Principal’s Report
College Council
The February meeting of College Council will be held next Tuesday evening at 7.00pm. This is the last meeting for this election cycle. Nominations for College Council will be open from February 10th until 4.00pm February 17th. I would encourage parents to consider nominating for council – more information can be found attached to this newsletter.

Parent Meetings – Years 3-12
We are working hard to ensure that every student at our school is fully involved in their own learning with the goal of empowering students and instilling pride in their school and in their achievements. Over the past week students have been involved in goal setting for learning this year and we now invite parents and students of students in Years 3-12 to meet with teachers to discuss these goals and how we can all work together to achieve these. Appointment times will be sent home shortly along with further explanations. I would encourage parents to come along and meet with teachers so that we can have strategies and partnerships set up from early in the year. If you cannot make the appointed time you are welcome to arrange a phone meeting with the Home Group Teacher. Please help us to do the best we can with your children.

P-2 Information Meeting
In place of individual meetings for P-2 students we are holding a Parent Information Meeting on Monday February 8th at 3.30pm.

Mallee Cluster Day
February 24th is the date set for the 2016 Cluster Day. This year the focus of Teacher Professional Learning across the cluster is Literacy- Writing Across the Curriculum. This will be a pupil free day – students are not required at school on this day.

Hoax phone calls to Victorian schools
As you may be aware Victorian schools have received hoax threatening phone calls recently. Our school has not received such a call but I wanted to inform you that, like all schools, we have an emergency management plan in place for situations like this, and we practise it throughout the year. Those schools which did receive a threatening call enacted their emergency management plans and they worked well. The safety and well-being of our students is always our top priority.

Leanne Dawes
Principal

Passengers in motor vehicles:
With a number of Year 12 students starting to drive private vehicles to school, it is important that both students and parents understand the Department policy regarding students driving other students to school.
Following are the DET guidelines on this:

Students are not permitted under any circumstances (except in accordance with an approved Pre-Licence Driver Education program, Traffic Safety Education) to transport other students in private cars in connection with any school program or function, whether held during normal school hours or at other times.

This includes driving to and from school and at lunch times.
I would ask for both parent and student cooperation in this matter.
Do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Marie O’Connor
VCE Coordinator

Next Parents Association Meeting - February 8th - 4:30pm - Conference Room
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"A goal is a dream with a deadline."

~ Napoleon Hill ~

BUS TRAVELLERS:

Primary Students
Parents are asked to send a note or make a phone call to the office when your child/ren are not going to travel on the bus.
If we do not have a note or have not received a phone call, your child will be required to travel on their designated bus.

CHANGED MEDICAL CONDITIONS:
Please remember to inform the school if your child develops a medical condition or allergy which you may not have included on your original enrolment form. It is extremely important for us to have accurate medical records if an emergency occurs.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER:
If you have recently moved, changed your phone number or changed employment, please advise the school. We require the correct address and contact numbers in an emergency.

VISITORS:
All visitors to our school, including parents, are expected to report to the Office to SIGN IN.

HATS:
All students must wear a hat in Terms 1 & 4.

SCHOOL BANKING:
A reminder to all parents that school banking will be on Wednesdays.

FORMS:
Students should have brought home a number of forms to be filled and returned to the General Office ASAP.
Students who do not return the General Permission form will be unable to attend any excursions.
All Medical Forms must be filled in and returned regardless of any changes.

WATER BOTTLES:
Students are permitted to bring a pop-top water bottle to school to use during class time. They are particularly important in hot weather. Please ensure the bottles are named.

LATE PASSES:
Any student who is late for school needs to come to the General Office for a late pass. This ensures a student is not marked absent for the day.

Due to declining numbers, it is become difficult to fill all positions on the roster during the 2016 year. Any parents who can offer to work or cook more than once are encouraged to contact Mrs M Morrish as soon as possible to enable the roster to be finalised.
BOOK CLUB:
Book club will be running again throughout 2016, with approximately two catalogues sent home per term. All orders are to be left at the office. We do not accept cash, only credit card or cheque payments made payable to Scholastic. Please send along a clearly named bag with your order for your child’s books to be sent home in. Thank you.
Roxanne Simmonds
Librarian

BREAKFAST CLUB:
Breakfast Club will commence again next week. Breakfast will be offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8.30 onwards.

INFORMATION SESSION (F-2):
There will be an information session for all parents of students in Foundation (Prep), Year 1 and Year 2. This will take place on Monday, February 8th at 3.30pm in the shared area between the grades. All parents are welcome to attend. Topics will include:
⇒ Expectations for school and home.
⇒ The role of the specialists and their timetable.
⇒ Tips for helping with home reading
⇒ Communication opportunities for parents and teachers.

