

WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #fidelitas #merici60

Term 1 Week 10 and Term 2 Week 1 (8 April – 5 May)



WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Acting Principal's Blog – Merici Phone Usage

Phil Coe, Acting Principal has spoken to a few parents recently about some of the options available for limiting and monitoring phone usage. While there are a number of apps on the market, there are two that have received positive reviews from Merici parents. [Read more](#)

Update from the Board

Our meeting this month covered off some exciting changes including our own uniform shop that will be in operation from the 1st July 2019, we have endorsed as part of the 60th Anniversary celebration that we will hold a St Angela Merici Festival day on Saturday 1st June 2019 so save the date, and from a financial status and we are operating a surplus for the financial year, a great achievement! *Jacqui Keighery, Board Chair*

Merici College Uniform Shop

Please be advised that our uniform contract with Lowes (also trading as Macdonalds School Wear and Savvy) will expire on Thursday 16 May and not be renewed. We will be implementing a period of transition from 16 May 2019 to 30 June 2019 where uniform items can still be purchased from any one of the stores. From 30 June this year, Merici College will be running its own uniform shop. Along with operating our own uniform shop, some changes to uniform items will be implemented with a phase-in period of two years. We anticipate that prices will be comparable to current prices at Lowes.

A formal presentation with our new uniform supplier will be held before 30 June (date to be determined) to provide you with a complete uniform package for your information. This package will include a storyboard, item specifications and pricing list. We will also have the uniform on display and provide parents with the uniform shop's opening hours.

As we head into winter, we request that parents experiencing difficulties sourcing any item of the winter uniform from Lowes, Macdonalds and Savvy, please contact Ros Parisi, ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au, telephone 6243 4178 so that alternative arrangements can be made.

We are very excited about this new venture for Merici College and greatly appreciate your support and assistance so that our transitional process goes smoothly. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Lowes for their service over the years and wish them well for the future.

MERICI COLLEGE

Wise St
Braddon
ACT 2612

GPO Box 154
Canberra
ACT 2601

Telephone (02) 6243 4100
Facsimile (02) 6243 4199

principal@merici.act.edu.au
www.merici.act.edu.au

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews (Tuesday 9 April and Thursday 11 April)

Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held in Semester 1 on Tuesday, 9 April and Thursday, 11 April 2019 from 4:00pm – 6:30pm in the Auditorium. Each interview has an allocated 6 minutes timeslot. If you need to speak to a teacher on a more in- depth basis, please contact the teacher directly. PTO online bookings are currently open. Please follow the link <https://merici.news/event-created/parent-student-teacher-interviews> to find more information.

Please be aware that some teachers have been heavily booked and may not be available for you. We have had a huge uptake of parents booking appointments this year, far greater than ever before.

There are some options for communication with teachers:

- There is a button to ask for a teacher to make contact. This sends the teacher a message. Your daughter is most welcome to attend these meetings.
- You are more than welcome to make contact with any of her teachers at any stage and come in to check-in with them on any afternoon throughout the semester. While we do have these organised parent evenings we do not want to limit parent/teacher communication to just this time.
- Email/Phone communication with teachers is always available too.
- We also welcome attendance at any of our events throughout the year that provide an opportunity to discuss progress with teachers. The Community BBQ a few weeks ago was a good example of this.

We do occasionally have teachers that are sick or on long service leave throughout this week which is something we do ask for some flexibility in working around this.

We will analyse the data from our booking system after the two evenings to look at ways to improve the booking process for future events.

Easter Reflection (Friday 12 April)

All staff and students will have the opportunity to reflect on the significance of Easter on Friday 12 April (Period 5 – 1.24pm). Parents are also invited to attend this important event which explores the Christian significance and meaning of hope for us today.

New School Bus Transport Network to commence Monday 29 April

The ACT Government is introducing a new integrated public transport network for Canberra for the beginning of Term 2, 2019. This network will include bus and light rail services operating together to give Canberrans more options to use public transport, every day of the week. As part of this change, the way students will get to school by public transport will change from the beginning of Term 2, 2019 – Monday 29 April. Some students will use different routes, make connections between services or use light rail for the first time. Every student who will use public transport needs to be aware of the changes. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/new-bus-network> to find more information.

