



# WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 10 and Term 4 Week 1 (13 September-9 October)

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

### P&F Committee Expression of Interest

A reminder that expressions of interest for membership on our P&F Committee will close this Friday, 10 September. The purpose of the P&F Committee is to build community; to engage and connect parents, carers and friends of the College; and to support the College's vision, mission and purpose. Please follow the link <https://bit.ly/2XmdjSG> to find the P&F Charter.

We are seeking expressions of interest from our parent community for the following positions:

- Deputy Chair – 1 position
- Parent/Carer Volunteers

Please note that Volunteer Working with Vulnerable People registration is required (<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/working-with-vulnerable-people-wwvp-registration-tab-overview>).

Please complete the information at <https://forms.office.com/r/XKWzCHKQcb> to lodge your expression of interest for membership on the Committee by this Friday 10 September 2021.

## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Balgo House Day (Term 4 Week 1)

Balgo House will celebrate their annual House Day in Week 1 Term 4. Further details about the celebrations will come from Mrs Firman, Balgo House Coordinator, closer to the date. Balgo students are encouraged to prepare their yellow accessories for the special day.

### Parent Teacher Interviews – Semester 2

Parent teacher interviews were scheduled to run in Week 10 of this term. We have made the decision to push these back into early Term 4 to allow teachers to collect more assessment from the students. This way they will be able to provide accurate feedback to students and parents about areas for development in Term 4.

These interviews will be conducted online via Microsoft Teams. The dates and time will be confirmed once the ACT Government release their schooling plan in the first week of the school holidays. This way we will be in a better position to make decisions about how when these interviews can be conducted.

## Year 7 2022 Information Evening

Our Orientation evening for Year 7 2022 will be conducted online via Zoom on Thursday 16 September from 5:00pm-6:30pm. Information and meeting invites will be sent to families via email. The evening will give families information about curriculum, uniform, IT and pastoral care. Students will have the opportunity to meet their House Coordinators and Pastoral Care teachers as well as their new Merici sisters. We look forward to meeting all of our new students and welcoming new families to our College.

## YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

### Year 8 Christian Service Learning Program - **Upcycling Project**

We are excited to announce that Year 8 students will begin their Christian Service Learning Program (CSLP) project in the area of sustainability this week, with the launch on Thursday in their scheduled RE lesson. The '**Upcycling Project**' encourages your daughters to demonstrate stewardship and also ties in with the Church's 'Season of Creation'; an ecumenical approach to prayer and action for our common home (<https://seasonofcreation.org/>). After the completion of the project, we are hoping to hold a stall back at school some time during Term 4 to sell the projects and donate the proceeds to a sustainability-focussed group/project in our local community. This will of course depend on COVID restrictions. Students will be strongly encouraged to use existing items in and around their home for the project.

All students are also required to complete simple **Reflection Journal** entries (via Microsoft Forms links) before, during and after the project. The due date to complete their project and submit their final completed journal entry is Friday 15 October (Week 2, Term 4). If you could please have a conversation with your daughter about her ideas and progress over the coming weeks and encourage her to take progress photos of her project.

### Further information:

In Year 8, students are required to complete a total of 12 hours of service with a focus on sustainability: how they can demonstrate stewardship. Students will complete some hours in their scheduled 8 RE lessons and are encouraged to complete 8-10 hours in their own time on their own project at home. Students are reminded to keep the project simple and they may wish to complete a number of smaller projects to accumulate the hours. Students will be credited with time given to research in class for their project and teachers will add this to their record of hours. Parents and carers will be able to verify the total number of hours spent working on the project at home.

For homework (to be completed by Wednesday Week 10), students will be asked to view the 30 minute Foreign Correspondent episode (PG) "*Dead white man's clothes*" (ABC, 2021). This episode is about the alarming issue of fast fashion and waste. This is accessible through ClickView (via Moodle) or on ABC iView. This ABC article provides a description of the episode (<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-08-12/fast-fashion-turning-parts-ghana-into-toxic-landfill/100358702>).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the project or requirements, please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community ([amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au)).

## **YEAR 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS**

### **AST Rescheduled to October**

The ACT Scaling Test (AST) was scheduled for Tuesday 31 August and Wednesday 1 September 2021. As the ACT is in lockdown, the AST has been postponed until Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 October 2021.

The Board acknowledges that this can be a stressful time for students and families. The Board is committed to the health and well-being of students and to processes that support the validity of academic results. All plans and arrangements for the AST will be subject to the public health directions and advice at the time.

We hope that this alleviates any concerns you might have about the AST. We are hoping that we get a chance for all three tests to take place.

Some further preparations for the AST will take place once face to face schooling resumes.

### **BSSS Frequently Asked Questions on Student Learning and Assessment**

Please click [here](#) to find FAQ from the BSSS regarding student learning and assessment. The purpose of the FAQ is to provide guidance to students and parents/carers on the impact of COVID-19 to senior secondary curriculum delivery. This information will be updated as required.

