Cluster Meeting
This week senior staff from the Cluster P-12 College’s visited Melbourne to tour some metropolitan schools. It is always valuable to see what other schools are doing and gives us an opportunity to pick up some new ideas. One school visited is operating an online reporting system we are trialling in our cluster next year.

Cricket
We had cricket teams from Years 5/6 and Years 9/10 competing this week. Our 5/6 team won through to the next level whilst the 9/10 team travelled to Melbourne on Tuesday to compete in the regional finals. Students have been training at lunchtime for these events so it is great to see them doing well.

Head Lice
These stubborn little creatures are still with us, unfortunately. Parents are reminded to check their child/ren’s hair regularly. Removing the nits (eggs) is the only certain way to stop lice. Treating the hair kills the live lice but an egg left in the hair will still hatch and the cycle will begin again.

We ask parents to ensure all hats are named and to remind children not to share or swap hats.

Leanne Dawes
Principal

GWM WATER
POSTER COMPETITION

Students from Years 3 & 4 participated in a GWM Water poster competition for National Water Week. Three students received honourable mentions, certificates and prizes, Brooklyn Treloar, Evan Comrie and Georgia Latta.

The students were photographed with Gillian & Phil the Bucket.
Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is EMA?
The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?
Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent’s bank account
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses;
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?
The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?
In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?
Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional $12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools.

Will my child be worse off?
No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.
Pattinson House Entertainment:
The excursion to Pattinson House will be on Monday, November 17th, leaving school shortly after 1pm and returning around 2.15pm.
Students involved are:
Students will be transported to and from Pattinson House on the school bus and will need to take their lunch and drink with them. Outstanding permission forms need to be returned to the school.
Thank you to all students and parents for their interest and co-operation.
Rosemary Jackson

P-2 Excursion:
On Thursday, November 6th Prep-One-Two students and staff headed to Mildura for the day. After boarding the bus we journeyed to Red Cliffs for a play and a snack, the Mildura Art Gallery where we toured the “Mildura Revisited” exhibition and had a go at designing our own sculptures and to Apex Park for lunch.

Our Excursion....
On the bus I read and put my book in my bag. We went to Mildura. We went to Big Lizzie and played on the playground. And we went to the Art Gallery and saw sculptures. And we went to Apex Park and had lunch. And we played on the playground.

Zandi

I went to Mildura. Some went in the car. Some went on the bus. We saw some very big sculptures at the Art Gallery. We went to the park for lunch and I played on the pirate ship. Then we came back to school and went home. I liked the park the best. Nav

We went to the Art Gallery. We went to Big Lizzie. We went to Apex Park. We had lunch. We had a play at Big Lizzie. I liked it in Mildura. Ava

We went to the Art Gallery. We saw sculptures. Boden

We played on the playground. We went to Big Lizzie. We went to the Art Gallery. I went in the car. Arley

We went to Big Lizzie. We went back home. Milly

We went to Mildura. We went to the Art Gallery. Maggie
Cricket Victoria and Mallee Murray Cricket are giving girls in Sunraysia a wonderful opportunity to participate in cricket sessions each Sunday! Clinics are suitable for girls aged 8 - 18 years and are held at Mildura Senior College Nets at 10am on Sundays.

Girls can go along to the sessions to have fun and learn more about cricket. The sessions also lead to selections for the Murray Mallee Heat Teams, where the girls have the opportunity to be selected to represent the Region.

All girls aged 8 - 18 years are invited to head along to the sessions and join in. For more information please contact Andrew Farlie - 0408321877.

GRADE 5/6 CRICKET

Congratulations to the Grade 5/6 students who competed in the local T-20 blast cricket competition on Tuesday. Ouyen Team 1 came out victors on the day and now have the opportunity to represent Ouyen P-12 College in the regional final on Tuesday, November 24th at Swan Hill.

The format for Swan Hill is a girls and a boys team. The students in team 1 – Heath, Alex, Liam, Sam and Emily, Abbey, Lily and Jasmine receive automatic selection into the representative team. The final four students will be decided after junior sport and lunch time training sessions, with the team being announced next Wednesday. Students who wish to try for these spots need to attend training on Monday lunchtime on the bottom oval. Students are encouraged to change into sports gear for these training sessions.

