STEM CHALLENGE DAY - Rebecca Ogden

Last Friday six Grade 6 students competed in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) Challenge Day. In teams of three they researched, designed and made a 'device' that could pump water out of a flooded house. Both our teams produced a 'machine' that pumped water with varying success. Saja, Amir, Brad, Montie, Henry and Lucy all participated with great enthusiasm and had ‘On the Job’ training in group skills and the importance of working as a team.
LOW COST DENTAL SERVICES FOR ALL CHILDREN 12 & UNDER
The service includes emergency care, general care (fillings, extractions & sealants) and dental health advice. All children aged 0-12 have priority access which means there is no waiting. They will be given the next available appointment. Concession Card holders receive the service for free. For more information or to make an appointment phone Sunraysia Community Health Services 50210944. Address 137 Thirteenth Street Mildura.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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. Next Thursday all parents are asked to bring a friend along.

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1A</td>
<td>Liam Williams</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P1B</td>
<td>Kylie Smith</td>
<td>5A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tyler Hawkes</td>
<td>5B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23A</td>
<td>Adrian Allan</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23B</td>
<td>Olivia Corrie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MERBEIN P10 COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE
Visit our school’s Facebook Page for photos and updates www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college.
GRADE 5-6 SPECIALIST AWARDS – Sue Gardiner

Great to see so many Grade 5-6 students being acknowledged with awards for their specialist classes. Fantastic to see!

GRADE 5-6 NEWS

Rugby Clinic - All our Grade 5-6 students are very fortunate to be participating in a specially funded four week program beginning next Wednesday.

Melbourne Camp - Thank you to families who have returned the ‘Expression of Interest’ note and their deposit. For those who have yet to do so, the deposit and note must be returned to school by the end of this term.

Pizza Note - Mrs Grimmer’s Maths Class have been learning about ‘Multiplicative Thinking’ and as part of their learning, a Pizza Lunch has been organised for the unit. A note was sent home last week. Students must have the note and money returned by the end of next week.

NAPLAN Testing - A big “Well Done” to all students who sat the NAPLAN Assessment last week. The Grade 5-6 Staff Team are very proud of you!

EISTEDDFOD UPDATE – Mrs Finn

Students are practising their dances in readiness for the Eisteddfod. Teachers will be contacting families shortly regarding the costume that their child will be wearing. The primary students involved will be performing on Friday morning, 17th June. More information will be sent home, closer to the event. Grade P-2 students are in the third section for the day which could be between 10 and 10.30am. The morning session starts at 9.30am. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

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.

GRADE P-6 GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY – Mr Lord

To help celebrate the very significant contribution ‘Grandparents’ play in our students’ 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 11am on this day. Morning Tea will follow, held in the Orange Building.

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORY TELLING TIME - GRADE P-2 – Mrs Finn

In 2015 over 500,000 children at over 3,100 locations across Australia took part in National Simultaneous Story Time and we read the book called ‘The Brothers Quibble’.

Next Wednesday 25th May, 2016 at 10.30am the students in Grade P-2 will once again participate in National Simultaneous Story Time. They will join together to listen to the reading of the book that has been chosen. The book this year is titled ‘I Got This Hat’.

Grade P-2 students are asked to wear or bring to school either a funny or a favourite hat on the day.

It is amazing to think that over half a million other Australian students are reading the same book at the same time.

We will do some fun follow up activities too. Please check out our Facebook Page for lots of fun photos from the event.

DISABILITY AWARENESS PROGRAM - Mrs Finn

Grade P-6 students will participate in a Disability Awareness Program in our college next week on Thursday 26th May and Friday, 27th May. The sessions will last for an hour and the students will experience what life might be like with a variety of disabilities. The aim is to make our students more sensitive to the needs of others.

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.
INDONESIAN DANCE REPORT – Janelle Costello
The P-4 students enjoying learning some traditional Indonesian dance moves from the Suara Indonesia dancers!

GRADE P-2 NEWS – Brioney Hall
Grade P-2 students working together in small group collaborative games & activities.

Grade 1-2 students from Mrs Hall’s Jellyfish Home Group had a fun morning with Eleanor’s Mum. They experienced lots of ‘Movement to Music’. Singing, dancing and playing instruments. Thank you Catherine for an amazing morning.

