

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Term 1 has been extremely busy as our new students familiarise themselves with the Senior College environment and our students moving from Year 11 to 12 deal 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

It is with pleasure that I officially welcome Andrew Banks to the Principal Team. He commenced his Assistant Principal Position at the start of the 2018 school year. Andrew's portfolio areas are Curriculum and Wellbeing.

Reg Byrne was a late departure in 2017, moving to a leading teacher position within the Regional DET office. Kate Bouchier has taken up the higher duties position to replace him as Leading Teacher. She has taken on the Curriculum portfolio. We welcome back, Kerrie Banks who has spent the past 2 years working with Distance Education Victoria. We have collaborated with TAFE to deliver our VET Integrated Technology course and teacher Robert Zudetich is teaching in the Trade Training Centre.

School Improvement Focus for 2018

Building Practice Excellence: To improve the learning growth and achievement outcomes for every student.

Evidence Based High Impact teaching Strategies: To improve students' engagement in their learning and schooling and build the

level of wellbeing for every student.

Building Communities & Leadership teams: To develop a framework for a strong alliance with our partnership schools and parents.

Respectful Relationships

Mildura Senior College is a Respectful Relationships School. This means that we promote and value positive and respectful relationships supporting us to work together with all members of our school community and promoting these values to our students. Everyone in our community deserves to be respected, valued and treated equally. We know that changes in attitudes and behaviours can be achieved when positive attitudes, behaviours and equality are embedded in our education settings. Respectful Relationships is about embedding a culture of respect and equality across our entire community, from our classrooms to staffrooms, sporting fields, fetes and social

KEY DATES

March 12th	Labour Day (Public Holiday)
March 21st	Harmony Day
March 22nd	Student Learning Profile 2 On
Parent Portal	
March 26th	Parent Student Teacher
Conference 2	
March 29th	End of Term 1
March 30th	Good Friday (Public Holiday)



events. This approach leads to positive impacts on student's academic outcomes, their mental health, classroom behaviour, and relationships between teachers and students.

Together, we can lead the way in saying yes to respect and equality, and creating genuine and lasting change so that every child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

We respect diversity in our student co-hort, in our staff and in our community. The College is a discrimination free zone and we ask all of our families to help us to support this approach. More information on respectful relationship and family violence can be found at:

<https://www.1800respect.org.au/healthy-relationships/>

Homework Club

Homework Club program continues 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 encourage more students to attend.

Belinda Hudak
Principal

Assistant Principals' Welcome

A warm welcome to all students and parents, in particular the more than 550 students and their families who are new to our learning community.

We would like to wish everyone all the best with their studies for 2018. We are confident that you will adapt to the new routine/s at our College. Your time here is a great opportunity to prepare yourself for life beyond secondary schooling.

To those students who are returning, build on your progress from last year and make the most of the opportunities that Year 12 provides. Time passes very quickly in Year 12 and students must ensure that they are up to date at all times.

We have very high expectations of our students and these will be outlined in coming newsletters and at assemblies.

We hope you all have a great start to the year!

Parents as Partners at Mildura Senior College

At Mildura Senior College we recognise that family support and involvement plays a major part in a young person's ability to achieve success. We recognise that success looks different for each and every one of our young people and would like to be involved as partners with our parents in the journey of all of our young people to their chosen pathway. If we can do anything in addition to support your young person throughout 2018 please contact the College at any time.

Welcome Parent Student Teacher Conference - PST

A big thank you to all of our families who were able to come in and meet with their Son/Daughters Pathways teacher recently at our Welcome PST evening on Monday 5th February. It was lovely to meet with you all and was a fantastic way for our Pathways teachers to gain valuable information on your Son/Daughters Pathway and discuss possible support that we are able to offer to

all of our students throughout their time at the College. Our next Parent Student Teacher conference will be held at the College on Monday 26th March from 5- 7:30pm. This will be an opportunity for all families to book appointment times with individual subject teachers. Pathways teacher and Sub School leaders will also be available for appointment bookings if required. Appointments can be made via the compass Parent Portal and will be open for bookings on Tuesday 13th March. If you have any concerns about your Son/Daughters progress so far at Mildura Senior College, please feel free to contact a member of staff for assistance at any time during the year.

