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A Photo of the 2015 Year 10 Students

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER

27th Friday

2016 Prep Practice Day 9-3.15pm

DECEMBER

2nd Wednesday

-Grade P-3 Excursion to Mildura

-FLO Graduation

3rd Thursday

Pygmalion Performance 6-7pm

4th Friday

-Year 10 Graduation Ceremony

-Final Day of School for Year 10

-Merbein Carols from 6.30pm

7th Monday

Pupil Free Day

8th Tuesday

Senior College Yr 10 Orientation Day

-2016 Prep Practice Day 9-3.15pm.

- Yr 6 Orientation Day

9th Wednesday

Senior College Yr 10 Orientation Day

-Yr 6 Orientation Day

10th Thursday

Awards Night (Primary & Secondary)

11th Friday

Grade Prep & 6 Graduation Ceremony

14th Monday

Grade 6 Celebration Dinner – Pizza

Café

16th Wednesday

-Secondary Summer Program

-Primary Class Parties

17th Thursday

Primary Pool Day Excursion

18th Friday

Last Day of School – Clean-Up Day

Earlier Dismissal Time of 2.30pm.

FEBRUARY 2016

15th – 19th

Gr P-6 Stomp Dance Lessons

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

SCHOOL REVIEW REPORT

This week we have been hosting an extended visit by our School Reviewers, Mike Rowland and Claire Bolster. They have spent four intensive days with us so far, interviewing parents, students and staff. They have also been observing classes and closely analysing our data and Self-Evaluation Report.

The review is focusing on four main "Terms of Reference" questions:

*The collection and effective use of data to advance student learning.

*The effectiveness of our Instructional Model underpinning our teaching and learning.

*The effectiveness of our Professional Learning Framework.

*The extent to which our school provides a safe, orderly and engaging environment.

The review comes at a good time in the development of Merbein P-10 College. While we have many reasons to be proud of our achievements after a complex merger process, this review will provide some guidance that will enable us to build and improve on the solid foundation we have now established. We expect to be advised of the findings of the review in early 2016.

CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

As parents would be aware, our school was allocated \$1.15m in the 2013/2014 State Government Budgets to refurbish some of our old buildings. Work has been put on hold over the past few months to enable a strategy to be developed to manage the removal of asbestos-containing materials.

The School Council has expressed concern that the money could be spent in a more strategic and beneficial manner. Council would prefer to use the current funding to replace the aging Technology Facility rather than make superficial alterations on all our older buildings.

The council is now seeking to gain a commitment from the Government to provide the remaining funding required to fully complete the regeneration as originally promised to the community.

Andrew Nemtsas (School Council President) and I hope to raise this matter directly with the Minister next week.

PYGMALION PERFORMANCE - 6-7pm

A group of very talented and committed Year 10 students will stage a production of Pygmalion next Thursday. These students volunteered to be involved after reading the play in their English class and have been rehearsing for three months during lunchtimes. Those who were in the audience at the school's Variety Night were treated to a sneak peak of the first scene.



All students of the college, family members and friends are invited to attend.

Date: Thursday, 3rd December

Time: 6pm

Venue: Merbein P-10 College Gym.

Cost: Tickets are \$2 each and a light supper is included in the cost.

The performance is expected to be finished by 7pm. Tickets are available at the door on the night. Please come along to support the cast and crew and also to enjoy this fantastic performance!

MERBEIN AREA ROAD CLOSURE

We have had notification of road closures due to the channel works.

From Wednesday, 25th until Monday, 30th November, the bridge at the top of Pump Hill will be closed and anyone travelling along Ranfurly Way will need to follow the detours along McEdwards Street, McSwain Road, River Avenue, Fifth Street and Main Avenue.

The bus lines have been advised of the closures.

FAREWELL AND THANKYOU TO THE KIRKPATRICK FAMILY

The Kirkpatrick Family has been involved in the school for many years. Tre in Year 8, Tye Grade 6, Jayden Grade 2 and Jordan Grade 1. Krissy is our current Parents' Club President. We wish to thank Krissy Kirkpatrick for the huge parent support she has given the school over the years. The family are moving to New Zealand at the end of the year. We wish them all well in their new adventure.

