

MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3-1

25th July, 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our Vision

Mercy Regional College serves a wide rural community which values growth and diversity in Catholic Education in the Mercy tradition.

Our Mission

In the Spirit of the Gospels we commit ourselves to the core values of community, inclusiveness, learning, care, justice and mercy, excellence and achievement.

Our Focus for 2014

In the Mercy tradition, we seek to act with love, fairness, tolerance and compassion to all.

The last two weeks have been very sad and bleak for the people of Australia and the world; the tragedy of the Malaysian Airlines flight MH 17 as well as the ongoing and escalating conflict in the Middle East is cause for each of us to recommit to our faith, a faith built on the bedrock values of peace, love, justice, tolerance and compassion.

Our prayer today reflects on these themes:

*Lord Jesus Christ,
we cry out to you in shock and grief
for the lives lost to unthinkable violence
in the sky above the Ukraine
and in the homes and streets of Gaza and Israel.
Wherever deadly hate is in people's hearts,
come and disarm the violent
with your words of peace and acts of forgiveness.
Wherever people are weeping
for their shattered communities or their beloved friends,
come and plant seeds of hope with your
promise of resurrection life and a new creation.
Come, Lord Jesus.*

Planning for 2015

With the College almost two weeks into third term, planning for 2015 has begun in earnest. With a school the size of Mercy, forward planning needs to be comprehensive, considered and completed in a timely fashion. Central to this planning are the subject selection processes for students entering Years 9 – 12 in 2015. I strongly encourage all parents to take an interest in the selections and decisions that your son/daughter is making in the next few weeks. Specific details on subject selection processes and the upcoming VCE Information Night are included later in this newsletter.

Next Tuesday and Wednesday sees the second stage in the College enrolment processes for incoming 2015 Year 7 students with enrolment interviews to be held at O'Keefe Campus (Tuesday evening) and McAuley Campus (Wednesday evening) from 3.30 – 6.00pm.

These enrolment interviews provide both the College and prospective students and parents to meet, discuss transition arrangements, identify and discuss any areas of concern and provide an invaluable opportunity for prospective students to reflect on what the transition to secondary education might entail. Any students or families that are considering an enrolment at Mercy are asked to make contact with the Principal's Secretary, Mrs. Sue Bohm at the College on 5593 2011 or sue@mercy.vic.edu.au

Mercy Regional College Annual Car Raffle

Third term also heralds the start of Mercy Regional College's most important fundraiser, the annual Car Raffle. The car raffle has been held annually for almost 40 years and, each year, almost \$40,000 is generated to be spent improving the College facilities for your children. In recent years, funds raised by the Mercy PTFA have funded the purchase of a new 24 seater mini-bus, refurbishment of the McAuley Campus heritage-listed convent verandah and substantial IT infrastructure. I will be highlighting different aspects of the Car Raffle in upcoming newsletters as we move towards the Raffle draw which is held on Wednesday 12th November.

The Car Raffle committee met last night and one issue of concern is the need for us to continually refresh our numbers of parents who are willing to co-ordinate the sale of raffle tickets in each of our local communities. We are looking for parents or friends who are willing to work with the College and our Car Raffle coordinator, Mrs. Maureen Adeney to ensure that there are sufficient ticket sellers each time the tickets are offered around the district. Given the years that the Car Raffle has been operating, the College has very efficient systems in place to assist our volunteers, so the workload on those leading is not great.

If you would be interested in assisting to coordinate the selling of tickets in a local area please contact Maureen at the College on 5593 2011 or madeney@mercy.vic.edu.au

Staff Religious Education PD Day

Last Tuesday, almost 60 Mercy staff joined 170 others from Trinity College, Colac and Emmanuel College, Warrnambool for a day at the Noorat Community Centre directed towards exploring the Jewish and Christian Scriptures and Catholic Christianity and Judaism themselves. The 230 Catholic school staff present were privileged to listen to the engaging, funny and often challenging words of American New Testament scholar, Dr Amy-Jill Levine. Dr Levine is delivering a series of day-long sessions to Victorian Catholic schools and while with us explored themes that included Jesus as a Jew, The Prodigal Son and Women in the Christian Scriptures. The day was memorable both for the quality of Amy-Jill as a presenter but also for the opportunity to catch up with staff from the other schools, many of whom were old friends, colleagues and even kin.

Insight SRC Surveys

Over the next couple of days, 100 Mercy families will receive packages from Insight SRC, a company which conducts surveys of school performance. Every two years, all Ballarat diocesan schools are required to have this data collected, collated and examined. Personally, I have found these surveys to be amongst the most important sources of data for us to examine how effectively Mercy is performing across a range of areas including academic outcomes, classroom teaching, student learning, Catholic school identity and school community. In addition, the data collected informs our key strategic tool, the School Improvement Framework.

