

# PRINCIPALS REPORT

## Start to School Year

The start of the 2016 academic year at Mildura Senior College has gone very smoothly so far and we have begun the year with approximately 940 students. Teaching staff have focused on ensuring students feel settled and are to be commended on the calm and orderly environment we have established. I could not be happier with the approach of students and teachers in their classes to date. Term one is extremely short with only nine weeks in total so a focused start is essential.

## Tertiary Placements for our 2015 Graduates

The College was delighted with the range and quality of the tertiary study offers received by our graduating students in 2015. Over 200 students received a first round offer. Many students received offers in both South Australia and Victoria and a significant number of students received scholarships to support their studies. We have also continued to see a good proportion of our students taking up a first round offer from LaTrobe – Mildura. Lavina Hamilton and Linda Snoxall have done a great job supporting the application process and ensuring students are making informed choices.

## KEY DATES

- Mar 24** End of Term
- Apr 11** Start of Term
- Apr 18– 22** VCAL Senior Work Placement
- Apr 25** Anzac Day Public Holiday
- May 16** Parent Student Teacher Conferences
- May 17** Student Free Curriculum Day

## DEAKIN - Trade Training Centre Facility at Mildura Senior College

The major hub of the Mildura Trade Training Centre program (The DEAKIN Trade Training Centre Facility located at Mildura Senior College) is now in its third year of operation. This fantastic facility allows students to follow vocational pathways on a school site and move seamlessly between those and other classes in their programs. Additions to the program this year have been 'block' training on Wednesdays for district students.

## School Insurance

Students and parents are reminded that there is no DET Insurance for accidents or thefts at school. There are Insurance Companies who provide such insurance but this is the responsibility of families not the school. Our advice is to encourage students that bring valuables to school to ensure they are locked securely in their lockers or handed in at the general office for safe keeping during the day.

## Retiring College Council Members

Our last meeting of college council on Monday 7th March saw the retirement from council of three Parent Representatives – Stephen Lay, Barbara Chaplin and Phillip Hand. We recognised their professionalism, care and background knowledge which has made a valuable contribution to the work of Council and the success of our school.

## Commencement Ceremony

Thursday 25th of February was our Commencement Ceremony which involved the investiture of our College Captains; Daniel Williams and Madeline Hogan & Deputy Captains for 2016, Connor Turlan and Sophie Chislett. This ceremony also saw the investiture of our Student Council. A large part of the evening was an opportunity to acknowledge and present Awards to students who were in Year 11 in 2015. Major award winners on the evening were:

- Mildura Senior College Sports Award**  
Mebal Kadian
- Freeman Scholarship (Maths & Science)**  
Laura Schultz

## Caltex Best All Rounder

Sophie Crouch

## Paige McCarthy-Beard Memorial award

Leigh Ferguson-Dolan

## Latrobe University Mildura Business School Economics Award

Jan Noya

## Latrobe University Mildura Business School Business Management Award

Cameron Kelly

## Latrobe University Mildura Business School Accounting Award

Kimberly Barker

As well, we also had an acknowledgement of students joining us this year on student Exchange.

This night was a wonderful celebration of student success and I thank all of the staff who were involved for their work in organising the event.

This year's Exchange students are:

Brazil	Laura Baldassi
Denmark	Mathias Berg
France	Sacha Garnier
Finland	Sarita Kevarinmaeki
Germany	Charlotte Van Briel
Germany	Madita Welsch
Japan	Asuka Kuga
Japan	Saki Goto
Japan	Yuna Maruyama
Sweden	Johanna Friman

## Andrew Ough

Principal



# Assistant Principal's Report

## Student Services Centre and Sub School Leaders

Students are reminded that the Student Services Centre is where they will find the Sub School Leaders and Attendance Officer. 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.

