



ISSUE # 3  
TERM 1, WEEK 3  
21 February 2019

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



## Message from the Principal.....

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<https://www.facebook.com/Merredin-College-256760021333175/>



### SCHOOL BOARD

The first School Board meeting for the year will occur tonight, Thursday 21 February at 5.30pm in the secondary staffroom.

### ATAR PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

It was pleasing to see 20 parents and their children attend an informative senior school ATAR Information evening in the School Library on Tuesday. If you have any concerns regarding the progress of your child please contact us.

### ONLINE LITERACY AND NUMERACY (OLNA)

The school has purchased a subscription to OLNA Support. This will provide our students with practice OLNA type questions to best familiarise them with the OLNA test. The OLNA Writing will occur on Tuesday 5 March, Reading Monday 11 March and Numeracy 18 March. The use of this site by Year 10, 11 & 12 students who have not yet qualified for OLNA is highly encouraged. Students will also be able to access the OLNA Support program from home. Students who did not attain Band 8 in Year 9 NAPLAN must successfully complete OLNA Reading, Writing and Numeracy during Year 10, 11 or 12 to qualify for the Western Australian Certificate of Education.

### ATTENDANCE

To ensure that students are able to 'strive for success' it is very important that they attend school regularly. We have made an excellent start so far this year with an attendance of 94.3%, with every year group exceeding 90%. If your child is unable to attend school please let us know. To remain in 'Good Standing' students must have an attendance of more than 90% to be able to participate in various extra curricula activities throughout the year.

### P&C AGM—11 MARCH 2019—6.00PM

All parents and carers are strongly encouraged to attend the AGM of the P&C on Monday 11 March at 6.00 pm in the library. All positions are vacant. Without the P&C, we would not be able to run the canteen or the uniform shop. Extra funds provided by the P&C for activities like the Choir Camp are considered essential. Please see the attached invitation to the P&C AGM.

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

Our Year 6-10 student leaders will attend a two day Leadership Camp at Camp Kulin on 26-27 February. They will be accompanied by student leaders from Bruce Rock DHS, Moorine Rock PS, Nungarin PS, Mukinbudin DHS and Southern Cross DHS. The camp has been fully funded by EWEN.

### NAPLAN AND STUDENT READINESS FOR NAPLAN ONLINE

Students at Merredin College and across the country will be sitting NAPLAN online on 14-24 May. In preparation, ACARA's NAPLAN Online public demonstration site is available for public access. This resource will enable students and parents to interact with minitests in Reading, Writing, Conventions of Language and Numeracy for each of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The items in these tests have

#### Our PBS Values Focus

Each week the College will focus on aspects of our PBS expectations. The information will be provided to students on classroom doors. Parents are encouraged to support the College in promoting these values at home.

The PBS focuses for Week 4, Term 1 (next week) are:

#### PRIMARY

We are RESPONSIBLE in the Community

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE BY WEARING OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH PRIDE

#### SECONDARY

We are RESPONSIBLE in Learning Areas

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE BY WEARING OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH PRIDE

We are carinG, we are Respectful, we are RespOnsible, We strive to succeed!

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been chosen to demonstrate the type of items which students will encounter in the NAPLAN Online tests. The landing page for the website <http://www.nap.edu.au/onlineassessment/> naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site contains a number of resources (FAQs, user guide and technical requirements) that will continue to be updated.

# PRIMARY *link*



## DROP OFF

Parents are requested to use the 'Kiss and Drop' carpark for all drop offs in the morning and pickups in the afternoon. The second carpark is for education staff only – staff at the school and visiting staff.

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

## WHOLE SCHOOL SPORT

Whole school sport has changed to Wednesdays for 2019 to fit in with specialist Physical Education teacher rosters. Students are encouraged to wear their faction t-shirts on Wednesdays this year.

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

## ASSEMBLY

Our first assembly will be hosted by the Year 1 and Year 2 classes and will be on Thursday 7 March at 9.00am 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)***

## SAVE THE DATES

The Merredin College K-12 Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 8 March and the Primary Interschool Carnival on Friday 15 March. We will be advertising for parent helpers over the next few weeks. Please save the dates to help us out and/or come along to support your child on the day.

