TERM 3 START
Welcome back. I hope everyone had an enjoyable break and that you are all looking forward to a productive Term 3. There are numerous events scheduled for Term 3 so we will be busy. These events include the annual China Sister-School Visit, NAIIDOC Day, Athletics Sports, Vanilla Slice Triumph, The Beat, Year 10 Snow Trip, Grade 3-4 Adelaide Camp and Year 10 Work Experience.

BUILDINGS REPORT
During the break, I attended a meeting with Infrastructure Managers from the Department of Education and Training and our Project Architects (K2LD).
A significant upgrade to our gym is planned to occur at the end of this term. This will include the removal of asbestos which will be undertaken during the next school holidays when there are no students or staff present. The upgrade will include painting, acoustic treatment, construction of additional storage spaces and renovations to the stage area. There will be some unavoidable impacts on PE and Music classes, however we will aim to minimise any inconvenience.
A team from K2LD Architects will meet with staff next Tuesday as part of a design consultation process. Working on the design and layout of the new replacement Technology facility will be a key task. It is likely that the remaining works will commence in 2017.

VANILLA SLICE – MERBEIN CLEAN UP DAY
The Annual Merbein Vanilla Slice Triumph is scheduled for Saturday, 20th August. As has been the case for the past three years, Merbein P-10 College is looking forward to supporting and participating in this great community event.
The organising committee is planning to hold a Clean-Up Day on Saturday, 13th August (ie the week prior). If any school families are interested in assisting, I’m sure your help would be greatly appreciated.
The Clean-up will be held between 9:30am and 12:30pm. A BBQ lunch will be supplied. The paved area alongside the Merbein Post Office will be the point of registration and BBQ lunch.
The areas to be cleaned up will be: Main Avenue to O’Bryan Street and Box Street to Game Street.
If you would like to help, please contact Gloria Wall on phone 5025 3038 or mobile 0418 596 632.
**WHOLE SCHOOL PYJAMA DAY** – Jess Williams

On Friday, 22nd July, all students in both primary and secondary sections will be participating in a Pyjama Day Fundraiser. Students can wear their Pyjamas to school on this day, if they bring a gold coin donation. All funds raised will be donated to local Foster Care - MASP.

*Please note that students will need to wear warm respectable pyjamas. They will also need to have outside shoes with them for outdoor wear and activities on the day.*

**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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**PRIMARY NEWS**

**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.

**GRADE 5-6 NEWS** – Sue Gardiner

*Awards* - Congratulations to the Grade 5-6 students who received an award in the last week of Term 2. They were acknowledged for their excellent effort in ICT and Art. Some students also received some Punctuation Belts for consistently using improved punctuation in their recent ‘Big Write’. Well done!
**Reading Expectations** – Please continually encourage your child to read nightly and record their reading material in their ‘Reading Log’. Their ‘Reading Log’ must be returned weekly, either Tuesday or Thursday. As a reward, students who read regularly and achieve 45 nights of reading this term, will be able to participate in a special activity to be decided at the end of the term.

**Last Term’s End of Term Reading Rewards** - Students who achieved 50 nights of reading last term were treated with a special science presentation by Miss Rankin in the Secondary Science Lab. The students watched in amazement as Miss Rankin made things foam and explode. There was certainly a buzz when they returned to the learning space!

**Animal Enclosures** - Last term the Grade 5-6 students participated in a Design, Creativity and Technology Unit that required them to research, design, plan and construct an animal enclosure. Students really enjoyed this unit, designing some fabulous enclosures.

**Light Show Shadow Puppet Presentations** - Students worked in teams to plan, prepare and then present shadow puppet presentations to share their learning at the conclusion of the Science ‘Light Show’ Unit last term. It was wonderful to see the growth students had made in their knowledge of science concepts during this unit and the application of skills.
**Bottles for Science** - The Grade 5-6 area needs some washed 500ml or 1L plastic bottles. Please hand them into the Orange Building as soon as possible. These bottles will be used in their science unit for completing 'What’s the Matter?' science experiments.

