IMPORTANT DATES

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Week 6 Term 1
This week starts with Parent /Teacher interviews for F-12 students on Tuesday March 1. All parents or guardians are invited and encouraged to attend and discuss their children’s progress. The interviews commence as follows:

Year’s F-6 student interviews 1.30pm to 6.30pm in the BER building.
Year’s 7-12 student interviews 4.00pm to 6.30pm in various classrooms.

The Year’s F-6 students will finish formal classes at the end of period 4. The Year’s 7-12 students will complete a normal day and finish at the end of period 6. Please note that the Buses will be running at the normal times.

Immunisation Records
As you may be aware, there has recently been a measles outbreak in the Brunswick area of Melbourne, including cases at a primary school.

In light of this, I am seeking your co-operation in ensuring we have a record of your child’s immunisation status on file. This will ensure the school can respond quickly should a member of the school community contract a vaccine-preventable disease. In the event of a disease outbreak immunisation status certificates help us to quickly identify the immunisation status of each child and implement the advice received from the Victorian Chief Health Officer and the Department of Health and Human Services, which may include sending your child home until the risk of infection has passed.

All schools are required to request an immunisation status certificate for each child prior to enrolment and to keep a copy of this certificate on record. Even if your child has not received any vaccinations, it is still expected that parents/carers/guardians provide a certificate.

The college has records for the majority of students. If, you have not provided this certificate to the college please provide it as soon as possible. The most commonly provided immunisation status certificate is an Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Childhood Register (ACIR). You can get a copy of your child’s Immunisation History Statement:

- through Medicare online accounts or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app
- by requesting a statement to be posted to you in the mail
  o Email acir@medicareaustralia.gov.au
  o Telephone ACIR on 1800 653 809
- by visiting a local Medicare service centre

Please be aware that your child may be excluded from attending school for up to 14 days if there is an outbreak in the school community and the school does not have evidence showing your child has received
two doses of a measles-containing vaccine. Further information on school immunisation requirements can be found at
If you think your child may require immunisations or you have questions or concerns about immunisation or particular vaccines, see your doctor or contact your local council. Immunisations are provided free to children under the National Immunisation Program.
If you have any concerns, please contact the school and make an appointment to see me.

The week that was! (Week 5 Term 1)

House Swimming Carnival
The twilight house swimming carnival was held at the Murtoa pool last Tuesday and it was a fantastic afternoon and evening! I am continually amazed at how good the Murtoa community is and this just reinforced it. Over 200 parents and friends attended to support the Year 7-12 students who swam and had a wonderful afternoon and evening. The staff, as usual were fantastic in the way they all made sure that everything just happened. Jo Baker did a herculean job in organising the swimming carnival and needs to be publicly recognised. THANK YOU!
The students are the reason that we do what we do and they really enjoyed themselves. I might not have expressed it clearly at the end of the carnival but their participation rate and the effort that the students put in just made me smile. It was amazing and well done to the whole college community again.

Relay for Life
Last Friday the whole college participated in casual clothes day and the coin line to raise funds for the upcoming relay for life. The whole college participated and raised over $400. As usual this was an incredible effort. I’m so proud of our students for being so community orientated. I don’t think there would have been a person here on Friday that didn’t give some sort of donation. I would like to thank the whole student body and the staff for participating in the coin line. Special thanks also go to the senior SRC students who were excellent in helping to organise and run this activity.

Tony Goodwin
Principal

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent teacher interviews for the entire school will take place Tuesday March 1st, from 1:00 until 6:30 for F-6 students and from 4:00 until 6:30 for 7-12 students.

Bookings can now be made through the Xuno portal at the following address.


Bookings can be made until 9AM on Tuesday March 1st.
Twilight House Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 23rd February, 2016

A hot day at the Murtoa Swimming Pool was the setting for Murtoa College’s Annual Twilight Swimming Sports. Students looked fantastic in their house colours – purple, bright green and orange, as they supported their teams and swam their best to accumulate points for their houses. Many students filled gaps where needed to ensure maximum points were collected in each of the events and it was down to how best the House Captains could maintain that participation which decided the winning house.

Overall House Swimming Scores
Degenhardt was the outright winner on the day, swimming to victory with a massive 2,190 points, followed by Waterson with 1,677, then closely by Meier on 1,291.
Degenhardt captains Corey Chenoweth and Olivia Matthews thanked the students for their efforts throughout the day. They were also appreciative of the support of the staff at the event and the parents, friends and family who came to see them swim.

