



ISSUE #53
TERM 3, WEEK 4
10 August 2017

MC link



Merredin College Weekly Community Update

P & C UNIFORM SHOP HOURS TERM 3

Wednesdays: 9.30am-1.30pm

Thursdays: 3.00-4.00pm

**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER
YOUR
FACTION SHIRTS**



MERREDIN COLLEGE WEBSITE

Latest News articles available on the
Web from Monday 14 August:

<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/latest-news/>

Primary NAIDOC Activities
NAIDOC Assembly and Deadly Awards
NAIDOC Community Day
Primary to Year 7 Transition 2018
Year 1 Classroom Report
Year 1-2 Classroom Report

CANTEEN SPECIAL

Friday 11 August

All Students

Fruity Beef Curry
(with Apple and Sultanas)



MEET OUR NEW CHAPLAIN

Hi Everyone

My name is Bronwyn and I can't wait to start in my role as Chaplain at Merredin College. Let me tell you a little about myself so that when we meet you won't be chatting to a stranger.

I am a born-and-bred South African who moved to Australia in September 2014 together with my husband John and two children: Hannah (aged 10 and in Year 5 at MC) and Jared (aged 7 and in Year 2 at MC). We now consider Australia and more specifically Merredin our home!



Other than being a Mom and a Chaplain I consider myself an amateur artist and enjoy spending time in my "studio" on my latest painting, or drawing. I also love pottering around in my garden as well as spending time outdoors. Merredin Peak is my favourite place in Merredin and I love spending time there gazing over our beautiful town and watching the sunset. Hunt's Dam and Ski Lake are also some of the places I go to refresh and rejuvenate.

I am very new to chaplaincy, but look forward to meeting with and learning from many of you as together we care for the people of the Merredin College community. I will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from Monday 21 August. I am so looking forward to working with Sal and the rest of the Student Services Team creating a safe space where students and others can not only have a chat but also have some peace, quiet and time out. My door will always be open should you wish to pop in for whatever reason.

Warm Regards
Bronwyn McKane
Chaplain

NAIDOC WEEK

This week (7-11 August) we have been celebrating NAIDOC Week. Teachers have been engaging students in Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum throughout the week. We are indebted to Chrissi Smith, Jenno Hayden and Tanya Garlett for their advice and support.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES— URGENT

Payment of Student Contributions and Charges are overdue. Please organise payment or contact the front office to discuss payment plan options.

EDUCATION IN RURAL, REGIONAL AND REMOTE AREAS—SURVEY

Below is a link to a questionnaire regarding education in rural, regional and remote areas. The Federal government is currently undertaking an independent review and this is an opportunity to have some input. All information received will



MERREDIN COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE

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

be collated and sent through to WACSSO (WA Council of State Schools Organisations) to be incorporated into their submission.

All responses are confidential. You can answer all or just comment on the topics you feel passionately about.

<https://goo.gl/forms/xtOfxPD7txZkWCz82>

I hope you take the opportunity to have your say. Please respond before 14 August 2017. For further information contact Janelle Millar.

P & C FUNDRAISER



**FUNDRAISING
FOR OUR 'BRIGHT SPARKS'**
(BATTERY RE-CYCLING)

The Merredin College P&C is running an automotive battery re-cycling program in order to raise funds for the benefit of the students of Merredin College. This venture will generate an attractive return with all funds going straight to the P&C to fund school projects.

Simply drop off your old car, truck or tractor batteries to the Merredin College Trade Training Centre, Throssell Road, on Thursday or Friday from 22 August to 22 September 2017.

This will be an ongoing program that simply requires you to clean up your garage or shed! Thank you.

NAPLAN ONLINE TRIAL

You may have heard that NAPLAN Online is being introduced from 2018, with an aim for all schools to be administering NAPLAN Online by 2020. NAPLAN Online will provide better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information. Your child's results will be returned to you faster, within a few weeks rather than a couple of months.

Our school has volunteered to undertake a trial to enable us to assess our technical readiness to implement the new online assessments. This trial gives us a chance to try out the new national online assessment platform in a real-life classroom environment. This trial is called the School Readiness Test (SRT).