We have 8 Sub School Leaders and families will have an email introducing them to you. If you did not receive this email, please contact the College and check we have your current email address. To speak with a student's Sub School Leader please call the College and follow the prompts or email them on:

Jim Blue	bluej@milsen.vic.edu.au
Reg Byrne	byrner@milsen.vic.edu.au
Lucinda Gadsden	gadsden@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.

## Student Drivers

If students are driving independently to school they should register their car with the front office. There is a short form to fill out that indicates who the car belongs to in case of an emergency or accident.

Student Drivers are reminded they are not permitted to transport other students during the school day. This includes lunch and recess time.

## 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 non-attendance on Compass

Parents have the opportunity to approve past and future non-attendance 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 students Sub School Leader or our Welfare team.

## Attendance

### Every day counts!

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on your child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year.

At Mildura Senior College absence is magnified – every day missed makes it harder to achieve success. A Year 12 student regularly absent has little hope of achieving success at the most important year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. At Mildura Senior College we have a 90% minimum attendance rate for all students – 90% should be the minimum.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your student must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Contact the college to find out your student's attendance rates or check parent portal to find out this information. Your student's attendance rate is also published for each subject on all reports
- Speak with your student's Sub School Leader and teachers to find out what work your student needs to do to keep up
- Get your student back to school as quickly as possible
- Your student's Sub School Leader will contact you directly if your student's attendance level is too low

Remember, every day counts. If your student must miss school, speak with us as early as possible.

If you're having attendance issues with your student, please contact the school as soon as possible so we can work together to get a speedy return to school.

Year 11 and 12 are particularly demanding in their workload so students need to attend all classes.

It is strongly recommended that families do not arrange holidays, trips or appointments during the school terms or the school day. This can cause undue stress on your student trying to catch up and keep up with the class work. All appointments should be made for Wednesday mornings or outside school hours.

Assessment tasks are held continually throughout the year and must be sat on the scheduled day.

All VCE, VET and VCAL subjects have a compulsory attendance requirement. The minimum attendance rate is 90%. Parents will be contacted for ongoing absences.

Students with poor attendance will probably fail one or more subjects which may lead to a possible exit from the College.

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.

## College Support Contacts

**Wellbeing Coordinator** - Martha Maiorana  
maioranam@milsen.vic.edu.au

**Careers Advice** - Lavina Hamilton  
hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au

**School Based Apprenticeships**  
**External VET subjects** - Linda Snoxall  
snoxall@milsen.vic.edu.au

## Work Place Transition Coordinator

Advice on preparing for the workforce - Nick Goodieson  
goodiesonn@milsen.vic.edu.au

## Student Learning Profiles

We have now issued two SLP's and parents are advised to contact classroom teachers if they have concerns about student progress. A reminder that any "Below" rating or "At Risk" notification is a concern.

## Teacher Profiles

Included in this mail out is a teacher profile - it lists information about each teacher and includes their email details for contact. It is important that any concerns about class work (e.g. overdue work) are directed to the relevant teacher in the first instance.

## Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Our second PST was held on Monday, March 21 and it was well attended. These meetings are an opportunity to gain further information in regard to student progress as well as upcoming work and assessments. Incredibly, Year 12 students are now 8 weeks into a 32 week academic year. Our next Parent/Student/Teacher Conference is on 16th May. Bookings can be made on the Parent Portal

## Facilities

We will be undertaking a number of projects over the Term 1 holidays including paving around the Library and the relocation of the Photography room to T2.

## Photos

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

**Belinda Hudak,**

**Mark Tracy,**

**Deanne Marr (Acting)**

Assistant Principal



The College offers our students an after school Homework Centre which runs after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 6pm, for any students needing assistance with their studies.

## Tips for Students Study

### Learning Assistance for students at MSC

- If you need help do not hesitate to ask for it.
- Start by asking your classroom teacher.
- Your pathways teacher is also there to assist your learning progress.
- Look at your student learning progress statements to gauge how you are going.

