



ISSUE #6
TERM 1, WEEK 6
8 March 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.

FAREWELL TO TANYA GARLETT

After 17 years with the Department of Education, we will sadly say goodbye to Tanya Garlett this week. A farewell morning tea was held this morning and tomorrow is her last day. Staff and students wish Tanya all the very best in the next phase of her life and thank her most sincerely for all of her support.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES ARE NOW DUE

Public Education is not FREE! While the government provides a basic grant to run schools it is also assumed that parents and carers will make a contribution towards their child's education.

In addition to this, payment of P&C contributions is essential to keep our canteen operational and reduces the need for fundraising. Our Chaplaincy service provides support to students, the Library fund replenishes the books in our library and the IT fund enables us to keep our technology up to date.

If you have a Health Care Card/Pensioner Concession Card, and a student in Year 7 -12 you are eligible to apply for the Secondary Assistance Scheme (Closes 7 April 2017) which will contribute \$350.00 towards your child's educational costs.

For families who are experiencing financial hardship, payment plans are available. Please contact the office if you need to apply for the Secondary Assistance Scheme, arrange a payment plan or want a copy of your child's invoice.

MERREDIN COLLEGE BOARD MEETING—CHANGE OF DATE

Due to unforeseen circumstances (and calendar clashes) the Board Meeting gazetted for Thursday 15 March has been moved to Thursday 22 March. Apologies for this necessary change of date.

Julie Flockart (College Board Chair)

NAPLAN EXEMPTIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be undertaking NAPLAN Online in Term 2 between the 15 and 25 May. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress in reading, writing, spelling and grammar and punctuation.

Students with a significant intellectual disability and/or those with co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests may be exempted from sitting the tests.

Students who have been attending school in Australia for less than a year before the tests may also be eligible for exemption. Exemptions should be discussed with your child's classroom teacher

Parents or carers may withdraw their child from the tests to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. It is recommended that withdrawal be considered in consultation with your child's teacher.

All requests for exemption from testing or withdrawal from testing must be received by the school by Friday 6 April. Exemption and Withdrawal Forms can be collected from primary administration or the main office.

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



MERREDIN COLLEGE FACEBOOK PAGE

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

2018 SCHOOL PHOTO INFORMATION

Our School Photos will be taken on:

Monday 12 March 2018

Family Photos (Surnames A-H) in Library from 8.20-8.45am
Year 9, 10 11 and 12 Student Photos + Primary & Secondary
School Leader Group Photos

Tuesday 13 March 2018

Family Photos (Surnames I-N) in Library from 8.20-8.45am
K1/PP, PP-Yr 6 Student Photos, Primary Choir Group Photo,
Primary Leaders Group Photos

Wednesday 14 March 2018

Family Photos (Surnames O-Z) in Library from 8.20-8.45am
K3, K2/PP Student Photos, Year 7 and Yr 8 Student Photos

Class Photos/Portraits

- Every Student will have their photo taken, whether they are purchasing photos or not.
- Your child will be given a personalised pre-paid envelope by the class Teacher.
- Please ensure that your child returns the pre-paid envelope with enclosed payment to school on photo day if you wish to purchase photos.
- Please note: The Photographers are not permitted to open the envelopes and cannot provide change.

Family Photos

- Envelopes can be obtained from Administration.
- Family photos are being taken each morning before school.
- Please bring your children in on the days listed above via your child's surname to avoid long queues.
- Please ensure that your family envelope with enclosed payment is handed to the Photographers on photo day.

Special/Sports Group Photos

- If your child is in a Special/Sports photo you will receive a link and password to the online gallery after photo day, where you can view and order these photos if required. These photos will be packed and delivered with the school's bulk order.

SECONDARY *Link*

ONLA WRITING

OLNA Writing for Year 10, 11 and 12 students who are required to sit this assessment occurred on Tuesday 7 March. Any student away on Tuesday will be required to sit the assessment on Friday 9 March. OLNA Numeracy will be held on Tuesday 13 March.

