



ISSUE # 11
TERM 2, WEEK 1
2 May 2019

MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



Message from the Principal.....

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



Welcome back to Term 2 and a very warm welcome to our new Mathematics teacher Mr Matthew Thomas. It has been a very smooth beginning to this term and in general our students have made an impressive start to their learning.

ASBESTOS

I am writing to inform you of the situation at Merredin College and to address the issues raised in a recent media article regarding the presence of asbestos at this site.

Fragments of asbestos containing materials have been found across some areas of the site, and were brought to the attention of the Department of Education in 2017.

Following the initial report, the Department engaged an environmental consultant to assess the extent of the contamination and to provide advice to enable the Department and the college to manage the situation.

The consultant determined that the level of contamination is in most instances below the Department of Health guidelines for the management and control of asbestos in soils.

Asbestos in soil poses a negligible health risk when left undisturbed, however as a precaution, the affected areas have comprehensively picked over and any asbestos containing materials removed. The unused parts of the site have also been fenced off and warning signs posted to restrict access to these areas.

The Department has advised that soil intrusive activities must not be undertaken without reference to the Department of Finance Building Management and Works, who will ensure correct procedures are followed should any soil intrusive activity be required.

The consultant's report has been submitted to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Department is working with this agency to manage the situation.

Further investigation is underway and we will provide an update as more information comes to hand. In the interim, if you have any questions, please contact me at school on 90410900

ANZAC DAY

On Friday 12 April, Merredin College held two ANZAC Day assemblies. These ceremonies were held to recognise and commemorate the gallant efforts of all Australian men and women who have served in the defence forces and to remember their courage, their compassion and the sacrifices they made.

Our students actively participated in this very important occasion with readings and facts, presented with a real sense of the occasion and with a rich understanding of the significance of ANZAC Day.

Both the primary and secondary ceremonies were very moving and a fitting way of honouring our service men and women.

ATTENDANCE

Although our attendance rates are generally very good at Merredin (currently 92%+ in all year groups except year 9, 10 and 12 where it is 87.8%, 86.1% and 88.5% respectively). Congratulations to the 450 students who have attended more than 90%, in particular the 141 students who attended every day in Term 1. I remind parents and carers that the attendance of your child at school is one of the biggest contributing factors to successful achievement. As a rough guide, it is considered that a minimum of 90% attendance is essential for academic success.

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 2, Term 2 (next week) are:

PRIMARY

We are RESPONSIBLE in Learning Areas

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE BY BEING PUNCTUAL, PREPARED AND ORGANISED FOR CLASS

SECONDARY

We are RESPONSIBLE in Outside Areas

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE BY PUTTING OUR MOBILE DEVICES AWAY

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

G
R
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W

Our staff in general and our Student Services Team in particular, monitor the attendance of your child on a daily basis and will report to you if there is any cause for concern. The message for all students though is 'every class every day'. We really need parents to stand firm when their child asks to stay home - particularly if they are NOT especially unwell. We also ask parents to understand that taking their child on an extended holiday throughout the school term is not OK either and risks considerable academic hardship (please use the school holidays, not the school term, for holidays – that is what they are there for).

We really appreciate it when parents advise us in advance or at the time that a child is going to be away. Remember that this serves to reinforce the strong partnership that exists at Merredin between school and home.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We'll the cold weather has certainly arrived this week and we would like to remind parents and carers that students should wear the appropriate school uniform. There are various uniform options available from our uniform shop.

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.

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>

MERREDIN COLLEGE CHOIR FUNDRAISER

The Merredin College Choir is holding a fundraising venture to raise funds towards their 'One Big Voice' performances in Term 3. This fundraiser is open from Tuesday 9 April until 7 May, so please pass this on to as many people as you can so that we can raise a lot of money for our Choir.