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 - 9.30am

Open Thursday 2.00 - 4.00pm

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

PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE REPORT

The Premiers' Reading Challenge has closed for this year. We thank the students who participated in it and congratulate the following students Miles Fetherston, David Hogg, Jonathon Riley, Gideon Sands and Oscar Vidler for completing the Challenge. These students managed to read 182 books between them from February to September. The Reading Challenge is a great way to get students to read and talk about books. We look forward to another successful year of the Challenge in 2016 when we will be inviting all students from Grade Prep to Year 10 to participate. Thank you.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Reminder that the newsletter is uploaded to the school's website each week - merbein10.vic.edu.au

UP COMING EVENTS

Nov 27 th	2016 Prep Students Practice Day
Dec 4 th	Year 10 Graduation Evening & Final Year 10 Assembly
Dec 7 th	Pupil Free Day
Dec 8 th	-Orientation Day for Year 6 and 10 -2016 Prep Students Practice Day
Dec 9 th	Orientation Day for Year 6 and 10
Dec 10 th	Awards Evening (Primary & Secondary)
Dec 11 th	Prep and Yr 6 Official Ceremony
Dec 16 th	Secondary Summer Program
Dec 18 th	Clean Up Day - Last Day of school

PARENTS' CLUB CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Thankyou to the families who have donated items to the Christmas Hamper. The donation boxes are beginning to look interesting. If you have not already done so, please send along your donation of a non-perishable item to their Christmas Raffle. Donations can be left at the main office or at the office in the Green Building. Raffle books will sent out at a later date. Please ensure the donated items Use-by-Date has not passed.



ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING

The Annual Awards Evening will be held on Thursday, 10th December from 6.30-8.30pm. This year the Primary and Secondary Awards will be presented at the one ceremony. At present teachers are meeting to consider nominations of students for Open and Academic Awards. The families of students who have been successful in winning an award will be contacted by letter or phone early in December. Those families will be invited to attend the Awards Evening. Students receiving an award are asked to attend in full school uniform.

SWITCH TO SAVE AND SUPPORT THE SCHOOL

The Bendigo Bank is offering families the chance to save more than \$500 a year on their power bill by replacing your old 'energy-thirsty' Halogen Down Lights with 'energy-efficient' LED Down Lights. The Bendigo Bank will donate \$1 for every down light replaced in our community to our school. Flyers will be sent home to each family with the eldest child at the school.

For further information contact the Merbein District Community Bank on 5025 1377.

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. If you are able to volunteer to help in the Breakfast Program, please contact Haley at the Merbein & District Community Bank. The Breakfast Program is held in the school 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.

PRIMARY NEWS

MISSING SCHOOL BOOKS

There is only three weeks of school until the end of term. Could all families please start checking at home for missing take-home reading books and library books. These school books are valuable learning tools for our children and very expensive to replace, so please check in all the unusual, obscure places at home, like under the bed and behind the cupboards because we would love to have them found and returned as soon as possible.

POOL PARTY - EARLY NOTICE

The Primary Section will be celebrating the End-of-Year with a Pool Party at the Merbein Pool on Thursday 17th December. Students will be bussed to the pool at 11.30am and parents are asked to collect their child/ren from the pool at 3.15pm on this day. Those children who will need to return to school will be shuttled back by private cars. There will be no cost for this program. More information and a permission note will go home soon.

MERBEIN CAROLS PERFORMANCE

In the evening of Friday, 4th December, the Primary Section will be performing at the Merbein Carols at Kenny Park. A notice will go home next week with details concerning the meeting place and time.

GRADE P-3 BALLET EXCURSION

The Grade P-3 students will be travelling to Mildura next Wednesday 2nd December to attend a Ballet performance. Please check that your child's permission note has been returned.

SINK OR SWIM PROGRAM REPORT

Yesterday, Michelle from Life Saving Victoria delivered an excellent and very practical lesson on safety in the river to the students in Grade P-4. She showed simple, practical procedures and methods to help save themselves and others if they find are in trouble in the water. Always use caution with children near water. Never leave them alone.



