



# WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #BuildingFutures

Term 1 Weeks 6 and 7 (Monday 9 March- Sunday 23 March)

## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Health Information

At Merici will continue to have conversations with the students about effective hygiene to prevent the spread of virus's.

Practising good hand hygiene and sneeze/cough hygiene is the best defence against most viruses:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet
- Cover coughs and sneezes, dispose of tissues, and use alcohol-based hand sanitiser and if unwell, avoid contact with others (touching, kissing, hugging, etc).

We encourage all parents/guardians to seek medical advice if their daughter is displaying any viral symptoms.

### Uniform Shop Extended Hours

Please note that our uniform shop is now stocked with winter uniform items. A reminder that the shop is open during school terms on Tuesdays 8am-11am and Thursdays 2pm-5pm. Please order now to avoid delays. Online orders are welcomed at <https://shop.merici.act.edu.au/MonitorOnline/app/#/login>.

The shop is closed during school holidays, however we will be open on:

- Friday 3 April (3pm-5pm, appointment only, no drop-ins, email [uniform@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:uniform@merici.act.edu.au))
- Saturday 4 April (9am-1pm)
- Friday 24 April (9am-2pm).

### International Women's Day Cocktail Party (Thursday 12 March 5pm-7pm)

Our 2020 International Women's Day #EachforEqual celebration will be held on Thursday 12 March, 5-7pm in the restaurant.

This year we are very excited to have Marianna Tolo join us as our guest speaker. Marianna Tolo is a three-time WNBL champion and an Australian Opal. Born in Mackay, Queensland, Marianna moved to Canberra in 2006 after earning a basketball scholarship with the Australian Institute of Sport. Two years later, she joined the UC Capitals – Canberra's most successful national sporting team. Despite years playing in the WNBA and other European leagues, Canberra has been her home while playing in Australia. Having represented her country in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, Marianna now eyes the opportunity to become a dual Olympian after Australia qualified for Tokyo earlier this year.

Cost: Adult \$25 pp Student \$10pp, includes canapes and drinks

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/B1PLW>.

Bookings close Tuesday 10 March

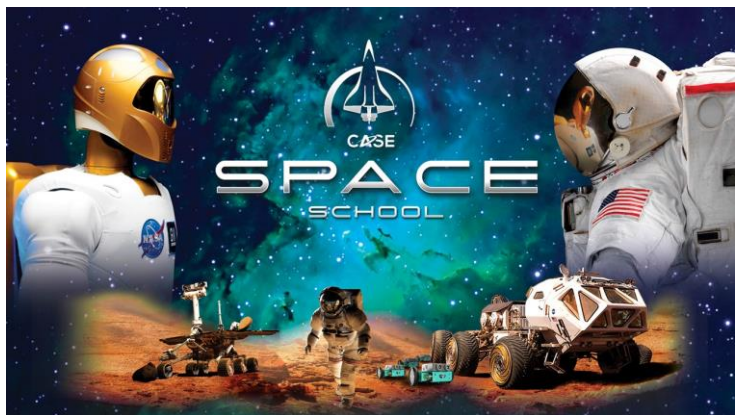
We warmly invite family members, friends and the wider community to come along and celebrate IWD with us

### **Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 18 March)**

The Bridge Restaurant will be open for lunch on Wednesday 18 March from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Please telephone our Hospitality team on 6243 4130 to make your booking.

### **Claim the date: CASE Space School Information Evening (Tuesday 31 March 6pm Junior Program, 7.30pm Senior Program)**

Merici College is pleased to announce that we are offering students the opportunity to join the CASE Space School International Study Program in 2020 through our partnership with the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia.



CASE Space School is an amazing opportunity for students seeking to pursue success in a STEAM career.

Students will be immersed in enriched and exclusive space science activities to explore the multi-facets of STEAM. Students will also learn and engage in an inspiring personal and leadership development program to truly empower them for changing times.

Junior Space School is training for young explorers and is an engaging, hands-on adventure. Students learn about space travel, the development of space-related technologies and are led through several simulated missions. This program is focused on providing relevance to, and inspiring passion for STEAM through exposure to space and broader 'earth' science exploration. Every step of the way they are guided to build skills in goal setting, project planning, critical-thinking and problem-solving.

Senior Space School is management training for young leaders. With greater program depth, students have incredible access to NASA. They visit areas not accessible by the public; and engage directly with NASA experts to design and plan their own space mission within a given budget. An immersive program that hones their individual leadership, project management, resource allocation crisis management and teamwork skills. Students learn from NASA experts and other leading organisations to foster new levels of collaboration and teamwork.

