



ISSUE #20
31 July 2020

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Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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Message from the Principal.....

Earlier in the week Premier Mark McGowan released the WA Recovery Plan which aims to guide and coordinate economic and social recovery across the State. I expect all sectors of education to benefit over the next couple of years. Hopefully this is the first step in getting things back to the 'new normal' now that we have been able to begin the recovery as a state. It is important to remember however, as we have seen in Victoria, that a second wave can spring up on us at any time if we become complacent so please be sure to maintain social distancing and good hand hygiene practices. It is also important that children, and staff stay at home if they are unwell. Children will continue to be sent home from school if they present with any cold like symptoms including a runny nose, sore throat, coughing and sneezing.

It is probably also worth mentioning to both students and parents to be aware of one another as we start the new term. Students on bikes should stop and walk across roads and keep left at all times. Parents in cars need to ensure they abide by the 40km/h speed limit and remain aware of pedestrians and cyclists. For the last week or so I have been monitoring the traffic at the intersection of Woolgar Avenue and Throssell Road as I see this as a risk for the school. I will seek further advice on how we can make this complex intersection safer. With the recent tragic accident of a young boy on a bike near Mandurah I'd like to remind parents that the peripheral vision of a young person isn't fully developed until the age of twelve and that adult supervision is strongly recommended for children riding or scooting on footpaths.

Congratulations to all secondary students recognised for high academic performance at our most recent assembly. It was also fantastic to introduce the new School Councillors and allow our outgoing leaders to hand over the flag. Through a difficult period, I'd like to acknowledge the contribution of Tom Farson, Panache Mudimu, Rebecca Nelson, Charlee Brooker, Daniella Navales and Tom Flint. Also a big thank you to Tom James for guiding our senior leaders.

I would like to thank our P&C and canteen staff for all their hard work in ensuring that our canteen has successfully operated for a majority of the year. It has been a lot of work to navigate the COVID-19 restrictions and ensure viable opening operations, but through the positive nature of staff and 'can-do' attitude of the P&C our canteen has continued to deliver a very valuable service – thank you.

Take Care
Leigh

CYBER SAFETY TALK

On Tuesday 11 August, Paul Litherland from Surf Online Safe will be at school delivering online cyber safety seminars for our years 5-10 students. Paul is very highly regarded as a leading speaker on this subject with a previous career in policing technology crimes. You can read more about Paul and his presentations at www.surfonlinesafe.com.au.

Additionally the college is co-hosting with St Mary's School, a parent and community information session with Paul to be held on Wednesday 12 August at 7pm in the St Mary's School Hall. Numbers need to be known to satisfy COVID safety requirements. Please send RSVP to Jarrad.Ritchie@education.wa.edu.au by Tuesday 11 August for this event.

DETECT SCHOOLS STUDY: COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING - ROUND 2

Round 2 of DETECT Schools Study testing for COVID-19, will take place next **Wednesday 5 August 2020** and **Thursday 6 August 2020**.

Parents have received emails if their child/ren have been randomly selected for this month's testing. Any concerns, please contact Bev Irving on 90410900.



PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Our second primary assembly for the year will be held on Thursday 20 August and will be run by the Year 3, Year 3/4 and Year 4/5 classes. The assembly will commence at 9am and we look forward to welcoming our parents back into the school for this celebration.

SECONDARY ATTENDANCE FOLLOW-UP LETTERS

It is a Department of Education requirement to have a reason recorded for your child's absence. Please ensure that the school is notified prior to student absence or respond to SMS notification when received. Attendance follow-up letters are sent home with students fortnightly. Please fill in, sign and return letters to student services. Students with three or more consecutive days are required to provide a medical certificate.

2020 SCHOOL PHOTOS INFORMATION (10-12 AUGUST 2020)

Please see below for schedule for this year's school photos. Please ensure that your child comes to school on these days in appropriate school uniform.

Monday 10 August 2020

- Family Photos (Surnames A-H) in Secondary Undercover Area from 8.20-8.45am
- Kindy to Year 6 and Year 10 student photos.

Tuesday 11 August 2020

- Family Photos (Surnames I-N) in Secondary Undercover Area from 8.20-8.45am
- Year 7, 8, 9 and 12 student photos, and the Primary Choir group photo.

Wednesday 12 August 2020

- Family Photos (Surnames O-Z) in Secondary Undercover Area from 8.20-8.45am
- Year 11 student photos, Primary and Secondary School Leader Groups.

Class Photos/Portraits:

- Every Student will have their photo taken, whether they are purchasing photos or not.
- The school has chosen to use the online ordering system. Your child will be given an online ordering instruction slip and a unique student shootkey.
- Log onto www.msp.com.au and follow the prompts to place your order.
- If you lose your shootkey the school reception will have a copy to quote back to you.
- The expiry date for online ordering is the **19 August 2020**. Any orders received after this date will incur a \$30 archive fee. You can email your order request through to reorders.perth@msp.com.au or call our office on 08 9240 8000.

Family Photos:

- Envelopes can be obtained from Administration.
- Family photos are taken each morning before school.
- Please ensure that your family envelope and payment are handed to the Photographers on photo day.
- Family photos **cannot** be ordered online.
- Once school has received photos, family photos will remain at reception for parents to collect.

Photo orders placed prior to change of date are still valid and will be honoured.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 3 Aug** Year 10 Immunisations
- 5-6 Aug** COVID19 Testing - Round 2
- 6 Aug** Aust Maths Comp Year 3-10
- 10-12 Aug** School Photos
- 11 Aug** Year 10 Course Selection Night
Paul Litherland Cyber Safety
- 17 Aug** School Development Day
(Pupil Free Day)
- 20 Aug** Primary Assembly
Year 7-10 Netball Cup
- 21 Aug** Meckering Cross Country
- 21-22 Aug** Year 11/12 Schools Cup
- 28 Aug** Primary Athletics Carnival
AFL Kalgoorlie/Boulder Carnival

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, 17 October 2020

Year 10-12 School Ball

Venue and further details TBA!!

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS:

Tuesdays - 8.30am-1pm

Wednesdays - 11am-2pm

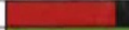
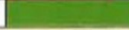

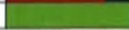




HEADS UP!!!

BOOK WEEK DRESS UP THEME!!!

"Curios Creatures, Wild Minds"

(Week 2—Term 4)

1 or 2 days a week may not seem like a lot but...

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is...
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 Weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years!	Your Child  Other Children  Equivalent to finishing in Year 10
1 day per week	40 Days per year	8 Weeks per year	Over 2.5 years!	Your Child  Other Children  Equivalent to finishing in Year 9
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years!	Your Child  Other Children  Equivalent to finishing in Year 7
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years!	Your Child  Other Children  Equivalent to finishing in Year 6