

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY

27th Friday

- Primary Disabilities Awareness Talk
- Gr P-4 AFL Footy Clinic

JUNE

1st Wednesday

Gr P-4 Rugby Clinics

2nd Thursday

Gr 5-6 Primary Sports Day at Aero Ovals

3rd Friday

Gr P-4 AFL Footy Clinic

6th Monday

Yr 10 to support AFL Clinics in Mildura

8th Wednesday

- Gr P-4 Rugby Clinic
- Yr 10 Driver Education Program
- Discovery Day 9.15-11.40am

10th Friday

Primary Grandparents Day

13th Monday

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

14th Tuesday

Yr 10 Advance Camp

15th Wednesday

Gr P-4 Rugby Clinic

16th Thursday

Sec Interschool Hockey

17th Friday

- Pri Mildura Eisteddfod Dances 9.30am
- Sec Mildura Eisteddfod 11.30-2.45
- Sec last day of Semester 1 electives

20th Monday

- Pri Student Reports sent home
- Sec Semester 2 Electives begin

21st Tuesday

Pri P/T Interviews (after school)

22nd Wednesday

Pri P/T Interviews (after school)

24th Friday

Last day of Term 2 - early dismissal time of 2.30pm

30th Monday

Sec Interschool Girls Football

JULY

22nd Friday

Primary PJ Day

AUGUST

16th Tuesday

The Beat

17th Wednesday

The Beat

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

PUPIL-FREE DAY REPORT

The Pupil-Free Day that was held Monday, 24th May proved to be very productive and beneficial.

Charles Lovitt, a highly respected Mathematics Educator, provided our Primary Teachers and Secondary Maths Teachers with many practical strategies to enable students to be more engaged and successful in Mathematics. Teachers from other primary and secondary schools also participated in the program.

Charles will be returning on a timely basis in the future to provide ongoing support for our staff as they implement many of his recommended instructional strategies.

In addition to the Maths Professional Development (PD), other staff (non-maths teachers) focused on the implementation of our new Instructional Model and Student Report Writing. ES Support Staff participated in a Performance and Development activity and a Professional Learning session that looked at additional strategies to support students in the classroom.



SCHOOL POLICIES – Mr Rhodes

New policies and existing policies are constantly being written and reviewed at our College Council meetings. Over the next few weeks the newsletters will be including some policies for parents to read. The school's Mouthguard Policy was published in last week's newsletter. **Parents that have**

private medical cover may have the option of claiming a fitted mouthguard from their medical cover provider. Please check your

private medical cover policy for more details. The policy we have included this week is our Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy. Please read this policy carefully as it has been revised after consultation with College Council, students and teachers.

2016 MOBILE PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY – Mr Rhodes

Preamble

Mobile phones and other electronic devices are commonly used by a large proportion of the student population.

They have become a part of the lifestyle of many people in the 21st Century.

Some students require phones to communicate with parents or employers after school hours. Mobile phones are not specifically required for use during school time.

Contact by families with the school or students should be made through the general office.

Many businesses require employees to NOT use mobile phones while working as they distract the workers. This policy recognises our role as educators to help teach our students about timely and appropriate use of mobile phones and electronic devices in educational and work settings.

Policy Guidelines

1. If mobile phones are brought to school by students, it is at their own risk.
 - a) Phones are not to be used during class time and are to be turned 'OFF' while in class unless authorised by a teacher for use by the student. If the teacher gives explicit authorisation to a student to turn on their electronic device, the device may be left 'ON' but in silent mode.
 - b) **Primary aged students are to leave their (named) phone at the office each morning. The College takes no responsibility for theft or damage to phones that are not kept securely at the office.**
2. Important or emergency parental contact by phone during school hours must be made through the general office. This allows the school to take appropriate steps to assist the students and families.
3. Parents wishing to make contact with their child in non-urgent or non-emergency

situations are still encouraged to do so through the school office. If parents do choose to message their child it should be done before 9.00am, between 11.00am and 11.30am (recess), between 1.30pm and 2.15pm (lunch) or after 3.17pm. These are the times the students are out of class.

