

## NEWSLETTER 2017 Thursday, 24 August

### WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY PHOTO

Last Friday morning we held a whole school assembly to present the Student of the Month Awards. At this special assembly we were entertained by our Chinese visitors and some of our own staff performed as well. A very enjoyable ending to a very busy week.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### AUGUST

**25<sup>th</sup> Friday**

**-Book Week Activity Day – ‘Escape to Everywhere’ Prep-Yr 7 Dress-up**

-Yr 9 visit Senior College for orientation  
9.15am

**28th Monday**

-Yr 10 Work Experience begins (2 weeks)  
-Sec Inter School Athletics

**29th Tuesday**

-Pri Mini Olympics  
-The Beat

**-Prep Medical Forms due back**

**30th Wednesday**

The BEAT

**31st Thursday**

**Father's Day Stall**

#### SEPTEMBER

**4th Monday**

-Student Reports distributed

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

-Pri STEM Day

**5th Tuesday**

**Pupil Free Day**

**12th Tuesday**

Sec Interschool Athletics

**14th Thursday**

-RUOK Day

**15th Friday**

-Gr P-2 Sleepover

-Pri Sports

**20th Wednesday**

### BUILDING PROGRESS – G. Rhodes

The new Technology Building is taking shape with many more of the framed walls up and secured. The Aquaponics Area is nearing completion; we hope it will be operational soon.

The internal works in one wing of the main building has been completed to a stage where equipment from the other wing in the main building can be moved down into those rooms and work on the new library and Information Technology Refurbishment can now begin. A significant contribution from our current Principal Mr Cupper and Assistant Principal Mrs Sandra Luitjes should be noted. They have worked very hard to obtain the funding for these much-needed upgrades. They have also ensured the quality of the buildings and fittings are as good as they can be within the constraints of the budget.

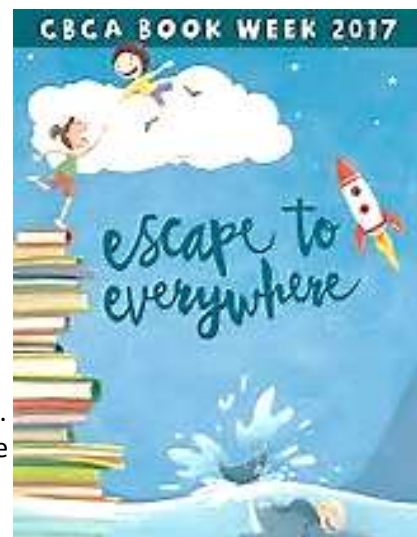
### YEAR PREP – YEAR 7 BOOK WEEK ACTIVITY DAY TOMORROW –

W. Finn

We encourage all students from Prep to Year 7 to come to school tomorrow dressed-up as a book character or dressed in the theme of this year's Book Week.

The theme is 'Escape to Everywhere' and it is a great theme to work with. Escape on holidays, in a book, from gaol, from another country, to your imagination, etc.

The Primary students will begin their activities at 9.05am with a parade in the gym after the rolls have been marked. Families are welcome to attend the parade. Please don't go to too much trouble with the dressing-up. Be creative with what you already have at home. The parade will be followed by lots more fun activities in groups.



### PUPIL FREE DAY

Reminder that Tuesday 5th September is a Pupil Free Day. There will be no school for students on this day.

### THE BEAT – G. Rhodes

Twenty-four students from Merbein P-10 will be performing in The BEAT Concerts next Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August. We wish them well! These concerts highlight the talent in students from local Government Primary and Secondary Schools performing in a number of different areas. Tickets can be purchased from the Mildura Arts Centre.

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARDS

Congratulations to the students who were awarded the Student of the Month at last Friday's assembly.

