



MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 9

3rd April, 2009

Coming Events.....

3/4	Last day of Term 1
20/4	Term 2 starts.
1/5	School Cross Country
2/5	Immunisations Year 7 Girls Human Papillomavirus (2 nd dose) & Chicken Pox

Term Dates for 2009

Term 2 -	20 th April	-	26 th June
Term 3 -	13 th July	-	18 th September
Term 4 -	5 th October	-	18 th December

....FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Term One was certainly a very busy one and I hope that all students and staff take the opportunity to have very good two week break.

Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews

A very successful evening was conducted last Tuesday with a large number of parents taking the opportunity to collect Mid Semester One Reports and discuss with teachers the progress of their children. Most of the uncollected reports were issued to students on Thursday. If families have yet to collect their report or require additional copies please contact the Office.

State Swimming

Congratulations to Kate Robertson who yesterday won 1 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals at the State Schools Swimming Championships in Melbourne. Simone Godfrey also represented our school at these Championships swimming in four events and although not medalling she swam very well against experienced competitors.

Kate won the Girls U/16, 50m freestyle in a personal best time and was placed 2nd in the U/16 breaststroke. She won her bronze medals in the Open (up to 20yrs) 100m breaststroke and 200m individual medley. These are outstanding results as in these events she was competing against girls in Years 11 and 12.

Interschool Sport

The end of this Term has been very busy with Interschool sport. The start of Term 2 is also very busy with Merbein Secondary College teams involved in a number of sports. On Wednesday 22nd April (Week 1, Term2) there will be badminton and boys football. On Monday 27th April (Week 2, Term2) there will be boys and girls hockey.

Cross Country

Our school cross country is scheduled for Friday 1st May which is Week 2 of next term.

Bell Times

From the start of next Term there will be some minor changes to bell times. It must be noted that the school day will start 5 minutes earlier but the day will still end at the current time.

Morning Bell	8:55am	
Form Assembly	9:00	9:10
Morning Session	9:12	10:48
Recess	10:51	11:15
Middle Session	11:20	12:56pm
Lunch	12:59	1:47
Afternoon Session	1:52	3:28

Meaningful Writers Competition

The Mildura Rural City Council has once again conducted their annual Meaningful Writers Competition. Our school was well represented with entries and our students dominated the awards. There was a special Presentation evening at the Benetook Room at the MRCC Visitor Information Centre last night.

Short Story

Junior (12-15yrs)

Aaron Bell	Overall Winner
Rheanna Oppenlander	Judges Award
Ashleigh Knight	Encouragement Award
Amy Ryczel	Encouragement Award

Senior (16-19yrs)

Michelle Higginbotham	Judges Award
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Poetry

Junior (12-15yrs)

Courtney Turlan	Overall Winner
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Letter Writing

Daimon Breeding	Overall Winner
Kate Robertson	Judges Award

FUNDRAISER FOR CANCER

Congratulations to Kaidee Kitt.

Kaidee and her family raised about \$750 for the Cancer research organisation funded by "Shave for a Cure". The school, through donations from students and staff raised a further \$350 so that Kaidee could raise over \$1000 to have her locks of hair shaved .

In front of most of the school in the Gym last Friday, Kaidee had her hair shaved down to a number 4 by Trish Hocking, a local hair dresser and ex student.

It was great to see and hear the support that was given to Kaidee during the shave.

A Letter from John Landy

To students, staff and parents at schools across Victoria,

A big thank you from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund, to all of the school communities who so generously came together to raise almost \$1 million to support the victims of the bushfires.

Your efforts through casual dress day, gold coin donations and other fundraising events have made a major contribution to the Appeal Fund.

This funding is already helping thousands of individuals and families whose homes have been lost or damaged, who have lost loved ones, have been severely injured, or who need assistance with getting back to work.

Along with my colleagues on the independent advisory panel overseeing the allocation of these funds, further decisions are being made about how these funds will assist affected communities in the medium and longer term.

The Panel will ensure that your money gets to those who need it, when they need it.

