Great Start to Year
One term down already! Term one is extremely busy as our new students familiarise themselves with the Senior College environment and our students moving from Year 11 to 12 dealing with heightened expectations. We value a calm, orderly focussed environment for our students so they can set about the task of achieving their goals and making the most of the last two years of schooling. Students this year have quickly shown they are capable of demonstrating the required behaviours on a consistent basis. Overwhelmingly the student body has made a fantastic start to the year.

Our School Values
Often at student assemblies I talk about the ‘values’ we focus on at Mildura Senior College and how they relate to students successfully completing their schooling.

The values are: Independence, Responsibility, Resilience, Respect, Success. The following is a summary of the message given;

1. Always stay informed and get the right information from the right people. If you don’t know… ask! Develop independence.
2. We have an environment that is different to most schools. You are granted freedoms and privileges that come with added responsibility.
3. Things will go wrong and during the year there are sure to be setbacks – use the support services around you and bounce back from these setbacks – you will need resilience.
4. Develop a strong and respectful relationship with your peers and teachers in all of your classes. These are the people you will rely on to help you through.
5. Have a goal in mind. To be motivated you need to know why you are doing something in the first place – only then will you achieve your success.

As mentioned earlier, the majority of our students made a fantastic start to 2014. We are confident that if students continue to develop our five values, with our support, they will give themselves every opportunity to achieve successful outcomes at Mildura Senior College.

Student Pathways program 2014
It is very important for students to continually reflect on their personal goals as they consider all pathways options open to them when they complete their schooling. Each student is allocated a Pathways class and teacher who have a primary responsibility for supporting their students in their transition into school, developing pathways plans and their successful transition beyond school. We hope that students make the most of these Pathways sessions and build a positive working relationship with their Pathways teachers.

Term 2 Focus
Term 2 is now in full swing and students and staff alike are very busy. Not only has the work kept coming but many, many students are taking the opportunity to get involved in the wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer. We recognise we have a significant role to assist students to manage and prioritise to ensure the main reason we are here – learning, remains the focus. Keeping up to date and good time management is the key to a successful term 2 for students.

Andrew Ough
Principal

KEY DATES

May 12-14 Tertiary Trips to Adelaide and Melbourne
May 13 PUPIL FREE DAY
May 19 Parent/Student/Teacher (PST) Meetings 6pm to 8pm – book appointments via the Parent Portal (bookings open May 12)
May 26 College Council
May 28 SATI (South Australian Tertiary Information) session for parents and students (evening)
Jun 6, 10, 12 Year 11 Exams
Jun 9 Queens Birthday Public Holiday
Jun 11 GAT (for all students studying a Year 12 subject)
Jun 13 PUPIL FREE DAY
Jun 23 College Council
Jun 27 Term 2 ends at 2.30pm; Semester Reports posted home

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Assistant Principal’s Report

Student Services Centre
Students are reminded that the Student Services Centre is where they will find the Student Coordinators, Attendance Officer and Transition & Pathways Coordinator. If students have questions about their program or completing their Certificate, attendance queries or just need general help they should go to the Student Services Centre for advice.

Student Coordinators
We have 5 student Coordinators, and families will have received letters introducing them. To speak with a Coordinator, please call the College.

Special Provision
Students with medical conditions, disabilities and exceptional personal circumstances are reminded that they can apply for Special Provision and/or Special Exam Arrangements. Students must see Sharyn Byrne (Acting Transition and Pathways Coordinator) for further information as soon as possible.

Tristar Medical Services on Site
The College now has a Doctor (General Practitioner) as well as a Mental Health Nurse on site each Tuesday. Students who would like to make appointments should see the Wellbeing Team. Parents can also make appointments for their students by contacting the front office. Hours are 9am – 3:30pm.

Parent Portal on the College Website:
The Parental Portal is active on our College Website and parents are reminded they can access the following information;

- Student Timetable
- Attendance Data
- Student Calendar
- Parent Messages
- Ability to book for Parent/Teacher Interview evenings (3-Way Conferences)

Koori Girls Academy
We have established a Pathways class for our Koori Girls Academy this year, with 20 girls from Year 11 and 12 in the class. We were very excited about the program logo launch, where the girls were also presented with Academy shirts. The program Mentor and College Koori Educational Support Officer Fiona Moncur, is already focusing on transition for students coming into the Academy for 2015 from our partnership schools.

