You are invited to the 2013 RIVER CRUISE on Saturday 16th March leaving Barrack Street Jetty at 6.30pm

Dress code: Formal

TICKETS $35.00 available from the Front Office

Drinks and chips can be purchased on board
A very warm welcome to our new Year 11’s and parents and also to our Year 12’s who have returned for their last nine months of schooling. It is essential from day one that every opportunity is taken daily to ensure students reach their potential and have the best opportunities for their future.

**Top Performing Schools**
The College was again acknowledged as a High Performing School by Minister for Education Mr Peter Collier and Director-General Sharyn O’Neill. Congratulations to Thomas Parker who over the holidays was announced as the Rob Reilly Medal winner for being the Highest Performing Aboriginal VET Student. Also to John Otto from York who achieved an ATAR of 88.9 and along with Ben Atherton both achieved direct entry into all of the WA universities.

**Heywire Competition**
Congratulations to Tiffany Davey Year 12 for winning the Heywire Competition for her region and being one of only two students from WA to fly to Canberra for a Youth Forum where she met a number of politicians and discussed how Australia can better address some of the major issues facing agriculture in regional areas.

**Enrolments**
Enrolments have remained steady. With the half-cohort now in Year 11 our numbers have slightly reduced. There are 54 Year 11’s and 65 Year 12’s giving us 119 students including 28 female students. We have started interviewing for 2014 and have already over 60 students to interview.

**College Board**
We had a terrific response to our call for parents of Year 11 to nominate for the College Board. We were also able to fill the vacancy for one Year 12 parent. Congratulations and thanks to those Year 11 and 12 parents who have nominated for the College Board. Our Year 12 parent representatives are Mr Martin Brooks, Mr Dene Solomon and Mrs Annette Hooper. Year 11 representatives include Mr Wayne Smith, Ms Anne Loe, Mrs Gayle Mason and Mrs Wendy Dymond. We also had two parents Robyn Kellie and Leticia Richards nominate for the P & C. Many thanks to these two ladies. Any other parents who would be able to help out with the P & C would be most welcome.

**Trade Training Centre**
The Trade Training Centre is still in the design phase and we have had several meetings with architects. The extensions to the existing Trade Training Centre and the building of the new Farm Workshop and offices is within budget according to the quantity surveyors. The building of the new Weaner Grower shed at the Piggery has costed out higher than we anticipated and every effort is being made to bring it back into budget so the tendering process can occur.

**Welcome to Our New Staff**
We have been very fortunate to pick up some excellent new staff over the holidays. A big welcome to Jess Threnoworth taking up the position of English teacher, Ben Elliott ex-student of the College is in the D&T Centre with roles in Furniture, Engineering and Automotives and Ryan Beard who has taken on the Cropping position.

**Open Communication**
We understand that living away from home can present challenges to students and I would like to reassure parents that we are more than happy to take phone calls if you or your child have any issues of concern. Often when these issues are dealt with early there is a much greater chance of a satisfactory outcome.
I would like to welcome back my team as below and wish them a happy year ahead.

**Christine Fulwood**: School Officer, (Enrolments and Front Office)

**Julie Skinner**: School Officer, (Farm Admin Assistant)

**Tanya Glover**: School Officer, (Leave Processor and Financial Assistant)

**Cathy Prangnell**: School Officer, (HRMIS Residential)

**Anita Sullivan**: (Library Officer, Newsletter and Agricollegian organiser)

**Steve Skinner**: (IT Tech for whole of College)

To Year 11 parents who are new to the College, I would like to welcome you. I have had meetings with a few of you but am more than happy to answer or meet with you whenever you are at the College. To Year 12 parents welcome back for the last year of your child's schooling year.

**Fees**
The Boarding fees for 2013 are as follows:

1st instalment: $2,750.00 due by 4th February 2013
2nd instalment: $2,750.00 due by 6th May 2013
3rd instalment: $2,750.00 due by 22nd July 2013
Total for the year of 2013 being $7,710.00

Fees are clearly a charge for service and there is an expectation that instalment deadlines be met unless there is a prior arrangement with the Business Manager.

You should have all received statements by now to assist you with completing AIC forms and any other benefits that you are entitled to from Centrelink. Please be mindful if you have requested for your AIC payment to be directed straight to the College that you forward a copy of your Centrelink statement to the College enabling us to make the necessary credit to your account.