Students are meticulously cared for by dedicated Group Managers who are trained and certified by the California Association for STEAM Education. All Group Managers are Working with Children and Australian Federal Police checked, and hold current CPR, asthma and anaphylaxis certification.

Students return with big dreams and lasting confidence, inspired by the ultimate STEAM experience at NASA.

An information evening will be held at the school on Tuesday 31 March in the CRLC where students and parents can learn more about the program. [Click here to RSVP.](#)

### **Cross-Age Tutoring**

Cross-age tutoring is when a junior student receives guidance in a particular subject area from a senior student. This may take the form of helping to complete home-work, planning assignments, reading or working on organisational skills.

Tutoring takes place once a week, during lunchtimes or after school, and is a totally voluntary service in which any student can participate. Cross-age tutoring has proved to be very popular in previous years and is not only beneficial to the student receiving the tutoring but also to the senior providing it.

Please note that tutors are there to help guide students not to teach them. If you feel your daughter may need more intensive help, please contact her classroom teacher or House/Studies Coordinator.

Application forms can be collected from the Inclusive Education (iE) team in the hUb, or at the following link: <http://merici.college/go/1h>.

For further information please contact Mrs Karen Evans, Inclusive Education Coordinator, [karen.evans@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:karen.evans@merici.act.edu.au) or Mrs Sarah Cusack, iE Assistant [sarah.cusack@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:sarah.cusack@merici.act.edu.au).

### **Parent Online Advice 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/marchparentonline> to find the latest newsletter covering YOLO, which is an app that allows users to ask each other anonymous questions through their Snapchat accounts, and Wink which gives users the ability to add new Snapchat friends, using the 'tinder-esque' motion of swiping left and right.

## **YEARS 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS**

### **Year 7 Camp**

The 2020 Merici College Year 7 Camp will be held in Tathra on the Far South Coast of New South Wales. The venue is Hobart Beach Campground, Bournda National Park. The camp will take place from Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 March, three days and two nights.

The Camp is supervised by Merici staff and activities are undertaken by fully trained outdoor educators from Coastlife Adventures. Coastlife Adventures is a privately-owned Outdoor Education and Recreational Business established to provide safe, quality experiences to a large range of groups. In addition, a select number of the student Transition Team will accompany the Year 7 students and staff.

## YEARS 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS

### Year 12 ANU/UAC Presentation

An ANU/UAC Information Session will be held for Year 12 students during flex lesson on Monday 2 March. A Parent Information evening will also be held on Wednesday 18 March at 6.30pm in the CRLC. Please advise your attendance to [kerry.mcdonnel@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:kerry.mcdonnel@merici.act.edu.au).

### 2020 Questacon Student Training Program

Questacon – The National Science and Technology Centre will be running the Student Training Program from March to September 2020. This Program provides students in Year 11 and 12 with firsthand experience in various roles throughout Questacon, from developing science activities and making public presentations with the Science Communication Stream.

Nominations close on Wednesday 11 March. Please follow the link

<http://merici.college/go/questaconstudenttraining> to find the nomination form, the training schedule and program details. Please complete the form and return to Mrs Aboud (Science Coordinator), in the Science Staffroom or via email [joanne.aboud@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:joanne.aboud@merici.act.edu.au) if you are interested.

## CAREERS NEWS

To find the latest Careers newsletter and information, please visit

<https://www.mericicareers.com/>

## SPORT NEWS

### Merici College Sports Update

It would be wonderful to see as many girls as possible committing to at least one Co-curricular Sport at the College. For more information about Sport at Merici College please email [emma.kennedy@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:emma.kennedy@merici.act.edu.au).

### Winter Basketball

Registrations for Winter Basketball are now open and will close on Monday 16 March. The competition starts in Term 2 (2 May) and games can vary from Friday through to Sunday depending on the division entered. Training times will depend on the availability of the coaches, students and facilities. Please see the 2020 Basketball Information sheet to register, <http://merici.college/go/basketball-2020>.

Each team will require a coach and a manager. If you are interested in volunteering for these positions please contact Emma Kennedy via email [emma.kennedy@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:emma.kennedy@merici.act.edu.au)

### Merici College Weekend Netball

Netball teams for 2020 have now been published and finalised. Many thanks to the Netball Committee who have spent countless hours putting these teams together. We still require a coach and a manager for some teams. If you are interested in volunteering for these positions, please contact [mericinetball@gmail.com](mailto:mericinetball@gmail.com).

## Merici College Rowing

Congratulations to Charlotte, Phillipa, Imogene, Niamh, Isabella, Emma, Ella, Caitlyn and Josie for their successful performance at the Rowing Regatta on Saturday 22 February.

