**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**APRIL**
- 24th Friday  
  Pri Grandparents Day 9.30-11.30am  
- 24th Friday  
  ANZAC – RSL visit, brief ceremony 1pm  
- 25th Saturday  
  Anzac Day – March 9.20am meet @ RSL  
- 28th Tuesday  
  Secondary Open Night  
- 29th Wednesday  
  Yr 9&10 Northern Zone Volleyball & Softball

**MAY**
- 5th Monday  
  Sec Boys Interschool Soccer  
- 6th Tuesday  
  Whole School Assembly  
- 7th Wednesday  
  Sec Girls Interschool Soccer  
- 11th Tuesday  
  Sec Girls Interschool Football  
- 12th-14th  
  NAPLAN Testing for Yrs 3,5,7&9  
- 15th Friday  
  Whole School Cross Country  
- 18th-22nd  
  Yr 9 Camp  
- 19th Tuesday  
  Primary Open Night  
  Primary Interschool Cross Country  
- 20th Wednesday  
  Secondary Interschool Cross Country  
- 25th-29th  
  Equine Studies Camp

**JUNE**
- 2nd Tuesday  
  Sec Assembly  
- 3rd Wednesday  
  Advance Camp  
- 5th Friday  
  Report Writing Day NO SCHOOL  
- 8th Monday  
  Queen’s Birthday PUBLIC HOLIDAY  
- 9th Tuesday  
  Sec Immunisations  
- 16th Tuesday  
  Sec Girls Netball  
- 25th Thursday  
  Sec Assembly

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**MERBEIN P10 COLLEGE ANZAC CEREMONY**

Tomorrow, Friday 24th of March we will be holding an ANZAC Ceremony at our flagpole in the front of the school around 1.10-1.30pm. Mr Robert Lauder, the Vice President of the Merbein RSL will perform the service and one of our students will give a talk about his great grandfather’s contribution in both the first and second world wars.

**MERBEIN ANZAC CEREMONY AND MARCH**

On Saturday, 25th April, the Official Merbein ANZAC Ceremony will be held. A group of students and staff from our college will march from the RSL building in Commercial Street at around 9.25am. At present, approximately twenty students in school uniform have decided to march. All our students are welcome to march in this group on Saturday morning as long as they are wearing full school uniform. If they have medals from a relative and have permission to wear them, then they are encouraged to do so, on their uniform. The procession will head to the gates of Kenny Park where our SRC Leaders will lay a wreath along with other community organisations. The official ceremony will follow and take place at the Rotunda in Kenny Park. The ceremony is expected to conclude at 10.45am. We encourage students and families to attend. It is the 100th Anniversary of ANZAC, so it will be a good opportunity to commemorate this important day.

**PARENTS’ CLUB RECIPE BOOK FUNDRAISER RECIPES NEEDED**

The Parents’ Club are inviting every family from Merbein P10 College to send in their favourite recipes to be included in the new 2015 Merbein P10 College Recipe Book. Please support this fundraiser and the school by sending your best recipes as soon as possible to the Parents’ Club via their email address: parent@merbeinp10.vic.edu.au.

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**THE LADYBIRDS CLASS IN THE GREEN BUILDING HAD SOME SPECIAL VISITORS TODAY – PHOTOS BELOW**

![Ladybirds with rabbits](image)
REPRESENTING OUR SCHOOL

Over the next few weeks, our school will be represented at many sporting competitions.

**Secondary Interschool Soccer** - Tuesday, 5th May, the Boys Interschool Soccer is scheduled. Thursday 7th May, the Girls Interschool Soccer is scheduled. Miss Donnelly will be coaching both these teams over the next few weeks.

**Secondary Interschool Football** - On Monday, 10th May the Girls Interschool Football has been scheduled.

The Merbein P-10 College Whole School Cross Country - will be held Friday, 15th May in the afternoon. The venue and course may need to be changed from previous years due to the Merbein Pumping Station and Pipeline works under construction at present. The traditional Secondary Cross Country Track along the Murray River and up Pump Hill to Chaffey Park will be mostly affected in the change.

**Primary Interschool Cross Country** – In the following week, Tuesday, 19th May the Primary Interschool Cross Country is scheduled.