Could you please ensure that you quote your child's Curriculum Council (CC) number when making direct payment to avoid any monies received being credited incorrectly.

**Secondary Assistance Scheme**
If you are the holder of a Pension card or Health Care card you are entitled to $235 paid direct to College plus $115 which can be paid to you or the College, for uniforms. Please contact me so that correct forms can be forwarded to you for completion. Theses forms are due back to the College by 24th March so that we can forward to Central office.

**Methods of payments:**

**PAYMENT BY ELECTRONIC BANKING**
Name of Account: Western Australian College of Agriculture - Cunderdin
Bank: Westpac
Branch: Northam
BSB Number: 036 107
Account Number: 129204
Reference: Students Curriculum Council Number
Details of transactions must to be faxed to (9635 1334) or email Cunderdin.ac@det.wa.edu.au for reconciliation purposes.

**EFTPOS FACILITY**
EFTPOS is available at the front office for payments. This also allows us to take credit card payments over the phone.

**PAYMENT THROUGH WEBSITE**
There is the facility on our website to make payments by credit card (MasterCard/Visa). Please visit www.cunderdinag.wa.edu.au, select Online Payments from the top tool bar and click on the link to navigate to the payment screen. Please remember to use the CC number as reference for your payment so we can track for reconciliation purposes.

**PAYMENT PLANS**
Please contact Laura McCart so that plans can be put in place to finalize your students account before end of year.
Farm - Mr Brett Cox

Well almost unbelievably, the 2013 year has commenced and the College is in full swing. From my point of view, it has been a relatively smooth start to the year on Farm with both staff and students settling into the routine.

**Staffing**

Mr Ryan Beard commenced at the end of January on an end dated contract and will assist in the Cropping area. I’d like to welcome Mr Beard into this new chapter of his life and trust that it is a long and fruitful association.

Mr Ball (Workshop) is currently on two and a half weeks leave. Other staff members are Mr Fissioli (Assistant Farm Manager), Mr Laird (Sheep), Mr Reynders (Pigs), Mr Jones (General – 3 days a week), Mr Mangini (Butcher shop/Abattoir), Mr Byrnes (Cattle/Poultry) & Mr Childs (Crops). It is also great to have the services of Mr Evans whom we have lured out of retirement to assist us for some of the time that Mr Ball is away.

**2012 Harvest Results**

Despite 2012 being a very difficult year in regard to the crop and pasture enterprises, the College actually fared quite well, all things considered. Our wheat averaged 1.68 tonne per hectare – at or slightly above comparable local yields. Other commodities weren’t as good, but we achieved our goal of having sufficient grain on hand for both feed and seed requirements. We were fortunate that we were able to cut all of our silage and a large amount of round baled hay from where we have been agisting some sheep – this took the pressure off trying to find sufficient quantity from our own crops.

Total rainfall received for 2012 was 225.2 millimetres – with growing season rainfall only being about 130 millimetres.

**General**

Year 11 students are well on the way to completing the required OHS; training package and driving inductions. They are also experiencing – some for the first time – life in the shearing shed as the shearing is well under way. I have explained to all students that the College offers a fantastic opportunity to try some new skills across a wide range of enterprises and have encouraged them to have a go regardless of experience.

Interested Year 12 students have been rostered to the shearing shed and are putting into practice all those skills learnt through last year. They also have the benefit of extra tuition and training from a shearer, wool handler and lecturer from CY O’Connor TAFE, who are here when the Year 12’s are rostered to farm. The remainder of the group are rostered to the other farm enterprise areas and are being involved in varied tasks across the farm.

All students, but especially the Year 12’s, have been reminded that they need to manage their time effectively when on farm to ensure they achieve assessments in their chosen areas. I would encourage parents to keep an open dialogue with them to assist in this process. Likewise, I encourage parents and students to contact myself, Mr Scholes or Mrs Skinner if there are any concerns or queries. Experience tells me that often the standard answer from students to their parents is that “I’m on track and everything is up to date so there is no need to worry”. Often this is not entirely true – the comments posted on last year’s end of year report should be an indicator of progress thus far.
Often through the year, we are required to email or fax home information about various events – the likelihood is that signatures and other information may need to be returned to us to ensure that we comply with the required processes. Your prompt response to these requests is vital and appreciated.

