

PRINCIPALS REPORT

One Term down already!

Term one was extremely busy as our new students familiarised themselves with the Senior College environment and our students moving from Year 11 to 12 dealt 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.

Staffing

I would like to welcome the following members of staff who have started with us since the last newsletter;

Ms Kim Bathe (Legal Studies/Business Management)

Ms Rachel Pinnock (MELC Classroom teacher)

Ms Patricia Clifford (Executive Officer for the Mildura Region TTC)

I wish to thank Ms Katie Aarons who filled in for Term 1 and also wish Mr Reg Byrne all the best as he is on long service leave until Semester 2.

Mildura Senior College Council 2016

It is with pleasure that I announce the following new members to our College Council for 2016; Mr Chris Brouwers, Ms Gabby Robertson, Ms Barbara Chaplin, (Parent Representatives) Martha Maiorana and Jade Jackson (DET representatives). We highly value the support and input from our College Council and are fortunate to have people of such high calibre who are continually prepared to be members of our College Council. Also for 2016, Mr John Bergin will continue in the role of College Council President.

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;

Always stay informed and get the right information from the right people. If you don't know... ask! Develop independence.

We have an environment that is different to most schools. You are granted freedoms and privileges that come with added responsibility.

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.

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.

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 2016. 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.

KEY DATES

- Apr 28** SLP 3 Available on Parent Portal
- May 9-13** Year 12 Outdoor Ed Trip
- May 16** PST 3 (Parent Student Teacher Conferences) - 5.30pm to 7.30pm
- May 17** PUPIL FREE DAY
- May 23** College Council
- May 26** SLP 4 Available on Parent Portal
- Jun 2** End of Units 1 and 3
- Jun 3-10** Year 11 Exams
- Jun 7** GAT
- Jun 7-9** Year 12 Tertiary Trips (Melbourne and Adelaide)
- Jun 13** QUEENS BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY
- Jun 14** Start Units 2 and 4
- Jun 17** Year 12 Ball
- Jun 20** College Council
- Jun 24** End Term 2 - classes end at 2.30pm



Homework Club

Continuing on from the pilot program last year we have formalised the Homework Club program in 2016. This year, any student can go to the Library on Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting from after school until 6pm. During this time students can work individually or in small groups. The program has absolutely no cost to students and there is no requirement to attend every week or for any set period of time, just show up and study! In attendance is a small team of tutors, led by Homework Club Coordinator Nina Pascoe, who work with the students as required to assist guide and provide any support they need. Nina will also try to determine the needs of students attending and seek tutors to match this need. It has been fantastic to see so many students already accessing this service and I would encourage more students to give it a go.

Student Pathways program 2016

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

Assistant Principals' 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.

Sub School Leaders

We welcome Brooke Summers to our Sub School Leaders Team. She will fill in for Reg Byrne who is on leave for most of Term two. We also congratulate Lucinda Englefield (formerly Gadsden) who was married in the school holidays. To speak with a student's Sub School Leader please call the College and follow the prompts or email them;

Jim Blue - bluej@milsen.vic.edu.au

Brooke Summers (for Reg Byrne) - summersb@milsen.vic.edu.au

Lucinda Englefield - englefield@milsen.vic.edu.au

Craig Irvin - irvinec@milsen.vic.edu.au

Joanna Panagiotaros - panagiotarisj@milsen.vic.edu.au

Ineke Rogers - rogersi@milsen.vic.edu.au

Graeme Smyth - smytheg@milsen.vic.edu.au

Marg Wilson - wilsonm@milsen.vic.edu.au

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 Marg Wilson Leading Teacher - Student Wellbeing for further information as soon as possible. All students who are already on the Special Provision list will have received letters.

Tri-Star Medical Services on Site

We have a Doctor (General Practitioner) as well as a Mental Health Nurse available on site each week. 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

Ability to book for Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

You can find information and helpful hints on our Website on using our COMPASS system.

To approve your child's nonattendance on Compass. Parents have the opportunity to approve past and future nonattendance via the parent portal on the College website.

If there is an issue or query with a nonattendance and you do not approve the date/s or lesson/s, please email the subject teacher direct or email attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au for further information.

It is important you call the College for anything that requires our attention. Your nonattendance approval will not automatically alert the Sub-School Leader or our Wellbeing team.

Student Learning Profiles

Our 3rd SLP is included in this mail out, and is also available on line via the parent portal. A reminder that any "Below" rating or "At Risk" notification is a concern. Please contact the relevant teacher via the email address shown on the SLP if you have concerns. SLP 4 will be available on-line for parents on May 26th. If a student is at risk, parents must contact the teach via email.

