DATES TO REMEMBER
20th February, Fri
Primary Parent Dance Evening
24th – 27th February
Yr 7 Camp
26th February, Thurs
Sec Interschool Swimming Sports
2nd – 5th March
Yr 8 Camp
9th March, Monday
Labour Day Public Holiday (NO school)
10th March, Tues
Pri Partners in Print
16th March, Mon
Sec Immunisations
19th March, Thurs
Pri Partners in Print
25th March, Wed
Parent/Teacher Interviews
26th March, Thurs
Pri Grandparents Day
27th March, Fri
Last day of Term 1 – early dismissal 2.30pm
9th June, Tues
Sec Immunisations

2015 TERM DATES
Term 2: 13th April to 26th June
Term 3: 13th July to 18th September
Term 4: 5th October to 18th December

MERBEIN P-10 FACEBOOK PAGE
Check the Facebook Page for updates about the school and upcoming events.
www.facebook.com/merbeinp10collegeparentclub

SCHOOL WEBSITE
Reminder that the newsletter is uploaded to the school’s website each week - merbeinp10.vic.edu.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 – 10.00am
Open Thursday 2.00 – 4.00pm
If these times do not suit, please ring the school to make other arrangements.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Mr Graeme Cupper

SCHOOL COUNCIL VACANCIES
I would like to thank parents and staff who nominated for the 2015 vacant School Council positions. Because the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies an election will not be required for the Parent nor Department of Education categories. I am pleased to therefore announce that the following parents and staff have now been duly appointed to the 2015 Merbein P-10 College Council:

Parent Category: Scott Gardiner, Michelle Nokes, Kate Donaldson and Andrew Nemtsas.
DEET Employee Category: Greg Rhodes and Yvonne Matotek.

Congratulations to our newly appointed councillors and thank you for volunteering your time and expertise to support the ongoing development of our school. Thank you also to the retiring councillors, Gary Henderson and Geoff Stevens, for their valuable contribution to Merbein P-10 College.

I would like to remind current School Councillors that a meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, 25th February. This will be the last meeting of the 2014 School Council.

The new council will be asked to attend a Special Meeting on Wednesday, 4th March to co-opt Community Members. The fully constituted council will then meet again on Wednesday 11th March to elect office bearers.

FROZEN BERRY HEPATITIS A CONTAMINATION
As you may be aware, links were found over the weekend between 1kg bags of Nanna’s Frozen Mixed Berries and at least five cases of Hepatitis A, including three in Victoria. As at 9.30am, on the 19th February 2015, the Victorian Chief Health Officer has identified that the following products should be recalled/discarded because of suspected links to the contamination:
Nanna’s Mixed Berries 1kg - All batches up to and including Best Before Date 22/11/16.
Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries 300g - All batches up to and including Best Before Date 10/12/17.
Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries 500g - All batches up to and including Best Before Date 06/10/17.

Although the school has not used these specific products, we have discarded two related products (Nanna’s Blueberries and Sarah Lee Raspberries) that were used in muffins which were recently baked in a Year 9-10 and three Year 8 Food Technology Lessons. This occurred before the recall notice was issued.
In case you may have used the recalled products at home, the Chief Health Officer has advised consumers to discard any of these products and to be aware of the symptoms of Hepatitis A Infection in the 15-50 days after consuming the berries.

Dr Lester’s office has confirmed that the risk of exposure is very low but cannot be excluded. As for all people who have consumed the affected products, Dr Lester has advised parents and carers to look for symptoms 15 to 50 days after consumption.

Symptoms include fever, nausea, abdominal discomfort, dark urine and yellow skin and eyes (jaundice). Symptoms may last for several weeks but full recovery usually occurs.

The Chief Health Officer has advised that any person who is confirmed to have Hepatitis A will be followed up closely and will be provided with further advice through the Department of Health and Human Services. If your child develops any of these symptoms, please seek immediate medical advice from your local GP or Nurse on Call on 1300 60 60 24.

PHOTOS: LAST WEEK’S LEADERS INDUCTION - STUDENT OF THE MONTHS WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY REPORT
Over forty students were inducted into our Student Leadership last Friday. Some showed their leadership at the Secondary Swim Sports on Tuesday, others have displayed their leadership by participation in SRC activities and some will be participating in the Student Activities being run at lunchtimes by the ‘Student for the Students’. Congratulations to the Student of the Month winners listed on the following page, who were announced at last week’s assembly, the first of our monthly winners.
**UNIFORM SHOP**
The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesday from 8.30-10.00am and Thursday from 2.30-4.00pm each week. If these times do not suit, please ring the school to make other arrangements.

**SAFETY RULES AT DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES**
It is very important that families who drop their children off out the front of the school, be aware of safety of others. DO NOT do U-Turns.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
School Photos were taken yesterday and today. Any student who missed having their photo taken may have an opportunity to have a 'Catch-Up Day' in the next few weeks. If any parents did not order prints but wish to, they can do so by collecting an envelope from the general office and ordering online.