GRADE P-2 ART NEWS – Jodie Atkinson
This term students in Grade P-2 have been working on their ‘Fine Motor Skills’ during Art Class. This week their task was threading. Lots of fun was had threading beads, wool, ribbon or pipe cleaners onto a player plate.

ART SUPPLIES REQUEST
If you have spare wool, material, bailing twine, bottles, containers, zips, buttons, cotton, jars, plastic bags, lids and cardboard rolls, the Primary Art Department would love them. Please place any donations you can give in a plastic bag and leave them on Mrs Atkinson’s desk at school.
DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS –
Mr Lord
On Tuesday, 17th May twenty seven students from Grades 4-6 competed in the District Cross Country Championships at the Aerodrome Ovals. All students participated to the best of their abilities and achieved results accordingly.
Notable results included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competitor</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Placing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Tarrant</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makayla Dixon</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tess Liddicoat</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seth Colling</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shayde Szombathy</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lily Mahe</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayne Versteeg</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Sheather</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teams Competition</td>
<td>9/10 Girls</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Brooklyn, Kayne and Makayla are now eligible to compete in the Victorian School Cross Country Championships.

SCHOOL POLICIES – Mr Rhodes
New policies and existing policies are constantly being written and reviewed at our College Council meetings. Over the next few newsletters the newsletters will be including some policies for parents to read. The first of these policies relates to the minimisation of risk or injury in contact sporting events and relates specifically to the use of mouthguards. We have included this particular policy today as the Interschool Sporting Program, where some of these contact sports are played, begins this term.

SCHOOL MOUTHGUARD POLICY
Dental injuries are the most common type of oral facial injury in sport. They can keep players out of sport for a significant amount of time and often prove costly.

The National Health and Medical Research Council and Sports Medicine Australia, officially recommends wearing custom made mouthguards when participating in contact sports.

In order to reduce the incidence or severity of oral facial injuries, Merbein P-10 College recommends that all students playing contact sports (eg Basketball, Rugby, Football, Hockey and any other contact sport) wear custom fitted mouthguards at ALL training sessions and at games.

A custom fitted mouthguard, unlike the over-the-counter variety, fits a person’s mouth perfectly. The accurate fit and uniform thickness of the shock absorbing plastic, maximises the shock absorbing effect and can reduce the force of oral facial injuries.

Over the counter generic mouthguards are a cheaper alternative that can afford some protection. This can be better than no protection at all providing the mouthguard fits well.

Students who do not use a mouthguard, train and play at their own risk during P.E. and sports training and competitions.

Physical Education staff will reinforce the importance of wearing mouth protection regularly during the physical education program.

Students will be responsible for the safe and hygienic storage of their mouthguards and will be responsible for wearing their mouthguards during contact games and training sessions.

Parents of students competing in sports listed above should be given sufficient notice to arrange a mouthguard for their child to use in the event they are selected in one of these teams.

Implementation - The policy will be communicated to the college community through the newsletter, student bulletins and electronic media.

Physical Education and sports staff will encourage the use of mouth guards. Review Date – October 2017.

SECONDARY NEWS

REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS – Mr Rhodes
Congratulations to our Intermediate Girls Softball Team. They travelled to Melbourne earlier this week and finished third in the State. A great effort!! I would like to extend a big thank you to Mrs Judy Donnelly and Ms Jenny Donnelly who escorted and coached the group.

AFTER SCHOOL PRIMARY VISITORS – Mr Rhodes
Mr Morgan has arranged for primary students from our feeder schools to have a taster after school on two Wednesdays this term. I would like to thank Ms Rankin, Mrs Bettison, Mr Hudson and Mr Pay for running an engaging session last night. These initiatives add value to our school and to the students who graduate from our school.
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.

GRIP NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CAMP 2016
Would you like to develop valuable leadership skills whilst having enormous fun during the July school holidays? Students in Yrs 10-12 are invited to participate in a National Leadership Camp being held in Sydney, hosted by the GRIP Leadership Team. Teenagers from around Australia will be gathering for this four day camp from July 3rd-6th. GRIP Leadership is well known for organising Australia’s largest student leadership events and helping students reach their potential as a leader.