Student Pathways, Transition and Well-Being

As a quick reference guide, parents and students are reminded that the following points will ensure a smooth start for students in 2018:

- The College has a minimum attendance requirement of 90% for all classes, including Pathways. Rolls are marked each lesson and parents will receive an SMS notifying them of an unexplained absence
- Students must bring correct materials to all classes – this includes appropriate footwear for practical classes
- Students should not access their lockers between classes – this is disruptive and wastes time
- The College has very high expectations of student behavior – first impressions count!
- Mobile phones are permitted at the College, but as a courtesy, these must be turned off and be out of sight during class time
- Access to local shops during the school day is permitted at lunch and recess only, students are not permitted to stay at the shop after their purchase
- Smoking is not permitted on College grounds or in the vicinity of the College. This rule is strictly enforced.

Parents - if you have not already done so, please supply the College with a current email address and mobile phone number so that we are able to contact you in regards to your Son/Daughters progress at the college.



All absences must be verified by one of the following:

- **Compass:** Parent Portal (www.milsen.vic.edu.au)
- **Compass:** Parent App (*Compass School Manager*)
- **Email:** attendanceofficer@milsen.vic.edu.au
- **Phone:** 5021 2911 (*answering machine on 24/7*)
- **Medical certificate**
- **Appointment notification**
- **A signed and dated note with student full name**

Student Support

The Student Services Centre is a great place for students to get help and assistance. Sub School Leaders (formerly Student Coordinators), administration and course support and the Attendance Officer can all be found there.

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

2018 Daily Start and Finish Times

Day	Classes Start	Classes Finish
Monday	9am	3.10pm
Tuesday	9am	3.10pm
Wednesday	10.55am	3.30pm
Thursday	9am	3.30pm
Friday	9am	3.10pm

Tips for Success

Students can ensure a smooth start to the year by following these tips:

- Enter all due dates/important dates on a calendar
- Familiarise yourself with the rules as quickly as possible
- Arrive punctually to class with the correct materials
- Settle into a routine of homework, revision and study as soon as possible
- Keep up to date with all classwork
- Hand work in on time
- Ask for help
- Attend Parent Student Teacher Conferences (PST) (This is an opportunity for parents to meet teachers and gain assistance to access the Parent Portal.)

Students driving cars to school

As a number of our student body are at the stage of life that enables them to be licenced drivers, it is important to point out the Mildura Senior College **Student Code of Conduct** stipulates the following in accordance with DEECD guidelines:

“Students are not permitted to transport other students while in daily attendance at the college, or to and from any College function or event”.

This means that students cannot transport other students to and from school or during the school day. Parent permission does **NOT** exclude students from this rule.

This rule is DEECD policy which the College is mandated to follow. There are no exceptions to this rule.

“Drivers can only park in the gymnasium carpark or on 14th Street.”

There are designated areas where students can and cannot park their car. Students who drive to school must, on the permission form, indicate where they will usually park their car. Students are **not** permitted to park in Havilah Crescent or on the private land between Havilah Crescent and Deakin Avenue.

“Any licensed student wishing to drive a vehicle to school must register their details with the Assistant Principal”.

The College is required to have a list of drivers and their vehicle details in case of emergency or accident.

“Failure to observe this rule and to drive with adequate care in the vicinity of the College will lead to suspension and Police involvement”.

There are strict consequences for students who drive dangerously and erratically. The area in and around the College is particularly busy between 8.30am - 9.00am, 1pm - 2pm, and 3.15pm - 4.15pm and all drivers should proceed with care. **At all times**, students must observe the speed restriction zones (40km/h) in Deakin Avenue and 14th Street.

