

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH

21st Monday

Sec Interschool Tennis & Volleyball

23rd Wednesday

-Sec Parent/Teacher Interviews

-Pri STOPS Reports sent home

-Sec Interschool Baseball

-Hot Cross Bun orders ready for collection

24th Thursday

-Easter Raffle - Recess

-Casual Clothes Day

-Assemblies - Pri 11.30 & Sec 12.35

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

APRIL

11th Monday

First day of Term 2

25th Monday

ANZAC Day Public Holiday

29th Friday

Biggest Morning Tea

MAY

25th Wednesday

Gr P-4 National Simultaneous Story Telling

JUNE

13th Monday

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

16th -19th

Mildura Eisteddfod Dances

JULY

22nd Friday

Primary PJ Day

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

STUDENT OF THE MONTH ASSEMBLIES - Mr Rhodes

Next Thursday, 24th March the school will be holding Student of the Month Assemblies. The Primary Assembly will be held at 11.30am. The Secondary Assembly will be held at 12.35pm.

Parents are welcome to attend. **If parents wish to attend please contact Mr Rhodes** so seating can be arranged.

SCHOOL PHOTOS - Mr Rhodes

School Photos arrived in today's mail. They will be sorted, handed out and sent home with students tomorrow.

HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER

Thankyou to all the families who have supported this fundraiser. Orders will be ready to collect on Wednesday, 23rd March.



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.

CLASS EASTER BASKET COMPETITION

Students will be creating their class Easter Baskets next week. They will need lots of donations to create the winning basket, so please send along some donations of Easter Eggs with your child as soon as possible.



WHOLE SCHOOL EASTER CELEBRATION - Wendy Finn

Next Thursday, 24th March, primary and secondary students will participate in a Whole School Easter Celebration at recess. Every class will be creating an Easter Basket next week. These Class Easter Baskets will become the prizes for the Whole School Easter Raffle. The Primary and Secondary Raffle Tickets will be combined. The Primary Section **WILL NOT** be having an Easter Hat Parade this year.

LAST DAY OF TERM - CASUAL CLOTHES - Wendy Finn

Next Thursday, 24th March, students may wear casual clothes to school. This is the last day of Term 1. Reminder that all students will be dismissed at the earlier time of 2.30pm. We wish everyone a very Happy Easter and a safe holiday break.

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

MERBEIN P10 COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE

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

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

MARCH

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

APRIL

Monday 11 th	First day of Term 2
Wednesday 20 th	Open Air Cinema Night

EMAIL ADDRESSES

The school prefers to send the weekly newsletter 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.

LIBRARY NEWS - Primary and Secondary

The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge is now open and Merbein P-10 College is excited to be participating. It is not a competition but a personal challenge for students to read a set number of books from the Premier's Reading Challenge Booklists, before the closing date of the challenge. Students from Grade P-2 are encouraged to read or experience thirty books with their parents and teachers. Students in Grade 3 - Year 10 are challenged to read fifteen books.

If your child is interested in participating in the challenge, please have them contact our school's Secondary Library to collect a 'Consent Form', necessary for joining the Challenge.

For more information about the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge and to view the booklists, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

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.

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

PRIMARY NEWS

GRADE P-2 NEWS

Due to the Public Holiday this week, the Grade P-2 will visit the library tomorrow. **Please check that your child brings their library books tomorrow**, so they can borrow ready for the Easter Holidays.

HAIR

For health and safety reasons we request that parents tie their child's hair back neatly before sending them to school.

STUDENT TERM ONE PROGRESS STATEMENT -

Wendy Finn

Your child's 'Student Term One Progress Statement' (STOPS), will be sent home next Wednesday, 23rd March. If you would like to talk your child's teacher concerning their STOPS Report, please contact the college to make an appointment.

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.

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.

MATHLETICS BRONZE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners, who received their awards at last Thursday's Assembly. Mason Arnold, Adrian Allen, Kaide Aitken, Tasharni Quinlivan, Oscar Vidler, Mady Phillips, Dylan Arnold, Kaitlin Sheather, Hayden Gardiner, Zhoe Willison, Lucas Crabtree and Will Martin (Silver Award). Photo to the right.



LAST WEEK'S GREEN BUILDING

WEEKLY AWARD

WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Grade P-4 Award Winners.

Mia Brewer,
Tasharni Quinlivan,
Lola Colling,
Sharla Arnold,
Renisha Fuamatu,
Clare McConnell,
Sebastian Pope,
Max Kassulke,
Claire Nokes,
Matilda Smith,
Olivia Corrie,
Taya Battin-Fredrickson
and Wylie Smith.
Photo to the right.



DIETICIAN TALK REPORT – Brioney Hall

The Grade P-2 students were very lucky to have a dietician guest speaker visit our school last Friday to talk to us about 'Healthy Eating' and appropriate healthy choices for our lunch box. Her name was Helena Ostrognay. Photos to the right.



JELLY FISH NEWS - Brioney Hall

Students have been learning about the five food groups and participated in different activities.