Belinda Hudak
Assistant Principal

Student Learning:
We are now well into Semester 1 and Year 12 students are more than a third of the way through their academic year. Students should have developed a routine for completing school work and should be following the guidelines for what work to complete out of class that were mailed out with SPS 1 – a copy of this is available on our website. Parents are reminded that for senior schooling, our focus is more on the variety of work completed out of class, not just “homework”. Given the rigour and short semesters associated with senior schooling, students need to complete regular revision, study and homework in all subjects to prepare for Assessment Tasks, School Assessed Coursework Tasks (SACs) and Exams, as well as just “keeping up” with the work. We have a great deal of data that shows if students only attend classes and do no work out of class to support or enhance their learning they will not improve or achieve their potential.

We are devoting significant time to improving the access students have to on-line resources through Moodle and other portals. In some faculty areas, class activities such as practical exercises (e.g. Science) are being recorded and students can view these at any time. It is important that students are accessing Moodle regularly as a great deal of support and extension material has been provided to improve learning.

Staff Professional Development:
Staff will use our next Pupil Free Day (May 13) to undertake Professional Development, about a whole school focus on student well-being. Our aim is to ensure that all staff are skilled in key areas to ensure they can support all students across a range of needs.

Student Progress Statement (SPS) 2 and Parent/Student Teacher (PST) Conference:
Please note that our next SPS will be posted home to parents on Friday May 2nd. Our next PST is Monday May 19th from 6pm to 8pm – appointments are necessary for this PST and can be made via the parent portal. Information about how to book appointments and when the system will be open will be sent out with SPS 2. Please note this SPS will have more of an “academic” focus and will show in what subjects students are progressing well, along with those subjects where students need to improve. It is worth noting that after the next PST, students will only have 3 or 4 weeks of classes until the semester ends.

College Environment:
We are currently planning for several projects around the school. One is the rejuvenation of the area between the S Wing and C Wing. The other is the removal of equipment from the old Technology area and the refurbishment of these classrooms as a teaching space for another faculty.

We expect that students will continue to care for their environment which includes putting all rubbish in the bins provided.

School Photos:
Photos were distributed to students several weeks ago. All enquiries should now be directed to the photographers.

Key Dates:
The College website now has a “Key Dates” link on the top toolbar, and this shows all the current key dates for the remainder of the year. Our aim is to update this on a regular basis. Please check this first before calling the School.

College Rules:
In each newsletter, we will provide reminders about key College rules. For this month – Students leaving the grounds during the day:

- Students must have a valid reason for leaving the grounds during the school day
- Students are not permitted to leave the grounds to meet “friends” in the vicinity of the College
- Students have the privilege of leaving the grounds at recess or lunch to access local shops or to go home for lunch
Students are not permitted to access local shops during class time – this includes students who have study sessions.

When accessing shops or going home for lunch, students must return immediately to school – do not loiter at or in the shops or in local streets (includes 14th St, Havilah Crescent, Church grounds and Eulinga Drive).

Students who leave the grounds and will miss class need to sign out/in at the Student Services Centre (e.g. Doctor's Appointment).

At all times, students who leave the grounds during the school day must act responsibly as they are in the public eye.

**Student Pathways Online**

To assist with the management of Student Pathways and Transition, the College will be using this program to track student pathways in areas such as career counselling and career planning. As this is an online service, we will disclose the student's name, parents name and teacher's name to the service provider. The information will be provided to the service provider in an encrypted and secure manner, and will only be used as part of the service being used. If you have any queries about this matter please feel free to contact the College Principal.

Mark Tracy
Assistant Principal

**Careers Centre**

I conduct career interviews throughout terms 1, 2 and 3 with year 12 students from the seventeen Managed Individual Pathways groups (now called PATHWAYS). I book in students a pathway group at a time although any student can come in and make their own appointments to see me to discuss tertiary education possibilities. If your son or daughter would like to see me, they can come to the careers centre and make an appointment, or email me at: hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au

It is really important that students REGULARLY access and read the school bulletin on the school intranet, to ensure that they don't miss out on sessions that may help them decide on their future pathways.

Career Notices and Career News items are posted on the Career noticeboard in the foyer of the library and on noticeboards in the Student Centre. So try to take advantage of career opportunities available to you by regularly reading these notices.