Likewise it is a constant hassle getting students to fulfil their weekend duty roster – can you please assist us by looking at the roster attached to this and subsequent newsletters and discuss any pending roster with your son/daughter. Failure to do a duty may result in a negative core competency credit for each day which in turn may jeopardize the successful completion of a Certificate in Agriculture being achieved.

Just recently I noticed a sticker on the window of a car parked at the College which I felt was extremely apt – it read:
“If you eat food of any kind, you are involved with agriculture”.

To finish off with, a few statistics from the 2012 year on farm:
• we produced 757 tonne of wheat
• 191 tonne of barley
• processed 14 cattle, 44 pigs & 105 sheep through the abattoir and butcher shop
• turned those animals into over 6 tonnes of processed meat for the kitchen
• provided 1810 dozen eggs to the kitchen
• sold 842 sheep and 63 bales of wool

At the end of year we had:
• 69 cattle, 326 pigs, 2402 sheep, 236 hens & 2 alpacas for an estimated value of $311,000

The pleasing thing is that students were involved in the majority of the tasks associated in producing these products and they can truly say that they are involved with agriculture!
Year 11 Induction
Friday 1 February saw the Year 11 students arriving at the College for Enrolment Day, a busy morning with measurements for College clothing, timetables, guidelines, settling into rooms and getting to know each other. During the evening, trust games were conducted by Mr Beatty, Mr McCart, Mr Scholes, Mr Prangnell and Residential staff. The weekend activities included a visit to the local pool, pig on a spit for dinner and watching movies on the 5 metre inflatable screen in the Rec Centre. The following Thursday Year 11 students and staff headed off to Adventure World for the day where everyone enjoyed themselves.

Leadership Course
The Year 12 Student Council were lucky enough to attend a Leadership Course with the West Coast Eagles in Northam on the way home from Adventure World. All reports indicated that the Councillors picked up some valuable tips on planning, teamwork, preparation and professionalism, (would you expect any less when dealing with such a successful and dedicated group of people?).

Laundry
Tender documents for the construction of the new laundry building have been drawn up and will be released in March. Unfortunately no tenders can be advertised or awarded while the government is in caretaker mode, so tender documents will be released after the State Election. We have been lucky enough to secure the washing machines and dryer from Gnowangerup Agricultural College which has closed. This is a great saving for the College as these machines new would have cost in the vicinity of $70,000.00.

Leave Forms
Parents are reminded that Leave Forms are to be received by the College no later than 11.00am on Wednesday morning and must have all the appropriate areas filled in and be signed. Already we are seeing a number of forms arriving late, which as we know, only creates more work for the staff members in Administration.

Grooming
Unfortunately a few students have decided that they do not need to follow College Guidelines when it comes to hair styles. As a couple of students have found out recently, there are consequences for not following the guidelines which has resulted in out of pocket expenses for them and inconvenience for their parents. As the Guidelines point out, if you’re not sure, please ask.

North West Tour
Parents of Year 11 students are reminded that the cut off date for students wishing to attend this year’s tour is the end of Term 1. Please ensure you have contacted the College to register your child’s interest if they wish to attend.
Dormitories / Parking

Parents are reminded that if picking up their son or daughter for Weekend Leave that they are to park in front of the Rec Centre and not around the dormitories, as this causes a lot of congestion and danger with students walking back to their dormitories after school. The only exception to this is at the beginning and end of terms when students have a lot of gear with them. Your co-operation with adhering to this is much appreciated.
Class - Mrs Jane Beatty

Welcome to our new Year 11 students and our new and returning Year 12 students. We have had a great start to the year with all students settling in well.

Class Staff for 2013
Welcome to Miss Jessie Trenoworth who has come to the College this year to teach English. Miss Trenoworth is a graduate teacher who has experience in Media, completing a Bachelor of Education majoring in English.
Jane Beatty – Head of Department, Plant Production Systems and English
Shae Bruce – Animal Production Systems
Leanne Childs – Education Support
David Hovell – Mathematics
Paul Jasper – Plant Production Systems and Physical Education Studies
Christine Moore – Integrated Science and Mathematics
Jessie Trenoworth – English

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the staff members if you would like information on your child’s progress in the class area.

ATAR News
Thank you to Ms Robyn Cleaver who made a presentation to the Year 11 and 12 ATAR course students and parents on Thursday 28th February. The session went through the marks adjustment process and study/preparation skills.

