



# MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 30

8<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

## Coming Events.....

Today 8/10 - Northern Zone Athletics at Bendigo

## Term Dates for 2009

Term 4 - 5<sup>th</sup> October - 18<sup>th</sup> December

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

Welcome back to Term 4. I trust that all students had an enjoyable and relaxing break. This is certainly a busy Term especially for our Year 10 students.

### Staffing

Last Monday we welcomed back Mr Webb and Mr Watson from periods of Long Service Leave during Term 3. Mr Hill will remain at our school for Term 4 replacing Mrs Smith who is on Family Leave.

### Parents of Years 8 & 9 Students – Electives Information Evening

There will be an information evening for current Year 8 and Year 9 students and their parents next Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October in the Activity Centre commencing at 7:30pm. Details will be provided of the curriculum program operating in Years 9 and 10 for 2010. Advice will also be provided about our elective system and selecting a course over these years. While this meeting is extremely important for current Year 8's it is an opportunity for Year 9's to learn of the new electives and changes to the existing ones.

The Course Advice Booklet will be issued to students in Years 8 and 9 at the start of next week to acquaint themselves with the different subjects prior to the evening.

### Friday Show Day – NO Holiday

For many years the Friday of Show week has either been a holiday or a curriculum day. Under the new guidelines about student free days this year Friday Show Day (Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October) is **not** a student free day. As a result classes will operate as usual on this day.

It should be noted that Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November (Melbourne Cup) is a gazetted public holiday and the school will be closed on this day.

### Asia –Wise

Results are now available for the Upper (Years 9 & 10) section of the 2009 Asia-Wise Competition.

#### High Distinctions

Year 10 – Brianna Smyth, Rachael Gates

#### Distinction

Year 10 – Amy Ryczel

## Credits

Year 9 – Lucy Young, Ashley Field, James Herbert, Aiden Blow, Sophie Wakefield, Ainslee Wandel, Shae DeGoumois

Year 10 – Bree Harding, Aaron Bell

## TAX FILE NUMBERS

Next week, all year 9 students will be given an application form for a tax file number. It is recommended that it is carefully filled out and returned to the school by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October. If your child is working or thinking of getting a part time job it is a great advantage that they obtain a tax file number through the school, as it is much more difficult to obtain once they leave school. This will be the last batch of applications sent to the tax office this year.

...Glen Stephen

Careers Coordinator

## INTRODUCTION OF THE VICTORIAN STUDENT NUMBER

Our school is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at the school.

The VSN is a student identification number that is being assigned to all students in government and non-government schools, and students in Vocational Education and Training institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student's school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to stable information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).

You will see the VSN appear on student report cards, enrolment confirmations, and exit confirmations.

If you want to know more about the VSN please see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm>

## YEAR 9 LEADERSHIP FOR 2010

At this time of year, we start to look at the current Year 9 group to fill 'Positions of Leadership' within our school for 2010. Such roles are SRC President, SRC Executive, House Captains and Vice Captains, Peer Support Leaders and Mini-meeting leaders.

To assist Year 9 students undertake these roles, an opportunity exists to attend the National Young Leaders Conference in Adelaide on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. This trip is open to 20 Year 9 students and costs approximately \$80 with accommodation at the Adelaide

Shores Caravan Park on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Staff attending will be Mr Rix and Miss Wright.

It is expected (but not essential) that students applying for positions of leadership in 2010 will attend this trip. Students have had this week and until Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October to express an interest in attending. More trip details will follow.

Could parents please discuss these opportunities with their Year 9 child and give consideration to applying for both the trip and these positions as they arise later in the term.

...Mr Rix

#### **EMA CHEQUES**

There is still a large number of EMA cheques awaiting collection from the College office. If you are unsure of your entitlement to this semester's portion then please contact the College office.

#### **'RIDE TO SCHOOL' DAY**

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October, we are participating in the state wide 'Ride to work/school' day. Students and staff are encouraged to get out their bike and get some exercise by riding to school. As an incentive, all students and staff who ride will get a BBQ lunch of 2 sausages in bread, a piece of fruit and a bottle of water. Also, they will go into a raffle (to be drawn at recess) for cycling equipment. ALL FREE!

Last time we had a 'Ride to school' day we had 84 cyclists, so this time the challenge is to beat that amount.

...Mr Rix

#### **SUNRAYSIA CHESS CLUB**

The Sunraysia Chess Club welcomes beginners age 5 up to all levels up to 105 yrs of age every Friday night during school term starting Term 4.

Families welcome.

Venue: MADEC community room.

When: 6pm - 7.30pm

Cost: first visit free \$5.00 a night.

m. 0409236765

e. [sunraysia.chess.club@gmail.com](mailto:sunraysia.chess.club@gmail.com)

#### **SUPPORT GROUP**

Mildura Rural City Council will hold a 'Relatives as Parents' Support Group meeting at Bethany's in Ninth Street at 10am on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **RED CLIFFS LAWN TENNIS**

Summer season commences Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Red Cliffs Lawn Tennis Courts. This will be a social day and we will be taking names for the summer season competition.

For further information please contact Val Munro on 5024 7550 or 0407 858037.



Mr Garry Costello  
**PRINCIPAL**