Year 11 Subject Selections Semester Two

If any student is considering a subject change for semester two, please ensure that you utilise the course handbook (also found on our college website <http://www.milsen.vic.edu.au/pages/handbook/index>) to get some valuable information about different subjects on offer. Make sure you read over subjects that you are unfamiliar with. You may be surprised. Subject changes sheets will go out during Pathways May 5th. Parents/Guardians will need to sign any subject change request and return the form by May 13th.

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Our third PST is scheduled for May 16 between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. Bookings are essential and can be made through our Parent Portal. If your daughter/son is "At Risk" in one or more subjects, please make an appointment to see the teacher of that subject. From this date to the end of the unit is less than 3 weeks, so it is vital that parents attend to ascertain what work needs to be completed in order to pass the subject.

Facilities

Over the Term 1 holidays the paving around the Library, paving at MELC and the relocation of the Photography room to T2/T6 was completed. We are now working on the relocation of the Clontarf Boys Room to A5. Building works for the Ladies Staff toilets commenced on April 18.

End of Semester/Satisfactory Completion

Units 1 and 3 end on June 1st. By the time you receive this Newsletter, students will have less than 6 weeks of classes remaining for the semester.

Students need to be up to date with all work by this date. It is important that parents and students are aware of the requirements to gain a 'pass' (Satisfactory Completion or Competency):-

Satisfactory VCE unit result

The student receives an S for a unit if the teacher determines that all the following outcomes are achieved satisfactorily.

A student must:

- produce work that demonstrates achievement of the outcomes
- submit work on time
- submit work that is clearly their own
- observe Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and school rules (this includes attendance)
- Satisfactory VET unit of competency result
- Students receive an S for a unit of competency if they have demonstrated competence as assessed by their registered training organisation (RTO). Students receive an S for a module if they have demonstrated achievement of all the learning outcomes as assessed by the RTO.
- Satisfactory completion of VCE VET units is calculated automatically as students satisfactorily complete units of competency/modules. Most VCE VET programs consist of four VCE VET units containing one Units 3–4 sequence.

Satisfactory VCAL unit result

Successful completion at mid year will result on a student receiving an S (satisfactory achievement) for a unit in the Work Related Skills, Personal Development Skills, Skills for Further Study – Senior, and some Literacy Skills units when they have demonstrated achievement in all learning outcomes for the unit.

The exceptions to this rule are:

- VCAL Numeracy Skills units – students need to achieve five out of six learning outcomes for the Foundation and Intermediate levels and six out of the seven learning outcomes for the Senior level in order to receive an S. VCAL Senior Literacy Skills, Reading and Writing unit – students need to achieve seven out of the eight learning outcomes to receive an S.

Photos

Any queries related to photographs should be directed to the photographers (MSP) on 03 5881 3436

Homework Club on Tuesday and Wednesday after school

Homework classes are held in the library from 3.30pm till 6.00pm. Great place to create a study group and some tutor assistance available.

Belinda Hudak,
Mark Tracy,
Deanne Marr (Acting)
Assistant Principal

Mid-Year Exam Period

Year 11 Mid-Year Exams

The Year 11 Exam Period is on Fri 3rd of June to Friday 10th of June. VCE and VET subjects that are scored assessment will have an exam. **Exams are compulsory**

Students will receive a timetable prior to the exams which will contain relevant information including what to do if 2 exams are scheduled at the same time, or if a student misses an exam due to illness. A copy will also be made available to parents on the website and the parent portal.

The rules and expectations around our Year 11 exam program mirror those of Year 12. These exams are great preparation for students.

The result for the exam appears on the student's mid-year report.

In the time leading up to the exams, students will also receive tips from teachers about how to revise and study for these exams.

Success in exams is all about routine and repetition. "Cramming" the night before is counterproductive.

There are no exams in VCAL Literacy, Numeracy or PD/Work Related.

GAT Exam

The GAT Exam is on Tuesday the 7th of June and all students completing a Unit 3 & 4 subject are required to attend. Student will receive detailed information about the GAT in pathways this term.

Please call 5021 2911 (option1) if your child is ill and cannot attend an exam.

Reporting Absences

All absences must be notified in ONE of the following ways:

- Phone Line 5021 2911 – option 1. This is a 24 hour service. Please leave a message giving your student's name and the reason for the absence.
- Email attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au

All absences must be verified in ONE of the following ways:

- Provide a Medical Certificate
- Provide an appointment notification
- Provide a signed and dated note.
- If your student is absent for a SAC they MUST notify the school immediately and get a Doctors Certificate to be eligible to re sit the SAC for a score at an alternative time.