**MERBEIN COMMUNITY BANK SCHOOL STUDENT BANKING PROGRAM**
The weekly Merbein Community Bank – Bendigo Bank School Student Banking Program has commenced. If you wish to participate in this program, please send your child’s banking passbook to the Green Building Office every Thursday and the Bank will collect them, process and drop them back to the school before the end of the school day.

**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

**EMAIL ADDRESSES**
The school prefers to send the weekly newsletter and other important information home via email as this is the most reliable method. Please send your email address to:
giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au asking for the newsletter to be emailed to you.

Please note that those few students in Years 8/9/10 who still require a hardcopy of the newsletter, will need to collect their newsletter from the main office at the finish of their last class at the end of the day each Thursday.

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**IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY**
- **Friday 20th** - Primary Parent Dance Evening
- **Tuesday 24th** - Yr 7 Camp departs - returns on Friday 27th Feb
- **Thursday 26th** - Interschool Secondary Swimming Sports

**IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH**
- **Monday 2nd** - Yr 8 Camp Departs - Returns Friday March 5th.
- **Monday 9th** - Labour Day Holiday
- **Tuesday 10th & Thursday 19th** - Primary Partners in Print
- **Friday 20th** - Interschool Basketball and Softball (Secondary)
- **Monday 23rd** - Interschool Tennis and Volleyball.
- **Wednesday 25th** - Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Thursday 26th** - Grandparents Day
- **Friday 27th** - Last day of school Term 1

**MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE BREAKFAST PROGRAM**
The Program is being financially supported by the Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association as well as Board & Staff of the Merbein & District Community Bank, Merbein Development Association & the Merbein Lions Club through volunteers.

The breakfast program is now being held in the 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.

**UNIFORM - NEW SPORTS POLO**
There is a new Sports Polo Uniform now available from the Uniform Shop. It has a royal blue body with white side inserts and they are priced at $28.00 each. The old style polo is still suitable for students to wear. We have some stock of the old style available for sale at $15.00 each. The sizes available are 10, 12, L, XL, 2 xl, 3xl, 4xl, 5xl and 6xl. We also have new Microfibre shorts available for PE at $15.00 each. Some stock left in the Mesh shorts for $8.
**FAMILY FUN EVENING**

Our first 2015 Family Evening for Grade P-6 will be held tomorrow night, Friday 20th February, with the STOMP performance. The performance will begin at 6pm. You are welcome to bring a picnic tea to share with your family from 5pm and have a wander around the Green and Orange Learning Centres and talk with the teachers. The plan is to have a fun, relaxed evening. We will be using the area behind the Green building near the Gym. Students are to wear shorts or pants and a colourful top. (Skirts and dresses are not suitable.) All students MUST be accompanied by a parent or a responsible carer. It is a Smoke and Alcohol Free event.

**STOMP DANCE VISIT**

STOMP is here and we have enjoyed a fantastic week with them. We hope your children have shown you some dance demos at home. We are looking forward to performing our routines for you at the Family Fun Evening tomorrow.

**MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE**

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

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**LIBRARY DAYS**

Grade 4/5/6 Library days are on Tuesdays each week.
Grade P-1 Library days are on Mondays each week.
Grade 2-3 Library days are on Wednesdays each week.
Please check that your child returns their library books each week and the books can then be re-borrowed if they need longer.

**GREEN NEWS – Grade 2-3 Beetles & Grade P-1 Bugs**

*Morning Routine* – The last two weeks students have been focusing on arriving for class in time, when the music starts. All students who have succeeded at being on time were rewarded on Friday and those who have been a bit late have another chance to achieve their reward. The next goal is to have our morning routine completed before school – Diary in the Diary Box, book and book bag in their Book Box and Drink Bottle out. Can you please remind your child to quickly complete their morning routine before going out to play? The 8.50am start with Brain Gym has been working well and the students are very settled and ready for the two hour Literacy Block at 9.00am

**Partners in Print** – Two sessions will be held this year. One on 10th March and the other 19th March. More information to follow.

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**P-3 AWARDS WINNERS LAST WEEK**

*Sapphire Dodds, Sharla Arnold, Damian Czapracki, Oliver Hutchings, Liam Hansford, Jayden Hawkes, Will Martin, Seth Arnold, Beauden Vandermerwe and Eleanor Saleta. Absent - Shakiera Faux and Douglas Allan***
SECONDARY NEWS

SECONDARY SWIM SPORTS
The Annual Secondary Swim Sports were held during the day on Tuesday, 17th February. It was great to see most of our students swimming and trying to gain points for their house. The final results were very close with only nine points separating 1st and 2nd Place. A very big thank you to the House Leaders who did a great job, mustering the support of fellow students and leading by example. A big thank you to Mr Hill and his team of teachers for their efforts, setting up the pool and BBQ and thank you also to the FLO students and teachers who cooked up a storm on the BBQ.

The final results saw Yelta House win by a mere nine points from Kulnine, with Cowra coming in third place.

