



ISSUE # 13
22 May 2020

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Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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Message from the Principal.....

Dear Merredin College Family,

Despite the unusual events of 2020 I was encouraged last night to hear members of the board comment on the "positive vibe in the air" at Merredin College, and I believe this can be attributed to the passion and commitment of our staff and active engagement of our students.

I view school leadership as an exciting journey and part of this journey requires us to consider the lens through which we view our college and how we do business. The well-known saying, "if you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always got" is at the forefront of my mind and as we enter a review and planning phase and I will be asking staff to focusing their energy, not on fighting for the old, but building the new. What we do have is a wonderful foundation of student achievement, as demonstrated over time through system data, and positive staff collegiality on which to guide us as we look to finalise targets and set new priorities for our 2020 - 2022 Business Plan.

Change can be an uncontrollably complex, unpredictable process, yet when educating students, it is fundamental in ensuring precision teaching that leads to continuous improvement, and improved outcomes for our number one asset, the students. Through recent events we have continually been exposed to compelling and exciting new ways forward that focus on learning for all students, and we look forward to sharing this journey with the school community.

Congratulations to Tom Farson and Daniela Navales who have received early offers to attend University of Western Australia (UWA) in 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic several universities have decided to accept early applications based on student's end of Year 11 predicted grade. A number of our students have made applications and we are very pleased to congratulate Tom who has received an offer to study Bachelor of Arts (Architecture) and Daniela who received an offer to study Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Pathology and Laboratory Medicine). Both students also qualified for the Hackett Scholarship worth \$5000 per year awarded to regional students to assist with accommodation cost. Congratulations Tom and Daniela.

Merredin College is now into its third year as a PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) school. Since the beginning of Term 1, students have been awarded with GROW points for displaying the expected behaviours in class and around the school. Starting Monday, we will be opening the GROW Store and Rewards Room. The purpose of the Rewards Room and Grow Store are to give the students an opportunity to spend the GROW points they have accrued over the year. These are individual rewards, with a group reward being organised at the end of each term by the House Coordinators.

The Rewards Room is stocked with lots of fun activities and an array of gifts that the students can purchase including socks, portable speakers, wireless headphones and even sporting equipment including basketballs, netballs and a football, to name a few.

There are a number of rules that students must adhere to if they choose to enter the Rewards Room. These include, but are not limited to: using respectful language, accessing appropriate content on the computers, keeping mobile devices off and away, and showing care for our pool/air hockey table. For the moment this is a Year 7-12 initiative.

As always take care,

Leigh

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Reminder that next Friday 29 May is a School Development Day where students are not required to attend. The following Monday is the WA Day public holiday.

HOUSE COLOUR WEDNESDAYS

Secondary students may now also wear **house colours on Wednesdays**. House polo's are available from the uniform shop for \$26-31 (depending on size). This is the same as the Physical Education dress requirements. Please note that Volleyball and Countryweek polo's are not appropriate for these days.

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. We have had a number of students missing hats this week – please check with your child.

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME (SAS)

Secondary Assistance Scheme has been extended until Friday 3 July (last day of term). If you have a Healthcare card you are eligible to claim \$350 towards your child's school fees and uniforms. If you have not yet submitted an application, you can do so at the front office.

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

YEARS 7 TO 12
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO:

\$350

towards school expenses

DO YOU HOLD A: • CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
(OR) • CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
(OR) • VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close
Thursday 9 April 2020

Ask School Reception for More Information

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Merredin College is currently seeking expressions of interest for a person interested in a casual/fixed term position assisting a small group of Educational Support students with manual arts projects. Welding and manual arts experience preferred. The position is 8.30am-3.00pm on Thursday and Fridays.

Successful applicants will require a Department of Education Working with Children check and Police screening.

The position would suit a retiree who enjoys hands on work who would see themselves as a good mentor for students.

To register your interest please contact Janelle Lane on 9041 0900.

IMPORTANT DATES:

29 May	School Development Day
1 June	WA Day
8 June	Year 10 Exam Week
3 July	Last day of term
20 July	School Development Day
21 July	Term 3 Commences

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS:

Tuesdays - 8.30am-1pm

Wednesdays - 11am-2pm

The Uniform shop is currently running a special of 10% discount on the following items:

- Sport jackets
- Sport pants
- Rugby jumpers
- Boys trousers
- Girls bootleg pants

USEFUL LINKS:

Uniform Order Form:

<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-ORDER-FORM-T1.pdf>

Canteen Menu:

<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Copy-of-2020-Canteen-Menu.pdf>

Latest News & Events:

www.merredincollege.wa.edu.au

