



ISSUE # 11  
 TERM 3, WEEK 1  
 25 July 2019

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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## Message from the Principal.....

It has been pleasing to see that our students have settled well into their classroom routines this week. Our primary focus is to enable students to strive for and achieve academic success. However there are a range of extra curricula activities scheduled this term that enrich students' education. These include activities such as the Canberra Camp, Year 6 Camp, NAIDOC Commemoration Day, Bibbulmun Trek, One Big Voice Primary Choir performance, Technology Showcase, Drama performance, Science Week, My Robot excursion, Barking Gecko incursion and sporting competitions in Football, Netball, Volleyball, the Meckering Cross Country, as well as the Athletics carnivals.

This week we also had a focus on youth mental health with our Year 9 and Year 10 students participating in Youth Focus workshops. On 14 August all other secondary students participate in youth mental workshops with Headspace.

Planning is also underway for the Merredin College Open Day to be held on Friday 13 September.

### NATURE PLAYGROUND

A sincere thank you to the P & C, and the many volunteers, companies, parents and staff for their contribution to, and support in, building our nature playground. This P & C project was successfully completed during the school holidays and it was a joy to see our young children playing in this area.

### PARENT / TEACHER EVENING

I am looking forward to seeing many parents and carers at our Parent-Teacher evening next Tuesday 30 July as they discuss the academic progress of their children.

### STAFF CHANGES

We would like to welcome Mrs Kirsty Edwards who has replaced Mrs Low, whilst she is on parental leave. Also welcome to our School Psychologist Ms Chloe Willcocks who has replaced Mrs Vanessa Bye. Furthermore in partnership with schools in the Eastern Wheatbelt we also welcome School Psychologist Ms Melanie Edwards who will provide additional support for students and schools in our region.

### WEST COAST EAGLES

This week our primary students enjoyed a presentation on well-being whilst our Year 8 students participated in a goal setting workshop delivered by the West Coast Education team, led by former player Bradd Dalziell.

#### 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 3 (next week) are:

#### PRIMARY

We are CARING in Learning Areas

WE ARE CARING BY BEING ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTIVE OF EVERYONE

#### SECONDARY

We are CARING in Learning Areas

WE ARE CARING BY UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTING OTHERS DIFFERENCES

We are carin**G**, we are **R**espectful, we are Res**P**onsible, **W**e strive to succeed!

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R  
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W

## PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS AND CANBERRA CAMP INFORMATION NIGHTS -30 JULY 2019

Parents and students are invited to the library from 4pm – 6pm on Tuesday 30 July to meet with teachers to discuss Semester 1 reports. This is an important opportunity that parents/carers should take advantage of.

The Year 9 Canberra camp will occur in Week 6 and so is not far away. The information night will be held on Tuesday 30 July at 6.15pm in the PAC.

## AUSTRALIAN MATHS COMPETITION

On Thursday 1 August, eleven Year 7 to Year 10 students will be competing in the Australian Mathematics Competition. This competition has been held annually since 1978 and many parents may remember it when they were at school. The competition has an emphasis on problem solving and we wish our students all the best.

## REGIONAL LEARNING SPECIALIST (ATAR STUDENTS)

the Regional Learning Specialist (RLS) team was set up this year by the Department of Education to provide additional support for regional ATAR students, particularly those studying through SIDE. A couple of members of the team visited the school early in the year and met with SIDE students. All ATAR students have been given access to online support for the majority of their ATAR subjects. Many of the subjects also offer fortnightly online tutorials and it has been pleasing to see several students regularly participate in these interactive sessions.

This week a member of the RLS team visited the school and spent the majority of the day working with a student who is enrolled in Economics through SIDE. Next week during part of Thursday and Friday a couple of the members of the RSL team will be in the school working with our Year 11 and Year 12 Chemistry students and our Year 11 and Year 12 Mathematics Methods students.

## YEAR 7/8 VOLLEYBALL SCRATCH MATCH DAY

On Sunday 4 August our Year 7 boys, Year 8 boys and Year 7/8 girls Volleyball teams will be travelling to Perth to challenge Aquinas, Gilmore College and Santa Maria in a day of scratch matches to prepare our players for the up-coming Schools Cup competition. The Schools Cup competition will also see our Year 9-12 teams competing against WA's top Volleyball specialist schools.

