

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**FEBRUARY**

15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>

Gr P-6 Stomp Dance Lessons

22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>

Year 7 Camp

**MARCH**

8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>

Year 8 Camp

14<sup>th</sup> Monday

Public Holiday - NO School

23<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Sec Parent/Teacher Interviews

24<sup>th</sup> Thursday

Last day of Term 1 - early dismissal time of 2.30pm.

**2016 TERM DATES**

Term 1: 28<sup>th</sup> January - 24<sup>th</sup> March

(Teachers return 27<sup>th</sup> January)

Term 2: 11<sup>th</sup> April - 24<sup>th</sup> June

Term 3: 11<sup>th</sup> July - 16<sup>th</sup> September

Term 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> October - 20<sup>th</sup> December

**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.

**MERBEIN P-10 FACEBOOK PAGE**

Check the Facebook Page for updates about the school and upcoming events. [www.facebook.com/merbeinp10collegепarentsclub](http://www.facebook.com/merbeinp10collegепarentsclub)

**STUDENT DENTAL SERVICE**

13th St and Deakin Ave Mildura

Phone 50210944.

**STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your child is away from school, please send a note or email the following address:

[Collihole.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Collihole.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**NEWSLETTERS EMAILED**

To have your newsletter emailed, please email your address to [giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**2016 PREPS PHOTO BELOW**



**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mr Graeme Cupper

**WELCOME TO 2016**

I would like to welcome all students, both new and returning, to the 2016 school year. I would especially like to welcome our new Preps, Year 7s and the twenty or so students who have enrolled in other year levels. I wish them well for their future education at Merbein P-10. The 2016 school year has got off to a good start. As has been the pattern in recent years it was terrific to again see all of the students proudly wearing the Merbein P-10 College uniform. It is a positive sign of respect for our expectations and school values.

The first day at school for Preps is always a significant milestone in their development as it represents the commencement of their formal education journey. I would like to thank the nervous parents/carers and the infant staff for ensuring that the children coped well.

**STAFFING / CLASS ARRANGEMENTS/ LEADERSHIP TEAM**

I would like to welcome several new and returning staff to Merbein P-10 College:

Deb Delbridge (Aide P-2)	Brad Hill (Maths/ Science)
Janelle Costello (Y2-3)	Josh Lee Y4 (Returning from leave)
Stephen Pay (FLO, Music Specialist, Drama)	
Donna Lay (Student Engagement and Wellbeing)	
Sue Gardiner Y5 (returning from Nichols Point)	

I would also like to thank and acknowledge the service provided by Annmaree Simmons who recently decided to leave us. On behalf of the school, I wish her well.

Below is a summary of the 2016 primary classroom and specialist teachers:

**Class Teachers**

P/1	Tania Rivett	Y4	Josh Lee
P/1	Rebecca McClure/ Rebecca Holy	Y5	Sue Gardiner
Y 1/2	Brioney Hall	Y5	Darin Lord/ Rebecca Ogden
Y 2/3	Janelle Costello	Y6	Kerry Grimmer/ Josh Hudson
Y 2/3	Betty Colbert/ Hayley Breewel		

**Specialist Teachers:**

Literacy Specialist/Learning Centre Leader - Wendy Finn	Specialist - Rebecca Holy
Maths/ Science Specialist 0.5 - Darin Lord	Specialist - Jodie Atkinson
Maths/ Science Specialist 0.5 - Rebecca Ogden	

**PARENT/SCHOOL CONTACT**

When parents, teachers and students work collaboratively together, student learning outcomes improve greatly. For this reason Merbein P-10 College values the establishment of a collaborative partnership between parents and teachers so that any issues that may be affecting your child's learning or well-being can be addressed promptly. As a general rule, your child's classroom teacher or Form Teacher should be the first point of contact should parents feel a need to discuss any issues.

As has been the case in previous years we also have our Learning Centre Leaders who are responsible for both Teaching & Learning and Student Wellbeing. They will also be available to work with students, parents and staff should the need arise. The members of these leadership teams are:

Years P-7:	Wendy Finn, Rob Morgan
Years 8-10:	Chris Bettison, Chris Blackie and Liz Rankin

More detailed information about their roles will be made available in the coming weeks.

**BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE - BYOD**

Under our "Bring Your Own Device" Program, students can bring their own approved digital device to use both at school and home.

Based on advice from our ICT team, the only categories approved for use in the 2016 BYOD program are iPad Minis, iPad 2s (or later) or netbooks/ lap tops (Windows 7 minimum). We also support Apple MacBook laptops (OSX 10.8 or later). Other tablet platforms are not preferred for technical reasons.

If you decide to opt into this program, students with Apple devices may be required to download apps recommended by their teachers. This means that students will require their own iTunes account. Legally, students who are under the age of 13 require parent permission to set up an iTunes account. Parents are therefore asked to complete the Parent Approval Form if your child falls under the legal age and arrange to return the signed form to the school so we have evidence that you have provided the necessary approval.

These forms will be available on our web page or from the General Office.

If you would like additional information in regards to Merbein P-10 College's BYOD Program please visit the schools webpage and navigate to the BYOD page as it explains the program in more detail.

**STUDENT RECORDS**

Reminder that it is important to notify the school of any changes to your child's address, phone, emergency phone numbers and medical records.

**CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE/BUS PASS**

Students or parents need to collect an application form from the school's main office if they wish to apply for the allowance in 2016.

**CANTEEN LIST**

A Canteen Price List for the Secondary and one for the Primary are both attached to today's newsletter. Updated Canteen Lists are on the school website. The Primary Canteen List can also be collected from the Green Building office.

Please note that the Junior Price list is for Grades Prep - 4. The Senior Price list is for Grades 5-6 and Years 7-10

**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.

## YEAR 7 UNIFORM PACKAGE INITIATIVE 2016 A STATE SCHOOL'S RELIEF PROGRAM

Every Year 7 government school student enrolled in 2016 who is a recipient of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualifies for a free uniform pack to the approximate value of \$225. Included in the Uniform Pack are basic items.

***Jumper x 1, PE shirt x 1, PE shorts x 1.***

***For girls a dress (or shorts or trousers) x 1 and a shirt x 1 (long or short sleeve).***

***For boys a shirt x 1 (long or short sleeve) and shorts or trousers x 1.***

When a family application has been approved a voucher will be sent to the school and then given to the family. The voucher is valid for 75 days only. CSEF application forms can be collected from the main office.

For more information about the CSEF Application visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef).

### 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](mailto: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.***

## PRIMARY NEWS

### PREP REST DAYS

Today was the first day of school for our 2016 Preps. **Reminder that during the month of February, the Prep students will have every Wednesday off to rest.**

### NAMING ARTICLES

Please remember it is very important to name all your children's property clearly, especially hats and jumpers, bags, drink bottles and lunch containers.

### LEVIES - PRIMARY PARENT PAYMENT 2016

Thank you to the parents who have paid their levies. If you have not paid your levies, please call into the school office and do so as soon as possible.

### 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.

## MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) is currently taking enrolments for 2016. Days are filling fast. Cheryll Hodge is our school's OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.

### STOMP DANCE - GRADES P-6

Stomp Dance is coming to Merbein P-10 for a five day program. From 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February, the Stomp Dance Group will be teaching all students from Grade P-6 during their PE classes throughout the week. Those lessons will be a valuable part of these students ARTS Curriculum which consists of Music, Dance, Performance and Drama. The cost for these performances and lessons is covered by the 2016 Excursion Levy. If you have not paid the levy the cost is \$10 per child. **A permission note has been sent home today with every primary child, please check that your child's note has been returned and that their money/levy has been paid.**



### HATS

Students are required to wear a hat for all outdoor activities (NO caps).

### BLUE BOOK/LIBRARY BAGS

Reminder that all students will need a suitable waterproof bag to put their library and reading books in to take home. Blue book/library bags are for sale at the school uniform shop. All Preps received theirs today. They are to return their diaries, books and bags every day after reading their book at home.

