Diary Dates

February

Thursday, 20th - Primary Swimming Sports
M.T.W. 24/25/26 - Year 10 First Aid

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

7-12 Swimming Sports
Our senior swimming sports were held on Thursday this week and I would like to congratulate everyone involved for their organisation and participation. We have had a number of students attending extra swimming training sessions after school which is great to see. Congratulations to Olympic on their win for this year.

Road Safety
I have been approached by a number of people concerned about students riding bikes to and from school. Students have been seen riding in the middle of the road and moving onto roads from the footpath without checking for traffic. It is too late after an accident has occurred to change things. I appeal to parents whose children ride to school to emphasise the need to ride safely and to be aware of the traffic around them. We will continue to reinforce this message at school as well.

School Council Elections
Nominations are open for 4 parent representatives for School Council. School Council plays an important role in our school community and I encourage parents/guardians to consider taking part in the decision making which directly affects their children.

P-6 Information Sessions
Information sessions for parents/guardians of children in Years Prep to Six will be held next Monday afternoon. The Prep-2 session will take place at 3.30pm, with 3-4 at 4.00pm and 5-6 at 4.30pm. Our Netbook lease program and Computer User Agreements will be explained as part of the 5-6 meeting. Everyone is most welcome to come along, learn more about our school and get to know the teachers.

School Council
The February School Council Meeting will take place next Tuesday, February 18th at 7.30pm in the staff room.

Mr Harold Lacy
On behalf of our school community I would like to extend my condolences to the family of Mr Harold Lacy who passed away on Australia Day. Harold was Principal at Ouyen High School for 5 years in the 1960’s. Harold’s family has asked me to thank the Ouyen Community for making him so welcome all those years ago.

Leanne Dawes
Principal

Year 3 students enjoying Health in their new classroom with Mrs Pearson.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CHANGED MEDICAL CONDITIONS:
Please remember to inform the school if your child develops a medical condition or allergy which you may not have included on your original enrolment form. It is extremely important for us to have accurate medical records if an emergency occurs.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER:
If you have recently moved, changed your phone number or changed employment, please advise the school. We require the correct address and contact numbers in an emergency.

VISITORS:
All visitors to our school, including parents, are expected to report to the Office to SIGN IN.

HATS:
All students must wear a hat in Terms 1 & 4.

BUS TRAVELLERS:
Primary Students
Could parents please send a note or make a phone call to the office when your child/ren are not going to travel on the bus. If we do not have a note or have not received a phone call, your child will be required to travel on their designated bus. Families of new students who require a bus travelling form are asked to pick one up from the General Office, if you have not already done so. Please return them ASAP.

WATER BOTTLES:
Students are permitted to bring a pop-top water bottle to school, to fill with water for class use. They are particularly important in hot weather. Please ensure the bottles are named.

SCHOOL BANKING:
A reminder to all parents that school banking will be on Wednesdays.

LUNCH ORDERS:
FRIED FOOD THURSDAY:
Please remember that fried foods are not to be ordered on any day other than Thursday, and only those that are on the lunch list that was sent home early in Term 1.

EMA:
To be eligible for the EMA:
♦ Your child must be under the age of sixteen; and
♦ Your child must be enrolled at a primary or secondary Government or registered school in Victoria on, 28 February 2014 for the first instalment and 1 August 2014 for the second instalment; and

You must on 28 January 2014 for the first instalment and 14 July 2014, for the second instalment:
♦ be a parent or legal guardian of the student; and
♦ be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder or
♦ be a temporary foster parent.

Submit your application to the school by the due date:
♦ 28 February 2014 for the first instalment*
♦ 1 August 2014 for the second instalment.

* Please note: you only need to make a second application in August if your child changes schools between March and August.

The Pension Concession Card (PCC) or Health Care Card (HCC) is subject to electronic confirmation with Centrelink to verify that the cardholder is receiving a benefit.

FUNDRAISING
Students in Our Prep, One and Two Unit are studying Australian Animals this term. They have become concerned that many native species are becoming endangered, especially the koala. To do something about it, they would like to join the ‘Backyard Buddies,’ run through the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife.

• To raise funds we will be collecting ten cent coins to make a trail, tower or to cover an area. If you have any to spare we would love to receive them at school.
• We will be holding a dress-up day on the theme “Australia” where participation will be for a gold coin donation. Please start planning your costumes. The date is yet to be confirmed, but will be advised in the near future.
Funds raised go towards sustaining native habitat, funding rescue services and education programs for assisting koalas and other vulnerable native wildlife. Interested persons may like to visit the website: www.backyardbuddies.net.au