End of Term 1 (Friday 12 April)

Term 2 Begins (Monday 29 April)

Winter Uniform

Please note that winter uniform must be worn from the commencement of Term 2. We draw your attention to the following uniform reminder from the Principal.

- Skirt lengths (at knee length)
- Nail polish (neutral shade)
- Jewellery (simple ring, bracelet, a silver or gold chain necklace and maximum of two pairs of small sleeper/studs in the lobe of the ear only). No other necklaces, items or piercings are permitted. Please be mindful that body piercings need to be removed whilst at school. Band aids covering body piercings and piercings that are transparent, are not alternatives to remedying the situation.
- Hair (extreme hair style and colour is not acceptable).
- No visible tattoos
- School shoes must be lace-up and polished. No Mary-Jane or buckle shoes are permitted.
- The Merici school bag is also compulsory and needs to be in good condition.
- Hoodies are not part of the uniform.

Please follow the link <https://www.merici.act.edu.au/my-merici/resources/uniforms> to find the College's uniform requirements.

ANZAC Assembly – Tuesday 1 May (12.05pm-1.00pm)

Parents and carers are invited to attend the ANZAC Assembly which will be held on Tuesday 30 April at 12.00 noon in the auditorium. We look forward to welcoming our guest speaker, Lisa Batchler. The theme for our Assembly this year is 'Women in the Australian Defence Force' and we invite members of community who are currently in the Australian Defence Force or have been in the past, to submit a photo to be displayed at our assembly.

Refreshments will be served in the restaurant for guests at the conclusion of the assembly. Please follow the link <https://merici.news/event-created/anzac-assembly-1> to find the invitation. RSVP essential to ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au by Friday 26 April.

Queanbeyan ANZAC March and Service – Thursday 25 April (10.00am)

The Queanbeyan RSL Sub Branch have cordially invited Merici College to participate in this year's Queanbeyan ANZAC March and Service. We are requested to assemble outside the City Council Chambers by no later than 10.00am on ANZAC Day. The formal commemoration shall comprise a march to the World War 1 Memorial in Farrer Place, laying of a wreath by all school captains and speeches and is scheduled to go for approximately two hours. Merici College is honoured to participate in this commemoration. For more information please contact Corinne Preston, Corinne.prestion@merici.act.edu.au.

Merici College Enrolling Now 2020 and Beyond Campaign (May 2019)

Please follow the link www.merici.college to find important information on Open Day, Feeder School Visits, Be a Merici Girl days and Information Night, as well as Bridge Restaurant bookings. Online registration for these events is available and we would welcome your support in forwarding this information to your family members, friends and work colleagues.

Important Dates:

- Be a Merici Girl Day #1 – Thursday 2 May
- Talk and Tour – Saturday 4 May
- Be a Merici Girl Day #2 – Monday 6 May
- Be a Merici Girl Day #3 – Tuesday 7 May
- Open Day (inc Year 7 Info Night) – Wednesday 8 May 2-4pm and 5.30-7.30pm
(Principal's Address: 2.15pm and 5.45pm)
- Be a Merici Girl Day #4 – Friday 10 May
- Year 11 Information Night – Thursday 16 May 5.00pm-6.30pm
- Careers Expo Years 9-12 – Thursday 16 May 2.30pm-4.30pm

School Tours:

On Tuesday 9 April a meeting will be held with students interested in conducting school tours on our Open Day. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/open-day-activities> to find a permission note for return to Student Services. Please note that Merici can accept the returning of permission notes from a registered parent/guardian email address. There is no need to print and scan. Email to attendance@merici.act.edu.au.

Students are required to wear full school uniform. Practice tours will be conducted during school time during Week 1 of Term 2.

School Photos (Friday 3 May, Wednesday 15 May)

School photos will take place on Friday 3 May and Wednesday 15 May 2019.

- Friday 3 May: Individual portraits, family/siblings, PC classes, Student Leadership Team.
- Wednesday 15 May: Year 12 class photo, House photos, absentee Day 1 individual portrait photos.

Students are required to wear full Winter uniform, including blazers for Senior students.

Please see below regarding information from AdvancedLife Photography:

Please follow the link <https://merici.news/event-created/school-photos> to find information on payment and the online ordering system.

