



# MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 15

28<sup>th</sup> May, 2009

## Coming Events.....

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2/6  | Year 7 Camp (2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> June)          |
| 15/6 | Start of Semester 2 timetable<br>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 <sup>th</sup> April  | - | 26 <sup>th</sup> June      |
| Term 3 - | 13 <sup>th</sup> July   | - | 18 <sup>th</sup> September |
| Term 4 - | 5 <sup>th</sup> October | - | 18 <sup>th</sup> December  |

## ....FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### Congratulations Jayden Milner – 10A

Yesterday Jayden won the Regional final of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority Plain Speaking Competition. There were six finalists in Years 10, 11 and 12 from Mildura Senior College, Hopetoun and Ouyen Secondary Colleges. Jayden will now compete in the State semi-finals in Melbourne later this month. He gave a 5 minute prepared talk on “is tap water as good as bottled water”. The contestants were then required to give a 3 minute impromptu talk on the topic “If fortune faded.....”. They were only given 4 minutes to prepare and Jayden certainly impressed the adjudicators with his reference to the recession and Australians working together. Indeed in announcing Jayden as the winner the adjudicators, who came from Melbourne, commented on his outstanding presence and voice delivery.

Jayden has also just been invited join the Debaters Association of Victoria Development Squad. He is one of only 16 students across the State invited to be a member. Selection is usually reserved for students in Years 11 and 12.



*Pictured: Jayden Milner*

## National School Pride (NSP) – Commonwealth Funding

Our school has recently received notice that we were successful in receiving \$198,000 in Round 2 of the Commonwealth Government's NSP Funding. These funds were to construct an outside shade and seating area for students. This application was made before the announcement of the P-10 merger for Merbein schools. We are yet to receive official advice from Regional Office but expect that this money will be held over to be used on the new school.

## Open Night

The school conducted a very successful Open Night last Tuesday evening. It was pleasing to see the number of families with children in Grade 6 who took the opportunity to inspect our facilities and meet with staff and other parents. Thanks to all those who contributed to the success of the evening.

## Grade 6 Visits

Last Friday we hosted Grade 6 students who our zoned to our school for next year. They were given a tour of the school looking in on a number of classes providing them with a “slice of life” at secondary college. They stayed for recess before returning to their primary schools.

Grade 6 students from Our Lady's will be visiting our school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

## Report Writing Day

Students are not required at school on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Emailed Newsletters

Due to a ‘glitch’ in our edumail network all email addresses we had for newsletter recipients have been ‘lost’. So we need people to once again email us (the address is at the top of this newsletter) to go on the newsletter email list once again.

We are very sorry for this inconvenience.

## HI TECH COMES TO MERBEIN SCIENCE DEPT

Last Wednesday all Year 10 students took part in a Forensic Frenzy or Designer Chemistry workshop or lecture show run by the CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation – easy for some to say!). Students took on the role of forensic scientists and used a variety of techniques and strategies

on the evidence. The data from all groups was then collected and students tried to solve the murder.

In the Designer chemistry show the students saw many new and cutting edge materials and concepts. This included a ceramic ball they could not smash with a hammer, a fibre optic tablecloth that lit up and an air guitar that really played (had it been working Brodie would have made some cool sounds).



### 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<sup>th</sup> 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 itinerary was distributed yesterday. The camp departs at 7:30am sharp on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. All students must be at the MSC bus stop by 7:10am. All medical permission forms should have been returned to the College office.

Parents are reminded that payment for the camp needs to be made prior to departure. If you will have difficulty with this deadline please contact Yvonne Matotek at the College.

### ROCK EISTEDDFOD

Rock Eisteddfod practice will continue at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from next week. Gerard Veltre will be returning on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Students not going on family holidays are asked to please keep this date free. More information on this will be published at a later date

### LIBRARY NEWS

In an attempt to cater to the reading needs and preferences of students across the school, two new 'collections' of books are being developed in the Library at the moment.

The first is made up of a variety of fiction and non-fiction graphic novels including Manga. The second is a collection we have called 'Quick easy reads' where even reluctant readers can find a short story of interest to them. Both collections cover a range of genre and the

topics are those that will appeal to students in Years 7 to 10.

### YEAR 9 CAMP REPORT

It was an early start at 6:30am to leave for Melbourne as everyone was tired but still excited to go. We stopped at Marong for lunch and then continued on our way. When we got to Melbourne we got off the bus and did a race around Melbourne and finished at Bourke Street mall and did some serious shopping. At 5:30pm went to our accommodation where we had our tea. Later that evening we went to see Cirque de Soleil's 'Dralion' which everybody loved. We saw some amazing tricks and routines.

On Thursday morning we went to The Australian Centre of Moving Images and saw 4 short claymation films, we also saw Jason and the Argonauts and a two person play from Scotland which was very humorous. In the afternoon we went to Galactic Circus at Crown Casino and played some arcade games. After that we had pizza and ice creams for tea down Lygon Street. Then we all went to IMAX and saw 'Night at the Museum2' and everyone walked out with stiff necks. We went back to our accommodation and went straight to sleep after a tiring day.

On Friday we went to the Queen Victorian Markets and did some more shopping. Afterwards we got on board the bus and started travelling home. For lunch we all crowded into McDonalds at Kangaroo Flat. We finally got home at about 7 o'clock that night, very tired and exhausted. It was a great time and we thank Miss James for making this happen and all the teachers and parents who went.

...Abbie Mangan

### SPORTING NEWS

#### Sunraysia Baseball Results

Five students from Merbein Secondary College represented Sunraysia in Under 14 Baseball in Bendigo last weekend. They were Tom Holcroft, Jordan McBain, Grayden Russell, Hayden Scheele and John Stephenson.

#### Results

Game 1 Sunraysia vs Bendigo – Sunraysia won 17-3

Game 2 Sunraysia vs Latrobe - Sunraysia won 7-6

Game 3 Sunraysia vs Diamond Valley – Sunraysia lost 18-4 (Hayden hit a grand slam homer [4 runs])

Game 4 Sunraysia vs Bendigo – Sunraysia won 23-1 (John hit a 3 run homer)

Game 5 Sunraysia vs Latrobe – Sunraysia won 16-10 (Hayden hit a 2 run homer)

Sunraysia won the Division 2 Championship. Well done to all the boys!



## MALLEE 12

An invitation is extended to the schools community to attend or participate in our own premier regional running event.

*Mallee 12* now in its third year, will provide local athletes an opportunity to showcase their talents against entrants already in from Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney, Perth, and the Yarra Valley.

The Historic Homestead race venue brings an element of history to the event, the riverfront location provides a beautiful regional backdrop, and a selection of small marketeers with supporting coffee and food stalls should attract a healthy spectator crowd.

Scheduled for the June 7 long weekend the race has found its way strategically into national race calendars, club newsletters, and tiny Mallee townships in the hope of drawing people from and into the region.

Substantial prizemoney, handcrafted redgum trophies, and a wonderful random draw prize pool will ensure plenty of participation interest.

*\*A great new inclusion in 2009 is our M4 Mallee Rat Race, a single 4km lap of the M12 course just for the U18's. All finishers receive an inaugural Rat Race medal. A wonderful opportunity for the kids to build on recent cross country participation & fun\**

Once again, we encourage you to our June 7 race day. Race start is 9am.

Further event details can be provided by contacting Mark Wilgar on (03) 5021 5127 or go to the website [www.runningwateradventures.com.au](http://www.runningwateradventures.com.au) which will also provides access to an easily completed online entry form.

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**