### Tips

- Make use of your textbook and Moodle resources to improve understanding.
- Keep up to date with classwork and homework.
- Ensure you have a quiet area with a desk at home.
- Complete a homework and study timetable and try to stick to it.
- Do not procrastinate.
- Come in Wednesday morning between 9am till 10.30am to get extra help for your subject/s.
- Form a study group to help each other.
- Attend homework classes Tuesday and Wednesday after school.
- Homework classes are held in the library from 3.30pm till 6.00pm.
- Be organised and use course outlines to know when assessment tasks are happening.
- Attend Assessment preparation and revision classes.

If you are overwhelmed DO NOT avoid classes see your Sub School Leader for advice.

## TIPS FOR SUCCESS in Scored Assessment

- To work hard to achieve your best, you have to be the best prepared.
- Top students study for two to four hours on a week night and three to six hours at weekends
- Put distractions away
- Turn off your mobile phone
- Make a list of deadlines
- Try using earplugs and listen to music only when doing undemanding work
- Consider studying in a library where there are fewer distractions
- Find study buddies for sharing notes and discussing ideas
- Get help from your teacher
- Plan your week ahead
- Remember to take breaks
- Get a copy of the Area of Study as it is a guide as to what should be in your study notes
- Read the Examiner's Report in conjunction with the 2015 Exam
- Review class materials regularly
- Use colour to highlight important heading. Subheadings act as memory triggers
- Do lots of practice exam papers. Research shows that this is what top students do

# Attendance Reminder

Any student nonattendance must be approved.  
**COMPASS**

Parents and guardians are able to approve any nonattendance via the parent portal on the College website. You will need your user name and password to do this. Please contact our ICT Department if you need a copy

If there is an issue or query with an unexplained absence and you do not approve the date/s or lesson/s, please email the subject teacher direct or email [attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au](mailto:attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au) for further information

Your nonattendance approval will not automatically alert your child's Sub-School Leader or our welfare team.

It is important you call the College for any matter that requires our attention.

- Phone 5021 2911 Option 1 (answering machine on 24/7)
- Email [attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au](mailto:attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au)
- The following documents are all accepted by the Department.
- Medical certificate
- Appointment notification
- A signed and dated note with the student's full name

- Read additional material, taking notes of relevant material
- Think and look for unique angles. Demonstrate that you understand opposing views and then explain
- why you believe one argument is more correct
- Learn from your mistakes, this is critical for success
- Prepare carefully for all assessment tasks.
- Keep things in perspective- you cannot perform well when you are stressed

## Past and Present Student Success

Congratulations to the following past and present students:

**Brodie Jackson** Brodie has been nominated for the Health and Wellbeing Award and Leadership Award for his fundraising efforts and sporting achievements over the past 12 months. He competed in the South Australian State Athletics Championships where he took out gold in the 100 metres, and bronze for long jump. He has now been selected in the state team to compete at the nationals. He raised \$5000 for the McGrath Foundation to help place breast care nurses in communities across Australia.

**Makinley Blows** Makinley Blows enjoyed success with Victoria at the Under 18 girl's national championship in Canberra. It was Victoria's first win in 16 years. She was also selected in the Women's T20 Renegades Squad for 2015/16.

**Bethany Hayden** Beth won awards at the Clay Shooting competitions at the South Australian State Carnival.

**Mitchell Undy** Mitchell recently completed an exchange program through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Mitchell, a basketball player, won a sports scholarship to attend Union High School in Virginia, U.S.A and said that this had enabled him to develop his skills in the sport. Mildura Senior College has 10 students currently here on exchange student programs

If you would like us to share your community success please see Raeleen in the Library.

## Careers Centre

I conduct career interviews throughout terms 1, 2 and 3 with year 12 students from the nineteen Pathways groups. I book in students by pathway groups, although any student can come 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](mailto:hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au).

