Diary Dates

March
18th - Cultural Performance
18th - Primary & Secondary Regional Swimming
26th - Secondary Biathlon
27th - Primary Biathlon (Years 3-6)

Auction
As we come closer to the completion of our new buildings we have identified a large amount of surplus furniture and equipment and are proposing to hold an Auction at the Primary Campus on Sunday, March 30th beginning at 10.00am. A more detailed list of sale items will be published next week.

Mid Semester Report and Parent / Teacher Interviews
As we come to the end of Term 1 Mid- Semester Reports for secondary level students will be sent home to give parents information about their child’s progress in each subject area. P-12 Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday, March 31st from 3.30pm allowing everyone to get together to discuss students’ progress. It is vital for success at school that parents/guardians and teachers work in partnership with the student to achieve the best results possible.

Newsletters
Over the next week we will be calling different families to check on opinions regarding having our newsletter online. If you have any feedback regarding this or any other topic related to the school please feel free to contact us.

College Council
The College Council’s Annual Reporting Meeting will be held next Tuesday, March 17th beginning at 7.00pm. This will be followed by the March Council Meeting at 7.30pm.

Leanne Dawes
Principal

Passengers in motor vehicles:
With a number of Year 12 students starting to drive private vehicles to school, it is important that both students and parents understand the Department policy regarding students driving other students to school. Following are the DEEDC guidelines on this: Students are not permitted under any circumstances (except in accordance with an approved Pre-Licence Driver Education program, Traffic Safety Education) to transport other students in private cars in connection with any school program or function, whether held during normal school hours or at other times. This includes driving to and from school and at lunch times. I would ask for both parent and student cooperation in this matter.

Marie O’Connor
VCE Coordinator

Our Year 7/8 students enjoyed their camp to the Grampians last week. A report and more pictures are inside the Newsletter.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING : Monday, May 12th
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.

National Day of Action against Bullying & Violence

The 2014 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is on Friday, March 21st. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying. No Way! and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

Our school supports the message against bullying, working to create a safe and welcoming learning and work place. For further information about how you can support your school and your children visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

AUSKICK PROGRAM 2014:
Starting Date: April 24th (10 week program)
When: Thursday afternoons in Term Two
Time: 4-5pm
Where: Blackburn Park (Footy Oval)
Who: Anyone at Primary School - boys and girls welcome
Age: Must have turned 5 to register
Cost: $60 (+$2.34 Processing Fee)
Registrations need be to completed online and payment made at www.afl.auskick.com.au.

Your registration details will be forwarded through to me but please retain your copy. If you have participated in the Auskick Program before, click on 'Re-Register' otherwise enrol as a 'New Participant'.
Coordinator: Alexander Morrish
Registrations: Melanie Grace (50922071 or 0437865010) for assistance with registering or for further information. So come along, learn a few skills and have some fun!
Cut off date for the Club Connect ticket offer will be made known ASAP.

PREMIER’S ACTIVE APRIL:
This is a great opportunity as a community to get our family and friends more active and enjoy the benefits of a healthier lifestyle.
Get More Active More Often.
Walk to school, kick the footy with friends or run around with your family at the park. It’s fun and free to participate!

So register your family now at https://www.activeapril.vic.gov.au/
Help our school go in to the draw to win a $500 voucher just by participating!
Local prizes and incentives for the Mildura Region include:
- Mildura WAVES family pass and prize packs: first 20 registered family teams to present registration card at WAVES.
- 500 Mildura Region School Prizes: The top 5 participating schools will go into the draw to win a $500 SportsPower voucher.

