



ISSUE #40
TERM 2, WEEK 1
27 April 2017

MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



P & C UNIFORM SHOP HOURS TERM 2

Wednesdays: 9.30am-1.30pm

Thursdays: 3-4pm

CANTEEN SPECIAL

Friday 28 April

FRIED RICE \$4.50

2016 COMBINED HARVEST YEARBOOK

Please collect your prepaid copy from the front office .



TERM 2 COLLEGE ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

Welcome back to the start of Term 2. This term is a busy one with NAPLAN (for Year 3,5,7 and 9) looming in Week 3. Year 11 and 12 Exams and Externally Set Tasks (ESTs) will occur in Weeks 4 and 5 and Year 10 Exams in Week 6. By midterm, teachers begin the process of writing Semester 1 reports and so it is important that students are trying their best and have all assignments completed.

The Year 11 Student Council election processes also occur this term and a Careers' Excursion is planned for Year 10 students. In terms of sport, students have a number of events to look forward to including the College and Interschool Cross Country events, primary Winter Carnival and Year 10-12 Country Week. Students and parents are encouraged to read the criteria for attendance at Country Week found in the secondary section of the MC Link.

TERM 2 STAFFING

As I will be taking Long Service Leave in Weeks 2-4, Ms Lynne Herbert will be acting Principal in Week 2 and Mr Gerard Rennie in Weeks 3-4. For Week 2, the Primary Deputies will be Mrs Lorraine Shreeve and Mrs Leah Boehme. For Weeks 3-4 the Secondary Deputies will be Mr David O'Neill and Mrs Tracey Sutherland respectively.

We welcome Mrs Chanelle Moore and Mrs Helena Van Der Riet as new teachers to the school. Mrs Moore will be teaching the Year 1/2 class and Mrs Van Der Riet is taking on Miss John's HASS responsibilities.

Our Chaplain, Mr Brett Guthrie has retired. While YouthCare is advertising for a new Chaplain and for the remainder of the year, we are delighted to announce that Mrs Sal Marais will work one day per week. We do hope a new chaplain will commence in Semester 2.

2016 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

The 2016 Annual School Report for Merredin College can be accessed on Schools Online at: <http://www.det.wa.edu.au/schoolsonline/home.do>

PRIVACY AWARENESS WEEK

This year, [Privacy Awareness Week](#) is celebrated between 15 to 19 May and aims to remind the community of the importance of protecting their personal information. Personal data can travel through numerous transactions, media and organisations – but it's always personal – so handle it with care at every step. Check out the latest news, events and resources available for that week.



MERREDIN COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE

Follow us at: <https://www.facebook.com/Merredin-College-256760021333175/> or scan the QR code

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES ARE NOW DUE

K-10 Contributions statements have been sent home via students. If you have not received a statement, can you please contact Janelle Millar (90410900) at the College.

Year 11 and 12 student should have also received their unpaid Charges statements. Charges are not voluntary and MUST be paid. Whilst most of these were sent home via students, those who were absent or those at the Residential College have had their's posted. If you have not received your statement, please contact Janelle Millar (90410900).

STUDENT ONLINE SERVICES—YEAR 7-12

The school provides access to online services provided by the Department of Education. These were outlined in the last MC Link. If you agree to your child making appropriate use of these online services, please complete the permission slip in the attached letter. You will also need to ensure that your child reads or understands the Acceptable Usage Agreement, also on the attached letter, before the permission slip is signed. Both signed documents should be returned to school so that an online service account can be continued for your child. This was due by **Friday 28 April**. Failure to submit will mean your child's access will be withdrawn. Please return the form to Student Services. Last term, students were also provided with forms at school to bring home.

SECONDARY *Link*

COUNTRY WEEK

Please be reminded that students will NOT be allowed to attend Country week if they:

- Are suspended
- Fail to submit homework
- Are out of school uniform 5 or more times
- Break the mobile phone policy
- Have less than 90% attendance (without good reason)

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Leadership Team.

YR 10 WACE PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Please be aware that the Yr 10 WACE Information session advertised in the Term Planner for Wednesday 3 May 2017 has been moved to Wednesday 17 May 2017 (Week 4) 5:30pm – 7pm. This session will be held in the Library.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing will run from Tuesday 9 May 2017 to Friday 12 May 2017 (Week 3) for our Year 7 and 9 students. It is very important that students attend the NAPLAN tests, as attaining a 'Band 8' result will exclude them from sitting future OLNA testing. High achievement in these tests also place students in good stead for studying an ATAR pathway.

