



DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

20th Monday

-P-4 Stamp Out Bullying

Incursion

-Nominations for School Council Close

22nd Wednesday

School Photos

23rd Thursday

School Photos

28th Tuesday

Pancake Tuesday

MARCH

3rd Friday

-Sec Interschool Swimming Carnival

-Proposed Student Free Day

6th – 10th

Yr 8 Camp

7th – 10th

Yr 7 Camp

13th Monday

Public Holiday – NO School

14th -18th

P-4 MAV Week

20th -24th

P-6 STOMP Music Program

23rd Thursday

Sec LMR Swimming

24th Friday

Pri STOMP Evening Performance

27th Monday

Sec I/S Volleyball / Tennis

29th Wednesday

Sec I/S Softball / Baseball

COLLEGE LEADERS FOR 2017 – C. Blackie

On Tuesday the College held a special Whole School Assembly to induct our College Student Leaders for 2017, including Primary and Secondary House Leaders, SRC Representatives from Grade 2 to Year 9 and our Year 10 SRC Executive.

We would like to congratulate these students, having earned the respect and trust of their peers to lead our school in 2017.

SENIOR HOUSE LEADERS

COWRA	KULNINE	YELTA
Kiara Connolly	Jessica Hall	Nathaniel Rothwell
Dorraine Bagacay	Trey Henschke	Laura Petersen
Connah Geyer	Hannah Millard	Sam Green
Eden Mitchell	Mia Padula	Jasmine Matotek

PRIMARY HOUSE LEADERS

COWRA	KULNINE	YELTA
Tess Liddicoat	Emma Martin	Dakoda Davis
Jessy Brown	Seth Colling	Alasdair Hogg

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

President	Vice President	Secretary
Nathaniel Rothwell	Shakira Robinson	Karsha Herold
Dorraine Bagacay	Jessica Hall	Ayzia Liddicoat
	Jasmine Versteeg	Nikita Whitford

PROPOSED STUDENT FREE DAY

The College is proposing a **Student Free Day for Friday, 3rd March**. The purpose of this day is to implement changes to our student reporting processes. More information regarding these changes will be provided to parents soon.

NEWSLETTER EMAIL ADDRESSES CONTACT LIST

- The weekly school newsletter was emailed to families last Thursday afternoon but unfortunately some emails bounced back. After consultation with our college technician, it was concluded that either the emails supplied were incorrect or the families email inbox is full. **Families who have not received the newsletter via email are asked to email the newsletter coordinator at the following email address: Giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au. Please add your name and your child's name . We will then update our data base so you can receive the newsletter in good time each week.**
- We would also ask families who have not received the newsletter to check their email **Junk Mail Folder**, as sometimes mail that has not been sent for a while can be redirected to the Junk Folder.

DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES VICTORIA

For emergency care the service is free to all children aged 0-12.

If you have a Centrelink Concession Card, general care (eg fillings, extracts and sealants) for your children 0-12 and dental health advice is also free.

If you do not have a Centrelink Concession Card, there is a capped \$ amount per family per year for general care (eg fillings, extracts and sealants) and dental health advice for your children 0-12.

Sunraysia Community Health Services 137, 13th Street Mildura, phone 50210944.

For more information visit www.dhsv.org.au

MERBEIN P-10 FACEBOOK PAGE

Check the Facebook Page for updates about the school and upcoming events.

www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college

STUDENT RECORDS

Reminder that it is important to notify the school of any changes to your child's address, phone, emergency phone numbers and medical records.

OSHC FAMILIES - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

It is a requirement that all families re-enrol their children each year for the OSHC Program to ensure that all information is correct and up-to-date.

New forms are available from the OSHC area in the green building and need to be completed and returned as soon as possible. Can families also confirm what days their child/ren will be attending the program for the year as days are filling up fast.

Our program runs from the end of school until 6.00pm each school night. Cheryll Hodge is our school's OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.

SCHOOL PHOTOS – Mr Rhodes

School Photo Days will be held on Wednesday, 22nd and Thursday, 23rd February. Most photos will be taken on the Wednesday. On Thursday, the Prep students and some students that will be absent on the Wednesday will have their photos taken. The photo packs were sent home with each student. If your child has not brought a pack home or you wish to have a family portrait taken please contact the school office. All students will have their photo taken as they are used to update our administration system and are used for student ID and photocopy cards. Please read the instructions on the envelope carefully. **All envelopes with the correct payment enclosed must be returned before the photo days.**

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The amount payable for eligible primary and secondary students is:

\$125 for Primary school students.

\$225 for Secondary school students.

