Welcome to 2014
Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2014. As we have approximately 550 new enrolments many parents may not be aware that this Newsletter is published and distributed by mail at least twice per term. We mail all newsletters to ensure parents receive them. Please inform the office if your address changes.

This year will also be an exciting year for the following reasons:

- We will begin classes in the newly completed Mildura Region Trades Training Centre. This will give students from our school and across the district access to, 'state of the art' trades training facility as part of their school program.

- We will be embarking upon unprecedented levels of staff and leadership development to ensure students have access to high quality teaching & learning.

- We will, for the first time, be supporting a ‘Bring your own device’ (BYOD) program so that students and families will have a level of choice when it comes to electronic devices to assist student learning. This will be supplemented by an extensive level of ICT resourcing throughout the College.

- All areas of student support will have an increase in resourcing ensure students are monitored and supported along their learning journey and given every opportunity to succeed.

Staffing for 2014
The following is a list of staff with key positions of responsibility in the college. Parents may find this list useful in contacting the college:

PrINCIPal
Andrew Ough

AssISTANT PRINCIPALS
Mark Tracy
Belinda Hudak

BuSINESS MANAGER
Yvonne Parker

Transition & Pathways Coordinator
Sharyn Byrne (Acting)

Student Wellbeing Coordinator
Marg Wilson

Curriculum & Learning Coordinator
Deanne Marr

Student Coordinators
Barb Kelly
Joanna Panagiotaros
Ineke Rogers
Jim Blue
Reg Byrne

Coordinator of Learning Technologies
Graeme Smyth

VCAL Coordinator
Larisha Rowney

VET/School to Work Coordinator
Linda Snoxall

Careers & Tertiary Advisor
Lavina Hamilton

Student Activities Coordinator
Tania Edgar

Additions to our staff in 2014 at this stage include:

Nicole Hynes Biology/VCAL
David Priest Math/VCAL Numeracy
Nicola Chant English/VCAL Literacy
John Eckert Art
Sara Gleeson Math/VCAL Numeracy
Rhian Birnie Photography
Kelly Morrison VCAL Work Related/Personal Development
Matthew Hayward Legal Studies/Business Management
Bianca Deckert Instrumental Music Teacher - Vocal
Hannah Bosley Office Administration Trainee
Matthew Norman IT Trainee
Amanda Morrison Mildura English Language Centre – Generalist Teacher

Start of the School Year
It is very important that students get off to a smooth start to the year. Research confirms that students who feel connected and at ease with their environment will have a better opportunity for success. Teachers have been asked to place particular emphasis on establishing strong working relationships within classrooms early in the year. This is one of the reasons we have made the decision to start the Year 11 students one day earlier than our Year 12s.

A number of important events such as our Student Council Leadership Camp and our Commencement of the Academic Year Ceremony are soon to occur. All these events establish our expectations for the year with students and build positive relationships. (See the Calendar for specific dates).

Student Leaders for 2014
We would like to congratulate our nominated and elected student leaders for 2014. We place a great emphasis on student leadership within the college, and with what I have witnessed so far we have an outstanding group of young adults this year to provide that leadership.

College Captains for 2014
Joel Knight and Adele McGaffin

Deputy Captains for 2014
Tyler Trevaskis and Gemma Lehmann
**College Council Elections**

Please find attached to this Newsletter, details of the election of Parent Representatives for the next two school years.

**Student Injury Personal Accident Protection**

Parents should be aware that the College does not have insurance cover for students. Parents requiring information about student insurance regarding accidents or personal items brought to school are advised to contact an insurance retailer.

I look forward to working with you towards a successful 2014. Please don’t hesitate to contact me at the College if I can assist in any way.

Andrew Ough  
Principal

**Welcome**

I would like to welcome all new students to our school, and I wish everyone all the best with their studies. To those students who are returning, build on your progress from last year and make the most of the opportunities that the college provides. Time passes very quickly at this school and students must ensure that they are up to date at all times. We have very high expectations of our students and these will be outlined in coming newsletters and at assemblies.

**2014 Daily Start and Finish Times**

With our new timetable, there have been some changes to our daily times. Please note these start and finish times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Classes Start</th>
<th>Classes Finish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>3.10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>3.10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10.55am</td>
<td>3.25pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>3.25pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>3.10pm</td>
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**Tips for Success:** Students can ensure a smooth start to the year by following these tips:

- Enter all due dates on a calendar
- Arrive punctually to class with the correct materials
- Settle into a routine of homework, revision and study as soon as possible
- Keep up to date with all classwork
- Hand work in on time
- Ask for help
- Attend PST on February 24.

Mark Tracy  
Assistant Principal

**Student Pathways, Transition and Well-Being**

A warm welcome to all students and parents, in particular the more than 500 students and their families who are new to our learning community.

As a quick reference guide, parents and students are reminded that the following points will ensure a smooth start for students in 2014:

- The college expects that students will attend all classes, including Pathways. Rolls are marked each lesson and parents will receive an SMS notifying them of an unexplained absence. Included in this mail out is a fridge magnet which explains what you do when your child is away.
- Students must bring correct materials to all classes – this includes appropriate footwear for practical classes
- Students should not access their lockers between classes – this is disruptive and wastes time
- The college has very high expectations of student behaviour – first impressions count!
- Mobile phones are permitted at the college, but as a courtesy, these must be turned off and be out of sight during class time
- Access to local shops during the school is permitted at lunch and recess only, student are not permitted to stay at the shop after their purchases
- Smoking is not permitted on college grounds or in the vicinity of the college
- Parents - if you have not already done so, please supply the college with a current email address and mobile phone number, always keep this updated.

**BYOD**

Students who bring their own ICT device and did not set up in the week before school started will have the opportunity to do so during a scheduled rollout in the first week and a half. Students can see the help desk for support and set up.

Parents are required to sign BYOD agreements prior to devices being set up.

Students can print a new Timetable from the College Intranet from any computer at any time.

**Student Support**

The Student Services Centre is a great place for students to get help and assistance, Student Coordinators, Pathways and Transition Coordinator and the Attendance Officer can all be found there.

We will continue our partnership with Tristar Medical Group this year and appointments can be made through the Wellbeing Team for the GP and Mental Health Nurse. They will be here on Tuesdays.

**Hope you all have a great start to the year.**

Belinda Hudak  
Assistant Principal

**Key Dates**

- **Feb 10** College Council Meeting
- **Feb 11** School Photo  
  Subject Change Evening – 3:15 – 5pm
- **Feb 13** Commencement Ceremony - 7pm
- **Feb 17** Information Night for new MSC Parents – 6-7pm
- **Feb 18** SRC Camp departs
- **Feb 19** SRC Camp returns
- **Feb 24** Parent/Student/Teacher (PST) Conferences  
  5pm-8pm and SPS 1 (Progress Report) collection
- **Mar 10** Labour Day Holiday
- **Mar 14** SRC Shave For a Cure
- **Apr 4** End of Term One - 2.30pm dismissal
- **Apr 22** Term Two commences - 9am start (Tuesday)