**Tertiary Applications**

An important focus of the Pathways program in term three will be tertiary applications. All Year 12 students who are considering applying for university and Tafe courses will receive time and assistance in their Pathways classes with this process, including online applications (completed in August/Sept.). Pathway teachers and the five Student Coordinators and I will be available during this time to help students with their applications.

**Year 12 Applying For Uni Information Evening**

for first-time year 12 parents (accompanied by their son/daughter)

Will be held on:

**Victorian Tertiary University Expo For Parents Of Year 12 Students**

On Monday, 28th July there is a parent information 'supermarket session' (not an information session) run by 20 Victorian & the three SA institutions in the Mildura Senior College Gym from 6.30 – 7.30 pm. Parents will be able to visit and ask questions and collect course guides from the 20 Victorian Universities, Tafe and Private Colleges. They can also get questions they may have, answered by a University representative.

**Year 12 Student Victorian Tertiary Information Session**

Tuesday, 29th of July. Year 12 students applying for Victorian courses will be required to attend an information in the school gym which will run from 9.10 am – 10.35 am. Students will find out how to make a Victorian course application, Uni and Tafe information, hear about university life and things like scholarships and accommodation options.

**Umat (Undergraduate Medicine And Health Sciences Admission Test)**

Registrations now open for UMAT Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test at: http://umat.acer.edu.au Closes Friday, 6 June at 5.00 pm.
A reminder that students undertaking the UMAT test will sit this test on Wednesday the 30th of July in the Mildura Senior College Hall. Students will receive their UMAT number 2 weeks prior to the test – they will need to print their Admissions Ticket after receiving the email to sit the test and take along suitable identification such as passport, driver's license or photo bearing learner's permit or a certified letter of identification from the school or workplace.

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Accommodation Application

AQUINAS COLLEGE in Adelaide - IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

Aquinas College is running two Open Days in the school holidays for prospective 2015 students. On Saturday, 12 April or Sunday, 13 April

You are invited to meet with Br John Furlong, Head of Aquinas College and tour the College with current students.

For applications and/or enquiries: contact Ms Judith Kirby, College Secretary, 08 83345001 or mobile 0412345635

Scholarship Opportunities

www.chancesforchildren.com.au provides an excellent resource to look for scholarships. Over 10,000 scholarships have been categorised to assist students to find funds that they can apply for to help them move away from the local area to study. Check to which university the scholarship is tagged to.

Chances for Children Tertiary Education Funding

Applications can be made for tertiary studies (or for the cost of studying in Year 11 and 12). Each tertiary recipient is assessed on their individual circumstances, and Chances aims to 'make up the difference' in their gap of income versus expenditure on the student’s budget.

Each application is assessed on its individual merits. There are no set criteria to determine the amount of funding awarded; each is decided on a case by case basis considering the specific needs of each applicant in respect of their financial and social circumstances.

Chances aims to support tertiary recipients for a minimum of two years, after which time it is expected that they will have settled into university life and be able to financially support themselves. That being said, in exceptional circumstances, assistance may be extended to ensure the student continues to achieve in their course.

Round one has opened in March and applications for Funding Round 1 2014 will close on Friday, 9th May. Application forms can be collected from the Careers Centre.

Don’t forget that students and/or parents can make appointments to see me for careers and tertiary advice at any stage between the hours of 8.30 am and 4.30 pm. They can email me at: hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au and make an appointment, or by phoning the school on 5021 2911 and ask to be put through to Lavina Hamilton.

If you want School to Work information ask to speak to Linda Snoxall in the Careers Centre.

Lavina Hamilton
Careers Advisor

Trips and Excursions

Textiles/Fashion Trip to Melbourne 2014

It was a full coach that left MSC promptly at 6.30am for Melbourne on Thursday 20th March. We had combined forces with the Religion class to share travel costs so it was an eclectic group, although some may say that Fashion is a form of religion!

It was a quick trip to our accommodation at Urban Central hostels with only two stops as the Religion group had a 3pm appointment. The Fashion people had a more leisurely recovery time and freshened up before visiting Tessuti’s Fabrics – another high-end fabric store specialising in natural fibres and imported laces. After a slight delay due to navigational issues we boarded the tram for a sightseeing journey out to Highpoint Shopping Centre. The girls were let loose amongst the international chains such as Topshop and Zara and managed to fit in time for a meal as well. We met the Religion group at the tram for the journey back to the Accommodation.

