



ISSUE #3
TERM 1, WEEK 3
16 February 2018

MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



P & C UNIFORM SHOP HOURS 2018

EVERY TUESDAY
10:30AM - 3:30PM

Our Values



EARLY CLOSE

Parents are reminded that school closes
at 2.30pm on Wednesdays.

For every other day school finishes at
3.00pm.



CANTEEN CLOSED NEXT WEEK

Due to unforeseen circumstances the College Canteen will be closed next week from 19—23 February 2018.

SCHOOL BOARD

The first School Board meeting for the year will occur tonight, Thursday 15 February at 5.30pm in the secondary staffroom.

P & C

The P&C are requesting parent representatives for all year groups—please see letters attached.

MISSING SCHOOL DOES MATTER

1.90% Attendance rate - If your child misses 1 day per fortnight that equals 1 month per year and adds up to missing nearly 1 1/2 years of school. In Year 12, they have only received the education of someone half way through Year 11.

2. 80% Attendance rate - If your child misses 1 day per week that equals 2 months per year and adds up to missing nearly 2 1/2 years of school. In Year 12, they have only received the education of someone half way through Year 10.

3. 60% Attendance rate - If your child misses 2 days per week that equals 4 months of the year and adds up to missing nearly 5 years of school. In Year 12, they have only received the education of someone in Year 7.

4. 40% Attendance rate - If your child misses 3 days per week that equals 6 months per year and adds up to nearly 8 years of school. In Year 12, they have only received the education of someone in Year 4.

Is this fair to them?

If you miss	This equals	From PP-Yr 12 adds up to	Which is equivalent to finishing school:
1 day per fortnight	1 month per year	nearly 1 ½ years	part-way through year 11
1 day per week	2 months per year	over 2 ½ years	part-way through year 10
2 days per week	4 months per year	over 5 years	the end of year 7
3 days per week	6 months per year	nearly 8 years	the end of year 4

Please support your child/ren to attend school every day.



MERREDIN COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE

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

STUDENTS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Breakfast Club commences at 8.15am so no student should be at school before 8.15am. Unless attending Breakfast Club or arriving by school bus which may drop students here early, children should not be at school before 8.30am on school days. The school grounds are out of bounds after hours and on weekends.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents are advised that the new blue polo is only an addition to the school uniform. It is in limited supply. The blue button up shirt is available and part of the uniform. Students must be dressed in uniform.

CAMP KULIN-EASTERN WHEATBELT EDUCATION NETWORK (EWEN) LEADERSHIP CAMP

Our Year 6-10 student leaders will attend a two day Leadership Camp with Mr James at Camp Kulin on 20-21 February. Congratulations to the following student who will be attending. The students in Year 7-10 are newly elected:

Year 6:	Sophie Saunders, Tyler Bush, Judd Major, Jordan Hassack
Year 7:	Clare Mndebelle, Bailey Smith
Year 8:	Alyssa Taylor, Jack Puglia
Year 9:	Kyrah Lane, Blake Jones
Year 10:	Panashe Mudimu, Stewart Watson

HEADLICE

From the Nurses desk welcome back to Term 1. I hope you all feel rested.

Just a reminder about the need to check children's hair for nits regularly. The information below may help! Please don't hesitate to contact me for more information or some strategies to stop the cycle.

Head lice are tiny insects that live in human hair. They are not caused by poor hygiene and they do not carry diseases. Head lice transfer from child to child when their hair is in close contact, e.g. while playing or doing schoolwork. For this reason, head lice infestation is relatively common in school children. I seek the support of all parents in assisting to break the seemingly never-ending cycle of head lice infestation. Please commit to:

- Regular screening of your child/ren for head lice (at least weekly);
- If head lice are detected, commence treatment immediately;
- Please keep your child/ren at home until such time as you have commenced treatment for the head lice and the lice removed (can be returned to school once treatment has started)

Cheers, Bec Wayne, Community Health Nurse

SECONDARY *Link*

HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club has commenced and will be running on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 3.00-4.00pm. Students are encouraged to come along for support and assistance to complete homework or assignments. Teachers will be there to help students as they 'strive to succeed' and get on top of your studies.