Year Champions below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13Yr</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Jessica Hall</td>
<td>30p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13Yr</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Mitchell Langdon</td>
<td>30p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14Yr</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Dorraine Bagacay</td>
<td>40p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14Yr</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Corey Sleep</td>
<td>26p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15Yr</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Gemma Young</td>
<td>30p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15Yr</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Lachlan Crouch</td>
<td>26p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17Yr</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Shannon Stevens</td>
<td>38p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17Yr</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>William Wilson</td>
<td>33p</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Records set at this Carnival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 14 50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Kyle Stevens</td>
<td>34.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Record</td>
<td>Lachlan Brown</td>
<td>36.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 14 25m Breastroke</td>
<td>Dorraine Bagacay</td>
<td>20.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Record</td>
<td>Holly Mazza</td>
<td>20.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 14 25m Backstroke</td>
<td>Dorraine Bagacay</td>
<td>19.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Record</td>
<td>Jessica Collihole</td>
<td>20.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LOCKS ON LOCKERS
Please provide locks for your child's locker. All students are responsible for the security of their own equipment at school. We have supplied lockable lockers for every student and the school has 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 that all other students use a lock on their lockers also, to ensure security.

SUNSMART
Our Sun Smart Policy was explained to all students at a whole school assembly. The policy was also attached to the first week's newsletter. The key messages for students are that they need to take measures to protect themselves against over exposure to the rays of the sun. At this time of the year the UV levels are regularly above safe levels between 9.30am and 5.20pm each day whether the temperature is hot or cool. Our students receive information about the temperature and UV levels in the daily bulletin every day.

Please ensure you supply your child with appropriate sunscreen that they can safely lock away in their lockers and use when required.

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS
Our second focus for SWPBIS in 2015 is centring on the quality of student work. Over the next two weeks teachers will be focussing on checking student work during class to ensure the best quality work is completed. Students that consistently do the right thing will be acknowledged and rewarded.

UNIFORM
It is fantastic to see almost all students in correct uniform. It is expected that all students wear the full school uniform at all times. If for some reason a student is unable to wear the uniform for a short period of time, a signed note with an explanation should be provided to the school by the parents/guardians. It is also important to note that black shorts/long casual pants are acceptable for uniform, BUT leggings ARE NOT uniform and are not to be worn at school unless students are changing into them for sports/PE classes and changing back into uniform after these classes.
MILDURA WENTWORTH ARTS FESTIVAL

WORKSHOPS

Mudra's Bollywood Dance Workshops
5th March : 5-6pm & 7th March: 11am-12md
Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council (SMECC), 38-40 Madden Avenue, Mildura

Children's Art Class at Artback
7th March:10.30am-12.00md at the Artback Gallery & Cafe, 6-8 Adelaide Street, Wentworth, with Steve and Anne Hederics.

Printmaking Workshop
7th March : 11am-4pm. Riverbank Press, Wentworth

Know Your Mediums
8th March – 10am-4pm at the Artback Gallery and Cafe, 83-89 Wentworth Street, Wentworth.

Writers Victoria Storytelling Masterclass with Duncan Graham
14th March : 10am – 4pm at the Mildura Brewery Theatre Club, 20 Langtree Avenue, Mildura

Ukulele Workshop with AJ Leonard and Jenny Rowlands
14th March : 1-2.30pm at a venue to be confirmed.

For booking information visit www.artsmildura.com.au.

OUTDOOR BIG SCREEN 9-12th MARCH
Bring a blanket or a chair to watch the Outdoor Big Screen at the Homestead Lawns on the following nights beginning at 8.30pm for $2 per person.
9th March - The Water Diviner plus The Spirit of Anzac
11th March – The Man from Coxs River plus The Spirit of Anzac.
12th March – They're a Weird Mob plus The Spirit of Anzac.

HOOKIN2HOCKEY – SUNRAYSIA HOCKEY
Starts 4th March at 6pm. Held at the Hockey Turf, on the Aerodrome Ovals Mildura.
Cost $50 includes stick, ball, shin guards, mouthguard, reversible singlet and umpire cards and whistle.
For more information contact Jodie Morvell 0409835470 or visit the website www.sunraysiahockey.com.au.

MILDURA ARTS CENTRE GALLERY : WWI & ANZAC DAY CENTENARY EXHIBITIONS
From February to May 2015, the MAC Gallery Exhibition Program will be dedicated to commemorating the WWI and ANZAC Day Centenary. These events were significant in Australia’s history and the exhibitions serve as a tribute to the thousands who served in the conflict, as well as highlighting the significant impact on their families and communities. The official opening of all three WWI commemorative exhibitions will take place at 6pm, Thursday, 19th February at the Mildura Arts Centre. All welcome!
For further information, please contact Luci Marcuzzo or Heather Lee on (03) 5018 8330 or email gallery@mildura.vic.gov.au.

MILDURA WENTWORTH ARTS FESTIVAL 6-15th March. Highlights: Twilight Festival Launch, Outdoor Cinema, African Drumming, Bollywood Dancing, Live Bands, Walk Wentworth Sing, Driving Photo Media Productions. For tickets and programs phone 5229542 or visit www.artsmildura.com.au