UKULELE
We have been invited to participate in the ‘Mallee Up In Lights’ launch to be held here at school on Friday, February 28th, beginning at 6.30pm. If you are in Years 4-8 and would like to play some well-known songs on the ukulele in a casual and fun sing-along, please give your name to Mrs Woodall. We need 20 students in this age group for this activity to go ahead. When we have this many, younger students are also welcome to join in.
Our Community Ukulele Group meets fortnightly on Friday nights. We play simple material on chords all Ouyen P-12 senior primary/ early secondary students are familiar with. Guitarists, percussionists and singers are also most welcome. There is no pressure, only lots of fun and making music together. If any of our students (or staff, or parents) are interested in attending, please contact Mrs Woodall for details.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:
February 1st – Mia Grayling
February 4th – Laura Shaddock
February 6th – Darcy Cresp
February 12th – Porscha Vasic
February 13th – Dylan Heppell
February 14th – Natalie Nihill
February 16th – Rhyce Sielaff
SWIMMING SPORTS:
The junior campus swimming sports will be held on Thursday, February 20th.
Senior students (grades 4, 5 and 6) will walk together to the pool, while the junior students will be transported via the school bus. The first event – the grade 5/6 individual medley will start at 10.00am.
The junior events for students in the 6-8 year old age groups, will then follow.
The remainder of the senior events will commence after the completion of the junior program.
Small children are requested to be supervised by parents and refrain from entering the toddler pool.
Students are to remain in their house groups for the duration of the carnival. They need to bring their lunch, snacks and plenty of water for the day.
Students are required to have their school hat, sunscreen and a shirt (preferably in their house colour) when not competing.
Students are encouraged to wear a t-shirt in their house colours to school on the day. (Olympic House – yellow/green, Insignia – Blue/red)
Coloured zinc and hair spray may be worn in moderation, but it MUST be applied before arriving at school.
Junior students will receive a “well done” certificate for their participation on the day and champions will be presented at the conclusion of each event. The trophy for the winning House and the age group champions will be presented at the conclusion of the sports.
Students can leave from the pool at the conclusion of the program, but parents are asked to notify classroom teachers if they are taking their children home.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs Morrish.

UNDERBOOL SWIMMING SPORTS:
The Underbool sports will be held on Thursday, February 27th for qualifying students.
These sports will commence at 10.00am. Further details and team lists will be published in next week’s newsletter and sent home with students.

BALL BOY/GIRL OPPORTUNITIES
Do you wish to be a ball boy/girl at the Australian Open tennis in 2015?? If this sounds like you – please see Mrs Morrish for further details. Applications close in the next couple of weeks.

SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA
CRICKET TRIALS
Selection trials for students 12 years and under will be held in the next few weeks. If you are a boy or girl in grade 6 and would like to try out, please see Mrs Morrish by Wednesday, February 19th. There are only a certain amount of places available.

UNDERBOOL TENNIS TOURNAMENT
Congratulations to the students who represented Ouyen P-12 College in the Underbool Tennis Tournament on Wednesday. The students displayed excellent sportsmanship and enjoyed playing against students from other schools.
Congratulations to Heath Smith who was the winner of the boys event, defeating Liam Vine in the final. Lily Munro was runner up in the girl’s final, going down to Marissa Prentice from Underbool. Heath, Liam and Lily now have the opportunity to represent the school at the Regional championships which will be held in Red Cliffs in March. The students will be given information in the next week in regards to this event.
CAREERS NEWS

CONSTRUCTION INDUCTION CARD YEAR 10
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19TH
The Construction Industry Card (previously known as the “Green Card”) is an entry level requirement for all people who may need to enter building and construction sites
Date: - Wednesday 19th March 2014
Cost: - $50 subsidized by MIPPS
Where: - Ouyen P – 12 College
Time: - 9am – 3.15pm
Trainer: - SuniTAFE Mildura

Permission form and payment are to be returned to the school by Wednesday, March 5th.
Cash or Cheque payable to Sunraysia Institute of TAFE.

FIRST AID TRAINING - YEAR 10
A key element in the College’s Occupational Health and Safety program involves providing workplace level in First Aid training. Natasha Anderson will be conducting the training. Students may come to school in appropriate and comfortable casual dress and will spend the three days working in both practical and theory sessions.
Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th February
There is no cost to the student but it is essential that students attend all three days to complete their qualification.
If there are any foreseen circumstances that might prevent a student from being at school during the First Aid training, they must notify Sue Sly urgently.
Students will be undertaking their Certificate II First Aid (Workplace)

The Age VCE and Careers Expo 2014
Thursday 8th and Friday 9th May 9am – 3pm
Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th May 10am – 4pm
Caulfield Racecourse, Melbourne
More details are available at www.vceandcareers.com.au

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE WORK EXPERIENCE
Applications for the Faculty of Sciences work experience placements are now open for 2014 placements; interested students from Years 10 & 11 are invited to apply on line at http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/future-students/schools/open-we/ Applications close March 21st.

VETERINARY SCIENCE & HOSPITAL OPEN DAY
Date - Sunday, March 16th.
Time – 10am – 3pm
2013-03-17T00:00:00+11:00Location - University of Melbourne Veterinary Hospital, 250 Princes Highway, Werribee, Contact - http://www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday/ for more information.