EXTRA TUITION FOR YEAR 12 ATAR STUDENTS

In order to provide our ATAR students with the best possible opportunity to complete a successful ATAR in Year 12, Merredin College is providing extra tuition at set times (before the regular school day commences) in a number of subjects.

The sessions have been organised to coincide with regular Period 1 timetabled lessons for the same subject. Students will be able to remain in the same room for the entire time. The sessions will commence at 8.30am to coincide with the arrival of most students to school, including those arriving by bus.

Before school tuition has started in the following subjects:

Methods Mathematics	Mr Gibbon)	Rm 24 Tuesday 8.30am
Application Mathematics	(Mr Gardiner)	Rm23 Tuesday 8.30am
Human Biology	(Miss Rogerson)	Rm27 Friday 8.30am
English	(Mr Baltovich)	Rm15 Thursday 8.40am

Any queries contact Mr Gibbon.

CANBERRA CAMP

Year 9 students who have their name on the list for the Canberra Camp in August are reminded that they must earn the right to attend by displaying the College values of caring, respect, responsibility and striving to succeed. This translates into behaving appropriately both in and out of class, displaying respect for peers and teachers, completing all set work and attending school regularly. Canberra is definitely one of the highlights of the Year 9 calendar and we do hope that all students 'do the right thing' to ensure they can attend.

Year 8 students who would like to attend the Canberra Camp in 2019 are reminded that their behaviour and attendance this year will determine whether or not they are offered a place.

YEAR 10-12 ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL BALL

Please refer to the attached information for student eligibility requirements for the 2018 School Ball.

PUGGY HUNTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Scholarships are now open for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who in semester one 2018 will be studying an entry level course in any of the following health professions:

- Aboriginal health work
- Medicine (includes graduate entry level)
- Allied health
- Midwifery
- Dentistry/oral health
- Nursing

The scholarship is valued up to \$15,000 per year for the normal duration of the course.

Applications close **Sunday 18 February 2018**

Go to <https://www.acn.edu.au/phmss> to apply.



ENTRIES FOR THE ACT-BELONG-COMMIT FAIRBRIDGE FESTIVAL QUEST SONGWRITING COMPETITION CLOSE ON 23 MARCH!

Students could win the chance to play live on the Backlot Stage at this year's Fairbridge Festival.

Entries must be original material in the folk, world or roots music genres. Songs must be performed live in the final.

The closing date is 3 March 2018 (8 pm), with a \$20 administration fee per song. To be eligible, students need to be available to perform a minimum 20-minute set at Fairbridge Festival, 22 April 2018.

Those selected as finalists must also be available to perform at the Act-Belong-Commit Fairbridge Festival Quest final on the evening of 24 March 2018 at the Calvert Music Centre, Fremantle College.

Two winners will be chosen from each age group (12-15 and 16-18) in the following categories:

1. Song: Craft
2. Song: Performance

PRIZES

- Fairbridge Festival live performance (Sunday 22 April 2018)
- John Butler Studio recording session voucher
- HK Photography professional photoshoot
- Free WAM Song of the Year entries
- WAMCon 2018 ticket
- Post-final mentoring session from WAM
- Opportunity of Perfect Pitch publishing deal.

Enquiries: leanne@fairbridgefestival.com.au

For full entry details please see the [website](#).

PRIMARY *link*

WHOLE SCHOOL SPORT

Whole school sport has changed to Tuesdays for 2018 to fit in with specialist Physical Education teacher rosters. Students are encouraged to wear their faction t-shirts on Tuesdays.

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

BOOKCLUB

This Friday, 16 February is the last day for returning Book Club orders to the library

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

PRIMARY HOMEWORK CLASSES

Homework classes will be held on Tuesdays from 3:15 to 4:00pm. Students are able to use this time to complete homework tasks or to work on learning areas that they have difficulty in. Sessions will be supervised by a teacher who will be supported by the Primary Student leaders. Students to meet in the Block 4 Wet area. A healthy afternoon snack will be provided.

Got a question about this? *Miss Amanda Lockyer (Year 4/5 Classroom Teacher)*

NO HAT!! NO PLAY!!