We hope to see as many parents as possible; time will be allocated for questions.
F-2 Staff - Bree Lacey, Cheryl Mole, Melanie Grace, Shelley Woodall, Dawn Geary

IMMUNISATIONS:
The Mildura Rural City Council Immunisation Team are providing a free School based Immunisation Program to all Secondary schools in Sunraysia. In 2016 all Year 7 Students will be offered: HPV, chicken pox, and Diptheria-tetanus-pertussis (boostrix) vaccines.

By now your student has received the consent cards to take home.
Please complete your child’s details, sign the card and return to school as soon as possible. If you do not wish for your child to receive the vaccines at all or at school, it is important that you still complete the card and return them to school.

How do I get further information?
You may obtain further information any of the following ways:
• Mildura Rural City Council Immunisation Team on immunisation@mildura.vic.gov.au or phone on 50 188 211
• Better Health Channel website www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au
• Department of Health website www.health.vic.gov.au

The Year 10 Precal students are looking for materials for a variety of projects. We would love to reduce, reuse & recycle the following: Treated pine poles, interesting metal pieces or machinery parts (rusty preferred) broken pavers, tiles and china, flat stones or pebbles and any old fish ponds!! Please let Miss Cross know if you have anything, but need it picked up! Otherwise, deliver to the patch.
Thankyou in advance.

MALLEE RESEARCH UPDATES
Manangatang
Wednesday 17th February 2016
6:30am-2pm
Renmark
Thursday 18th February 2016
6:30am-2pm
Presentations include: Time of sowing to minimise heat and frost risk. Monitoring sheep grazing behaviour & NVT and Breakcrop trial yields in 2015.
Free registration includes morning tea & lunch
RSVP www.mslp.org.au/events
events@mslp.org.au (03)9024 8835
SPORTING DATES – TERM 1

Please check the updated sporting dates for Term 1 as there are some slight changes to those published at the end of the 2015 school year. Please note a couple of changes from last week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5th February</td>
<td>Underbool District Tennis Tournament (Primary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th February</td>
<td>Secondary Swimming Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th February</td>
<td>Primary Swimming Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 19th February</td>
<td>Underbool District Swimming Sports (Primary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 24th February</td>
<td>Primary Division Swimming – Mildura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 2nd March</td>
<td>Secondary Division Swimming - Mildura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 15th March</td>
<td>Primary Biathlon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 17th March</td>
<td>Regional Swimming – Swan Hill (Primary &amp; Secondary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 23rd March</td>
<td>Secondary Biathlon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UDSSA TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to Hollie Munro, Chloe Latta, Ethan Munro, Tim Vine and Aden Pengelly who represented Ouyen P-12 College in the UDSSA tennis tournament today. Results will be in the newsletter next week.

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to our elected house captains & vice house captains.

INSIGNIA:
Hollie Munro and Ned Scott
Hannah Gall and Tim Vine

OLYMPIC:
Chloe Latta and Aden Pengelly
Lilly Cattanach and Ethan Munro

FOOD TECH:

The Year 10 and 8 Food Tech classes got straight to work in the kitchens on Monday to prepare and devour dressed, stuffed, baked potatoes followed by fruit kebabs and coconut yoghurt dip. Decisions were made about toppings, quantities, equipment, methods of using equipment, timing, temperature and serving. All shared the preparation and cleaning tasks. Great conversations about preferred tastes and ways of doing things enhanced the time, and the students ate heartily.
2016 HOUSE OFFICIALS

Congratulations to the following students who were elected by their peers to the prestigious House Official positions.

**INSIGNIA**

Captains
Ebonnie Summerhayes
Nicholas Vine

Senior Vice - Captains
Grace Woodall
Jack Cook

Junior Vice - Captains
Megan O’Connor
Jake Cresp

**OLYMPIC**

Captains
Ellen Morrish
Daniel Kay

Senior Vice - Captains
Allie Winslow
Tom Morrish

Junior Vice - Captains
Alana Linklater
Adam Morrish

**SWIMMING COSTS**

The MRCC has informed us that the cost for school entry to the pool is as follows. There will be no extra cost to students who have a Seasons Pass and the normal entry fee of $1.90 is to be paid by students who do not have a Seasons Pass every time they go to the pool.

**Forthcoming Dates**

**SWIMMING SPORTS**

The house captains are busy working on teams and are looking forward to the cooperation of their house members. The Carnival will be a day event, starting time to be advised.

