

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Open Day

On Sunday 2nd of August we held another very successful Open Day. We again had significant interest from those who visited our College and we had a very positive response to our range of programs and expertise in delivering senior school education. We are confident that this day kicks off a successful transition program for prospective students in 2016. A big thank you to the entire College community, (including staff, students, College Councillors) for your support and contribution to the day.

Debutante Balls

By the time you read this the Debutante Balls will be underway. The Deb balls are a culmination of an extraordinary amount of work by a small but committed team who organise the events and conduct the dance training. A huge amount of thanks goes to these people as well as all of the other staff and community members who have contributed time and support to these events. Any funds raised from the Deb Balls contribute to our extensive student wellbeing program and in particular our College Chaplaincy program.

College Website

Recently our highly skilled ICT team re-developed our College website. If you haven't visited or used our College website recently I urge you to take a look. It is now more user friendly than ever and provides a great link to our other platforms such as Compass which allows Parents and Carers (through the Parent Portal) to access important information such as attendance data for their child as well as Student Learning Profiles and reports generated by teachers on student progress. To access go to; www.milsen.vic.edu.au

Andrew Ough
Principal

KEY DATES

- Aug 17** PST 4 Meetings
 5.30pm to 7.30pm
 Appointments Essential
- Aug 24** College Council
- Sept 18** Term 3 ends at 2.30pm



Assistant Principal 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 student's Coordinator, please phone the College.



Reg Byrne



Joanna Panagiotaros



Jim Blue



Ineke Rogers



Barb Kelly

Tri-Star Medical Services on Site

We have a Doctor (General Practitioner) that comes to the College the last week of each month, 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.

Student Safety

Students who drive to school are reminded they should register their cars at the front office by filling out a Student Driver Form. Student drivers are also reminded that transporting other students in their vehicles is not permitted.

Parent Portal on the College Website

The Parent 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)

Belinda Hudak
Assistant Principal

Student Achievement

Jacob Phillips

VET Engineering student, Jacob Phillips attended the SPARK Engineering Camp at Melbourne University during the July holidays.

Spark is a week long university experience camp specifically for about 50 students who face barriers to realizing their potential (eg Rurality). The students undertake a weeks worth of personal development, engineering and social activities. By providing insight into engineering, belief in their potential and first hand access to current University students during the week, Spark hopes to bridge the gap between school and further education.

Jacob thoroughly enjoyed the experience including touring the different University campuses and viewing their engineering facilities as well as the hands on building challenges in a team environment.

This was a great opportunity taken up by Jacob, and has already been keenly viewed by an employer at a recent engineering job interview. Well done Jacob.

Video footage of the camp can be seen at https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9_cq9DOsASsT2VnMkk4MIZwZHc/view?usp=sharing

Tom Allford

Well it's been a tough couple of months for Tom as he prepared for Road Nationals in Queensland. Whilst the results from Nationals did not live up to his expectations, his training peaked with an average of around 700km per week over the last few months, including gym sessions and his focus with school work as well.

His results at State Level were much better with a Silver Medal in the U19 State Time Trial at Langhorne Creek, and a Bronze medal in the State Road Race held in Clare Valley.

He suffered a puncture at Mount Gambier in the 160km Road Race at the 130km mark and had to withdraw.

Last week Tom competed in our local comp. which was the Mildura-Coomealla Cycling Club Championship's. Tom won this event and now has the pleasure of wearing the NO1. while racing locally. He is the first to hold both Junior and Senior title for this event. That is a fantastic effort Tom.

Molly Jenkins

Flautist Molly Jenkins was awarded the Arts Mildura Double Reed/Woodwind Scholarship, having been selected to perform in this years Eisteddfod Gala Concert after winning her sections at this years Eisteddfod event. Well done Molly.

If you are achieving fantastic things in your sporting or community involvement, please make sure you let us know about it. We would love to include details of the event and your achievement in our newsletter and celebrate your success. Please contact your student coordinator or an Assistant Principal with details of your achievement.

