



WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #fidelitas #merici60

Term 3 Weeks 4 and 5 (12 August - 25 August)

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Merici is an International Baccalaureate World School offering the Diploma Programme

It is with great pleasure we can announce we are now an IB World School and have been awarded authorisation to deliver the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP) from 2020.

We are the only Catholic high school to offer the Diploma Programme in Canberra, adding options for a quality international education to our community.

As an "IB World School offering the Diploma Programme, we are part of a global community of schools committed to developing knowledgeable, caring young people who will be ready to negotiate their futures successfully and make contributions resulting in a more harmonious and peaceful world." (IBO, 2019)

As a community we are dedicated to making this shared vision come alive through our curriculum and the additional opportunities available in our college. Having recently attended workshops on the future of education, I can assure you that Merici College is at the forefront of ensuring our students have the opportunities to be confident local, national and global citizens, integrating their knowledge, skills and faith.

As we embark on our IB DP delivery, we will endeavour to keep you up to date with all the achievements and progress along the way. Our next steps will be to update our website with IB material, and work on the preparing for our 2020 cohort.

We wish to thank all of the community who have been involved with this process, Catholic Education, the parent and student community and all the staff at Merici who have worked hard to meet international standards and are appreciative of the expertise of the IB staff in guiding us through this journey.

Should you wish to know more about the IB DP options for Year 11 in 2020, please contact our Enrolments Officer, Narelle Patrick on 62434150 or narelle.patrick@merici.act.edu.au or click [here](#) to access our IB DP Student Information booklet for what courses are on offer at Merici in 2020.

Annual Satisfaction Survey

An annual satisfaction survey of parents, students and staff will be conducted on behalf of all Catholic schools in the Diocese this term. The surveys are designed to gather feedback from parents, staff and students about our school and will be used to inform school improvement. Responses are confidential and individuals cannot be identified.

The surveys will be launched via email on 29 July and close on 9 August 2019 using the email addresses supplied to the school. If you do not receive an email with a link to the survey, you can access and complete the survey at the following link: <https://www.research.net/r/mericicollegeparent2019>.

Medication at Student Services

We would like parents/guardians to review the policy on the Medical Welfare of Students ([click here](#)), particularly the part relating to the provision of medication. We are able to store medication here at school and dispense to students as part of a medical plan, however, we are **not able to provide** any other medication to students (**including paracetamol or ibuprofen**) outside of a plan. If you would like to create a plan or provide medication for us to store here at school can you please make contact with Student Services (student.services@merici.act.edu.au).

Assessment Calendars Semester 2 2019

Please [click here](#) to find assessment calendars for all year groups.

Claim the Date: Academic Awards Semester 1 2019 (Monday 19 August)

Please note that the date for the Academic Awards has changed to Monday 19 August. The Awards Ceremony will take place in two sessions with Balgo, Brescia, Ningil in the first session commencing at 10.00am, and Penola, Seiwa and Tullow in the second session commencing at 11.00am. **Please note that students receiving awards will be notified shortly through Pastoral Care groups and correspondence will be emailed home to parents.** Unfortunately we are unable to indicate the award your daughter is receiving until the time of the ceremony. Students will be receiving their awards in the Auditorium.

Car parking for the event is available in the car park next to the oval and the student car park off Henty Street. Parents need to follow parking signage on Wise Street, Henty Street and Helemon Street. Parents are urged NOT to park on nature strips, school crossing zones or in a dangerous position (i.e. too close to intersections) as parking inspectors may be out and about and parking infringements will be issued for any vehicle that does not comply with the above. Parking may be difficult for the second ceremony at 11.00am, as parents attending the first session may still be at school on your arrival.

Father/Daughter Mass and Dinner (Friday 30 August)

A special Father and Daughter evening will be held on Friday 30 August at 6.00pm. The theme of the night is "Fidelitas" and will begin with a Fathers' Day Mass at 6.00pm, followed by a Father/Daughter Dinner with special guest speaker Patricia Falcetta, Social Living Solutions (<https://sociallivingsolutions.com.au/qabout-us/>) in the restaurant.

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/atherandaughter> to find an invitation extended to all fathers and their daughters. *For students who are unable to bring their Dad, we welcome them to bring a significant male relation.* The cost for the event is \$45.00 per person and includes a 3-course meal and drinks. To secure your booking, payment must be made prior to the dinner and before Friday 23 August. Cash payments are to be made to the Finance Office. RSVP and credit card payments to ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4178. A credit card authorisation slip can be found [here](#). Please indicate special dietary requirements in your RSVP. *Please book early to avoid disappointment as the evening is limited to 100 people.*

60th Anniversary Mass (Saturday 7 September 9.30am)

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/massininvite> to find an invitation to our school community, past and present, to attend our Celebratory Mass on Saturday 7 September at 9.30am. The Celebrant is the Most Rev. Archbishop Christopher Prowse DD STD. Following the Mass, there will be refreshments and school tours. Please rsvp your attendance to ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 62434178 and indicate special dietary requirements.

