



# MC Link - Term 4, Week 1

**17 October 2025**

## **Principal's Address**

### **Welcome to Term 4!**

Welcome back to what is always a busy and exciting final term of the year! I hope everyone had a restful break and is ready for the weeks ahead. Term 4 brings plenty of opportunities to celebrate achievements, reflect on growth, celebrate important milestones and achievement, meet new students and plan for the new year ahead.

### **School Review**

On Wednesday 29th October 2025 Ms Kate Wilson and Ms Leanne Prior will be attending Merredin College to conduct the Department of Education School Review. To prepare for the School Review, schools submit evidence in support of each the following domains.

- Relationships and Partnerships
- Learning Environment
- Leadership

- Use of Resources
- Teaching Quality
- Students Achievement and Progress

During the visit the review team will speak with staff, parents, students and community members. A report is prepared and provided to the school a few weeks later noting commendations and recommendations.

## **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 local 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
- VACANT POSITION - 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
- Connecting the school to its community.

If you are interested in participating, even if just to trial one meeting, 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.

**Calling for 2026 Enrolments!**

At this time for the year, we are busy recruiting staff to address our school's needs for next year. To ensure we have the opportunity to recruit the best staff it is important that enrolment forms for the 2026 school year have been received by our school. If you have a child starting with Merredin College in 2026 or know community members whose child will be attending our school, please encourage them to submit an enrolment form. Enrolments forms are available on the [school's website](#).



Mrs Kylie Cattaway

Principal

## General Information

### **Gifted and Talented Parent Information Evenings and Regional Online Parent Information Session**

Bookings are now open for the Gifted and Talented Parent Information Evenings and the Regional Online Parent Information Session.

The online session is scheduled to take place 4:30 pm on Wednesday, 26 November 2025.

Further information can be found on website: <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/gifted-and-talented/parent-information-evenings> or register with this direct link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/5jJ8Xm2GGn>

Applications for the 2027 GATE intake open Tuesday 14 October 2025 and close 6 pm Friday 6 February 2026.

## Upcoming Events



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

### **Year 12 Awards Presentation Evening**

- Wednesday, 22 October - 6:45pm

### **MerryDin K-6 Concert and Presentation Evening**

- Tuesday, 16 December - 6-7:30pm

### **Year 7-10 Highest Achievers Assembly**

- Wednesday, 17 December - 1:30pm

### **Year 11 Highest Achievers Assembly**

- Monday, 2 February 2026 (first day of Term 1 next year)

## Primary News

### **New Primary Parent Chronicles on Compass**

We're pleased to advise that two new Compass communications have been introduced to help strengthen communication between school and home regarding student behaviour. These are the Buddy Class Chronicle and the Letter of Commendation Chronicle.

### **Buddy Chronicle**

Parents will now receive an email notification if their child is sent to a Buddy Class.

Buddy withdrawal is a planned response to disruptive or unsafe behaviour, such as when a student's actions:

- Prevent the learning or teaching of others; or
- Place the safety or wellbeing of others at risk.

While a student is in a Buddy Class, the classroom teacher will:

- Settle the rest of the class and re-establish a positive learning environment.
- Prepare for the student's return.
- Facilitate a restorative conversation at the end of the lesson to support reflection and repair.

This strategy is not a punishment. It is a consequence used only after several low-key strategies and teacher interventions have been attempted. The goal is always to help students learn from their choices and return ready to engage positively in learning.

### **Letter of Commendation Chronicle**

In contrast, the Letter of Commendation celebrates students who demonstrate significant positive behaviours that reflect our GROW values and REAP dispositions.

Parents will receive an email through Compass when their child receives a Letter of Commendation.

For Kindergarten to Year 6 students, a printed letter will also be provided and acknowledged by the Administration team.

These letters recognise students who consistently display kindness, effort, respect, responsibility, and excellence, helping to build a positive school culture where all achievements are valued.

### **Jump Rope for Heart**

Jump Rope for Heart will run in Primary over Week 2-4 this term. Please refer to the attached flyer for further information.

### **Cricket Carnival - Year 3-6**

Year 3-6 students will be involved with the T20 Blast Cricket Carnival on Friday, 31st October. This event will be held on the Merredin College School Oval this year. We are looking for parents to help supervise the teams. Please get in touch with Kylie Bryant if you can help out on the day.

### **Kindergarten Orientation**

We are currently assessing enrolment forms for kindergarten 2026 to determine the number of classes. This in turn will inform our staffing and recruitment processes. If you have a child starting kindy or know someone who does, please support us reminding them to submit an enrolment form.