Competitors are reminded of the following rules -

- Breaststroke and butterfly must finish with a two handed touch.
- Backstroke must be finished on the back, with one hand to wall.
- Swimmers must not push off onto their stomachs in backstroke turns.
- There will be NO running dives allowed. NO diving in the shallow end.
- Breaststroke kick must be uniform, both feet on the same level, moving at same time.
- All competitors must wear a swimming cap of the house colour.
- Girls must wear one piece bathers, lycra bike shorts are OK but NO Board shorts.

**Age group Championships**

A swimmer must contest at least two events in an age-group to be eligible for the individual championship of that Age Group. Swimmers can count only their three best point scores towards each championship. At least two different strokes must be represented in the scores. Scores can only be counted towards one age-group championship.

The Open Championship is open to all swimmers. Swimmers can only count their best four scores. At least three strokes must be represented in the scores. All open performances are rated on the Open (U21) SRT scales.
Welcome to our many new families – we hope you enjoy your journey with Ouyen P-12 College. Best wishes to those students elected to special roles within the school – do yourselves, your families, and your school proud. Best wishes, too, to all competing in, and helping at, next week’s House Swimming Sports.

Parents Association is a school body through which parents, guardians and carers of students can meet to find out about what’s happening in the school, ask questions, make suggestions relating to school, and to support the students and staff in the education process. Added to this are the odd working bee and some fundraising for extra school resources that is mainly achieved through catering – operating the Sheep Sale Kiosk and providing catering for various events as requested during the year. The College information booklet provides an outline of how the sheep sale works, and a summary of PA. We are often asked to cater for functions. To do this we allocate the job to the families of different year levels and trust people will volunteer time, food or cash donations to help complete the task. This has worked well over the years. We hope you continue to support it.

Meeting: Our first meeting for the year will be held next Monday evening [Feb 8th] in the Conference room [enter via main doors, turn east towards the Principal’s office], starting at 4:30 p.m.. The meetings are open to any parent, guardian of the school to attend – come and find out what’s going on, meet other parents and our Principal, Mrs Dawes. We try to keep the meetings fairly brief, and sometimes have guest presenters. Apologies and / or queries/suggestions to Raelene Vine (Secretary) on 50921598 or 0407849174.

Prep for Parents – is a weekly email subscription for parents with children in Prep. It covers topics parents have said they want to know about: what children are learning in Prep; how to help your child with maths; and much more. Regularly during school terms, a new edition arrives in your email box. Each article has helpful tips and links to websites and other information Subscription is easy. Go to www.education.vic.gov.au/prepforparents or http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/primary/Pages/starting.aspx

Sheep Sale – Was up and running as school recommenced. Thanks to Michelle, Hannah, Renae, Mia and Sienna for getting us off to a good start. Watch out for the roster and your turn. If you’re happy to be on the roster more than once, Michelle Morrish would love to hear from you. Leave a message at the office.

Catering – We have already been asked to cater for three upcoming events. These will be discussed at the meeting on Monday night. February 24th is a school Cluster Day; March 11th – provide cakes and slices for 150; plus a dinner on a yet to be determined date for the CFA.

Contact people - Each year we ask for volunteers to be the Contact People for our catering events. Meanwhile – anyone willing to take on one of those roles – please contact Raelene Vine or Justine Cresp – 0438 618544. We need 6 volunteers: P/1/2 3/4 5/6 7/8 9/10 11/12

Last year we raised several thousand dollars from Sheep Sales and Catering which paid for various school projects - this can’t be done without your valuable contributions of time, skills, goods and cash donations; all of which is greatly appreciated.

We look forward to a great year for students, parents, and staff at Ouyen P – 12 College in 2016.

Justine Cresp
President

Raelene Vine
Secretary

Mrs Latta was very happy to walk around the school during lunchtime this week to share the rock melon that has been grown in the Ag. Patch.
We’re using an app to communicate with you.

You’ll be notified of our news, messages, events and other communications.

Simply download the tiqbiz app to your phone or tablet.

To download, search tiqbiz in your app store:

Don’t have a smartphone or tablet?

Download tiqbiz on your PC or Mac at www.tiqbiz.com.au

To select us, follow the steps on the next page.
Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Ouyen P-12 College. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged between February 10th and 4.00 pm on February 17th 2016. Should the nominations exceed the vacancies a ballot will be held.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DET employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School Council Elections – Information for Parents
Nominations are open for 4 Parent Representatives for School Council.

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

• A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

• A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

• An optional Community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Contact the principal for further information
Ouyen P-12 College

School Council Elections
Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Ouyen P-12 College Council.

Name: ...........................................................................................................

Residential address
...........................................................................................................

Home telephone: ........................................
Business telephone: ........................................
Email: ...........................................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of ............................................................... who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training
Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate: .......................................................... Date: ............

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.