House Standards Scores
Waterson House were the winners of the Swimming Standards with a total of 4.5 points per student, followed closely by Degenhardt on 3.6 points per student, then Meier on 3.3 points per student.

Most Colourful House
Meier House were the winners of the most colourful house with loads of green from their supporters. They received a shield which was presented to the MEIER HOUSE CAPTAINS.
Records Broken

Congratulations to Maddi Morgan (DEG) who broke TWO individual records AGAIN this year!

16 year girls 50m Backstroke 38.96 (Old record: Kristen Starick 39.11 KARA 1992)
16 year girls 50m Butterfly 36.71 (Old record: Lauren Reading 37.88 MARMA 1997)

Congratulations to Jake Ballagh (WAT) who also broke an individual record.
18 year boys 50m Butterfly 32.77 (Old record: S. Dymke 32.92 WIMMERA 2005)

Congratulations DEGENHARDT 16 YEARS GIRLS MEDLEY TEAM who broke a relay record:
Maddi Morgan, Eadie Garth-Lindsay, Sheridan Baker & Bridget Drum
16 year girls 50m Medley Relay 3:01.06 (Old record: 3:03.04 WIMMERA 1994)

Age Champions

Congratulations to the following students who won their respective age champions. These students will be presented their medallions at the next Whole School Assembly.

12-13 year girls  Cleo Baker
(Hannah Whyte runner-up)
12-13 year boys  Rupert Loats
(Will Coutts runner-up)
14 year girls  Lily Horvat
(Laelah Robertson runner-up)
14 year boys  Will Saligari
(Logan Petering runner-up)
15 year girls  Jessica Brand
(Laura Robbins runner-up)
15 year boys  Angus Matthews
(Jack Pidgeon runner-up)
16 year girls  Maddison Morgan
(Eadie Garth-Lindsay runner-up)
16 year boys  Riley Keel
(George Robbins runner-up)
17 year girls  Lily Williams
(Karina Drum runner-up)
17 year boys  Jayden McQueen
(Jake Ballagh runner-up)
18 year girls  Olivia Matthews
(Gabrielle Rundell runner-up)
18 year boys  Fergus Schier
(Jackson Welsh runner-up)

Black Ranges Swimming

Students who have qualified in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events are automatically entered into the squad to represent Murtoa College at the Black Ranges Swimming carnival. This is scheduled for Friday March 11 at Warracknabeal. Winners from there go to the Greater Western Region Swimming on Wednesday March 23 at Ballarat. Any students not intending to compete must notify Joanne Baker immediately!

Staff v Parents v Students

Unfortunately there were not enough parents to make a team; however the students tried to outswim the teachers assisted by a regular supporter of our sports Mr Mick Drum, with the teachers cruising to victory in front of the students by just hundredths of a second.
Primary Students Swimming
Special thank you to several Primary students who assisted the houses in some relay events. Bridget Botterill, Anai Taylor, Darcy Keel, Noah Horvat and Lloyd Baker swam VERY COMPETITIVELY against much older students in an attempt to help their houses out with competitors. They all went home with ribbons for their efforts!

Thank you to everyone who assisted with the organisation and running of the carnival

- House Captains for organising their teams and competitors for each event
- Students for their participation and extending themselves sometimes beyond what they thought they could do
- Students who couldn’t swim on the day but helped out around the pool
- Students who swam AND helped out with various jobs around the pool throughout the day
- To all staff for their efforts with consent forms, house groups, swimming standards, timekeeping, marshalling, photocopying etc. and helping with lots of preparation
- Maree Baker and the Pool Committee for their ongoing support with the magnificent facility
- Nicole Noonan and helpers for the SRC BBQ
- Parents, family and friends who came along to support and those assisting with events

REMINDER: The swimming sports are considered a normal school day and students must attend irrespective of if they are swimming or not. Failure to do so without written reasons will result in an unapproved absence.

Sport Dates for 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>WEEK 6</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Black Ranges Inter &amp; Senior Volleyball (Horsham) Murtoa convening</td>
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<td>WEEK 9</td>
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<td>WEEK 9</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>GWRegion Swimming (Ballarat)</td>
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Cake Stall This Friday
A reminder that the Relay For Life cake stall is this Friday the 4th of March. It will be held in the main street of Murtoa next door to the IGA. If you wish to help the Murtoa College Relay for life team to reach their goal of $1500 please contact Nicole Noonan at the school to help bake goods or come down and purchase delicious cakes and slices to support a great charity.

Georgia Belleville
Primary News

We are set for a very busy week with two excursions and Parent Teacher Interviews. Firstly, the Parent Teacher Interviews are a fantastic way to share extra information about your child/ren with the classroom teacher. Often small pieces of information can turn out to be vital pieces of their educational puzzle. Please ensure you are punctual as it is most likely the teachers have back-to-back interviews for most of the night. If you are unable to attend, please ensure you contact the classroom teacher to arrange an interview over the phone or in person at a later date. Please also note that school will finish at 12:45pm for Foundation to Year 6 students. Buses will be running to the normal schedule if you are unable to collect students at this time.

Students of the Week: Tilley, Tilda and Logan.

Also on Tuesday, the Foundation to Year 6 students will be attending their very first Country Education Program performance at Minyip. Bold as Brass will showcase some incredible musical talent and is sure to keep all ages entertained for the hour. Our students are attending an 11am show and will return just in time to be picked up at the start of lunch. We rotate performance venues between Murtoa, Minyip, Rupanyup and Marnoo throughout the year. The CEP member schools receive financial support from the government to assist in keeping the costs to a minimum. The schools choose a range of different educational performances from drama, science, environmental, literacy and historical themes (just to name a few).

On Wednesday we will be taking the Year 1 to Year 6 students to the Wimmera Machinery Field Days. The weather is looking to be warmer than we initially expected, so please note we may change our visiting times to suit this. There are numerous engaging exhibits which relate to our students and their lifestyles, which we feel is important for them to participate with. It will be very important to send students with a water bottle and snack they can put in their pocket on Wednesday. If you have any queries please write a note in the diary.

Foundation to Year 6 Assembly Schedule

Week 6 - Thursday 3rd March - Year 5/6 with Mrs Noonan
Week 7 - Thursday 10th March - Year 3/4 with Ms Boehm
Week 8- Thursday 17th March - Year 1/2/3 with Mrs Venn
Week 1 - Thursday 14th April - Year F/1 with Miss Barratt

Birthdays

| Matilda | F/1 | March 4 |

Scholastic Monster Book Fair!

The Scholastic truck will arrive tomorrow Tuesday March 1 with a Monsterous selection of books from as little as $1. The Fair concludes on Tuesday March 15. All sales earn the school commission to purchase books for our school.
MMFNC Football/Netball Information

All training will be at Murtoa until the Change rooms are completed at Minyip.

2016 Membership Night
This coming Wednesday 2nd March Sharna and Donna will at Murtoa from 5.30pm taking all football, netball and social membership payments.

NOTE: all footballers and netballers MUST pay their membership fees before round 1 otherwise they will be unable to play.

EFTPOS will be available. Cash and cheques will also be accepted! There will also be merchandise available for purchase (subject to sizing). If you have any questions please call Sharna on 0428 508 739 or Donna 0428 592 211.

Football
U14 & 17 training will start this Wednesday 10/2, 4.30pm at Murtoa.

U17’s
Coaches – Derek Cameron, Angus Trethowen.
Derek Cameron 0428 316 319 derekjcameron30@gmail.com

U14’s
Coach – Gavin Young 0417 372 120

Training will start 10th of Feb

Auskick/U12’s
A big thank you to Rod Hammond – U12’s Coach and to Guy Asplin – Auskick, both have put their hands up to help guide our willing participants.

Auskick – Manager/Registration, please see Penny Golder 0419 371 051, register online.

U12’s – Manager/Registration, Rachel Howson 0467 251 702. Club membership is $20 per player, this is heavily discounted by the club (actual cost is $75)

Please note:
Auskick registration is with the AFL, not our club, in order to play U12 a club membership only is needed. If you want to play Auskick and U12 you will need to be registered with both.

Netball
Training is same times as last week, although could 13 & under girls be at courts by 3.45pm for warm up, ready for a 4.00pm training with Lucy

PRACTICE MATCH - 17 & under girls practice match that was scheduled for this week at Quantong, could possibly be next Thursday March 10th, will keep you posted.

Jess Whyte - 0428 847381

MMNFC - Junior Netball Coordinator
As part of the Victorian Government’s drought assistance package, all Murtoa College students are eligible for a drought assistance payment through the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

This includes parents and independent students that do not hold a means-tested concession card but are experiencing financial hardship as a result of drought conditions. Families who receive the means-tested CSEF payment are also eligible. A ‘one off’ amount of $365 per student will be paid to the school to be used towards education expenses for the direct benefit of your child.

HOW TO APPLY
Complete a CSEF Drought Package application form and return it to the school office ASAP

Application forms should be completed and lodged with schools by 29th February 2016