IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 6th</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th</td>
<td>Immunisations Year 7, 9 &amp; 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 10th</td>
<td>Greater Western Athletics Finals in Ballarat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13th</td>
<td>Regional Director (Mr Matt Dunkley) visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th</td>
<td>Year 7 Steps Day (2015 New year 7’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15th</td>
<td>Advance Camp to the Grampians starts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 17th</td>
<td>SV – State Athletics finals in Melbourne</td>
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I would like to extend to the whole Murtoa College community a warm welcome to term 4 2014. I am excited to be back and continue to feel privileged to have been asked to fill the role of Acting Principal. I am looking forward to working with the community to continue the good work that has been happening from the first three terms of this year. There have been a lot of things happening since the last newsletter.

The biggest news is that Mrs Anne Gawith, our Assistant Principal has been appointed to the Acting Principal position at Dimboola MSC for term 4 2014. The appointment process was conducted during the holidays. This is fantastic news for Anne and Dimboola’s gain is our loss. On behalf of the Murtoa community I would like to wish Anne the best of luck in her new challenge. As a consequence the College will now proceed with a process to appoint an Acting Assistant Principal for term 4. Hopefully, this process will be completed by the end of this week and I will make an announcement in due course.

To add to the changes for 2015 it is the start of the last term of school for our 16 year 12 students. They will finish their formal course work at the end of week 2, celebrate their conclusion to school and start their revision in week 3 and then start their exams in week 4. The journey for these students has been very positive and moving on will be difficult but it time for them to do something else. The whole College community wishes them luck and will help them celebrate and move onto their next phase in life.

After more than 30 years teaching in the College this will be the last term for Viv and Larry Williamson. They are going to retire and enjoy life after teaching. In modern education it is rare for teachers to spend so much time in one institution but these two wonderful teachers have left a major footprint on the College. We as a community will celebrate their life and times here at Murtoa in a way that is befitting. I hope that the extended community will also say good bye in the right way!

Finally, I was privy to attending the BIG WEEKEND in Murtoa this last weekend. What a fantastic celebration of all things Murtoa. Lots of our students won prizes at the show for various things from cooking to taking photos. Also, I saw the wonderful artwork from all our students in years prep to year 6 and some of our secondary students that were displayed at the art show and the prizes won by some of them. I took in the street stall, saw the Murtoa Cup run and won at the races, wandered through the heritage listed Stick shed, met plenty of local people, learnt a lot about the local history and generally enjoyed myself. Murtoa is getting into my blood!

Immunisations
The final immunisations for Yr 7 & Yr 9 boys is this Wednesday. Yr 10 immunisations will also be on Wednesday. Yr 10 permission cards must be returned by tomorrow please.
The week that was! (Week 10 term 3)
I would like to congratulate the following staff for helping our year 8 and 10 students attend camp:
The biggest thank you goes to Mr Bray who organized and ran the year 8 camp to Adelaide and to Mr Metelmann who organized and ran the year 10 camp to the Melbourne CBD. They were ably supported by Ms Bigham, Mrs Dingwall, Mrs Gawith, Mr Vague, Mrs Chapman and Ms Littore. I was lucky enough to attend the year 8 camp and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. The reports I received continually from the year 10 camp were only extremely positive. Our students were excellent ambassadors for our College and it was a pleasure to be involved with the year 8’s in Adelaide. Mrs Gawith expressed the same feelings about the year 10 camp.

Term 4
After two weeks break it is now time for all students to get back into the mode of doing school work. To assist our students with this I encourage families to make sure that students come to school ready to learn, with the correct equipment, in the correct uniform with appropriate food and drink and with a positive attitude. This term is 11 weeks long for most students and we need to get back into the routine very quickly.

Goodbye, but not farewell!
Today I commenced the Acting Principal position at Dimboola Memorial Secondary College for Term 4. As you can imagine, it is with mixed emotions that I embark on this new challenge; I am sad to be leaving, but also looking forward to what lies ahead. All of you know that I am very passionate about Murtoa College and love my role here, however this is an exciting opportunity, allowing me to take the next step in my career.

I will certainly miss the students, my colleagues, parents and the many other people I work with as Assistant Principal of Murtoa. I will particularly miss my two classes that I have had this year, my Year 9A English class and my Year 11 English class. I am sorry not to be able to see out the year with them, however they are left in the capable hands of Mr Williams and Mr Craig respectively.

I wish all members of the Murtoa College community a productive and enjoyable Term 4 and who knows what the future holds, I may well be back!

Best Wishes,
Anne Gawith

**STEPS DAY**
Murtoa College Steps day is next Tuesday 14th October. If parents have any questions please contact the school and ask for Mr Sachse

Please note: current Year 7 students are not required at school next Tuesday.

**Basketball**
Competition starts Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October (next week).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Competitions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Juniors (1 game)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Intermediate &amp; 17 &amp; Under</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Juniors (1 game) &amp; Men</td>
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Queries to Marie 5385 2604 – 0419 852 227
Year 10 Melbourne Trip – 2014

The final week of Term 3 was a memorable one for 31 Year 10 students. Armed with Myki cards and little knowledge of the city, the students began their experience with a scavenger hunt around the city. As the week progressed students became familiar with the layout of the city, and improved their understanding of the public transport system.

There were a number of new experiences this year including the Holocaust Museum, curling, walking with dinosaurs and the Melbourne Star Ferris Wheel. However, the biggest highlight was the Titanic restaurant. It was an amazing way for the students to celebrate the week and it was incredible to see the effort students went to, to dress in theme.

