

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY

12th Friday

Merbein P-10 Cross Country

NO lunch orders

14th Sunday

Mother's Day

16th Tuesday

Pri Interschool Cross Country

Reading Rocks 5.30-7pm

15th-19th

Yr 9 Camp

23rd Tuesday

Pri incursion Excuse Me I was here First 10am

24th Wednesday

Sec Interschool Cross Country

JUNE

2nd Friday

Sec Interschool Netball

15th Thursday

Pri Eisteddfod Entries 10am onward

16th Friday

Little Day Out Event

12th Monday

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

NO School

15th Thursday

Sec Interschool Hockey

19th- 20th

Proposed Advance Camp

29th Thursday

Pri Planet Rhythm

30th Friday

Last day of Term 2

Earlier finishing time of 2.30pm

AUGUST

7th Monday

Gr 3-6 Australian Folklore

SEPTEMBER

27th Wednesday

Athletics Carnival

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

'OPEN NIGHT' REPORT

It was pleasing to see so many current Year 6 student's families taking the opportunity to visit our school on Tuesday.

Feedback indicates that the visiting families found the evening to be enjoyable and beneficial.

There are many people to thank for planning and conducting this event. Among them, Rob Morgan (Year 6-7 Transition Coordinator), Mr Rhodes, the Year 7 speakers, the Year 10 guides as well as numerous students who came back to entertain, assist with classroom displays and to help staff provide refreshments. Special thanks to the staff members who organised displays and made themselves available to answer questions from parents on the night.

Finally, thanks to the visiting families for making the effort to take a first-hand look at our school. Choosing a Secondary school can be a big decision and it is important to be able to make an informed decision.





DOCTORS-IN-SCHOOLS

Work is currently underway in preparation for the delivery of our 'Doctors in Schools' building. Currently the grounds are being prepared and services installed in readiness. The building is expected to be placed in position within the next few weeks. We look forward to this program officially commencing in February 2018.



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

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association is financially supporting the Breakfast Program. 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.

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

NAPLAN – Mr Rhodes

Over the past three days, our Year 3/5/7/9 students have completed four National tests on Numeracy, Reading, Language Conventions and Writing. Most students appear to have coped well with this process. If students have had difficulty sleeping, it may be an indication that they have been feeling a little stressed. If this is the case, it may be timely for parents to talk with their child and ask them how they feel they handled the rigours of the tests.

MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

– G. Rhodes

Our College Cross Country Event will be held tomorrow, Friday, 12th May at Chaffey Park, Merbein. The Junior Primary will commence their Cross Country at 12.00pm and will conclude at around 1.15pm. At 1.30pm the Grade P-4 students will return to school after having a sausage sizzle and drink at Chaffey Park. The Year 5-10 students will start their 3km Cross Country at 1pm and will finish from 1.15pm onwards. Those students will have a sausage sizzle and drink and return to school at 2.45pm for the presentation of individual trophies and team awards.

Parents are welcome to attend the Cross Country Event held at Chaffey Park on the top of Pump Hill.

Permission notes were sent home with every student earlier this week. Please check that your child's permission note has been returned no later than first thing tomorrow morning, Friday, 12th May. Students are encouraged to wear their Sport House Colours and appropriate running attire for the event. Parents are asked to look carefully at the weather forecast to ensure students have adequate clothing for the conditions. Normal classes will be held in the morning, so please ensure they are wearing clothing that is also safe to be worn in the classroom. The Primary Interschool Cross Country is scheduled for Wednesday, 16th May. Students who qualify for the Primary Interschool Cross Country Event will be issued a permission note for that event tomorrow.

**There will be
NO Lunch orders
from the school canteen
tomorrow, Friday 12th May.**

NEWSLETTER EMAILED

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.

STUDENT REPORTS – G. Rhodes

Last Friday, 5th May, all students received their six weekly Progress Report Sheets handed to them in an envelope to take home to their parents. Last term the first of these reports were distributed. This time both the earlier report and this report were sent home together so that parents are able to compare between them and see if any changes have occurred.

It is important to note that the 'Achievement Dot' is not related to expected AusVELS level. The Dot indicates their achievement based purely on the level of work set for each individual student.

LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE

A MOTHERS' DAY GIFT

In the canteen tomorrow morning from 8–9am.

PRIMARY NEWS

MERBEIN COMMUNITY BANK SCHOOL STUDENT BANKING PROGRAM

If you wish your child to participate in this program, please 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.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM (OSHC)

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

GUITAR PROGRAM 2017 (OPTIONAL PROGRAM)

– J. Hudson

Both Group and Individual Optional Guitar lessons for Grade P-6 students are available at Merbein P10.

For more information and cost, please email iwansoebardi@gmail.com or call Iwan Soebardi on 0418919220.