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

### University of Adelaide

Year 12 students and their parents, have attended an information session run by the University of Adelaide held on Tuesday, 16th and Wednesday, February 17. Twenty students and 27 parents attended the sessions and discovered the courses that the university offers, its scholarships program, what accommodation is available, and the student services that are available to assist them in their transition. The contact for the university is Tony Duggan. You can email him on: [tony.duggan@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:tony.duggan@adelaide.edu.au) to ask him questions about Future Student information.

### University of South Australia (UNISA)

Year 12 students and their parents have just attended two similar information sessions offered by the University of South Australia on Tuesday, 8th and Wednesday, 9th March. 20 parents and 39 students attended the sessions. UNISA was able to explain how they build into their courses of study hands-on experience of 30%. UNISA aim to make their students work ready. The contact for UNISA is Anita Solic. You can email her on: [anita.soldic@unisa.edu.au](mailto:anita.soldic@unisa.edu.au) if you would like to ask her questions about Future Student information.

## Career Notices and Career News

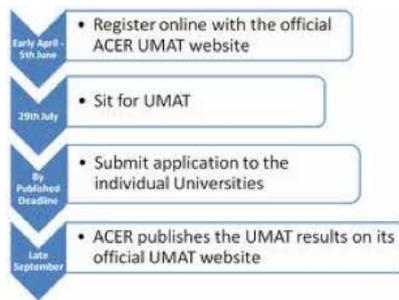
Items are posted on the **Career noticeboard in the foyer of the library** and on noticeboards in **the Student Centre and at the end of wing M (Mathematics classrooms)**. Careers notices are also posted on the Compass school intranet homepage. A 'Career News' Newsletter will be emailed out to parents/students fortnightly, so please read it as there will be events posted on it. MSC will shortly make available a dedicated school careers website where you will be able to log on and find a huge range of information. You will be contacted by an email when it is up and running.



### UMAT (Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test)

Registrations for UMAT -Undergraduate Medicine, Dentistry and Optometry Admission Test at: <http://umat.acer.edu.au> Closes Friday, 3 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**. 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.



### UMAT Practice Workshop

Students wishing to attend a local UMAT practice workshop being held at St Joseph's College in the school holidays on Tuesday, 5th and 6th April, need to email [Lavina Hamilton hamiltonl@milsen.vic.edu.au](mailto:Lavina.Hamilton@milsen.vic.edu.au) for an application form. The course is run by a company called Med Entry. The cost of the two day course is: \$220.00. Any interested Year 11 student can also attend this course to ascertain if they are suited to this style of test.

### Up Coming Events

**La Trobe Experience Uni For a Day – Melbourne**  
– Thursday, 31 March or Thursday, 7 July

**La Trobe Experience Uni For a Day – Bendigo**  
– Friday 1st April OR Wednesday, 6 July

**La Trobe Experience Uni For a Day – Albury-Wodonga -**  
Friday, 4 May

**La Trobe Experience Uni For a Day – Shepparton**  
– Thursday, 2 June

**La Trobe Experience Uni For a Day – Mildura**  
– Friday 8 July

Attend workshops, lectures and seminars to find out about career options, areas of study, pathways and student life. Come with your friends and parents and chat with our student ambassadors about what to expect at Uni.

More Information: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/experience/events/experience-la-trobe-events>

**Register online at:** [www.latrobe.edu.au/experience](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/experience)

If interested in attending one of these events a separate booklet is available for each Latrobe Experience Day in the entrance hall (foyer) of the library. Students are welcome to come and collect a copy.

## Meet the University of Melbourne

– Mildura - Tuesday 3rd May 2016  
6:30 pm-8:30 pm

The University of Melbourne will be visiting Mildura to give students, teachers and parents in the area the chance to talk to their friendly staff.

## Registration and More

Information:[http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/events/victoria\\_and\\_interstate/victoria/meet-melbourne/mildura](http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/events/victoria_and_interstate/victoria/meet-melbourne/mildura)

Venue: The Ballroom, Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Seventh Street, Mildura, Victoria

## A Day at the University of Melbourne

- Years 10-12 Students  
Friday, 1st April

This special event is designed for Year 10 to 12 students and their families and allows you to come and explore our vibrant Parkville campus and find out more about the range of study options available.