60th Anniversary Celebration Dinner (Saturday 7 September)

A very special dinner has been organised at the Canberra Rex to be held on Saturday 7 September at 6.00pm. All past and current students, staff, parents and friends are invited to attend. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/60th-dinner> to find more information. Bookings now open at <https://www.trybooking.com/BDQXT>. Bookings close on 30 August. Please note that the maximum number of people on a table is 10. Please contact Ros on 02-6243 4178, email ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au for any enquiries.

Bridge Benefit Dinner (Saturday 14 September)

Merici College is holding a Bridge Benefit Fundraising Dinner on Saturday 14 September in the Merici College Bridge Restaurant commencing at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. This event is a student-led initiative and is in its fifth year of running.

This year, the students have decided all proceeds will be donated to Barnardos Canberra. Barnardos offers family support, out-of-home care and supported accommodation services for disadvantaged children, adolescents and their families in the ACT. Programs and services offered in the Centre reflect the problems of Canberra, with a population of young families and increasing population group of adolescents. As the Canberra population has a broad cross section of people, Barnardos' programs aim to target the most financially and socially disadvantaged.

Tickets \$90 pp. Refreshments on arrival. 8 course degustation menu. Bookings close Friday 6 September, payment required at time of booking to secure reservations. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/bridge-benefit> to find ticketing information.

YEARS 7, 8 and 9 NEWS

Year 7 Merici/Marist Day (Monday 12 August and Tuesday 13 August)

Year 7 2019 students have an exciting opportunity to participate in an inaugural combined Marist College and Merici College day on 12 August or 13 August 2019. Entitled 'Respectful Relationships', this is a new initiative designed to bring the brother-sister schools together for a day which includes ice breaker games, Youth Ministry activities and a 'Choices, Decisions, Outcomes (CDO)' relationship building session. Youth Ministers of both colleges, staff and a team from the 'Marriage, Family and Relationships, Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn' will facilitate the sessions.

A team from the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation will be coming to the Merici-Marist retreat day to present the Choices, Decisions, Outcomes personal development program to our Year 7 students. The 90-minute program includes a whole group presentation and small group discussions lead by trained facilitators. Representatives from Angela's Angels will be assisting with small group activities during the days.

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year7-merici-marist-day> find more information about this event.

Year 9 Spirituality Day – Wednesday 28 August

Please note the Spirituality Day has changed in the calendar from Wednesday 14 August to Wednesday 28 August. The theme is "*Strength of Faith*". The day addresses issues of limiting values and motivates students to tear away the mask – looking to strengthen their faith. The day includes a session regarding mental health led by Batyr (www.batyr.com.au) and a powerful affirmation exercise. Students are required to wear sports uniform. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community.

Year 9 and 10 Textiles Excursion to Craft Fair (Friday 16 August)

Year 9 and 10 Textiles students this semester will be designing and producing a quilt. With this as our objective, we feel that it would be beneficial for the students to attend the Canberra Craft and Quilt Fair. Students will partake in some free workshops and view the quilts on display for inspiration for their own work. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/craft-quilt-fair> to find more information.

YEARS 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

Senior Design Sydney Excursion (Thursday 15 August and Friday 16 August)

An overnight excursion to Sydney has been arranged for Year 11 and 12 Fashion and Graphic Design students from Thursday, 15 August to Friday 16 August 2019. We will be travelling on Murrays Coaches leaving and returning from the Jolimont Centre. Everyone will be expected to arrive no later than 5:40am. As students will have to carry their luggage on both days, it is advised that they bring only a small backpack and wear extremely comfortable flat closed in shoes (required WHS at all workshop venues). Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/senior-design-excursion> to find the permission note.

Year 10 Social (Friday 20 September)

Merici College's Year 10 Social is a highly enjoyable event and will be held on Friday 20 September at Merici College from 6.30pm to 10.30pm. The dress code is 'smart casual'. The occasion is not a Formal and there is no requirement for formal dress. Dancing is set up in the Auditorium, whilst the canteen will be set up as the venue for mingling, relaxing and eating. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/yr10-social> for more information and the permission note.

Year 12 Formal (Friday 6 December)

It is with great excitement we ask you to save the date for the Merici Student and Parent Formal 2019. To ensure that everyone who wishes to be a part of the evening has the opportunity to attend, we would like to outline some important details about the evening.

The formal will be held at the National Arboretum on Friday 6 December. Merici Year 12 students, their partner and their parents are invited. The College invites parents to this event as we believe it is an important night to share with your daughter(s), celebrating her successful College graduation.

A deposit of \$30 per ticket is required to be paid by Wednesday 14 August to assist with formal arrangements. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year12-formal> to find important information about payment and other arrangements.

CAREERS NEWS

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

CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

Vinnies Dickson – Yr 9-12 service opportunity

Vinnies Dickson has extended its trading hours and is in need of more volunteers. Please read below from Vinnies Dickson Manager, Isla Smith:

Are you looking for work experience? Interested in meeting new people and learning new skills? What about doing something that really contributes to your local community? Vinnies Dickson urgently needs volunteers to assist at it's Dickson Centre located on Woolley Street. A range of roles are available every day of the week. That's right – every day as well as after school and evenings too.