Could I ask that any families who receive an Insight SRC pack spend 30 minutes completing the survey (either online or the paper version) before next Thursday 7th August. All completed paper surveys need to be delivered to College Reception by this date. Responses are strictly confidential with the College not provided with any individual data or responses.

Student and staff activities

Although the weather has not been great, a significant number of student and staff activities have been underway:

- Congratulations to our Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning, Mr. Chris Grant who completed his first performance review last week. Chris has been with us for 2 ½ years and was required to complete this review ahead of a new contract. Thanks to all who participated in the interviews and to my colleagues on the review panel – Mr. Bill Slatter from the CEOB and Mrs. Tricia Cosgriff from Loreto College, Ballarat.
- Last Friday, both Campuses were abuzz with talk of Malala Yousafzai, a young lady from Pakistan famous for her resistance to the radical Taliban and advocate for girls' rights to education. Congratulations to the social justice committees of both campuses and to Mrs. Jo Saunders for their work in promoting this important issue.

- A number of students have been participating and competing in sporting pursuits in the local area and beyond, these have included the VCE Outdoor Education Ski Trip, HSSSD basketball, State Crosscountry and GW Netball. Well done to all!

Yours in Mercy,

DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

Term 3 Dates

Monday 28 July

- * VCE Subject Information Session (7:30-9:00 PM)

Tuesday 29 July

- * Year 7 2015 Enrolment Interviews (3:30-5:30PM)

Wednesday 30 July

- * Year 7 2015 Enrolment Interviews (3:30-5:30PM)

Monday 4 August

- * GW Table Tennis (Intermediate & Seniors)
- * Thomas Carr Exchange Program

Tuesday 5 August

- * Thomas Carr Exchange Program
- * Peter's Project Dress-up Day

Wednesday 6 August

- * Thomas Carr Exchange Program
- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 7 August

- * Thomas Carr Exchange Program
- * Year 11 Street Retreat
- * Guest speaker - Archie Fusilo (Year 8)

Friday 8 August

- * Thomas Carr Exchange Program

Monday 11 August

- * GW Netball (7 & 8)

Tuesday 12 August

- * Year 10 Retreat

Wednesday 13 August

- * Year 10 Retreat

Thursday 14 August

- * Year 10 Retreat

Monday 18 August

- * Mid Term Break – no school for staff & students

Wednesday 20 August

- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 21 August

- * Year 11 Street Retreat
- * Seeds of Justice Regional Event at Araluen

Friday 22 August

- * Seeds of Justice Regional Event at Araluen

Wednesday 27 August

- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 28 August

- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Monday 1 September

- * HCSN Transition Day

Tuesday 2 September

- * Country Kids Transition Day

Wednesday 3 September

- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 4 September

- * Year 11 Street Retreat
- * Mercy Instrumental Music Evening (7 PM-9:30 PM)

Friday 5 September

- * Teaching Staff PD Day

Wednesday 10 September

- * P/T/S Interviews (3:30 PM-6 PM) & (4 PM-8:30 PM)

Thursday 11 September

- * HSSSD Basketball (Years 7 & 8)

Friday 12 September

- * Our Lady of Mercy Mass – Stadium 11:30AM-12:30PM

Monday 15 September

- * Central Australia Trip departs

Tuesday 17 September

- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Wednesday 18 September

- * Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 19 September

- * **Term 3 concludes**

From the Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Jo Saunders

Malala Day: Celebrated on July 18th, 2014 at Mercy Regional College.

As we know, Malala Yousafzai, the young Pakistani child was shot on her way to school two years ago for her outspoken opinions about the necessity of all children to have an education. She has battled to regain her health and is now an activist for universal education.

Her birthday is July 14th, but on July 18th, Mercy Regional College honored Malala with a special Awareness Campaign decorating the entire school. Students wrote her thoughts of positive, but peaceful action on the ground in chalk so all students were welcomed into the school buildings with her message.

Social Justice Captain Caitlin Smart coordinated the idea of the day and researched a great deal of material. This was spread amongst the students in every homeroom and corridor. Colourful posters, quotations, pictures and balloons helped to bring Malala's message of universal education to the attention of students and staff. The library ran youtube clips with information about the life of Malala and her recent speech to the United Nations. Some students wrote inspiring letters urging the UN to support, promote and protect the right of universal education for all children, no matter their race, colour or religion. It was the hope of the Social Justice Team at Mercy College that each student and staff member would know more about Malala and her message of forgiveness, strength and courage after this great day of celebration. Congratulations to the students who helped to decorate the school and gave so generously of their time both before and after school hours to present this important information to the community. In the words of Malala Yousafzai,

"One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world"





Enhanced Learning Coordinator

Mrs. Leesa Henriksen

'THINK TANK' DAY

On Wednesday 25th June at O'Keefe Campus, Mercy hosted their first ever 'Think Tank' Day. It was offered for the first time to a small group of our highly able students from Year 7 to Year 10. The day was a unique opportunity for students to be involved in an event that catered for them academically, socially and emotionally and allowed them to participate in problem solving and higher order thinking activities with like-minded peers and be challenged on many levels.

