

DATES TO REMEMBER

JUNE

2nd Tuesday

Sec Assembly

LMR Cross Country

3rd Wednesday

Advance Camp

5th Friday

Report Writing Day NO SCHOOL

8th Monday

Queen's Birthday PUBLIC HOLIDAY

9th Tuesday

Sec Immunisations

16th Tuesday

Sec Girls Netball

25th Thursday

Sec Assembly

26th Friday

Last day of Term 2

Early dismissal time of 2.30pm

NOVEMBER

9th-13th

Grade 5/6 Lake Cullulleraine Camp

2015 TERM DATES

Term 3: 13th July to 18th

September

Term 4: 5th October to 18th

December

MERBEIN P-10 FACEBOOK

PAGE

Check the Facebook Page for updates about the school and upcoming events.

www.facebook.com/merbeinp10collegeparentsclub

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Reminder that the newsletter is uploaded to the school's website each week - merbeinp10.vic.edu.au.

SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT

DETAILS

BSB - 063 714

Bank Acc Number - 10060535

Account Name - Merbein P-10 College

Official Account.

UNIFORM SHOP

Open Tuesday 8.30 - 10.00am

Open Thursday 2.00 - 4.00pm

If these times do not suit, please ring the school to make other arrangements.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

DISPOSAL OF FORMER PRIMARY SCHOOL SITES

The Department of Education (DET) advised us on Tuesday, 26th May that they are about to undertake some demolition and clearance works at the former primary school sites in readiness for disposal (sale). Normally such sites are first offered for sale to other Government Departments and local councils before being opened up for sale to the wider community.

In accordance with normal departmental practice, the management of the former primary school sites was handed back from Merbein P-10 control to the DET in 2013-14. Since then the Merbein P-10 College Council has had no official responsibility for the sites, however we have retained limited access and have tried to "keep an eye" on things.

I understand that one of the main reasons for the Department's decision to clear and sell the land is that ongoing damage to the buildings is creating significant maintenance and public safety concerns. Nevertheless, the timing of this decision is somewhat unexpected and does not leave us much time to work through some issues of importance to the local communities. One of these important issues involves the historical structures that are housed on some of the sites.

Items of Historical Significance

Rotundas

Residents in the Merbein District would be aware that the rotundas at the Jenner Street Campus are considered to be of historical significance. Contrary to a belief shared by some people in the community, the rotundas are not listed on the Heritage Register. In recent years the Merbein Historical Society has been exploring options to preserve the rotundas, but the cost to dismantle and re-assemble has been daunting. The Historical Society and the school are currently re-examining options that hopefully may enable the rotundas to be preserved, but DET advice suggests that the timeline is very short (weeks, not months). Nevertheless we will work hard to achieve a positive outcome.

South Merbein Hall

The community hall was originally located at the old Merbein South Oval. With the generous support of the Iazard family, it was relocated to the primary school site many years ago. I understand that community members are currently having urgent discussions to see whether they can preserve the hall because of its historical importance.

Other Items: Assets

Most of the assets of value to the school have already been relocated to the Commercial Street Site. Assets surplus to our needs have been sold over the past few years. However there are several items the Department had previously quarantined that have now been approved for disposal. A notice will be placed in the Sunraysia Daily shortly inviting expressions of interest from potential purchasers along with an explanation of the sale procedure.

These sites are not public lands (they are under the control of the Minister for Education) and contain hazardous materials such as asbestos and glass. Consequently, entry to the sites is strictly limited to supervised and authorised visitors only. Set times will be announced to enable access by interested people to inspect the remaining items that are being offered for sale.

It is important to reiterate that Merbein P-10 College has little control over the timing of this disposal process, but we have advocated strongly in an attempt to ensure that sufficient time is provided for affected the community groups to properly deal with important issues such as the preservation of historical items listed above.



One of the Jenner St Rotundas



Water Storage Tank (West Campus)



Toilet Block (South Campus)



Merbein South Hall (next to Water Storage Tank)

PARENTS' CLUB RECIPE BOOK FUNDRAISER **RECIPES NEEDED**

The Parents' Club are inviting every family from Merbein P10 College to send in their favourite recipes to be included in the new 2015 Merbein P10 College Recipe Book. Please support this fundraiser and the school by sending your best recipes as soon as possible to the Parents' Club via their email address: parent@merbeinp10.vic.edu.au.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

The school prefers to send the weekly newsletter and other important information home via email as this is the most reliable method. Please send your email address to:

giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au asking for the newsletter to be emailed to you.