MERBEIN PRIMARY KEYBOARD/PIANO LESSONS (OPTIONAL PROGRAM)

– J. Hudson
If you are interested in your Grade P-6 child having optional piano or keyboard lessons at the school, the cost is \$27 per 30-minute lesson plus books as required.

For further information, please contact Louise Judd by email at louisejudd53@gmail.com or phone 0408596944.

PRIMARY DRUM LESSONS (OPTIONAL PROGRAM)

– J. Hudson
If you are interested in your Grade P-6 child having optional drum lessons at the school, contact Luke McCarthy for more information and costs on 0417 897 906 or email lukemccarthy@lukemccarthy.id.au.

COUGHS AND COLDS

There are many colds, coughs/sneezes/runny noses about the school currently. If your child is very sick, please assist the school to prevent the spreading of germs by keeping them at home until the worst of their symptoms subside.

LITTLE DAY OUT EVENT – W. Finn

This year, the school will be participating in this event. It will be held on Friday 16th June from 9am-1pm at Lifestyle Plus, 3 King Avenue, Mildura.

The Little Day Out is an event to showcase services that are available in our local community for children and their families from pregnancy to six years of age. It will be fun, informative, family friendly and have children's entertainment.

GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARDS

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



HEADLICE

There have been a number of cases of head-lice detected at school. Parents are asked please be vigilant and check your child's hair regularly. If head lice or eggs are detected, please treat them before returning your child to school.

LOST PROPERTY

The Lost Property Corner is starting to mount up, please ensure that your child's school jumper is clearly named. If your child has lost a jumper, please check our Lost Property as soon as possible.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

There are a number of students coming to school without the uniform school jumper. The school takes pride in their uniform. Please ensure your child has the correct uniform jumper.

MERBEIN P-10 'READING ROCKS' – W. Finn

Tuesday May 16th. All Kinder, Prep and Grade 1 students are invited to come to school with their parents for an evening of fun reading activities.

Don't forget to wear your PJs.

Reading Rocks

Please join us with your child on Tuesday 16th May to learn about the best ways to help your child read from 5.30–7.00pm.



Students wear their pyjamas.

Aimed at Kinder to Year 1

Fun reading activities to do together. with your child.

Tea and coffee for parents.

Green Learning Centre

Toasted sandwiches provided for children

Contact the college for further information—50252501 ext 1

GRADE 5-6 EXCURSION REPORT – S. Gardiner

The Grade 5-6 students participated in an excursion to Ritchies SUPA IGA supermarket Merbein on Tuesday, as part of their Inquiry Unit. The focus is "How do people choose the food they eat?" Students gathered information about the 'Persuasive Devices' used on product packaging, the types of information included on packaging/advertisements and the techniques and design used within the supermarket to display food items.

The college would like to thank Ritchies store manager, Mr Williams and Ritchies staff for accommodating us. Thanks also to those customers who made inquiries about the students' learning and for giving us such positive comments. Special acknowledgement to staff and parent helpers Melissa, Amy, Michelle, Trudy, Carissa and Kelly, for supporting this excursion. On their return to school, students applied all their observations to complete the challenge of creating an appealing package for a 'new' breakfast cereal. Keep an eye out for their fabulous designs displayed at Ritchies in the near future!

Check out the photos on the following page.

SECONDARY NEWS

YEAR 10 STOCK MARKET GAME – H. Hankinson

With just one week remaining in the game, unless there is a dramatic change in the market, our present leader Chris Martin should be our school's winner. Chris' portfolio increased by a sizable \$3200 this week. Going from 2nd Place on \$54,200 last week to \$57,419 yesterday. This puts Chris into 35th Place in Victoria & just outside the top 100 Australia wide. There are just under 20,000 school syndicates from Australia, New Zealand & Asian countries. A great effort Chris, just over a \$1000 profit each week for doing very little.

Our leaders from last week Lucas Munn & Darcy Finch have slipped back to 2nd Place with \$55,900 up from \$54,400 (a \$1500 profit for the week). Twenty-one of our thirty-four teams entered are now in profit.

YEAR 9 CAMP – G. Rhodes

Students will be departing for their Melbourne Camp next week. This trip is always a highlight for those students who attend. There will be a special week-long, Class Based Program arranged for the students who are not attending the camp.

YEAR 10 CHINA TRIP – G. Rhodes

Our Year 10 students have an opportunity to experience China through our Annual School Cultural Exchange Program. The trip is scheduled to leave in the last week of Term 3 and will continue into the first week of the Term 3 school holidays. We have had some excellent reports from families that have participated in the past. The program gives families an opportunity to host a student from China for a week in their home, a great experience for both the host and the visiting student.

The trip to China includes visits to fantastic and famous historical and cultural Chinese sites such as the Great Wall, The Terracotta Warriors and The City of the 44 Chinese Nationalities. They travel on a 'Fast Train' through mainland China and have many more experiences but more importantly the students are hosted by the Chinese family from beautiful 'Dali Old Town', a return exchange with the family that they have hosted in Australia. Generally, for the students this experience is a highlight.