P1A	Claire Nokes	34B	Aleisha Moore
P1B	Oliver Hutchings	5A	Nina Smith
12A	Liam Williams	6A	Neria Irumva
23A	Cara Graham	6B	Mia Corrie
34A	Ikaya Robinson		
07A	Phoenix Hargrave	09A	Bronte Lavery
07B	Jade Barlow	09B	Jake Hartley
07C	Erin Garraway	09C	Sarah Molloy
07D	Bailey Edgar	09D	Kaycee Fleming
07E	Caitlin Hartwig	10A	Jasmine Matotek
08A	Aiden Frost	10B	Jake Robinson
08B	Angela Allan	10C	Thea Seitz
08C	Bree Antonie	10D	Katelyn Knight
08D	Phoebe Stephens		

### PRIMARY MINI OLYMPICS – G. Rhodes

Some of our more talented junior athletes will be representing our school at the Annual Mini Olympics held at the Aerodrome Ovals next Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> August. We wish them well and invite parents to go along on the day to encourage their children and support our school.

### PREP PRACTICE REPORT – G. Rhodes

The third of these mornings was held yesterday in the Junior Primary building. The young children and parents who have attended these transition activities have enjoyed the opportunity to visit our school.



## **Father's Day Stall**

**Thursday 31st August**

**11:30am - 2pm**

**Green Building**

Primary students will visit during classes.

Secondary students can visit during lunchtime.

Prices starting at \$1.

Parent helpers always welcome. Contact us via the school Facebook page or [fetherston.kyra.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:fetherston.kyra.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)

### GRADE 5-6 MERBEIN SHOW

Early notice - On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, the Grade 5-6 students are holding a Merbein Show here at the school as part of their studies in numeracy. They will hold this event on the oval and in the gym during sessions 3 and 4.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER - PARENT OPINION SURVEY

The Parent Opinion Survey is completed annually by the Department of Education and Training and is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents at every school in Victoria. This year, the survey is being conducted online. Parents who were randomly selected to complete the survey have previously received a unique survey link. All responses to the survey are anonymous and it only takes 15 minutes to complete. It would be appreciated if those parents would access and complete the survey before Sunday 27th August. If you have misplaced the link and would still like to participate, please contact Yvonne Matotek at the College.

The survey helps our school gain an understanding of how you view our school climate, student engagement, and relationships. Our school will use the results to inform school planning and improvement strategies.

## PARENT DIRECT TOY FUNDRAISER

**Catalogues for our Parent Direct Toy Fundraiser have been sent home with the youngest child in the primary section.** The school will receive up to 25% off all sales to purchase valuable learning resources for our primary students. Parents can log onto the website, browse the catalogue, purchase online and have the toys delivered to their own address or to the school. Delivery is free for purchases over \$150.00. Please ensure you select Merbein P-10 College so we receive the vouchers. Alternately, parents can complete the order form in the catalogue and return to school. The website is - <http://www.parentdirect.com.au/>

## FREE LEADING DIGITAL MATHS PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

Westpac is sponsoring this program called Mathspace Essentials designed for Year 3-12 students to help Aussie kids with their maths. It is a new kind of digital textbook that is dynamic, truly interactive and available online, including on mobile and tablet devices and students can use it in the classroom as well as at home.

It includes interactive step-by-step hints and feedback, ability for students to complete their working-out online and video lessons. Sign-up for free at [www.mathspace.co/westpac/educator/](http://www.mathspace.co/westpac/educator/)

To find out more information about the program go to [info.westpac.com.au/200](http://info.westpac.com.au/200)

## 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](mailto:Giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au). Please add your name and your child's name. We will then update our database so you can receive the newsletter in good time each week.

## ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY IN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - 2018

We are offering local businesses the opportunity to advertise in our weekly newsletter commencing in 2018. Our newsletter goes out to over 400 families as well as a number of community organisations. We have 10 business card size advertising spaces available on the back page and the cost is \$200.00 for the year. If you wish to take up this advertising opportunity, please email your expression of interest to [merbein.p10@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:merbein.p10@edumail.vic.gov.au).

## WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROGRAM

Once again, Woolworths is offering schools this opportunity to earn extra resources through this program. Anyone from our School's community, staff, parents, grandparents, neighbours and friends who shop at Woolworths can collect stickers and **either pop them in the school's box in Woolworth's Langtree Avenue Store, or send them along to the school.**

## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association are 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, Merbein Uniting Church 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](mailto: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

## 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, 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.



# PRIMARY NEWS

## GRADE P/1B BODY AWARENESS – B. Hall

Grade P/1B have been learning how to develop body awareness and build concentration skills through Cosmic Kids Yoga. Last Friday they experienced an adventure with 'Betsy the Banana'. A fun way of learning how to use their bodies in a healthy way.



## GRADE 5-6 BUDDIES – S. Gardiner

Many laughs were had last Friday afternoon during the "Buddies" session. The Grades 5-6 students, along with the Grade P-1 students, enjoyed playing various games and completing puzzles together.



## PREP MEDICAL CHECK FORMS – W. Finn

Each prep will take home a Prep Medical Check Form in a large white envelope tomorrow. Parents are asked to complete these forms and return them to the school as soon as possible and no later than 29<sup>th</sup> August. Denise, the School Nurse, will be visiting the school to assess each prep child's sight, hearing, etc. when all the forms have been returned.

## MERBEIN COMMUNITY BANK SCHOOL STUDENT BANKING PROGRAM

If you wish your child to participate in this program, please send your child's bankbook 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.



### STEM DAY DONATIONS THANK YOU – W. Finn

Thank you to the families who have sent in donations of recyclable materials for our STEM Day Program that will be held next Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August. **Please**

**continue to send in items from the list that was sent home last week and remember to come to school early on Friday to see what the students have created.**

### STEM PROGRAM REPORT – M. Brown

During our YCDI we have incorporated some STEM Challenges to allow the students to use their 'getting-along' and organisational skills while working in groups. We have had a Paper Plane Challenge and a Marble Run Challenge. The students have loved the challenge and worked really well in groups.



### GREEN BUILDING LOST PROPERTY CORNER

The lost property is continuing to mount up with unnamed articles. If your child is missing items, please drop in and check through the lost property. We also advise families to check that names are still clearly marked especially on school uniform items.

**Please note that at the end of the term, all unnamed items and clothing will be sent to the Salvation Army.**

### OPTIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS

AVAILABLE FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS – J. Hudson

- **Guitar lessons**, both Group and Individual. For more information and cost, please email [iwansoebardi@gmail.com](mailto:iwansoebardi@gmail.com) or call Iwan Soebardi on 0418919220.
- **Drum lessons**. Contact Luke McCarthy for more information and costs on 0417 897 906 or email [lukemccarthy@lukemccarthy.id.au](mailto:lukemccarthy@lukemccarthy.id.au).
- **Piano or keyboard lessons**, 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](mailto:louisejudd53@gmail.com) or phone 0408596944.

### GRADE 5-6 LOST PROPERTY BOX

There is a Lost Property Box in the Orange Building and it is full of unnamed uniform jumpers. If your child is missing a jumper, please drop in and check the box out. **Please note that at the end of the term, all unnamed items and clothing will be sent to the Salvation Army.**

### 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.

### PREP PRACTICE DAY REPORT – B. Hall

Another fun filled day of Learning at School yesterday. Our theme was 'Rosie's Walk'. The next Practice Day will be on Wednesday 29th November from 9:00am - 1.30pm.



# SECONDARY NEWS

## CONGRATULATIONS TO 7E INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – K. Fetherston

Last term the 7E Information Technology Class came 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Victorian Fastest Class Typing Tournament, with an average typing speed of 25.26 wpm. Well done!! All Year 7 Information Technology Elective Block Classes have or are currently progressing through the Typing Tournament Program. This program aims to improve the speed and accuracy of students' typing abilities. Some Year 9-10 classes have also been revisiting the program to 'brush up' on their typing skills.