Lunch time training for the team will be Monday and Thursday lunch time next week. A letter outlining arrangements will be sent home next week. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Morrish.

HOT SHOTS – FREE SHIRT OFFER:

Are you a Hot Shots fan – would you like to receive a free t-shirt and help the school raise funds to purchase equipment??

If so, log onto the hotshots website and go to the free t-shirt offer. When applying, click the Ouyen Secondary College button and you are on your way to receiving a free t-shirt and other goodies.

Registrations must be completed by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st.

If you need any assistance, let Mrs Morrish know.

LEN SPENCE/KEN WRIGHT/HUME SHIELD TENNIS COMPETITIONS:

Any students interested in playing in the Len Spence/Ken Wright/ Hume Shield competitions are asked to register their names with either Mrs Jan Morrish or Mrs Michelle Morrish by next week.

A practice session will be held at the Ouyen Lawn Tennis courts for interested students on Thursday, November 20th starting at 4pm.

The date of the competition is Sunday, November 30th, with the venue to be advised.

The competition age groups are Under 12, Under 15 and Under 17. Further details will be available next week.
T20 BLAST CRICKET STATE FINALISTS

Well Done to our 10 girls and 9 boys from Years 9-10 who travelled to Ballarat on Tuesday in preparation for the Western State Cricket Finals at Melton that were played on Wednesday. Unfortunately, both teams were out played by superior teams on the day. They are, however, to be congratulated on their sportsmanship and endeavour, they represented our school well. A big thank you to Mr Stewart who co-transported and accompanied our students to this event.

GIRLS RESULTS -
Sacred Heart College 91 d Ouyen 59
Monivae College 127 d Ouyen 83
Hawkesdale P-12 171 d Ouyen 120

HIGHLIGHTS
* Grace’s very long motivational speech and loud cheering from the sidelines.
* Consistent bowling by all girls
* Ellen’s dives to prevent boundaries which were unfortunately unsuccessful!
* Seeing an air ship (Blimp) go over.
* The boundaries hit and tricky catches made.
* When we didn’t lose by 50 runs!

BOYS RESULTS -
St. Josephs Mildura 146 d Ouyen 104
Bayview College 169 d Ouyen 64
Geelong Grammar 130 d Ouyen 37

HIGHLIGHTS
* Ryan’s quick fire 30.
* Tom’s 4 wickets and measured 25’s
* Nic’s tidy bowling
* Brody’s personal cheer squad from Monivae and brave batting against Geelong Grammar.
* Bailey’s 3 catches but only 2 counted
* Daniel’s amazing playing ability
* Matt’s legspin
* Cale’s unlimited energy
* Aidan’s stabilising influence
* Team Bonding!

REMINDERS
Can all students return the athletics singlets that they have at home.

These shirts are school property and are only loaned out to students. It is important that the shirts are returned as soon as possible as we need them for next week’s cricket teams.

FORTHCOMING DATES
7/8 Super 8 Cricket
Melton
Wednesday
19th November

GOOD LUCK
To our Year 7 Boys, Year 8 Boys and Year 7 & 8 Girls who are heading down to Melton next Tuesday & Wednesday to compete in their Super 8 Cricket State Finals.
**MTHCS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Children’s Services Educators – Part-time and Casual (All Locations)

Children’s Services Educators - School Based Apprentices (Underbool and Ouyen)

Applicants must have:
- Good communication skills both written and verbal
- Good time-management skills
- A sound understanding and knowledge of early childhood development with the ability to follow a detailed developmentally appropriate program for children 0-6 years of age.

In addition candidates must be willing to undertake a current Police Check, Working with Children Check, First aid certificate, Asthma and Anaphylaxis training.

For queries relating to these positions, please contact:
Ms Lisa White, Early Years Program Leader, 5091 0292
lwhite@mtths.vic.gov.au

For a Position Description or to apply please forward covering letter together with current resume and a statement addressing the key selection criteria to:

Ms Lois O’Callaghan
Director of Community Services
Mallee Track Health & Community Service
PO Box 130, Ouyen, Vic 3490
50921111 localcallaghan@mtths.vic.gov.au

Applications close at 5pm on Friday, November 21st, 2014.

**UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS**

**VCE SUMMER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY**

VCE Summer School is your students’ chance to get a head start on their studies for next year.

Held at the University, it is a full-time two week program including classes, seminars and one-on-one tutorials in all of their VCE subjects. For each subject students are given a detailed subject booklet outlining the requirements of the subject as well as practical study hints and examples. They will also be treated to a program of workshops, excursions in order to promote a healthy study-life balance.

Tutors are current University of Melbourne students who can give your students a fantastic insight into university life.

Bursaries are available to students experiencing financial difficulty.

Dates: 12–23 January 2015

More information:
www.umsu.unimelb.edu.au/jump-in/summerschool

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN AGRICULTURAL SCIENTIST?**

Want to learn more and meet like-minded people?

Pre-Ag Club membership gives you the opportunity to explore the agricultural sciences as a study option and the wide-range of career opportunities available in the industry plus much more. Open to students in Year 9 – 12.
www.Fvas.unimelb.edu.au/pre-ag-club

**THINKING OF CHANGING YOUR PREFERENCE**

Universities will be offering Course Information sessions, one-on-one appointments and Change of preference expos during December. Please check with the Universities you are intending on applying to for further details.

**UNIQUE STUDENT IDENTIFIER – USI** – bringing your skills together

If you’re studying nationally recognised training in Australia from 1 January 2015, you will be required to have a Unique Student Identifier (USI).

Your USI links to an online account that contains all your training records and results (transcript) that you have completed from 1 January 2015 onwards. Your results from 2015 will be available in your USI account in 2016.

When applying for a job or enrolling in further study, you will often need to provide your training records and results (transcript). One of the main benefits of the USI is the ability to provide students with easy access to their training records and results (transcript) throughout their life.

You can access your USI account online from your computer, tablet or smart phone anytime.


Sue Sly
Careers Coordinator

**PARENTS ASSOCIATION:**

Meeting: We probably should have scheduled the meeting for 5:30 at the bus stop and all the parents waiting for the camp returnees could have joined in. Unfortunately, our second effort at a November meeting failed. Unless a suggestion is made for an alternative we will forgo November and aim for December 8th as per the Community Calendar. Business: some school funding requests, end of year things to decide, and some issues/programs to report back on e.g. Protective Behaviours/ Stranger Danger; plans for 2015. We welcome any parents to come along and learn more about the school and what your children may be doing. It will be a dinner meeting.

Best wishes - to Yr 10 and 11 students as they begin intense revision for exams.

To all participating in upcoming cricket events
To all heading off to the Energy Breakthrough event next week for Push Carts – Yr 5 and Human Powered Vehicle – Yr 10 next week.

**Congratulations** – To all who completed VCE exams this week.

- To all who represented our school at cricket this week

Catering: Details for catering for Nancye Munro’s 90th birthday at Blackburn Park on December 6th will be out soon – will need sandwiches, cake, slice and savoury platters. It will be open to all Year levels. Anyone wishing to be the contact person, please contact Raelene Vine 0407849174.

**Parents Victoria** – Check out the PV website for all sorts of information and updates. It has information from the DEECD about EMA, Schoolkids Bonus, Bully Stoppers and more, plus the recent on-line conference and issues receiving attention.

www.parents.vic.edu.au

Andrew Fuller: Helping Your Child Succeed at School – Improving Concentration – *The Spies* - continued

Teaching listening skills takes time and persistence (not to mention incredible patience). One way to find an activity where you can give instructions (bedtime, washing up, cleaning your room, watering plants etc). Usually an activity at a time in the day where you don’t have the pressure of needing to be somewhere by a set time is better. Allow yourself enough time and don’t get interrupted.

Switch the phone off. Get your child’s attention. Gain and maintain eye contact. Calmly ask them to do the task. Use brief sentences. As a guide, no sentence should have more words than their age in years plus one. Make sure they know what to do.

Don’t let them get off task. Calmly point out the consequences if they don’t do the task (reasonable ones). Persist until the task is completed. Make a plan to help your child build this into a habit. Remember, new habits take time to learn. Positive feedback is a fine reward.

Justine Cresp Raelene Vine
President Secretary