

ISSUE #24 **28 August 2020** 

Merredin College Weekly Community Update

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# Message from the Principal.....

Good afternoon Merredin College family

It's pleasing to observe our College attendance returning to the percentages we were attaining in Term 1 and it's important to keep attendance on-track to maximise every learning opportunity. Communication is really important so please contact us if your child cannot be at school.

Merredin College has a well established Good Standing Policy for Secondary students. Maintenance of good standing means that a student stays eligible for extracurricular activities. Loss of Good Standing means that a student is not eligible for these events.

Good Standing is maintained through:

- appropriate behaviour including adherence to mobile phone policy.
- · Following the school dress code.
- · Completing school work to an appropriate level.
- Maintaining 85% school attendance.

Parents can support their child's good standing by promptly notifying the school of absences due to illness or unavoidable medical appointments. Notifying the school shortly before an event requiring Good Standing of multiple absences from sometime in the past is not in the spirit of our policy. The school reserves the right to seek medical certificates for recurring absences or those lasting more than two days. Some events that happen under normal circumstances such as the School Ball, Country week and Canberra trip have stringent Good Standing requirements. As these events approach further information will be provided to students and parents well in advance. One such communication will be emailed to parents of Years 9, 10 and 11 students shortly outlining the Good Standing requirements for attendance of the 2021 School Ball.

Presentation of school grounds, playing areas and garden beds should reflect the school's expected high standard which is embedded in the Merredin College Business Plan. The school vision for the 2020-2022 Business Plan states: 'Merredin College, where we aim to be the best that we can be in everything we do'. To achieve this Jacklyn Shotter will join our staff as a gardener working Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday through until the end of the year. Jacklyn has just completed eight years with the Dumbleyung Shire working in the outside crew and has moved to Merredin with her husband who has accepted a position with the Merredin Shire. If you see Jacklyn around the school, please make her feel welcome.

Our three College consultative groups, the School Board, the Parent & Citizens Committee and the Student Council continue to support and guide the College in many different areas. I would like to recognise the efforts and continued service of all members who represent our College, community, families and students. I personally encourage parents to come forward and express an interest in nominating for the two parent vacancies on the Board. The Board is formed with the fundamental purpose of enabling parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of students and will enhance the education provided by the College. Nominations close 4pm today.

All the staff and students at Merredin College are feeling very grateful our annual Athletics Carnival event can go ahead in 2020 and all the students have been training hard in their Physical Education classes in preparation for the big day! Some events are completed before the carnival including high jump in secondary and jumps and throws in primary. Please get along to support on the day if possible.

Before I sign off, I'd once again like to thank all of the dedicated teaching, non-teaching and administration staff here at the college. The ongoing passion dedication and support each staff member provides to our students here at Merredin College is second-to-none.

Take care Leigh



#### **2020 CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES**

Thank you to all parents/carer's who have paid their contributions and charges for 2020. There are still a large number of outstanding accounts. Unpaid Billing Item Statements will be posted this week. All Secondary Assistance Scheme subsidies have been applied. Please organise payment by the end of this term. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact the office to organise a payment plan. All other enquiries can be directed to Manager Corporate Services - Janelle Lane.

#### SCHOOL BALL (Year 10-12)

School Ball tickets are now available for purchase from Student Services. Tickets are \$50 per person. Remember, students must maintain excellent attendance and have Good Standing from the 26 May right up to the ball night to be eligible to attend.

#### **ATHLETICS CARNIVALS**

Information, programs and canteen orders went out last week for the Primary Athletics Carnival. Pre-primary - Year 6 students will be involved with team games and races tomorrow. We look forward to seeing all of our parents on the day. Secondary Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday, 8 September with ALL secondary students attending.

Spectators are asked to ensure there is 2m distance between family groups watching the carnival to ensure we are adhering to Stage 4 Covid restrictions.

### BOOK WEEK DRESS UP - HEADS UP (CURIOUS CREATURES WILD MINDS)

Get Ready: Book week will be held in the last week of term with a family read along after the assembly on Thursday and Book Week Dress Up on the last day of term (Friday 25 September). The theme for dress up this year is 'Curious Creatures Wild Minds'

#### **ENROLMENTS FOR 2021**

Now is the time to apply to enrol your child in a public school for 2021 if they are changing schools or due to commence:

- Kindergarten (four years old by 30 June 2021)
- Pre-primary (five years old by 30 June 2021)
- Year 7 (secondary school)

If your child is currently in Year 6 at Merredin College, they are not required to provide a new enrolment for secondary.

Please contact administration for an enrolment package!!

#### **IN FOCUS CAREERS**

See link below for In Focus Careers September Newsletter:

http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Careers-Newsletter-September-2020.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1XHYg57CspCHPUuegWezBoQHjLu9CeM7bMMLQARA-yh30AaPOsailjF2Y

# ENROLMENTS FOR VACSWIM IN OCTOBER AND JANUARY ARE NOW OPEN

Take the plunge! Find a program near you and enrol now.

VacSwim has helped children across Western Australia to stay safe and confident in the water for over 100 years offering:

- · vital swimming and water safety skills
- lessons for beginner, intermediate and advanced swimmers
- friendly, qualified swimming staff.

Programs will operate in line with current health advice. Physical distancing and good hygiene practices will be in place.

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**4 Sept** Yr 1/2 Military Museum Excursion

8 Sept Secondary Athletics Carnival

**9-10 Sept** COVID-19 Testing Round 3

**10 Sept** Primary Interschool Athletics

**10-12 Sep** Year 7-10 Volleyball Schools Cup

**14-18 Sep** Year 6 School Camp - Kalgoorlie

**18 Sept** Bus Accident Anniversary

**Secondary Interschool Athletics** 

22 Sept Glass of Class Luncheon

24 Sept Primary Assembly

25 Sept 'So You Think You Can Dance'

Last day of Term 3

Last day for Year 12 students

**12 Oct** School Development Day

(Pupil Free Day)

13 Oct Students commence Term 4

# PRE-KINDY PROGRAMS AT MERREDIN COLLEGE

Please contact the school for further information.



3 year olds/pre-kindy Program Tuesdays and Fridays 9am - 12noon



Tuesdays and Fridays 9am - 12noon