General Information

Important information from VCE Coordinator

Year 12 Subject Selections for 2016

Current year 11 students will be selecting subjects for 2016 over the coming weeks. Subject selection forms will be collected during Pathways on Tuesday 1st September and should be signed by a parent or guardian. A list of all available subjects can be found online in the College handbook.

Year 12 VCE Exam timetable

The 2015 VCE examination timetable is now available on the VCAA website at <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/exams/timetable.aspx>

Students will not receive individual exam timetables until after they are released in the week beginning 7th September, however, can be referred to this site to access the times and dates of their end of year exams.

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 Tracy Marr (Transition and Pathways Coordinator) for further information as soon as possible.

VCE Dinner

Just a reminder to parents/carers, students who are wanting to attend the VCE dinner which will be held on Friday 20th November, must have paid their Enrolment Pack by this date.

Parent Notification

Asbestos Labelling

As part of the Department of Education and early childhood Development's Health and Safety Management Plan, new labelling will be installed at our school.

The Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007 (OHS Regulations) include specific duties in relation to identifying the presence of asbestos in workplaces and indicating its location.

Once identified, the presence and location of asbestos must be recorded in the asbestos register and clearly indicated. Labelling must be used to indicate the presence of fixed or installed asbestos containing materials.

The labels remind people to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up-to-date information from the school's asbestos register.

Asbestos - which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned - is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition.

The new labels form part of a comprehensive program to ensure Victorian government schools remain safe.

Children's safety is our number one priority. That is why we are taking this extra step as a precaution.

Careers Centre



Year 12 Tertiary Applications

Year 12 students who are planning to apply for University or TAFE next year have received their VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admission Guides 2016) and the VTAC ABC of Applying – Getting it right

2016 – a guide to how to find courses and make applications. On Tuesday, 4th August, students will be issued with SATAC - South Australian Tertiary Admission Guides 2016 (blue book).

Once guides have been handed out students will be able to choose course preferences and fill in the VTAC/SATAC Preference practice sheets which are to be found in the Pathways booklets for term three.

Tertiary applications will be done during Pathway classes here at the college in August/September, or they can be completed at home, once 'Step-by-step' sheets to applying will be handed out to Pathway classes.(August 11th.)

VTAC Preferences

Year 12 students should make sure they have done their preference practice prior to this, so they know the codes of the courses they want to apply for. A VTAC and SATAC Preliminary Preference Session will be held in Pathway classes in early August.

Students can log on and register their details at www.vtac.edu.au on August 3rd. Once students have registered and have their VTAC ID generated for them, and have created a four digit PIN, they can login to their VTAC User Account section of the VTAC website and apply for courses in their Pathway session at the school (or you can do this at home.) They can use a credit card to pay their \$29.00 or buy a Post office debit card and deposit \$33.00 into the account (to cover any charges).

The final date for timely applications is September 30th (5.00 pm). After that time, students will have to pay a late fee to submit their applications. This date applies to course applications all over Australia. Each student should have a VTAC booklet called 'The ABC of Applying' - Getting it right' 2016. This booklet has been created to assist parents and you should ask your son/daughter to bring it home. All the dates for Victorian application process can be found on the inside cover.

It also contains information on how to get your ATAR results by SMS and university Open Days.

VTAC SEAS – Special Entry Access Scheme applications – applications due in 6th October.

All students applying for courses in Victoria through VTAC should also submit a 'Special Entry Access Scheme' application. Special entry includes equity areas such as rurality, low income, non-English speaking background, disability and impairment, a medical condition, as well as severe emotional issues that may have prevented a student from adequately preparing for tertiary study. This may mean that a student who does not make the 'clearly in' cut off point with their ATAR score may still be considered for a course based on equity issues. All of our students are eligible for the rurality category (one), as well as special consideration. The VTAC guide 2016 has information about the Special Entry Access Scheme and Special Consideration category information on pp 41-54.

It is the students' responsibility to lodge their application, and send any documentary evidence to VTAC (such as Centrelink Family Assistance letter for SEAS Category 3 for financial disadvantage). Cover sheets to attach documents can be printed from the students' individual user account. Appointments can be made with Lavina Hamilton at the Careers Centre. She will

assist you with VTAC SEAS/SCHOLARSHIP applications. No late documents will be considered. Overnight Express Mail needs to be sent on the 3rd October, as we no longer have delivery the next day in Melbourne.

