



MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 7

19th March, 2009

Coming Events.....

20/3	Northern Zone Swimming Carnival
23/3	School council meeting at 7:30pm
30/3	SSSSA Baseball Competition
3/4	Last day of Term 1
20/4	Term 2 starts.

Term Dates for 2009

Term 1 -	28 th January -	3 rd April
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

College Council

School councils in the Merbein area have agreed to join one another in discussions with regard to future state education provision in the district. These discussions will focus on identifying opportunities to ensure that all students, both now and into the future, are able to access the best possible education opportunities and outcomes. Processes are in place to gather together all relevant information and data to inform the discussions. This information will include student achievement data in literacy and numeracy, attendance and retention, student attitudes and parent survey data. Local population data and school enrolment trends will also be examined as will the current state of school facilities. Each School Council will involve their local communities in a consultative process and any final recommendation will be subject to School Council approval before they can be presented to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

College Council Meeting

The first meeting of the new College Council will take place this Monday 23rd March. It follows the AGM which starts at 7:30pm. The 2008 Finance Committee will meet at 7:00pm.

Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews

These will be held in the Activity Centre on Tuesday 31st March from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. **Parents will receive the mid-semester report on arrival** that will provide some progress indicators. Parents are then invited to meet with teachers and use these reports as the basis for discussion. This is a very important evening and students are encouraged to attend with parents. New parents to our school will be met by Mr Costello and Mr Rhodes on arrival who will explain the format for the interviews.

FUNDRAISER FOR CANCER

Next Friday 27th March we will be running a number of activities aimed at raising money to go towards cancer research. We have 2 separate teams aiming to raise money. A 'Relay for Life' team and 'Shave for a Cure'. If \$1000 is raised for Kadie Kitt she has offered to shave her head. Kadie has already raised over \$300 already but needs the support of the school. If everyone brings a \$2 donation for out of uniform we will raise \$950 for cancer research. Half of the money raised on the day will go towards the Relay for Life and Shave for a Cure.

RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY

There will be a 'Ride to School Day' on Wednesday 25th March and all students who ride their bike on that day will be treated to a free breakfast of cereal, toast, hash browns and juice. A raffle will be drawn at lunchtime and all cyclists will be entitled to a free ticket.

ROCK EISTEDDFOD 2009

The Rock Eisteddfod Auditions were completed on Sunday 15th March.

The audition process was developed to be as impartial and fair as possible. The 2 independent judges scored each student on the dance skills they displayed and the way they presented themselves to the judges.

We had 104 students learn the audition piece, but unfortunately not all could be selected as dancers. This year's Rock Eisteddfod requires around 70 dancers. The names of the 74 students who scored highest in the auditions have been posted on the notice board in the Caf.

The next group to be selected for the Rock Eisteddfod is the back stage crew. This crew assists with the design and construction of sets and the movement of sets before, during and after performances.

The students who wish to try out for the Back stage crew will be notified early in term 2 via the student bulletin and the newsletter.

I would like to thank all of the students who auditioned for the dancing as they all gave their best effort. I would also like to thank Jamie Lee Hansen and Morgan Appleby who took time from their VCE studies to learn and teach the audition piece to our students.

There will be no rehearsals for the remainder of this term.

...Greg Rhodes

Assistant Principal

SCOOTERS & BIKES

Scooters are not to be brought to school. They are banned due to safety issues and some students breaking the rules and using them inappropriately.

Bikes are not to be ridden in the school grounds. These measures have been taken after many warnings to many students over a long period of time.

ASX SHAREMARKET GAME

Congratulations to the current leaders. I am really impressed with the high number of syndicates that are in profit. I have not seen profits this high for several years. The current school leaders as of close of Trade Wednesday 18th March are:

1. V8's of Thunder \$56,235.05
2. Keldol Tag \$56,027.10
3. Official Girls \$55,058.72
4. Mae Jimbob \$54,915.00
5. Cross Eyed Rabbits \$54,044.09

The Humanities KLA have decided to award a prize of a \$50 Coles Myer voucher to each member of the winning syndicate. This will be decided after the finishing date of 13th May 2009.

Happy Trading

...Mrs Fetherston

VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The number of students who have registered to do the Premier's Reading Challenge has increased steadily with 55 students now participating in this annual event. This is over 10% of the student population and is a fantastic effort!