The trip is approximately seventeen days long. When the students are not with the host family, they stay in good quality hotels.

There are still vacancies for this program. If you would like more information, please talk with Mr Blackie, as he and Mrs Luitjes will be accompanying the Year 10 China Trip this year.



COMMUNITY NEWS

YEAR 10 SNOW TRIP – G. Rhodes

Mr Nunn has organised two of our previous Year 10 trips to Mt Buller in the Victorian Highlands. The trip exposes our students to an Alpine environment and aims to teach them how to safely negotiate in the snow and experience associated Alpine sports. Information about the trip was given to our Year 10 students. A meeting was held at lunchtime on Wednesday to explain further information to the students.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE – G. Rhodes

The Year 10 students are required to participate in a two week Work Experience Program beginning in the last week of August. Students are also required to arrange their own work experience placements. This program exposes students to the world of work.

ZONE VOLLEYBALL REPORT – G. Rhodes

Last Monday our Year 9/10 Volleyball Team successfully contested the Zone Level matches at the St Joseph's stadium in Mildura. Our team members are Kevin McDonald, Brady Rowles, Charlie Etrich, Jack Howarth, Kade Zrna, Nolo Miki and Luke Perry. Cayla Fawdry was our designated team referee and John Vea was the team manager.

Our first game was a walk over as a player from the St Augustine's team was withdrawn at the last minute. We played a scratch match and won in two sets very easily, scores 20-8 and 20-11.

We played the second game against the Bendigo Girton College. This team had five players who are currently trailing for the State Team in their age group. This was going to be a difficult assignment. The first set started slowly and gave up 6 points to 2 very quickly. For the rest of the set we held our own but lost the set 20-12. The second set began well and we held the lead at 15-13. A strong server then forced some reception errors and they attacked very well with the opportunities they were given. We were defeated 20-17 in a game where the coach gave our students accolades for pushing his team so closely. He had expected his team to have a very easy win in all games.

The third game we played McKillop College from Swan Hill. We won both sets quite easily 20-9 and 20-12.

MEDICINE, NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH CAREER INFORMATION NIGHT

Monash Rural Health Mildura is holding an Information night at 231-237 Thirteenth Street Mildura on Wednesday 17th May from 5.30-7.30pm for students in Year 10-12 interested in a career in medicine, nursing or allied health. Light refreshments will be supplied. There will be guest speakers present from the Admissions Unit Clayton, local senior academic staff and former and current medical students. To RSVP or for more information phone Jenny Timmis 50225500

SAINTS BASEBALL CLUB - MERBEIN

The Saints Baseball Club is looking for junior players in all age groups (5yo - 17yo).

Training is held @ Chaffey Park on Wednesday nights at 5pm. Come along and have a go. See if baseball is for you. For more information, phone Greg on 0438519069 or Kirrilly on 0427942255.

FREEZA BATTLE OF THE BANDS COMPETITION

FReeZA Battle of the Bands Competition showcases young musicians from around Victoria, giving them the opportunity to perform, gain local exposure, and win their way to a spot on the Grand Final line up. The Mildura FReeZA Committee hosts the Mallee heat on Friday 2nd June at the Mildura Senior College gymnasium from 7-11pm.

All relevant forms can be downloaded from the Mildura Rural City Council's website.

For more information contact Suzie Christensen email suzie.christensen@mildura.vic.gov.au

MILDURA THEATRE COMPANY INC.

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS SHREK THE MUSICAL JR.

Held on 19th May at 7pm, 20th May at 2pm and 21st May at 11am & 2pm. For more information phone 50188322 or visit www.milduraartscentre.com.au. A number of Merbein kids are performing in this show.

RAINBOW FLAG RASING EVENT

Mildura Pride and the Mildura Rural City Council invite you to join them for a Rainbow Flag Raising event to mark International Day against Homophobia Transphobia and Biphobia. The event will be held on 17th May at 11.30am at the Alfred Deakin Centre.

RSVP: Catherine Thompson, email catherine.thompson@mildura.vic.gov.au

2017 LITTLE DAY OUT EVENT

The 2017 Little Day Out event to be held on Friday 16th June from 9-00am to 1-00pm at Lifestyle Plus, 3 King Avenue, Mildura.

The Little Day Out is an event to showcase services that are available in our local community for children and their families from pregnancy to six years of age.

THREE COLOURS SOCCER CLUB

Interested in playing Mini Roos Soccer for ages 6 to 11 or U12s in 2017.

Mini Roos information and come and try from 5.30pm Wednesday nights.

For playing and registration information call Lucy Fotia on 0439 302 090 or email threecolourssc@live.com.au