



MC Link - Term 3, Week 4

Friday, 15 August 2025

Principal's Address

Winter Wellness

As we move further into winter, the chill has well and truly set in! With colds, flu, and other bugs making their way through the community, we kindly ask that if your child is unwell, please keep them at home to rest and recover. This helps them bounce back to good health more quickly and also reduces the chance of illness spreading to other students and staff.

Term 3 Activities

Term 3 has proven to be our busiest term yet, with a wide range of activities designed to engage, inspire, and provide an opportunity for our students to shine. It has been wonderful to see our primary and secondary students interacting and supporting each other across so many events.

This term's activities include:

- Year 7–12 Volleyball Cup
- Year 11–12 Outdoor Education expeditions

- K–12 Cross Country
- K–12 Athletics
- Year 6 Camp
- Year 7–12 West Australian Robotics Playoffs (WARP)
- K–12 Book Week
- Year 11–12 Community Daffodil Day
- PCH Telethon Fundraiser
- Science Week

A warm thank you to our dedicated staff and supportive community for helping to make these events such a success. Your efforts create opportunities for our students to grow, connect, and shine.

Public School Review

I previously shared that Merredin College will be undertaking a Public School Review early in Term 4. Merredin College's last school review was conducted in 2021.

Public School Reviews are conducted approximately every three years and are an important part of ensuring the quality of education across WA public schools. The process provides schools with valuable feedback on their performance and highlights areas of strength as well as opportunities for improvement.

During the review, a panel from the Department of Education, consisting of Kate Wilson and Leonie Prior will visit the school to engage with staff, P&C, School Board, students and parents to gain a deeper understanding of how the school is progressing. They will focus on key areas such as:

- Student achievement and progress
- Teaching quality
- School leadership
- Learning environment
- Relationships and partnerships
- Use of resources

School Board

Our School Board plays a vital role in shaping the direction of our school, supporting our vision, and representing the voices of our community. We are currently seeking nominations

from parents who are passionate about education and want to make a positive impact on our school's future.

Our school board consists of the following members.

- Bob French – Community Member
- Glen Riethmuller – Community Member
- Jessica Rode – Community Member
- Lynne Herbert – Staff Member
- Estelle Madaffari - Parent
- Kylie Cattaway - Principal

What's involved?

- Attending Board meetings twice a term (currently Monday at 5pm)
- Contributing ideas, feedback, and insights
- Supporting strategic planning and school improvement initiatives

If you are interested in joining, please contact me by phone or email principal.merredin.col@education.wa.edu.au. Your voice matters, and we would love for you to be part of this important work.

Staffing

At the end of last term, we farewelled Mrs Lesley Stace, English teacher. I would like to thank Mr Mike Elliot for assisting with our vacant English position this term.

At the beginning of this term, Ms Kelly Webb, HASS and Health and Physical Education, joined our team as a permanent teacher. Kelly has already impressed with her strong basketball background. She even has two bronze medallions from competing at the Indian Ocean Island Games.



Mrs Kylie Cattaway

Principal

General Information



Book Week 2025 - 16-22 August (Week 6)

Book Week is just around the corner, and we've got an exciting week of activities planned!

The grand finale will take place on **Friday, 22 August**, when all students are invited to come dressed as their **favourite book character**! There will be a parade and awards for best dressed, so start planning those creative costumes!

This year's theme is "**Book an Adventure**", and we can't wait to see how students bring their favourite stories to life.

Let the adventure begin!

2025 Yearbook Cover Submissions – Deadline Extended!

We've received some *amazing* cover page submissions so far—thank you to everyone who has shared their creativity!

To give more students a chance to participate, we're extending the submission deadline to the end of term: **Friday, 26 September.**

Keep those wonderful designs coming—we can't wait to see what you create!



Compass - Canteen & Wallet

You can now place orders for the Canteen through Compass.

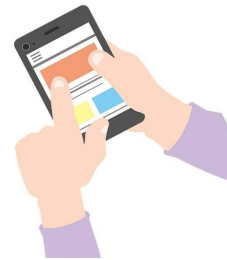


The P&C have been working hard to get the Canteen module on Compass up and running. To order, you will need to put money into your compass 'Wallet' through settings on the desktop or via the app and then click on 'Canteen' in the community drop down menu.

Orders need to be in by 8am on the day of the order but there is an option to set up regular orders or in advance.

This is still a new process with everyone still learning, so please be patient with the Canteen staff.

Any issues or questions please contact the Merredin College P&C mdncollegecanteen@gmail.com



Upcoming Events



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

ATHLETICS CARNIVALS

Primary Jumps and Throws: Wednesday, 3 September (9am)

Primary Inter-house Carnival: Friday, 5 September (9am)

Secondary Inter-house Carnival: Tuesday, 9 September (9am)

Meckering Cross Country: Friday, 22 August



YEAR 5 FUNDRAISER!!!

Orders close this Sunday, 17 August 2025.



