Dear Families and Community members,

**Welcome** to the 2014 school year, and a special welcome to all of our Year 7 students and new students at other year levels who are joining us this year for the first time. I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday break with family and friends and look forward to a positive year ahead.

**Strengthening Culture of Achievement**

Since my arrival as Principal, my ongoing challenge to everyone here has been to set ‘High Expectations’ in everything we do. Underpinning this focus are our core values of Personal Best, Integrity, Respect and Responsibility. It is so important that they continue to be evident in how we work together, how we aim high, how we treat and look after one another and how we welcome newcomers into our community.

We are certainly seeing the benefits of the College’s emphasis on high expectations and should be **so proud** of our school and the results achieved over the past three years. There has been continual improvement in key data sets, whilst also offering a rich program of extra-curricular activities outside of the classroom for all of our students throughout the year.

We are above the state average for value adding in NAPLAN, we are well above the state average on the Student Attitudes to School survey, our VCE results are equal to or better than the other co-educational public schools in the City of Kingston and surrounding areas and all Year 12 students applying for a tertiary placement have been successful, with the majority getting their first preference.

As a school community focused on achieving the best possible outcomes for all of our students we need to continually reflect and seek improvement in everything we do. This year will be the second year of our Strategic Plan (2013-2016) with our continued focus on the following **Key Improvement Strategies**:

- Differentiated Learning and Assessment
- Numeracy Improvement, with an initial focus on Year 7&8
- Building a culture of achievement and high expectations, whilst maintaining an orderly and positive learning environment
- Provision of the widest possible pathways in the later years

**Congratulations to the Class of 2013**

I am pleased to report that Mordialloc College Year 12 students in 2013 achieved an excellent success rate in completing their VCE studies. There were some outstanding individual results, with Justin Barry being awarded Dux of the College for 2013, with an ATAR of 97.25. Justin will be studying Arts/Education at Monash University. Caley Govender with the second highest ATAR will be studying Arts at Melbourne University. Other students in the top 5 also with excellent ATARs were Gavin Chin who will be studying Economics Advanced with Honours at Monash University, Dean Chan Lun Yung who will be studying Accounting and Finance at Monash University and Kayla Enez who will be studying Science at Melbourne University.

Additionally, 100% of our students who applied for tertiary/TAFE courses have received an offer of placement, the majority their first round choice – a truly outstanding result. Congratulations must go to all Year 12 students from 2013.

Thanks also to all the teachers who supported their VCE studies, especially our Senior School team from last year including Ms. Shelley Muir and Mr. Tim Randell. Thanks also to our wonderful Pathways Coordinator, Mrs. Jane Jamieson, who spent a great deal of time working with students to secure their tertiary and employment preferences over the holidays.

**Welcome to new staff**

We have a couple of new staff joining us this year. I am very pleased to welcome -

- Jennifer Roep – Assistant Principal
- Loretta Ilott – Integration Aide

And we welcome back Kathryn Bevan (Media and Drama teacher) from family leave and Kelly McConville (Drama and English), from 9 months leave. I am sure you will join me in welcoming these staff members, and wishing them all the best for their time at Mordialloc College.

**Farewell to our Chaplain**

Our Chaplain, Jamie Toll has been inspired by the teachers of Mordialloc College and has decided to pursue a career in teaching. He begins his teacher training this month, so regretfully I accepted his resignation over the holidays. Jamie has been a wonderful addition to our wellbeing team and will be missed by the students, parents and teachers.

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www.mcsc.vic.edu.au
thank him for the positive contribution he has made to our school community in the five terms he was with us and I am sure the whole community wishes him the very best in fulfilling his aspirations. I am currently working through the selection process for a new Chaplain to hopefully start this term.

**Uniform and Jewellery**

Our uniform is a very important part of the image we project of our college community and therefore I expect all students to wear their uniform correctly and with pride to, from and at school. I would like to congratulate the majority of students who have started off the year in a positive way in the wearing of the correct college uniform and I thank all parents for your support with this.

It was unfortunate that our new summer shirt for boys wasn’t available for the first day of school but these will be in stock Monday from 8.30 am. The green middle school jumper is now available in all sizes along with the blue hat for PE/Sport.