PREP PRACTICE

The Kinder Kids will stay at school all day tomorrow, Friday 27th November from 9am-3.15pm. Children should bring some recess, a hat, a plastic bottle filled with water and a packed lunch.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE BOOKS

Christmas Raffle Books went home to every family. We ask that each family sell a book of tickets and return the book with money to school as soon as possible. More raffle books are available for collection from the school office.

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.

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 the bank book back to the school before the end of the school day.

BUGS INQUIRY REPORT

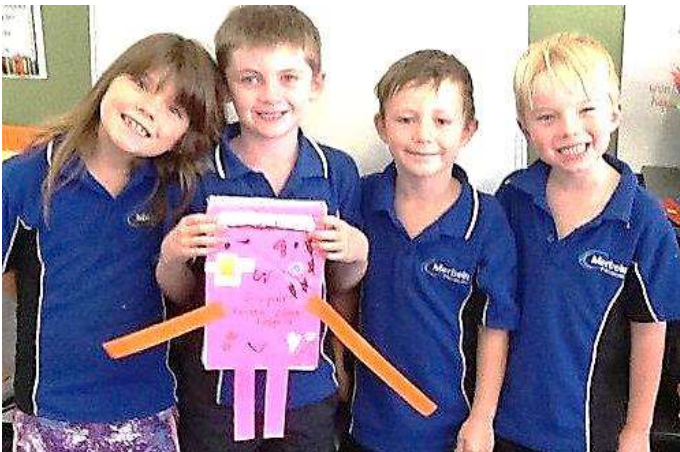
The students in the Bugs End of the Green Building have been looking at Kitchen Chemistry and the different chemical reactions that can take place with food.



Each student had a task to design and create a product. They could choose one of the following, a drink, chocolate or cereal. They had to taste test current products, then create their own special flavour. They also looked at packaging, ingredients, colours, font, pictures and text and have now designed a package to suit their product.

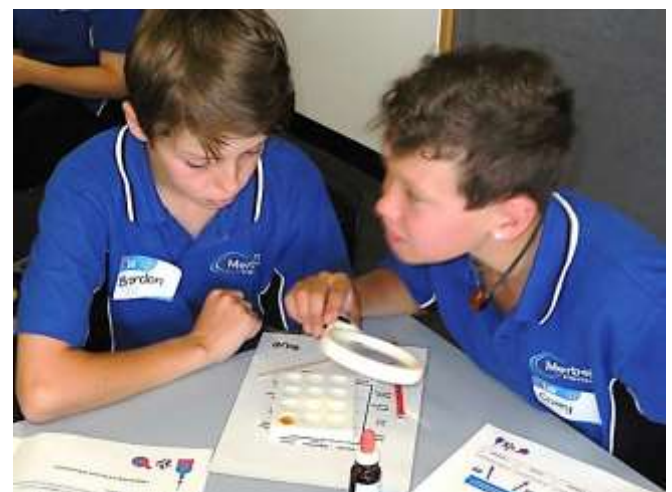
Tomorrow the students will be taste-testing each other's products and making decisions about which is best. They have been working cooperatively and effectively to achieve their goal.

We hope to have made them more aware of what is in the products they eat and the way advertising influences us.



GRADE 5/6 SCIENCE SHOW 'BIOLAB' REPORT

Yesterday the Grade 5/6 students were lucky enough to take part in a FREE Travelling Science Show called BioLAB. The program provided a hands-on experience in Chemical Sciences and the application of this science to everyday life. Students put themselves in the shoes of a Quality Control Testing Officer and joined the BioLAB Staff to solve a few sporting product mysteries. Students applied their Problem Solving Skills as they identified the main ingredients of BioLAB's new range of Sports Nutrition Products. They learned how to critically evaluate information they see as consumers in everyday life. Students were absorbed in the work. They found the program very interesting.





