

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH

14th Monday

Public Holiday – NO School

15th Tuesday

Hot Cross Bun orders close

16th Wednesday

Interschool Chess Tournament

17th Thursday

-Sec LMR Swimming

-Parents' Club AGM 2pm

21st Monday

Sec Interschool Sport Tennis Volleyball

23rd Wednesday

-Sec Parent/Teacher Interviews

-Sec Interschool Sport Baseball

-Hot Cross Bun orders ready for collection

24th Thursday

-Pri Easter Hunt

-Easter Raffle

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

APRIL

11th Monday

First day of Term 2

MAY

Gr P-4 National Simultaneous Story Telling

JUNE

16th - 19th

Mildura Eisteddfod Dances

AUGUST

20th - 26th

Book Week – Theme 'Australia Story Country'

SEPTEMBER

12th Monday

Visiting Performance - Pass the Poetry Please

NOVEMBER

14th Monday

Visiting Performance - To Federation And Beyond

2016 TERM DATES

Term 2: 11th April – 24th June

Term 3: 11th July – 16th September

Term 4: 3rd October – 20th December

STUDENT DENTAL SERVICE

13th St and Deakin Ave Mildura

Phone 50210944

PUBLIC HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL

Reminder that Monday, 14th March is a Public Holiday.

There will be no school on this day.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Last night our new School Council met and elected office-bearers for the 2016 school year. Council Membership for 2016 is as follows:

Parent Category:

Sandy I'Anson	Anne Kirby	Stephen Liddicoat	Andrew Nemtsas
Michelle Nokes	Scott Gardiner	Kate Donaldson	

DET Employee category:

Sandra Luitjes	Chris Blackie	Greg Rhodes	Yvonne Matotek
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Community Members:

Greg Mann	Graeme Worthington
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Minutes Secretary - Judy Hunyadi

Executive Officer - Graeme Cupper

Office Holders for 2016 are:

President	Vice-President	Treasurer
Andrew Nemtsas	Steve Liddicoat	Greg Mann

Once again I would like to thank School Councillors for volunteering their time and expertise to support the ongoing development and improvement of Merbein P-10 College. A special thanks to Greg Mann and Graeme Worthington for their willingness to continue to support our school as Community School Council Members.

The next School Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 13th April. Mr Mike Rowland will attend this meeting and present his report following the School's Priority Review, conducted in November last year.

'RELAY FOR LIFE' REPORT

Last Friday morning students from Grade P-10 donned purple colours, sunscreen and hats to participate in a 'Relay for Life' event to raise funds in support of the Cancer Council Victoria. The Relay was officially opened by Angela Ienco, mother of Giovanna, a former Merbein P-10 Student, in whose memory the event was held.



RELAY FOR LIFE REPORT CONTINUED:

Because it was a hot morning, the relay was brief, nevertheless the students put in a sensational effort and their gold-coin donations collectively raised valuable funds for a very important cause.

I would like to thank Angela Ienco for her support and courageous message that inspired the whole school community. I must also acknowledge and thank Jess Williams (SRC Coordinator), the Student Representative Council (SRC) executive and members as well as the Music-PA team for organising such a successful and inspiring event. Finally a big thank you to Merbein P-10 staff who ensured the relay ran safely and smoothly.



PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

Kyra Fetherston - email

fetherston.kyra.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 15th

Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser orders due

Thursday 17th

Parents' Club AGM 2pm Yellow building followed by a regular meeting at 2:30pm

Thursday 24th

Easter Basket Raffle and Primary Easter Egg Hunt

HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER

Orders and money are due Tuesday, 15th March. No late orders will be accepted. Orders will be ready to collect on Wednesday, 23rd March. An order form is attached.



PARENTS CLUB AGM

The AGM will be held Thursday, 17th March at 2pm in the Yellow Building. Following the AGM, the first official meeting for the year will start at approximately 2:30pm. New members are always welcome.

EASTER BASKET RAFFLE TICKETS

Please keep selling raffle tickets for the school's Easter Basket Competition. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday, 24th March (last day of Term 1). More tickets are available from the school office.

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

MERBEIN P10 COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE

Visit our school's Facebook Page for photos and updates www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college.

PRINTING CARDS – Mr Rhodes

Printing Cards have been distributed to students in Year 4-10.