**Secondary Interschool Cross Country** - The Secondary Interschool Cross Country is scheduled for Wednesday, 20th May.

**Secondary Teams to Play at Regional Level** – Two of our sport teams have won through the District Level to play at the Regional Level. Next Wednesday, 29th April, the Boys Volleyball and the Girls Softball Team will be playing against schools at Bendigo in a bid to win through to the State Level.

**Congratulations Lachlan** - Lachlan Brown, one of our Year 10 students represented our school last Friday at the Spirit of the ANZAC Awards Ceremony held in Melbourne. He wrote a paper from which he was chosen as one of only twelve students, State-Wide to be invited to this function. Lachlan will be speaking at our Merbein P-10 College ANZAC Ceremony tomorrow, Friday 24th as well as the official Merbein ANZAC Ceremony on Saturday.

**STUDENTS ATTITUDE TO SCHOOL SURVEY**

Over the next week all students in Years 5-10 will complete a survey regarding our school. The scope of the survey includes their views on: their teachers, class room behaviour and their efforts at their studies. The information from these confidential, anonymous surveys is collated in Melbourne and our school will then be sent the results to help us make decisions concerning our school. We ask that students are honest when completing these surveys.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Reminder that the newsletter is uploaded to the school’s website each week - merbeinp10.vic.edu.au.

### IMPORTANT DATES TERM 2

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24th Friday</td>
<td>College ANZAC ceremony 1.10pm</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday LMR Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Tuesday</td>
<td>Open Night 5-7pm</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th Wednesday</td>
<td>LMR Softball and Volleyball</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday Advance Camp returns Thursday afternoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th Tuesday</td>
<td>Boys Interschool Soccer</td>
<td>5th Friday Pupil Free Day – Report Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th Wednesday</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
<td>8th Monday Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>7th Thursday</td>
<td>Girls Interschool Soccer</td>
<td>12th Friday Secondary Interschool Girls Netball</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Monday</td>
<td>Girls Interschool Football</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Tuesday</td>
<td>NAPLAN English</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th Wednesday</td>
<td>NAPLAN Writing</td>
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<td>14th Thursday</td>
<td>NAPLAN Maths</td>
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<td>15th Friday</td>
<td>Whole School Cross Country</td>
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<td>18th Monday</td>
<td>Year 9 Camp return Friday afternoon</td>
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<td>Secondary Interschool Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Monday</td>
<td>Equine Studies Camp return Friday afternoon</td>
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### YEARS 3/5/7/9 NAPLAN TESTING

All over Australia, students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be sitting the NAPLAN Testing from 12th-14th May. Our Maths and English teachers have been preparing the students for these tests. There will be two tests on Tuesday based on English skills, one writing test on Wednesday and either one or two Maths tests on Thursday depending on the year level. This is a very rigorous program that can be quite challenging for students.

If a parent that does not wish their child to sit one or all of these tests, they should contact their child’s Learning Centre Leader or Mr Rhodes, as a special form will need to be completed.

Students will need to have a 2B pencil, a pencil sharpener and rubber for all of the tests. Test papers and writing paper will be supplied. Please be aware that there is a set format for the tests, therefore there will be a disruption to normal classes on these days.

**MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

The Breakfast program is being financially supported by the Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association. 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.

The breakfast program is 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.
WHOOPING COUGH
Reminder that the school has been notified of cases of Whooping Cough in the Primary Section of the school. **Please Note that the Victorian statutory requirement requires written notification to the school within five days of diagnosis.**
Below is information about Whooping Cough symptoms and school exclusion.

School exclusion for cases and contacts is:
- cases should be excluded for five days after commencing antibiotic treatment
- unimmunised sibling contacts under seven years of age and unimmunised close child care contacts must be excluded from school and children’s services centres for 14 days from the last exposure to infection, or until they have taken five days of a ten day course of antibiotics.

**What are the symptoms?**
- Whooping cough usually begins like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, tiredness, mild fever and a cough.
- The cough gets worse and severe bouts of uncontrollable coughing can develop. Coughing bouts can be followed by vomiting, choking or taking a big gasping breath which causes a "whooping" sound. The cough can last for many weeks and can be worse at night.
- Some newborns may not cough at all but they can stop breathing and turn blue. Some babies have difficulties feeding and can choke or gag.
- Older children and adults may just have a cough that lasts for many weeks. They may not have the whoop.