A huge thankyou to all students for their exemplary behaviour. I would also like to thank all the staff who attended throughout the week (Mrs. Chapman, Ms. Littore, Mrs. Gawith and Mr. Vague).
**Term 4 Sport Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 4</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>STAFFING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Friday 10\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>Greater Western Region Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Wednesday 15\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>Black Ranges Year 7 &amp; 8 Volleyball</td>
<td>St Brigid’s Horsham</td>
<td>Shannon Argall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Wednesday 15\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>Black Ranges Year 7 &amp; 8 Volleyball</td>
<td>St Brigid’s Horsham</td>
<td>Shaun Bray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Friday 17\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>GWR Track &amp; Field Primary</td>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Friday 17\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>State Track &amp; Field Secondary</td>
<td>Albert Park</td>
<td>Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>Minyip School Shoot</td>
<td>Minyip</td>
<td>James Craig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>Year 9 &amp; 10 Super 8’s Boys and Girls</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
<td>State Track &amp; Field Primary</td>
<td>Albert Park</td>
<td>Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Thursday 6\textsuperscript{th} November</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 Super 8’s Boys and Girls</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Sun 7\textsuperscript{th} Dec – Fri 12\textsuperscript{th} Dec</td>
<td>National Volleyball Championships</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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**The Big Weekend Art Show**

Congratulations to the Year 9/10 students for participating in the Secondary Section of The Big Weekend Art Show. Most of the group entered a portrait painting inspired by Archibald Prize winner Ben Quilty. All entries were fantastic but prizes went to Halle Brown Yr 10, Jessica Boan Yr10 and Karina Zolj Yr 9.

First Prize - Halle Brown.  
Second Prize- Jessica Boan  
and an Honorable Mention- Karina Zolj

Anne Randall
Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance

From 1 January 2015, the government will provide extra financial support directly to Victoria’s neediest schools instead of providing the Education Maintenance Allowance directly to parents.

**Parents will not be able to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance in 2015.**

The money will be allocated to eligible schools through schools’ core operational funding mechanism, with the neediest schools receiving the most funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015.

This change to how the money is distributed was required by the funding agreement with the Commonwealth government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding that will benefit all students and, in particular, those from schools with concentrated disadvantage.

The majority of parents who received the EMA payment already elected to provide the money directly to their school.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, you can speak to your principal about how you can access assistance from the State Schools’ Relief Committee for clothing and uniforms.

The end of the EMA direct payments to parents will not affect any other payment you may be receiving such as the Schoolkids Bonus, which is provided directly to eligible parents to assist with education costs.

If you have any questions about this change, please speak to your school principal.
Amalgamation Up-date
The Board has forwarded all paperwork to the Dept Health for approval. Awaiting a response. When this occurs we will further advise. In the meantime we continue business as usual.

Take-A-Break
Occasional Childcare
Rupanyup: Monday 6 & 20 Oct, 3 & 17 Nov
Minyip: 10 & 24 Oct, 7 & 21 Nov
Give yourself a few hours break to enjoy a quiet moment, an appointment, a visit with a friend etc.
Your infant/pre-school child can be cared for by qualified carers (who undergo regular ‘Working with Children’ and ‘Police Checks’) at the local kindergarten for 3-hours, 9 am till 12 midday. Please supply a piece of fruit for your child along with nappies, formula and any other necessities.
Milk and water is supplied.
Child Care subsidy is available to reduce the cost of childcare. Families can apply for CCB by phoning the Family Assistance Office on 138 180 or visiting the Medicare Office. Pamphlet & info available from the Take-A-Break Carer or 53631 200.
Bookings essential: 53631 200

Would you like to improve your overall health and fitness?
Would you like to do more walking?
Would you like to walk with others?
Spring has sprung and we are looking for some enthusiastic walkers to join us in a new walking group.
At the moment we are just taking names until we get sufficient takers to make it fun activity.
Contact Judy Hazelden or Sarah Florence, 53631 200

Annual General Meeting
Monday 24 November
8pm
Minyip community health centre
Service Recognition and Awards
Guest Speaker followed by supper

Living at Home Longer with Assistance
Talk to an Occupational Therapist
The main role of an occupational therapist is to promote independence and to assist the completion of day to day activities. Whether you are having trouble hanging out the washing, getting out of your favourite chair or even just getting in the front door an occupational therapist can help! Occupational therapy services are available through the Dunmunkle health service every Monday with Ryan, our new occupational therapist visiting from Nhill. Ryan is able to visit you in your home and chat about promoting your independence and looking at ways to get you back to what you want to achieve! If you are over 65 years of age or a pensioner, these services are free! Phone: 53631 200

Community Bus to Horsham
Tuesday 14 October, 11 November
Note Change of leaving time-later
Minyip 9.30 am
Rupanyup 9.50 am
Murtoa 10.10 am
$10 p/person
Bookings essential, 53631 200
Wanted
Ribbon, lace, buttons, beads. Large, textured, brightly coloured. Evening gloves, glittery costume jewellery and fabric. Evening shawls and bags. Top hats and tiaras, men’s dinner jackets. The nursing home is seeking some of these items. If you can help out please have a word with the Residential Care Services Manager or office staff. Second-hand will be fine.

Open Day
Dunmunkle Health Services
Rupanyup Nursing Home
Friday 31 October
Commences at 1pm
Entertainment by
Sandra & Leo

We invite you to visit our nursing home, have a look at our lovely facility, meet the residents and staff and enjoy the company of friends. Afternoon tea will be provided however any assistance would be welcome.

All welcome