## HEADSPACE

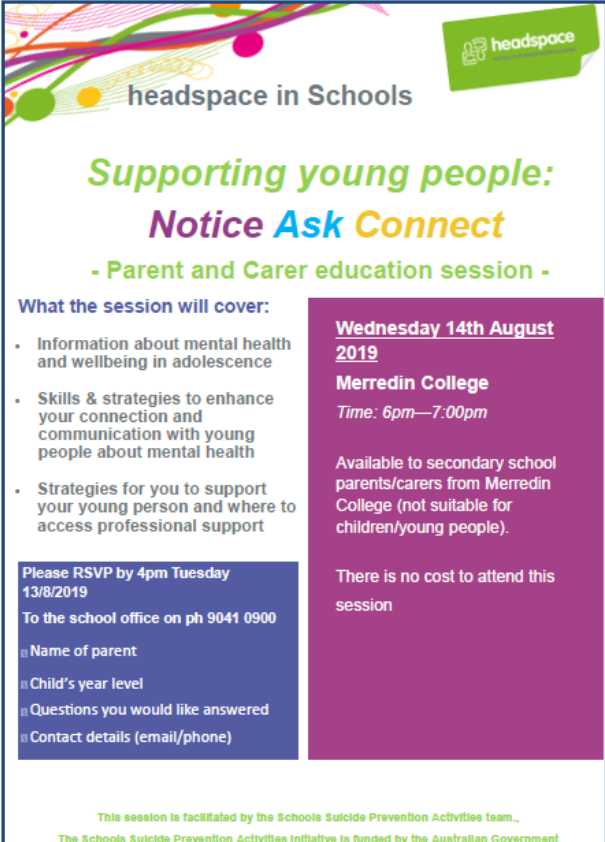
Last term we advised that headspace will be coming to Merredin College to run sessions for our students in Yr 7, 8, 11 and 12 Let's Talk About It: Mental Health, there will also be a parent/guardian session run in the evening. This event can now be confirmed and will take place on Wednesday 14 August in Week 4 of this term. There will be a parent/guardian session on the same day in the evening 6pm-7pm and parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the evening session and RSVP by calling the College by 4.00pm on Tuesday 13 August.

## STUDENT SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

Unfortunately it is not always appropriate to use the PA to call children to Student Services. We like to minimise the use of the PA as it does interrupt every classroom in the school. It is also preferable to not use the PA at all during examinations and other special events happening in school.

Please be advised of the following process to ensure a quick and efficient student sign out process when collecting your child during the school day.

1. Arrange a time for your child to meet you at Student Services.
2. Send a note with your child so they can show their classroom teacher at the time they are required to leave the class to go to Student Services to sign out.
3. When signing out students will leave their permission note at Student Services and receive a 'Leave Pass'.
4. Students are required to sign back in at Student Services and collect a 'Late Note' to go back to their class.



**headspace in Schools**

**Supporting young people:  
Notice Ask Connect**

**- Parent and Carer education session -**

**What the session will cover:**

- Information about mental health and wellbeing in adolescence
- Skills & strategies to enhance your connection and communication with young people about mental health
- Strategies for you to support your young person and where to access professional support

**Please RSVP by 4pm Tuesday 13/8/2019**  
To the school office on ph 9041 0900

Name of parent  
 Child's year level  
 Questions you would like answered  
 Contact details (email/phone)

**Wednesday 14th August 2019**  
**Merredin College**  
Time: 6pm—7.00pm

Available to secondary school parents/carers from Merredin College (not suitable for children/young people).

There is no cost to attend this session

This session is facilitated by the Schools Suicide Prevention Activities team.  
The Schools Suicide Prevention Activities Initiative is funded by the Australian Government.

## ALL STUDENTS—MOBILE PHONE AND DEVICES POLICY

Students must comply with the mobile phone policy

If Students are seen in the possession of a mobile phone or electronic device, they are requested to put the device away. Students shall receive the verbal warning in all classes and circumstances.

**1st Offence:** Student is instructed to hand the device to the teacher. The device is sent to Student Services and is locked in the safe. The student collects the device at the end of the school day

**2nd Offence:** Student is instructed to hand their device to the teacher. The device is sent to Student Services and locked in the safe. Student Services staff will notify parents via telephone. The parent must collect the device from school. A letter will be sent home to inform parents that if the device is required to be handed in again, a suspension may follow.

**3rd Offence:** Student is instructed to hand their device to the teacher. The device is sent to Student Services and is locked in the safe. The student's parents will be notified and the parents will also be sent an 'Intent to Suspend' letter. The parent must collect the device from school.

### Loss of Good Standing

Student will lose their good standing for 2 weeks on their second offence. On the third offence students will lose their good standing for 3 weeks. When the student is suspended after the third offence they will lose Good Standing for 5 weeks in line with

## YEAR 12 ATAR STUDENTS-EARLY OFFERS AT UWA



We wish to take this opportunity to inform you of some exciting new initiatives from The University of Western Australia (UWA) that will benefit your 2019 Year 12 cohort. We would appreciate that you share these new initiatives with the staff, students and parents from your school.

### Early Offers 2019

UWA's new Early Offers program invites students to apply ahead of ATAR exams and relax knowing they have an offer to study with us.

