Welcome back for 2014!

I hope all families have enjoyed a great summer. In particular I welcome new families to the College and hope that you have a most productive and happy association with Overnewton.

There are four new staff members at Keilor Campus this year and a number returning from leave. Jessica Kearney, Claudia Zuniga and Jennifer Murphy all join the Junior School staff and Jaclyn Curnow joins the LOTE team to take German classes in Middle and Senior Schools. Mark Zerafa will also be at the College for the first time as an instrumental music teacher.

Tarnia Allen and Jessica Howe also join our Junior School and Middle School teams respectively from the Taylors Lakes Campus after family leave. Nina Bondarenko and Mike Katilius return to Senior School Mathematics, Margaret Jones and Marilyn Wilson return to Learning Development and Support, Rebecca Campbell returns to take Physical Education classes, Jodi Fitzgerald-Tate resumes as Head of Co-curriculum, Kristy Soos returns to Visual Arts, and Penny Sutton (née Cataldo) returns to Junior School.

The Year Begins

Senior School was back in action last week and began with strong messages in assembly about the College theme, educational expectations and the importance of involvement in all the activities that the College provides. On Monday, Middle School began and Junior School classes began on Wednesday, after a period of intensive individual student assessments.

The weather report is indicative of several 30+ days in the coming week. Students are not required to wear blazers on days forecast to be over 30 degrees Celsius.

Please ensure your children observe the hat wearing policy and other necessary responses to hot, sunny conditions, such as:

- Bringing and using sunscreen, particularly for outside activities such as physical education
- Having water bottles and generally maintaining suitable hydration
- Avoiding sweet or salty foods.

Senior School Leadership Camp

Approximately fifty Yea
r 11 and 12 House leaders, student executive and staff attended the YMCA camp at Lake Dewar near Ballan last Friday and Saturday. The goals of this camp were for students to enhance their team work and leadership skills and to develop foci for the House and School for the coming year. I enjoyed this camp immensely; the student leaders are fabulous young men and women who are highly cooperative and inclusive of each other and the staff around them. I was very impressed by their problem solving and collaborative skills over the two days. This augers extremely well for the 2014 school year.