Mother's Day Prayer and Breakfast – Monday 13 May (8.00am)

An invitation is extended to our students and all our mothers, grandmothers and carers to attend a very special Prayer and Breakfast on Monday 13 May at 8.00am in the Chapel followed by breakfast in the restaurant. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/mothers-day-invitation> to find an invitation to this special celebration. Please confirm your attendance before Wednesday 8 May by contacting Ros Parisi, ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4178. Please advise special dietary requirements.

Parent Online Advice April Newsletter

The *Perimeter Guardian Parent Advice Online Safety* information newsletter focuses on technology issues that concern parents. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/parentonline> to find the latest special advice regarding Chitter and Zenly.

Canberra Metro Update

Please visit www.canberra-metro.com.au to find the latest news on road closures and diversions.

MERICI COLLEGE 60TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

60th Anniversary Photography Competition (entries close Friday 17 May)

We would like to invite our past and current students and staff to enter our Photography Competition. The theme is '*Celebrating 60 years – What does Merici mean to you?*' which can be expressed in any way you like but must come with a short statement to explain the image. Images can be colour or black & white, and taken anytime in the past 60 years, right up to the present day, must feature something 'MERICI'. Great Prizes: 1st - \$300, 2nd – Ted's Camera Store \$250 gift voucher, 3rd - \$100, 4th – Cadbury Gift Pack

Limit 2 images per person. Closes Friday 17 May

Winners announced at the St Angela Merici Festival Saturday 1 June (more info to come).

Please click [here](#) to find Terms and Conditions.

St Angela Merici Day Festival (Saturday 1 June 1.00pm-3.30pm)

Bringing together our past, present and future!

Celebrating 60 Years of Excellence In The Education Of Young Women!

A unique opportunity for our past students and staff to reconnect with classmates! Come along and meet current and prospective students and their families as the College celebrates its journey from Canberra Catholic Girls' High School, through to Braddon Catholic High School, to Braddon Catholic Girls' High School, and to Merici College. Past, present and prospective students, staff and families are invited.

School Tours, Dance And Music Performances, Community Art, Photography Competition Winners Announced, 60th Anniversary Merchandise on sale, Complimentary Afternoon Tea and lots more. RSVP essential for catering purposes to

<https://merici.college/#anniversary> or email: alumni@merici.act.edu.au

Please click [here](#) to find the invitation.

YEARS 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN (14-24 May)

ACT schools will participate in NAPLAN Online testing from 14-24 May 2019. All students participating in NAPLAN Online 2019 are expected to have done a practice/familiarisation test prior to the May NAPLAN tests. ACT schools undertaking NAPLAN Online this year will participate in a practice/familiarisation test between 25 March and 12 April 2019. The practice test does not assess student performance and has been developed to replace one of the familiarisation activities that schools have traditionally undertaken.

As a parent, you can become familiar with NAPLAN Online tests by visiting the public demonstration site, <http://bit.ly/naplanonline>. The purpose of the site is to familiarise students with the type of items they will see on NAPLAN Online and related functionalities. This level of familiarisation is worthwhile to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the test.

For additional information please contact the Head of Junior School Virginia McLeod virginia.mcleod@merici.act.edu.au. Further information on NAPLAN Online, including the public demonstration site, is available at www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online.

YEARS 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS

Senior Fashion and Visual Arts excursion (Wednesday 1 May)

We have organised a full day workshop for Fashion and Visual Art students on Wednesday 1 May at Megalo print studio in Kingston. This is a rich opportunity for students in both subjects to work in a professional studio using a world class facility. The work produced will significantly benefit their knowledge and practice of screen and intaglio printing and enhance their Practical and Making tasks for this semester. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/fashion-visual-excursion> to find the permission note.

Year 10 History Excursion (Friday 5 April)

Year 10 History students are going to the Australian War Memorial on Friday 5 April. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year-10-history> to find the permission note.

Year 10 Geography Excursion (Friday 5 April)

Year 10 Geography students have a planned excursion on Friday 5 April to Jervis Bay. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year-10-geography> to find the permission note.

Year 11 and 12 BSSS Student Forum – Apply Now!

