



ISSUE #6
28 April 2023

MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



A message from the Principal

Welcome back everyone to Term 2, in particular welcome to our new staff, students and families.

I would like to introduce our new staff members:

- . Ms Nicole Parrella – Primary Deputy Principal
- . Mrs Sally Dix – Primary teacher (new 3/4 class)
- . Ms Robyn Jones - Secondary Physical Education
- . Mr Simon Gilbert – Secondary Mathematics
- . Mr Malcolm Eastwick – Chaplain (2 days per week)
- . Mr Rueben Winmar – Secondary AIEO

This term is a Reporting term so please have a conversation with your child/ren about doing the best they can so the reports are a true reflection of their capabilities. Ensuring your child has all the necessary resources for class will support the teachers. It is important that teachers and parents communicate regularly to ensure every opportunity is afforded for your child to do well. Please feel free to contact the school to arrange a time to meet with the classroom teacher if you have any concerns.

The start of the term is a perfect time to reinforce classroom expectations. The following has been reinforced to Teachers in order to support optimal conditions for learning in the classroom.

Start of the lesson:

- . a clear seating plan.
- . students are greeted at the door and ensure they go into class in a calm and orderly manner.
- . there is a DO Now activity on the board (or PowerPoint) so students are engaged and quiet whilst the role is marked.
- . every lesson has a Learning Intention and students know the Success Criteria for the lesson.
- . As per Education Department expectations, students are not to use their mobile phones in class for any reason unless under the direct guidance of the classroom teacher.

End of the lesson:

- . lesson is summarised and students are informed what they will be doing next lesson.
- . the classroom is clean and tidy with equipment packed away.
- . students move out of the classroom in a calm and orderly manner.

Changes to Student Services – a reminder that secondary students who need to pay for events, arrive late or need to leave early, or are unwell and need to go home will do so now via the Administration office on Woolgar Ave. The Student Wellbeing Hub (formerly Student Services) will still triage and manage at risk students.

Parent School Board nominee – We require one more parent to join our very proactive School Board. Please complete the attached expression of interest form and return to Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au by Monday 8 May 2023.
[Link for Nomination Form](#)

Winter Uniforms – with the cool weather creeping in can you please ensure your child has a school jumper. Please see the link to the Uniform shop opening times. Please contact the school if you need some support in obtaining a winter uniform for your child.

This promises to be an exciting term with a number of incursions, excursions, athletics carnivals and rewards activities to compliment the education program. Continue to follow our MC Link and website for up to date information and photos.

Kind regards
Tracy Pickering
PRINCIPAL

Follow us at:
<https://www.facebook.com/Merredin-College-256760021333175/>



SCHOOL BALL

One of the most exciting dates on the school calendar has finally arrived and this Saturday 29 April 2023 will see our Year 10-12 students looking their finest. This year the Ball is at the Cummins Theatre on Bates Street, and parents and friends are invited to gather outside the theatre for the arrival of the students. Students are asked to start arriving for 6pm with last arrivals at 6:30pm. Year 12 parents and friends will then be invited inside for the announcement of our Year 12 students and their partners into the theatre.

A reminder that this Ball is a school event and that students and partners will need to follow normal school rules and respect the teachers, photographers, DJ and catering staff at all times. The Ball concludes at 11pm and students will only be able to be picked up at this time. We will not be releasing students early.

I'd like to also thank the Student Councillors for organising this event along with staff and parent support. We are looking forward to a fantastic evening.

YEAR 12 HANDBOOK

All Year 12 students and parents have been emailed a copy of the Year 12 Handbook which includes information about:

- key dates that are important for you this year
- what is involved in the WASSA and the WACE
- the student portal and the WACE Checker
- equivalences and how they can count towards your WACE
- school-based assessment and how it works
- examinations (the focus of Part II, available in July)
- general advice on life as a Year 12 student

Link: [Year 12 Handbook](#)

OLNA

Year 10 students who are needing to complete their OLNAs have been given a schedule for their session times. These tests are important for students to pass as it is a requirement for Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). Students that have attained Band 8 or higher in their Year 9 NAPLAN have prequalified for OLNAs and are not required to sit these tests.

NETBALL CUP 2023

The High Schools Netball Cup is being held in Northam on Thursday 11 May. We have a few helpers now but are still looking for some assistance with umpiring for the day. If you are able to help out please contact the front office or Mr Justin Roberts - Phys Ed department.

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.

P&C UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times:

Mondays 8.30-11.30am

Wednesdays 8.30-11.30am & 1-3.30pm

[2023 Order Form](#)

IMPORTANT DATES:

TERM 2

29 April	School Ball
1-4 May	Year 12 Outdoor Ed Camp
1-12 May	OLNA Year 10
2-5 May	CoRE Extended Field Trip
11 May	Year 7-12 Netball Cup
16-18 May	Year 11/12 Follow the Dream Camp
18 May	Primary Assembly (Year 4/5) 9am School Board Meeting 6.30pm
19 May	Cross Country (Primary)
22 May	Indonesian Choir Visit
23 May	AHEAD Career Discovery Excursion (Y10.1)
30 May-4 June	Shooting Stars Camp
2 June	School Development Day
5 June	WA Day - Public Holiday
9 June	Bruce Rock Interschool Cross Country
12 June	P&C Meeting 3.15pm
15 June	School Board AGM 6.30pm
16 June	Primary Winter Carnival (Year 4-16)
22 June	Primary Assembly (Year 3) 9am Get into Resources Excursion (Year 10)
23 June	Secondary Academic Excellence Assembly
25-30 June	Secondary Country Week
26-30 June	Year 11/12 ADWPL (Workplace Learning)
30 June	Last day of Term 2
TERM 3	
17 July	School Development Day
18 July	Students commence Term 3

JOB OPPORTUNITY



TITLE: Student Support Officer
For the Lumen Wheatbelt
Regional University Centre

TENURE: Contracted until 30 June 2025.
Future position subject to successful outcomes and
further funding.