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

## NO HAT!! NOT 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 \$12.00.

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

## 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 to school on a school bus, children should not be at school before 8.30am on school days. The school grounds are out of bounds after hours and on weekends. Police complete periodic "walk throughs" in order to monitor trespassers. The school has extensive CCTV cameras to monitor out of hours trespassers.

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

## HEALTH CARE PLANS

Student health care plan updates have gone home with students. Please complete them and return them through the classroom teacher as soon as possible to ensure your child's health concerns are managed appropriately by school staff.

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

## SEESAW LEARNING PORTFOLIOS (K-6)

Seesaw is a simple way for teachers and students to record and share what's happening in the classroom. Seesaw gives students a place to document their learning, be creative and learn how to use technology. Each student gets their own journal and will add things to it, like photos, videos, drawings, or notes. When there are new Seesaw posts, families can be notified via app notification, email or SMS. Parents are only notified about their own child's work, and all data is safe and secure.



Please return your signed approval slips to access your child's electronic learning portfolio. Check out the video for further information here: <https://bit.ly/2BlgBYO>

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



## PRIMARY *Link Contd*

### ON ENTRY ASSESSMENT FOR PRE-PRIMARY STUDENTS

During Week 4 of Term 1 all children in Pre-Primary will be participating in the Department of Education's state-wide On-Entry Assessment Program.

The purpose of the program is to provide teachers with an opportunity, early in the year, to collect information on the essential literacy and numeracy skills and understandings of each child in their class. This will assist your child's teacher to develop informed and intentional play-based teaching programs, designed to reflect individual needs and foster each child's learning.

Some assessment tasks can be included in the daily teaching program and some will be carried out one-to-one, in a quiet area. This will provide your child and their teacher with valuable time together, as well as give the teacher the opportunity to observe the behaviours and processes your child uses in responding to questions.

Further information can also be found on the *On-entry Assessment Program* website at the following address.

<http://det.wa.edu.au/educationalmeasurement/detcms/navigation/on-entry/information-for-parents/>

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

## SECONDARY *Link*

### STUDENT ELECTIONS

Congratulations to the following Year leaders

Year 7: Grace Shelton and Lucas Griffiths

Year 8: Caitlin Squire and Kris Hayden

Year 9: Nikita Tiller and Lachy Alvaro

Year 10: Georgina Squire and Harry Sharp

Year 11: Tom Farson and Panashe Mudimu

### SCHOOL BALL—YEAR 10,11 AND 12

Tickets for the Ball are \$50 per person. Permission forms must be handed in when payment is made. Payment and Permission forms due to student services this **Friday 22 February**.

### EXTRA TUITION FOR 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.

Human Biology before school tuition started this week and the other subjects will commence next week:

History:	(Mr Eggleston)	Rm 14	Mondays
Human Biology & Physics :	(Mrs Last)	Rm 27	Tuesdays 8.30am
Mathematics –Applications/Methods/Specialist:	(Mr Gardiner)	Rm 23	Thursdays 8.30am
English:	(Mrs Tiller)	Rm 17	Fridays 8.30am

**Any queries contact Mr Gardiner**

### HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club commenced on Thursday 14 February in the school library. It will run 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 their studies.

### YEAR 7-8 VOLLEYBALL SELECTION DAY

On Friday 22 February our Year 7 and 8 students will be given the chance to be awarded a spot into the Merredin College Volleyball Program by participating in an excursion at the Merredin Recreation Centre. The excursion is the Year 7 and 8 Selection Day and it will give students the opportunity to showcase their skills in an attempt to win a position in the volleyball program.

The program, now in its second year, has seen lots of interest from new prospective students who are looking to make an impact in the sport. To prepare for the selection day, training has already begun in Week 2-3 and those who have attended the training sessions have given themselves the best chance possible of attaining a position.

## SECONDARY *Link Cont'd.....*

For further information regarding the program and the Selection Day excursion, please contact Mr Pirovich in the Physical Education Department. [david.pirovich2@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:david.pirovich2@education.wa.edu.au)

### ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL BALL

Given that we have the all-important School Ball this term, it is timely to remind Year 10, 11 and 12 students and their parents that by being *caring, respectful, responsible and striving for success*, students earn the right to attend a wonderful evening on Saturday 16 March. This is being organised by Mr James, Mrs Pirovich and the Year 12 Student Leaders. It is important for students to maintain their Good Standing and make the right choices with regard to behaving appropriately by respecting teachers and fellow students. This will ensure students avoid suspensions. Students who attend the Ball must be responsible with regard to attendance and attitude to class. They must have an attendance rate of 90% or more, come prepared for class and complete all work. In addition students must be respectful and demonstrate this by wearing the school uniform and complying with the school's mobile phone policy. These criteria are made more explicit in the attached document.

### YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE 2019

The Education Department of WA has recently reviewed all Duty of Care policies including the Workplace Learning Policy and all but the Outdoor Education Policy must be implemented from 1 January 2019.

The new Workplace Learning Policy prescribes a number of changes to ensure that all parties involved, student, parents, host employers and the school are aware of their roles and responsibilities in providing a safe working environment for Workplace students.

The new procedures and paperwork has increased the time required to place a student with an employer. In 2019 Merredin College will be reviewing how long the process takes to place Year 11 and 12 VET students. Until we ascertain how much time this involves it is with regret that we are unable to implement Year 10 Work Experience for 2019. We will review this decision late in 2019 with a view to reintroducing Year 10 Work Experience in 2020.

***Any queries to Tracey Sutherland.***

### YEAR 11 AND 12 CHANGE OF COURSE/S DEADLINES 2019

**[as recommended by Merredin College]**

FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2019:

Last date for student transfers between *single Year 11 units*[A1 & G1] for Semester 1

Last date for student transfers between *paired Year 11 units*[AE & GE] for Semester 1

FRIDAY 8 MARCH 2019:

Last date for student transfers between *pairs of Year 12 units*[AT & GT] for 2019

FRIDAY 14 JUNE 2019:

Last date for student transfers between *single Year 11 units*[A2 & G2] for Semester 2

Last date for student transfers from *paired Year 11 units*[AE & GE] to *single units*[A2 or G2] for Semester 2

### CONNECT—FINDING OUT WHAT YOUR YEAR 10-12 CHILD IS STUDYING, WHAT ASSESSMENTS ARE DUE AND HOW THEY ARE PROGRESSING

Connect is an integrated online environment developed by the Department of Education WA for staff, students and parents in public schools. Check out the short video clip on Connect at <https://vimeo.com/connectwa/welcome>

Each parent is given their own secure login to Connect. Connect is totally free and, because it is provided by the Department of Education, very safe. As well as being able to login to Connect on any internet-enabled device, you may also receive notices from Connect that will be sent to you as either an email or a notification on your phone. A free app called *Connect Now* can be downloaded from Google Play or the Apple App Store and will let you receive Connect notices as push notifications.

If you have multiple children you only need one login – even if your children attend different public schools.

When you login to Connect you will be able to see information specific to your own child/ren such as:

- The classes in which your children are engaged
- Class calendars
- Assessment Outlines information drawn from Reporting to Parents (secondary)
- Assessments and evidence for your own child
- Notices from your child's classes that automatically generate an email or phone notification to you.

To register for Connect please read and sign the attached *Connect Conditions of Use for Parents* and complete the *Parents Registration Form* and return to the school as soon as possible or scan and email the signed documents to [Sandra.Lee@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Sandra.Lee@education.wa.edu.au). You will then be confidentially issued with your unique user name and password for Connect. We see Connect as an exciting new way for you to stay in touch with your child's school journey.





## SECONDARY *Link Cont'd.....*

### PARENTS OF YEAR 7s: BE PART OF THE SUPPORTING FAMILY CONVERSATIONS PROJECT

Year 7 students have been given a pack from the Telethon Institute this week. Inside is an information pamphlet, a survey and a reply paid envelope. Merredin College is involved in a study with the Telethon Institute to reduce the possible harm to kids when online and the age that young people start drinking. This initial and anonymous survey is very important to find a baseline in parental thoughts on online safety and alcohol. This survey can be completed either online or by filling in the paper version in your pack and then placing it in the reply paid envelope and posting it. We strongly recommend that you support and participate in the survey as Merredin College has been successful in applying to be part of this study.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

There are many opportunities for students to attend extracurricular activities at Merredin College. It is not a student's right to attend. Extracurricular activities are privileges which must be earned. Please refer to the table below for the criteria which must be met before students can attend the main extracurricular activities.