**More Information:** [http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/events/victoria\\_and\\_interstate/victoria/a\\_day\\_at\\_melbourne\\_2016](http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/events/victoria_and_interstate/victoria/a_day_at_melbourne_2016)

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](mailto: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 to contact the **Transitions from School to Work Coordinator** – Mr Nick Goodieson, he can be contacted by emailing him at: [goodiesonn@milsen.vic.edu.au](mailto:goodiesonn@milsen.vic.edu.au) He can be found in his office in the Careers Centre from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm daily.

**Lavina Hamilton**  
Careers & Tertiary Advice Coordinator

## Sports Reports

### Chess - Wednesday 16 March

A taxing day on the chess board. 6 students took the trip to Trinity Lutheran College to battle the odds in the epitome of men's sport.

The scores of the highest ranked 4 players becomes the team's overall score. We came 4th in the Open division with 15 ½ points. The winner had 20. Heneli Taholo won 4 of his 7 games.

Heneli Taholo won 4 of his 7 games  
Jeremiah Dawe won 5 of his 7 games  
Austin Keel won 3 of his 7 games  
Alexander Mc Monnies won 2 ½ of his 7 games  
Tylah Woods won 3 ½ of his 7 games  
Atticus Banks won 3 of his 7 games

There were lots of kids there (198.)

Our kids were great.  
We ride again in August.

**Yours Andrew 'The Dark Knight' Banks**

## SuniTAFE Awards

Lavina Hamilton and Linda Snoxall attended the SuniTAFE Awards Evening on the 9th March and were able to celebrate current and past students who were nominees and winners of a variety of Awards.

Devrim Arisoy  
**Won two awards** on the evening. She was awarded the **Health and Community Services Education Unit Award** and the **VETis Student of the Year Award**. She completed a Certificate III in Allied Health.

Dion Alderton  
was nominated for two awards, **Land and Environment Education Unit Award for Animal Studies** and **VETis Student of the Year**. She completed a Certificate II in Animal Studies.

Jack Emanuelli  
(Automotive) and Joel Minter (Motor Sports) were both nominated for the **Automotive Education Unit Award**. Joel was also nominated for **VETis Student of the Year**

MSC past student and employee Trent Branson was nominated for the **Education and Technology Award** and **Trainee of the Year**.

MSC past student and employee Trent Branson was nominated for the Education and Technology Award and Trainee of the Year.

### Past Students

Christopher Bradley  
(Cert II in General Education) and Breanna Tatchell (Cert I in Work Education) were nominated for the **Foundation and Further Education Unit Award** which is fantastic recognition for what they have both achieved as they started school here as Foundation VCAL students.

Nicholas Alicastro  
**Won the Building and Construction Industry and Energy Unit Award** and was nominated for Apprentice of the Year. He has been completing a Certificate III in Cabinet Making apprenticeship.

Caitlyn Bottomley  
was nominated for the **Land Environment Education Unit Award** for the Certificate III in Pet Grooming course she completed.

Nikkita Andrews  
**Won the Hairdressing and Beauty Education Unit Award** after completing the Certificate IV in Beauty Therapy.

And to top things off Elliott Grayling was the **guest speaker** on the night having cleaned up last year winning the SuniTAFE Apprentice of the Year, Industry and Energy Education Unit Award, and the Victorian SBAT of the Year Award and nominated for the Australian SBAT of the Year Award.

Well done to all these students.