The day began with some fun icebreaker activities that got the students thinking critically and also allowed them to get to know the other students who they would be spending the day with. Reflection time after this gave us an opportunity to read some inspirational quotes from a range of successful people in the world. Students then chose one quote to copy down and hold onto and refer to throughout the day. We then participated in a 'Toxic Waste' team challenge with the goal being to move some toxic waste to a 'Neutraliser' zone with only minimal equipment in a specified space and time frame. This provided a great opportunity to really use our thinking skills and be challenged on many levels. There were a lot of laughs but also lots of other emotions at work, frustration being one of them!

After recess we were lucky enough to have Dr Joshua Saunders, a past St Patrick's Camperdown Primary and Mercy student, speak about his experiences at school as a highly able student, and also more recently as a university student and graduating doctor! Josh was very inspirational to listen to and spoke fondly of his school days, teachers and peers. He emphasized the importance of setting goals and following your dreams, getting involved with extra-curricular activities and the balance between work and play. The students used the opportunity to also ask some great questions and they were very keen to gain an insight into his profession and the steps he took to become a doctor. We thank Josh for being so generous with his time and sharing his experiences and we wish him all the best in his career.

Josh's session tied in well with our next session on career paths. Students used online tools and websites to explore possible career paths and what their interests and strengths might lead them to. Lots of sharing about jobs, subject choice and university courses took place. Students were then placed into groups with similar career paths in mind where further peer discussion and support took place.

Our afternoon session was a virtual video conference through Questacon in Canberra. The students were challenged to work in pairs and build prototype solutions to a problem using basic materials. Through designing and making, students explored innovation

Tika Peru Scarves:

Yes it is cold, but if you want to stay warm and cosy and wear a snuggly scarf then purchase one of the wonderful Tika Scarves. Available in either Blue with neutral tones or black with pastel stripes these scarves are just **\$20 each!!!**

CAN BE WORN WITH THE MERCY COLLEGE UNIFORM

We have been selling the Tika Scarves for three years now and are almost out of stock.

When buying a Tika Scarf you are supporting the women of Peru who live the poorest of environments. Through the support of the Sisters of Mercy they have been able to build a sustainable business and purchase knitting machines. Be warm, Be just, Be fair to those in need ... and buy a Tika Peru Scarf.



and learnt skills that will help them solve problems across the curriculum and beyond. This was lots of fun and was exciting seeing ourselves on TV!

The feedback from the day was very positive and it was fantastic to see the high level of participation and enthusiasm throughout the day. Students mixed well across the year levels and enjoyed the range of cooperative, creative and open-ended tasks offered throughout the day. The day was such a success we hope to run something similar later in the year.

These students each received a participation certificate for their involvement in the day:

<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>
Jordana Bateman Emma Bath Sam Cole Tadgh Dwyer Nina Parker Tully Watt	Isabella Giblin Luke Lenehan Demby McKenzie Joshua Newcombe Martin Robbins Tate Tregea Copeland Abbey Vines Joshua Watt
<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>
Chey Beaver Chloe Gibson Tara Suri Ripley Watt Sarah VanderSchans Stephanie Smart	Ryan Brumby Kate Halleyburton Matthew Harty Jordyn Hickey Ella Kissick Lily Lourey Emma Lucas Hamish McConachy Caitlin Williams



Career News

Mrs. Jenny Phillips

Defying the Drift – Build a Great Future

Defying the drift is a program for secondary students considering a career in agriculture and related industries. It is an initiative of Rotary District 9780, which includes around 60 Rotary Clubs located throughout western Victoria and into South Australia.

Defying the Drift is run in partnership with Marcus Oldham College at Waurn Ponds near Geelong.

The inaugural program took place in 2010, but it had to be cancelled in 2011 due to the flooding that affected much of rural Victoria. The program ran again in 2012 and 2013.

Defying the Drift is a 2 stage Program

Stage 1: Defying the Drift starts with a challenging residential weekend at leading tertiary agricultural institute, Marcus Oldham College, where participants learn new skills, discover many rural futures, meet some great young agriculture role models and have a great time.

