



Successful Students – Strong Communities

Principal: Mr Graeme Cupper

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NEWSLETTER 2017 Thursday, 23 February

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

28th Tuesday

Pancake Tuesday

MARCH

3rd Friday

-Sec Interschool Swimming Carnival

-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

Sec Parent/Teacher Interviews

31st Friday

Last Day of Term One

Earlier finishing time of 2.30pm

2017 TERM DATES

Term 2: 18th Apr – 30th Jun

Term 3: 17th Jul – 22nd Sept

Term 4: 9th Oct – 22nd Dec

STUDENT DENTAL SERVICE

Sunraysia Community Health Services 137,

13th Street Mildura, phone 50210944

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

PUPIL FREE DAY

I would like to remind parents that Friday, 3rd March will be a Pupil-Free Day.

One of the main tasks on that day will be preparing for the introduction of a new reporting system.

Supporting Student Engagement and Wellbeing will be another focus area.

Merbein P-10 College is proposing to introduce a Continuous Student Reporting Model this year. We have chosen to introduce the model at this time because in 2017 a new Victorian Curriculum is being officially implemented.

We propose to provide six reports a year. Reports on student achievement and attitude (both compared to their expected range) would be prepared for each subject area at Weeks 6/12/18/24/30 and 36.

Week 18 and Week 36 will coincide with the usual End-of-Semester Student Reports. At those two stages an additional page summarising achievement levels against the Victorian Curriculum Standards will be provided to parents.

To ensure the new approach is successful and effective we will be seeking parent and student feedback so that any suggested improvements can be considered.

The first reports will be in hard copy form but will be available online later this year.

Parents on our School Council responded positively to the new format when they were given a briefing on the proposed new model last night.

Parents should expect the new report in Week 7.

More information will be provided prior to their release.

INTERSCHOOL CHESS TOURNAMENT – FOR BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS – K. Fetherston

To be held Tuesday, 14th March at the Trinity Lutheran College. All participating students play seven games against students from other schools in the district.

Students will travel by mini bus to this whole day tournament. The cost will be \$10 per student (not covered by Primary Excursion Levy). Please see Mrs Kyra Fetherston if you are interested.

NEWSLETTER EMAIL ADDRESSES CONTACT LIST

- The weekly school newsletter is emailed to families every Thursday afternoon but unfortunately some emails continue to bounce back. Our college technician, has concluded that either the failed emails supplied are incorrect or the families email inbox is full. **Families who have not received the newsletter via email are asked to email the newsletter co-ordinator 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.

MOBILE PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY–

Mr Rhodes

Our Mobile Phone/Electronic Devices Policy is available on our website and was also attached to the college newsletter two weeks ago. Please read the policy as it has important information about the protocols around use and contact with the school.

SCHOOL PHOTOS REPORT– Mr Rhodes

Every student who was in attendance at school yesterday and today has had their photograph taken. If you have not already done so and would like to order a photograph pack now, you can contact the photographers directly via their web address at: www.leadingimage.com.au/help

ASTHMA AUSTRALIA

If you want to understand more about Asthma. New discoveries, management, symptoms and more go to the website <https://www.asthmaaustralia.org.au/vic>

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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

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. Cheryl Hodge is our school's OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE (BUS PASSES)

Bus Passes have been distributed to students who have been deemed eligible this week. These passes must be shown every time a student uses a school bus.

The Department of Education have a policy that provides free bus travel to eligible students. To be eligible, students' normal place of residence must be more than 4.8km from their nearest state school travelling via the most direct route.

Conveyance Allowance applications completed by families at the beginning of the year are entered into a system program which is then assessed in Melbourne. The decision about eligibility for Conveyance Allowance is determined by the Family Payments section of the Department of Education.

Aside from the Conveyance Allowance our college has one contract bus that services some of our students who live in an area to the West and South of Merbein. No bus pass is required to access this contract bus, although the same eligibility criteria is used to determine whether students are eligible to travel on it. If you have any questions about the Conveyance Allowance guidelines or procedures, please contact Mr Greg Rhodes at school.

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

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/>

PLAY GROUP - TOTAL LEARNING CENTRE (TLC)

This playgroup is free of cost and is for children aged 0-5. **It is held at 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.

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

THE GRADE P-4 STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARDS– Wendy Finn

The Grade P-4 Student of the Month Awards will be presented at assembly in the Green Building next Thursday, 2nd March at 2.45pm.

WALK WENTWORTH– Wendy Finn

Families of Grade 2-6 students, please check that your child's permission notes for the Walk Wentworth have been returned.

BEFORE SCHOOL– Wendy Finn

Some students who live close by are arriving extremely early when there is limited supervision. Students are not expected to arrive at school before 8.40am unless they are attending Breakfast Club as teachers are busy preparing for the day. Students who arrive at school before 8.40am can either go to the Breakfast Club, held in the Canteen or sit on the seats at the back of the Green Building until 8.40am. Students are not to play out the front of the Green Building until 8.40am when the front playground is supervised.

GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARDS

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



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) –

Wendy Finn

The SRC held their first meeting this afternoon. Both the Primary and Secondary Representatives met to plan some events. The first event will be Pancake Tuesday.

