



ISSUE # 4  
TERM 1, WEEK 4  
28 February 2019

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



## Message from the Principal.....

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



### LABOUR DAY—PUBLIC HOLIDAY—MONDAY 4 MARCH 2019

Students and their families are reminded that Monday 4 March is a holiday - Labour Day. We wish everyone a great long weekend.

### REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms Alison Ramm has accepted a 12 month position in the Office of the Director General with a focus on intergovernmental relations and strategy implementation. Mr Neil Darby, Regional Executive Director, Pilbara has been appointed to the Wheatbelt replacing Ms Ramm.

### 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 93.5%, 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.

### 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 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.

### 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 5, 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!

G  
R  
O  
W

## NAPLAN ONLINE INFORMATION BROCHURE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

<https://nap.edu.au/docs/default-source/default-document-library/naplan-online-information-brochure-for-parents-and-carers.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

## THE ERIC HIND MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

The Eric Hind Scholarship is open again after being reviewed by Council at its last meeting. As the Shire received only one applicant, Council decided to widen the age bracket to be 7-19 years so now primary school students studying music can qualify as well. The new close date for applications is 11 March.

Here is the link to all of the details on the Shire's website - <https://www.merredin.wa.gov.au/community-funding.aspx>. The application form lists the new selection criteria.

If you have any queries about this, please contact myself or Hannah Martin at the Shire on 9041 1611. Thank you.



## HEAD LICE

Head lice are small biting insects that live and breed on your head. They reproduce by laying eggs on the hair shaft, the part of your hair closest to the scalp. Head lice are spread between people when head-to-head contact, such as hugging and playing, is made with someone who does have head lice.

Head lice can cause an itchy feeling on your head, although this itchiness may take weeks to develop and some may not experience this symptom at all. In most cases, you will need to look at the hair to see if lice are present.



### Checking for head lice

Head lice can move very quickly and be hard to spot in dry hair.

To check for head lice:

- Know what you are looking for. Adult lice are usually dark brown and about 3 mm long, young lice are a lighter brown colour and smaller, and eggs will be attached to the hair shaft.
- Comb plenty of conditioner (any brand) through dry hair and comb hair in sections using a very fine-tooth 'nit comb'.
- Wipe the waste from the comb on a white paper towel regularly and inspect for lice and eggs in strong light e.g. sunlight.

If head lice are found, check the rest of the family at home for lice and inform your school. Start a treatment method and once completed, continue to check hair weekly for further outbreaks.

For more information about head lice treatment see [https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S\\_T/Treating-head-lice](https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S_T/Treating-head-lice)

### Quick Tip

Head lice can be easily spread between children at school, so remind your child to avoid head-to-head contact. To prevent outbreaks, check hair regularly for head lice and eggs, tie long hair back and avoid sharing combs and brushes.

# SECONDARY *Link*

## YEAR 7 PARENTS

Students were given an envelope last week to take home. It has a parental survey to complete, this can be done either online or by filling out the hard copy and then posting it in the replied paid envelop. The survey is to gather information on parents views on alcohol and internet safety.



## OLNA

Students will be sitting the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) over the next 3 weeks. Students that need to sit these tests have been notified of the date, time and location of the test. These tests are very important to pass as it is a requirement in attaining a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) at the completion of Year 12.

Tuesday 5 March 2019: Writing

Monday 11 March 2019: Reading

Monday 18 March 2019: Numeracy

## 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.



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

### 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. 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.

## PRIMARY *link*

### 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)**

### SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Merredin College Year 3-12 Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 8 March and the Yr 3-6 Interschool Carnival on Friday 15 March. We are seeking parent helpers for both events. The charge for the first event is \$3.00 per participant, with season passes not accepted for this event as we are charged a flat rate to book the pool for the day. Please come along to support your child on the day. Please contact Ms Kylie Bryant or Mrs Zane Walker if you are able to help out on either day.

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

### 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 \$12.00.

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

## PRIMARY *link Contd*

### ON ENTRY ASSESSMENT FOR PRE-PRIMARY STUDENTS

During Week 4 of Term 1 all children in Preprimary 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)**

### SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is on Wednesday mornings in the wet area of the Early Childhood Block (Block 1). School Banking is available between 8.30am-8.50am. Forms can be collected at this time if you would like to set up an account for your child. School Banking encourages kids to save a little money each week (any amount) into their Youthsaver account, helping them learn about the value of money and develop a good saving habit. The Youthsaver account is a savings account with no monthly fees and a competitive bonus interest rate when at least one deposit (excluding interest and bank initiated transactions) and no withdrawals are made each calendar month. Each time a child makes a School Banking deposit they earn a silver Dollarmites token. Once they've collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for an exciting reward.