Don’t forget to hold onto your Premier’s Active April card for other local physical activity incentives in May.
Students had a fantastic time on camp. They were involved in a range of activities, including low ropes, giant swing, hiking, group activities, flying fox, archery, rock climbing, bush cooking and swimming. We were very fortunate as the weather was beautiful. Highlights from the camp were the fabulous huts, giant swing, rock climbing and the view on the Piccaninny hike. The willingness of the students to participate in all activities, which at times were challenging, was fabulous to see. It was also great to see students support one another within their groups. Overall, the camp was a great success.
Students, both primary and secondary (and their parents), are encouraged to ride to school on this day. Students should enter through the bottom gate in Matheson Street and bikes can be parked on the tennis courts. Mrs Morrish will be at the corner of Henderson and Mitchell Streets at 8.30am to ride to school with any enthusiastic riders. The riders will proceed to school on the same track they rode last year. Miss Lacey will meet any keen riders at the corner of Hunt Street & Martin Ave (near the old primary campus) at 8.30am to ride to school with any enthusiastic riders on the day. These students will also park their bikes on the tennis courts. The staff will also ride home with the students. Upon arrival at school, all bike riders are encouraged to report to the check in area outside the Year 7 & 8 rooms at 8.30am to ride to school with any enthusiastic riders on the day. These students will also park their bikes on the tennis courts. The staff will also ride home with the students. Bus travellers can also participate by bringing their bikes on the buses. Students in Year 10 will be available at the bus stop to assist students with their bikes to enable them to be part of the fun on the day. The most important question on the day will finally be answered - who is the most active group in the school? Primary, secondary or staff??? The challenge is on, so get those bikes out, dust them off, pump up the tyres and get riding. Results for the most active group will be published in the newsletter next week. GO STAFF!!!!!!!!!!

Michelle Morrish
Primary Sports Coordinator
PRIMARY BIATHLON COURSE

Swim Run
Year 3 - One lap of pool One lap of course
Year 4 - Two laps One lap
Year 5 - Three laps Two laps
Year 6 - Four laps Two laps

CLOSING DATE: March 16th

---

Has your child registered for their free T-shirt and other exciting benefits?

Our School is an official venue of Tennis Australia’s National School Partnership Program (NSPP) which means students will experience the national kids’ starter program Tennis Hot Shots in the health and physical education curriculum.

As a valued supporter of the NSPP, all children within the school are able to register to claim their free T-shirt as well as enter competitions such as meet Rodger Federer or Hot Shots Kid of the Year which could win them $5,000. And don’t forget for every child who registers the school will be supported by a $2.00 rebate to put towards tennis equipment ensuring the children are always able to play.

To register simply follow the below steps:

1. Visit the website hotshots.tennis.com.au
2. On the left hand side select the box ‘Registered players claim your free T-shirt’.
3. If you child has registered before enter details under “Save time with your My Tennis ID” or if they have never registered before type in the school postcode or name under “MLC Tennis Hot Shots venue” and hit search
4. Scroll through the venues ensuring you select our school name with the schools symbol beside it; this is extremely important for our rebate funding. Don’t forget if the school name is not on the first page, choose the next page option below. Once found, hit the blue select button beside the school name and the venue should highlight in a shade of grey
5. Complete all required fields then hit continue
6. Complete the remaining fields and information for your free T-shirt then hit submit, your order has now been placed.

Please note, T-shirts are sent out on a monthly basis and will be sent directly to the school for your child to collect. For more information or assistance please speak with your teacher.

Thanks again for your support of our schools involvement with tennis.
CONGRATULATIONS to the 45 Secondary students who qualified to compete in the SSV LMR Swimming Carnival at Swan Hill, next Tuesday, March 18th. Start time: 10.00 am.

The majority of students have fulfilled their training requirements and those that have not should attempt to attend training over the weekend. There are training sheets available at the pool kiosk if you cannot attend on Friday 4pm, Sunday 1pm or Monday 4pm. Students should see Mrs Lonergan or Mrs Morrish if they need to discuss training.

An important reminder to all boys swimming in Swan Hill - No Speedo type bathers - no swim. Please Mrs Lonergan if you need bathers.

Travel to Swan Hill has been finalised. Students travelling on the bus must pay $15 to the office by Monday.

