



MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 26

26th August, 2009

Coming Events.....

Mon 24/8 -Work Experience for Year 10's (24/8 to 4/9)
Thurs 27/8 -Rock Eisteddfod
Tues 8/9 -SSSSA Athletics

Term Dates for 2009

Term 3 - 13th July - 18th September
Term 4 - 5th October - 18th December

....FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Rock Eisteddfod

Good Luck to all involved in our Rock Eisteddfod performance tomorrow night at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre. 80 performers and backstage crew will be representing our school at this event. The students have worked very hard and the costumes and sets are stunning. Months of preparation will culminate in our performance and this is certainly a very exciting time for all involved.

Thanks to all who have assisted as there has been tremendous support from all sections of our school community as well as the wider community. The commitment of students, staff and parents has been fantastic.



Parent Opinion Surveys

This year 75 families have been randomly selected to complete the Parent Opinion Survey. Thank you to those who have returned the completed survey so promptly. The closing date has been extended to Friday 4th September. It is very important that all completed surveys are returned as this then provides a valid response.

Australian Writing and Spelling Competitions.

In Term 2 a number of students in Year 7 entered the Australian Writing and Spelling Competitions. A small group of Year 10 students entered the Writing

Competition. Our school is very pleased with the results.

Australian Writing Competition Distinction

Year 10 – Jarrod Lever

Credits

Year 10 – Kelsey Matheson, Courtney Turlan, Aaron Bell, Michelle Higginbotham

Year 7 – Mitchell Rogerson, Mikaela Saunders

Australian Spelling Competition (Year 7's) Distinction

Mikaela Saunders

Credits

Mitchell Wakefield, Alicia Pezzaniti, Mitchell Rogerson, Jordan Oliver, Alex Thomas, Grayden Russell, Jack Rentsch

Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews

Please note that parent / teacher / student interviews will be held on Tuesday 15th September between 4:00pm and 7:00pm in the Activity Centre. Mid Semester 2 reports will issued on arrival by Mr Costello and Mr Rhodes. They will also be available to assist parents with the arrangements for the interviews.

ART EXHIBITION

This year's Secondary School Art exhibition is called "Picked 09". Parents and students are welcome to go along to the official opening at the Mildura Arts Centre, which starts at 6pm this Thursday 27th August. Merbein SC will be represented at the exhibition by the photographic work of Georgie Whitehead and a drawing by Rebecca Kontrec. Congratulations to these students for their efforts with their artwork. Georgie Whitehead is also to be congratulated for winning an Award of Merit in the Ilford Schools' Photographic Competition (a national competition). Georgie won this award for the same photograph selected for the "Picked 09" exhibition.

ACTIVE LEADERSHIP DAY '09

Twenty students attended the 2009 Active Leadership Program Held at the Mildura Settlers on Thursday the 20th August. We were one of eleven schools from Mildura and greater district that attended. The aim of the day was to inspire young people to live their dreams and identify the qualities of leaders. The Olympic athletes in attendance included: Kyle Van-Kuyp, Giaan Rooney, Alison Tranquilli and Sarah Jamieson. Giaan and Kyle spoke about their Olympic experiences which we found to be interesting and inspiring. We found out that Kyle was adopted and his sport helped him be accepted with his peers. Giaan told us a story from the

Athens Olympics when they were getting ready for the medley relay final. Petria Thomas, Leisel Jones, Jodie Henry and Giaan were waiting in the marshalling area. They were the only country acting 'as a team' and not as four individuals. They were talking about holidays, how much ice-cream they would eat when the games were over and what colour nail polish they would wear to the swimming ball that night. This came as a surprise to us because we thought they would have only spoken about swimming tactics prior to an Olympic final!

We did team building activities where we had to make shapes using our bodies, including the Olympic rings. We had opportunities throughout the day to talk one on one to the Olympians, get autographs and photos. It was really interesting to listen to their stories. Not all of them started their sporting careers at an early age which gave us hope that we can do anything!

We really enjoyed the day and felt it was a rewarding experience.

