



Successful Students – Strong Communities

Principal: Mr Graeme Cupper

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Email: merbein.P10@edumail.vic.gov.au

Website: www.merbeinp10.vic.edu.au

NEWSLETTER 2018 Thursday, 1 February

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

27th Tuesday

Yr 7 Immunisations 9:15–11am

MARCH

29th Thursday

Last day of Term 1

2018 TERM DATES

Term 2: 16/4/18 - 29/5/18

Term 3: 16/7/18 – 21/9/18

Term 4: 08/10/18 – 21/12/18

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

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

NEWSLETTERS EMAILED

To have your newsletter emailed, please

email your address to

giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

WELCOME BACK

I would like to welcome students and staff to the start of the 2018 school year. We have approximately 180 new students commencing at Merbein P10 College, mainly in Prep and Year 7, however, a large number of new students have also enrolled in other year levels.

I would also like to welcome new families to Merbein P-10 and we look forward to working with you to ensure your child has a successful 2018 school year.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members of staff:

Renee Carmes (English/Maths/Hums)

Dean Harrop (Year 6 teacher)

Lina Palamara (Hums/English)

Kylie Cumming – 0.6 (Literacy Support)

Student numbers have risen significantly. We are currently looking at an enrolment of around 683 students. Our Year 7 enrolment of 148 students is the largest since Merbein P-10 College commenced back in 2010.

COMPASS SYSTEM

This year Merbein P-10 College is implementing COMPASS, which is a new Student Management and Reporting System. This system will be 'rolled-out' progressively during the first semester. As a first step, parents will soon be able to view attendance information, approve or enter upcoming or past absences and view your child's timetable.

Parents will receive a letter soon containing a login password that will enable online access through a Parent Portal. In Term 2 or 3, families will also be able to access their child's Student Semester Reports, book their Parent/Student/Teacher conferences and access their child's progress and assessment.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP ROUTINES

I would like to ask parents to please be mindful not to distract students in class when dropping-off or picking-up your children, especially in the Infant Building.

It is important that teachers gain full attention from students at the start of the day especially in the morning literacy and numeracy sessions. Consequently, it would be appreciated if parents/carers could leave before the first morning activity commences at 9am, to ensure classes commence in an orderly, calm manner.

When parents/carers are picking-up children at the end of the day, I ask that you please wait outside the buildings until the dismissal bell rings. Seating is available under the shade sails and trees for parents who may be a few minutes early. Whilst we encourage parent involvement in the education of their children, the school also has to balance this against respecting the privacy rights and laws that apply to all students.

If parents need to collect their child at an earlier time, please contact the School Office, so that necessary sign-out procedures can be arranged. I thank you for your support and cooperation.

FACILITIES

Our new Library, IT and FLO spaces are now completed and have been 'handed-over' to the school. Books and shelves from old Junior and Senior libraries are being set-up in the new space.

New reverse-cycle air-conditioning units have been installed.

The new Technology Building is progressing well and we expect to be able to start moving across towards the end of this term.

DONATIONS NEEDED – J. Richardson

Please send in any old complete and working unwanted mechanical toys for a deconstruction investigation. Please leave them in the Green Building Office.

BUS FORMS

Bus Forms are available from the school's main office.

2018 YEAR 7 CSEF UNIFORM PACK

Students who have commenced Year 7 in 2018 and are recipients of the CSEF payment this year, automatically qualify to receive a Uniform Pack through State Schools' Relief.

An order form can be collected from the main office.

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

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

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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 2018.

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

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.

PLAY GROUP - TOTAL LEARNING CENTRE (TLC)

Playgroup will re-commence soon. This playgroup is free of cost and is for children aged 0-5. 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. Most weeks, playgroup is held at Merbein P10 College from 9.30-11am during the school terms, please ring to check the venue each week. For more information about the Total Learning Centre (TLC) call or text Dani on 0437077689 or 50217476.

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

NEWSLETTER ON FACEBOOK

The weekly school newsletter will be posted on the school's Facebook Page every Friday. If you would rather see the newsletter through Facebook instead of email, message Giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au and ask to be taken off the newsletter email contact list.

SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

BSB - 063 714

Bank Acc Number – 10060535

Account Name - Merbein P-10 College Official Account.'