Not too many people were able to get organised for the 7.15am breakfast, however all were ready to head out for a full day of activities at the appropriate time. It was with some trepidation that we set off to view the VAMFF Windows by Design exhibition throughout the streets of Melbourne city as last year the exhibition was very disappointing. This year things had improved and we were able to identify the windows that had been decorated. While out exploring the streets we visited Tessuti’s Fabrics – another high-end fabric store that specialises in international designer fabrics. We then stopped in Bourke St Mall for an early lunch before boarding a tram to take us to the RMIT Brunswick campus. It was a very interesting tour of their facilities and opened the student’s eyes to the many possibilities of a career in the fashion industry. We were shown the merchandising, footwear, textile design, printing, and of course fashion design departments. For variety we caught the train back into the city where we visited the ‘Textiles of Michael O’Connell’ exhibition which was not very impressive. Thankfully there was a young designer mini-exhibition in the studio of the Ian Potter NGV in Federation Square which was much more interesting. We then crossed the Yarra to meet the bus and the Religion group to go to Chadstone Shopping Centre. It was a pleasant time spent exploring the miles of shops and boutiques before boarding the bus back to our accommodation where most were quite exhausted from a very long day.

Our last day began with a more relaxed start and everyone was packed and ready to load the coach at 9.30am. We then left by tram for the Melbourne Museum to view the Top Designs exhibition – a collection of the best student work from 2013. There were many impressive works and the folios gave students an insight into the level of effort required. Onto another tram and we were off...
to Docklands where we lunched before the Graduate Showcase rehearsal catwalk. Most availed themselves to the L’Oreal tent and the goodie bag that came with it before we went in to the catwalk show. This provided a great insight into the workings of the fashion industry as they ran 30 minutes late and we saw the run-through of the models poses. The garments on display were from the top graduates of fashion courses all around Australia and were very spectacular. It was a lovely bonus to receive another goodie bag of L’Oreal products when we left. Our very obliging bus driver then loaded us on the coach bound for home where we arrived at 10.30pm, exhausted after a very busy but rewarding time.

Melissa Davies
Textiles/Fashion

Sports Reports

Student/Sporting Achievements

Nick Sleep participated in the State Little Aths Championships in Adelaide on the 22nd March. He returned home with a Bronze in Javelin, Gold in Discus and Gold in Shotput, breaking the State best by 11cm. An amazing effort, well done Nick.

Taylor Hand attended the Australian Junior Athletics Championships in Sydney between 12-16 March, coming 3rd in her heat for 400 metre hurdles. In the final she came 6th and took 3.25 seconds off her personal best and made an Australian Open qualifying time.

Taylor also did extremely well in her relays and hurdles.

Taylor then also participated in Adelaide at the State Little Aths. She returned with Gold in 100 metre (State record and personal best), 200 metre, 400 metre (personal best).

Hurdles in the 200 metre she received a gold, and a silver for the 90 metre hurdles.

Taylor was awarded the Female Athlete of that Meet. Congratulations Taylor on all your wins and efforts.

Emily Tremelling had her first horse race in Broken Hill on Saturday 15th March, and she has now been issued her Official License to race, congratulations Emily.

Aleara Smith won the 2013 SMGT SBAT Award on the 22nd March. She was completing a Cert III in Business with Lower Murray Water. Congratulations Aleara.

Girls Cricket

The Mildura Senior College girls cricket team, travelled to Bendigo on the 11th of March and again on the 30th of March, playing and winning a total of three games, sending them off to the State Finals (the final four) in October.

In the first game, MSC (7/111) beat Bendigo (7 /51), putting the girls through to the next round where they were to play Maryborough. Highlights were Emily Job (36), Kate Leerssen (20) and Bec Nicolson - Leask recovered from her golden duck to get the figures of 2/6 off four overs. In the second game we went in as underdogs playing a team with two state players. However, they were no match for our state girl (Makinley Blows) scoring 103* guiding our team to a total of 174 and all of our bowlers backing this up to dismiss Maryborough for 110.

Next round was the state quarter finals where we played Whittlesea. After another long 5 and a half hour trip to arrive at a cow paddock we were ready to perform. Makinley led the way yet again with a score of 109* (Emily Job 32). Whittlesea only managing 70 runs with another all round bowling performance (best Kate Leerssen 2/5 off 3 and Emily Job 2/7 off 3).

