



ISSUE #9  
23 April 2021

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



## Hello Merredin College Family .....

Thank you to everyone whom has congratulated and offered words of support as I commence in the Principal's office of our great school.

When offered the position late last term I drew confidence from the fact I would be inheriting a school with a dedicated and talented Staff, as well as a supportive and hardworking Board and P&C. With this, and the fact that this school community has been so welcoming of me and my family over the past 4 years I could have no answer other than yes.

Many of you will know me from my work as the Student Services Deputy Principal in the secondary part of our school however to share a little more about me:

I grew up in Albany in an education family. My father was a Teacher and School Administrator and my mother a School Dental Therapist. Both of my siblings have also gone on to become teachers. A Physical Education/Science Teacher by trade, my journey in education has included work in metro, regional and remote schools as well as a stint in schools in England. My passion is supporting young people to be the very best they can be through quality teaching and learning as well as a flexible and creative approach to student support. I was lucky enough to be offered opportunities in school leadership early in my career and I have been in various Deputy and Principal roles for the last 10 years.

Through the next nine months I'll be basing myself between the two principals offices in our school, typically in the primary section in the mornings and secondary in the afternoons. Feel free to pop in and say hello.

*Jarrad Ritchie*  
Principal

### **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.

*Lest we forget*



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.

### TERM 2 - DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday 26 April is the ANZAC Day public holiday.
- Term 2 School Development Day has been scheduled for Friday 4 June - students are not required to attend on this day.

### SCHOOL BALL

Next Saturday 1 May is the Year 10-12 School Ball being held at Cummins Theatre. Year 12 Parents are invited to watch the introductions inside the theatre, please arrive at 6.30pm.

All students must be collected by a parent/guardian at 11pm.

We have put out a request to Year 9 students to assist with catering on the night. This will involve taking out platters and cleaning up in the kitchen. If there are any parent volunteers who could spare some time during school hours to help set up on the Friday, please contact Susanna Polak on 9041 7520.

### 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.

### HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club will recommence in the Library next Tuesday 27 April. It will be held in the Library between 3-4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Light refreshments will be given after each session

### SCHOOL DENTIST - SECONDARY

Students are to come to Student Services and collect a "Primary grounds pass" in order to attend the School Dentist which is located in the Primary area. Students will also be required to record their movement in the "Student Sign in/Out" Book – this helps with tracking our secondary students in the case of an emergency.

### 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:

25 April	ANZAC Day
26 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
27-28 April	Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Camp
1 May	Year 10-12 School Ball
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
27 May	Y10 Combined Uni Presentation
28 May	Whole School Cross Country
4 June	School Development 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
2 July	Last Day of Term 2