Further information can be obtained from the Department of Health website; http://www.health.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 – 10.00am
Open Thursday 2.00 – 4.00pm
If these times do not suit, please ring the school to make other arrangements.

**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.

**MERBEIN P-10 FACEBOOK PAGE**
Check the Facebook Page for updates about the school and upcoming events.
www.facebook.com/merbeinp10collegeparentsclub

**ASTHMA FOUNDATION OF VICTORIA NEW SITES**
www.asthma.org.au Phone 1800 278 462

**You Care We Care Campaign**
Parents of children with asthma are asked to sign up to the ‘You Care We Care’ Campaign. Parents can register as Asthma Ambassadors to show their support.
Parents are also encouraged to share stories about their experiences looking after a child with asthma. This can be done by going to #breathingtogether on social media. These stories will be collated into a digital storybook and presented to the Prime Minister and National Health Ministers in National Asthma Week (1-7 September), along with the list of Asthma Ambassadors from around Australia. We encourage stories about the successes as well as the challenges.

**Asthma Kids**
A new online resource for all primary aged children will be available soon. This resource provides asthma information for children via an interactive site with students collecting blue balloons as they progress, leading to a certificate and going into a prize draw.

**Facebook Page for Young People With Asthma**
A new Facebook page has recently been established for 13-25 year olds with asthma. On this, young people can share their experiences, hear about latest developments and get tips on asthma management. Regular sessions will be held for young people to have their asthma questions answered by an asthma expert.
There will also be chance to provide input to our directions and resource development for this age group.

**PRIMARY NEWS**

**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 your child’s bank book back to the school before the end of the school day.

**GRADE 5/6 CAMP TO LAKE CULLULLERaine – EARLY NOTICE**
The Grade 5/6 Camp to Lake Cullulleraine will be held from November 9th-13th this year. Parents should keep this date in their calendar and start thinking about saving towards the camp now to make payment easier as it approaches. The approximate cost of the camp based on two years ago is $250 per child.
**GREEN BUILDING AWARDS FOR LAST WEEK**

Congratulations to the following students from Grade P-3 who received awards last Thursday. Well done! Alana Young, Addison Kost, Craig Ball, Cara Graham, Liam Gardiner, Eleanor Saleta, Jasper Dwyer, Kira Page, Jayden Doherty, Renisha Fuamatu, Kaitlin Sheather, Dawson Kay, Adrian Allan and Lola Colling.

**GRADE P/1/2 ANZAC DAY INQUIRY UNIT**

The Grade P-2 students have been learning about ANZAC Day. Photos below.

**CROSS COUNTRY PRACTICE**

All primary students will be practising for the Cross Country and they will need to bring their running shoes on the following days:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Days</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Mondays and Tuesdays</td>
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<td>P-2</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
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**GREEN NEWS – Grade 2-3 Beetles & Grade P-1 Bugs**

*Grandparents/Special Visitors Day Tomorrow -* We are looking forward to welcoming our special visitors tomorrow at 9.30am. The students will be working in their usual Literacy Classes and the special visitors are welcome to visit any classrooms from Grade P-6 in the Green and Orange buildings. We ask that the visitors do not go to the main office for this event, please come straight through to the Orange or Green Building Learning Centres. Our fantastic photo booths will be set up again this year, so please don’t miss having a photo shoot and please stay and enjoy a lovely morning tea before you leave. We hope the special visitors have a great time.

*ANZAC Day –* Our college will be having our Anzac Day service at the front of the school from 1pm tomorrow. All of the Primary school will attend and the SRC representatives from the Secondary Section will also attend. The President and Vice President of the Merbein RSL will perform the service. Thanks to those parents who have supported their children, helping them to complete ANZAC Projects at home. Their presentations to ‘The Bugs’ have been very thoughtful and interesting. It was not compulsory, but the high level of interest by the students has motivated their actions. Well done.
GRADE 4-6 FOOD INQUIRY - Mrs Rivett
This Term students from Grades 4-6 are taking part in a range of different food lessons. Our first lesson was cooking Choc Chip Muffins. Students enjoyed cooking and eating the muffins.