During August 2017, some students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will participate in a trial of the assessment platform, by undertaking one or two online readiness tests that include examples of the new NAPLAN Online questions. Each test will take about 45 minutes to complete.

Participating in this trial is important as it will help us ensure we have adequate internet connectivity, and whether students have access to a sufficient number of devices for NAPLAN Online testing. During the trial, our teachers will have the opportunity to practise managing the classroom logistics for an online assessment and the new test administration processes.

Feedback from schools participating in the trial will inform transition to the online assessment as well as provide valuable feedback to shape the final development of the NAPLAN Online platform and administration processes. The readiness test has

not been constructed to assess curriculum knowledge, but rather to provide students with an opportunity to experience the types of questions that will be included in the new online assessments. As such, reports will not be provided. Participation in this trial is a key step to ensuring a successful NAPLAN Online experience.

Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert or Mr Jarrad Ritchie (Deputy Principals)

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL (PBS)

The school is currently undergoing the implementation cycle for PBS across Merredin College and is seeking parent input into the behaviours that we will focus on for improvement. Staff have already completed this process and students will be surveyed in the next few weeks to ensure we have the views of our whole school community. Please follow the link below to complete the survey.

<https://goo.gl/SKjcBe>

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ByLEYZANGkrDZL9IXCHqNfXAPHDOZi1nIHEoHLNByH0/edit?usp=sharing>

Got a question about this? Ms Sarah Postans (Classroom Teacher)

MECKERING CROSS COUNTRY

Twenty-one primary and secondary students are heading to Meckering on Friday 18 August for the Meckering Cross Country. We wish them luck.

SECONDARY *Link*

YEAR 12 REFERENCE REQUEST

Year 12 students who wish to be provided with a reference must have their application in by Friday 11 August. For more information, contact Mr Nathan Tibbits.

BIBBULMUN TREK (BOYS)

A Parent Information Night will be held on Monday 14 August at 7.00pm in the southern staff room. This is when the students will receive their backpacks and raincoats.

SCIENCE ACTIVITY WEEK

Next week is Science Week. To celebrate SCIENCE WEEK, there will be a Science quiz in Form on Monday 14 August.

Form teachers will read out the questions to students who collectively come up with an answer.

The winning Form will be the group that has completed the most number of questions correctly and has their answer sheet in the earliest. Each member of the winning Form will be awarded a prize by Miss Rogerson.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2017 HELPERS REQUIRED

The Athletics carnival will be held on Tuesday 5 September at the College. Last year's carnival was a great success and we hope that the 2017 carnival will be bigger and better. We are

asking for any parents/caregivers who are able to give their time to help manage, judge or time events that are run throughout the day (particularly in the morning session 9am to 12pm). Any time that you can spare would be greatly appreciated. Please email David O'Neill-TIC Health & Physical Education by email david.oneill@education.wa.edu.au or contact the College on 9041 0900. We thank you in advance.



SPORTS TRACKER APP

This year the Physical Education Department is implementing a new sports software program that gives both students and parents the ability to follow all of the events completed during the day, championship point standings and House rankings. The program is called Sports Tracker App and can be found at <https://sportstrackerapp.com/>. All students have been given a logon and password to this program through their student email address.

This program provides students and parents with their individual results and builds a sporting profile of the student each year they compete. The program also emails students telling them that they have broken a record and performed a personal best score. Parents are encouraged to check with their child to see if they have their logon. If you can't make it on Tuesday 5 September log on and follow the day at <https://sportstrackerapp.com/>

WACE CHECKER DEVELOPED TO ASSIST YEAR 12 STUDENTS MONITOR THEIR PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (WACE)

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority is pleased to announce that it has developed a WACE Checker for Year 12 students. The WACE Checker is a tool which Year 12s can use to check their progress towards achieving their Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and is now available on the Authority website at:

<https://wacechecker.scsa.wa.edu.au/wace>

The WACE Checker is provided as a guide only. The report it gives students must not be interpreted as a guarantee the student will achieve a WACE. Achievement of the WACE is dependent on the calculation of a student's final results and completion of courses. Individuals are encouraged to consult the WACE Manual for the relevant year, or their school, should they wish to confirm WACE eligibility for a student based on enrolment and predicted/actual achievement.