Merredin College has a STRICT no hat – no play policy. All children need a hat to participate in our recess, lunch and physical education programs. Hats are available from the Uniform shop and the primary office for \$12.

Got a question about this? *Mrs Barbara Smith (Deputy Principal)*

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Our first assembly will be hosted by the Year 2 classes and will be on Thursday 1 March at 9am in the primary covered assembly area. We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate our students achievements.

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

TARGETING MATHS BOOKS

Student booklists for 2018 included a student workbook for Mathematics, 'Targeting Maths'. This book is an integral part of all student's numeracy learning program in Pre-primary to Year 6 and an absolute necessity. Reminder letters were sent home this week as we have 1 or 2 children in each class without a book. The school has copies of the workbooks available from the Primary office at a cost of \$18.95. Books can be paid for by EFTPOS through the main office or with cash at the Primary office. Payment plans can be arranged with primary administration where families are having difficulties paying for the books.

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

PARENT CONTACTS

Parent update sheets went home this week. Please check through them and make any changes necessary and return them to school as soon as possible.

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

SWIMMING CARNIVALS

The Merredin College Primary Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 23 February and the Interschool Carnival on Wednesday 7 March. If you are able to help at our carnival next Friday, please contact Ms Bryant (Mon-Wed).

Got a question about this? *Ms Kylie Bryant (Specialist PE Teacher)*

THANK YOU CBA

We are indebted the Commonwealth Bank who have provided a grant of \$10,000 to assist the Junior Primary staff in creating a more nature-based play space for our early childhood students. Mr Nick Emin, Branch Manager (CBA-Merredin) did a huge amount of work in applying for the grant. He will present a certificate to the school at the Primary Assembly on 1 March.

Save the Date:

6-16 February 2018
Yr 3-6 Swim Lessons

15 February 2018
School Board Meeting
5.30pm

20-21 February 2018
Yr 6-10 Student Leaders
Camp—Kulin

23 February 2018
Primary Swimming Carnival

27 February 2018
Yr 7-12 Interim Report
Night 4.00pm -6.00pm

28 February 2018
Secondary Swim Carnival

Term 1 2018 Planner:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	SAT
4	19	20 Yr6-10 Students Leaders Camp-Kulin	21 Yr6-10 Students Leaders Camp-Kulin <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	22	23 Primary Swim Carnival	24
5	26	27 Yr7-12 Interim Report Night 4-6pm	28 Sec. Swim Carnival <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	1 MARCH Primary Assembly 9am	2 Volleyball Program Selection (Rec Centre)	3
6	5 Labour Day	6 OLNA (All Week)	7 Primary Interschool Swim Carnival <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	8 Halogen Young Leader- ship Conference- Secondary	9 Halogen Young Leader- ship Conference-Primary IWD Waitressing-Rec Centre Yr.11 P.2-5 Secondary Interschool Swim Carnival(Wylie)	10
7	12 SCHOOL PHOTOS *OLNA	13 SCHOOL PHOTOS OLNA Yr7-9 Parent Evening 5- 6pm-'Preparing for Uni Pathway'	14 SCHOOL PHOTOS OLNA <i>Wheatbelt Medical Stu- dents Immersion Pgm</i> <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	15 OLNA <i>Wheatbelt Medical Stu- dents Immersion Pgm</i> University Visit-P.1(Yr10 -12)	16 OLNA Yr7-12 Assembly- P.1 (Middle School Council announced)	17 Merredin Show
8	19 OLNA P&C Meeting 3.15pm	20 YR 6 CAMP OLNA Black Dog Institute Visit P.1-4 YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm	21 YR 6 CAMP OLNA <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	22 YR 6 CAMP OLNA	23 YR 6 CAMP OLNA	24 YR 6 CAMP
9	26	27 Yr7-12 Tennis Classic- Cunderdin	28 <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	29 Primary Assembly 9am Primary Loved Ones Day	30 Good Friday	31
10	2 Easter Monday	3 Easter Tuesday (no school)	4 <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	5	6	7 School Ball
11	9	10 Commonwealth Games Fun Run (Primary) P-Yr6 Glass of Class Lunch	11 <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	12	13 Last Day Term1 Prim.ANZACAssemblyP.1 Yr7-12 ANZAC Ceremony & Assembly P.2	14

