CROSS COUNTRY REPORT
Last Friday the school held its 2016 Cross Country Event. It is quite a challenge to organise such an event, especially when we have such a wide range of ages and running distances. The detailed planning by Bec Holy, Hayley Brewel and Ash Hill plus the support of staff and House Leaders ensured the event ran smoothly. The perfect weather was an added bonus.

Thank you to the Parents’ Club for supplying the refreshing water and cordial. Thanks also to the Merbein the Lion’s Club who cooked and served several hundred sausages that were enjoyed by the participants. The Lion’s Club volunteer their time every year and their generous support for our school is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank the parents and families who turned up in large numbers to support the event.
AFTER-SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAM REPORT
It was pleasing to see so many primary students from our feeder schools participating in our Grade 5-6 ‘After-School Activities Program’ yesterday afternoon. Approximately twenty five students enjoyed taking part in either Music or Food Activities. It was also great to be able to meet many of their parents and I thank them for assisting with transporting their children to and from the activity.
I would like to thank the following staff for making this program possible:
- Rob Morgan for coordinating the activities.
- Josh Hudson and Stephen Pay for running the Music Program.
- Chris Bettison and Liz Rankin for conducting the Food Class.
The second half of the Activities Program will be held next Wednesday afternoon. More will be offered later in the term. A similar opportunity will be provided to our own Merbein P-10 students.
PUPIL-FREE DAY
School Council has approved a Pupil-Free Day to be held on Monday, 23rd May. All Primary Classroom Teachers and Secondary Maths Teachers will be working with Charles Lovitt, a highly respected Maths Consultant. This activity is a key part of the school’s Primary Maths Science Specialist Program and also supports our focus on improving teaching and learning outcomes in the secondary years.
All other Secondary Teachers and support staff will be involved in Report Writing and Professional Development Activities.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARD WINNERS
FOR APRIL
Congratulations to the follow students who were presented with their Student of the Month Awards this week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P1A</th>
<th>Liam Williams</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Kaitlin Sheather</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1B</td>
<td>Wylie Smith</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Simmone Austin</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tyler Hawkes</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Dominic Fasolino</td>
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<tr>
<td>23A</td>
<td>Adrian Allan</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Henry Lawson</td>
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<tr>
<td>23B</td>
<td>Olivia Corrie</td>
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<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>Cambelle Hedley</td>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Caelan Beyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>7C</td>
<td>Bree Antonie</td>
<td>7D</td>
<td>Darcy Liddicoat</td>
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<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Shenae Sleader</td>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Lydia Kerr</td>
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<td>8C</td>
<td>Katrina Garraway</td>
<td>8D</td>
<td>Joel Maiorana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9A</td>
<td>Jodine Closter</td>
<td>9B</td>
<td>Trey Henschke</td>
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<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td>Shania McKinnon</td>
<td>9C</td>
<td>Kiara Connolly</td>
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<tr>
<td>10A</td>
<td>Hannah Nicholson</td>
<td>10B</td>
<td>Alexandra Pallet</td>
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<tr>
<td>10C</td>
<td>Jamie Hood</td>
<td>10D</td>
<td>Jordan Kerr</td>
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<tr>
<td>10E</td>
<td>Shae Congress</td>
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</table>

PHOTO OF THE YEAR 10 AWARD WINNERS

UNIFORM – Mr Rhodes
The cooler weather is coming quickly. Year 10 students have received their special uniform tops which look fantastic. All students have many acceptable uniform options to keep them warm. It is important that ALL students have the correct uniform to wear to school. If parents need some assistance in obtaining uniforms for their children, they should contact Mrs Judy Hunyadi in the main office or Mr Greg Rhodes to make suitable arrangements. Students are not permitted to wear Hoodies to school.
If students are out of uniform for a short period of time they should bring a signed note to school.

NAPLAN TESTING UPDATE – Mr Rhodes
Over the past three days students in Years 3/5/7 & 9 have been sitting the NAPLAN Tests. Students who were absent on these days have the opportunity to do a catch up test tomorrow, Friday 13th May. Please see Mr Rhodes about this.

LUNCHTIME CHESS PRACTICE – Kira Fetherston
Any students who would like to compete at the next Interschool Chess Tournament on Monday, 1st August, must attend practice at lunchtime on Mondays in the Yellow Building (Year 7 end).
No practice = No play. There will be a limit of twenty players from the whole school attending the tournament. During the tournament every player will play seven games of chess against students from other schools in the region.
Students from all year levels (P -10) are invited to a first practice next Monday, 16th May. Please speak to Mrs Fetherston for more information.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND 2016
Parents and guardians who hold a Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) that is valid on the first day of Term 2, are eligible to claim the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund. Application forms must be completed and returned to the school by 20th June, for the claims to be processed. Application forms are available from the main school office or the office in the Green Building.

