



MC Link - Term 2, Week 7

Friday, 13 June 2025 (Term 2-Week 7)

Principal's Address

Building the Foundations of a Strong School

Last Friday, on the school development day, and throughout the year, our staff have been working individually or in teams to access a range of professional learning opportunities. These form part of our Strategic Plan to build staff capacity and currency in our practice to ensure that students achieve year-on-year growth in their learning.

Professional Learning



Primary Cross Country – Interschool Team Announced

Well done to all our students who participated in the Primary Cross Country Carnival. It was a fantastic day of effort, encouragement, and school spirit.

Congratulations to the students selected to represent Merredin College at the Interschool Cross Country. Your determination and strong performances earned you a well-deserved spot on the team.

We wish you all the best as you compete today, I know you will do us proud!



Communicating and Interacting with our School

We value the strong partnership we have with our families and enjoy having our families support school activities and develop strong connections with their child's teacher(s).

We acknowledge that majority of parents communicate positively with the school, however, we have recently experienced communication from parents that has not met the standard of respect we expect in our school community. Unfortunately, this has occurred in front of children, who are learning from every interaction they observe.

Our staff take responsibility for the education and care of others' children very seriously. However, negative interactions can directly impact their ability to maintain the focus, energy, and passion needed to best support your children.

As parents and carers, we are all role models. I take this opportunity to remind parents and visitors that respectful conduct is expected at all times, whether on school grounds or when communicating with staff or other members of our school community. This includes during events, daily drop-off and pick-up.

If you have a concern, we encourage you to contact Administration to arrange a suitable time to speak with the appropriate staff member. We are always willing to work together respectfully in the best interests of the children.

Shout Outs – We Want to Hear the Good Stuff!

While we recognise that things may not always go well, we're always eager to hear when it does. Positive feedback helps us understand what's working well, so we can do more of it!

We encourage our parents and carers to share their 'shout outs', big or small. These moments will be celebrated, helping us focus our energy where it makes the greatest impact.

To submit a 'shout out', please click the link below.

[Shout Out!](#)



Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA)

To achieve WACE (secondary graduation) students must meet the OLNA standard comprising of writing, reading and numeracy. Students can demonstrate competency via Year 9 NAPLAN

or OLNA in Year 10-12. I would like to congratulate the following students who have recently met the OLNA standard. This is a big achievement.

Mrs Kylie Cattaway

Principal



WA STUDENT ASSISTANCE PAYMENT

WA STUDENT ASSISTANCE PAYMENT

Just 3 weeks left to claim!

The **WA Student Assistance Payment** helps with school costs — don't miss out.

\$150 for each Kindergarten and primary student

\$250 for each secondary student

Claim now through the ServiceWA app, online or by post in a claim form.

Claims close Friday 4 July 2025.

Visit www.education.wa.edu.au/wasap for eligibility info and how to claim.



Department of
Education
GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The WA Student Assistance Payment

Helping you get the things you need for your kids. Claim by 4 July 2025.

\$150 For each Kindergarten and primary school student	\$250 For each secondary school student
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[Find out more](#)

Claim on the ServiceWA app 

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

Schools adopt **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)** programs to enhance student learning by integrating technology into daily classroom activities. BYOD allows students to use a device they are already comfortable with, helping them engage more effectively with digital resources, collaborate with classmates, and develop essential 21st-century skills. This approach:

- Makes use of devices students are already familiar with.
- Supports more personalised and flexible learning, both in and out of the classroom.
- Ensures all students are prepared for the digital demands of modern education.
- Encourages digital independence and responsibility.
- Enables better use of school resources.

Merredin College BYOD program now includes all year 4-12 students.

Communication was sent out today to all parents/guardians of Year 7-12 students that have not yet registered to be part of the program. Please read through this information and consider enrolling your student in this program. Application forms can be returned to Student Services in the main administration office at any time. Please also note that students will not be able join BYOD devices to the school network prior to applications being processed.

Copies of The [BYOD Policy Overview and Application Form](#) can also be located on the school website.



BYOD 2025

Specifications:
11-15 inch Display
Intel Core i3-1115G4 Processor
8GB RAM
128GB SSD
720p HD Camera
WiFi and Bluetooth Access
USB, HDMI, Headphone & Microphone ports



Our school Calendar is accessible through the [Compass App](#)



THANKS FOR GETTING ON BOARD!

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who have been using the Compass App!

It's a fantastic way to stay connected with what's happening in your child's school day. You can easily access the school calendar, stay updated with important announcements, and find key school documents, all in one place.

We appreciate your ongoing support!



Primary News

Primary Winter Carnival - Friday, 27 June

Year 4-6 Primary students will compete in a winter sports carnival at Merredin Rec Centre. Students have chosen to play either Football, Netball or Soccer.