To be eligible for this funding, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending the school must be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR be a temporary foster parent and submit an application to the school before the end of February 2017.

Ask at the school office if you would like to collect an application form or to enquire about more information.

To find out more about CSEF or to apply for assistance go to www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

2017 YEAR 7 CSEF UNIFORM PACK

Students who have commenced Year 7 in 2017 and are recipients of the CSEF payment this year, automatically qualify to receive a Uniform Pack through State Schools' Relief. Uniform details below:
Girls

- Polar Fleece Jacket or a Jumper or a Jacket.
- Summer Dress or a Winter Skirt & Shirt or Trousers & Shirt or Shorts & Polo Shirt.
- A pair of black leather shoes – Lace up/T-bar or Skate.

Boys

- Polar Fleece Jacket or a Jumper or a Jacket.
- Trousers or Shorts.
- Long Sleeve Shirt or a Polo Shirt.
- A pair of black leather shoes – Lace up or Skate.

An order form can be collected from the main office. **Shoes must be ordered through State Schools' Relief.** Students will need to have their foot measured to ensure the correct size is ordered and sent.

More information, order forms and photo of shoes are available on our school website.

<http://www.merbeinp10.vic.edu.au/>

BUS CONVEYANCE CLAIM APPLICATIONS

A reminder to please get Conveyance Allowance Applications in as soon as possible. **We have been advised by the Bus Lines that from Tuesday 21st February** all students who do not hold a 2017 conveyance pass will be charged.

We wish to advise families whose child/ren travel on **Bus number 731, that this route is no longer a Contract Bus and eligible students will need to submit a Conveyance Allowance Application** form to obtain a bus pass. To be eligible for this Bus Conveyance Allowance you must reside 4.8km or more from the school and this distance is measured by the shortest practicable route. If unsure, please submit an application and we will enter onto the system to see if your child/ren are eligible for a pass.

PLAY GROUP - TOTAL LEARNING CENTRE (TLC)

This playgroup is free of cost and is for children aged 0-5. **It is held at the Merbein P-10 College from 9.30-11am every Thursday during the school term.**

Children and their carers share books, make fun stuff, play, dance and sing. Parents can receive information and support and share a cuppa and get to know other families. For more information about the Total Learning Centre (TLC) call or text Dani on 0437077689 or 50217476. If you need transport call or text the TLC 0458001775.



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.

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

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Breakfast Program is being financially supported by the Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association. Foodbank Victoria also supports the breakfast program with donations of food. 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.

PRIMARY NEWS

GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the students from the Green Building who received weekly awards at last week's assembly.



STARS LITERACY GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE – W. Finn

A short questionnaire regarding your child’s morning routine has been sent home with each child in the Stars section. Parents are asked to help their child complete the questionnaire tonight and return it to school tomorrow. The questionnaire will be used for classroom discussion tomorrow. The questionnaires are in their blue book bag.

WE’RE A COOL SCHOOL! – W. Finn

The students have remained extremely COOL during the recent hot weather thanks to our wonderful air-conditioning. They didn’t even notice how hot it was outside. We just kept learning.

ALIE N – W. Finn

Students have been excited about taking home our visitor from out of space – Alie N. He visits a different child each night and it’s a fun learning and sharing experience.

Thanks for your support.



GUITAR PROGRAM 2017 (OPTIONAL PROGRAM)

– J. Hudson

There are still a few spots available for both Group and Individual Guitar lessons for Grade P-6 students. If you wish to enrol for guitar lessons, to find out the cost or if you need more information, please email iwansoebardi@gmail.com or call Iwan Soebardi on 0418919220.

SEVERE FOOD ALLERGIES

There are students at the school with severe food allergies. Please remind your child that their food is not to be shared.

BRAIN FOOD

Each child is encouraged to bring some ‘brain food’ to have every morning. Studies have shown that small amounts of healthy food continually eaten throughout the day helps with concentration and energy. Examples are: dried fruit, crackers, grapes, carrots, celery, cheese, plain popcorn. No nuts please. (No roll-ups or chips).

WATER BOTTLES

Every student needs to bring along a plastic sport bottle of water (not soft drink or cordial or fruit drink, just water) to school every day to sit on their desks during class. Studies have proven that the brain does not function well if dehydrated. So it is best practice to drink plenty of water throughout the day.

NB: We have the refrigerated water fountain at school where the children can refill their bottles during the day.