NAPLAN Test Conditions: The following items are NOT permitted in the NAPLAN test area under any circumstances -

- ◇ Mobile phones
- ◇ Smart watch or other internet-or Bluetooth-enabled device
- ◇ rulers

REACHOUT RESEARCH PROJECT-YOUNG PEOPLE REQUIRED-FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROVIDED

ReachOut is Australia's leading online mental health organisation for young people, providing practical support to help them get through everything from everyday issues to tough times. To find out more about ReachOut check out

their website at <http://au.reachout.com/>

Shamus Whately from Avon Youth Community and Family Service is organising one workshop/focus group in **Merredin on Sunday 21 May from 10am to 3pm** as part of a funded project to ask young people (16-22 years of age) such questions as:

- issues they face
- any challenges faced in accessing mental health services
- what might be some unique needs young people would like from ReachOut to ensure the agency is responsive

He is paying an incentive of \$150 for participating in the Sunday workshop. There will also be one follow up activity which participants will be paid \$30 to complete.

Please refer to the attached documents:

- Advertisement outlining what they are looking for.
- Copy of the screening questions form that has to be returned to Shamus to check eligibility. This must be completed for a person to participate in the workshop. He will also be sending it electronically to those who contact him directly.

Note that he will be following up with a phone call to all who send in a completed screening form. Shamus only needs to recruit about 12 young people but wants a real diversity of people.

EXTERNALLY SET TASKS (ESTS)

All students enrolled in a General Year 12 course and/or a Foundation Year 12 course are required to complete the externally set task (EST) developed by the Authority for that course. The EST is compulsory and forms part of the school-based assessment and is included as a separate assessment type with a weighting of 15% for the pair of units.

The ESTs are administered in schools during Term 2 under standard test conditions. This will be Week 5 at Merredin College.

Detailed information about ESTs is provided in the [Externally Set Tasks Handbook](#).

EXAMS AND WORKPLACE LEARNING TERMS 2 (YEAR 11 AND 12)

Wednesday 17 May

General Exams Year 11/12 English
Year 11 English

Monday 22 – Friday 26 May

Year 11 & 12 ATAR Exams

Monday 22 – Wednesday 24 May

Year 11 & 12 VET/General Externally Set Tasks [ESTs]

PLEASE NOTE:

Normal timetabled classes will be attended by all Year 11 & 12 'VET/General Pathway' students before, and after, their ESTs.

Monday 26 – Friday 30 June

Year 11 & 12 Timetable is suspended

Year 11 & 12 students should be –

- *at Country Week
- *on Workplace Learning (ADWPL)
- *at home studying, completing assignments/tasks, etc

YEAR 10 CAREERS EXCURSION

Year 10 students are you interested in the Resources Industry?

We will be taking 20 students to Perth for 'Get Into Resources' a unique event where you will –

- learn more about resources careers from the people who actually do it
- learn by doing hands-on activities
- find out about a range of **technical, professional and trade** roles
- speak to people who work in the field

If you would like to take part in this excursion see Mrs Sutherland to put your name down.

When: Wednesday 21 June 2017

Number of Places: 20

Cost : \$22

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S ACHIEVEMENT—THEN JOIN CONNECT

Secondary teachers at Merredin College use an online environment called **Connect** to post their subject curriculum and assessment outlines, resources, assignments, information guides etc. It is disappointing to see how little this terrific service is used by parents and students.

Participation in Connect is optional. If you would like to take part you will require internet access and a computer, tablet or smartphone device. There is no additional software required and your access is free. If you have multiple children you will only need one login - even if your children attend different public schools. To register for Connect, please speak to Sandi Lee (School Officer) to be confidentially issued with your unique user name and password as well as access details for Connect. We hope that you enjoy the Connect experience and see it as an exciting new way to stay in touch with your child's school journey.

In addition, teachers provide up-to date information about your child's marks. All we need is a current email address and each time your child completes an assessment, a copy of the marks can be emailed.