UNIFORM SHOP

School uniforms, can be purchased from the school's main office between the hours of 8.45am and 4pm during the school week. If these hours are inconvenient for you, please ring the school to make an alternate arrangement.

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 days learning.

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.

PRIMARY NEWS

GRADE 4-6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) ELECTIONS – D. Lord

Candidates for the Grade 4-6 SRC will present their speeches next Friday 9th February beginning at 2:12pm in the Orange Building. Interested parents are invited to attend.

BEFORE SCHOOL

Families please be aware that students who arrive at school before 8.40am can go to the Breakfast Club, held in the Canteen or sit on the seats at the back of the Green Building or stand with their parents near the door until 8.40am. Students are not to play out the front of the Green Building until 8.40am when the front playground is supervised and the doors of the Green Building are opened.

BLUE BOOK/LIBRARY BAGS

Reminder that all students will need a suitable waterproof bag to put their library and reading books in to take home. Blue book/library bags are for sale at the school uniform shop. All Preps received theirs today. They are to return their diaries, books and bags every day after reading their book at home.

ART SMOCKS

All primary students are required to bring along an art smock or old shirt to protect their school uniform when participating in their Art Program.

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.

NAMING ARTICLES

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

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 throughout the day, helps with concentration and energy. Examples are: dried fruit, crackers, grapes, carrots, celery, cheese, plain popcorn. No nuts please. (Not 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.

HEADLICE

Headlice is always a problem in schools. Below is a list of recommendations for parents to follow:

- Parents are asked to keep their child/ren's hair tied back neatly at all times.
- Parents are asked to check their child/ren's hair regularly.
- If Head Lice is detected on your child, prompt notification to the principal is important and will be kept confidential.
- If Head Lice is detected, please seek treatment from your local chemist, doctor or the MRCC Health Department.
- If you or the school detects headlice on your child, it is necessary for your child to remain at home until they have been treated and then checked by you to make sure they are clear of any headlice before they return to school.

These precautions will help the school to nip any further infestations in the bud.

PREP REST DAYS

Reminder that during the month of February, the Prep students will have every Wednesday off to rest and for testing.

LEVIES – PRIMARY PARENT PAYMENT 2018

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.

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, 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.

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 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.
- **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 or phone 0408596944.

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.

SECONDARY NEWS

YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisations for Year 7 students will take place on Tuesday, 27th February from 9:15–11am.

The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccines to Year 7 and 10 students. These vaccines provide protection against:

- Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) – one dose for year 7 students
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – two doses for year 7 students
- Meningococcal A,C,W,Y – one dose for year 10 students

Parents/guardians of Year 7 and 10 students should look out for the vaccine consent card booklet coming home from school with your child. You need to read the information, complete and return the card regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

The MRCC immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 28 February 2018 if you do not want your contact details given to the MRCC immunisation service.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to betterhealth.vic.gov.au Additionally, the Commonwealth government is funding vaccinations for all children under 20 years who missed scheduled vaccines. If students have missed vaccines, either in childhood or adolescence, and require catch-up vaccines, they should speak with their immunisation provider. (ie. local council or GP).

ENGLISH NEWS – L. McPhee, English Coordinator

The English Department is very excited to start the year with our annual 'Write On' writing competition. Students in each Year Level are given prompts and are required to write a creative and persuasive writing response. Students are judged and the best in their class will go through to the Year Level finals. Like previous years, prizes are awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place-getters in each year level.

Apart from being a competition, these written pieces are assessed to determine the students' current abilities and skills which require further instruction and practice.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind families that all students in Year 7–9 (except students in Mrs. McClure's Year 8 English) will require a 'Cambridge Essential English Skills' Textbook. It is very important that all students purchase a copy before Week 3. Please note that they are workbooks and second-hand copies cannot be used, therefore do not purchase a second hand book. These textbooks are used during most English lessons and students should use the text to complete and revise units before tests at the end of each term. We strongly advise students label their textbook with their name for easy identification. If you encounter any problems purchasing a copy, please contact me at the school. If you have any other questions or queries, feel free to contact me at any time.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ELECTRIC LIGHT THEATRE (ELT) 2018

PERFORMANCE – CAN'T STOP THE FEELING!

