



MC Link - Term 1, Week 9

Thursday 2 April 2026

Principal's Address

Dear families,

We have had a wonderful start to 2026 and a successful Term 1.

We have increased our focus on **recognising and rewarding all students**, celebrating both those who show improvement and those who consistently achieve. This has been evident through the success of our GROW Shop in primary and our K–12 Colour Bomb Day, but also in assigning GROW points to Letters of Commendation and GROW awards issued at assemblies.

This term, I spoke with secondary students about the **positive culture** we are building at Merredin College. I highlighted the respectful way students manage mobile phone expectations, with just 15 breaches recorded in Term 1, that is 0.1% of over 12,000 possible opportunities for a breach to occur; demonstrating our GROW values in action.

I also shared feedback from visitors who noted the **improved feel of the school**, describing our school as inclusive, welcoming and calm. The way our students interact positively across year levels, cultures and friendship groups was highlighted.

While acknowledging that young people can make mistakes, I reinforced that our students take responsibility, repair relationships and learn from their actions, supported by our staff and wellbeing team.

Students were encouraged to take pride in their school, call out behaviour that does not align with our values, and share the many positive stories that reflect our community.

Merredin College continues to be a place of respect, responsibility, inclusion and learning; something we can all be proud of.

Annual Public Meeting - School Board

The school board will be holding a public open meeting on **Monday 18th May 2026 @ 5:00pm**, held at the school administration on Woolgar Avenue. The meeting is open to the public and will include a tour of recently upgraded facilities, including:

- Primary and secondary STEM areas
- Upgraded library furniture
- Upgraded Wellbeing foyer

The school board meets twice per term, Monday, 5:00pm-6:30pm and is **welcoming new members**. If you are interested in the joining the school board, please contact the school on 90417520 or email: principal.merredin.col@education.wa.edu.au.

Parent - Teacher Conferences Term 3 - School closure 21 August 2026

Previously, schools were permitted to close for up to two half days to facilitate parent-teacher conferences; however, our school chose not to utilise this option due to the number of students who rely on bus transport. Earlier this year, the Department of Education extended this provision to allow for up to two full days. Following consultation with the School Board, Merredin College has made the decision to close on 21 August 2026. This date has been deliberately selected to **align with St Mary's School's School Development Day**, ensuring consistency across both schools in Merredin. Closing for the full day will enable one-on-one conferences in the primary years and provide longer booking times for secondary families.

Further information will be made available during Term 2. In the meantime, please note that the school will be closed 21 August 2026.

I wish all our students and their families a wonderful Easter and school holiday break.

Warmest regards,

Kylie Cattaway

Principal

General

2026 MSP School Photos - 28-29th April 2026

School Photographs can be ordered through the Compass App/Browser. Parents who do not have a login for Compass can receive one by contacting the school administration.

Orders are due by the Wednesday, 6 May (1 week after photographs are taken). A late fee will apply to orders received after this date.



msp
photography
MSP Photography WA
T: 9240 8000
E: admin.perth@msp.com.au
www.msp.com.au



**SAY
CHEESE**

Merredin College

Photo Date/s: Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th of April 2026

School photo day is fast approaching, make sure you place your order via Compass.

1. Click the MSP Photography link in the Compass App
2. Order 2026 Photographs
3. Choose your pack then place your order

A Late/processing fee will apply for orders received after

Wednesday 6th of May 2026

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MSP Photography WA
08 9240 8000
admin.perth@msp.com.au
PO Box 2188 Warwick, WA 6024
www.msp.com.au

COMPASS ORDERING SYSTEM

We recommend you add this to your Newsletter before photo day, to advise Parents/Guardians of ordering procedures

Merredin College

School Photos will be taken on:

Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th of April 2026

Class Photos/Portraits:

- Every Student will have their photo taken, whether they are purchasing photos or not.
- Online orders for Individual photos and Class group photos can only be placed via the Compass Portal.
- The expiry date for online ordering is **Wednesday 6th of May 2026**
- Any orders received after this date will incur an archive fee of \$30.
- Spare envelopes (green) will be available at the school reception should you wish to pay via cash.