VTAC Scholarships – applications due in 16th October

If a student's family is on a low income, or the student is already receiving Youth Allowance OR Family Benefits (under their parents' Centrelink Access Number), they should also have filled in the Scholarship application form on the VTAC User Account section of the VTAC website. Every student should submit a VTAC scholarship application. If you are ineligible for Centrelink benefits, you must provide your Australian Tax Office-Notice of Financial Assessment for the 2014/2015 financial year for each contributing parent or partner, OR you can get your parents to supply three consecutive pay slips no older than three months old. A VTAC representative in Mildura this year stated, 'students should make an application and let VTAC decide whether they are eligible.' The VTAC Guide 2016 has VTAC scholarship information on pp 55-58. Other institutional Scholarships not through VTAC can be found on page 61-62 of the VTAC guide.

It is the students' responsibility to lodge their application, and send any documentary evidence to VTAC (accompanied by a VTAC scholarship cover sheet. No late documents will be considered.



Tafe Applications

Tafe applicants for 2016, please note students will need to collect a Sunitafe 2016 Course Guide from TAFE or the MSC Careers Centre. They will need to check out course requirements on the Sunitafe website and make a DIRECT APPLICATION to Sunitafe in January 2016. Tafe will run Information sessions during October. Students are required to attend to do literacy tests and informally enrol.

Students wishing to apply for Tafe course (called VET in the VTAC Course Guide 2016 – Certificates and Diploma courses at Tafe Colleges in Melbourne and all around the state, will need to do a VTAC course application by the end of September. The application will cost \$29.00. Tafe courses in South Australia are free to apply for, and are completed through the RED Tafe Icon at the SATAC website. www.satac.edu.au

Tafe Course Information Sessions

Tafe offer a range of information sessions as part of their selection process.

Students should be regularly checking the school COMPASS notices over Sept/Oct for news of dates.

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Students who are intending to apply for an apprenticeship or traineeship for next year should be making applications NOW. They should check job vacancies and register with local agencies (like Murray Mallee Group Training contact Sally Shelly on 5022 9420 or 0448 541 014 AND/OR MAS National (was AusNac) – Breece Stephens on 0427 503 805) as soon as possible. Each week job vacancies are placed on the school COMPASS notices, so students should be regularly checking. There certainly will be a rush on jobs and apprenticeships before Christmas and early in the New Year.

Scholarships

Other Scholarships Not Through VTAC

Mildura Senior College has placed a scholarship database on the student G: Drive in the Careers Folder and then Scholarship sub-folder. It is called 2015 Scholarship Update. The file contains a lot of different types of scholarships that are available.

The VTAC Guide 2016 has web addresses and email addresses of all Victorian Tertiary Institutions where you can find scholarships

to match your course of study. See pages 61-62 in the course guide.

You can also do a scholarship search by using the Hobsons course finder website At www.hobsoncoursefinder.com.au - select scholarships. Search by level of study keyword, state etc.

For individual institution scholarships the students need to go online to each university website or consult their undergraduate course guide for 2016. (See above) There are all kinds of institutional scholarships to assist rural students and to promote access. There are also faculty scholarships promoting various careers where there is a skill shortage. Eg. Engineering. So read the scholarships section of each institution that you are applying for, and give the institution a call if you need more information.



Chances For Children Tertiary Scholarships

Students who will need financial assistance to meet the cost of going away, can apply to Chances for Children to be assessed for a scholarship. In Sept/October a scholarship round will open. Go to www.chancesforchildren.com.au and print off an application form. Parents will need to fill in a FAMILY HOUSEHOLD BUDGET for the year's expenses. Contact Lavina Hamilton to get a copy of the budget page. The application requires a REFERRING PROFESSIONAL to fill in certain pages and to sign off on others. Marg Wilson Wellbeing Co-ordinator, and Lavina Hamilton Careers and Tertiary Advice Advisor, can be contacted to support the application process.



