



ISSUE #12  
13 May 2022

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



## A message from the Principal .....

Dear Parents and Carers,

As many of you will be aware COVID has found Merredin and has had quite an impact at the school with a number of staff and students out this past week.

### Student Attendance

Every day that a student does not attend school can have a negative impact on their learning. The Department of Education monitors student attendance and works with other agencies and service providers to maximise student engagement with learning.

It is a Department of Education requirement that Merredin College provides a reason(s) for a child's absence from school. We ask that Parents and Carers inform the school of any days that a student has not or will not be attending school so that we can accurately record our attendance data. Attendance follow up is done via phone call, a hard copy letter sent home or a home visit when required. We request that if you receive an attendance follow up that it is appropriately filled out and returned to school as soon as possible.

The School can be notified of absences in the following ways:

- Hard Copy Attendance notes are available at Student Services and Administration, alternatively you can
- Email [merredin.college@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:merredin.college@education.wa.edu.au)
- Inform or reply to the text message sent from Merredin College on 0419 199 331 or
- Phone administration on 9041 7520

### Covid related absences

In the case of a Covid related absence from school (positive test result), please inform the school of the date from which the positive test was recorded so that we are able to accurately record future student absences and return to school dates. The first date of a positive RATs is counted as day zero (0). Students must stay home in isolation for 7 days even if they are feeling better or testing negative.

### Free RATS tests soon available

Over the next few weeks the school will be receiving a shipment of free RATS tests. These free RATs will support our students to continue to attend school for face-to-face learning and will minimise disruption to their schooling. You will be able to test your child at home if they are feeling unwell and/or are deemed a close/household contact. We will notify parents when the RATs are available and how we intend to distribute them.

Whilst COVID is drawing on our attentions at school at the moment, it is not the core focus. I would like to acknowledge the staff who have maintained a regular focus on delivering an engaging curriculum. Also credit to the students who have largely navigated the changes, working hard to ensure they have done their best in recent NAPLAN tests and are preparing themselves for mid term assessments and/or exams. Reports will come out later this term and now is the time for a renewed focus on 'giving it a go and doing your best'.

Kind regards  
Tracy Pickering  
PRINCIPAL

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<https://www.facebook.com/Merredin-College->



### IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION

If your child becomes a close contact, due to a person in your household being COVID-19 positive, they will no longer have to isolate for 7 days. They are still required to attend school providing they:

- do a daily Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) and receive a negative result each day to attend school.
- are asymptomatic.
- wear a mask at school (for students in Year 7 and above) and when travelling on public transport or ride-share.

If your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive to COVID-19, please notify the school as soon as possible.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### Term 2

10-20 May	NAPLAN Testing
16 May	Year 7 Immunisations
24 May	Year 10 Health Incursion
24-27 May	Year 6 Camp
26 May	School Board AGM 5:30pm
3 June	Whole School Cross Country
6 June	WA Day (Public Holiday)
7 June	School Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
10 June	Bruce Rock Cross Country
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
	High School Netball Cup
24 June	Year 7-12 Academic Excellence Award Assembly
1 July	Year 9 CoRE Excursion
	Last Day of Term 2
Term 3	29 Aug-2 Sept Country Week
Term 4	15 Oct School Ball

## ATAR EXAMS

All ATAR students have been given their ATAR Exam schedule for the Semester 1 Exams starting on Thursday 26 May 2022 (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 Wednesday 8 June 2022 (Week 7). 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.

## YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS

Year 7 immunisations will be occurring at Merredin College on Monday, 16 May. Consent forms were distributed in Term 1, please return them as soon as possible to Student Services. Spare form are also available from Student Services.

## PRIMARY ASSEMBLY POSTPONED

The Primary Assembly scheduled for Week 4 is being postponed until the covid situation in primary becomes less troublesome. The Year 4/5 class who will be running the assembly have had significant absences and we would like all students to be able to participate in their item. At this stage we hope to hold the assembly in Week 6. We will keep parents updated via the MC Link and the MC Facebook page. We wish all of our students a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them back at school.

**Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)**

## NAPLAN TEST WINDOW

NAPLAN testing will continue into next week (Week 4) to enable students that are absent from school this week to still sit their assessments. As students return to school they will be withdrawn from class to sit NAPLAN tests.

**Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)**

## 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.

**Got a question about this? Ms Lynne Herbert (Deputy Principal)**

## FREE DRESS WEAR YELLOW — CANCER COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

On Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of May (next Thursday) we will be holding a yellow free dress day where students and staff are encouraged to wear yellow and bring a gold coin donation to raise money for the Cancer Council.



## SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP — AMENDED OPENING HOURS

Next week the shop will only be open on Monday 8:15am to 8:45am, Tuesday 8:15am to 8:45am and will be closed on Wednesday. Order forms are available from Student Services and the administration office, these can be returned to the administration office or emailed to [merredincollegeuniforms@mail.com](mailto:merredincollegeuniforms@mail.com) payment can be made by Cash/Cheque/Eftpos/Bank Transfer, orders will be compiled and parents notified for collection.

## MODIFIED CANTEEN MENU—WEEK 4



SANDWICHES		TOASTIES		HOT ROLLS		CHEESY'S		DRINKS	
Butter	\$1.50	Cheese	\$4.00	Butter	\$2.00	Plain Cheese	\$2.50	Water 600ml	\$2.50
Vegemite	\$1.60	Cheese & Vegemite	\$4.10	Vegemite	\$2.10	Chicken	\$3.00	Juice Box	\$2.00
Cheese	\$2.50	Ham & Cheese	\$5.00	Cheese	\$3.00	Ham	\$3.00	Juice Bomb	\$2.50
Vegemite & Cheese	\$2.60	Chicken, Cheese & Mayo	\$5.50	Vegemite & Cheese	\$3.10	Vegemite	\$2.60	Flav. Milk 300ml	\$3.50
Ham & Cheese	\$4.50					Pizza Muffin	\$2.50	Flav. Milk 600ml	\$4.50
Chicken, Cheese & Mayo	\$5.00								