PLAY GROUP
If you are interested in coming along to a 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.

MERBEIN P10 COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE
Visit our school’s Facebook Page for photos and updates www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college.

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.

STUDENT ABSENCE
If your child is away from school, please send a note or email the following address: Collihole.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au
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.

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.

GRADE 6 TO 7 TRANSITION PROGRAM REPORT - Mr Morgan
Last night, Merbein P-10 hosted twenty six primary students from local schools. They were Ranfurly, Mildura West, Mildura South, The Lake and Sacred Heart Primary Schools. The Grade 5 & 6 students took part in some fun and educational tasks as part of the school’s ‘After School Activities Program’ to assist in the smooth transition from primary school to life as a secondary student. A big thank you to Ms Rankin and Mrs Bettison for running the cooking class and thank you also to Mr Hudson and Mr Pay for running the music class, creating awesome music on computers and guitars. It was great to see all students leave the school with a big smile and eager to return next week for more fun activities with cooking and music. The Merbein Grade 6 students will be involved in transition activities later in the year.
Photos follow.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS
Students in Years 5–10 interested in learning saxophone or trumpet at school, please see Mr Hudson, music teacher or contact the school front office.
MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
Cheryl Hodge is our school’s OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.

GRADE P-6 GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY – Mr Lord
To help celebrate the very significant contribution ‘Grandparents’ play in our student’s lives, we will be holding a special day for them on Friday, 10th June. Grandparents and special friends are invited into our classrooms between 9am and 11:00am on this day. Morning Tea will follow, held in the Orange Building.

GRADE 5-6 NEWS
Interschool Sport Training - students have commenced training during their PE and Sport lessons. They are excited to have some Year 10 students coaching them. Please ensure that students are wearing appropriate footwear and clothing to participate.

Semester Assessment - Students will be participating in formal assessments beginning next week. It would be appreciated if families could ensure that students are well rested and bring along healthy brain-food to eat.

Cross Country- Good luck to all the Grade 5-6 students representing our college at the Interschool Cross Country in Mildura next week. Do your best!

Weekly Awards – Congratulations to last week’s weekly award winners. Photo below.

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT – Bec Holy
A fantastic Whole School Cross Country was held last Friday. Students ran, walked and skipped their way to the finish line to gain points for their Sport House Team. A big congratulations to our Cowra Sport House for winning the trophy this year. Thank you to the Merbein Lions Club and the Parents’ Club for supplying a well-earned sausage and drink for every student. Thank you also to the parents, families and friends who came down to Chaffey Park to cheer the students on. Finally thank you to all the staff who helped out on the day. It was fantastic to see such a well-supported community event. Following on from this day, twenty primary students from 9–12 years of age, will be participating in the Primary District Cross Country Event on Tuesday, 17th May. We wish them all good luck. Photos and results are as follows.

6 & Under Girls
1st Clare McConnell
2nd Ruby Dunn
3rd Ashana Sleader
7 & Under Girls
1st Chloe Moore
2nd Taya Battin-Fredrickson
3rd Alana Teasdale

6 & Under Boys
1st Noah Philippe
2nd Johnothon Powell
3rd Max Kassulke
7 & Under Boys
1st Joshua Driscoll
2nd Oscar Vidler
3rd Mason Spicer

8 & Under Girls
1st Zhoe Willison
2nd Sapphire Dodds
3rd Sharla Arnold
9 & Under Girls
1st Joshua Driscoll
2nd Daniel Szombathy
3rd Wiley Dixon

8 & Under Boys
1st Lucas Crabtree
2nd Daniel Szombathy
3rd Will Martin

9 & Under Girls
1st Makayla Dixon
2nd Tasharni Quinlivan
3rd Aleisha Moore
10 & Under Girls
1st Christian Issacs
2nd Daniel Szombathy
3rd Louca Peterson

9 & Under Boys
1st Lucas Crabtree
2nd Will Martin
3rd Brayden Foster

10 & Under Girls
1st Will Martin
2nd Tasharni Quinlivan
3rd Aleisha Moore
11 & Under Girls
1st Christian Issacs
2nd Tasharni Quinlivan
3rd Louca Peterson