**Linda Snoxall**  
VETis Coordinator



# Sports Reports

## Chess - Wednesday 16 March



## Boys Cricket - Tuesday 8 March



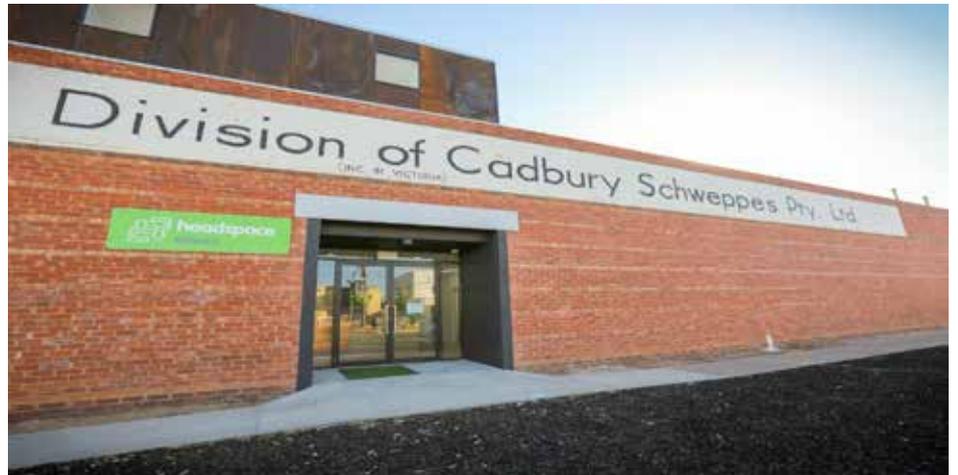
# March 2016



**LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK!**

**headspace  
Mildura**

2/125 Pine Ave, Mildura  
5021 2400



## In brief...

### FIRST BIRTHDAY

The team at headspace Mildura are celebrating our first birthday.

Since we opened on March 6, 2015, more than 600 young people between 12 and 25 have been registered with our service.

Thank you to everybody who has been involved with us for your outstanding support.

Thanks to those who are taking part in our **Amazing Race on Friday, March 18**. A fun event, free food and Loose Bricks playing afterwards = winning!

### WANT US TO COME TO YOU?

WOULD you like some headspace involvement or perhaps a presentation? If so, please contact Mitch Rodd via email on [Mitch.Rodd@headspacemildura.com.au](mailto:Mitch.Rodd@headspacemildura.com.au).

# What is happening at headspace Mildura?

### WELCOME ARRIVALS

We are excited to announce that we will have Erin Kelly joining the headspace Mildura team as our resident General Practitioner doctor.

Dr Kelly will begin with us on Friday, April 1, and will be available for appointments from 1pm to 5pm each Friday.

If you have any general health concerns, Dr Kelly will be there to help

We are also welcoming Rhys Brymer (Sunraysia Community Health Service) who has come on board as an Alcohol and Other Drug Counsellor.

Rhys will add lots of strength and value to our awesome and growing team.

### YOUTH MAGAZINE

We are getting closer to the release of Mildura's own youth magazine.

**headspace** Mildura, together with Mildura Living Magazine, are working with

a group of talented local young people to establish a youth magazine that has a focus on our fantastic region.

The launch is set for National Youth Week in April, we will update you all further once more is confirmed. I hope you're all as excited as we are!

### JOB SEARCH GROUP SESSIONS

COULD you, a family member or friend use some support in starting a job search, we may have the group course to help.

headspace Mildura and Melinda Binding (MADEC worker) are offering a four week course, commencing Monday, May 2, at 4pm here at headspace to help young people with goal setting, creating a resume and cover letter, and how to prepare for the interview.

If you know of someone who could benefit from this, please see headspace Mildura reception or phone 5021 2400 to book your place.

# MSC Calendar 2016

<b>March</b>	24	End of Term
<b>April</b>	11	Start of Term
	18-22	VCAL Senior Work
	25	Anzac Day Public Holiday
<b>May</b>	16	Parent Student Teacher Conferences
	17	Student Free Curriculum Day

**To:**

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



Postage  
Paid  
Mildura  
3502