Onya is a company that prides itself on creating high quality, useful, reusable products for your everyday life that can easily be kept 'On You'. From reusable shopping bags, produce bags, backpacks & coffee cups, to one of the highest quality stainless steel drink bottle ranges on the Australian market. Merredin College will receive a percentage of what has been spent.

Please follow the link below to place your orders. <https://www.onyalife.com/ref/88/?campaign=merredincollegechoir>

YR 3-12 SWIMMING CARNIVAL FEEDBACK SURVEY

The PE department is seeking feedback from our students, parents, community members and staff about our first Year 3-12 Swimming Carnival held last term. We hope to use the feedback to improve our carnivals in the future. The survey link is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T9W5MQ5>

CAMPION EDUCATION

Thank you to all parents/carers who purchased their back to school resources for 2019 from Campion Education. Merredin College received a rebate amount of \$691.43 for the Back-to-School Season. This year 12 prepack boxes were processed by Campion for our students. Campion have made many improvements to this year's ordering. We thank parents and carers for purchasing their book supplies from Campion which benefits Merredin College each year.

SECONDARY *Link*

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN YEAR 7 TO 9

There will be an ATAR information evening on Tuesday 7 May 2019 in the school library starting at 5:30pm to 6:30pm. If your child is interested in undertaking an ATAR pathway and continuing their education at university this session will provide you and your child with what they will need to achieve at Merredin College to enrol in an ATAR pathway. Letters were sent home with students earlier this week and RSVP's are due back at Student Services by 3.00pm on Monday 6 May 2019. If your child has lost this letter there are spare copies available at Student Services.

YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS

All students have been given copies of their upcoming ATAR and EST Exam timetables. EST exams will be done during class time. Students should be preparing their study timetables to provide themselves with the best opportunity to do well in all their exams. If students have misplaced these timetables they can obtain a copy from Student Services or from Connect.

WORKPLACE LEARNING—YEAR 11 AND 12 VET GENERAL STUDENTS

Students are encouraged to get their Workplace Learning applications in to Mrs Morris as soon as possible. The deadline is Term 2, Week 2 Friday 10 May 2019.

ATAR STUDENTS—EXAM SCHEDULE

The Semester 1 Exam schedule has been handed out to all ATAR students, this schedule can also be accessed on Connect. During the exam period 24/5/19 - 4/6/19 ATAR students are only required at school to sit their exams, they then are allowed to leave to study for further exams. Those students who are **only** sitting the ATAR English exam will be required back at school the day after that exam.

All ATAR students should return on Tuesday 4 June 2019.

VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM—GOLD COAST TOUR 2019

In 2019, a select group of players in Years 10, 11 & 12 have been chosen to represent Merredin College in the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup competition held on the Gold Coast, Queensland. The Gold Coast Tour is an opportunity for players in our Volleyball Program to compete at a National Championships giving them exposure to the highest possible level of competition.

So far this year, parents and players have begun fundraising operations to help send Merredin students to the Gold Coast. The first fundraiser is our hand made material covered pots with a succulent. These colourful and patterned pots were extremely popular at the Merredin Show and are a fantastic gift for Mothers Day. There are still plenty more pots available in all sizes and patterns. Keep an eye on the Merredin Link and social media for information about how to get your hands on one for Mothers Day.

In addition to the pots, bunches of Chrysanthemums will be on sale for \$20 each. These can be ordered by contacting Merredin Flowers & Gifts, 44 Barrack St, Merredin, 90411874. Orders can be collected from the schools Administration Office on Friday 10 May at 3pm or from Merredin Flowers & Gifts. Please order by Wednesday 8 May.

YEAR 11 AND 12 CHANGE OF COURSE/S DEADLINES 2019

[as recommended by Merredin College]

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

AVON GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE


Avon Girls Football League are recruiting players for 2019 and beyond.

They have players from Year 7 to 12 (in high school), the season consists of 6 games with a round robin final. The games are played on a Sunday and they vary their locations of playing due to the teams involved.