Dickson Vinnies is now open Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm and Sunday 10am to 4pm which means there are so many different time slots available for you to become involved. We are also going to open later on Thursday and Saturday evenings very soon as well. Please consider how you can assist us. You can call Isla Smith on 0407 959 359 or pop into the Centre to have a chat.

Please note: this is not a Merici College organised or supervised activity so parent/guardian supervision is advised.

SPORT

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

CO-CURRICULAR

Vocal Group

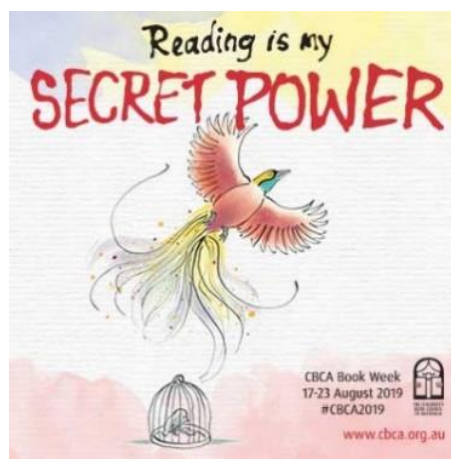
As members of the Merici College Vocal Group, students have been rehearsing for the Australian National Eisteddfod coming up on Friday 30 August. In preparation for the Eisteddfod, the Merici Vocal Group will be having a workshop day at the College on Tuesday 13 August.

The workshop will consist of a 4-hour session from 9am through to lunch time with Dan Bennett, a local choir director and music teacher, followed by a session with Miss Freeman, Director of the Merici Vocal Group. Dan Bennett is the Musical Director of the Mixtape Chorus, Strange Weather Gospel Choir and the Canberra Chordsmen. Dan will be running some choral exercises and working with us on our Eisteddfod pieces. The rest of the day will be an opportunity to rehearse and workshop with Miss Freeman. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/vocal-group-incursion> for more information.

iC NEWS

Book Week Monday 19 August – Friday 23 August

The Book Week Committee is in full swing organising activities around the theme of this year's Book Week, *Reading is my Secret Power* and on **Wednesday 21 August** (not Thursday which was in last What's On) we will have a dress-up parade. The students are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character or using the theme *Reading is my Secret Power*. We have been discussing what this might look like in the Wide Reading lessons. As always, some guidelines apply. The main one is to be in the spirit of the day, and the costume must be of recognisable character and not just plain clothes i.e. no Muggles. Any questions can be directed to: ann.blakey@merici.act.edu.au



There are other Book Week related activities organised by students every lunchtime in the Information Centre of Week 5. A new addition is on Monday 19th August we will be having a Cake decorating competition, students may bring in a cake they have created at home. It may be a book, a character or Book Week themed creation. Other activities during the week include treasure hunts/ quizzes, digital detox book-related games, and the Book Week Parade.

This is a great week to celebrate all things book related and we look forward to seeing your daughter involved in all the fun activities.

Happy Book Week!
iC Staff

IT NEWS

Family Zone

Don't forget to visit the [Cyber Safety Hub or SchoolTV page](#) for access to all the Family Zone resources and help guides.

This Month's Family Zone Feature Guide

RED ALERTS

The Mobile Zone app is constantly working in the background to keep kids safe. However kids often like to push boundaries and try to break the rules, when they do, alerts will be sent so that parents stay informed.

For more information, click [here](#).

Or watch a helpful video [here](#).



This Month's Family Zone Blog

PLAY WITH ME, NOT WITH YOUR PHONE!

"I hate my mum's phone and I wish she never had one!" Think your kids spend too much time stuck to a screen? They may feel exactly the same way about you.

Click [here](#) to read more.



Technology is good. But people make it better!

FAMILY ZONE CYBER EXPERTS ARE NOW FREE!

Where do you even begin to set boundaries and restrict content? If only you could ask someone who had all the answers.

Now you can. Family Zone offers a world-first: specialist support from a cyber expert you select from our acclaimed team.

Our experts are academics, educators, psychologists and even former cyber detectives - all of them sharing the same mission: to keep your children safe, healthy and responsible online.

Click [here](#) to find out how your parents can benefit from FREE cyber expert subscriptions.



UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 3 Weeks 6 and 7)

ACT Secondary Netball Finals and Secondary Boys Netball (Tuesday 27 August)

Year 9 Spirituality Day (Wednesday 28 August)

ACT Secondary Football Finals (Thursday 29 August)

Father/Daughter Mass and Dinner (Friday 30 August)

AST Day 1 (Tuesday 3 September)

AST Day 2 (Wednesday 4 September)

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 4 September 6.00pm)

Year 11 English Orals (Friday 6 September)

60th Anniversary Mass (Saturday 7 September 9.30am)

60th Anniversary Dinner (Saturday 7 September 6.00pm, Canberra Rex)