Specialty Group Photos:

- After photo day, a link will be sent to the School for distribution to parents whose child/children is/are in the specialty group photos.

Family Photos:

- Family photos are taken each morning before school.
- Family orders can be placed online via the Compass Portal or by collecting a family (orange) envelope from School Reception.
- **Online orders for Family photos are cut off at midnight the day prior to the first photo day.**
- If you are using a family envelope with payment enclosed, please ensure this is handed to the photographers at the time of the photo.
- Once the photos are delivered the family photos will remain at reception for parents to collect.

How to Place your order:



Ordering through the Compass portal:

1. Click the MSP Photography link in the Compass App
2. Select 'Order 2026 Photographs'
3. Choose your pack then place your order

Compass



Ordering with Cash payment:

1. Obtain envelope from school Administration
2. Fill in the front of the envelope with your child's details and shootkey
3. Place cash in the envelope and seal
4. Hand envelope with payment enclosed to the Photographer on photo day

Please Note: Our photographers are unable to supply you with change on the day.

Please Note:

Individuals and Family Photos are not available to view online for Students' Security.

Primary

Second Hand Uniforms

We are desperately seeking 2nd-hand school uniforms, particularly school shirts. If your children have outgrown shirts and you are happy to donate them, we would greatly appreciate them, as we are running quite low in primary admin.

CoRE Excursions

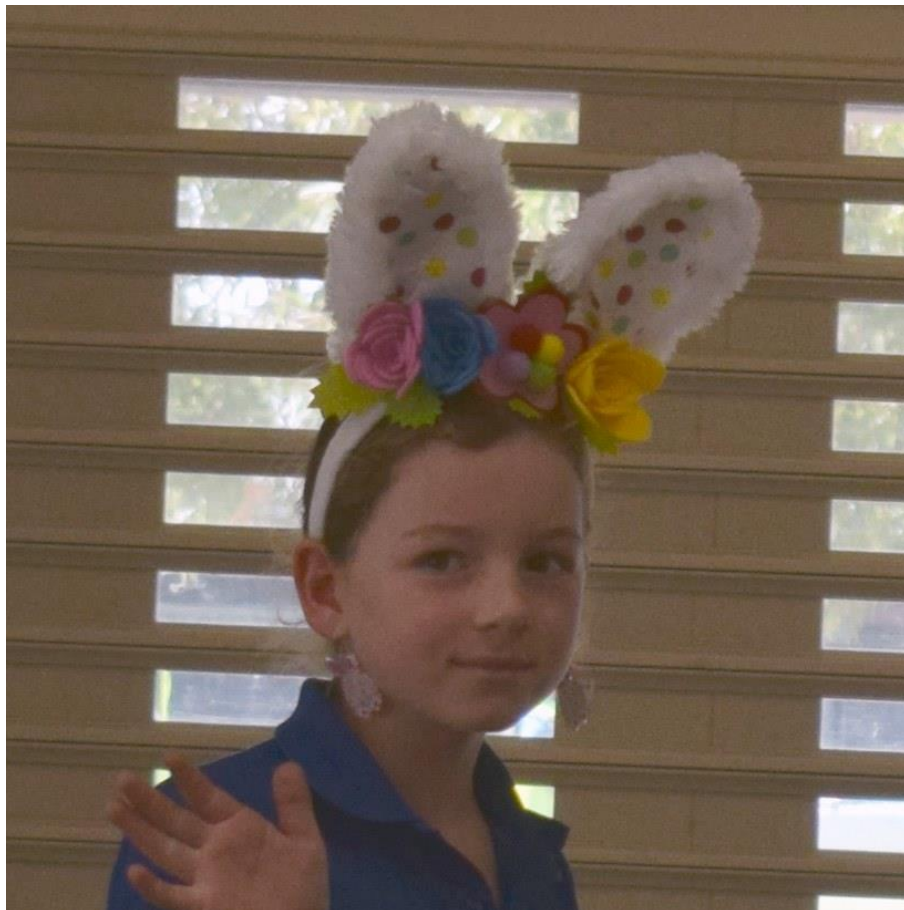
The Year 4/5 classes and Year 6 will be heading off to Lake Campion and Eaglestone Rock in the 1st week back next term. Students will explore the formation of salt lakes and investigate the impacts of dryland salinity, gaining an understanding of how these natural processes affect local landscapes, ecosystems, and farming practices. Through observation and discussion, students will connect what they see in the environment with real-world environmental challenges and the importance of caring for our land. Invitations will come out via Consent2Go.