They have 4 teams consisting of 2 from Bindoon, 1 from York and 1 from a combined Northam/Toodyay/Kellerberrin/Merredin and anyone who wants to play.

The cost for registration this year is only \$10.00 per player as this covers insurance.

Contact Sarah Fitzsimmons on mobile 0427 476 193 or work 6269 0032 or personal email: jacobmarkroberts@gmail.com

 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



WELCOME

A big welcome to Miss Rain Rodenburg who will be teaching in the Year 3 class.

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

NAPLAN

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 will sit their NAPLAN Online Tests in Week 3 (13 May) this term. Testing will start for these classes at 9.30am in the morning so it is very important that children are on time to school. Teachers are currently familiarising students with the tests and students will be doing practice tests over the next few weeks.

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

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking will restart next week on Wednesday morning in the wet area of the Early Childhood Block. School Banking is available between 8.30am-8.50am. Forms will be available at this time if you would like to set up a new account for your child.

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

PICK UP AND DROP OFF

Please be mindful at pick up and drop off times of children exiting the school on foot. Parents are asked to park on the school side of Throssell Road to prevent students having to cross the road from between cars to get to parents.

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

MORNING START

Parents are reminded that school begins at 8.50am. Students should arrive on site after 8.20am to access Breakfast Club and before start time. Most classes run their literacy blocks in the morning, the most important lesson of the day.

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

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**

Parenting Connection
Supporting WA parents

MAKING YOUR HOME A BUILD UP ZONE
Presented by Nurture Works Founder and Children's Author, Steve Heron, OAM

- 1. Agro and Emo 9.00am - 10.30am**
 - Helping kids to handle their feelings. (Emotional competence and self-regulation)
 - Includes: Good, Bad, Mad, Sad - understanding feelings, the Brain in the Hand, Anger Management, the BUZ Feelings Management Creed
- 2. Child Whispering - Handling School Refusals and other tricky business 11.00am - 12.30pm**
 - How to get kids to talk and open-up on their cares, concerns, anxieties, problems and celebrations in their lives. The art of pastoral questioning.
- 3. Restoring the Power Balance (Bully Proofing) 1.00pm - 2.30pm**
 - All the hype about bullying could be making things worse. Understanding bullying, dispelling the myths, building respectful communities, introducing the Gimme 5 Tactics for bully proofing and the Marshmallow Man.

Where: Merredin
When: 7th May 2019
Venue: Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre
Time: 9.00am - 2.30 pm
Registration: Jenti Pages 0447 622 736 jpages@wanslea.asn.au

Supported by
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
NURTURE WORKS FOUNDATION
BUZ
Delivered by
Wanslea
with funding from the state government



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

Save the Date:

7 May
Yr7-9 ATAR
Information
Evening 5.30-6..30pm

TERM 2 PLANNER:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	29 APRIL Students Commence	30	1 MAY Early Close 2.30pm	2	3
2	6 *EST Start	7 *Yr7-9 Parent/Student 'Preparing for a Univ Pathway' Evening 5.30pm- 6.30pm	8 Early Close 2.30pm	9	10
3	13	14 *NAPLAN Commences	15 Early Close 2.30pm	16 School Board AGM 5.30pm	17
4	20 *Big Science Comp. P&C Meeting 6pm	21 *Yr 7-12 Assembly YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm	22 *General Yr11/12 English Exam Early Close 2.30pm	23 *Primary Assembly *Biggest Morning Tea	24 *Last day for NAPLAN *Yr10 Road Safety Concilia- tion *ATAR Exam Commence
5	27 *ATAR Exam Week	28	29 Early Close 2.30pm	30	31 School Development Day
6	3 WA DAY	4 *ATAR Students return to school	5 *Yr10 History Comp. Early Close 2.30pm	6	7 *School Cross Country
7	10 *Yr 10 Exams Week	11 *Yr 10 Exams Week *Drama Workshop	12 *Yr 10 Exams Week Early Close 2.30pm	13 *Yr 10 Exams Week	14 *Bruce Rock XCountry
8	17 *Geography Comp. TBD P&C Meeting 6pm	18	19 *Yr10 'Get into Resources' Excursion Early Close 2.30pm	20 *TDS Techie Brekkie *Primary Assembly School Board 5.30pm	21 *Yr10 "Get into Resources Expo" Excursion *Yr8/9 Kalgoorlie Football
9	24	25 *Yr 9-10 Kalgoorlie Volley- ball Comp YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm	26 *Prim. Winter Carnival Early Close 2.30pm	27	28 *Country Week Assembly
10	1 JULY COUNTRY WEEK *Yr 11/12 ADWPL Week	2 COUNTRY WEEK *Glass of Class Luncheon	3 COUNTRY WEEK Early Close 2.30pm	4 COUNTRY WEEK	5 COUNTRY WEEK Last Day Term 2