The BSSS is committed to meeting the diverse needs of students across the ACT and providing a quality senior secondary certificate. To help achieve this goal, BSSS are keen to hear the views of students and are delighted to announce a new initiative of the BSSS Student Forum. This forum will provide a think tank of ideas from young people and will give them a great leadership opportunity. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/bsss-student-forum> to find more details of the forum and how to apply to be a part of it.

CAREERS NEWS

To find the latest Careers newsletter and information, please visit <https://www.mericicareers.com/>.

iC NEWS

A reminder to all students to return their library and textbooks for the end of term. We are still chasing many overdues from last year.

Encourage your daughters to come into the iC to collect some holiday reading, this could be a book, a Kobo or to checkout an Overdrive title.

The library will be closed after school on the last day of term 1, Friday 12th April.

Happy reading!
iC staff

MISSION AND COMMUNITY

Social Justice - Project Compassion - supporting Caritas

"Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity". (Caritas Australia, 2019).



Merici College is once again supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Starting on Ash Wednesday, students have been asked to donate their spare change to their Pastoral class Project Compassion collection box. Each Friday afternoon for four weeks, and the final Thursday of Term 1, House tallies are being recorded. College Cup points will be awarded after the final collection on Thursday 11 April.

Hot Cross Bun Stall – Friday 12 April

As part of our Caritas Australia Project Compassion collections, please support our Hot Cross Bun stall at recess on Friday 12 April.

Share the Dignity

Can you assist to **Share the dignity?** Many women in Australia have little access to sanitary items due to homelessness or poverty/ Members of our Merici College community are invited to donate sanitary items between 29 April - 10 May (Weeks 1-2, Term 2). Please place any donations in the collection box near Student Services. Interested in finding out more? Visit <https://www.sharethedignity.com.au/>

CHRISTIAN SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM (CSLP)

Ronald McDonald House Canberra Gala Ball Set Up (Saturday 6 April)

We require assistance from 9am-12pm Saturday 6th April to help complete the set up for our largest annual fundraiser. You will need to assist in placing chair covers, setting tables with promotional material and various ad-hoc tasks as needed. Needed 8-10 girls. Please contact Michelle McCormack (Michelle.McCormack@rmhc.org.au) Executive Officer to find out more details and to register your participation.

Hawker Primary School Fete – Volunteers Wanted for Saturday 7 April

Hawker Primary School's Annual Autumn Fete will be held this Sunday 7th April from 10am-2pm. The fete provides a fantastic opportunity to bring the community together whilst serving as the school's major annual fundraiser. All proceeds raised go towards improving educational resources and facilities for our students.

The fete would not be a success without the help of volunteers. We are seeking volunteers to help in one hour shifts on the following stalls:

- Devonshire Tea
- Photo Booth
- Flower Crowns
- Luck Dip & Lolly Bags
- Toys
- Drinks
- Mini Golf

If you are able to assist please contact Emma Dykes Fete Coordinator on 0424 153 637 or email ej.dykes@gmail.com. You can find out more about the Hawker Primary Fete here <https://www.facebook.com/hawkerprimaryschoolfete/>

This is not a Merici College organised or supervised activity therefore parent/guardian supervision is advised.

Year 10 Christian Service Learning Week

As part of the Christian Service Learning Program, Year 10 Students are participating in their Christian Service Week in Week 7, Term 4 (25-29 November, 2019). Students will volunteer at an agency e.g. Vinnies store or primary school in the Canberra region. Students have been provided with a list of sample agencies attended by students in previous years. This is a compulsory week of Christian Service for Year 10 students.

On Monday 1 April, students attended an information session regarding the program and were asked to nominate their preferences via the link below. Preferences are due by Sunday 5 May.

<https://forms.gle/8r1gaPodFrfqHiW8A>

If you have any questions regarding Christian Service Week, please contact Ms Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community on email: amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au

Zonta Club of Canberra

Once again, this year we are offering an activity "Sewing for Community" for any student interested in service to our community. We will be sewing and constructing breast cushions for the Women's Zonta Club of Canberra. Zonta International is a supportive organisation consisting of 31,000 businesses and professional women around the world providing service and advocacy through projects to improve health, education, economic and political status of women and girls. These cushions will be given to ACT and Queanbeyan patients who have had surgery after breast cancer diagnosis.

