As our first full week comes to a close I would like to congratulate all students, teachers, support staff and our school community for the ease in which they have settled into 2015. Whilst a busy and frantic time for all, the mood and atmosphere has been relaxed and happy.

Preparation for the Primary Swimming Carnival has commenced with students practising during their PE lessons. The Secondary Carnival will be held next Thursday, February 12th, from 10.00am. Parents, families and friends are welcome to attend. A barbecue will be available throughout the day.

Also next Thursday, beginning at 9.00 am will be our College Investiture Ceremony in the Community Centre. Students who have accepted roles of responsibility within the college will be invested and receive their badges. Again, families are invited to attend.

Your child’s education is a partnership between teacher/s, student, and parent/carer. We are happy to meet with you and discuss issues or problems when they arise, but appointments are necessary, due to the fact that teachers may have meetings or other duties before and after school. Office staff are unable to make these appointments for you, but can put you in touch with teachers in order to arrange a suitable time.

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.

Congratulations to Jacqualyn and Mark Dowell on the birth of Logan, an eagerly anticipated grandchild for Mrs Mole.

Although this is a short term, it is a busy one, with swimming, tennis, Year 7/8 camp, vaccinations and Ride-to-School. Keep your eye on the fridge calendar attached to this newsletter with the important dates listed.

Shelley Cross
Acting Principal

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SCHOOL FEES
A reminder that accounts for 2015 School Fees were included with student reports at the end of 2014. Fees may be paid at the General Office by cash or cheque or paid direct online to the following Bank account. BSB 063-732, Account 1000 1994. Please list your Family/Child’s name as reference.

If you’re unsure of what you owe, please contact the office, otherwise statements will be sent out shortly.

We have had someone pay directly into the School’s Account on 16/1/15 at a Bank (063 099 CBA, Melbourne) with no Reference to who it belongs to. This payment was possibly for a Year 9 or 10 student. Please advise the office if this belongs to your family.

Bobbie Stacey
Business Manager

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Congratulations to our College Captains, Tim Gloster and Charlotte Nixon.

Tim & Charlotte, along with all elected SRC & House Captains, will be invested next Thursday, February 12th. The ceremony will be held in the Community Centre at 9am and all parents & friends are invited to attend.
Happy Birthday:
February 7th - Maiya Mallinson
February 12th - Porscha Vasic

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
The final forming of a person’s character lies in their own hands.
Anne Frank

MUSIC:
In an exciting and fantastic first for Ouyen P-12 College, we are able to offer private instrumental tuition in guitar and drums and lessons began this week. Our thanks go to Mr Joel Anderson and Mr Luke McCarthy for their commitment to this program.

Individual students and families who have expressed interest have been sent payment arrangements, terms and conditions and timetables for their lessons each week. We must emphasise that lessons are run on a private basis between families and the tutors themselves. All families have been provided with their tutor’s contact details and all enquiries regarding invoices, payment methods, timetables and other issues must be directed to them, not the office or the teaching staff. It is the individual student’s responsibility to be on time and have the equipment needed. There will need to be changes to suit various individuals and to accommodate the Labour Day public holiday so please be on the lookout for revised timetables.

Please be patient as we fine-tune the organisation of this program. We are sure this will be a rewarding experience for all concerned.

Shelley Woodall
Performing Arts

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
Parents are asked to 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.

New bus forms have been sent home with all bus travellers, this week. It is important that these be filled out and returned ASAP.

WATER BOTTLES:
Students are permitted to bring a pop-top water bottle to school to use during class time. 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.

FORMS:
Students would have brought a number of forms last week. Please ensure they are all filled in and returned to the General Office ASAP.
Students who do not send back the General Permission form will be unable to attend any excursions.
All Medical Forms must be filled in and returned regardless of any changes.
Those who have not already brought back the forms will have copies sent home again this week.
Our very excited Prep students began their school life on Monday.