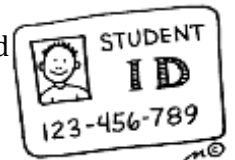
Students will use these cards to access printers around the college.

They will be using the cards on a regular basis at school. Students should keep them in a safe place such as wallets or pencil cases. Any lost cards that need replacement must be purchased by the student.

The older students can also use their card for out-of-school ID.

PLAY GROUP

If you are interested in coming along to a new playgroup held here at Merbein P10 College, on Thursdays from 9.30-11am, please contact the coordinator Danielle Mazza on 0437 077 689 or phone the school office for more information.



INTERSCHOOL CHESS TOURNAMENT

To be held Wednesday, 16th March. Students MUST return their permission note and \$10 by Tuesday, 15th March, or they will not be going.

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.

IMPORTANT DATES – PLEASE NOTE CHANGES

Mr Rhodes

<u>MARCH</u>	
Friday 11 th	Year 8 Camp returns
Monday 14 th	Labour Day Holiday No School
Tuesday 15 th	Indigenous Cultural Awareness Camp
Thursday 17 th	LMR Secondary Swimming Swan Hill
Monday 21 st	Sec interschool Volleyball and Tennis
Wednesday 23 rd	Sec Interschool Baseball
Thursday 24 th	-School Assembly -Last day of term early dismissal time of 2.30pm -Class Easter Basket Competitions (Primary and Secondary) and Raffle
Friday 25 th	Good Friday – NO school

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

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.

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

CLASS EASTER BASKET COMPETITION

This year there will be a competition between each class from Grade P-6 and Year 7-10 to make their own class Easter Basket. The best class basket from the primary and secondary section will be kept by that class to eat. The remainder of the Class Easter Baskets will be raffled.



Students are asked to send in donations of Easter chocolates to make their Class Easter Basket.

LAST WEEK'S GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Grade P-4 Award Winners.

Our usual Class Award winners plus some Bronze Medal Athletics Winners L-R Oscar Vidler, Mason Arnold, Heath Mackay, Lochie McConnell, Jack Page, Tyler Hawkes, Lola Colling, Tyler Cardilini, Maddy l'Anson, Will Martin, Tasharni Quinlivan, Millie Ernesti, Hayden Gardiner, Seth Arnold, Jack Peak, Beauden Vandermerwe, Samantha Tarrant, Jake Ball, Ireana Nemtsas, Shakiera Faux, Sharla Arnold, Louise Smith. Photo below.



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 school before the end of the school day.

GRADE 5-6 ART NEWS - Jodie Atkinson

'Connecting With Our College Community'. More photos below of students in Grade 5- involved in an art project where they are contributing and connecting to the learning spaces of our college.



LAST WEEK'S GRADE 5-6 WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS - Sue Gardiner

Congratulations to these students. Photo below.



JELLYFISH ROOM NEWS - Brioney Hall

Students have also been learning about Place Value and 2D Shapes.



JELLYFISH ROOM NEWS CONTINUED

Students also enjoyed reading the Big Book – The Enormous Watermelon.



SECONDARY NEWS

STUDENT INTERIM REPORTS/PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS – Mr Rhodes

Next week starting on 14th March, all secondary teachers will be completing Interim Student Reports. These reports indicate student progress in some important areas including effort, work completion and student behaviour. Reports will be available for collection on Wednesday evening, 23rd March between 4-6.45pm. Most teachers will be available at these times to talk with parents about their child's progress and discuss areas for improvement if required. The secondary teachers will have tables and waiting areas set up in the Blue Building. Appointments are not necessary as the interviews are to take no more than five minutes. If a longer interview is required a subsequent meeting will be made for another time.

It is strongly advised that the students accompany their parents so they can listen to the teachers and can help their parents locate their teachers. If parents wish to speak with their child's teachers but are unable to attend on this evening, they should contact their Learning Centre Leader or Greg Rhodes to arrange an alternate meeting time.

NEW NETBOOK COMPUTERS – Mr Rhodes
The college has purchased 100 new netbook computers for student use. These will replace the outdated netbook computers used in the college. Students are still encouraged to use the BYOD Computer Access if possible for their school work.

SUN SMART – Mr Rhodes

This term there has been many hot days and many days when the UV radiation levels have exceeded the safe level of 3. The staff and students have taken the correct steps to avoid the damaging effects of exposure to UV.

