



# MC Link - Term 2, Week 1

Friday 24 April 2026

## Principal's Address

Dear families,

Welcome back to Term 2. It is a big term of 11 weeks and once again is jammed packed full of learning activities and opportunities for our students to build and showcase their skills.

We have partnered with St Mary's School, Merredin, scheduling a school development day for Friday 29 May 2026, just prior to the WA Day public holiday. This provides a timely 4-day break in the middle of the term for our residential students and families wanting to travel for the weekend.

## K-12 ANZAC assembly

This week we held our ANZAC assembly. I extend our sincere thanks to Mr Dave O'Neil and our student leaders for coordinating a respectful, thoughtful and informative ANZAC service. Our Year 9 students contributed meaningfully by reading excerpts from their HASS research

completed in Term 1, adding depth and personal reflection to the occasion. It was also an honour to once again welcome local veterans, whose presence helped ground the service in the lived realities of past conflicts and deepened our collective understanding and respect.

Our K–6 primary class representatives respectfully presented their class-made wreaths, demonstrating care, pride and creativity in their contributions. Our students were outstanding in their display of respect throughout the service, and I could not have been prouder of their conduct. It was also pleasing to see genuine engagement with our veterans and their representatives following the assembly, reflecting a deep and authentic appreciation for the significance of the occasion from our younger generation.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the assembly. Your presence was greatly appreciated and hope that you share in our pride.

### **Staff Changes**

It is with great sadness that our school is farewelling two Science teachers early this term.

- Deb Cartwright has accepted a teaching position that brings her closer to family, which has become a necessary step for her at this time. Deb has been a valued member of our school community for the past six years. During this time, she has been a passionate advocate for CoRE education, a dedicated science teacher, a patient supporter of our robotics team (even with the most temperamental machines), and an enthusiastic leader of Kelly House.
- Alyce Last is leaving our school exploring an alternate career pathway within Merredin. Her last day will be 14 May 2026. Alyce has been a valued member of the school community for 10 years, has been a dedicated and much-loved teacher, enthusiastically led and supported many school activities and been a strong advocate for science education.

Thank you to both Deb and Alyce for their contributions to our school and we wish you all the best.

### **Robotics - help needed!**

With Deb Cartwright's pending departure from our school, our Y7-12 Robotics team are in need of adult mentoring. We have a small but committed team who are busy building, testing and programming robots in readiness for the WARP robotics competition to be held 14-17 August 2026 at Curtin University in Perth. Competition days are 15-16 August. This is a valuable extra-curriculum activity that places Merredin College among both government and private schools in a fun and unpredictable competition.

We are seeking parents and/or community members who may have an interest or talent in electronics and would be willing to assist our team as they prepare for the competition. If you would like further information or could offer assistance, please contact [deborah.cartwright@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:deborah.cartwright@education.wa.edu.au).

Warmest regards,

Kylie Cattaway

Principal





2026 MSP School Photos

MSP School Photos are next week – Tuesday 28 April and Wednesday 29 April

Make sure you're children are looking sharp, neatly groomed, and wearing full school uniform.

School photographs can be ordered through the Compass App/Browser. Logins for Compass can be obtained by contacting the school administration by phone or email.

**Orders are due Wednesday 6 May.** A late fee will apply to orders received after this date.


Schedule:

***Tuesday 28 April:***

- Family Photos for Surnames **A-M** in the **secondary undercover** area **(8.20-8.45am)**
- Kindy 2 Class Photo
- Secondary Class Photos
- Secondary House Captain Photos **(please bring house polos)**
- Primary and Secondary Student Councillors and Leaders

***Wednesday 29 April:***

- Family Photos for Surnames **N-Z** in the **Primary Undercover Area (8.20-8.45am)**
- Kindy 1 Class Photo
- Primary Class Photos
- Primary Student Leader's and House Captains Photo **(please bring house polos)**



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photography  
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**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 9000  
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(ren) 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



##### 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

### YES HAT!! YES PLAY!!

Merredin College has a strict Sun Smart policy that requires all primary students to wear a school broad-brimmed hat to participate in our recess, lunch and physical education programs. Hats are available from the uniform shop and the primary office for \$12.

### Assembly

The next primary assembly is scheduled for Thursday, 14 May (Week 4). The Year 3 class will host the assembly in the covered assembly area commencing at 9am. We look forward to seeing our families there.

### School Dress

A reminder to parents, as the weather changes, it is important that children are dressed for the cold. Please ensure all jumpers have the students' names on them, as jumpers frequently find their way to lost property.