YEAR 7-9 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING—PREPARING FOR UPPER SCHOOL—TUESDAY 13 MARCH 5-6PM (LIBRARY)

Preparing for a University pathway course begins at the very latest in Year 7. For parents there is a great deal to learn about. What are WACE and ATAR, and what is the difference between the two? What grades should my child be achieving before he/she will be considered for an ATAR course. Are there any other

prerequisites considered essential for a University pathway course in Year 11 and 12? If my child is not working hard at school now, will they suddenly change in Year 11? What are the options for students who do not wish to attend university? What is VET? Parents and children who wish to have these questions and others answered are invited to attend this evening. Students have been provided with a note regarding this information evening.
For any questions contact Mr Rennie (Deputy Principal)

VISIT BY NOTRE DAME/CURTIN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL STUDENTS

Forty five medical students will visit Merredin College on Wednesday 14 March and Thursday 15 March. Year 11 and 12 ATAR student and some Year 10 students will have an opportunity to have a discussion with them. This will focus on life and education in a small town, educational aspirations and issues facing students.

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES VISIT

On Thursday 15th March the Combined Universities will visit Merredin College to talk with both current and prospective ATAR students. These students on a university bound pathway will have the opportunity to question the Perth universities about anything they wish. This includes question about aspects of university life, course prerequisites or perhaps which university may suit them best. This is a yearly event and it is always well received by the ATAR students.

We would like to thank the representatives of Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, Notre Dame University and the University of Western Australia.

YEAR 9 CLASSES

For 2018 we made a decision to use a non-streaming model for English, HASS, Science, and Health and Physical Education. Unfortunately due to the broad range of abilities it has been difficult for teachers to extend the more able students and also cater for those requiring additional support. Commencing on Monday 11 March, these classes will be streamed. Students will be given their new timetables today.

YEAR 7-12 ASSEMBLY—FRIDAY 16 MARCH—PERIOD 1

Parents/carers are invited to attend the above assembly at which Merit Certificates (GROW Awards) will be handed out. The Specialist Volleyball teams will also be announced as will the results of the Interschool Swimming carnival.

YEAR 11 AND 12 VET STUDENTS WORKPLACE LEARNING

Year 11 and 12 students completing a VET course have the opportunity to attend workplacement in the last week of Term 2, 25-29 June. **All VET students not attending Country Week are encouraged to find a placement related to their VET course.**

Applications have been handed out and the return deadline is Week 4, Term 2, 25 May. It is the responsibility of the student along with help from parents to find a placement.

YEAR 11 WAITRESSING

The Year 11 Hospitality class will be assisting Hayley Billing with waitressing at the International Women's Luncheon held at Cummins Theatre this Friday 9 March.



SECONDARY *Link Cont'd*



HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club is run by teachers on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 3.00-4.00pm. Students are encouraged to come along for support and assistance to complete homework or assignments.

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.

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 which will occur on Saturday 7 April.

LOST PROPERTY

Student Services has a large amount of lost property. Items include; wallets, watches, jewellery, thumb drives, glasses and other items. Please check that these items are not yours.

YOUNG ENDEAVOUR YOUTH SCHEME

The Young Endeavour Youth Scheme is pleased to announce that applications are taken for young Australians aged 16-23 to join a voyage in the national sail training ship *Young Endeavour*.

Twenty four youth from across Australia will join each eleven day voyage during the 2018 program. As members of the crew they will keep watch and take the helm, handle lines on deck, cook in the galley, navigate using the ship's charts, and climb the 30 metre mast to set and furl the sails.

While at sea, they will be encouraged to pursue personal and team goals and challenges. By the end of each voyage they will have the skills and confidence to elect a leadership team and take command of the 44 metre brigantine, sailing *Young Endeavour* along the Australian coast.

Applications are open at www.youngendeavour.gov.au. Voyage fees and conditions will apply to successful applicants, who must be aged 16-23 year on the day of departure of their selected voyage/s. Potential applicants should apply now for the best chance of being drawn for a voyage.