Please note that those few students in Years 8/9/10 who still require a hardcopy of the newsletter, will need to collect their newsletter from the main office at the finish of their last class at the end of the day each Thursday.

NO SCHOOL - PUPIL FREE DAY AND QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

There will be no school for students next Friday, 5th June as this is a Pupil Free Day for teachers to prepare Student Reports.

There will be no school on Monday, 8th June as this is a Public Holiday.

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT AMENDMENT

Congratulations to Jess Hall who came 2nd in the 13 Year old Girls and Shae Congress for coming 2nd in the 14 Year old Girls. Great effort, well done girls!



PRIMARY OPEN DAY/NIGHT

The Primary Section hosted a very successful Open Morning/Evening last Tuesday. A very big thank you to Wendy Finn, Kelly Mangan and Cheryl Hodge for helping to make the visiting families welcome in the evening.

NEW VICTORIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (DET) SCHOOLMATE APP

Minister Merlino was thrilled to launch this new app for Victorian parents to help them understand what their children are learning and to get more involved in their education. The App is intended for parents of students in Prep to Year 10.

It is easy to download, easy to use and is free. Updates to the app will occur over time (curriculum changes etc) and I am sure there will be enhancements as more feedback is provided by users.

Download SchoolMate today by visiting the App Store or Google Play and searching for SchoolMate. To access an electronic copy of all information contained in the kit, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/schoolmate

CHANCES FOR CHILDREN

Please find below a link that may be of assistance if you have young people requiring support for school associated trips.

The Victorian Government have unveiled a new \$148 million initiative to ensure all Victorian students can take part in school trips and sporting activities.

Further information is available here, including information about the application process:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx>.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The Victorian Government has introduced the CSEF to ensure that all students have access to camps, sports and excursions.

To be eligible to apply for this allowance you must hold a valid means-tested concession card (such as Health Care or Pension card) or be a temporary foster parent. The allowance will be paid directly to school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for your child. The annual CSEF amount will be \$125 for Primary students and \$225 for Secondary students. If you wish to apply for the allowance, please fill in an application form (available at the school office) by 26 June, 2015. For more information, please see the flyer attached to this newsletter.

MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Breakfast program is being financially supported by the Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association. The following organisations also provide volunteers to assist with the program – Merbein P10 College Parents' Club, the Board & Staff of the Merbein & District Community Bank, Merbein Development Association, Merbein Lions Club and Merbein Rotary.

The breakfast program is held in the cafeteria. All students are welcome to come along between 8.00am and 8.45am each morning if they would like a FREE tasty breakfast to kick-start their day's learning.

IMPORTANT DATES TERM 2

JUNE	
2 nd Tuesday	LMR Cross Country Whole School Assembly
3 rd Wednesday	Advance Camp returns Thursday afternoon
5 th Friday	Pupil Free Day – Report Writing
8 th Monday	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
12 th Friday	Secondary Interschool Girls Netball
21 st Monday	2 nd Semester Subjects commence (Sec)

PRIMARY NEWS

MERBEIN COMMUNITY BANK SCHOOL STUDENT BANKING PROGRAM

If you wish your child to participate in this program, send your child's bank book along to the Green Building Office every Thursday morning. The Bank will collect and process your child's banking and then drop your child's bank book back to the school before the end of the school day.

MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Cheryll Hodge is our school's OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.

LAST WEEKS GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Grade P-3 Award Winners.
Shakiera Faux, Isabella Forrester, Dylan Arnold, Emily Buttery, Sarnie Cramp, Jayden Kirkpatrick, Lou 'ca Peterson, Seth Arnold, Demi Stone, Tyler Hawkes, Kira Teasdale, Megan Young and Liam Hanford.
Well done!



MATHS PHOTO ABOVE – B. Hall

Our class has been learning about fractions. Students made a Fraction Pie or Pizza this week.