Gareth Morrish is pictured with his grandad Bill and his dad Brent, on his first day at school. Bill and Brent were both students at our school.

What other families do we have who are three or more generations that have attended our school?

Our new Year 7 students have been honing their skills in the Textiles Room.

Students were asked to construct a draw string bag as their first project.

Tate, Casey, Nic, Marissa, Conor and Heidi were very pleased to be able to show what they have achieved in such a short time.
INoimpal Sport

Congratulations to the students who have been elected as Primary House Captains for 2015.

OLYMPIC
Captains
Ella Hastings and Samuel Scott
Vice Captains
Molly Grigg and Blake Gaulke

Primary Sport

Otina Nihill and Darcy Cresp
Vice Captains
Elena Huggins and Riggs Lamigan.

Olympic Captains

Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne
Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne

Captains

Iana Nihill and Darcy Cresp
Vice Captains
Elena Huggins and Riggs Lamigan.

Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne
Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne

Congratulations to the students who have been elected as Primary House Captains for 2015.

OUYEN P-12 COLLEGE SWIMMING SPORTS

MORNING EVENTS (commencing at 10.00am)

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Olympic Captains

Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne
Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne

Captains

Iana Nihill and Darcy Cresp
Vice Captains
Elena Huggins and Riggs Lamigan.

Cecilia Rinaldi and Mollie Goyne
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Congratulations to the students who have been elected as Primary House Captains for 2015.

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Our swimming sports are on February 20th starting at 10am.
Students will walk to the pool and sit in their house areas.
The day will commence with the senior individual medley events, which will be followed by the junior events.
At the conclusion of the junior program, parents will be able to take their child(ren) home with them if they do not wish to stay for
the senior events. At the finish of each stroke event (freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke) the winners will be presented with their
ribbons.
At the conclusion of the day, students will be able to leave from the pool with their parents (please inform the classroom teacher).
The remaining students will walk back to school where they will be dismissed at the end of the school day.

Further details will be in the newsletter next week.

JUNIOR SPORT:
Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday, February 11th - UDSSA Tennis
- Friday, February 20th - Ouyen Primary Swimming Sports
- Friday, February 27th - UDSSA Swimming Sports (Representative Team)

UDSSA TENNIS TOURNAMENT:
The UDSSA tennis tournament will be held on Wednesday, 11th February at the Ouyen Lawn Tennis Courts. Students in grade 6 are eligible to participate in this event and a representative team will be selected. Students in the team will receive a note for their parents to explain the outline of the day.
2015 HOUSE OFFICIALS

Congratulations to the following students who were elected by their peers to the prestigious House Official positions.

INSIGNIA
Captains
Kelsey Richardson
Broderick O’Connor –Byrne

Senior Vice – Captains
Ashlee Morrish
Aidan Down

Junior Vice – Captains
Charlee Pengelly
Harrison Jolly

OLYMPIC
Captains
Kaitlyn Manley
Jaivon Stacey

Senior Vice – Captains
Adriana Smith
Lee Conlin

Junior Vice – Captains
Allie Winslow
Tom Morrish

SWIMMING COSTS

The YMCA has collaborated with the MRCC to determine the cost to School Pool Users. There will be no extra cost to students who have a Season’s Pass and the normal entry fee of $1.80 is to be paid by students who do not have a Season’s Pass every time they go to the pool.

FORTHCOMING DATES

Thursday, 12th February
P-12
Senior Campus
Swimming Carnival
Ouyen,
10.30am - 2.00pm

Wednesday, 4th March
Mallee District
Swimming Carnival
Mildura

Wednesday, 25th March
O.S.C. Biathlon
Ouyen
Tuesday 17th March
Northern Zone
Swan Hill

SWIMMING SPORTS

The house captains are busy working on teams and are looking forward to the cooperation of their house members. The Carnival will be a day event, starting time to be advised.