## FREEZA YOUTH ART COMPETITION REPORT – D. Watson

Congratulations to all students who entered the Freeza Art Competition 2017. There was a wonderful variety of entries from all over the Sunraysia area. Merbein P-10 student Tegan Maher won the Year 8 Painting Prize and Caelan Beyer won the Year 8 Photography Prize. Well done to these students for their creative success!

## CONGRATULATIONS JACK

Congratulations to Jack Bithell who has won the South Australian Off-Road Championship in the Junior 2 Group with his 85cc Dirt Bike this year. Jack received 126 points throughout the year and has won the championship by 15 points. Well done Jack!

## NAPLAN INFORMATION – G. Rhodes

The Year 3,5,7&9 NAPLAN information was sent home on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August. An explanation pamphlet and test results were enveloped and handed to the students who were asked to take the information home to their parents. It should be noted that the NAPLAN testing process is one of the many assessment tools used by our school to help us understand the learning strengths and areas for improvement in each child.

The NAPLAN testing procedure also gives students an indication of how they performed in these tests on these days. It is similar to taking a photograph, sometimes the photo looks better than you expect and sometimes it doesn't look as good as you would like.

## YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE – G. Rhodes

Next Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> August, our Year 10 students will enter the work force for two weeks to experience the world of work. Some students have selected a placement for two weeks and others have selected two placements, one each week. Mr Willison and the Year 10 Humanities teachers have assisted the Year 10 students to complete their OH&S requirements and to contact employers to arrange the work placement. The students will be required to write a reflection about their work experience and complete follow up activities upon return to school.

The employers and students will be visited by teachers from Merbein P-10 during their work experience to ensure the placement is going as well as possible. Therefore, teachers will be out in the community during school hours making these visitations.

I would like to extend a big thankyou to Mr Willison in particular who has the challenging task of coordinating the eighty placements from initial contact through to the work experience and beyond.

## INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS – G. Rhodes

Weather permitting, the Secondary Interschool Athletics Sports will be held at the Aerodrome Ovals in Mildura next Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> August. We wish our competitors well. Parents are welcome to attend.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## ELECTRIC LIGHT THEATRE

This Variety Show teaches stagecraft skills to young people aged 8-25. There will be an information night for parents on 4<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm at the Mildura Primary School Gym, San Mateo Entrance. Auditions will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> September from 1-4pm and 18<sup>th</sup> September from 6-9pm. For more information visit [www.eltmildura.com](http://www.eltmildura.com), or email [eltmildura@gmail.com](mailto:eltmildura@gmail.com)

## DASH FOR DEMENTIA

Walk together to raise awareness and support on Father's Day, 3rd September from 8-11am at Nowingi Place Mildura. Proceeds benefiting Alzheimer's Australia Fees on the day are \$25 adult \$15 child \$60 family. Supported by the Mildura Rural City Council. For more information, phone Leigh Barry 0400567780.

## RAISING HAPPY KIDS SESSION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Presented by Tim O'Leary, therapist, educator and author offering parenting tips and advice. Held 18<sup>th</sup> October in the Benetook Room at the Alfred Deakin Centre from 6.30-8.30pm. Cost \$15 per person. Book your ticket before 6<sup>th</sup> October at <https://raisinghappykids.eventbrite.com.au>

## ATHLETE PATHWAY TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAM

Applications for the first funding round of 2017-18 of the Athlete Pathway Travel Grants Program are now open and close 11.59pm on Monday 28 August 2017. Guidelines for this program can be found at [www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/athlete-pathway-travel-grants-program](http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/athlete-pathway-travel-grants-program). It is recommended you read the program guidelines before applying as some changes have been made this year, specifically travel date eligibility.

The Athlete Pathway Travel Grants Program provides grants to improve Victorian athlete development pathways from community to national representation level. Support is available to assist community sport and recreation athletes, coaches, officials and teams with the travel costs of participating in training and competition, and for high performance Victorian athletes and teams to compete at national championships or selection events.

Applications are to be made online at <http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/athlete-pathway-travel-grants-program> - go to sub heading Apply Now.