To use the WACE Checker, students will need to add information about their achievements in Year 11 and their expected achievements in Year 12. The checker will be of most assistance if the information provided for Year 12 is realistic. When students add their anticipated grades for Year 12, they need to add what they realistically expect to achieve this year.

The WACE Checker allows students to save the summary of their input as a Portable Document Format (PDF). They can use this PDF to track their progress and to check the impact of any changes to their enrolment or achievement.

Students can also use a save function which will keep the data entered into the checker for a month. An access code is provided to allow students to use the 'Fetch My Data' button when they select that option in the checker.

More information is available under the 'Tell me more' button on the checker.

PARENTS OF YEAR 11 STUDENTS—IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If your child is doing a VET course other than Nursing they need to organise a work placement for next term (16 Oct - 10 Nov). Your child has been given a Workplace Learning application form. This needs to be completed and returned to Mrs Sutherland or Mr Wallace via the front office no later than 18 August.

PRIMARY link

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY AND FAMILY READ IN

Our Student Council will be running our next assembly on Thursday 17 August. The assembly will be held in the Primary Assembly Area at 9am. Immediately following the assembly we will be holding a 'Family Read In' to kick off Book Week. Parents and families are encouraged to join us on the grass quad for a 30 minute shared reading experience. Students from Pre-primary to Year 6 will be involved in the 'Read In' activity.

Got a question about this? Mrs Leah Boehme (Deputy Principal)

CHOIR CAMP

The Primary Choir under the guidance of Mrs Adamson will travel to Perth on Friday 18 August for a camp. On Friday night they will sing at Perth Arena at 'One Big Voice' where a large number of choirs will perform.

PRIMARY HOMEWORK CLASSES

Every Tuesday afternoon we will be running Primary Homework Classes for Year 2-6 students, supervised by a teacher, between 3.15 and 4.15pm. Students will be provided with some fruit for afternoon tea and will meet in the Block 4 wet area. Teachers will help children with their nightly reading and support them to complete their weekly homework.

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

BOOK WEEK

We will be celebrating Book Week over Week 5 and 6 starting with a 'Family Read-In' after our Thursday Assembly in Week 5 (17 August). On Friday 26 August (Week 6), we will have a 'Book Week Dress Up Day' with the theme for this year's Book Week – 'Escape to Everywhere' – a great travel theme!

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



SUSTAINABILITY

The Year 3 class will be coordinating the collection of materials for re-use in classes, our MakerSpace and by community members as part of our sustainability focus. Items we are starting to collect include egg cartons, magazines, cardboard tubes, marbles, fabric, wool, ice cream containers, baby food jars and foam board. Items can be dropped in to the Year 3

classroom in Block 4 in Primary. Thanks in advance for your support.

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

DROP OFF POINTS

Parents are reminded that they are not to use the staff car parks for picking up and dropping off primary students. We have a 'Kiss and Drop' point off Throssell Road for this purpose.

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

Save the Date:

14 August

Bibbulmun Parent Information Night
7pm

15 August

YouthCare Mtg
5.30pm

17 August

Primary Assembly
9.00am



18 –19 August

Choir Camp

18 August

Meckering Cross Country

Term 3 Planner:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 	14 SCIENCE WEEK Bibbulmun Trek Parent Information Night-7pm	15 YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm	16 Early Close 2.30pm	17 Primary Assembly 9am	18 Choir Camp Meckering X Country
6 	21 BOOKWEEK CANBERRA CAMP	22 Aboriginal Parent Mtg - 9.30am SRT NAPLAN Online (Yr5 & 7)	23 Early Close 2.30pm	24 BIBBULMUN TREK (BOYS) SRT NAPLAN Online (Yr 3) School Board Mtg 5.30pm	25
7	28 OLNA-Numeracy and Reading-Yr 12 OLNA-Numeracy and Reading-Yr 10 & 11	29	30 Early Close 2.30pm	31	1 SEPTEMBER Primary Athletics Carnival