**GRADE P-1 MATHS REPORT** – Jodie Atkinson
Students from Grade P-1 were busy creating number monsters using play dough. They had lots of fun counting and creating.

**GRADE 5-6 ART REPORT** – Jodie Atkinson
This term students will be exploring and creating different types of sculptures in Art using a variety of resources. On Tuesday, students had a taste of creating sculptures. Stay tuned-in, for what will be a creative term.

**LOST UN-NAMED JUMPERS**
There are a lot of unnamed unclaimed jumpers in the office of the Green Building. Please ensure your child’s name is clearly marked inside their jumpers.

**KINDER VISIT**
The next Kinder Visit will be held on Monday 1st August from 9-11.30am in the Green Building. All children eligible for prep next year are welcome to come along and experience some time in the classroom on this day. This program helps children get ready for their first year of school. Please ring the school if you would like more information.

**PRIMARY ATHLETICS SPORTS DAY**
The Primary Athletics Sports Day will be held on Tuesday, 26th July at the Aerodrome Ovals in Mildura. **Please ensure your child has a healthy lunch and snack as well as a bottle of water and that all your child’s clothing and personal items are clearly named.** We would love all the children to wear their House Colours and suitable sport clothing. **Students will also need to bring suitable, warm clothing as it is especially cold in the morning at that site.** We are hoping for lots of parent supporters, encouraging their child to have fun and to do their best. Participation and encouragement are key factors in the success of the day. Please note that there is no cost for the bus transport to and from the Aerodrome Ovals on this day.

A permission note will go home next week with more information.

**SECONDARY NEWS**

**CONGRATULATIONS RAIDEN** – Brione Hall
Merbein P-10 College Year 8 student Raiden Wakefield, aged 13, will be playing baseball at the Ripken Tournament in the USA from 10th -15th July. Raiden will be part of the Victorian Kookaburras Under 14 Baseball Team touring with two Under 16 teams.

Raiden plays at local level for Saints each weekend. During the last summer he played weekly for Sunraysia in the Riverland (SA) Competition at Berri and was named in the 'All Stars' Team at the conclusion of the season. He has represented Sunraysia at Under 12, 14 and 15 levels and has participated in the Sunraysia Sports Academy for Baseball. Well done and good luck Raiden!
PRIMARY ATHLETICS SPORTS HELPERS – Rob Morgan
Over the next five weeks our school has committed to helping in the running of three local primary schools Athletic Sports Events, Mildura West (Week 1), Merbein P-10 (Week 3) and Ranfurly (Week 5). A number of our students in Year 7-9 have volunteered to help at these carnivals.

ATHLETICS SPORTS DAY FOR YEAR 7-10 – Mr Rhodes
Next Thursday, 21st July the Merbein P-10 Secondary Athletics Sports Day will be held at the Aerodrome Oval Sporting Complex in Mildura. Students are encouraged to attend the sports wearing their Sports House colours. The weather has been cold recently, so students should ensure they have adequate warm clothing.

**Please note that students will not be permitted to leave the sports oval during the course of the day.**
Students will be given the opportunity to go directly to the oval if they live in Mildura and can be safely transported to the oval from their home. The day’s sports program will conclude at 2.45pm.

**Students can then be dismissed from the oval if they have a signed permission note.**
Parents are most welcome to come along during the day to encourage their children.
All teachers are involved in the running of the Athletics Sports and all students are expected to attend the sports. **A permission note has been distributed to students today. This note must be returned to the college by next Wednesday, 20th July.**

UNIFORM – Mr Rhodes
Our winter has arrived with a rush and the days are very cold. It is great to see almost all students in correct uniform.
Unfortunately some students are wearing hoodies to school which are NOT permitted. Some girls are also wearing leggings which are only permitted as sports clothes to be changed into and out of for participation in sport. The school uniform has only BLACK pants and some students are wearing other colours. These students will be receiving letters to be sent home seeking support from parents in getting students into uniform.
The Uniform Shop is again open this afternoon between 2.30-4.30pm and on Tuesday mornings before school.
If these times do not suit or if there are other concerns about accessing a uniform please contact Mr Greg Rhodes at the College so we can assist you to get your child into the correct uniform.