If you have any queries or require assistance you can ring the Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email [grantsinfo@sport.vic.gov.au](mailto:grantsinfo@sport.vic.gov.au).

## MILDURA BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION HEAT TRIVIA NIGHT

Held 8<sup>th</sup> September at the Toyota Hothouse 50-52 Eighth Street Mildura. Live local entertainment, pre order platters available, BYO drinks and nibbles, bar also open. Start time of 7pm. Cost \$20 per head. Tables of 10. An over 18 event. For more information visit [www.mildurabasketballassociation.com.au](http://www.mildurabasketballassociation.com.au) or phone 50232241.

## POSITIVE PARENTING TELEPHONE SERVICE INFORMATION

This service is available to families across the whole of Victoria. The Positive Parenting Telephone Service run by Gateway Health provides a free telephone based Parent Education Program for parents and grandparents caring for their grandchildren and carers of children aged 2 to 10 years. Participants will be provided with a workbook and will be supported by weekly 30-minute phone calls from a trained Parent Educator over a 6 to 10 week period. This free service has daytime, evening and Saturday morning appointments available. Online modules are also available.

If you have any questions at all feel free to phone Andrea Slattery 1800 880 660.

## MILDURA YOUTH SERVICES SEPTEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Enrolments for the September School Holiday Program are NOW OPEN.

The School Holiday Program offers a wide variety of fully supervised activities for young people aged 12 – 16 with free or discounted social, recreational and educational activities.

For more information go to the link below or call Youth Services on (03) 5018 8280.

Closing date for Enrolments is Friday 15 September at 5.00pm.

To stay up to date please follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/YouthServicesMildura](http://www.facebook.com/YouthServicesMildura)

## MALLEE FAMILY CARE FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

Foster Care is providing a Secure and Safe Home for children who cannot live at home for whatever reason. Do you have room for one more? Can you be a Foster Carer for a few nights, weeks or maybe years? For more information phone 5027 7600.

### **YOUR SPORT, OUR SPORT - FREE**

Mallee Sports Assembly are conducting a new sport program at the Community House, Buxton Sobee Park Basket Ball Court – Your Sport, Our Sport. Over the next few months, there will be a couple of different sports available for people to try. There is no cost to the community for these activities.

Basketball will be first activity. Mildura Basketball Association 'come and try' sessions and 'skill clinics' will run from Monday 28th August from 4-5pm, for four weeks. For more information and details please contact Jeannyfe Spary, East End Community House, phone: 5022 8497 or Tanya Wild, Mallee Sports Assembly phone: 5021 3464.

### **ROTARY MERBEIN FATHER'S DAY PICNIC IN THE MERBEIN**

Held 3<sup>rd</sup> September from 12.30-3pm at the Merbein Kenny Park Rotunda. The Mildura Brass Band will play familiar tunes. Merbein Rotary will provide BBQ lunch, coffee, cold drinks and ice-cream at nominal cost. Bring the family and your picnic rug or chairs for a relaxing time. Free entry, strictly alcohol free event. Colouring competition for the children.

The Kenny Park Band Rotunda was officially opened on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1937, so it is great to celebrate that it is still in use some 80 years later!

### **ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE TRIVIA NIGHT**

Wildfire Mildura will be holding a Trivia Night tomorrow, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August in the Ballroom at the Grand Hotel Mildura at 7pm. Nibbles provided, drinks at bar prices. Tickets \$25 per person or \$200 per table of 10. To book visit

<http://www.ticketebo.com.au/wildfiretrivia2017>

### **SA DRAGONS COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

#### **PROGRAM**

Softball SA will be conducting their Annual Junior Development Program Skills Clinic and Talent Identification Session on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at the Old Aerodrome Sporting Complex from 4.30-7pm for Sunraysia boys and girls born between 2001 and 2004. Followed by an Information Session and a Community Meeting. For further information contact Alice Prokopec phone 0883536766 or email [events@softballsa.com.au](mailto:events@softballsa.com.au)