A full list of results can be found here:

- A/B grade quad- 1st (Charlotte, Pippa, Imogene as Cox)
- C grade single Final- 1st (Charlotte)
- D grade quad Division 1- 1st (Charlotte, Pippa, Niamh, Emma, Imogene as Cox)
- School girl quad Final- 3rd (Josie, Caitlyn, Bella)
- C grade quad Final- 3rd (Ella, Emma, Pippa, Niamh, Imogene as Cox)
- D grade double division 1- 3rd (Ella)
- D grade double division 2- 1st (Niamh, Emma)
- E grade single- 1st (Caitlyn)
- E grade quad division 1- 4th (Bella)
- C grade double division 1- 2nd (Charlotte, Pippa)
- A/B double Final- 4th (Charlotte)
- D grade single division 1- 1st (Pippa)
- D grade single division 1- 2nd (Niamh)
- D grade single division 2- 1st (Emma)
- D grade single division 2- 3rd (Ella)
- E grade double Final- 1st (Bella, Caitlyn)

## Tennis - Wednesday/Thursday afternoon

Canberra School of Tennis will be running tennis lessons after school every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. Please contact Mark Walton to enrol in these sessions. Ph: 0408486191 or Email : [csot@grapevine.com.au](mailto:csot@grapevine.com.au).

**Fitness Club** - Wednesdays from 7.30am-8.30am in the Merici College Gymnasium. Contact Natalie Fairfax more information [Natalie.fairfax@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:Natalie.fairfax@merici.act.edu.au).

## Interschool Sports/Gala Days

Interschool Sports-These are the sports that run as a one-off Gala Day. Students can trial for these teams prior to the event and should check their emails for notifications about this.

TERM 1	Sport	Week	Teacher	Day	Date
	HS Beach Volleyball	6	Mrs Kennedy	Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup> March
March	Rugby 7's	6	Mrs Kennedy Mr Withers	Friday	13 <sup>th</sup> March
	Softball	6	Mrs Wholley	Friday	13 <sup>th</sup> March
	North Basketball	7	Mr Nemeth	Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup> March
	Futsal	8	Mrs Kennedy	Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> March
APRIL	AFL 9/10 Girls	9	Mr Mickleburgh	Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> April
	Touch Football	9	Mrs Kennedy Mrs Wood	Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup> April
	Combined High School Swimming	10	Mrs Firman and Mrs Blakey	Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> April
	AFL 7/8 Girls	10	Mr Mickleburgh	Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> April
7 <sup>th</sup> April MERICI ATHLETICS CARNIVAL-WEEK 10					

## Lunchtime Activities

- Multi-Sports Challenge -Well done to Penola who were our Champion House.
- Tuesday - Personal challenges in the gym
- Wednesdays - Handball in the New Quad

## LANGUAGES

### Student Exchange Programmes

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.

Two Australian organisations, Nacel Australia and Southern Cross Cultural Exchange, have long standing history of providing opportunities for students to experience the world through language and cultural immersion programs, <http://merici.college/go/exchange-programmes>. Please visit the organisations' websites for more information:

[Nacel Australia](#)

[Southern Cross Cultural Exchange](#)

## MISSION AND COMMUNITY

### Service Opportunity – Year 11 and 12 students

Menslink is looking for a number of seniors to assist from approx. 5:00pm to 11:00pm on Friday 27 March for the Menslink Big Night Out at the Realm Hotel in Barton (18 National Circuit, Barton). The Menslink Big Night Out is the annual major fundraiser for Menslink ([www.menslink.org.au](http://www.menslink.org.au)). All money raised goes directly to benefiting Menslink programs, and to help all young men in Canberra create a better future.

The student volunteers will be assisting on the night, selling raffle tickets, collecting donations and assisting with the auction. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/menslink-event> to find the flyer. Please note that this is not an organised or supervised activity.

Menslink supports young men across our region in three ways:

1. Encouraging them to speak up and get help, or inspire their mates to get help, through educational sessions in schools and other community groups;
2. Providing intensive short-term counselling to help them get through stressful life events with the least amount of harm to themselves and those around them; and
3. Longer term mentoring support from positive male role models, especially for young guys who are socially isolated or for the 17% of young men who no longer live with their father.