Stage 2 is when participants bring it all together and make a presentation to a local Rotary Club or similar organisation if a Rotary Club is not available. Presentations are expected to cover what participants have learnt through the Defying the Drift program and their personal reflections on possible rural futures.

Who's it for?

Year 10 & 11 students (approx. 16 –17 YO) interested in rural career options.

Where and when?

Stage 1 Residential Course

Marcus Oldham College, Waurn Ponds, Geelong, Monday September 30th, 2014 to Wednesday October 1st, 2014.

Stage 2 Presentation

October to November 2014

How much?

A nominal fee of \$100 per participant is payable and local Rotary Clubs are encouraged to assist by contributing part of the fee.

The VTAC Application Process for Current Yr 12 Students

The system opens on 4th August and closes on the following dates:

Timely course applications close - 30th September

SEAS applications and submission of documentation – 7th October

Scholarship applications and submission of documentation – 17th October

The cost of a Timely Course Application for Yr 12 students is \$28 and if students miss the 30th September Deadline, the cost is \$93.

Students should be researching course options and where appropriate and preparing documentation for SEAS and scholarship applications during upcoming weeks.

During August, students will be given information and instructions on how to complete the application processes during Pastoral Care classes. It is desirable that students adhere to the timelines recommended by the College, think carefully before beginning the process, allow sufficient time to complete the process and submit their course application prior to the end of Term Three. All Yr 12 students will be interviewed prior to the end of term to assist them in their planning for 2015.

All dates and other relevant information are available in the 2015 VTAC guide which is available online and through newsagencies.

If you have any questions regarding the VTAC process please contact Jenny Phillips, Lesa Thornton, or Lachie Lee.

VCE Subject Selection for Yr 10 Students

The Federal Government has provided the parents of all Yr 10 students with a publication entitled 'Parents talking Career Choices'. This information will be given to students next week and it can be accessed online through the [MyFuture Website](#).

Weekly Career News

TERM 3

22 July 2014

FUTURE CAREERS- CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

With subject selection taking place over the next several weeks, it is time to start thinking about your future after school. What pathway are you interested in?

Employment? TAFE? Apprenticeship? Traineeship? University? Pretty straight forward really. It seems like it's just expected that you will make a decision and go from there.

- But have you sat down and really thought about the next 5 years? Even the next 2?
- Is the course or training area you are thinking about the right one for you?
- Have you developed a pathway plan? Or are you just traveling along in the passenger seat, hoping things will fall into place.

Did you know?

- Between 20 – 30% of first year students drop out of or change their university course.
- About 50% of trainees drop out of their apprenticeship/traineeship.

Don't become a statistic- make sure you don't just fall into a course or job. You still have heaps of time to make the right decisions and put in the groundwork.

You will be making the wrong career choice if you base your decision-making solely on any of the following:

- **It looks cool on TV** (i.e., Boston Legal, CSI, Criminal Minds). This is NOT reality. People don't walk around crime scenes wearing the latest fashions, or work in labs with their hair falling about their shoulders. Nor do they receive crime scene test results overnight.
- If you want to watch a good program, watch a reality series like Border Security, Recruits, or Customs etc., or read autobiographies of people working in the industry you are interested in.

FUTURE CAREERS- CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

- **Your parents expect you to do it.** This is a tricky one. You want to study history, but your parents expect you to study law, medicine or dentistry because in their eyes it is 'more respectable', 'earns more money', or simply it is just an expectation in your family that you will study a certain course. Following your parents' guidance will make them happy, but it's important that **YOU** are happy and fulfilled in your life.

- **The job pays a lot of money.** We know occupations like Dentistry, Law and Mathematics pay well. But would you want to sit through four years of Law if your heart wasn't in it, and you didn't enjoy things like researching, debating, reading and analyzing. And would you want to commit years of study to becoming a Dentist or Surgeon through taking subject after subject in sciences when you loved humanities?



- **Your parents/siblings/second cousins neighbour does it.** Sure, your Auntie likes accounting, but how do you know you will?

If you want to follow the path that will lead you to a satisfying career, there are a few things to think about.

- **You don't know what you don't know:** There is a world of opportunity out there with an enormous range of career options. There are jobs that will suit you that haven't even been invented yet!
- How would you know that you would like to study biomedical engineering if you have only studied physics and math methods at school? How would you know that you would love anthropology if you have only studied sociology at school?



FUTURE CAREERS- CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

2) Network: Do work experience. Even one or two days- you don't have to go for a whole week. Worried about missing school? Go through the school holidays. You won't be able to build up a realistic picture of what building or real estate is by just reading a brochure.



Seek out managers and business owners in your career interest areas and make contact with them. Ask them about the pathway they have taken since school, what the good things are about the job and the not so good things, ask if you can meet them for a coffee- start to build up your contacts.

