PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Mr Graeme Cupper

INDUCTION/STUDENT OF THE MONTH ASSEMBLY

Tomorrow, Friday 19th February, we will be holding an assembly to induct our Student Leaders for 2016 and take the opportunity to formally congratulate them and acknowledge the important role they play in ensuring our school is an inclusive and positive community to be part of. These Student Leaders consist of: The Student Representative Council (SRC) Executive, the House Leaders and the SRC Year Level Representatives. They will be presented with their badges of office at this assembly. The Student-of-the-Month certificates will also be presented at this assembly. Parents are welcome to attend, starting at 10.15am in the School Gym.

COMMENCEMENT OF EARLY YEARS PLAY GROUP

A playgroup for very young children is starting up at our school. The program will be held in our multi-purpose portable located near the Game Street entrance. The Play Group has been established under a partnership between the school and Mallee Family Care. The sessions will be run by Danielle Mazza and activities will be designed to help prepare children and parents for kinder and school. The activities will be structured and parents will be encouraged to participate and engage with their children.

If you are interested, or may know a family who may consider joining in, please contact the school’s General Office or Danielle Mazza on 0437 077 689.

STOMP PERFORMANCE TOMORROW NIGHT

A huge thank you to the Parents’ Club for supporting this fantastic Dance Program by helping subsidise the cost. Students and staff are ready to go. The students have excelled this week learning their dances. Aimee, the Dance Teacher, has been amazing.

Tomorrow night, Friday 19th, February, please feel free to bring your picnic tea to school and also to visit our classrooms between 5.5.45pm. Our teachers will be there. Your children will have books and work to show you. Reminder that our SRC will be selling drinks on the night.

Students will need to move into the gym ready to start at 6pm. Grade 5-6 students will need to meet in the gym at 5.40pm.

Grade P-2 students are asked to wear bright clothes but don’t buy anything new as it is to be a very comfortable, relaxed evening. The following may help with seating. The Grade P-2 students will perform their finale on the left (facing the stage). The Grade 2-4 students will be on the right side and the Grade 5-6 on the stage in the middle. All other dances will be on the centre stage.

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY
19th Friday
- Pri Stomp Performance 6-7.15pm
- Whole School Assembly 10.15am
24th Wednesday
Sec Interschool Sport Swimming
23rd - 25th
Year 7 Camp
MARCH
4th Friday
- Pri Relay for Life
7th – 11th
Year 8 Camp
8th Tuesday
Yr 7 Immunisations
14th Monday
- Public Holiday – NO School
16th Wednesday
Interschool Chess Tournament
17th Thursday
Sec LMR Swimming
21st Monday
Sec Interschool Sport Tennis Volleyball
23rd Wednesday
- Sec Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Sec Interschool Sport Baseball
24th Thursday
- Pri Easter Hat Parade and Hunt
- Last day of Term 1 – early dismissal time of 2.30pm.
SEPTEMBER
12th Monday
Visiting Performance - Pass The Poetry Please
NOVEMBER
14th Monday
Visiting Performance - To Federation And Beyond

2016 TERM DATES
Term 1: 28th January – 24th March
(Teachers return 27th January)
Term 2: 11th April – 24th June
Term 3: 11th July – 16th September
Term 4: 3rd October – 20th December

STUDENT DENTAL SERVICE
13th St and Deakin Ave Mildura
Phone 50210944
**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.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

| FEBRUARY |  
| --- | --- |
| Friday 19th | - Primary Stomp Dance performance Evening  
- Whole School Assembly  
10.15am |
| Tuesday 23rd | Year 7 Camp departs - returns on Friday 25th Feb |
| Wednesday 24th | Interschool Secondary Swimming Sports |

| MARCH |  
| --- | --- |
| Monday 7th | Year 8 Camp Depart - Return Friday 11th |
| Monday 14th | Labour Day Holiday No School |
| Wednesday 16th | School Assembly |
| Thursday 17th | LMR Secondary Swimming Swan Hill |
| Monday 21st | Sec interschool Volleyball and Tennis |
| Wednesday 23rd | Sec Interschool Baseball |
| Thursday 24th | - Last day of term early dismissal  
- Easter Raffle |
| Friday 25th | Good Friday |

**MERBEIN P10 COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE**

Visit our school's Facebook Page for photos and updates www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college.