PRIMARY link

WELCOME

A big welcome to Ms Chanelle Moore who will be teaching in the Year 1/2 class. We also welcome Courtney Madigan and Brett Postans who will be joining our team of education assistants.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)

NAPLAN

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 will sit their NAPLAN Tests in Week 3 this term. Testing will start for these classes at 9am in the morning so it will be very important that children are on time to school. Teachers are currently familiarising students with the tests and students will be doing practice tests over the next few weeks.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking will restart next week on Wednesday morning in the wet area of the Early Childhood Block. School Banking is available between 8.30am-8.50am. Forms will be available at this time if you would like to set up a new account for your child.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)

FUNDRAISING – SPELLING BEE

Merredin College primary will be running a Spelling Bee Fundraiser later in the term and preparations will start soon. All money raised will go toward special projects in primary including creating and resourcing a MakerSpace for students where K-6 students are able to be creative, invent, explore and tinker in a collaborative environment while accessing a range of materials, tools and technologies from low tech items like collaborative weaving looms and cardboard to hi tech items like 3D printers and green screen technologies. This space would be utilised for delivery of our design and

digital technologies curriculum and form an integral part of STEAM (Science – Technology – Engineering – Arts – Maths) Curriculum.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)

NO HAT NO PLAY

Broad brimmed hats are required if students are to play in outside areas at recess and lunch time. Many hats went home at the end of Term 1 for washing and we still have a few students who haven't brought their hats back to school. Please check that your child has their hat.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)

WEEK 2 ADMINISTRATION CHANGES

During Week 2, Lynne Herbert will be acting in the principal role of the school and Lorraine Shreeve will be in charge of primary. Leah Boehme will be stepping out of the classroom for the week into a Deputy Principal role.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)

Bookclub News!

Bookclub brochures will be going home with all primary students this week.

Orders are due back Thursday the 11th May 2017.

This month Scholastic are running a special promotion to benefit your child's class.

The class that has the most number of students ordering book club will win a pack of books for the classroom library!!

This is great prize for your class so get those orders in.

The best way to order is through the online LOOP service:

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Register.aspx>

If you do not have access to the internet you can send the order form and correct money in cash to the library with your child.

Should you have any questions regarding this please contact Mrs Clarke in the Library.

Save the Date:

9 —12 May
NAPLAN
Yrs 3, 5, 7 & 9

11 May
School Board Meeting
5.30pm

15 May
P&C Meeting
6.00pm

18 May
Primary Assembly

19 May
Secondary Assembly

26 May
National Sorry Day

Term 2 Planner:

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----|--|---|--|---|---|
| 2 | 1 MAY Interruption Free Week (P) | 2 | 3 Early Close 2.30pm | 4 | 5 |
| 3 | 8 Interruption Free Week (P) | 9 *NAPLAN | 10 Early Close 2.30pm | 11 School Board Mtg 5.30pm | 12 → |
| 4 | 15 P&C Mtg 6.00pm | 16 YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm | 17 *Yr11/12 General English Exam *Yr10 WACE Info-P.5 Early Close 2.30pm Yr10 WACE Info Night 5.30-7pm | 18 *Primary Assembly 9am | 19 *Yr7-12 Assembly-P.1 |
| 5 | 22 Interruption Free Week (P) *ESTs *Yr11/12 English/Maths Exams | 23 *ESTs *Yr11/12 HASS/Science | 24 *Yr 11/12 ATAR Exams *ESTs Early Close 2.30pm | 25 | 26 National Sorry Day *NEWSLETTER → |
| 6 | 29 Aboriginal Parent Mtg 9.30am-Staffroom *Yr 9.1 Exams *Yr 10 Exams (Core Subjects) | 30 | 31 Early Close 2.30pm | 1 JUNE *Primary Spelling Bee School Board Mtg 5.30pm → | 2 *Primary Cross Country |
| 7 | 5 WA Day –Public Holiday | 6 School Development Day | 7 Early Close 2.30pm | 8 | 9 *Bruce Rock Cross Country |
| 8 | 12 P&C Mtg 3.15pm | 13 | 14 Early Close 2.30pm | 15 *Primary Assembly 9am | 16 |
| 9 | 19 | 20 YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm | 21 *Yr10 Careers Excursion Early Close 2.30pm | 22 *Careers Expo *Primary Spelling Bee | 23 *Prim. Winter Carnival *Yr 7-12 Assembly P.1 *NEWSLETTER |
| 10 | 26 *Yr10/11/12 Country Wk *Yr11/12 ADWPL | 27 *P Yr2 Glass of Class Lunch | 28 *Yr3-6 Glass of Class Lunch Early Close 2.30pm | 29 | 30 Last Day Students Newsletter → |