Merredin College Choir Fundraiser

This fundraiser is open from Tuesday 9 April until 7 May so please pass this on to as many people as you can so that we can raise a lot of money for our Choir.

Below you will see the unique URL for our fundraising. When someone uses our unique URL the code is automatically added to their cart at checkout and the order will be recorded separately from others so we can see what funds have been raised at completion. We will get a percentage of what has been spent. Our URL is.....

<https://www.onyalife.com/ref/88/?campaign=merredincollegechoir>

Onya is a company that prides itself on creating high quality, useful, reusable products for your everyday life that can easily be kept 'On You'.

From reusable shopping bags, produce bags, backpacks & coffee cups, to one of the highest quality stainless steel drink bottle ranges on the Australian market.

Every minute, one garbage truck worth of plastic makes it way into our oceans, and it is predicted that by 2050 there will be more plastic by weight than fish in the sea.

100% Reusable • 100% Recyclable • 100% Sustainable

THINK REUSABLE

REUSABLE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE USE PLASTIC



Mother's Day Fundraiser

Chrysanthemum Bunches \$20



fundraising

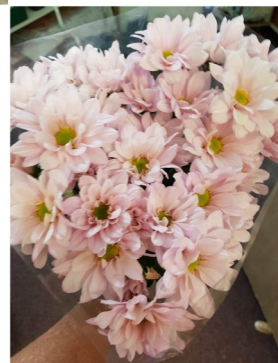
for the

**Merredin College
2019**

**Volleyball
Gold Coast Tour**

**Order at
Merredin Flowers & Gifts
44 Barrack St, Merredin
90411874
by Wednesday 8th May**

**Collect from Merredin
College Administration
Office Friday 10 May - 3pm**



After school swimming lessons

LEARN TO SWIM

After school classes available for Kindy/Preschool children aged 3.5/4yrs parent assisted and 4+yrs independent classes available Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

Cost is \$90 for 1 class a week for 6 weeks.

Crèche can be available at \$15/hr if pre-booked.

Classes can only run if minimum class numbers are met.

Please contact MRCLC on 9041 3033 or email merredin@belgravialeisure.com.au for

Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre

Privately managed by **belgravialeisure**

A netball program for Boys & Girls

SUNCORP net set go netball WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Starting Saturday 4th May

Pre-primary & Year 1

Learn netball related fundamental motor skills with fun music, dance and games.

Year 2 & 3

Be a part of modified netball games with a focus on fun and teamwork.

Year 4 & 5

Have a Go Day!

Come along on Saturday 4th May and try out NetSetGO. All Welcome!

9:45am - Pre-primary & Yr 1
10:30am - Year 2-5.

Apply online at dsr.wa.gov.au or contact us for an application

To Register online go to:
merredinna.wa.netball.com.au
(and click on the REGISTRATION tab)

• **netsetGO** \$75 (includes a T-shirt & Netball)

Enquiries to : merredinnetballjuniors@hotmail.com