ART STUDENTS GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE ANZACS
This week in Art, students have been busy creating sculptures in honour of ANZAC Day. The students have produced some outstanding pieces that they should feel very proud of.

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.

SECONDARY NEWS

LOCKS ON LOCKERS
All students are responsible for the security of their equipment at school. We have supplied lockable lockers and have cameras set up at most locker locations. It is strongly advised for all students to use a lock on the lockers provided to ensure security. If a student has a BYOD Computer or Ipad they MUST use a lock on their lockers. A combination lock is recommended in case students forget or lose their padlock key.

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS (SWPBIS)
The first focus for SWPBIS this term is our uniform. Our school uniform is an excellent one and has many options for students and families to fit into the uniform parameters. Many students take pride in wearing our uniform as they see the benefits of the uniform and are happy to comply. There are a small number of students that are choosing to come in non-uniform pants or leggings or non-uniform hoodies or windcheaters. The school is seeking the support of families to ensure their child is in full uniform. If parents are finding it difficult to provide a uniform for their child for a short time due to weather or other reasons, a note needs to be sent to the school office, written and signed by the parent, to cover these short term aberrations. Those students that are in appropriate uniform will be acknowledged and those that are out of uniform will have parents contacted to seek support in rectifying the problem. The next focus for our SWPBIS will be discussed by the SWPBIS implementation group, at tonight’s meeting. We are still looking for parents and students to join this group.

OPEN NIGHT (SECONDARY)
Next Tuesday, 28th April we will be conducting our Annual Open Night from 5-7pm. This is an opportunity for families of prospective Year 7 students to come to the school and talk with teachers and students about our school. Some of our teachers have asked students to assist on the night. To be asked and to help is an honour. We ask that students helping wear full school uniform. These students will be provided with a snack at 4.30pm. Parents are asked to pick these students up at 7pm.
UPCOMING CAMPS
We consider our Camps Program to be an important part of the whole education process for your children. There are three camps coming up for students in the secondary section. The Annual Year 9 Camp will see sixty students and six teachers in Melbourne between May 18th and 22nd. The following week, our Inaugural Equine Camp will be held as part of our Years 9-10 Elective Program. The Annual Advance Elective Camp will be held 3rd - 4th June. These camps require a large amount of organising and adjustments for teachers to be away from regular classes. It is important for the students who remain at school to continue with the classwork that has been set for them by their teachers so that their academic progress will continue to improve.

ALPINE CAMP
Once again this year, five of our Year 9 students, Chase Carter, Gus Collihole, Josh May, Dale Versteeg and Melissa Kirby have chosen to do the 'Once In A Lifetime' ten week Leadership Course at the Alpine Camp. Last weekend their families drove them over before farewelling them and leaving them in their new environment. We wish them well, as they endeavour to have many new learning experiences with other Year 9 students from around Australia.

COMMUNITY NEWS

AUSKICK MERBEIN 2015 SEASON START
Training will commence May 5th at 4.30pm, Kenny Park Merbein.
Boys and girls are welcome to come along.
Training/game days will alternate between Tuesday at 4.30pm and Sunday at 10am to give parents an option. A schedule of dates is available upon request and at the training sessions. For further information contact the Merbein Coordinator Darren Lambert on 0457 729 060.

SARNIA TENNIS CLUB
Mildura Lawn Tennis Club 2015 season commences on 2nd May. Training is held Thursdays 4-9pm from mid-April.
Juniors from 4pm to 5:30, seniors 6pm onwards.
Registrations & team enquiries for all players to Peter Kelly on pk4051@gmail.com or mobile 0417577029.

AUSSIE HOOPS BASKETBALL
Aussie Hoops Basketball Program for Term 2 will be held @ The Toyota Hothouse. It is open to Boys & Girls aged 5–7. Commences Friday, 1st May at 4.15pm. Please call 5023 2241 for more details.

