



MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 14

21st May, 2009

Coming Events.....

26/5	Open Night (5pm – 7pm)
2/6	Year 7 Camp (2 nd – 5 th June)
15/6	Start of Semester 2 timetable Girls Footy (twilight games)
18/6	Northern Zone Cross Country
26/6	Last day of Term 2
13/7	First day of Term 3

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

College Council

College Councillors are reminded that sub-committees meet next Monday 25th May. Facilities and Policy and Planning both commence at 7:00pm.

Open Night

The school will conduct an Open Night on Tuesday 26th May between 5:00pm and 7:00pm. The main purpose of the evening is to provide an opportunity for Grade 6 students and their parents to inspect our facilities and meet with staff and other parents. The night will feature displays of student work and also students in action in subjects such as Music, Home Economics, Science and Computer Technology. Those students required to assist on this evening will be advised in writing except for Rock Eisteddfod students. Those participating in Rock Eisteddfod will be required for rehearsals with Gerard Veltre.

Grade 6 Visits

Discovery Days for Grade 6 students will not occur this year due to the DEECD restriction on pupil free days and year levels remaining home. Instead Grade 6 students zoned to Merbein Secondary College will visit our school tomorrow Friday 22nd May between 9:30am and 11:30am. These students will tour the school and gain an insight into being in a secondary school setting. They will also be having recess at school.

We are looking forward to hosting Grade 6 students from Our Lady's on Thursday 4th June between 10:00am and 12:30pm.

Report Writing Day

Students are not required at school on Friday 12th June as staff will be completing end of Semester One Reports. This is a statewide student free day for all Victorian Government Schools. It is the only student free day for the remainder of this year.

DANCERS IN MILDURA EISTEDDFOD

This year Merbein Secondary College have four dance groups entered in the Mildura Eisteddfod. There are two Year 8 classes, and two Years 9/10 combined groups who will compete in Item: 648 Group Secondary Schools Jazz Dance. The groups will be competing in the afternoon session on Thursday 11 June which begins at 1.30pm.

If you would like to attend the Eisteddfod to support our students, tickets can be purchased at the door. Tickets are not available through the box office.

YEAR 7 CAMP

The Year 7 camp will depart in under 2 weeks on Tuesday 2nd June. All students should have received their medical and permission forms along with a clothing list. Please take particular note of the clothing list as the information about footwear, warm clothing and waterproof clothing needs to be followed closely. Parents are reminded that payment for the camp needs to be made prior to departure.

ROCK EISTEDDFOD

Gerard Veltre will be in the College from Sunday 24th to Tuesday 26th May. There will be rehearsals for all students on Sunday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. He will be looking at the work that has been completed during practices at lunchtimes and will be teaching some new moves for all the students to learn. ALL STUDENTS SHOULD ATTEND. Please see Mr Rhodes if there is some difficulty.

On Tuesday evening from 5pm to 7pm Gerard will be conducting rehearsals for the whole cast in the activity centre which will coincide with the College Open Night. During Monday and Tuesday some of the dancers will be asked to learn new steps so as to teach the other students when Gerard has returned to Melbourne.

LIBRARY NEWS

Premier's Reading Challenge.

31 of the 56 students who have signed up to do the Premier's Reading Challenge have also registered a user name and password onto the Challenge database. These 31 students have been entering the titles of books onto the database as they read them. If your child has been participating in the Challenge and is not registered, please encourage them to come to the Library to register so that they can access the database. This must be done by the 26th of June.

Please also continue to encourage students who still have 2 ½ months remaining in which to read a total of 15 books.

MS Readathon.

The Ms Readathon will run from 1st til the 30th of June. Any students wishing to participate can collect a registration form from the Library. Students can also register on line at www.msreadathon.org.au. The Readathon organisers will then send an information pack directly to the student.



*No this was not staged...*there were three students in the Library at lunchtime yesterday reading the same Stephanie Meyer novel 'New Moon'. This has proved to be a most popular series with students and staff alike!

...Lis Hansen-Lucas

Librarian

SPORTING NEWS

Interschool Cross Country

On Tuesday all of the best runners from the district schools battled it out over the 3.25km and 5km tracks to determine the fastest students.

Merbein SC was represented by thirty seven keen students who gave it their all. Some great individual and team achievements resulted.

Top ten placegetters were:

- 1st Georgie Whitehead 16 yrs
- 2nd Kate Robertson 16 yrs, Hannah Boseley 13 yrs, Lucy Young 15 yrs
- 3rd Josh Rogerson 15 yrs, Tahni Skewes 16yrs
- 5th Nathan Shaw 13 yrs, James Collihole 16 yrs
- 6th Jasmin Hurst 16 yrs
- 8th Elyse Carter 16yrs
- 9th Jordan Madigan 13 yrs, Laura Robertson 14 yrs
Tyler Burke 15 yrs
- 10th Lucy Boseley 13 yrs

Well done! The Northern Zone finals will be held in St Arnaud on Tuesday the 16th of June. Students who have qualified for these finals will be notified shortly and training sessions will run twice a week after school starting on Monday. Thanks to Mr Willison and Alison Makepeace for their assistance during the day.

....Miss Priest



MILDURA THEATRE COMPANY

Mildura Theatre Company Inc. will be staging the well known story "*The Shoemaker and the Elves*" adapted/written by Karen Boettcher-Tate Music and Lyrics by Larry Nestor in August 2009.

Our Director Naomi James is looking for a cast of both adults and children over ten years of age. Auditions will be held at Mildura Theatre Company's rehearsal studio, The Powerhouse, Hugh King Drive on Saturday 23rd of May commencing at 1pm. The auditions will be run as

workshops so should be a lot of fun for all involved. Naomi has requested that interested people should contact her direct to register their interest on 5023 2236.

SAVER PLUS PROGRAM

Join the Families who already have benefited from the Saver Plus Program and receive your \$1,000.00 towards the cost of education.

If you can answer “**Yes**” to all the questions then you may be eligible to participate in *Saver Plus*.

Are you a parent or guardian of a child who will be attending school (or already attending school) in 2009 or 2010 in the area of Sunraysia?

Do you have a current Centrelink Health Care Card or Pension Card?

Do you or your spouse/partner have regular income from paid employment? (Can be part-time, casual or seasonal work)

If you meet the *Saver Plus* eligibility criteria then every \$1 you save (up to a maximum of \$1000) will be matched - \$1 for \$1. You can spend your matched savings on anything educational. Camps, books uniforms, computer, tuition can be paid for in 2010.

For further information please contact Janice Peake at Loddon Mallee Housing Services on 5023 7243 or email janicep@lmhs.com.au.

CRIME IN MERBEIN

The Merbein Neighbourhood Watch committee has called a public meeting to discuss the crime in Merbein. This will take place at the Merbein RSL Club (next to the Merbein Citizens Club) on Tuesday 2nd June at 7:30pm.

Acting Sergeant Ken Sudholz, Senior Constable Gary Leason, Senior Constable Mark Baumann and Inspector Paul Naylor will be present to answer your questions on crime, law and how to make our town safer.



Mr Garry Costello
PRINCIPAL