Year Group	School Uniform	Attendance	Good Standing (GS)	Penalty
All student leaders (Middle School Councillors and Year 11 Student Councillors)	Should be in school uniform as they are our role models	At least 90%	Cannot lose GS. Must also ensure all school work is completed and handed in.	Loss of badge
2019 Year 8 Canberra students	Should be in school uniform	At least 90%	Cannot lose GS. Must also ensure all school work is completed and handed in.	May be withdrawn from Canberra Camp
2020 Year 9 Canberra students (current Year 8's)	Should be in school uniform	At least 90%	Cannot lose GS. Must also ensure all school work is completed and handed in.	May not be offered a place on the 2020 Canberra Camp
2019 Year 9 – 11	Should be in school uniform	At least 90%	If lose GS in S2 2019, students must earn back by the end of this year. Cannot lose GS in 2020.	May not be allowed to attend the School Ball in 2020
2019 Year 12	Should be in school uniform	At least 90%	Cannot lose GS in S2. Must also ensure all school work is completed and handed in.	May not be allowed to attend the Year 12 Awards Night

APPRENTICESHIP  
support  
AUSTRALIA



AUSTRALIAN  
APPRENTICESHIP  
SUPPORT NETWORK



Chamber of Commerce  
and Industry WA

## DEVELOPING OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE

### WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Join CCIWA and Apprenticeship Support Australia to hear about the future of work and the skills required to stay ahead of the pack.

Hear from Apprentices and Business:

- Skills for Future Work – CCIWA
- VET. It's Right Now – David Carney, CICA Executive Director
- How to Get and Keep an Apprenticeship – Sandra McKechnie, Apprenticeship Support Australia
- Apprentice panel – What it's like to be an apprentice in 2019

#### EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Tuesday, 26 March 2019

Time: 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Registration from  
5pm including nibble and drinks

Where: CCIWA, 180 Hay Street, East Perth

Who: Year 10 students and their Parents

Cost: \$15 per student. Parents Free

RSVP: Thursday, 21 March 2019



To register visit [events.ticketbooth.com.au/event/developing-our-future-workforce](https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/event/developing-our-future-workforce)  
For more information please contact Linda Winter at [linda.winter@cciwa.com](mailto:linda.winter@cciwa.com)

# Playgroup

**Amity Health - Kids Health Link Program**  
**Children 0-5 years**

**Thursdays and Fridays**  
**10.00am to 12.00pm**  
**Merredin College – Block 1 Room 4**

**Kids learn through play!**

**Everyone is welcome for a morning**  
**Filled with activities, healthy fruit**  
**Story time and outdoor play!**

**Contact: Sonya**  
**PH: 90 410 962**



## Useful Links:

Uniform Shop:  
<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/uniform/>

Canteen Menu:  
<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/canteen/>

Latest News & Events:  
[www.merredincollege.wa.edu.au](http://www.merredincollege.wa.edu.au)

**Save the Date: 21 February**  
 School Board Meeting  
 5.30pm

**22 February**  
 Yr 7-8 Volleyball  
 Selection Day

**26-27 February**  
 Camp Kulin

## TERM 1 PLANNER:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	SAT	SUN N
4	25	26 *Camp Kulin	27 *Camp Kuli Early Close 2.30pm	28	1 MARCH	2	3
5	4 Labour Day	5 *OLNA-Writing YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm	6 *OLNA-Writing Early Close 2.30pm	7 *OLNA-Writing *Primary Assembly	8 *K-12 School Swimming Carnival	9	10
6	11 *OLNA-Reading  P&C Meeting (AGM) 6pm	12 *OLNA-Reading *Medical Students Visit	13 *Medical Students Visit *TDS Event *Yr 7-12 Assembly  Early Close 2.30pm	14 *Medical Students Visit	15 *Medical Students Visit *Yr 3-6 Interschool Swimming Carnival *Secondary Interschool Swimming Carnival- Cunderdin *Ball Set Up	16 School Ball	17 *Scho ols Beach Vol- leybal I Cup Yr7- 12

### MERREDIN COLLEGE Attendance at 2019 School Ball

The general restrictions on 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 2018 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 2018, 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 2019, 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 that are unprepared for class on 5 occasions or warnings will lose good standing.

**Attendance:** The attendance average from Semester 2 2018 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 2018 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 2019 are unable to earn back their right to attend without exception.