LAST WEEK'S GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Grade P-3 Award Winners. Kira Teasdale, Maddy l'Anson, Riley Nokes, Khye Davis-Pratt, Sarnie Cramp, Caitlin Sheather, Millie Ernesti, Nick Powell, Ireana Nemtsas, Gladys Kirby and Daniel Szombathy.



SECONDARY NEWS

YEAR 10 ACTIVITIES NEXT WEEK

All Year 10 students will be participating in a range of activities next week. A permission slip has been sent home. The note must be completed and returned to the front office by Monday.

Thursday's activity is an 'Amazing Race' Style Game in the City Heart. The current forecast is for a sunny 31degrees. While students are allowed to wear casual dress on Thursday, they should dress Sun Smart, wear a hat and sunscreen and take a water bottle with them to stay hydrated.

GRADUATION TICKETS

Graduation Tickets remain on sale until the end of November. They are \$40 per person. Each student is able to invite two adult family members. Please contact Mr Dreyer if you would like to attend but will be unable to purchase the tickets before 30th November. dreyer.timothy.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

SECONDARY END OF YEAR REPORTS

All Secondary Student Reports will be distributed on Wednesday, 16th December.

SRC ANTI CANCER DAY TO BE HELD NEXT YEAR

The Student Representative Council (SRC) put a late proposal in to run an Anti-Cancer Day this Friday or next Monday. It was decided that the notice is too short so it will not go ahead this year. We will run an Anti-Cancer Day next year, possibly in conjunction with the opening of the Memorial Garden.

FINAL YEAR 10 ASSEMBLY

The final Year 10 Assembly will be held next Friday, 4th December at 9.00am in the Gym. It is tradition for the Year 10's to present themselves as the official party and sit on the mats at the front of the assembly. At this stage, the assembly will be for the Secondary Section only.

END OF YEAR STUDENT WORK

This is Week 8 of an 11 week term. Many classes will have major assignments and tests to complete over the next few weeks. Students need to be taking work home to revise content and processes learnt at school and we can't overstate the importance of this. There will also be assignments and projects to complete.

SECONDARY END OF YEAR PROGRAM

All secondary students will have regular classes with their teachers up until Tuesday, 15th December. The following three days, 16th, 17th and 18th they will participate in a Summer Program designed around safety in the outdoors and during physical activity. Information about this program will be sent home when finalised.

BOOKLISTS/ELECTIVES

All students in Year 7-9 have been given a booklist for 2016 that has their selected electives included. If parents have any questions about this process, please contact the general office. If you have questions about electives please contact Greg Rhodes.

BE SUNSMART

The UV levels in this area are regularly above safe levels during Term 1 and 4. It is a policy in our school that students are to protect themselves if they are expecting to be exposed to direct sunlight for more than fifteen minutes on days when the UV rating is above safe levels. Their personal protection can be in the form of clothing and sunscreen. We encourage students to apply sunscreen at home at the beginning of the day. If they need to top up their application they can bring sunscreen to school and lock it securely in their school provided locker. The policy also states that students should avoid prolonged exposure to UV radiation when possible. The school encourages students to stay out of direct sunlight by opening the air-conditioned buildings for students to use at lunchtimes on days of extreme heat.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MERBEIN GOLF CLUB FAMILY CHRISTMAS NIGHT

To be held at 355 McEdward Street, Cabarita on 5th December, from 5.30pm onwards. Jumping Castle, Sausage Sizzle, Raffles and Santa arrives at 6pm. For more information contact the Merbein Golf Club on 5025 6421 or by email royal.merbein@gmail.com or FaceBook the Merbein Golf Club.

SUNRAYZIA VOLLEYBALL COACHING PROGRAM

Currently Sunraysia Volleyball is running a Saturday morning Spike Zone Coaching Program at the SJC Stadium, 11th Street from 9:30-11:00am for juniors aged between 8 and 14. The program is open to any players interested in trying the sport. Cost is free for the first session, after that \$5 per week.