TRAVEL TO SWAN HILL

BUS
Hallie Wills
Lauren Morrish
Caitlin Vine
Ben Morrish
Adam Morrish
Charlotte Vine
Ashlee Morrish
Tennille Smith
Kelsey Richardson
Tori Linklater
Tayla Willsmore
Liam Munro
Lockie McCormack
Jake Cresp
Ryan McKay
Tom Morrish
Tim Gloster
Jaivon Stacey
Jack Cook
Annie Brown
Charlie O'Connor-Byrne

CAR
Lucy Morrish
Greta Hayter
Jessica Down
Laura Hayter
Macey Evans
Megan O'Connor
Madeleine Hahnel
Ellen Morrish
Sarah O'Connor
Hannah John
Jesse Lynch
James Phillips
Jacob Coe
Brody Morrish
Aidan Down
Peter Darley
Jaeden Corbett
Allie Winslow
Grace Woodall
Charlotte Nixon
Bradley Marks

Students should be getting ready for our annual Inter-House Biathlon in the last week of March. Students have proven in past events that set distances are achievable by all. It has been great to see students accepting the challenge and competing to the best of their ability. Anyone unable to compete in an individual event must see Mrs Lonergan about participating in a team event. House teams will then be organised. Students who cannot participate must bring a note.

Wednesday, March 26th

EVENT TIMES (approx.)

11.40 a.m. - 12/13 & 14 Year Girls
12/13 & 14 Year Boys ...
(6 lengths swim, 2 laps of block run)

12.00 a.m. - 15 & 16 Year Girls
15 & 16 Year Boys ...
(8 lengths swim, 3 laps of block run)
- Team Event (all ages)
(6 lengths swim, 2 laps of block run)

12.30 p.m. - 17 & 18-20 Year Boys...
17 & 18-20 Year Girls
(12 lengths swim, 4 laps of block run)

MAPS will be posted on noticeboards.

SWAN HILL BUS WILL BE LEAVING AT 7:45 AM AND RETURN BY 4:30PM
They will also run the very popular Commerce Stream – students will explore the fields of accounting, business, economics, finance, management and marketing. Also in July, the Arts Stream will explore Arts majors such as psychology, media and communications, and Fine Arts, which looks at a diverse range of art forms, including performance art, visual art, movement and music.

The Social Justice Stream is ideal for students looking to develop leadership skills associated with grassroots movements for social justice, such as equality, democracy and transformation in young people.

Trinity College is looking for students aged between 14 and 17, who would like to taste of university life to join the programs in either July or December. Each year Trinity welcomes more than 300 students from around the world to inspire, increase confidence & guide students on a pathway to tertiary education. Students are able to choose an academic stream – all of which align with the University of Melbourne’s undergraduate degrees to give students an idea what they might want to study in the future. During the July intake students can choose a one-week module or combine two programs to create a fantastic two-week experience. Or, in December, students immerse themselves in one academic stream for the entire two weeks.

Program Dates - July Week 1: 29 June-6 July
July Week 2: 6–13 July
December: 30 November-14 December

More info Sue Karzis, Director of Young Leaders + 61 3 9348 7486 trinityinstitute@trinity.unimelb.edu.au

2014 Experience La Trobe events

University of Melbourne - Dates to remember
Veterinary Science & Hospital - Open Day- Sunday, March 16th
A Day at Melbourne - (Previously Access All Areas) - Friday, April 11th
Hands On Engineering - (Year 10 students) - Monday, April 14th
Computer Programming - Competition (High School students)- Thursday, April 24th
www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events

Meet Melbourne… in 2014!
Meet Melbourne is a great opportunity for students and parents to take a closer look at the study options available at the University of Melbourne.
Information sessions will be held in various locations throughout Victoria over the coming months. Students and their parents are invited to attend and find out about:
* Courses and career outcomes, including the Melbourne degrees and graduate pathways
* Unique opportunities to enrich your degree such as studying a concurrent diploma or going on exchange
* Scholarships and course costs
* Access Melbourne, our special entry and access scheme, which offers guaranteed entry to selected Melbourne undergraduate degrees for eligible students from regional areas
* Entry requirements and how to apply
* Housing options
* Information for Indigenous students.
www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/meetmelbourne