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



Wheatbelt Country Supplies  
proudly sponsoring the  
**Merredin District Lawn Tennis Club**

**2019 Open Day** Mens and Ladies Doubles  
A, B and C Grades  
Sunday 17 March 2019 \$25 per player  
Start time not before 10am Merredin Recreation Centre

Lunch and afternoon tea provided  
Dinner available

*St Patrick's Day!  
Dress up in your favourite greens!*

Nominations to club captains  
by Wednesday 13 March  
Jacinta 0400 653 531  
Grant 0400 937 293

Enquiries to mdltc@hotmail.com.au



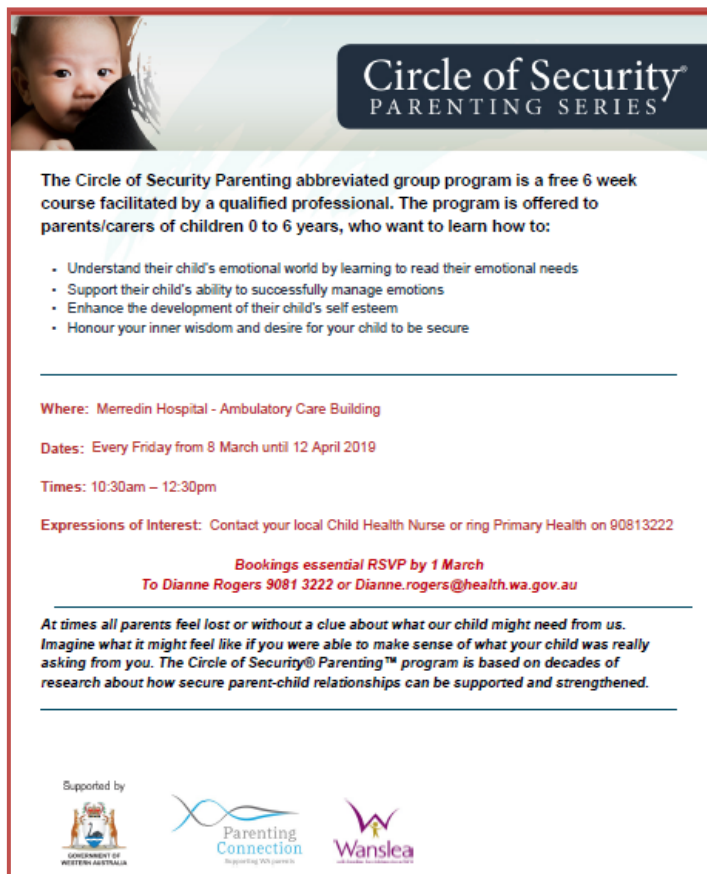
Merredin College  
*Invites you on a journey*

**Through the looking glass**

16th March 2019  
Cummins Theatre  
Student's arrival 6:30pm - 7pm  
Year 12 Entrance 7pm  
Finishing at 11pm

**Tickets \$50**

Available for purchase - 4th of February  
from Student Services  
Tickets must be purchased by the 22nd of February



**Circle of Security**  
PARENTING SERIES

The Circle of Security Parenting abbreviated group program is a free 6 week course facilitated by a qualified professional. The program is offered to parents/carers of children 0 to 6 years, who want to learn how to:

- Understand their child's emotional world by learning to read their emotional needs
- Support their child's ability to successfully manage emotions
- Enhance the development of their child's self esteem
- Honour your inner wisdom and desire for your child to be secure

Where: Merredin Hospital - Ambulatory Care Building  
Dates: Every Friday from 8 March until 12 April 2019  
Times: 10:30am - 12:30pm  
Expressions of Interest: Contact your local Child Health Nurse or ring Primary Health on 90813222

Bookings essential RSVP by 1 March  
To Dianne Rogers 9081 3222 or [Dianne.rogers@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Dianne.rogers@health.wa.gov.au)

At times all parents feel lost or without a clue about what our child might need from us. Imagine what it might feel like if you were able to make sense of what your child was really asking from you. The Circle of Security® Parenting™ program is based on decades of research about how secure parent-child relationships can be supported and strengthened.

Supported by  
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
Parenting Connection  
Wanslea





## 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  
An Australian Government Initiative



### 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: 4 March**  
 Public Holiday  
 No School

**7 March**  
 Yr 1 & 2 Assembly  
 9.00am

**8 March**  
 Yr 3-12 Swimming  
 Carnival

## TERM 1 PLANNER:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	SAT	SUN
5	<b>4 Labour Day</b>	<b>5</b> *OLNA-Writing  <b>YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm</b>	<b>6</b> *OLNA-Writing  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>7</b> *OLNA-Writing *Primary Assembly	<b>8</b> *Yr3-12 School Swimming Carnival	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
6	<b>11</b> *OLNA-Reading  <b>P&amp;C Meeting (AGM) 6pm</b>	<b>12</b> *OLNA-Reading *Medical Students Visit	<b>13</b> *Medical Students Visit *TDS Event *Yr 7-12 Assembly *Yr 7 Immunisation  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>14</b> *Medical Students Visit	<b>15</b> *Medical Students Visit *Yr 3-6 Interschool Swimming Carnival *Secondary Interschool Swimming Carnival-Cunderdin *Ball Set Up	<b>16 School Ball</b>	<b>17</b> School's Beach V/ball Yr7-12
7	<b>18</b> *OLNA- Numeracy	<b>19</b> *OLNA- Numeracy  *Parent/Teacher Mtg 4-6pm	<b>20</b> *Protective Behaviours Yr7-12-Sexual Abuse  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>21</b>  <b>School Board 5.30pm</b>	<b>22</b> *Yr4-6 Netball Clinic	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
8	<b>25 SCHOOL PHOTOS</b> *OLNA-Reading/ Numeracy Catchup *Halogen Leadership (Yr11-12)	<b>26 SCHOOL PHOTOS</b> *OLNA-Reading/Numeracy Catchup	<b>27 SCHOOL PHOTOS</b> *Protective Behaviours Yr7-12-Online Safety  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>28</b> *Yr 8 Immunisations	<b>29</b>	<b>30 Mer-redin Show</b>	<b>31</b>

### 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.