Definitions

Unauthorised use includes any use of the mobile phone or electronic device without the express permission of a teacher during class time between the hours of 9.00am and 3.17 pm.

Inappropriate use includes

- Photographing or videoing at school without express permission.
- Displaying offensive material e.g. pornography, offensive language, ring-tones etc.
- Sending offensive text messages or materials that threaten or bully another student.
- Making offensive or threatening phone calls.
- Using social media inappropriately.

Consequences for Breach of Policy

• For unauthorised use in the class room
If students use their electronic device in class without teacher permission, the teacher will ask for the device to be turned off. Subsequent use by the student may see a referral written and the phone removed from the student. If a phone is removed it will be returned later in the day. Other consequences will include detentions or in-school suspensions for ongoing breach of this policy.

• For Inappropriate Use

If a student is found to be using their phone inappropriately at school the teacher will ask the student to turn the phone off and give the phone to the teacher immediately. The student will be asked to report to the Learning Centre Leader or the Assistant Principal.

Action will be taken in line with the College Discipline Policy which for serious policy breaches may include suspension. The Police or other external agencies may also become involved in these cases.

Implementation

1. A copy of this policy will be distributed to all students, parents and staff. The policy will be discussed with students at year level meetings.
2. Timely reminders about the policy will be discussed at year level assemblies and appear in school newsletters.
3. The policy is to be reviewed annually.

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

REPRESENTATIVE SPORTS REPORT – Mr Rhodes
Congratulations to the Interschool Cross Country
runners who have qualified to represent our school
and the Region at the Zone Level. Thanks to Mrs
Holy and Mr Hill for training and organising the
students to attend the interschool events.

Next Thursday, 2nd June, our Grade 5-6 students
will be participating in sports at the Aero Ovals. We
wish them well.

R.J. SHIELD CHESS TOURNAMENT REPORT– Mrs
Fetherston

Two students represented our school at the R.J.
Shield Chess Tournament last Sunday. Ethicah
Evans from Year 10 won four of her seven games, a
very good result and Miles Fetherston from Grade 1
also competed for the tournament in the very first
time and achieved a half point to draw equal with
another player.

R.J. Shield Chess Tournaments are open to any
students who want to play. There will be another
held in Term 3.

Student who intend competing in the Interschool
Chess Tournament on Monday, 1st August must
start attending practice on Mondays at lunchtime in
the yellow building. See Mrs Fetherston for more
information.

KOORI ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT OFFICER

INTRODUCTION AND INVITATION - Orion Hunt
I would like to introduce myself, my name is Orion
Hunt and I am the new Koori Engagement Support
Officer for Merbein P-10 College.

The school will be hosting an afternoon for families
of Indigenous students to meet and talk with me.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th June from
2.45-3.15pm in Room 1, in the main building.

Individual invitations will be sent home to families.

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.

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.



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.

HELPERS NEEDED - BREAKFAST CLUB

**Adult helpers are needed for the Breakfast
Club, held each morning in the cafe. If you
can help on the following dates Monday 30th
May, Tuesday 31st May, Wednesday 1st June
and Thursday 2nd June between 8-9am.**

Please notify the school main office.

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.

PRIMARY NEWS

BOOK CLUB

Book Club orders close on Monday, 30th May.

THANKS

Thank you to the Nemtsas Family of 'Murray River Organics' who supply sultanas as 'Brain Food' for our Grade P-4 students.

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 and will be held in the Orange Building.



NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORY TIME REPORT

Mrs Finn
All the Grade P-2 students from the Sea End of the Green Building enjoyed listening to the book 'I Got This Hat' - at the same time as over half a million students in Australia as it was read out loud on a podcast yesterday. Students looked fantastic in their different hats. Check out the Merbein P-10 College Facebook Page for more photos. Following the book reading, our students participated in a number of different Literacy hat activities. The winners of the 'Name This Hat Competition' with the correct answers were Daniel Szombathy, Jordan Hosking and Eleanor Saleta. Well done to everyone who entered.



