic Shorts: size 10 (2 of)
Kids Fleecy Track Pant : size 10

Please contact Jescinta on 0400 352 645 if you are interested.

Some of the new people joining us at MCC this year

The timeline for our School Council election process is as below: