Time to reflect on 2014 and look forward to the New Year

It was great to have the opportunity to meet with some of the new Year 7 parents and carers for 2015 on the Orientation Day this week.

We understand that this time of transition can be challenging and scary but also hopefully an exciting time of new possibilities.

It reminded me again about the priority for us as a College to ensure that students at this school feel connected and have a real sense of belonging to a great school community. While education is our core business we know that it is important for young people to be happy in their school setting to enable them to learn and progress well through their school years.

I reflected again about the importance of embracing a restorative approach as a College when things go wrong, when harm is done. We take time to have conversations to learn what went wrong, how people have been affected and what needs to be done to repair the harm. In my role as Director of Student Wellbeing I am involved in many restorative conversations and able to witness the benefits of them. It has a focus of challenging and changing unhelpful behaviours that might get in the way of us getting along as a school community.

We are waiting anxiously, but confidently for the outcome of our application for ongoing funding of the chaplaincy position – filled by Andrew Austin at the school. Andrew has been a great asset to our wellbeing team providing support to students across the College, with a particular focus supporting our middle school boys. He facilitated the Drumbeat program that used drumming to raise topics such as communication, friendship, team building and self-esteem.

Jenny Muir – Adolescent Health Nurse continues to be a vital part of the wellbeing team. She has been very busy delivering engaging wellbeing programs to students across the College with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and supporting the delivery of the drug education programmes. Jenny facilitated a new program this year – Peer Support program. We trained a small group of enthusiastic Year 10 students who did an awesome job delivering a series of activities with the Year 7 home groups. The aim was to continue to build the connections between the senior and junior students and we look forward to delivering this again in 2015.

The Respect group that meet on Monday lunchtimes is a valued time for students across the year levels to gather and discuss how they can ensure the school is a safe place for all students, that differences are respected including differences around sexuality and gender.

The variety of community agencies and health providers we have worked in partnership with throughout the year has strengthened the different avenues for wellbeing support we can offer students. Kingston Youth Services support worker Janet joins with us on Wednesdays to meet with students and provide different programs. Family Life Chelsea offer their services to meet families at the College who are experiencing difficulties, Brooke from Engage 1on1 Psychological services joins us on Mondays to meet with students for counselling support. We have had Petra from Young Carers come and support students who are responsible for caring for a parent with a mental illness. We are fortunate to have these and other partnerships assisting us to support the wellbeing of students. A big thank you to them for their support!

There has been a lot of things happening across the College to ensure our students are feeling happy and connected. Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss these different services further. Wishing you all a wonderful break over Christmas, and we look forward to doing it all again – even better in 2015!

Di Douglas
Director Student Wellbeing
Student Reports

Semester 2 Reports will be available online through the parent portal on Compass from 1.00 pm, Friday December 12. On this day, an email will be sent to families with a link to Compass and directions of how to access your child’s report.

Important Dates

December 2014
Thursday 11
- Y7 Icehouse excursion
- Y9 MEX expo
Friday 12
- Y9 into Y10 Orientation Day
Monday 15
- VTAC ATAR’s Released
- Y12 Change of Preference 15-18/12
Friday 19
- Last day of school - students dismissed at 1:30pm

January 2015
Friday 30
- Y7 & Y12 students commence

February 2015
Monday 2
- Y8-Y11 students commence
Tuesday 3
- Y11 Biology excursion to GTAC
Wednesday 4
- Y7 Camp Rumbag 4/2-6/2
Friday 6
- Y12 Business Management excursion
Monday 9
- Y7 Parent Information Night
- Senior Boys & Girls Cricket R/R

Payments to the College via Internet Banking

Thank you to all the families who have paid for 2015 charges. Just a reminder when you pay online to please include the student ID and details (camp, etc). For example: **STU001-camp**. Your student ID appears on your statement next to the charges.

Yvonne Aird, Business Manager

Mordialloc College staff and students share and proudly demonstrate our agreed values of:

- Personal Best
- Integrity
- Respect
- Responsibility
Last Friday night, our Year 11 students celebrated their year of hard work with our traditional "Mystery Tour". The students (and teachers) always dress up for this annual event. This year's characters were both diverse and fabulous. Our group travelled by train to the city and students competed fiercely in “The Great Race” which saw teams undertake challenges all over the CBD.
Community Notice Board

Safety Tips at Home

Burglary

Almost 29,000 cases of residential burglary were reported to police in the 2013/2014 financial year. The most alarming aspect of these reports is that in nearly half the cases there were no signs of forced entry.

We know that most burglaries are opportunistic and occur during the day when most residents are not home. This is particularly relevant as we plan to take a vacation and leave our homes unoccupied for an extended period.

To avoid being a victim yourself, there are some very simple steps you can take:

- Install good quality locks on doors and windows.
- Lock all windows and doors, even when you are at home.
- Make sure your house appears occupied at all times.
- Ask your neighbour to bring in your mail if absent.

Please report suspicious activity to police via 000.

Further information and advice sheets can be accessed on the Victoria Police website [www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au)

Mordiacloc College

Uniform Shop

In the School Hall Foyer

Normal Trading Hours

Monday 8.30 am – 11.30 am
Wednesday 12.30 pm – 4.00 pm

We highly recommend 2015 Year 7 students to book a personal fitting appointment to purchase their school uniform. Outside of trading hours at a mutually convenient time, an exclusive fitting with no queues.

Please contact Melanie at the Uniform Shop on 9587 6738 during opening hours or email mordiaclocuniforms.com.au

2015 Year 7 Exclusive Appointment Days

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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>29/11/2014</td>
<td>9.00 am – 12.00 pm (Please call 9587 6738)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6/12/2014</td>
<td>9.00 am – 12.00 pm to make an appointment</td>
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Extended Trading Hours

December 2014 - February 2015

In addition to normal trading hours

**December 2014**

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**January 2015**

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As of Wednesday 4/2/2015 Uniform Shop Hours will return to normal.

Mordiacloc Womens Football 2015

**Now Recruiting**

Ladies aged 16 years of age and above for 2015

**Pre Season** commencing in January

For further information please contact:

Natty Cardamone

0407-044-574