FREEZA - PUSH START BATTLE OF THE BANDS

FReeZA are hosting an outdoor music event to celebrate this year's FReeZA Push Start Battle of the Bands Wimmera Mallee Regional Final held 6pm at Nowingi Place on 4th December. Cost \$20, early bird \$15, families \$45. Bands performing will be Kingswood, Torque, Soul, Loose Bricks, Levi Smith, and TVL Trio. No Drugs, Alcohol or Smoking. Local band, We are a Band Thing will compete against Horsham band, Empire. The winning band wins a spot in the State Wide Grand. Tickets can be purchased from

<http://www.milduraartscentre.com.au/Ticket-Sales/Other-Events.aspx>.

DRAG RACING EVENT - KOORLONG

Event to be held on Mercer Street Koorlong (Sunsetstrip). **Friday, 4th December** – Cost: Adults \$10 & U17 free, Time: 5-9.30pm.

Saturday, 5th December – Cost: Adults \$25 Pensioners \$15 Students 12-17 \$10 & U12 free, Time: 11.30am-10pm. Tickets available at the gate. BYO everything. Website sunsetstrip.org.au. For more information call 0438548747.

CHILD RESTRAINT CHECKING DAY

RoadSafe Mildura together with KidSafe Victoria have organised a day to check, inspect and adjust your child vehicle restraints to ensure they are being used properly and that your child is safe. Don't risk your child's safety, have your restraints checked on 8th December, from 10.30am–2.30pm at Big W Car Park, Mildura. For more information ring Community RoadSafe Mildura on 0434044118.

MRCC SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12 to 16 YEARS

11 January \$15	Putt Putt & Aqua Coaster
12 January \$15	Laserforce
13 January Free	Mildura Waves
14 January \$15	Movies & Pizza
15 January \$15	House of Bounce
18 January \$15	Cupcakes & Nail Art
19 January \$15	Inflatable World @ Lifestyle Plus
20 January \$15	Lawn Bowls & Ten Pin Bowling
21 January Free	Merbein Pool
22 January Free	Freestyle Art

Don't miss out. Registration is essential. Closing date will be Tuesday, 22nd December, 2015 at 5pm. Registration forms are available by contacting youthservices@mildura.vic.gov.au or www.mildura.vic.gov.au/youth

For further information contact Mildura Rural City Council Youth Services on 5018 8280.

SUNRAYZIA AUTISM SPECTRUM SUPPORT GROUP FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

6th December from 4:30-6:30pm at Lifestyle Plus, Mildura. Everyone welcome. There will be something for all age groups. For further information phone 0447112507 or email sunraysia.autism@gmail.com

2016 BENDIGO AND ADELAIDE BANK SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL STUDENTS

To be eligible, the following criteria must be met.

- Australian citizen or permanent resident from a rural or regional location.
- First year undergraduate in 2016.
- Studying full-time in 2016 in an approved Australian course.
- Graduated from Secondary School in either 2015 or in 2014.
- Able to demonstrate the economic or social disadvantage hindering further study.
- Outstanding academic achievement and community involvement.

Applications open 1st December 2015 and close 25th January 2016. Visit bendigobank.com.au/scholarships for more information or contact Community Enterprise Foundation on 1300304541.

MUSIC TOGETHER CLASSES

Music Together is offering new times for 2016. Classes will be held on Thursdays and Saturdays at the studio in Merbein. Enrol at www.sunraysiaartsandlearning.com.au/enrolments/registration/

Merbein Rotary Community Carols

**Kenny Park
Friday December 4th**

**Food & Drink Stalls
- from 6.30 pm**

Program starts 7.15 pm



**Santa
(approx. 9.15 pm)**

Face Painting

Local Artists performing

Alcohol Free Event

The Rotary Club of Merbein Inc.



SOCIAL STORIES – FAMILY TIME

'Social Stories' is an App Program, structured and used to explain social situations to children with autism and learning delays. Helping children learn socially appropriate behaviour and responses. These stories are appropriate for the majority of ages and skill levels of children. 'Social Stories' can also be used for teaching typically developing children appropriate behaviour and can be used in kindergartens, schools and group settings. Download on Apple IBooks.



www.itunes.apple.com/au/author/alissa-tucker/id1010561671?mt=11