Competitors are reminded of the following rules -

• Breaststroke and butterfly must finish with a two handed touch.
• Backstroke must be finished on the back, with one hand to wall.
• Swimmers must not push off onto their stomachs in backstroke turns.
• There will be NO running dives allowed.
• Breaststroke kick must be uniform, both feet on the same level, moving at same time.
• All competitors must wear a swimming cap of the house colour.
• Girls must wear one piece bathers, lycra bike shorts are ok but NO Board shorts.

Age Group Championships

A swimmer must contest at least two events in an age-group to be eligible for the individual championship of that Age Group. Swimmers can count only their three best point scores towards each championship. At least two different strokes must be represented in the scores. Scores can only be counted towards one age-group championship.

The Open Championship is open to all swimmers. Swimmers can only count their best four scores. At least three strokes must be represented in the scores. All open performances are rated on the Open (U21) SRT scales.

SWIMMING SPORTS:
Bus travellers

Students who do not go home with parents after the swimming sports next week will be transported back to school to catch their appropriate bus.
Welcome to our many new families – we hope you enjoy your journey with Ouyen P-12 College. Best wishes to those students elected to special roles within the school – do yourselves, your families, and your school proud. Best wishes, too, to all competing in, and helping at, next week’s House Swimming Sports.

Parents Association is a school body through which parents, guardians and carers of students can meet to find out about what’s happening in the school, ask questions, make suggestions relating to school, and to support the students and staff in the education process. Added to this are the odd working bee and some fundraising for extra school resources that is mainly achieved through catering – operating the Sheep Sale Kiosk and providing catering for various events as requested during the year. The College information booklet provides an outline of how the sheep sale works, and a summary of PA. We shall put more information out as required – probably on the school website. To complete the other catering tasks, we allocate the job to the families of different year levels and trust people will volunteer time, food, or cash donations to help complete the task. This has worked well over the years. We hope you continue to support it. It would help those given the task of organising some of these events if parents would consent to their phone number being made available to the catering team.

Meeting: Our first meeting for the year will be held next Monday evening [Feb 9th] in the Conference room [enter via main doors, turn east towards the Principal’s office], starting at 7:00p.m. The meetings are open to any parent, guardian of the school to attend – come and find out what’s going on, meet other parents and our Acting Principal, Miss Cross. We try to keep the meetings fairly brief, and sometimes have guest presenters. Apologies and / or queries/ suggestions to Raelene Vine (Secretary) on 50921598 or 0407849174.

Prep for Parents – is a weekly email subscription for parents with children in Prep. It covers topics parents have said they want to know about: what children are learning in Prep; how to help your child with maths; and much more. Regularly during school terms, a new edition arrives in your email box. Each article has helpful tips and links to websites and other information Subscription is easy. Go to www.education.vic.gov.au/prepforparents

More than this, come to the school’s information sessions for all year levels, and keep in touch with staff.

Sheep Sale – Was up and running as school recommenced. Thanks to Michelle, Tania, Laura and Renae for getting us off to a good start. Watch out for the roster and your turn.

Congratulations – to Jac and Mark Dowell on the birth of Logan – all the best for your family journey.

Catering – Thanks to families of Years 5/6/7 & 8 plus others who helped with food and time for Maddi Lonergan & Fel Cua’s engagement party last Saturday night. Lovely food and great teamwork.

Watch this space – we have two catering tasks booked in for March. One will be for families of Years 3 & 4, the other for Years 11 & 12.

Contact people - Each year we ask for volunteers to be the Contact People for our catering events. [Explanation next week] Meanwhile – anyone willing to take on one of those roles – please contact Raelene Vine or Justine Cresp – 0438 618544. We need 6 volunteers:
P/1/2 3/4 5/6 7/8 9/10 11/12

Last year we raised several thousand dollars from Sheep Sales and Catering which paid for various school projects - this can’t be done without your valuable contributions of time, skills, goods and cash donations.

We look forward to a great year for students, parents, and staff at Ouyen P – 12 College in 2015.