...MSC students



SPORT

Year 7/8 Boys Basketball Report

The Junior Boys Basketball team have won their way through to the Northern Zone Country Final after performing extremely well at the recently completed SSSSA Basketball Championships. The team comprised of Daniel and Nathan Shaw, Tim Irvin, Fraizer Mulder, Josef Moisisdis, Danny Jones, Dylan Saunders and Alex Mitchell.

In the round robin format the boys easily beat St. Joes B and Red Cliffs B, before being forced to come from behind against a competitive Chaffey side. Their success meant they finished on top of their pool and qualified for the final against the winner of pool 'A', St. Joseph's College. In the pool games, the boys all contributed in a positive fashion. Daniel Shaw, despite battling with a broken finger, controlled the majority of the games with an excellent knowledge of the game and a very high skill level.

Dylan Saunders was very consistent across all of the games, providing a big presence in and around the key and scoring regularly. Danny Jones performed a similar role to Dylan, rebounding strongly, scoring plenty of points and assisting others to score freely. The "pocket rockets" in Nathan Shaw and Josef Moisisdis, created plenty of scoring opportunities, causing numerous turnovers and generally causing headaches for the opposition with their pressure.

Fraizer, Tim and Alex all performed well during the day. Fraizer provided relief to the "bigger bodied" boys, rebounding well and helping keep up the defensive pressure, as did Tim and Alex who were able to do everything required with their athleticism.

In the final, the boys performed very well. They led at half time by 5 points, only to be overrun in the end by the St' Joes side. Despite the loss the boys will compete in the Northern Zone Final to be held in Mildura on the 13th of October. An excellent effort by the boys to get this far and I'm sure that they will handle the next step with some success. It was also great to see the boys sportsmanship and behaviour, and also the large number of parents who came to see the boys in action.

...Mr Willison

Year 7/8 Girls Basketball Report

On Monday 17th August, a group of year 7 & 8 girls made their way to the Mildura Hothouse for Interschool Basketball. The prediction of the day was forecast to be very competitive. The girls were confident in placing overall, though Irymple Secondary College were the team to beat.

The team consisted of Brea Meyer, Olivia Young, Maddie Matthews, Mikaela Saunders, Jordan Madigan, Chanelle Davy and Danielle Coluccio.

The first match was against Trinity Lutheran College. Our girls come out strong. For the first half TLC couldn't get the ball into their half. The girls beat TLC by a convincing amount. It was a great match to start, getting the girls warmed up for the next match against Red Cliffs Secondary College (team 2).

Red Cliffs Secondary College were more competitive for our girls. Though yet again our girls were very confident and beat RCSC convincingly.

It was now time for the Semi Finals. The girls played against RCSC (team 1) defeating them by only 10. By now, the girls were getting nervous. They knew that the Grand Final match was going to be against the favourites Irymple Secondary College. Though, the girls were very confident that they were in for a chance, they had to work hard to beat a team that were very strong. The match was point for point all the way. A crowd started to form around the court. Olivia Young broke through with a fast break scoring. The scores were tied - the crowd was deafening! One of the best players for Irymple fought back scoring again at the other end with 30 seconds to go. Irymple were in front by 2 points. The siren sounded...the girls' heads dropped. They had lost the Grand Final against ISC by 2 points.

Though disappointed, the girls conducted themselves very well and displayed great teamwork and sportsmanship.

MVP players for the day were Brea Meyer, Olivia Young, Maddie Matthews and Jordan Madigan.

...By 7 & 8 Girls Basketball Team

EAGLES SOFTBALL CLUB

Eagles Softball Club will be holding a SUNDAY FUN DAY on Sunday 30th August at the Aero Ovals, 11th Street, Mildura. The day will be a chance for all new, interested and current players to brush up their skills and enjoy a get-together before the seasons begins. The day gets under way from 11am and will include a light training and skills session, followed by a barbecue lunch at 12.30pm. The club is keen to attract as many new players as possible and encourages all interested senior and junior players to come along. For more information, contact Kylie Walters on 5025 2527 or Debbie Allen on 5023 4783.



Mr Garry Costello

PRINCIPAL