The majority of students have returned their permission slip and some have been provided with a user name and pass word so that they can enter their books onto the database as they read them. Students must still have their paper record signed by a parent or teacher in order to verify that each book has been read; not just borrowed!

Students who do not yet have a user name and pass word can arrange to set one up before school or during lunch in the Library. Many students are spending their time before school reading quietly in the Library which is also fantastic to see! More are welcome.

Scholastic Book Club

'Star' and 'Read to succeed' book club order forms are now available in the Library. Order forms and correct money can be returned to the Library in a sealed envelope by Wednesday the 23rd of March.

SPORTING NEWS

Interschool Girls Volleyball Results

Last Friday 14 girls (6 Yr. 7 / 8 and 8 Yr. 9 & 10) represented the College at the annual Inter-College competition held at the St. Joe's stadium at Aero Ovals. Both teams played 3 teams in their pool with the winning team playing the winning college from the other pool of 4 teams.

The Yr 7 & 8 girls were fairly inexperienced but immediately in the first game began to work well as a team to push their opponents winning the first set in their game against Red Cliffs but eventually losing 11 RC/15 Merb; 15/13; 12/4. In the second match against St. Joes the young girls played well to win in 3 sets 15 Merb/14 St.J; 2/15; 10/4. In the final game against the

eventual overall winners Chaffey, the girls were competitive but lost 8/15; 6/15; 15/13. With a number of Yr 7 girls in the team we will be even more competitive next year.

The Yr 9 & 10 girls were a strong team and performed well through-out the day and were unfortunate to lose to Chaffey in what was billed as the Grand Final match, as these 2 strong teams met in the last preliminary round with Chaffey going through to the final which they won easily 15/2; 15/4; 5/0 in a one-sided final. In the first round our girls were too strong for Red Cliffs winning 15/0; 15/12; 11/14. Against St. Joe's the girls were again too good winning 3 sets 15/5; 15/5; 14/10. We knew our pool was the stronger of the 2 pools and the winner between us and Chaffey would win overall. A great start had us up 6/0 in the first set before a lapse in concentration saw us lose the set 8/15. The girls then rallied and won the second set 15/13 and with time nearly up the final set was to be the first to 5. Chaffey got the first couple of points and we never caught up losing in a tight final set 3/5.

Two girls from the Yr 9 & 10 team were selected in the All Star Team which was the best 6 performing players from all the teams. Well done to Kirsty Telfer & Letitia Maher who made this team.

Congratulations to all the girls who tried out and the girls who participated on the day.

Junior Cricket

Both the Under 13 and Under 15 Merbein South Cricket teams are in the grand final this weekend. Students playing in the Under 15 team are Ben Mitchell, Aaron Bell, Matt McGinty, Jayden Collier, Seane Headland, Frazier Mulder and Josh Vartuli.

Students playing in the Under 13 team are Alex Mitchell, Hayden Scheele, Jack Fallon, Jordan Walker and Jack Wilson.

Congratulations and good luck!

Zac Stanbrough – Softball

Congratulations to Zac Stanbrough of Year 8, who won the Most Valuable Player for the season in the Under 15 Sunraysia Softball Association competition. John Stephenson, of Year 7 was Runner Up. Also our congratulations go to Jason Gregory who was the Runner Up in the boys 'A' Grade competition. Well done!

MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

The Merbein Junior Football Club is seeking interested players in all grades from Under 10's to Under 16's. Training and registration takes place at Merbein Secondary College oval from 4.30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For more information phone club Secretary Paul Mulder on 0417 566 132.

BMX

The Mildura BMX Club needs more riders in all age groups. Racing is on Sundays at 9am. For more information please call Ken Cornell on 0439 662894.

Mr Garry Costello
PRINCIPAL

JUNIOR GIRLS CRICKET FOR 2009/10 SEASON

Girls between the age of 8 and 15 who are interested in playing in all girls cricket teams in the Mildura 09/10 season are invited to have their parents/guardians contact Darryl Pearl on 0439 550 531 or email pearls2@iinet.net.au You will then be contacted before the next season. If you have any questions please contact Keith Arnott on 5023 6146 BH or Darryl Pearl on 0439 550 531.

THREE COLOURS SOCCER CLUB

Three Colours Soccer Club is having a come and try night for both boys and girls on Thursday 19th March at 6.30pm at Soccer Park.

If interested please contact Cindy on 5023 7693 or Lucy on 5024 7017 or simply turn up and have some fun.