



MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 3

19th February, 2009

Coming Events.....

- 24/2 Year 7 Information Night @ 6pm
- 26/2 SSSSA Swimming Carnival
- 2/3 Year 8 Surf Camp (2nd – 6th March)
- 5/3 Immunisations – Year 7 & 10
- 9/3 Public Holiday – Labour Day
- 20/3 Northern Zone Swimming Carnival

Term Dates for 2009

- Term 1 - 28th January - 3rd April
- Term 2 - 20th April - 26th June
- Term 3 - 13th July - 18th September
- Term 4 - 5th October - 18th December

....FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Bushfire Victims Appeal

Thank you to all students and families who contributed to the appeal through our casual dress day last Friday. We raised a very pleasing \$1723-35 with 9C raising \$229-25. With the addition of staff contributions and the SRC Valentine's Day funds we have sent just over \$2095 to the Department and Westpac account for last Friday's fund raiser.

We were notified after school on Friday that families that contributed \$10 or more can claim a tax deduction by using a school receipt stating the "Red Cross Bushfire Relief Appeal". Any parent who has not received a receipt and is entitled to one should contact the school office.

Swimming Sports

A very successful evening was conducted at the Merbein Pool last Monday. A feature of the night was the high level of student participation from those in attendance with most competing in 3 or 4 events. There was also a pleasing number of parents supporting their children. Our team will soon be announced for the Interschool Sports at the Mildura Pool on Thursday evening 26th February.

Year 7 Information Evening

A Year 7 student / parent / teacher evening will be held at the school next Tuesday 24th February. There will be an information session between 6:00pm and 6:45pm followed by a free smorgasbord meal for all the family. It is important that the reply slips (**extra slips included on this newsletter**) are returned to school to enable us to properly cater for the evening.

School Canteen and Litter

We are very disappointed with the amount of litter in the school grounds after recess and lunch each day. Adding to the disappointment is that a large amount of this litter is from items sold in the school caf. As a result for

tomorrow, Friday 20th February the caf will only be open to take lunch orders and sell bottles of water.

Student Leaders Induction

The formal induction of our student leaders will take place next Wednesday 25th February in the Activity Centre. The SRC Executive, House Captains and Vice Captains will be presented with their badges of office. Badges will also be presented to our class SRC representatives. The presentations will be made by Mr Dennis Norton, the principal of Mildura Senior College. As a school leader himself Mr Norton is well placed to speak on the qualities and attributes of effective student leaders.

SRC 2009

The SRC Executive for 2009 is:-

President: Brodie Henderson

Vice President: Kelsey Matheson

Secretary: Jai Sloane

Executive: Jayden Milner, Grace Hartley, Rachelle Willett, Brenton Trigg, Robert Ollington, Blair Russell

House Captains and Vice Captains

Congratulations also to the following students on their appointments:-

Wallakarpa

Captains	Cassie Malic	Ben Mitchell
Vice Captains	Madeleine Alessi	Aiden Blow
	Amy Collihole	

Jungarin

Captains	Georgie Whitehead	Martin Robertson
Vice Captains	Brooke Lindsay	Jayden Milner
	Frances Barraclough	

Yakkandi

Captains	Maddy Carter	Matt McGinty
Vice Captains	Kate Robertson	Nathan Schryver
	Vanessa Taglierini	

College Council

Our Council is made up of 6 parents, 5 DEECD employees and 4 coopted members.

Ends March 2009

Heather Sluiter
Graham Willcock
Chris Davis

Ends March 2010

Michael Waters
Tony Alessi
Carolyn Lever

DEECD

Kyra Munro
Jenene Worthington

Don Voegel
Greg Rhodes

Coopted Members

Chantelle Blyth

Graeme Worthington
Greg Mann

Timeline for Elections

- Thursday 19th February – through Newsletter – announce election and call for nominations.
- Friday 27th February – Nominations close at 4:00pm.
- Thursday 5th March – If an election is necessary ballot papers will be sent out with Newsletter.
- Thursday 12th March – Votes counted and candidates informed
- Monday 23rd March – AGM – New Council meets to determine cooption and Office Bearers. New Council Meets.