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

SECONDARY NEWS

STUDENT INTERIM REPORTS/PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS - Mr Rhodes

Secondary teachers have been busy working on Student Interim 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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

For further details phone 1300 885 666.

AUSTRALIAN NAVY CADETS - T.S. MILDURA

The T.S. Mildura Navy Cadet unit helps develop young people's skills, giving them great opportunities to be who they want to be in life, defence or otherwise. They 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 PLAYGROUP WEEK

MERBEIN 'PLAYGROUP 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 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.

SUNRAYSIA VOLLEYBALL SENIOR COMPETITION

The Sunraysia Volleyball Senior Competition begins Wednesday, 20th April with the introduction of a new Social Sevens Competition. This competition will run for 10 weeks. A one off entry fee for the team with no weekly fees and then anybody can play. Matches go for 45 minutes with modified rules to suit social and beginner players. Teams have to have at least four players there each week with a maximum of six allowed on the court. For more information phone Allen Hassell on 50243721 or email info@wildsideoutdoors.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.

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.

MINIROOS REGISTRATION DAY

3 COLOURS SC MINIROOS REGISTRATION

Held Wednesday, 13th April 2016 at Pitch 10, Soccer Park, Flora Ave Mildura from 5.30-6.30pm.

New and existing players welcome to register. Players are requested to self-register BEFORE the Registration Day. Instructions on how to self-register are available at www.threecolours.com.au

For further information phone Vince Maiorana 0416 054 372 or email threecolourssc@live.com.au.

LIBRARY HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Activities designed for primary aged children.

Cost \$1.70 per session. Bookings essential.

Merbein Library - Phone 50188361

Sessions from 11am-12pm

29th March Rainbow Fish, 30th March Lego fun

31st March Angry Birds, 5th April Seaside sewing

6th April Lego Fun, 7th April Rock Monsters

Mildura Library - Phone 50188350

29th March Dream-catcher 10.30-11.30am

Decorate a Birdhouse 2.30-3.30pm

31st March Stained Glass Frame 10.30-11.30am

Pine Cone Animals 2.30-3.30pm

5th April - Pine Cone Animals 10.30-11.30am

Stained Glass Frame 2.30-3.30pm

6th April - Lego Fun 2.30-3.30pm

7th April - Decorate a Birdhouse 10.30-11.30am

Dream-catcher 2.30-3.30pm

HEADSPACE MILDURA - FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

AGES 12 - 25 - FREE BIRTHDAY PARTY

Young people between the ages of 12-25 year old are invited. Free entry, food and performance from 'Loose Bricks' to celebrate Headspace Mildura's 1st year of operation. Held 18th March from 6.15pm at the Headspace Mildura Buildings. Bring friends. For more information checkout the Facebook page or phone 50212400.

SUNRAYSIA VOLLEYBALL AUTUMN SPIKE ZONE PROGRAM

The Sunraysia Volleyball Autumn Spike Zone Program is a new program for ages 7-14. It begins 16th April and ends 18th June, each Saturday from 9:30-11:00am at the SJC Stadium. Cost is \$5 per week. Come along and bring your friends!!

For more information phone Allen Hassell on 50243721 or email info@wildsideoutdoors.com.au

SUNRAYSIA RUGBY LEAGUE COACH COURSE

The Sunraysia Rugby League will be holding a Modified Games Coach (MGC) course Modified Games Coach in Mildura on 2nd April from 9am-2pm. This course is designed for people who wish to coach children from the age of 5 -12.

This opportunity is open to all members of the public and school systems who wish to expand their knowledge of Rugby League and coaching in general.

At the low cost of \$55 this course provides you with an ncasnoas accreditation for four years.

For more information visit <https://education-nrl.sportingpulse.com/event.asp?ID=5815>.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM EUROPE

World Education Program (WEP) is looking for local families to host 15-18 year-old exchange students from France, Italy, Belgium, Finland, the Netherlands and Brazil from July for their 3, 5 and 11 month programs. These students are coming to Australia to learn what it is like to live as a local teenager, attend a local school and become a valued member of a local family. It is a unique chance for your family to make life-long friends with an adventurous, motivated student who has chosen Australia as their exchange destination. For more information contact Kelly Morrison email morrison.kelly.j@edumail.vic.gov.au or contact WEP on 1300 884 733, sylviakelly@wep.org.au or visit www.wep.org.au for more information.

SARNIA TENNIS CLUB OPEN DAY

To be held 3rd April at Sarnia Tennis Club from 11:00am-1:00pm. If you are interested in playing for Sarnia during the winter season you are welcome to come down and have a hit and register with the club. A light BBQ lunch will be provided. Junior training will commence on 14th April at 4pm, followed by senior training at 5pm.

For more information contact Andrea Rose on 50236038 or 0428236038.

SUNRAYSIA MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Will be held 30th April at the SMECC Community Cultural Centre on 12th Street.

The festival will have a strong family and youth focus this year.

Visit their Facebook Page for more information about the event and updates as they occur.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/809554692506880/> or phone Andrew J. Rankin 5022 1006.