



ISSUE #5
6 April 2023

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Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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A message from the Principal

Welcome Parents and carers to our final newsletter for Term 1.

We would like to acknowledge a few staff members that are moving on to new adventures. **Chanelle Squire** is going on Maternity Leave, **Nikky Howson** (Physical Education) joined Flying Squad to travel and see WA. We thank Nikky for her time with us and wish her all the best. **Yolette Inskip** (Mathematics) will be enjoying a career change driving big trucks. We wish her the best in her new profession. New teaching staff will be announced when confirmed. Our much beloved **Barb Smith** (Deputy Principal) is taking a terms Long Service leave before Retiring. Barb has been at Merredin College for over 5 years and has been the pillar of support and wisdom to many staff and Administrators at Merredin College over that time. **Nicole Parrella** will be joining us in Term 2 as the Primary Deputy Principal Student Services.

Sal Marais (Chaplain) has been promoted to Area Chaplain and Principal Area Chaplain for the Eastern region. We are very proud of Sal's promotion and wish her well. **Malcolm Eastwick** will be starting as our new Chaplain 2 days a week next term. We look forward to working with Malcolm.

We wish all our students, families and staff a safe and relaxing Easter holiday.

Kind regards
Tracy Pickering

TERM 2

Please be reminded that even though the ANZAC Day Public Holiday does fall on the 25 April, the first day of Term 2 for staff and students is Monday 24 April. All students are expected to attend school on this day.

NETBALL CUP 2023

The High Schools Netball Cup is being held in Northam on Thursday 11 May. We are planning on taking a few teams and would really appreciate some parent helpers on the day. If you are able to help out please contact the front office or Mr Justin Roberts - Phys Ed department.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

We are desperately seeking second hand school uniforms, in particular school shirts. If your children have outgrown shirts and you are happy to donate them, we would greatly appreciate them as we are starting to run quite low in both primary admin and Student Services.

IMPORTANT DATES:

TERM 2

24 April	Staff & Students Commence Term 2
25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
29 April	School Ball
1-3 May	Year 12 Outdoor Ed Camp
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 (Whole School)
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
22 June	Primary Assembly (Year 3) 9am Get into Resources Excursion
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



CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Student contributions and charges are still payable if you have not paid them as yet. Please contact the front office if you would like to make arrangements for a payment plan. If you have a Health Care card then please also contact the front office to complete a Secondary Assistance Scheme claim form for \$235 per child.

From Student Services desk

Wow, we blinked, and first term has come and gone. Thank you to our staff here at Merredin College for their teamwork and all the effort that goes into preparing classes, assisted by very able non-teaching staff. Our cleaners and gardeners also work to keep our school looking the best. Our clerical staff are amazing and often go unnoticed, so thank you. Well done to the many students who have worked hard to achieve their potential. I look forward to continuing to get to know more parents as the business of our College continues next term. Partnerships with parents are imperative if students are to realise their goals and be the best they can be.

Term 2 Focus:

Next term please have winter uniforms sorted for what I am told is very cold weather coming. Also please check your child's stationary supplies and ensure on the 24 April 2023 they are set ready for the term. We will be focussing on **responsibilities** of students when we return to school. For students this will include wearing the required uniform, preparedness for school (ie school stationary) and use of appropriate language when at school.

New lay out:

Student Services will be moving to the main Administration Office on Woolgar Avenue. All student coming late or leaving during the day will do so from the Administration Office. The current Student Services area will now be called the 'Wellbeing Hub'.

Students reports come out late next term, reporting on Semester 1. Do you know how your child is going at school? Please contact teachers or administration at any time if you have questions about how your child is progressing. Frequent contact between school and home ensures there are no surprises when reports come home. Frequent discussions with teachers allow you as parents to be well informed and to be able to support your child to achieve at their potential, as we work together in partnership. Reports are emailed home so please ensure the school has your up to date email details or if no email you can request a hard copy. Please phone 90417520.

Please have a safe and relaxing break coming back reinvigorated for a very busy Term 2.

Yours Sincerely

Rosemary Paterson
Deputy Principal-Student Services

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!	<div><div>Your Child</div><div>Other Children</div></div> <div>Equivalent to finishing in Year 10</div>
1 day per week	40 Days per year	8 Weeks per year	Over 2.5 years!	<div><div>Your Child</div><div>Other Children</div></div> <div>Equivalent to finishing in Year 9</div>
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years!	<div><div>Your Child</div><div>Other Children</div></div> <div>Equivalent to finishing in Year 7</div>
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years!	<div><div>Your Child</div><div>Other Children</div></div> <div>Equivalent to finishing in Year 6</div>

90-100% Attendance is regarded as
REGULAR

80-89% Attendance is regarded as
at **RISK**

60-79% Attendance is regarded as
HIGH RISK

0-59% Attendance is regarded as at
SEVERE RISK