MARCH - Wednesday, March 19th Bendigo
APRIL - Wednesday, April 30th Ballarat
MAY - Thursday, May 1st Mildura

Trinity College invites secondary students to the Young Leaders Programs -
2014 is going to be a very exciting year for Young Leaders.
In July this year, Trinity College will be running a Biomedicine Stream for the first time. In this stream, students will explore the world of medicine and medical research including genetics, human physiology and human structure and function. Students will perform dissections, and visit the genetics laboratories at The University of Melbourne.

Cultural Care Au Pair
Provides young adults with the unique opportunity to become part of an American host family and help care for their children while experiencing life abroad. The program is a minimum 12 month commitment, and allows them to gain international work experience, travel and study at an American college. Link www.culturalcare.com.au

CAREERS NEWS

YEAR 12 GRADUATES OF 2013 – WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Stephanie Boyd Psychology (Honours) Flinders
Ashley Burns Education (Middle/Secondary) Science Flinders
Lynden Burns Event Management/Tourism Management La Trobe, Bundoora
Laura Down Nursing Federation
Thomas Elliott Nursing Flinders
Adam Funcke Apprentice Butcher Ouyen
Laura Gloster Podiatry Uni S.A
Esther Manley Nursing Uni S.A
Kyle McKenzie Employed Ouyen
Nathan Mole Apprentice Mechanic Ouyen
Jackson Morrish Seeking Employment
Kate O’Connor Health Science / Physiotherapy Flinders
Toby Simmons Australian Defence Force
Julia Woodall Education (Middle / Secondary) Arts Flinders, Uni S.A

YOUNG WORKER TOOLKIT The Young Work Toolkit is a DEEWR online resource which helps young people 'find information about [their] responsibilities and where [they] stand at work'.

YOUTH CENTRAL A comprehensive career development website designed for young people and maintained by young people.
Link: www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au

Sue Sly
Careers Coordinator
Meeting – We held our AGM on Tuesday evening, welcoming new parents. Our executive for the coming year are:
President – Justine Cresp
Vice – President – Helen Lam
Secretary – Raelene Vine
Treasurer – Bobbie Stacey.
As mentioned in previous newsletters, Michelle Morrish will do the Sheep Sale roster co-ordination and kiosk supervisor roles. The Catering team is waiting on confirmation from a couple of interested parents before it is finalised.

We are keen to hear from any parents wishing to take on, or continue on with, a Contact person role to co-ordinate the occasional Parents Association task.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Contact Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pr, 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Melanie Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Donna Nihill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the general meeting, discussion points included use of the pool blankets – YMCA has a $34/C forecast only policy; fridge space for student lunches; what special days might be celebrated – Book Day, Harmony Day etc?; receipt of newsletters; feedback from sheep sale roster survey late 2013; recent sporting events plus upcoming events for an expanded group – Biathlon, Cross country; suitable space for PA’s archival material; implementation of new absence rules and the $70 fines; ideas for PA contribution to playground equipment; removal of 40km signs around old Primary campus; and general settling in stuff – parking etc.

Best wishes: to all swimmers competing at the Zone championships in Swan Hill on Tuesday. It’s a great effort to get there.
Congratulations to all who participated successfully in the Mallee Up In Lights night at the school – building community links is a vital part of the educational fabric.

Catering –
Keep an eye out for news of the Community Centre kitchen equipment working bee – may not be until next term, yet.

Sheep Sale – The roster for the year is out. (Published in last week’s newsletter) There are a couple of vacancies – please contact Michelle Morrish if you can fill one of them. Thanks all.

It is widely accepted that families have the first and most significant influence on their child’s learning, and Victorian schools are encouraged to work towards strengthening ties that help cement families as partners in learning.