HOURS: Part time - 20 hours per week
Normal hours are between 8.30am to 5pm Monday
to Friday, although some activities may involve
weekends or extend past normal hours. Flexible
working hours may be negotiated.

Location: MERREDIN with some travel within the Wheatbelt
region WA and metro area.

Remuneration: Salary range \$31,200 to \$36,400 subject to
qualifications and experience.
Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Centre
Student Support Officer

This is a new position, supported by the Australian
Government as part of its Regional University Centre
initiative. Further information about regional university
centres is available on the Australian Department of
Education website.

[Regional University Centres - Department of Education, Australian Government](#)
Contact the Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Centre Director
Elise Woods T: 0488 025 446 or email director@lumenwruc.edu.au



WELL BEING HUB - SECONDARY

We welcome our new staff member Rueben Winmar, Aboriginal Islander Education Officer (AIEO), Brett Postans, Education Assistant (EA) and Kari Ratima, Student Support Officer (SSO). We will be working on supporting student learning in classrooms. Our primary focus will be to continue to support all students in particular those students who may need some additional support and someone to speak with. As the new team develops, current processes will be reviewed and refined, and new processes may be developed. Parents and students will be informed how they can utilise this team if seeking support.

If your child has a diagnosed condition, and you have not informed the school about this, can you please contact Deputy Principal - Rosemary Paterson to ensure we are aware of this. The more we understand about your child the better able we are to provide for them in the classroom.

UNIFORMS

Please ensure your child comes dressed in school uniform at all times. If you require assistance with this, please let us know. We will be tying this to Good Standing when we review the policy, so this is a transition to expecting to see all students in school uniform as the norm.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES


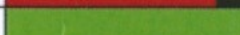

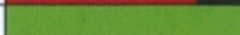

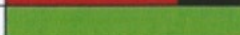
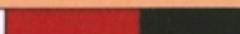
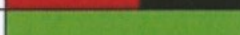
Please support us by chatting with your child about how they are going at school, are they getting to class on time, have all the required stationery for each lesson, their computer ready and charged. Are they showing respect for the teacher by not talking when they or other students are speaking. If you leave for work early are they getting to school on time and in uniform? Are they completing the work asked of them, are they letting the teacher know if they are having difficulties? Once again, the more we know the better we are able to support learning for your child.

MEETINGS

If you have any concerns and would like to come in and chat about this, please ring 9041 7520 or email merredinCol@education.wa.edu.au and we will arrange a time to suit you to meet with one of our Deputy Principals.

ABSENCES

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child is absent from school and the reason why. Planned absences can also be advised prior to the date. We will send home follow-up letters regularly also to be returned for absences not reported. Every minute/day counts.

1 or 2 days a week may not seem like a lot but...				
If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is...
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 Weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years!	Your Child 
				Other Children 
				Equivalent to finishing in Year 10
1 day per week	40 Days per year	8 Weeks per year	Over 2.5 years!	Your Child 
				Other Children 
				Equivalent to finishing in Year 9
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years!	Your Child 
				Other Children 
				Equivalent to finishing in Year 7
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years!	Your Child 
				Other Children 
				Equivalent to finishing in Year 6

ONLINE PARENT WORKSHOPS

Online Workshop with Early Childhood Psychologists: Spending time apart and managing separation problems - for Preschool

Early Childhood Psychologists are running workshops for families. The upcoming workshop on 'Spending time apart and managing separation problems - for Preschool' is on **Wednesday 17 May, 8-10pm**. You may like to share the information and links below with families.

All children need to learn to cope with temporary separations from their parents. Learning to be apart can be difficult for parents and children. However, parents need time to themselves occasionally and children benefit from spending time with other people. Shyness around new people and anxiety about separation from parents is common in pre-schoolers. This workshop provides some suggestions to help you teach your pre-schooler to mix with others and calmly separate from you.

Join Webex meeting

Meeting number (access code): 2650 293 3417 Meeting password: A9ee8sdXce9

Join from a video system or application

Dial [26502933417@educationwa.webex.com](tel:26502933417)

You can also dial 210.4.202.4 and enter your meeting number.

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+61892645678,,26502933417## Perth

Join by phone

+61892645678 Perth

[Global call-in numbers](#)

Australia Toll:+61-29037-0069 [Can't join the meeting?](#)

The PECES branch

Click here to - [view the Notice >](#)

If the link above does not work, try copying the link into the address bar of your browser.

<https://connect.det.wa.edu.au/redirect/cmt/23957821/announcements?viewNotice=4796114464>

Online PPP workshop: Healthy Screen Time Habits for Primary School Students

Early Childhood Psychologists are running workshops for families. The upcoming Triple P workshop on 'Healthy screen time habits for primary school students' is on **Monday 22 May, 8-10pm**. You may like to share information and the links below with families.

Living in a digital age has benefits and risks for children and parents. Digital devices can be a source of fun and important tools for learning. The challenge is to manage screen time and keep them safe online. This workshop gives some suggestions to help parents establish healthy screen time habits and respond to common screen time problems.

Join Webex meeting

Meeting number (access code): 2653 688 6498 Meeting password: mDbK6amXp25

Join from a video system or application

Dial [26536886498@educationwa.webex.com](tel:26536886498)

You can also dial 210.4.202.4 and enter your meeting number.

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+61892645678,,26536886498## Perth

Join by phone

+61892645678 Perth

[Global call-in numbers](#)

Australia Toll:+61-29037-0069 [Can't join the meeting?](#)