**YEAR 7 UNIFORM PACKAGE INITIATIVE 2016**

**A STATE SCHOOL'S RELIEF PROGRAM**

Every Year 7 government school student enrolled in 2016 who is a recipient of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualifies for a free uniform pack to the approximate value of $225. Included in the Uniform Pack are basic items.

- **Jumper x 1**, **PE shirt x 1**, **PE shorts x 1**.

For girls a **dress (or shorts or trousers) x 1** and a **shirt x 1 (long or short sleeve)**.

For boys a **shirt x 1 (long or short sleeve)** and **shorts or trousers x 1**.

**CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)**

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

- **To be eligible parents must be Centrelink concession card holders.**
- **Application Forms can be collected from the Main Office at the school.**
- **Parents must lodge the application form at the school by 29th February 2016.**

For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
YEARS 5-10 MILDURA INTERSCHOOL CHESS TOURNAMENT
To be held on Wednesday, 16th March at the Trinity Lutheran College. Cost is $10 entry per student. Students from Year 5-10 are invited. Practice sessions will be held on Monday lunchtimes in the Year 7 end of the Orange Building.
See Mrs Fetherston if you are interested

PANCAKE TUESDAY PHOTOS BELOW
The pancakes certainly looked yummy! A big thank you to our senior SRC for the Good Cooking!

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.

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. 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 ABSENCE
If your child is away from school, please send a note or email the following address:
Collihole.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

ART SMOCK - Jodie Atkinson
Art smocks are required for every child. The smock can just be an old shirt of mum or dads or from the op shop. It needs to be able to cover your child’s uniform to keep it clean during creative art lessons.

ART DONATIONS PLEASE - Jodie Atkinson
The Grade P-2 Art Program requires cardboard foil/cling wrap cylinders. If you can help, please send them along to school as soon as possible.

LEVIES – PRIMARY PARENT PAYMENT 2016
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.

It is important to note that if you are eligible for the CSEF Funding, complete and submit the application form to the school before 29th February, the Excursion Levy part of your Primary Parent Payment will be covered by the CSEF Funding.

MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) is currently taking enrolments for 2016. Days are filling fast. Cheryll Hodge is our school’s OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.
LIBRARY TIMES
Library borrowing days for this term are as follows:

Grade 5-6 will borrow Mondays.
Grade P-4 will borrow Mondays & Tuesdays.
Please ensure your child returns their library books every week on their library days. Please note that every child will need to bring along a book bag to protect the books they borrow. These school books are valuable learning tools for our children and very expensive to replace, so please be diligent in having your child return their library books every week. (Books can then be re-borrowed if they have not finished with them).

GUITAR PROGRAM
If you are interested in your child receiving guitar lessons at school, please phone the Guitar Teacher, Iwan Soebardi directly in 04189 19220 or email iwansoebardi@gmail.com for more information.

GRADE 2/3 JELLYFISH ROOM PHOTOS
Enjoying juicy watermelon for recess

LAST WEEK’S GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS
Congratulations to the following Grade P-4 Award Winners.
Front – Miles Fetherston, Fredoriko Solis-Dixon and Ashana Sleader.
Middle – Alana Young, Shauna Lawson, Sienna Pope, Cooper Higgins, Layla Connors and Taj Wheatland.
Back – Hayden Gardiner, Beau Vandermerwe, Jerri Liddicoat and Aleisha Moore.

The Grade P-4 assemblies will be held every Thursday from 2.45pm unless there is a Whole School Assembly in the same week. It is great to see so many parents and grandparents attend.
We will not have a Grade P-4 Assembly on the same week as the Whole School Assembly.
**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 the bank book back to school before the end of the school day.