To be eligible, students need:

- to satisfy the predicted ATAR
- to have completed and signed the UWA Early Offer form (co-signed by principal or delegate)
- apply during the opening dates: 23 July - 30 September 2019

To support your students' Early Offer applications, we request that your school's predicted ATAR model or formula is provided to UWA's Associate Director of Admissions, Zoe Morrison, via [zoe.morrison@uwa.edu.au](mailto:zoe.morrison@uwa.edu.au).

For other FAQs and to review the 4 easy steps to applying online, visit our [website](#).

### New scholarships for 2019 leavers

UWA awards more than \$6 million worth of [scholarships](#) per year for coursework students. These scholarships are intended to support students from all walks of life by helping them to succeed in their academic journeys and achieve their full potential while undertaking studies at UWA.

### UWA Principal's Citizenship Award

UWA is pleased to introduce the UWA Principal's Citizenship Award – a new award in 2019. You are encouraged to nominate a Year 12 WACE student considered as most likely to succeed at university due to his or her resilience, exemplary scholarly attributes and/or contributions to the school and broader community.

The UWA Principal's Citizenship Award, valued at \$1,500, is replacing the UWA Excellence Award from 2019. Eligibility requirements of this new and exciting award have been expanded to encompass a diverse range of student attributes worthy of recognition.

Applications for this prestigious award are now open and we encourage you to take this opportunity to reward an outstanding student from your school. For information regarding award conditions, and to nominate your student, visit our [website](#).

### UWA Hackett Scholarship

The UWA Hackett Scholarship is valued at up to \$20,000 and aims to assist and encourage Year 12 WACE school leavers with great potential to undertake a bachelor's degree at The University of Western Australia. Students will automatically be awarded the scholarship if they:

- achieve an ATAR in the top 10 per cent of their school cohort (ATAR greater than 60)
- list a UWA course as their 1st preference through TISC in the December round offers, and completed Year 12 at a regional, remote or [targeted metropolitan school](#), are Indigenous or participated in [Fairway UWA](#)

This scholarship provides an alternative pathway for students to attend UWA who wouldn't have otherwise been eligible.

#### Study at UWA

[Future Students](#)

[Privacy and Terms of Use](#)

[Enquiries: 131UWA](#)

#### Contact

School Engagement Team

+ 61 8 6488 3396

[schools@uwa.edu.au](mailto:schools@uwa.edu.au)





## MUSICIA VIVA

Students from PP to Year 6 are invited to attend the Musica Viva incursion for 2019. Students have been working on the pre-performance activities and the final performance will be held next Tuesday. Students need to return their monies (\$6.50) by the end of the week.

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

## MY ROBOT PERFORMANCE

Our Year 3 and Year 3/4 classes will be attending this wonderful performance that is coming to the Cummins Theatre on Friday 2 August. Please return monies (\$10.00) and forms as soon as possible to your classroom teacher.

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

## AUSTRALIAN MATHS COMPETITION

We have 24 Year 3 - Year 6 students involved with the Australian Maths Competition next Thursday, 1 August. We look forward to seeing their achievements.

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

## A WINTER DISCO

Next Friday 5 August the Year 6 student will present a 'Snowflake Festival: A Winter Disco' in the college gymnasium to fundraise for their Year 6 camp. Sessions are K-Yr2—6.15pm and Yrs 3-6—6.30pm-8.00pm.

## TWO DOGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The Year 6s are fundraising for their Kalgoorlie school camp later this term and will be holding a sausage sizzle at Two Dogs Hardware on Saturday 10 August from 9am to 3pm. They will be selling Bacon and Egg burgers (\$3.00) and sausage sizzles (\$2.50) so come and grab a bite to eat. Your support is much appreciated.

**Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal) on behalf of the Year 6 Camp Fundraising Committee**





The Year 6 Students Present

## Snowflake Festival: A Winter Disco

A night of dancing, food and friends.

**Friday 2nd August**

Sausage sizzle \$3	K-2 5-6.15pm	Glow sticks
Juice box \$2	3-6 6.30-8.00pm	\$2 large
Snacks \$1	Gymnasium	50c small

**\$10 VIP includes entry sausage sizzle, drink & glow stick**  
**\$5 General entry**





## 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

### Country Families @Ngala Free Online Support for Wheatbelt Families



#### Facebook Group – [CountryFamilies@Ngala](#)

(closed group – families need to search for it on Facebook and then request to join. NB you may not have permission to access this link on your work computer).

**Facebook Live** – hear the answers to your questions in real time, as the nurse talk about various topics. These will be advertised on our Facebook group, so watch this space!