EISTEDDFOD DANCE COSTUMES

The primary students will be participating in the Mildura Eisteddfod on Friday, 17th June.

Dance costume requirements are as follows:

- **Grade 2-4 students** are required to wear black pants/track pants and plain black t-shirts. Girls with long hair are required to wear their hair straight back in a ponytail. The rest of the costume will be provided by the school.
- **Starfish students** are required to wear black pants. The top will be provided by the school.
- **Seahorse students** are required to wear black pants and plain black tops. The rest of their costume will be provided by the school.
- **Jellyfish students** are required to wear black pants. Their tops will be provided by the school. The girls' hair needs to be in a high pony tail and teased up. A bow for their hair will be provided by the school. The boys need to have their hair spiked with some gel or hair product.

DISABILITY AWARENESS PROGRAM UPDATE -

Mrs Finn

Half of the primary students participated in this program today. Students experienced what life might be like with a variety of disabilities. The other half of our primary students will participate in the program tomorrow.

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.

SECONDARY NEWS

YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Students from Merbein P-10 College participated in the Youth Leadership Summit held last Wednesday.



YEAR 10 SEMESTER ONE ASSESSMENT CUT-OFF

In order to receive a 'satisfactory' result in Semester 1 subjects, Year 10 students must submit all assessment tasks by the end of the school day on Monday, 6th June.

This cut-off date is designed to help prepare students for the demands of senior secondary schooling through better time management and development of a regular homework routine.

Subject teachers have clearly communicated to students the tasks that need to be completed.

Lunchtime Catch-Up Sessions will be offered each day until the cut-off date.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact their teachers or the Year 10 Coordinator, Liz Rankin.

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL 2016 YOUTH SURVEY - AGES 12-25

The 2016 Youth Survey aims to give our youth an opportunity to shape the future. Young people aged from 12 to 25 are eligible to participate in this survey. The survey has been designed by the Mildura Rural City Council Youth Action Committee.

The committee members are currently in Year 10 and come from a variety of local secondary schools. The last survey was conducted in 2014 with a good response. The council is hoping for an even better response this year.

By completing the survey, you will be assisting Council to respond to the needs of young people in planning policy, advocacy and service delivery.

The survey is open now and closes on 1st July 2016. It should only take ten minutes to complete. Please find the link to the online survey at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MPS26XG>.

To keep up-to-date on what's happening check out Youth Services Mildura Facebook Page.

For more information contact Barbara Clifford, Youth Development Officer at the Mildura Rural City Council on phone 0428 997 514 or email barbara.clifford@mildura.vic.gov.au

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.

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

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.

YMCA KINDERGARTEN OPEN DAYS

For families with a child eligible to attend three year old kinder in 2017.

Contact phone 53292810 for more information.

KINDERGARTEN & LONG DAY CARE OPEN DAYS

Kindergarten & Long Day Care Open Days begin in Education Week.

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

LEGO CLUB

Lego Club is will be held this Saturday from 10:30-11:30am, 110 Pine Ave Mildura.

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

MILDURA WEEKLY WINTER FOOD DRIVE

EasyMix 1467AM and the Mildura Weekly are working together to encourage donations of non-perishable food for a Foodbank in this area. Foodbank distributes packages through local organisations including:

- * Schools, as part of the Breakfast Programs.
- * Charitable groups including the Salvation Army and St Vinnies.

Foodbank will ensure all donations made to the EasyMix 1467/Mildura Weekly Winter Food Drive will be distributed in Sunraysia.

If you can donate non-perishable foods to this cause, please contact Daniel Brewer Promotions / Announcer on phone 5023 3311 or drop the donations into Easymix 1467AM 130 Ninth Street Mildura.

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. Full details available at www.gripleadership.com.au/camp.

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