3) Be flexible and ready for change: You will change your career direction several times throughout your lifetime and you will work for different companies. You may also change your course or apprenticeship, drop out of study, work for a while, go back to study, drop out again, travel, pick up some TAFE study, work in different jobs....you don't know what lies ahead in your future but be prepared to be flexible and resourceful.

For many people of your generation, it's completely normal.



Most importantly, speak to the people who know you best. They will be able to advise you well and support you throughout your journey

OPEN DAYS – 2 & 3 AUGUST

- **Monash University:** Berwick and Peninsula campuses, Saturday 2nd. Clayton, Caulfield and Parkville campuses, Sunday 3rd, <http://destination.monash/open-day/>
- **Swinburne University/TAFE:** Hawthorn Campus, Sunday 3rd. Travel scholarships available for regional students, www.swinburne.edu.au/openday/
- **Deakin University:** Warrnambool campus, Sunday 3rd, <http://openday.deakin.edu.au/>



VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Entry into the Bachelor of Medical Science (Vision Science)/Master of Optometry for regional students at Flinders University.

Students who have lived in a rural/regional area for more than five years and would like to apply for this course are eligible to apply for the Rural and Remote sub-quota for entry. There are 20 places and students who achieve an ATAR of 85 plus (inclusive of bonus points) will be considered competitive for entry. For information on the scheme and entry requirements, go to www.flinders.edu.au/courses/undergrad/bmsmopt/

Check out the new Engineering and IT Building at UTS! The new building features the latest in cutting edge technology, including robotics, computer and human-centred design labs, and a 3D data visualization facility. It's classrooms, public spaces and research spaces will accommodate up to 5000 students and staff. You will be able to go behind the scenes and view the new building on 4 September, <http://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology>



UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

Exercise and Sports Science degrees at Victoria University (VU): Starting in 2015, VU will be offering four exercise and sport science degrees:

- Bachelor of Exercise Science (Sport Practice)
- Bachelor of Exercise Science (Clinical Practice)
- Bachelor of Sport Science (Human Movement)
- Bachelor of Sport Science (Exercise Science)

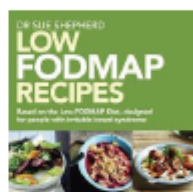
VU has partnerships with elite sport organisations such as the Western Bulldogs, Australian Sports Commission, CSIRO, Netball Victoria, and Universidad Europa Madrid (in collaboration with Real Madrid Football Club).

To find out about the different courses and pathway programs, go to- <http://www.vu.edu.au/about-us/academic-colleges>



VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

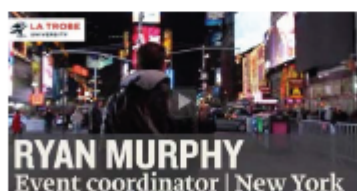
Dietetics and Human Nutrition at La Trobe University: Dr Sue Shepherd is a senior lecturer in the Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition. She is the founder of the Low FODMAP Diet and she has won the Douglas Piper Young Investigator of the Year Award in 2006 for her FODMAP research, and Best Health and Nutrition Cookbook in Australia. Check out 'Kitchen Academic' videos where Sue will be making a low FODMAP recipe and discussing her revolutionary research, <http://www.youtube.com/user/thekitchenacademic>



Meet amazing La Trobe University graduates: If you are considering studying at university in the future and not sure where a degree could take you, watch videos about the La Trobe graduates listed below:

- Ryan Murphy, Event Consultant/Musician
- Jess Keogh, Lawyer at Clayton Utz
- Mouhamed Assafiri, Project Coordinator, Telstra
- Keegan FitzGerald, Physiotherapist
- Erin Wallace, Sport Event and Operations Manager
- Tia Spanos, Australian Government
- Jordie French- High School Teacher

Go to <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/career-practitioners/meet-our-graduates>



You can also check out videos from current students. Topics include- My pathway into law, placement preparation, a day in the microbiology lab, getting ready for the classroom, volunteering, what is the careers hub?, money to help you study overseas, save a life with CPR, doing your exams- the right way, eat, learn, love – La Trobe!

To watch the videos, go to www.latrobe.edu.au/studentblogs/student-videos

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Elite Athletes and Performers (EAP) Program at UNSW: The EAP Program supports students with a flexible entry process that considers both academic and elite achievements, as well as flexible study arrangements while at UNSW.