**GRADE 5-6 NEWS**

**STOMP Dances** - The students have been having a blast during their STOMP lessons this week... even the staff! The Grade 5-6 students will need to meet in the school gym, at 5.40pm tomorrow night to have their faces painted in readiness for their dance. Please ensure to read all the other details about the performance tomorrow evening in the STOMP article posted in this newsletter.

**Talk Homework** - Mrs Grimmer and Mrs Gardiner thank families for helping students to complete the Big Write Talk Homework and taking the time to encourage conversation about their child’s experiences. It was of great benefit when it came to completing their Big Write Birthday Recounts. Please remember to keep an eye out for the next Talk Homework at the beginning of Week 6.

**Home Reading** - Families are reminded that their child must read for a minimum of thirty minutes, four nights per week to improve. Their reading log MUST be returned each week, either on Tuesday or Thursday.

**SECONDARY NEWS**

**SECONDARY SWIMMING SPORTS PHOTOS**

**Weekly Assembly Awards** - Congratulations to last week’s award recipients at the 5/6 Assembly.

**TESTING**

Our planned Prep Literacy and Numeracy testing has finished. Thanks to those families who needed to bring their children to school. Our Grade P-2 students have also had some extra numeracy testing with Darin Lord and Rebecca Ogden-Brunell for a special program that our college is participating in and we have been collecting data for the start of the program.

**PREP REST DAYS**

The Prep students have their last rest day next Wednesday. They have settled in really well to the school routine. Please continue to remind them before school to return their diaries and books to their book boxes before they go out to play. We would like to have 100% of diaries returned every day. Keep up the great work reading at home.
SECONDARY SWIM SPORTS RESULTS

House Team Scores – Congratulations Kulnine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kulnine</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yelta</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowra</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age Champions below:

- 13Yr Female: Lilli Cox
- 13Yr Male: Aalen Davis
- 14Yr Female: Jessica Hall
- 14Yr Male: Mitchell Langdon
- 15Yr Female: Dorraine Bagacay
- 15Yr Male: Kyle Stevens
- 17Yr Female: Gemma Young
- 17Yr Male: Liam O'Neill

Records set at this Carnival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 14 25m Breaststroke</td>
<td>Mitchell Langdon</td>
<td>20.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Record</td>
<td>Nathaniel Langdon</td>
<td>21.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 14 25m Backstroke</td>
<td>Mitchell Langdon</td>
<td>19.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Record</td>
<td>Nathaniel Langdon</td>
<td>20.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>=F 17 Open House Relay</td>
<td>Cowra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Record</td>
<td>Kulnine</td>
<td></td>
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YEAR 8 SURF CAMP

Year 8 Surf Camp is fast approaching and we are busy making final preparations. We will head off on our adventure on Monday, 7th March and make our way home on Friday, 11th March. In order to confirm numbers and finalise our bookings, we need to have students confirm their attendance. Students need to make sure that they have returned their medical and permission forms as soon as possible. The total cost of the camp is $430. As we need to pay for our activities in advance, families will need to ensure that the full amount is paid prior to departure or that a payment plan has been organised with the school’s Business Manager, Yvonne Matotek. Students will participate in a series of meetings at school prior to departure to make sure that they are fully prepared for their adventure. Should you have any questions, please contact either Jess Williams or Liz Rankin.
COMMUNITY NEWS

MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
The club is looking for someone or a couple of people to take on the role of coach/co-ordinator of their Auskick program.
Role involves taking the training sessions, starting early May 2016 and running them for ten weeks.
Program support materials and coaching support from junior coaches will be provided. No prior experience required, just a desire to have fun and encourage kids to have a go.
If you are interested please contact Graeme Dunne – President on 0407 235 751 or Geoff Stevens – Director of Coaching on 0407 502 465.

