



ISSUE #11  
11 August 2023

# MC link

Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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## From the Principal's desk .....

Dear Parents/Carers,

At assembly today a large number of Secondary students were awarded certificates for demonstrating the GROW values of Caring, being Respectful, being Responsible and Striving to Succeed.

**Staffing update:** Across the state there is a shortage of trained registered teachers. In order to mitigate Merredin Colleges staffing shortages our dedicated staff, including the Executive team have stepped in to support. I would ask that the community acknowledge the Merredin College staff for consistently going above and beyond. They all give up their own planning and preparation time (DOTT) to back fill classes thereby ensuring the students have a familiar face with a consistent curriculum. Whilst your child may not be being taught by a specialist teacher in that subject area, they are being taught by people who care deeply for their personal and academic wellbeing. I would also like to acknowledge our students who consistently show resilience and perseverance with these staffing changes.

2024 is already looking promising with a number of these appointments having been filled for a 2024 start. We ask that you continue to support the school over the rest of the year while we do the best we can to navigate these challenging times.

The next couple of weeks will also be full of excitement for a number of secondary students who will be representing Merredin College at both the Volleyball School Cup and Country week. In addition, on the 26 & 27 August, Ms Cartwright will lead a group of Year 8-10 students as they take on a number of other District High Schools and Senior High Schools for the [WA Robotics Playoffs \(WARP\)](#) next weekend. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2bafotqzgy>  
We wish all our competitors the very best of luck.

**National School Opinion Surveys:** Merredin College will be conducting a series of surveys Week 6 & 7 to assist us to shape the 2024 – 2026 Business Plan. Students, staff and parents will be consulted on a range of topics. We will be offering two Primary and two Secondary prizes for families who submit a survey response. Your feedback will be invaluable in shaping our future direction. A text message will be sent informing you the email link is available.

**Gifted and Talented program 2025:** Exceptionally able students across regional Western Australia can participate in Gifted and Talented programs through the Selective Academic Program GT Online. In the online program, students with exceptional academic ability:

- learn with like-minded peers
- access stimulating programs that extend, enrich and accelerate their learning

Merredin College currently hosts students undertaking the GT online program. Two of the GATE students were recently acknowledged for their achievement in the 2023 Big Science Competition. Online applications for the 2025 round open in October 2023. Please note these selections occur a full year in advance. If you are interested, please contact the school for additional information.

Kind regards  
Tracy Pickering  
Principal



### YEAR 10 PARENTS COURSE INFORMATION

A Year 11 2024 Subject Selection information session was held on Tuesday night with a great turnout. Students have all now been issued with a 2024 Course Selection booklet which will need to be completed and returned to Student Services by Friday 1 September 2023. If you missed the session you are able to watch the recording via the link below. There were some technical issues at the beginning which were fixed, so start watching the recording from 1:25pm.

If you have any further questions please contact the school, Mrs Sutherland or Mr O'Neill.

Webex meeting recording: Year 10 2024 Subject Selection Information Evening-20230808 0930-1

Password: Merredin2024

Recording link: [https://educationwa.webex.com/educationwa/ldr.php?](https://educationwa.webex.com/educationwa/ldr.php?RCID=60ab6d790b9d7d101a6ba1e27b32f8ca)

[RCID=60ab6d790b9d7d101a6ba1e27b32f8ca](https://educationwa.webex.com/educationwa/ldr.php?RCID=60ab6d790b9d7d101a6ba1e27b32f8ca)

### YEAR 11 WORKPLACE LEARNING-TERM 4

All Year 11 VET/General students are expected to find a placement to attend Workplace Learning from the 23 October-10 November. Applications are due by next Friday 18 August. Please contact Tracey Sutherland or Vanessa Morris if you require any further assistance.

### YEAR 12 AWARDS EVENING - DATE CHANGE

Please note that the Year 12 Awards Night will now take place on Thursday 19 October 2023. Information will be distributed to students next week.

### YEAR 12 STUDENTS END OF YEAR

Can families please make sure they provide us their child's baby photo as soon as you can so we can start putting together our Awards night presentation. Please also remind your child to complete and hand in their Student Profiles for the year book. They can be emailed to:

[Vanessa.Morris@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Vanessa.Morris@education.wa.edu.au)

### PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

The next primary assembly will be held on Thursday 17 August at 9am in the covered assembly area and will be run by Miss Grinsell's Year 2 Class. We look forward to seeing our families there.

### ONE BIG VOICE

We would like to wish the Merredin College Choir all the best for their upcoming performance at One Big Voice in Perth next week.

### PRIMARY ATHLETICS

Merredin College will be holding the annual Primary Athletics Carnival over two days – **Wednesday 30 August** and **Friday 1 September**, at Merredin College school oval. On Wednesday students will compete in Vortex throwing and Long Jump. The running races, relays and team games will all be held on Friday at the carnival.