Our first kindergarten orientation for 2026 will be Friday, 7th November 2025 with 3 sessions in total. More detailed information will be provided to families on acceptance of enrolment.

### **PP – Year 2 Swimming Lessons**

This term, the PP – Year 2 swimming lessons are scheduled for Weeks 5 and 6. Invitations will be emailed via Consent2Go, and hard copies of forms will be sent home for completion.

## **Secondary News**

### **YEAR 12 FARWELL ARRANGEMENTS**

#### **Wednesday, 22 October**

- 9.30am: Year 12 students to meet in gym car park.
- 9.45am: Farewell Assembly.
- 10.50am: Year 12's are invited to share Morning Tea in the staffroom. Students present fun awards to teachers.
- 11.30am: Awards Night Rehearsal of proceedings.
- 6.15-6.30pm: Students to meet in the PAC.
- 7-9.30pm: Awards Ceremony (family and friends to please be seated by 6.45pm). A reminder that it is an outdoor event so please dress for the conditions.

### **RESOURCES TO SUPPORT POST-SCHOOL TRANSITION**

School has been such a big part of your life. You might have mixed feelings as you approach the end of it. You may be excited or unsure about your post-school plans. You may feel a bit anxious or overwhelmed. Whether you're planning to study, work or play, please see the below information to help prepare for the end of school.

**Term 4**  
**Transition**

## Six strategies to help prepare for the end of school

School is such a big part of your life. You might have mixed feelings as you approach the end of it. You may be excited or unsure about your post-school plans. You may feel a bit anxious or overwhelmed. Whether you're planning to study, work or play - think carefully about the transition from school to your life beyond it.

<p><b>1 Reflect on what you've achieved.</b></p>  <p>Finishing school is a huge achievement. Reflect on your last few years of school and make sure any important achievements go on your resume.</p> <p>► myfuture career article: Write strong achievements</p>	<p><b>2 Understand your pathways.</b></p>  <p>Whether you're going to TAFE, university or into work, the more you know about how the process works, the better. Browse myfuture's career articles. You can filter by VET or university articles.</p> <p>► myfuture Career articles</p>
<p><b>3 Line up some work.</b></p>  <p>Whatever you do after school, having a job will help. It will put money in your pocket and skills on your resume. Check out myfuture's resume templates and guides to job-seeking.</p> <p>► myfuture's job seeker resources</p>	<p><b>4 Tidy up your digital footprint.</b></p>  <p>Social media and email are crucial for your career as well as your private life. Set up a professional address to use while job-hunting, consider setting up a LinkedIn account and review your personal social media accounts.</p> <p>► myfuture Career article: Clean up your digital footprint</p>
<p><b>5 Take a break from study.</b></p>  <p>The end of school is a great time to take a break from study, often called a gap year. You might travel, volunteer or work during this time. A gap year can help you recharge and take a bit of time to figure out your next steps.</p> <p>► myfuture Career article: Making gap years work for you</p>	<p><b>6 Look after your wellbeing.</b></p>  <p>The end of school can be a complex time emotionally. You might feel excited and anxious at the same time. Make sure to reflect on how you're feeling about things and talk to someone if you need help.</p> <p>► myfuture Wellbeing and resilience hub</p>

 

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## Latest News and Events

### Community

#### **CALL OUT FOR DONATIONS - 2025 HIGHEST ACHIEVERS' AWARDS**

Merredin College are currently gathering donations for our upcoming awards ceremonies, in particular our Year 12 Awards, which will be held next week.

If you or you know someone who might be interested in supporting these events through a donation or contribution towards the awards. Your support would be greatly appreciated and would help us celebrate the achievements of our graduating students.

If you are considering our request and would like to further details about the event or recognition opportunities for sponsors, please contact the front office.

The P&C are also seeking donations of food or cash for the Year 12 Awards Ceremony, please reach out to the P&C for more information.

#### **Merredin College Book Fair - Commencing 3rd of November - in the Library**

Monday - 3pm - 4pm

Tuesday - 8:30am - 4pm

Wednesday - 8:30am - 4pm

Thursday - 8:30am - 3:30pm

Friday - 8:30am - 9:00am

## Contact Information

Phone: (08) 9041 7520

Website: [merredincollege.wa.edu.au](http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au)

Email: [Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au)

Compass: [merredincollege-wa.compass.education](http://merredincollege-wa.compass.education)