Easter Hat Parade

This morning we saw a fantastic display of Easter Hats created by our primary students as they participated in the annual Hat Parade.









Secondary

Year 7 and Year 10 Immunisations (UPDATED INFORMATION)

Facilitated by WA Health, the school-based Immunisation Program provides free routine and recommended vaccines to WA high school students. Students are eligible to receive the following vaccines:

- Year 7: Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa) and human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Year 10: Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY).

Please note that the dates for immunisations have changed from those advertised previously. We are working closely with WA Health to secure dates in May/June 2026.

Families must provide permission to WA Health for their children to receive the immunisation. To provide consent, complete the consent form online or complete a hardcopy form and submit to the school. Hardcopy forms are available at the school's Administration.

[Online form: School-based Immunisation Program 2026](#)

[Hard copy form: School-based Immunisation Program 2026](#)

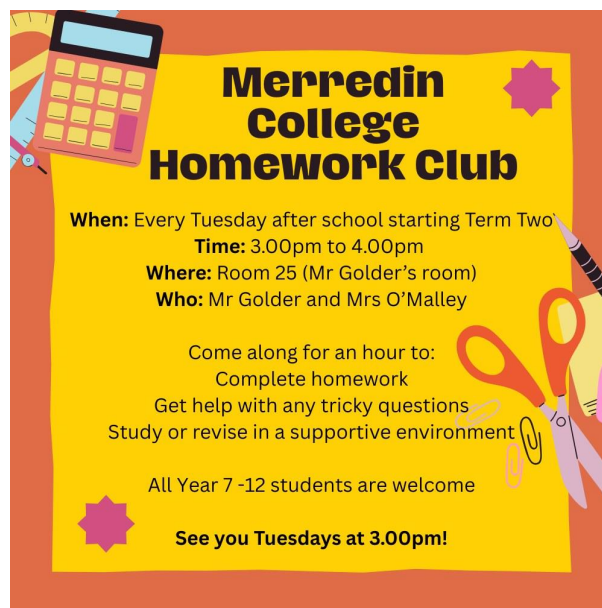
Homework Club starts Term 2, 2026

To complement the existing Follow the Dream program for Aboriginal students, the school will be offering a homework club on Tuesdays 3:00-4:00pm in Room 25. Mr Golder and Mrs O'Malley will be on hand to support students.

To register your child's attendance please complete the form using the link below.

[2026 Homework Club Registration – Fill out form](#)

Parents are required to arrange transport for their children at the conclusion of homework club. Attendance will be recorded and available via Compass.



Merredin College Homework Club

When: Every Tuesday after school starting Term Two
Time: 3.00pm to 4.00pm
Where: Room 25 (Mr Golder's room)
Who: Mr Golder and Mrs O'Malley

Come along for an hour to:
Complete homework
Get help with any tricky questions
Study or revise in a supportive environment

All Year 7 -12 students are welcome

See you Tuesdays at 3.00pm!

The poster features a yellow background with a red border. It includes illustrations of a calculator, a pencil, a pair of scissors, and a paperclip. There are also two pink starburst graphics.



1 - [Term 1 Secondary GROW Awards Assembly](#)

School Calendar



Our school calendar is available online via the Compass App.

Save the Date

We are looking forward to showing off our display boards prepared for the Merredin Show at the town exhibition being held at Cummins Theatre on Saturday, 18 April 2026.

SAVE THE DATE

*Merredin
Community
Ball*

10/10/2026

Proudly presented by
Merredin College P&C
Association Inc.

SAVE
the DATE



SATURDAY 18TH APRIL 2026

Exhibition Competition

 Cummins Theatre
31 Bates Street, Merredin
 Email
merredinshow@gmail.com



Contact Information

Phone: (08) 9041 7520

Website: merredincollege.wa.edu.au

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

Compass: merredincollege-wa.compass.education