We are looking for parent/community volunteers to be involved on the day to ensure the carnival runs smoothly. We require 4 volunteers on Wednesday 30 August to help with the long jump and vortex throwing. Volunteers can offer their assistance on Friday 1 September for the morning session (9.00-12.00), afternoon session (12.00-2.00) or the whole day. Jobs include ribbon presenting, photographer, starter or scorer assistant. If you would like to volunteer some time please contact the Primary Office or Miss Kylie Bryant as soon as possible.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### TERM 3

- 11 Aug** Secondary Assembly
- 13-18 Aug** Shooting Stars Junior Leadership Camp
- 14-18 Aug** Science Week
- 17 Aug** Primary Assembly (Year 3/4)
- 18 Aug** Meckering Cross Country  
Year 11 Volleyball Schools Cup
- 18-19 Aug** One Big Voice Choir Camp
- 21-23 Aug** Year 11 Outdoor Education Camp
- 21-25 Aug** Book Week
- 24 Aug** Yr 9 Girls Yr 7/8 & Volleyball Schools Cup
- 25 Aug** Daffodil Day  
Book Week Dress Up Day
- 25-26 Aug** Yr 9 Boys & Yr 10 Volleyball Schools Cup
- 25-28 Aug** WARP Robotics Excursion
- 29 Aug** Secondary Athletics Carnival
- 30 Aug** Primary Jumps & Throws
- 1 Sept** Primary Athletics Carnival  
Year 3 Railway Excursion
- 3-6 Sept** Year 10 CoRE Field Trip
- 4 Sept** P&C Meeting 3.15pm
- 5-8 Sept** Year 6 School Camp
- 7 Sept** School Board Meeting 5.30pm
- 7-8 Sept** Drama Performance
- 11 Sept** Musica Viva Incursion
- 12-13 Sept** Year 11 Outdoor Ed Camp
- 14 Sept** Secondary Assembly  
Primary Assembly
- 15 Sept** Primary Interschool Athletics Carnival  
EASA Interschool Athletics Carnival

#### 15-21 Sept ATAR Exams

- 18 Sept** Merredin Bus Accident Anniversary
- 19-22 Sept** Year 9 CoRE Field Trip
- 21 Sept** Follow the Dream Celebration
- 22 Sept** Last Day of Term 3

#### TERM 4

- 9 Oct** School Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
- 10 Oct** Students commence Term 3
- 12 Oct** Year 12 ATAR Timetable Suspended
- 13 Oct** Year 12 Morning Tea  
Secondary Assembly
- 19 Oct** Year 12 Awards Night 7-9pm

## P&C UNIFORM SHOP

**Mondays:**

**8.30-11.30am**

**Wednesdays:**

**8.30-11.30am and 1-3pm**





### BOOK WEEK—21-25 AUGUST (PRIMARY)

Start thinking about costumes for Book Week! Book Week starts on Monday 21 August and the theme this year is: "**Read, Grow, Inspire**". We will be running a series of activities through the week culminating in a Dress Up Day on Friday 25 August.

### SCIENCE WEEK

Merredin College students will partake in National Science Week with the theme being *Innovation: Powering Future Industries*. This looks at advancements in technology in industry as well as Artificial Intelligence.

### FREE DRESS DAY "WEAR ORANGE" WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST

The National Bullying Prevention Week is 14 – 20 August 2023. On Wednesday 16 August we are having a 'Free Dress Day' for a gold coin donation. All students are encouraged to wear something '**ORANGE**' on the day. All money raised will be donated to Bully Zero!



### 2024 ENROLMENTS AND PLANNING

Planning for 2024 begins next term. If you know that your student will not be attending the College in 2024, please notify the admin via email: [janelle.lane@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:janelle.lane@education.wa.edu.au).

If you are planning on enrolling a child or know of anyone wanting to enrol in 2024 New Admission information and Enrolment Packages can be found on our website. Click here: [New Admissions](#)

### RELIEF CLEANERS WANTED

Merredin College is currently seeking relief cleaning staff. Work hours would be mornings between 4.30-8.30am or in the afternoon from 2-6pm. Must have current Working With Children and Department of Education screening. Please contact Susan Coomber for further information.



# MERREDIN COLLEGE COMMUNICATION CULTURE

**COMMUNICATION** is the process of information being transferred from one person to another.

## SCHOOL → HOME

- Email
- Connect (Secondary)
- Seesaw (Primary)
- Consent2Go
- SMS
- Two formal reports per year (no surprises)
- Letters of commendation/concern
- Phone calls when further support is required
- Task Mark Reports
- Mail - Financials/Invoices

## HOME → SCHOOL

- Contact admin to schedule Secondary teacher meetings
- Visit your Primary child's classroom
- Phone call
- Email
- Advise student absences
- Update student medical information
- Update student contact details



*Positive communication is based on respect and builds trust and collaboration.*