MILDURA SCHOOLS LANDS TRUST – Mr Rhodes
Each year our school is allocated a pro rata share of the income from the Mildura Schools Lands Trust Leases, formerly known as Mildura College Lease. Last year our school received $88,000.00.
With the funds the school has recently purchased new Laptops, Desktop Computers, Sewing machines, Library Books and Music Equipment for use by students in all learning centres. Without the Schools Lands Trust money that we receive annually this purchase and other important previous purchases would not have been possible. Therefore, this is an important trust for our school and your children.

What is the Mildura Schools Lands Trust? (MSLT)
Over 100 years ago the Chaffey Brothers set about establishing a Trust to assist the establishment of an Agricultural College in this area. In 1916, an act of parliament was passed to protect the Trust for the benefit of students in the Sunraysia area. In 2010 this legislation was consolidated into the Education Act.

There are now 29 Government and Non-Government Schools, which is currently over 9500 students who benefit annually from the Trust Lease payments that come from the 183 blocks of land that were set aside by the Chaffey Brothers. The Trustee is the Minister for Education in Victoria. As a Trustee, The Minister has legislative responsibilities to ensure that our Trust is managed appropriately.

The Trust Managers are ‘Sandhurst Trustees’ who manage all the lease payments and distribution of the money annually to schools.

There is a Beneficiaries Committee made up of representatives from these local 29 Primary and Secondary Government and Non-Government schools. Their primary role is to advocate for the Trust and ensure the continuation of ongoing benefits of the Trust to current and future students in the 29 schools in our local area.

This committee meets regularly to look at possibilities for improving the performance of the Trust. They have arranged meetings with the Leaseholders, the Minister for Education, Sandhurst Trustees, Mildura Rural City Council and other relevant government departments.
A Pamphlet about the Trust will be distributed to all families in a later edition of our newsletter.

SPORTS JACKET UNIFORM
There has been an issue with some of the new Sports Jackets coming unseamed on the side seams. If this happens, please return it to the school and we will send it back to the supplier to have them repaired.
The transition partnership between our College and Mildura Senior College is designed to ensure that all Year 10 students are able to progress to the next stage in their education confidently and successfully.

This year's process began last term with a visit to our College from the MSC Principal Mr. Andrew Ough and Transition Coordinator Mrs. Ineke Rogers.

In the coming weeks, all Year 10 students, parents and carers are invited to attend a series of events to be held at Mildura Senior College. We strongly encourage students and families to make the most of these opportunities to meet MSC staff and students, to ask questions and to get a feel for life at MSC.

### Parent and Student Information Evening

**Wednesday 27th July - 5.30pm to 6.30pm (MSC Gym)**

An opportunity for students, parents and carers to learn about courses, career pathways and get advice, student wellbeing, extra-curricular activities and other information.

### Student Transition Visits to MSC

**Friday 29th July**

An opportunity for Merbein P-10 students to visit MSC and learn about all subject areas on offer.

### Mildura Senior College Open Day

**Sunday 31st July - 11.00am to 2.00pm**

Families are invited to tour the college, view displays, watch performances and gain course advice and other information from teachers and current students. Please register at the front office on the day.

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**SOCCER 4 ALL**

This program is for anyone interested in learning Soccer, even if you have a disability. Held at the Soccer Park, Mildura, entrance from Flora Ave. Held Wednesdays from 5.15-6.15pm. Cost is free. Participants must have long socks and shin pads. For more information contact Tanya Wild 0417925539 or email tanya@malleesportsassembly.org.au