The team consisting of Montana Andriske, Allegra Bottrell-Thorburn, Makinley Blows, Mikaya Delcastegne, Madison Hellwege, Emily Job, Meagan Johnston, Emma Leersen, Kate Leerssen, Bec Nicolson-Leask, Sydney Reid and Courtney Weightman are a great bunch of girls who are highly excited about the semi (and hopefully grand final) in October.

Deanne Marr
Coach

Boys Cricket

What a game! Redcliffs fielded a strong team with several first-grade players. Our boys knew they had a game on their hands. We won the toss and sent them in to bat. After 20 overs, Redcliffs stood at 7/112- a decent score that required our boys to maintain a run rate of just below 6 an over to win.

Our batsmen didn’t start well. With the score at 7/48 all hope seemed lost. But then Mitch Rogerson decided to take on the whole town of Redcliffs on single-handedly. Along with Ben Brimsmead, the pair of them put on a 7th wicket partnership of 51, with Mitch personally knocking 34. Against a fiery bowling lineup this was a no mean feat. Even better, the pair managed to niggle the bowlers and cause them to give away a heap of no-balls, meaning that we edged even closer to the magical 100 runs whereupon hope might be regained.

Liam Pain, batting at no.9, did the rest. With 6 balls remaining we needed 4 to tie and 5 to win. We made these runs after 3 balls, with 9 coming off the last 3 balls of the day.

It was a remarkable game, and most exciting. This group of boys displayed courage, determination and leadership. All in all, they are simply a wonderful bunch of young men that I will be more than happy to take to face Bendigo.

Score: Redcliffs 7/112 (20 overs) def byMSC 9/122 (20 overs).

Best Players: M Rogerson (2/20 off 4 overs and 34 runs); L. Pain (15 run no); N. Callipari (3/13 off 3 overs); L. Pongraz (for great wicket keeping after being in retirement for several years).

Kevin Maunder
Coach

Mildura Senior College Newsletter
SRC Report
On the 14th of March the SRC held Shave for a Cure, an almost decade long tradition within Mildura Senior College. The day was again, a huge success! Raising close to $1000 for the Leukaemia Foundation and the SRC would like to personally thank Paul Newland, Dean Spence and Caitlin Zbierski for having the courage to shave their heads for the event and help a good cause. Sausages, veggie burgers, popcorn, chocolate and soft drinks where all available to aid the event and this helped to create a great atmosphere and profits where further donated to the Leukaemia foundation. We would also like to thank Collin Cole for organising a microphone and speakers allowing Shene Stephens to M.C the event and make the day a huge success.

Tania Edgar
SRC Coordinator

College Notices

School Nurse
Parentline provides parents and carers the opportunity to talk with professional counsellors about any parenting issues or concerns you may have regarding your child from birth to eighteen.

The service operates 7 days a week, 8 am through to midnight. I recently spoke with one of the counsellors at Parentline who said 'it's normal for parents and teenagers to have an average of four ‘blow-ups’ a week. It is common for Teenager’s to over indulge on things they enjoy until they reach a point where it is no longer good for them” i.e online habits. So it is vital parents not only talk to their teen about safety, and their sleep routine but parents should not be afraid to do the job of setting rules in the home. There are various strategies to manage setting rules for your teenager and the family. Contact Parentline or our Wellbeing team to discuss these further.

Parent Quote: “I was impressed that Parentline took my issues seriously. Sometimes I feel as if I am banging my head against a brick wall.”

Roz Devilee
College Nurse
Congratulations to our winning cricket teams!
May

24  Pupil FREE DAY

26  Parent/Student/Teacher (PST) Conferences 5pm-8pm and SPS 1 (Progress Report) collection

31  Term 2 ends at 2.30pm; Semester Reports posted home

June

6, 10, 12  Year 11 Exams

9  Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday

13  Pupil FREE DAY

19  Parent/Student/Teacher (PST) Meetings 6pm to 8pm – book appointments via the Parent Portal (bookings open May 12)

23  College Council

26  SATI (South Australian Tertiary Information) session for parents and students (evening)

28  College Council

11  Pupil FREE DAY

27  GAT (for all students studying a Year 12 subject)

29  SATI (South Australian Tertiary Information) session for parents and students (evening)