We thank you for supporting us to support the safety of all of our young people.

Reports

Parents will receive information about our reporting system very soon. Parents will receive regular updates (every 4 weeks) on Student progress via the mail and through our Parent Portal, as

well as contact details for class teachers, Pathways Teachers and Sub-School Leaders.

School Canteen

We are currently seeking parental involvement in our School Canteen. If you are available on a school day between the hours of 8:30am - 2pm to volunteer any amount of time to assist in our School Canteen, please contact Yvonne Edwards on edwardsy@milsen.vic.edu.au or alternatively 5021 2911

Parent Portal

Parents will receive information regarding access to and use of our Parent Portal. This portal will provide parents with access to a range of information, including student attendance information, timetables and reports. If you have any issues accessing the portal, please contact the College.

Tracy Marr and Andrew Banks

Assistant Principal Team

Around the College

VET Engineering

Industry work Placement – Shane Crowhurst

All VET teachers must maintain current industry experience as part of the compliance requirements to teach the VET course.

Industry placement is a great opportunity to see and experience what is happening beyond the school gate. The knowledge and experience teachers gain can be shared with students, showing and teaching skills required by industry today. The insights gained through discussions with industry have also helped students with their career pathways, identifying the characteristics for successful apprentices.

Late last year Shane was funded through the VET Development Centre to complete 2 more day placements, with two large local Engineering Companies. Those company's being APK Engineering – Buronga NSW

And Leda Ag – Mildura VIC.

This was a hands on workshop experience – starting and finishing each day with, and working alongside industry tradespeople.

Some observations

The scale of these local businesses and the size of their workforces is an eye opener

The quality of their production processes and the complexity of their products was impressive

The workshop organisation and quality of the work environment, facilities, equipment and tooling, OH&S compliance

The use of computer controlled machinery for accuracy, efficiency, consistency and quality

The use of Laser cut componentry sourced locally, so all parts fit perfectly, both in the workshop and out on site.

The accuracy and quality expected from their workers. ie the structural steel frames for a shed measuring 150m long x 50m wide are welded to within 0.5 mm

The quality assurance processes implemented means all work is independently checked and signed off at each stage to ensure the finished product on site works perfectly.

Each place had ex students as apprentices / tradesman. It was good to catch up and learn of their experiences, see them operating in the workforce and see the high quality of their production work

2018 Exchange Students



(L-R): (Germany), (France), Helena Majolo-Withers (Germany), Aurelia Buechel (Switzerland), (USA), Felix Rosenfeld (Germany), Lorenzo Calafiore (Italy)

A big thank you to both APK Engineering and Leda Ag staff for making Shane feel welcome and taking the time to explain their workplace, to teach him their work practices and for allowing him to be one of the team for a few days.

VET & SBAT 2018

This year we have a large number of students undertaking VET courses here at Mildura Senior College, but also at both Riverside TTC and SuniTAFE.

Schools from around the district involved in this program include Chaffey Secondary College, Irymple Secondary College, Merbein P – 10, Mildura Christian College, Red Cliffs Secondary College, St Joseph's College and Trinity Lutheran College.

SBAT

Currently we have 8 students undertaking a School-based Apprenticeship (SBAT) program. SBAT's only happen with the support of our local employers. Thank you to the following employers for supporting such a great program: Ag Tech, The Bulk Butcher, Unique Kitchens & Joinery, STE Engineering, CBM Mechanical, Sunrise AG, Pioneer Ford and Craig Mills Construction.

SuniTAFE VETiS Awards

Tison McLean completed his Certificate II in Animal Studies last year and has been nominated for an award by his SuniTAFE trainer. He will attend the SuniTAFE Graduation and Awards night on 14th March. Good luck Tison.

Christopher Johns who was a Year 12 student in 2017 was also nominated for an award in Animal Studies. Archi Renouf also a Year 11 student from last year was nominated for an award in Motor Sport.

Well done to these students.

