The staff and students have hit the ground running in what promises to be another exciting year at Werrimull P-12 School. As Mrs Fush announced in last week’s Pipeline, the dates for the year are listed in the calendar that was distributed last Friday. Well done to the students who contributed and assisted with the finished product.

Thank you to those who attended the family day last Friday, what a wonderful way to begin the 2014 school year. It was made even better by Tunart’s dominant performance, well done guys. The focus now switches to next week’s swimming carnival where the first official points are up for grabs.

Please remember that the swimming sports are on WEDNESDAY 12th FEBRUARY this year as we have a number of students and staff out of the school on the Friday. This means Prep students WILL attend school on Wednesday 12th, however they will have Thursday 13th February as their ‘rest’ day.

I would like to remind students that they must bring their swimming gear every day during term 1. Students must wear a rash vest (or something similar such as a t-shirt) to ensure their body is protected from the UV. It is also recommended that students apply sunscreen before they come to school; the school will then supply sunscreen to ensure students have reapplied it before swimming and extended outdoor activities.

Primary students will enjoy the first session with their new MARC van teacher tomorrow. Mrs Kerrie Harris has reluctantly returned to the classroom at Sunnycliffs while Jason Torney has become the new MARC teacher. The program will not vary greatly from last year with Literacy remaining the major focus.

Staff and students are once again using the Ultranet (now named GenED) in 2014. The updated platform is now owned by a private company and many changes are already evident. Staff will begin setting tasks and providing feedback to students/parents this term. Any parents who have an email account are requested to provide the school with a copy as this will allow you to easily register with GenED and access work samples and feedback. An information session will be conducted early next term.

As many of you are aware, VCE maths classes are being delivered virtually in 2014. The year 11 students have already participated in two virtual sessions and Monica and Mark will attend class in Murrayville tomorrow and receive their instruction virtually from that point on. With the advances in 21st century technology we have witnessed a massive increase in the popularity of virtual learning. Metropolitan and rural schools alike are relying on the technology to access experts and courses; it also ensures we are preparing our students for the 21st century. Research suggests that some Universities will deliver 70% of their courses virtually by 2020 and workplaces are also becoming reliant on the technology as they endeavour to cut travel time and provide quality training programs for their employees.

Staff email addresses were published in last week’s Pipeline; if you wish to speak with a particular teacher or a member of the leadership staff I encourage you to either send an email or contact the office to make an appointment.

GO TUNART!
Dates to Remember

February

Swimming Sports 12th February
Red Food 21st February
Mallee Swimming 28th February

March

Pancake Day 4th March
Labour day holiday 10th March
School Council AGM 12th March
Crazy Hair Day 13th March
St Pat’s Day/ Go green for Kieran Fundraiser 17th March
Yr’s 10-11 Work experience 17th-21st March

April

Reports Home 1st April
Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews 2nd April
Tri School Cross Country 3rd April
Easter Fair 4th April
End of term 1, 1pm Finish 4th April
Start of Term 2 22nd April
Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews 23rd April
Anzac Day 25th April
Pupil Free Day 30th April

May

Sunraysia Sth Div Trials 1st May
Red Food 2nd May

BrainFood

Due to the changes in the timetable with longer time before recess. All students may bring Brain Food to nibble during class.

Acceptable brain foods include:

- Cut up fresh fruit or vegetables
- Dried fruit
- Nuts (shelled)
- Seeds

Foods must be in small portions and students should eat while they work.
What’s Happening

It was wonderful to see the children and families today for our first day back for the year. We had a fantastic first day with lots of smiles and only a few tears.

Tonight is now our first Parent Committee meeting for the year, 7pm at the Pre-School. I look forward to seeing you all this evening.

A gardening roster for Term One will be sent home with your child next week, please make sure you swap with another family if you are unable to help on that date. A list of jobs will accompany the roster and the information will also be in the Pipeline as requested by families last year.

Don’t forget to send along a nice cold water bottle everyday!

A big thanks to Matt Kelly, Chris Douglas and Daryl Goldsmith for taming the jungle of our yard before we started back. Your hard work was appreciated as we enjoyed the cooler weather outdoors today.

Shared Snack

At the Millewa Pre-School we have shared snack each day and ask that you bring along one thing to share each day with the rest of the group. If you send along something bigger, such as a packet of dry biscuits, cheese or dried fruit, we don’t expect anything for the next week or two.

Shared Snack Ideas

♦ Fruit
♦ Vegetables
♦ Cheese
♦ Dry biscuits
♦ Dried fruit
♦ No nuts please for shared snack

Dates to Remember

4 February  First Day of Kindergarten 2014
4 February  Committee Meeting, 7pm at the Pre-School
18 February  Visit from MRCC Children’s Librarian Jan Wilson