The Sewing group will meet every Monday at lunch time and no sewing skills are required. Service hours towards the Angel Wings will be accumulated in this worthwhile activity. All students are welcome! For enquiries please contact Corinne Preston on email Corinne.preston@merici.act.edu.au.

LANGUAGES

Hosting an Exchange Student (Wednesday 1 May 5.30pm-6.30pm)

Each year the Merici community is fortunate enough to welcome private exchange students from several external agencies and countries. Merici families have hosted exchange students from Italy, France and China. Hosting an exchange student is a great way to gain intercultural understanding and international mindedness. Merici has also had students who went to Canada, Italy and France for exchange. Through these international exchanges, students improve their linguistic skills and also gain independence.

Nacel Australia is presenting information on **1 May 2019 from 5.30pm – 6.30pm** to all interested families and students about their hosting and exchange programmes. Please email Mrs Jen Baines (jen.baines@merici.act.edu.au) to register your interest.

For more information please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/nacel-host-family>.

Below is a short introduction to Nacel Australia:

Nacel has been refining the art of international student exchange and travel, for schools and individuals, since 1957. During November and December each year, students from around Australia head to Europe to experience the fun of life living with an exchange family while improving their foreign language skills. Students also participate in school with host brothers & sisters and enjoy the traditions and festivity of Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Nacel also offers our International students a language learning program, so they are here to learn English and immerse themselves in the Australian culture and way of life. The students are aged between 14-18 years of age and attend the local high school with at least one of their siblings for the duration of their program. All students are fully covered by medical insurance and any school costs (uniforms, text books etc) are all paid by the student. Nacel local coordinators as well as our Head Office, based in Perth, are available 24/7 while the students are in Australia to assist both them and the families.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Big Science competition will be held on Monday 22nd May, and we are encouraging students in Years 7-10 to enter. It is a 50 minute, multiple choice competition testing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Certificates can be won, and the questions are always interesting.



The entry cost is covered by the college. To register, talk to your science teacher or send an email to Dr White (kathryn.white@merici.act.edu.au). Registrations are due by the end of Term 1, so don't wait about!

CO-CURRICULAR

Duke of Edinburgh Information Night – Wednesday 1 May (5.30pm)

The Duke of Edinburgh Information Night is an event for students interested in joining the Duke of Edinburgh program and their parents. There will be information about the Duke of Edinburgh program at Merici as well as a summary of the camps and other events of the last 12 months. The event will start at 5:30pm in the CRLC and will conclude at 6:30pm.

The Duke of Edinburgh program is an internationally recognised youth awards program open to students from Year 9 to Year 12. The program is combined with Marist College and aims to provide students with the opportunity to go outside their comfort zone, develop leadership, initiative and other life skills, and to gain experiences they would not normally get the chance to.

Information on how your daughter can join the program, the introductory weekends and how she can achieve the different award levels will be discussed on the night. It is also an opportunity for you to ask any questions you might have and to chat to current participants in the program.

If your daughter is interested in joining Duke of Edinburgh but you are unable to attend, please contact David Rodda for more information (merici@dukeofed.net).

SPORT

To stay updated on all sporting activities, please ensure your daughter checks our Sports Moodle page and/or Twitter @MericiSport.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 2 Weeks 2 and 3)

Be a Merici Girl for a Day – Monday 6 May

Ningil House Day – Monday 6 May

Be a Merici Girl for a Day – Tuesday 7 May

Open Day – Wednesday 8 May

Bridge Restaurant – Wednesday 8 May from 6.00pm

Be a Merici Girl for a Day – Friday 10 May

Words that Changed the World – Friday 10 May

Power of Poetry Year 8 – Friday 10 May

Mother's Day Prayer and Breakfast – Monday 13 May

NAPLAN Testing begins – Tuesday 14 May

School Photos Day 2 Catchup Day – Wednesday 15 May

Bridge Restaurant – Wednesday 15 May (12.30pm)

Year 11 Information Evening and Careers Expo – Thursday 16 May (from 2.30pm)

Talk and Tour – Saturday 18 May (9.30am)