Linda Snoxall
VET Coordinator

Mildura Senior College has been involved with various Student Exchange programs operating in the district for many years now. In recent years our College has had students from Argentina, Belgium, China, England, Finland, France, Brazil, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand and United States of America among many other countries. Exchange Students from overseas are hosted by local families and as part of the in-school program they attend classes, undertake assessments and involve themselves to varying degrees in the wide range of activities that are part of the experience of being in one of the largest senior colleges in Victoria. In February this term, our Exchange Students shared a casual luncheon with; the Principal, Belinda Hudak, and Student Exchange Coordinator, Larisha Rowney. Mildura Senior College are proud to welcome our overseas students for 2018 and we trust they will have an exciting and fulfilling educational and cultural experience during their time here in Mildura.

2018 PST Night



Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: English Oral Presentations

Oral Presentations are an important part of the English Curriculum at both Year 11 and Year 12.

We understand that public speaking can be challenging for some and extremely frightening for others. The skills developed in the process of presenting an Oral Presentation are used in many situations outside of school, including job interviews, workplace presentations and University course or accommodation interviews.

To support students to meet the required outcome of the Oral Presentation in VCE English we ask all families to encourage their young person to participate and do their best. We also understand that some students have diagnosed medical conditions that may prevent them from participating in the same process as others.

Students who have a diagnosed condition which prevents them from being able to present their oral presentation to their class, will be granted special provision but must provide a Medical Certificate by the first day of Term 2 to their English teacher. These students will then be required to present their oral to an audience of 2 English teachers and two peers of their choice. This will take place after school during the week scheduled for presentations. Students and parents will be advised of the presentation week via the Newsletter and by their class teachers.

If a student develops a special circumstance during the assessment period, special provision will still be considered but a certificate should be provided and students will also need to meet with their Sub School Leader or the Wellbeing Coordinator.

Any student who does not provide a Medical Certificate and refuses to present to the class will be required to present in the same manner as those with a Medical Certificate for the opportunity to achieve a satisfactory result but will not be graded.

*(students who have already provided medical evidence for Special Exam arrangements which relates to anxiety do not need to provide further Medical Certificates)

If you would like to discuss any concerns with your student's teacher please feel free to contact them via email or contact the College.

Kind Regards

Belinda Hudak
Principal

Nicola Chant
Year 12 English Leader

Kerrie Banks
Year 11 English Leader

This is an open letter to all parents and guardians of students.

It is in regards to Mildura Schools Lands Trust (often called College Lease) and how it works for our school and your child and children.

Each year our College receives money from this Trust.

This year we expect \$ xxxxx.

Your school Council has planned to use this money for yyyyyyyy.

Trust money adds to funding we get from both the State and Federal Governments, and our fees.

Every Victorian school in Sunraysia, and therefore every student benefits from the money raised by this Trust. How much each school receives is based on how many students attend that school.

How brilliant is that!

SOME INFORMATION & HISTORY

Our trust is now 101 years old and it is the most unique, community education trust in Australia.

Mildura Schools Lands is a trust that owns 183 parcels of land spread throughout Mildura city and the original irrigation area. Each land title is leased for fifty years. Leases can be bought and sold, and developed by the lessee, with approval from council. Commercial rental from each lease raises the money for schools. The Chaffey brothers first allocated these lands and it was then legislated for in 1916. In Jan 2011 it became a part of the Education act.

A Representative Beneficiaries' Committee works to protect and improve the trust.

This committee works with the Trust's Manager (Sandhurst Trustees), community and the Department of Education to ensure that the trust is secure for the benefit of all Sunraysia students in primary & secondary schooling.

If you would like further information please do not hesitate to contact the College.

MSC Calendar 2018

March

12th	Labour Day (Public Holiday)
21st	Harmony Day
22nd	Student Learning Profile 2 On Parent Portal
26th	Parent Student Teacher Conference 2
29th	End of Term 1
30th	Good Friday (Public Holiday)