Students who have excelled in areas of sport, academia, performance, leadership, and/or music at a national or international level can be awarded up to five bonus points. Applications for the 2015 intake open Monday 18 August. For more information, go to www.unsw.edu.au/eap

UPCOMING EVENTS - JULY

- **23 – 26: Nursing and Midwifery Information Sessions,** Deakin University, www.deakin.edu.au/health/nursing/news/
- **27: World Exchange Program Information Session,** Melbourne, <http://wep.org.au/info/information-evenings>

UPCOMING EVENTS - AUGUST

- **1: Student Conference – Conservation Careers at Zoo,** www.zoo.org.au/education/school-programs/
- **5 – 11: Australian Engineering Week,** Melbourne, www.engineersaustralia.org.au/aew
- **9, 10: Health Skills Australia Open Days,** Blackburn and Melbourne, www.healthskills.com.au
- **12: World Exchange Program Information Session,** Melbourne, <http://wep.org.au/info/information-evenings>
- **15 – 17: Herald Sun Melbourne Career Expo 2014,** Melbourne, www.careerexpo.com.au
- **16: APM College of Business Communication, Open Day,** Sydney, www.apm.edu.au/

UPCOMING EVENTS - SEPTEMBER

- **4: A Career in Radiation Oncology,** Melbourne, www.acareerinradiationoncology.com.au/

Early Entry Schemes

2015

La Trobe University SALT



Schools Access La Trobe (SALT): Entry is based on: an ATAR set by La Trobe, how you answer three questions, and a school recommendation.

Eligibility and application: You must:

- Apply for the course through VTAC.
- Apply for SALT via SEAS category 5 by 7 October.
- Achieve the required minimum ATAR.
- Meet eligibility criteria for the course.

Information:

www.latrobe.edu.au/school/apply/special-entry/schools-access-la-trobe

Federation University Open Access



Entry is based on the student achieving prerequisites for the course (e.g., a study score of 20 for Biology). The ATAR is not taken into consideration. For selected courses only.

Eligibility and application: You must:

- Apply for the Open Access course through VTAC.
- Achieve the required minimum prerequisite study score/s.
- Make the course your first preference by 22 December.

Information: <http://federation.edu.au/open-access>

La Trobe University Aspire Program



Entry is based on: school recommendation, your history of community service, leadership, volunteering etc. An ATAR of 50 for all courses except law (70) and allied health programs (varies).

Eligibility and application: You must:

- Apply directly to La Trobe by 30 August for the Aspire program
- Apply for the course through VTAC or UAC
- Meet eligibility criteria for the course.
- Achieve required ATAR and study scores.

Information: www.latrobe.edu.au/school/aspire

Australian Catholic Uni Early Achievers



Entry is based on: minimum ATAR set by ACU (58.8 for most courses), references, and statement of community service, leadership, volunteering etc.

Eligibility and application: You must:

- Apply for the course through VTAC, UAC or QTAC. Must be your first preference.
- Apply through the online portal on the ACU site for Early Achievers between 11 August - 20 October.
- Achieve the required minimum ATAR and study scores for course.
- Meet eligibility criteria for the course.

Information: www.acu.edu.au/454769

Early Entry Schemes

Flinders University PRP



Principal's Recommendation Program: Entry is based on a school recommendation, academic reports, and community service, leadership, volunteering etc.

Eligibility and application: You must:

- Apply for the course through SATAC.
- Fill out the application form.
- Meet eligibility criteria for your course.

Information: www.flinders.edu.au/future-students/how-to-apply/special-entry/principals-recommendation-program.cfm

Uni. of Wollongong Early Admission



Entry is based on Year 11 and 12 academic grades and school reports, an interview (some students), and a school statement of support if you have experienced disadvantage, which has impacted your school marks.

Eligibility and application: You must:

- Apply for the course through UAC by 30 September (can apply for two courses).
- Fill out the Early Admission application online between 1 - 29 August.
- Meet eligibility criteria for the course.

Information: www.uow.edu.au/early

Guaranteed Entry Schemes

Uni. of Melbourne Access Melbourne



Guaranteed entry with a lower ATAR set by the University of Melbourne.

Eligibility and application: You must

- Be from a rural area or a financially disadvantaged background.
- Apply for the course through VTAC
- Fill out SEAS category 1 (location) and/or 3 (financial) by 7 October
- Meet eligibility criteria for your course.

Information:
<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions>

Swinburne University Guaranteed Entry



Guaranteed ATAR Scheme: Swinburne may set guaranteed ATARs for the 2015 intake for most courses.

Eligibility and application: You must

- Apply for the course through VTAC by 22 December.
- Meet eligibility criteria for your course

Information: The scheme is yet to be approved for 2015

Schools Recommendation Scheme

What is the Schools Recommendation Scheme?

SRS is a central system where UAC applicants can apply for early entry programs for NSW and ACT universities.

Schools can write recommendations on behalf of students who have applied for early entry programs.



Which universities are part of the scheme?