Entertainment for all ages! Showcasing the best up-and-coming young talent! Tickets available online & at Mildura Arts Centre Theatre.

www.milduraartscentre.com.au

Evening Shows Friday 9th and Saturday 10th February at 7.30pm. Matinee Shows Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th February at 2pm.

Enquires: 0407828003 www.eltmildura.com. Check out the Facebook Page.

MILDURA RELAY FOR LIFE 2018

The relay will be held 24th March at 2pm and 25th March at 8am. Registrations are now open on the Mildura Relay for Life 2018 webpage. There will be a Team Information Night tonight, 1st February at 7pm at Sunitafe Mildura for anyone interested in the Relay. Everyone welcome. For further information phone Rosemary Smallman 0400036443 or email teamsmildurarfl@gmail.com.

SUNRAYSIA RENEGADES CRICKET LEAGUE

Plays Monday nights from 5.30-7pm. Register before 12th February. Girls only team. Ages 10-17.

Old Aerodrome Ovals 3&4, Eleventh St Mildura

To register: <http://www.playcricket.com.au/club-finder/club-details?id=2200>

For more information visit the Facebook page SunraysiaGirlsCricket or email malleemurrayregion.cricketvictoria.com.au



PRIMARY FAMILY PAYMENT SCHEDULE 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Schools can request payments from parents under three categories: Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items or Voluntary Financial Contributions.

1. Essential Student Learning Items are items, activities or services that the school deems essential to student learning of the standard curriculum. Where practical and appropriate parents may choose to purchase items through the school or provide their own. These items may be: items the student takes possession of (e.g. stationery, text books, activity books, cooking ingredients, materials for products that students take home, school uniforms) and activities associated with instruction that students are expected to attend (e.g. excursions, incursions, school sports, work placements). Any costs associated with Essential Student Learning will be kept to a minimum.

2. Optional Extras are items, activities or services that are optional and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum. They are accessed on a user-pays basis and parents and guardians may **choose** whether their child accesses or participates in them (e.g. school magazines, instrumental music tuition, graduation dinners, camps).

3. Voluntary Financial Contributions which parents and guardians may be **invited** to donate to the school (e.g. grounds beautification, building or library fund, general voluntary contribution).

The school bulk purchases all essential student learning items for our primary students and the \$210.00 Essential Student Learning Items charge covers these costs as well as all incursions, travel to and from sports and local excursions, use of school hire bus as required and ICT and software access.

Essential School Items		Amount
ICT/Software Levy	Netbooks and iPads - All children will have access to iPads and Netbooks in their classrooms. Software subscription for Mathletics and Spelldrome Please note: This amount is reduced by \$40.00 for any grade 4 – 6 students who bring their own Device.	\$110.00
*Excursion Levy	Incursions, travel to and from sports, local excursions and use of school hire bus as required (includes entry fees and bus travel for the Swimming Program which is also subsidised by the school) *This is covered by the Camps, Sports and Excursion Funding (CSEF) if you are eligible to claim it.	\$80.00
Requisites	All classroom supplies which may include (depending on grade level): Exercise books, Scrap books, Student Diaries/Reading Diaries Pencil case including items such as pencils, pens, erasers, glue sticks, textas, highlighters, colouring pencils, etc	\$40.00
Total		\$230.00

PAYMENT OF FEES – Options

1. **Online - BPay** (Quote BPAY Biller code and Family Reference Number from your Statement)
2. **Direct Deposit** (Quote Family ID Reference Number or Student Full Name)
 Account Name: Merbein P-10 College
 Bank: Commonwealth Bank
 BSB: 063-714
 Account Number: 10060535
3. **Credit Card by Phone** General Office on 5025 2501
4. **General Office** Cash/cheque/EFTPOS

Consideration of Hardship

Parents who experience difficulties providing, or paying the school to provide essential student learning items should contact the Business Manager at the school by attending the school office, or by phone on (03) 5025 2501 or by email merbein.p10@edumail.vic.gov.au to discuss options for support.



Steve Liddicoat
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Phone 0409 234271 or

Email tdavey@collieandtierney.com.au.

Proud supporter of Merbein P-10 College.

Advertising Space available

For 2018

\$200 per year

Phone 50252501 or email

merbein.p10@edumail.vic.gov.au

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