## Secondary

### Year 12 Externally Set Task (EST)

Year 12 students will be sitting the Externally Set Task (EST) for all General and Foundation courses. This assessment contributes 15% to students' final grade for each subject and is an important component of their course.

All questions in the EST are based on Unit 3 content. Students are encouraged to prepare thoroughly by following their teachers' guidance for revision. Practice EST papers are also available. Further information about the EST, including structure and expectations, can be accessed via the following link:

<https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/externally-set-tasks>

<https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/externally-set-tasks/externally-set-task-materials>

| 2026 EST SCHEDULE  |                       |   |              |          |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------|----------|
|                    | DAY & DATE            | SUBJECT NAME                              | SUBJECT CODE | TIME     |
| WEEK 4             | Monday<br>11/05/26    | English Foundation 12                     | FTENG        | PERIOD 2 |
|                    |                       | English General 12                        | GTENG        |          |
|                    | Tuesday<br>12/05/26   | Children, Family and Community General 12 | GTFCFC       | PERIOD 4 |
|                    |                       | Materials, Design & Tech: Wood General 12 | GTMDTW       |          |
|                    | Thursday<br>14/05/26  | Food Science and Technology General 12    | GTFST        | PERIOD 4 |
| Friday<br>15/05/26 |                       |   |              |          |
| WEEK 5             | Monday<br>18/05/26    | Mathematics Foundation 12                 | FTMAT        | PERIOD 2 |
|                    |                       | Mathematics: Essentials General 12        | GTMAE        |          |
|                    | Tuesday<br>19/05/26   | Physical Education Studies General 12     | GTPEs        | PERIOD 4 |
|                    | Wednesday<br>20/05/26 | Outdoor Education General 12              | GTOED        | PERIOD 4 |

### OLNA

The Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) will commence next week, with parents and students notified via Compass. Testing times are outlined below, and students scheduled to sit these assessments can view their individual timetable on Compass for Week 2 (beginning 28 April 2026). The OLNA is an important series of assessments that demonstrate the literacy and numeracy standards required for students to achieve the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

Please note that students required to complete the writing assessment must be in attendance on Tuesday 28 April 2026, as this is the only day on which the writing assessment can be administered.

| OLNA TESTING               |         |        |          |         |
|----------------------------|---------|--------|----------|---------|
| DATE                       | YEAR    | PERIOD | TEST     | ROOM    |
| Tuesday<br>28 April 2026   | 11 & 12 | 1      | Writing  | 4       |
|                            | 10      | 4      | Writing  | Library |
| Wednesday<br>29 April 2026 | 10      | 1      | Reading  | Library |
|                            | 11 & 12 | 3      | Reading  | 4       |
| Thursday<br>30 April 2026  | 11 & 12 | 1      | Numeracy | 4       |
|                            | 10      | 5      | Numeracy | Library |

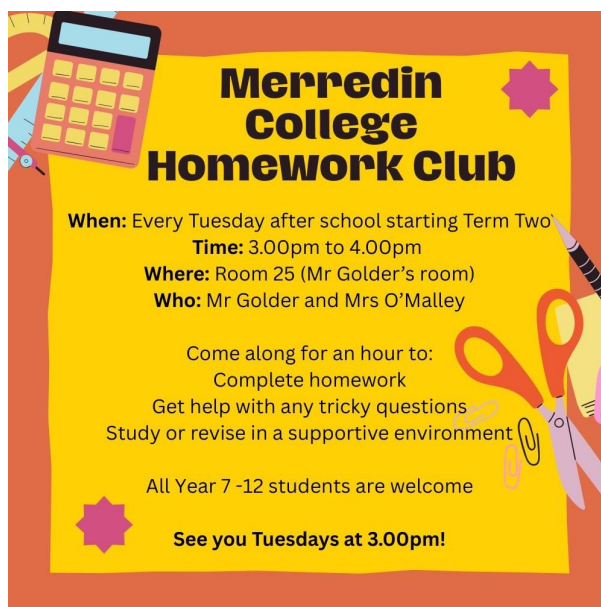
### Homework Club starts Term 2, 2026

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. Students must be registered to attend.

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

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



### Year 7 and Year 10 Immunisations

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).

Families must provide permission to WA Health for their children to receive immunisations. To provide consent, complete the consent form online or submit a completed hardcopy form 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](#)

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.

### School Ball – Euro Summer

Our school community eagerly awaits the Year 10–12 School Ball on Saturday, 2 May 2026. We warmly invite the community to come along and welcome our students as they arrive and make their way along the red carpet.

Students attending can nominate their 'Favourite Song' to be added to the playlist:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/rgZsWrT1Rg>



## School Calendar

Our live school calendar is accessible through Compass.



## 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)