PANCAKE TUESDAY - Jess Williams

Next Tuesday 28th February, students will be able to purchase pancakes with strawberry jam and cream at recess. The cost is \$1.00 per pancake. **Order forms went home with all primary students today.** Order forms need to be returned to the green building office by Monday.

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.

PREP REST DAYS

Yesterday was our last Prep Rest Day. Prep students will be required to attend school next Wednesday, 1st March.

GRADE P-4 STAMP OUT BULLYING REPORT – M.

Brown

On Monday afternoon Benjamin presented STAMP out Bullying with a little Magic! The students really enjoyed the performance.

S - Stay Away

T - Tell Someone

A - Always Help

M - Make Friends

P - Play Nicely



BRAIN FOOD – Wendy Finn

Families are asked to send Brain Food to school each day with their children. Please prepare your child's fruit and vegetable Brain Food so it is quick and easy for students to eat as a little snack. It is great to see the students enjoying their Brain Food.

NO HEATING FOOD – Wendy Finn

Students food will not be heated at school.

It is too difficult to tell if food is too hot or cold when heating in a microwave, so for safety reasons it has been decided that student's lunches and snacks will not be heated at the school.

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.

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.

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

PANCAKE TUESDAY

Next Tuesday, 28th February, students can purchase a pancake with strawberry jam and cream for \$1 per pancake.

SECONDARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL REPORT – Mr Rhodes

A very successful Swimming Sports Day was held last week. It was great to see parents there spectating and cheering. I would like to thank the many students who participated to gain points for their Sports House. Thanks also to the House Leaders for encouraging the students in their house to participate.

SECONDARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS

House Team Scores – Congratulations Cowra

Cowra 603	Kulnine 580	Yelta 455
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Age Champions below:

13Yr Female	Rachel Langdon
13Yr Male	Bailey Edgar
14Yr Female	Zoe Smith
14Yr Male	Aalen Davis
15Yr Female	Jessica Hall
15Yr Male	Mitchell Langdon
17Yr Female	Dorraine Bagacay
17Yr Male	Brock Stevens

Records set at this Carnival

F 17 50m Freestyle	Dorraine Bagacay	33.64
Old Record	Adele Stevens	34.40
F 17 25m Breastroke	Dorraine Bagacay	19.72
Old Record	Lucy Collihole	20.60
M14 25m Backstroke	Aalen Davis	19.77
Old Record	Mitchell Langdon	19.84
F 17 25m Backstroke	Dorraine Bagacay	18.90
Old Record	Adele Stevens	18.90
U 17 Lilo Relay	Kulnine	
M 14 Medley Relay	Cowra	1.31.85
Old Record	Wallakarpa	1.35.21
M 13 Freestyle Relay	Cowra	1.17.53
Old Record	Yakkandi	1.23.36





LOCKS ON LOCKERS – Mr Rhodes

Students are responsible for the security of their own equipment at school. We have supplied lockable lockers and have cameras set up at most locker locations. If a student has a BYOD computer or iPad they MUST use a lock on their lockers. It is strongly advised for all other students to use a lock on the lockers provided to ensure security. If equipment is lost from a locker without a lock on it, the responsibility for this loss will likely be borne by the student and the family.

SUN SMART – Mr Rhodes

Our Sun Smart Policy was explained to all the students during a whole school assembly at the beginning of the year. The policy was also attached to a previous newsletter. The key messages for students is that they need to take measures to protect themselves against over exposure to the rays of the sun. It does not matter whether the temperature is hot or cool at this time of the year, the UV levels are regularly above what is deemed safe between 9.30am and 5.20pm each day. Students receive information about temperature and UV levels in the school's daily news bulletin.

Please ensure you encourage your child to apply sunscreen at home in the mornings and supply your child with appropriate sunscreen that they can safely lock in their lockers and use when required.

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

BULLDOGS JUNIOR FOOTBALL REGISTRATION DAY

Held at the South Mildura Oval on 26th February from 11am-1pm. Free BBQ lunch provided. For further information, contact Kerry Scobie phone 0428121193

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>

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.

REGISTRATION DAYS 2017

MERBEIN 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

AUSTRALIAN OPEN QUAD SINGLES CHAMPION, DYLAN ALCOTT

The ANZ Mildura Charity Tennis Challenge will bring World Number 1 Quad Wheelchair tennis player, three-time Paralympic Gold Medallist and three-time Australian Open Quad Singles Champion, Dylan Alcott OAM to Mildura for an exclusive, one day only exhibition event. Dylan will challenge local Mildura identities and community members to a friendly game of tennis, raising money for Chances for Children.

Chances for Children provides financial support and mentoring services across northwest Victoria and southwest New South Wales, helping children to pursue their education or realise their talents in sport or the arts.

Event to be held 2nd March. Program times below:

10–11.30am- ANZ Charity Challenge with Dylan

12.30 –1.15pm - ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Clinics

1.15–2pm - ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Prep Racquet Giveaway

2–2.30pm - Community meet & greet

Address: Langtree Mall Pavilion, Langtree Avenue, Mildura.

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.