Sue Sly
Careers Coordinator

Welfare Information
Hi everyone, I thought it might be helpful to give you all some tips for insomnia.
1. Arise at the same time every day.
2. Avoid napping during the day.
3. Discontinue stimulants such as caffeine after 4pm.
4. Regular physical exercise.
5. Allow a wind down time prior to sleep.
6. A hot 20 min bath before bed is helpful.
7. Eat at regular times daily.
8. Try a warm milk or a banana for a snack before bedtime. These are high in tryptophan.
9. Practice evening relaxation routines.
10. Maintain comfortable sleeping conditions - not too hot or cold, consider noise and light factors.
11. Go to bed at a regular time.
12. Break sleepless pattern if unable to sleep after 20-30 mins by getting a drink, reading or more relaxation exercises.
13. Try to avoid hypnotics as they are not a good long term solution.
14. Set aside time during the day to problem solve and to deal with anxiety, stressors and worries.

Marie Kilpatrick
Student Welfare Worker

LIONS
YOUTH OF THE YEAR
Thursday, February 27th
7pm
Senior Citizens Clubrooms
All interested community members are invited to attend.

Mallee Track Health & Community Service
Position Vacant
Hotel Services – Junior Attendant

MTHCS are seeking a student over the age of 15 who would like to join the Hotel Services department. This position includes cleaning, preparation and delivery of meals, and setting the kitchen up for the next day. The applicant must be enthusiastic, willing to learn and relate easily to residents.
Shifts are for 2 hours in the evening, Monday – Friday, not including Public Holidays.
If you wish to apply, please forward your details and interest to:
Casey Kay
Human Resources
Mallee Track Health & Community Service
P 03 05092 1111
E c.kay@mthcs.vic.gov.au

Closing date Friday, February 28th 2014
We always know that the beginning of the school year is good preparation for the school year ahead – lots to do, learn about, get used to, and feel excited about. Parents and guardians have an invaluable role to play in enabling students to learn the ropes and settle into routines. Good, respectful communication is vital in the student, parent, school partnership which helps shape our children’s present and influence much of their futures. We encourage parents to attend any information sessions they can over the coming weeks to further help their guiding role.

Congratulations to all involved in the Interschool Junior Tennis event and the 7-12 swimming carnival, and to all who will be recognised at the Investiture next week. We wish Xavier and Caitlin well in their year as College Captains, along with all who have been honoured with leadership roles.

Meeting: A small number of parents met with Mrs. Dawes on Monday night. It was a positive gathering with good discussion and feedback about what’s gone smoothly, the odd hiccup, future plans etc. We continue to look at possible playground development that PA can contribute to. We have agreed to donate funds for FAB sets for years 5-8 ($1000), Reading resource kits for the 7/8 area ($300), Anaphylaxis education material P-12 ($100), and a mobile whiteboard ($534), as well as the annual mathletics costs. The closure and farewell of the Hunt Street campus is of interest to many in the community, and continues to be planned.


Sheep Sale – Thanks, in advance to every school family for doing your bit for this great community service – cooking, sandwich making, or serving in the kiosk – it’s all appreciated. Michelle Morrish has volunteered to pick up where Kate Pohlner left off and do the kiosk supervisor role in conjunction with the Sheep Sale roster co-ordinator role. Thanks, Michelle. Have questions about what the sheep sale entails for you? We’ll publish a FAQ sheet online with next week’s newsletter.

Catering – As the Community Centre kitchen begins to be fitted out, PA needs to plan a working bee, or two, to relocate, wash, and find new cupboards, shelves, drawers for all our bits and pieces. Please keep this in mind. More news when the build is closer to completion! Thanks to Jo Linklater for coming on board for Wedding Catering planning. Anyone else keen, contact Raelene Vine or Bec Hynam, or leave a message at the school.

An interesting exercise this week has been sorting through some PA records that came to light in the move. Challenges met (catering for four weddings in about 7 weeks), issues that held parent attention, the wide variety of purchases made with PA donations, the numbers attending meetings, who held office, the change over from pounds, shillings and pence to decimal currency, and so on. We are, however, still missing some important folders from the 90s.

We look forward to a great year for students, parents, and staff at Ouyen P–12 College in 2014.

Justine Cresp – President
Raelene Vine – Secretary

SHEEP SALE

DATE: FEBRUARY 27TH

WORKERS
Yvonne Sporn
Debbie Brauer

COOKS
Fiona Latta
Bree O’Shannessy
Michelle Morrish
Loretta Smith
SENIOR SWIMMING
School Council Elections – Information for Parents
Nominations are open for 4 Parent Representatives for School Council.

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:
• A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.
• A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
• An optional Community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.
DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council at that school.
Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.
Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Contact the principal for further information
Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Ouyen P-12 College
Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on
21/02/2014.

Should the nominations exceed the vacancies a ballot will be held.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the
school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each
membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
School Council Elections
Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the

............................................................................................................. school council.
Name:

............................................................................................................. Residential address:

............................................................................................................. Contact phone (mobile or landline):

............................................................................................................. Email:

............................................................................................................. I am the parent/guardian of,........................................................................, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development but not engaged in work at and for the school
Yes / No (please circle)
I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:
• an undischarged bankrupt
• of unsound mind
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
• a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate................................................................................. Date ........... / ............ / ............

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.