Primary News

GROW Focus - Weeks 5 & 6

The next 2 weeks we are focusing on: *We are responsible by participating in all activities to the best of our ability.*

Glass of Class Luncheon Nominees

Well done to the following students for winning an invite to our glass of class.

Hayley A and Marlia H

Keeping Warm and Sun Smart

With the cool mornings we're experiencing, it's important that students come to school dressed warmly and ready for the day. Please ensure your child's jumper is clearly labelled with their name so it can be returned if misplaced.

It's also a great time to check that your child still has a school hat. Hats are essential for outdoor play and activities, and are available from the Primary Admin Office for \$12.

Thank you for helping keep our students comfortable and sun safe!



The Merredin 5 - Lead & Red Pencil or Pens, Ruler & Eraser, Coloured Pencils, Glue and Scissors

As we roll into the second semester, our teachers are focusing on ensuring every child is ready to learn each day. A big part of this readiness is having the right tools on hand, so learning can start straight away.

We encourage all parents and carers to take a moment to check your child's pencil case and school bag to make sure they have the essential items needed for a successful school day. These supplies help your child participate fully, stay organised, and make the most of every learning opportunity.

Thank you for your support in helping us set our students up for success!

Secondary News

Year 11 Work Placement (ADWPL) – Term 4, 10–21 November

All Year 11 students enrolled in VET or General courses are required to arrange a work placement to attend during **Term 4, 10-21 November**.

Application forms have already been distributed to students. We kindly ask parents and guardians to support their child in contacting a suitable employer and organising a placement.

Completed application forms should be submitted to **Student Services** as soon as possible, and **no later than Friday, 19 September**.

Thank you for your support in helping students prepare for this valuable learning opportunity.

Year 12 End of Year Arrangements

Parents/Carers and students were sent an email last week containing important information regarding key dates and requirements for the end-of-year proceedings for Year 12.

As part of the Year 12 Awards Presentation, we kindly request that parents/carers provide a baby photo of their child. Please ensure this is submitted by **Friday, 12 September**.

Year 11/12 Clearance Forms

All Year 11 and 12 students are required to complete a clearance form, which must be signed off by teachers and a Deputy Principal in order to finalise their school year to ensure any outstanding assessments are completed. Please note that this includes settlement of any outstanding fees and course charges. Statement of Accounts have recently been distributed to parents/carers, please ensure these are paid by the end of the term. If you are having financial difficulties then please contact the front office to make arrangements for a payment plan.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Administration.

[Latest News and Events](#)

This week classrooms across Merredin College were buzzing with curiosity, creativity, and hands-on exploration as we celebrated National Science Week 2025. This year's theme, *Decoding the Universe – Exploring the Unknown with Nature's Hidden Language*, inspired students from Kindergarten to Year 6 to take on fascinating STEM challenges, make surprising discoveries, and look at the world in new ways.

[Check it out on our Website!](#)







Primary GROW Award Winners - Term 3, Week 4

Congratulations to Primary students who received GROW Awards at the Assembly this week. Awards presented to students are based on the values of our Positive Behaviour Support guidelines 'G R O W' and 'R E A P'



Telethon Fundraiser

We are incredibly proud of our Home Economics students, who have been putting their skills and creativity to work by making items to sell at a fundraising stall in support of Telethon. Thanks to the dedication of Mrs. Squire and her students, a fantastic total of \$1,200 was raised!

What an amazing effort for a great cause — well done to everyone involved!







25 Yearbook



2025 Yearbook Cover Submissions Deadline Extended!

We've received some *amazing* cover page submissions so far — thank you to everyone who has shared their creativity!

To give more students a chance to participate, we're extending the submission deadline to the end of term: **Friday, 26 September**.

Keep those wonderful designs coming — we can't wait to see what you create!

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 Friday, 26 September
Week 10, Term 3**

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

Community

VACSWIM 2025/26

VacSwim offers fun swimming lessons over the October and summer school holidays. It aims to give children across Western Australia the skills to stay safe and confident in the water.

Who can enrol?

Children aged 5 to 17 years old across swimming stages 1 to 16. For specific stage information refer to [our website](#).

One program per child

To ensure a fair and equitable opportunity for all children to enjoy VacSwim, enrolment is limited to one program per child. This means:

- One enrolment permitted for October programs.
- One enrolment permitted for summer programs (December and January).

Families can register on a waitlist for additional programs if desired.

When enrolments open and close

- Enrolments open Tuesday 5 August 2025.
- October enrolments close Tuesday 26 August 2025.
- Summer enrolments close Wednesday 15 October 2025.

How to enrol

The easiest way to enrol is [online](#).

You can also download an enrolment form to complete, print and mail by the enrolment closing date to:

VacSwim

Department of Education

Statewide Services Centre

33 Giles Avenue

Padbury WA 6025



Enrolments for VacSwim Programs are now open!!

[Enrol in VacSwim - Department of Education](#)

Need help??? Call 94026412 or email vacsxim@education.wa.edu.au

Contact Information

Phone: (08) 9041 7520

Website: merredincollege.wa.edu.au

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

Compass: merredincollege-wa.compass.education