



ISSUE #10
30 April 2021

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Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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Hello Merredin College Family

Thanks to everyone for the calm manner in which you have responded to the recent COVID outbreak in Perth and Peel. In the case of recent travel to Perth the mask requirements have been followed sensibly and I have noted secondary students and staff diligently wearing masks around our campus. Attendance has also remained steady despite the uncertainty so thank you for that. Hopefully by the time you read this, we'll all be breathing a little easier with news of further reductions in conditions.

I also want to take the time to acknowledge every member of our Merredin School Community who were a part of our recent ANZAC assembly. I was immensely proud to host guests and veterans at such a respectful, well planned and executed event. The feedback from everyone has been overwhelmingly positive and I thank you for instilling in your children the required values to engage with this important celebration for our country. Lest we forget.

Jarrad Ritchie
Principal

CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOLUNTARY CHARGES

Thank you to the families who have paid their contributions and charges. Unfortunately, there are still many students with amounts outstanding. It is not too late to make payment or contact Sandi at the main administration office to arrange a payment plan.

Subject charges for Year 11 and 12 students are not optional and should be paid as soon as possible. This also applies for other Charges such as Athletics, Reading Eggs, Excursions and Extra Cost Options in Design & Technology subject.

Payment of Charges and Contributions contribute to our annual budget. Payments can be made in person (cash/cheque/efptos) or by direct debit:

Merredin College

BSB: 066040

A/c: 19903610

SCHOOL BALL

Tomorrow is the Year 10-12 School Ball being held at Cummins Theatre. Students are welcome to make their grand entrances from 6pm sharp. Due to the Western Australian Government COVID-19 Restrictions, students, staff and parents who have been to, or are visiting from the Perth/Peel region since 17 April 2021 will need to continue wearing a mask whilst indoors.

Year 12 Parents are invited to watch the introductions inside the theatre, please arrive at 6.30pm.

Reminder also to parents/carers that **ALL** students must be collected by a parent/guardian at 11pm.

ATAR EXAMS

All ATAR students have been given their ATAR Exam schedule for the Semester 1 Exams starting on Friday 21 May 2021 (Week 5). Full-time ATAR students are not required to attend classes during the exam period and are expected to return to normal classes on Friday 28 May 2021 (Week 6). Part-time ATAR students are not required to attend classes during the exam period, however, they are to return to normal classes the day after they complete their final ATAR exam. Students who are enrolled in SIDE courses are not required to attend normal classes on the day of their SIDE ATAR Exams. SIDE students are expected to return to normal classes the day after their final SIDE ATAR Exam.



YEAR 11 & 12 CHANGE OF COURSE/S DEADLINES 2021

(as recommended by Merredin College)

FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021:

- Last date for student transfers between *single Year 11 units [A2 & G2]* for Semester 2
- Last date for student transfers from *paired Year 11 units [AE & GE]* to *single units [A2 or G2]* for Semester 2

EXTERNALLY SET TASKS - YEAR 12

For Year 12 General and VET/General students the Externally Set Tasks (EST) will be starting in Week 3 and concluding in Week 5 (catch-up sessions). The EST counts for 15% of a student's total mark per course they are enrolled in. It is highly recommended that students study for these EST's by going to the following web site:

<https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/externally-set-tasks/externally-set-task-materials>

This site lists all EST assessment content which is highlighted throughout the course documents. Students will receive an EST Schedule this week.

MONKEY BAA WORKSHOPS - 'PETE THE SHEEP'

Students in our Year 1, Year 1/2 and Year 2/3 classes will receive invitations to attend the 'Pete the Sheep' performance at Cummins Theatre scheduled for Wednesday 26 May. Next Monday they will participate in a pre-performance workshop at the school.

Period 4 – Year 1 students

Period 5 – Year 2 and 2/3 students

HAIR

We have had a number of students attending school without their hair tied back. Head lice can be a serious issue in primary schools and it is important that children with hair past the shoulder have their hair tied back.

NAPLAN EXEMPTIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be undertaking NAPLAN Online in Term 2 between the 11 - 21 May. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress. At the classroom level it is an important tool used by teachers to measure student progress.

Students with significant intellectual disability and/or those with significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests may be exempted from sitting the tests.

Students who have been attending school in Australia for less than a year before the tests may also be eligible for exemption. Exemptions should be discussed with your child's classroom teacher.

Parents or carers may withdraw their child from the tests to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. It is recommended that withdrawal be considered in consultation with your child's teacher.

All requests for exemption from testing or withdrawal from testing must be received by the school by Friday 23 May. Exemption and Withdrawal Forms can be collected from Primary administration and Student Services.

RELIEF TEACHERS

Merredin College are looking for relief teaching staff. If you are interested please contact Bev Irving in the front office.

2021 ANNUAL PAEDIATRIC INFLUENZA PROGRAM

It's that time of year again when the Eastern Wheatbelt Primary Health Team are offering a free influenza immunisation to all children aged 6 months to Year 6 at primary school. We have two clinics available Monday 10 May 2021 from 2pm- 4pm and Friday 14 May 10 am- 12pm. Please phone 9081 3222 to book an appointment or see Di or Bec at Primary Health.



IMPORTANT DATES:

1 May	School Ball
3 May	Monkey Baa Workshop
10 May	P&C Meeting 6pm
11-21 May	NAPLAN
13 May	School Board AGM 5.30pm
14 May	Year 7/8 CoRE Field Trip
20 May	Primary Assembly
21-28 May	ATAR Exams
28 May	Whole School Cross Country
4 June	School Development Day (Students are not required to attend on this day)
10 June	School Board Meeting 5.30pm
14 June	P&C Meeting 3.15pm
17 June	Primary Assembly
18 June	Year 10 CoRE Field Trip Primary Winter Carnival
24 June	WCF Secondary Netball Cup
25 June	Secondary Highest Achievers/ Country Week Assembly
27 June-2 July	Secondary Country Week Year 11/12 Workplace Learning

***BOOKCLUB BROCHURES HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TODAY - DUE BACK FRIDAY 7 MAY 2021**