MERREDIN COLLEGE
Attendance at 2018 School Ball

The criteria required for attendance at the Ball were established to encourage students to make the right choices. Currently there are four main ways by which students can lose Good Standing:

- Behaviour (Suspensions)
- Work completion
- Attendance
- Mobile Phone use and Uniform

Behaviour (Suspensions): If students lose their Good Standing for Behaviour (in or out of school suspensions) at any stage from Semester 2 2017 then they lose their right to attend the Ball **(without exception)**.

Work Completion: If students lose their Good Standing due to not completing work to a satisfactory standard in Semester 2 2017, they can restore Good Standing by submitting all assigned tasks before the end of the year. As a result they are able to attend an appeal meeting with a Deputy Principal to plead their case.

If students don't complete all their work in Semester 1 2018, then they are ineligible to attend the Ball.

Good Standing for work completion is not automatically restored after a set time period but rather only once the set tasks have been submitted. (Even if the relevant teacher decides to award a 0% score for the task).

Class Preparedness: Student who are unprepared for class on 5 occasions will lose Good Standing. This includes students who fail to purchase and bring the required text books for Year 11 and 12.

Attendance: The attendance average from Semester 2 2017 until the time of the Ball needs to be at least 90%. Attendance that is less than 90% needs to be explained in a review meeting with a Deputy Principal.

Mobile Phone/Uniform: If students lose their Good Standing for uniform or mobile phone use in Semester 2 2017 then they will need to attend an appeal meeting with a Deputy Principal to plead their case in order to be considered to attend the Ball. Attendance at the Ball is still at the Deputy Principal's discretion.

Students who lose Good Standing in 2018 for any reason are unable to earn back their right to attend without exception.

MERREDIN COLLEGE P&C 2018

It was a very enthusiastic group of parents who met for the AGM and general meeting on Monday 12 February. There were lots of wonderful ideas put forward which should ensure we have a very successful year. The minutes of the meeting will be available shortly. A couple of points worth mentioning are the following:

- The P&C would like one parent representative from each class in primary and two from each year group in secondary. This person would be the main conduit between the class/year group parents and the P&C. It would give each group a more effective voice. Information will be sent out shortly so please put your name or your friend's name forward!!!!
- The P&C runs the Canteen and the Uniform Shop. We are always looking for people who may be able to volunteer in the Canteen and/or the Uniform Shop. If you would like to help out, please contact Rochelle Willis at the College.

The main P&C office bearers for 2018 are:

Kim Lane – President
Darren Gardiner – Vice President
Rochelle Willis – Secretary
Janelle Millar – Treasurer

It is great to see that Hayley Billing has offered to help organise catering events and Melissa Ivanetz will coordinate fund raising.





Merredin College

learning close to home

15th February 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

The Merredin College P & C have developed a Parent Representative initiative for 2018 to help foster good communication and to assist in the development of the school community.

This initiative requires two parents / carers from each Primary class (K-6) to volunteer to represent the families within their child's class for the 2018 calendar year at P & C meetings. The role of these volunteers is not meant to be arduous but they must be willing to attend P & C meetings and communicate relevant information between the P & C and the families of the class they represent.

Practical examples of the role may include; canvassing parent / carer support for fundraising programs, distributing & collecting surveys, connecting with new families and communicating information about school social events. Parent Representatives will be a conduit between the P&C and families within their respective class.

Please be aware that all parents / carers are still encouraged to attend Merredin College P & C meetings but the P & C envisage that this new initiative will provide another means of uniting the school community and will enhance relationships within the school between teachers, parents and students.

If you would like to volunteer as a Parent Representative for your child's class please complete your information below and return to the class teacher by Friday 23 February 2018.

I (Your Name) _____ wish to volunteer as a Parent Representative.