Integrated Science - Miss Christine Moore

Operation Egg-Drop
The Year 12 Integrated Science Class has started the semester off by investigating forces and motion. Throughout the week they have been studying the effects of gravity and how this relates to the speed of falling objects.
Students used their understanding of air resistance to slow down their specially chosen passenger, the egg, from a drop of 4 metres. The task was to create a parachute device that will not only allow the passenger to land safely but also be cost effective. Students were restricted in both the type of material and the amount - something that was complained about on many occasions.

Jack Paterson and Joshua Redmond had the first successful flight, while Campbell Pascoe and James Brown need to re-think their design. The winner of the golden chocolate egg will be unknown until all costing and profit margins are reported when students hand in their final report.
Plant Production Systems

Soil Sampling - Year 11 and 12
A warm welcome is extended to all parents of 2013 students. Students are settling into their routines and we are starting to see some good work.

Major projects will be started soon and a Project Conformation Slip and Commencement Account will be sent out for students starting new projects. Parents need to discuss the selection of projects with their son or daughter. Some projects are quite costly and we prefer parents don’t get a surprise. Staff are available to talk to parents if assistance is required.

The Engineering and Furnishing workshops are being opened after school once a week. It is pleasing to see good numbers of students making use of them already. It is particularly useful for those students who may be having trouble mastering skills at this stage of the year.

Current program and contact staff:
Certificate I in Automotives and Certificate II in Automotives
Mr Bob McManus and Mr Ben Elliott
Certificate I in Engineering and Certificate II in Engineering
Mr Keith Thompson and Mr Ben Elliott
Certificate I in General Construction and Certificate II in General Construction
Mr Alan Jones
Certificate I in Furnishing
Mr Stephen Prangnell and Mr Ben Elliott

Furnishings
Year 11’s are currently completing compulsory exercises and receiving instructions on the correct use of hand tools and machinery. Students are becoming familiar with equipment and are making good progress.
Year 12 students are completing compulsory exercises before continuing with their personal projects from last year. Some keen students have been utilising the extra workshop time after hours and have already got back to work on their major projects.

General Construction
Year 11 students have been working on basic bricklaying skills learning correct tool use and getting the mix right.
Year 12 students are working on the shed at the back of Design and Technology plus they have commenced work on the trampoline area redevelopment.

Engineering
Year 11 students are currently completing competencies related to OHS, quality procedures, planning tasks and working with others in the completion of their first task, a sheet metal toolbox. They will shortly move onto Task 2 which primarily involves the development of oxy welding skills. Future tasks for Year 11 students include the production of a folding shovel and manual metal arc welding procedures.
Year 12 students are in the process of completing a number of arc-welding and GMAW (mig welding) exercises before moving onto their personal projects. Any Year 12 student who has not yet started a personal project will need to decide on a suitable project that can be completed by the end of term three. It is important that these projects cover the required competencies and factors such as cost and student ability also need to be taken into consideration. It is therefore very important that the selection of projects is done in consultation with both staff and parents.
### Automotives
Year 11 students are developing familiarity with workshop procedures and practising safe jacking using the hoists and safety stands in preparation for vehicle servicing. Year 12 students are revising workshop practices from last year and are moving onto fuel systems and servicing vehicles.

### Surf Camp
The Surf Camp will be run on 11th and 12th of May; it will cater for beginners and experienced surfers. It is being held in Lancelin and the surfing is at the Back Beach. The Surf clinic will be run by Scarborough Surf School and they will supply all surfing equipment including wet suits, surf boards and staff. If students wish to they may take their own surfboards wetsuits etc. Accommodation is in some units walking distance from the beach. We have had a good response from students but still have a couple of spaces available. The cost of the camp is $300.