Wellbeing Team News

The Wellbeing Team has two areas of focus for 2016 and are implementing these across the whole school in various ways. They are Respectful Relationships in which we aim to build the wellbeing level for each student with a focus on building positive relationships and improving social and emotional health and Anxiety in which we similarly aim to build the wellbeing for every student through improving student confidence, resilience and social and emotional health.

The strategies we will use to achieve these include activities and information at student and community forums and specific conferences, targeted pathways and assemblies, guest speakers, emails with links and resources and staff Professional development.

We look forward to sharing further updates and outcomes with you throughout the year. We welcome contact and feedback at any time.

Marg Wilson
Sub school Leader/Wellbeing

Free Wellbeing APPS

Four Great Apps that are Free and recommended by the Australian Psychological Society

Health professionals are backing the popularity of the smartphone and developing apps to benefit our mental health. Some really great ones include:

Smiling Mind – offers a variety of online daily meditation activities. It is great to relieve stress and anxiety

Breathe – designed by ReachOutAustralia and helps reduce the physical symptoms of stress and anxiety by slowing down your breathing and heart rate by using the camera in the smart phone.

Recharge sleep – targets young men and offers a personalised six week program that focusses on improving mood, energy and well-being. The app includes a sleep and wake up routine that assists young men establish a regular sleeping pattern which improves functionality during the day.

The check-in app – developed by Beyond Blue aims to give young people the skills, knowledge and strategies to have conversations with their friends about mental health. The app provides a step-by-step guide for young people on how to speak to a friend they think might not be travelling well or what to do if they are concerned about their own mental health.

Careers Centre



Coming Career Events

- VCE and Careers Expo – Caulfield Racecourse; Thurs 5 – Sun 8 May; FREE TICKETS can be collected from Careers Office; Booklets on sessions available as well Info: www.vceandcareers.com.au
- 'Experience La Trobe' - Bundoora - 7 July; Bendigo - 6 July; Mildura 8 July, Shepparton 2 June. Bookings: www.latrobe.edu.au/experience Booklets can be collected from Careers Centre
- Meet University of Melbourne Information session in MILDURA Tuesday, 3 May, 2016. 6pm – 8.30 pm, Quality Hotel Mildura Grand 7th st Mildura.
- Nursing as a Career Day at Mildura Base Hospital – 9th June. 11 students have already signed up for this day to see how nurses work and to experience hands on nursing activities and hear about different pathways into nursing from La Trobe university and Sunitafe teaching staff.

Careernews

A newsletter is emailed out to parents fortnightly. Look for Career news No 4. News about Career activities in Victoria.

Another way to find out about Career News is to register for the Career NewsLetter Service

Go to the website: www.mhscareers.com

Login: Mildura

Password: mda77

To view the Newsletter for Victoria click on Victoria. You can also = view the news pages and calendar on the website:

Like the mhscareers Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/mhscareersto> see any late breaking news.

Tertiary Trips to Melbourne or Adelaide

Year 12 students – Tuesday, 7th - Thursday, 9th June

Destinations: Melbourne universities: Monash, University of Melbourne, RMIT, Deakin and LaTrobe university – plus Accommodation at each institution and a visit to Swanston street unilodge.

OR Adelaide universities – University of Adelaide, UNISA city west, city east and Magill campus, Flinders (Flinders Accommodation), plus Aquinas Residential College.

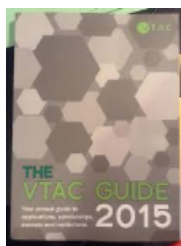
Year 11 students – Wednesday, 31 August – Friday 2nd September.

Students elect for **either** Melbourne or Adelaide. Institution visits also includes Victoria University for Melbourne.

Tertiary Applications

An important focus of the Pathways program in term 3 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.



Note: VTAC course guides will only be available from this year in electronic form. SATAC course guides in book form will arrive in the school in late July.

A small number of UAC (NSW), QTAC (QLD) course guides will arrive in the Careers Centre as well. Students wishing to apply interstate can borrow these.



Students will receive a copy of the Careers Calendar in their Pathways class in Week One of term three. This calendar has all the important dates to complete applications through both VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) and SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre).

Victorian Tertiary University Expo for Parents of Year 12 Students

On **Monday, 25th July** there is a parent information session in the MSC Gym from 6.30 to 8.30 pm

A representative from VTAC will explain about the application process. Parents will be able to **visit and ask questions and collect course guides** from the 20 Victorian Universities, TAFE and Private Colleges.