GRADE P-4 LET’S STAMP OUT BULLYING INCLUSION

The Grade Prep-4 students will take part in the “Let’s Stamp Out Bullying” incursion next Monday, 20th February. Permission notes were sent home with students earlier this week. **Please check that your child’s note has been returned.**

GRADE 2-4 HOCKEY CLINIC REPORT – J. Costello

Students in Grade 2-4 enjoyed participating in a Hockey Clinic at school on Monday. Thanks to Georgia and Amy for teaching them new hockey skills!



LEVIES – PRIMARY PARENT PAYMENT 2017

Thank you to the parents who have paid their levies. If you have not paid your levies, please call into the school office and do so as soon as possible or make arrangements to pay by instalments.

NAMING ARTICLES

Please remember it is very important to name all your children's property clearly, especially hat, jumpers, bags, drink bottles and lunch containers.

NO HAT – NO PLAY

Students must bring a wide brimmed hat to school every day, clearly labelled with their name. The hat does not need to be the uniform hat. **Caps are not acceptable.**

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

WATER SAFETY REPORT – J. Donnelly

The Year 7 students enjoyed a great afternoon at Apex Park yesterday participating in a number of activities where they learnt about water safety and respect for the river. Thank you to the instructors from Life Saving Victoria. Check out a video of the fun on the school's Facebook Page.



COMMUNITY NEWS

MERBEIN GOLF CLUB - LADIES PAMPER PARTY PLAN NIGHT

To be held 24th February at 355 McEdward Street, Cabarita beginning at 7pm. Tickets \$10, includes a glass of champagne, nibbles and pampering from our party planners from head to foot. To book your tickets contact the Merbein Golf Club on 50256421 or purchase your ticket on the night.

39TH MILDURA EISTEDDFOD (MAY 31–JUNE 19)

Entries are now open. Entries close Friday 17th March 2017. Information can be found at our website <http://www.milduraeisteddfod.org/> and on Facebook Mildura Eisteddfod Timeline. Email: milduraeisteddfod@gmail.com Mobile: 0429 481 898

Allan Hassell, email: allanhassell@me.com

GIRL GUIDES

Girl Guides have resumed meetings for 2017 and have vacancies for girls aged 5–18 years. Guiding offers activities designed to meet personal challenges, to learn team building and leadership skills, and to make new friends. For more information of units in your area contact Region Manager Narelle Tomlinson 0414 431 998 or mallee@guidesvic.org.au

FREE ONE DAY WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS AND CARERS – Autism Spectrum Australia

This workshop is designed to help foster productive school, family and community relationships with your school aged child on the autism spectrum. It will be held on 14th March at the Quality Hotel Mildura Grand on 7th Street Mildura from 9.15am-3pm. Morning tea and lunch provided. Register online www.positivepartnerships.com.au. For more information phone 1300881971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.aumilduratoylibrary@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Mildura-Toy-Library-142146065891985>

MILDURA TOY LIBRARY OPEN DAY

“Don’t buy toys... BORROW them!”

Open Day will be held Saturday 18th March from 9.30–11.30am at the Mildura Primary School (12th St entrance). Cost is \$20 a term for roster duty members and \$40 for non-roster membership. Normal open times are 9.30-11.30am on Saturdays and Tuesdays during the school term only.

ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM FOR AGES 14-17.

This is an introductory leadership development program for young people fully sponsored by Rotary. If you are aged between 14-17, you have the opportunity to attend this weekend live-in seminar on 7th-9th April at Lake Cullulleraine. The weekend will be jam packed with informational presentations from leadership professionals, group sessions and recreational activities. Visit ryen9520.org.au for more information and applications.

MILDURA RELAY FOR LIFE INFORMATION SESSION

An Information Session will be held at Sunitafe tonight, Thursday 16th February from 7pm-8pm. This session is open to anyone interested in joining Relay For Life 2017 on the 22nd-23rd April. For more information email Rosie

teamsmildurarfl@gmail.com

REGISTRATION DAYS 2017

FOOTBALL & NETBALL

All new and existing players welcome.

To be held 28th February & 7th March from 6.30–7.30pm at the Club Social Rooms, Kenny Park.

Registration for Auskick is to be completed online via website <http://aflauskick.com.au/register/>
Junior Football Training Times

Under 16: Tuesday & Thursday nights commencing 14th February from 4.30-6.00pm.

Under 14: Tuesday & Thursday nights commencing: 14th March from 4.30-5.45pm.

Under 10 and 12: Thursday nights only commencing 23rd March from 4.30-5.30pm.

Junior Netball Training/Try Out dates to be advised.

For further information please contact:

Football: Graeme Dunne (President) -0407 235 751

or Melissa McNally (Secretary) – 0427 502 303

Netball: Sue Mulder - 0403 316 782