11 & Under Boys
1st Alan Bugmy
2nd Seth Colling
3rd Zac Peterson

12 & Under Girls
1st Emma Sleader
2nd Tayla Pratt
3rd Shavonne Emanuelli

12 & Under Boys
1st Kayne Versteeg
2nd Bradley Wakefield
3rd Mike Sheather

[Images of the Cross Country event and school awards]
CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK’S GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

GRADE 2-4 DANCES
A group of Grade 2-4 girls have spent many hours choreographing and practicing their own dance in readiness to perform to their peers. They performed at last week’s P-4 assembly. Well done to Tasharni Quinlivan, Zhoe Willison, Sharla Arnold, Sapphire Dodds, Bella Parker, Jerri Liddicoat, Megan Young and Maddy Carter.

SECONDARY NEWS

REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS NEWS
- Mr Rhodes

Netball - Tomorrow we have four Netball Teams representing our college at the District Netball Championships. Mrs Willison and Mrs Smith have been coaching the teams and will be supervising tomorrow.

Softball - Next Monday, 16th May, our Softball Team will be travelling to Melbourne to compete against the State’s best. We wish them and Ms Donnelly the best of luck in their endeavours.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
Places available in all age groups for the 2016 football season. All new and existing players are welcome.
Training is held at Kenny Park Merbein.
Training days and times as follows:
- U16 - Tuesday and Thursdays from 4.30-6.00pm.
- U14 - Tuesday & Thursdays from 4.30 to 5.45pm
- U10 & U12 - Thursdays only from 4.30 to 5.30pm
Auskick Registrations are to be completed Online via website http://aflauskick.com.au/register/
For further information please contact:
Graeme Dunne (President) - 0407 235 751
Melissa McNally (Secretary) – 0427 502 303
Geoff Stevens (Coaching) - 0407 502 465

2001-2004 MERBEIN HIGH SCHOOL REUNION
Ex-students and staff who attended Merbein Secondary College from 2001-2004 are invited to a reunion on Saturday, 30th July. A walk through the school will be conducted at 5pm followed by refreshments at the Merbein Citizens Club at 6.00pm. For Further information please contact Tegan Lawn on tegan@selectevents.com.au
NAB AFL AUSKICK PROGRAM - BOYS & GIRLS
AGED 5+
Learn skills of the football game in an exciting, social and safe environment.
Visit the website AFLAUSKICK.COM.AU to register and find the local Auskick Centre closest to you.
Registrations close May 20th.
For more information contact Trevor Ryan
phone 0427 750 283 or E-mail
Trevor.Ryan@aflvic.com.au

LEGO CLUB
Lego Club will be held this Saturday from 10:30-11:30am, 110 Pine Ave Mildura.
All welcome. For more information email
sunraysia.autism@gmail.com.

SAVER PLUS - FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDED
Saver Plus encourages people to build a savings habit and rewards them by matching their savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500!
The Saver Plus Program has officially re-opened and is looking for new participants.
To be eligible to join Saver Plus, participants must meet all criteria below:
• have a Health Care Card or a Pensioner Concession Card.
• be over 18.
• have a child at school now or starting next year, or be studying themselves.
• have some form of household income from work, for example, themselves or their partner may have casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal employment.
• have an email address and internet access.
Call or SMS your name and postcode to 1300610355 or email saverplus@bsl.org.au for more information.

MILDURA VOLUNTEER BRANCH OF MAKE-A-WISH® AUSTRALIA
The Make-A-Wish foundation gives seriously ill children hope for the future, strength to face the challenges of their illness and joy from their incredible wish experience.
On Sunday, 19th June at 2pm the foundation will be hosting a Cinema Fundraiser at the Mildura Deakin Cinema featuring the much anticipated movie "Finding Dory". Cost is $18.00 or $25.00 with a small drink & popcorn. Book at the Deakin Cinema on phone 50234452 or contact Samantha on phone 0438 836 363.

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE
International students will be arriving in Australia in July this year. If you are interested in hosting an international student from either France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Finland or Scandinavia, or if you would like more information, please contact this agency on phone 1800 500 501.

FREE GIFTED EDUCATION SEMINAR 7MILDURA
Victoria Association for Gifted and Talented Children will be holding a free Seminar to be held Thursday 26th May at the Trinity Lutheran College, Mildura. A Parent Seminar will be held from 7-9pm. A Teacher Seminar will be held from 1-4pm. For more information and registration please visit www.VAGTC.info.