



ISSUE # 14  
29 May 2020

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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## Message from the Principal.....

Dear Merredin College Family,

A few weeks ago I sent a letter home indicating Merredin College had been selected to participate in the Telethon Kids Institute DETECT Program. I can now confirm the study will comprise of three projects and the College has been selected to participate in all three as outlined below.

### Project 1: COVID-19 testing

Department of Health staff will spend up to two days, testing a random sample of up to 150 consenting students and staff. Over the next three to six months, the testing team will visit three times. Fully informed consent is required for participation in this project.

### Project 2: Tracking transmission in schools

In the event of a positive case in a school, in addition to the standard Public Health and Department of Education responses, testing of close contacts will occur. Fully informed consent is required for participation in this project.

### Project 3: Wellbeing survey

Students in Years 4 to 12, staff and parents will receive online surveys to complete. These surveys are designed to gain a better understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on the physical, social and emotional wellbeing of the school community. All students will complete the survey during school time unless parents have 'opted out' through the consent process or if the student indicates they do not want to complete the survey.

I will have further information available for the college community in the coming days.

The staff at the college are preparing for our first reporting cycle. I want to thank you again for your support throughout what has been a very unusual school semester. The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting our entire community and has presented us with extraordinary challenges in managing schooling during the first half of 2020. I am pleased that together, we have been able to make the best of this situation and ensure your child's safety and continuity of learning.

With the regular attendance of many students being lower over this time, the breadth and depth of the curriculum covered throughout Semester 1 may have been reduced. For this reason, schools are not required to include A to E grades on this year's Semester 1 student reports. It also means that your child's attendance may not be reported, and any written comments may provide less information on their progress than usual.

Schooling is once again returning to normal and our students are engaging in the regular curriculum, in their usual classroom environment. Those approved to learn from home are also being supported. Semester 2 reports will reflect this and therefore provide the usual, more detailed information on your child's progress and achievement.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement as we work together to provide the best learning opportunities for our students. As we progress, I'll be sure to keep you updated with any new information.

Take care and enjoy the long weekend

Leigh

## CONSENT 2GO

All parents/carers should now received the link for Consent2Go. If not please contact the school.

For parents using a free web based email service such as Hotmail, Gmail and Yahoo, please add admin@mcbsschools.com to contacts to ensure emails are accepted into your inbox and not the junk or promotional folders.

## ATTENDANCE

If your child is absent it is important that the school is informed as soon as possible. For a planned absence, a letter with a reason for the absence can be emailed or given to the classroom teacher or Student Services before the date. For unplanned absences such as illness, you can also send an email to the classroom teacher or Student Services at your earliest convenience. Alternatively, please phone or send an SMS as soon as possible so attendance can be marked accordingly. Thanks for your cooperation.

## WINTER CLOTHING

With the onset of the cold weather please ensure your children come to school with the appropriate clothing. We are getting many children coming to the office asking for jumpers and coats as they are only wearing shorts and a t-shirt. We try to accommodate their needs but unfortunately do not have an endless supply of winter clothes for loan.

## PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY

To allow for the training of students for the Cross Country, we have changed the date of the Primary Cross Country this term. It will now take place on Wednesday 24 June. Unfortunately, this will not be a spectator event this year, however, we will stream the event finishes live through the Merredin College Carnival Facebook page.

## MORNING DROP OFFS AND PICK UPS - LIMITED ACCESS TO SCHOOL SITE

We appreciate your continued support to help us implement the guidelines set by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee to keep our staff and students safe.

## 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

**Friday 3 July 2020**

Ask School Reception for More Information

## 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](http://www.merredincollege.wa.edu.au)