Centrelink Administered Scholarships

If you are planning to apply for Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY or Austudy, you need to lodge a claim as soon as you complete your Year 12 Exams. You can lodge claims 13 weeks before you start studying. It takes a minimum of 21 days to process claims. Payment of Youth Allowance in 2016 will usually be assessed on parent's income for the 2014/2015 financial year. There is an additional income test if your parents/guardians are self employed. All claims are started online. You can log on and register yourself at:

<http://my.gov.au>. You can link a Centrelink, Medicare or Child Support online account. Follow the instructions at my.gov.au to link your accounts to myGov.



Student Start-Up Scholarship – for all full-time students receiving student income support (Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY) who are starting a higher education course – you are entitled to \$2,050 paid in two half yearly instalments in 2015.

Relocation Scholarships – For rural students who are receiving Youth Allowance etc. and have to move away from home to attend higher education, \$4,269 in the first year and \$2,135 in the following two years, and \$1,067 for a following year.

ACCOMMODATION APPLICATIONS – should be completed August/September, after course applications are completed.

Please note that when you apply for entry into an institution

you should also make an application for accommodation at that institution if it is your top three preferences. An application fee is charged, which you may or may not get back. Accommodation booklets for some of the universities are available in the Careers Centre as well as information booklets for some of the accommodation colleges. Start checking websites now to see which institutions have opened up their accommodation forms. Eg. Once a university has their Open day you can do an accommodation application.

South Australian Residential Colleges such as Aquinas College, St Marks College, St Ann's College, Lincoln College are open now for applications. They are also open for viewing on the Open Days – Sunday 16th August for the University of Adelaide and UNISA. A free shuttle bus will take you to the colleges on the day. Flinders university has an open day on Saturday 15th August, where you can view their on site accommodation. Aquinas will be sending a representative to interview students at MSC this year. A date and time has not yet been communicated to the school.

Subject Selection For 2016

Year 11 students should have begun to think about their subjects for Year 12, particularly if they are thinking about changing direction, or have a more defined goal following Year 12.

Students should make the time to come and visit the Careers Centre to check out the VTAC and SATAC guides to see what subject pre-requisites are needed in order to enter that course. For example: Education courses in Victoria need English and Unit 1 and 2 Further Mathematics as pre-requisites to enter teaching. However, in South Australia there are no pre-requisite subjects. These course guides will be placed in each Pathways room in plastic holders on the wall. An ATARS by subject area Directory Undergraduate 2016 book (black cover), will also be placed in a holder for students to use.

If a student would like to have a consultation with me they can make an appointment by emailing me for a suitable time, or dropping in to make an appointment. Parents are most welcome to come as well, and appointments can be made outside of school time. Please ring the College on 5021 2911 Extension 3, or email hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au.

Private Colleges Australia

Private Colleges Australia www.privatecollegesaustralia.com is a new website aiming to keep an up-to-date and comprehensive listing of all private colleges of tertiary education in Australia. This website is totally free to access. Colleges are listed by State in both A-Z and type of course format making it easy to compare all colleges with similar courses.

Uni Guide Online – guide to costs and scholarships

A complete guide to university and TAFE study costs, support services and entitlements has been put together as free online resource for students, parents and teachers. The publications: Get Smart Guide and Get Smart Scholarship Guide

From the Australian Scholarships Group (ASG) can be downloaded for free from the website: www.asg.com.au. The booklets explain the costs of study, how to access student support and entitlements, scholarship opportunities, plus tips & traps involved when dealing with new government regulations and criteria.

Registering For Fortnightly Career News

Career News notices are regularly emailed out to parents. Please take the time to read about information sessions and other events.

Lavina Hamilton

Career and Tertiary Advice Co-ordinator

The Beat State Schools Showcase

Presents:

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Engineering Camp



GTAC



MSC Calendar 2015

August

7 PST 4 Meetings 5:30pm to 7:30pm Appointments
Essential
24 College Council

September

18 Term 3 ends at 2:30pm

To:

From:
Mildura Senior College
P.O. Box 1436
Mildura 3502



Postage
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