We need parent/community volunteers to assist on the day with umpiring, scoring and coaching our teams. Please contact Kylie Bryant - kylie.bryant@education.wa.edu.au if you are available to take on any of these positions.

Upgraded Sensory Room and Sensory Areas

We're thrilled to share that our school's sensory room has had a much-needed upgrade, and we've also expanded sensory supports across the school! After consulting with occupational and exercise physiologists, we've created smaller sensory-friendly zones around classroom blocks and updated the main sensory room to better support our students' emotional regulation and sensory needs. These calming, purposeful spaces are designed to help students regulate, refocus, and return to the classroom ready to learn. They include sensory swings, mellow mats, blackout tents, calming lights, sensory chairs, beanbags, and soundproof partition boards to reduce noise and provide quiet breakout areas.

A huge thank you to **Nutrien Ag Solutions** and **Collgar Wind Farm** for their generous support in making this initiative possible. Your contributions have helped us create a more inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students.

Assembly and Open Classrooms

The next assembly, Thursday, 19 June, will be run by the Year 5/6 Class and will take place at 2pm, followed by Open Classrooms. Open Classrooms will run from 3-4pm and will enable students to share their workbooks and learning with their parents.

Secondary News

11-12 Subject Charges & 9-10 Elective Charges

Thank you to parents and carers that completed payments for their children's 2025 subject selections. Subject fees are made up of voluntary fees and compulsory charges. Fees and charges are not for profit—all funds go directly towards supporting student learning. The school is not subsidised from other sources for the nonpayment of fees and charges. To ensure we can deliver high-quality education it is important that families pay fees and charges.

Current Statements will be emailed out by the end of Term 2. We request that all charges are paid by the following dates and fees as early as practicable in the school year.

- Year 12 – end of Term 3
- Year 11 – Week 2, Term 4
- Year 9-10 Subjects – Week 2, Term 3

If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the school to discuss support and payment plan options.

We are planning our 2026 subject options now and will be providing a selection of subjects that do not attract charges. 205 2026 subject options Please also note that students may also need to consider low fee subject options for 2026.

Recognising Student Achievements in all Areas

Many students take part in activities outside the classroom that show commitment, skill development, and leadership — and these can be acknowledged by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA), contributing to students WACE and will be recorded on their Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA).

What is the WASSA?

The Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement is a document issued to all students who complete Year 12 in WA. It records all recognised learning completed during senior secondary schooling, recognising these achievements helps give students the credit they deserve — and builds a strong portfolio for employment, training, or further education after school.

What types of achievements can be recognised?

Students may be eligible for recognition for activities such as:

- Part-time/casual paid work (minimum 55 Hours)
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Cadets WA
- Sporting excellence or elite training programs (national representation)
- Community service or volunteering programs (minimum of 55 hours)
- Language proficiency in community or heritage languages
- Music qualifications such as those from AMEB

If your child is involved in something that might qualify, please email the school or contact Tracey Sutherland or Caitlin Crees with the following information:

- Your child's full name and year group
- The name and description of the activity or program
- Any certificates or evidence such as log of Volunteer hours signed by the organiser (copies or photos are fine)

We'll then assess whether the activity qualifies for recognition, and ensure it is recorded appropriately.



25 yearbook



Do you want to be featured in the 2025 Combined Harvest?

We are looking for designs for the front & back cover of the 2025 Yearbook.

If you would like your artwork to be featured, put your artistic talents to the test & let your creativity flow.

Artwork can be in the form of an illustration or hand drawn, digital or graphic design.

Entries will also be considered to feature on cover pages within the yearbook.

Ideas include...

- School Values
 - GROW, REAP, LEAP & SOW
- School Highlights or Events
- Learning Areas
- School Achievements
- School Pride

Requirements:

- A4 size
- Portrait
- Relevant to the school
- Original ideas
- Must include your name & year group

**Please submit your entries by 22nd August
Week 5, Term 3**

Entries can be received at the Front Office or emailed to merredin.college@education.wa.edu.au

Latest News and Events





Students have been busy in Design and Technology - Woodwork



This term, our Year 6 students have been eagerly diving into weekly Home Economics lessons with Mrs Squire as part of their transition to Secondary.

Community

P&C UNIFORM SHOP - OPENING HOURS

Mondays 8.30-9.15am

Wednesdays 1.30-2.45pm

Order forms can be placed through the school administration and delivered to students.

For further queries please contact merredincollegeuniforms@mail.com or phone Kristie on 0400 412 549.

Contact Information

Phone: (08) 9041 7520

Website: merredincollege.wa.edu.au

Email: Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au

Compass: merredincollege-wa.compass.education