GREEN NEWS – Grade 2-3 Beetles & Grade P-1 Bugs

Cup Cakes for Cancer Report – It was a very successful event held today and organised by our SRC with the help of Jess Williams. The cakes looked delicious, especially with the variety of toppings on the top. Over \$300 was raised for Cancer Research.



Student Teachers – We have been very fortunate to have two excellent student teachers with us for the last three weeks. Clare Wilkinson has taught in the Butterflies Room and Dylan Darby has been working in the Ladybirds Room. In the Bugs End of the Green Building, they have taught all the students Drama, PE, Science (looking at the colour change in celery), Literacy and Maths. We would like to acknowledge their hard work with us by having a small “Surprise Party” tomorrow, Friday 29th May at recess time. We are asking all the students from the Bugs End of the Green Building to bring a ‘small’ plate of food to share. We will set up the eating area outside at recess time for our students to acknowledge and thank Clare and Dylan. We wish them continued successes in their teaching career.

Open Day/Night Report – Our first Merbein P-10 College Infant Open Day/Night was held on Tuesday. We were happy to welcome some new families and some younger siblings who enjoyed practising being a Prep. The children experienced making, writing, reading, computers and counting activities. They were very enthusiastic and left keen to start school. Our next opportunity for Kinder Visits will be in August. The Prep Practice Days will be held in November. More information will be announced early next term.

SECONDARY NEWS

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS

Teachers in each class will notify the students of the focus for the lesson at the start of each lesson. The focus may be: producing quality work, consistent, excellent behaviour, listening to instructions, or working well with others.

Students will have the opportunity to be acknowledged every session.

CAMPS

After reviewing the Camps Policy for the College at a School Council meeting, it is agreed that the Camps Program is an important 'Outside the Normal Classroom, Learning Opportunity' that we as a school offer all our students.

The Year 9s Annual Cultural Camp was held last week. I would like to thank the teachers who attended the camp. They were on duty for the whole week and ensured a positive and educational experience for all students.

This week the Year 9-10 Elective Program students are on the Inaugural Equine Camp.

Next week, on 3rd and 4th June the Annual Advance Elective Camp will be held.

All these camps require a large amount of organising as some teachers are away from their regular classes. Please note that it is important for the students who remain at school to continue with set classwork that is prepared by the teachers so that their academic progress will continue to improve.

ALPINE CAMP 2015/2016

Five students from our college are currently attending the Alpine Camp for Student Leadership at Dinner Plain in the Victorian High Country. We have received emails from two of the students who have indicated they are loving the experience and are learning lots about themselves, the environment, how to be independent and how to work and live with others. Our school has been involved with this a great program for the past two years.

Positions for this highly sought after program need to be applied for annually. The students pay just over \$1000 which includes all food, accommodation, safety equipment and activities at the School for Leadership. If any current Year 8 students are interested in applying for the camp in 2016, please notify Greg Rhodes at school.

Report Writing Day – The teachers will be busy next Friday writing your children's reports so there will be no school that day.

Eisteddfod Information – Most of the Primary Students are involved in the Dance Section of the Eisteddfod with the Grade P-6 performing a dance that Sarah taught at the start of the year. They will perform at the Eisteddfod in two weeks, on Friday, 12th June. The first section starts at 9.30am. The Grade P-2's are in the second section and the Grade 3-6's are in the third section. We can't be specific about times, because of the number of competitors (there can be withdrawals) and time for the judge's comments.

Parents and grandparents are welcome to watch. You will need to purchase a session ticket for \$6.00 from the Arts Centre on the morning of the Eisteddfod.

Eisteddfod Costumes – We hope to keep it simple. Our college has borrowed some costumes for the performance. We have also used some of our own from previous performances. Some of our secondary students will be applying the face paint. We will need students to arrive at school at 8.30am on that day.

Prep boys - need plain black top and bottoms like leggings or tracksuit pants, plain with no decorations. They will be jungle animals.

Prep girls - will be wearing African outfits with brightly coloured skirts and tops. They will need to bring shorts and a singlet top to wear underneath.

Year 1 boys and girls - plain black top and bottoms like leggings or tracksuit pants, plain with no decorations.

Year 2 boys and girls will need black leggings or tracksuit pants, plain with no decorations. Their tops will be provided. Boys can spike their hair. Girls can have a high ponytail with a bright coloured ribbon attached if possible.