ST ANDREWS TENNIS CLUB
ST Andrews Tennis Club on 11th Street Aero Ovals Mildura, is seeking junior members for the upcoming Junior Winter Tennis Season.
Juniors play on Saturday mornings and play commences at 9am, finish time depends on how long the matches go for but usually around 10.30 or 11.00am.
ST Andrews Junior Tennis training takes place on Wednesday nights from 4-5pm with Senior training to follow.
Feel free to come along and have a try if you are interested if you cannot make training but would like to know more please contact Robyn Herbert 0412 490 524 or 5025 7318 or email saintandies@gmail.com.

NICHOLS POINT JUNIOR TENNIS CLUB
Nichols Point Tennis Club is looking for Junior boys or girls, who are interested in playing tennis this Winter Season for the Nichols Point Tennis Club. Games are on Saturday mornings, starting at 9am with three in a team.
If you are interested in getting involved or have more questions please contact Fiona Reck on 0400 1526 43.

LANGTREE MALL IS SET TO GET A MAKEOVER
Using $5000 and the power of the people, the central public precinct will be transformed in just seven days from 1st – 7th June 2015 and the community is invited to make it happen. There is an opportunity for students to volunteer to be part of this community project.
Students’ creativity, passion and drive in enlisting as volunteers is welcomed. Anyone can get involved in the makeover - they just have to be willing to pitch in and be passionate about making the Mall a more appealing public place where people want to spend time.
The 7 Day Makeover is a program that helps ordinary people work together to create extraordinary spaces, without endless talk. An information session will be held in the Benetook Room at the Alfred Deakin Centre at 6:30pm on April 14th. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
For more information and to register to be part of the Makeover go to www.7day.com.au
See the media release below for more information about the project.
For more information contact Melissa 50188418/0418527844, www.mildura.vic.gov.au Melissa.Amos@mildura.vic.gov.au

AUSSIE HOOPS BASKETBALL PROGRAM TERM 2
Held @ The Toyota Hothouse. Open to Boys & Girls aged 5–7. Commences Friday, 1st May @ 4.15pm.
Please call 5023 2241 for more details.
OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
Lessons begin Thursday 30th April at 7pm for those young people who will be receiving the Sacraments of the First Eucharist and Confirmation. Children who have received the Sacrament of the First Reconciliation are eligible to receive these two Sacraments. For more information contact Janine Dannatt 0419371284.

SASSG FUNDRAISER - PIZZA & PASTA NIGHT
Sunraysia Autism Spectrum Support Group Presents a night at the Pizza Café, located at 18 Langtree Ave, Mildura. Try different types of pasta and wood fire pizzas with friends and family. There will be a raffle and lucky prizes. 5th May from 6-10pm. Cost Adults $20.00 (13years +) Children $12.50 (3yrs to 12yrs). Drinks available at bar/menu prices on the night. Bookings essential, call Michael: 042 575 6242 or email sassg-pizzacafe@westnet.com.au.
The Rotary Club of Merbein
Extends an Invitation to Merbein P-10 Families, Principal, Staff and the Public to hear special guest speakers ~

Larni Baird, Manager of Headspace &
Mitch Rodd, Community Awareness & Education Officer, Headspace.

Headspace ~ a recently opened facility in Mildura to aid persons in the 12 - 25 age bracket to provide youth and their families with access to general and mental health information and care, education and vocational support and alcohol and other substance use services.

The month of May is Australian Rotary Health’s Focus on Mental Health
~ Don’t forget to ask your friends ~ Are they OK?’

Venue: Merbein Citizen’s Club, Commercial Street, Merbein

Date: Thursday 7th May 2015
Time: 6.00 pm for 6.15 pm

Guest Speakers: Larni Baird & Mitch Rodd~ 6.20 pm ~ 7.00 pm

Dinner served from: 7.15 – 7.30 pm - Two courses $22 per person

Members of the public who come along to hear Larni & Mitch speak are very welcome to stay on and join us for Dinner. If doing so, please confirm numbers staying for dinner – Thank you.

RSVP by: Friday 1st May 2015

To President Leon Wagner, Rotary Club of Merbein 50252585 or 0427252586
wagslk@bigpond.com

Rotary Club of Merbein Celebrates ARH Month in May
Australian Rotary Health ~ Mental Health Awareness