I will take this opportunity to congratulate our students for taking responsibility for their health and staying out of direct sunlight for prolonged times. Congratulations also to the students who regularly use sunscreen to protect themselves from exposure to the harmful effects of radiation from the sun.

COLLEGE UNIFORM – Mr Rhodes

Students look fantastic in our uniform. Wearing our uniform with pride is something that most students in our college do.

The weather has been very hot recently; therefore jumpers and warm clothing have not been required. Please note that after the Easter holidays the mornings will become cooler and warm clothing will be required. Please ensure your child has appropriate warm clothing ready for the impending colder weather. The Uniform Shop opens on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. The Uniform Shop can be accessed at other times if needed. Enquire at the school's main office.

MERINGUR FOOTBALL/NETBALL CLUB – NETBALLERS REQUIRED – Mr Rhodes

The Meringur Football and Netball Club train on our College grounds on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. They are in need of some Year 9-10 girls or parents interested in playing in the various divisions of the senior netball teams. If you are interested in finding out more you can contact Sandy I'Anson on 0458 251 063.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

The club is looking for someone or a couple of people to take on the role of coach/co-ordinator of their Auskick program.

Role involves taking the training sessions, starting early May 2016 and running them for ten weeks. Program support materials and coaching support from junior coaches will be provided. No prior experience required, just a desire to have fun and encourage kids to have a go.

If you are interested please contact
Graeme Dunne – President on 0407 235 751 or
Geoff Stevens – Director of Coaching on 0407 502 465.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12-16 YEARS

Drop off and pick up venue is the Mildura Scout Hall, 39 Twelfth Street, Mildura. 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.

29 March	Master Chef Challenge - \$15
30 March	Sand Tobogganing @ Perry Sand Hills
31 March	Inflatable World @ Lifestyle Plus - \$15
1 April	Laserforce - \$15
4 April	House of Bounce - \$15
5 April	Mildura Waves - Free – No Lunch
6 April	Digital Scavenger Hunt
7 April	Woodwork Session - \$15
8 April	Art Day @ Mildura Arts Centre

Free lunch provided except 5th April. Book and complete registration forms early so you don't miss out.

WANDERERS BASEBALL CLUB

The Wanderers Baseball Club for players aged 5 to 17. 'Come and Try' Baseball Day will be held 20th March from 10:30am-2pm. All participants will enjoy a free BBQ lunch after progressing through several fun activities organised by junior coaches. No equipment required, just come dressed to play ball. Held at the Southern Cross Ball Park, Old Aerodrome Ovals, Mildura.

For more information call Bert 0418630722.

FREEZA PUSH START BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2016

The Battle of the Bands Competition will be held on 22nd April 2016 at the Mildura Senior College (details to be advised soon).

The FReeZA Push Start Battle of the Bands Competition showcases young musicians from around Victoria, giving them the opportunity to preform, gain local exposure, and win their way to a spot on the Grand Final line up. Nominations are now open with applications closing 5pm on 18th March 2016. Forms can be downloaded from mildura.vic.gov.au/youth

For more information contact Barbara Clifford 5018 8293 or 0428 997 514 or email barbara.clifford@mildura.vic.gov.au

PUSH FOR POSSIBILITIES - GUINNESS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

A fund raising event for Zoe Support Australia. Held at the No. 1 Oval, Mildura on 20th March from 9.30am. Lots of family activities and food stalls. Performances by Peter Combe, one of Australia's well known children's entertainers before and after the world record attempt. Adult tickets \$20, kids enter free. Register online at

www.zoesupport.com.au. For more information contact Anne Webster on email anne@zoesupport.com.au

HAWKS BASEBALL CLUB

First training day and Registrations on 13th April from 4.30-6pm at Southern Cross Ball park (Aero Ovals) Mildura. New players most welcome. U7 Teeball, U10 & U13 Little League, Under 15 & U17 Baseball. For more information contact Corey Barbary 0409413261 or Kym Barbary 0417502941.

SUNRAYSIA DAILY 38TH MILDURA EISTEDDFOD

Registrations are now open.

Closing date for entries is 18th March. No Late entries will be accepted.

For more information contact Michele on 0429 481 898 or email milduraeisteddfod@gmail.com or visit www.milduraeisteddfod.org.