YEAR 10 SHARE MARKET GAME RESULTS – Howard Hankinson
This last week of the competition has been very interesting with the leading student, Ethan Axton ‘Ascot’ being knocked off the top spot on Monday by Jenn Hamm & Aiden Hartley ‘Hamm & Hartley Co’. This followed Jenn & Aiden’s investment in Aristocrat Leisure Limited jumping $3 per share over two days. However, what goes up must come down and with Aristocrat falling 0.22c per share yesterday, the final day of trade, it allowed Ethan to regain first position and win our schools competition by less than $200. Well done Ethan! Merbein P10 College Placing results are as follows:

1st ‘Ascot’ Ethan Axton with $55,777.96 - *57th in Victoria.
3rd ‘Salach’ Salih Baykurt & Zach Hornby with $54532.02.

Fifty four of our syndicates finished above the $50,000 starting figure. Which when we consider that the share market tends to be a long term investment strategy, this was a good result in our eight week game. Ethan made a profit of $5,777, an average of $723 per week.

Congratulations to Ethan, who will be rewarded for winning. He has a choice of a $50 voucher to a store of his choice or lunch in Mildura with his favourite teacher.

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

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.

FREE GIFTED EDUCATION SEMINAR MILDURA
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.
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.

MILDURA SENIOR COLLEGE LANGUAGE PROGRAMS
Enrol now to learn Chinese, Hindi Italian or Turkish

YMCA KINDERGARTEN OPEN DAYS
For families with a child eligible to attend three year old kinder in 2017. Enrolments open on the 1st of June and close on the 24th June.
Kathleen Kelly Kindergarten – 25th May from 12.30-2.30pm
Red Cliffs Kindergarten 8th June from 2.30-4.30pm.
Contact phone 53292810 for more information.

KINDERGARTEN & LONG DAY CARE OPEN DAYS
Kindergarten & Long Day Care Open Days begin in Education Week starting 16th May.
They are a great opportunity for families to explore services, to take enrolment forms and information away, to begin thinking about Kindergarten and Long Day Care programs that are the most suitable for their child. Phone the Mildura Rural City Council on 50188100 for more information about all the Kindergartens in the area and the dates and times of their Open Days, or email earlyyears@mildura.vic.gov.au

DRUM CIRCLE FOR KIDS
For kids aged 8-12 years to learn West African djembes, hand percussion and voice. Held at 198 3rd Street Merbein on Thursdays from 3.55-4.25pm. 19th May-16th June. Cost $50 for 5 classes. Phone 0420939229 for more information.

GOODSTART EARLY LEARNING FREE FAMILY FUN DAY
Free face painting, jumping castle, merry go round and bubble machine. Held at Matthew Flinders Drive Mildura on the corner of SanMateo Ave and Batey Crescent on 21st May from 10am-1pm.
For more information phone 50235788.

AUTISM EARLY DAYS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN AGED 0-6
Free workshop to be held at MADEC Community College 133-137 Madden Ave, Mildura on 25th May from 9.30am-3pm. Light lunch is provided.
Contact Cath Pettitt on phone 1300307909 or email earlydays@amaze.org.au for more information and registration.

LOCAL CENSUS JOBS AVAILABLE NOW
Make a difference in your community and join Australia’s largest logistical peacetime operation, The 2016 Census of Population and Housing. Census night is August 9 and the Australian Bureau of Statistics is right now looking for dedicated, enthusiastic self-starters to fill up to 6,900 Field Officer Positions across Victoria. If you are community minded and comfortable using a mobile or tablet device the ABS wants to hear from you.
Field Officers play a critical role by visiting households and ensuring everyone makes the Census count. They also earn around $21 an hour and enjoy flexible, part-time work hours for up to 3 months. To do the job you’ll need to be a good communicator, reasonably fit, licensed to drive and able to travel and work independently.
To apply or find more information, visit www.abs.gov.au/careers

MICHAEL GROSE THE AUTHOR IN SUNRAYSIA
Presenting ‘How To Get Your Kids To Do More By Doing Less For Them’.
Michael Grose is the author of many parenting books such as ‘One Step Ahead’ and ‘Raising 3-12 Year Olds’. The evening's presentation will be held on 24th May at the Nichols Pint Primary School beginning at 7pm. Tickets are $20 each which includes a light supper. For bookings phone 50231633.