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### Farm Duty Roster
**Term One 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>YEAR 11 STUDENTS</th>
<th>YEAR 12 STUDENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 - 3 March</td>
<td><strong>CLOSED WEEKEND</strong></td>
<td><strong>CLOSED WEEKEND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9 - 10 March</td>
<td>William Bear</td>
<td>Sam de Lacy</td>
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<td>Dylan Bland</td>
<td>Tim Harris</td>
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<td>16 - 17 March</td>
<td>Brayden Curtin</td>
<td>Nyree Anderson</td>
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<td>Laura-Kate Dymond</td>
<td>Tiffany Davey</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 - 24 March</td>
<td>Mitch Gould</td>
<td>Henry Hooper</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Andrew Karra</td>
<td>Rivers Hyde</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 - 31 March</td>
<td><strong>CLOSED WEEKEND</strong></td>
<td><strong>CLOSED WEEKEND</strong></td>
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<td>6 - 7 March</td>
<td>Callum O’Neill</td>
<td>Cassandra Jones</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chelsea Sutton</td>
<td>Brennan Ridgway</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 - 14 March</td>
<td>Ryan Jones</td>
<td>Stacey Wells</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Libby Fowler</td>
<td>Joshua Redmond</td>
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Heywire Winner - Tiffany Davey

My name is Tiffany Davey and I am currently a year twelve student at Cunderdin Agricultural College. I live on a sheep and wheat farm in Konnongorring and was lucky enough to be a 2012 Heywire winner! ‘Heywire is young regional Australians telling it like it is.’

700 people aged 16-22 entered the annual Heywire writing competition in 2012. February this year I was fortunate enough to be one off the 32 young people from across Australia to be flown to Canberra and ‘tell it like it is’ at the youth forum. It’s the 4th year in a row someone from Cunderdin Ag has won the competition.

The week consisted of a lot of things, from touring the Australian War Memorial to exchanging smiles and waves with Julia Gillard! Amongst all of this we got down to business. We divided into groups on things we felt passionate about. Due to me having a strong interest and wanting to pursue a career in the Agricultural industry I teamed up with four other young women in the ‘Valuing Food Producers’ group. Every group is given an opportunity to pitch an idea at parliament house to a panel of judges. We spent hours thinking up a million ideas on what we can do to fix the agricultural industry but we decided on something that we all felt is really important – Consumer Awareness.

We propose to introduce QR codes on fresh produce shelf price labels that when scanned lead to online information about farm gate prices for that product. The online prices will be the market average paid to primary producers for that financial year and therefore only need to be updated annually or when substantial market changes occur. This online resource would also include information about the processes involved in food production in Australia. In addition there would be information about individual primary producers and their stories.

Eventually, we would want farm-gate prices next to the price consumers are paying in supermarkets, similar to how the price per 100gm is currently presented. We would hope that by clearly presenting the discrepancy between what the supermarket charges consumers and the price the primary producer receives will engage consumers to demand better returns for producers.

There are many misunderstandings about primary producers and the processes in the production of Australian food. Environmental concerns, issues surrounding treatment of animals, and even the representation of primary producers.

After pitching our idea we had a fantastic response. We were later approached by Senator Ian McDonald and Senator Richard Colbeck, they informed us that there is an idea similar to ours being put into place in March. We are now hoping to work with them to try and get our idea up and running!

Some other ideas were a campaign called ‘Keys Please’ pushing across the motto ‘Good mates don’t let mates drive home drunk!’ & a day in August called ‘Fresh Face Friday’ to help promote the power of body image.

I was also fortunate enough to be selected to give a speech at a Gala dinner. The table I sat at had the likes of The Hon Joe Ludwig & Sid Sidebottom, just to name a few!

This was a fantastic experience and I would recommend anybody entering! If you have something to say about your community or something you feel passionate about then Heywire is the place to say it! There are people there that turn your thoughts and ideas into reality!

Presenting my speech at the Gala Dinner
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>28th February</th>
<th>Year 12 Special Dinner</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1st March</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day (Staff Professional Development)</td>
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<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>(Students to return after 4.00pm, no evening meal provided)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>4th March</td>
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<td>Friday - Saturday</td>
<td>8th - 9th March</td>
<td>Wagin Woolarama</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>River Cruise</td>
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<td>Friday - Sunday</td>
<td>22nd - 24th March</td>
<td>Autumn Carnival</td>
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<td>Monday - Friday</td>
<td>25th March - 19th April</td>
<td>Short Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th March</td>
<td>College closes 4.00pm</td>
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<td>College Board Meeting 2.00pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>29th March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>1st April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
<td>Easter Tuesday Public Service Holiday (Students return after 4.00pm, no evening meal provided)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3rd April</td>
<td>College commences at 8.00am</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th April</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
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<td>College closes 12.30pm</td>
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<td>Interim Reports posted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6th May</td>
<td>Students return after 4.00pm, no evening meal provided</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>7th May</td>
<td>Term Two commences at 8.00am</td>
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