### **Year 11 2022 ANU Extension Information Evening**

Due to the ANU Campus closure in response to the ACT lockdown, the ANU have changed the arrangements for their Information evenings for Year 11 2022 prospective students.

All Year 10 students and their families and friends are invited to attend the Information Events to be run as Webinars. Registration is required through the webpage, <https://extension.anu.edu.au/events>. Please click [here](#) to find more information and webinar information session times.

## **IB NEWS**

### **MYP Personal Project Presentations (Tuesday 14 September)**

On Tuesday 14 September, Andrea McNamara the MYP Facilitator will be running two information sessions regarding the MYP Personal Project for Year 9 students and Year 9 parents/carers. In 2022, the Year 10 students will complete an independent passion project which consolidates the student's learning in the MYP; strengthening their approaches to learning (ATL) skills and developing their own interests for lifelong learning.

During the day students will take part in an introductory workshop at 2:00pm via Microsoft Teams.

In the evening from 6:00 -7:00pm a parent/carers session will run via Zoom. The information session will be an opportunity to hear about the requirements of the project, advice on how you can best assist your daughter and a chance to ask questions in an open forum via zoom.

Please see the meeting details below. The meeting will be recorded for those who are unable to attend and a presentation sent out after the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83498372083?pwd=OEsrMnlHRStRc1JYeJlU3bGI2TzRiQT09>

Meeting ID: 834 9837 2083

Passcode: 934478

## iC NEWS

Thank you to everyone for your enthusiasm in supporting and participating in the Book Week celebrations; there were lots of great costumes, creative class posts, primary school dress ups, and beautifully decorated cakes. The winners of the cake competition were Matilda and Bronte Ross with their Bag End, second place went to Annabelle Sleeman with the Harry Potter cake and third place to Elizabeth Weaver with the Fairy Garden. They all looked amazing!

On Tuesday 14 September is Australian Reading Hour where everyone is encouraged to spend an hour reading for enjoyment. It can be anything you like, wherever you are. The most important thing is to read.



During Week 10 we will welcome, remotely, Sophie Masson for our author visit. Sophie Masson has over 70 books published across the range of picture books, young adult, and adult. Many students will recognise her titles. Year 7 will engage in an author talk as part of their IH lesson on Wednesday morning. Then Sophie will conduct a Writers Workshop at 10:30am for any student in Years 7-12 who chooses to be involved. Please email Mrs Blakey at [ann.blakey@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:ann.blakey@merici.act.edu.au) to register your interest and you will be sent a meeting link.

Yours in reading,  
iC Staff

## SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

**Student Lettuce Sale (Wednesday 15 September pick up 2-4pm)**

The SAM team (Sustainability at Merici) are selling lettuces grown on site and nurtured in our greenhouse to raise funds for their new team t-shirt.

- Da Vinci red butter lettuce
- Gibbard green butter lettuce
- Rawley cos lettuce

Get in early - only 27 trays \$40 each) or 216 punnets (\$5 each). Contactless collection from the greenhouse on Wednesday 15 September 2:00-4:00pm. Please complete the CREDIT CARD PAYMENT with your order [here](#) to place your order!



## SW(OP) Shop

The SW(OP) shop will be back in Term Four! While we are at home this is an excellent opportunity to clear out the clothing that you no longer use. Doing so will extend the life of the items as well as divert clothing from landfill.

Items will be made available to students for a gold coin donation. Proceeds will be donated to a charity to be determined by the SAM team. Only clean items suitable for a new life please.



Check your next newsletter for information about where to drop off your donations!

## OTHER NEWS

### Take a live tour at a real NASA facility!

CASE Space Academy school holiday program is on again! These SepSTEMber school holidays ignite your child's interest in STEM with a fun and exciting space holiday program. CASE Space Academy makes STEM fun and achievable for all curious kids in years 5 to 8.

- Design and build your own rover and helicopter to explore Mars.
- Set up your Mars Colony with a galactic farm, water filter and solar energy model.



Our interactive courses take online learning to a whole new level! Hosted live by knowledgeable and enthusiastic course leaders, students enjoy loads of hands-on activities, engineering design, science experiments and team challenges in an inspiring and interactive environment, all supported by NASA experts.

- 27 Sep – 1 Oct 2021, 10am-12:30pm daily. Bookings close 19 September.
- 4 Oct – 8 Oct 2021, 9am-11:30am daily. Bookings close 26 September.
- Bonus Live NASA Tour at Space Center Houston on 2 October!

Use Merici's promo code CSAMERACT to receive course discounts!

- \$20 off one course
- \$50 cashback when you group purchase three or more courses with friends

Hurry! Bookings close soon. Book here: <http://www.casespaceacademy.com/>.

## ANU Cricket Junior

Fun all girls competition for ages 11-17. Make new friends and get active playing junior cricket at your local club. Please click [here](#) to find more information.

## UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 4 Weeks 2 and 3)

To be advised in separate correspondence to families.



**PLAY  
CRICKET**

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**JOIN YOUR NEAREST CLUB**  
Play Cricket

**OFFICIAL KIDS  
PROGRAM**