Menslink requires Senior students to help with:

- Briefing on duties and how the evening will run 5:30pm
- Room setup from 5:30-6:30pm
- Greeting guests (500 of them) and showing them where they are sitting 6:30-7:00pm
- Walking around tables promoting raffle ticket sales and collecting tickets and money (6:30pm - 10pm approx.)
- We will have meals for volunteers in a separate room (time TBA - maybe not all at once)
- Spotting bids for the live auction from 10-10:30pm
- Collecting final raffle tickets and money from 10:30pm (if girls need to go early they can after the auction is closed, as long as we know, or they can stay and have a dance if they want)
- Helping all our guests (and themselves!) have a great time in the name of a great cause

Menslink will give each volunteer a Menslink t-shirt to wear on the evening (will need sizes in advance please). Menslink will not be able to transport the Senior student volunteers to and from the event so transport will have to be the responsibility of the students and their parents/guardians. Menslink will reimburse taxi/Uber fares if a receipt can be provided.

Please contact Rebecca Swan at Menslink by Friday 20 March if interested  
email: [rebecca@menslink.org.au](mailto:rebecca@menslink.org.au) or ph: 02 6287 2226. Menslink will provide them with some food and breaks.

## **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, 2020).*

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 Wednesday afternoon for six weeks (Weeks 6-10), House tallies are being recorded. College Cup points will be awarded after the final collection on Wednesday 8 April. The overall aim is for Merici College to support Caritas Australia's initiatives. Students are also viewing the weekly Project Compassion feature stories in RE lessons which raise awareness about the issues faced and highlight how Caritas Australia is supporting vulnerable people to develop their strengths and create change in their own communities.

Further information regarding Project Compassion can be found at: <https://www.caritas.org.au/>

## iC NEWS

Week 6 will see the introduction of the lunchtime co-curricular activities. Book Club for Years 7 and 8 on Tuesday even weeks and Senior Book Club on Tuesday odd weeks. Thursday will be digital detox day where students are encouraged to get off devices and play board games, cards, puzzles, or colouring in, and Chess Club will continue Fridays.

Friday of Week 7 we have 3 teams competing at The Kids' Lit Quiz Canberra Heat, held at Canberra Girls Grammar, Junior school. This is a fun competition for students who love reading. Students must be 13 years old at 1 June, so only open to Years 7 and 8. They work in a team of four to answer quiz questions about authors, books and all things literature. We wish them luck.

Yours in all things library,  
*iC Staff*

## Co-CURRICULAR NEWS

### **Merici Snow-Sports Team - Excursion to Perisher Valley and Jindabyne in 2020.**

The Merici College ski team is made up of usually around 25 students – both skiers and boarders. Together, with experienced Snow Sports Coordinators Ms Davis and Mr Heim, our girls compete in ACT and Southern-NSW Interschools Snow Sports competition held at Perisher Valley 21-24 July.

The team departs on the Merici College Bus on Monday 20 July, and stays four nights at the Station Resort in Jindabyne and participates in four days of competition, as well as free-skiing and snow-boarding. You do not have to be an expert ski racer in a slippery suit to join in. However, this event is not suitable for first time skiers or boarders as there are no lessons included. The minimum standard required is beginner to intermediate - as a guide usually about 5 days of skiing.

Merici girls have the reputation of punching well above their weight in snow sports. We always field a competitive team, but mostly as group of young women who enjoy the comradery of sport, both with each other and with students from literally dozens of other schools in our region. With super-strong team spirit and bucket loads of support for each other - we're always on the go. It's fun!

There is also the opportunity to qualify to compete at Nationals-level with Interschools in both team and individual events.

If you would like to learn more about this wonderful opportunity for your daughter, including itinerary, competition, accommodation, costs etc, you are warmly invited to attend our information session – we'd love to see you there:

When: Thursday 26 March

Time: 4:45pm

Where: CRLC

How long: 15-30mins



Please contact Adrian Heim, [Adrian.heim@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:Adrian.heim@merici.act.edu.au), or Diana Davis, [diana.davis@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:diana.davis@merici.act.edu.au) for more information.

## OTHER NEWS

### Majura Football Club Registrations

Registrations are now open at Majura Football Club for the 2020 winter season. Visit [www.majurafc.org.au](http://www.majurafc.org.au) for more information and to register.

## UPCOMING EVENTS (Weeks 8 and 9)

Merici College Community BBQ (Thursday 26 March)

Relics of St Therese of Lisieux Visit to Merici (Friday 27 March)

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews (Tuesday 31 March and Thursday 2 April)

CASE Space School Information Evening (Tuesday 31 March)

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 1 April)

House Working Bees for Athletics Carnival (Friday 3 April 3.30pm)

Uniform Shop open (Friday 3 April 3pm-5pm, appointment only)

Talk and Tour (Saturday 4 April 9.30am-11.00am)

Uniform Shop open (Saturday 4 April 9am-1pm)