Along with encouraging parental involvement with a child’s learning, school councils and parent clubs are also effective engagement tools.

Come, join us in this.

Next meeting: Monday, May 12th.

Justine Cresp – President
Raelene Vine – Secretary

SHEEP SALE

| DATE: MARCH 27th |
| WORKERS          |
| Bec Hynam (50921272) |

| WORKER NEEDED |
| Bobbie Stacey |

| DATE: APRIL 10th |
| WORKERS          |
| Elaine Richardson (50921579) |
| Donna Wills |

| COOKS            |
| Chris Patching   |
| Bobbie Stacey    |
| Sue Griffin      |
| Karen Wisneske   |

| COOKS            |
| Kylie Pengelly   |
| Mandy Comrie     |
| Brenda Dingledei-Murphy |
| Debbie Vallance  |
Marie and Sue march in the Melanoma March

On Sunday, March 23rd there will be 20 sites where people across Australia are marching against Melanoma. This is a great opportunity for the community to unite against melanoma, to remember loved ones lost, give hope to those living with melanoma and increase awareness of Australia’s third most common cancer, with over 12,500 cases per year.

Marie Kilpatrick will be participating in this walk in memory of her husband, Daryl. Sue will also be walking to remember Daryl (her brother). Please support Marie and Sue by giving a donation; any amount will be appreciated.

Please go to: http://www.melanomamarch.org.au/event/mmsa2014 and click on ‘sponsor a friend’ on the yellow bar and either type in ‘Marie Kilpatrick – in memory of Daryl’ or ‘Walking for Daryl’ to make a donation. All donations go to the Melanoma Institute. Thank you in advance.

JUNIOR BASKETBALL GRAND FINALS

Tuesday, March 18th

6pm
Under 13 Girls - Unicorns vs Swans

7pm
Under 16 Boys - Hawks vs Phoenix

8pm
Under 17 Girls - Opals vs Thunderbirds

Singlets need to be returned at this time. Players will require a t-shirt to change into so their singlets can be handed in on the night. All other players need to return their singlets on the night. Family, friends and team mates are invited to watch these matches.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS IN YEAR 7 TO 12

Registration forms are available from the Youth Services Centre, 48 Twelfth Street, Mildura or www.mildura.vic.gov.au/youth

Basketball Clinic at the Hothouse
Monday 7 April

Improve your skills and develop your talent with coaching from Mildura West players.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Fishing at Lock 11
Tuesday 8 April

Come fishing with guru John Machemel. From beginner to professional, John will be able to teach you a few tricks to help you land a good catch.

Time: 8am - 12pm
Cost: $10

‘Masterchef’ at SMGT
Wednesday 9 April

Join ‘this masterclass’ and learn how to cook a two course mouthwatering meal.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Day triip to Ouyen – Roxy Theatre
Monday 14 April

Join us on a day trip to Ouyen and enjoy a movie in the historic Roxy Theatre.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Camp & Frotage Workshop
Thursday 17 April

Come and learn from professional artist Shu how to create your own masterpiece from magazine cutouts.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Sand Toboganning at Perry Sand Hills
Wednesday 16 April

Back by popular demand! Surf the Perry Sand Hills at Wentworth.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Mega Splash Pool Party at Mildura Waves
Thursday 16 April

Come and spend the afternoon at Mildura Waves with access to the giant inflatable, wave pool and indoor pool.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Comic Drawing Workshop
Friday 11 April

Learn how to storyboard, sketch and finish your own original comic strip.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: FREE

Remote Youth Services Mildura
Lunch provided

Giga Splash at Finniss Surf Life-Saving Club
Thursday 17 April

Come and learn with cool kids how to keep a patient and how to perform CPR. This workshop is for all ages.

Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $10

Remote Youth Services Mildura
Lunch provided

Please only bring the clothing you will wear on the night.
In Years 7-10, students miss on average almost a week every term - that's four weeks of school per year.

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 lost 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 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:

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victoria as a learning community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Official Logo]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development