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A message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome our students and families back from the April holidays. It has been really pleasing talking to the students and hearing their enthusiasm to be back at school. Walking through the classes on the first few days I was impressed to see that the large majority of students were back into work mode and engaging in their learning. Term 2 is a busy term for staff and students with Semester 1 Reports being generated later in the term. This means students need to ensure that all assessment tasks are completed and that they develop good revision and study habits in preparation for their mid and end of unit tests. Parents will receive regular feedback from teachers throughout the term regarding their children's progress and I encourage parents to reach out to teachers via the various communication methods if you have any queries or concerns.

This term we welcome back staff who have been on leave, new staff members and practicum teachers as well as a number of new students across the school. Merredin College has a very warm and welcoming culture so I am sure they will all settle in well.

Teachers

Mr Pravin Thambyan Year 1/2 Teacher
Ms Jacqueline Hampton-Grigg HASS Teacher

Prac Teachers

Ms Courtney Crane Drama
Ms Rachael Turner Year 4/5 class
Ms Chloe Grinsell Year 5/6 class
Ms Carrissa Sutherland-Scott PP/1 class every Thursday

As you are aware there has been a further easing of public health measures, effective 12:01 am Friday 29 April. Please read the attached letter for how the easing of restrictions will apply to Merredin College <https://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/COVID-Update-9-29042022-letterhead.pdf>. We welcome our parents back on site for events and look forward to getting back to some normality.

Whilst there has been an easing of restrictions, we are mindful that COVID is still within our community. As such, there will be some measures that will remain in place that ensure our school community remains safe including enhanced cleaning, following ventilation guidelines and wearing masks when physical distancing is not possible. We thank the Merredin parents, carers and community for being so patient and proactive over the past few months whilst the school has navigated the ever evolving COVID-19 landscape.

Tracy Pickering
PRINCIPAL

learning close to home

IMPORTANT DATES:

Term 2

- 10-20 May** NAPLAN Testing
- 16 May** P&C Meeting 6pm
Year 7 Immunisations
- 19 May** Primary Assembly 9am
School Board Meeting 5:30pm
- 24 May** Year 10 Health Incursion
- 24-27 May** Year 6 Camp
- 3 June** Cross Country
- 6 June** WA Day (Public Holiday)
- 7 June** School Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
- 13 June** P&C Meeting 5:30pm
- 16 June** Primary Winter Carnival
School Board Meeting 5:30pm
- 23 June** Primary Assembly 9am
Year 10 Get into Resources Incursion
- 24 June** Year 7-12 Academic Excellence Award Assembly
- 1 July** Last Day of Term 2

Term 3

- 18 July** Term 3 commences for staff
- 19 July** Term 3 commences for students



Shaping the future

Ventilation

Adequate ventilation in classrooms helps minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

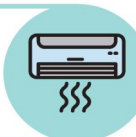
1. Natural ventilation

Natural ventilation is achieved through fresh air. Maximising fresh air in a room helps minimise the spread of COVID-19. Keeping windows and doors open helps fresh air to circulate. Most rooms in schools can be adequately ventilated this way.



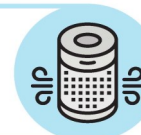
2. Mechanical ventilation

Evaporative coolers, some air conditioners and toilet extractor fans. Evaporative coolers and some air conditioners provide fresh air and can adequately ventilate rooms when in use. Turn on extractor fans in toilets and keep them on.



3. Air purification

Air purifiers help improve the air quality when a room cannot be adequately ventilated by natural or mechanical means. If a room has an air purifier, keep it on.



SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORT - MASK WEARING

School buses are classed as Public Transport therefore all students 12 years of age and above are required to continue to wear a mask at all times when travelling on the bus.



P&C UNIFORM SHOP

Term 1 opening hours

MONDAYS: 8.30-11.30AM

TUESDAYS: 8.30-9.30AM

WEDNESDAYS: 1-3PM

Order Form: [2021-ORDER-FORM.pdf \(merredincollege.wa.edu.au\)](#)

YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS

Year 7 immunisations will be occurring at Merredin College on Monday, 16 May. Consent forms have been distributed in Term 1 and must be returned as soon as possible to Student Services.

SPECIALIST GROUP PHOTO ORDERS

On photo day speciality group images (eg. Choir, Faction Captains) were taken at your school. These images can be viewed and purchased at a unique website, which is DIFFERENT to where you order the portraits and class photos online.

1. To place your Order online simply go to <https://mspphotography.shootproof.com/>
2. Locate the Schools Name, then select the album titled **Merredin College Specialist Groups - 2022**
3. You will then be required to enter a password to view the Album. The password for this

CNBSHEB22

4. Please ensure that you use your child's name at the checkout
5. The images you are viewing are uncropped and will be cropped to fit to a 10x8 print (as per the first image in your gallery, a sample of layout & colour)

- The online orders will be open until **midnight on Tuesday, 10 May 2022 – for the Bulk Pricing Offer**
- **The Bulk Pricing Offer is \$20 per print and these will be delivered to the school BY CLASS GROUP**

After the \$20 pricing expires, the photos will remain available online, but the photos are now at a cost of \$35 per image and delivered to a preferred address.



AUTUMN CANTEEN MENU 2022

New menu available on the following link:

<https://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/CANTEEN-MENU-LANDSCAPE.pdf>



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.

NO HAT!! NO PLAY!!

Merredin College has a STRICT no hat – no play policy. All children need a hat to participate in our recess, lunch and physical education programs. Hats are available from the Uniform shop and the primary office for \$12.

LUNCH AND SNACKS

A number of students are dropping into the office to request food during the second break at 1.30pm. Can parents please have a conversation with students about whether they are getting enough food during the day. We have a limited supply of fruit and food items for emergencies which is being exhausted. We will give you a call if your child is coming to the office for extra food items.

ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT

RYPEN is a weekend camp for high school students that provides and opportunity for kids aged 14-17 to:

- Develop and challenge themselves.
- Look to develop their self-esteem and confidence
- Gain interest in developing skills including leadership, teamwork, communication, goal setting & problem solving
- Build a network of young people and to make new friends
- Have an exciting weekend of fun

It is a Rotary initiative that I have had the opportunity to facilitate a couple of times and could see incredible growth from the participants in even just the two days.

[Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment \(RYPEN\) | District 9465 \(rotary9465.org.au\)](#)

[Microsoft Word - RYPEN-Application-Form-May2022.docx \(windows.net\)](#)