AIR FORCE CAMP FOR YOUNG WOMEN

A great opportunity for young women considering future employment with the Air Force.

Applicants must be female aged between 16 – 24 years old.

Open to girls from all States/Territories – so a highly competitive process.

Dates of placement: 9 – 12 April 2018

Closing Date for applications: 29 March 2018

For more information and application forms go to:

[https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-](https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey&lid=52939460018)

[5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-](https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey&lid=52939460018)

[6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-](https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey&lid=52939460018)

[6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-](https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey&lid=52939460018)

[a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsLi](https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey&lid=52939460018)

[stKey&lid=52939460018](https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&JobCategoryID=C58E9207-A0EB-4126-578C-5B3A1AB39303&jobsresetList=true&CurATC=defenceworkexp&CurBID=EBDFCAA3-B025-F7B7-3BD4-6D3FA42B2291&JobListID=83AA67BB-5AB1-7A5E-A521-6D3E05DAE980&jobsListKey=238bbeaf-adc0-4f0f-820e-a179ce031cf2&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey&lid=52939460018)

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 this year.

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

MORNING RUNNING CLUB

Mrs Walker and Miss Bryant will be starting a morning running club for students in Years 3-6. This will be an opportunity for students to improve their fitness and running, prior to the Cross Country events later in the year. Notes have been sent out to students who may be interested in attending. These need to be returned to the Primary office by Friday afternoon, 9 March.

Got a question about this? Ms Zane Walker or Miss Kylie Bryant (Physical Education Teachers)

MEDICAL STUDENTS VISIT

Medical students from Curtin University and Notre Dame University are visiting Merredin College next week to work with students from PP – Year 6.

P/P – Year 3 students:

The Teddy Bear Hospital (TBH) is a community medicine strategy that assists children in becoming more aware and accustomed to hospitals and medical treatment whilst developing the clinical skills of medical treatment. In a TBH visit, children play the role of a parent and bring their teddy bears or favoured toys to a simulated hospital (classroom) for treatment by the Teddy Doctor (medical student). These Teddy Doctors demonstrate the entire process of a medical consultation in a fun, non-threatening environment.

Children will need to bring a teddy bear or a toy to the session as they rotate through every station. In the event that a child does not have a teddy, or is unable to bring one, TBH will supply teddies.

Year 4-6 students:

Students in Year 4 - 6 will participate in a session that aims to teach the basic principles of healthy food choices and a physically active lifestyle.

Got a question about this? Mrs Barbara Smith (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 are 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)

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 Primary Administration 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)

HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES

Healthy lunches and snacks are important for active children. It is important to offer healthy lunch box choices. Tips include fresh fruit, crunchy vegetables and a combination of protein, dairy and carbohydrate foods.

Eating healthy food helps children concentrate and learn. However, healthy eating changes are not always easy to make. Try to set a good example with your own lunches. Encourage children to help choose and prepare their own lunch. They might like to make a list of the foods they enjoy. Praise your child when they choose healthy foods for their lunch box. (Better Health website)

There are limited times for children to eat during the day, especially at school. Children may prefer to play with friends instead of eating. Children at Merredin College have a supervised 10 minute eating time each day. Please encourage your child to sit and eat before heading out to play when the bell rings.

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

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: Students 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 not wearing the correct 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.

Save the Date:

9 March

Yr 11 Waitressing at
International Womens
Day P.2-5

9 March

Primary Halogen Young

9 March

Secondary Interschool
Swim Carnival (Wylie)