Please check with your child in Years 3 – 6. More information will go home soon.

Please contact the college if you are unable to provide the necessary costumes for your child.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ELECTIVES FOR SEMESTER 2

The Secondary First Semester Elective and Arts/Technology Subjects will change over on Monday, 21st June. All students in Years 8-10, selected elective subjects at the end of last year. Student will have an opportunity to modify these selections over the next two weeks, depending on availability and compliance with our electives selection criteria.

STUDENT REPORTS

Next Friday 5th June is a Pupil Free Day allocated for staff to prepare Student Reports.

Reports will be distributed in the last week of the term. Students should ensure all homework tasks and work requirements are completed well before the 18th June.

Teachers make every effort to remind students of their responsibilities to complete and submit work so that they can improve in their learning and satisfy the requirements of each individual course. Parents can help by ensuring students have a set time each week day to sit down and review their learning or to complete assignments or projects.

'WRITE ON' COMPETITION

The English Department is very pleased to announce the winners of this year's 'Write On' Writing Competition. This year each year level was given two different prompts which students had to address. Every student in Years 7-10 wrote two pieces and finalists were decided by their English teachers. Winners were chosen by a panel of guest judges including Mrs Luitjes, Mr Dreyer and Ms Rankin. Congratulations to all students, especially the placegetters. Prizes and certificates will be handed out at Year Level Assemblies in the near future.

Year 7	
Narrative	Persuasive
1st - Jade King	1st - Mele Miki
2nd - Rohan Edlington	2nd - Amilea McKerrow & Jade King
3rd - Tiggy Nasoufis	3rd - Aydan Russell
Year 8	
Narrative	Persuasive
1st - Jessica Hall	1st - Corey Sleep
2nd - Georgia O'Neill	2nd - Georgia Beyer
3rd - Keith Nadal	3rd - Nikita Whitford
Year 9	
Narrative	Persuasive
1st - Josh May	1st - Annie McPhail
2nd - Nathan Pinchbeck	2nd - Josh May
3rd - Hayley Thomas	3rd - Alex Pallot
Year 10	
Narrative	Persuasive
1st - Liam Anderson	1st - Brooke Sutton
2nd - Kiara Brown	2nd - Chase Costa
3rd - Mitch Branson	3rd - Harper Banks

LEGO CLUB

Lego Club is on this Saturday from 10:30-11:30am, 110 Pine Ave Mildura. For more information contact sunraysia.autism@gmail.com.

HEADSPACE MILDURA - AGES 12 & 25

Anyone between 12 and 25 are welcome to join this group for some free food each Friday at 3.30pm at the centre in the Cottee's building, 2/125 Pine Ave, Mildura.

Headspace Mildura, is introducing monthly themes, on different topics and different target audiences. The first monthly theme is "Don't tell me to relax!" which focuses on anxiety. It can be a debilitating illness, however it is easily manageable with the right support and plans in place.

Information will be posted on their Facebook Page. Contact Mitch Rodd via email on Mitch.Rodd@headspacemildura.com.au or phone 5021 2400 for more information.

SUNRAYSIA-MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL'S OPEN DAY

Interested persons are invited to attend the Open Day on 13th June from 12 to 3.30pm. It is an opportunity to learn more about SMECC as an organisation. Address 107-111 Twelfth Street Mildura. For more information contact Gab Murphy mailto:gabgmurph@gmail.com

LITTLE DAY OUT MILDURA- FREE

Free program for families where they can hear about the latest local information about pregnancy to primary school. Lots of entertainment on the day for the children. Friday 19th June 2015 from 9am-1pm at Lifestyle Plus Mildura.

TRAINER REQUIRED FOR MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL TEAMS 2015

The Merbein Junior Football Club is looking for a trainer or trainers for their Junior Football Teams U/13's, U/14.5's & U/16's for the 2015 Season. Must be available Sundays 11am- 4pm from 26th April-30th August. Must have completed trainers certificate/or undertaking course. Must like working with kids. Must have current working with children's certificate. Remuneration negotiable. For more information please contact
Graeme Dunne - President 0407 235 751
Geoff Stevens - Vice President 0407 502 465