Year 12 Student Victorian Tertiary Information Session

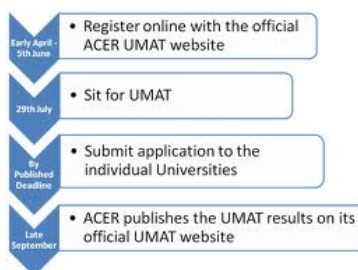
The next morning **Tuesday, 26th** of July, Year 12 students applying for **Victorian courses** will be required to attend an information in the school gym which will run from 11.00 – 12.00 midday. Students will find out how to make a Victorian course application, to Victorian Universities and scholarship applications and accommodation options available to students. Note: The three South Australian universities will be present at the evening and morning session.

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, 4 June at 5.00 pm.

A reminder that students undertaking the UMAT test will sit this test on **Wednesday the 27th of July in the Mildura Senior College Hall (upstairs)**. 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.**



Accommodation Applications

AQUINAS COLLEGE in Adelaide - IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

Year 12 students going on the tertiary trip on Tuesday, 7th - Thursday, 9th June, will be visiting Aquinas College.

For applications and/or enquiries: contact Ms Joanne Brauwers, College Secretary, 08 83345001 or email: admin@aquinas.edu.au

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 2016 will close on Friday, 7th May. **Application forms can be collected from the Careers Centre**

If your son or daughter would like to see me for a career appointment, they can come to the careers centre and make an appointment, or email me at: hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au. You can contact the careers centre staff on 50212911 Ext 4

Lavina Hamilton
Careers & Tertiary Advice Coordinator

Nick Goodieson
Work Transition Co-ordinator

SRC Report

Term 1 was extremely busy for our SRC this year. By the end of the first full week we had year 11s elected and our first event on St Valentine's Day was well on the way to being organised.

We ran a barbecue on Friday 12th February, and students were able to order chocolates and red roses and have them delivered to their friends.

Over 150 orders were taken and delivered. Money raised from this event went to Beyond Blue.

Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th February was our annual camp to Cowra Station where students participated in a number of 'get to know you' activities and leadership activities. We also had our first meeting of the year and planned all of our events for the rest of the term and the rest of the year.

Our second event for the term was Shave for a Cure where three students Rebecca Lohmeyer, Jai Davis and Rhyan Nicholson all raised money to have their heads shaved or in the case of Rebecca, her long hair cut. Rebecca chose to donate her hair to charity to allow wigs for young children who have lost their hair from illness.

The SRC students ran a barbecue on the day, and an overall \$1200+ was raised. Well done to the 3 brave students.

Our final event for the term was the annual Staff vs SRC tug of war competition. Again, another very close competition with eventually both the male and female staff teams beating the SRC teams. The SRC also sold home made lasagne - both vegetarian and meat, home made chicken and mushroom pasta bake and spaghetti bolognese for lunch. Money raised which was approximately \$250, was donated to the John Burfitt charity - C.H.A.I.L.I.S.

The SRC also sold raffle tickets for 'pink cricket gear' from the McGrath Foundation which will be out with our money from Sports Team day to be held in early May.

The other events for this term are The Biggest Morning Tea and the second round of staff vs SRC matches which is soft lacrosse.

Sports Report

Tennis

On the 21st March our MSC boys soundly defeated all local competition in senior tennis at Mildura Lawn Tennis Club.

They played exceptionally well and was a great day had by all. We then, on the 2nd May return to the Mildura Lawn Tennis Club along with our senior girls team to play in the regional competition.

Well done to Jake Barker, Troy Kelly, Thomas Moore and Lachlan Prothero.

Gary Gibson
Coach



Shave for a cure



Visit from Danny Green



SRC Camp





Ordering School Uniforms

The following arrangements are now in place for ordering Mildura Senior College uniform garments as Sportzprint no longer have a shop front.

To purchase a uniform

All uniform items are to be order either by:

- Ordering **On-Line** at www.sportzprint.com and select School Uniforms.
This method requires on-line payment.
- Phone** order directly to Sportzprint ☎ 03 5021 3044
This method requires Debit/Credit card payment.

Uniform delivery

Students will be sent a text when their orders are ready to be collected.
Uniforms will be available to be collected from the College's Front Office.

To check for sizing

Provisional measures have been put in place for students to come to the College's Front Office to try on uniforms for size.

Uniform Enquiries

All enquiries in regard to uniforms are to be directed to Sportzprint.

☎ 03 5021 3044

Email: reception@sportzprint.com.au

MSC Calendar 2016

Month	Date	Event	
April	28	SLP 3 Available on Parent Portal	
	9-13	Year 12 Outdoor Ed Trip	
May	16	PST 3 (Parent Student Teacher Conferences) 5:30pm to 7:30pm	
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To:

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



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