### ART SMOCKS - Mrs Atkinson

Students will be learning, creating, exploring and using their imagination in the Art Program planned for this year.

**Grades Prep-2** will have Art/Library every Monday.

**Grades 5-6** will have Art/Drama every Tuesday. Please ensure that your child has an Art Smock, clearly labelled with their name and Home Group Teacher on it. They will also need a library bag so they can borrow books from the library.

If you have any questions I am available on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Looking forward to a fabulous year.

### SEVERE FOOD ALLERGIES

There are students at the school with severe food allergies. Please remind your child that their food is not to be shared.

## **BRAIN FOOD**

Each child is encouraged to bring some 'brain food' to have every morning. Studies have shown that small amounts of healthy food continually throughout the day, helps with concentration and energy. Examples are: dried fruit, crackers, grapes, carrots, celery, cheese, plain popcorn. No nuts please. (Not roll ups, or chips)

## **JUNIOR LIBRARY NEWS**

Your child will enjoy borrowing from our school's fantastic Junior Library this year. Please note that every child will need to bring along a book bag to protect the books they borrow. These school books are valuable learning tools for our children and very expensive to replace, so **please be diligent**

**in having your child return their library**

**books every week.** (Books can then be re-borrowed if they have not finished with them).

***Also note that any returned overdue books from past years will always be very much appreciated.***

## **WATER BOTTLES**

Every student needs to bring along a plastic sport bottle of water (not soft drink or cordial or fruit drink, just water) to school every day to sit on their desks during class. Studies have proven that the brain does not function well if dehydrated. So it is best practice to drink plenty of water throughout the day.

NB: We have the refrigerated water fountain at school where the children can refill their bottles during the day.

## **HEADLICE**

Headlice is always a problem in schools. Below is a list of recommendations for parents to follow:

- Parents are asked to keep their child/ren's hair tied back neatly at all times.
- Parents are asked to check their child/ren's hair regularly.
- If Head Lice is detected on your child, prompt notification to the principal is important and will be kept confidential.
- If Head Lice is detected, please seek treatment from your local chemist, doctor or the MRCC Health Department.
- If you or the school detects headlice on your child, it is necessary for your child to remain at home until they have been treated and then checked by you to make sure they are clear of any headlice before they return to school.

These precautions will help the school to nip any further infestations in the bud.

# SECONDARY NEWS

## **SECOND HAND SECONDARY UNIFORM FOR SALE**

2 x size 10 black boys shorts

1 x size 12 P.E Shirt.

7 x size 10 Polo Shirts

1 x size 12 Polo Shirt

2 x size 12 Jumpers

Bundle \$60.00 the lot, or can sell separate.

If you are interested phone Fay Hood 0408513819.

## **ALPINE CAMP**

Five of our Year 9 students, Ethan Ilsley, Connor Geyer, Jasmine Versteeg, Georgia Beyer and Corey Sleep will leave for the Alpine Leadership Camp this weekend and return at the end of Term. We hope they have an enjoyable time experiencing the new challenges that this camp has to offer.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## **ELECTRIC LIGHT THEATRE (ELT)**

Presents 'A Night At The Theatre'. A show full of music, comedy, drama and dance variety and performed by Sunraysia young people. Show dates are 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February. Tickets available at the Mildura Arts Centre or online [www.eltmildura.org](http://www.eltmildura.org). Evening and matinee shows available.

## **GIRL GUIDES FOR THE SUNRAYSIA REGION**

Girls of all ages are welcome to 'come and try free' for two weeks with no obligation.

Girl Guides help develop confidence, self-reliance, team building and leadership skills. It also provides an environment to make friends, have fun in the outdoors and learn new skills. For more information phone Melanie on 0409 502 271.

## **MUSIC TOGETHER**

'Come and See' free trial class will be held Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am at the Sunraysia Arts and Learning Studio in Merbein.

Classes begin 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January in Merbein.