MERBEIN GOLF CLUB LADIES NIGHT FUNDRAISER
The Merbein Golf Club is having a Party Plan Pamper Night Fundraiser at 355 McEdward Street, Cabarita on 26th February at 7pm. Tickets are $10 each, includes a glass of champagne, nibbles and some pampering from head to foot by the party planners in attendance. To book your tickets contact the Merbein Golf Club on 50256421 or purchase on the night.

MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB REGISTRATION DAY - FOOTBALL & NETBALL
To be held on the 18th & 23rd February from6-7pm
At the Club Social Rooms, Kenny Park. For further information please contact:
Football: Graeme Dunne (President) 0407 325 751.
Netball: Sue Mulder 0403 316 782
Auskick program: To be completed online via website http://aflauskick.com.au/register/. 

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12-16 YEARS
Drop off and pick up venue is the Mildura Scout Hall, 39 Twelfth Street, Mildura. Registration Forms are available by contacting
youthservices@mildura.vic.gov.au or www.mildura.vic.gov.au/youth
For further information contact Mildura Rural City Council Youth Services on 5018 8280.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Master Chef Challenge - $15</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 March</td>
<td>Sand Toboggan @ Perry Sand Hills</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>Inflatable World @ Lifestyle Plus - $15</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Laserforce - $15</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 April</td>
<td>House of Bounce - $15</td>
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<td>5 April</td>
<td>Mildura Waves - Free – No Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 April</td>
<td>Digital Scavenger Hunt</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 April</td>
<td>Woodwork Session - $15</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 April</td>
<td>Art Day @ Mildura Arts Centre</td>
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Free lunch provided except 5th April. Book and complete registration forms early so you don’t miss out.

“CALL ME DAD” CAN A VIOLENT MAN CHANGE?
SCHS and the Men's Behaviour Change Program invites you to join them in the 80 minute screening of “Call Me Dad”, followed by a Discussion Panel.
Held the Mercy Theatre Mildura on 25th February from 6:30-8:30pm (doors open at 6pm).
Light supper provided/tea and coffee.
Register at www.eventbrite.com.au or contact Lisa or Sam on 50225444 for further information.

FRENCH EXCHANGE STUDENTS ARRIVING IN MAY FOR ONLY ONE TERM!!
Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is seeking volunteer host families to host carefully selected students from France who will arrive in mid-May for one term. These students have excellent English language skills and they will attend a local Secondary School. They will arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive health insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. To enquire about becoming a volunteer host family visit www.scce.com.au email scceaustralia@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 for more information.

GIRL GUIDES
Girl Guides have resumed meetings for 2016. They have vacancies for girls aged 5–18 years. Guiding offers activities designed to meet personal challenges, learn team building, build leadership skills and make new friends. For more information of units in your area contact District Manager Vivien Hunt on phone 5023 6135, or email vhu55138@bigpond.net.au.

MERBEIN GOLF CLUB JUNIOR CLINIC
Register for the Merbein Golf Club Junior Clinic and learn how to play golf. For Boys and Girls in Grade 3 – Year 8. Cost is $15, includes entry into competition and sausage sizzle after each clinic. Bring a hat, sunscreen and water bottle. Juniors will have access to golf equipment during the clinic.
Dates are February 28th March 6th March 13th and March 20th from 9.30-11am.
Sunday March 21st - Merbein Junior Clinic Competition. Held 355 McEdward Street, Cabarita. For more information contact the Club via Facebook, email royal.merbein@gmail.com or Secretary Melinda Binding on 0447 790 949

PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIM MEET
Held at the Irymple Swimming Pool on Thursday 10th March at 5,30pm. Entry is free and closes 5pm on Wednesday 9th March. The Event List includes a School Freestyle Relay with four of the fastest swimmers from each school.
For further information, please contact Clinton Williams on 0439234807 or Paula Phelan 0538709363. Enter online www. irympleswimmingclub.co .au or entries@irympleswimmingclub.com.au