**Online - Live Chat:** Operates 9am -11am, Monday to Friday

**Online Early Parenting Group - Workshops (0 – 6 months)** (via video conferencing):

These workshops will be a combination of parenting information, Q & A and group discussion. Register [here](#):

- Sleep and Feeding (0-3 months) 6th August, 2pm
- Becoming a Family (0-3 months) 13th August, 2pm
- Caring for your Newborn (0-3 months) 20th August 2019, 2pm

**Online Parenting Workshops – (6 months – 8 years)** (via video conferencing):

Register [here](#):

- Toddler Behaviour – TBC
- Toileting – TBC

**Consults – 1pm or 2pm or 3pm** (FREE 30 minute consult, via video conferencing or telephone):

Register [here](#):

- Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons
- Tuesday and other weekday mornings by arrangement.

If you have any queries, please contact us via email: [CountryFamilies@ngala.com.au](mailto:CountryFamilies@ngala.com.au)

**Find our More at NGALA's Website [HERE](#)**

**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:** **30 July** Parent-Teacher Interviews 4-6pm  
**30 July** Canberra Camp Information Night 6.15pm  
**31 July** Musica Viva  
**1 August** Maths Competition

## TERM 3 PLANNER:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	SAT	SUN
1	<b>22 JULY</b> School Development Day	<b>23</b> Students Commence *Yr12 Human Bio/Harry Perkins YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm	<b>24</b>  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
2	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> *Parent Teacher Interviews 4-6pm *Canberra Camp Info Night-6.15pm	<b>31</b> *Musica Viva-Primary <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>1 AUGUST</b> *Maths Competition	<b>2</b> *My Robot-Cummins Theatre-Primary	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> *Yr7/8 Volley Ball
3	<b>5</b> *Yr10 Course Selection Info Night	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>8</b>  <i>School Board Mtg 5.30pm</i>	<b>9</b> *9 A-Side Football-Narembeen	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
4	<b>12 NAIDOC WEEK</b> <b>SCIENCE WEEK</b>  <b>P&amp;C MEETING 6pm</b>	<b>13</b> *Barking Geeko-Incursion	<b>14</b>  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>15</b> *Primary Assembly *Technology Showcase	<b>16</b> *NAIDOC Commemoration Day *Assembly-VET Scholarships	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
5	<b>19</b> *BOOK WEEK - Primary 	<b>20</b>  <i>YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm</i>	<b>21</b>  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> *Meckering XCountry *Yr11/12 Volleyball Schools Cup	<b>24</b> *Yr11/12 Volley Ball	<b>25</b>
6	<b>26 CANBERRA CAMP</b> *Bibbulmun Trek *Netball High School Cup	<b>27 CANBERRA CAMP</b> *Bibbulmun Trek	<b>28 CANBERRA CAMP</b> *Bibbulmun Trek  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>29 CANBERRA CAMP</b> *Bibbulmun Trek	<b>30 CANBERRA CAMP</b> *Once Big Voice-Primary	<b>31</b>	<b>1 SEPT</b>
7	<b>2</b> *OLNA-Writing	<b>3</b> *OLNA-Writing	<b>4</b> *OLNA-Writing <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>5</b> *Yr7-12 Assembly	<b>6</b> *Primary Athletics Carnival	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
8	<b>9</b> *OLNA-Reading  <b>P&amp;C MEETING 3:15pm</b>	<b>10</b> *OLNA-Reading *Secondary Athletics Carnival  *Canberra Presentation Night-7pm	<b>11</b>  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>12</b> *Drama Performance-Evening (TBC) *Merredin's Got Talent *Primary Assembly <i>School Board Mtg 5.30pm</i>	<b>13 OPEN DAY (TBC)</b> *Drama Performance – Evening (TBC)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
9	<b>16</b> *OLNA- Numeracy	<b>17</b> *OLNA- Numeracy *English Competition	<b>18 Merredin Bus Accident Anniversary</b> *Primary Interschool Athletics Carnival *Yr11/12 Foundatio/ General English Exam <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>19</b> *Yr7-10 Volleyball Schools Cup	<b>20</b> *Yr11/12 Volleyball Schools Cup *Interschool Athletics Carnival (Secondary)	<b>21</b> *Yr11/12 Volley ball School Cup	<b>22</b>
10	<b>23 YEAR 6 CAMP</b> *Yr 11/12 ATAR Exams *Yr 11/12 General normal timetable *OLNA-Reading/ Numeracy Catch up	<b>24 YEAR 6 CAMP</b> *Yr 11/12 ATAR Exams  *Glass of Class Lunch *OLNA-Reading/ Numeracy Catch up  <i>YouthCare Mtg 5.30pm</i>	<b>25 YEAR 6 CAMP</b> *Yr 11/12 ATAR Exams  <i>Early Close 2.30pm</i>	<b>26 YEAR 6 CAMP</b> *Yr 11/12 ATAR Exams	<b>27 YEAR 6 CAMP</b> *Yr 11/12 ATAR Exams *P1 'So You Think You Can Dance' Comp *P2 Primary Performance *Last Day for Year 12 VET/General students <b>Last Day Term 3</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>