12-14 March

School Photos

13 March

Yr7-9 Parent Evening
'Preparing for Uni Pathway'
5-6pm

Term 1 2018 Planner:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	SAT
6	5 Labour Day	6 *OLNA (All Week) *Yr8-10 Future Moves Workshop <i>Youthcare Mtg 5.30pm</i>	7 *Primary Interschool Swim Carnival *Yr8-10 Future Moves Workshop <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	8 *Halogen Young Leadership Conference-Secondary	9 *Yr11 Waitressing-IWD P.2-5 *Halogen Young Leadership Conference-Primary *Secondary Interschool Swim Carnival(Wylie)	10
7	12 SCHOOL PHOTOS *OLNA (All Week)	13 SCHOOL PHOTOS *Yr7-9 Parent Evening 5-6pm-'Preparing for Uni Pathway'	14 SCHOOL PHOTOS <i>Wheatbelt Medical Students Immersion Pgm</i> <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	15 <i>Wheatbelt Medical Students Immersion Pgm</i> *University Visit (8.50-9.50) Yr11/12ATAR Yr10 ATAR *Yr2 Moorditji Mia Excursion 1.10pm	16 *Yr7-12 Assembly- P.1 (Middle School Council announced)	17 Merredin Show
8	19 *OLNA (All Week) P&C Meeting 3.15pm	20 *YR 6 CAMP *Black Dog Institute Visit P.1-4	21 *YR 6 CAMP <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	22 *YR 6 CAMP School Board 5.30pm	23 *YR 6 CAMP *Harry Perkins' Excursion-Yr12	24 *YR 6 CAMP
9	26	27	28 *Aboriginal Parent Meeting 9am <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	29 *Primary Assembly 9am *Primary Loved Ones Day *'Be A Hero' Free Dress-Yr 10	30 Good Friday	31
10	2 Easter Monday	3 Easter Tuesday (no school)	4 <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	5	6 *Yr 12 Councillors set up for Ball	7 School Ball
11	9	10 *P-Yr6 Glass of Class Lunch	11 *Commonwealth Games Fun Run (Primary) <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	12	13 Last Day Term 1 *Primary ANZAC Assembly-P.1 *Yr7-12 ANZAC Ceremony & Assembly P.2	14



CoMmuNiTy NotICes

Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

Meningococcal vaccine for 1-4 year olds

A FREE vaccination to protect against meningococcal strains ACWY is being offered to all children aged 12 months to less than five years.



Meningococcal disease is an uncommon, but sometimes life-threatening illness. At any one time, about 10 per cent of healthy people carry meningococcal bacteria harmlessly in their nose or throat and do not become ill. To reduce the incidence of meningococcal disease among this vulnerable age group, a free vaccine will be available throughout 2018.

Contact your local GP or Child Health Clinic to schedule an appointment for your child/children to receive the vaccine.

For more information:
www.health.wa.gov.au

Eastern Wheatbelt Primary Health Service - Merredin Phone: 9041 0444 E-mail: easternwheatbelt.phs@health.wa.gov.au	Wheatbelt Public Health Unit - Northam Phone: 9622 4320 E-mail: wheatbelt.phu@health.wa.gov.au
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LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/MyHealthyWheatbelt

A CLINIC WILL BE HELD AT: Primary Health Eastern

DATE: 9th March 2018 **TIME: 0830 - 1030**

FOR APPOINTMENTS, CONTACT: 90 410 444 to register

Go Healthy!

A healthy lunchbox

Healthy lunches and snacks are important for keeping active kids alert and focused and providing them with the nutrition they need every day.

A healthy lunch box should include:

- Fruit – at least one serve of fresh seasonal fruit. If you don't have fresh fruit, canned (in natural juice) is a good substitute. Dried fruit is high in sugar and should be avoided
- Vegetables – vegetable sticks, salads or a mix of raw (with dip) or grilled vegetables
- Dairy – one serve of milk, yoghurt or cheese supports optimal growth and development in children. If your child can't tolerate dairy provide a suitable alternative.
- Protein – lean meat or poultry, fish, eggs, tofu, legumes/beans, or nuts and seeds.
- Grain foods – wholegrain and high fiber varieties are best.
- Water – the best drink to keep children hydrated.

Quick Tip

Remember, children who help plan and prepare their own lunch are more likely to eat it. Your child might like to try out this fun, 'Interactive Lunchbox' website:
www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au/hav/articles.nsf/html/index.html

Recipe Link



<https://livelighter.com.au/Recipe/249/roasted-pumpkin-and-salad-sandwich>