If you have queries in the future about how your kind donations are being used to help you can visit www.dhs/bushfireappeal

Yours sincerely,

John Landy

YEAR 9 NEWS

The Year 9 camp to Melbourne is going ahead with the school taking over 90 students to see the sights of Melbourne and experience the spectacular of Cirque du Soleil's 'Dralion'. The camp also includes a 'Race Around Melbourne' competition, a play at the Arts Centre, a tour of the National Gallery of Victoria, a screening at IMAX and of course a trip to Melbourne wouldn't be complete without a bit of shopping in the mall and at the markets. The total cost of the trip is \$195 (not including student's own lunch, tram and spending money). At this stage interested students have paid a deposit and the balance payments are due by Friday 1st May.

We are looking for parents to volunteer to accompany us to Melbourne. If you are interested and available for the 20th, 21st and 22nd of May please contact Kirstin James for further information and to register your interest.

Boostergrams

To encourage positive feedback and recognise student effort and success, Boostergrams are now a regular feature for our Year 9 students. Staff and students can complete a Boostergram form for someone they believe deserves recognition, post it in the BoosterBox and during weekly Year Level Assemblies Boostergrams are shared. When students receive Boostergrams from teachers, they earn themselves a raffle ticket for an end of semester draw for prizes. So far Boostergrams that have been shared at Year Level have included: recognition of efforts in various classes, thanks for

helping out and keeping the yard clean, appreciations for friendships, recognition for our charity fundraisers and successful test/assignment results.

Have a great Easter break Year Nines.

...Kirstin James (Year 9 Coordinator)

'STUDENT OF THE MONTH'

Congratulations to the following students for being awarded 'Student of the Month'.

7A Trent Branson	7B Jordan McBain
7C Nicholas Cavallaro	7D Hayden Scheele
7E Joshua Hay	
8A Candice Vartuli	8B Beau Bildstien
8C Jessica Cavallaro	8D Jessica Morello
8E Alex Dawson	8F Tyler Rodi
9A Jessica Ferguson	9B Gabrielle McDonald
9C Ashley Field & Sam Diwell	
9D Sophie Wakefield & Dana Haig	
9E Maryann Ridings	9F Dayne Costa
9G Madeleine Alessi	
10A Ebony Martin	10B Amy Ryczel
10C Kate Robertson	10D Jasmin Hurst

MATHS

Year 9: There are a number of students at Year 9 who are either finding the work requirements at their current level too challenging or too easy. As a result, there will be some re-organisation of the groups starting in Term2. This will mainly affect students in Mr. Arney and Mr. Rix's classes.

The NAPLAN for Numeracy will be held on May 14th for all Year 7 and 9 students. Students will require a calculator for one of the tests, so please ensure that your child has their calculator organised for this test. Calculators can be purchased from the main office for \$20.

The annual Australian Mathematics Competition will be held on Thursday 6th August. Students will be invited to participate in this competition or interested students can see their maths teacher to enter the competition.

Homework: Each student has been given a display folder to keep their homework sheets in order. Generally, students will have one homework sheet each week to complete. Most students are keeping up with the homework schedule, but some students are already one or two sheets behind. It would be appreciated if parents could remind students of their homework commitments.

Textbooks: Each student should have their own textbook and again this should be brought to all classes. The Year 8 Developmental Maths book is now available at the Newsagent.

ASX SHAREMARKET GAME

The sharemarket game continues throughout the holidays. Students can access their shares by going to www.asx.com.au and entering their ID and password. The National leader is from a NSW school and is on \$69,195. Our current leaders as of end of trade Wednesday 1st April are:

1. V8's of Thunder \$58,224

2. Such is Life \$58,072
3. Keldol Tag \$57,977
4. Gold Diggers \$55,799
5. Official Girls \$55,688
6. Brigzsty \$55,349
7. Mae Jimbob \$55,073
8. The Brokers \$54,759
9. Lone Wolf \$54,474
10. Fetherston \$54,366

Keep up the great work.
...Mrs Fetherston.

GAME REVIEW COMPETITION

Congratulations to Jacob O'Connor and Hunter Dwyer for their great role play game reviews. They each receive a 4GB Toshiba USB drive. They reviewed World of Warcraft and Star Wars Knights of the Old Republic 2. They both sounded like they really enjoy playing these games.