For PE and Sport, a reminder that students are required to be sunsmart and wear a broad brimmed or bucket hat when participating in outdoor activities. If they don’t bring a hat, they will be given one from our PE department to wear for the lesson.

All students must also be using the official Mordialloc College school bag available from Dobson’s.

A reminder of the rules outlined in the college uniform policy regarding jewellery. Jewellery is not to be worn apart from a wristwatch and a plain stud or sleeper for students with pierced ears. Piercing of other body parts must not be visible.

**College Council Elections**

College council elections are approaching. Further information will be in the newsletter next week and nominations forms available from reception. Please give some thought to contributing to the college by participating in college council – there are generally two evening meetings per term, and it can be very rewarding. College council decides, to a large extent, the policies and direction the college takes and is therefore a most important part of the college community.

I am excited about the year ahead and look forward to leading the Mordialloc community in the planning and implementation of its next stage of development aligned to our Strategic Plan (2013-2016) in the provision of the highest quality education, focused on continuing to build a culture of belonging, high expectations and academic achievement and providing multiple pathways for our students to experience success. Please don’t hesitate to contact me.

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**Introducing the College Leadership Team**

Principal – Michelle Roberts
Assistant Principal Curriculum & Pedagogy – Jennifer Roep
Assistant Principal Teaching & Learning Implementation – Kevin Osborne
Director of Student Wellbeing – Di Douglas
Director of Middle School Years 7-9 – George Tzimourtas
Director of Senior School Years 10-12 – Shelley Muir
Director of eLearning – Josh Flood
Director of Numeracy Improvement – Bryony Lowe
Business Manager – Yvonne Aird

**Introducing the Year Level Coordinators**

Senior School - Justin Wischusen Yr 12; Robyn Wilson Yr 11; Amelia Hargreaves Yr 10
Middle School - Alana Stewart Yr 9; Lauren McIvor Yr 8; Hayley Wood Yr 7

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**Important Dates**

**February 2014**

- **Thursday 6/2**
  - Year 8 Information Evening 6:30-7:30 pm
  - Year 10 Information Evening 7:00-8:00 pm
- **Friday 7/2**
  - Student Leadership Incursion
- **Monday 10/2**
  - Year 7 Information Evening 6:30-8:00 pm
  - Snr Boys & Girls Cricket R/R
- **Tuesday 11/2**
  - VCE Information Evening 6:00-7:00 pm
  - House Assembly - Swimming Sign-Ups
- **Monday 17/2**
  - Year 7 CAMP RUMBUG 17-19/2/14
- **Thursday 20/2**
  - Intermediate Girls & Boys Cricket
- **Friday 21/2**
  - Y9 Advance Snorkelling
- **Monday 24/2**
  - Golf & Lawn Bowls Day
- **Thursday 27/2**
  - School Photos
- **Friday 28/2/14**
  - House SWIMMING SPORTS all day

**March 2014**

- **Monday 3/3**
  - Whole School Leadership Induction Assembly
  - Y10 Advance Hike
  - VCAL Survivor Hike
- **Friday 7/3**
  - Kingston Swimming Sports all day

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**School Photos**

Photo day is Thursday 27 February

Please note the date has been changed - it is not 20 February as published in student planners.

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Ms. Michelle Roberts
Principal
Mordialloc College’s Chess Champion!

Over the summer holidays Ege Girgin (Year 9) competed at the Australian Chess Championship, an adult tournament for highly skilled players. Ege came first in his age group, was ranked 42nd out of 96 competitors and finished 12th overall. This is an outstanding achievement and Mordialloc College congratulates Ege for such an impressive result!

Well done Ege!

Miss Felicity Stewart
SEAL Coordinator

Year 7 and 12 Day One

Thursday, 30th January was an exciting day for Year 12 students – the beginning of our final year at high school. As exciting as this year will be, it is also essential for us to be prepared and equipped to deal with the challenges we will face on our Year 12 VCE or VCAL journey.

We spent the day rotating through a series of workshops. One included the formation of a study timetable – we all learnt strategies for creating our timetable, and one for use this year. We learnt how to recognise, manage and reduce stress, which we will definitely come across in year 12. A careers focus session took place in the forum, and we all relaxed on the hot day and practised meditation in The Space.