- Australian National University
- La Trobe University
- Southern Cross University
- University of New England
- University of Western Sydney
- Charles Sturt University
- Macquarie University
- University of Canberra
- University of Technology
- Griffith University



What is the Application Process?

- 1) Apply for your desired NSW or ACT course via UAC.
- 2) Login to the Schools Recommendation Portal using your UAC login details.
- 3) Fill out the application form by 30 September and upload your Unit 3 + 4 SAC results if required.
- 4) The school will receive your application, and a staff member will fill out a recommendation form online.
- 5) Offers will be made via UAC on Thursday 4 December. If successful, you will receive a conditional or non-conditional offer.

It is important to note that each universities entry scheme is different, and not all courses are eligible for early entry. CCW students aren't eligible for all early entry programs. For example, only CCW indigenous students are eligible to apply for ANU's scheme.



Past Student Experiences

Eleanor O'Brien

I got into the Bachelor of Physiotherapy at Charles Sturt University, Albury through the Principal's Report Entry Program (PREP).

I was required to submit my marks from all my sacs in the first semester as evidence of sound academic achievement. I then had to write about why I wanted to study Physiotherapy, what my understanding of the course was and why I thought I would succeed. I also had to get a written character reference from either the Principal or a teacher.

Early entry allowed me to benefit from factors other than academics to help get into uni. This was a big factor for me seeing as the ATAR was roughly 92 for my year. I spent most years throughout school being either Sports Captain or on the SRC, including being Vice Captain in Year 12, so I certainly invested a lot of time in things other than the academic side of school. I also knew I wanted to study Physio for a long time so I was able to write up good answers to the questions they asked.



Year 12 students should consider to apply for early entry because there's nothing to lose in trying, it's a lot less stressful at the end of the year being accepted into uni before your ATAR even comes out and it's a great way to take advantage of factors outside your academic achievement in Year 12 as a way to show your eligibility for a university course.

Ashlea Bennett



I applied to study a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary) at Charles Sturt University, Albury campus through their early entry program.

When I submitted my application I was able to use both my academic and community service achievements as evidence of my commitment to succeed.

I also had attained a Certificate III in Childcare in Year 10 and this also assisted my application. By gaining early entry it took a lot of pressure off me and allowed me to prepare for the next stage of my academic life.

MUSIC NOTICE

Janet Backhous - Instrumental Music Co - Ordinator

1. Instrumental Concert

Our Instrumental Concert is fast approaching and it is always a fabulous evening. Our Instrumental Students and their teachers will again surprise and delight us with their inspirational and uplifting performances.

Please note the date in your dairies and join us for a great night of music.

Date - Thursday the 4th September

Time - 7 pm till 9.30pm

Place – Multi-purpose Room - McAuley Campus

Supper - Please bring a plate of food to share - Drinks provided

We look forward to seeing you there.

2. Instrumental Lessons

Instrumental Lessons are available for students wanting to learn Guitar and Bass guitar, Clarinet, Flute and Saxophone, Piano and Singing, Violin, Viola and Cello.

If you would like to learn one of these instruments please contact me via email

jbackhous@mercy.vic.edu.au

I will then get back to you and organise your lessons.

3. Warrnambool Eisteddfod Success

I would like to congratulate Mollie Gaut on her achievements at the Warrnambool Eisteddfod. Mollie competed in the Vocal Sections and achieved the following awards -

- 1st place in the Australian Composer section singing 'True Blue.'
- 1st place in the Contemporary section singing 'Butterfly Fly away.'