Thank You

Three long serving members of Council now finish as parent representatives as their children have now finished at Merbein Secondary College. We are very grateful to Heather Sluiter (11 years), Graham Willcock (11 years) and Michael Waters (7 years) for their service to our school community over so many years. All made a significant contribution and we are very grateful for their commitment and dedication to our school.

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING RESULTS

On Monday evening the College held its annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival. Thank you to the parents and friends who came along to support the students in their efforts. All students participated to the best of their ability.

Age Group Champions

Under 13's Male:	Jake Chant	(Jun)
Female:	Lucy Boseley	(Jun)
Under 14's Male:	Ben Meredith	(Wal)
Female:	Simone Godfrey	(Wal)
Under 15's Male:	Anthony Gowers	(Wal)
Female:	Elyse Carter	(Wal)
Under 17's Male:	Jayden Milner	(Jun)
Female:	Kate Robertson	(Yak)

Records set:

U.17	Freestyle	Kate Robertson	35.83	(Old 40.30)
U.17	Breaststroke	Kate Robertson	21.19	(24.20)
U.17	Backstroke	Kate Robertson	20.53	(21.20)
U.13	Freestyle Relay	Yakkandi	1:35.70	(1:37.16)

House results:	1 st Wallakarpa	571 points
	2 nd Yakkandi	444 points
	3 rd Jungarin	364 points



Pictured: Age Group Champions

LADIES LUNCHEON

On Wednesday 11th February, Amy Collihole, Mady Carter, Tahni Skewes, Georgie Whitehead, Elyse Carter, Kirsty Telfer and Kate Robertson along with Miss Mayes went to the Mildura Lawn tennis courts to have a ladies lunch with the famous tennis player Nicole Pratt. We were lucky enough to have a private chat with Nicole. She is a lovely person, who is dedicated and self motivated. Nicole shared with us her life story and how she made it to the top. Later on, Nicole spoke to everybody at the Ladies Lunch. This time she talked in depth and shared with us all about her scholarship to the AIS, her most memorable moments and what it was like playing against elite athletes, including the Williams sisters.

Overall it was a great day with many highlights. We can all now take away with us the dedication and motivation you need to become the best you can be. Nicole says, with the right positive thinking, you can achieve anything. Thanks to Mr Costello, Miss Mayes and Mr Strathairn for making this day possible.

...Elyse Carter & Georgie Whitehead

SURF CAMP

Surf Camp is now only 2 weeks away! A reminder that all permission notes and money need to be handed in to the office. There seems to be a bit of confusion regarding tents. The school has enough tents for all students, however, if the students have their own tent which is in good condition and they know how to assemble it, they may bring it. Students will have another camp meeting tomorrow to organise tent and activity groups. Please contact myself or Time Rix if you have any questions.

...Liz Rankin

YEAR 7 & 10 IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisations for Year 7 and Year 10 students will be conducted at the College on Thursday 5th March. The immunisation cards will be attached to **next week's** newsletter. They need to be completed and returned to the office regardless of whether your child is receiving an immunisation or not.

VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE 2009

Parents are asked to encourage their children to participate in the 2009 Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge.

The Challenge will run from mid February until the 18th of August. It is open for all students in Years 7-10.

Students in Years 7, 8&9 are required to read 15 books, 10 of which must be titles taken from the list of titles provided. This list is available in the library. 5 titles can be of a free choice.

Students in Year 10 are also required to read 15 books but only 5 from the list, with 10 being free choice.

Students can register to participate and get more information at the College Library.

Participants will receive a certificate signed by the premier and will have their name published in the Age newspaper.

Schools that do extremely well will have a small group of representative students attend an award ceremony in Melbourne.

So far 18 students have signed up for the Challenge!

FOR SALE

School dress – size 12 in ‘as new’ condition. \$40

Phone: 5025 3036

Mapex Drum Kit in good condition. \$700 ono.

Contact Mrs Worthington at the College on 5025 2501.

Kawasaki 80cc 4 wheel motorbike \$2,700 ono

Phone: 0407 940110 / 5025 3449