



# MC Link - Term 3, Week 7

5 September 2025

## Principal's Address

### Volleyball Cup

Last week I was privileged to witness the magic our students brought to the Volleyball Cup competition in Perth. The Year 8 boys had us on the edge of our seats as they fought their way to the finals, proudly securing silver in an exciting match against Perth Modern School. While I wasn't able to see all teams compete, the excitement was clear as students and supporters recapped the highlights of their games.

Across three days and multiple venues, 79 students from Years 7–12 represented our school with pride against both government and private schools.

A special thank you to our three student coaches, Raquel Slater, Jacob Billing and Tom Downsborough, and to our staff coaches, Amber-Lee Kernaghan, Zane Walker, Meredith Kinsella, Verity Hughes, Frank James, Tom James, Sallyann Silver and Kylie Flintham.

Finally, thank you to our families for accompanying their children to Perth. Your support is invaluable, and without it the logistics of this competition would not be possible.

- Year 7 Boys – 2nd (silver medal)
- Year 7 Girls – 4th
- Year 8 Boys – 2nd (silver medal)
- Year 8 boys – 2nd (silver medal)
- Year 8 girls – 4th
- Year 9 girls – 3rd
- Year 9 boys – 1st (gold medal)
- Year 10 girls – 4th
- Year 11 boys – 1st (gold medal)
- Year 11/12 girls –

Well done to Nathaniel Shelton who was awarded Best Player in the Year 11 boys finals – what a great achievement!

### **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 interest 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](mailto:principal.merredin.col@education.wa.edu.au). Your voice matters, and we would love for you to be part of this important work.

## Staff

Our team has grown, and we are pleased to welcome

- Tahlia Boysen, Education Assistant
- Deniel Sarmiento, Education Assistant
- Lisa Jackson, primary teacher (Health)
- Marian Hazelton, secondary teacher (English/HASS)
- Neil Berry, secondary teacher (English/Media)

We're delighted to welcome Marie McFarlane, secondary teacher, back to Merredin for 7 weeks. Like a boomerang, she always finds her way back, and we couldn't be happier to see her return.

Thank you to Narelle Millington, Deputy Principal, for supporting our team whilst Lynne Herbert is on long service leave for 5 weeks.

Mrs Kylie Cattaway

Principal









## **RUOK? Day**

**Thursday 11 September 2025**

Students are encouraged to **wear yellow** to show support and raise awareness for connection, kindness, and checking in on one another.

Our student leaders have prepared activities for all students to promote staying positively connected with peers and checking in with friends.

### **Primary**

- “Do You Want to Play? day” - a lighter, age-appropriate approach focused on inclusion and kindness through play.
- Storytime Circle – friendship-themed stories.
- Chalk the Walk – students will add to a collaborative chalk art with messages promoting kindness and inclusion.

### **Secondary**

- Practice using conversation starters like: “I’ve noticed you’re a bit quiet lately, do you want to talk?”.
- 'Give One, Get One' - receive a cookie for their contribution of a compliment or wellbeing tip
- Participate in a pickleball or volleyball competition during lunch.



*Merredin College P&C Association Inc*

The P&C have rescheduled their September meeting from the 8 September to the 15 September. The meeting will be held in the primary staffroom at 3.15pm.

Thank you to the P&C for running the Father's Day Stall this week.

Fathers, brothers, sons, and partners, outside of the endearing "dad jokes," impart invaluable life lessons, instill discipline, and nurture growth. On behalf of our staff, we wish all male role models a wonderful Father's day.



## Attendance

Explaining your child's absence from school is easy!

If the school has not been advised of a child's absence, parents will receive an SMS on the day of absence. Click on the link (no need to log in) to explain your child's absence.

Absence notes can be entered in advance by accessing the Compass App or accessing Compass via an internet browser (login or access a one-time code).

Please contact administration if you still require assistance with a login.

## Upcoming Events



### [Compass App](#)

Easy access to:

- School calendar
- Canteen orders
- Enter an attendance note



## Primary News

**INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

A huge congratulations to all our students who participated today with, enthusiasm, and outstanding sportsmanship. It was fantastic to see such strong team spirit and effort from everyone involved.

Special congratulations to **Kelly House** for being the **overall winners** of the event!

Well done also to the students who received **championship trophies** — your dedication and performance were exceptional!

Thank you to everyone who participated, supported, and helped make the day such a success.

1st: Kelly 591

2nd: Law 583

3rd: Growden 539

4th: Mitchell 526

Individual winners and more photos will be posted next week!













## Secondary News

### YEAR 11 2026 COURSE SELECTION PARENT AND STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION

Families are invited to attend our Year 11 Course Selection Information Evening on **Thursday, 18 September 2025 from 5:30-6:30pm** in the Library, where we will share details about subject choices, WACE requirements and future pathway opportunities to support students in making informed decisions for their senior years.

A school tour will begin at 5:00pm from the Library.

### SECONDARY INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The athletics carnival is this **Tuesday, 9 September** on the school oval. Below is some key info about the day.

**What to wear:** House coloured faction shirts or dress ups!

**Where to go:** When you arrive at school go straight to the oval. The rest of the school will be closed off.

**What time:** Arrive by 8.30am. If you are late, you will still need to report to Student Services to sign in.

**What to bring:** Water bottles and snacks, sun protection and weather appropriate clothing for if it comes in cold.

**Can parents watch?** Yes, parents and families are more than welcome to come along and support!! Might be an idea to bring a chair or blanket to sit on.

## Community

### CYBER BULLYING - GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Online bullying can be devastating for young people, whose online activities are a key part of their identity and how they communicate. It can include online hate, trolling, harassment and threats.

Supporting our children to have healthy online relationships is everyone's responsibility. The eSafety Commissioner's website provides useful information for parents.

[Cyberbullying | Guide for Parents and Carers eSafety Commissioner](#)



## Term-4-2025\_Parents-Carers\_Webinar-flyer\_1

A flyer for eSafety parents and carers webinars. The top section is dark blue with a white bell icon and the text 'Term 4, 2025 eSafety parents and carers webinars'. Below this, on a light blue background, it says 'Join eSafety's free live webinars for parents and carers.' A white box contains 'Term 4 topics:' followed by two bullet points. To the right is an illustration of a woman sitting on a smartphone screen using a phone. At the bottom, it says 'For more information and to register now: eSafety.gov.au/parents/webinars'. The footer includes the Australian Government logo, the eSafety Commissioner logo, and the website 'eSafety.gov.au'.

**Term 4, 2025**  
**eSafety parents and carers webinars**

Join eSafety's free live webinars for parents and carers.

**Term 4 topics:**

- **Supporting healthy tech use as your child transitions into secondary school (45 minutes).** Suitable for parents and carers of children in upper primary school (ages 11 to 12) and Year 7.
- **Understanding and using parental controls to help protect your child online (45 minutes).** Suitable for parents and carers of children in primary and secondary school.

For more information and to register now: [eSafety.gov.au/parents/webinars](https://eSafety.gov.au/parents/webinars)

eSafety Commissioner eSafety.gov.au

## Contact Information

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