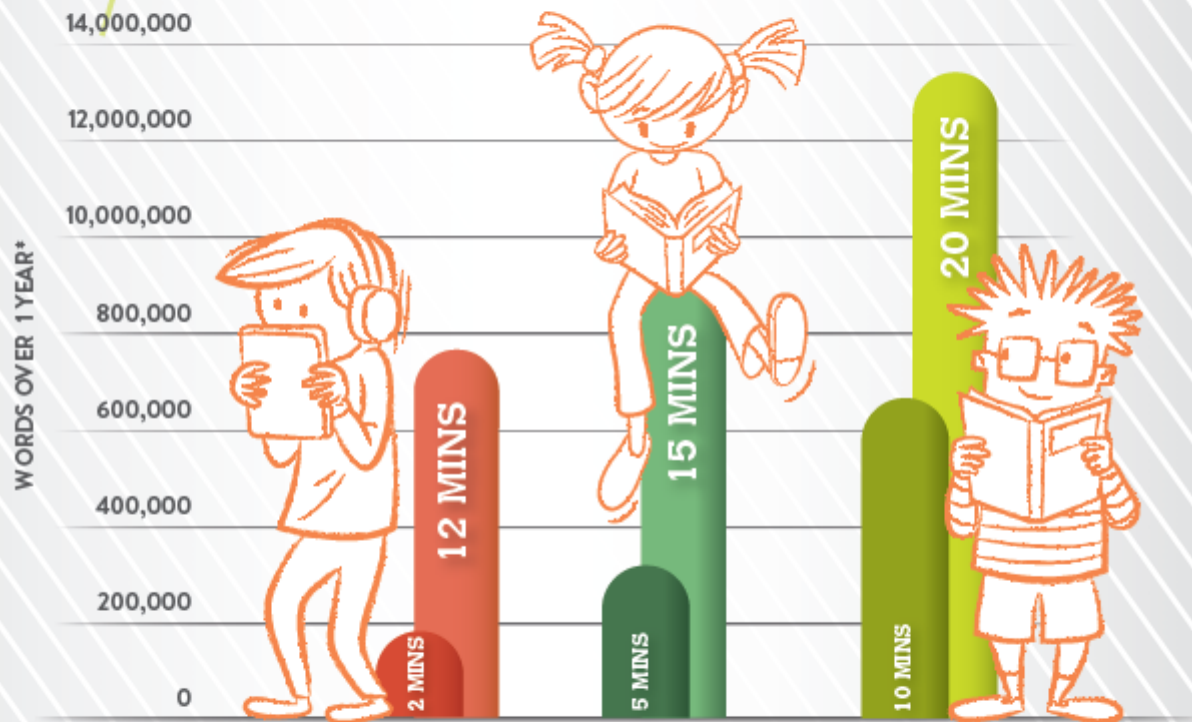
For this section Mollie also accompanied herself on the guitar.

Honourable Mention for Own Choice singing 'People help the People.'

Well done Mollie. You work hard and it is always a joy to hear you sing. Mollie learns with Phillip Trigg and we know he is very proud of your achievements Mollie. We look forward to hearing you sing at the Colac Eisteddfod and the Instrumental Concert.

ADDING 10 MINUTES A DAY TO A CHILD'S READING MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE OVER THE YEAR.

A COMPARISON OF YEAR 5 CHILDREN



*Adapted from Adams (2006) with baseline data from Anderson, Wilson & Fielding (1998).

DID YOU NOTICE?

THE MORE MINUTES CHILDREN READ PER DAY, THE MORE FLUENT THEIR READING BECOMES.
FROM 5 MINUTES TO 15 MINUTES PER NIGHT THERE IS AROUND

A 200% INCREASE IN WORD EXPOSURE OVER ONE YEAR!

RESEARCH SHOWS US THAT THE BENEFITS OF READING MORE
IMPROVE PERFORMANCE IN:

**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE, VOCABULARY,
READING COMPREHENSION, VERBAL FLUENCY
AND SPELLING.****



Tips for staying active this winter!

Exercise Induced Asthma (EIA) is a common trigger for asthma. However, it does not need to be a barrier to Students participating in sports and physical activities.

Here are some tips to help prevent EIA in students:

Before Exercise take reliever medication 5-20 minutes **before** warming up.

Warm Up before exercise as normal.

During Exercise watch for asthma symptoms and administer reliever medication if they should occur. Only return to exercise if symptoms are relieved. If symptoms appear again, administer medication again, until they are relieved. It is not recommended that the Student should return to the sporting activity after a second occurrence of asthma symptoms.

After Exercise cool down as usual. Note that asthma symptoms can present up to a half an hour after exercise has stopped. Ensure reliever medication is still easily accessible should it be required.

Other things to remember:

- ✓ Ensure all students have current Asthma Action/Care Plans
- ✓ If possible make activities that are scheduled for the night indoors as the drop in air temperature makes air colder to inhale and acts as a greater trigger.
- ✓ Encourage students with asthma to participate fully!





Kids with Asthma



What does it feel like?

- I can't catch my breath. It's hard to breathe.
- My breathing may sound funny, it may be a bit noisy (wheezing) or it may sound like a whistle.
- Sometimes it may feel like someone is squeezing my chest really tightly.
- I may cough a lot. Sometimes more at night or after sport.
- My throat may feel itchy.

what makes my asthma better?

- My Blue puffer. This is also called a reliever. The medicine in my reliever quickly makes it easier for me to breathe.
- I use my puffer with a Spacer. It helps to get more medicine into my lungs.





FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

**There are many ways you can
improve the lives of children
in foster care.**

The Barwon South West area has many children aged from 0-17 years who need a safe loving home. Do you have one free weekend a month or could you care for a child full-time?

Contact: Jo Sinclair , Yasmin Nurmohamed , ph 55002000

**MacKillop
Family Services**

mackillop.org.au