



# MERBEIN SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Newsletter No. 27

2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2009

## Coming Events.....

TONIGHT - Public briefing on P-10 site decision.

Tues 8/9 - SSSSA Athletics

## Term Dates for 2009

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

### New Merbein P-10 School

The commitment of \$10.5m to Stage 1 of the new school was a very exciting announcement from the Minister of *Education and Early Childhood Development* at the end of last week. The site for the new school will be announced at a public briefing to be held in the Library at Merbein Primary School tonight at 7:30pm. In attendance will be Mr Graeme Robertson (Assistant Regional Director – Facilities) and the architects who conducted the site analysis of our school and Merbein Primary. When announcing the site they will outline the advantages of their determination. Members of our school community are certainly invited to this public briefing.

### Rock Eisteddfod

Congratulations to everyone involved in a fantastic Rock Eisteddfod performance at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre last Thursday evening. To be placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the South Australian Grand Final is a wonderful achievement. Our school was the only secondary school without Year 11 and 12 students. Indeed the 3<sup>rd</sup> placed school, Fremont-Elizabeth City High School only has Years 11 and 12.

It was extremely pleasing to win the Entertainment Award as it was very obvious that our performance was clearly the crowd favourite.

### Awards

- Second Place – South Australian Grand Final
- Entertainment Award

### Excellence Awards

- Drama
- Set Design and Function
- Lighting Design
- School Community Support

There will be a more detailed account from students in next week's Newsletter when Year 10 return from Work Experience.

### Australian Writing Competition

In last week's Newsletter we published the results for Years 7 and 10. The results for Years 8 and 9 were also very pleasing.

### Distinction

Year 9 – Shae Degoumois

## Credits

Year 9 – Rachael Costello

Year 8 – Abigail Malycha

It should be noted that in Year 8 Jack Arney and Jessica Tisler were each just one mark away from receiving a credit.

## Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews

Please note that parent / teacher / student interviews will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September between 4:00pm and 7:00pm in the Activity Centre. Mid Semester 2 reports will be issued on arrival by Mr Costello and Mr Rhodes. They will also be available to assist parents with the arrangements for the interviews.

## Parent Opinion Surveys

Thank you to the many parents who have returned the completed survey so promptly. The closing date has been extended to this Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September. It is very important that all completed surveys are returned as this then provides a valid response.

## College Council

College Councillors are reminded that Council meets next Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm. The Finance Committee meets at 7:00pm.

## EMA

Second semester EMA cheques are now available to collect from the College office.

## GIRLS TALK / BOYS TALK

With the Year 10 students on work experience for two weeks, the Year 9/10 elective program is not running. In its place all Year 9 students are participating in the Boys Talk/Girls Talk program. This program involves staff working with students in single sex small groups to promote the development and understanding of issues such as communication, tolerance, building relationships, anger management etc. Students also undertake a session on Boys or Girls Health and a double session in mixed groups on the Core of Life (child birth/care) with the School Nurse.

The boys were involved in a team building day at Kings Billabong where they undertook initiative and adventure activities in groups. The girls were involved in activities at school such as changing a car battery, jump starting a car, changing a tyre etc and a shopping challenge for 'the modern woman's handbag'.

Photos in next week's newsletter.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The next few weeks will be very busy for students who enjoy reading.

This year's Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge finished last Wednesday. The list of titles read by the participating students was finalised on the Reading Challenge database on Monday. 29 determined students managed to complete the Challenge and will receive their certificates next term. Congratulations to these students who have proven that not all teenagers spend their lives 'in front of a television or playing computer games' as media would suggest!

This week we have been celebrating the Children's Book Council of Australia Children's Book Week. The Theme this year is Book Safari. Interested students have been participating in a Trivia Safari where they have been given a card with the silhouette of a teacher on one side and a question on the other. There are 30 questions in all relating to the 6 books nominated for the Children's book of the year award. After answering each question they locate the next teacher using the silhouette and swap cards in order to get the next question. Students have 5 school days in which to complete all of the questions. Prizes will be awarded for the most correct entry for a group of 3/4 or a pair or an individual. Many students are well into the Trivia Safari and seem to be enjoying the activity.

**Andy Griffiths** – author of the Just Disgusting series and many other funny children's books will be visiting Merbein Secondary College for a short session on the Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. A small number of students will have the opportunity to hear him speak.

Those who miss him at school can attend a free evening session at the Mildura Library, Deakin Avenue from 6.30pm. If you are interested in hearing him speak...make the effort to go along. Take your personal copies of his books and have them autographed. This event is free but space is limited and bookings are essential. RSVP to Mildura City Library on 5018 8350.

- Scholastic Book Club catalogues are now available in the Library. Orders need to be returned with correct money in an envelope by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

## MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL/NETBALL CLUB

The Junior Best and Fairest Awards for both Football and Netball will be held this Friday night, starting at 6.30pm at the Social Club Rooms.

It is planned to start with the Under 11 Netball and Under 12 Football at 6.30pm. This will be followed at approximately 7.15pm with the Under 13 Netball and Under 13.5 Football. Finally, we will have the Under 15 Netball and Under 16 Football at approximately 8.00pm. All players will receive a presentation and parents are urged to attend.

The bar will be open for adults and light finger food will be served during the night.

For any further information, contact Paul Mulder on 0428 352344.

## AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS

The Australian Air Force Cadets is a non-profit, youth oriented organisation for boys and girls from the ages of 13 to 18 years that is administered and actively supported by the Royal Australian Air Force. Adult instructors have the opportunity to train and develop young people in subjects such as aviation, leadership, instructional technique, field craft, firearms training and teamwork. Monetary costs are minimal.

We parade at our building on Twelfth Street, (next to the Army Drill Hall) each Monday night during school term times, starting at 7-00pm and finish at 9-30pm (phone 5023 1001). During weekly parades, cadets study aviation, bush survival, ground navigation, field craft, service knowledge, leadership and drill and ceremonial.

Cadets also attend three field exercises during the year which includes two bivouacs in the bush. Cadets can also participate in a week-long camp at RAAF Base Edinburgh, or firearms training (shooting .22 rifles), gliding or aero modelling weekends. On these exercises, cadets put into practise the skills learnt in the classroom. Other options include powered flying, the International Air Cadet Exchange program, playing in the AAFC band, abseiling, engineering and basic aero skills courses, first aid or precision drill training.

Brochures can be obtained from the College office or go to [www.aafc.org.au](http://www.aafc.org.au).

## MERBEIN SOUTH CRICKET CLUB

The Merbein South Saints Cricket Club will hold a registration session for all intending and current junior players for season 2009 - 2010 at Chaffey Park Merbein

**Time:** 12.00pm to 1.30pm

**Date:** Saturday September 5th.

Age groups this season are Under 10, Under 12, Under 14 & Under 16.

Training for U14'S & U16'S will commence at 4.30pm Thursday September 10th at Chaffey Park.

These two teams played **Grand Finals** last season with a win and a runner up so come along and join in.

Training dates for U10's & U12's will follow as they commence cricket later in October.

For further details phone Mark Dorman 5021 1292.

## VOLLEYBALL TRIALS

The Sunraysia Academy of Sport will be conducting two open selection trials for the 2009/10 Volleyball Program. Trials are open to all young people 15 years and older in 2009.

Trials will be held at St Joseph's Stadium on the following dates:

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September - 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September - 5:30pm – 7:30pm

For further information please contact the Academy on 5021 3464 or email [mildura@malleesportsassembly.org.au](mailto:mildura@malleesportsassembly.org.au)



Mr Garry Costello

**PRINCIPAL**