Class times are

Thursday 9.30 – 10.15am – 9 week term

Thursday 10.30 – 11.15am – 9 week term

Thursday 4.30 – 5.15pm – 9 week term

Saturday 9.30 – 10.15 am – 8 week term (no class Labour Day weekend)

For more information or to enrol phone Catherine 0420939229 or visit the website

[www.sunraysiaartsandlearning.com.au](http://www.sunraysiaartsandlearning.com.au) or find them on Facebook.

## **FAMILY TIME MILDURA**

Music, action, drama, yoga and photo fun group programs for all children 0-15 years old. Visit the website [www.familytimeaustralia.com](http://www.familytimeaustralia.com) or phone 50229663 for more information.

**GRADE PREP - 4 CANTEEN PRICE LIST 2016**

	Price	QTY	Cost
<b>EVERY DAY ITEMS</b>			
½ chicken salad wrap	\$3.50		
½ ham salad wrap	\$3.50		
½ sweet chilli wrap	\$3.50		
½ salt/vinegar wrap	\$3.50		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Ham salad sandwich (with sml milk/water) <input type="checkbox"/> Choc <input type="checkbox"/> Straw <input type="checkbox"/> Banana <input type="checkbox"/> Water	\$5.50		
Birds Nest - 4 x chicken crackles and salad	\$4.50		
Fresh Fruit (in season)	\$1.00		
<b>OCCASIONAL ITEMS</b>			
Vegemite sandwich	\$2.00		
Cheese sandwich <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh <input type="checkbox"/> Toasted	\$3.00		
Pizza <input type="checkbox"/> BBQ <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian	\$2 each or \$3.50 for 2		
Chicken crackles	\$0.50 each		
Chicken munchies	\$1.00 for 4		
Toasted Wrap <input type="checkbox"/> BBQ <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian	\$3.50		
Potato chips Plain Honey Soy	\$1.00		
<b>DRINKS</b>			
Water	\$1.50		
Flavoured water 350ml <input type="checkbox"/> ABC <input type="checkbox"/> Rasp <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon	\$2.00		
Milk 300ml <input type="checkbox"/> Choc <input type="checkbox"/> Straw <input type="checkbox"/> Banana	\$2.00		
Juice 300ml <input type="checkbox"/> Orange <input type="checkbox"/> Apple	\$2.00		
<b>MONDAYS ONLY</b>			
Hot Dog	\$3.50		
Hot Dog & Cheese	\$4.00		
Sauce			
<b>FRIDAYS ONLY</b>			
Pie & Sauce	\$3.50		
Party Pie & Sauce	\$1.00		
Sm S/Roll & Sauce	\$3.50		
Lge S/Roll & Sauce	\$3.50		
<b>Icy Poles are available to purchase at the Canteen during lunch time.</b>			

Name	Grade	Total
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**GRADE 5-6 AND YEARS 7-10 CANTEEN PRICE LIST 2016**

	Price		Price
<b>MONDAYS ONLY</b>		<b>FRIDAYS ONLY</b>	
Hot Dog	\$3.50	Pies	\$3.50
Hot Dog w/cheese	\$4.00	Pastie	\$3.50
<b>THURSDAYS ONLY</b>		Large S/Roll	\$3.50
All Burgers & Small Milk/Water	\$5.50	Small S/Roll	\$3.00
<b>EVERY DAY ITEMS</b>		<b>EVERY DAY ITEMS</b>	
Full Wraps	\$5.50	Chicken Salad Bowl	\$6.00
Half Wraps	\$3.50	Fresh Fruit Piece	\$1.00
All Burgers	\$5.00	Potato Chips	\$1.00
Toasted S/Wich with Milk or water	\$5.50	Small Milk	\$2.00
Fresh S/Wich with milk or water	\$5.50	Large Milk	\$3.50
Gourmet Toasties	\$6.00	Water	\$1.50
Chicken Crackles	\$0.50each	Focus Water	LGE \$2.50 Sm \$2.00
Chicken Munchies	4 for \$1.00	Lencia Juice	LGE \$2.50 Sm \$2.00
Pizza	\$2.00 each	2 for \$3.50	Ice Break
Caesar Salad Bowl	\$6.00	Milky Max	\$3.50 \$2.00