Unfortunately, we didn't have as many entries as we had hoped with such a great prize up for grabs. Next term we will have another competition so pay attention to the bulletin and newsletter.

...Mrs Fetherston

SPORTING NEWS

Baseball Results

On Tuesday 31st March 11 boys from MSC played Interschool Baseball against four other Sunraysia secondary schools. Our first game was against Irymple who we defeated 10 to 9. It was a tight game and Josh Vartuli had a good catch in the outfield.

In the second game we played St Joes which we also won 14 to 6. Everyone batted and fielded well.

We won the next game against Red Cliffs 16 to 1 with Dylan Saunders hitting a grand slam.

In our last game for the day we played Chaffey S.C. where everyone played well but we lost 8 to 9. Despite Chaffey's win against us we came out on top in percentage therefore we are now heading off to Bendigo In Term 2 to compete in the Northern Zone Finals.

Thank you to Mr Petrie and Shirley for coaching us, Serena House and Kathleen Stephenson for scoring and Brad Gowers for umpiring.

...Tom Holcroft



The Year 9/10 Intermediate team played 4 games, winning against Red Cliffs and St. Joes and losing to Chaffey and Irymple.

It was a fun and exciting day with safe hits from Cailean Westhead, Ashley Kerridge, Matt McGinty, Rhys

Thoulis, Brandon Thompson, Ben Mitchell, Jason Gregory, Kert Pay, Aaron Bell, Anthony Gowers, Aiden Blow and Patrick Hawkes who had the most safe hits for the day.

Thanks to Jasmin Darley and Hannah Stephenson for scoring the games and filling in when needed.



SSSSA Tennis Results

The following students represented the school in the inter-school tennis competition at the Mildura Lawn tennis venue yesterday

Junior Girls: Tahni Skewes, Carina Spangenberg, Danielle Coluccio, Lucy Boseley

Junior Boys: Jack Wilson, Jack Arney, Torben McFarlane, Josef Moisisdis

Intermediate Girls: Ainslee Wandel, Breanna Hall, Laura Maher, Ashleigh Knight

The star of the day was Tahni Skewes who won the Singles Championship in her division, then combined with Danielle Coluccio to also win the Doubles event.

Ashleigh Knight also did well to reach the semi final in her section of the Singles. Ainslee Wandel & Breanna Hall and Jack Wilson & Jack Arney won their first round matches in the doubles, but met tough opposition in the following round.

All students are to be congratulated on their efforts, sportsmanship and behaviour during the tournament.

Tahni Skewes – Kayaking

Congratulations to Tahni who competed in Melbourne last weekend in the Girls Under 14 Single Kayak event and the Under 14 Girls Doubles in the 6km course, gaining a third place in both events. Well done Tahni!

Tahni will be competing again in Sprints in 4th Term and we wish her all the best.

Katie Roberts – Fire Cadet Championships

Congratulations to Katie Roberts who has been selected as a member of the Victorian State Squad to compete in the Australian National Fire Cadet Championships 2009. Katie is the only cadet from Mildura chosen for this competition. She had to attend a number of competitions and undergo a very difficult process to achieve her selection.

Well done and good luck Katie!

MERBEIN NETBALL CLUB

The Merbein Netball Club's Under 13 and Under 15 teams will train Tuesday's at Kenny Park from 4:30pm – 5:30pm and Thursday's at Our Lady's from 4:30pm – 5:30pm.

During the school holidays training will be Thursdays only at Kenny Park from 4:30pm – 5:30pm.

KENNY PARK TENNIS CLUB

Kenny Park will hold an Open Day on Sunday 5th April at 1pm. A BBQ and afternoon tea will be available followed by the AGM.

AMAROO PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Horse riding for all ages. Ride our quiet educated horses and ponies.

All gear supplied....we even have boots and helmets to fit most heads and feet.

Monday to Saturday from 9am – 12noon and 1.30pm – 4.30pm. Bookings are essential.

Cost: \$55.00 per session.

Phone: 0408 246720

555 Cureton Ave,

Nichols Point Vic 3501

FOR SALE

3 pairs Footy Boots in sizes 9, 10 & 11. All in excellent condition. \$50 per pair. Phone Cheryl on 0458 360803

Mr Garry Costello
PRINCIPAL