Afterwards, we had a sausage sizzle lunch with the Year 7 students, teachers and members of the principal class. The Year 12 students assisted in welcoming the new students, and wished them the best for the year. It was a fantastic way to end the day. On behalf of the cohort, I would like to thank the many teachers who ran these valuable workshops for us, our year level coordinator Mr Wischusen and Director of Senior School Ms Muir. All the Year 12 students are looking forward to a challenging, yet rewarding and enjoyable year.

Isabella Barker - Year 12

House swimming & diving

TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

’SIGN UPS’

All students are to attend house swimming sign ups

8.55 – 9.25am

WHERE: RED HOUSE (IWALA) = EZ
BLUE HOUSE (YERLONGA) = LC
GREEN HOUSE (KALURA) = HALL
YELLOW HOUSE (BUNURONG) = FORUM

- Be prompt, sign up & collect a permission note
Dobson’s Uniform Shop at Mordialloc College
Normal Trading Hours
Monday 8.30 - 11.30
Wednesday 12.30 - 4.00
Situated off the foyer of the School Hall
Telephone: 8587 0521
Please call the shop during trading hours if you unable to visit the shop within these times, and make alternative arrangements with the Uniform Shop Coordinator to purchase your shirts.

It is the College’s expectation that all Year 7 boys will be wearing the new shirt in readiness for our School photos on 27th February.

Boys NEW White Shirt with logo available Monday 10 February from 8:30 am

Student Travel

- Students 16 years and under, who do not wish to purchase a Student Pass are not required to obtain a VPT Student Concession Card but can still get a child myki for concession travel by visiting a metropolitan premium train station, a myki-enabled staffed V/Line station, a myki retailer, visiting ptv.vic.gov.au, or calling 1800 800 007 (6am – midnight daily). A $3 card fee applies.

- Students 17 years and over, who require a VPT Student Concession Card as proof of their concession entitlement can obtain a VPT Student Concession Card and apply for a free concession myki (if required) at the same time. Students will need to complete the enclosed form and lodge it at a metropolitan premium train station, a myki-enabled staffed V/Line station or the PTV Hub at 750 Collins St, Docklands. They will then be issued with their 2014 VPT Student Concession Card ($9 fee applies) and a free concession myki (if required). Those students who already have a concession myki can continue to use it and only need to renew their concession entitlement by completing the 2014 VPT Student Concession Card form.

Forms and further information
- Metropolitan premium stations
- PTV Call Centre 1800 800 007
- Online at ptv.vic.gov.au

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
EMA Application forms are available at the General Office. EMA is paid to eligible parents/guardians of students under 16 years of age and who hold a current Health Care/Pension card as at 28 January 2014.

Applications close on Monday, 28 February 2014.
Late applications cannot be processed.
For more information about EMA, visit http://www.educations.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx
JOIN ONE OF MELBOURNE’S MOST FAMILY FRIENDLY SOCCER CLUBS

Stingrays soccer club

2014 REGISTRATION DAYS

McCULLY RESERVE SCOUT HALL, BROWNS LANE, ASPENDALE (MELWAY 92:H2)

SUNDAY 16th FEBRUARY 9AM - 11AM

THE STINGRAYS ARE LOOKING FOR JUNIOR SOCCER PLAYERS, BOTH MALE AND FEMALES, IN ALL AGE GROUPS FROM U5 TO U17

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY COMPETITIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN U9 TO U11 AGE GROUP

COME ALONG TO MEET THE COACHES AND TRY THE GAME OF SOCCER WITH A FREE SKILLS SESSION RUN BY THE CLUB’S QUALIFIED COACHES ON REGISTRATION DAY

For more information go to www.aspendalesc.com or registrar@aspendale.com
Seaford Junior Football Club

Girls football team

The Seaford Junior Football Club are seeking expressions of interest in fielding a girls only football team in season 2014

If interested please email club President Mark Davenport at devofamily@optusnet.com.au stating name & DOB.

We Have Joined Facebook!

You can find Mordialloc College on Facebook by typing Mordialloc College into the search bar, then click ‘Like’. If you like us you will receive information about upcoming news and events within your newsfeed. Just another way we are improving digital communication within our College community. For more information contact Mrs Lisa Ip.