Justine Cresp, President / Raelene Vine, Secretary

Optometry Service at MTH&CS
Ouyen – February Clinic

RFDS Victoria and the Australian College of Optometry in partnership with Mallee Track Health and Community Services have been running the Mobile Optometry Service in Ouyen for over a year.

The service includes assessment by an optometrist, and if required, prescription of lenses or glasses through the Australian College of Optometry. You will no longer need to go to Mildura to get your glasses or lenses. If required, the service will refer clients to an Ophthalmologist.

The next clinic will be held in February 19-20th, 2015.

To book an appointment, please contact the front office at Mallee Track Ouyen on 5092 1111.

WUFNC Netball Training Session
WUFNC will be having a session on Friday 6th of February and Friday 13th of February at 6pm at the Underbool Rec Ground.
All ages are welcome. Bring bathers and a towel.

SHEEP SALE Roster
February 12th
Workers
Sam Trigg
Justine Cresp
Cooks
Jenny Summerhayes
Bronwyn Greig
Sheena Coe
Melanie Shaddock

February 26th
Worker
Bec Hynam
Debbie Brauer
Cooks
Melissa Morrish
Eliza Caldow
Fiona Latta
Bree O’Shannessy

Please note changes to workers.
Work Experience / Structured Work placement
Dates – 2015
Year 10 – August, 10th / 14th
Year 11 – July, 13th / 17th
July 6th – 10th (Optional School Holidays)

Work Experience
Work experience is part of the schools’ educational program where students experience the world of work, often for the first time. It is the short term placement of secondary school students with employers, to provide insights into the industry, and the workplace in which they are located. Students are placed with employers primarily to observe and learn.

Structured Workplace Learning is on the job training during which a student is expected to master a set of skills or competencies, related to their VET, VCAL or VCE a course.

Occupational Health and Safety
Schools are required to adequately prepare students for the risks and hazards they may face in the workplace. safe@work is an occupational health and safety program for secondary school students undertaking work experience. All secondary school students undertaking work experience must satisfactorily complete safe@work before commencing their work experience placement.

Benefits of Work Experience or Work Placement
Work experience activities will help you to:
- You gain valuable experience that you can add to your resume
- You might get a good reference from your work experience employer that can help with job applications
- You might get invited back to do part-time, casual or holiday work, or even be offered a full-time job
- You make contacts that could help you find a permanent job
- Insight into what a job involves
- A new referee to add to your resume
- an opportunity to demonstrate commitment and reliability
- confidence in your ability to learn and become competent at new tasks
- work/life skills, such as communicating effectively, or working in teams

Construction Induction Card Year 10
Wednesday 25th March
This one day course is suitable for all year 10 students
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 25th March 2015
Cost: - $60 subsidized by MIPPS
Where: - Ouyen P – 12 College
Time: - 9am – 3.15pm
Trainer: - SuniTAFE Mildura

Everyone who works on a construction site in Victoria needs a Construction Induction (CI) Card. This includes students undertaking work experience, structured workplace learning or an apprenticeship.

This card is required for work experience in industries such as plumbing, building, carpentry, electrical, landscaping engineering and architecture. However, it also can also be required by students considering options such as civil engineering and food.

If students have not successfully completed this course they will need to elect a different type of work experience or work placement.

The construction induction card is issued by WorkSafe following successful completion of induction training by an RTO

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 23rd, Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th 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).

Sue Sly
Careers Coordinator

Chess:
The outdoor chess board is nearing completion. Students are looking forward to moving the giant chess pieces around the board. Tiling was completed this week. Surrounds will be completed soon.
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 February 13th, 2015. 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 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DET employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual Vacancy DET employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ouyen P-12 College

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/guardian representative on the Ouyen P-12 College Council

Name…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Residential address ………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Home telephone………………………………………
Business telephone …………………………………
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 Training
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 and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate…………………………………………… Date…………
You will be notified when your nomination has been received.