Child's Year: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Best Contact No: _____

E-mail: _____





Merredin College

learning close to home

15th February 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

The Merredin College P & C have developed a Parent Representative initiative for 2018 to help foster good communication and to assist in the development of the school community.

This initiative requires two parents / carers from each Secondary year group (7-12) to volunteer to represent the families within their child's year for the 2018 calendar year at P & C meetings. The role of these volunteers is not meant to be arduous but they must be willing to attend P & C meetings and communicate relevant information between the P & C and the families of the year group they represent.

Practical examples of the role may include; canvassing parent / carer support for fundraising programs, distributing & collecting surveys, connecting with new families and communicating information about school social events. Parent Representatives will be a conduit between the P&C and families within their respective year.

Please be aware that all parents / carers are still encouraged to attend Merredin College P & C meetings but the P & C envisage that this new initiative will provide another means of uniting the school community and will enhance relationships within the school between teachers, parents and students.

If you would like to volunteer as a Parent Representative for your child's year group please complete your information below and return to Student Services or email to Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au by Friday 23 February 2018.

I (Your Name) _____ wish to volunteer as a Parent Representative.

Child's Year: _____

Best Contact No: _____

E-mail: _____



CoMmuNiTy NoticeS

HEADSPACE RESPONSE TO NATIONAL MEDIA ON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Recently there has been extensive coverage across all Australian media on the passing of Amy 'Dolly' Everett, a 14-year-old girl from Katherine NT, who tragically died as a result of cyberbullying. Dolly's death is a deeply tragic event and our thoughts are with her family, friends and the affected communities. Parents, staff and students can access the available headspace resources relating to bullying and help seeking. The following resources are available on the headspace website and can be passed on as links, or some can be downloaded as factsheets:

Resources for Young People

Understanding bullying for young people

<https://headspace.org.au/young-people/understanding-bullying-for-young-people/>

Helping a friend

<https://headspace.org.au/young-people/helping-a-friend/>

Resources for Families

Understanding bullying for families

<https://headspace.org.au/friends-and-family/understanding-bullying-for-family-and-friends/>

Small changes,
big differences.





Come to our FREE Parenting information session to gain some positive parenting tips for Dealing with Disobedience.

Open for all parents and care givers with children aged between 3-8 years.

DATE : Wednesday 7th March
TIME : 9am – 11am
VENUE : Merredin College
RSVP TO: Jessica Della Bosca - 90491321 or
Jessica.dellabosca@health.wa.gov.au or
Merredin Community Health on 90410444 by 1st March 2018

www.triplep-parenting.net



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service





FOOTBALL: the fun game for all! BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4-9

Club/Organisation:

Merredin Soccer BOYS AND GIRLS WELCOME

Venue:

Oval at Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre

Start date:

Here a go day (ALL AGES) 12th February 4pm then Mini Roos Program from 13th February at 4pm

Price:

Program 8 weeks for \$60 (includes insurance and registration). Your child will receive a welcome pack!

Contact:

Estelle Macdonald 940070770 or Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre



Participant Pack includes:

Ball, Boot Bag,
Shin Pads, Water Bottle
& Sticker Sheet



Register at miniroos.com.au



MERREDIN REGIONAL COMMUNITY
AND LEISURE CENTRE

MERREDIN SOCCER CLINIC & HAVE A GO DAY

NEW EXPERIENCED COACH | STARTS 4PM

MONDAY 12TH, FEBRUARY

WITH A GOLD COIN DONATION | AGES 4 - 25

REGISTER INTEREST WITH ESTELLE MADDAFFARI
ON 9400 707 770 OR ESTELLEMADDAFFARI@HOTMAIL.COM
OR THE FRIENDLY STAFF AT MRCLC ON 90413033
VISIT OUR FACE BOOK PAGE "SOCCER MERREDIN"



belgraveleisure



MERREDIN

Merredin Regional Community Leisure Centre
Bates Street

Presents

A Night of Rock n' Roll

Saturday 24 February at 8pm

Featuring ★
Johnny Young



Peter Andersen
Kelly Green



& Old Guy's Rock Band

Fundraiser
WA Royal Flying
Doctor Service

Tickets \$50.00 per person

Bookings Call Sandra 0474156435