HEADSPACE MILDURA – FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 12 - 25

Address : 2/125 Pine Ave, Mildura. Phone : 5021 2400. **Job Search Group Sessions** - Headspace Mildura and Melinda Binding (MADEC worker) are offering a four week course, commencing May 2, at 4pm, held at Headspace buildings. Course will help with goal setting, creating a resume and cover letter and how to prepare for an interview.

Youth Magazine - Headspace Mildura, together with Mildura Living Magazine, are working with a group of talented local young people to establish a youth magazine that has a focus on our fantastic region. The launch is set for National Youth Week in April.

For more information contact Mitch Rodd via email on Mitch.Rodd@headspacemildura.com.au.

AUSTRALIAN NAVY CADETS - T.S. MILDURA

The T.S. Mildura Navy Cadet unit helps developed young people's skills, giving them great opportunities to be who they want to be in life, defence or otherwise. The parade at 6:45pm on Wednesday nights at the Army Drill Hall on the corner of San Mateo Ave and 12th Street. Some of the great activities/skills on offer are Leadership and Communication, Sailing and Power Boating, Skills in Seamanship and Navigation, Drill and Ceremony, Safe Weapons Training and instructed Range Shooting, Learning an Instrument and Band Corps, Social Skills and so much more. Cost is \$20 per school term, plus weekend camp fees. Uniforms are supplied by the Royal Australian Navy.

To join you must be 13 years old this year and be an Australian citizen/resident. More information will be provided on your visit to the unit with your parent/guardian.

For further information contact; Petty Officer Jamie Blefari - 0448 583 353.

Or Sub-Lieutenant Jason Douglass - 0478 438 343.

NATIONAL PLAYGROUPE WEEK
MERBEIN 'PLAYGROUPE TASTER'

Merbein has two new playgroups this year for parents, carers, babies and children aged 0-5years to come together in a relaxed and friendly environment to learn through play. If you are unsure which playgroup to choose go along to a 'Playgroup Taster' held at the Merbein Library on Wednesday 16th and 23rd March from 11-11.30am. Information about the new Playgroups below.

The Merbein Total Learning Centre Playgroup –

It helps children develop a love of books and storytelling. Helping families prepare for kinder and school. Held at the Merbein P-10 College on Thursdays from 9.30-11am. For more information phone Dani on 50217476.

The Merbein Supported Playgroup – It assists parents with information and strategies to enhance their children's learning at home using the 'Smalltalk' model for parents with children 0-4 years of age. Held at the Merbein Community Hub on Thursdays from 11.30am-1.30pm. For more information phone Laura on 0400134879.

FEMALE PLAYERS SOUGHT

3 Colours SC is looking for female players in the Under 14/15 girls and Senior Women's sections. Further information: Vince Maiorana 0416 054 372 or threecolourssc@live.com.au.

MINIBALL REGISTRATION 2016

Miniball is an introduction and skills based Basketball Program for primary school children in Grade Prep - Grade 4. Games are played at the Mildura Hot House on Saturday mornings. To register simply attend Registration Day held at the Mildura Hot House Stadium on 19th March. Grades P-1 at 9.30am and Grades 2-4 at 10.30am.

Fees are \$50 per player with a \$5 per week door charge. For more information contact Fiona on 0408 535 830 or email: alcheringabb@gmail.com.

JANET PULLMAN FUNDRAISER

Event to raise funds to help the family during Janet's recovery. The fundraiser will be held at the Black Stump Pub at the Setts on 18th March from 6-8pm. Cost \$20, nibbles and drinks provided.

Further information can be found on the Facebook event page -

<https://www.facebook.com/events/519741824817516/>

AUSTSWIM ACCREDITATION COURSE

The last course in Mildura for this year will be held on the 19th and 20th of March at the Mildura Waves. Next week is the last week that enrolments can be accepted.

The AUSTSWIM accreditation recognised in each state and territory of Australia and many countries overseas.

For further details phone 1300 885 666.

SAINTS BASEBALL CLUB - MERBEIN
COME AND TRY BASEBALL DAY

First Training for 2016:

Wednesday, 30th March from 4:30-6pm

Wednesday, 6th April from 4:30-6pm

@Chaffey Park (Top of Pump Hill) Merbein.

U7 Tee ball. U10, U13, U15 and U17 Baseball.

Free Sausage Sizzle. New players are very welcome to come and see if baseball is for you.

Phone: Greg Stewart 0438519069.

